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# Journal of Central University of Haryana

An International Multidisciplinary Refereed Research Journal



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# **Journal of Central University of Haryana**

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## *Editorial*

It gives me immense pleasure to present the third issue of Journal of Central University of Haryana. It is truly literary & creative document highlighting the talent of researchers. It also provides a panoramic view of multidiscipline like Languages, Science, Arts and Humanities.

The challenge of bringing out this journal has indeed been guided by the mandate to disseminate the knowledge from lab to land and to ensure that it reaches to all the related stakeholders. The members of editorial board committee are deeply obliged to all those, who have taken the time off from their busy work schedule, worked assiduously, and, gave a coherent expression to their ideas, and finally contributed in the form of research paper. The editorial board thanks invariably all those, who have been involved in bringing out this volume of CUH journal.

One of the core functions of University is extension of the research findings not only to the end users but also to the world of academia. This is required to receive constructive criticism and ensure that any research outcome reaches out to its intended beneficiary. That is why, it is said that a research is never complete in itself, unless, it is disseminated in order to contribute to the larger bodies of knowledge. Research in higher education is of paramount importance to keep pace with the development in the fast changing global scenario. Academicians from across diverse disciplines of universities- central/ state, remained involved in mammoth task of research, apart from teaching and extension. Providing a platform to recognize their research work and academic efforts in order to bring it to the world of academia, is one of the exercises of the present journal. This journal provides an opportunity to re-calibrate the knowledge base of teachers, researchers, students and other stakeholders for harmonization in their understanding. The research papers in this journal are Cognitive research which reflects that the educational programs motivate and acquaint students to link, connect, and integrate their ideas and to learn, taking into account their perception of real-world problems.

This issue is the outcome of continuous motivation and support extended by Prof. Ramesh Chand Kuhad, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Central University of Haryana. I express my hearty thanks to the authors of the papers who contributed in this journal so elegantly and promptly to make this issue a grand success. I also express my sincere gratitude to all our dedicated advisory board and members of the journal for their invaluable guidance and dedicated team work.

**Dr. Sarika Sharma**  
**Managing Editor**



प्रकाश जावडेकर  
*Prakash Javadekar*



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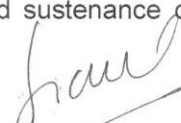


**Message**

It is heartening to know that Central University of Haryana has brought out the third volume of its ambitious Journal of Central University of Haryana, for the year 2016. My heartfelt congratulations to all the contributors and the entire editorial board for their conscientious efforts to showcase the research and literary exploits of a new and progressive generation. It is indeed creditable that the contributors are from both within the country and outside with many international collaborations also contributing to the body of research published in the journal. Though still a very young university, the zeal and enthusiasm displayed by its faculty particularly its editorial board in acting as a beacon of knowledge by providing a credible platform to researchers in the form of an International multi-disciplinary refereed journal for disseminating new and original research is highly praise-worthy. The line-up of articles published is highly impressive covering the entire spectrum of Humanities, Languages, Social Sciences, Sciences and Applied Sciences delving upon the various aspects and facets of human development from different perspectives. The articles try to explore socio-cultural diversity in a pluralistic society, political thought, new and economic and educational paradigms in a fast changing global scenario, new and cutting edge scientific study in pure and applied areas and innovative thoughts in the field of energy generation, harvesting and conservation. Such an effort will definitely accelerate the pace of research and spur new academic activity not only in the immediate vicinity of the University but far and wide.

I also congratulate the Vice Chancellor Prof. R.C. Kuhad for patronizing and whole heartedly supporting such a noble effort and providing a conducive and congenial environment for nurturing new and innovative ideas.

My congratulations to all of you and best wishes for continued sustenance of its effort.

  
(Prakash Javadekar)



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**कुलपति**

**Prof. R.C. Kuhad**

(FNASc, FNAAS, FBRSI)

**Vice-Chancellor**

क्रमांक / No. \_\_\_\_\_

दिनांक / Date: 02/12/2016



### Message

It is a matter of great pleasure and satisfaction that Central University of Haryana is coming out with the third volume of its multidisciplinary refereed journal—*Journal of Central University of Haryana* (JCUH). I appreciate the editorial committee for compiling and editing the research papers contributed by the faculty and research scholars from various disciplines. I am sure that the well-researched articles based on theoretical, conceptual and empirical studies published in the present volume of the journal will prove to be a relevant reference material for the young researchers and students. Besides, with its focus on multidisciplinary research, University journal shall motivate the budding scholars to practice inter/multidisciplinary approach in the dissemination of knowledge.

With the commitment to promote original and quality research, I hope that the journal shall find place among the best of the academic journals in the coming years. At the moment when 'plagiarism' and 'IPR' are the buzzwords in the academic circles, the task of the editorial committee becomes all the more challenging, but I feel that my faculty is diligent enough to address all the issues deterring the quality aspect of the journal.

I am optimistic that the publication of University Journal shall be a regular feature so that more and more researchers contribute their original research findings in the University Journal. The publication of the quality research papers shall further add to the credibility of the contributors, journal and the University at large.

Lastly, I exhort my students and faculty to establish ever new benchmarks towards quality research publications by observing the ethics of research. On this occasion, I invite the scholars from India and abroad to contribute their valuable researches to the forthcoming issues of the journal.

I wish the Journal of Central University of Haryana (JCUH) a bright future ahead.

  
(Prof. R.C. Kuhad)





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## **Mewat, Identity and Meo Girls' Education: An Analysis**

**Dr. Sarika Sharma**

*Associate Professor, Department of Education, Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh*

**Rahat Hayat**

*Assistant Professor, CTE Nuh, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad*

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### **Abstract**

The present paper is a part of my Ph.D. research and has been formulated on the basis of secondary sources. It has been conceived and formulated on a wide canvas of Meo Muslim girls in India, in context of their individual as well as collective significant existence. It directly or indirectly relates to their identity, freedom, equality and meaning making in context of their life situations and aspirations. All these issues are intertwined and impinge upon each-other. The findings suggest that the Meo community has remained a resisting community throughout the history of India, and, have never accepted the suzerainty of any of the medieval rulers. Among this freedom loving community, the girls had remained abysmally behind in the field of education due to their external socio-cultural and economic situations. However, the educational trends suggest that the Meo girls are coming forward breaking the socio-cultural boundaries for education, which is a very positive sign for the community in particular and the country in general.

**Key words:** Mewat, identity, Meo girls' education, resistance, breaking boundaries

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### **Introduction:**

The term 'Meo' is used for the Muslim peasant caste residing primarily in the area of Mewat. The cultural area of Mewat, in actuality, is a huge region, which extend from southward of Sohna town, which is located around 65 kilometres south-west of Delhi. The areas cover large parts of Gurgaon (now Gurugram) and Faridabad districts in the present day Indian state of Haryana, and, the former princely states of Alwar and Bharatpur in Rajasthan. However, reducing it from a region, it was made an independent district by dividing Gurgaon and Faridabad on April 4, 2005. It was carved out as a district almost after three decades of formation of Haryana state i.e. on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1966. These areas are a part of the Indo-Gangetic plain and the Aravali zones. The terrain of the area is undulating- sloping from south to North- in reverse to the general direction of flow of the perennial rivers passing through the neighbouring plains of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. Mewat, as a region has two distinct areas: a south- western hilly and undulating tract area; and a sandy area.

This peasant caste converted and embraced Islam from Hinduism fold. Actually, the term 'Mewat' itself has been derived from the term 'Meo', who retained many of their earlier socio-culture and religious traditions. Many among Meos, claim that their ancestors were high caste Hindu Rajput or warrior descent. This is why, it is found, that, many of them still have retained their Hindu caste names, and, also equally celebrate, both, Muslim and Hindu festivals, though these have been liquidated in recent years. Some of the studies (Channing, 1882; Harris, 1907) suggest that the majority of the Meos are the descendants of lower Hindu caste converts, who,

claimed to their Rajput ancestry alongside their gradual Islamization, so as to enhance their social standing and still feel pride in retaining it. In actuality, they belonged to many different castes and not just to that of the Rajput (Aggrawal, 1969). Many Meos still follow the 'gotra' system prevalent in the Hindus and avoid marrying in the same 'gotra' as followed in the Hindu. Such gotra system is not followed in Islam, and, in marriages among Muslims, there is no such restriction. Meos are the freedom loving community. This is why they never accepted the suzerainty of any of the Mughal rulers or the British masters and always resisted to come under sway of any of these powers.

Meos in the entire regions are extremely poor. They depend largely on the small rain fed farms and supplement their income by involving themselves in animal husbandry. The region of Mewat had faced severe drought, at regular intervals, which, led the Meos deep into financial debt at the hands of Jain and Hindu Bania moneylenders. The area had also seen '*tablighi movement*' since 1940's, so as to promote Islam and familiarize Meos community with the rule of the Sharia. The works of the tablighi movement is responsible for the development of chasm between the Meos community, and, the Hindu peasant communities, such as, Gujars, Yadavas and Jats settled in the adjacent areas. The current political development has also widened the chasm among the Meos and some other religious group of the area as witnessed by recent incidents of clash in the area.

### **Post-partition educational development among the Meos community:**

The period after partition was full of crisis for Muslims in general. Therefore, the situation for Meos was not very different. From among the Muslims, after partition of India, the educated rich and middle classes migrated to Pakistan, in an anticipating of better job prospects. Their migration, left behind in India, large number of the poor illiterate masses (Hasan, 1981) for whom daily life earning was more important for survival. Even, till date, when India is seen, as the fastest growing economy globally, it is a shared perception among historians, politicians and others, that, Muslims in general lagged behind the other communities (Shah, 2007; Khalidi, 2006). This is why, the Sachar Committee Report also acknowledged that the member of the community in general exhibit '*deficit and deprivation in practically all dimensions of development*' (p.237).

Under this socio-economic situation existing among the Muslim community in general, and, the Meos community in particular, the Tablighi Jamaat, actively worked at the ground level and generated mass movement among the Meos community. They were able to establish several Islamic Madarsas in the region where Urdu, became the medium of instruction in these Madarsas. This enabled a new generation of literate Meos, who gained access to Islamic literatures. Due to lack of mainstream schools in the areas, as well as, the efforts of tablighi movement, people started sending their children for Madarsa education that fulfilled their psychological and intellectual needs. This led to the general perception among many people that Meos do not prefer sending their children to schools, rather, they remain inclined towards Madarsas education and are mainly concerned about religious education.

In fact, Madarsa education did not enjoy, the social prestige, during the colonial period, as, the British officials, and, even the modern Muslim reformers, considered Madarsas as an obstacle to the progress of Muslim community (Mahmood, 1981). The Sachar Committee Report (2006) suggests that, only 4% students from the Muslim population across the country go to Madarsas, where as 66% goes to government schools and 30% goes to private schools. Similar understanding is reflected from NCERT, which suggests that only 3% to 4% Muslims prefer Madarsas. Therefore, perceiving that Meos prefer Madarsas has serious implications on their

educational development, since, banking upon Madarsas education and their modernization, actually, will not address the educational backwardness of larger population of the community. Such measures of the government, further erodes the confidence of the members of the community, as they observe, that, policies and programmes framed by the authorities for removing their backwardness, often remain poorly directed, and become a paper work, due to the apathy of the bureaucracy (Siddiqui, 2004 ).

Education among the Meos of the entire region of Mewat has remained lowest in the country, since long for a number of reasons ranging from geographical topographical reasons to rarely availability of schools that could address the school going population. Therefore, a number of factors have contributed to the backwardness among the community. However, the persistent backwardness of the region itself can be attributed to the abysmal lack of education. The cohort data on educational statistics show that, the enrolment at the primary level though are very high, however, the retention rate, after the lower primary stage, becomes very low. Further, with regard to Meo girls, the situation worsens with the withdrawal rate after lower primary, and, it shoots up to as high as 85%. Bhatti, (1998) says that the consistent poor educational facilities among the area, lack of commitment and deficient accountability of teachers towards their profession, along with the insensitivity towards the community's need is clearly reflected. The entire region lacks the sufficient availability of high schools for both boys and girls that could match the population of school going children. Ahmad (2005) says that, though some of the schools in the name of English medium school opened up in the region by some private agencies, but they lack basic infrastructure and economy to provide quality education. Therefore, these handfuls of schools are unable to provide good teachers who can send positive message among the community. Most of the teachers in these schools are untrained and are unaware of the pedagogical understanding. Further, these schools run up to primary level, after which, they do not have any blue print to mainstream the students passing out of these schools. As a result, the member of the community, who send their children to these schools, find it difficult, to mainstream their children for further classes, as, high and senior-secondary level schools are very scarce in the region. Even if it exists, they cannot meet the demand of schools going population of children which is much higher than the number of schools. Therefore, the unavailability of schools contributes considerably to lessen the interest in studies. Even ICSSR (2008) mentions that the availability of institute of learning in the area is scarce, whereas, a handful of polytechnic and inter-college are located at an average distance varying from 7 kilometers for girls' primary institute to 28 kilometers for training institutes. Such distance is one of the most important reasons for not sending girls for higher studies.

**Table: Availability of educational institutions in Mewat district**

<b>Educational institutions</b>	<b>Villages not having educational institutions</b>	<b>Villages having educational institutions</b>	<b>Average distance</b>
Primary school (boys/ co-ed)	0	30	
Primary school (girls)	9	21	7.3
Middle schools (boys/ co-ed)	5	25	4.8
Middle schools (girls)	12	18	6.6
High/Higher secondary (boys/co-ed)	18	12	6.3
High/Higher secondary (girls)	18	12	8.6
Inter college	23	7	15.7



ITI	25	5	16.9
Polytechnic	24	6	19.8
Other training school	16	14	28.5
Religious school	16	14	-

Source: Survey done by ICSSR (2008), p.13

The area also see some of the schools run by the voluntary organizations mostly, till primary schools, however, most of such schools fail to secure government recognition for mainstreaming the students after primary classes. Further, the comparative status of education of Meos girls with other girls of the region shows a grim picture. The illiteracy among both, Hindus and Muslims girls of the Mewat region, show that it is much higher as compared to other region of the state and of India. The percentage of literacy rates among Hindu female decreases with the increase in the classes which is 3.34% at middle level, 2.05% at high level and nil at higher secondary level. Where as, with the Meo girls, it is slightly better as compared to Hindu girls of the area, but, shows a very disheartening pictures. In case of Meos girls, it is 2.94% at middle level, 0.50% at high level and 0.47% at higher secondary level.

**Table: Educational status of household members**

Educational status	Hindus			Meo Muslims			Total		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Illiterate	29.63	65.17	45.09	33.31	64.61	47.54	32.68	64.74	47.15
Below primary or informal education	22.07	19.78	21.08	27.74	23.86	25.98	26.80	23.19	25.17
Primary	20.62	8.55	15.37	15.37	7.03	11.58	16.26	7.27	12.20
Middle	15.50	3.34	10.21	11.50	2.94	7.61	12.15	3.00	8.02
Management or commercial school course (vocational)	2.40	0.23	1.46	1.20	0.20	0.75	1.40	0.21	0.86
High school	7.33	2.05	5.03	7.43	0.50	4.28	7.42	0.74	4.40
Higher secondary	1.57	0.00	0.88	1.85	0.47	1.22	1.81	0.40	1.17
Technical diploma or certificate below degree	0.55	0.20	0.40	0.44	0.00	0.24	0.46	0.03	0.27
Technical or professional degree	0.15	0.24	0.19	0.44	0.17	0.32	0.40	0.18	0.30
Graduate degree	0.18	0.20	0.19	0.41	0.19	0.31	0.37	0.19	0.29
Post graduate degree	0.00	0.24	0.10	0.29	0.00	0.16	0.25	0.04	0.15
Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Survey done by ICSSR (2008), p.22; M= Male, F= Female, T= Total

The statistics shows that Meo girls are the most disadvantaged and backward as compared to others. Bhatti (1998) in her study showed that female literacy rates among Meos in Mewat region were 1.76% which is the lowest in the country with the highest dropout rates among the girls in the country. This is why, education among the Meos has always remained a matter of concern. However, in the preceding decades the perception of the Meos community has changed and many Meos children especially girls are coming forward to take education. As a result,

almost 39 Madarsas are running Open Basic Education (OBE) within Mewat. The OBE is an initiative taken by National Institute of Open Schooling, Delhi that run the programme of basic education. The positive perception for education among Meos also reflect from the census reports which shows, that, the literacy rate among Meos girls in Mewat has increased up to 36.60% (census, 2011) which was 23.90% according to 2001 census report.

**Table: Literacy and sex ratio in rural Mewat-2001 & 2011**

Tehsil	Literacy rate						Sex ratio			
	Male		Female		Total		All		Child (0-6)	
	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011	2001	2011
Taoru	70.5	89.05	34.5	73.53	53.6	81.70	884	886	880	807
Nuh	61.8	77.91	23.2	60.47	43.6	69.62	891	912	888	942
Firozpur Jhirka	56.7	79.20	17.4	58.66	38.0	69.35	904	909	894	852
Punhana	53.6	78.98	15.3	52.72	35.3	66.41	910	915	904	902
<b>Mewat District</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>69.94</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>36.60</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>54.08</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>906</b>
Haryana	75.4	84.06	49.3	65.94	63.2	75.55	866	879	823	834

Source: Village level directory, Census, 2001& 2011

The fear of insecurity of the girls in the region makes the parents reluctant, to send their girl child to far off places for study. Therefore, many girls lose the opportunity to receive education. Further, shortage of schools and teachers with redundant instructional strategies demoralize students towards schooling. Apart from these, early marriage in the Meos, limits their educational prospects as employment of Meo girls outside their home is seen as non-accepted practice. The Meo girls within the strongly patriarchal rural community of Mewat face many disadvantages. As for example, they continuously engage themselves in household chores and actively participate in work such as animal husbandry and agriculture. Their engagement in these works, every day since dawn to dusk, shapes their worldviews and experiences. The profile of activities of Meo girls suggests that their workload is much higher than that of men. Their everyday experiences suggest that many socio-cultural traditions have exclusively reserved for women. The Meo girl in their family is often expected to help her mother to carry out the entire household activities and looking after her younger siblings. They are socialized quite differently and hence, their socialization directly or indirectly affects their education, and hence, it accordingly shapes their perception. Further, in terms of education, men and women do not have the same access to schooling. Educating a son often appears to be universally endorsed by Meos for economic reasons. They recognize that while education may not lead to a salaried job in formal sector, it helps them to cope with the demands of modern living.

In Mewat, the patterns of inequality in education, correlates significantly and consistently several factors such as gender and poverty and suggest a very complex intersections that produces persistent education exclusion. The shaping of the experiences of any individual as a member of the community depends largely upon the social group that controls the educational structure, through the processes of political powers. Hence, for the construction of knowledge, institutional education becomes important. To understand how knowledge and understanding shapes the world view and life aspiration of Meo girls, it is necessary to observe those processes, which remains associated with them. The persistent backwardness of Meo girls are largely due to their lack of education and because of their being doubly marginalized. The formal education system within the area is ineffective and uninspiring for potential student community. The apathy of the

government officials and lack of accountability at all the levels have contributed immensely for such prevailing educational situation in the area. The condition of the government schools available in the area is hardly different from the other region with broken chair, windowpanes and with no toilet and drinking water facility. Bhatti (1995) and Ahmad (2005) suggest that the school usually remain empty with a few teachers idling around, who tells, that, the student do not come to school because, the Meos do not value education. However, the members of the community want their children to go to school to learn and not to roam around (Ahmad, 2005). They are specifically concerned about their daughters, and fear, that, in the absence of teachers, they may get involved with boys that will bring bad name to the family. In fact, the educational statistics also shows that the enrolment rate at the primary level are high, but, a very low retention rate after the lower primary stage is reflected. In the case of girls the situation is worse as the withdrawal rate after lower primary goes up as high as 85%.

Besides all these, there is a total insensitivity towards the community's need on the part of the government. This is also because of the identity related issues of the Meo community. Actually, identity is a social construct (Pathak, 2006) and is often manipulated (Thapan, 2014) in everyday life situations, and, the cultural politics of race, class, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, citizenship, and other social categories. It is argued that Meos identity and status as a religious group generate social and psychological insecurities, which affect their education in multiple ways. Therefore, under such case the decrease in education occurs due to two major factors viz a viz. desire for acculturation and the desire for socio-economic mobility (Goldscheider & Uhlenberg, 1969). Psychologically and religiously, majority of Meos are aware that their identity is seen as hateful and alien. They also perceive that they the powerful forces of the society want to dominate and rule them and also try to make them politically impotent (Engineer, 1991). Therefore, in contexts of education, shaping of experiences, worldview and life aspirations of Meo girls must be seen in tandem in relation to the global events and movements within the country (Engineer, 1990).

There is some socio-cultural and linguistic non-commensurability that has widened a chasm between the two communities due to their historical circumstances which are becoming problematic for their developments in the present Indian socio-political situation. The psychological impact of the lingual identity of the Meo community has lessened their chance of development in the era of contest mobility. Further, majority of Meos are rural and live in demographically 'underdeveloped' areas of developed Haryana. The strong feeling of community with several insecurities makes it compulsive for them to live in a cluster of illiterate, poor and tradition bound areas. Most of these areas do not have proper facility of schooling and other amenities.

### **Conclusion:**

Even within their cultural contexts, Meo girls are showing positive sign towards schooling and coming forward for education breaking all the hurdles and cultural boundaries. Actually, Meo girls do not practice purdah, and hence, their retention in school can considerably be enhanced with appropriate steps so as to make them feel secure in and outside the schools. Even, most of the community members who were earlier reluctant to send their girl child to schools have recognized the value of education, and, coming forward to send their girl child to schools. No doubt, a small percentage of educated people from within Meo community have failed to bring about any rapid change (Khan & Patel, 1997) but, one can not deny the reflection of changing attitude towards education among Meo community in general, and, Meo girls, in particular. This also reflects from the fact that, many girls, breaking the socio-cultural boundaries, have made their presence felt by excelling in the field of education and have become a motivating factors for others to come forward.

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## **Schooling, Worldview and Everyday Lived Experience of Muslim Students as a learner**

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### **Abstract**

The present paper have been conceived and formulated on a wide canvas of Muslims in India i.e. in context of their living and seeking of individual and collective significance and the meaning of their existence. It is based on the data collected from 2011 to 2013, in the process of Ph.D. research, where, the samples had been drawn from nine (3 each of boys, girls and co-educational) secondary schools, located in three distinct areas of Delhi viz. a viz. historically situated area (Old Delhi and adjoining areas); post partitioned settled area (Okhla and adjoining areas) and neo-settled area of Delhi (Seelampur and adjoining areas) in order to address the larger meaning of schooling, worldview and everyday lived experiences of children. In spite of its distinctive character, every school nurtures the child, and, influences several aspects of his/her life. However, in case of missing conducive grooming culture, schools mark a deep negative and pervasive impact upon the child. It may lead to mark a deep psychological impact which could impede them from experiencing themselves as a creative and productive person in later life. Further, he/she may feel himself/herself as an alienated being, due to his/her external socio-cultural situation and circumstances. The central argument of this paper has been drawn from the learners' voices collected on the basis of questionnaire containing 21 items, to understand the worldview and everyday lived experiences of children that they generate in school. The evidences show that several processes of schools are responsible for estrangement among students. Some of them are rooted under alien conditions and conflicts with the dominant currents of thoughts of modern times over the entire globe whereas; some are particularly unique product of the sub-continental historical, politico-economic and socio-cultural context. Schools needs to alter many of its activities so as to make it inclusive and holistic.

**Key words:** Muslim students, schooling, worldview, everyday lived experience

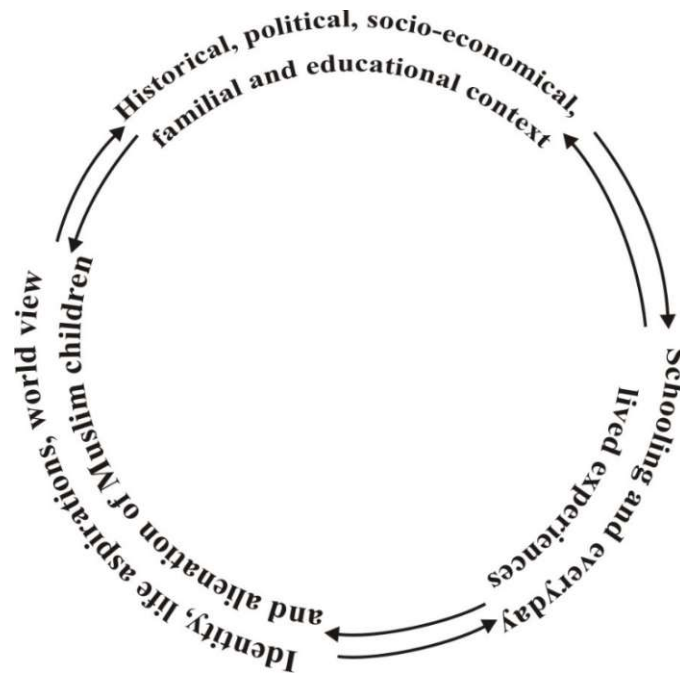
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### **Introduction:**

Education is not just a prerogative, but an agency of life. This is why, any educational transformations, are also seen in terms of social change, as, both are interrelated to life, and, impinge upon each other. The ideas and needs related to education do not come to the human consciousness spontaneously; rather it is necessary to understand the interrelated elements which affect human life. This is because reality of life, as a continual ongoing process, applies to the physical, biological, and psychological realm of the person. Therefore, it becomes relevant to human social life. The social relationship and interactions of human being, if seen in contexts of totality of existence, suggests many distinguishable ordering or patterns. Each type of ordering (atomic, physical, biological, personal, social and cultural) remains interrelated, with one or the other type, and also displays its own unique characteristics and properties. This is why, human life cannot be seen in isolation from the natural surroundings where we live in.

In the case of Muslims, there reflect considerable amount of continuity between Muslim as an individual, and, as a member of a family and the community. This is why the shared cultural

ideas, resulting from interactions, reach from the community, to the family and to the individual. This can also be true in opposite direction. We may see this continuity diagrammatically in the following manner:



(Diagram: A Muslim learner as located in a web of varying contexts; Source: Ahmad, S. 2016, p.137)

It was, therefore, necessary to understand the interrelated issues that impact the individual, as a member of the family and the community. As an individual, the everyday perceptions of the social world lead to create and recreate social life, so as to bring order and meaning to his/her collective social life. The fragmented perceptive responses of the samples reflected multiplicity of perspectives and approaches. Going through these responses, I was able to derive several issues that provided me a direction to further explore the area in an in-depth manner. It was found that many Muslim students do not see the processes of schooling synthesizing into a unified whole and bringing a positive aspect to life. To their dismay, it turns them away from schooling and alienates them. Contrary to this, there are also instances reflected where the process of delineation has already been paved and the hope for a positive life, through schooling and education is visible. Hence, the study was done with the conviction that the emerging areas of exploration would provide a direction to improve education for the marginalized in general and Muslims in particular.

### **A brief reflection upon methodology:**

To unravel the problem, 90 samples students in the age group of 14-17 years of age from 9 schools (3 each of boys, girls and co-educational) were chosen on the basis of purposive sampling. The sample schools were located in three distinct areas of Delhi. These areas were historically situated habitat prior to partition (Old Delhi and adjoining areas); settlement after partition of the country areas (Okhla and adjoining areas) and recent settlements (Seelampur and adjoining areas). The distinctive areas were decided to be chosen, with a belief that 'patterns' that will emerge would not be uniform. This was because Indian Muslims, like any other religious community in India, are fragmented and no homogeneity is found among them. The sample schools included government as well as public schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary

Education and had been chosen with three parameters:

1. Where Muslim students were in majority;
2. Where Muslim students were in almost equal ratio of 'other community students' and
3. Where lesser Muslims students were enrolled as compared to 'others community students'.

The main tools for data collection comprised of questionnaire for students having 21 questions duly validated and tried out. After the collection of data it was analyzed into different headings and subheadings as presented below.

### **Educational experiences, character of schooling and level of educational progression:**

The general perception with regard to education revealed during this study was that 87.77% of the Muslim students firmly believed that education led to success in life and only 11.11% believed the contrary. In spite of the awareness of this positive impact of education, several secondary sources (Razzack, 2006; Ahmad, 1981) suggest that Muslim students show estrangement from schooling. This led me to believe that the causal factors could be emanating out of the processes of schooling that may be making the community members estranged from formal schooling.

Studies (Alam, 2008; Hasan, 1995) suggest that education is, more often, seen by the majority of people in terms of better life prospects that it brings. A person develops a feeling of estrangement if s/he devotes time, energy and economy towards achieving the target for a longer duration, but fail to achieve (Ahmad, 1981). I understood that dissatisfaction towards schooling also emanates due to the role it plays in shaping a person's future. During this exploration, I found an alarming result on this issue. Majority of the samples students showed dissatisfaction towards the quality of education, provided by the schools, located in their respective areas. I believe that schools, where the majority of Muslim students go, have failed to nurture and shape a positive attitude among them. More than half the samples (54.44%) believed that the kind of education they received in the schools located in their areas is worthless and did not provide them any opportunity to push them towards upward mobility, through the kind of education they were receiving. Only 33% students were hopeful with the existing form of education quality and 12.22% were clueless as they did not respond. Such feeling of estrangement from schooling is due to the poor quality and delivery system of education rather than hatred towards schooling. Actually, the processes of schooling have failed to generate positive environment and has shattered the hope of Muslim students towards their future prospects.

### **Learners' perspective as a member of the community:**

While analyzing the perspective as to how Muslim students view education in terms of needs and outcome, I thought it important to understand the students' expectations from education so as to derive a pragmatic solution for de-alienation. I believed that, once the students perceive fulfilling their expectation from education, it will attract them towards schooling. Hence, students were asked to rate the six areas of relevance, in addition to one open ended option, where they had to respond. The rating was to ascertain the important issues that the students consider to get education. The highest number of rating of a particular issue, at each level, by the sample, was considered to be the most essential expectations of the students from education.

The analysis revealed that the majority of Muslim students consider money as the foremost importance which was the highest choice at both the first and second levels. I understand that monetary return in the form of earning a better livelihood and better job expectations is essentially expected from education. It led me to believe that due to financial constraints,



students find it difficult to cope with schooling and education. Further, in case their education does not open the path for a better livelihood, it would ultimately, lead to estrangement. At the third level, provision of equitable opportunities by the government received the highest number of preferences, which suggests that, somewhere, equitable opportunity is missing and students are aware of the same. Hence, it is believed that missing equitable opportunity contributes towards their estrangement from education. The support of the teacher was marked by maximum students at the fourth level, suggesting that teachers support is indeed needed a motivating students for upward mobility. However, in case there is a lack of teachers, the regular class suffers, and this will reflect in their alienation from schooling, as they may not get proper support or guidance. It was, further, found that better quality educational facilities and the students' desire to have access to quality education are missing predominantly in the schools where majority of Muslim students are studying. Hence, the absence of quality education contributes to develop estranged feelings towards schooling. Further, the surrounding environment, including one's habitat, has been marked the highest at the sixth level, suggesting that absence of a better environment is seen as a contributory factor to alienation.

The developmental aspect of education has been agreed upon by every educationist. Hope for development and a positive outcome through education attract a person to devote time, money and energy for a longer duration. However, in its absence, students develop a feeling of estrangement from education and do not get attracted towards schooling. During the study, the students were asked if they thought education was a means for the development of their community. The result shows that 66.66% Muslim students did not perceive education would help develop them. The majority (88.33%) have a negative perception about Muslims getting employment opportunities. 66.66% believe that these jobs go to 'other' community members. 35% of the sample felt that the type of education they received would not improve the economic condition required to lead a respectful family life or as an individual. A miniscule percentage of students believed that their parents were worried about the poor educational quality and fewer job prospects for them. A strong, positive perception towards education is lacking due to this, and fear of discrimination has alienated them from education and schooling. Such perceptions were, further, strengthened as 68.88% Muslim students did not see any school activities in which they could reflect their community's cultural representation. However, 30% find that the school activities did justice to them as community members. Hence, it can be concluded that many schools activities, themselves, are alienating in nature, as rarely it gives consideration in selection to deal with a multicultural dimensional class. As a result, the activities fail to provide opportunities for Muslim students to relate to the processes of schooling. 1.11% students were unable to respond.

### **School: The site of learning**

Educational satisfaction, at school, was one of the major issues that I tried to understand at the micro level, so as to understand the satisfaction and dissatisfaction among the Muslim children. I assumed that there may be some issues related to this with regard to schooling, which may directly or indirectly emanating a feeling of alienation for the larger community members, because of its relation with life's future prospects. During the investigation, I found that the majority of students (46.66%) were only, partially, satisfied with the present education system provided by the schools. The responses reflect an amazing result as an equal number of students (26.66%) were either fully satisfied or not satisfied completely with the education provided. If we ignore the result of the fully satisfied pupils (26.66%) on the grounds that they may not have felt estrangement because of their satisfaction with the schooling processes and club the other two results of partially satisfied and not satisfied together with the belief that partially satisfied

students adjusted themselves without falling into category of satisfied the result I got was 73.32% students were, at least, not totally satisfied with the present schooling system. The alarming percentage of students showing dissatisfaction led the researcher to believe that the schooling processes are one of the more responsible factors that develop a feeling of alienation among Muslim students. This is because 67.77% Muslim students said that they found one or the other problem with education. They revealed that they found school education unattractive, inactive and non-promising.

The analysis suggests that 60.65% students showed their displeasure towards educational functioning. The maximum students belonged to government schools. 54.09% felt poor educational facilities, with low level quality of education and the teachers' absence in the class, led to problems with school education. Irregularity of teachers and political interference were reported by 36.06% students and, where schools were situated in unhygienic and congested areas, this problem was reported by 34.42% students. The other problems were lack of curricular facilities (22.95%), due to boys'/ girls' school, the teachers' non-caring attitude, non-punctuality in teaching, the school not giving attention to the learners, difficulty in coping with school work (19.67%), the indifference of the management (16.39%) to attend to these problems. However, 10% students said that they did not find any problem with school education, where as 22.22% students remained clueless on whether any problem existed with school education.. I found that this dissatisfaction lay more or less in the delivery system of education and the schooling processes, more due to the fact that they came from a particular community.

During the pilot visit to different Muslim inhabited areas, the researcher observed the environment as non-conducive around the schools, which was parallel across almost all the Muslim inhabited areas. The foremost problem among them was that the schools were unguarded, there was frequent and free visits by anyone in and out of the school, students playing truant, unhygienic campuses, unattended classes, students' indiscipline, an unruly environment and so on. The researcher believed that such an environment might impact upon the students' estrangement because they may not get attracted towards such a school environment. To understand its impact, I explored whether the environment of locality around the school affected the education of these students. 78.88% students firmly believed that the environment, around the school, was non-conducive for learning and did not generate a positive feeling towards schooling. However, 8.88% respondents suggested that the environment of the locality was not a contributory factor for their alienation. 12.22% students did not respond either in favour or against it.

In general, students have a firm assessment of schooling located in their area. 71.11% students believed that schools located in Muslim populated areas were inferior, as compared to other areas. At this level of exploration, I only tried to understand if the students were aware either hypothetically or experientially, with regard to the educational facilities provided by their school located in Muslim populated areas. For this, six closed ended and one open ended options were provided, where it was expected that students would write their own reasons, if they did not find their responses in the given options. They were also allowed to mark more than one option if they felt that more than one option, was suitable. The motive was to understand the reasons. The result shows that 70.31% students cited reasons that the schools located in areas, other than Muslim populated areas, were better in educational facilities. 65.62% student said that schools located in other areas provided a rich educational environment, as compared to their own schools. 57.81% students believed that the government/ management is more conscious in taking care of schools in non-Muslim populated areas, as compared to Muslim populated area. Similarly, 42.18% of the sample reasoned that classes located in non-Muslim populated area are more regular. This

suggests that, factors relating to classroom, are other major components that generate estrangement. Further, the students look at education comparatively and construct their perception either hypothetically or actually on the basis of a comparison. The criticism of education provided by their own school also led the researcher to believe that the demand for quality education exists, as a hidden desire for these Muslim students. 29.68% responses suggest that students are well aware of the areas and that the surroundings and environment of their school is less conducive to learning; where as 18.75% blamed the teachers, saying that the teachers working in this area, showed less accountability towards their profession. These reasons were cited in response to exploring their belief as to why they believed that schools, in their area, were inferior to other areas. 16.66% however, did not believe that schools in their areas were inferior to other areas where as 12.22% could not provide any answer to the questions. I understand that habitat and environment constitute major areas to be explored to have a deeper understanding of the students' alienation from schooling.

### **Curriculum: As enacted and as experienced**

I believe that students get motivated towards schooling, if it provides an opportunity to participate in its processes. Further, if the students find education has utilitarian values, it provides a positive view of upward mobility. However, in case this is contrary, it reduces the students' interest, de-motivates them and leads to developing a feeling of alienation towards schooling. The analysis of the result shows that the highest percentage of students (62.22%) believes that the existing education does not generate a positive interest for them to get attracted towards it.

Most of the reasons that emerged for the students' estranged feelings towards education are related to classroom dimensions and pedagogical issues. By arranging the reasons in hierarchical order, I found that the kind of education that is provided in the respective schools, does not generate confidence among students and Muslim students feel they may not get opportunities for better job prospects and a better future. This is why the maximum responses fall in the category of lack of jobs (36.66%) for community members. The second in the hierarchical order was the teacher's behaviour (34.44%) and familial problems (34.44%) that equally contribute in making education uninteresting for Muslim students. Both these reasons (teachers' behaviour and familial problems) were recorded by an equal number of respondents. Further, the students also saw education in terms of investment and return, by investing time, money and energy, for a longer duration. The third major reason that contributed to making education uninteresting was that the students did not feel the quality of education provided by the schools in the areas would lead to better economic growth (33.33%). Further, four reasons viz. a viz. the non conducive environment of residential areas (32.22%), bad school surroundings (32.22%), lack of good teachers (32.22%) and absence of regular teaching (32.22%) were stated. I understand that these reasons have contributed to developing mistrust among Muslim students towards schooling. Apart from these, familial reasons such as unconcerned parents (27.77%) economic constraints (27.77%) were other reasons which made Muslim students estranged from education. Out of all the respondents, 6.66% students were clueless and could not make out whether education was interesting or not.

The researcher found that many secondary sources (Greenland, 1980; Talib, 2000; Rathnam, 2000; Razzack, 2003;) mention that the school curriculum is imbalanced with regard to representation of the Muslim community in school texts and other activities, which has a negative effect on the community members, in terms of participation of Muslims in the school programme. Not finding their representation in the school curriculum does not provide the opportunity to members of the community to relate to the school programme (Smolicz, 1980;



Kumar & George, 2009). Keeping in mind the above aspect, it was explored if Muslim students identified themselves with the school curriculum or did not. The analysis of the responses shows that 62.22% students did not relate to the school curriculum and did not find a reflection of their cultural background. Not finding representation in the school curriculum suggests that the same may have a negative impact upon the mindset of Muslim students, as they may feel unattached to the curriculum. This, in turn, brings about a poor academic performance (Poole, 1980) which becomes the basis of estrangement from schooling. This result is also analytically conducive to the secondary source findings, which suggest that the academic performances of Muslim students are poor, as compared to others. However, 8.88% did identify reflection of their cultural background in the curriculum. It was amazing that 28.88% students were not able to provide an answer to the question, suggesting that they may not be able to identify their cultural background in the school curriculum. The analysis strongly suggests qualitative exploration of this area of the study.

The teachers' behavior has always had a bearing upon children's attitude. Positive behaviour by the teachers, with their students, works as a positive reinforcer, whereby the students get attached to the processes of education and participate in the classroom processes whole heartedly. Contrary to this, in case it is absent, there could be maximum chances of developing a negative perception towards education and schooling, leading, ultimately, to developing an estranged feeling towards schooling. I tried to understand the behavior of the teachers towards Muslim students. The analysis reveals that 45.55% students found a bias in the teachers' behavior, which, somewhere, had a negative perception about schooling. 39% children said that this bias was because teachers praised bright students from the 'other' community. 36.58% students responded that they were compared in a negative manner with students of the other community and teachers undermined students from their community (29.26%). 14.63% students said that teachers did not promote them and they were not involved in activities. The students found support, encouragement and motivation missing from the teachers. A miniscule number of students also complained that teachers did not correct their work (1.11%) loved only studious students (2.22%). Their focus always remained towards bright students (1.11%). I understand that the teachers' active interaction with students plays a very prominent role in developing positive hope. 32.22% students said that they were happy with the way the teachers treated them in class and did not feel they had any biases towards them. 22.22% students were not able to give any clue and did not respond if they found bias in the teachers' behaviour in the class. The researcher perceived that classroom processes could also be taken into account for qualitative exploration of the area of study.

Studies (Talib, 2000; Razzack, 2003) suggest that those students, who are unable to relate themselves to the processes of schooling and find their own reflection and representation in the curriculum, are more likely to remain attached to the school. While exploring secondary sources, I found that the school curriculum is imbalanced (Talib, 2000; Razzack, 2003) with regard to representing Muslim cultural background and believed that it may also have some impact upon the estrangement of Muslim students from schooling. I tried to explore, from the Muslim students, if they saw the reflection of their community in the existing curriculum. The pilot exploration revealed that only one-fourth students (26.66%) found reflection of their community in the curriculum. The majority (73.33%) of Muslim students did not find any reflection in the curriculum. I could not firmly hold the view whether the question was comprehended as representation of the community, in terms of cultural representation, or if it had any other meaning. It was assumed that the question would have been taken differently, which could have been explored further, only through an in-depth interaction.

With this conviction, I have tried to explore the celebration of festivals in the school to show the prevailing cultural ethos. Actually, it also reflects the prevailing religious-cultural dominance and identity of students with the school programmes, as well as association and dissociation of pupils with the celebration of festivals. The result suggests that the majority of schools celebrate festivals related to the dominant culture and very few schools celebrate festivals related to Muslim culture, which has created an identity related issue. In such a situation, Muslim students hardly identify themselves with the school programmes. The preliminary investigation suggests that popular religious festivals of the majority community such as diwali, holi, saraswati puja and dussehra are celebrated with great religious fervor. However, rarely are festivals of the Muslim culture celebrated in schools. As a result, they do not find space in the school activities. It is concluded that, in a plural society, schools represent a multicultural aspect in terms of the school activities. Not finding space in terms of cultural representation, could lead Muslim students to feel unattached to the school programmes. It also does not provide any opportunity for 'others' to get exposed to Muslim culture and tradition. To my opinion, the celebration of different cultural festivals belonging to different sections of society will enhance the cohesion among communities.

## **Understanding experiences and points of view of stakeholders**

### **(a) Learners**

I also tried to explore the personal issues of Muslim students, such as encounters with bullying or teasing in schools. A preliminary exploration shows that negative media projection of the Muslim community has an impact on the mindset of the 'other' community members more in terms of negativity towards the Muslims that reflects in their day-to-day interaction. Once the same is encountered by the school going Muslim children routinely in their daily life, the perception of biasness and negativity towards the whole system is brought about, leading to a feeling of alienation. The preliminary investigation shows that 61.11% Muslim students encountered teasing in one way or the other. 33.33% students did not encounter such experiences, where as 5.55% did not respond suggesting that they may not have analyzed or could not decipher the question.

The security of students is one of the major factors for which parents, constantly, remain concerned about them. In the case of Muslims, this is also one of the major reasons and has led to a covert or overt estrangement of students from schooling. The pilot investigation shows that 55.55% students felt secure where as 36.66% did not feel secure around the school. 7.77% students did not respond to the question. This led the researcher to believe that, primarily, insecurity is another reason which may emanate a feeling of alienation among students.

Active participation in the school activities relates to the processes of schooling. 60% Muslim students participate in most of the school activities. As far as types of participation are concerned, students participate in sports, writing and quiz competitions. Group songs, debates, excursions, declamations, drama and music are the other activities in which students participate. However, a miniscule number of students participate in these activities. 37.77% students showed their receptiveness and responded that they did not participate in any activities of the schools, which suggests that they may not be getting a chance to participate or the school may not be providing opportunities for equal participation. The researcher's analyses showed that under non-participation there are a maximum number of possibilities that students may have developed an alienated feeling, which needs qualitative exploration for understanding alienation. 2.22% students did not respond. With regard to participation in school activities in the pilot study, it was, further explored if the students encountered any hindrance in participation. The analysis reveals that 50% of the students encountered hindrance in participating in school activities. Most of

these hindrances were due to their Muslim minority cultural identity and the fact that they came from a traditional family background. It is also because schools do not cater to organizing activities, keeping in mind the cultural ethos of the community. Two of the reasons that were marked as maximum, fall in the category of parental and familial hindrance, where parents do not allow participation and the familial/cultural background does not permit this participation. Coupled with these two reasons, one of the other reasons for not participating was related to schools where the students were not given a chance to participate, but chances were given only to talented individuals. Further, it was revealed that, in spite of the students' willingness, they could not participate. However, the reasons were not revealed as to why they perceived they could not participate. Preliminary findings suggest that non participation in activities makes the students receptive and activities organized in the school makes them alienated.

### **(b) Parents**

Constant parental check of their children's educational progress works as a guiding force for their educational development. In this context, it was explored if parents visited the school to find out their child's educational progress. The analysis shows that 62.22% parents of Muslim students visited the school to find out about the progress of their children. This suggests that parents are conscious enough towards the education of their children. However, 36.66% did not visit the schools and were least bothered about the educational progress of their children. I also found, in the preliminary investigation, that there were certain percentages of parents who sent their children to school, but did not visit the school to explore their educational progress. The children, in turn, became hostile towards education. They took leverage and had poor results in the examination which, ultimately, led to developing an estranged feeling towards education, as a poor examination result does not work as a motivating factor for students. Further, they did not see the poor academic result, as a guiding factor for better prospects in life. However, 62.22% students felt that parental concern towards their children was a hindrance in their educational aspirations. However, 30% students believed that parental concern was legitimate and they were really concerned for their children. 7.77% did not responded the question.

### **Conclusion:**

The investigation provides a direction for making education inclusive and holistic as it raise various issues related to Muslim students. The findings are not just binding upon the Muslim students; rather, it provides several dimensions towards education of the marginalized. It highlights several issues of concern and directs the efforts of researchers, policymakers and all those who ever want to take benefit from the findings. On the basis of the overall result, it can be inferred that Muslim students do have a firm belief in the developmental aspects of education. However, they are not getting attracted to schooling because of several factors such as low quality education, poor job prospects, bleak chances of upward mobility and so on. It also suggests that alienation of students are more a matter of social class rather of a community and because of the processes of schooling that are far from realities of life.

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## Invisible Childhood: But Why Should I go to School?

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### Abstract

This article conceptualizes the criticalities of ability nurturance in the existing scenarios. It raises pertinent questions about relevance of school experiences in capacitating children to critically assess their own experiences squarely missing for all the children from diverse social and economic groups. The author has theorized that '*Knowledge Unequals*' are correlated with the '*Poverty of Thought*' and vice-versa. Based upon the critical analysis of the everyday experiences, the paper elaborates the essentials of a school system for the purpose of empowering all children to negotiate their positions as an adult and the revised role of adults in creating spaces and opportunities for children do so.

**Key words:** *Knowledge Unequals, Poverty of Thought, Multiple Childhood and Ability Nurturance.*

*As I walked into the park the children playing there said "Namaste Aunty". I responded smilingly. This park is in the neighborhood and all the children play together. Some of these are the children of construction workers living in the under-construction houses. Two boys standing there did not say anything. So I asked them "Kya Raman and Rahul, tum dono mujh se baat nahi karoge ! kuch namaste, dua-salam nahi". They smiled, but still did not say anything. After a few days I saw one of them doing the work of car cleaning. Usually his father used to do that. I thought that what a responsible child, he is supporting his father who must not be well or busy elsewhere. But then I saw his father sitting and chatting with few others in the park. I was quite enraged and decided to explore why this child does not go to school? A discussion with the family revealed some well-known but least acknowledged details in our school system.*

*The child said "mei shyam ko school jata hu. Lekin waha mere hone se teacher ya kisi aur ko koi phark nahi padta. Mei jata hu tou woh yahi kahti rahti hai ki mujhe kuch aata nahi. Mei ghar pe padta nahi. Meri maa aur pitaji ko is baat ki chinta nahi hai ki mei padta hu ya nahi. Jaane per bahut kuch sunna padta hai ya tou phir who koi dhayan hi nahi deti. Mere class ke bakki bachoo ko bhi who issi tarah sunati rehti hai. Unhe hum mei se kisi se koi umeed nahi hai. Kahti hai tum sab school aate hi kyu ho. Mujhe bilkul acchaa nahi lagta. Yaha hum sab mil kar khelte hai. Mei papa mummy ka haath bata deta hu. Mujhe lagta hai meri yaha zarurat hai".*

*The father has his own part of argument "arre didi yaha tou sab bhaache apne pita ke kaam mei haath batate hai. Dekho na Gaurav bhaiya school bhi jaate hai aur apne pita ki factory mei bhi jaate hai. Woh bhi tou bachpan se apne pita ka kaam seekh rahe hai. Phir hamare bacche aisa kare tou kya problem hai, arre padai likhai se kya karega, bulki ye haath ka kaam karna bhi chod dega, bada ho kar kya karega, phir tou poora nikamma ho jayega".*

The neighborhood has a mixed configuration with majority of families engaged in some or the other business. The young boys attend to the family business from an early age. But the families make sure that the children's education is well supported and they accomplish appropriately. The entire situation requires multi-dimensional analysis. On one hand the father has constructed his point of view on the fractional actuality and on the other hand the child's own experiences

established high self-worthiness at home compared to school. Coupled with both these was an imbibed sense of helplessness to negotiate their own positions beyond a preset perimeter.

