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11. See COVID-19: Local bodies impose health regulations in Delhi (outlookindia.com) accessed on 4th August 2021.

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Exploring Affective Wellbeing of Employees during Covid-19

Dr. Aditi Sharma* & Dr. Deepak K. Sharma**

[*In the present crises, maintaining health and wellbeing of its citizens is the top priority of governments across the world. The pandemic is testing the commitment of the governments to safeguard the lives of people and take adequate measures for their wellbeing. Coronavirus has impacted the lives of people in multitude of ways. Out of the innumerable challenges it poses, one of the significant challenges at the organizational level was the wellbeing of employees. The present study examines the affective wellbeing of the employees (n=109) with JAWS (Job Related Affective Well Being) 20 scale during the Covid-19 times. The study measured the job-related emotions of the employees and the results of the study reveal that the respondents reported experiencing positive emotions towards their jobs which is a good sign for organizational viewpoint. The results of the study would help organizations design suitable training and Organization Development interventions for its employees.*]

The year 2020 would go down in the annals of history as the year that led to disruptions, despair, and significant turbulence caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Covid-19 not only posed a significant health hazard as it adversely affected the physical wellbeing of people but also led to debilitating effects on the mental health of the general population worldwide. Besides the fear of contracting the highly infectious disease, the fear of losing loved ones, the spread of fake news, the social stigma attached to it, and the restrictions related to movement and travel, etc., had a detrimental effect on the psychological wellbeing of the people.

The destructive events happening around the world like a huge loss of precious lives due to virus, the sudden imposition of lockdowns resulting in homesickness experienced by the people who got stuck in different places due to their work (Simecek, K, 2020). The gamut of affective emotions and experiences shaped their perception of goodness and badness in the events.

In recent years, there has been a sudden spurt in research on emotions and it has been observed that emotions have important implications on employee performance. Positive emotions experienced by individuals have a positive effect on their self-efficacy and engagement levels (Salanova, M. 2010); fosters hope and impacts team resilience, increases employee performance through motivational processes and better work flow in the organizations as well as (Ten Have, S. et al., 2018). Moreover positive emotions enhance the perception of wellbeing (Biggio, G. & Cortese, C. G., 2013). As per the circumplex model of affect, both the positive as well as negative emotions are important for complete understanding of the wellbeing.

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The experience of pleasure and sorrow are transitory emotional states and depend on time and situations (Hofmann, W. et al., 2014). Affective wellbeing refers to the state wherein individuals experience more positive emotions than negative emotions (Daniels, K., 2000). Affective wellbeing reflects the emotional component of wellbeing where respondents retrospectively report their emotional experiences in terms of positive and negative experiences felt by them in the recent past (Martinkovièová, M. et al., 2020). It is a multidimensional construct.

Existing research acknowledges the relationship between work and psychological wellbeing of employees performing the work, yet it still is an underexplored area of research (Harris et al., 2003).

Literature Review

Mowish et al. (2019) examined the structure of affective wellbeing through the day reconstruction method. The multilevel structural equation model revealed that affective wellbeing should not be restricted to two-dimensional studies and that sub facets of negative affect have a marked relationship with indicators of wellbeing. The study also revealed conspicuous differences of affective wellbeing at intra and inter person levels.

Charles, S. T., & Piazza, J. R. (2009) proposed that their theory of Strength and Vulnerability integration would help in predicting the context as to how age differences affect the affective wellbeing of the individuals.

Uncu et al (2007) conducted a descriptive cross-sectional study on 274 primary health care physicians in Turkey and found that they were happy but not motivated to do their jobs and that the correlation between job-related affective wellbeing and depression anxiety stress was negative.

The literature review revealed that there is dearth of studies on affective wellbeing of employees, especially during crises times.

Theoretical Framework

According to Broad and Build theory given by Fredrickson, the positive emotional state broadens the range of thoughts and actions of an employee which increases their likelihood of building a whole gamut of physical, cognitive, social resources while the negative emotional state leads to narrow down the thought-action outlook. The positive and negative emotion stasis is instrumental in enhancing wellbeing (Fredrickson, 2004).

The aim of the present cross-sectional study is to evaluate the emotions of the participants during the ongoing pandemic. The data was collected from 109 Indian employees using an online survey. The study used the JAWS scale to measure affective wellbeing of employees in context to the emotions they experience while performing their job. The respondents rated their affect over the last four weeks.

Materials and Methods

Out of 109 total respondents 77 (70.6%) were male and 32 (29.4%) were female employees. 55 % (60) respondents were in the age group of 21-30, 34.9% (38) were in the age group of 31-40 while 4.6% (5) were in the age group of 41-50 while the remaining 5.5 % (6)participants were in the age group of 51-60.

Measurement Instrument

JAWS 20 scale (Job Related Affective Well Being) (Van Katwyk et al., 1999)

The scale measures the emotional reactions of the respondents in context of their jobs. It has two bipolar dimensions of pleasure and arousal and encompasses emotions in a circular space. The pleasure-displeasure dimension illustrates the emotional valence and the arousal state varies from sleep to high arousal illustrating the active level of emotions (Rode, N. 2005). The participants were asked to respond to statements on how they felt about their job in the past 30 days. The items were recorded on a five-point scale. The scale consists of four subscales: High Pleasure High Arousal (HPHA), High Pleasure Low Arousal (HPLA), Low Pleasure High Arousal (LPHA), Low Pleasure Low Arousal (LPLA). The Cronbach alpha value of the overall scale (0.87) and the subscales is good.

Table 1: Cronbach á for subscale of JAWS 20

Subscale	Items	Á
HPHA	5	0.72
HPLA	5	0.73
LPHA	5	0.79
LPLA	5	0.68
Overall JAWS 20	20	0.87

Source: Authors own findings

Results

There were no statistically significant differences between men and women employees in the means, standard deviations and correlations of the measures studied. Similarly age and occupation also had no impact on the results below.

Table 2: Means, Standard Deviations, Inter Correlations among Subscales of JAWS, Positive Emotions and Negative Emotions.

	Means	S.D	HPHA	HPLA	LPHA	LPLA	Positive Emotion	Negative Emotion	JAWS 20
HPHA	3.37	.77							
HPLA	1.95	.81	.555**						
LPHA	1.98	.71	-.257**	-.451**					
LPLA	3.33	.68	-.301**	-.477**	.682**				
Positive Emotion	1.96	.70	.883**	.880**	-.401**	-.441**			
Negative Emotion	2.65	.36	-.303**	-.505**	.928**	.906**	-.457**		
JAWS 20	3.37	.77	.546**	.348**	.517**	.458**	.508**	.534**	

Source: Authors own findings

Table 2 shows the means, standard deviations and correlations among the measures. The highest mean score (3.37) among the JAWS subscales reveal that majority of the respondents experienced high pleasure and low arousal stage. However the difference between high pleasure low arousal and high pleasure high arousal state is very less and the mean score of positive emotion (3.33) further shows that the majority of the respondents had reported experiencing positive emotions towards their job. The mean score of 2.65 also reiterates the fact that most of the respondents' reported positive job-related affective wellbeing. There is an inverse relationship between positive and negative affect in the present study.

Discussion

The results of the study revealed that majority respondents reported experiencing positive emotions towards their work. According to Diener and Larsen (1993), affective wellbeing encompasses experiencing more positive affect in comparison to the negative effect. The participants reported experiencing high states of pleasure and high arousal which implies that they enjoyed their work and were actively performing them. Thus it may be inferred that the employees were not only cheerful while doing their jobs but also did their job with lots of excitement and enthusiasm. No relationship was found between age, sex, managerial position and job-related affective wellbeing. Uncu et al (2007) in their study on primary healthcare physicians in Turkey had reported similar results except that of age. Diener et al. (1985) had reported a strong inverse relationship between positive affect and negative affect.

Conclusion

Positive affect is significantly associated with career satisfaction, better job competence, and higher self-worth (Kansky, J et al., 2016). The findings of the study reveal that majority of the respondents have reported positive emotions towards their jobs even amidst ongoing pandemic which is a good indication for the organization. The study provides indirect evidence that external circumstances do not have much effect on wellbeing of the individuals (Biggio, G. & Cortese, C. G., 2013). Thus we conclude that affective wellbeing of an individual does not solely rely on the environmental conditions and even during crises like the present one employee have reported experiencing positive emotions more frequently than negative ones.

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Studying Defamiliarisation Techniques in Keats' *Ode on a Grecian Urn*

Verma, Hariom* & Rana, Ashwani**

[*The present paper is a study of defamiliarisation techniques employed in John Keats' poem Ode on a Grecian Urn (1819). Defamiliarisation as described by the Russian Formalist critic Victor Shklovsky aims at making the readers have a renewed perception of the things being described in the text and it breaks automatism of perception and poetry through its specialized use of language achieves this end. Keats in this ode employs a number of defamiliarisation techniques such as figurative language, personification, descriptive adjectives and imagery, and concrete nouns to renew readers' perception of the things described in the poem. This also leads to a provocation of readers' imagination. His description of the urn and the carvings on it bring a number of questions in the minds of the readers which also serve to defamiliarise an ancient culture and its rituals*].

Defmiliarisation or estrangement or *ostranenie*, a term given by the Russian formalist critic Victor Shklovsky, is a process that aims at making the observers perceive routine and familiar objects and words from an 'unfamiliar' or strange or a new perspective. According to Shklovsky, on perceiving objects repeatedly or in a routine manner, our view of objects becomes generalized and so perception becomes automatized (Rice, 1996). The purpose of art and hence the artist is to render a touch of unfamiliarity or strangeness to object(s) being perceived -or being made to perceive - resulting in prolonging of the process of perception so as to see it clearly for what it is and in this way break the automatism of perception.

This breaking of automatism in perception of the routine and common experiences of things results in their renewed and strange or unfamiliar perception. According to Carlo Ginzberg, "Estrangement seems a good antidote to a risk we all face: that of taking the world, and ourselves, for granted " (8-28).

Defamiliarisation can be achieved in multiple ways. These include foregrounding and its devices, figurative language, imagery, elaborate descriptions, etc. These techniques are repeatedly used by the authors to defamiliarise common and routine experiences. The present paper is a study of various defamiliarisation techniques in the poem *Ode on a Grecian Urn* (1819) by John Keats.

Poetry is traditionally thought of as being able to alter the reader's perception of things by prolonging observation of an object (s) through a special and distinct use of language. This results in defamiliarisation. Formalists believe that poetry renews life and automatic perception of life and things. This automatic or familiar perception of things is actually a repetitive and routine perception that doesn't let a perceiver perceive things rightly or with newness. Poetry introduces estrangement between the perceiver and the thing being perceived through its special and characteristic use of language which stands different from everyday language. There are many such features of poetry that introduce defamiliarisation and these include figurative language and others like personification, imagery, elaborate and picturesque description, etc.

John Keats, the English Romantic poet, is known for his mellifluous and picturesque poetry which is imaginative in nature and richly bears the notion of Negative Capability as an underlying principle for aesthetic enjoyment. His poetry including his odes employs different defamiliarisation techniques. *Ode on a Grecian Urn* is an ode that reflects Keats' imaginative power and language skills which he employs to the fullest in the poem to defamiliarise things and ideas. Since one main argument of the poem is the description of the form of the urn, defamiliarisation is a dominant principle here, which is in agreement with Shklovsky when he says that defamiliarisation "is found almost everywhere form is found," and that "it creates a 'vision' of the object instead of serving as a means for knowing it" (Shklovsky 781).

Figurative language is a commonly used device not just in poetry but also in everyday speech. The reason is that has the ability to clarify things and ideas by employing alternate and apt expressions. According to Bennett and Royle, figurative language bears the capacity to 'defamiliarise' the perceptible world – 'to refigure, reform, revolutionize' it (80). In modern poetry, the language becomes the area of focus and the end is to achieve defamiliarisation with effective use of tropes. The Chambers Dictionary defines a trope as ''a figure of speech, properly one in which a word or expression is used in other than its literal sense'' (Bennett and Royle, 77). By offering other than literal– or extended- a sense of a word, tropes make the perceiver look at the words in other-than -routine way to get at their meaning. In this way, they break the automatism of meaning and hence perception, thereby leading to defamiliarisation.

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Keats, the poet, uses figurative language to achieve particular results. He uses metaphors and personification for this end. According to Saeed, metaphor is an integral part of thought and also a way of experiencing the world (Saeed, 7). Montgomery believes that a metaphor influences our perception of the world:

…Poetic metaphor disorganizes conventional analogies in order to reveal relations which were 'unapprehended' beforehand. As such metaphor can be seen as an agency through which it becomes possible significantly to transform our perception of the world. (134-35)

Keats calls urn by multiple names such as *unravished bride of quietness*, *foster-child of silence and slow time*, *Sylvan historian*, *Attic shape* and *cold pastoral*. The metaphors used here make the readers have renewed perception of the urn. His giving preference to metaphors over similes renders a riddle like appearance to the things. Calling the urn an *unravished bride of quietness* or *Sylvan historian* forces the readers to think over and establish a relation between the expression and the target of perception-the urn. It makes them consider over the other than physical aspects of the urn.

Personification plays an important role in defamiliarising the urn. According to Wales, personification is said to occur when 'an inanimate object…non-human or abstract quality' is described as if it were human (349). On the other hand, pathetic fallacy is said to occur when human emotions or feelings are ascribed to inanimate nature. Keats personifies the urn by referring to it as a *teller of pastoral stories*, *a friend to humanity,* and a *wise soothsayer*. This personification awakens the reader's imaginative power and makes him realize and understand things in a different way.

The urn is described through a cataloguing of clear-cut images. The images are descriptive and picturesque and work in two ways: they defamiliarise the objects they literally signify and also make the readers perceive the shape and appearance of the urn in a new way. The images such as *pipes and timbrels, trees, boughs, leaves, melodist, altar, priest, heifer, garlands, river, seashore streets, forest branches, earth* bring in the mind things which these images refer to and make the readers not just imagine the scenes but also relate the literal significance of the things with the features of the urn.

The use of concrete images to describe the shape and appearance of the urn defamiliarises the perception of the urn by the readers. These images serve functions of description, contemplation and imagination. They describe an incident, an indistinct story about a civilization which they create by themselves and make us see or imagine that culture with all its rituals distinctly, thereby defamiliarising it.