There are many such children in the neighborhood whose parent work as support in these families. These young boys and girls are often called by the other families and one can hear them say that *dekho bhaiya tou sota hi rahta hai, tu jaldi se jaa kar bazaar se daal la de; Inhe tou ghumne se phursat nahi hai, podho mei paani tu dal de tu tou mera accha bachha hai* and many such similar sentences. Jetkin (1998) while attempting to explain the question of competence discusses in detail that how the mental ability is essentially social and is manifested in receptivity and conservation.

The children feel that their worth is established and these family adults love and respect them for what they do and what their own children can't do; The parents of these children are contented that their children are under the patronage of *babuji and memsahib*; And the children of the other families are learning that these children will continue to support them even during adulthood, all they have to do is to speak politely with them. For any of these children the possibility of developing an ability to move from the state of *reiterating narratives to generating reflections* is not provisioned under the existing systems. The adults in this discussion whether all the parents or the school teachers have contributed in creating such a situation wherein the young children, once grown-up, are automatically prepared to play their roles analogous to the respective adults. The imaging of relative positions is usually generated by *the haves* and *the have-nots* reconcile to the sketches drawn for them. Both, the community based experiences and the school experiences are inflexibly designed to reinforce the obtainable status-quo.

Everyday experiences involve expectations from self and others, dreams and desires, contentment and frustrations. Fanon (1963) explicated that any struggle which has the potential to mobilize every level of society and is built on the intentions and expectations of all the people would be able to address the essentialities to change. He further describes that self-awareness does not mean closing the door on communication. So how crucial is this process of self-awareness? The concern about self presentation extends to all. The efforts on part of the adults to shape the persona of young children usually skip paying any attention to the children's personhood. The apparent conversations, more often than not, are monologues. The children are prearranged at the position of invisibles and their voices (if any) are continually disregarded in the process of planning. The system of maneuvering their voices and actions is thus established, forever.

### **Can the schools do something else?**

Now this is a tricky question. Schools are usually understood as miniature forms of society. So obviously they are designated to reinforce the existing structures. But then there are sufficient occurrences of individual experiences indicating that schools have the potential to play a positive role in redefining people's position. Contrary to this, there are enough narratives about how school based experiences have enhanced miseries in individual's life. The status of resources (human and material) is also well documented. A critical examination of these narratives and citations explain that the continuums of experiences spreading infinitely across all the dimensions are prevalent among all the children. All types of school system depict existence of absolutism as well as open-mindedness. The difference positions around promoting certain forms of conduct as more acceptable than others. While discussing the epistemological imperatives associated with the various processes in school, Freire (1992) spells out that exaggerated emphasis on either freedom or authority is unacceptable from a democratic perspective.

The focal point then is to comprehend the interface that emerges when context of learner comes face to face with the context of learning. Saxena (2016) while discussing the misconstrued notion of ability explains that primarily it's about knowing the complexities and complexities of knowing. The existence of standardized understanding of abilities, restricting the opportunities of forward mobility for many, excluding multiple forms of knowledge, leading to often, contrived school experiences have been theorized through the term *knowledge unequals*.

So can the present scenario be designated as *poverty of thought*? While a barrier free environment in context of inclusive education technically refers to physical infrastructure enabling access, how can the notion of barrier free environment be explicated in term of *enriched thought* ensuring retention? This would require looking beyond the capacities and limitations of the system. The schools reward the students who subscribe to the pre determined positions within the curriculum. The diversity in assimilation and expression is least utilitarian Saxena(2012). According to Bangs, Macbeath & Galton (2011), the reason for why teachers don't teach the way they believe they should may be explained by differing and inter-connecting factors which are policy and culturally related as well as embedded in the day- to- day pragmatic of schools and classroom. The schools will need to reinvent themselves as places where individual experiences are discussed without any prejudice and the multiplicity of experiences are understood as wealth and not baggage. The schools will need to shift into the emerging paradigm- *from judgment to justice*. The process will necessitate relocating the principal position of expecting from the children to providing for the children.

Of course schools will always work through some content and the content will persistently be pre-determined. But the transaction of content is fundamental in establishing school systems. Enhancing pedagogy through professional dialogue can capacitate the school systems in enriching the everyday experiences of the children. When the schools mechanisms make provisions to weave in the lived experiences of children in multiple facets of pedagogy, the children will run to the schools with an enhanced feel of belongingness. Their self-worthiness would be escalated; their voices will no longer be the noises; their instrumental value will be re-negotiated and their person will be respected and nurtured.

**Endnote:** The author has presented some theoretical positions in this article. The terms *knowledge unequals*, *poverty of thought*, *enriched thought* are originally coined. The two processes described as *reiterating narratives to generating reflections* and *from judgment to justice* are also conceptualized by the author.

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## **A Study of Educational Achievement of Secondary School Students in Relation to Parental Encouragement**

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### **Abstract**

The recent changes in social institutions like family and marriage on one hand and increase in social mobility, verbalization and contrast with different cultures on the other have resulted in reconfiguration of the socio cultural space in which children grow and development to become functional adult members of the society. The task of up bringing of children is assuming new dimensions in the changing cultural landscape of developing country like India. The study of parenting has been an area of interest for students of human development and a variety of theoretical approaches have been proposed to understand the nation of parents. Parental behaviour and encouragement has a great influence on the development of a child's personality and educational achievement. Not only the parental encouragement or attitude but the environment of home or family play an important role in child's development. Actually, family means an interpersonal relationship of parents and child's and other members of family.

**Keywords : Educational achievement; secondary school students; Parental encouragement**

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### **Introduction:**

The recent changes in social institutions like family and marriage on the one hand and increase in social mobility, urbanization and contract with different cultures on the other have resulted in reconfiguration of the socio cultural space in which children grow and development to become functional adult members of the society. The task of up bringing of children is assuming new dimensions in the changing cultural land space of developing countries like India. The study of parenting has been an area of interest for students of human development and a variety of theoretical approaches have been proposed to understand the nation of parents.

Parents aware of the psychology of child development and not having learnt the skills for effective parenting develop some erroneous beliefs about the nature and characteristics of the psychological needs of children. Most of these beliefs and parental behaviour guided by them, have deleterious effects on child development. These beliefs are numerous and most of the parents have some of them. It would be useful to mention some of them. It is commonly believed and more so in India society, that children must obey their parents and must not ever question or disagree, with their parents. Such a beliefs interferes with the development of self esteem, self confidence and sense of independence.

Some parents are over protective and quite often pamper them because of their tacit belief that children must not be frustrated. They do not realize that occasional frustration are not only natural facts of life, but also motivation enhancing. If properly handled, frustrated children learn

to work successfully in the face of challenges. Another common belief, prevalent among some well educated parents is that if a child misbehaves, it must be punished heavily and immediately. It is true that severe punishments suppress behaviour for longer period but create highly undesirable effects in a child. Parental encouragement help the child is the positive development among the children and help them to develop positive traits among them. Parents serve as teachers of their children at home and also serve as volunteers and supporter at school. The next two include parents becoming advocates for their children and decision makers in school in such areas as school policy, hiring and budget. It is easy to understand that not all administration and faculty would be comfortable with these last two. Hickman (1999) cited research which focused on secondary school level.

Many studies have established that student's parental encouragement is not vague or random. There are many factors like family encouragement socio economic status intelligence, values and personality characteristics which influences the educational achievement of students. In a very short time it would not be possible for an individual researcher to study the role of all of them in shaping the parental encouragement of students. Therefore the researcher choose only one factor parental encouragement, which has been regarded on important factor influencing the educational achievement of students.

### **Statement of the problem:**

“A study of educational achievement of secondary school students in relation to parental encouragement.”

### **Justification of the problem:**

The age of 10<sup>th</sup> class students come under adolescent period. Adolescent period is a period of stress and strain. Generally secondary school students are in adolescent period, class achievement of these students depends upon multi factors. Some of them have moderate ad indirect effect.

Many factors like diet, environment , family situation, society, school, company of student's friends encouragement and parental encouragement are major factors effecting the student's achievement in the school. But the important role or parental encouragement of educational achievement of the student. So the researchers has selected the topic 'A'. A study of educational achievement of secondary school students in relation to parental encouragement.

### **Need of the study:**

Parental encouragement as perceived by the child has great impact on child's development. Actually the important thing in that how a child perceived the behavior of his/ her parents, rather how they behave in real. Parental encouragement is an art of creating an environment of children, parenting allows them to grow into wholesome and healthy adults. In essence parenting is the recognition by each individual of his or her personality to protect , care for and nurture the young.

Therefore with the help of the study the researcher to find out the effect of parental encouragement on the development of child and his behavior and achievement in study life.

### **Objectives of the study:**

1. To find out study the effect of parental encouragement on educational achievement of rural and urban area's student.
2. To find out study the effect of parental encouragement on student's educational achievement of rural area's boys and girls.



3. To find out student the effect of parental encouragement on education achievement of Urban area boys and girls students.
4. To find out the level of parental encouragement on rural & urban area's students.
5. To find out study the attitude of parents towards education of rural & urban area's student.
6. To study the difference between the parental encouragement on educational achievement of rural boys & urban boys student.
7. To study the difference between the parental encouragement on educational achievement of rural girls and urban girls students.
8. To study the difference between the attitude of parental encouragement on educational achievement on rural and urban area's student.

### **Hypothesis**

1. There is no significant difference on the effect of parental encouragement on educational achievement in rural and urban area's student.
2. There is no significant difference between the rural area's boys and girls educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement.
3. There is no significant difference between the educational achievement rural area's student girls student and urban area's school's girls student difference between parental encouragement on educational achievement of rural boys and urban boys student.
4. There is no significant difference between parental encouragement on educational achievement of rural boys and urban boys students.
5. There is no significant difference between the rural girls and urban girls students educational achievement.

### **Delimitations**

1. The researchers has opted only one type of encouragement i.e. "Parental encouragement".
2. The effect of parental encouragement is to be seen on the student educational achievement.
3. The researchers have not taken in to consideration the all students but only on 10<sup>th</sup> class students having been considering in the student.
4. There is 100 students has selected for this study 50 rural and 50 urban students. Sample of 100 students is considered.
5. The researcher has selected rural and urban area in Rewari District only.

### **Methods, sample, tool and technique**

#### **Methods**

The researcher used the large frame work of the descriptive survey method of research.

#### **Sample**

The study has been done on a sample of 100 students of 10<sup>th</sup> class selected from four senior secondary schools at Rewari Distt., two rural and two urban schools.

#### **Tools**

The researcher has used Dr. R.R. Sharma's Parental Encouragement Scale Test.

#### **Statistical technique**

- i) Calculation of Mean

- ii) Calculation of Standard Deviation
- iii) Calculation of 't' value

### **Findings**

The statistical analysis of data presents in the tables helped in testing the various hypotheses formulated to realize the objectives of study.

### **Following are the brief findings:-**

1. There is no significant difference between the educational achievement of 10<sup>th</sup> class rural and urban area's school's student in relation to parental encouragement.
2. There is no significant difference between 10<sup>th</sup> class student of rural area's school's girls and boy's educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement.
3. There is no significant different between educational achievement of 10<sup>th</sup> class students of urban school's girls and boys in relation to parental encouragement.
4. There is no significant difference between the educational achievement of 10<sup>th</sup> class students rural school's girls and urban school's girls.
5. There is no significant difference between the educational achievement of rural school's boys and urban school's boy's students.

### **Conclusions:**

From the above findings we can conclude that the rural and urban areas school's 10<sup>th</sup> class students have similar education achievement in relation to parental encouragement. We find that the rural school's girls and boys students are similar in their educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement. It was found that the urban school's girls and boys are also similar in their educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement. It was found that the rural school girls and urban areas school's girls are also similar in their educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement. From the findings we can conclude that the rural and urban school's boys have similar educational achievement in relation to parental encouragement.

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## Parents' Attitude towards Higher Education of Girls

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### Abstract

Education is an indispensable tool in the hands of women to increase her participation in economic activities and also to gain significance in decision making roles. The purpose of the present paper is to study the attitude of parents towards girls' higher education. The study covers educational issues namely **educational achievement of boys & girls, suitable academic subjects for girls, scholarship policies for girls, parent's education etc.** The data was collected from adopted villages of Central University of Haryana. The study collected data from 14 parents whose daughters are pursuing higher education or have completed post-graduation in 2014-15 session. The attitude of parents is studied using semi-structured interviews and data is analysed through content analysis method.

### Introduction:

"World leaders have an unprecedented opportunity this year to shift the world onto a path of inclusive, sustainable and resilient development." (Helen Clark, UNDP)

The fifth goal among the 17 sustainable development goals is gender equality. Some pertinent issues seeking world attention in 21st century are gender equality and feminism. India is striving hard to achieve these goals and has taken several measures to bring gender equality.

India has moved a lot ahead from the situation which persisted at the time of independence when the report of the University Education Commission spoke against female education, referring to it as: "Women's present education is entirely irrelevant to the life they have to lead. It is not only a waste but often a definite disability." The position of women has strengthened on different fronts and one of that front is education. Women's literacy rate has grown over the three decades and the growth of female literacy has, in fact, been higher than that of male literacy rate. While in 1971 only 22% of Indian women were literate, by the end of 2001, 54.16% women were literate. The growth of female literacy rate is 14.87% as compared to 11.72 % in case of male literacy growth rate. The Constitution of India guarantees the right to equality to all Indian women without discrimination. Before Independence, literacy rate was 2.6% that rose to 15.3% in 1961 and 50% by the year 2001. And now, according to the 2011 Census, the male literacy rate is 82.14 while female literacy rate is 65.46. (Kumar, J. & S. 2013)

The comparison between the gender-wise literacy rate in rural and urban areas in 2001 & 2011 reveals that the literacy rate went up from 64.84% in 2001 to 74.04% in 2011, showing an increase of 9.21%. In 2001, female literacy stood at 53.67% and gradually it has gone up to 65.46% in 2011. The gender gap in literacy has come down from 24.57 in 2001 to 19.22 in 2011 in rural areas and from 13.41 in 2001 to 9.65 in 2011 in urban areas. And the gap between the literacy rate in urban and rural areas has also declined from 21.18 percentages in 2001 to 16.34

percentage in 2011 (Singh, L. 2014). The data presents a pleasant picture of the rise in female literacy rate. The improvement in social and economic status of women is said to be one of the reasons for this satisfying growth in literacy rate. In urban areas, the literacy rate between girls and boys is almost equal, however, the female literacy rate in rural areas continues to be less than the male literacy rate. 40% of the centers under non-formal education (NFE) programs are set apart for women. (Kumar, J. & S. 2013). The present paper is a humble attempt towards studying the scenario of girls' higher education from the perspective of their parents. It attempts to study the attitude of parents towards girls' higher education and the results of the study might contribute in bringing in light the real factors assisting or obstructing girls' higher education in rural India.

### **Research Questions of Study:**

**The research question for the present study is as follows:**

*“What attitude do parents of the adopted villages of CUH hold about the impact of educational issues on girls' higher education?”*

### **Methodology:-**

#### **Research Method Used-**

The researchers have used case-study method for the present research. The researchers used semi-structured interviews for data collection which were conducted with participants/conversational partners. Secondly, the researchers maintained field notes throughout the inquiry. It is well said that if one is doing qualitative research, the researcher must plan to be in the environment for enough time to collect good data and understand the nuance of what is occurring. The semi-structured interviews were conducted on the basis of self-made questionnaires. The questionnaire consisted of open-ended questions to give enough scope to the participants to express themselves on the asked topics, more freely.

#### **Data Collection Procedure**

The researchers conducted survey in six adopted villages to find out the number of parents whose daughters are pursuing higher education or have completed P.G. in 2014-15 session. The study selected three villages on the basis of difference in male and female literacy in the concerned villages. The data of literacy level of six villages was collected from the survey conducted by the Department of Sociology, Central University of Haryana and three villages- Pali, Dhauli and Jant which have the highest difference in male-female literacy, were selected for the study. The study further collected data from all the 14 selected parents and used semi-structured interviews and content-analysis method for analysis of data relating to the attitude of parents towards girls' higher education.

#### **Data analysis**

In the present study, data is analyzed in the form of thematic content analysis. Content analysis is a process of summarizing and reporting the main contents of data and their meaning. It is a set of process of analysis, examination and verification of the contents of the data collected. The data is analyzed on the basis of the various themes which are categorized according to the main theme i.e. attitude of the selected parents of the girls from adopted villages towards educational issues in general and girls' higher education in particular. The sub themes include— **educational achievement of boys & girls, suitable academic subject for daughters, scholarship policies for girls, aspired level of education for daughters, and parents' education.**

## **Analysis of the Data: -**

### **Educational Issues:-**

#### **Sub-Theme 1: Educational achievement of boys and girls**

- 1) In the present study, data is analyzed in the form of thematic content analysis. Content analysis is a process of summarizing and reporting the main contents of data and their meaning. It is a set of process of analysis, examination and verification of the contents of the data collected. The data is analyzed on the basis of the various themes which are categorized according to the main theme i.e. attitude of the selected parents of the girls from adopted villages towards educational issues in general and girls' higher education in particular. The sub themes include— educational achievement of boys & girls, suitable academic subject for daughters, scholarship policies for girls, aspired level of education for daughters, and parents' education.

*“Mother of Vandana stated that her daughter has achieved better than her son in education. Her daughter got prize of Rs. 500 in 10th class. So, her daughter is more intelligent than her son”.*

*“Mother of Savita said that her daughter is more intelligent than her son. Her daughter got prize in form of books and pen from her educational institute”.*

*“Mother of Asha said that her daughter takes a lot of interest in education in comparison to her son”.*

- 2) Some of the parents said that their younger children achieve more in education than elder children. They are more intelligent and they take more interest in education.

*“Mother of Pinki and Savita said that her two younger daughters are more intelligent than her son”.*

### **Conclusion:-**

**Mostly** parents agree that girls' educational achievement is better than boys. Girls are responsible, sincere and take more interest in education. Some of the parents said that both of their children i.e son and daughter are intelligent in education. But only few parents said that their son is more intelligent than their daughter. The opinion of parents regarding the education of their female children is positive as they think their daughter is intelligent and deserves higher education. It is a positive indication as positive opinion of parents suggests that they will take persistent steps for their daughter's education.

#### **Sub-Theme 2: Suitable subject for your daughter**

The interviews with parents revealed the following observations:

- 1) Most of the parents said that suitability of the subject/discipline depends on the interest of their daughter. Two parents said that Mathematics subject is more suitable for girls; because their daughter takes more interest in Mathematics and, therefore, their daughter has completed M.Sc in Mathematics. So, according to them, it depends on their daughter's interest. It might be inferred that they gave first preference to their daughter's interest.

*“Mother of Vanadna said that suitability of subject depends on her daughter's interest”.*

*“Mother of Priyanaka and Garima said that suitable subject for daughter is Mathematics. She takes more interest in Mathematics”.*



- 2) One of the parents said that suitable subject for his daughter is technology. As 21st century is the century of technology so he would prefer his daughter to go in the field of technology and get education, accordingly.

*“Father of Pooja said that suitable subject for girls is technology due to its growing demand in present times”.*

- 3) One of the parents finds Sociology and languages as suitable for girls. Language is more important because Hindi is the mother tongue and English has a lot of demand in service sector. He likes Sociology, Hindi and English as preferred subjects for girls.

*“Father of Santosh said that suitable subject for girls is the subject which gives the student knowledge about society and languages.”*

- 4) Some of the parents said that they are illiterate so they don't know about educational issues.

*“Mother of Pinki, Savita, Priyanaka and Asha said that they are illiterate. They don't know about this”.*

### **Conclusion:-**

A significant number of parents said that the choice of subject depends on girls' interest. On the other hand, some of the parents prefer Science, Mathematics and Technology. They asserted that we are living in an era of technology so these subjects will open the gateway of jobs for their daughter and she can become self-reliant. So, they give first preference to Science and Mathematics subjects. Parents believe that with Science and Mathematics degree, they have greater chances of getting government jobs and even if a girl does not get government job then the doors of private sector are open to them. The private sector also offers good salary to the candidates with degree in sciences and Mathematics. The illiterate parents have no say in this issue. The Table-1 given below also clearly states that out of the sample of fourteen girls, five girls are pursuing higher education in Mathematics and sciences and six girls are studying languages. So, we can conclude that parents prefer their girls to pursue higher education in science, mathematics and languages though they give first preference to daughter's choice and interest. They don't force their daughter for subject selection.

### **Sub-Theme 3: Scholarship Policies**

The interviews with parents revealed the following opinions:

- 1) Most of the parents said that scholarship policies provide adequate financial assistance for the higher education to their children. When economic condition of the parents is weak, these policies are helpful in continuing higher education. Girls can easily take admission and pursue further education with the help of scholarships. One of the mothers said that the monetary assistance provided by government in form of scholarship is a big help for poor parents. One of the mothers said that some of the schemes and policies such as the honour of flag-hoisting by the girl with highest degree motivates the parents and their daughters to go for higher education. Such schemes don't provide financial assistance but provides psychological motivation to the parents and girls for higher education.

*“Father of Renu and Aachuki said that scholarships are helpful for economically weak parents”.*

*“Mother of Vandana said that such schemes and policies motivate parents and their daughter for getting higher education”.*

- 2) Some of the parents are of the view that scholarship policies are not helpful in getting higher education to every girl. They added that they belong to Rajput community which is an unreserved or general caste and so they are deprived of the schemes offered to reserved categories by the government and so despite their poor financial status, they cannot enjoy the benefits of economic assistance offered by government. They assume that policies are helpful only for reserved castes.

*“Mother of Garima and Father of Pooja said that these policies are helpful only for SCs and STs and don't help general caste”.*

- 3) Two parents said that they are illiterate so, they don't know about these scholarship programmes and policies.

*“Mother of Savita and Pinki said that they are illiterate. They don't know about this”.*

### **Conclusion:-**

Most of the parents said that scholarship policies are helpful in higher education for girls. But some of the parents said that because they belong to general category, scholarships/stipends don't help in getting higher education. They said that they have to struggle for children education because of their weak economic condition but government doesn't help them. A few parents said that they don't know about scholarship policies because they are illiterate. So, it may be concluded that the policies for financial assistance are helpful in higher education for the girls belonging to specific categories while others are deprived of these benefits. It clearly marks that Caste system has an effect on scholarship policies and prospects of higher education for girls. It can also be concluded from the information given by the parents during interviews that they are unaware of the scholarships and schemes meant for economically underprivileged students like Earn While You Learn. Therefore, there is a need to spread awareness among the parents about the scholarships and other schemes which their wards can avail while pursuing higher education.

### **Sub-Theme 4: Level of Education Appropriate for Girls**

- 1) **This sub theme aims to find out the attitude of parents regarding the level of education they think is appropriate for their daughters. The interviews with parents revealed that most of the parents leave the issue of 'level of education' to the decision of their daughter.** If daughter is interested in getting higher education, they would help their daughter. Some of the parents said that if their daughter wants to pursue higher education after marriage, they will help her financially and co-operate while others said that they would not help their daughter financially for getting higher education after marriage. So they presented a mixed response.

*“Mother of Vandana and Priyanaka said that if daughter is interested in getting higher education, they would help her in getting higher education”.*

*“Father of Santosh said that after marriage he will help his daughter financially and co-operate for pursuing higher education”.*

*“Father of Lalita said that if his daughter wants to get further education after marriage then it is the responsibility of her in-laws. He will not offer help for the higher education of his daughter after marriage”.*

- 2) Two parents said that as they belong to low income family so it won't be possible for them to help their daughter pursue education beyond masters.

*“Mother of Asha and Father of Pooja said that they can help her complete only post graduate”.*

### Conclusion:-

Most of the parents leave the issue of pursuing higher education on the interest of their daughters. The parents aim to make their daughters economically independent but in some cases they don't provide opportunities for higher education to girls due to social barriers such as marriage, caste system, etc. Therefore, it may be said that parents are willing to provide higher education to their daughters but the factors like marriage, caste system and low economic status affect their decisions, significantly.

### Sub- Theme 5: Parents' Education

**Table1: Parents' Education**

Sr.	Name of the Girl	Educational Qualification of Mother	Educational Qualification of Father	Educational Qualification/Level of the Girl
1	Vanadana	5 <sup>th</sup>	Illiterate	M.Sc in Maths
2	Asha	8 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	M.Sc in Maths
3	Savita	Illiterate	12 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in Hindi
4	Pinki	5 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> after ITI	M.A in Sanskrit
5	Garima	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in Geography
6	Priyanaka	8 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	M.Sc in Maths
7	Asha	Illiterate	8 <sup>th</sup>	M.Sc in Maths
8	Nidi	10 <sup>th</sup>	LLB	M.A. in Pol. Science
9	Renu	5 <sup>th</sup>	B.A	M. Com
10	Pooja	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	M.Sc in Chemistry
11	Santosh	5 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in English
12	Lalita	Illiterate	12 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in English
13	Aachuki	Illiterate	10 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in Hindi
14	Priyanaka	Illiterate	8 <sup>th</sup>	M.A in Hindi

### Conclusion:

**Out of the total** fourteen parents interviewed, twelve mothers have below matric education and in case of fathers eight have attained the education below secondary-level .The education status of most of the parents is very low and some of them are illiterate too but despite these restraints their daughters are pursuing post-graduation and some of the girls completed M.A, last year. It can be concluded that despite poor educational status of parents, they bear a positive attitude towards girls' higher education.

### Conclusion

The overall positive attitude among the parents of the adopted villages of Central University of Haryana towards higher education for girls is indicative of remarkable change in the perception

of parents and society towards girls. Haryana is among the states with lowest density of female population and it is also cited that one of the main causes of gender bias is inadequate education. The positive results of the study provides a reason to cherish as the study concludes that the parents in the adopted villages of Central University of Haryana are confident of their girl's academic achievements and so they prefer their daughters to take up subjects such as sciences, mathematics and technology as they think that these subjects will get them good jobs and can help girls in becoming economically independent. It sounds quite progressive that the parents are no more guided by taboos and biases regarding the prospects and professions for their daughters. However, the factors such as marriage, caste system and low economic status pose as barriers in some cases. The Centre for Community Development, Women Empowerment Cell, Equal Opportunity Cell, NSS, Youth Red Cross and other cells and clubs operating in Central University of Haryana can take note of the issues and conduct awareness programs for the parents regarding choice of subjects, scholarships/stipends, schemes of financial assistance by the governments, UGC and other agencies. It can further spread awareness to curb social problems like preference of marriage over education for girls, caste issues, considering girl as a liability than an asset.

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## **Generation of Electricity by the Method of Triboelectrification by using Human Hand**

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### **Abstract**

Mechanical Energy harvesting from our living environment is effective route in obtaining clean, cost-effective, sustainable and maintenance free electric energy for wireless, portable and implanted electronics and it is becoming increasingly important for its availability and abundance in our living environment. Conversion of mechanical energy into electrical energy using Triboelectric Generator is fast emerging as a simple, cost-effective and highly efficient approach for generating electricity in a wide range. Here we demonstrated a rationally designed two-dimensional planar structured Triboelectric Generator on the basis of Contact Separate Electrification between a polymer sheet and human hand. The output voltage of this device is -0.05V. Through a power management circuit a Triboelectric-Generator-based power-supplying-system can provide a constant direct-current source for sustainable driving and charging commercial electronics which shows the feasibility of triboelectric generator as a practical power source.

**Keywords: - Triboelectrification, PTFE, Contact Separate electrification**

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### **Introduction:-**

Harvesting different forms of new, renewable and non-conventional energy like mechanical, wind, mechanical stress, tidal, sea waves, rotatory etc. from our living environment are proving to be a credible sources for energy generation particularly electrical energy with a variety of applications in portable, wireless and implanted electronics. As the thrust in electronic is towards designing and developing wireless, portable and multifunction devices there is a desperate need to develop independent and maintenance-free power sources. Recent studies for harvesting different forms of mechanical energy like wind, mechanical stress, tidal, sea waves, rotatory etc. to generate electrical energy using triboelectric effect [1-9] offer effective and promising alternative for powering low energy consumption devices because of abundance of such forms of energy in our living environment and human body. The first application of nanoscale energy harvesting came in 2006, with the development of Piezoelectric Nano Generators (PNGs) to efficiently convert tiny scale mechanical energy into electricity for energizing low power devices. Recently, application of triboelectric effect to generate electricity by fabricating Triboelectric Nano generators (TENGs) was reported [2-9]. TENG employs the principle of contact electrification to harvest frictional energy produced by periodic contact and separation of two polymer plates. In order to generate electricity which can power everyday electronic



devices and systems, TENG should be designed to have suitable current and voltage generation capabilities.

The above mentioned two different types of Nano generators utilize similar principle for producing electricity: generation of immobile charges (ionic charges for Piezoelectric Nano Generator (PNG) or electrostatic charges on insulators for TENG) and contact and separation of oppositely charged surfaces carried out in a periodic manner to develop a potential difference across the electrodes, which facilitates the flow of free electrons on the surface through an external load. The potential difference and current generation is highly dependent on the efficiency of the above two processes.

The potential difference induced and charge generated in TENG, depend on the ability of the materials used to produce electrostatic charges on opposite sides. For these materials which have largest difference in the ability to attract electrons are chosen and their surface morphology is suitably modified to ensure that largest surface area is available for contact electrification. It is also important to control the periodic switching between contact and separation of the two oppositely charged surfaces in order to ensure that there is no saturation of charges so that optimal electrostatic potential across the two electrodes is maintained, to drive the flow of free electrons. Continuous contact between the two oppositely charged surfaces will not favour electricity generation.

Though harvesting mechanical energy using triboelectric effect has been demonstrated as a simple, cost-effective and robust method for generation of electrical energy but its output in terms of power and current generation for effective utilization in electronic and other everyday devices is still being investigated [1-9]. At first we thought of a Triboelectric Generator (TEG) device by utilizing the Contact Electrification between the Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) sheet and air which are the most negative and most positive material in Triboelectric series [10], respectively. This TEG should be the most efficient device. We are working on the process but because of lack of time, instrumentation and some other factors like air and PTFE friction, proper contact between the two surfaces was not achieved, as a result of which we could not get required output.

Here we demonstrate a simply designed TEG by utilizing the contact electrification between polymer sheet and human hand. The output voltage reached nearly -0.05V. The electricity generation capabilities of TEG were investigated and it was observed that they can act as a sustainable power source for lighting up Light-Emitting-Diode (LEDs) and also be used for charging Lithium-Ion-Battery which power cell phones, mobiles, laptops or other electronic devices.

### **Methodology:-**

#### **Device Structure:-**

Our proposed device is based on the contact electrification between Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) sheet as the bottom surface and human hand as the top surface. According to the triboelectric series the purposely chosen human hand and PTFE are at the two ends of the series with very large difference in ability to attract and retain electrons. This combination of two helps to carry out the action of effective charge separation and contact by rubbing with human hand on the PTFE sheet.

This device as shown in Figure-1 does not require any special fabrication process. In order to make this structure, all we need is a PTFE sheet, a metal sheet, here we used copper “Cu” metal, which is used as an electrode, sand paper, adhesive paste, LED lights and some wires to connect.

Here the friction occurs between the human hand and the PTFE sheet. No specially fabricated PTFE sheets were used. A simple PTFE sheet of thickness of 2mm is used, which are readily available in market. Generally this readymade PTFE sheet has smooth surface. So in order to enhance the electricity generation, the surfaces were made a little bit rough by rubbing sand papers on the surface of PTFE sheet, as a result of which the surface area for friction increases and hence the friction between the two surfaces also.

We used an adhesive made up of Silicon named as Anabond 666, which is also easily available in market, to glue the metal surface of “Cu” below the PTFE sheet, which acts as a single electrode. Hence the metal sheet is connected to the ground to complete the circuit. Thus it is a very simple and uncomplicated device, which does not require any complex fabrication process and hence no highly sophisticated laboratory is required. Anyone can make this device at home with all the above available material.



Figure-1, The structure of TEG device.

### **Working Mechanism:-**

As mentioned earlier that the device is completely based on the contact electrification between the human hand as top surface and the PTFE sheet as the bottom. The operation of this device is realized by applying a cyclic or frequent rubbing on the whole area of the PTFE sheet, so that the two surfaces are periodically incontact closely with each other. During rubbing action there is a time gap after each two successive rubbing strokes on the surface, as a result the two surfaces will separate apart.

The working principle of hand-PTFE TEG is schematically depicted in Figure 2. Initially, before the contact of the triboelectric polymer surfaces, since there is no charge transfer hence no electric potential develops across the surface. Upon rubbing the two surfaces (PTFE and human hand in the present case), there will be full contact between the surfaces as the hand is rubbed on the PTFE sheet, which results in electron transfer from material in the positive side of the triboelectric series to the one in the negative side of the series. Accordingly, electrons will be injected from the human hand to the PTFE surface, leaving positive charges on the human hand.

Previous theoretical study reveals that such a charge transfer process will continue in the first few hundreds of cycles until the accumulated charges reach a saturation to establish equilibrium, the negative charges will be preserved on the PTFE surface due to its insulator nature. However the positive charge on the human hand is of no use but here the negative charges play an important role for generation of electricity. So here we only consider the negative triboelectric charges as the triboelectric charges.

During each rubbing stroke, the two surfaces are made in close contact and get separated, as a result, the triboelectric charges will stay on the outer surface of the PTFE sheet with some surface density and let it be  $\sigma_0$  (Figure-2). Thus these charges with opposite signs will be virtually in the same plane and there will be little potential difference across the two layers for few seconds due to negligible charge separation. Once the rubbing hand is released, the two surfaces will immediately get separated. If the charge transfer has not happened at the moment, then the PTFE sheet is negatively charged.

Since below the PTFE sheet, the copper plate is glued, so the foil gets positively charged due to the effect of negatively charged PTFE sheet by the induction method. As a result a potential difference generates between the metal plate and the ground. Such potential difference will drive flow of positive charges from the “Cu” sheet to ground through an external load, until the potential difference is fully offset by the transferred charges, rendering the ground with a surface charge density of  $\Delta\sigma$ , while the “Cu” sheet is left with  $\sigma_0 - \Delta\sigma$  (Figure 2d).

Subsequently, when the TEG is again rubbed to reach the close contact of the two surfaces, these redistributed charges will inversely build a positive potential on the ground (Figure-2e), which will drive all of the transferred charges ( $\Delta\sigma$ ) to flow back to the copper surface. With this the full cycle will complete and the device will go back to the equilibrium state depicted in Figure-2b.

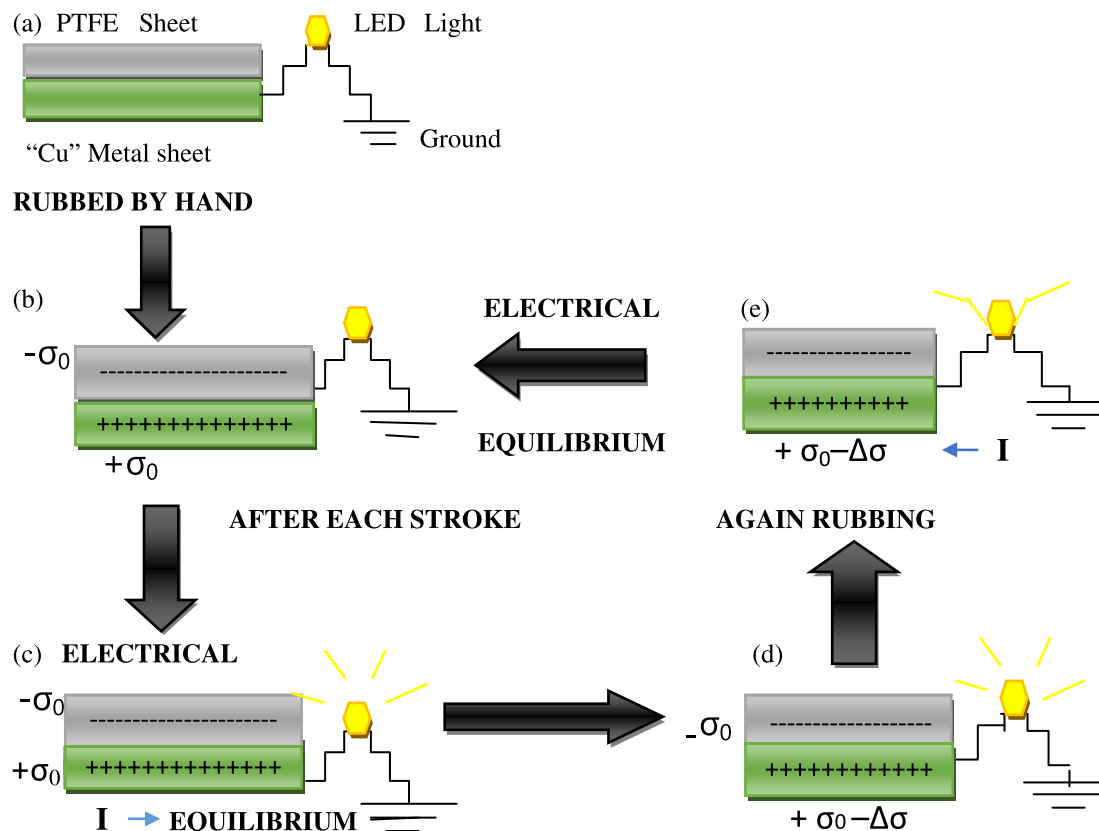
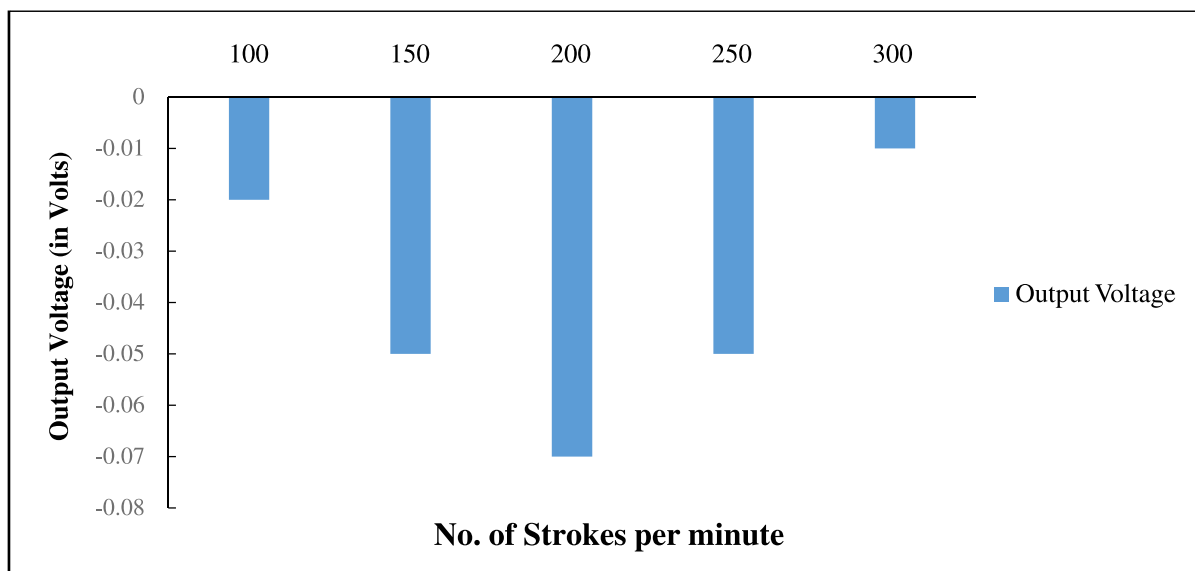


Figure-2 The working mechanism of TEG

## Results and Discussions:-

Under the above described periodic rubbing scenario, the electric output measurement was performed on a rectangle shaped sheet at a size of 36cm\*16cm, with 150 number of strokes per minute. Since the accumulation of the triboelectric charges increases and attains equilibrium in a certain period of time after multiple cycles, the output will gradually go up in the first stage upon rubbing. The factors that could influence, the output of the TEG is rubbing frequency or the number of rubbing strokes per minute and the frictional surface area i.e. the area of the PTFE sheet.

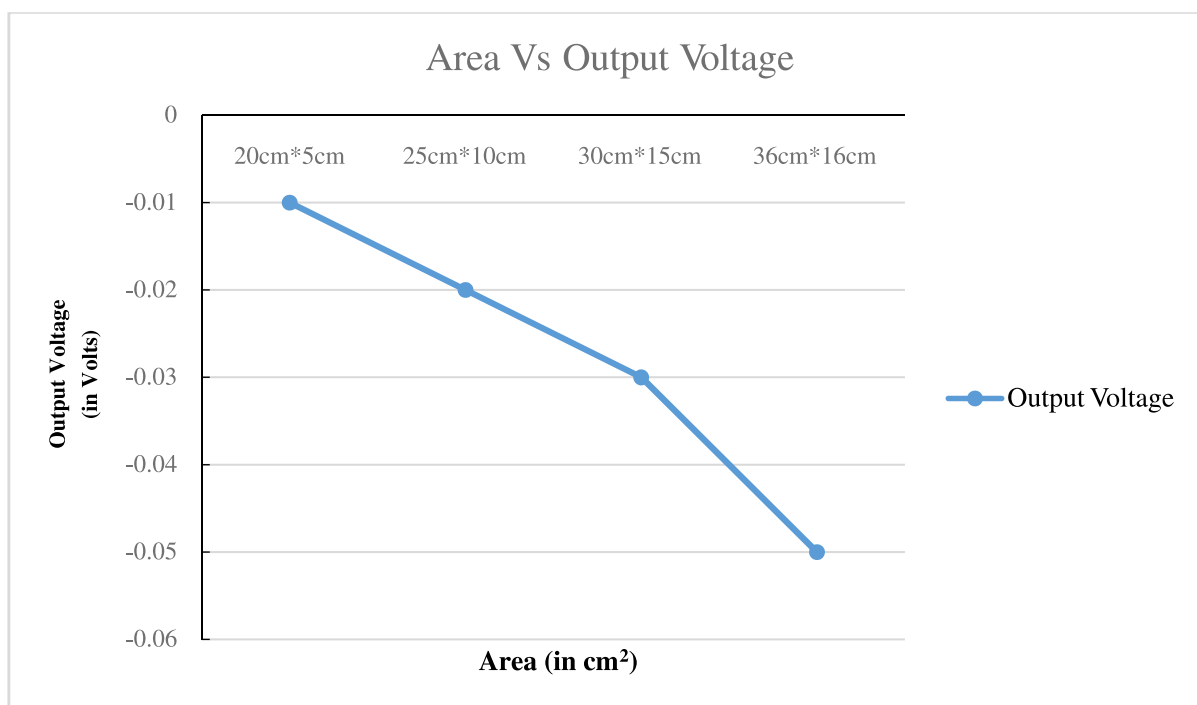
Since the mechanical energy from the environment is always irregular and varies in frequencies, it is necessary to study the dependence of the TEG's output on the rubbing frequency. Thus we tested the TEG device in a series of five different frequencies from 100 to 300 strokes per minute, with the frictional area remaining constant at 36cm\*16cm. From Figure-3 (a), we can observe that the output increases with increasing rubbing frequency but up to 200 strokes per minute. After that, while increasing rubbing frequencies, the output voltage decreases gradually. The reason for this decrease is that while increasing the rubbing frequencies, there is decrease in time gap in redistributing charges on the surface after once rubbed.



No. of Strokes per minute	Output Voltage (in Volts)
100	-0.02
150	-0.05
200	-0.07
250	-0.05
300	-0.01

Figure-3 (a) - The variation of TEG output with the rubbing frequency while frictional surface area remaining constant of 36cm\*16cm

As was mentioned earlier that another factor which could affect the electricity generation is the frictional area. Thus the TEG device was tested in four different dimensions or frictional surface areas from 36cm\*16cm to 20cm\*5cm, with the rubbing frequency or the number of strokes per minute remaining constant at 150 strokes per minute. From Figure-3 (b), one can observe that the output increases linearly with the increase in surface area of PTFE sheet. That means the frictional area is directly proportional to the output of TEG device.



Area (in cm <sup>2</sup> )	Output Voltage (in Volts)
20 cm*5 cm	-0.01
25 cm*10 cm	-0.02
30 cm*15 cm	-0.03
36 cm*16 cm	-0.05

Figure 3-(b) - The variation of TEG output with the frictional area while rubbing frequency remains constant as 150 strokes per minute.

### Conclusion:-

From all these results, we conclude that the output of TEG device increases up to rubbing frequency of 150 strokes per minute but thereafter it decreases. It increases with the increase in frictional surface area. Thus it was demonstrated here that a TEG device with average output voltage of nearly -0.05 V with the rubbing frequency of 150 strokes per minute on the PTFE sheet of dimension 36cm\*16cm.

In summary, an innovative type of TEG based on the contact electrification for effectively harvesting mechanical energy, especially normal energy, used in hand rubbing has been demonstrated. The TEG generates voltage of -0.05 V at the stroke frequency of 150 strokes per minute, which is capable to either light up at least one of commercial LEDs directly or efficiently charge energy storage units. These results will be greatly enhanced if we use a Nano-structured PTFE thin film coated on a metal surface and used as a single electrode, which greatly increases the surface area for friction. Here we could not fabricate Nano-structured PTFE film, because of the lack of time and unavailability of highly sophisticated instruments for this fabrication, as it requires both time and instruments to fabricate. However the great advantage of this device is that anyone can make this device at home by spending some money instead of large amounts in Crores. Furthermore, this device can be made in practical application effectively if a keyboard, which frequently comes in contact with human hand is made up of Nano-structured PTFE film



above a metal plate acting as a single electrode, so that we can at least charge our laptop during working time even though there is a power cut, which is a major problem of this era. Thus this technique can be efficiently utilized for working and to solve the discharging battery problem during working time of electronic devices, which will lead to a revolution in the field of electronics in Present Day.

### Acknowledgements:-

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## Antecedents of Broadband Adoption in Haryana: An Evaluation

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### Abstract

Advances in telecommunication and hence broadband technologies have created greater opportunities to flourish digital transformation. Digitization is all about mobilizing the basic necessities through broadband services that does not require any high end gadgets. Also, the term digital transformation here connotes pro-active and positive process of change and development to improve the quality of life. Broadband is assumed to be highly instrumental in bridging the rural-urban disparity and thus it is significantly important to study the antecedents that can act as catalyst for mass adoption of broadband services. This study laid down special emphasis on finding the factors that will help in accelerating early adoption and mass diffusion of broadband technology with specific reference to Haryana. The objective of this paper is to study the present status of broadband services and create awareness to enhance understanding of antecedents that influence adoption of broadband services in Haryana telecom eco system.

**Keywords: Broadband, Adoption, Digitization**

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### Introduction

The term 'Broadband' is generally used differently in context to usage. The benchmark set for the term 'broadband' vary from country to country. For example in EU, the provision of 2Mbps speed has been generally set as a benchmark for having access to the broadband. However, the Indian broadband policy (2004) mentions the benchmark set for the broadband as '*Always-On data connection that is able to support interactive services including Internet access and has the capability of the minimum download speed of 256 kbps to an individual subscriber*'. Also, the Indian National Telecom Policy (1999) aims everyone to have access to telephony even in the rural areas. Being largest democracy in the world, India is the home of second largest population in the world. As India progresses, it becomes evident that the pace of modernisation is not the same throughout. Economic development has been moving forward at a rapid rate in last two decades, particularly in the urban areas. While cities and metros are getting modernised at an exponential rate, villages tend to progress comparatively slower. Narrowing communication gaps and removing barriers to information dissemination are prerequisites for promoting equitable and sustainable development at all levels. Central and state governments are working hard in this direction, but to achieve the optimum connectivity is not an easy task. At present no single solution is available regarding alleviation of this urban-rural disparity; however broadband can work as catalyst to improve the nation wide connectivity.

Broadband assumed to be the most powerful weapon in the fight against urban-rural disparity. The advantages of the advent telecommunication framework are manifold and explicitly

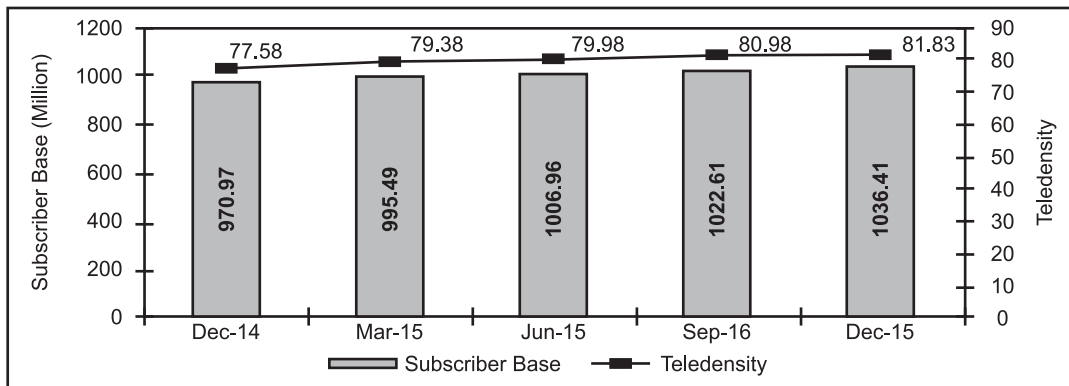
verifiable from the phenomenal success of the sector. The emergence of the telecommunication services has benefitted people across all walks of life. Going forward, it is expected to play a significant role in bridging the digital divide between the rich and poor, between near and far, thus in connecting the nation. It has not only become the primary communication medium for people, but is also finding numerous uses across various domains. Today, it is being used for banking transactions, making online payments, acting as an educational & multimedia tool, etc. It is an efficient mode of spreading governance, and can also be used across verticals such as agriculture and e-commerce. The rapid rise of high-end mobile phones and wearable has enabled the customers to access healthcare services and utilize numerous software applications as utility or for entertainment.

Broadband facilities are considered as human need of the day and believed that it is not just a human need but it is a right now. Broadband internet is a critical modern communication infrastructure contributing to economic growth. Broadband technologies are fundamentally transforming the way we live. Broadband internet substitute critical modern resources and is a vital prerequisite for participation in today's growing digital economy. However, the actual adoption rate of broadband has remained below expectations. Thus, it is significantly important to understand the interplay of actors involved in the adoption process of broadband. Haryana state Government has taken several initiatives to energize the economic environment through digital transformation. World over the initial adoption of high speed wireless internet 3G had been reported far below the expectation of service providers (Forrester Research 2002; 3G UK 2004; Garfield 2004). If in developed countries the reaching critical mass took lot of time (3-4 years to reach critical mass in US and 3 years in UK respectively) than in developing economy such as India this figure seems to be even reach 5 years because of comparatively less IT usage and prohibitive costs (handsets, usage). It is thus imperative to understand the interplay of variables involved in the diffusion & adoption of broadband technology in context of Haryana.

### **Democratic power of Telecom**

Telecommunication technologies have become an important factor in global interactions. Today's development of communication technology ignores global borders, turning the world into a "global village" (McLuhan, 2003). Telecommunication is one of the prime support service needed for rapid growth and modernization of various sectors of the economy. Currently India is the second-largest telecommunication market and has the third highest number of internet users in the world. Indian telecom sector has shown robust growth during the past few years. It has also undergone a substantial change in terms of mobile versus fixed phones and public versus private participation. Rural India is moving speedily from poverty to prosperity and has shown a dramatic transformation with introduction of the telecom sector, which has witnessed a 2.63% monthly growth rate of rural subscription. The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,022.61 million at the end of Sep-15 to 1,036.41 million at the end of Dec-15, registering a growth of 1.35% over the previous quarter. This reflects year-on-year (Y-O-Y) growth of 6.74% over the same quarter of last year. The overall Teledensity in India increased from 80.98 as on 30th September, 2015 to 81.83 as on 31st December, 2015 (TRAI).

**Fig. No. 1.1**



Source: TRAI Website: [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in)

The Indian telecom sector has seen an exponential growth in the last few years. Wireless segment dominates the market with 97.36 per cent of total telephone subscriptions. High proliferation of mobile services has created a unique opportunity to deliver telecom services to the masses. The mobile phone has evolved from a device just to support communication requirements to a smart phone with ability to provide a plethora of information & value added services. Telecommunication potential can fully tap by coupling the mobile telephony with high speed internet (broadband) access. There are approximately one billion mobile phone users across the country and 50 lakh are expected to be added every year. Mobile based Internet is a key component of Indian Internet usage, with seven out of eight users accessing Internet from their mobile phones. Availability of affordable Smartphone and lower call rates are expected to drive growth of Indian telecom industry. The internet boom has taken over India's villages. Internet penetration is picking up pace in rural India. The growth of internet subscription is quite high in rural areas, where most people use mobile internet. It is not that people in rural areas are buying more laptops, but just that a lot of people in rural areas have internet on their mobiles. This brings prosperity in a way they connected with outer world and are more aware about national and international know how. The effective use of telecommunication holds the potential of boosting rural transformation by strengthening the democratic processes like, easy access of medicine and healthcare delivery, enhancing education and learning processes, banking transaction and fund transfer, accessibility of government and public services, online buying and e-commerce, for entertainment and quality of life. Easy internet access needs to be guaranteed to allow such services to flourish in rural decorum.

### **Haryana Telecommunication Framework: Gap Analysis**

Haryana has a statewide network of telecommunication facilities. Haryana Government has its own statewide area network by which all government offices of districts and blocks across the state are connected with each other. In the telecoms market, Haryana's recent growth has been very impressive.

**Table No. 1.2 Haryana (Wireless+Wireline) Subscriber base**

Service Area	Subscribers (million)			
	Jun,2015	Sep,2015	Net Additions	Rate of Growth (%)
Haryana	22.62	23.14	0.52	2.29

Source: TRAI - The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators October - December, 2015.

The data shows that there was a (Wireless+Wireline) growth rate of 2.29% during 3rd quarter of year 2015 and Haryana (Wireless+Wireline) subscriber base has increased from 22.62 million in Jun-15 to 23.14 million up to Sep-15 with net addition of 0.52 million subscribers. This seems to be low growth rate but likely to increase in the time to come.

**Table No. 1.3 Rural-Urban (Wireless+Wireline) Subscriber base**

Service Area	Subscribers (million)			
	Total	Rural	Urban	(%) of Rural Subscribers
<b>Haryana</b>	<b>23.14</b>	<b>11.04</b>	<b>12.10</b>	<b>47.71</b>

Source: TRAI - The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators October - December, 2015.

The data from the Table 1.3 shows that there is marginal urban-rural disparity, out of total 23.14 million subscribers 11.04 million (i.e. 47.71%) belongs to rural subscriber base and this disparity is likely to go down as the trend shows in the present scenario.

**Table No. 1.4 Teledensity**

Service Area	As on 30th September, 2015(million)			As on 31st December, 2015(million)		
	Rural Teledensity	Urban Teledensity	Total Teledensity	Rural Teledensity	Urban Teledensity	Total Teledensity
<b>Haryana</b>	<b>57.51</b>	<b>127.98</b>	<b>82.83</b>	<b>62.98</b>	<b>122.46</b>	<b>84.42</b>

Source: TRAI - The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators October - December, 2015.

It is evident from the Table No. 1.4 that overall Teledensity in Haryana increased from 82.83 million as on 30th September, 2015 to 84.42 million as on 31st December, 2015. Also, there is positive growth pattern in rural Teledensity (increased from 57.51 million as on 30th September, 2015 to 62.98 million as on 31st December, 2015). Also, urban teledensity is squeezing due to saturation (already more than 100), decreased from 127.98 million as on 30th September, 2015 to 122.46 million as on 31st December, 2015.

**Table No. 1.5 Breakup of Rural-Urban internet subscriber base**

Service Area	Subscribers (million)					
	September, 2015			December, 2015		
	Rural Internet	Urban Internet	Total Internet	Rural Internet	Urban Internet	Total Internet
<b>Haryana</b>	<b>2.96</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>7.46</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>7.45</b>

Source: TRAI - The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators October - December, 2015.

However, no or negative quarterly growth of internet service (broadband + narrowband) observed between Sep-15 and Dec-15, as the number of narrowband subscribers are declining. This is the area of concern here, as evidences shows that states with developed communication network have recorded better economic development than those who have failed to do so. Broadband is a critical modern communication infrastructure contributing to economic growth. Communication facilities are considered as human need of the day and believed that it is not just a human need but it is a right now. Broadband technologies are fundamentally transforming the way we live. Broadband internet made possible through access to information and communication technologies that help us overcome the challenges in our complex and



interdependent global society. A meaningful communication network is required to attain a sustainable economic growth which reduces inequality in the society. It is clear from outlined studies, that Indian villages would experience exponential growth, if rural communication network begins to achieve higher standards in the contemporary business environment. Goods and Services within the region are best transacted through networking. There is a substantial relationship between increase in teledensity and the economic development of a region and the availability of broadband services is associated with increase in economic growth.

### **Digital Haryana: Some Smart Initiatives**

Around the world, governments, international agencies, and academics have recognized broadband as an enabling infrastructure for economic growth. State government has shown a positive commitment towards the service digitization, highlighting various policy and attitudinal reforms in the Governance mechanism through online approval system under single roof. Under the Central Government's smart city scheme; two cities of Haryana-Faridabad and Karnal have been selected. Apart from this, state government is also planning for developing Gurgaon as smartest city. Different vendors, including Oracle evinced keen interest in partnering with the Haryana government in the areas such as developing smart cities, social media platform, mobile technology solutions and other welfare programmes. They are planning to help the state government in facilitating the land record modernization. State government is building a comprehensive online database of its residents so as to ensure that the benefit of welfare programmes reached the target audience. Also, state government is also keen to ensure computerization of functional utilities that shall be leveraged to monitor all expenditure activities of various departments' right down to grassroots level to ensure proper utilization of funds. State government has notified 163 services of various departments, which can be delivered to the citizens at their doorstep. State government is working with an aim to provide time bound and hassle free services to the citizens. In addition, government has shown their commitment to provide internet services in all 6500 villages. Internet access will not only empowers the state population but will also help to bridge the digital divide.

There is an inclination demand to adopt the smart city model, driven by the need to surpass the challenges posed by traditional cities. Overcoming these critical challenges in a systematic manner is critical for cities exploring a shift towards more sustainable city development measures. The quality of delivery from foundational elements of traditional cities can be enhanced by leveraging technology. To give a decisive push to digitization drive in Haryana, search engine giant Google has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the government of Haryana to promote digital literacy in the state. Google will undertake a digital literacy drive covering internet safety in government schools, and also conduct a similar exercise for government officials. This initiative is closer to realizing the objective of spreading digital literacy and awareness among the people of the Haryana state and empowering digital dawn. Policy makers have expressed their hope that the joint initiatives will bear rich dividends for the state and its citizens as they embrace the internet and help the government to achieve its digitization vision. This state-wide digital literacy campaigns will also assist different departments in optimizing their web assets for mobile platforms.

Internet, being one of the most successful innovation in the world, has created great opportunities as well as threats for organizations in various business and services sectors, compelling them (either willingly or reluctantly) to support their products or deliver their services 'on line' using the Internet as distribution channel (Chau & Lai, 2003). Taking forward the 'Digital India Mission,' Haryana's E-Vidyavahini a computer literacy vehicle launched in Faridabad that will travel to the urban and rural belts of the district. The bus prepared with an

investment of Rs 35 lakhs, is aimed to start the computer training on wheels. The bus is equipped with 20 laptops, one LCD and is connected with internet facility, which enables the computer learning for 20 students at a time. This moving computer training institute would be travelling through urban as well as rural areas of the Faridabad district to spread the digital literacy. On 28 December 2015, the Panchkula district of Haryana was awarded for being the top-performing district in the state under the Digital India campaign. The Common Service Centres (CSCs) have been upgraded in all districts and the number of e-services has now reached 105, which includes application of new water connection, sewer connection, electricity bill collection, ration card member registration, result of HBSE, admit cards for board examinations, online admission form for government colleges, long route booking of buses, admission forms for Kurukshetra University and paperless e-services on HUDA website.

According to World Bank study, Haryana stands 14th among Indian states in ranking based on ease of doing business. Haryana is the land of opportunities and corporate capital for several enterprises, as an industrial destination. It is indeed going to be Destination Haryana all the way during the coming years. A clear vision, political will, good governance, empathy, empowerment, partnerships and creativity are the keywords to drive the future success of Haryana. The state surrounds the national capital, New Delhi, on three sides. Besides impressive infrastructure, investor-friendly climate, pollution-free environment, excellent law-and-order situation and modern communication network make Haryana a perfect destination. It boasts of world class residential and commercial accommodation. State government is in direction developed to leverage the smart urbanization concept that entails the utilization of technology, existing and planned infrastructure investments to enhance the quality of living to residents and allowing the maximum utilization of resource with transparency in governance. Smart cities are expected to sustain rapid urbanization with adequate level of facilities to fulfill the demands of the advanced 21st century societies. To harnessing the potential, the state government is formulating several new policies to spur growth and give industrialization a decisive push. State government is running several institutional drives for inviting investment in the different sectors, to be partner in State's growth. At different Seminars organized for industrialists, there is very positive assurance from Government to provide adequate land, hassle-free clearances and quality power and necessary environment to do the businesses.

Digital Diaspora has great potential for national development by way of enhancing investments, accelerating industrial development and boosting trade and tourism efforts. It offers ample numbers of investment opportunities in the state of Haryana. State government is engaged with senior business executives on important topics that have dominated the bilateral commercial relationship in recent months and addressed areas such as Haryana's comparative edge as an investment destination and regulatory reform measures that have been undertaken by the government to promote ease of doing business in the state through its New Enterprise Promotion Policy 2015, Happening Haryana. Land registration is now enabled through information technology (IT), long-pending land acquisition cases have been resolved and infrastructure construction is faster as evidenced by the completion of the Delhi-Faridabad Metro project. Under 'Digital Haryana' initiative, Haryana government has launched seven e-services and software applications in a measure to provide hassle free and graft-free administration to the people of the state. It would seek to provide digital infrastructure as a utility for every citizen, e-Governance and e-Services on demand and facilitate digital empowerment of citizens. The digital infrastructure as a utility to every citizen includes easy access to common service centre and "cradle-to-grave digital identity", e-Governance and e-Services on demand envisage electronic financial transactions and mobile platform based services. The e-services and other add-on facilities launched under 'Digital Haryana' initiative include -- Access to Common

Service Centre, Services on demand, e-Stamping, Jeevan Pramaan, Revised State Portal, Aadhaar-enabled biometric Attendance System, CM Window, Mobile app and Aadhaar-linked registration of birth. Haryana becomes the first state in the country to launch some services on such large scale. Government is planning to provide the citizen's access to 'Common Service Centre' (CSC) in their villages, followed by which 2,500 CSCs shall be set up across the state. This enables the CSCs to deliver 20 e-services in the fields of revenue and health as well as other B2C (business to consumer) services through CSC-SPV, a Government of India entity. Under this, a citizen can file application for various kinds of certificates. The file moves electronically through various concerned authorities.

### **Transformation from traditional agriculture hub to smart city model**

Agricultural productivity has been stagnating over the years. The contribution of primary sector to the Gross State Domestic Product has also gone down drastically. Return from agriculture has reduced, indebtedness of farmers has increased. The farm sector is preponderantly following the wheat-paddy crop rotation. Soil health and water use for agriculture are also major areas of concern. Imbalanced use of fertilizers in the context of the existing cropping pattern has led to soil health deterioration. Over exploitation of ground water has depleted underground water resources. Optimal water use in agriculture, groundwater recharging, soil health improvement, and credible agro-marketing support for diversified agricultural produce are the need of the hour. Also, the stagnating manufacturing base in the State has further accentuated the problem. There is thus an urgent need to revive and recharge the industrial sector and especially the small scale industry by attracting investment and actualizing the 'Make in India' and 'Make in Haryana' goals to improve the employment prospects of the youth in Haryana.

From last decade, the state of Haryana has emerged as a major investment hub in Northern India. The Gurgaon city is a key center for the information technology and automotive industries. The state's Enterprise Promotion Policy 2015 aims at enhancing ease of doing business, promotes micro, small-scale and medium enterprises and encourages long-term investment in the state to flourish. The State Government has taken several initiatives to energize the economic environment. As a result, macroeconomic indicators of State economy have improved. The GSDP of Haryana for 2014-15 has been estimated at 215146 crore, growing 7.8 percent over 2013-14 at constant prices and 435310 crore growing by 11.9 percent at current prices. Per capita income of the State at current prices has been estimated at 147076 in 2014-15 as compared to 133427 in 2013-14, registering a growth of 10.2 percent. Several initiatives e-governance practices have been taken under course of time to make the State bureaucracy efficient, effective, responsive and proactive. There is an urgent need to accelerate the delivery mechanism of State Government will have to reinvent itself to meet people's expectation of good governance. There is an immediate need to enable of the Government systems by the use of information technology and e-governance tools. This will enhance the capacity of many far-reaching programmes of e-governance being initiated in various Departments.

On 25th December, 2014, the birthday of our former Prime Minister and Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was celebrated as 'Good Governance Day' and the "CM Window" web portal was launched for effective citizen grievance redressal. Also, various citizen services have been made available through the 'Harsamay' citizen portal of the Police Department. An 'end to end' e-resolution is planned for the efficient management of the public distribution system. The Excise and Taxation Department is getting a comprehensive IT-enabled system for online interface with assesses. Haryana, with its diversified economy and vibrant cities is well positioned to leverage initiatives such as Make in India and Smart Cities. Haryana has location advantage, the state is strategically located with 60% of its geographical area falling in the National Capital Region,



and it has excellent connectivity with Delhi international airport. As per the 2011 Census, Faridabad is the most urbanized district (79.44%) followed by Gurgaon (68.82%), Panchkula (54.87%), Panipat (45.47%) on account of industrial development, strategic location, administrative function and close proximity to NCR. The inclination towards adopting the smart city model is driven by the technological need to surpass the challenges posed by traditional cities. Overcoming these critical challenges in a systematic manner is critical for cities exploring a shift towards more sustainable city development measures among all stakeholders: citizens, businesses and the government. The quality of delivery from foundational elements of traditional cities is enhanced by leveraging communication technology. During last decade, Haryana has seen a natural progression in its development story, with its villages turning into towns, and towns transforming into cities. The Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA) also promoted the process of urbanization as it has launched several industrial projects and developed residential sectors in almost every district.

Now, the time has arrived for the state to transform its cities into smart cities and achieve vision of smart Haryana. Smart cities leverage technological as well as existing investments within the urban infrastructure set up so as to enhance the quality of life of its citizens, provides a positive investment climate for businesses, and equips governments to maximize resource utilization and provide transparency.

### **Factors influencing the broadband adoption: Literature Review**

The paper focuses on examining the antecedents of broadband adoption in Haryana. This part of the paper aims to review relevant accumulated knowledge and available literature in order to evaluate antecedents of broadband adoption. Several relevant topics have been reviewed and organized based on context of key terms broadband and adoption. The internet technology is not new as such, but novel to the consumers. At micro-individual level, socio-psychological factors may influence the broadband adoption. Rogers theorized that innovations would spread through society in an S-curve, as the early adopters select the technology first, and followed by the majority, until a technology or innovation is common (Rogers, 2003). Roger explained the diffusion of innovation by identifying five perceived characteristics of an innovation such as relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, trialability and observability. Following the Rogers (2003), new technology is defined as “an idea, practice, or object that is perceived as new by an individual or other unit of adoption” (p.12). Rogers (2003) identifies two characteristics of new technology that best explain different adoption rates, i.e. the perceived relative advantage of using the technology and its perceived compatibility with existing values, needs and experiences (Rogers 2003). In addition, Rogers also notes that innovations are more likely to be adopted if they are less complex (ease of use). Trialability is defined as the degree to which an innovation may be experimented with on a limited basis. Also, observability refers the degree to which the results of an innovation are visible to others (Rogers, 2003).

Based on extended Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), Oh et al. (2003) finds that the innovation attributes, such as compatibility, visibility and result demonstrability and perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use and perceived resources have influenced the fixed-broadband adoption in Korea. The TAM suggests that perceived usefulness (PU) — the degree to which a person believes that using a particular system would enhance his or her job performance — and perceived ease-of-use (PEOU) — the degree to which a person believes that using a particular system would be free from effort — may influence technology acceptance by users (Davis, 1989). Employing the Technology Acceptance Model, Pagani (2004) found perceived usefulness, ease of use, price, and speed are the most important determinants of adoption of mobile internet services.

Woodruff (1997); Parasuraman and Grewal (2000) marketing research literature suggested perceived value as one of the most important measures contributing to consumer purchase intention. Role of consumer value has been widely recognized and empirically tested in marketing research area. Consumer value is regarded as source of competitive advantages, since it is a better way to increase profitability than quality and satisfaction management, which leads to purchase intention. Generally lower prices can contribute to higher broadband adoption. Through data analysis of a national sample of US households, Rappaport et al. (2001) found that price elasticity of broadband service demand is much greater than narrowband service. Also, Chaudhuri et al. (2005) found substantial variation observed in access price may largely have a spatial explanation of internet access.

Service quality is an indicator of business performance (Hurley & Estelami, 1998) and is the importance on customer satisfaction (Cheung & Lee, 2005; Yen & Lu, 2008). Parasuraman et al. (1994) defines the service quality as the customer evaluation of the expectation with actual service performance. Also, Watson et al. (1998) define the service quality based on a comparison between what customer feels should offer and what is provided. Broadband Services quality can be described as overall customer evaluations and judgments regarding the excellence and the quality of Broadband Services in the real world. (Santos, 2003)

Yale and Venkatesh (1986) classified convenience into six dimensions– time utilization, handiness, appropriateness, Portability, accessibility and avoidance of unpleasantness. A great variety of services would empower the users to perform more tasks. It would be even better to do these tasks with just one integrated device, as it reduces the time and effort to carry and change devices. Anguelov et al., (2004) supports that, consumers attracted to broadband technologies because of convenience, increasing ease of use, and in some instances cost savings. Going forward, advanced wireless technologies like WiMax, 3G and 4G are expected to pace up the broadband growth in India. Wireless for last-mile connectivity in rural India and growth in broadband penetration, has capacity to drive market growth and eventually help India transition to a fully networked economy.

Campeau and Higgins (1995) define the self efficacy as people's perception of their ability to plan and take action to reach a particular goal. Also, the IT self-efficacy refers to individuals' judgment of their capability to use computers and similar devices and how this relationship can help in adoption of mobile broadband services.

Value has been defined in several ways by Zeithaml (1988)

- Value is low price
- Value is whatever one wants in a product
- Value is the quality that the one receives for the price paid
- Value is what the consumer gets for what he gave. T

Taken these meaning together, value represents 'consumer's overall assessment of the utility of a product based on perceptions of what is received and what is given.

A high perceived value implies a perception of high benefits and low sacrifices/costs. From the value maximizing perspective customers are likely to make transactions, which maximize benefits and minimize sacrifices.

This study provides an empirical support for examining the antecedents of consumer adoption of broadband. The study examines the various attitudinal, normative and control factors affecting the adoption of broadband in Haryana. The key factors that significantly affect broadband adoption and mass diffusion of broadband services in Haryana have been arrived at by qualitative research and depth interview with 10 domain experts.



Experts were administered to the following questions especially in context of Haryana to find out the factors which affect the broadband adoption in the State of Haryana:

1. What do you think are the critical factors on which broadband adoption would depend?
2. What do you think are the problems in mass adoption of broadband services?
3. What service providers can do differently to have a mass diffusion of broadband services?
4. What services should be focused on for enhancing the revenues?

## **Results and Discussion**

On the basis of the depth interview conducted with the experts the following 12 critical factors have been identified for the adoption of broadband:

- Convenience
- Price/cost
- Services Ecosystem
- Perceived usefulness
- IT self efficacy
- Primary Influence
- Service Quality
- Perceived Value
- Perceived Ease of Use
- Innovativeness
- Relative Advantage

It is also found from the study that these are the most common factors which are being supported by many studies as discussed earlier. If these factors can be taken care in the efforts of increasing the adoption of broadband to decrease the gap between the rural and urban then it can give better results. These are not mere the factors but the inner feelings of the users which are always important for any consumer of any service that bring satisfaction as expected.

## **Future Scope of the Study**

On the basis of the above factors identified from the interview based on the experience and knowledge of the experts it can be said that the scope of diffusion of the broadband depends broadly on these factors. To derive further results on the basis of these factors, a structured questionnaire can be prepared for data collection from the respondents and the responses can be put under factor analysis to reduce the data followed by regression analysis to find out the impact of the factors on mass adoption of broadband,.

## **Conclusion**

In reference to broadband services, absence of accurate information on factors (mentioned above) that have influenced consumer behaviour to adopt or use broadband services could mislead the service providers into adopting unhelpful solutions and that strives to accelerate the implementation of broadband services. This study investigated the factors that influence adoption and usage of broadband in Haryana. The 12 key factors that significantly affect broadband adoption and mass diffusion of broadband services in Haryana are being listed above. It is expected that based on these factors the adoption of broadband services can be increased in the rural areas which will be able to decrease the existing gap between the rural and urban for a better quality of life.

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## Green and Grey Blotches of Corporate Governance in LLP Law

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### Abstract

States, particularly with a democratic setup, tend to react to the aspirations of the people. These aspirations can be as much commercial or economic, as they can be political. States have from time to time, provided regulatory legitimacy to several forms of business organization that the subjects think would better secure their commercial aspirations. The spectrum of State responsiveness varies from a mere 'recognition' of newer manners of conducting business activities to 'creation' of newer business forms. 'India, that is *Bharat*, which is the Union of States' has rich set of choices for determining the future growth path in a globalised competitive environment. It is observed that economic concerns extends to the business environment also and in the modern business environment, scale of operation has greatly increased because of technological development, entrepreneurial expertise and above all the need of the hour. A business form now available world-wide, *i.e.* the Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), introduced in India with effect from April 1, 2009 by virtue of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008.

**Keywords:** Corporate governance; LLP Laws

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### Prologue

The LLP law borrows the twin concepts of 'association based on agreement & the concentration of ownership/control in the hands of the partners' from the traditional partnership and the twin concepts of 'separate legal personality & limited liability' from the company coupled with corporate governance concourse.

The statutes relating to limited liability have probably done more than any legislation of the last fifty years to further the commercial prosperity of the country. They have, to the advantages as well of the investors as of the public, allowed and encouraged aggregation of small sums into large capitals which have been employed in undertaking of great public utility largely increasing the wealth of the country.

The Limited liability encourages greater boldness and risk-taking among the business community, so that new avenues to increasing commerce are explored. In the globalised economy, the need to enhance the competitiveness of business and to build, or nurture, a culture of enterprise and entrepreneurship is duly recognized and the LLP is an innovation in that direction only. The LLP law imbibes corporate fairness, transparency and accountability to further advance corporate governance.

In many instances, a LLP owes its selection as a business vehicle to a process – albeit perhaps an unconscious one – of risk management. In other words, the whole process of creating a LLP is to minimize personal exposure to the present and future risks of the business to be operated by the LLP. Logic dictates, therefore, that the advantages conferred by the LLP's existence need to be maximized. To look at it in another way, the business needs to be run in such a way that the



exceptions which bring back into play the possibility of personal liability need to be minimized.

### **Pillars of a Business in Kautilya's Arthashastra**

A strong foundation is the key to any successful business. Your vision, your commitment, your purpose – all form the basis for an organization. They are the all-important pillars, the most essential part of any building. In the *Arthashastra*, Chanakya lists seven pillars for an organization. “The King, the Minister, the Country, the Fortified City, the Treasury, the Army and the Ally are the constituent elements of the state”, a close gawk at each of them is hereunder:

- i) **Swami – The King (Leader):** All great organizations have great leaders. The leader is the visionary, the captain, the man who guides the organization. In today's corporate world he is called as the Director, CEO or the designated partner in case of LLP. Without him the entity loses its direction, he is the one who ensures the governance practices in a corporate entity.
- ii) **Amatya – The Minister (Manager):** The manager is the person who runs the show. He is the second-in-command of an organization. He is also the person upon whom one can depend upon in the absence of the leader. He is the man who is always in action. An extra ordinary leader and an efficient manager together bring into existence a remarkable organization.
- iii) **Janapada – The Country (Market):** No business can exist without its market capitalization. It is the area of business operation. It's the place from where one gets revenue and cash flow. Business houses basically dominate this territory and like to keep their league in this segment.
- iv) **Durga – The Fortified City (Infrastructure / Head Office):** Corporate need a control tower - a place from where all planning and strategies are made. It's from here that the central administrative work is done. It's the nucleus and the centre of any organization.
- v) **Kosha – The Treasury (Finance):** Finance is an extremely important resource. It is the backbone of any business. A strong and well-managed treasury is the heart of any organization. Corporate treasury is also the financial-hub as all the diverse stakeholders want their interest to be protected.
- vi) **Danda – The Army (Team):** When one goes to war, one needs a well-equipped and trained army. The army consists of the team members. Those who are ready to fight for the organization. The salesmen, the accountant, the driver and the peon - all of them add to the team to advance the cause of governance principles.
- vii) **Mitra – The Ally (Mentor / Friend / Consultant):** In life one should have a friend who is just like oneself. Being, in the same boat, he can identify with you and stay close. He is the one whom you can depend upon when problems arise. After all, a friend in need is a friend in deed.

Look at these seven pillars. Only when these are built into firm and strong sections can the organization shoulder any responsibility and face all challenges. And while building them, do not forget to imbibe that vital ingredient called values, speaking about which, in his book 'Build to last', Jim Collins has said, “Values are the roots from where an organization continuously gets its supply as well as grounding - build on them!”.

Commenting on the Kautilya's Arthashastra, a western scholar went to the extent of stating that Kautilya's Arthashastra is not a book, it is a library; therefore, it is often called a book of 'Total



Management'. In the business environment, the LLP acknowledges, addresses as well as answers the seven concepts and concerns i.e. Swami – the King (Leader); Amatya – the Minister (Manager); Janapada – the Country (Market), Durga – the Fortified City (Infrastructure / Head Office), Kosha – the Treasury (Finance), Danda – the Army (Team) and Mitra – the Ally (Mentor / Friend / Consultant) and there by advances the beliefs of corporate governance.

### **Corporate Governance and it's Covet**

The root of the word 'governance' is 'gubernate', which means 'to steer or to guide'. So, corporate governance means to steer a business entity in the desired alleyway keeping intact the interest of all stakeholders. Basically, corporate governance is managing, monitoring and overseeing various corporate systems in such a manner that corporate reliability, reputation are not put at wager. Corporate governance pillars on transparency and fairness in action, satisfying accountability and responsibility towards the stakeholders.

The phrase 'corporate governance' emerged probably somewhere in 1975 in corporate law. Today, corporate governance is no longer a mere phrase but has developed into a concept that is part of corporate law. This is reflected in the titles of articles, books, corporate governance codes and guidelines, reports and all sorts of other documents. As a concept, corporate governance is largely part of that branch of the law that can be called company law. Company law is part of a much larger realm of the law that can be called economic law. The purpose of economic law is the regulation of economic activities. Economic law encompasses subjects like anti-trust law, financial law, intellectual property law, company law, labour law, the law of European Community and of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Economic activities may be undertaken by all sorts of legal entities, ranging from the simple sole proprietorship to the listed corporations. The purpose of company law is to regulate these legal entities. The connection between the economy and company law was already recognized in a report on corporate governance published in the UK in 1992, the Cadbury Report that states, "Country's economy depends on the drive and efficiency of its companies". Because company law is concerned with the regulation of legal entities, it is to a large extent more of a procedural and organizational nature than containing the rules of substance. As concerns the phrase company law, it should be noted that the scope of company law is wider than just companies.

In the context of companies, corporate governance has been variously defined as 'the system by which companies are directed and controlled' and 'a set of relationship between a company's board, its shareholders and stakeholders'.

Corporate governance is a set of systems, processes and principles which ensure that a company is governed in the best interest of all stakeholders. At its indispensable level, corporate governance sets up the 'rules of the game' to deal with issues arising from separation of ownership and management so that the interests of diverse stakeholders are cosseted. Pragmatic substantiation demonstrates that entities with rich corporate governance practices yield excellent returns in the long run.

Keeping in the back drop the number of diverse stakeholders, the corporate governance plays a significance role for the society as whole. Good corporate governance practices not only pressurizes the organization to comply with the laws but also promote the optimal use of scarce resources in the organization besides making the resources flow to those entities where there is efficient production and the return is adequate enough to satisfy the demands of stakeholders. Moreover, governance practices provide mechanism of choosing the best managers to administer the scarce resources besides helping the mangers to remain focused on improving performance leaving no scope for partiality and nepotism.

## Green Blotches of Corporate Governance in LLP Law

The derivation of governance principles dates back to the times of Kautilya's *Arthashastra* but the subject has attracted worldwide attention with the collapse of high profile corporate entities globally.

Corporate governance is a term normally associated with corporate entities. LLP being a body corporate, good corporate governance practices are as important for an LLP as it is for any other corporate entity. Chapter VII of the LLP Act exclusively deals with 'Financial Disclosures'. Driven by the corporate governance mechanism, these disclosures are discussed hereunder along with the main critical factors which affect the milieu:

- i) **Accountability:** The paradigm shift in the business and economic environment in India during last few years has led to increased attention being devoted to accounting standards as a means towards ensuring potent and transparent financial reporting by corporate entities. One will not go far wrong, as fundamentally a sub-species of company, the LLP for all accounting purposes ensures that partners take accountability of their act and not mismanage LLP according to their whims and wishes. The 'LLP Agreement' is documented and registered compulsorily which is not necessary in case of partnership firms. The LLPs has a more austere system of accountability with obligatory requirement to file annual statement of accounts and solvency and also annual returns as per the dictate of the law with the Registrar every year. It is observed that the LLP shields and provides adequate shelter to each and every partner from any misdemeanor of other partners. Although tax liability under the LLP is less than that of the companies but it requires clear accounting and record keeping for monitoring performance and ethics. Accountability feature makes the LLP function in professional and principled manner with careful consideration to its operation.
- ii) **Compliance:** The LLP law requires that 'Designated Partners' be appointed who run the business and are statutorily responsible for all legislative compliance as prescribed under various laws besides their liability as 'partners per-se'. In case of failure to maintain the account books, other records, audit, annual report the designated partner is liable for the minimum fine of Rs. 10,000/- and it may extend to Rs. 1,00,000/-. If any false statement is made or any material fact is hide of then the guilty is liable for the minimum fine of Rs. 1,00,000/- and he may be fined up to maximum of Rs. 5,00,000/- besides maximum imprisonment of two years. The Registrar has the power to obtain such information which he may consider necessary for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the Act, from any designated partner, partner or any employee. In order to ensure compliance management, it has been provided that the LLPs can file relevant documents after their due dates with additional fees upto 300 days but if there is delay of 300 days or more, the LLPs will be required to pay normal filing fees, additional fee and shall also be liable to be prosecuted. The LLPAct also provides for compounding of offences, which are punishable with fine only.
- iii) **Transparency:** The LLPs are fiscally transparent entities and they enjoy the creditworthiness due to the above stated accounting standards and principles; mandatory disclosures and compliances. Traders and supplier who transact business with the LLPs are comparatively safe, sure and secure of their transactions. If required they can inspect the documents pertaining to incorporation, details of partners (and changes, if any, made therein), statement of account & solvency and annual return on the payment of the fees of Rs 50/- and fees for certified copy or extract of any document shall Rs. 5/- per page. It is

analyzed that because of the greater degree of element of transparency the Banks and other financial institutions are more contented and comfortable in lending financial assistance in the form of loans and limits to the LLPs as compared to traditional partnership firms and sole-proprietorship form of business entities.

- iv) **Whistle-Blowing:** 'Whistle-blowing' is the exposure of corruption and wrong doing made in public interest by people within or from outside organization. The disclosure of information relates to (i) violation of law, rule and regulation; (ii) mismanagement and negligence causing danger to public health and safety; (iii) financial irregularities, fraud and manipulation of records; (iv) misappropriation of assets and funds; and (v) misuse of official position for private gains. Whistle-blowers play an important role in preventing corruption, frauds and misfeasance by exposing misdeeds of officers in their organizations and companies. The concept assumed great significance in the US in the wake of collapse of corporate gains like Enron, Tyco, Quest, Global Crossings and WorldCom and the Xerox fiasco. In India, recent frauds and scams like Satyam, 2-G Spectrum, Asian Games, housing and land allotments have brought into focus the need for an effective policy, law and system to check and prevent to check frauds, scams and malfeasance in the government and corporate. The LLP Act provides comprehensive provision to protect the interest of whistle blower on the one side and to encourage whistle blowers to raise their voice against any unjust act on the other hand. Although the RBI has formulated the whistle-blowers scheme for ensuring financial stability and enhancing public confidence, the Securities and Exchange Board of India also provides for the Whistle-Blower Policy under Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement yet Clause 49 is non-mandatory requirement and applicable to listed companies only. It is pertinent to mention here that ICICI Bank, Tatas, Infosys, Wipro and others have taken lead to have the whistle-blowers policy in their respective organizations.
- v) **Check on Unscrupulous LLPs:** Inspectors, as appointed by the Central Government, investigate the affairs of the LLPs. More so, to protect and preserve the interests of the various stakeholders the Central Government thwarts 'fly-by-night' promoters and also the LLPs which vanishes after coming into existence. The various bottlenecks provided by the Central Government under the LLP Act include making the incorporation of the LLPs mandatory with the provision of DIN (*formerly* DPIN) to be obtained by every designated partner. Besides, MCA-21 e-Governance process ensures tracking of any unscrupulous promoter/partner of the LLP, the details of partners including any changes, if any made therein are to be filed with the Registrar. The filing of annual documents (*the statement of account and solvency and the annual return*) with the Registrar is also made mandatory. Such documents will also be open for public inspection; Compulsory audit of all LLPs (except small LLPs which may be exempted by way of notification by Central Govt.); and last but not the least the provision of scrutiny by the Registrar of the documents filed besides the power to call for any other relevant information from the LLP or its partners/officials and also for summoning of the LLPs' partners/officials in certain cases.

These deep-seated green blotches of corporate governance under the LLP law aspire to promote the shareholder's worth and to protect the interests of all stakeholders. The above underlying principles revolve around three basic inter-related segments of *integrity & fairness*; *transparency & disclosures* and *accountability & responsibility* which form the fabric of corporate governance.

## Grey Blotches of Corporate Governance in LLP Law

The LLP law in India is delimited by some grey blotches as well. The law provides that the books of accounts are to be maintained, however, the LLP Act is absolutely silent on the kinds of books of accounts to be maintained by the LLP. It only uses an ambiguous expression '*books of accounts relating to its affairs for each year of its existence*' and hence, it would be unfair to hold the manager liable for any discrepancy in the maintenance of the Books of Accounts if the law does not bring to his knowledge the nature of the books that are to be maintained.

Moreover, in order to promote confidence, inject clarity and uniformity of financial statements, there is a need of convergence of the Indian Accounting Standards with International Financial Reporting Standards (*erstwhile International Accounting Standards*) as are formulated by London based independent accounting standard setting body *i.e.* the International Accounting Standard Board (*erstwhile International Accounting Standards Committee*) because the LLPs are expected to access global markets and International Financial Reporting Standards are becoming a global standard for the preparation of public financial statements.

Taking lessons from the lives of *Satyendra Dubey* (2003) in the case of Golden Quadrilateral Project, *Shanmughan Manjunath* (2005) in the case of adulteration of petrol and *Narender Kumar* (2012) in the case of illegal mining; the LLP Act has gone a step ahead by incorporating the provision of whistle blowing, as all of them lost their lives due to lack of confidentiality and protection umbrella. Despite the fact that the legislations for the protection of whistle blowers is very effectual in UK and US; but in the absence of effectual implementation of the Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2011 and pitfalls of the whistle blowers protection in India, the provision fails to bring desired results making it redundant.

These grey blotches of corporate governance in LLP Law need to be plugged so as to have full bloom.

## Escalating LLPs in India

Blessed with the main critical factors which impinge on the business environment *i.e.* accountability, compliance, transparency and whistle blowing; the LLP has been successful in making a considerable dent in the sphere of Indian business environment. The following table portrays the number of LLPs in India over the last five years:

As On	Total Number of LLPs in India
December 31, 2015	52,144
December 31, 2014	30,845
March 31, 2013	21,784
December 31, 2012	12,448
December 31, 2011	7487

The escalating waft manifests that the dogma of governance has made LLP as a popular choice in the corporate milieu to a great extent.

The World Bank, which has generally been critical about doing business in India, came out with its revised report in 2016 where the Indian ranking has improved. This can be attributed to the relatively flexible approach coupled with governance norms in the law.

## Conclusion

Corporate governance is about the nitty-gritty of how a corporate executes its commitment to



investors and diverse stakeholders. It is about loyalty to investors, valuing principled behavior and functioning with a high degree of transparency. The corporate scandals which captioned worldwide were somewhere reflecting to poor governance modules.

In the present day spirited world, finance and accounting have assumed great importance to ascertain the position, progress, profitability and prospects of a business entity in the business surroundings. Application of accounting techniques and standards for proper maintenance of books of accounts and preparing the financial statements is indispensable in the business environment as on the one hand the stakes involved are very high and on the other hand all the stakeholders want to know the true and fair financial position.

Accounting and auditing ensures corporate accountability which is must for corporate governance, accordingly, neither fictitious nor suppression of any transaction should be there in the business records.

The green blotches of governance are abundantly present in the LLP law. LLP necessitates certain financial disclosures founded on its foundational root of separate legal entity. LLP is required to maintain proper books of account at its registered office. There are also obligations to prepare an annual Statement of Account & Solvency to have its accounts audited and to file an Annual Return with the Registrar. The monetary value of contribution of each partner is accounted for and disclosed in the accounts of the LLP.

In order to inculcate an ethnicity of transparency, incorporation document, names of partners and changes, if any made therein, Statement of Account & Solvency and Annual Return constitute public record and are open for public inspection at the office of the Registrar by any person on payment of prescribed fee. Though, the financial disclosure poses a threat to the privacy but it is in larger interest of the diverse stake holders in the business environment.

With the strengthening of the MCA-21 portal, the filing of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet is streamlined, which will go into raptures. Frauds and embezzlements are downplayed by Audit. Auditing provides a moral check on all those engaged for maintenance of books of account and the LLPs are subject to audit if the turnover in any financial year exceeds forty lakh rupees, or when the contribution exceeds twenty five lakh rupees.

Upholding the supreme interest of the various stakeholders, the power to investigate the affairs of a LLP, as devolved upon the Inspectors to keep a check on unscrupulous LLPs and to thwart 'fly-by-night' promoters is also taken up in this research study; besides the certain protections which are carved out, to equip the Government with adequate powers to intervene and to take appropriate action against LLPs if there are circumstances suggesting fraud, unlawful purpose or oppression of some partners.

At the moment corporate governance is not only a predictability to serve the conflicting corporate interests, but also is a pre-requisite in the best interests of the corporate in particular and the economy in general. Finally to sum up, the Grey needs to be converted into Green...!

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- It is to be filled in form 8.
- Section 35, *the LLP Act*, 2008; the Annual Return is to be filled in form 11 with ROC within 60 days of the closer of the financial year. The annual return is available for public inspection on payment of the prescribed fees to the Registrar.
- The accounts of every Limited Liability Partnership are to be audited in accordance with Rule 24 of the Limited Liability Partnership, Rules 2009. Such rules, inter-alia, provides that any Limited Liability Partnership, whose turnover in any financial year, exceeds forty lakh rupees, or whose contribution exceeds twenty five lakh rupees, is required to get its accounts audited. However, if it is less and if the partners still want to get the accounts of such Limited Liability Partnership audited, the accounts shall be audited only in accordance with such rule.
- Every Limited Liability Partnership requires at least two Designated Partners who shall be individuals and at least one of the Designated Partner shall be a resident of India. In case of a Limited Liability Partnership in which all the partners are bodies corporate or in which one or more partners are individuals and bodies corporate, at least two individuals who are partners of such Limited Liability Partnership or

nominees of such bodies corporate shall act as designated partners. They are required to obtain a “Designated Partner's Identification Number”.

- Section 8(b), *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Sections 34 and 35, *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Section 37, *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Incase of default the guilty will be punishable with a minimum fine of Rs. 2000/- and it may extend up to Rs. 25,000/- under Section 38 of *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Section 39, *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Section 36, *the LLP Act*, 2008 read with Rule 26, *the LLP Rules*, 2009.
- [2012] 107 CLA (Mag.) 41.
- Section 31, *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- Clause 49 states, “The Company may establish a mechanism for employees to report to the management concerns about unethical behavior, actual or suspected fraud or violation of the company's code of conduct or ethics policy. This mechanism could also provide for adequate safeguards against victimization of employees, who avail of the mechanism and also provide for direct access to the Chairman of the Audit Committee in exceptional cases. Once established, the existence of the mechanism may be appropriately communicated within the organization”.
- As the ICICI Bank's securities are listed in the New York Stock Exchange and its subsidiary ICICI Securities operates in US, the ICICI Bank's Whistle-Blowers policy is in tune with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.
- The manner and procedure for conduct of investigation is specified under Chapter IX of *the LLP Act*, 2008 and Chapter IX of *the LLP Rules*, 2009. It has been dealt at length in Chapter IV of this research work.
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- Section 34, *the LLP Act*, 2008.
- International Accounting Standards on various matters relating to accounting policies, preparation of financial statements and disclosures in financial statements are issued by the International Accounting Standard Board besides the International Financial Reporting Standards, since 2001.
- Different countries employ different standards (as required by their regulatory body) while preparing their financials, which poses a problem in consolidating financials of a business entity having its business spread in multiple countries besides comparing them across geographies.
- Exposed huge swindle in the national highway project.
- Sealed a corrupt petrol station in *Lakhimpur Kheri*, Uttar Pradesh.
- Was run over by tractor carrying illegally mined stones after he tried to stop it.
- Section 31, *the LLP Act*, 2008: Providing protection to employees and partners providing useful information during a para-legal process.
- The Public Interest Disclosure Act, 1998.
- The Sarbanes-Oxley Act, 2002 (*'Sarbox Act'*).
- Data summarized from the Annual Reports of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.
- India now ranks 130 out of 189 countries in the ease of doing business, moving up four places from last year's adjusted ranking of 134.
- Supra note 10.
- Section 43, *the LLP Act*, 2008.

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## **Impact of Institutional Credit in Extending Welfare Measures through SHGs in Haryana**

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### **Abstract**

Institutional Credit through micro finance has acquired significance in the context of women empowerment. The experience of micro finance as a form of institutional credit was the brain child of Yunus Mohammad who gave the idea of Micro finance in 1975 in the context of improving the economic status of women in Bangladesh. The decades of 1980s have seen a sea change in the fields of women empowerment through micro finance. The case of India is not an exception to the institutional credit which remained exclusively in the hands of informal agencies. In Haryana Sir Chhoturam, a celebrated peasant leader was the one who, in the first quarter of 20<sup>th</sup> century wanted to salvage the positions of poor peasants by removing them from the informal systems of debt bondage. His efforts to improve the conditions of farmers however, did not make any impact in salvaging the socio-economic conditions of women in particular. Needless to mention it did not make any inroads into the patriarchal dominance of Haryana's society either. Therefore, the context of women empowerment through institutional credit facilities acquires greater significance. It is in this backdrop, the present paper endeavors to examine the role of institutional credit as an extension of state welfare measures to improve economic conditions of women by alleviating their sufferings and providing dignity to them. The paper is based on the field work study conducted in Rohtak district of Haryana where Self Help Group (SHG) were identified and the members of SHGs who availed loan facilities from Non-governmental organisation (NGO) linked Livelihood support programme views were gathered through interview schedule and in-depth interview. Their opinions were recorded and analyzed to examine the role of institutional credit through SHG movement in improving socio-economic conditions.

**Key words: Institutional credit, welfare measures, self help group, Micro credit**

It is pertinent to note here the fact that the poorer sections of women were allowed by the state to avail credit to replenish their resource that would reduce poverty. The year 2005 was propagated as the international year of micro-finance. Instead of micro finance the term micro credit is preferred because it is more inclusive term. It basically refers to small scale financial services in the form of credit and deposits to smaller operators in various section of the economy (The Hindu, November 21, 2005). It is a model of financial services delivery that has grown as an important component of development intervention advocated by powerful donor agencies such as the world bank, USAID, IFAD & UNDP. The micro credit is considered as panacea vision for structural problems of poverty and underdevelopment.

Considering the fact that NGOs have been involved in the formation of SHG it would be worthwhile to examine their roles through micro finance as a poverty combating strategy in the

global development discourse. For that it is pertinent to examine the scenario of SHG based microfinance in Haryana. The purpose is to explore the issue of empowerment of the women and alleviation of poverty of the poorer section of the society. Coupled with the issue of empowerment two other objectives that need to be focused is the employment generation potential addressing the problems of rural poverty – stricken masses in providing livelihood to them on a regular basis either through their skill upgradation or by organizing their trainings in certain productive activities or helping them in harnessing their entrepreneurial potential that may become a regular source of income for the poor households. And, finally the purpose is to examine the role of credit facility in reduction of poverty among the members belonging to the scheduled Caste Groups in Haryana. In order to examine the nature of microfinance attempts will also be made to examine the role of NGOs in working out its logic in evolving methods to help the poor.

The 73rd constitutional amendment and subsequent implementation of Panchayati Raj Act in 1994 made some of the NGOs in Haryana quite active. Social Centre for Rural Initiative and Advancement (SCRIA) also organized its activity to impact education and training among the village folks in different villages. The campaign to conscientize and mobilize different marginalized sections particularly the oppressed and the subaltern groups i.e., 'Dalit' and 'Women' through regular discussion, workshop, summit, conference, street plays, folk songs and ragnis etc. are the main activities directed towards self governance. Organising the women and Dalit elected representatives at the village, block and district level through creative linkage is the task that will go a long way in actualizing the dreams of Gandhi and Nehru of self reliance through Panchayat. In the planned strategy of rural development various schemes of the government through Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Swarana Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) schemes were undertaken.

The institutional credit in Haryana came three decades after its formation. A little backdrop of creation of Haryana is pertinent to be placed here in order to put things in proper perspective. Haryana is one of the small states of India out of the total 29 States. It came into existence on 1st November, 1966 as a result of bifurcation of the Punjab State. At present the State consists of 22 districts. In comparison to the other States of the country, the penetration of microfinance in the State is very less perhaps due to the fact that it is considered to be one of the developed States of India. The relative position of Microfinance in Haryana as on March 31, 2014 is given in Table 1

**Table : 1 Status of Microfinance in Haryana in 2014**

Particular	No. of SHGs	Savings	Loans Disbursed	Outstanding bank loans against SHG
India	74.30 Lakhs	9897.42	24017.36	422927.52
Haryana	43029	4539.47	3060.62	24025.96
Share of Haryana (%)	0.58%	0.46%	0.13%	0.05%

Source: Status of Micro-Finance Report in India 2014 (Amount in crores)

It is clear from Table No.1 that the share of microfinance in Haryana is not even one percent of the country in respect of number of SHGs, savings, loans disbursed and outstanding loan amount. Comparative position of agency wise participation in SHG-Bank Linkage Program in Haryana is given below.