Not just this some of the images are quite descriptive in themselves, leading to defamiliarisation as in *A flowery tale more sweetly than our rhyme...* (Keats, 4) and *What leaf-fring'd legend haunts about thy shape/ Of deities or mortals, or of both, / In Tempe or the dales of Arcady?* (Keats, 5-7)

The frequency of these images increases with the progress of the argument in the poem. In the fourth stanza images described in detail lead to renewed perception;

To what green altar, O mysterious priest, Lead'st thou that heifer lowing at the skies,

And all her silken flanks with garlands drest? What little town by river or sea shore, Or mountain-built with peaceful citadel, Is emptied of this folk, this pious morn? (Keats, 42-47)

Shklovsky tells us that art is thinking in images. Keats too is aware that poetry is an art form and so a presentation of thought in images. As an image is highly expressive and is easily comprehended, Keats weaves a sequential narrative of events through these images which serve to defamiliarise the entire story being told in the narrative.

Use of figurative language consisting of concrete nouns explains the meanings hinted at clearly. The urn is called the *foster child of silence and slow time* and *cold pastoral* because of its association with silence and time and pastoral life carved out on it.

Use of descriptive adjectives is yet another technique employed by the poet for defamiliarisation. A descriptive adjective performs the function of describing a noun. Use of descriptive adjectives like *unravish'd* in *unravished bride, sensual* in *sensual ears, bold* in *bold lover, mad* in *mad pursuit, happy* in *happy boughs, burning* in *burning forehead, parching* in *parching tongue, green* in *green altar, mysterious* in *mysterious priest, silken* in *silken flanks, peaceful* in *peaceful citadel,* and *marble* in *marble men and maidens* describe the precedent nouns and defamiliarise them. Apart from these, Keats also uses elaborative post modifying preposition phrases as adjectives to describe concrete nouns, as in *Thou still unravish'd bride of quietness/Thou foster-child of silence and slow time...* (Keats, lines 1/2) the phrases *of quietness* and *of silence* defamiliarise the antecedent concrete nouns.

Adjectives derived from concrete nouns or verbs have an extra visual effect and have a great potency for defamiliarisation. Adjectives (here given in bold) in *flowery tale, leaf-fring'd legend*, *marble men and maidens, mountain-built, forest branches, trodden weed* serve this purpose effectively.

The use of dynamic verbs is another strategy used by the poet to defamiliarise what would otherwise be a

commonplace experience; for example, *pipe, kiss, shed, panting, breathing, burning, parching, lowing,* aptly defamiliarise the movements or meanings they convey.

Keats gives an elaborate description of the urn, its appearance, the images and the scenes engraved upon it, and also tells about the possible associations between different figures shown on its body. These descriptions tend to defamiliarise not just the shape of the urn but also a bygone age and its rituals.

Keats employs the tool of suggestiveness for achieving defamiliarisation. The description of supposed animal sacrifice in the fourth stanza is highly suggestive and leads to cryptic questions about the supposedly desolate town and the folks who have left the town. These questions might be overlooked if they were not presented by the poet through these images. While going through this descriptive as well as suggestive language of the poem, one is forced to think about things and make guesses about their significance, causing prolonged perception and hence greater aesthetic enjoyment.

A closer study of the poem reveals the artistry of the poet, particularly the way he has tried to ensure an altogether new perception of the urn by the reader. Keats recreates the urn before the eyes of the reader through his particular poetic devices and thus, magically converts the familiar into the unfamiliar.

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A Postcolonial Reading of Sarojini Naidu's Select Poems

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[*This study analyzes the poems by Sarojini Naidu, a nationalist Indian poet, from a postcolonial perspective to identify and illustrate embedded postcolonial notions. It also aims to comprehend how these ideas work. The theoretical framework used in this research is the postcolonial theory, with special attention to Bill Ashcroft et al.'s Key Postcolonial Concepts. It analyses and draws purposeful attention to exploring the deep and inextricable concerns surrounding colonization as seen in the poems. The paper also looks at the ways employed by the poet to counteract the ideologies of the British.*]

Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949) was born in Hyderabad and went to King's College London and Cambridge University for higher studies. She was a key figure in securing India's independence from Britain. One of the chief founders of the Indian Constitution in 1947, she was also known as the "Nightingale of India". As Gandhi's close friend and companion, she joined him on the historic Salt March and the Second Round Table Conference. She became an activist after being inspired by the suffragist movement in London.

She addressed Indian women's concerns about Indian independence and toured the country giving talks, finally receiving four prison sentences for her anti-British activities (E*ncyclopaedia Britannica, 2021*). Naidu had to her credit three collections of poetry: *The Golden Threshold* (1905), *The Bird of Time* (1912), and *The Broken Wing* (1917). Her last collection of poetry, *The Sceptered Flute: Songs of India*, was published posthumously in 1958 ("Sarojini Naidu," 2021).

Post-colonialism: Theory and Concept

In *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Postcolonial Literatures*, Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths, and Helen Tiffin present the most accurate definition of the word post-colonialism, "We use the term 'postcolonial' ... to cover all the cultures affected by the imperial process from the moment of colonization to the present day. This is because there is a continuity of preoccupations throughout the historical

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process initiated by European imperial aggression"(Ashcroft, Griffiths, & Tiffin, 2003).

Postcolonial studies can be understood broadly as studying the cultural exchange between colonizers and the societies they were settled in and the visible signs that this interaction left on both societies' literature, arts, and human sciences (Vishwanathan, 2014). Re-reading history has become essential in the present scenario with a shift from traditional to modernity. For countries with a colonial legacy, reading such countries' literary, artistic, political and even religious development must consider the colonial influences and impact.

Helen writes, "Post-colonialism refers to reading and writing practices grounded in some form of colonial experience occurring outside Europe but as a consequence of European expansion into and exploitation of the other worlds" (Tiffin, 1988).

Literature Review

Sarojini Naidu's poetry is profoundly passionate and always lyrical in nature. Roy writes that "Sarojini Naidu's poetic style is modelled on the lines of 'Decadent' poets. Though she follows the great English Poetic tradition, her style is essentially her own"(Roy, 2019). Dwivedi says, "Like Keats and Shelley, she employed a high-browed diction, which is steeped in passion, pulse and power. Her sonorous and unusual words add to the subtlety of expressing ideas and display a keen perception of beauty"(Dwivedi, 1981).

Postcolonial studies

Stephen Slemon, in his essay "*Unsettling the Empire: Resistance Theory for the Second World*", speaks of literary resistance that emerges from the narrative and is directed towards a clearly defined set of power structures. He perceives a link between literary texts and the political realm. The acceptance of critical taxonomies represented by cultural institutions determines who would need to be heard and what is to be considered legitimate (Slemon, 1990). Ashcroft states that "They emerged in their present form out of the experience of colonization and asserted themselves by foregrounding the tension with the imperial power and emphasizing their differences from the assumptions of the imperial centre" (Ashcroft et al., 2003).

The Empire Writes Back-A Resistance

The Empire Writes Back, written by Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin, was first published in 1989. As discussed in the book, 'Writing back' is a significant form of resistance to colonialism and western conceptions of colonized peoples. According to Bressler (1998), such postcolonial writers have managed to criticize dominant cultures and their dictates, and

demonstrate that there is more than one civilization. Since their own experiences were often wiped away or debunked under colonization, such authors write to reclaim the past, understand their own cultural and personal identities, and plot their own visions with their own terminology rather than the terms imposed on them by colonialist ideology and methods.

Appropriation

As the colonizers continued to rule over the colonies, such nations could not avoid being influenced or modified by the colonizers' ideals. However, this prompted them to look for a substitute rule and hence develop an identity of their own. Indeed, the process of cultural decolonization has involved a radical dismantling of the European codes and a postcolonial subversion and appropriation of the dominant European discourses (Ashcroft et al., 2003). Appropriation is a way to use the context of European languages to adapt them to the values, experiences, and culture of the colonized nation or, as Ashcroft et al. say, to make them "'bear the burden" of one's own cultural experience" (Ashcroft et al. 2002, 38).

Raja Rao writes in the foreword to his novel *Kanthapura*, "One has to convey in a language that is not one's own the spirit that is one's own"…We cannot write like the English. We should not. We cannot write only as Indians (Rao, 2014). Textual strategies refer to the writer's use of the linguistic structure of the borrowed language, English, and his manipulation of the syntactical structure and its semantics to convey his peculiar stance against the Center (Ashcroft et al., 2003)

Methodology

The postcolonial theory is used as the theoretical framework for this study, and the analysis is done by re-reading the poems to look for deeper meanings. The notions of post-colonialism and the concerns expressed by the poet are examined with respect to the above mentioned themes. Although Sarojini Naidu has four anthologies to her credit, poems have been selected from only two of them for this study: In The Bazaars of Hyderabad from *The Bird of Time: Songs of Life, Death and the Spring (1912)* and The Gift of India from *The Broken Wing; songs of love, death & destiny (1917)*. The reason for the choice of the poem lies in the fact that the selected poems deal extensively with post-colonialism, and thus, they provide a suitable ground for this research.

Analysis

Naidu deconstructs the colonizers' postcolonial assumptions through the 'writing back' approach. The goal of this study is to see how she dismantles these

ideologies. The poet's diction, imagery, and tone of her works are the subject of study. These features aid in explaining her anti-colonial fight and comprehending related themes. At the time, Naidu's 'resistance' was represented in her 'writing back.' Meena Alexander writes, "Nor was it merely an accident that she chose that very language to speak to both parents in, both mother and father severed from her through the deliberate choice of English-the language both of punishment and accomplishment"(Alexander, 5984). Her poems radically question the assumption of cultural superiority and its universality. Through her poems, she shows her dissatisfaction, discontent, fury, and disgust with colonization.

In the Bazaars of Hyderabad (1912)

Sarojini Naidu's poem "In the Bazaars of Hyderabad" is a descriptive poem that depicts the traditional and colourful pageantry of Indian bazaars, which can still be seen in India today. It portrays India's distinct and stunning colours, demonstrating its Indianness. The poem is intended to highlight the splendour of Indian goods, art, and culture. Naidu writes, "What do you sell, 0 ye merchants? Richly your wares are displayed, Turbans of crimson and silver, Tunics of purple brocade, Mirrors with panels of amber, Daggers with handles of jade" (Naidu, 1996).

She uses regional words like 'turbans', 'brocade' and 'jade daggers' to create authentic literature true to the people of her countrymen and their experiences. Turbans are symbolic of the religious and cultural ethnicity of India. Similarly, 'jade daggers' have been a part of Indian history as they were used by the Mughals ("Indian Daggers: Jade Hilts," n.d.). Each line in this poem begins with the address to a class of Indian society based on their profession.

Hence, 'merchants', 'vendors', 'goldsmith', 'fruitmen' and 'flower-girls' have been integral to the Indian business platform and hence represent the different strata of Indian society. Meeta Ajay Khanna writes, Sarojini Naidu had compassion towards the humble folks of her motherland. She projected their toil in day to day life. She sang of their sorrows and joys, hopes and aspirations (Khanna, 2013).

In the second stanza, she mentions lentils, which is a part of the everyday diet in the Indian subcontinent. Similarly, 'henna' is very specific to this part of the world as it is customary to apply henna for to-be brides because of its cultural significance. It is to be noted that Naidu uses English to talk of things that are intrinsic to Indian culture. With her diction, she allows English speaking nations to familiarize themselves with the richness of Indian culture and consequently acknowledge its presence on a larger scale.

In the third stanza, she talks about musical instruments, *Cithar* and *Sarangi,* originating in India. The bells crafted for blue pigeons' feet are called as "frail as a dragon-wing" fly's and need a tremendous deal of talent to make. The magicians and musicians featured in the poem are very well known examples of Indian artistic abilities. She has retained most of the vernacular words as a means to make her work cross-cultural.

Throughout the poem, she uses great imagery that creates a picture of an Indian bazaar in the reader's mind. The title is also significant as the word 'Bazaar' has its origin in Persian but is used in the Indian Continent. The Oxford Dictionary has added the word as well("Oxford Learners Dictionarie," n.d.). Meeta Ajay Khanna writes, "Vernacular words not only lend rhyming grace but also lend the feature of Indianness to her poetry" (Meeta Ajay Khanna, 2013). Hence, through her poem, Naidu asserts her Indian identity on a global scale.

The Gift of India (1917)

The Gift of India is a patriotic poem by Naidu. In the introduction to the collection, her spirit of nationalism is prominent with the following words, "The Indian woman of today is once more awake and profoundly alive to her splendid destiny as the guardian and interpreter of the Triune Vision of national life—the Vision of Love, the Vision of Faith, the Vision of Patriotism" (Naidu, 1917). In the poem Naidu has portrayed India as a mother who appears to be begging the rest of the world to remember the sacrifices made by Indian soldiers during World War I (WW1).

Approximately 1.3 million Indian soldiers fought for Britain in the war and more than 75,000 of them died. Many prominent members of the independence movement believed that if India proved its importance to the British during the war, they would be granted independence. However, independence did not come until 1947, several years after the war ended in 1918. (Stephanie, 2020).

The poet considers all the blessings of raiment, grain, and wealth found and taken away from India as gifts from India in the first verse. She calls the warriors 'priceless treasures' who have been sent to an 'alien land' on someone else's mission. She uses the phrase 'mown down by chance' for innocent soldiers who sacrificed their lives to fight for a country they were a colony of. She writes, "Gathered like pearls in their alien graves Silent they sleep by the Persian waves, Scattered like shells on Egyptian sands, They lie with pale brows and brave, broken hands, They are strewn like blossoms mown down by chance On the blood-brown meadows of

Flanders and France. Can ye measure the grief of the tears I weep" (Naidu, 1917).

Imagery plays an important role here to signify the brutality of war where the alien places have been contrasted with natural images. In terms of technique, she has used classic English styles (rhyming couplets, iambic pentameter), which seems like using their tools to question their authority. She questions them, asking, "Can ye measure the grief of the tears I weep?" where the 'you' is Britain 'I is India'. She wants their sacrifice to be recognized – to acknowledge their 'martyrdom' and 'honour the deeds of the deathless ones'. The final line is about the agony they have felt as a result of their loss.

And you honour the deeds of the deathless ones
Remember the blood of thy martyred sons! (Naidu, 1917)

The poet or speaker pleads for recognition for the sacrifices made by the Indian forces and asserts the identity of Indians.