**Table : 2 Progress under microfinance-Agency wise in Haryana in 2014**

State	Commercial Bank		Regional Rural bank		Cooperation Bank		Total	
Haryana	No. of SHGs	Amount	No. of SHGs	Amount	No. of SHGs	Amount	No. of SHGs	Amount
Savings with Bank	18813	2147.85	20467	2055.61	3749	36.01	43029	4539.47
Loans disbursed	1012	1445.71	825	1469.20	83	143.71	1920	3060.62
Loans outstanding against SHGs	12870	15323.09	6881	7932.42	905	770.45	20656	24025.96

**Table : 3 SHG - Bank Linkage Program in 2014**

Bank	Haryana				India			
	No. of SHG	%	Bank loan (Rs. in crore)	%	No. of SHG	%	Bank loan (Rs. in crores)	%
Commercial bank	1012	51.11	1445.71	47.24	767253	56.15	1603749.35	66.77
RRB	885	44.70	1469	48	333420	24.40	628813.35	26.18
Cooperative bank	83	4.19	145.71	4.76	265748	19.45	169173.14	7.04
Total	1980	100	3060.42	100	1366421	100	2401735.84	100

Source: Status of Micro-Finance Report in India 2014

In Haryana, RRBs Commercial bank are playing a major role in disbursement of credit to SHGs as 51.11 % of the SHGs have been formed and 47.24 % of credit disbursed by these banks. RRBs have less important role in the State as compared to the country's percentage. Cooperative banks have played almost an insignificant role in the state as compared to the country's percentage.

In contemporary times the government has given additional thrust to welfare measures through implementation of National Rural Livelihood Mission in a phased manner throughout Haryana. Keeping the government policy and welfare measures in mind towards addressing the problems faced by women a field work study was conducted in two villages namely Gandhra & Ismaila falling in Sampla block of Rohtak district. So far as Rohtak district is concerned it has a total population of 10,61,204 out of total population of Haryana 2,53,51,462. So far as male & female distribution specially rural population is concerned it was enumerated to be 3,32,034 for male and 2,83,006 for females. The sex ratio of rural population in Rohtak district was 852 against state average of 882 where as Child Sex Ratio for the state was reported to be 835 and of Rohtak it was 822. This clearly goes to show that Rohtak district is considered to be representing skewed child sex ratio. Needless to mention that this has tremendous bearing so far as the development and welfare measures are concerned. In order to conduct a focused study the two villages i.e., Gandhra & Ismaila was taken up to ascertain the social, economic conditions of women who were beneficiaries of loan facilities through microfinance.

**Table : 4 Distribution of SHGs in Ismaila & Gandhra village of Rohtak district**

Name of Village	No. of SHGs	Members	Loan taken
Ismaila	12 (55%)	124 (53%)	60 (75%)
Gandhra	10 (45%)	109 (47%)	20 (25%)
Total	22	233	80

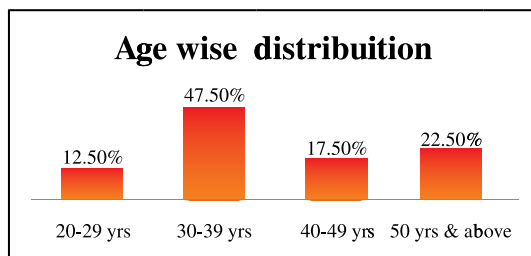
The total number of females who had taken advantage of microfinance were 80 i.e., 60 from Ismaila and 20 from Gandhra village. Out of 80 beneficiaries of loan availed by the members, 40 members were identified for intensive study to know the manner in which loan amount was



utilized for improving their social & economic conditions. The idea was to ascertain their views in knowing or in having an assessment of members who have used the loan amount for embarking into some entrepreneurial activities which will become a source of income generation to solve the problems of livelihood.

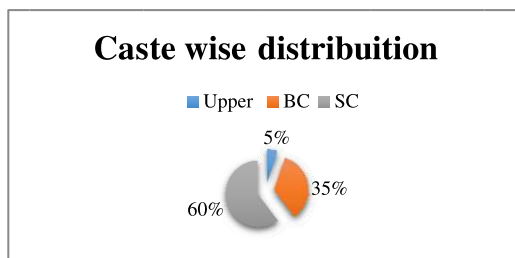
### **Socio-economic background of SHG's members in sampled villages**

#### **Age**



So far as the age wise distribution of SHG members are concerned it was found that majority of the member's age i.e. 60% of the members have their age ranging between 20-39 years. Rest of the members has their age ranging between 40-60 years. Thus it indicates that the person who become the member of SHGs are relatively younger in age and they are the one who embark into some entrepreneurial activities with a loan amount that they take out of the corpus fund i.e. created by the members contributing the same.

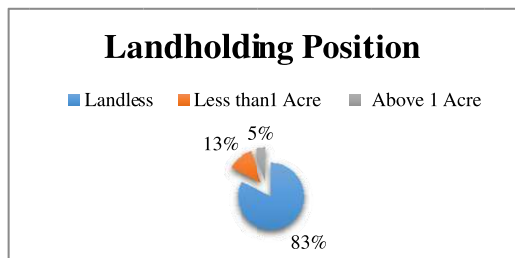
#### **Caste**



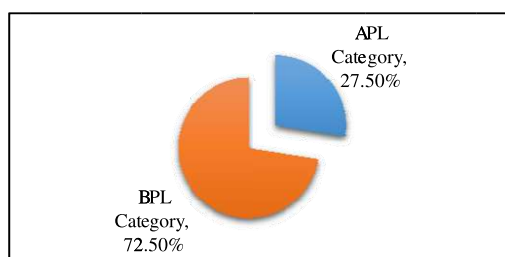
Caste wise distribution of respondents reveals that 60% were represented by scheduled caste members while 35% members belonged to the backward class. A very small percentage i.e. five percent of the members came from upper caste background. It is significant to note that those who come from upper caste background share the misery of SC & BC. That's the reason why they were interested in becoming members of SHG for the purpose of taking advantage of loan facilities.

#### **Landholding positions**

Landholding positions of the respondents further demonstrates the caste background that the members come from. It showed that 83% of the respondents were landless and those having less than one acre of land consisted of 12%. Only 5% of the members had some access to land but that too ranged between 1-3 acres.



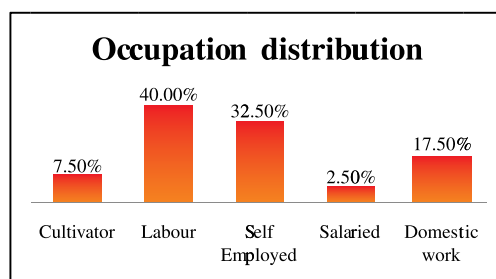
Considering the landholding position of the members they were categorized into APL & BPL group. Only some of respondents had their poverty status somewhat better and that is the reason



why 27.5% of them were put under APL category. Nearly 73% of the respondents belong to the BPL category which showed their pecuniary conditions. Based on the official data 62.5% of those holding BPL (yellow card) and 10% of them having pink card were recognized as poorest of the poor.

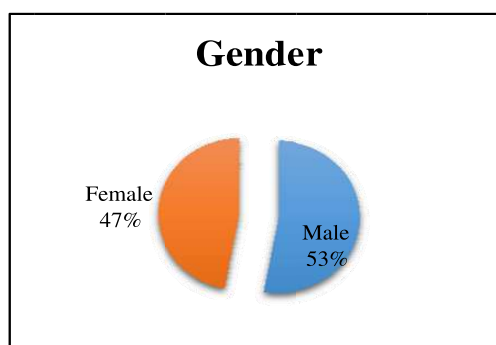
Thus the field survey data reveals that majority of respondent's economic conditions were more acute as the access to the land and the occupations that they had were extremely limited and therefore they were recognized as most vulnerable groups requiring loan facilities to eke out their existence.

### ***Occupation***



Occupation wise distribution of respondents revealed that about 2/5<sup>th</sup> of them were still engaged in agricultural sector. They were either working as cultivator (7.5%) or acting as labour. In non agricultural sector almost similar numbers of members are represented. Just about 2.5% of members are salaried employee. One fifth members are engaged in looking after domestic work. Considering the occupation profile of the members it becomes logical to infer that majority of the members look forward to loan for meeting the livelihood needs.

### ***Demographic profile***



The demographic profile of members reveals that 47.7% of members were married. 51.8% were unmarried and one member was widow. It is also pertinent to mention here that 50% of the respondents were illiterate and 45% of them were educated up to matriculation level. What is significant to note is the fact that majority (about 2/3<sup>rd</sup>) of the members were educated just up to 10<sup>th</sup> level. From within them the number of those who were either illiterate or had their schooling up to primary level was numerically preponderant. The number of female members having education up to higher secondary & graduation level was less than 4%. There has been a positive co-rrrelation between level of education and access to employment opportunities. Thus it can

safely be inferred that employment potentials in case of educated members is higher than those who remain illiterate or literate just up to primary to secondary level.

**Table : 5 Age/Gender wise Distribution of Family members**

Age group	No. of family members	Male	Female
Less than 20	85	43	42
20-29	34	22	12
30-39	33	15	18
30-49	20	12	08
50 & above	23	12	11

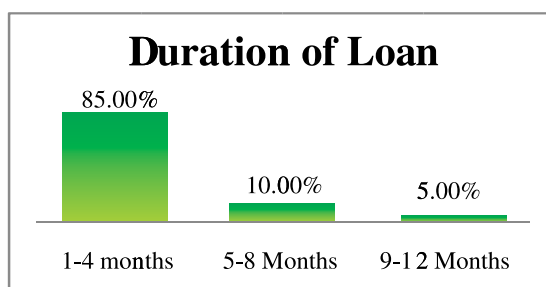
**Table:6 Literacy Status of Family members**

Education	No. of family members	Male	Female
Illiterate	45 (23% )	18(9%)	27 (14 %)
Up to 5th	53 (27% )	22	31
6-10 <sup>th</sup>	67	42	25
11-12th	18	13	05
Graduation & above	12 (6%)	10 (5%)	02 (1% )

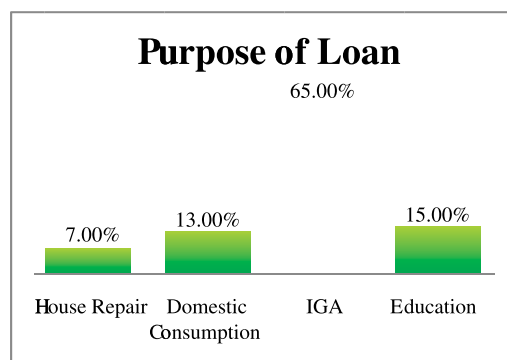
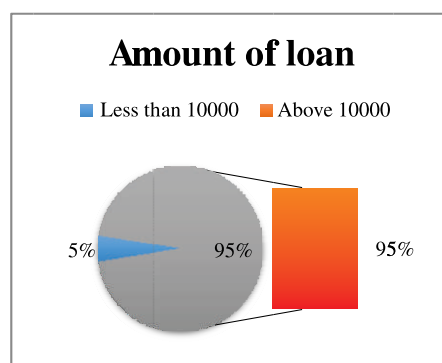
**Table:7 Distribution of respondent's family members showing their Work status**

Work status	No. of family members	%age
Self Employed	40	20.5%
Labour	26	13.3%
Domestic work	18	9.2%
Student	47	24.1%
Unemployed	44	22.6%
Pension holder	1	0.5%
Govt. Job	5	2.6%
Others-Ho u se wife	14	7.2%
Total	195	100%

### Loan transaction details and Perception about Civil Society Organization



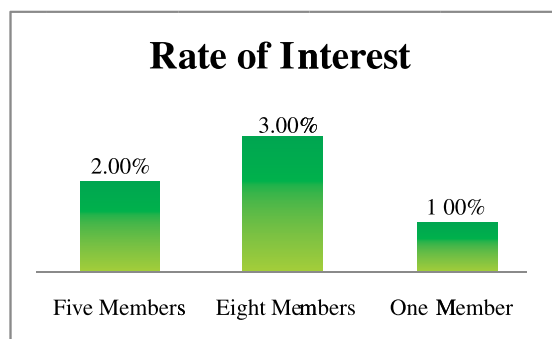
The loan transaction details available with the members actively involved in disbursement of loan revealed that all the members had availed loan for 12 months. The majority i.e., 85% of the members had taken loan for about four months ago and rest i.e., 15% of the members had taken loan for about 12 months ago. The amount of loan taken by the members range between 10-15000 but for a small percentage of members who had taken loan was less than 10000 whereas 95% of loan seekers had taken loan above Rs. 10000/-. It was significant to note that 35% of loan seekers had taken consumption loan whereas 65% of them had taken loan for engaging themselves in some income generation activities (IGA) and therefore, 67.5% of them stated that the loan financed by the R. P. Education Society (RPES), a civil society organization found the



loan to be very useful while 32.5% of them stated that it was useful. No wonder 55% of the respondents appreciated the role of RPES in facilitating them with loan facilities while 45% of them stated that its role was good. Encouraged by the availability of easy loan facility 20% of them had gone for repeat loan which was utilized both to meet their consumption needs as well as embark upon some entrepreneurial activities. It is also pertinent to mention here that in last one year there has not been a single instance of the loan defaulter and that shows that Civil Society Organisation has won the support of all the members of SHGs

**Table:8 Respondent's perception about R.P.E.S's Role**

Sr. No.	RPES NGO support useful	No. of members	% age
A	No	00	
B	Yes	40	100%
1	Self Confidence	25	62%
2	Mutual Cooperation	02	5%
3	Belief in NGO	10	25%
4	Help in loan transaction	16	40%
5	Easy acces sibility of loan	21	52.5%
6	Build trust	08	20%





Its indirect benefit is that it has created a positive trust and goodwill by the R P E S that has gone a long way in establishing their credibility in the eyes of the members. It is also significant to note that prior to R P E S role in acting as loan facilitator to provide them livelihood support for improving their precarious nature of economic conditions. The earlier practice of seeking loan was from the informal sector which included money tender and Zamindar. It is also interesting to note that the professional money tender were not involved in loan transaction in a big way. They were replaced by Zamindar –cum-money lender who charged 2-3% rate of interest which was a source of generating usurious form of capital. Therefore, the saying that became popular in this region was that 'Indian farmers live in debt and die in debt'. M. Darling a noted scholar has pointed out that salient features of the peasant's plight due to money lenders use of usurious capital amassed through plundering and taking advantage of the adverse economic conditions of the peasant communities in northwest region (of which Haryana was a part) had been the salient features of people living in rural areas.

**Table: 9 Respondents sought source of loan prior to SHGs**

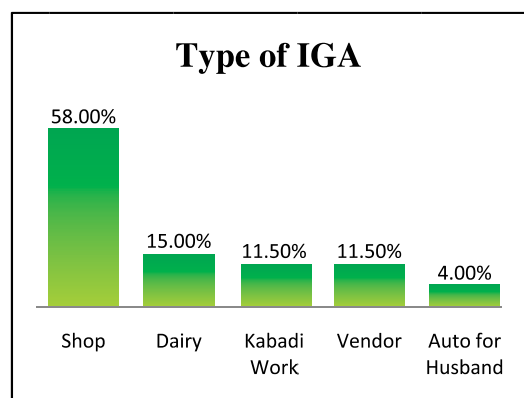
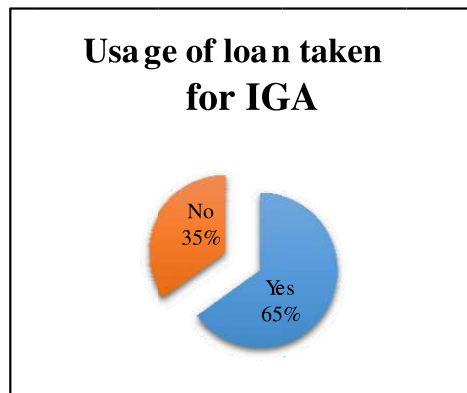
	No. of members	%age
Money Lender	01	7
Zamindar	12	85
Friends	01	7

**Table: 10 Distribution of respondent showing purpose of loan**

Purpose of Loan	No. of members
House Repair	03
Marriage	03
Repayment of Loan	03
Domestic Consumption	01
Medical Treatment	02
Education	01
IGA	01 (7%)

The field data that was collected from the sampled villages i.e., Gandhra & Ismaila reveal that 35% of the members who had taken loan from Zamindar-cum-money lender had taken loans for the purpose of meeting dire economic needs such as house repair, marriage, repayment of loan and medical treatment. About 21% of them had taken loan for meeting the domestic requirement, education of children and for the purpose of investment in income generation activities. Thus the members who seek loan from informal agencies go to suggest that in desperate situations they take loan from Zamindar and zamindar take advantage of their precarious economic conditions to advance them loan charging rate of interest amounting to 2-3%. It is clear from this fact that the institutional loan that is advanced to them by the civil society organization comes at a cheaper rate of interest i.e. 1% and that too it gets reduced even when any payment is made of total sum of loan amount. This is how the civil society organization has succeeded in winning their trust which accounts for their credibility.

It is also significant to mention here the fact that the money received as a loan by the members from RPES has been utilized for income generation activities by the members.



The data collected from field survey suggests that 65% of them had taken loan for IGA and the amount is spent for running stable establishments which supplements their economic needs as it becomes a stable source of income in solving livelihood problems. Among the loan seekers, 58% of the members had established shops like provisional stores, selling utensils, stationeries etc., that became a stable establishment for earning their livelihood. About 45% of them had taken loan for running dairy, doing kabadi work, acting as a vendor and helped their husbands to buy auto riksha with the loan amount. Thus loan amount was not frittered away in meeting the consumption needs. Thus all these investments are productive investments which take care of their livelihood problems. Although the earnings through the loan amount by way of monthly income was found to be 2000 in 35% cases; 2000-4000 in 23% cases & 4000-above in 42% cases. This monthly income earned through loan amount is the supplementary income that helps the members in meeting their household needs. It was also found that some of the members had utilized the loan amount in investing money in agricultural operations i.e., horticulture and traditional farming.

The institutional loan provided economic relief in great measure. In addition to addressing livelihood issues the formation of SHGs has created a feeling of well being among the members and therefore, when the meeting of SHGs take place they also discuss the social, economic & personal issues in the meeting. It was found that the social & economic issues occupy bulk of the time in the meeting while just about 50% of time is consumed in discussing the personal issues. Members also recalled that they discuss certain social evils such as the problems of female feticide, child marriage and issue of alcoholism causing domestic violence. The awareness level of the social & economic issues occupies bulk of the time in the meeting. Since their becoming members of SHGs supplement family income, therefore, even the family members recognize the importance of SHG in their life and hence, they readily allow the female members to attend these meetings. More than 80% of the

members attend the meeting whenever it is convened. Those who do not attend the meeting have no aversion in attending the meeting as they fail to attend the meeting when they are not well or when they have visitors as guest in their house.

The social life of the members has also changed as they regularly remain in touch with RPES activities. The RPES activities centre around organizing blood donation camps, health awareness camp and occasions of birthday celebrations of great personalities like Shaheed Bhagat Singh & the state level personalities like Chaudhary Chhoturam who is considered as champions of peasant's cause in Haryana. Thus it is clear that the members who have joined SHGs through RPES have a sense of intrinsic satisfaction when they are involved in participating in activities organized by RPES. The multiple response sought from the members revealed that 65% of the members had participated in blood donation camps, 20% in health awareness camp and 50% of the members participated in 23<sup>rd</sup> March and 24<sup>th</sup> Nov. when Shaheed Bhagat Singh's birth Anniversary and Sir Chhoturam's birth anniversary were celebrated by RPES respectively. About 10% of the members could not participate in those activities as they had some emergency work in the house or some of them were out of station.

**Table: 11 Respondent's participation in RPES activities**

Participation in RPES activities	No. of members	%age
Blood Donation	26	65
Health Awareness Camp	08	20
Day Celebration	20	50
Not attended	04	10

Thus it is evident from the facts mentioned above that NGOs /Civil Society Organizations play a proactive role in not only meeting the problems of livelihood of the members but it also helps in creating a social awareness among them about the social evils and measures of rural development that may be initiated in the village that they come from. In the present case, the field data was collected from Gandhra & Ismaila village of Sampla block in Haryana. The findings of field based data clearly suggest that SHGs continue to play a positive role in meeting economic needs of its members. The effective role of SHGs however depends upon the training input and confidence building measures carved out by it through disbursement of loan at subsidized rate of interest.

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**Microbial transformation:  
A strategy to value addition for betulin like triterpenes**

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**Abstract**

Triterpenes are biologically active versatile group of biomolecules present in several plants. They often occur as in combination with or without other biomolecules to make more effective molecules for instance glycol-conjugates having diverse bioactivity from their native counter parts. Sometimes they are responsible for performing different chemical and enzymatic reactions, while biotransformation is usually more specific and occurs without unwanted changes to the molecule. Further structural modification of the triterpenes to improve their pharmaceutical significance can be competently carried out by the application of biotransformation processes using microorganisms or isolated enzymes. Now a day's people are more interested for organic foods and nutraceuticals specially originated by involvement of biological processes rather than chemical routes. That means increasing the value of a native product or process is mediated through biotransformation. Here we have explained microbial transformation as a powerful tool for value addition in betulin with a view from a common man to a biologist.

**Key-words:** Bioconversion; Betulinic acid, Anti-HIV; Phytochemicals; Natural product; Triterpenes

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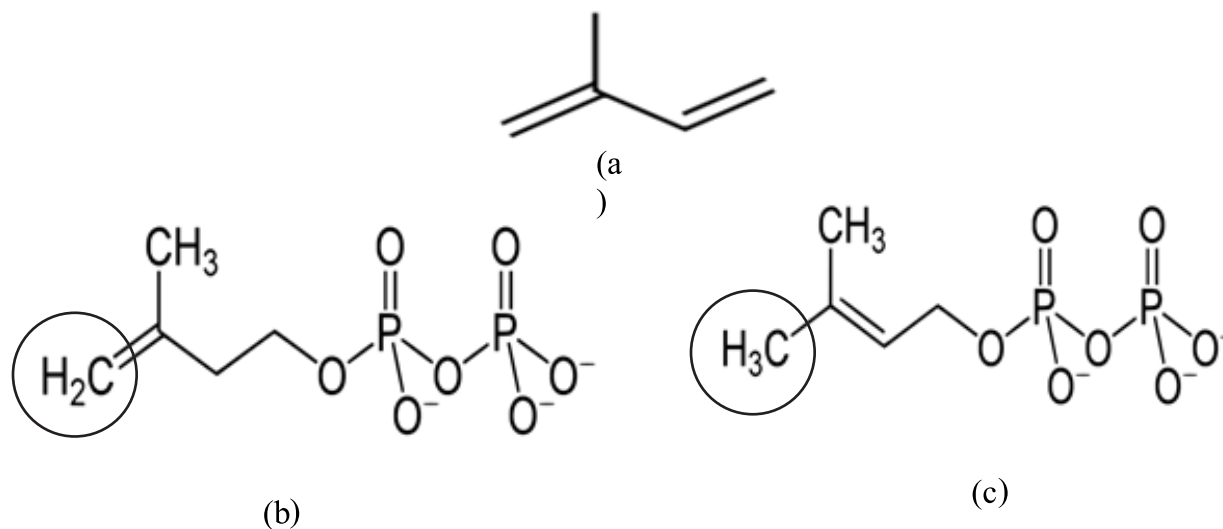
**Introduction:**

**Terpenes, triterpenes and triterpenoids**

Plants have been the most significant source for curing and treatment of human and animal malfunctions from their secondary metabolites. Secondary metabolites are classified in to three broad groups as phenolics (~8,000 types) alkaloids (~12,000 types) terpenes and terpenoids (~25,000 types) among them terpenes are the largest group with wide applications (Croteau, Kutchan, & Lewis, 2000). The terpenes are collection of organic compound primarily synthesized by plants as their secondary metabolites. They usually have strong smells which help plants protecting them against deterring insects and parasites (Martin, Gershenzon, & Bohlmann, 2003; Pichersky, Noel, & Dudareva, 2006).

Including their roles as end-products in various organisms, terpenes play as key biosynthetic building blocks within almost every living creature. For instance steroids are derivatives of squalene, which is one of triterpene. The building blocks of terpenes are isoprene units (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) as shown in Fig 1.





**Fig 1. Building blocks for terpenes and steroids (a) The isoprene unit (b) isopentenyl pyrophosphate (IPP) (c) dimethylallyl pyrophosphate (DMAPP)**

They are found in various forms as resin and essential oils from plants' extracts. When terpenes are modified through oxidation, reduction or re-arrangement of the carbon frame, the resultant are more often referred to as terpenoids. That means the terpenoids are the modified terpenes. On the other hand, it is common for the term 'terpene' which includes terpenoids in several reports (Thimmappa, Geisler, Louveau, O'Maille, & Osbourn, 2014).

Native form of terpenes generally conjugates with sugar and other large molecules like triterpene glycoside. Triterpene glycosides have significant agronomic and ecological functions, such as pathogen resistance, food quality increment by biofortification in crop plants together with a wide array of profitable applications in pharmaceutical, cosmetics, food, and industrial biotechnology sectors (Moses, Pollier, Thevelein, & Goossens, 2013).

Triterpene cyclization can thus lead to a wide array of different triterpene structures, all resulting from the simple and omnipresent linear isoprenoid substrate 2, 3-oxido squalene. Then these triterpene scaffolds can offer the basis for further variation by triterpene-modifying enzymes (e.g. sugar transferases, cytochrome P450s, and acyl transferases) thus leading to enormous structural diversity. Terpenes can be present as hydrocarbons or have oxygen-containing compounds such as, ketone carbonyl, aldehyde or hydroxyl groups.

### **The structure and synthesis of terpenes -The isoprene rule**

There is a specific rule for denoting and classifying different terpenes based on their interlinked isoprene units by the formula  $(C_5H_8)_n$ , where  $n$  is representing number of linked isoprene units. This is also known as C5 rule for terpenes. An isoprene unit is the most common building block for natural macromolecules for example limonene is just made up of only 2 interlinked isoprene units and is represented as  $(C_5H_8)_2$  making the molecular formula as  $C_{10}H_{16}$  representing itself as a monoterpene.

As an isoprene rule

01 Monoterpenes = 02 isoprene units

Isoprene units may be arranged in a ring or makes linear chain like structure by linking together head to tail manner with their specific arrangements leads to different groups as shown in Table 1.

**Main sources of triterpenes** Available literature highlights that plants are the main source of terpenes that's why it is suggested that consumption of olive oils, fruits for example apple and vegetables reduces the risk of cancer and other diseases (Juan, Wenzel, Ruiz-Gutierrez, Daniel, & Planas, 2006; Thimmappa et al., 2014)

### Types of terpenes

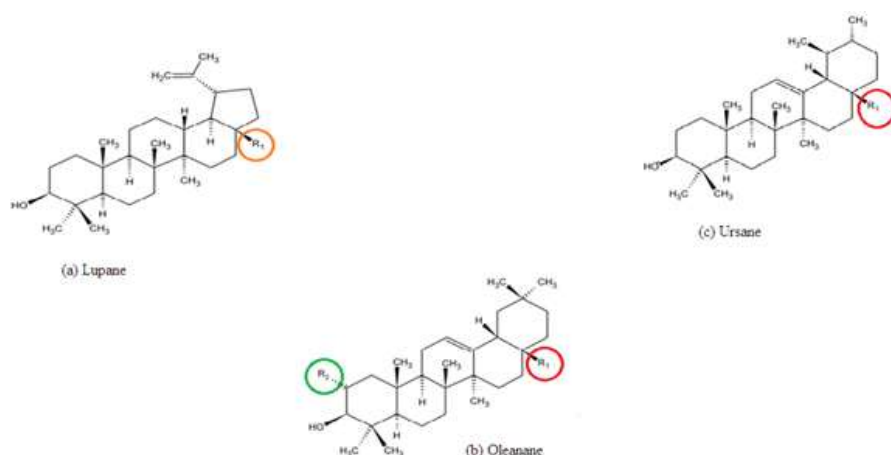
Besides different nutraceuticals, fruits and spices contain pentacyclic triterpenes from the lupane, ursane and oleanane groups (Fig 2 and Table 2). The pharmacological application of these triterpenes has amplified throughout last twenty years indicating multi-target properties such as anti-tumoral effects, combined with low toxicity, anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory, wound healing, antiviral, and hepatoprotective (Alakurtti, Mäkelä, Koskimies, & Yli-Kauhaluoma, 2006; Csuk, 2014b; Menaa, Badole, Menaa, Menaa, & Bodhankar, 2012)

### Understanding the value addition?

Value addition means is “to add or increase an additional value to an existing product by changing its current properties by means of physical or biochemical or both way” (Pagliaro, Ciriminna et al. 2007). A product could be either a natural origin product or a commodity having an economic value. The qualities as well price of the new product(s) is/are enhanced from the native product or molecule, by carrying these characteristics changes to preferred demand in the market for instance raw wheat to delicious cookies production as shown in Fig 3 (Yang, Hanna et al. 2012).

Commonly, adding the value is the process of altering or transforming a creation from its original state to an additional valuable state having more market values (Shi, He et al. 2015). It is important to identify the value-added activities that will support the necessary investment in research, processing, and marketing of a product. The application of biotechnology and engineering adds more impact to natural products from raw material to finished products which reaches to the consumers (Barkema and Drabenstott 1996, Mazzoli, Bosco et al. 2014). The international market for value-added products is growing day by day with the unremitting changing to a global economy (Boehlje 1996).

In microbial production of value added products / chemicals can avoid inefficiency and difficulty of chemical synthesis routes. Such chemicals can be produced from the specifically acclimatized or mutated microorganisms that produce them but are frequently generated from genetically manipulated micro-organisms. *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Escherichia coli* has been reported most commonly for recombinant protein expression studies (Deiters, Cropp et al. 2003).



**Fig 2. Molecular structures of (a) Lupane (b) Oleanane and (c) Ursane type triterpenes**

The genetic makeup of these microbes has been well-investigated and characterized thereby facilitating simplified genetic engineering (Lau, Gunawan et al. 2010). Since, they require costly carbon sources and may not grow on certain waste stream that's why it is not sure for these strains to be an ideal platform for every bioprocess.

### Key strategies for adding value

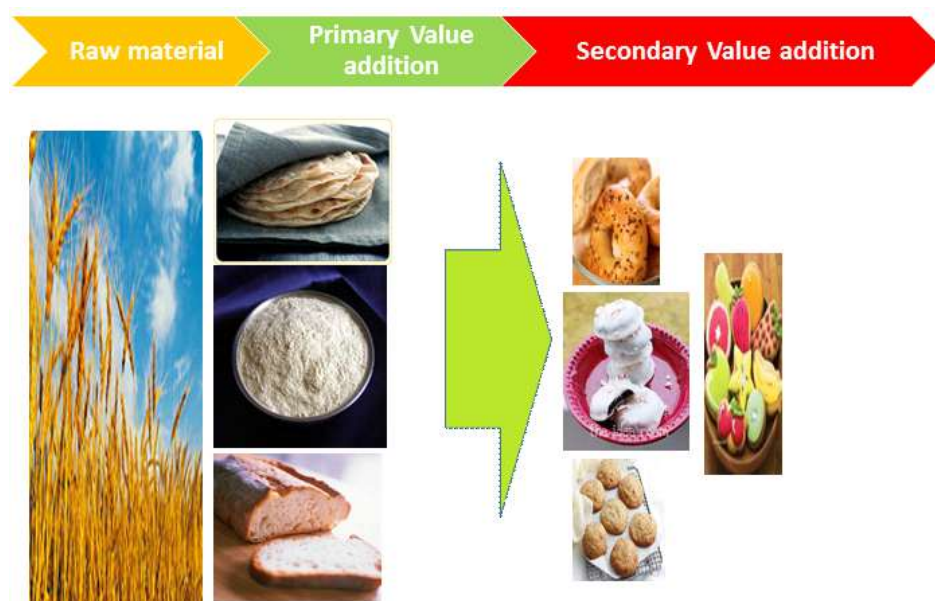
Generally to get a value added product, few but significant steps should be followed as given below:

- a) Altering physical condition of products.
- b) Producing improved value goods.
- c) Differentiating products by attractive packaging and wraps.
- d) Bundling or grouping of closely or commonly used products.
- e) Producing more products with improve efficiency to the supply chain.
- f) Owning possessions up the delivery chain.

Various remarkable work have been made in the engineering of microbes as microbial factories for synthesis of value-added products in the past few years (Du, Shao et al. 2011, Kudanga, Nyanhongo et al. 2011).

### Value addition in betulin

Betulin and its derivatives (Fig 4. a, b, c, d, e and f) have attracted attention due to their various pharmacological activities like anti-HIV and anti-tumor more specifically (Aiken & Chen, 2005; Alakurtti et al., 2006; Csuk, 2014a; Huang, Yuan, Aiken, & Chen, 2004). Betulinic acid is commercially produced via chemical synthesis where betulin is used as raw material (Krasutsky, Carlson et al. 2001). Chemical modifications at the positions C-3 and C-28 of the parent structure of betulin can produce betulinic acid and other derivatives (Dang, Ho et al. 2013, Schwab, Fuchs et al. 2013). Commercially betulin can be obtained from outer bark of birch tree (genus *Betula*) (Mellanen *et al.* 1996). Betulinic acid has the ability to inhibit the growth of various cancerous cell lines *in vitro* without affecting normal cells. The *in vivo* anti-tumour activity of betulinic acid was also confirmed; whereas no other toxicities were observed in tumour-bearing mice at doses of 500 mg/kg body weight (Mukherjee et al. 2006; Bastos et al. 2007).



**Fig 3. Value addition steps are showing with an understanding to a common man**

Because of the selective cytotoxicity and favourable therapeutic index betulinic acid is considered a promising anticancer agent (Cichewicz and Kouzi 2004). Betulinic acid has been found in small amount in certain plants (Jäger *et al.* 2009), which makes extraction less suitable for large-scale production to fulfill the market demand. Meanwhile, betulin can be synthetically converted to betulinic acid in a two-step procedure gives low yield (Kim *et al.* 1997). Biotransformation are preferred as they do not use large amount of costlier chemicals, leads to green synthesis of high value fine chemicals as an alternative tool for chemical synthesis (Schwab, Fuchs *et al.* 2013). Previous reports indicated that the betulinic acid is thirty five to forty times costlier and their other derivatives are much more costly from native molecule i.e., betulin (<http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/catalog/product/aldrich/b9757?lang=en&region=IN>). Due to the poor yield of betulinic acid restricted researchers for production through chemical synthesis and attracted towards biotransformation process (Schwab, Fuchs *et al.* 2013).

**Table 1. Characteristics and classification of commonly occurring terpenes groups with their examples**

Name of terpenes with number (s) of isoprene units	Molecular representation	Examples
Hemiterpenes (1)	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	Prenol and isovaleric acid
Monoterpenes (2)	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>16</sub>	Geraniol, terpineol (present in lilacs), limonene (present in citrus fruits), myrcene (present in hops) linalool (present in lavender), pinene (present in pine trees).
Sesquiterpenes (3)	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>24</sub>	Humulene, farnesenes, farnesol.
Diterpenes (4)	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>32</sub>	Cafestol, kahweol, cembrene and taxadiene (precursor of taxol).
Sesterterpenes (5)	C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>40</sub>	Geranylfarnesol
Triterpenes (6)	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>48</sub>	The simplest triterpene is squalene is a linear molecule, obtained from shark liver oil, and derived by reductive coupling of two molecules of farnesyl pyrophosphate. ( <b>Betulin, betulinic acid, ursolic acid</b> )
Sesquaterpenes (7)	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>56</sub>	typically microbial in their origin for examples: ferrugicadiol and tetraprenylcurcumen
Tetraterpenes (8)	C <sub>40</sub> H <sub>64</sub>	acyclic lycopene, the monocyclic gamma -carotene, and the bicyclic alpha- and beta-carotenes
Polyterpenes (10 and above)	(C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ) <sub>n</sub>	Natural rubber poly-isoprene

The global market for plants based natural products and drugs was valued about \$23.2 billion in 2013 and \$24.4 billion in 2014 which is supposed to reach \$35.4 billion in 2020 (Pan, Litscher *et al.* 2014). Furthermore the magnificent pharmacological activities of betulin, betulinic acid and their derivatives fascinated researchers' attention more in last 30 years (Csuk, 2014a; Pisha *et al.*, 1995; Wiemann *et al.*, 2015). The selective cytotoxicity against tumor cells (Zuco *et al.*, 2002) and favorable therapeutic action of betulinic acid with its derivatives formed it as a bright star in the arena of cancer therapy. Betulinic acid is a competent chemotherapeutic agent particularly for the treatment of cancer and HIV infections (Tang *et al.*, 2014). Commercially betulinic acid is obtained by chemical synthesis from betulin as precursor molecule. Betulinic acid (BA) along with betulin, a naturally occurring pentacyclic lupane type triterpenoid is reported from

approximately more than 25 plants distributed around the globe, including *Betula alba*, *Betula pendula* (Betulaceae), *Ancistrocladus heyneanus* (Ancistrocladaceae), *Ziziphus jujube* (Rhamnaceae), and *Syzygium spp.* (Myrtaceae) (Yogeeswari and Sriram 2005). Specific solvent(s) combination with different plant and their respective parts were used by various researchers for extraction of betulin, betulinic acid, betulonic acid and their derivatives.

In this race for search of medicinally vital novel molecules and value added related aspects, significant patents were filed by several researchers worldwide (Acésio et al., 2016; Auclair, Kaboorani, Riedl, & Landry, 2016; Bao et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2016; Csuk, 2014b; Wiemann et al., 2015). However, some critical issues in chemical synthesis remain, including reaction condition, safety and pollution problems (Csuk, Schmuck, & Schäfer, 2006; Tripathi, Kumar, & Singh, 2009; Zhang et al., 2015). In view of the increasing interest of researchers in betulinic acid, it is expected that betulinic acid production through biotransformation will be highly important.

**Table 2. Characteristics of commonly occurring triterpenes groups with their examples**

<b>Triterpene family</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Molecular weight</b>	<b>Triterpene R1</b>	<b>Triterpene R2</b>
<b>Lupane</b>	Betulin	442.72	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	---
	Betulinic acid	456.71	COOH	---
	Lupeol	426.70	CH <sub>3</sub>	---
<b>Oleanane</b>	Oleanolic acid	456.71	COOH	H
	Maslinic acid	472.70	COOH	OH
		426.70	CH <sub>3</sub>	H
	Erythrodiol	472.72	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	H
<b>Ursane</b>	Ursolic acid	456.71,	COOH	---
	$\alpha$ -amyrin	426.70,	CH <sub>3</sub>	---
	Uvaol	442.72	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	---

Now a day's bio-catalysis is becoming a key component in the chemical process for obtaining new pharmaceuticals, intermediates and analytical reagents. Most of the biocatalytic reactions can be carried out under certain safe, healthier environmental and economical conditions. In an effort to elucidate its metabolic fate in humans, micro-organisms are also recently utilized as *in vitro* systems to predict and prepare the potential mammalian metabolites of betulinic acid (Cichewicz and Kouzi 2004). In order to value addition in betulin, it was transformed by the brown-rot fungus *Gloeophyllum odoratum* (Kahlos *et al.* 1994). Betulinic acid was incubated with resting-cell suspensions of *Cunninghamella* spp. NRRL 5695, *Cunninghamella elegans* ATCC 9244, *Bacillus megaterium* (ATCC 13368 & 14581) and *Mucor mucedo* (UI-4605) (Chatterjee *et al.* 1999, 2000; Kouzi *et al.* 2000) to get more hydrophilic value added betulinic acid derivatives.

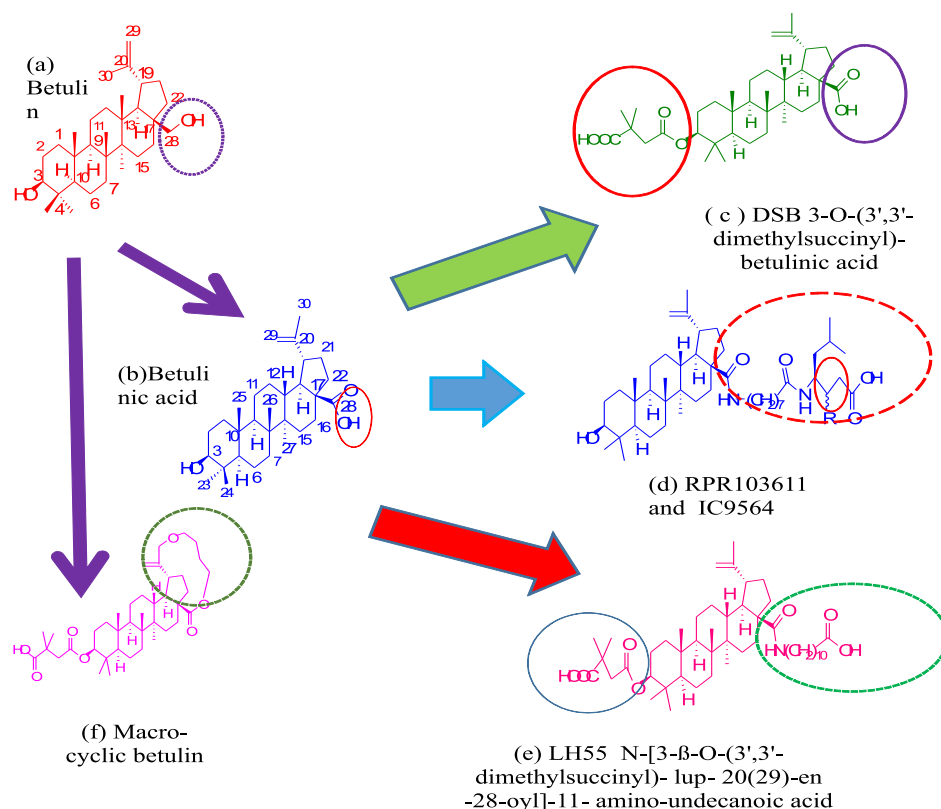


Although a series of oxidized and conjugated metabolites of betulinic acid were obtained to date but there is limited research on betulin biotransformation was done. Thus, it is highly valuable to add value to betulin through biotransformation strategy and obtain betulinic acid or else which is already reported or some novel as more soluble and pharmaceutically significant molecule (Csuk 2014). Earlier reports highlighted fungi as biocatalyst for the bioconversion of betulin to betulinic acid or other derivatives like betulone (Liu, Fu et al. 2011, Mao, Feng et al. 2012, Feng, Li et al. 2013) but rare reports on prokaryotic system supports for the same. A fungus, *Armillaria luteo-virens* Sacc-QH was investigated for transforming betulin to betulinic acid (Liu, Fu et al. 2011). The maximum productivity of betulinic acid ~9.32%, was found under optimized environment.

**Table 3. Some examples of conventional value additions presently in use.**

SI No.	Native product	Value added product (s)
1.	Milk	Yoghurt, Curd, Flavored milk, Milk based sweets, Skimmed milk/dry milk powder
2.	Soybean	Edible oil, Lecithin, soya chunks, Confectionary products
3.	Coconut	Edible oil, dry powdered endosperm used in confectionaries, Coir as raw material for mats etc.
4.	Molasses	Alcohol, vinegar
5.	Extra ripened fruits	Jam and Jellies, Candies
6.	Flowers	Oils and extracts for food and pharmaceutical industries eg. Rose water, Flower scents
7.	Cereals (corn, Oat, Rice)	
8.	Peanut	Peanut butter, edible oil
9.	Macro algae	Animal feed, biodiesel

While under optimum conditions, a yeast strain transformed 52.65% betulin to two products out of which one was betulone detected by high performance liquid chromatography (Mao, Feng et al. 2012). Another report using *Cunninghamella blakesleeana* cells investigated the biotransformation of betulin to betulinic acid characterized by HPLC and LC-MS analysis, demonstrated at least five products from cultured *C. blakesleeana* cells, among which betulinic acid was the most important (Feng, Li et al. 2013). On another hand, *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* IEGM 66 growing cells transformed 0.5 g/L betulin to betulone with 45% conversion rate within 240h (Grishko, Tarasova et al. 2013) was reported.



**Fig 4. Schematic representation of Value addition in Betulin (a) Betulin (b) Betulinic acid (Pisha et al., 1995) (c) DSB 3-O-(3',3'-dimethylsuccinyl)-betulinic acid (Kashiwada et al., 2000) (d) RPR103611 and IC9564 (Sun et al., 2002) (e) LH55 N-[3-β-O-(3',3'-dimethylsuccinyl)-lup-20(29)-en-28-oyl]-11-amino-undecanoic acid (Huang et al., 2004) (f) Macro-cyclic betulin derivative (Tang et al., 2014)**

## Conclusion

Generally plant natural products as betulin are less hydrophilic and creates problem in its bioavailability when administered to *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* but its derivatives like betulinic acid, DSB have shown encouraging results due to modification at C28 position of betulin (Cao, Zhao et al. 2007, Zhao and Yan 2007, Zhao and Yan 2008, Fan, Xie et al. 2013). Some advantages of biotransformation over chemical synthesis include higher stereo and regio-selectivity, as well as milder reaction conditions, less cost and lower pollution. In addition to these benefits few reactions that cannot be completed in chemical approaches can be easily performed by microbial transformation (Pervaiz, Ahmad et al. 2013). Nevertheless, continuous efforts towards finding new production hosts and creating novel enzymes catalyzing biochemical reactions, and increasing more influential tools in addition, functional genomics and proteomics are the need of time to expand the range of products that can be synthesized by these microbial factories to add value in native molecules. (Ekman, Campos et al. 2013, Gottardi 2013, McCurdy 2015). Microbial transformation strategy has been a remarkable approach to give better value added product from wine to recombinant protein production.

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## Product Dependency and Consumer Decision Making Styles

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### Abstract

Consumer Decision Making Styles (CDMS) has an important role in consumer behavior research as the evidence clearly shows in a number of studies carried out across the world for cross cultural validation of Consumer Style Inventory (CSI) developed by Sproles and Kendall (1986). However, most of the researches on Consumer decision making styles are product independent. So generalization of the CSI across product categories does require more study for validation. There is a need of study for product dependency and consumer decision making styles. To further investigate and study the relationship of product involvement and consumer decision making styles this study also aims at establishing the facts that consumer decision making styles depend on product involvement or not. A descriptive research design with the constructs of product involvement and CDMS is formulated in this study. The study has been carried out considering three product categories one is Denim Jean clothing, second is Mobile phone and the third one is Toothpaste keeping in mind the limited, routine and extensive problem solving of consumer purchase decision. The data from the university and college student consumers from Bhubaneswar has been collected and being analysed and the result show that there is a relationship product involvement with CDMS.

**Key-words:** Consumer Decision Making Styles, Product Involvement, Dependency, Problem Solving

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### Introduction:

The success of any marketing effort depends upon how the marketer understands the consumer behavior and what influences the consumers' decision to buy the product and when the consumer decides to purchase the product, there is also some involvement of the product category in the decision process of buying. The consumer decision-making process is the center point of purchase decision; a number of studies have been carried out all over the world to understand the consumer behavior and to understand the complex buying decision process. Considerable scientific efforts were also directed towards the exploration of consumer decision-making styles. Primarily it had been suggested by some authors that the study of consumer style characterized by three approaches i.e. *the consumer typology approach* (Darden and Ashton, 1974), *the Psychographic/lifestyle approach* (Lastovica, 1982) and *the consumer characteristics approach* (Sproles, 1985 cited in Sproles & Kendall, 1986). Further Sproles and Kendall (1986) developed Consumer Style Inventory (CSI) with the Consumer Decision-Making Styles (CDMS) list which includes the traits quality consciousness (Darden and Ashton, 1974) or brand and store loyalty (Moschis, 1976).

The more comprehensive instrument developed by Sproles and Kendall (1986) used to measure eight mental characteristics of consumer decision-making such as *Perfectionism- high quality*



*consciousness, brand consciousness, novelty-fashion consciousness, recreational-hedonic consciousness, price-value consciousness, impulsiveness, confused by over choice, and brand-loyal/habitual.* They also suggested that the CSI could be used by the researcher to have deep understanding of the consumers' shopping behavior which in turn would assist the marketers for better segmentation and targeting and also to reach to the specific consumer segments. The CSI had been the most tested instrument available to research in consumer decision-making styles in a cross-cultural environment (Bauer et.al, 2006), (Lysonsky, Dhurvasula, 2013). The instrument CSI had been used globally for the research of consumer decision-making styles were product independent and tested in product-neutral environment till the study by Bauer et.al (2006) which tried to analyse the relationship between CDMS and different kinds of products keeping in mind that the outcome of product dependency of CDMS would throw some light on customer insights for marketing practice. Major goal of this study is to analyse whether there is any relationship of CDMS and the product product involvement category as no study has been carried out in Indian context to investigate the relationship of CDMS and product involvement.

## Literature Review

Sproles and Kendall (1986) were the first to establish the core concept of consumer decision-making styles. According to them “A consumer decision-making style is defined as a mental orientation characterizing a consumer's approach to making choices. In essence, it is a basic consumer personality, analogous to the concept of personality in psychology”(Sproles and Kendall ,1986). In their study Sproles and Kendall (1986) used Consumer Styles Inventory (CSI) of 40 items based on exploratory study (Sproles, 1985). After factor analysis with varimax rotation of the 40 items CSI, Eight Factor model was emerged and the Eight Factors (Eight mental characteristics of consumer decision-making) were classified as (1) *Perfectionistic, high-quality consciousness*: Characteristics possessed by a Consumer who searches for the best quality in products and expected to shop more carefully and systematically. (2) *Brand consciousness, “price equals quality”*: Characteristics possessed by a Consumer who buys more expensive and well-known brands, the consumer who believes higher price means higher quality. (3) *Novelty-Fashion consciousness*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who is fashion as well as novelty conscious and likely to gain excitement and pleasure from seeking out new things. Style and variety seeking are important aspect in the characteristic. (4) *Recreational, hedonic shopping consciousness*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who finds shopping pleasant and shops for the fun. (5) *Price consciousness, “Value for money”*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who is price conscious and concerns about getting the best value for money and also prefers sale prices and is likely to be a comparison shopper. (6) *Impulsive, carelessness*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who does unplanned shopping and unconcerned about the spending and careless about getting the “best buys”. (7) *Confused by over choice*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who is confused in choosing one from many brands, stores and faces difficulty in making choices when there is information overload and, (8) *Habitual, brand-loyal*: Characteristics possessed by a consumer who is more likely to have favorite brands and stores; is habitual and loyal to these brands and stores.

As suggested by (Sproles & Kendall , 1986) for further use of the CSI and to test the robustness of the instrument there was need of more studies across the world and accordingly there had been numerous studies for cross-cultural validation across the world in different cultural environments were carried out. In the study by Hafstrom, Chae and Chung (1992) in U.S.A and Korea they opined that “there is reason for cautious optimism that the CSI has elements of construct validity and has potential use across international populations”. Durvasula S, Lysonski S and Andrews C (1993) used CSI to make comparison between decision-making styles of young consumers of U.S. and New Zeland for confirmation of the validity of the eight factors

emerged from 40 items based CSI and a general support to the CSI had been immerged. Lysonski & Durvasula et.al (1996) carried out a study to examine the CSI on university students in four countries namely ( New Zealand, Greece, U.S.A and India). The outcome of the study was eight factor solutions but it was very difficult to interpret in Greek and Indian Sample. The CSI receives some support from four different countries (USA and New Zealand; Developed countries and Greece and India; developing countries) . CSI was found to be more applicable to developed countries and explained that these inventories cannot be applied in developing countries without modification of the instrument. The difference was due to difference in culture and retail environment. Support was found for a modified version of the CSI and can be useful if used after validation. Zhou et.al (2010) explored both conceptually and empirically, the similarities and differences in consumer culture and the associated similarities and differences in decision-making styles between coastal and inland consumers in China and the outcome of the study was there was difference between the decision-making styles of the two regions, where coastal consumers were more brand conscious in China.

In the study of Lysonski and Durvasula (2013) longitudinal analysis had been carried out to investigate whether there was any change occurred during the period 1994-2009 in these 8 decision making styles by using the framework of CSI developed by Spores and Kendal (1986), Results showed that the mean values of “brand-conscious”, “novelty conscious”, “impulsive” dimensions were higher for the 2009 sample while the mean value of “perfectionist” dimension was higher for the 1994 sample. Two other dimensions increased were “recreational-hedonistic” and “habitual-brand loyal” but not statistically significant. The style “price consciousness” and “confused by over-choice” dimensions did not change over the time but the means of both the dimensions were above the midpoint of the scale. In summary, the outcome of the study was changes involved in two hedonic styles (i.e. “brand-conscious”, “novelty/fashion conscious”,) and two utilitarian styles (i.e. “impulsive” and “perfectionist/quality conscious”). The study by Mishra A (2010) on Consumer decision-making styles and young-adult consumers in India the CSI developed by Spores and Kendall (1986) had been used with a modification and ten factors were identified instead of eight. The two factors “dissatisfied shopping consciousness” and “store loyal” are extra factors with Cronbach's alpha 0.787 and 0.589 respectively with five items loaded under “dissatisfied shopping consciousness” factor. The study by Tanksale (2014) primarily aimed at identifying decision-making style of young consumers aged between 18 to 21 years to see if these styles were similar to those found in previous research studies.

The relationship between decision-making style of the consumer and the product the consumer purchases had not been established till (Bauer et.al,2006) were first tried to explore it. In their study they opined that the Novelty- Fashion consciousness couldn't be product neutral as fashion relates to clothing or other fashion related product and not to be generalized. Similarly 'Recreational and Hedonism' represent a concrete decision-making style can be specific for different product categories. Neither 'Confused by Over-choice' related to principle of product selection. Numerous studies provided evidence that purchase related decision-making traits employed by consumers depend on the product category they intend to purchase and that may vary according to product. Hence there was a need of study to investigate the issue of product dependence of consumer decision-making styles. In the study of (Bauer et.al, 2006) the outcome was there was a relationship between products and Consumer Decision Making Styles (CDMS) and also the product involvement

Further there were no much more studies on CDMS carried out in India. India being a bifurcated society and there is a sharp contrast in wealth between rural and urban sectors and further study could be carried out for better understanding of the decision-making style of the Indian consumers. Also the product dependency and consumer decision-making style need to be

investigated in Indian Context.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this study are

- (1) To verify the applicability of Consumer Style Inventory (CSI) and profiling the decision making styles of student consumers.
- (2) To examine the relationship of product involvement and Consumer Decision-Making Styles (CDMS) with respect to products purchased by the students.

### **Research Methodology**

#### **Research Design**

A descriptive approach has been adopted in this study that led to the desired result by using cross-sectional study. The cross-sectional study among the university/college students has been based upon the methodologies adopted in previous empirical studies conducted in various part of the world including. The data has been collected through survey method using structured questionnaire to analyze results.

#### **Development of instrument**

The questionnaire has been developed by adapting items from the original 40 items based CSI (Consumer Style Inventory) developed by Sproles and Kendall (1986). From the pilot testing of the original 40 items based questionnaire, it has been observed that the original 40 items of CSI is not giving the desired result for the study, so some items have been dropped on the basis of factor loading of some variables in multiple factors and negative factor loading of some variables. Finally, The questionnaire has been developed for collection of primary data and the respondents were asked to reply on 5 point likert scale (1-strongly disagree, 2-disagree, 3-moderately agree, 4-agree and 5-strongly agree).

#### **Sample & Source of Data**

As the scope of the study is restricted to the university students, a purposive sampling has been done in the study. The university/college students have been selected as per their gender, educational qualification, course, and age group.

#### **Sampling design**

From the literature review it has been observed that the studies across the world have taken the sample of undergraduate and post graduate students. So, the sampling design is consisting of sampling frame which defines the list of students of in Universities and colleges at Bhubaneswar in the age group of 21-24 years. Both boys and girls students were selected in the sample. The questionnaire has been administered to 100 students at Bhubaneswar. However, after scrutiny of the questionnaire only 83 questionnaires were found applicable.

#### **Formats of data**

As the study is empirical in nature, the primary data has been collected from the respondents using survey method through administering the structured questionnaire to the respondents.

#### **Tools for data analysis**

The data analysis has been done with descriptive statistics and also techniques like factor analysis used to find out the factors (decision-making styles) among the university students and

Regression Analysis for investigating the dependency of decision making styles on product involvement. SPSS-19 statistical software has been used for analysis of the data.

### Data Analysis & Findings

The data has been analysed by using appropriate statistical methods as applicable to achieve the objectives.

**Reliability of the scale:** The reliability of the scale is tested using SPSS-19 and the value of Cronbach's alpha comes out to be **0.772** which is acceptable for further analysis.

**Objective-1: To check the applicability of Consumer Style Inventory (CSI) and profiling the decision making styles of student consumers.**

**Statistical methods used and Analysis carried out:** In the data analysis the Multivariate technique has been used and under which the Interdependence Technique i.e. Exploratory Factor Analysis has been carried out by using 31 items which are adapted from CSI developed by Sproles and Kendall(1986). As the factor analysis gives the result by combining the related variables in to groups which is helpful for grouping similar characteristic in to one group or factor. The output of the factor analysis after the data has been analysed using SPSS-19 software are as follows:

### Factor Analysis: Out Put of SPSS-19

**Table-1**

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.600
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	971.818
	Df	465
	Sig.	.000

**Table-2 : Total Variance Explained**

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	5.151	16.615	16.615	5.151	16.615	16.615	3.121	10.069	10.069
2	2.764	8.916	25.531	2.764	8.916	25.531	3.085	9.951	20.019
3	2.613	8.429	33.960	2.613	8.429	33.960	2.478	7.994	28.013
4	2.345	7.564	41.523	2.345	7.564	41.523	2.402	7.747	35.760
5	1.787	5.764	47.287	1.787	5.764	47.287	1.931	6.229	41.989
6	1.682	5.427	52.714	1.682	5.427	52.714	1.917	6.182	48.172
7	1.560	5.033	57.747	1.560	5.033	57.747	1.831	5.907	54.078
8	1.348	4.350	62.097	1.348	4.350	62.097	1.649	5.318	59.397
9	1.212	3.910	66.007	1.212	3.910	66.007	1.647	5.314	64.711
10	1.056	3.405	69.412	1.056	3.405	69.412	1.458	4.702	69.412
11	.937	3.023	72.435						
12	.842	2.717	75.153						
13	.803	2.591	77.744						
14	.730	2.356	80.100						
15	.709	2.286	82.386						
16	.619	1.997	84.383						
17	.588	1.897	86.281						
18	.561	1.808	88.089						
19	.488	1.574	89.664						
20	.451	1.453	91.117						
21	.418	1.347	92.464						



22	.368	1.188	93.652						
23	.364	1.174	94.826						
24	.288	.928	95.754						
25	.260	.838	96.591						
26	.227	.732	97.324						
27	.218	.704	98.028						
28	.184	.595	98.623						
29	.171	.552	99.175						
30	.141	.456	99.630						
31	.115	.370	100.000						

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

**Table-3 : Rotated Component Matrix<sup>a</sup>**

	Component									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All the information I get on different products confuses me	.825									
There are so many brands to choose from that often I feel confused	.771									
The more I learn about products, the harder it seems to choose the best	.727									
I am impulsive when purchasing	.713									
I keep my wardrobe, up-to-date with the changing fashion	.502									
Fashionable, attractive styling is very important to me		.828								
I usually have one or more outfits of the very newest style		.690								
To get variety, I shop at different stores and chose different brands		.668								
Going shopping is one of the enjoyable activities in my life		.641								
The higher the price of a product, the better its quality		.531								
The more expensive brands are usually my choices			.756							
I prefer buying the bestselling brands.			.752							
The well-known brands are best for me.			.588							
In General, I Usually try to buy the best overall quality			.572							
Getting verygood quality is important to me				.799						
When it comes to purchasing products, I try to get the best or perfect choice				.779						
I make a special effort to choose the very best quality products.				.768						
Shopping is not a pleasant activity to me				.547						
Shopping in the stores wastes my time					.823					
I look carefully to find the best value for the money					.704					
I carefully watch how much I spend						.757				
I should plan my shopping more carefully.						.691				
I buy as much as possible at sale prices						.522				
The lower price products are usually my choice							.836			
I enjoy shopping just for the fun of it							.805			
Once I find a product or brand I like, I stick to it								.845		
I have favourite brands I buy over and over									.720	
I go to the same stores each time I shop.									.671	
Nice department and speciality stores offer me the best products.										.590
										.560

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 10 iterations.

## Interpretation

In the pre analysis part the **KMO and Bartlett's Test (Table-1)** which shows the result of sampling adequacy is 0.600. Factor analysis can be carried out if the KMO measure of Sampling Adequacy is more than 0.5 and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity is 971.818 which is significant at  $p < .001$  thus, indicating the sample is suitable for factor analysis (Malhotra and Dash, 2012, p.590). The null hypothesis  $H_0$  assumes that the population correlation matrix of the measures is an identity matrix for a KMO & Bartlett's Test and here the Chi-square test statistic is 971.818 and the p-value of 0.000 is implied that there is a very low probability of obtaining this result (a value greater than or equal to the obtained value) if the null hypothesis is true. Therefore, the null



hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that the variables are correlated with each other.

The factor analysis is primarily aimed at investigating the properties related to psychometric in the CSI. The data was analysed thorough SPSS-19 to summarise (Table-2 to 4) the 31 variables from CSI. The data are subjected to principal component analysis, under exploratory factor analysis. The data are analysed through varimax rotation to reduce the variables into groups with factor loading 0.5 and above, the same level as used by Sproles and Kendall (1986) were considered to be significant. The factors with eigen values greater than one are considered to be significant.

**Table-4 : A summarized table showing the result of Factor Analysis**

<b>Profile of Consumer Decision-Making Styles</b>				
<b>Factors/Items</b>	<b>Factor Loading</b>	<b>Eigen-value</b>	<b>Variance (%)</b>	<b>Cumulative Variance (%)</b>
<b>Factor-1</b>		5.151	16.615	16.615
All the information I get on different products confuses me	.825			
There are so many brands to choose from that often I feel confused	.771			
The more I learn about products, the harder it seems to choose the best	.727			
I am impulsive when purchasing	.713			
<b>Factor-2</b>		2.764	8.916	25.531
I keep my wardrobe, up-to-date with the changing fashion	.502			
Fashionable, attractive styling is very important to me	.828			
I usually have one or more outfits of the very newest style	.690			
To get variety, I shop at different stores and chose different brands	.668			
Going shopping is one of the enjoyable activities in my life	.641			
<b>3. Factor-3</b>		2.613	8.429	33.960
The higher the price of a product, the better its quality	.531			
The more expensive brands are usually my choices	.756			
I prefer buying the bestselling brands.	.752			
The well-known brands are best for me.	.588			
<b>4. Factor-4</b>		2.345	7.564	41.523
In General, I Usually try to buy the best overall quality	.572			
	.799			

Getting verygood quality is important to me	.779			
When it comes to purchasing products, I try to get the best or perfect choice	.768			
I make a special effort to choose the very best quality products.	.547			
<b>5. Factor-5</b>		1.787	5.764	47.287
Shopping is not a pleasant activity to me	.823			
Shopping in the stores wastes my time	.704			
<b>6. Factor-6</b>		1.682	5.427	52.714
I look carefully to find the best value for the money	.757			
I carefully watch how much I spend	.691			
I should plan my shopping more carefully.	.522			
<b>7. Factor-7</b>		1.560	5.033	57.747

In the Table-4 The result of the factor analysis shows 10 factors of eigen values greater than 1.0 and accounted for 69.412% of total variance, and it is imperative to say that the total variance explained is much higher than the previous studies reviewed in our literature review. Out of 31 items ,one item has not been shown on in the table due to the factor loading is less than 0.50. In order to establish the internal consistency, Cronbach's alpha is calculated for the factors and the results are shown in Table-5.

**Table-5: Internal Reliability of the constructs**

Sl. No.	Factors	Cronbach's alpha	No. of Items
1	<b>Factor-1</b>	0.795	5
2	<b>Factor-2</b>	0.771	5
3	<b>Factor-3</b>	0.707	4
4	<b>Factor-4</b>	0.742	4
5	<b>Factor-5</b>	0.574	2
6	<b>Factor-6</b>	0.509	3
7	<b>Factor-7</b>	0.693	2
8	<b>Factor-8</b>	For single item , Cronbach's not calculated	1
9	<b>Factor-9</b>	0.581	2
10	<b>Factor-10</b>	0.325	2

### **Interpretation of the Factors immersed in Factor Analysis**

Referring to **Table-4**, **Factor-1** represents the characteristics of *Confused by over choice and Impulsiveness* of the consumer while making purchase decision. **Factor-2** represents the characteristics *Fashion consciousness* of the consumer. **Factor-3** represents the characteristics of *Brand consciousness* of the consumer. **Factor-4** represents the decision making style *Perfectionist and Quality consciousness*. **Factor -5** represents the *Shopping Dissatisfaction* by the consumers. **Factor-6** represents the characteristic of *Carefulness* while taking purchase decision by the consumers. **Factor-7** represents the characteristic of *Price Consciousness* of the consumers. **Factor-8** represents the *Recreation/Fun Consciousness* characteristic of decision

making of the consumer. **Factor-9** depicts the loyalty factor towards a brand hence it represents the characteristic of *Brand Loyalty* of the consumer. **Factor-10** represents loyalty towards a particular store and the characteristic is *Store Loyal*.

The Internal Reliability of the constructs has been tested and the results are shown in the Table-6. The 8 factors immersed in the study are having cronbach's alpha more than 0.5 and are statistically reliable only one factor i.e. Factor-10 is having a cronbach's alpha 0.325 seems to be marginally reliable statistically. Factor-8 is having only one variable so the Chronbach's alpha has not been calculated.

The factors immersed are confirming to the factors immersed in the study by Sproles & Kendal,(1986). Two new factors immersed are '*Shopping Dissatisfaction*' and '*Store Loyal*' which are same as the outcome of the study in India by Mishra(2010). Hence the applicability of CSI developed by Sproles & Kendall (1986) is accepted with 31 items out of 40 item CSI scale.

**Objective-2: To examine the relationship of product involvement and Consumer Decision-Making Styles (CDMS) with respect to product the student purchases.**

To meet the objective first the Exploratory Factor Analysis has been carried out by using 12 items which are adapted from the measurement model for product involvement developed by Bauer et.al (2006). As the factor analysis gives the result by combining the related variables in to groups which is helpful for grouping similar characteristic in to one group or factor. The output of the factor analysis after the data has been analysed by using SPSS-19 software are as follows:

#### Factor Analysis Output for Product Involvement Measurement.

**Table-6**

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.717
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	336.598
	Df	66
	Sig.	.000

**Table-7 : Total Variance Explained**

Component	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	3.857	32.142	32.142	3.857	32.142	32.142	2.550	21.254	21.254
2	1.909	15.904	48.047	1.909	15.904	48.047	2.039	16.992	38.246
3	1.322	11.020	59.066	1.322	11.020	59.066	1.816	15.136	53.382
4	1.005	8.372	67.438	1.005	8.372	67.438	1.687	14.056	67.438
5	.894	7.451	74.889						
6	.771	6.423	81.312						
7	.612	5.096	86.409						
8	.438	3.649	90.057						
9	.365	3.042	93.100						
10	.353	2.942	96.042						
11	.277	2.310	98.352						
12	.198	1.648	100.000						

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

**Table-8 : Rotated Component Matrix<sup>a</sup>**

	Component			
	1	2	3	4
The product I purchase does not matter to me	.882			
The product I purchase is of no concern to me	.834			
The product I purchase is not relevant to me	.821			
It helps me express my personality		.817		
It is part of my self- image		.705		
It does not reflect my personality		-.683		
The product which I purchase tells other people something about me		.524		
The product I purchase, I find it exciting			.864	
I am interested in the product I purchase			.719	
The product I purchase is important to me				.721
The product I purchase, I find it is fascinating				.693
The product I purchase is fun for me				.628

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 7 iterations.

### Interpretation

In the pre analysis part the **KMO and Bartlett's Test (Table-1)** which shows the result of sampling adequacy is 0.717. Factor analysis can be carried out if the KMO measure of Sampling Adequacy is more than 0.5 and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity is 363.598 which is significant at  $p < .001$  thus, indicating the sample is suitable for factor analysis (Malhotra and Dash, 2012, p.590). The null hypothesis  $H_0$  assumes that the population correlation matrix of the measures is an identity matrix for a KMO & Bartlett's Test and here the Chi-square test statistic is 363.598 and the p-value of 0.000 is implied that there is a very low probability of obtaining this result (a value greater than or equal to the obtained value) if the null hypothesis is true. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that the variables are correlated with each other.

The factor analysis is primarily aimed at investigating the product involvement. The data was analysed thorough SPSS-19 to summarise (Table-8 to 10) the 12 variables from the Measurement Model of Product Involvement developed by Bauer et.al(2006). The data are subjected to principal component analysis, under exploratory factor analysis. The data are analysed through varimax rotation to reduce the variables into groups with factor loading 0.5 and above, the same level as used by Bauer et.al(2006) were considered to be significant . The factors with eigen values greater than one are considered to be significant.

**Table-9: A summarized table showing the result of Factor Analysis**

Measurement of Product Involvement				
Factors/Items	Factor Loading	Eigen-value	Variance (%)	Cumulative Variance (%)
<b>Factor-1</b>		3.857	32.142	32.142
The product I purchase does not matter to me*	.882			
The product I purchase is of no concern to me*	.834			
The product I purchase is not relevant to me*	.821			
<b>Factor-2</b>		1.909	15.904	48.047
It helps me express my personality	.817			

It is part of my self- image	.705			
It does not reflect my personality*	.683			
The product which I purchase tells other people something about me	.524			
<b>3. Factor-3</b>		1.322	11.020	59.066
The product I purchase, I find it exciting	.864			
I am interested in the product I purchase	.719			
<b>4. Factor-4</b>		1.005	8.372	67.438
The product I purchase is important to me	.721			
The product I purchase, I find it is fascinating	.693			
The product I purchase is fun for me	.628			

\* Item is reverse scored

In Table-9, the result of the factor analysis shows 4 factors of eigen values greater than 1.0 and accounted for 67.438% of total variance, and it is imperative to say that the total variance explained is much higher than the previous studies reviewed in our literature review.

In order to establish the internal consistency, Cronbach's alpha is calculated for the factors and the results are shown in Table-12.

**Table-10: Internal Reliability of the constructs**

Sl. No.	Factors	Cronbach's alpha	No. of Items
1	<b>Factor-1</b>	0.842	3
2	<b>Factor-2</b>	0.120	4
3	<b>Factor-3</b>	0.643	2
4	<b>Factor-4</b>	0.652	3

### Interpretation of the Factors immersed in Factor Analysis

Referring to Table-9, **Factor-1** represents the *Importance* of the product to the consumer. **Factor-2** represents the *Sign Value* of the product to the consumer. **Factor-3** represents the *Pleasure (Excitement & Interest)* value of the product. **Factor -4** represents the *Pleasure (Fun & Fascinating)* value of the product.

The Internal Reliability of the constructs has been tested and the results are shown in the Table-12. The 3 factors immersed in the study are having Cronbach's alpha more than 0.6 and are statistically reliable only one factor i.e. Factor-2 is having a Cronbach's alpha 0.120 seems to be not reliable statistically. The factors immersed are confirming to the factors immersed in the study by Bauer et.al(2006).

**Now, To examine the relationship between the product involvement and Consumer Decision Making Styles (CDMS) a hypothesis has been formulated as follows:**

**H1: Consumer Decision Making Styles are dependent on product involvement.**

To test the hypothesis the dependent variables are the factors immersed in Measurement of Product Involvement Exploratory Factor Analysis and they are *Importance, Sign Value, Pleasure (excitement and interest)* and *Pleasure (Fun & fascinating)* value of the product. The Independent variables are the decision making styles emerged in our study and they are *Confused by over choice and Impulsiveness, Fashion consciousness, Brand consciousness, Perfectionist and Quality consciousness, Shopping Dissatisfaction, Carefulness, Price Consciousness, Recreation/Fun Consciousness, Brand Loyal and Store Loyal*. Linear



Regression analysis is carried out and the outcomes are as follows:

When **Importance** of the product (Table-11) is taken as dependent variable and the ten decision making styles taken as independent variable and linear regression analysis is done, 'Brand consciousness' and 'Dissatisfied Shopping' decision making styles show their dependency on Importance of the product which is also statistically significant as the  $p$  value for 'Brand consciousness' is  $0.025 < 0.05$  and the  $p$  value for dissatisfied shopping is  $.034 < 0.05$ . (Refer Table-13)

**Table-11 : Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	6.909E-17	.103		.000	1.000
	Confused by Overchoice& Impulsive	.082	.104	.082	.785	.435
	Fashion Consciousness	-.167	.104	-.167	-1.601	.114
	Brand Consciousness	.237	.104	.237	2.281	<b>.025</b>
	Quality Consciousness	-.052	.104	-.052	-.499	.619
	Dissatisfied Shopping Consciousness	.225	.104	.225	2.165	<b>.034</b>
	Carefulness	-.087	.104	-.087	-.834	.407
	Price consciousness	.194	.104	.194	1.867	.066
	Fun and Recreation Consciousness	.154	.104	.154	1.480	.143
	Brand Loyal	-.076	.104	-.076	-.726	.470
	Store Loyal	-.044	.104	-.044	-.425	.672

a. Dependent Variable: Importance

When **Sign Value** of the product (Table-12) the consumer purchases is taken as dependent variable and the ten decision making styles taken as independent variable and linear regression analysis is done, 'Fashion Consciousness', 'Brand Consciousness' and 'Quality Consciousness' decision making styles show their dependency on 'Sign Value' of the product which is also statistically significant as the  $p$  value for 'Fashion Consciousness' is  $0.034 < 0.05$ , and the  $p$  value for 'Brand Consciousness' is  $0.016 < 0.05$  and the  $p$  value for 'Quality Consciousness' is  $0.002 < 0.05$ . (Refer Table-14)

**Table-12 : Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	2.554E-17	.098		.000	1.000
	Confused by Overchoice& Impulsive	.123	.099	.123	1.246	.217
	Fashion Consciousness	.214	.099	.214	2.157	<b>.034</b>
	Brand Consciousness	.244	.099	.244	2.458	<b>.016</b>
	Quality Consciousness	.315	.099	.315	3.175	<b>.002</b>
	Dissatisfied Shopping Consciousness	.139	.099	.139	1.406	.164
	Carefulness	.116	.099	.116	1.170	.246
	Price consciousness	.045	.099	.045	.454	.651
	Fun and Recreation Consciousness	.168	.099	.168	1.700	.093
	Brand Loyal	.099	.099	.099	.995	.323
	Store Loyal	-.036	.099	-.036	-.359	.720

a. Dependent Variable: Sign value

When **Pleasure (excitement and interest)** factor of the product (Table-13) is taken as dependent variable Fun and the 10 decision making styles taken as independent variable and linear regression analysis is done, 'Recreation consciousness' decision making style shows its dependency on Pleasure (exciting) factor of the product which is also statistically significant as the  $p$  value for 'Recreation consciousness' is  $0.029 < 0.05$ . (Refer Table-15)

**Table-13 : Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-8.426E-17	.105		.000	1.000
	Confused by Overchoice& Impulsive	.082	.106	.082	.780	.438
	Fashion Consciousness	.191	.106	.191	1.811	.074
	Brand Consciousness	.049	.106	.049	.464	.644
	Quality Consciousness	.203	.106	.203	1.918	.059
	Dissatisfied Shopping Consciousness	.008	.106	.008	.075	.940
	Carefulness	-.090	.106	-.090	-.855	.395
	Price consciousness	-.053	.106	-.053	-.498	.620
	Fun and Recreation Consciousness	.235	.106	.235	2.227	<b>.029</b>
	Brand Loyal	-.192	.106	-.192	-1.814	.074
	Store Loyal	.085	.106	.085	.802	.425

a. Dependent Variable: Pleasure (Excitement and Interest)

When **Pleasure (fun & fascinating)** factor of the product (Table-14) is taken as dependent variable and the 10 decision making styles taken as independent variable and linear regression analysis is done 'Fashion consciousness' and 'Dissatisfied shopping' decision making style show their dependency on Pleasure (fun& fascinating) factor of the product which is also statistically significant as the  $p$  value for 'Fashion consciousness' is  $0.011 < 0.05$ , and the  $p$  value for 'Dissatisfied shopping' is  $0.021 < 0.05$ . (Refer Table-16)

**Table-14 : Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-1.398E-16	.104		.000	1.000
	Confused by Overchoice& Impulsive	.124	.105	.124	1.183	.241
	Fashion Consciousness	.273	.105	.273	2.605	<b>.011</b>
	Brand Consciousness	-.025	.105	-.025	-.239	.811
	Quality Consciousness	-.146	.105	-.146	-1.388	.169
	Dissatisfied Shopping Consciousness	-.247	.105	-.247	-2.356	<b>.021</b>
	Carefulness	-.005	.105	-.005	-.047	.963
	Price consciousness	-.028	.105	-.028	-.268	.789
	Fun and Recreation Consciousness	.150	.105	.150	1.430	.157
	Brand Loyal	.103	.105	.103	.986	.327
	Store Loyal	.027	.105	.027	.261	.795

a. Dependent Variable: Pleasure (fun & fascinating)

From the above analysis it has been observed that there exists a relationship between product involvement and decision making styles and also decision making styles are not product independent but product dependent.

## Conclusion

From the study ten Consumer Decision Making Styles have emerged i.e. ***Confused by over choice and Impulsiveness, Fashion consciousness, Brand consciousness, Perfectionist and Quality consciousness, Shopping Dissatisfaction, Carefulness, Price Consciousness, Recreation/Fun Consciousness, Brand Loyal and Store Loyal***. The CDMS are confirming to the 8 types of decision making styles emerged in the study by Sproles & Kendal (1986). Two new factors emerged out of this study are '*Shopping Dissatisfaction*' and '*Store Loyal*' which are same as the outcome of the study in India by Mishra (2010). Hence the applicability of CSI developed by Sproles & Kendall (1986) is accepted with 31 items out of 40 item CSI scale. To examine the product involvement three product categories i.e. Denim Jean clothing, Mobile phone and Toothpaste has been considered. 12 items adapted from the measurement of product involvement instrument developed by Bauer et.al (2006) and the four factors emerged in Measurement of Product Involvement Exploratory Factor Analysis and they are ***Importance, Sign Value, Pleasure (excitement and interest)*** and ***Pleasure (Fun & fascinating)*** value of the product. Linear Regression analysis has been carried out to test the dependency of Consumer Decision Making Styles on Product Involvement and the result show positive relationship between the Product Involvement and Consumer decision making style. Consumer Decision Making Styles like Fashion Consciousness, Brand consciousness, Quality consciousness, Fun & Recreation Consciousness and Dissatisfied shopping are dependent on Product Involvement and hence it can be concluded that consumer decision making styles are not product independent and rather product dependent. Also the product importance, sign value and the pleasure (fun and exciting) factors to be addressed while marketing the products for more product involvement by the consumer.

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## **An Empirical Investigation in to the Validity of Wagner's Law in India**

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### **Abstract**

This paper examines the validity of Wagner's Law of long-run causal relationship between economic growth and government expenditure for India over the period 1980-80 to 2010-11. Applying the modern econometric techniques, such as the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) bounds testing approach to cointegration, error-correction method (ECM) and the Granger causality test. The findings of the study indicate that economic growth is cointegrated with size of government. Further, the findings based on Granger causality also show the unidirectional causality flowing from economic growth to government expenditure. The overall finding that emerges from the analysis is that there is long term relationship between economic growth and growth of public expenditure in India during the study period. The study finds the strong support and conformity for Wagner's Law in India.

**Key-words:** Wagner's Law, Ganger Causality, Economic Growth, Error-Correction Method

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### **Introduction:**

Over the last few decades increasing size of the government has attracted the interest of many economists and policy makers as in the most of the developed and in developing nations, the size of government in terms of government expenditure has expanded rapidly. Moreover the universally accepted objective of the state of increasing social and economic welfare has also prompt the size of the government. Therefore it will be interesting to investigate the long term causal relationship between the size of government and increase in economic growth of an economy. Wagner's (1883) Law explain that as the expenditure of state will increase at a faster rate than the growth of GDP and therefore, as an economy develops, the share of GDP devoted to government expenditure should increase over time. Wagner's classical theory posits this is due to social, administrative and welfare issues which increase in need and complexity as an economy develops, implying that the direction of causation is from GNP to the share of government expenditure. Even, India also appears to follow this pattern of increase in public expenditure. However prior to 1991 India has been a highly protected and regulated economy with the introduction of social security systems, industrial regulation and heavily regulated imports. The GOI was keen to establish the welfare state depending upon the five years plans. Thus the overall development of the economy in terms both social and economic becomes the main objectives of the government policies, this leads to an upward trend of public expenditure of the government. But after that government initiate the new economic policy this lead to reduce the government's role in the economy. Table 1 shows the trends of expenditure and GDP in India. The table reveals that the share of revenue expenditure has been increasing over the times i.e., 65.41 percent in 1950-51 to 86.61 percent in 2010-11 while the share of capital expenditure has been declined from 34.59 percent in 1950-51 to 13.39 percent in 2010-11 consequently. This situation of falling share of capital expenditure in total expenditure can't be said as an appropriate situation

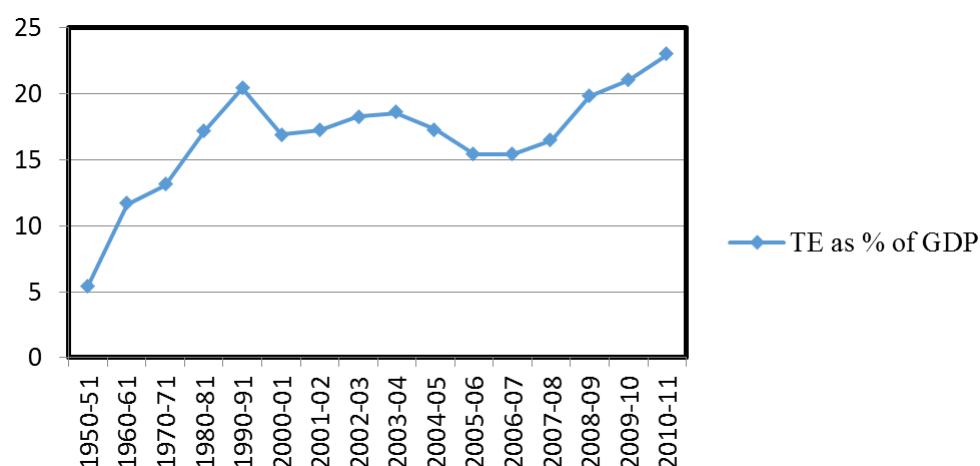


especially for country like India. On the other side the increasing revenue expenditure can be attributed by increasing expenditure on defense, subsidies, tax collection, administrative expenditures etc., even this can not regretted as healthy as revenue expenditure neither creates assets for government nor reduce the liabilities of government. Further the share of total expenditure in GDP has been increasing continuously (Fig 1). Thus the paper is interested to see whether this increasing expenditure has any substantiate with economic growth or not.

### Background of Wagner's Law:

Wagner's law is based on a simple positive correlation between total economic activities and involvement of government. The elucidation of Wagner's law in functional forms, however, seems to be more controversial in a way that several versions of the law have been introduced and tested since 1960. The basic assumption of Wagner's law is that the public expenditure growth is a natural consequence of economic growth. From the point of view, Wagner termed this as “[the] law of increasing public, and particularly state, activities' becomes for the fiscal economy of the law of the increasing expansion of fiscal requirements.....” (Demibras, 1999). The main contribution of Wagner in this field was that he has tried to establish generalisations about public expenditures, not from postulates about the logic of choice, but rather by direct inference from historical evidence (Demirbas, 1999). Wagner saw three main reasons for increased government involvement. First, industrialization and modernization would lead to a substitution of public for private activity. Second, the growth in real income would facilitate the relative expansion of the income elastic 'cultural and welfare' expenditures, where collective producers were more efficient than private ones. Finally, developments and changes in technology require governments to take over the management of natural monopolies in order to enhance economic efficiency (Henrekson, 1993). Wagner's law becomes very popular in 1958 when this law has been translated in English. Since then different researchers/academicians has tried to investigate and evaluate this law to find out how it fits empirically in developing countries. Since there has been no consistent view on the functional form describing Wagner's law, the most common functional forms of the law as shown in table 2.

Therefore, motivated by the implications of Wagner's Law and recent economic experiences of Indian economy especially after the economic reforms initiated in 1991, the present paper seeks to examine the validity of Wagner's law using the econometric techniques over the period of 1980-81 to 2010-11.



**Figure 1: Total Expenditure as percentage of GDP**

## Empirical Literature of Wagner's Law:

There has been an enormous amount of research has been stanchd to testing of Wagner's Law. Some of the studies in the literature used the cross-sectional, cross-country analysis and some of them used time series models for testing Wagner's law. Empirical tests of this law had different results from country to country. Table 3 shows the empirical findings of the test of Wagner's law.

<b>Table3: Selected Empirical Findings onWagner’s law</b>				
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Study period</b>	<b>Causality</b>	<b>Cointegration relationship</b>
Abdullah, Maamor(2010)	Malasiya	1970-2007	...	Yes
Afzal, Abbas (2010)	Pakistan	1960-2007	Neutral	No
Ankitoby et al.(2006)	51 developing countries	1970-2002	-	Yes for 21 Countries
Ansari et al.(1997)	Ghana, Kenya, South Africa	1957-1990	Ghana: $Y \rightarrow G$	No
Bagdigen, Centintas(2003)	Turkey	1965-2000	Neutral	Yes
Burney(2002)	Kuwait	1969-1995	-	No
Chimobi(2009)	Nigeria	1970-2005	Neutral	No
Demirbas (1999)	Turkey	1950-1990	Neutral	Yes
Dritsakis, Adamopoulos (2003)	Greece	1960-2001	$Y \leftrightarrow G$	Yes
Halicioglu(2005)	Turkey	1960-2000	$Y \leftrightarrow G$	Yes
Ju Huang(2006)	China and Taiwan	1979-2002	Neutral	No
Islam (2001)	USA	1929-1996	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Kalam, Aziz (2009)	Bangladesh	1976-2007	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Lamartina, Zaghini (2008)	23 OECD countries	1970-2006	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Narayan et al.(2008)	Chinese provinces	1952-1989	$Y \leftrightarrow G$	Yes
Oxley (1994)	Iran	1960-2008	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Pradhan (2007)	India	1970-2004	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Samudram et al. (2009)	Malaysia	1970-2004	$Y \rightarrow G$	Yes
Sinha (2007)	Thailand	1950-2003	Neutral	Yes
Verma, Arora (2010)	India	1950-2008	-	Yes
Yay , Tastan (2009)	Turkey	1950-2004	$Y \leftrightarrow G$	Yes

## Empirical Methodology of the study:

The nature of the paper indicates the requirement of secondary source of information to conduct the study. The desired data used in the study collected from the different databases of RBI and IMF. The data in nominal values is converted to the real values by using the appropriate deflators and their natural logarithms are put into the analysis. The main advantage of assorting the

variables in natural logarithms form is to achieve stationarity in the lower order of integration in case the logs of these variables are non-stationary at levels. The study carried out for the period of 1980-81 to 2010-11. To examine the cointegration relationship between size of government and economic growth an Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL, bounds test by Pesaran *et al.*, 2001) had been applied. An advantage of the ARDL approach is that, while other cointegration techniques require all of the regressors' to be integrated of the same order, it can be applied irrespective of their order of integration (Pahlavani, et.al. 2011). The ARDL test involves two asymptotic critical value bounds, depending on whether the variables are I(0) or I(1) or a mixture of both. If the test statistic exceeds their respective upper critical values, then there is evidence of a long-run relationship, if the F-statistic was below the critical value, we cannot reject the null hypothesis of no cointegration and if F statistic lies between the two bounds, inference is inconclusive (Morley, 2006).

The ARDL can be introduces as follow:

$$t = a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k a_{i1} \Delta \ln GSt - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^k a_{2i} \Delta \ln GDPt - 1 + a_3 \ln GSt - 1 + a_4 \ln GDPt - 1 + \epsilon_t \dots\dots\dots (I)$$

$$\Delta \ln GDPt = b_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k b_{1i} \Delta \ln GDPt - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^k b_{2i} \Delta \ln GSt - 1 + b_3 \ln GDPt - 1 + b_4 \ln GSt - 1 + \epsilon_t \dots\dots\dots (II)$$

(Odhiambo, 2010)

In above mention equations,  $\ln GSt$  is the log of size of government, measured as share of total government expenditure in GDP;  $\ln GDPt$  is log of real gross domestic production of India. The equation I implies the no cointegration if  $a_3$  and  $a_4$  is zero i.e,  $H_0: a_3 = a_4 = 0$ ; similarly in equation II the null hypothesis of having no cointegration is  $H_0: b_3 = b_4 = 0$ .

Firstly, general F-statistic is computed by using all the variables appearing in log levels than these calculated values will be compared by critical values. (Pesaran *et al.* 2001). The null hypothesis of no cointegration will be rejected if the calculated F-statistic is greater than the upper bound. If the null hypothesis rejected by bound testing and the existence of a long-run relationship between size of government and GDP confirm, we applied ECM model for determining the direction of causality between the variables. The direction of the causality is determined by the F-statistic and the lagged error-correction term. While the t-statistic on the coefficient of the lagged error-correction term represents the long-run causal relationship, the F-statistic on the explanatory variables represents the short-run causal effect (Pahlavani et al., 2011).

## V Results of the study

### Stationary test

Although the ARDL test for cointegration does not require that all variables to be integrated of order 1[I(1)], however, it is important to conduct the stationarity tests in order to ensure that the variables are not integrated of order 2[I(2)]. In fact, the F-test would be spurious in the presence of I(2) because both the critical values of the F-statistics computed by Pesaran *et al.* (2001) and Narayan et al (2008) are based on the assumption that the variables are I(0) or I(1). (Odhiambo, 2010). Prior to causality test it is essential to determine the order of integration for each of variables. The results of Augmented Dickey–Fuller test (ADF) fail to reject the null hypothesis of unit root in both series at 1% significance level so the variables are not stationary in levels, while for data series to be stationarity after first differencing. The order of integration of two series using ADF Test is reported in table 4.

### Cointegration Test:

After determining the integration of all series order of one i.e., I(1), now we proceed for the testing of cointegration in order to determining long run relationship between size of government and economic growth. As mention earlier, for this, the ARDL-bounds testing is used to determine this relationship between two variables. The optimal lag for both equations (I) and (II) is obtained from using Schwartz Bayesian Criterion (SBC). The results of the cointegration test are shown in table 5.

Table 5 show that when the real GDP (ln GDP) is used as the dependent variable in equation (I), the calculated F-statistics are lower than the lower-bound critical values (Pesaran et. al., 2001) at the 5 percent level of significance. When the size of government (ln GSt) in equation (II) is used as dependent variables, the calculated F-statistic is higher than upper-bound critical value at the 5 percent level of significance. Therefore, we can accept the existence of long-run relationship from GDP to size of government. This implies that there is a unique cointegration vector in equation (I).

### Test of Causality (Based on ECM):

After cointegration test and determining existence of the long-run relationship between variables in equation (1), we must capture the directional of Causality between the variables by testing the significance coefficient of the lagged error-correction term ( $\lambda$ ) and F-statistic. The Error Correction model can be estimated as follows:

$$\Delta \ln GSt = a + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \ln GSt - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^m \delta_i \ln GDPt - 1 + \lambda ECMt - 1 + \epsilon_t \dots\dots\dots (V)$$

The results of equation V shows (table 6) that there in unidirectional causal flow from GDP to size of government. Therefore the study validates the existence of Wagner's law in Indian economy during 1980-81 to 2010-11.

### Conclusion:

The present study was an exercise to investigate the validity of the Wagner's law of long term causal relationship between size of government and economic growth in India since 1980-81. For the purpose, cointegration test proposed by pearson et al (2001) and Granger Causality based on Error Correction model has been applied. The results of the study indicate that economic growth is cointegrated with size of government. Further, the findings based on Granger causality also show the unidirectional causality flowing from economic growth to government expenditure. The overall conclusion that emerges from the analysis is that there is long term relationship between economic growth and growth of public expenditure in India during the study period. Thus, the study finds the strong support and conformity for Wagner's Law in India. The study suggests that the government of India must dissect their non-development expenditure.

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Table 1: Trends in Government Expenditure and GDP in India (in Crore )					
Year	Revenue Expenditure*	Capital Expenditure*	Total Expenditure	GDP	TE as % of GDP
1950-51	65.41	34.59	529	9719	5.44
1960-61	47.78	52.22	1917	16512	11.61
1970-71	55.65	44.35	5624	42981	13.08
1980-81	63.29	36.71	22768	132520	17.18
1990-91	69.81	30.19	105298	515032	20.44
2000-01	85.33	14.67	325592	1925017	16.91
2001-02	83.2	16.8	362310	2097726	17.27
2002-03	81.96	18.04	413248	2261415	18.27
2003-04	76.84	23.16	471203	2538170	18.56
2004-05	77.13	22.87	498252	2877701	17.31
2005-06	86.88	13.12	505738	3282385	15.41
2006-07	88.21	11.79	583387	3779384	15.44
2007-08	83.41	16.59	712671	4320892	16.49
2008-09	89.8	10.2	883956	4462967	19.81

2009-10	89	11	1024487	4869317	21.04
2010-11	86.61	13.39	1216576	5298129	22.96
Note: * in percentage of Total Expenditure Source: Handbook of Statistics on Indian Economy, RBI, India, Verma & Arora (2010)					

**Table 2: Different Functional forms for Wagner's Law**

	Equations	Author (s)
1	$LREXP_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LR GDP_t + \mu_t$	Peacock-Wiseman [1961]
2	$LREXP_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LRP GDP_t + \mu_t$	Goffman (1968)
3	$LR(EXP/GDP)_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LR GDP_t + \mu_t$	Mann (1980)
4	$LR(EXP/GDP)_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LRP GDP_t + \mu_t$	Mussgrave (1969)
5	$LRPEXP_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LRP GDP_t + \mu_t$	Gupta (1967)
6	$LRGC_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 LR GDP_t + \mu_t$	Pryor (1969)
Where: L is Natural Logarithms, R is Real, P is Per Capita, EXP is Public expenditure, GDP is Gross Domestic Product, GC is Government Consumption excluding Investments, $\beta_0$ is Constant, $\beta_1$ is Coefficient, $\mu$ is error, and t is time. Source: Demirbas, (1999), Verma & Arora (2010)		

**Table 4: Unit root test.**

Variables	Test in	ADF test static	Prob.	Order of Integration
LnGDP	Level	-1.232	0.536	I(1)
	First Difference	-3.616*	0.003	
LnGSt	Level	-1.235	0.432	I(1)
	First Difference	-6.102*	0.000	
*Significant at the 1% level of significance.				

**Table 5: ARDL-Bounds F-Test for Cointegration.**

Dependent Variable	F-Test Statistics	Equation	Long-run Relationship
ln GDP	2.0820	I	NO
ln GSt	9.445	II	YES

**Table 6: Causality Test Based on Error Correction Model (ECM)**

Dependent variable	Causality	F-Statistic	t-test on ECM	R <sup>2</sup>
LnGSt	lnGS→lnGDP	6.4421^(0.000)	-4.342*	0.57
*Significant at the 1% level of significance.				

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## **Corporate Social Responsibility: An Initiative for Developing the Society**

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### **Abstract**

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) concept is very popular in today's scenario. This phenomenon is not new in India. However, the meaning of CSR has been taken differently at different point of time from charity to the mandatory obligation. Companies Act, 2013 removes all such ambiguities and made CSR spending compulsory for companies. It specifies how much to spend, on which activities to spend and who are bound to spend. In India maximum population lives in villages which is the neglected part of India in term of development like health , education ,employment , gender equality and equal distribution of income. With the advent of new guidelines in the Companies Act, Corporate social responsibility can play an imperative role in the development of rural society in India. The present paper attempts to explore the role of selected companies in development of the society.

**Key-words:** Corporate Social Responsibility, Development, Society.

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### **Introduction:**

In India maximum population lives in villages which is the neglected area of India in term of development like health, education, employment, gender equality and equal distribution of income. Such problems arise because of unplanned investment pattern of our country. We cannot achieve the goal of sustainable development until our society is developed. Development of the society is not the responsibility of government alone but it should be the conscientiousness of all the stakeholders of the society to develop its vicinity. Corporate sector being the integral part of the society can play vital role in developing the society.

Few years back many corporate houses like Tata and Birla group companies contributed a lot in term of charities and donations towards social welfare. These companies have been intensely involved with social improvement initiatives in the communities adjoining their facilities. They were voluntarily following the approach profit with social responsibility. But CSR Practices were not being done by the MNCs regularly with emotional attachment to India.

India becomes the first country to provide CSR in its statute. With the introduction of Companies act 2013 under section 135 it has been made compulsory for every company with a net worth of Rs 500 crore or more , or turnover of Rs 1000 crore or more, or net profit of Rs 5 crore or more in a financial year shall constitute a CSR committee of the board consisting of 3 or more directors of which at least one director shall be an independent director. The board of every company shall ensure that the company spends in every financial year at least 2% of the average net profits of the company made during the 3 immediately preceding financial years in pursuance of its CSR policy. Under this act it is compulsory to specify the reason if a company fails to spend the amount.

The government has identified following eleven major areas where a company can spend this amount.

- i. Eradicating hunger, poverty, malnutrition and promoting preventive healthcare, promoting sanitation and availability of safe drinking water;
- ii. Promoting education, including spl education and employment enhancing vocation skills specially amongst children, women, elderly, and the differently abled and livelihood enhancement projects;
- iii. Promoting gender equality, empowering women, setting up of homes and hostels for women and orphans, setting up of old age homes, day care centres, and such other facilities for senior citizens and measures for reducing inequalities faced by socially and economically backward groups;
- iv. Ensuring environmental sustainability, ecological balance, protection of flora and fauna, conservation of natural resources, and maintaining quality of soil, air and water;
- v. Protection of national heritage, art and culture including restoration of buildings and sites of historical importance and works of art, setting up of public libraries, promotion and development of traditional arts and handicrafts;
- vi. Measures for the benefit of armed forces veterans, war widows and their dependents. veterans, war widows and their dependents would be eligible;
- vii. Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognized sports, para-olympic and Olympic sports ;
- viii. Contribution to the PM's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the Central Government for socio-economic development and relief and welfare of the SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities and women;
- ix. Contributions or funds provided to technology incubators located within academic institutions and which are approved by the central government ; and
- x. Rural development projects.
- xi. Slum Area Development

It is clearly visible from the above points that government is trying to remove the severe problem of our neglected section of the society with the support of corporate sector. Special attention is given to the rural development projects.

### **Literature Review**

CSR activities have positive impact not only on development of rural community but also in their business and social responsibility is regarded as an important business issue of Indian companies irrespective of the size, sector and business goal (Sanjay Pradhan and Akhilesh Ranjan 2010). CSR is now presented as a comprehensive business strategy, arising mainly from performance considerations and stakeholder pressure. Companies consider their interaction with stakeholders and impact of its business on society as significant issues. CSR policies vary with turnover and profit. Business and CSR strategy appear to be on a convergent path, towards business and CSR integration across the company. Out of the top 500 companies, 229 did not report on CSR activities and were therefore filtered. 49% of the remaining 271 companies were reporting on CSR. Many companies are making token gestures towards CSR and only a few companies have a structured and planned approach. Several companies spread their CSR funds very thinly across many activities. Every company defines CSR in their own ways as per their needs. CSR is on an upward learning curve and is primarily driven by philanthropy (Richa

Gautam & Anju Singh, 2010). CSR will act as an motivator for rural development in India. Indian Companies are now realizing that without social economic development of the local communities, there cannot be any stability sustainability for doing business which is required to compete in the global market ( Dipti Mal and Kavita Chauhan 2014).CSR is considered as an important business issue of Indian public sector companies irrespective of turnover, sector and goal( Jitender Loura 2014). Corporate Social Responsibility is beneficial for the rural development of India. Corporate have the expertise, strategic thinking, manpower and money to facilitate extensive social change (Sharafat Hussain 2014). CSR is nothing new as it dates back from the time of koutilya & is embedded In Indian culture but certainly it is an idea which was not given that much emphasis which it commands now ( Nishan Sharma 2014).