Conclusion

Post-colonialism redefines, reassesses, and restructures the history, politics, culture, literature, knowledge, and psychology of British colonies. Sarojini Naidu voices her resistance towards the colonial regime and 'writes back to the centre'. In her poetry, there is a reflection of Indian culture and her writing is, in effect, an ethnography of her culture and country. Her approach towards the portrayal, presentation, and projection of her people's cultures and identities is a means to challenge all types of established beliefs and notions. She has the goal of refuting a colonial-era cultural history that has been skewed. As a result, it strives to reclaim local cultures by celebrating indigenous traditions and ideals.

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Role of Women Labourers in Village Development

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[*In developing countries like India, poverty, unemployment, low per capita income, low productivity, low investment, low saving, low life longevity, starvation, farmer suicide, child marriage, high death rate or infant mortality, lack of infrastructure and sanitation are of major concern. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (MGNREGP) is introduced to enhance people's livelihood on a sustainable basis by developing the economic and social infrastructure in the rural areas. The types of works recommended in the scheme are related to economic and social infrastructure such as water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing, irrigation canals, provision of irrigation facility, renovation of traditional water bodies, land development, flood control, and rural connectivity. This study investigated on the impact of MGNREGP on the development of rural infrastructure in village Panchayat of Karupanur. Multi-stage random sampling technique was employed and both primary and secondary data along with a structured interview schedule was used for the collection of data during May-June 2019. It was found that works like water conservation, land development and rural connectivity was undertaken under MGNREGP in the study area. But the majority of the sample respondents undertook only water conservation under MGNREGP. It may be concluded that the respondents felt that the works undertaken for rural infrastructure were found to be very useful.*]

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (MGNREGP) was legislated as one of the most progressive legislation enacted in India since independence. It guaranteed 100 days of employment to each household at a minimum prescribed rate. The Act aims to provide employment to more than 20 million households, out of which more than 50% of the beneficiaries come from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) households. The Act provides that wages be settled through bank accounts in order to prevent defrauding of workers and to give them greater control over their wages.

The Act also envisages equal wages for both men and women. In all, the MGNREGA promises to reduce the wandering of rural poor for their employment simultaneously addressing the problems of poverty and inequality. They not only provide employment opportunities during lean agricultural seasons but also in times of flood, droughts and other natural calamities. They create rural infrastructure which supports further economic activities and it clearly indicated that economically, socially, and physically the weaker sections have benefited.

The expected outcomes from the implementation of the scheme are to increase employment and purchasing power of the people, to ensure participation of women workforce in the labour, to strengthen rural infrastructure through the creation of durable assets, regeneration of natural resources that provide livelihood resource base of the local rural economy, to increase the productivity in agriculture, and to reduce distress migration from rural areas.

Sanyal (2011) emphasized the historical importance of MGNREGA and the criticism of earlier rural employment programmes. MGNREGP is the largest employment guarantee programme in the world. It is a great move towards generating the right to work in a country with a population of over a billion with an ambition to build durable assets and basic rural infrastructural facilities in the country. Giving importance to rural infrastructure is an important aim of economic development. The MGNREGPs has completed four years of implementation during which it has been extended to all districts covering more than 4.5 crore households. The allocation for MGNREGP had been stepped up to Rs. 40,100 crores in 2010-11.

The MGNREGP works include water conservation, drought-proofing (including tree plantation and afforestation), flood protection, land development, minor irrigation and horticulture. There is a need to focus on the following areas in the coming years: (1) enforcement of the guarantee and generation of continuous employment, (2) enforcement of other entitlements, including new minimum wages, opening bank accounts, etc., (3) ensuring transparency and creating good monitoring structures, and (4) ensuring effective Social Audit and (5) appointment of members in all committees, ensuring technical manpower to villages, etc.

Some of the related studies were supported by Rao (2010), Shah (2010), Sekhar (2010), and Dutta (2011). Considering the above facts in view, this study investigated the impact of MGNREGP for the development of rural infrastructure in village Panchayat of Karupanur, Tirupattur District of Tamil Nadu.

Methodology

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MGNERGP was implemented in three phases in Tamil Nadu. The first phase was implemented in 2005-06, the second phase was implemented in 2006-07 and the third phase was implemented in 2008-09 in the Vellore District. Among the Vellore district, Tirupattur is one of the 20 blocks. In Tirupattur block, there are 34 panchayats and for the present study, MGNREGP workers in Karupanur Village Panchayat were selected since it had a high number of SC populations and high number of MGNREGP beneficiaries of 254 families.

The primary data were collected from 100 women respondents. Multi-stage random sampling technique was employed and both primary and secondary data along with structured interview schedule were used for the collection of data during May-June 2019. Secondary data were collected from the MGNREGP website. Statistical methods like Percentage, Average, ANOVA and Chi-square tests were used to analyze the data using SPSS and Gretl software.

Results and Discussion

The perusal of Table 1 revealed the socio-demographic factors like caste, religion and marital status of the respondents. The Scheduled Caste population was high in the study area and around 80 percent of the respondents came under the category of SC followed by MBC MGNREGP workers (17 percent) and BC workers (3 percent) respectively. Regarding the religion,

around 99 percent of the respondents came under the category of Hindu and rest of the respondents were Christians. Regarding the marital status, around 71 percent of respondents were married, 26 percent of the respondents were unmarried and 1 percent was divorced and rest of the 2 percent were widows respectively.

The numbers of divorced and widow respondents were very low in the study area. Similar findings had been arrived by Hazra (2011) and Chandrashekhar (2012). The results indicated that MGNREGP work is more like social security to the vulnerable sections of the society, like aged women, widows, and destitute women. Overall, it can be said that SC workers were highest among the different castes in the study area. Even though other caste workers had job cards under this programme, SC and ST workers were more interested to work under this programme. Most of the other caste workers were not willing to work under this programme due to different reasons such as unacceptability of caste in differentiation in the works and wages, lower wages, prestige or superiority complex, etc. It was also found that the workers were working in their respective caste groups in the worksites. In Karupanur, it was found that worksites were allotted based on caste (Sankari & Murugan, 2009; Sharma, Balamurugan, Kumar, Sandeep & Bajpai, 2010; Sharma & Sharma, 2011; Sarkar, Prattoy, Kumar, Jagdish & Supriya, 2011; Kelkar, 2011).

Table 1. Caste, religion and marital status of the respondents

Caste	Percent	Religion	Percent	Marital status	No. of Res.	Percent
SC	80	Hindu	99	Married	329	71
ST	-	Christian	1	Unmarried	126	26
BC	3	Muslim	-	Divorce	1	1
MBC	17	Others	-	Widow	7	2
Total	100	Total	100	Total	463	100

Table 2. Education and residential status of the respondents

Educational Status	No.of Res.	Percent	Residential Status	Percent
Illiterate	97	21	Resident	89
Primary	83	18	Short term migrants	6
Middle	86	19	Medium term migrants	3
High	92	20	Long term migrants	2
Higher secondary	43	9	Staying more than 6	-
Technical	8	2	Both staying more than 6 months	-
Education/Diploma Graduation	48	10	Total	100
Post-Graduation	6	1		
Total	463	100		

The perusal of Table 2 revealed the education and residential status of the respondents in the study area. Regarding the educational status, around 21 percent of the respondents reported that they were uneducated.

Around 18 to 20 percent of the respondents reported that were educated up to high school level. Around 9 to 10 percent of the respondents reported that they studied up to higher secondary and graduation level. The higher

education, technical education and graduates were very low at the study village. Generally, illiterates from the rural areas prefer agricultural wage works and MGNREGP works. So, MGNREGP is beneficial for illiterates and also for those with primary level education though they were keen to send their children to school and like to spend more money for their children's education.

In this regard, it was found that money from MGNREGP helps them to purchase notebooks for the school-going children, which is supported by the findings of Hazra (2011). In the study area, it was found that only 2 percent of the family members were long-term migrants. It was found that around 3 to 6 percent of the family members were medium and short-term migrants. The majority of the respondents (89 percent) stayed in their own residence. The percentage of medium-term, long-term, and short-term migrant categories was very low at the study village.

The main reason for migration is inadequate employment opportunities in the agricultural sector in the respective villages. Other reasons include better education for children. Most of the respondents opined that migration had been reduced due to the availability of work in their respective villages through MGNREGP.

Table 3. The main occupation of the respondents

Main occupation	No. of Res.	Percent
Not applicable	94	20
Housewife	7	1
Relatives/Old age	4	1
Farmers	62	14
Agricultural labour	16	3
Skilled labour	59	14
Unskilled labour	15	3
Government services	8	2
Private services	34	7
Others (MGNREGP)	164	35
Total	463	100

Table 3 revealed the main occupation and sources of income details of the respondents. In the study area, around 35 percent of the respondents and their household members were doing MGNREGP jobs. It can be seen that around 14 percent of the respondents and their household members were farmers and skilled labourers, 7 percent of the respondent's household members were doing private jobs. It was found that 2 to 3 percent of the respondents and their household members were government employees, unskilled and agricultural labourers. It was found that only 1 percent of the respondents and their household members were housewives and old age people. From these observations, it is learnt that mostly the agricultural labourers,

unskilled labourers were willing to do the MGNREGP works. Some of them were working in their own lands and also in MGNREGP (Rai & Durgaprasad, 2008; Dutta, 2009; Chandrashekhar, 2012).

Table 4 revealed the variations in the income received from MGNREGP in the study area. The first column denotes the village, the second column denotes the mean square value and the third column denotes the P-value. The mean square value showed variations among the communities. The mean square values were 1.2 for the study village. The P-value of Karupanur indicated that it was significant at 10 percent level. In the study area, it was found that there are no significant variations among the different communities with respect to income earned through MGNREGP as the calculated mean square values are less than the table value. No discrimination existed among the communities with respect to getting employment and earnings through MGNREGP. It was found that there is no major variation in the MGNREGP income among the respondents.

Table 4. Comparison of MGNREGP income among different communities in Karupanur.

Village	Mean Square	P-Value
Karupanur	1.2	0.0693*

Table 5 revealed the various works undertaken under MGNREGP and level of usefulness of MGNREGP in the study area. It can be seen that 100 percent of the respondents reported that the panchayat has undertaken the water conservation work only. Regarding the level of usefulness of MGNREGP, it can be seen that 59 percent of the respondents reported that the programme was very useful and 40 percent found to be useful. Only 1 percent of the respondents reported that the programme was somewhat useful.

Table 5. Various works undertaken and usefulness of MGNREGP.

Works	No. of Res.	Percent	Level	No. of Res.
Water conservation	100	100	Very useful	59
Land developemnt	-	-	Useful	40
Rural connectivity	-	-	Somewhat useful	1
Total	100	100	Total	100

Table 6 revealed the level of satisfaction with the work conditions provided under MGNREGP and benefits of construction of rural roads. It can be seen that 80 percent of the respondents reported that they were satisfied with the work conditions. Around 16 percent of the respondents reported that they were extremely satisfied. It can be seen that around 4 percent of the respondents reported that they were averagely satisfied. Regarding benefits of construction of rural roads it can be seen that 94 percent of the respondents reported that MGNREGP work provided good transportation. It can

be seen that 4 percent of the respondents reported that it helped them to market their agricultural products. Only 1 percent of the respondents reported that it helped to meet their emergency needs and their children's education.

Conclusion

The present study provides a clear picture of the ground realities of MGNREGP, i.e., different communities, literacy level, occupation, annual earnings, migration, opinions, benefits, usefulness, and satisfaction in the study area. This study has concentrated only on Karupanur panchayat which was earlier in the Vellore district; hence it should be extended to all panchayats of Tirupattur district to study the complete impact of MGNREGP.

Acknowledgments

Table 6. Level of satisfaction with the work conditions provided under MGNREGP

Satisfaction	Percent	Construction of rural roads	Percent
Extremely satisfied	16	Opportunity of good transportation	94
Satisfied	80	Helping in agri. product marketing	4
Average	4	To meet emergency	0
Dissatisfied	-	To help children's education	1
Total	100	others	1
		Total	100

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Colonial Re-organisation of the Nyishi Villages of Assam

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[*Throughout the colonial period, the Nyishis settled beyond the Inner Line were repeatedly giving trouble to Nyishis settled within the British territory. To stop such raids, the British shifted all the Nyishi villages to below 5 miles from the Inner Line and 20 miles away from their own clan from hills. All sensitive Nyishi villages within the British territory were shifted to new locations towards the east of Subansiri and permitted them to collect free bamboo, tree for house construction, posa payment for time being a relief, and rent-free settlements. They also punished those villages that did not comply with their orders. Same-time, they also directed the Nyishi villages of foothills to settle beyond 5 miles from the Inner Line. Hence, the paper intends to bring out all those British policies to re-organise the Nyishi villages settled within their territory.*]

The British annexed lower Assam in 1826 after defeating the Burmese and annexed up to upper Assam in 1838 A.D. Later, they demarcated their administrative boundary line which was popularly known as Inner Line regulation of 1873, and identified plains regions of Assam under their administrative control (Sharma & Sharma, 2006: 47-49)'.

They adopted an isolationist policy that intended to leave the 'tribesmen alone' to frontier tribes (Present Arunachal tribes) but they frequently encountered hills tribes (present Arunachal Pradesh) who were settled in the northern border of Assam'(Mackenzie, 2013:4-6)'. Among them, the Nyishi was one of the major tribes that were settled in the northern part of Lakhimpur and Darrang districts of Assam. The maximum population of the Nyishi was settled beyond the Inner Line but few villages of the Nyishis were located within the Inner Line that came under the British administration.

Presently, the Nyishis are the largest tribe of Arunachal Pradesh and have settlements over seven districts namely, Kurung Kumey, Kra-Dadi, Papum Pare, Lower Subansiri, Kamley, East Kameng, and Pakke-Kessang. They are also settled in a few pockets of Sonitpur and Lakhimpur districts of Assam (Hina, 2012:15). Earlier, the Nyishis were called as "Daflas" by the British '(Showren, 2009: 61)'. But the Government of India by its Constitution Amendment Act, (Scheduled Tribes) 2008 has changed the term 'Dafla' to 'Nyishi'.

To trace the history British-Nyishi relations, the first time the British military officers gave references to their encounters with the Nyishi people in upper Assam was during the Anglo-Burmese war in 1825 (Panda, 1988:165). After annexation to Assam, they found the Nyishi villages settled in the upper Assam both inside and outside of the Inner Line and those who resided outside of the Inner Line were independent in nature and followed their own sovereign but those who resided inside of the Inner Line followed the British rule and accepted the sovereignty of British authority. They were treated as British subjects and were protected by the British government against their enemy or hills raiders '(political proceedings: 1908)'.

Throughout the colonial period, the British found that the raids and outrages amongst the Nyishis of different villages or clans were common. Therefore, the numbers of raids and outages had been carried out by the hills Nyishis to the plains Nyishis. The British considered plains Nyishis as their subjects and interfered in their internal feuds to protect them from hills raiders. Therefore, they re-arranged all sensitive Nyishi villages located within the British territory that had serious problems with the hills Nyishis and also possibilities of conflicts.

The main objective was to disconnect the social and economic link of hills Nyishis with their subjects. To make a barrier between the hills and plains Nyishis was the only best way to stop their conflicts. Hence, this article intends to bring out all the important British orders to re-settle the Nyishi villages of the plains.

Objective and methodology of the paper

The main objective of the paper is to review the British re-settlements of the Nyishi villages in their territory. In order to stop the conflicts between the hills Nyishis and plains Nyishis, the British shifted all sensitive Nyishi villages to new locations. Hence, the paper has attempted to review all British orders and actions related to the re-arrangement of the Nyishi villages.

In order to construct a systematic analysis and interpretation of the paper, both primary and secondary sources are used. Few relevant books use as secondary sources but primary sources mostly archival materials like the British Survey Reports, Tour Diaries, Official

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Correspondence and Political Proceedings collected from the National Archives, New Delhi; State Archives, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar, Government of Assam, Guwahati, have come to great help to develop this paper.

In fact, many scholars had done the work on the Nyishi and their relations with the British but no one has done exclusively on the British re-organisations of the Nyishi villages in the plains. Archival materials are adding a lot of information in research work that no one has covered so far. Therefore, my study area is new and original research.

British Re-Settlements of the Nyishi Villages of Assam

When the British annexed upper Assam, some of the Nyishi villages in the plains were already settled within the Inner Line and also came under the control of the British administration. The British found that the Nyishi people were habitual of raids on each other for small reasons. Due to the lack of a proper governing system, village to village raids were very common amongst the Nyishi. A number of feuds had happened between the hills Nyishis and plains Nyishis. They linked each other from social and economic life and reasons for conflicts arise from disagreements of social and economic practices.

Hence, the British administration had interfered with all such raids and outrages occurring within the Inner Line but they did not interfere with the incidents happening beyond the line. In order to stop the hills Nyishis raids into plains Nyishis, the British government in Assam re-organised the Nyishi villages located within the Inner Line. The British wanted to make a barrier between hills Nyishi and plains Nyishi villages, or disconnected their social and economic relations. They directed all the Nyishi villages located near the Inner Line to shift them below 5 miles from Inner Line and also directed them to settle within 20 miles of the hills from which they had descended or from their same clan (Political proceeding, 1918).

Hence, the Nyishi villages in the British territory varied from place to place viz. five and six miles within the Inner Line. In accordance with standing orders which were embodied in the then Chief Commissioner's Circular dated the 13th March 1874, the Nyishis were not allowed to reside within 20 miles of the hills, but Godfrey the then Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur pointed out that the circular had not been properly enforced in the sub-division level. Godfrey recommended that all Nyishi villages within the British territory should be moved towards the east of the Subansiri which was identified as a new location site for Nyishi villages. It would be a perfect policy to protect from the hills Nyishi trouble to the plains Nyishi.

Later, his recommendation had been approved by the then Chief Commissioner of Assam. Godfrey's proposition that *"in case the Nyishis declined to move, they should be told that the Government would not interfere in any way in their relations with the hill people beyond the Inner Line or guarantee them security."* '(Judicial Department: 1887)'. At the same time, the British also directed the hill Nyishis to settle five miles beyond the Inner Line. Hence, the numbers of Nyishi villages located near the Inner Line were compelling to shift their village towards hills.

These orders were conveyed to the Nyishis by Kennedy, the then Sub-Divisional Officer but no active measures were taken to induce them to move. The Nyishis were not moving voluntarily. In fact, they remonstrated against the removal of their village. In this regard, Godfrey orders to compel them to reside on the east bank of the Subansiri River which would most certainly prevent them from continuing their quarrels with the hill Nyishis. According to the British, it was the best policy to protect from raids, and would guarantee the peace of the frontier regions '(Judicial Department: 1887)'.

Therefore, in order to induce them to move towards the east of the Subansiri River, a proposal was given to them for a two-year rent-free land in the east of the Subansiri. In addition, the British might also give them a small allowance as *Posa* (System of grant allowances to the certain hills tribes) of Rs. 2-8 per house. They were also to be exempted from obtaining passes to cross the Inner Line and permitted to cut any timber and bamboo for the purpose of construction of houses or other domestic uses.

The British government planned to stop paying "*posa*" to the plains Nyishis and utilize this amount on meeting the expenses of the officers posted in the foothills regions. It was the process of saving the British treasury and minimising unnecessary expenditure. If they were persuaded to move across the Subansiri, then only the British desired to continue their *posa* payment for two years. Once they properly settled, their *posa* payment would be stopped.

The British government authorized the *Mauzadar* (area revenue officer) to supervise them regarding the settlements of the new location. This regulation was felt required because of the plains Nyishis' continuous disputes with the hills Nyishis on the issue of giving

shelter to the runaway slaves, offenders, seizing and detaining women of the hills Nyishis, and also arguments related to claiming right over natural resources.

Finally, they were settled in 18 different places with 133 houses and their population was estimated at 796 souls. J.J.S. Driberg, the then Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur obtained information from Kennedy and his statement was as follows:-

They have between them 198 pattas covering 637b. 4k. 6l. of land, and paying us revenue of Rs. 405-6-0. Of the above number of pattas, 86 are decennial leases. The British wanted to move some 130 to 140 houses, some 800 persons, sacrifice a land revenue for, say, two years, amounting to over Rs. 400 per annum, and if my proposal is approved of, disburse about Rs. 325 in cash as compensation; and to carry out removal, we shall, notwithstanding our liberality, have to use some force and compel the people to settle where we wish. We might move some 30 to 40 houses this year, and, if we succeed in doing so, we shall have much less difficulty in making the rest follow. If no Dafla settlements to the west of the Subansiri the British were in the opinion probably able to do away with the guard at Borpathar, which is now kept up solely with a view to protect our plain Daflas' '(Judicial Department:1887)'.

In 1887, C. J. Lyall, Secretary to Chief Commissioner of Assam (CCA) had recommended some regulations related to Re-organisation of the Nyishi villages to Government of India which was finally approved by the Government of India: following are the regulations:

1. The prevention of any settlement of immigrant hill-men within a strip of five miles beyond the Inner Line;

2. The strict enforcement, especially in case of Nyishi, of the prohibition against crossing the Inner Line without a pass;

3. The removal of existing settlers, located closed to the Inner Line but inside of it, so far as may be found practicable after considering the circumstances of each settlement, to the east of the Subansiri, or to a safe distance from the hills; and

4. The appointment of a special officer to supervise the settlers and report on new arrivals.

The then Chief Commissioner had issued similar instructions to the Nyishi villages of the west in the Darrang district '(Political Proceedings: 1888)'. Thereafter, the British enforced strong and effective policies related to re-organisations of villages and settlement of immigrants from hills. Similarly, in the year 1888, the Foreign Department, Government of India

had formulated the policy regarding the removal of the Nyishi villages located near the Inner Line. The Deputy Commissioner of the Lakhimpur and Darrang districts were authorized to remove the Nyishis villages and directed them to settle in a selected site. To comply with this order, the then Sub-Divisional Officer, North Lakhimpur issued a Letter No. 96, dated the 23rd April 1888 to remove the Nyishi villages located to the East of the Ranganadi, where there were Nyishis colonies '(Political Proceedings: 1888)'. These colonies were politically important because they used to handle migrated Nyishis like, the question of settlement, and ransom, etc. '(Political Proceedings: 1908)'.

There were different reasons to remove or evict the Nyishi villages like sensitive locations, reports of conflicts with hills people, bad behaviour of the villagers, driven away by the hill Nyishis, taken shelter of criminals and runaway slaves or women from the hills. Many Nyishi villages located within the British territory were not shifted on the ground of good behaviours of the villagers or no records of disputes with hills Nyishis. It was operating only on the basis of the reputations of villages. Captain Nevill reported that the British shifted a few sensitive villages from existing areas to new locations which were considered as safe areas in the plains.

Accordingly, the Nyishi villages in Darrang district were Dubia, Kathoni, Kohila, Ahootali, Barellipathar, Ghaigaon, Singlijan, Behali, Borgang, Duli and Bikialla. Among them, Dubia, Kathoni, Kohila, Singlijan, Behali, Borgang, and Duli villages were shifted. Similarly, the Nyishi villages in Lakhimpur district of Assam were Narainpur, Bipuria, Barapather, Hingis, Laluk, Doolahat, Runganadi, Hatilung, Rangajan, and Ampara. Among them, Hingis, Runganadi, Rangajan, and Ampara villages were shifted (Political Proceedings: 1918)'.

In case the Nyishis refused to shift their villages, the British government took various types of action against them and compelled them to accept the British order and shifted their villages in the British allotted site in the plains areas or somewhere into the hills. For example, in 1931, Sengmara village was burnt by the British force, and compelled them to shift their village because they did not comply with the order of the British to remove the villages. Moreover, the village was situated five miles within the Inner Line. Therefore, in 1932, Tangom, the headman of Sengmara village at last left the site of the village and the villagers found a new village near the confluence of the Pare and Niorch rivers '(Administrative Report: 1932-33)'.

One of the important features of the colonial re-organisation of the Nyishi villages was to appoint Gams

(Chief) in every Nyishi village of Assam. Traditionally, the Nyishi had never appointed the village or clan chiefs system but on 10th May 1907, the British created the first precedent for the appointment of *Gams* (chiefs) in the Nyishi villages of plains within the British territory. The Deputy Commissioners of Lakhimpur and Darrang districts were authorized to use the discretionary power to appoint the Nyishi Gams (chiefs) in the Nyishi villages of Assam '(Political Proceedings: 1907)'.

For example, in 1908, the Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur appointed Hare Nyishi and Leli Nyishi as Gams of Nyishi village in Laluk and Ranganadi respectively. They were leading men of the Nyishi settled in the plains and also capable enough to control the entire populace of the villages'(Political Proceedings: 1908)'. Similarly, Gams were appointed for all Nyishi villages of Assam to look after the village administration.

Conclusion

Thus, the British Government of Assam formulated a number of policies regarding the Nyishi settlements in the plains areas. Some Nyishi villages within the British territory always had correspondence with the hills Nyishi and as a result, sometimes they turned into conflicts with each other. It is a fact that the British considered the Nyishis residing well within their territory as their own subjects and hence, they retained the right to protect them against all odds. Therefore, all sensitive villages were shifted to new locations which were safe areas.

In order to avoid direct confrontation between the hills and plains Nyishis, the British directed all Nyishi villages situated near Inner Line to re-settle their villages at least five miles below from the Inner Line and twenty miles away to their own clan from the hills. With this regulation, few sensitive Nyishi villages in the plains were shifted to new areas which were found safer from raids. They were directed to move towards the east bank of the river Subansiri where the British had allotted land for their settlement.

The British took action against those villages that had refused their orders. The shifted villages were allowed to utilize the natural resources which available in the surrounding areas without any restriction. The *posa* also paid for immediate relief and also provided rent free settlements. The British also applied different policy for the Nyishis settled beyond Inner Line. According to their policies, the incidents happening beyond the Inner Line were not to come under the British administration and also refused to interfere in their internal feuds in their own territory but the foothills Nyishi villages always tried dragging the British administration into their internal conflicts which happening beyond Inner Line.

This was probably the reason; the British directed all the foothills Nyishi villages located close to the borderline to shift towards hills and at least, settle five miles beyond the Inner Line. As a result, the numbers of Nyishi villages located near Inner Line were vacated and shifted their villages towards the remote hills. The British appointed the village representative called Gams (chiefs) for smooth functioning of the village administration.

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A Bibliometric Analysis of Application of Big Data Tools in Electoral Campaigns by using VOSviewer

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[*Big data applications help generate valuable insights; machine learning algorithms use the massive data to train robots, predictive modeling, and other analytics applications. Big Data Applications in the electoral process help enable intelligent decision-making for agencies, politicians, and voters by drawing opinions from social media, microblogging sites, weblogs, etc., resulting in low cost, efficient strategy, and productive outcomes. Therefore, a bibliometric analysis of the published research articles may provide insight into the technologies used in the particular fields, trends, and future scope. The global literature about big data applications in electoral-related processes published between 1999 and 2021 was examined from the web of science core collection database to search the relevant research publications. VOSviewer software was applied to perform an analysis of these publications. A total of 189 research articles on big data applications in poll camping were retrieved from the web of science core collection. Of these, the core keywords "big data" is identified as the most robust node with solid links to "social media," "politics," "internet of things," and "management." From the title and abstract of the publications, the terms reflecting the research areas belong to Fifty-nine terms with 5 clusters and 1197l links with total link strength of 11106. The total number of authors was 3802, and the articles were published in ten major categories of journals. The frontier topics of research and technologies applied were also explored from the title field. This paper helps researchers, funding agencies, and other stakeholders to fill the gap in research areas and understand the current status of big data applications in electoral processes/campaigns and future trends.*]

Big data is voluminous data obtained from weblogs, social networking sites, microblogging sites such as Twitter, reviews from e-commerce platforms, IoT devices, sensors, etc. It may be of three types, i.e., structured (organized data in a relational database), semi-structured (text, XML files, etc.), and unstructured (audio, video, images, etc.). It is collected by organizations for mining information, predicting patterns for sales, weather conditions, and scientific applications applicable in machine learning, predictive modeling, and other future analytics operations. For example, organizations need to obtain information like where, when, and why, predict the market trend, future needs, and optimize workforce planning, target audience, or customers via feedback.