All of the above studies at different point of time considered that CSR practices have positive impact on the social economical development of the society and performance of the business but little attention is given on what CSR activities are being taken by the corporate for rural development.

### Objectives of the Study

The present study was undertaken with the following objectives:

To study the CSR initiatives being taken by the selected companies for rural development.

### Research Methodology

To study the above objectives following three companies have been selected. These three companies are from different industrial sector.

- Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- Tata Consultancy Services Limited (TCS)
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)

In the present study Annual Report (2014-15) of the above mentioned companies have been referred to collect the secondary data related to the CSR spending on different activities for the welfare of the society.

### Result and Discussions

- i. The table below represents that healthcare, drinking water and sanitation has been focused with top priority wherein maximum amount of budget is spent by all the companies, Education and Livelihood interventions has also been the area of focus and priority. The RIL has identified the problem of infrastructure and Rural development as major concern for CSR and has invested a good amount of budget after healthcare which was on their top list. Whereas the areas like women empowerment, care for senior citizens & PWD's are not taken up by corporate houses very enthusiastically.

**Table:1 Detail of CSR Activities**

S.NO.	CSR Activities	SAIL(Cr)	RIL(Cr)	TCS(cr)
1	Healthcare& Drinking Water & Sanitation	11.03	608.25	21.05
2	Education & Livelihood Generation	10.83	21.80	34.38
3	Women Empowerment & Care for Sr. Citizen & PWD <sub>s</sub>	2.96	0.00	0.00
4	Promotion of Sports Art & Culture	2.34	0.00	3.63
5	Environment Sustainability	4.79	0.42	1.99



6	<b>Infrastructure and Rural Development</b>	<b>2.05</b>	<b>126.33</b>	<b>0.00</b>
7	Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	17.37
8	Capacity Building	1.04	0.00	0.00
9	Others (Contribution towards fund etc)	0.00	3.78	140.00

- ii. The rise in expenditure pattern under CSR over period of last few years represents that the companies who have already been doing their bit in the area of social responsibility have accepted this new law whole heartedly and are doing good job for upliftment of the down trodden society. Nearly two –third of the top listed companies on sensx have failed to spend the minimum 2% of profits on social responsibility activities in the first year which is a grey area and needs to be improved in upcoming years. Whereas RIL has spent 3.35% of profits after tax on CSR (Economic Times-16/09/2015).

The expense on CSR activities done by Reliance Industries limited depicts the positive sign which is as below:

**Table: 2 CSR Expenditure of RIL**

Rs. In Cr.	FY 2014-15	FY 2013-14	FY 2012-13	FY 2011-12	FY 2010-11
Rural Transformation	126.33	165.72	73.10	21.69	28.35
Healthcare	608.25	416.69	140.72	91.03	46.99
Education	21.80	80.76	66.71	75.06	91.01
Environment	0.42	0.52	1.20	2.15	0.76
Others	3.78	48.03	69.27	61.34	34.23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>760.58</b>	<b>711.72</b>	<b>351.00</b>	<b>251.27</b>	<b>201.34</b>

- iii. With the advent of CSR rules it is for sure that the core areas for CSR, as laid down in Schedule VII of section 135; the society is getting support to strengthen the quality of services in these defined areas and will get leverage if not fast but gradually reforms will attain momentum.

## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

It is concluded that corporate sector is required to take care of its vicinity for its sustainable development. Most of the companies are surrounded by rural area therefore corporate can play vital role in developing the rural area through its CSR activities. To implement CSR effectively it is necessary that every company must have separate CSR department with well trained and experience professional, as of now which is being taken care as additional responsibility by either HR Department or HSE department of the company. In the annual report companies should give detail information about CSR practices and spending along with the name and addresses of the beneficiary. The ministry of corporate affairs shall advise all companies coming under preview of CSR shall upload their detailed reports on a common website. It will help to understand the investment trends of companies under CSR and accordingly the same can be guided for optimal results out of CSR expenditure.

The companies located in a common area shall be allotted with a particular field (as defined in schedule VII) for investment and upliftment of that rural area as it will help the society to reap maximum benefits out of CSR activities of the corporate.

The ministry of corporate affairs shall lay down the proper guidelines for monitoring and audit of various CSR activities undertaken by the companies, their shall be penal provisions, in case the companies are not performing as directed by the law.

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## National Green Tribunal: An Institution for Green India

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### Abstract

We have been witnessing a sea change in the climatic condition for the last few decades with rise in temperature which keep on breaking records every year. Global warming, depletion of ozone layer, acid rains are few examples of new emergence. The dreadful consequences of these climatic ailments cannot be avoided unless and until, we as a whole world combine together in order to preserve our mother earth. Man lives in a society; which has a tendency of changes with a gradual process. In order to cope up with the changed society, law is supposed to be changed accordingly. In the present era of globalization and liberalization economies of the world are in a cut throat competition. This led the gross misuse and destruction of our environment. As environment has no boundary of it, that's why situation become a global problem. On the front of advancement, no doubt we have achieved a golden period of leisure and accessories but, at what cost? At the cost of our finite reserve. As the question raised by first Brandt Commission report that, "Are we to leave our successors a scorched planet of advancing deserts, impoverished landscapes and ailing environment?" this make us realize the importance of our clean environment. Necessity is the mother of invention but at the same time necessity is there only for the life and for preserving life this invention need to be deconstructed and re-constructed as an eco- friendly invention. Unfortunately, we have taken a blind eye in exploiting the natural resources without caring the needs of our next generation. That's why we are in a dire need to have such sort of mechanism whereby, we can have some universal rules and regulations in order to fight for clean earth. The emergence of National Green Tribunal as a direct via media for addressing the problems relating to environment is no doubt an example of ice breaking towards realizing access to environmental justice in India.

**Keywords:** Environmental Justice, Precautionary Principle, Polluter pays principle, participatory approach, probona publico

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### Access to Environmental Justice *vis-a-vis* Sustainable Development

In any democratic set up, security of justice is synonymous with peaceful existence of the society. The golden fruit of justice can only be plucked by having the ladder in form of access to justice. No denial to say that the present world of LPG (Liberalization, Privatization & Globalizations) demands easy access to environmental justice for having equilibrium amongst peace, progress and prosperity.

At global level, the term 'environmental justice' is considered as synonymous to 'sustainable development' which was first defined by the Indian economist Nitin Desai, in the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, titled *Our Common Future*, also known as Brundtland Report named after the then Norwegian Prime Minister who was the chairperson of the Commission. The report perceptibly elucidates that "sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Thus the phrase "without compromising the ability of

future generation” in itself calls for the justice on the front of environmental issues.

Prominence to the very word 'justice' coupled with social, economic & political as one of the first and foremost objectives to be achieved in the Preamble of our constitution indicates that the founding fathers and mothers of our Constitution were quite conscious of the importance of sustainability while framing the Constitution. If we capture the journey travelled so far by the adversarial court system, we observe that even after 65 years of Indian Republic, there exists a significant difference between aspirations and achievements on the front of 'justice' and in the sphere of environmental justice this difference seems to stand at much higher level. The situation was rather more abysmal prior to the enactment of NGT Act, 2010 when access to environmental justice was not given any importance in India.

### **Overview of Literature**

The present paper has been corroborated by the various research work carried out or undertaken by various jurist in the field of environmental law and justice. Vinod Shankar Mishra (2010) hoped that the NGT would fulfill the long felt need for an alternative forum to deliver speedy and inexpensive justice to the victims of environmental pollution. (Though no one can remain unaffected). Out of total 96 issues which currently not well represented on the UN agenda (per United Nations, 2013). One amongst the list is non-existent or decreasing environmental justice in developing and developed countries which necessitate for a discourse to be built in this regards. Gitanjali Nain Gill (2014) remarked about NGT that combination of theory and practice offer an account of the processes by which NGT bench reach their conclusion. She also highlighted that NGT as 'collegial' in terms of its establishment, strong leadership, small, diverse bench membership, its decision making process and ultimately its decision which reflect commitment to the environment and sustainable development and also to the larger interest of people. A. Andruskevych et.al. (eds) (2008), Case Law of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee (2004-2008) (RACSE, LVIV 2008) makes a case and considers that there is inconclusive evidence that the public lacked access to justice and therefore finds no basis on which to conclude that article 9 of the Convention<sup>50</sup> was not complied with. Angèle Minguet (2015)<sup>51</sup> remarked that: 'Often, pollution is done by corporations that have headquarters in developed countries and subsidiaries in developing countries. You have to go to the national courts in these developing countries first and these courts are often hesitant to punish international players.' Leida Rijnhout (2015), made a case for an urgent need to defend the rights of those who defend the environment for the future and our future generations.

Prof. Nicholas A. Robinson (2015) “Comparative Law Perspectives: Environmental Justice in the Courts” remarked that environmental justice has become a dimension of judicial decision-making in all regions of the Earth. From the perspective of environmental jurisprudence, decisions of all courts, whether general jurisdiction or specialized—are in it is of equal importance. Courts are crafting the constituents of a maturing realm of environmental justice and applying a set of congruent norms and remedies across different ecological, social and political settings. Nariman (2015) while delivering his address in an International Conference on Global Environmental Issues, at New Delhi, 14-15 March, 2015 organized by NGT gave stress on the need to have environmental education in the course curriculum in the education set up in India as a mandate. Jairam Ramesh (2015) in *Green Signals*, gives an insight into the debates, struggles, challenges, and obstacles to bringing environmental considerations into the mainstream of political and economic decision-making.

### **Emergence of NGT as an Alternative Mechanism**

Establishment of NGT was perceived as the ray of hope for realizing environmental justice in

India and it was reinforced with the Supreme Court of India's landmark judgment in the case of *AP Pollution v. Nayudu* decided on 1 December 2000. The verdict of the apex court in this case set the tone towards realizing access to environmental justice. In this judgment, the SC advised the Law Commission of India to study the possibility of setting up special 'environmental courts' to tackle complex environmental disputes. It is important to note that the SC and the subsequent report of the 17th Law Commission took care to use the term 'courts' and not 'tribunals'. This is an important difference in the context of the Indian Constitution. In this report, the Law Commission called for establishing environmental courts under Article 247 of the Constitution, which permits Parliament to create additional courts. 'Tribunals', on the other hand, are established under Article 323A or Article 323B of the Constitution. Perhaps the rationale behind using the term 'courts' instead of 'tribunals' was that tribunals are generally dependent on the Government for everything, especially appointments, thus may compromise with 'independence.' On the other hand, by the time the Law Commission Report on 'environmental courts' ran its course through the Government, the idea transformed into one of 'environmental tribunals'.

The National Green Tribunal, thus established, at New Delhi as the Principal Place of Sitting with zonal Benches at Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai as the Central, Western, Eastern and Southern Zonal Benches respectively, exercises original powers under Section 14, with jurisdiction to resolve all civil cases where a substantial question relating to environment is involved and such questions must arise under any of the seven enactments enumerated under Schedule I. The Tribunal is also empowered to grant relief, compensation and restitution to the victims of pollution, restitution of property damaged and restitution of environment as the Tribunal thinks fit. That apart, the Tribunal is empowered to exercise appellate jurisdiction from the order of the appellate authority under the Water and Air Act etc. as contemplated under Section 16 of the NGT Act, 2010. The exceptional character of the National Green Tribunal is not only that, it contains both Judicial and Expert Members sitting together to decide the environmental issues, but they are given equal participation so as to enable an appropriate legal decision intermingled with expert's mind, so that the decision would be logical and sustainable while addressing the environmental issues. The Act makes it very clear that the decision of the National Green Tribunal is judicial in nature. The Tribunal is expected to preserve and apply the principles of sustainable development, the precautionary principle and the 'polluter pays' principle. Therefore, it enforces not only the mandates of the International Covenants but also the celebrated maxims/principles for environmental justice as propounded by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The NGT, though just five years old, has been given a herculean task to realize the goal of environmental justice in India. In this short span of five years, NGT has significantly contributed towards bridging the gap between aspirations and achievements.

### **Some path-breaking judgments pronounced by NGT towards realizing Environmental Justice**

Since its inception in 2010, NGT has been trying its best towards realizing the environmental justice in India particularly in the recent past under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice Swatanter Kumar. The orders passed by NGT so far have been in news in every corner of the country for their futuristic impact. People who were earlier unaware of the NGT are now considering it as the agent of change. Thanks go to Media for giving space/coverage to the recent orders of the Tribunal. Some of the recent orders of the NGT include—

- Banning of 10 years old diesel vehicles from plying on roads in Delhi. Pertinent to



mention over here is that NGT had already banned all vehicles, irrespective of the category of having petrol or diesel engine, over 15 years old from plying on Delhi roads. So, as per orders of National Green Tribunal in case titled *Vardhaman Kaushik vs. Union of India & Ors.*<sup>52</sup> petrol vehicles which are more than 15 years old and diesel vehicles that are more than 10 years old shall not be registered in the Delhi and National Capital Region.

- Further the directions made by National Green Tribunal to various authorities in Delhi for collecting the compensation from the households in Delhi trusting on the 'Polluter pays principle' is another landmark and thought provoking judgment. A bench headed by chairperson Mr. Justice Swatanter Kumar remarked that:

We direct NCT of Delhi, Delhi Jal Board and all Municipal Corporations, Cantonment Board, electricity companies like BSES and all other civic authorities to require payment of environmental compensation from every house hold which is generating sewage in the entire NCT of Delhi on the Polluters Pay Principle. It will be irrespective of whether a household is sewered or not. This would be equally applicable to the household located in the unauthorized colonies.<sup>53</sup>

- One more path breaking direction of National Green Tribunal in the series is pertaining to banning of slaughter houses in the State of Uttar Pradesh. A Bench headed by Chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar said that:

Slaughter houses which do not have permission from the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board and/or environmental clearance from State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) besides permission from local authorities, will not be allowed to operate either in open or from shops.<sup>54</sup>

In Ganga Pollution Case,<sup>55</sup> the National Green Tribunal took a very strong stand by saying that:

The Government has to be cautious of its constitutional and statutory duty to provide clean environment and wholesome water in river Ganga. The industrial sector (tannery industry) should discharge its corporate social responsibility by discharging treated effluent and cause no pollution. ... The life of millions cannot be put at stake for carrying on of a commercial activity for a group of individuals. Balance has to be struck and we would not hesitate in striking of that balance between the development and the environment.

- Following the directives of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), a five-star hotel *Radisson Blu* has been sealed in Hardwar for not having a sewerage treatment plant (STP) and thus polluting the Ganga. It is another example of path breaking order passed by NGT.<sup>56</sup>
- In the case titled *Court on its Motion vs. State of Himachal Pradesh & Ors.*, the National Green Tribunal (Principle bench, New Delhi) held that no vehicle would be permitted to ply to Rohtang for tourism purposes.
- The National Green Tribunal had imposed a hefty compensation amounting to Rs. 5 crore on the Art of Living Foundation of Shri Shri Ravi Shankar, a religious *guru*, on the basis of finding of a constituted committee, which found extensive violation of environmental laws during the World Culture Festival held on the ecologically-fragile Yamuna flood plains.<sup>57</sup>

- The National Green Tribunal recently imposed Rs. 100 crore penalty on the Qatar-based Delta Navigation as 'environmental compensation' for dumping the cargo in the sea five years ago and then failing to take any precautionary measures.<sup>58</sup>
- Recently, displeased with the non-compliance of its earlier directions by the government, with respect to the 'Clean Ganga' project, the National Green Tribunal through its Chairperson remarked that, "You [government] just come before us and indicate that the problem is very serious. But what is the solution? Unfortunately, despite repeated directions, nothing has come out on record. The state governments may have different priority. But we have only one priority and that is to clean Ganga and we will do that."<sup>59</sup>
- In another landmark order pertaining to the 2013 Uttarakhand disaster, the principal bench of National Green Tribunal recently directed Alaknanda Hydro Power Co. Ltd. of GVK Power to pay a compensation amounting to Rs. 9.26 Crore to the residents of Srinagar, Uttarakhand, for the damage and injuries they suffered due to the project's waste destruction. The judgment straightly rejected the company's contention that the damage suffered by the residents was due to an 'Act of God'.<sup>60</sup>

## Conclusion

Whereas, out of newly adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the new UN Agenda 2030, 7 goals are relating to environmental issues *viz.* climate action, life below water, life on land, affordable and clean energy, clean water and sanitation, sustainable cities and communities, peace, justice and strong institutions, which testify the importance of preservation of environment globally, the access to environmental justice in India still needs to be given its due importance. After the creation of NGT, though a statutory stride has been taken by the policy-makers by providing for an exclusive jurisdiction to it to redress the problems relating to environment but how far this tribunal could have contributed towards realizing the environmental justice is required to be studied. Whether the numbers of PIL filed by noted environment activist Sh. M C Mehta can easily be substituted by approaching the NGT or not? This question requires to be answered after going through a rigorous in-depth case study of the NGT as an institution for realizing environmental justice. India being a developing country competing at global level on the development front but this development should not be at the cost of our finite resources. This development undoubtedly needs to be a sustainable one. The principle of sustainable development, the precautionary principle and the polluter pays principle are the basic postulates to be considered by the NGT for disposing of environment related matters. Since the environmental degradation is being treated not a cup of tea for an average citizen in India, the approach to Court/tribunal in environment related matters seem to be taken by someone having personal enmity with the project proponent in most of the cases as finance is involved in it. In most of the environment related matters a common man resist from knocking the door of the tribunal as the perception developed against the adversarial adjudication system in India amongst the common men is not hidden to anyone. Various judges of Supreme Court of India too have shown their anguishes towards the existing delay by saying that in India justice still remains a cynical phrase or illusion for a common man. So the problem remain is the access to justice and access to environmental justice particularly which is required to be addressed by making a discourse of suitability or effectiveness of the NGT in realizing access to environmental justice.

In the present context, by having so many path-breaking judgments delivered by the NGT towards realizing access to environmental justice, it is high time to relish the success story of this institution particularly for the *pro bono publico* environmental activists. Here it is crucial to observe that NGT shall remain instrumental for providing easy access to environmental justice

only through a participatory approach and active support of the civil society. Even a layman can contribute in the agenda of NGT by simply bringing the instances of pollution in his/her neighborhood, in the notice of the tribunal. The need of the hour is to think green, act green and transact green while adopting the basic principles laid down by the green tribunal. So let's think green and go green!

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## **Narratives of Children in Residential Care Homes: Examining the Restoration Process in India**

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### **Abstract**

Historically, the orphanages and the children homes have served as the typical solution for the children in need of care and protection. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2015 is the primary legal framework for Juvenile Justice in India. The act clearly states institutionalization to be the last resort for the children, which sadly is most widely practiced in India. The reunification of a child with the family is a permanency goal. The successful reunification of the children depends on the involvement of Child Welfare Committee's, Staff of residential care homes, Parents and officials of Special Juvenile Police Unit. Based on the above backdrop, the study tries to examine the process of restoration practiced in the residential care homes. The present paper is based on in-depth interviews with forty six children who are currently staying or had stayed in these residential homes. The low rate of restoration and the incidents of relapse in restored cases revealed that the process of restoration is not free flaws. Though, there is a law on Juvenile Justice, it does not clearly lay down protocols or procedures for dealing with children who are victims of criminal acts such as rape, abduction, violence, child labour or trafficking. Due to irregular inspections, untrained staff and no rules clearly stating the need and procedures for regular follow-ups, there is no scope for children who are unhappy with their placement/restoration to express their dissatisfaction. Recommendations for policy makers and practitioners are being discussed.

**Key-words:** Institutional Care, Juvenile Justice, Restoration, Re-unification, Children in need of care and protection.

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### **Introduction:**

All around the world the number of children entering into institutional care is rapidly increasing and India is no exception. Family is the best place for the child's holistic development and all the children have the right to develop in the healthy family environment. Unfortunately, not all the children get privilege to live within the families due to various reasons either permanently or temporarily. Thus, all these children without parental care comes under the purview of immediate need of care and protection and for these children state have the responsibility to provide adequate support and care. The state provides the necessary assistance to these children in the form of alternate care. Alternate care refers to the range of services provided to the children in need of care and protection whose parents no longer have the capacity to provide support and assistance to their children.



Alternate care has a wide range care of options starting from community care practices, foster care, sponsorship, adoption and institutionalisation. But, unfortunately the institutionalisation is the commonly used option by the child welfare agencies across the globe. Statistics indicates that there are approximately 180 million children fall under the category of children in need of care and protection and acknowledging the fact Integrated Child Protection Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2009. The scheme is centrally sponsored and provides assistance to the state government for running the services for the children either by themselves or in cooperation with the Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The United Nations Convention for the Rights of Children (UNCRC) upholds the right of a child to grow in a healthy family environment and India being the member of UNCRC has the responsibility to provide alternate care and support to the children and institutionalisation to be used as last resort and for limited time period. Overall, the child care institutions have remained the integral part of the child welfare system across the globe. The child care homes are often formed with the good objectives of providing overall care and protection to the vulnerable child. But, researches demonstrate that the alternate or family based care is the best for the healthy development of the child. There are growing evidences on the negative impact of institutionalisation on the physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of the child due to lack of adequate care and support provided by the child care homes. A study conducted by Child Rights International Networks (CRIN, 2007) indicates that the institutions functioning in South East Asia are facing many challenges such as overcrowding in the child care homes, hurriedly putting the children in the homes without exploring other ways and lack of standardised care and treatment. The children living in the children homes for longer time suffer in two ways: *first*, they suffer from detachment in the absence of consistent one to one attachment and *secondly* the chances of abuse and violence impact the child negatively especially in the cases where the monitoring and inspection of the child care homes are poor. According to a report, there are no existing systems to monitor the child care homes in the South East Asian Countries (UNICEF, 2006). Though, there is a need of large number of children to get safe environment and sometimes it is not possible to restore the child to the biological parents. The most important concern of the institutional program is that though they provide adequate care and support to the children and even it is of high quality then also the right of the child of being raised in the family is deprived. The child suffers from absence of attachment figure in his/her life which later affects the ability of the child to form secure attachments with other persons. The deprivation of the child from the family also affects on the language development of the child as one study found that the communication in the residential care homes between the carer and the child mostly occurs for the shorter duration and in the command form which discourages a child to make further communication (Giese & Dawes, 1999). In India, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2015 is the primary legal framework to deal with the cases of juvenile in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. The Child welfare Committee's (CWC) are the final authority to decide upon the cases of children in need of care and protection and passing the orders for restoration, placing the child in safe shelters, conducting inquiries, directs the probation officers to conduct the social inquiry and passing orders for alternate care such as foster care, adoption and so on as mentioned in the Model Rules, 2007. For any legislation to be successful, it not only requires good law but also the dedicated functionaries. Police and Institutional care staff are two important functionaries in the Juvenile Justice System. But, the existing literature suggests that existing system of child welfare is not free from flaws. For instance, there are many gaps in the functioning of the CWCs such as Jurisdictional confusion which denies the child rights to get immediate support and assistance (NCPCR, 2013). The children have to spend more time in the institutions not because of any other reasons but due to the fact that the functionaries fail to adhere the timelines as



prescribed in the legislation (Rickaed & Szanyi, 2010). Thus, based on a thorough research review the study aims at exploring the effectiveness of the restoration process and services offered to the institutionalised and restored children from the institutions. There is a dearth of studies on the restoration process being adopted in the child care system and what happens after the child leaves institutions or what kinds of support mechanisms are available for the child in cases of dissatisfaction with the process. So, the study allows to determine the effectiveness of restoration process and also helps us in finding the reasons for the lengthy stay of the children, issues related to re-entry of the children in the child care homes and will also make suggestions based on the results of the study, where the improvements need to be done for effective and permanent placement of the child. The results of the study would not only be beneficial for the child welfare agency workers but also help in making the positive change in the lives of children and their families.

### **Methodology involved:**

In order to understand the restoration process adopted by the child welfare system, the authors interviewed forty six children i.e. twenty four institutionalised and twenty two restored children from the child care homes of Delhi. The area of present study is limited to Delhi. Delhi, being the central and an easily accessible state for children of other states houses large number of affected children. The methodology adopted for the research is qualitative in nature as the main objective of the research was to obtain the perspectives of the children based on their experiences in the institutional care and post reunification in order to make significant improvement in the restoration process if needed. Qualitative framework is also taken because restoration is a new area and in order to get in-depth, insights and to capture the lived experiences of the children, the framework has been adopted. The research also involved working with the children who are very sensitive and emotional, so in order to provide them a chance so that they can express their feelings, emotions and experiences fully without bracketing into restricted answers, quantitative research would not have been useful to capture the lived experiences of the children. For the purpose of this study, the data was collected from the eleven children homes i.e. five government run homes and six NGO run homes were selected. The permission was sought from the Department of Women and Child Development, Delhi. All the homes taken for the study were registered under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2015. The researcher wanted to understand how these children perceive, understand and make sense of their own experiences. Such an objective needed a flexible data gathering instrument, so semi structured interview schedule was adopted for the present study. The major themes discussed with the institutionalised children were related to their family profile, their experiences in the child care homes, issues before being institutionalised, interactions with the CWC, police and staff members, maintaining contacts in the child care homes, educational status in the home and restoration procedure. While the restored children staying with the families were asked questions related to their current engagement, level of inclusion with the family and community after restoration, experiences in the child care homes and with functionaries, follow ups by the child welfare agencies and post restoration services received. The researcher conducted multiple interviews with the children and on an average the interview last for 1.5 to 2 hours with the children. The researcher jotted down all the concerns and issues raised by the children and substantiated with the observations and reflections. During the data analysis process, the entire focus was on understanding the meaning of the description of the phenomenon. Thus, thematic analysis was used to identify the major themes and discourses which emerged from the transcriptions, to represent and acknowledge the perspectives and experiences of the individuals participated in the research.

### **What Findings Reveal:**

Because of dearth of research and paucity of data on the restoration of children in need of care and protection and rate of re-entries in the child care homes, efforts were made to qualitatively acquire the information through in-depth interviews with the children. As the main objective of the research was to understand the process of restoration adopted by the child welfare agencies based on the perspectives of the restored and institutionalised children, the data has been categorised into various themes based on the research questions. Before coming to results, it is significant to give a brief profile of the respondents under study. As stated above, twenty four institutionalised and twenty two restored children were taken for the study. Amongst the twenty four institutionalised children, ten re-entered children were interviewed for exploring their reasons for re-entries in the child care homes. In case of institutionalised children, most of them were from the age group of sixteen to eighteen years of age group and gender composition includes seventy percent of boys and twenty nine percent girls for the study. In case of restored children, most of the children belonged to the age group of sixteen to seventeen years while twenty three percent of the restored children were eighteen and above eighteen years of age at the time of interview. The existing literature helps the researcher to analyse the data to get the insights and the findings to be considered in the much larger global contexts. The data gathered from the study has been analysed and following major themes has been emerged during the study:

#### **Child care homes: Why do they enter?**

A large number of children across the globe all living in the child care homes and the rate of children entering into the institutional care is increasing year after year. The increase in institutionalisation to some extent can be correlated with the poverty and unemployment. Many people in search of work migrates from rural to urban areas and sometimes cannot cope with the harsh realities of the life and cannot even meet the basic needs of the family. There can be instances where the parents themselves admit the child in care homes to fulfil their basic needs of food, shelter and education. The other possible reasons for the child's admission into care can be linked to family instability, domestic violence and poor socio economic conditions and so on. Sometimes, the children to cope up with the harsh situations, started working in an unhealthy occupation which not only impacts their health but also the chances of abuse and violence increases manifolds. It was deduced from the interviews with the children that the society holds a negative view about these children and believes that institutionalisation to be the best way for the treatment of the children. There could be a number of reasons for the child to leave home. The reasons may not be the same for each and every child but the act of leaving homes impacts the child as well as the family significantly. It was revealed from the discussions with the institutionalised and restored children that there are number of factors which works in a complex way and results in the child's separation from the family either voluntarily or involuntarily. The findings shows that the most common reasons cited by the children were related to the family problems such as maltreatment at the home, domestic violence and lack of social support mechanisms. The next common reasons which were reflected in the findings were related to the inadequate housing or bad living conditions of the family. Most of these children were from poor socio economic background and were dependent on the welfare schemes which are hardly available to them. Other reasons emerged in the discussions were related to the inability of the parents to pay school fees, to seek for new jobs and to avoid the undesirable work at the home as it was reported by some children that they were forced by their family members to do undesirable work such as agriculture, collecting water or fire woods for the family and not even providing them with sufficient meals. This was evident from the narratives of the boy belonging to the rural areas and was staying in the government run children home. He said,

*“I was working in a warehouse for 12-14 hours and the payments were taken by my father. One day, my father hit me so badly that I started bleeding. So, I ran away from home. I never wanted to work but to study.”*

Another issue which was highlighted in the research was related to the problem of drug abuse. The trends of drug abuse are rapidly increasing amongst the youths and children are getting exposed to the drugs at an early age. It was found in the study that few children were addicted to the drugs before being institutionalised and voluntarily leaves the homes to live an adult free life. Few children also left their homes for getting married with their loved ones and few children were rescued by the state functionaries to prevent them from further harm and trauma. It was also explored from the discussion that the children staying in the institutions does not necessarily mean that they do not have any family affiliation as most of the children taken for the study had their families. Though, the level of contact with the family varies for each child. The reasons for the institutionalisation can be linked to poor gate keeping mechanisms and insufficient reintegration of these children into families. The other reasons for rapid institutionalisation can be lack of alternate care or family based options provided by the state functionaries and adopting institutionalisation as an only resort for the children found in vulnerable situations.

### **How caring is the Child Care Homes: Peeping into the standards claimed**

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2015 and Model Rules, 2007 have specified the quantitative norms or standards of providing care and protection to these children but there are no qualitative guidelines for providing care to these children in need of care. Inadequate care was emerged as a major issue in the all the child care homes. There was inconsistency in the services being provided to these children in government and NGO run homes. The study found that the children were finding difficulties in getting the basic things of daily usage. Most of the children shared instances of not getting the adequate clothes to wear and especially winter clothes. The school going children both in governmental and NGO run homes were not getting adequate meals and surviving on the two meals a day i.e lunch and dinner. There is no provision of making individual care plan for the day and the activities of the children homes were reported to be monotonous by the children. Almost all the children homes observed during the study were overcrowded and due to poor staff child ration, the individualised treatment to each and every child is not being given and needs of the children go unattended. The girls especially of eloped cases both institutionalised and restored shared incidences of being discriminated in the child care homes by the care takers and other managerial staff. There was limited bathing and washing space for the children in the child care homes and no special provisions were made for the special children in any of the sampled child care homes. It is important to highlight that these children face issues have already suffer abuse, violence and neglect outside the home and staff of the home should make all the efforts for the healthy recovery of the child. Lack of respect, trust issues, maintaining privacy expectations were some of the key issues identified in the study and children also feel that they were not being listened in the child care home. Children also shared about the inconsistency in the counselling provided to them and reported of taking more group sessions by the counsellors rather than individual sessions. It was also found in the research that most of the times children do not get a chance in planning the activities of the children homes which is affecting their lives directly. The research also revealed that there is serious lack of recording keeping in the child care homes which is evident from the fact that most of these institutions does not maintain any database of the health records of the child. The medical records of the children in their case files were incomplete and cases of poor diagnosis and delay of proper treatment was observed in the case files of the children. Most of the times the children were provided with the medicine on the discretion of the care takers and the frequency of the health checkups in the children homes are also limited.



The children homes in addition to performing the function of housing and maintaining safety of the children also provide range of educational and vocational courses to the children. Needless to say that, the children attending schools in both governmental and NGO run home were extremely low as compared to the total number of residents in the child care homes. Majority of the children were made to sit in the NFE (Non Formal Education) classes in the child care homes. In the Non Formal Education Classes, the children of different ages are made to sit together irrespective of their age and there is no emphasis on age appropriate education. Some children shared instances of dropping the NFE classes because of the inconvenience felt by them due to sitting with the younger children and not getting benefitted from the classes. Another key area emerged in the study was related to the limited choices given to the children for choosing up the courses at secondary level. Most of the children especially of the older ages were having sense of realisation that they will have to leave the institution once they turn eighteen and were pressurised to take up some skill/vocational trade courses rather than taking up a regular course.

### **Institutionalised Children: How do they sustain relationships?**

There is growing evidence which shows that the restoration of these children into their families is happening at a very low rate and even the options of adoption and alternate family based care have not been used fully by the child welfare agencies. Research demonstrates that the visitation between the child and the families is the key of reunification and parent-child relationships given an opportunity to the parents to improve the relationships and enhances the parent's motivations. It also reduces the chances of child's stay in the care homes and the chances of reunification increases. Interactions with the institutionalised and restored children reveal that almost all the children homes allow the visitation of the families with the children. But, on the same hand it was observed that all the visits in the children homes were initiated with the parents and not from the children homes. The problem occurs in cases where the parents face difficulties in bearing the transportation and accommodation cost for meeting the child. Though, on one hand, institutional staff encourages the contacts between the children and families as per their norms but in reality they put many restrictions and conditions on the visits between the child and the family. Most of the children shared incidents of supervising the visits without explaining them the purpose of the supervision, restrictive, selective days of meeting and unnecessarily calling the parents which affected the daily wage earning of some parents as well.

Though, not much but few children shared that they faced difficulties due to frequent change in the care takers in these homes. Few children reported to had secure attachments with the care givers and felt emotionally connected to them but due to their frequent changes, they find it difficult to adjust in the children homes. Care givers have the primary responsibility to provide care and emotional support to these children as far as possible. These care givers are usually poorly trained and due to low paying job, they change the job frequently. The attrition rate is higher and hiring is difficult. All these factors also limits the ability of the care givers to get emotionally connected with the child which in turn, affect's on the child ability to form secure and sustainable attachments with the adults.

### **Child Care Homes and the children: Procedural trauma and restoration process**

Restoration of the child into their families is the prime agenda of the child welfare agencies all over the world. The UNCRC as well as the Juvenile Justice Legislation mandates that all the procedures related to inquiry and procedures adopted in the process should be child friendly and the decisions taken should be in the best interest of the child. The functionaries in the child welfare system should provide a continuum of services for the smooth transition of the child into community. But, in reality the process of restoration is not given any priority in the system. The system focus on the number of the restoration which is actually very low as compared to the

number of entries in the system rather than the permanency and stability of the restorations made. As already mentioned, Child Welfare Committee's are the final authority to made the decisions about the restoration and the legislations clearly says that the participation of child should be made while taking all the decision related to him/her. The study found that most of the children were unhappy with the manner of carrying out the care proceedings by the CWC member. Some of the commonly cited issues with regards to the CWC proceedings were waiting for long hours, unavailability of food during waiting, lack of communication and poor participation of the children during proceedings. The children were not informed by the functionaries about the purpose of being produced before the committee. The children were also asked regarding the regularity of inspections by the CWC members in the children homes. It was inferred from the discussions with the children that inspections made by the CWC members are irregular and most of the time these inspections are informed visits as children reported to get food, good clothes and sweets to eat on the day of inspection. The principles of the Juvenile Justice ensure the genuine participation of the children but in reality, the children do not get opportunity to express their views or make any complaint. Even, if the child expresses his/her wishes, there are serious loopholes in the consideration of those wishes while making the decisions directly affecting them. CWCs being the highest authority do not make any special attempts to make the child comfortable during the process and there is heavy reliance on the case files being made by the staff of the children homes which is used by a tool by the child care home staff to control or threaten these children in need of care and protection. It has also been observed that these children often made to shift from one children home to another or from one care giver to another which significantly impacts the child and can have disastrous consequences for the children.

Another important functionary of the system is the police. The establishment of the Special Juvenile Police Unit was done with the underlying objective of changing the negative perception about the police and provide immediate support to the child in need of care and protection through sensitive and trained child welfare officers. The findings of the study revealed that not all the children had encounters with the police before being institutionalised. But, some of them who had interacted with the police did not held positive views about the police. Some of the issues emerged in the study with respect to the children's interactions with the police were lack of respect and trust, limited communication, unnecessarily being targeted by the police, abuse of power and so on. The similar findings were reflected in another study conducted on the street children of Delhi, where it was revealed that the children were illegally detained in the police stations when they are unable to pay the bribe (Garg, 2014). Even after the trainings and orientation programs, the children in need of care and protection are handled by the functionaries having no sensitivity regarding handling these children, be it a police officers or the doctors in the hospitals.

### **Care leavers: A population at risk**

The young children leaving care can be considered as most vulnerable group. The study made an attempt to gain an in-depth understanding of the current situation of the restored children, extent of vulnerability faced by the restored children, their inclusion in the families and communities and transitioning into adulthood. In the present study, amongst the restored children some of them were taking education while some were sitting idle at home. Few children started working again immediately after their restoration and it was unfortunate to find that one girl was engaged in begging the situation which earlier put her into institution to prevent harm and distress. This particular case leads to the conclusion that unplanned and hurried restoration again puts the child into the situation of helplessness, distress and increase of the chances of mobility. The researcher also tried to compare the educational status of the children pre and post restoration and it was found that a significant number of children had opted out the education after their restoration.



Some of the common reasons cited by the restored children were financial obligations, parental pressure, achieving poor grades and insufficient documents to get re-enrol in the schools. Those who were attending schools after their restoration faced lots of issues such as repeating the grades, poor guidance and poor learning outcomes. Another key issue associated with the restored children can be linked to the poor inclusion of the children within the families and communities. It was positive to find that the restoration children did not perceived any change in the behaviour of their friends or peers after being restored. But, the children do face adjustment issues within their families. Some children reported the incidences of their parents been more strict and disciplined after restoration. Thus, this parent's being more strict and disciplined should be discouraged by the regular monitoring after the restoration. It is unfortunate to find that parents are not being prepared before the restoration of the child. But, in reality the restoration is a new experience for the child as well as for the family. Our child welfare system does not have any provision of preparing the family or fulfilling the immediate needs of family before restoration. Some of the other issues shared by the care leavers were bad behaviour of the school teachers, judgemental attitudes of the teachers, bullying by the older children and exclusion by the peers at school. All these things superimpose the stigma in the mind of the child and the child gets negatively affected by the same.

### **Restoration and the dilemma: Where do we stand?**

It has been observed in the study that family act as both risk as well as protective factor for the children. Despite of having a broad network of juvenile justice all across district, state and block level, these children had to struggle for their survival outside their biological homes. In the present study, all the children who had left their homes voluntarily or involuntarily had ended up in the institutions. The restored children from the region of Delhi/NCR were chosen for the study and despite of their residences in the nearby areas these children had to spent substantial time in the child care homes. Almost thirty percent of the restored children, stayed in the child care homes for six months to a year and another thirty seven stayed for one to six months. It was disheartening to find that some of the children were restored back into their families where the parents were incapacitated to fulfil the needs of the children and asked for support from the functionaries. The children were not restored into their families within the stipulated time as prescribed by the law. The researcher also raised concerns on the timelines being attached to the restoration process. The timelines can be used to track the progress of each and every case, but in restoration cases, special attention should be given to the children, proper time needs to be provided to the child to decide for herself/himself, time given to the parents to change their behaviour and work on improving the relationship with the child and case workers should also take time to map the changes in the relationships and interventions made. But, the study found that the restoration process had been delayed and no interventions were made to change the lives of families as well as children.

It is equally important to mention that not all the effects of institutionalisation are harmful. The institutional homes have also helped the children in building their self esteem and self image and prevented them from further harm and distress. Thus, increases their life chances and preventing from subsequent exploitation. But, it was distressing to find that at the institutional level, the functionaries are not making real efforts for preparing the children for adulthood. The restored children were having issues such as feeling of alienation, anxiety and rejection and were restored without addressing these questions. The children were not informed about their rights and any post reunification support which they can avail for. On listening to the stories of the children, it was found that more than fifty percent of the children as well as their families, tried to contact the functionaries after the restoration, but most of their requests went unanswered. The similar findings were emerged in another study where the care leavers were not informed about their

rights and entitlements at the time of leaving care (Ofsted, 2012). None of the children in the study had reported to receive any after care or follow ups by the authorities after being restored.

The transition from the education to employment is a progressive step and key towards independence and freedom. Due to poor educational and insufficient skills, these children generally ended up in taking low income jobs. Moreover, these children are ill equipped to handle the situations of everyday life due to poor training to lead independent lives. The child welfare agencies perceives that their responsibility ends with the restoration of the child but genuine efforts needs to be done for supporting these children and making their transitions smoother and permanent.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

The child welfare system is not simply about the money we spent in the Child Protection or targeting more deserving children. Nor does it is about moving the children for better jobs. It is foremost for the wellbeing of the children. The children should be the focus in all the welfare police and programmes. The present study reflects on the some problems attached with the current restoration process adopted by the present child welfare system. For instance, it leads to the conclusion that the children enter child care homes mainly due to difficult financial hardships, problems in the family, abuse and maltreatment. Most of the institutions focus on up keeping of the children rather than exploring the other family based options. Case management system adopted by the functionaries is extremely poor due to which the needs of the children do not get fulfilled. Staff member's needs professional training in handling the children and on the importance of family reunification for the child as early as possible. The number of children entering into the child care homes is increasing enormously and often these children are deprived of their family environments and there is no monitoring of the child care homes due to which there is no standardised norms related to educational and healthy development of the child. Thus, keeping the focus of wellbeing in mind, the study concludes that the children should be restored into their families with certain rights. The restored child has the right to develop normal conditions without being exposed to the further risk, the right to be loved and cared for by a family and the right to get specialised attention.

### **Major Recommendations:**

On the basis of findings, it is clear that the child welfare agencies must begin the planning in advance to prevent re-entries and possible repercussions. The following recommendations address the needs of interagency coordination, ways of moving towards deinstitutionalisation and service reforms by supporting family and children in post reunification period. In a nutshell, the study proposes following recommendations:

- The government should make a deinstitutionalisation policy with clear timelines and allocate separate budget for the same. New sustainable models of preventing the child from family should be introduced.
- Monitoring of the already registered and non-registered home should be done quickly and the actual data regarding the number of children staying and exiting the child care homes needs to be developed.
- The government should either create or strengthen the existing social protection schemes to support the vulnerable families in needs by cash transfer scheme or sponsorship for a child. In cases, where it is not possible to restore the child to families, all efforts needs to be done to provide family environment to the child such as foster care, child support centres and adoption.

- Develop the professional skills amongst the child care staff for providing care and rehabilitation to the children in the child care homes.
- Gate keeping mechanisms to prevent the unnecessary placements of the children in the child care institutions and strengthen the community care to prevent the separation of the child from family.
- There is an urgent need for better coordination amongst the agencies working for the child welfare for better service delivery and sharing responsibility. There is need to develop efficient and effective reporting mechanism amongst each agency and feedback mechanisms about the agency performance. In cases, where multiple agencies are involved sharing information and detailing expectations from each other help in reducing the conflict and diffusion of responsibility.
- It is suggested that the government as well as NGO run homes should take the views of beneficiaries' i.e primarily the children and their families while evaluating their services in terms of their satisfaction and outcomes of the restoration.
- An assessment needs to be conducted before restoring a child into family regarding the kinds of support needed by the child as well as by the family for permanency and stability. The child needs to be contacted at least for a year after the restoration which can later be reduced to quarterly visits.
- An entire independent body needs to be established for handling the complaints made by the child as well as their families. The independent committee should do all the efforts to engage with the children through workshops and meetings and take necessary action against the complaint within prescribed time limit.
- All the after care and follow ups for the children should be clearly written at the time of restoration and timelines for each and every objective needs to be clearly listed.
- Working in the child care setting is a complex task and requires high quality service delivery. Thus, it is equally important to devise ways for motivating and encouraging staff by providing some courses for their professional development or rewarding them for their commitment and so on.

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## Evil of Witch Hunting in India: Dark Reality of Violence & Discrimination against Women

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***Dhol Ganvar Shudra Pashu Naari,  
sakal tadna ke adhikari.***

*'Drums, the illiterate, lower caste, animals and women,  
deserve a beating to straighten up and get the acts together.'*

*- Saint Tulsidas, Ram Charitmanas*

### Abstract

The violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women. It is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men. It is a problem of pandemic proportions. At least one out of every three women around the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime with the abuser usually someone known to her. There is no region of the world, no country and no culture in which women's freedom from violence has been totally secured. The violence against women specifically rape, sexual assaults, domestic violence, 'witch-hunting' etc. are various forms of gendered violence which women live in their lives and such cases are under-reported, often due to societal norms, taboos, stigma, and the sensitive nature of the subject. 'Witch-hunting' is a 'Test case' of the crimes committed against women. In other crimes, women despite being victim, retain their identity as women, but in 'witch-hunting' a woman is deprived from the very identity of a woman or a human being as she is declared to be a Dayan or Churail, and thus, rendered as a non-being or evil-being.

**Key-words:** Witch-hunting, Superstition, Violence, Discrimination, Witch-craft

### 1. Introduction:

In a patriarchal society, women become the recipient of violence where they are victimized in the process of establishing men's authority. Violence operates as a means to reinforce women's subordination. It is a mechanism used to assert one's will over another, in order to prove or feel a sense of power or superiority and is generally perpetuated by those in power against powerless.

The *United Nations General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1993* defines 'violence against women' as a "violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life." Though India ratified the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993, but still there has been an alarming rise in violence against women in both the urban and rural areas. While violence against women



continues to mushroom in India, yet the law and the criminal justice system have failed to respond effectively to this menace. Indeed the rate of conviction is reported to be dismally low in crimes against women.

The women experience subordination generally accompanied with violence in all spheres of their life from childhood to marriage life to professional life to spiritual life. The happening of the cases of '*witch-hunting*' is a big question mark on our claim of literacy, humanity and gender sensitivity. It shows the failure of the State to spread education and health facility and to inculcate respect for women and to promote scientific temperament. The deprivation of identity and respect as a woman normalizes the atrocities suffered by victims of '*witch-hunting*' and this results in State's inaction to erase the barbaric inhuman practice of '*witch-hunting*' of women.

Through this paper, the author proposes to deliberate on the issue relating to the prevalence of the medieval frightening phenomenon of '*witch-hunting*' in 21<sup>st</sup> Century democratic India. It specifically analyses the context and the role of branding of women as '*witches*' or harbourer of the evil. Such events represent the struggle of men against women in setting up male domination and that evidence of such struggles are likely to be found in number of tribal or rural societies. Incidents of women being denounced as '*witches*' were not isolated or stray incidents, and therefore, they deserve explanation in terms of the underlying social conflicts and changes.

## **2. Meaning of '*Witch-hunting*'**

A '*witch*' is a human being who secretly uses supernatural power for the purpose of harming others. '*Witches*' are called by various names in different regions of India like *Dayan*, *Dakin*, *Tohni*, *Churail* etc. It is extremely unfortunate that even today there are interior regions where hundreds of women are branded as '*witches*', humiliated, tortured, ostracized and in some cases even killed mercilessly in the name of superstition, to get rid of the 'evil spell' cast by them. '*Witch-hunting*' refers to a situation in which the accused who is usually a woman is tried and convicted without any cogent proof of guilt. This frightening phenomenon is on rise in the recent years and is present in about half a dozen states in the country. In fact, the under-developed states like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Rajasthan have become a breeding ground for illiteracy, superstition and violence against women.

'*Witch-craft*' is the belief that humans can manipulate supernatural forces for their own purposes. The power of '*witch-craft*' can be used for healing as well as harming, capable of bestowing blessings as well as curses. The crime of '*witch-hunting*' enjoys religious, social and political patronage as there is as much faith in '*witchcraft*' as there is faith in God. Moreover, a strong belief in ghosts, spirits and occult is deeply embedded in the society. While endemic non-reportage of such crimes makes it more difficult to compile reliable data, statistics on '*witch-hunting*' crimes compiled by the *National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB)* are a cause of concern. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 54 women were killed in Jharkhand in 2013 on suspicion of being witches and a total of 400 women have been murdered with the same motive since 2001. In Odisha, 31 women were branded as witches and killed in 2010, 39 in 2011 and 35 in 2012. The NCRB has estimated 2,097 murders between 2000 and 2012 with witch-hunting as the motive. For the survivors of these hunts, being alive is no consolation at all. Not only is the torture and humiliation—stripping, shaving of the head, breaking of the teeth, physical branding, being forced to eat excreta, drink animal blood and brutal beatings—deeply traumatic but they are also robbed of the sources of livelihood and their homes.