Big data provides valuable insights into people's beliefs that political parties can use to refine their strategies, advertising, and promotions to increase voters' engagement and conversion rates [1]. In addition, organizations can analyze historical and real-time data to assess the evolving preferences of voters or citizens' opinions, enabling decision-making responsive to citizens' wants and needs. Data analytics in electoral politics is basically to understand what makes the voter tick. Data is only a confirmation of voters' beliefs. Studying constituencies in India both booth-wise and across social demographics is an expensive exercise. Therefore, several poll campaign agencies have boomed to buy elections; the agencies use the audience's opinions for political micro-targeting. In addition, poll campaigners use big data analytics tools to analyze voters' views from social media to optimize poll campaigns per sentiment [2].

New information is embedded in the scientific literature, and by measuring the available scientific literature, we can measure knowledge and how it is produced. Bibliometric analysis is one way to analyze the scientific literature using clustering techniques. These techniques are based on finding hidden patterns, underlying similarities between the constituent variables, salient features from the data, etc.

Scholars use bibliometric analysis for various reasons, such as to uncover emerging trends in research, article and journal performance, collaboration patterns among authors and institutes, and research constituents, and to survey the intellectual structure of a particular domain in the extant literature [3,4]. For example, a keyword and abstract analysis identify the most popular topics

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covered by the bibliometric study and interdisciplinary articles that have the highest impact. Content analysis can also provide quantitative measures through harvesting keywords as in forest ecology research [5] education and ethics.

This method has a lot of potential for discovering up-and-coming fields. Many Software tools for conducting science mapping bibliometric analysis are available such as Bibexcel, CiteSpace, Biblioshiny, VOSviewer, etc. [6, 7]. Many support Windows, Linux, or OSX platforms as a standalone tool. These tools provide data extraction from many databases in various formats and can load and export information from many sources of scientific literature.

However, no bibliometric analysis of publications on big data applications in the electoral process has been published. Therefore, to obtain more knowledge from these references, a bibliometric study is needed to apply a broad understanding of big data tools and their applications in the electoral process and find future research directions. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the metadata of all the papers indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection related to applying big data tools in sentiment/opinion mining from social media and internet sources.

Methodology

i. For Bibliometric analysis, the Web of Science (WOS) Core Collection database has been selected since it is the most often used database for bibliometric analysis in management and Organization [8]. In addition, the web of science core collection was searched for the advanced query "big data applications in politics OR big data applications in campaign OR big data applications in the electoral process."

ii. The results were exported in RIS format to analyze by VOSVIEWER version 1.6.16.

iii. Construction and visualization of data related to authors-co-authorship from various institutes working in specialized fields, co-occurrence- co-citation analysis, analysis from the title and abstract field were performed to obtain clustering information, links, and link strength.

Results and Discussion

Bibliometric analysis of the citations and publications

The query resulted in 260 publications from the web of science core collection from the year 1999 to 2021. Out of these, irrelevant were removed by refining results, and finally, 189 publications were found relevant to the

query. Of these document types, the major publisher was IEEE, followed by Springer Nature, Elsevier, Sage, and lastly, Taylor Francis. The USA was the country with significant publications, followed by Italy. Majorly the articles were published in the English language followed by Spanish and open access was provided to 67 pieces. Among published document types, 103 were articles followed by 80 proceedings papers.

Among web of science categories, 51 Publications were published in Computer Science theory methods followed by 49 in Computer Science information systems and most minor in Political Science category. Among the research area with a maximum (86), publications were in computer science, then engineering 49, Government Law 18. In 2019, Researchers published a maximum of 39 Publications with 229 citations related to the query. Of the total Publications overtime 1145 times, these were cited with an average citation of 6.96 per publication, with H-index 14.

Map-based text data from the title and abstract field analysis

Complete counting of all term occurrences in a document is counted from the title and abstract fields. Three clusters as the campaign as the most prominent node, with 41 items and 725 links total link strength 2717 as shown in figure 2. The cloud map of words indicates the interconnection of technology, development, influence, social media, society, and many related disciplines. A similar study was done in bit coin mining literature [9].
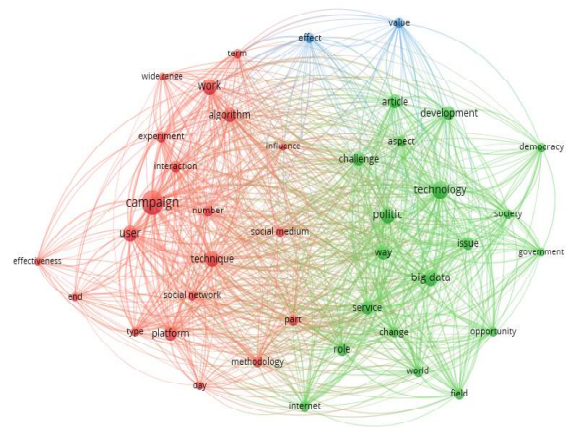

Figure 2: Visualization of text data from the title and abstract field

Co-authorship analysis

Co-authorship analysis is the relatedness of items determined on the number of documents. The maximum number of authors for a document/ article is set to 8;

the minimum number of Documents of an author is set to 2. Total 549 authors have participated in publications related to big data application in poll campaigns or electoral processes. Out of 540 authors, 17 meet the threshold with the greatest total link strength selected and shown in figure 3. A similar type of Co-citation network of authors of socially responsible funds was analyzed by VOSviewer [10].
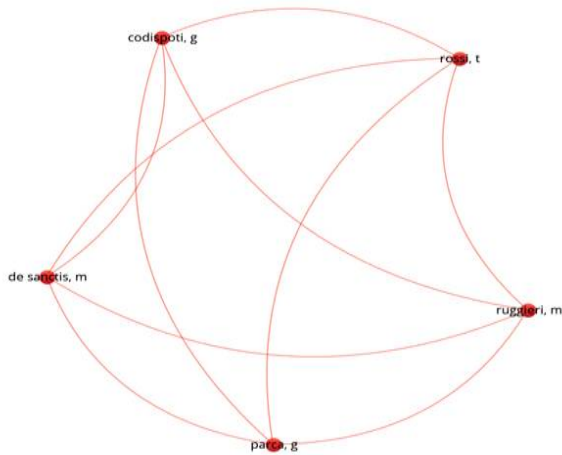

Figure 3: Visualization of Co-authorship analysis data.

Co-occurrence and keyword analysis

While analyzing the combination of Co-occurrence-keyword, a minimum number of occurrences of a keyword are set to 5, and out of 959 keywords, 17 thresholds. Out of these 17 items, 4 clusters with 66 links were formed, total link strength of 133. This study was also performed in mining publications of COVID 19 pandemic literature [11].
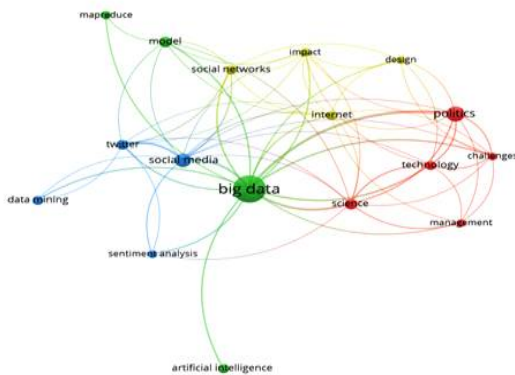

Figure 4: Visualization of Co-occurrence and keyword analysis

i. Abstract field analysis

The campaign, technology, and technique are 3 Clusters found with a link of 680, item 40, and total link strength 2293.
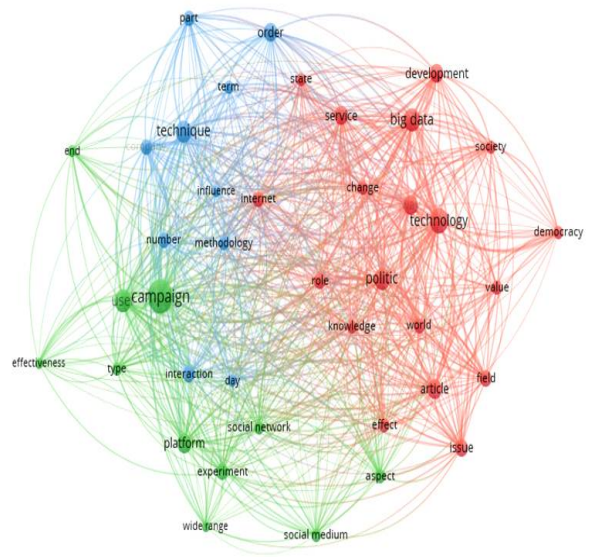

Figure 5: Visualization of Abstract field analysis

Keywords analysis

Big data, artificial intelligence, internet technology, social media, politics were important keywords.
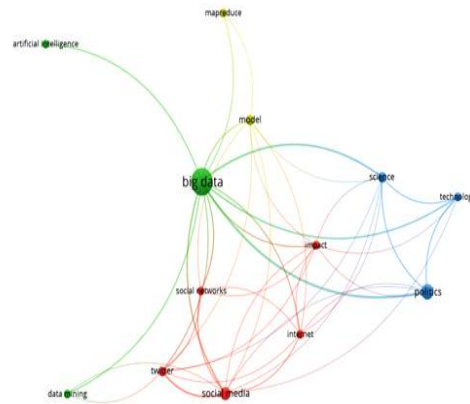

Figure 6: Visualization of Keyword field analysis

ii. Network map analysis

Items 59, clusters 5, links 1197, and total link strength 11106, the giant cluster is connected to 59 terms. Similar bibliometric maps of field of science were studied [12].
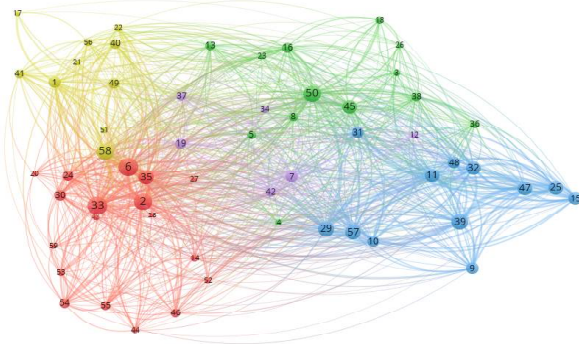
Figure 7: Visualization of Network map analysis

Conclusion

The above study concluded that IEEE and Springer published significant research articles with the highest number in computer science journals involving 540 authors. Big data was applied to social media, social networking, and the internet, among the keywords. Primary literature was published in the last decade. Big data technology and social media terms will be points of future research. Scholars can gain a one-stop overview of the big data tools and techniques application in poll campaigns, can identify knowledge gaps, and derive novel ideas for future applications, investigation, and intended contributions in the field.

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Intention to Sustainable Entrepreneurship:
A bibliometric Analysis Approach

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[*In recent years the focus of entrepreneurship moves to sustainable entrepreneurship intending to attain environmental and social gains along with economic gains. Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) has become one of the aims of entrepreneurial activities these days. The present paper attempts to present a bibliometric view on intention to sustainable entrepreneurship in terms of most prominent authors, sources and works in this field of research. Data were retrieved from Dimensions data base and Vosviewer software was used for analysis. Citation, co-citation, and bibliographic coupling analysis were employed to meet the objective of the study.*]

Entrepreneurship is inevitable for the economic growth and economic development of a nation. Hence much importance has been given by all the sectors including the government to promote entrepreneurial activities. It shows a growing trend in recent years. However entrepreneurial activities along with bringing economic growth and development also brought certain negative impacts to the globe such as environmental degradation, exploitation of people, climate changes, etc. Thus the focus of entrepreneurship from mere profit-making has necessitated a change, resulting in the growth of a new concept called sustainable entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs have a crucial part in solving problems related to nature and society along with earning profits and thus sustainable entrepreneurship becomes an important topic of the hour.

Sustainable entrepreneurial practice is a concept that connects development meeting sustainable criteria to entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurs who are engaged in this practice are called sustainable-minded entrepreneurs or sustainability-driven entrepreneurs. Sustainable entrepreneurship refers to a business model that aims at bringing together the three domains of sustainable development. It works based on the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) phenomenon introduced by Richardson.

As per TBL, the sustainable practice includes monetary gains, nature upliftment, and societal values, and this phenomenon is modified as "3P" which stands for people, planet, and profits. Sustainable entrepreneurship is not only confined to managing the environment but also is a practice that emphasizes ensuring social welfare and generating economic benefits (Sargani et al., 2020). It is a matter of attaining a proper balance among economic, social, and environmental gains. Crals and Vereeck (2001) mention sustainable entrepreneurship as the responsibility of the business to attain business goals by ensuring the well-being of others.

Sustainable entrepreneurship is necessarily different from other forms of entrepreneurship such as social entrepreneurship and ecological entrepreneurship. Because social entrepreneurship is exclusively focused on attaining social gains and social welfare and less importance is given to economic value creation and ecological entrepreneurship exclusively emphasizes earning profit by integrating the environmental issues in their business but sustainable entrepreneurship along with achieving the goals mentioned under social entrepreneurship and ecological entrepreneurship aims to achieve economic gains. Thus we essentially say that sustainable entrepreneurship is a different form of entrepreneurship (Kasimu, Peter, and Peter 2018).

Literature Review

Sustainable entrepreneurship is driven by certain postulates such as ethical values, economic gain, quality of product and services, environmental protection, work practices etc. Sustainable entrepreneurial practice plays a major role in promoting economic development, boosting the public setting, and protecting the natural environment. Thus sustainable entrepreneurship establishes profitable business ventures along with meeting particular social and environmental goals (Koe et al., 2017).

The majority of the studies on intention towards entrepreneurship are driven by Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB). Intention simply means what one thinks to do or bring about. While sustainable entrepreneurial intention refers to the propensity to meet the economic, social, environmental, and cultural goals business venture. (Koe et al., 2017). In other words, it means the interest of an individual to become a sustainable entrepreneur or sustainability-driven entrepreneur

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(Fatoki, 2019). Intention towards sustainable entrepreneurship is affected by certain attitudinal and normative factors as well as perception factors. Thus Sustainable entrepreneurial intention is described based on the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) and Entrepreneurial Event Model (EEM) (Koe et al., 2017). The factors affecting intention towards sustainable entrepreneurship are presented below.

Objectives of the Study

- To understand the most prominent authors, sources and works on intention to sustainable entrepreneurship research.

Methodology

The present paper is a review paper based on bibliometric analysis. To gather knowledge with regard to the most prominent authors, sources and works bibliometric data were obtained.