## **3. Recent Frightening Incidents of '*Witch-hunting*' in India**

The latest newspaper report from *Jamshedpur (Jharkhand)* shows the plight of a child '*Mathura*'

who narrated the story of his mother *Sunita's* (aged 35 years) death saying that he couldn't sleep since the day he saw his mother for the last time.....her hand, legs, head and body were chopped in separate parts. His mother was declared to be a witch & was murdered by three powerful men from his village. He still wonder how a loving and caring mother of four children could be a witch.....she didn't had big teeth and she wasn't scary, rather she was very beautiful. He reminded of the fateful incident, saying that alongwith his siblings he was very happy that day as it was '*Haro festival*' and his mother said that their father who was working as a labourer in *Rajkot (Gujarat)*, will be returning home in 2-3 days. Thereafter, his mother went to neighbour's house to exchange the festival wishes and she never returned back since then. When he went to inquire about his mother, he didn't have any satisfactory reply from anyone as to where his mother was. He went from pillar to post to search the whereabouts of his mother, but all in vain. In this trauma, somehow he managed to look after his younger siblings for three days until their father returned home. After hearing the entire story, his father also tried to search his mother, but getting no clue about her, he called the police. Alongwith the police, they went to neighbour's house to inquire about the lady and that neighbour took the police to riverbank. It was the most painful and frightening moment for him to see that his mother's body which was chopped in five separate parts was buried in three different pits. He was shattered totally and decided not to go back to village and even not to study in the school there. He regrets that he was not mature enough to save his mother. He said that the offenders are very dangerous people and they pelted stones at the police when it came for the first time in village. Even they threatened to kill his family members. Out of this fear, they spent that night at village police station and then they went to his maternal grandmother's house. His father '*Sadhu*' said that when he called up his wife prior to this incident then she told him that neighbor *Gaya Kunkal's* father has fallen ill and they are blaming all this on her saying that she is '*Dayan*'. She even said that she is afraid of being killed and requested her husband to return early. His husband started for home the very next day but by the time he reached there, everything was over. The main accused confessed that she was a witch, and because of this his father fell ill, so he chopped her body and killed her with the help of two other men.

This newspaper report further says that during last eight months (December 2015 to July 2016) there had been 27 cases of murders and more than hundred cases of harassment of witches registered in Jharkhand's three districts only.

Another newspaper report from two districts *Rajsamand & Bhilwara (Rajasthan)* digs deep into the evil of witch-hunting wherein it unveils the pathetic condition of women who are branded as '*Dayan*' and are consequently subjected to discrimination, social boycotts, insult, humiliation, merciless beating and even killing. This report unfolds the story of a women '*Bholi Devi*' who was excommunicated from her village 11 years ago on the pretext of declaring her to be a '*Dayan*'. When her daughter-in-law '*Hemlata*' stood by her, then she herself was also declared to be a '*Dayan*'. *Hemlata's* question—why only women are declared to be '*Dayan*', and why men are never blamed to be 'ghosts' – still finds no answer.

'*Nandu Devi*' from *Balawas* village said that for the last three years she has not been able to go to her home which is just one kilometer from the hut in the forests outside her village where she was forced to live with her family. She said that her neighbour's son fell ill and she was blamed for it and was declared to be a 'witch'. The entire village was before her and she was tortured, beaten and thrown to well wherefrom she was rescued by some labourers who were working there.

'*Nozi Bai*' of *Tanka* village said that she was asleep in her house at night when 5-6 drunken men from her village attacked her. She was beaten and chilli powder was put into her eyes. When she tried to inquire the reason for such attack, then she was told that those men are trying to get her rid

of the 'witch' residing inside her body. She was blamed for the death of a boy. After hearing her screaming, the entire village community gathered there but nobody showed the courage to protect her. Throughout that night, those drunken men branded her body with a hot iron rod and put her both hands in flames, as a result of which both her hands were disabled permanently.

The family of eighty year old '*Pyari Prajapat*' from *Kodu* village (*Suwana* Tehsil) is struggling to get two meals a day because she was declared to be a 'witch' by her neighbours about two & a half years ago just to grab her land. She was mercilessly beaten, as a result of which her both hands and backbone were crippled. Her son is suffering from tuberculosis, and therefore, her daughter-in-law works as a labour to earn livelihood for the family.

In this report, a social activist '*Tara Ahluwalia*' alleges that branding a woman as a 'witch' is a non-bailable offence, but still the offender is released within 6-7 days. The report further states that more than half of the population in the *Bhilwara* and *Rajsamand* districts of *Rajasthan* lives in darkness due to superstitious belief. In the last 15 years, there have been more than hundred registered cases of witch-hunting and there are innumerable instances of witch-hunting which have never been reported. The police have always been a mute spectator in all such cases. Despite the fact that legislation was enacted in the State of *Rajasthan* in 2015 to curb this menace, this social evil continues unabated. Incidents like death of an animal or illness of a child etc. are attributed to the ill-effects of so called 'witch', but the real cause behind all this is either property or personal revenge. In ninety percent of the cases it is found that only those women are branded as 'witch' who are widow or single. This is generally done by the relatives of such women with the sole motive to grab their land or property.

All the above quoted incidences join a long list of victims of 'witch-hunting' and killings over the past few years.

#### **4. Factors Responsible for the Evil of '*Witch-hunting*'**

The areas where there is almost no economic development, with negligible access to basic education and health care etc. witness '*witch-hunting*' incidents more. In this kind of an atmosphere and social conditioning, people tend to develop very strong superstitious beliefs. Lack of health facilities forces people to rely on '*Ojhas*' (faith healers or *witch-doctors*) for the treatment. The village '*Ojhas*' make a living out of exorcising spirits, healing the people and wield immense power and influence over the rural folk. When '*Ojhas*' fail to treat patients through their trial-and-error methods, then they invariably blame some defenseless women and thus hide their incompetence behind appeals to the supernatural. With the passage of time, the villagers have started blaming anything and everything they don't understand on some supernatural powers possessed by the alleged '*witch*'. The villagers believe that these women identified as '*witches*' have some spiritual connection with evil souls, so wherever they go misfortune follows. Rising mortality rates, especially among children due to the collapse of public healthcare system, growing malnutrition etc. have further contributed to fuel suspicions of '*witch-craft*'. Even the death of an animal becomes a source for condemning some poor women as a '*witch*' or '*Dayan*'.

The '*witch-hunts*' are never an act of impulse carried out in the heat of the moment, rather, they are pre-planned plots. '*Witch-hunting*' practice is cold blooded and designed. It is closely related to the destruction of woman's traditional land rights in tribal communities. Sometimes, it is also used as a weapon by men who conspire to murder women they had liaisons with and subsequently label these murders as '*witch-killing*' in order to deflect blame. Moreover, the increasing political participation and assertion by women have encouraged vested interests that use the '*Ojhas*' to issue fiats against assertive women. The labeling of women as '*witches*',



therefore, is an essential part of the process of establishing authority of men.

The '*Ojhas*', those believed to have supernatural powers, are often supported by vested interests, who want to perpetuate and manipulate the popular belief in the supernatural powers of the '*Ojha*' for their own ends. This includes economic, political and social interests. If someone wants to label a woman as a '*witch*', he takes help of the '*Ojha*'. The '*Ojha*' keeps a group of aides whose job is to look for probable '*witches*' i.e. to look for old single women, who own some property, to be branded as a '*witch*'. Now, the one who want to grab the land of the woman approaches the '*Ojha*' through these aides and he agrees to do the needful in exchange for some money or a share in the benefit that his client will get. Thereafter begins the carefully planned plot of creating suspicion about the woman among people in the village, pointing out to some common and peculiar happening which is read as a sign of '*witch-craft*' by the '*Ojha*'. Deaths due to diseases that cannot be identified or other tragedies in the village, which are certain to occur in a not-too-long interval of time, occasion the '*Ojha*' to label the woman as a '*witch*'. Ignorance makes it convenient to link the chain of unfortunate events or deaths in the village to be magical and evil powers of women in the village. It can be any woman of course, but studies reveal that woman who own land or were heir to property were preponderant among those burnt, lynched or killed as '*witches*'. Specially, in cases where the woman is old, has ugly features, unprotected, a widow or a single woman, there is no dearth of others who have an eye on the land and would use the services of the '*Ojha*' to brand the woman as a '*witch*'. In the first stage, the woman named as '*witch*' may be fined, asked to behave herself and otherwise threatened. By this time, there is already a consensus in the village that a particular woman is a '*witch*'. Finally, when the village has been sufficiently aroused in anger and revenge against the woman concerned, the '*Ojha*' pronounces the final verdict declaring the woman as a '*witch*'. As a result, the helpless woman either have to flee the village leaving her property behind, or be subjected to humiliation, insult, torture and in some cases even death at the hands of the mob.

It has been found that in majority of cases, the women have to suffer silently as most are unable to reach out for help, given the lack of awareness about laws, lack of education and poverty. Moreover, the belief in superstitions and occult are deep embedded in the rural society. Therefore, the '*Ojha*' wields enormous influence and no one dares to interfere in his work. The police hardly register complaints as they too are superstitious and in some cases even get a handsome commission from the '*Ojha*' for every '*witch-hunt*'. Even the political forces within and around the village do not interfere for fear of being accused of tampering with tribal culture and losing their vote-bank. Therefore, this medieval practice instead of dying with the passage of time is on the contrary gathering strength due to negligible opposition.

## **5. Reasons for Targeting and Branding Specifically 'Women' as 'Witches'**

A notable feature of the '*witch-hunts*' across the world is that majority of the victims are women. There appears to be a common psycho-social complex of reasons why women tend to have unlimited supernatural powers to implement evil intent ascribed to them. It is a stereotype that female is spiritually inferior to the male, far more vulnerable to lusts and temptations, so women are far more likely than men to succumb to belief in, and practice '*witch-craft*'. Those accused of '*witch-craft*' were routinely depicted by their accusers as independent and assertive, and they were frequently economically marginal as well. Their accusers saw a threat in the '*witches*' and the anarchic freedom they represented.

*Julie Hardwick* makes a peculiar observation about the '*witch-hunting*' phenomenon. She states that "because women were taught to be dominated by their sexuality and weaker intellectually, they were seen as the likely accomplices of devil. Moreover, involvement with the devil made '*witch-craft*' far more threatening, to churches, to communities, and to the state, creating a danger

so great it justified widespread executions.” Another reason is that in many communities women are excluded from participation in family worship. They are not allowed to perform rituals which are considered to be the domain of males. Women are not supposed to show familiarity with the various spirits. Thus, a female who professes familiarity with the spirits is looked upon as a 'witch' and prosecuted.

The *Malleus Maleficarum* (*Hammer of Witches*) summarizes in misogynist words the impression of the women from the perspective of the 'monkish' male who sees the woman as the only obstacle to the spiritual flight of his soul to heaven: “*What is a woman if not a foe to friendship, an unavoidable punishment, essential evil, natural temptation, desirable calamity, domestic danger, delectable detriment, evil in fair colors, instrument of the Devil, carnal by nature and structurally defective creation.*”

Thus, against this misogynist backdrop women were branded as 'witches', and this barbaric practice continues even today. However, if one scrutinizes the above mentioned reasons for women being 'witches', one will realize that all the above mentioned reasons are intrinsically related to the struggle for domination between men and women. 'Witch-hunting' is a mechanism employed to subjugate women. It is used as an 'extra-legal' method to deprive the women of her property. It ensures that women remain inferior in status to men, and that they have no control over resources or decision-making. 'Witch-hunting' done by 'Ojhas' has a social function too and is used as a means to control women. This control of women is achieved by a number of transformations. Ritual knowledge possessed by women is defined as dangerous to society. Evil is now identified as having living mediums, in the form of women. The transformation of women into potentially evil creatures is accompanied by an emphasis on the dangerous or alluring nature of their sexuality.

'Witch-hunting' is more often than not a cynical ploy to grab property, settle family or clan disputes, and punish women for resisting sexual advances or even to discourage women from participating in local politics and elections. The degradation and humiliation of those accused, in full public view, vicious torture and social excommunication are the methods used.

## **6. Consequences of 'Witch-hunting'**

It has both short-term and long-term consequences for the victim and it takes the form of physical violence as well as social deprivations. A victim of 'witch-hunting' faces stigma, isolation and ostracism as the most prevalent and persistent form of violence. The victimization is continuing in nature, beginning with verbal taunts and slurs using local terms denoting 'witch' as well as other abuses aimed at demonizing and isolating the victim and her family. Name calling is rarely limited to being called 'witch' and it is almost always accompanied by a range of sexual slurs and local abuse.

The actual physical violence perpetrated is usually public with instances of forced entry into the victim's house only to drag her outdoors to a public place being a visible trend. Almost all cases involve more than one accused, so that violence is executed by a group rather than an individual. Humiliation and shaming the victim through forced disrobing, parading, blackening of face, tonsuring the hair, breaking teeth, forced consumption of dirty water and excreta are common.

The long-term consequences of 'witch-hunting' are equally serious, involving forced displacement or expulsion from their homes and villages, and limited or no access to common resources of the village. Regardless of where the victims may be, in their village or displaced, they become impoverished and live in fear. The consequences upon the victim's family are equally grim, with the immediate kin of the victims being affected by the dislocation, isolation, loss of property and livelihood.



## 7. Existing Laws to Curb the Menace of 'Witch-hunting' and the Grey Areas therein

In India, various state legislations have been enacted to tackle the menace of 'witch-hunting'. These laws prescribe paltry punishment which has failed to have a deterrent effect. Moreover, the awareness about these laws is minimal and the enforcement is poor. As a result these laws have failed to achieve their stated objectives. As of now Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Rajasthan have passed laws to prevent 'witch-hunting' but their implementation has been, unsurprisingly, tardy. Simply having a law is useless when the Panchayat and local government officials in states with laws have been shown to be both ignorant as well as negligent about implementing it. After all they are the ones who are aware of trouble brewing and can alert the law enforcement agencies. The activist of rationalist associations and women's rights organizations have been fighting long and hard through the courts as well as through campaigns to create awareness, but it has not been easy given the obstacles.

*The Prevention of Witch (Daain) Practices Act, 1999* was enacted in Bihar which was adopted subsequently by Jharkhand as the *Prevention of Witch Hunting (Dayan Pratha) Act, 2001* and by Chhattisgarh as the *Tonahi Pratadna Nivaran Act, 2005* (also called as the *Witch-craft Atrocities Prevention Act, 2005*). It provides that a person accused of calling another a 'witch' is liable to a maximum 3 month jail sentence or a fine of Rs 1000/- or both. Further, torturing someone as a 'witch' only increases the sentence to a maximum 6 months or a fine of Rs 2000/- or both. These minimal sentences and fine has proved to be ineffective in dealing with this social menace. Moreover, the judge has been given considerable discretion in terms of sentencing under these provisions. The only conclusion one can draw is that these legislations are just an eyewash and reflect the lack of commitment on the part of the government to address the problem. Such dogmas are required to be dealt firmly with stringent penal provisions and their strict enforcement. Public abhorrence of the crime should be reflected through the imposition of exemplary punishment by the courts which can serve as a deterrent.

In Odisha, pursuant to a public interest litigation (PIL) based on news reports on 'witch-hunting', the high court directed the state to take action, leading to the enactment of the *Odisha Prevention of Witch-hunting Act, 2013*. In early 2015, the *Rajasthan Prevention of Witch-hunting Act, 2015* was passed.

In August 2015, the *Assam Witch-hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Bill* was passed going beyond the other state laws by increasing the number of offences, outlining the course of action for rescue and protection, collective fines, medical assistance, shelter and rehabilitation by the state. Maharashtra passed the *Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifice and Other Inhuman, Evil and Aghori Practices and Black Magic Bill 2013* in response to the long-standing demand by the *Maharashtra Andhashraddha Nirmoolan Samiti* dedicated to eradication of superstition, after its founding member, *Narendra Dabholkar* was killed. In the same vein, the *Karnataka Prevention of Superstitious Practices Bill 2013* proposes to punish a list of superstitions. The National Commission for Women (NCW) began with proposing a national law on 'witch-hunting', modifying it after discussions on a draft bill titled *The Prohibition of Atrocities on Women by Dehumanizing and Stigmatizing them in Public*.

In states that do not have anti 'witch-hunting' laws, the cases are generally registered under the Indian Penal Code, 1860 which deals with punishment for causing 'hurt'. It is a bailable offence and the maximum punishment for hurt is imprisonment upto 1 year or a fine upto Rs 1000/- or both. However, this relatively minor punishment does little to deter potential 'witch-hunters'. It has to be appreciated that 'witch-hunting' in most of the case constitutes an attempt to murder and

registering the case for 'hurt' is doing further injustice to the victim. Indeed, the reluctance on the part of both the community and the law-enforcers to see the killings of these hapless women as blatant murder, points to conclusion among various elements to keep women at the lowest rung of society.

Another factor that aggravates the problem is that many of the policemen are themselves superstitious. In most cases they don't register the case as '*witch-hunt*' and ask the complainants to sort out the matter themselves. Only in cases which snowball into big stories, do the victim gets protection and action is taken against the accused.

Moreover, in cases where individuals are convicted of a crime, the courts have opted in some instances to mitigate the punishment for murder where the defendant has committed the crime based on a belief that the victim was a '*witch*'. In *Samtul Dhobi and Another v. State of Bihar*, the court reduced the sentence of a convicted defendant, holding that 'his superstitious belief that he was morally justified in committing the murder of the victim whom, he thought, was a '*witch*' and had caused the death of his brother' was a mitigating factor.

## 8. Conclusion & Suggestions

The stereotype of '*witches*' once established has created its own folklore. The malady is deep-rooted in superstitions which have gripped the rural masses. The vested interests further strengthen the grip. Branding women as '*witches*' is a practice which was expected to die down with time, but unfortunately, this practice is spreading and seems to be gaining strength in the face of negligible opposition. The spell of '*witch-craft*' has swayed the masses, and it has continued ever since. In the rural universe of the peasants and tribals, '*witch-beliefs*' remain essentially what they had been for millennia. And so they remain today. Violence against women is always treated as a marginal issue by the law enforcement machinery in our country. Ironically, the government has hardly shown any concern for the incidents of '*witch-hunting*' which are among the most horrific examples of violence perpetuated against women. In addition to inflicting an unspeakable suffering on those accused, '*witch-hunting*' perpetrates a misogynous ideology that degrades all women. Thus, prohibition of the menace of '*witch-craft*' and the abolition of '*witch-hunting*' ought to be the aim of the government if it is serious about gender equality, human rights and social justice.

'*Witch-hunting*' is a unique social problem with many dimensions and it requires a comprehensive action plan. A major part of the problem has to do with lack of education in rural areas. While it may be difficult to challenge cultural beliefs about the existence of '*witches*', increased education about the causes behind given forces might make it more difficult to believe that given occurrences are the result of '*witch-craft*'. In rural areas, illness often gives an opportunity to the '*Ojhas*' to accuse a woman of '*witch-craft*', and if there is increased knowledge about the true roots of illness and its cure, it will likely dampen the incidence of '*witch-craft*' related violence. Thus, education can play a significant role in helping to overcome cultural beliefs and attitudes that perpetuate '*witch-hunting*'. Further, the lack of health facilities in rural areas forces people to rely on '*Ojhas*' for treatment. Therefore, the government must simultaneously provide for adequate health facilities in these areas so that the reliance on '*Ojhas*' for treatment can be reduced. Also, the most backward states with low economic development are the ones who have this barbaric practice on the largest scale. Hence, development along with education and health facilities is an indispensable requisite to eradicate this evil practice.

Many a times, rural women face difficulty in reporting incidents of '*witch-hunting*' related violence because of the long distances that they must travel to do so and their relative isolation. Therefore, the government needs to take measures which can increase rural access to the police

and address the special vulnerability of rural women. Even if a case is registered, a major impediment to prevent '*witch-hunting*' comes from the failure of the law enforcement machinery to adequately investigate and prosecute those responsible for '*witch-hunt*'. It is found that in many cases the police are either complicit or disinterested and are therefore reluctant to take any action. To address this inaction on the part of police, the government can take steps like fixing concrete deadlines within which officers must complete investigation of crimes involving '*witch-hunting*'. Moreover, given the prevalence of the problem on large scale in states like Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and Rajasthan, the government in these states should create a special unit within police departments to deal with the problem designating officers who are specially trained to deal with gender based violence to investigate the matter. Additionally, mandatory scientific and gender-sensitivity training may serve the purpose of making police officers less superstitious, more cognizant of the problem of '*witch-hunting*'. The government can also create a fund to support the creation and maintenance of support groups for women who are branded as '*witches*'. Such groups can run awareness campaigns, provide shelter, protection, and rehabilitation to displaced women who are the victims of '*witch-hunts*'.

The major cause of '*witch-hunting*' is the patriarchal system which refuses to accept women as individuals with dignity, rights and liberties. To check this menace the patriarchal mindset of Indian society which tends to legitimize violence against women, also needs to be changed. Violence against women is deeply rooted in our society where men use it as a coercive mechanism to assert their will or to establish their authority.

Moreover, the media also has an indispensable role to play in combating '*witch-craft*' related violence. Given the enormity of this violence, it becomes media's ardent duty to report such incidents, create awareness and free the people from the shackles of superstitious beliefs and practices. Thus, media can effectively contribute in bringing a change in attitude towards these beliefs and practices. Presently, there is no central legislation in India to address the problem of '*witch-hunting*'. An effective central legislation with stringent penal provisions and strict enforcement mechanisms may help in curbing this menace. As a law abiding citizen, let's join hands to fulfill our fundamental duty to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women and to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform, which are enshrined in the Constitution of India. The author concludes with the hope that this research paper will generate wider debate and discussion on the legal interventions around '*witch-hunting*' in particular and around the legal redress of gendered violence in general.

## References:

- According to statistics compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) a total of 3,37,922 cases of crime against women were reported in the country in 2014 as compared to 3,09,546 in 2013, thus showing an increase of 9.2% during the year 2014. These crimes have continuously increased during 2005–2014 with 1,55,553 cases (2005), 1,64,765 cases (2006), 1,85,312 cases (2007), 1,95,856 cases (2008), 2,03,804 cases (2009), 2,13,585 cases (2010), 2,28,649 cases (2011), which increased to 2,44,270 cases (2012), and 3,09,546 cases (2013) which further increased to 3,37,922 cases (2014). See “Crimes against Women”, available at: <http://ncrb.nic.in/StatPublications/CII/CII2014/chapters/Chapter%205.pdf> (accessed on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016)
- According to the statistics prepared by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), in 2005 a whopping 1.5 lakh cases of crime against women were registered across India, but convictions were recorded in only 30,826 cases – a mere 19.8%. In 2006 case registration

jumped to 1.64 lakh but convictions declined to 28,998 or 17.5%. Continuing the trend, more than 1.85 lakh cases were registered in 2007 but convictions declined further to 27,612 cases or a meager 14.9%. Further, a total of 26,660 cases were convicted during the year 2014, showing a conviction rate of merely 21.3%. See Dhananjay Mohapatra, “Justice Eludes Women Victims”, available at: [http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2008-12-31/india/27908403\\_1\\_conviction-rate-police-case-trial-courts](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2008-12-31/india/27908403_1_conviction-rate-police-case-trial-courts) (accessed on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2016)

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## समकालीन कवयित्रियों का स्त्री-पक्ष

डॉ. सिद्धार्थ शंकर राय

हिंदी एवं भारतीय भाषा विभाग हरियाणा केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय, महेंद्रगढ़

साहित्य में स्त्रियों का हस्तक्षेप लगभग नगण्य रहा है। कुछ गिने-चुने नामों को छोड़ दिया जाए तो साहित्य, कला और चिंतन की परम्परा में उनकी भागीदारी नाम मात्र की रही है। साहित्य एवं विचारों की दुनिया में थैरीगाथाओं, याज्ञवल्क्य से बहस करती गार्गी, कालिदास की मूर्खता से पराजित होती या करायी जा रही विद्योत्मा और मध्यकाल में मीरां, सहजोबाई, आण्डाल; फिर छायावादी काव्यधारा में महादेवी वर्मा और उन्हीं के समानान्तर सुभद्रा कुमारी चौहान जैसे कुछ नाम मिल सकते हैं। इन नामों पर गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार करने पर कई अहम प्रश्न उभरते हैं। इसमें मौजूं सवाल है कि विदुषी विद्योत्मा का सारा ज्ञान विवाह के निमिष ही था? क्या विद्योत्मा ने विवाहोपरांत कुछ भी पढ़ा-लिखा नहीं? यदि हम थोड़ी देर के लिए मान भी लें कि कालिदास की महान साहित्यिक प्रतिभा ने उनके समकालीनों के प्रभाव को शून्य कर दिया। इसके बावजूद किसी भी सामान्य जिज्ञासु के मन में यह प्रश्न बार-बार आयेगा कि विद्योत्मा के वैदुष्य का क्या हुआ? कालिदास के उदय के साथ विद्योत्मा गायब क्यों हो जाती है? दरअसल, ये प्रश्न कालिदास की महत्ता को कम करने के लिए नहीं हैं वरन स्त्री की स्थिति को समझने का प्रयास मात्र है।

मध्यकालीन कविता में मीरां की विद्रोही चेतना की व्याख्या बहुत दिनों तक आध्यात्मिकता के आवरण में होती रही। आलोचकों और टीकाकारों को लगता था कि एक स्त्री सामाजिक व्यवस्था से कैसे विद्रोह कर सकती है? यह जरूर हो सकता है कि उसकी प्रतिभा आध्यात्मिक-धार्मिक शिखर को छू रही हो, जहाँ से ईश्वरीय और स्वर्गीय रास्ते गुजरते हैं। यह बाद के दिनों विचार किया गया कि उसका ईश्वर कोई मनुष्य भी हो सकता है। इन सब बातों से सिर्फ कल्पना ही की जा सकती है कि राजघरानों की स्त्रियों की स्थिति ऐसी थी तो सामान्य जनता के बीच स्त्री-समाज की जीवन शैली कैसी रही होगी। आधुनिक युग में महादेवी वर्मा ने 'श्रृंखला की कड़ियाँ' में अपने विचारों को नहीं लिखा होता तो उनकी कविताओं की व्याख्या भी आध्यात्मिकता के दायरे में ही होती। महादेवी वर्मा या अन्य किसी भी चेतना सम्पन्न, जागरूक स्त्री को ज्ञानार्जन के लिए निर्धारित सीमाओं के बाहर जाना संभव नहीं था। स्त्रियों के लिए हमने ऐसे कितने अवकाश दिये हैं जिससे वे परम्परा की समझ का सार्थक उपयोग कर सकें या परम्परा को समझ सकें। यह समस्या मात्र हिन्दी साहित्य की नहीं है, पूरे विश्व साहित्य की है। स्त्रियों के सामने साहित्य और ज्ञान-चिंतन की कोई समृद्ध परंपरा नहीं रही है। परम्परा का इनके विकास में कोई योगदान नहीं है। अगर साफ और कठोर शब्दों में कहा जाए तो अब तक की समूची ज्ञान, साहित्य, कला, दर्शन और चिंतन की परम्परा पुरुष-परम्परा है। स्त्री जीवन की उपस्थिति कला और चिंतन को प्रामाणिक और प्रभावशील बनाने के लिए चाशनी का काम करती रही है। समाज के सारे अनुशासन और प्रतिबंध स्त्रियों के लिए होते हैं। चूँकि यह अनुशासनात्मक कारवाई अलिखित और अघोषित होती है, इसलिए इसका कोई इतिहास भी



नहीं होता। मानव सभ्यता के विकास के दस्तावेज जितने भारी, जीवंत और आकर्षक हैं, बर्बरता के दस्तावेज भी कम वजनी नहीं हैं।

स्त्रियों की वृहत्तर भूमिका का प्रश्न उठना स्वाभाविक ही है। वस्तुतः स्त्री की भागीदारी आधी आबादी की भागीदारी है। समाज के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में वंचितों की उपस्थिति और अधिकारों की मांग के साथ स्त्री-प्रश्न भी तेजी से उभरता है। हिन्दी साहित्य में स्त्री अधिकारों की मांग स्वाधीनता आन्दोलन में ही आरम्भ हो गई थी। किन्तु, इसका सर्वाधिक मुखर स्वर समकालीन समय में सुनायी पड़ता है। समकालीन हिन्दी कविता 'कैनवस' स्त्री लेखन से विस्तृत हो जाता है। समकालीन स्त्री कविता एकांगी या एकायामी नहीं है; यह मात्र स्त्री-मुक्ति के प्रश्न की कविता भी नहीं है। हाँ, यह अवश्य है कि समकालीन कवयित्रियों रचना-कर्म मुख्यतया स्त्री जीवन पर केन्द्रित है। स्नेहमयी चौधरी अपने 'एजेण्डा' और प्रतिबद्धता को लेकर बेहद सजग हैं। वे एक प्रश्नवाचकता के साथ आरंभ करती हैं। कौतूहल और इससे उत्पन्न प्रश्न ही सही रास्तों के चुनाव में सहायक सिद्ध होते हैं। आज का दौर संक्रमणग्रस्त है – विशेष तौर से स्त्रियों के लिए। सन् सैंतालीस में देश तो आजाद हो गया, परन्तु स्त्री आज भी आजादी के मायने नहीं जान पायी है। भारत के स्वाधीनता संघर्ष में स्त्रियों ने जितनी बड़ी संख्या में भाग लिया उतनी बड़ी संख्या में दुनिया के किसी भी आंदोलन में स्त्रियों की भागीदारी नहीं हुई। समय के साथ सब लोग आजाद हुए – बची रहीं तो स्त्रियाँ। आजादी के वर्षों का लेखा-जोखा रखकर स्नेहमयी चौधरी एक सवाल उछालती हैं, "पैंतालीस साल आजादी के – मेरे हिस्से में क्या आया /उत्तर में जो हो सकता था/ वह था/ ड्राइंग रूम में सज-सँवर कर गुड़िया की तरह बैठना/ पर पुरुषों से बातचीत करना/ वह भी पति के सामने/ फिर घर की व्यवस्था देखना/ घर के स्वामी की आज्ञा का पालन करना/ बस इसके आगे मैं मौन थी/ देश की आजादी का/ हम औरतों से क्या ताल्लुक/ यह प्रश्न औरत के सती हो जाने के साथ/ अभी भी जुड़ा है/ इसीलिए प्रश्न को फेंक, बेमानी समझकर/ मैंने उससे जूझने का दायित्व, दूसरों पर छोड़ दिया।"<sup>18</sup>

असल जिन्दगी में जिन प्रश्नों को औरतों ने उठाना छोड़ दिया, उसे ही कवयित्री कविता में उठा रही है। किसी भी समाज में प्रश्नों का न होना उस समाज की जड़ता और उसकी संवेदनहीनता का द्योतक है। प्रश्नों के मरने पर सभ्यताएँ मर जाती हैं। मानव सभ्यता के लिए स्त्री की स्वस्थ भागीदारी आवश्यक है। कवयित्रियाँ अपने समाज का इतिहास लिखने में तल्लीन हैं। वे सदियों से वंचित दुनिया की आधी आबादी को जान-समझ कर अभिव्यक्त करने में तल्लीन हैं। वे कागज-कलम को हथियार की तरह इस्तेमाल कर रही हैं। पुरुष समाज ने अब तक जो कुछ भी छोड़ दिया है, उसे ब्यौरेवार व्यवस्थित कर रही हैं। लोक की जीवनगाथा ही इनका एकमात्र ध्येय बना हुआ है। इस लोक में स्त्री, प्रकृति और समाज के सभी पिछड़े हुए शामिल हैं। इनका प्रतिनिधित्व स्त्रियाँ कर रही हैं, क्योंकि उनकी संख्या सर्वाधिक है और वे अधिकारों को यथोचित वितरित करती हैं। इतिहास की इस चूक पर टिप्पणी करते हुए महादेवी वर्मा ने लिखा है, "कभी कोई इतिहासकार न हुआ जो इन मूक प्राणियों के दुःख भरी जीवनगाथा लिखता; जो इनके अँधेरे हृदय में इच्छाओं के उत्पन्न और नष्ट होने की करुण कहानी सुनाता जो इनके रोम-रोम को जकड़ लेने वाली श्रृंखला की कड़ियाँ ढालने वालों के नाम गिनाता और जो इनके मधुर जीवन पात्र में तिक्त विष मिलाने वाले का पता देता।"<sup>19</sup>

कवयित्रियाँ अपने इतिहास और नागरिकता को लेकर बेहद सचेत हैं। निर्मला गर्ग नागरिकता के शर्तों को सर्वप्रथम लागू करती हैं। ये शर्तें ही स्त्री-मुक्ति की सैद्धान्तिकी में बदल जाती हैं। कविता से सैद्धान्तिकी का निर्माण करना अपनी सूक्ष्मता में एक समानान्तर समाज का निर्माण करना है। इस समानान्तर समाज में याचना द्वारा अधिकार नहीं माँगा जाता बल्कि अपने अधिकारों को शर्त के रूप में सामने रखा जाता है, “मैं नहीं चाहती रहना/ बुझी तीलियों और/ नुचे पंखों वाले शहर में /मैं नहीं चाहती रहना/ चूहों के बिल और/ राखदानी बने शहर में/ दे सको मुझे कुछ/ तो दो खुला आसमान/ साफ हवाएँ/ और डबडबायी आँख-सा वह/ भोर का तारा/ याचना नहीं/ शर्त है यह जीने की।” किसी भी व्यवस्था में नागरिकता के दायरे से बाहर किया गया व्यक्ति रहस्यमय प्राणी हो जाता है; इन्हीं विवरणों के आधार पर देखें तो लोक से लेकर बौद्धिक दुनिया के लिए भी स्त्री एक रहस्यमय किला रही है। जिसके दरवाजे पर शायद ही किसी ने दस्तक दी हो। इस किले की रहस्यमयता को लेकर भ्रमजाल अब तक बना हुआ है। उसकी नींव और शिखर को तांत्रिक की मायावी निर्मितियाँ बतायी गयी हैं। अनामिका इस दरवाजे को थपथपाने के लिए आमंत्रित करती हैं। वे स्त्री की धमनियों, शिराओं और मांसल आवृत्तियों के पीछे छिपे ऐसे संसार में ले जाती हैं, जहाँ पीड़ा, दुःख, दर्द की अनेक परतें न जाने कब से जम गयी हैं। वे ‘दरवाजा’ शीर्षक कविता में स्त्री सम्बन्धी ऐतिहासिक समझ को उलट देना चाहती हैं, “मैं एक दरवाजा थी/मुझे जितना पीटा गया,/मैं उतना खुलती गई/अंदर आए आने वाले तो देखा-/चल रहा है एक वृहत्त्वक्र/ .... / और अन्त में सब पर चल जाती है झाड़ू -/तारे बुहारती हुई/बुहारती हुई पहाड़/वृक्ष, पत्थर -/सृष्टि के सब टूटे बिखरे कतरे जो/एक टोकरी में जमा करती जाती है/मन की दुछल्ली पर।”

अनामिका स्त्री-मुक्ति की विचारधारात्मक साफगोई को बार-बार दर्शाती हैं। वे देवत्व और पवित्रता के मानदण्डों को प्रश्नांकित करती हैं। दुनिया के सभी धर्मशास्त्रों द्वारा घोषित ‘अपवित्र औरत’ की धारणाओं पर वैचारिक हमले करती हैं। अनामिका के सवाल बेहद मौजू और दहला देने वाले हैं कि ईसा मसीह, अगर औरत होते तो देवता बन पाते? बेथलम और येरूशलम की यात्रा इतनी निष्कण्टक रह पाती? दुनिया बदलने का सपना लिए धर्माचार्यों ने कैसी पवित्रता रची कि स्त्री गुलाम हो गयी? सामाजिक और धार्मिक निर्मितियों में स्त्री को गायब कर देने की ऐतिहासिक प्रक्रिया को अनामिका प्रश्नों से समझाती हैं, “ईसा मसीह/ औरत नहीं थे/ वरना मासिक धर्म/ ग्यारह वर्ष की उमर से/ उनको ठिठकाये ही रखता/ देवालय के बाहर/ बेथलम और येरूजलम के बीच/ कठिन सफर में उनके/ हो जाते कई तो बलात्कार/ और उनके दूध-मुँह बच्चे/ चालीस दिन और चालीस रातें/ जब काटते सड़क पर/ भूख से बिलबिलाकर मरते/ एक-एक कर-/ ईसा को फुर्सत नहीं मिलती/ सूली पर चढ़ जाने की भी!/ मरने की फुर्सत/ कहाँ मिली सीता को/ लव-कुश के/ तीरों के लक्ष्य भेद तक।” स्त्री-मुक्ति कागजी प्रस्ताव मात्र नहीं है। कवयित्रियाँ पूरी शिद्दत से स्त्री की आजादी में कार्यरत हैं। वे जानती हैं कि पितृसत्तात्मक समाज के ढाँचे और मानसिकता में जब तक बदलाव नहीं आ जाता, तब तक स्त्री-मुक्ति दिवास्वप्न है। स्त्री की बौद्धिक भागीदारी ही पौरुषपूर्ण बौद्धिकता के एकायामी प्रभाव को कम कर सकती है। स्त्रियों को इसी भागीदारी से रोका गया है। बौद्धिक विकास अधिकारों की मांग करता है और काव्यात्मक बौद्धिकता दमन और संघर्ष को तीव्रतर करती है। स्त्री काव्यात्मक बौद्धिकता से संघर्षशील जैविकता में वर्चस्व को तोड़ती है। कवि ने हमेशा वर्चस्व के केन्द्रों के विरुद्ध संघर्ष किया है। काव्य क्षेत्र में स्त्रियों की उपस्थिति और हस्तक्षेप ने सभी केन्द्रों की बर्बरता का मुखौटा उतार दिया है।

कात्यायनी सामाजिक व्यवस्था की स्त्री निरपेक्ष सक्रियता का कल-पेंच खोलती नजर आती हैं। पितृसत्तात्मक व्यवस्था स्त्री की बौद्धिक तेजस्विता को झेल पाने में असमर्थ है, वहीं दूसरी ओर स्त्रियों को बौद्धिक रूप से जाग्रत करने की भी वकालत करती है। कवयित्री ने व्यवस्था के दो मुँहपन को लक्षित कर लिया है। बौद्धिक औरत को काबू में रखने का पाश्विक आनन्द .....फिर उसकी बौद्धिकता से झुलस कर आततायी हमला .....फिर अजनबीपन और अशिक्षित औरत के लिए गाली देना - इन सबसे व्यवस्था यथास्थितिवाद के जलेबीनुमा तर्क गढ़ती है। बौद्धिकता के इस यांत्रिक - खुरपेंच ने स्त्रीवादियों को 'कनफ़्यूज' कर दिया। कुछ समय तक स्त्रीवादियों को प्रतीत होने लगा कि स्त्री- मुक्ति का सही आशय मात्र बौद्धिक और अकादमिक विमर्श ही स्त्री- अधिकारों का पक्षधर है। इस समझ ने स्त्री-चेतना की जमीनी लड़ाई को कमजोर किया। एक अनपढ़ स्त्री के लिए मुक्ति का रास्ता जितना कठिन है, पढ़ी-लिखी, सुशिक्षित औरत के लिए भी यह रास्ता उतना ही कठिन है। दोनों ही प्रकार की औरतें अनिर्णय के चौराहे पर खड़ी है, “बेवकूफ जाहिल औरत! कैसे कोई करेगा तेरा भला?/ अमृता शेरगिल का तूने नाम तक नहीं सुना/ रह गई तू निपट गँवार की गँवार! पी.टी.उषा को तो जानती तक नहीं/ मारग्रेट अल्वा एक अजूबा हैं/ तुम्हारे लिए/ ‘क ख ग घ’ आता नहीं/ मानुषी कैसे पढ़ेगी भला! कैसे होगा तुम्हारा भला।”<sup>१६</sup>

‘त्रिया चरित्रं, पुरुषस्य भाग्य ’ जैसी सूक्तियों से बार-बार लोहा लेते हुए स्त्री ने हमेशा ही दुर्ग द्वार पर दस्तक दिया है। कात्यायनी ने समय के बदलाव, ऐतिहासिक बर्बरताओं की मार और बदलते हुए शोषण के बीच उखाड़कर फेंकी गई स्त्री रूपी अमरबेल के जीवन तंतुओं के श्रोतों को रेखांकित किया है। उन्होंने स्त्री की उर्वरता और अमरत्व की सृष्टि विधायिनी शक्ति को बहुचर्चित कविता ‘सात भाइयों के बीच चम्पा’ में जीवंत किया है। चम्पा बार-बार उखाड़कर फेंकी जाती है, फिर भी, नए तेवर और नए अंदाज में उठ खड़ी होती है, “सात भाइयों के बीच/ चम्पा सयानी हुई/ ओखल में धान के साथ/ कूट दी गई/ भूसी के साथ कूड़े पर/ फेंक दी गई/ वहाँ अमरबेल बनकर उगी/....तालाब में जल कुंभी के जालों के बीच/ दबा दी गई/ वहाँ एक नीलकमल उग आया/ देवता पर चढ़ाई गई/ बिखेर दी गई/ पूरे गाँव में/ रात को बारिश हुई झमड़कर/अगले ही दिन/ हर दरवाजे के बाहर/ नागफनी के बीहड़ घेरों के बीच/ निर्भय निस्संग चम्पा/ मुस्कुराती पाई गई।”<sup>१७</sup>

कात्यायनी की कविताओं में जिजीविषा कूट-कूट कर भरी है। वे वर्जित प्रदेशों में हिम्मत के साथ प्रवेश करती हैं। वे दकियानूसी मान्यताओं को सिरे से खारिज करती हैं। वे संभवतः पहली बार खेल में तल्लीन लड़कियों पर कविता लिखती हैं। इससे पहले हिंदी कविता में खेलों पर कम ही कविताएँ लिखी गई हैं। कात्यायनी की हॉकी खेलती लड़कियाँ ‘फाउल’ खेलकर मानो यह जताना चाहती हैं कि उनमें जिन्दगी के नियमों के विरुद्ध भी जाने का साहस है। इनका संघर्ष एकतरफा नहीं है। मुहल्ले के शोहदों की बिल्लौरी आँखें उनके शिकार के लिए घूमती फिरती हैं, पिता और भाई की अंकुश भरी टिप्पणियाँ उनकी प्रतीक्षा में हैं, इन सबके विरुद्ध वे निर्द्वंद्व और निश्चिन्त हैं, “लड़कियाँ/ पेनाल्टी कार्नर मार रही हैं/ लड़कियाँ पास दे रही हैं/ लड़कियाँ ‘गोऽल गोऽल’ चिल्लाती हुई/ बीच मैदान की ओर भाग रही हैं/ लड़कियाँ एक दूसरे पर ढ़ह रही हैं/ एक-दूसरे को चूम रही हैं/ और/ हँस रही हैं/ लड़कियाँ फाउल खेल रही हैं/ लड़कियों को चेतावनी दी जा रही है/ और वे हँस रही हैं/ कि/ यह जिन्दगी नहीं है।” कात्यायनी की इस कविता पर टिप्पणी करते हुए वरिष्ठ कवि राजेश जोशी ने लिखा है, “यहाँ वर्गीय

पहचान की बनिस्पत लिंग-अस्मिता का प्रश्न प्रमुख हो गया है। ये एक छोटे शहर की लड़कियाँ हैं। ये लड़कियाँ चूल्हे की आँच और मूसल की धमक से दूर निकल आयी हैं।...यहाँ एक अर्जित स्वतंत्रता है लेकिन इसके पीछे किसी दुख की गहरी परछाई नहीं है। इसमें हमारे घरों में लड़कियों को लेकर सोचने समझने के ढंग से टकराव की ध्वनियाँ हैं। ये लड़कियाँ उस सोच से निपटने की तैयारी करती अपने घर लौटती हैं। यह कविता भी एक स्वप्न पर ही समाप्त होती है। लेकिन इस स्वप्न में किसी बड़े बदलाव की आकांक्षा का कोई दृश्य नहीं है सिर्फ एक संकेत-सा है जो स्त्रियों की विश्व व्यापी स्वतंत्रता की ओर संकेत सा करता लगता है।<sup>१६</sup> समकालीन कवयित्रियों की परिवर्तनकामी इच्छाओं की विशेषता है कि वे समाज विरोधी नहीं हैं। इन्हें अपने समाज से लगाव है, अपने मातृत्व की प्राकृतिक अनुभूतियों से प्रेम है। इसे वे खोना नहीं चाहती हैं। अपनी उर्वरता की सार्थकता और ममत्व के महत्व को अपनी शर्तों पर समाज को देना चाहती हैं। ये कवयित्रियाँ गुलामी के सारे आख्यानो से मुक्त होकर नए घर और नए समाज की रूपरेखा रचती हैं। इस समाज में घर, माँ, पिता, बच्चे, भाई, पति और सारे सगे-संबंधी हैं; बस नहीं है तो स्त्री की गुलामी।

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## मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी : व्यतिरेकी अध्ययन

प्रो. राम नरेश मिश्र

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हिंदी का प्रयोग भारत वर्ष के विस्तृत भूभाग में बहुसंख्यक लोगों द्वारा किया जाता है। हिंदीतर प्रदेशों या क्षेत्रों में हिंदी प्रयोग करने और समझनेवालों की संख्या पर्याप्त है। हिंदी के विस्तृत क्षेत्र में प्रयोग होने से इसमें विविधता होना स्वाभाविक है। इस विविधता में एकरूपता विकसित करने के लिए हिंदी का मानकीकरण किया गया है।

हरियाणा प्रदेश में हरियाणवी बोली का प्रयोग किया जाता है। इस प्रदेश की बोली पर सीमावर्ती प्रदेश की भाषाओं और बोलियों का गंभीर प्रभाव पड़ा है। यही कारण है कि हरियाणवी बोली में भी उपबोलियों के स्वरूप सामने आए हैं।

हरियाणवी उपबोलियों में 'ब्रज हरियाणवी' का विशेष महत्त्व है। पश्चिमी हिंदी की विविध बोलियों में 'ब्रज' का अपना महत्त्व है। डॉ. भोलानाथ तिवारी ने हिंदी में ब्रज के महत्त्व को रेखांकित करते हुए लिखा है, "यह पश्चिमी हिंदी की अत्यंत प्रमुख तथा प्रतिनिधि बोली है।"<sup>1</sup>

भक्तिकाल और रीतिकाल के हिंदी साहित्य की प्रबल भूमिका निभाने पर इसे साहित्यिक भाषा की संज्ञा मिली और इसे 'ब्रजभाषा' की संज्ञा से अभिहित किया गया है। इस तथ्य को स्पष्ट करते हुए डॉ. धीरेंद्र वर्मा ने अपने विचार इस प्रकार व्यक्त किए हैं, "प्राचीन हिंदी साहित्य की दृष्टि से ब्रज की बोली की गिनती साहित्यिक भाषाओं में होने लगी। इसलिए आदरार्थ ब्रज भाषा कह कर पुकारी जाने लगी।"<sup>2</sup>

डॉ. सरयू प्रसाद अग्रवाल ने ब्रजभाषा के महत्त्व और आकर्षण के विषय में उल्लेख किया है, वल्लभ संप्रदायी सूर की संगीतात्मकता तथा कृष्णभक्ति के प्रचार ने ब्रजभाषा को अपूर्व सहयोग दिया। ब्रजभाषा को अपनाने में भक्त समर्थकों का उद्देश्य नितांत स्पष्ट था -

सूरभाषा तें अधिक है ब्रजभाषा सौं हेत।

ब्रजभूषण जाको सदा, मुखभूषण कर लेत।<sup>3</sup>

ब्रज भाषा प्रयोग का केंद्र मथुरा-आगरा है। उत्तर प्रदेश के आगरा और मथुरा क्षेत्र से हरियाणा के फरीदाबाद और गुड़गांव का क्षेत्र जुड़ा हुआ है। इसलिए मथुरा और फरीदाबाद के मध्य क्षेत्र में ब्रज हरियाणवी का प्रयोग होता है।

<sup>1</sup> डॉ. भोलानाथ तिवारी, हिंदी भाषा, पृ. १४५

<sup>2</sup> डॉ. धीरेंद्र वर्मा, हिंदी भाषा का इतिहास, पृ. ४५

<sup>3</sup> डॉ. पूर्णचन्द शर्मा, हरियाणवी और उसकी बोलियों का अध्ययन, पृ. १८०



ब्रज हरियाणवी का प्रयोग मेवाती के पश्चिमी भाग तथा केंद्रीय हरियाणवी पूर्व-दक्षिण में होता है। इसका प्रयोग-केंद्र पलवल मान सकते हैं। होडल तक इसका प्रयोग होता है। भौगोलिक आधार पर ब्रज हरियाणवी की सीमा का विस्तार दिल्ली से आरंभ होकर फरीदाबाद, बल्लभगढ़, पलवल, हसनगढ़ और होडल तक है। इससे आगे उत्तर प्रदेश की सीमा तक मान सकते हैं, क्योंकि शादियों आदि के लोकगीतों में हरियाणवी ब्रज का रंग सामने आता है। यहाँ की बोल-चाल या व्यावहारिक अभिव्यक्ति में हरियाणवी ब्रज का प्रयोग किया जाता है। हरियाणवी में ब्रज के लिए 'बिरजिया' शब्द का प्रचलन है। इसका अर्थ है ब्रज से संबंधित। ब्रज हरियाणवी की वे विशेषताएँ, जो मानक हिंदी से भिन्न हैं, वे उनकी पहचान बनती हैं। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी की ध्वनियों, अक्षरों और शब्दों का व्यतिरेकी अध्ययन इस प्रकार कर सकते हैं।

## १. मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी: ध्वनि व्यतिरेक

मानक हिंदी में निर्धारित स्वर एवं व्यंजन ध्वनियाँ हैं। इसके साथ ही खंड्य और अखंड्य ध्वनियों की भी निश्चित व्यवस्था है। संस्कृत से परंपरागत आई ध्वनियों के साथ अंग्रेजी से आगत स्वर ध्वनि - पश्च, वृत्ताकार और विवृत 'ऑ' को अपना लिया गया है। इसके साथ ही अरबी, फारसी और तुर्की की संघर्षी व्यंजन ध्वनियों - ख़, ग़, ज़ और फ़ को भी अपना लिया गया है।

### 1.1 स्वर व्यतिरेक

ब्रज हरियाणवी की कुछ स्वर ध्वनियाँ मानक हिंदी की ध्वनियों से व्यतिरेकी रूप में प्रयुक्त होती हैं। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी की स्वर ध्वनियों के व्यतिरेकी अध्ययन के लिए उनकी स्वर ध्वनियों को प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है -