A. Data Extraction: Data for the purpose of bibliometric analysis were extracted from the dimensions data base by employing the keyword intention to sustainable entrepreneurship, Publication Year limit 2016 OR 2017 OR 2018 OR 2019 OR 2019 OR 2020. In order to have more focused study, the publication year was limited from 2016 to 2020. Publication types used were the articles with full data and the search fetched 20295 results. The articles were sorted based on the citations and bibliometric data of 2500 articles with highest citations were downloaded.

B. Data Analysis: Bibliometric data were analysed using Vosviewer software and it also made use for the bibliometric visualization. Citation analysis, co-citation analysis and bibliographic coupling analysis were performed to trace the most relevant authors, sources and works respectively on the topic of intention to sustainable entrepreneurship.

**Results and Discussions**

Author Citation Analysis

Analysis was performed with two minimum number of documents of an author. 809 authors met this conditions, however 648 items were taken into final analysis.
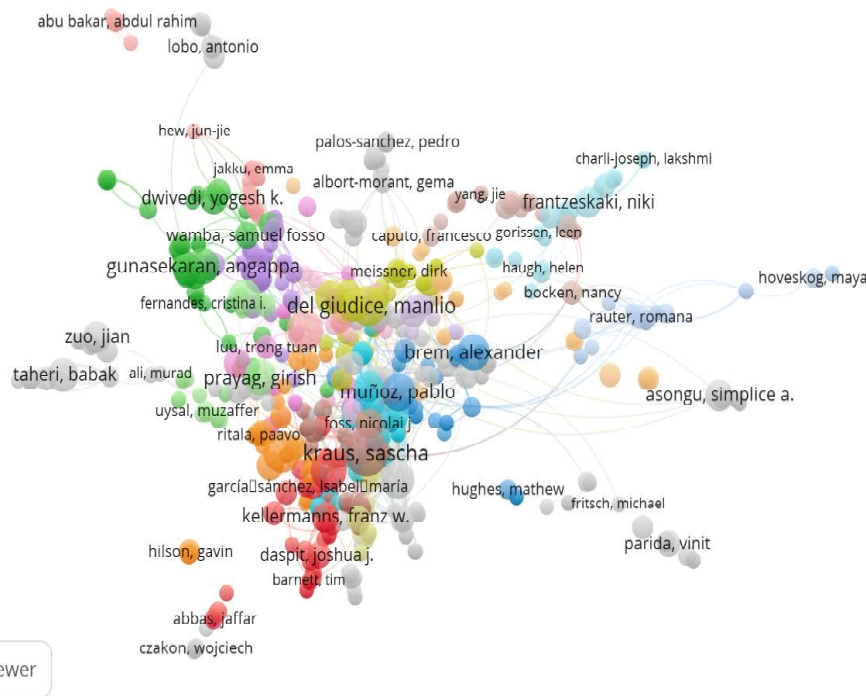
Author citation analysis shows that Kraus & Sascha, Paul & Justin, De Marris & Alfredo, Munoz & Pablo and Urbano & David are the most prominent authors with regard to intention to sustainable entrepreneurship research.

Co-citation Analysis

Cited sources were taken as a starting point for this analysis were required citation of a source was set at 20 and it gave 1031 items. Finally 1000 items went into final analysis.
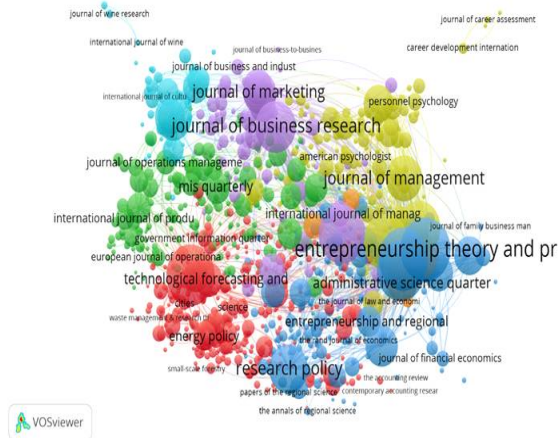
Co-citation analysis of sources indicates that Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice, Strategic Management Journal, Journal of cleaner Production, Journal of Business Ethics and Academy Management Review are the most impactful sources with more than 3000 citations with regard to intention to sustainable entrepreneurship research.

Bibliographic Coupling Analysis

Documents were taken as unit of analysis for bibliographic coupling in order to find out most coupled publications. The required number of citation of a document was fixed 35 and it generated 1308 items, however 1000 items were considered for final analysis.

Analysis reveal that the works titled conceptualizing the circular economy: an analysis of 114 definitions by Kirachher, a review on the circular economy: the expected transition to a balanced interplay of environmental and economic systems by Ghisellini and a review on the relational organization of entrepreneurial ecosystems are most coupled publications in this research area.
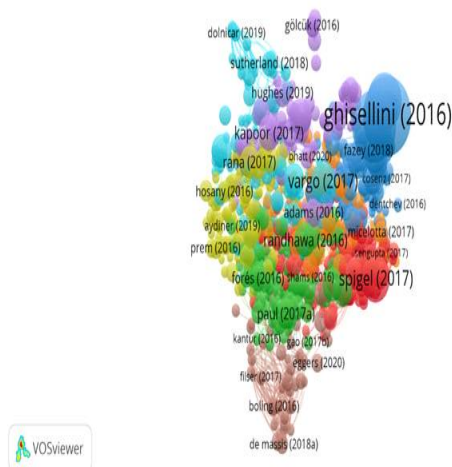
Conclusion

Sustainable entrepreneurship has changed the role of business firms and brought a transition in the roles of entrepreneurs from mere making economic development to finding a viable solution to environmental and social issues (Koe, Omar, and Abdul, 2014).

The presented paper aimed to show an overview of sustainable entrepreneurship from intention to actions that leads to the attainment of the sustainable entrepreneurial outcome. In the initial stage, it presented the factors contributing to the intention towards sustainable entrepreneurship and found that the factors like sustainability value or moral norm, sustainability attitude, social norms, government legislation, knowledge, and perceived behavioral control of a person influences his intention towards sustainable entrepreneurship. The second phase of the paper explained the sustainability-oriented entrepreneurial actions which are mentioned as a process. It is a process that begins with sustainable entrepreneurial motivation and ends with a sustainable entrepreneurial outcome.

It is evident from the studies that no business can have existence in the long run if it ignores sustainable development goals instead it has to incorporate these goals in its course of action.

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Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on Rural Out - Migrants of South Assam

Dr. Suranjan Das*

[Spread of COVID 19 pandemic resulted in loss of life, mental stress and tension, collapse of economy, unemployment and many other problems due to long-term lockdown in different nations of the world. The pandemic snatched jobs of millions of workers who migrated to distant places in search of employment and made them panic to reach their home urgently. Impact of COVID 19 on the life of the poor, particularly of the migrant workers, is very severe who returned home without cash in hand. This paper highlights the impact of COVID 19 pandemic on the out migrants of South Assam.]

According to International Labour Organization (ILO), COVID-19 has very serious impact on global economy, business and vast working population of the world. The migrant workers are frontline workers who perform important jobs in the field of healthcare, transport, service, agriculture, construction and other sectors. They are mostly low-skilled, temporary or contractual, unprotected workers and are paid very low wage particularly in unorganized sectors without having any security of life.

According to World Health Organization (WHO), migrant workers throughout the world during COVID 19 pandemic have greatly suffered for their life and livelihood. They are unable to fulfill minimum necessities of life for losing jobs due to long-term lockdown in many countries and are deprived of access to healthcare like testing, adequate food and necessary medicines. They are very much susceptible to COVID-19 for their living and working conditions, lack of access to health care service, lack of adequate knowledge and information, inadequate hygiene practices, poor health habits and personal network (WHO, 2020)

Methodology

In this paper, total 100 out migrants from 20 selected villages are interviewed to measure the effect of COVID 19 on the migrant workers and their families. The paper is based on both primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected from migrant workers selected for study. Interview of teachers, panchayat members and educated youths are also taken for the study. Views of health personnel and ASHA workers are collected for the study. Books, journals, magazines and newspapers are also gathered to get secondary data.

Migration Scenario in North East India

Migration in North East India is both in-migration and out-migration. In-migration dates back to the period of

colonial rule when British took thousands of labourers from different parts of India to North East region for tea plantation. Out-migration is taking place from North East India to other parts of the country due to both push and pull factors. According to some studies, out migration from North Eastern region to the metropolitan cities of India like Bangalore, Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata has remarkably increased in recent times (Marchang, 2017).

Studies also reveal that Delhi is highly preferred by educated people because of environment of education and opportunity of employment. Out migration from North East to rest of India's cities is increasing due to pull factor as metropolitan cities and urban centres are providing enormous employment opportunities (Marchang, 2017 and Kundu, 2007).

South Assan region of North-East India is also known as Barak Valley as the region is situated in the vicinity of the hill *Borail* and the river *Barak*. The Region consists of three districts of Assam namely Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi which is bounded with the states of Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura and a portion of the region is touched by Bangladesh border. Out –migration of labour is increasing in South Assam due the problem of unemployment and under employment in the region.

Due to the burning unemployment problem the youths of South Assam are migrating to metropolitan cities of India like Bangalore, Chennai, Mumbai, Pune, Delhi and other cities. Out migrants are mainly lower caste Hindus and poor Muslims living in remote villages of the region who are less educated and mostly engaged in unorganised sectors (Das and Bokth 2012). Both long-term and short-term or seasonal migration take place from the region depending upon skill of the migrant workers and scope of employment in the cities outside the region. Long-term migration is preferred by educated youths who search official jobs in cities but their number is less as compared to the uneducated and unskilled

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migrants who seek jobs as security guard, construction worker or any other job in unorganised sectors (ICSSR survey report, 2008).

Bulk of migrant workers are working in states of North East India mostly in Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Manipur. At Mizoram the construction workers are at risk due to frequent landslides in the state (Das and Bokth, 2012). Migrant workers engaged in coal mining sector at Meghalaya are mostly uneducated Muslims who migrate for short term period (ICSSR survey report, 2008).

Table-I

Working and Non-Working Population in South Assam Region of North East

State and District	Main Workers	Marginal Workers	Non-Workers
Assam	8,687,123 (27.84%)	3,282,567 (10.52%)	19,235,886 (61.64%)
Cachar District	471,259 (27.14%)	136,803 (7.88%)	1,128,555 (64.9%)
Karimganj District	293,392 (23.88%)	105,779 (8.61%)	829,515 (67.91%)
Hailakandi District	165,193 (25.06%)	49,047 (7.44%)	445,056 (67.50%)

Source: District Census Hand Book, Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi, 2011

As per 2011 census record, only in Cachar district of South Assam region, 64.99% of total population are non-working which is more than the average non-working population (61.64%) in the state of Assam and only 27.14 percent population of the district are main workers where the number of marginal workers are 7.88%. The percentage of non-working population is 67.91% and 67.50% respectively in Karimganj and Hailakandi districts.

Table II

Category of Working Population in South Assam

State and District	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Workers in Household Industry	Other Workers
Assam	4,061,627 (33.93%)	1,845,346 (15.42%)	491,321(4.1%)	5,571,396 (46.55%)
Cachar	120,356 (19.79%)	68,664 (11.29%)	24,466(4.02%)	394,576(64.86)
Karimganj	94,348 (23.64%)	67,033 (16.79%)	17,435(4.37%)	220,355 (55.20%)
Hailakandi	65,673 (30.65%)	31,248 (14.59%)	7,313(3.41%)	110,006 (51.35%)

Source: District Census Hand Book, Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi, 2011

A significant proportion of the working population in the region is engaged in cultivation, agricultural work and household works. The cultivators in Cachar district constitute 19.79% of the total working population followed by 23.64% and 30.65% in Karimganj and Hailakandi districts respectively. Agricultural labourers comprise 11.29%, 16.79% and 14.59% respectively to the total work force in Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi districts.

Impact of COVID-19 on Out Migrants of South Assam

Like other parts of India, migrant workers of North East India have returned to their homes during the Covid-19 pandemic. Around 512,603 migrants of North East India (Lusome and Bhagat, 2020) have returned back in different phases during the pandemic. The out migrants of South Assam have also returned home bearing lot of problems and sufferings during their journey. They have been suffering from the effects of COVID-19 pandemic in their workplace and after returning at home.

Social Impact

While out-migrants reached, home the neighbours could not accept their arrival easily. They were suggested and sometime forced to stay in isolation at quarantine centres for ten to fourteen days or more. Due to the misconception of community-immunity regarding COVID-19 disease, returnee migrants had to face several unexpected discriminations and social stigma at their villages. People could not accept their return to home and their attitude towards the returnees was as if they were bringing and spreading the disease into the villages. Suspicion of people did not end even after completion of two week's isolation in quarantine centres and consequently they had to remain confined in the house for months.

Respondents reported that the whole family was stigmatised, singled out and even irritated by the villagers by restricting their movements in the villages. Several incidences of conflict and contradiction took place between the families of returnee migrant workers and their neighbours while the family members of the returnee migrants came out for essential chores.

While some of the resource persons of the villages (panchayat members, teachers and educated youths) are asked about the matter of ill-treatment by the villagers to the out-migrants, they said many of the returnee out-migrants did not inform the villagers about their arrival at home. Even the family members did not disclose the fact to others and some returnees directly entered their houses without staying at quarantine centres. After two or three days of their arrival many returnees were moving freely even without using face musk and maintaining social distancing.

Psychological Impact

The migrant workers under study have been suffering from psychological distress due to their loss of job, prolonged unemployment and hard struggle for survival at home. They had no savings and cash in hand due to long stay at city without work. Returning home with empty hand made their family members unhappy which caused unexpected quarrels and incidences like domestic violence in the family. They have been suffering from tension and mental anxiety for regaining job after the withdrawal of lockdown and normalisation of pandemic situation. They were fearful of occurrence of COVID 19 to themselves and their family members.

They reached home from workplace without taking sufficient precautions and protective measures. They had no sufficient money to purchase the essential things like mask, hand gloves, sanitizers to stay safe at home. All the reasons made them worried and put them in mental distress and anxiety after their return. Lack of proper medical and health facilities at villages and their incapability to avail essential healthcare is another reason for their mental agony.

Economic Impact

Provision of employment in South Assam is less due to lack of industrialisation. The region is located in the extreme corner of the Indian subcontinent which is one of the major obstacles for establishment of industries in the region. Entrepreneurs from outside do not have interest to establish heavy industries for several obstacles. Small-scale industries are also very few in numbers. Demand of labour in agricultural sector is decreasing day-by-day due to non-profitability of paddy cultivation in the villages and use of tractors and power tillers for tilling the land instead of manual ploughing. Sowing of seeds and the entire process of harvesting paddy do not require huge workforce in the field.