#### मानक हिंदी: स्वर ध्वनियाँ

“ह्रस्व स्वर	-	अ, इ, उ, ऋ
दीर्घ स्वर	-	आ, ऑ, ई, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ

#### ब्रज हरियाणवी स्वर

अति “ह्रस्व स्वर -	अँ, ईँ, उँ
“ह्रस्व ह्रस्वर -	अ, इ, उ, ऐँ, ऑ
दीर्घ स्वर -	आ, ई, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ

#### मानक हिंदी स्वर

इस विवरण से स्पष्ट है कि परंपरागत संस्कृत की 'ऋ' ध्वनि का प्रयोग मानक हिंदी के तत्सम शब्दों में होता है यथा -

ऋ	-	ऋण, ऋषि, ऋतुराज
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ब्रज हरियाणवी में यह ध्वनि लुप्त हो गई है। इसके स्थान पर 'रि' का प्रयोग किया जाता है।

मानक हिंदी में अंग्रेजी के शब्दों के मानक लेखन और उच्चारण के लिए 'ऑ' ध्वनि को व्यावहारिक रूप में अपना लिया गया है; यथा -

ऑ	-	Ball	>	बॉल		
College	>	कॉलेज		Doctor	>	डॉक्टर

मानक हिंदी के त्वरित उच्चारण में 'अ' स्वर या व्यंजन के साथ प्रयुक्त इसके अस्तित्व (क = क् + अ) का लोप संभावित होता है। यह 'अ' मुख्यतः शब्दांत अकार व्यंजन और शब्द के मध्य या दीर्घ अक्षर के पूर्व या उपांत के अकार व्यंजन का लोप होता है; यथा -

शब्दांत अकार व्यंजन से अ लोप -

लेखन	उच्चारण	लेखन	उच्चारण
तन	तन्	राम	राम्
रामायन	रामायन्		

शब्द के उपांत का 'अ' लोप -

लेखन	उच्चारण	लेखन	उच्चारण
उसका	उस्का	मिलता	मिल्ला
चलता	चल्ला	सपना	सप्ना

ब्रज हरियाणवी में अंग्रेजी के शब्दों को सामान्य रूप से अपनाने से इस ध्वनि के स्थान पर 'आ' का ही प्रयोग होता है; यथा - Ball- बाल, Doctor - डाक्टर

ब्रज हरियाणवी व्यावहारिक प्रयोग की एक विशेष बोली है। इसलिए इसमें ध्वन्यात्मक विविधता होना स्वाभाविक है। इसमें प्रयुक्त स्वरों की संख्या मानक हिंदी के स्वरों की संख्या से कहीं अधिक है। इसमें अँ ईँ और उँ “ह्रस्वतर स्वर ध्वनियाँ प्रयुक्त होती हैं, तो मानक हिंदी की दीर्घ ए और ओ ध्वनियाँ “स्व एँ और ऑ ध्वनियों के रूप में भी प्रयुक्त होती हैं।

ब्रज हरियाणवी के सहज बोलचाल में मानक हिंदी के इ और उ स्वरों के प्रयोग में अपेक्षाकृत कम समय लगने का व्यतिरेक सामने आता है।

ब्रज हरियाणवी की “ह्रस्वतर स्वर ध्वनियों का प्रयोग प्रायः शब्दांत में होता है; यथा -

अँ	-	बहुअँ, बढअँ
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ई	-	बहुरि, करि
उँ	-	चलतुँ, बागुँ

मानक हिंदी वास्तव में खड़ी बोली का मानकीकृत रूप है। इसके क्रिया, विशेषण आदि शब्दों के अंत में खड़ी पाई की प्रमुखता होती है अर्थात् इनकी प्रवृत्ति आकारांत होता है; यथा – जाना, पढ़ना, चलना, मोटा, पतला आदि। हरियाणवी ब्रज में यह ‘आ’ ध्वनि प्रायः ‘ओ’ व्यतिरेक रूप में प्रयुक्त होती है; यथा –

	मानक हिंदी		ब्रज हरियाणवी
आ > ओ	गया (आ)	-	गयो (ओ)
	खाया	-	खायो
	जाऊँगा	-	जाऊँगो
	झगड़ा	-	झगड़ो
	बड़ा	-	बड़ो
	मीठा	-	मीठो

विशेषः ब्रज हरियाणवी में मानक हिंदी की ‘ए’ और ‘ओ’ ध्वनियाँ प्रायः क्रमशः ‘ऐ’ और ‘औ’ बन जाती हैं। इसे व्यतिरेक संदर्भ से देख सकते हैं –

मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
करे (ए)	करै (ऐ)
को (ओ)	कौ (औ)
ऊधो (ओ)	ऊधौ (औ)

## 1.2 व्यंजन व्यतिरेक

मानक हिंदी के व्यंजनों की मानक संख्या और व्यवस्था की गई है। उन्हें हम स्थान या प्रयत्न के आधार पर वर्गीकृत कर व्यवस्थित करते हैं। इस अध्ययन से विभिन्न व्यंजनों की प्रवृत्तियों का स्पष्ट बोध होता है; यथा –

कट्य	-	क् ख् ग् घ्
तालव्य	-	च् छ् ज् झ् श्
मूर्धन्य	-	ट् ठ् ड् ढ् ण् ष् ङ् ढ्
दंत्य	-	त् थ् द् ध् न् स्
ओष्ठ्य	-	प् फ् ब् भ् म्

स्वर यंत्रमुखी - ह

ब्रज हरियाणवी में प्रयुक्त अतिरिक्त व्यंजन ध्वनियों से उच्चारण के कुछ वैशिष्ट्य सामने आते हैं, जो मानक हिंदी के उच्चारण से व्यतिरेक के आधार बनते हैं। ब्रज हरियाणवी की व्यंजन ध्वनियों को इस प्रकार सामने रख सकते हैं -

कंट्य	-	क् ख् ग् घ्
तालव्य	-	च् छ् ज् झ्
मूर्धन्य	-	ट् ट् ड् ढ् ण् ङ् ढू ढू र्ह र्ह
वर्त्स्य	-	ल् ल्ह
दंत्य	-	त् थ् द् ध् न् न्ह स्
ओष्ठ्य	-	प् फ् ब् भ् म् म् ज्ह व्
स्वर यंत्रमुखी	-	ह

इस प्रकार स्पष्ट है कि मानक हिंदी से ब्रज हरियाणवी की व्यंजन ध्वनियों से र्ह, ल्ह, न्ह और ज्ह के व्यतिरेकी रूप सामने आते हैं।

### व्यंजन-प्रयोग

ब्रज हरियाणवी में मानक हिंदी से कुछ भिन्न व्यंजन ध्वनियों का प्रयोग होता है, साथ ही कुछ व्यंजन ध्वनियाँ बदल कर प्रयुक्त होती हैं। इस प्रकार के प्रमुख व्यतिरेक को इस प्रकार रेखांकित कर सकते हैं -

#### 1 ण् > न

मानक हिंदी की मूर्धन्य नासिक्य व्यंजन ध्वनि प्रायः दंत्य नासिक्य ध्वनि के रूप में प्रयुक्त होकर प्रयोक्ता के लिए सरलीकृत हो जाती है यथा -

मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
वर्ण (ण)	वरन (न)
चरण (ण)	चरन (न)
हरण (ण)	हरन (न)

#### 2 ल > र

अंतस्थ पार्श्विक व्यंजन ध्वनि 'ल' अंतस्थ प्रकंपित 'र' ध्वनि के रूप में प्रयुक्त होकर क्षेत्रीय प्रयोक्ता के लिए सरलीकृत हो जाती है; यथा -

**मानक हिंदी****ब्रज हरियाणवी**

दीवाल (ल)

दीवार (र)

बादल (ल)

बादर (र)

भोली (ल)

भोरी (र)

**3 ङ > र**

ब्रज हरियाणवी में मूर्धन्य, घोष, अल्पप्राण उत्क्षिप्त 'ङ' ध्वनि प्रकंपित 'र' ध्वनि के रूप में प्रयुक्त होकर सहजता का बोध कराती है; यथा -

**मानक हिंदी****ब्रज हरियाणवी**

कीड़ी (ङ)

कीरी (र)

घोड़ा (ङ)

घोरा (र)

थोड़ा (ङ)

थोरा (र)

**4 श, ष > स्**

ब्रज हरियाणवी में ऊष्म 'श' और 'ष' तालव्य और मूर्धन्य ध्वनियाँ प्रायः दंत्य, अल्प प्राण ध्वनि 'स' हो जाती हैं। 'स' ध्वनि पूर्ववत् दंत्य ऊष्म 'स' ही रहती है।

**मानक हिंदी****ब्रज हरियाणवी**

शारदा

सारदा

विशेषण

विसेसन

विश्वास

विस्वास

5. मानक हिंदी में न्, म्, र् और ल् का स्वतंत्र प्रयोग होता है। ब्रज हरियाणवी में इन व्यंजन ध्वनियों का महाप्राणीकरण हो जाता है। इन्हें प्रयोग आधार पर इस प्रकार स्पष्ट कर सकते हैं -

**मानक हिंदी****ब्रज हरियाणवी**

नाखून (न्)

नाखून्ह (न्ह)

स्नान (न्)

न्हात (न्ह)

महक (म्)

म्हक (म्ह)

उपालंभ (ल्)

उर्हनो (र्ह)

6. मानक हिंदी के सामान्य उच्चारण में विभिन्न व्यंजनों का शब्दांतर्गत उच्चारण होता है, ब्रज हरियाणवी के शब्दों में कुछ व्यंजनों का लोप हो जाता है। 'ह' ध्वनि का होनेवाला प्रायः लोप द्रष्टव्य है; यथा-



मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी	
बहू	बऊ	(ह लोप)
चौदह	चौदा	(ह लोप)
साहूकार	साऊकार	(ह लोप)
सोलह	सोरा	(ह लोप)

## 2. मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी: शब्द व्यतिरेक

भाषा की स्वतंत्र, लघुतम, महत्वपूर्ण सार्थक इकाई शब्द है। सार्थकता ही शब्द का मुख्य गुण है। हरियाणवी ब्रज की शब्दावली में मानक हिंदी की शब्दावली से अनेकशः व्यतिरेक दिखाई देते हैं। उनमें कभी स्वर कभी व्यंजन का आगम दिखाई देता है, तो कभी उनका लोप होता है। इस प्रकार ध्वनियों के परिवर्तन में विविधता सामने आती है।

ब्रज हरियाणवी और मानक हिंदी की शब्दावली के व्यतिरेक को मुख्यतः निम्नलिखित संदर्भों में विश्लेषित कर सकते हैं -

### 2.1 ध्वनि आगम

ब्रज हरियाणवी की शब्दावली में कभी-कभी उच्चारण-अनुकूलता के लिए मानक हिंदी से अतिरिक्त ध्वनि का प्रयोग कर लिया जाता है। 'अ' स्वर का शब्द के आदि में होने वाले आगम का व्यतिरेक देख सकते हैं-

मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी	आगम
स्टेशन	अस्टेशन	अ.....
स्तुति	अस्तुति	अ.....
स्तर	अस्तर	अ.....
स्नान	अस्नान	अ.....

### 2.2 ध्वनि परिवर्तन

ब्रज हरियाणवी के शब्दों की ध्वनियों में विविध परिवर्तित रूप सामने आते हैं। इससे मानक हिंदी की शब्दावली से व्यतिरेकी रूप उभरता है। ब्रज हरियाणवी में मानक हिंदी की मूर्धन्य अल्पप्राण उत्क्षिप्त 'ड़' ध्वनि प्रायः प्रकंपित 'र' ध्वनि के रूप में प्रयुक्त होती है यथा -

	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
ड़- र	कपड़ा	कपरा
	थोड़ा	थोरा

पड़ा

परा

मानक हिंदी के शब्द के अंतर्गत अंतस्थ पार्श्विक 'ल' ध्वनि ब्रज हरियाणवी में प्रायः प्रकंपित 'र' में बदल कर प्रयुक्त होने से व्यतिरेकी रूप सामने आता है यथा -

	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
ल - र	ताला	तारा
	पीला	पीरो
	बादल	बादर
	बल	बर (बरजोरी)
	भोली	भोरी

मानक हिंदी के शब्दांतर्गत प्रयुक्त संयुक्त 'क्ष' (क्ष) ध्वनि ब्रज हरियाणवी में प्रायः तालव्य अघोष महाप्राण 'छ' के रूप प्रयुक्त होने से व्यतिरेकी सिद्ध होती है; यथा -

	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
क्ष - छ	कुरुक्षेत्र	कुरुछेत्र
	क्षत्रिय	छत्रिय
	नक्षत्र	नछत्र
	भक्षक	भछक

मानक हिंदी के शब्द में प्रयुक्त अंतस्थ ओष्ठ 'व' ध्वनि ब्रज हरियाणवी में ओष्ठ्य, घोष, अल्पप्राण 'ब' ध्वनि के व्यतिरेकी रूप में प्रयुक्त होती है; यथा -

	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
व - ब	ब्रज	ब्रज
	वदन	बदन
	वन	बन
	यौवन	जोबन
	वीर	बीर

मानक हिंदी की शब्दावली का अंतस्त 'य' ध्वनि ब्रज हरियाणवी में प्रायः तालव्य, घोष, अल्पप्राण 'ज' के व्यतिरेकी रूप में प्रयुक्त होती है; यथा -

	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
य -ज	यशोदा	जसोदा
	यदुराय	जदुराज
	यंत्र-मंत्र	जंत्र-मंत्र
	अयोध्या	अजोध्धा

### 2.3 विदेशी शब्द का तद्भविकरण

ब्रज हरियाणवी में प्रचलित विदेशी शब्दों का भी पर्याप्त रूप में प्रयोग होता है। मानक हिंदी में विदेशी शब्दों में से कुछ अपने मूल रूप में अर्थात् तत्सम रूप में प्रयुक्त होते हैं; यथा - कॉलेज, डॉक्टर, बॉल, ग़ज़ल आदि। कुछ विदेशी शब्द तद्भव रूप में अर्थात् अपने मूल से परिवर्तित होकर प्रयुक्त होते हैं; यथा - तौलिया, कप्तान, कर्ज आदि। कुछ विदेशी शब्दों के अनुकूलन के लिए नवीनीकरण कर दिया जाता है; यथा - Academy : अकादमी, Comedy : कामदी, Tragedy : त्रासदी आदि।

ब्रज हरियाणवी में विदेशी शब्दों को मुख्यतः तद्भव रूप में प्रयोग किया जाता है; यथा -

मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
टाइम	टेम / टैम
ट्रेन	टरेन
ड्रामा	डरामा
ग़ज़ल	गजल
अर्ज	अर्ज

ब्रज हरियाणवी शब्दावली का व्यतिरेकी स्वरूप उसकी सरलता, आंचलिकता और व्यावहारिकता पर आधारित है।

### 3. मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी : पद व्यतिरेक

पद रचना में शब्द के साथ संबंध तत्त्व जुड़ कर उसमें व्याकरणिक योग्यता ला देते हैं। इससे शब्द अर्थात् अर्थ तत्त्व संबंध तत्त्व का साथ पाकर वाक्य बनाने की क्षमता संपन्न हो जाता है। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी उपबोली दोनों ही वियोगात्मक भाषा-स्वरूप पर आधारित हैं। दोनों के पद-रचना में अर्थ तत्त्व और संबंध तत्त्व प्रायः अलग प्रयुक्त होते हैं।

प्रत्येक भाषा और बोली के पदों की रचना की अपनी-अपनी विशेषताएँ होती हैं। इस दृष्टि से अध्ययन करने पर मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी उपबोली के पदों की संरचना में स्पष्ट रूप से व्यतिरेक दिखाई देता है।

#### 3.1 संज्ञा और कारक चिह्न योग की पद संरचना में व्यतिरेक

पद निर्माण में कर्ता से लेकर संबोधन तक के कारकों के चिह्नों की योजना होती है। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी के कुछ ही कारक चिह्नों समान हैं। दोनों के अधिकांश चिह्नों में व्यतिरेकी स्वरूप मिलता है। ब्रज हरियाणवी का यह पद व्यतिरेक उसकी अपनी पहचान है। इसके आधार पर ब्रज हरियाणवी शिक्षण सरल हो जाएगा। संज्ञा और कारक चिह्नों के योग से पद संरचना का व्यतिरेक उल्लेखनीय है -

मानक हिंदी			ब्रज हरियाणवी	
कारक	चिह्न	पद	चिह्न	पद
कर्ता	ने	श्याम ने	नै	छोरा नैं
		लता ने		नोकर नै
कर्म	को	नगेंद्र को	को	घर कौ
			कौं	राधा कौं
			कुँ	सपना कुँ
करण	से	कलम से	ते	रोग ते
			तें	व्याह तें
			सौं	हात सौं
			कुँ	कुत्ता कुँ
संप्रदान	के लिए	गुरु के लिए	कुँ	बिल्ली कुँ
			कों	सिर कों
			तैं	रूख तैं
अपादान	से	छत से	ते	बैग ते
			सों	छत सों
			कौ	राधा कौ
अधिकरण	में	घर में	मैं	घर मैं
	पर	छत पर	पै	नसैनी पै
संबोधन	हे	हे राम !	ए	ए राम
			ऐ	ऐ छोरे

### 3.2 संज्ञा पद के वचन संदर्भ का व्यतिरेक

मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी में एकवचन और बहुवचन दो वचनों की योजना है। बहुवचन प्रत्यय की योजना से बने पदों में यत्र-तत्र स्पष्ट व्यतिरेक सामने आते हैं; यथा -

संज्ञा	मानक हिंदी	ब्रज हरियाणवी
काँटा	काँटे, काटों	काँटन.....
आम	आमों	आमुन.....
रोटी	रोटियाँ, रोटियों	रोटिन, रोटियन.....
आँख	आँखें, आँखों	आँखिन, आँखियन.....
नयन	नयनों	नयनन

### 3.3 सर्वनाम पद के कारक संदर्भ का व्यतिरेक

मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी के सर्वनाम के साथ कारक चिह्नों की योजना से बने पदों में कभी-कभी समानता दीखती है, तो प्रायः व्यतिरेक भी दिखाई देता है। कुछ व्यतिरेक संदर्भ उल्लेखनीय हैं -

#### उत्तम पुरुष

कारक	मानक हिंदी		ब्रज हरियाणवी	
	एकवचन	बहुवचन	एकवचन	बहुवचन
कर्ता	मैं	हम	मैं, हौं	-
कर्म	मुझको	हमको	मोहि, मोको	हमन कों
करण	मुझसे	हमसे	मोसों, मोतें	हमतैं, हमन सौ
संप्रदान	मेरे लिए	हमारे लिए	मोय, मोकौ	हमैं
अपादान	मुझसे	हमसे	मोते, मोसों	हमसौं, हमन सौ
संबंध	मेरा, मेरी, मेरे	हमारा, हमारी, हमारे	मेरा.....	हमारो.....
अधिकरण	मुझमें, मुझ पर	हम में, हम पर	मो पै, मो मैं, मो परि	हम मैं, हम पै

#### मध्यम पुरुष

कारक	मानक हिंदी		ब्रज हरियाणवी	
	एकवचन	बहुवचन	एकवचन	बहुवचन
कर्ता	तुमने, आपने	तुम सबने	तूह, तें, तैं, तूहने	--
कर्म	तुमको, आपको	--	तुहिं, तोहिं, तुमहिं	--
करण	तुमसे, आपसे	--	तुमसों, तमुतें	तुमन सों



संप्रदान	तुम्हारे लिए, आपके लिए	--	तुहिं	तोंहि
आपादान	तुमसे, आपसे	--	तुम सों, तुम तें	तुमन सों
संबंध	तुम्हारा, तुम्हारी, तुम्हारे	--	तेरी, तेरो	तुम्हारो, तिहारी
	आपका, आपकी आपके	--	तेरी, तेते	तिहारे, तिहारो
अधिकरण	तुम में, तुम पर	--	तो पै, तो परि	तुमन पै
	आप में, आप पर	--	तोंहि मैं	

### अन्य पुरुष

कारक	मानक हिंदी		ब्रज हरियाणवी	
	एकवचन	बहुवचन	एकवचन	बहुवचन
कर्ता	उसने	उन्होंने	-	-
कर्म	उसको	उनको	बाकौ विसकौ	उनको विनकौ
करण	उससे	उनसे	वासों	उनसों, उनतें
संप्रदान	उसके लिए	उनके लिए	वाकौ, विसकौ	उनको, विनकौ
अपादान	उससे	उनसे	बासों, बातें	उनसों, उनतें
संबंध	उसका, उसकी, उसके	उनका, उनकी, उनके	जिसका, बिसकी, बिसके	बिनका, बिनकी, बिनके
अधिकरण	उसमें उस पर	उनमें, उस पर	वामैं वापै विस परि	विनपै, उनमें

### 3.4 सर्वनाम पद रचना में लिंग संदर्भ का व्यतिरेक

भाषा में पुल्लिंग से स्त्रीलिंग शब्द-निर्माण के लिए लिंग प्रत्ययों की योजना होती है। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी उपबोली के शब्दों के लिंग परिवर्तन में यदि कुछ समानता है, तो कुछ भिन्नता के आधार पर व्यतिरेक सामने आते हैं। यह उस उपबोली की अपनी व्याकरणिक पहचान है। मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी उपभाषा के सर्वनाम पदों के लिंग परिवर्तन में सामने आनेवाले कुछ प्रमुख व्यतिरेक उल्लेखनीय हैं -

पुरुष	मानक हिंदी		ब्रज हरियाणवी	
	पुल्लिंग	स्त्रीलिंग	पुल्लिंग	स्त्रीलिंग
उत्तम पुरुष	मेरा	मेरी	मेरौ	--
	हमारा	हमारी	हमारौ	--

मध्यम पुरुष	तुम्हारा आपका	तुम्हारी आपकी	तेरा, तिहारौ ×	तेरी, तिहारी ×
अन्य पुरुष	उसका उनका	उसकी उनकी	उस्का बिनका	उस्की बिनकी

इस प्रकार मानक हिंदी और ब्रज हरियाणवी के व्यतिरेकी अध्ययन से एक ओर मानक हिंदी की मानकता का बोध होता है वहीं दूसरी ओर उसकी हरियाणवी बोली के ब्रज अंचल विशेष की उपबोली की विशेषताओं का पूर्ण रूपेण ज्ञान हो जाता है। इससे भाषा में होनेवाले परिवर्तनों की दिशाओं का बोध होता है और इससे भाषा-शिक्षण और भाषायी शोध को दिशा और गति मिलेगी।

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## प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश के नीति कहानी साहित्य में आस्था, विश्वास और कर्तव्यनिष्ठा

अर्चना कुमारी

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सारा संसार आस्था, विश्वास पर ही टिका हुआ है। मानव यदि अपने जीवन में आस्था-विश्वास को बनाए रखता है, तभी वह अपने लक्ष्य को पाने में सफलता हासिल कर पाता है। यदि उसमें आस्था-विश्वास न हो, तो आगे बढ़ने में कठिनाई होना स्वाभाविक है। इस दुनिया में प्रत्येक इंसान का रिश्ता विश्वास के सहारे ही आगे बढ़ता है। कहने का तात्पर्य है कि मानव एक-दूसरे से आस्था व विश्वास के सहारे ही बँधा हुआ है। यदि मानव का संबंध विश्वास पर न टिका हो, तो उनमें अलगाव आना भी स्वाभाविक है।

प्रो. आदेश जी मानव स्वभाव के पारखी हैं। वे दांपत्य जीवन में आई कड़वाहट के कारणों पर चिंतित हैं। उनकी मान्यता है कि पति-पत्नी के प्रेम का आधार विश्वास ही होता है। जिस पति-पत्नी के मध्य विश्वास का बंधन अटूट है, वे पति-पत्नी परम सुखी हैं।

‘पति-पत्नी का संबंध’ नामक कहानी में पति और पत्नी के संबंध को आस्था-विश्वास के सहारे टिका हुआ दिखाया गया है। इस कहानी में इंग्लैण्ड की महारानी विक्टोरिया का विवाह प्रिंस एलबर्ट के साथ हुआ था। दोनों में एक-दूसरे के प्रति अटूट स्नेह था और वे एक-दूसरे की भावनाओं का भी बहुत ध्यान रखते हैं। एक दिन किसी शासन व्यवस्था से संबंधित विषय पर वार्तालाप चल रहा था। प्रिंस एलबर्ट का मत महारानी से भिन्न था। इस प्रकार से दोनों के मतों में अंतर आ गया। अनायास वार्तालाप का रूप वाद-विवाद में परिवर्तित हो गया। महारानी विक्टोरिया भावावेश में यह भूल गई कि वह किससे बात कर रही हैं। उनके मुख से निकल गया कि मैं यहाँ की महारानी हूँ, जो चाहे कर सकती हूँ।

महारानी के मुख से इन अहंकारपूर्ण शब्दों को सुनते ही प्रिंस एलबर्ट को बहुत दुःख हुआ। वह भीतर ही भीतर घोर अपमान का कड़वा घूँट पी गए, बिना क्रोध प्रदर्शित किए हुए मौन हो गए और शांतिपूर्वक ऊपर अपने कक्ष में जाकर अंदर से किवाड़ बंद कर चिंतन में लीन हो गए। महारानी विक्टोरिया को तुरंत आभास हुआ कि उससे कोई भूल हो गई है। वह सोचती रही और कुछ देर बाद जाकर शयन कक्ष का द्वार खटखटाया।

अंदर से स्वर सुनाई पड़ा—

“कौन है ?

महारानी विक्टोरिया। महारानी ने उत्तर दिया।

प्रिंस एलबर्ट ने द्वार नहीं खोला और मौन रहे।”

इस प्रकार जब दरवाजा नहीं खुला तो महारानी विक्टोरिया को दुबारा अपनी गलती का आभास हुआ। उन्होंने पुनः दरवाजा खटखटाया। “अंदर से स्वर उभरा – कौन है ? आपकी प्राण प्रिय और विनम्रता पूर्वक स्वर में उत्तर दिया, जिससे प्रिंस एलबर्ट का सारा आक्रोश पलभर में काफूर हो गया। वह उठे, उठकर द्वार खोला और पति-पत्नी प्रगाढ़ आलिंगन में बद्ध होकर पिछली सारी बातें भूल गए।”<sup>५</sup>

आदेश जी की मान्यता है कि पति-पत्नी कर संबंध अंतरंग प्यार से रंगा और आस्था विश्वास पर आधारित होता है। जब दो ‘अहम्’ बन कर ‘वयम्’ बन जाते हैं तभी दांपत्य जीवन सुखी समृद्ध हो सकता है। आस्था विश्वास केवल पति-पत्नी के संबंधों में नहीं बल्कि माता-पिता, भाई-बहन, पुत्र-पुत्री, पुत्र-माता, मित्र आदि सभी के संबंधों में होते हैं। ये संबंध आस्था-विश्वास पर ही आधारित होते हैं।

महाकवि आदेश जी सम्पूर्ण विश्व के प्राणियों को अपने कर्तव्यों के प्रति सजग रहकर तथा पूर्ण निष्ठा से संबंध निभाने की प्रेरणा देते हैं। इनकी मान्यता है कि जो प्राणी पूर्ण ईमानदारी एवं पूर्ण निष्ठा के साथ अपने कर्तव्यों का अनुपालन करता हुआ सत्यता के पथ पर आगे बढ़ता है, उसके जीवन में सफलता कभी भी अछूती नहीं रह सकती अर्थात् उसे सफलता मिलती ही है।

‘सिकंदर और अरस्तु’ नामक कहानी में ईमानदारी से कर्तव्य पालन पर बल दिया गया है। इस कहानी में सिकंदर अपने गुरु के प्रति पूरी ईमानदारी से अपने कर्तव्य का पालन करता है। एक बार सिकंदर और अरस्तु एक वन में जा रहे थे। मार्ग में एक गहरा और पानी से भरा हुआ बड़ा नाला आया, जिसे पार करके जाना सरल काम नहीं था।

“अरस्तु ने कहा-पहले मैं इस नाले को पार करूँगा। सिकंदर ने इसका विरोध किया और विनयपूर्वक कहा – नहीं गुरुदेव। पहले मैं इस नाले को पार करूँगा।”

इस तरह से दोनों में नाला पार करने के लिए कुछ देर तक वाद-विवाद होता रहा। अंत में वह नाला सिकंदर ने पार किया। जब सिकंदर और अरस्तु दोनों नाले के दूसरे सिरे पर पहुँच गए तब अरस्तु ने सिकंदर से प्रश्न किया “तुम मेरे आज्ञाकारी हो। सदैव मेरी आज्ञा का पालन करते हो। आज तुमने मेरी बात क्यों नहीं मानी? क्यों तुमने हठपूर्वक मुझसे पहले नाला पार किया?”<sup>६</sup> सिकंदर ने विनम्रतापूर्वक उत्तर दिया – “गुरुदेव। मेरा अपराध क्षमा करें। मैंने आपकी आज्ञा का उलंघन नहीं किया। मैंने विनयपूर्वक अपने कर्तव्य को पूरा करने का प्रयत्न किया।”

अरस्तु ने सिकंदर से कहा कि इसमें कर्तव्य की कौन सी बात है, मैं तुमसे बड़ा हूँ, अनुभवी हूँ। अतः यह नाला पहले मुझे पार करना चाहिए था। सिकंदर ने विनम्र शब्दों में उत्तर दिया – “यह नाला बहुत भयानक था। इसको पहले पार करने वाले व्यक्ति के जीवन में बहुत खतरा था और पीछे आने वाले को कम। अगर अरस्तु रहेंगे तो मुझ जैसे सैकड़ों सिकंदर बना सकते हैं, लेकिन सैकड़ों सिकंदर एक अरस्तु नहीं बना सकते। मैंने एक अच्छे शिष्य और सम्राट के कर्तव्य का पालन किया था।”<sup>७</sup>

इस प्रकार सिकंदर ने अपने कर्तव्य का ईमानदारी से पालन किया। इसी तरह से ‘नियम’ नामक कहानी में ईमानदारी और कर्तव्य के पालन का वर्णन किया गया है। इस कहानी में काकिनाड़ा कांग्रेस अधिवेशन के समय खादी की प्रदर्शनी का भव्य आयोजन किया गया। उस प्रदर्शनी में प्रवेश शुल्क दो आना था। कोई भी व्यक्ति बिना टिकट दिखाए अंदर नहीं जा सकता था। देश के नेता जवाहर लाल नेहरू बिना टिकट दिखाए प्रदर्शनी देखने के लिए प्रवेश करने लगे। तभी द्वार पर खड़ी टिकट एकत्रित करने वाली दुबली-पतली साधारण-सी नारी ने रोक

दिया। जब नेता ने अपनी जेबें टटोली तो दोनों खाली थीं। उन्होंने कहा – “कोई बात नहीं मैं कल प्रदर्शनी देख लूँगा। तभी समीप खड़े एक वयोवृद्ध प्रतिष्ठित नेता ने कहा – “बेटा! इन्हें अंदर जाने दो। यह हमारे देश के एक महान नेता हैं। नारी ने कहा – “मैं इन नेता को नहीं अपितु अपने उत्तरदायित्व और प्रदर्शनी के नियम को जानती हूँ। मैं बिना टिकट दिखाए इन्हें क्या किसी को भी अंदर नहीं जाने दूँगी।”<sup>१०</sup>

उस महिला की यह दृढ़ कर्तव्यशीलता एवं नियमबद्धता देखकर वह नेता बहुत प्रभावित हुआ। उस महिला का नाम श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई देशमुख था। जिन्होंने भारत की राजनीति में महान योगदान दिया था। इस प्रकार से कार्यकर्ताओं को अपने कर्तव्य और उत्तरदायित्वों को प्राण पण से निभाना चाहिए। जो अपने कर्तव्यों को अपने व्यक्तित्व का अभिन्न अंग समझकर उनका पालन करते हैं, वे लोग ही बड़े बनते हैं। आदेश जी प्रत्येक मानव को अपने कर्तव्य पालन करने की प्रेरणा देते हैं।

कर्तव्यनिष्ठा जीवन की सफलता का आधार है। यह सर्वविदित तथ्य है कि जो कार्यक्षेत्र में सतत दृढ़ संकल्प के साथ लगा रहता है, सफलता का ध्वज लहरा कर उसके मस्तक के पसीने को साफ करता है।

निश्चय ही प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश की नीति कहानियों में ऋषि-मुनियों, महात्माओं और महापुरुषों के विचार-चिंतन को प्रभावी रूप में प्रस्तुत किया गया है। ये नीतिपरक कहानियाँ मानव मूल्यों के संवर्द्धन का आधार बनती हैं। ये जीवनोपयोगी भावों को सहजता तथा स्वाभाविकता से प्रेरक तरलता का भाव भरती है। इनकी नीतिपरक कहानियाँ मन को धरती के विचारों से ऊपर उठाकर आशा और विश्वास जगाती हैं। मन-मस्तिष्क को विकार-मुक्त कर आनंदानुभूति का अवसर प्रदान करती हैं।

### संदर्भ ग्रंथ

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘देवताओं का वरदान’, ‘पति-पत्नी का संबंध’, पृ. ४७

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘पति-पत्नी का संबंध’, पृ. ४८

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘स्वर्ग और नर्क’, सिकंदर और अरस्तु’, पृ. १

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘स्वर्ग और नर्क’, सिकंदर और अरस्तु’, पृ. १

–वही– पृ. १

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘स्वर्ग और नर्क’, सिकंदर और अरस्तु’, पृ. १

प्रो. हरिशंकर आदेश – ‘देवताओं का वरदान’, पृ. ३३



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## जन चेतना के कवि महाप्राण निराला

स्नेह

असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर, हिंदी विभाग, वैश्य महाविद्यालय, रोहतक

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महाप्राण निराला जन सामान्य के जीवन के संदर्भ को रेखांकित करनेवाले क्रान्तिकारी कवि हैं। इन्होंने गरीब, मजदूर, किसान आदि के दुःख-दर्द से प्रभावित होकर साहित्य का सृजन किया है। इनकी रचना में देश की आत्मा प्रकट होती है और उसकी धडकन सुनाई देती है। वे भारतीय संस्कृति और आदर्श के पुजारी हैं। उन्होंने देश के जन सामान्य की पीड़ा का यथार्थ चित्रण किया है। उनके मन में विवश, निराश, और निरीह गरीबों को समस्याओं से मुक्ति दिलाने का क्रांतिकारी रूप अपनाया था। उन्होंने ऐसे समाज की कल्पना की थी, जो वर्गरहित, जातिरहित, भेदभावरहित हो, मानवतावाद उनकी प्रेरक कल्पना थी। उन्होंने एक ओर विकृत मूल्यों का खुलकर विरोध किया, तो दूसरी ओर जीवन मूल्यों और मानव मूल्यों के सृजन पर बल दिया है। निराला सामने घटनेवाली घटनाओं का यथार्थ चित्रण करनेवाले क्रांतिकारी साहित्यकार थे। उनके साहित्य में सर्वहारा और गरीबों को कष्ट देनेवालों के प्रति तीखा आक्रोश है। उन्होंने एक ओर पूंजीपतियों के प्रति गहरा आक्रोश व्यक्त किया है, तो दूसरी ओर सर्वहारा के प्रति अपूर्व प्रेम और सहानुभूति प्रकट की है।

नीरज कुमार ने महाप्राण निराला के सर्वहारा के प्रति दर्शाए गए प्रेरक भाव के संदर्भ में अपना विचार व्यक्त करते हुए लिखा है, “निराला किसान जीवन की त्रासदी सामान्य जनता के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करते हैं। ऐसा लगता है कि किसानों की दरिद्रता और गुलामी का कारण जमींदारी प्रथा है। निराला जमींदारी प्रथा को तोड़ने का प्रयत्न करते हैं, ताकि किसान, मजदूर और निम्न वर्ग के लोग मुक्ति की साँस ले सकें।”

महाप्राण निराला ने समाज की शिथिल व्यवस्था में गरीबों की दयनीय दशा का हृदयस्पर्शी चित्रण किया है। निराला खुशहाल समाज देखना चाहते हैं। वे समाज के सौमनस्यपूर्ण भाव के अभिलाषी हैं। उनकी कमाना है कि हर व्यक्ति एक दूसरे से सहज और सद्भाव से मिले। वे समाज को दिशाबोध करने के लिए सघर्ष करते रहे हैं—

“सारी सम्पत्ति देश की हो,  
सारी आपत्ति देश की बने,  
जनता जातियवेश की हो,  
वाद से विवाद यह बने, काँटा-कांटे से कढ़ाओ।”<sup>१</sup>

महाप्राण निराला काव्य में आद्योपांत गरीब, शोषित, दलित और उत्पीडित आदि को लगातार उत्साहित करके शक्ति और ऊर्जा से संपन्न करते दिखाई देते हैं। वे जन सामान्य में प्रेरक चेतना भरकर आगे बढ़ने की हिम्मत बंधाते रहे हैं।-

जल्द-जल्द पैर बढ़ाओ आओ आओ,

आज अमीरों की हवेली,

किसानों की होगी पाठशाला,

धोबी, पासी, ---, तेली,

खोलेंगे अँधेरे का ताला

एक पथ पढ़ेंगे, तात बिछाओ।”<sup>3</sup>

निराला समाज की बुराइयों को देखकर व्यथित और आहत हैं। इसलिए वे विद्रोही बन गए हैं। इनके साहित्य में समाज को अंधकार की ओर धकेलनेवालों का खुलकर विरोध किया गया है। इन्होंने समाज को आगे बढ़ने के लिए नवजागरण का गीत सुनाया है। वे भूखे-प्यासे, गरीब, निसहाय, विवश व्यक्ति के जीवन में प्रकाश का संचार करना चाहते हैं। उनके मन में जाति-पाँति का भेद-भाव नहीं, उनके लिए ब्राह्मण, क्षत्रिय, वैश्य और शूद्र सभी मानव परिवार के सदस्य हैं। उनके अनुसार भूखे-प्यासे व्यक्ति की भूख और प्यास देखी जाती है, न कि उसकी जाति। असहाय और निराश जन को सहारा देकर समाज को दिशा दी जा सकती है, जाति-पाँति या धर्म पूछ कर अमानवीय कृत्य ही होगा। दिन रात मेहनत करनेवाले किसान की दीन-हीन दशा देखकर निराला सबसे अधिक आहत होते थे। शहर के मजदूरों की विवशता और उनके अँधेरे में जीने का कष्ट उन्हें बहुत सालता था। उनका यह क्रांतिकारी भाव उनके काव्य के लिए वरदान बन गया है। उनकी रचना ‘अणिमा’ में ऐसे लोगों के प्रति अनूठी संवेदना और विषम परिस्थितियों के प्रति गहरा आक्रोश प्रकट हुआ है-

“दूर हो अभियान संयम,

वर्ण आश्रम-महामय’

जाति-जीवन हो निरामय

वह सदासयता प्रखर दो।”<sup>4</sup>

समाज में व्याप्त रंग भेद के प्रति निराला के मन में तीखा आक्रोश है। क्रांतिकारी निराला समाज में सहज संबंध और स्नेहिल व्यवहार के अभिलाषी हैं।

“देखता हूँ यहाँ, काले लाल पीले खेत जन में,

शांति की रेखा खिंची है क्रांति कृष्णा रो गई है।”<sup>5</sup>

सहृदय कवि की धारणा है कि जब तक विषम विचारवालों के सामने सीना तानकर खड़े नहीं होंगे, तब तक समभाव कठिन है। इसलिए ये साम्राज्यवाद और सामंतवाद से संघर्ष कर विषमताओं से मुक्ति चाहते हैं। वे जनता को भावनात्मक शक्ति से उत्साहित करना चाहते हैं। ऐसी विसंगतियों के संदर्भ में निराला के 'तुलसीदास' में दलित चेतना का प्रखर रूप सामने आया है-

“वे शेष-श्वास, पशु मूक भाव,  
पाते प्रहार अब हत श्वास,  
सोचते कभी, आजन्म ग्रास द्विज गण के,  
होना ही उनका धर्म परम,  
वे वर्णाश्रम, ये द्विज उत्तम,  
वे चरण-चरण बस, वर्णाश्रम- रक्षण के।”<sup>8</sup>

निराला ने दलितों को विभिन्न समस्याओं से मुक्ति दिलाने के लिए प्रेरणा दी है। वे दलित और निराश लोगों के साथ खड़े दिखाई देते हैं-

“दलित जन न करो करुणा,  
दीनता पर उतर आए  
प्रभु तुम्हारी शक्ति अरुणा  
हे तन-मन प्रीति पवन ,  
मधुर हो मुख मनोभावन  
हो तुम्हारी किरण तरुणा।”<sup>9</sup>

निराला ने संत रविदास के काव्य की भरपूर प्रशंसा की है। वे समाज को जाति-पांति से ऊपर उठकर संस्कारित और धार्मिक बनाना चाहते हैं। डॉ. नवल किशोर नवल ने लिखा है- “जब पहले -पहल मजदूरों की हड़तालें शुरू हुई, विज्ञान की प्रखर उन्नति बड़ी- बड़ी मीलों के साथ साधारण लोगों की दरिद्रता भी द्रुतगति से बढ़ती गई, तभी दूरदर्शा पंडित ने आगे चलकर होनेवाले मजदूर तथा किसानों के युग का अनुमान कर लिया था। भारत में वैश्य-शक्ति के खिलाफ, पीड़ित, शुद्र, अछूत, मजदूर और किसान शक्ति को उठाने के लिए हुई। देश के पेड़ को हरा-भरा करने के लिए उसकी जड़ ( किसानों ) में जीवन डालना चाहिए, यह महात्मा का मूल मंत्र था।”

निराला विराट व्यक्तियों के प्रति अपूर्व श्रद्धा और सद्भाव प्रकट करते हैं। वे सहानुभूति चाहते हैं- असहाय और दलितों के प्रति-

चलते-चलते पर निस्सहाय  
वे दीन, क्षीण कंकालकाय

आशा केवल जीवनोपाय डर-डर में  
रण के अश्वों से शस्य सकल  
दलमल जाते ज्यों दल के दल  
शुर्द्रण क्षुद्र-जीवन-संबल पुर-पुर में।'<sup>१६</sup>

निराला ने खुली आँखों से ही नहीं अंतराल से गरीबों की पीड़ा और वेदना को देखा और अनुभव किया. उन्होंने जन-विरोधी विकृत मानसिकता पर करारी चोट की है-

“मैंने देखा बड़ा मैला  
मन उस समाज का  
चोट खाई हुई राम जी के राज से  
शूद्रों को मिला नहीं  
जिनसे कुछ भी कहीं  
ढाँढस बंधाया मैंने  
मीठे-मीठे शब्द कहकर।”<sup>१७</sup>

मनुष्य को जीने के लिए भोजन, पानी और हवा चाहिए. निराला ने देखा- ईश्वर प्रदत्त हवा थी, किंतु परिवेश दूषित था, भाव विषम थे। गरीबों के भाग्य में पानी (इज्जत) कहाँ ! भोजन के लिए कठिन कार्यों में अपने को गलाना और तपाना पड़ता था, फिर भी पेट का खंडहर खली रहता, बच्चे भूखे तड़पते थे-

“चूँकि यहाँ दाना है  
इसलिए दीन है दीवाना है,  
लोग हैं, महफिल है,  
नगमें हैं, साज है, दिलदार हैं और दिल है,  
शमाँ है, परवाना है  
चूँकि यहाँ दाना है.”<sup>१८</sup>

सहृदय निराला गरीबों की आहें सुनकर उन्हें अपनी रचना में सहजता से प्रस्तुत करते हैं। उनके अनुसार गरीबों की सच्ची लड़ाई तो भूखे पेट को किसी तरह भरने की लड़ाई है। डॉ. ए. अरविंदाक्षन ने निराला के क्रान्तिकारी भाव को अपने शब्दों में इस प्रकार व्यक्त किया है-

“निराला आजीवन साधारण जन की यातना से जुड़े रहे। आजीवन समझौताविहीन रहे, आजीवन जड़ और रूढ़ मूल्यों के विरोधी रहे। अपने जीवन और रचनाकाल के परवर्ती दौर में एक खास किस्म की मध्यमकालीन वैष्णव भक्तों की प्रपत्ति भावना हमें उनमें दिखाई देती है।”<sup>१२</sup>

निराला के समय में गरीबों की गरीबी हृदयविदारक थी। आज तो बहुत परिवर्तन हो चुका है। निराला ने विषम परिस्थितियों में क्रांति का स्वर फूँका था। जब गरीब खाना खाता, पानी पीता और साँस लेता था, तो वह डरता रहता था कि यह उसका अंतिम पल ही न हो।

निराला समाज में ऊँच-नीच, जाति-पाँति, छोटा-बड़ा आदि विषम दिवारों को तोड़ कर मानवतावादी परिवेश को देखना चाहते थे। ऐसे महामानव की दिव्य कल्पना समाज को दिशा दे रही है-

मानव-मानव से नहीं भिन्न

निश्चय ही श्वेत कृष्ण अथवा

वह नहीं क्लिन्न

भेद पर पंक

निकलता कमल जो मानवता का

हो कोई सर।”<sup>१३</sup>

इस प्रकार स्पष्ट रूप से देखा जा सकता है कि महाप्राण निराला क्रान्तिकारी कवि थे। उनकी रचनाओं में समाज की विषमताओं, समस्याओं के प्रति गहरा आक्रोश था और गरीबों, असहायों के प्रति अनुप्रेरक सहानुभूति थी।

**संदर्भ -**

१. नीरज कुमार, निराला की जातीय चेतना, पृ. ४७
२. नंद किशोर नवल, निराला रचनावली (भाग दो), पृ. १६३
३. -सम- पृ. १६२
४. बच्चन सिंह, क्रान्तिकारी कवि निराला, पृ. २६२
५. -सम- पृ. २६३
६. नंद किशोर नवल, निराला रचनावली (भाग एक), पृ. ४६
७. -सम- (भाग छह) पृ. ८३
८. -सम- , पृ. ४४२
९. -सम-, पृ. १५३
१०. निराला, नए पत्ते, पृ. ५५
११. नंद किशोर नवल, निराला रचनावली (भाग दो), पृ. १०९
१२. सम्पा. ए. अरविदाक्षण, निराला - एक पुनर्मूल्यांकन, पृ. १०९
१३. निराला, अनामिका, पृ. २३



**Book Review**

**HetukarJha: Historical Sociology in India, New Delhi Routledge Tylor  
Francis Group 2016. IX+134pp. Rs.695(hb).**

**Prof. Jintender Prasad**

*Dept. Sociology, Central University of Haryana*

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History as such has not been the focus of sociological concern both in Europe and in India but to suggest that Indian sociology and its emergence as a discipline of teaching and research has altogether been neglected would mean ignoring the reality. This fact has been the focus of concern of the book under review. In order to establish this fact Prof. HetukarJha who has been inspired by the writings of the doyen of sociology Ramakrishna Mukherjee has also marshalled the facts establishing the historical background in sociological writings. It seems to be the major concern of the book to address the dialectical relationship that sociology had with history.

The book consists of 99 pages divided into two parts. The first part consisting of details about the background and emergence of sociology provide useful contribution of sociological writing wherein the pursuit of pioneers may consist of three waves of historical sociology. The first wave concerned itself with the studies of past socio-economic, political and cultural conditions in 1970s. The growing disillusionment in this period with development models of modernization was underlined(p18). The second wave of historical sociology engaged with a focus on revolution and world system, geopolitically oriented view of the state. The third wave of historical sociology seemed to have emerged since the 1990s departing radically from the second wave with focus more on culture, consciousness and interpretation. The Journal of Historical Sociology began to be published from 1988 having a worldwide circulation by 2008 and was included in the graduate programs by the US. News and world report. Thus historical Sociology developed as an important field of study for obtaining knowledge of the totality of social reality.

The second part of the book consists of the history and the tradition of Indian Sociology. It consists of four sub- sections, dealing with early colonial period, post1858 era, the phase of pioneers and sociology after independence, The first three, that is early colonial to the phase of pioneers covers a period of colonial era and the pioneers had noticeable impact on the minds of Indian intellectuals before independence. The phase of pioneers have aptly been distinguished into three phases of the development sociology in India into three phases as pointed out by M.S.A.Rao i.e., first, exploratory; second, the phase of development and third the phase of diversification(p 48). The first corresponds to that of proto sociological work, the second, i.e., the phase of development covers the period from 1914 to around 1950, which has aptly been summed up by Ramakrishna Mukherjee as the era of the pioneers of Indian Sociology. Its pioneers consisted both Sociologists and Social Anthropologists such as D.P.Mukherjee, G.S.Ghurye, Radha Kamal Mukherjee, B.Seal, B.K.Sircar, S.C.Roy and K.P.Chattopadhyaya. Prof. Jha referring to their works observed," Their studies and research yielded a rich stock of knowledge of Indian institutions , society and culture, having potential for drawing the attention of future generation of scholars towards the pursuit of sociology in India.

The part 2 of the book covers four areas of dominant sociological focus which are: (a), Village, Caste, tradition and socio-cultural change; (b), peasant movements; (c), the tribal sector; ecology, education, industrial and urban settings. The task that Prof. Jha took upon himself was perhaps to point out the trends and emerging concerns of Sociologists of contemporary times in highlighting the focus of the broad themes of Historical Sociology.

His work is quite significant in two respects, first, it has initiated the focus on historical sociology highlighting the themes and areas of western sociology in part-1 and the second part of the book is devoted to Indian Sociologists' contribution after 1985. In this respect the book provides valuable contribution in covering the trends in Historical Sociology of contemporary times. The style of writing is lucid and the reference covering over 20 pages contains references of over 500 books of scholars of various disciplines provide a rich and vast knowledge of packed information of scholastic nature. It is a valuable contribution to the field of historical sociology and must for all those who want to enrich their depth of knowledge of sociology.

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