The self-sufficient farmers do not show interest to produce vegetables and other crops for commercial purpose due to unavoidable natural obstacles and lack of required facilities to make production possible. Moreover, vegetables and crops produced in the end of the season has very less demand in the market which incurs loss to the farmers. There is no adequate provision to store the seasonal vegetables, crops and cereals in the villages for couple of months. Unemployment problem is pushing the families of the migrant workers into debt.

Being in dire need of money to make their both ends meet, the families of the migrants are borrowing money from money-landers in the villages with high rate of interest. A bulk of migrant workers of South Assam are working in the neighbouring states of Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and other states of North East India who could not return home due to strict travel restrictions following COVID-19 protocols by the concerned states and commencement of long-term lockdown there.

The migrant workers of Mizoram are mainly engaged in construction works and they reported that due to lockdown they became completely jobless. The cash-in-hand ended within few days so they were borrowing debts from the contractors and house-owners to somehow maintain themselves. Financial support to their family was completely stopped for which the dependent family members suffered from tremendous financial hardship. Similar is the case of the migrant workers working in Meghalaya who are mainly engaged in coal mining activities. Due to lockdown, they lost their means of earning and could not return to their home for long time.

Impact on Health

According to WHO, migrant workers are vulnerable to diseases, poor health and have very poor access to healthcare system. Migrant workers under study are suffering from mental and physical stress due to long journey for couple of days. Unhealthy conditions in quarantine centres also lead to health problems, as explained by many of the migrant workers under study. Most of the migrant workers under study were feeling physical and mental weakness for long time. Some reported about their sufferings from fever, cough and cold and the same also happened among other members of their family. But they did not feel the necessity of COVID testing going to the sub-centres or primary health centres.

Even they were reluctant to disclose the fact to the ANMs and ASHA workers who used to visit villages for COVID-19 testing of the persons having alike symptoms of the disease. Poor economic conditions did not permit them to afford healthcare facilities in need. In most of the remote villages of South Assam primary health centres are not available. Primary health centres are located far away from the villages of the respondents and there are health sub-centres where adequate

infrastructure and health staffs are not available. Sub-centres are mainly run by ANMs where sufficient quantity of medicines are not available.

Conclusion

Many government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), MGNREGA etc. are implemented as a protective measures to save the rural poor during pandemic without which the condition of the poor and particularly the migrant workers would be very pathetic. They would die of hunger during long-term lockdown without free rations provided by the government. Though selectively but transfer of money directly to the accounts of the poor villagers has helped a lot in the wake of tremendous crisis occurring due to pandemic in the country. Problem of migrant workers of the region is serious which needs attention of scholars, social workers, politicians and entrepreneurs to come forward to resolve the burning problem of unemployment in the region.

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Studying Investment Decision of Rural Investors in Tiruvannamalai District

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[*Individuals are making decision to invest their hard-earned money in available avenues based on their risk bearing abilities, knowledge and financial goals. The findings explicate that the investors are agreed to that they are having confidence in their capability to make right investment, they are making minor modification in their investments whenever it is necessary, they are matching their objective with their investment, they are very anxious about return from their investment, they are making good investment based on their experience, they are constantly making investment decision on their own, they are usually comparing performance of their investment with market and they are making investment decision in consultation with others. There exits significant difference amid investment decisions of investors and their socio-economic profile. Investment decision of investors is significantly, positively and moderately related with their satisfaction. Hence, investors should regularly update their knowledge on investment and they must always follow dependable investment strategy irrespective of market situation.*]

India is one of the highest investment-making countries in the world where individuals have larger degree of propensity to invest and they are generally investing in low risk with higher returns (Bhushan and Medury, 2013). Individuals are making decision to invest their hard-earned money in available avenues based on their risk bearing abilities, knowledge and financial goals

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(Love, 2010). Investment decision of individuals is a complex process and they are obtaining information from various sources and critically analyze and anticipate returns in future periods and are making rational decision for their investment (Parimalakanthi and Kumar, 2015).

Generally, investors are making decision on their own on the basis of their attitude and prior experiences (Krishnamoorti, 2009). The investment decision of investors is largely associated with anticipated future returns and degree of risk linked with investment avenues (Nofsinger and Richard, 2002). Investors make decision

by means of good utilization of information from various and reliable sources and their investment decisions are differing because of various factors and personal needs and financial objectives (Hussein, 2007). Therefore, it is important to study investment decision of rural investors.

Review of Literature

Das (2011) found that investors made decision based on their knowledge on investments, annual income and financial objectives and they made wise investment decision with anticipation of higher returns. Brahmabhatt et al. (2012) concluded that investors had collected information regarding investment from various sources and took decision after analyzing that information critically and they made investment decision in consultation with their friends, family members and experts.

Pandian and Thangadurai (2013) revealed that investors had made investment decision based on their anticipated return, risk bearing capacity and information availability on different investments. Jagongo and Mutswenje (2014) indicated that investors took decision on investment with the information on performance and image of companies; degree of risk associated with investments and anticipated earnings.

Islamoglu et al (2015) showed that annual income, prior experience, suggestions of friends and experts, condition of market, degree of risk, information availability and personal aspiration were aspects for investors to make their investment decisions. Singhi (2016) found that investors made investment decision according to performance of companies, level of risks, anticipated returns, discussion with friends and market condition. Mak and Ip (2017) concluded that investors took investment decision depending on their personal, sociological and psychological factors and also based on their objectives and suggestions from friends and family members.

Sarbabidya and Saha (2018) revealed that investors made decision on the basis of anticipated earnings, knowledge, earlier experience and financial conditions of market. Dewan et al (2019) showed that investors decided to make their investment based on anticipated returns, risk bearing capabilities, condition of market, and suggestions of friends and experts. Somathilake (2020) indicated that investors made decision on the basis of information availability, suggestions of friends and family members, anticipated returns and personal objectives.

Objectives of the Study

1. To examine investment decision of rural investors.

2. To find difference amid investment decision of rural investors and their socio-economic profile.

3. To study relation amid investment decision of rural investors and their satisfaction.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. There is no significant difference amid investment decision of rural investors and their socio-economic profile.

2. There is no significant relation amid investment decision of rural investors and their satisfaction.

Methodology

This study is conducted in Tiruvannamalai district *and investors are randomly chosen. Data are gathered from* 300 investors by using structured questionnaire. Socio-economic profile of investors is studied through percentages. Investment decision of rural investors is examined by using mean and standard deviation. Difference amid investment decision of rural investors and their socio-economic profile is analyzed by employing t-test and ANOVA test. Relation amid investment decision of rural investors and their satisfaction is studied by applying correlation analysis.

Results and Discussion

Socio-Economic Profile of Rural Investors

The socio-economic profile of rural investors results elucidate that 53.67 per cent of investors are in male category, 32.67 per cent of them belong to age group of 41 – 50 years, 39.33 per cent of them are holding under graduation, 33.66 per cent of them are obtaining an annual income of Rs.3, 00,001 – Rs.4, 00,000 and 87.33 per cent of them are of married status.

Investment Decision of Rural Investors and Their Socio-Economic Profile

Gender and Investment Decision

The combination amid gender of investors and their investment decision is shown in Table-1.

Table-1. Gender and Investment Decision

Gender	Number	Mean	Standard Deviation	t-value	Signifi -cance
Male	161	37.21	3.78	4.163**	.000
Female	139	40.76	2.36		

** Significant in 1% level

Mean value of investment decision for investors in male and female categories are 37.21 and 40.76 in succession and it elucidates that investment decision of female investors is better as compared to male investors. The t-value is 4.163 and it explains that there exits significant difference amid gender of investors and their investment decision.

Age and Investment Decision

The combination amid age of investors and their investment decision is shown in Table-2.

Table-2. Age and Investment Decision

Age	Number	Mean	Standard Deviation	F-value	Significance
21 – 30 years	66	36.73	4.46	4.956**	.000
31 – 40 years	79	38.64	3.13		
41 – 50 years	98	39.78	2.33		
51 – 60 years	57	37.51	3.68		

** Significant in 1% level

Mean value of investment decision for investors pertaining to age groups of 21 – 30 years, 31 – 40 years, 41 – 50 years and 51 – 60 years are 36.73, 38.64, 39.78 and 37.51 respectively and it elucidates that investment decision of investors pertaining to age of 41 – 50 years is better as compared to others. The F-value is 4.956 and it explains that there exits significant difference amid age of investors and their investment decision.

Education and Investment Decision

The combination amid education of investors and their investment decision is shown in Table-3.

Table-3. Education and Investment Decision

Education	Number	Mean	StandardDeviation	F-value	Significance
Higher Secondary	35	36.86	4.93	5.492**	.000
Diploma	61	38.39	3.70		
Under Graduation	118	40.67	3.14		
Post-Graduation	86	37.05	4.26		

** Significant in 1% level

Mean value of investment decision for investors holding higher secondary, diploma, under- graduation and post-graduation are 36.86, 38.39, 40.67 and 37.05 in succession and it elucidates that investment decision of investors holding under graduation is better as compared to others. The F-value is 5.492 and it explains that there exits significant difference amid education of investors and their investment decision.

Annual Income and Investment Decision

The combination amid annual income of investors and their investment decision is shown in Table-4.

Table-4. Annual Income and Investment Decision

Annual Income	Number	Mean	StandardDeviation	F-value	Significance
Rs.2,00,001 – Rs.3,00,000	74	36.52	4.34	8.116**	.000
Rs.3,00,001 – Rs.4,00,000	101	38.65	3.23		
Rs.4,00,001 – Rs.5,00,000	83	40.38	3.30		
Rs.5,00,001 – Rs.6,00,000	42	37.20	3.84		

** Significant in 1% level

Mean value of investment decision for investors obtaining an annual income of Rs.2,00,001 – Rs.3,00,000, Rs.3,00,001 – Rs.4,00,000, Rs.4,00,001 – Rs.5,00,000 and Rs.5,00,001 – Rs.6,00,000 are 36.52, 38.65, 40.38 and 37.20 in succession and it elucidates that investment decision of investors obtaining an annual income of Rs.4,00,001 – Rs.5,00,000 is better as compared to others.

The F-value is 8.116 and it explains that there exits significant difference amid annual income of investors and their investment decision.

Marital Status and Investment Decision

The combination amid marital status of investors and their investment decision is shown in Table-5.

Table-5. Marital Status and Investment Decision

Marital Status	Number	Mean	StandardDeviation	t-value	Significance
Married	262	37.31	4.16	4.639**	.000
Unmarried	38	40.47	3.49		

** Significant in 1% level

Mean value of investment decision for married and unmarried investors are 37.31 and 40.47 in succession and it elucidates that investment decision of unmarried investors is better as compared to married rural investors. The t-value is 4.639 and it explains that there exits significant difference amid marital status of investors and their investment decision.

Relation amid Investment Decision of Rural Investors and Their Satisfaction

The correlation analysis is employed to study relation amid investment decision of rural investors and their satisfaction and the result is shown in Table-6.

Table-6. Investment Decision of Rural Investors and Their Satisfaction

Particulars	Correlation Coefficient
Investment Decision of Rural Investors and Their Satisfaction	0.58**

** Significant in 1% level

The correlation coefficient amid investment decision investors and their satisfaction is 0.58 and it explains that they are positively and moderately related with each other.

Conclusion

The above findings explicate that the investors are agreed to that they are having confidence in their capability to make right investment, they are making minor modifications in their investments whenever it is necessary, they are matching their objective with their investment, they are very anxious about return from their investment, they are making good investment based on their experience, they are constantly making investment decision on their own, they are usually comparing performance of their investment with market and they are making investment decision in consultation with others.

There exits significant difference amid investment decision of investors and their socio-economic profile. Investment decision of investors is significantly, positively and moderately related with their satisfaction. Hence, investors should regularly update their knowledge on investment and they must always follow dependable investment strategy irrespective of market situation.

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Treatment of ethnic words in the songs of Bhupen Hazarika

Dr. Sankar Patowary*

Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika is a prominent lyricist cum singer and a film maker of India. His songs basically written in Assamese were translated into Bangla, Hindi, Nepali,Sankskrit etc. Vocabulary used in his Assamese songs are enriched with various ethnic words which he derived from various languages and dialects used by ethnic groups of North-East India. This paper aims at focusing on his artful play of such words to make his immortal lyric.

It is words as well as its selection to be used to make a piece of literature, may it be a poem, play, essay etc. which is the most important task for a creator . Words convey ideas, image and information of various types that finally make literature for us.

Assam, including six others states Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura which are popularly known as seven sister states, is a place of heterogeneous inhabitants from time immemorial. Apart from a few constitutionally recognised languages like Assamese, Bangla, Bodo, according to the 1971census, there are 220 languages spoken by various small groups of people called ethnic group in this part of India. Here, words of such dialect would be considered as ethnic words.

Bhupen Hazarika

Bharat Ratna Bhupen Hazarika is an outstanding Assamese like Sankaradeva, Lachit Barphukan, Lakshminath Bezbaroa, Jyotiprasad Agarwala, Bishnuprasad Rabha, Gopinath Bardoloi etc. who strengthened national life of Assam by their respective contributions.He, shined in various fields of art and culture endowed with a special gift of talent and emerged out as a litterateur, artist and musician of high proficiency. Being born in a favourable family background and spending his blooming days among the luminaries of the days he was blessed to mould intellectual background of his mind since childhood. Simultaneously his advancement in academic career also acted favourably to enrich his artistic mission. Contrary to the singers who dedicated lives for mere entertainment of their listeners, Bhupen Hazarika made his impression as a thinker through his lyrics and singing of them as well.

Words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

In choosing words for poetic expression Bhupen Hazarika was motivated by the views both of a romanticist as well as a classicist. That is to say, he used very common words of the "humble and rustic life",[1] and also of the "upper-class speech"[2] of the society. From the angle of the words he used in various subject matters, Kamal Kataki has classified them mainly into two categories namely *komal* (soft/simple) and *kathin* (complex) words.[3] On the other hand, Arcchana Puzari, a distinguished scholar, made an elaborate study on Bhupen Hazarika's words of lyrics and categories them under *tatsam, ardhatatsam, deœÑ* and *bideœÑ*, which are generally supposed to be the constituents of Assamese vocabulary.[4] But in this present study, instead of *tatsam, ardhatatsam* or even *tadbhav*, which are Sanskrit origin, the words Bhupen Hazarika took from various non-Sanskrit origins i.e. ethnic words would be highlighted here.

Various ethnic words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

Hiuen-Tsang, the reputed Chinese pilgrim during his visit to ancient Kamrup (642-643 AD) commented that the language (i.e. Assamese) prevalent in this part of the country had its own distinctiveness from the languages of the rest of the main land of India, which he visited prior to his arrival here. And undoubtedly, apart from Sanskrit there is great influences of a number of ethnic languages for formation of Assamese. Thus, Bhupen Hazarika's use of ethnic words may claim an exclusive study as he exploited various words

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belonging to both schedule and non-schedule languages of North-East region. And, in this way he makes his Assamese a new alchemy of his own. Thus, to do so he took words from *Bodo, Mising, Karbi, Khachi, Mizo,Naga, Adi, Santhali etc.*

Bodo words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

In one of his most famous songs entitled *bardTi cilâne sarudTi cilâne/asamar âkaúat bar bar cilâ* the poet-singer gives etymology of the word *bardTicilâ*. In doing so he found its origin in Bodo and interpreted that *bar* stands for storm *doi* for water and *sikhla* for the goddess that causes a great storm with the advent of *BThâg*.

Karbi words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

One of his songs called *iphu hTl tomâr nâm,haouk maEal tomâr* takes a few vocabulary from Karbi e.g. *kârbi* (hill), *ârleE* (man), *kâr* (light), *bi* (work) *somangkan* (a festival) etc.

Mising words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

pempâ (a blowing/piping musical instrument), *mibugâluk* (a garment of the Mising community of Assam), *pererubaE* (a sheet of the Mising community), *dumer* (a kind of towel), *tâmuli mâkâr,*(the name of a particular star) *guE-gâE* (a blowing musical instrument made of bamboo), *âbuE* (river) from Mising language are to be found in his song *bulu o mising dekati.*

Khachi words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

A number of words like *swarâti* (a kind of flute), *khublei œwibun* (thank you), *diyeEci* (Pine tree), *jeincem* (a clothing of the Khasi women of Meghalaya), *ciyem* (khachi king), *blei* (moon) *etc.* are derived from Khachi of Meghalaya.

Mizo words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

Mizo vocabulary belongs to Mizoram also enriches Bhupen Hazarika's language used in his songs. A bunches of words like *kâ:maEâih ce:*(I love you), *seiro* (a bamboo dance), *cibây* (thank you), *gowân* (a petticoat like clothing of woman) *karcei* (a kind of blouse*), pâEkpâr,* (a butterfly dance of the Mizo community of North-East region of India) *bilkhâotliE,*(name of a place), *bTiraEme* (name of a place), *luEle* (name of a place), *chinluE,*(a pit,

according to the beliefs of the Mizo by which their God Pathian came*), pâthiân* (Mizo's God) etc. are derived from Mizo.

Arunachali words in Bhupen Hazarika's songs

A few songs which he composes on socio-cultural aspects of Arunachal Pradesh can enable one to carry out an anthropological study on various ethnic groups of the state. His uses of Arunachali vocabularies like *padam, nakte, cardukpen mâEsâ, akâ, barÑ, khuncâ, luEcâ* which are the names of various sub-tribes of Arunachal Pradesh; *pâkmu* (a spear), *likmaGi* (a kind of necklace), *kaúwân* (a kind of head dress), *phânâm* (jump), *œwown* (a kind of dance*), jeimseE* (a garment), *khapak* (a hat made of cane) etc. are found scattered in a very particular songs of Bhupen Hazarika.

Conclusion

Commenting on Bhupen Hazarika's dedication for the cause of integration of the myriad people of North-East India through language, Upen Rabha Hakasam states that out of four hundred songs included in *Gitawali*, a remarkable number of them are composed in '*câdri*' i.e. the colloquial language of the tea-labourers of Assam. He adds that Bhupen Hazarika who is pioneer in this field accomplished this job alone like an institution for what Sahitya Academy in national level and Asam Sahitya Sabha or Sanmilita Sahitya Manch in the state level failed to perform.

(Footnotes)

1. Abrams M.H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, p.164.

2. Ibid

3. Kamal Kataki, *Shuwala Shabdar Suriya Samadal—Dr. Bhupen Hazarika*, Asam Sahitya Sabha Patrika, p.85 (trans.)

4. Arcchana Puzari, *Dr. Bhupen Hazarikar Gitor Mulyayan*, p.65

5. Upen Rabha Hakasam, *Janagosthiya Sampritit Bhupen Hazarikar Gitar Arihana*, Edinar Sangbad (newspaper), Adip Kumar Phukan (ed.) dtd. on 13th April 2007, p.7

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Access to Higher Education in Madurai
(Tamil Nadu) during COVID-19

Dr. P. Devi Priya*

[*Tamil Nadu the sixth populous state in the country has six percent of country's higher education institutions. In Tamil Nadu 45% of universities are private owned that questions the participation of students. The study makes an attempt to analyse the enrolment of students using Gross Enrolment Ratio as an indicator of student participation in higher education. It has been found that 39% of the respondents have withdrawn from the studies due to pandemic. Apart from COVID-19 marriage has been a barrier to females in ascending the ladder of education and this barrier can be overcome only by attitudinal changes brought forward by education.*]

Education is means to socio-economic transformation in a society. Higher education in particular has more positive externalities, that it enhances the endowments and capabilities of an individual. This will significantly reduce inequalities and promote growth. The traditional universities in India, Taxila fifth century BC and Nalanda sixth century BC succeeded by remarkable progress in promoting freedom of thought. But India after British rule faced the challenge of improving literacy rate and bringing developments in science and technology through higher education. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in 2017 for US was 88%, China 49% and India 27%. The objective of New Education Policy Draft 2019 was to increase GER in higher education to at least 50% by 2035.

Importance of the Study

The differences in GER are the characteristic features between the developed and developing nations. Economic growth in coherence without potential human resource development will be lop-sided one. A household with a graduate and education of parents has significant impact on the well-being of the family and the children.

Statement of the Problem

Tamil Nadu is a better performing state in terms of education and health. In all the parameters it stands well ahead of the national average. Availability of educational institutions is an important measure enabling access towards it. As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report 2019-20, number of universities and colleges in Tamil Nadu were 58 (India – 1022) and 2,610 (India – 42,343) respectively. The colleges per lakh population in the

state was 38 (India – 30). This authenticates that the sixth populous state in the country has six percent of country's higher education institutions in it.

In Tamil Nadu out of the 58 universities 45% of them are private owned. The sporadic growth of the institutions with exorbitant fees questions the participation of students. Hence the study makes an attempt to analyse the enrolment of students using GER as an indicator of student participation of the particular age group in higher education.

Pandemic which has been a threat to the lives and livelihood of mankind has serious impact on education also. The impact of pandemic on the higher education is examined by a district analysis of higher education drop outs.

Objectives

The objectives of the study are to

- find the trend in higher education participation in Tamil Nadu and India from 2010-2020
- examine the regional and sex wise gap in gross enrolment in higher education
- know the reasons for drop out and impact of pandemic in higher education in Madurai district 2020-2021

Methodology

Collection of Data

Secondary data on enrolment in higher education for India and Tamil Nadu was collected from Census 2011, various issues of Statistical Year Book India and All India Survey on Higher Education. Primary data on drop outs from higher education in Madurai district since 2020 was collected using Snowball technique. Sample size was 46.

Tools of Analysis

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GER was estimated overall, region-wise and across gender from Census 2011.

Gross Enrolment Ratio

$$= \frac{Number\ of\ persons\ enrolled\ in\ higher\ educational\ institutions}{Total\ population\ in\ the\ age\ group\ of\ 18-23\ years} \times 100$$

Since age wise population in Census data was grouped for 20-24 ages, the GER was calculated with total population from 18-24 years. The estimated GER from secondary sources has considered the total population from 18-23 years.

Analysis and Interpretation

Access to Higher Education

The gross enrolment ratio in Indian higher education was 1.7% in the period 1950-1960 and 6% in 1989-1990 respectively (Table 4, Ramganesh and Irissappan, 2017). Since 1999-2000 (10%) only the GER has attained double digit. Globalisation has also been a force in tremendous improvement in the enrolment in terms of attitudinal changes brought forward and the resultant opportunities behind it. Former Minister of Human Resource Development Kapil Sibal had opined that in order to achieve the objective of 30% GER by 2020 from 12.4% in 2010, India needed 1000 new universities and 40,000 new colleges (The Hindu, 2010). The differentials in attainment of the set goal in the next decade is presented in the following Figures 1-2.

Figure 1: GER in Higher Education, India 2010-2020

Figure 2: GER in Higher Education, Tamil Nadu 2010-2020
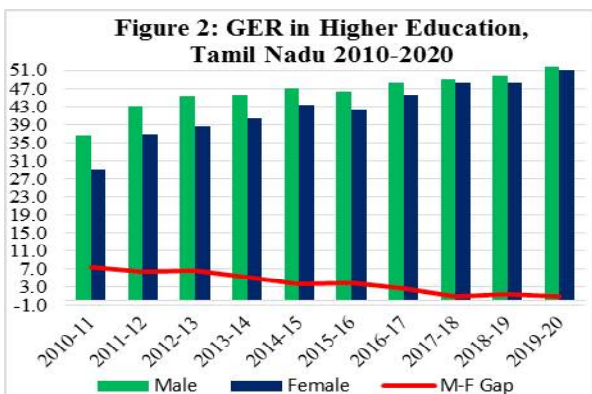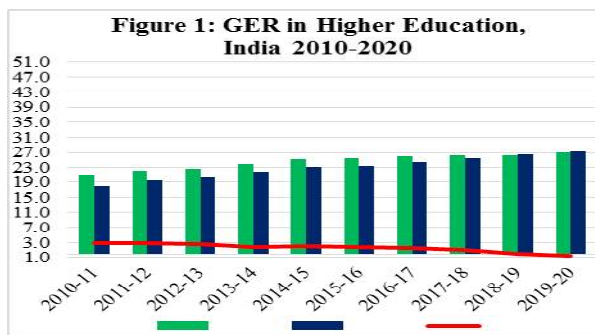
Source: Compiled and Computed with data from Statistical Year Book India 2017& AISHE 2019-20

A sustained tremendous growth in enrolment was observed both in the country and in Tamil Nadu. The GER in Tamil Nadu was in a double figure compared to All-India level. Since 2018-19, the male-female gap in the nation for overall has become negative implying that females exceeded males in higher education registration. The gap, though wide in Tamil Nadu, still registered a declining positive trend. Wavier of tuition fee, provision of free laptops, bicycles and bus-pass were measures undertaken to promote enrolment in higher education.

In Tamil Nadu under Thalikku Thangam Thittam Scheme II, 2011, the eligibility of assistance for below poverty girls was degree or diploma from government approved colleges. In Scheme II, the monetary aid was twice (Rs.50, 000) compared to Scheme I along with support in kind. This highlighted the efforts undertaken by the state in promotion of girl's education particularly among the marginalised.

Of the total enrolled, women constituted 10% in 1950-51. Women entered colleges on merit without availing gender quota. In many reputed institutions women outnumber men in enrolment (Shanjendu Nath 2014). A phenomenal growth was witnessed in women enrolment that it reached 49% of the total in 2019-20. This was also due to creation of 17 universities exclusively for women, three in Rajasthan, and two in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu each and one in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttara hand and West Bengal over the period of years (AISHE 2019-20).

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) is a centrally sponsored scheme initiated in 2013 towards quality building in higher education. The strategic funding promoted autonomous colleges or clubbing them to cluster universities particularly to overcome the regional imbalances and mitigate inequity among socially and educationally backward classes by creating adequate opportunities in their access.

To probe the regional and sex differences in access to collegiate education disaggregated analysis of Census 2011 data was used.

Table 1: GER in Higher Education across Region and Sex, 2011

Cate gory	India				Tamil Nadu			
	All	Males	Females	M-F Gap	All	Males	Females	M-F
GapTotal	19.67	22.13	16.99	5.14	26.92	29.77	24.08	5.69
Rural	15.08	18.10	11.81	6.29	22.52	25.79	19.17	6.62
Urban	28.94	30.26	27.50	2.76	31.74	34.29	29.29	5.0
U-R Gap	13.86	12.16	15.69	-	9.22	8.5	10.12	-

Source: Computed from Census 2011

The urban-rural gap shows a reverse picture with wide gap in India compared to Tamil Nadu (Table 1). The regional imbalance was high among all clusters compared to the gender gap. In addition, the widespread gender gap in rural more than the urban pinpoints that the urban boys have highest transition from higher secondary grade to higher education which was denied to most of the girls in villages. The sharp drop in girls from the ladder was a made of concern and needs to be addressed.

A district-wise analysis of both regional and gender differences in Tamil Nadu was done.

Figure 3: District-wise Regional and Sex Differentials in GER in Higher Education, Tamil Nadu 2011
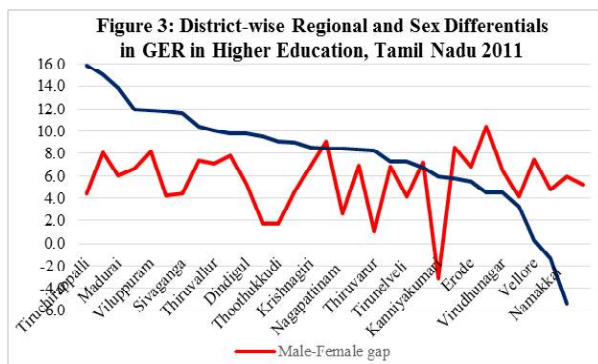
Source: Computed from Census 2011

From the Figure 3, it is obvious that Tiruchirappalli, Cuddalore and Madurai ranked high with wide urban-rural differences in access to higher education. Tiruppur and Namakkal has high ruralites accessing higher education than the urbanites. In Perambalur, Dharmapuri and Theni female seeking higher education is relatively less. In Kanyakumari district alone females outnumber males. This pattern reveals that besides the fact of better performance in schooling a pathway for colleges other social factors also play a vital role. The efforts to increase school enrolment of children has been translated into higher participation in collegiate education.

The individual's continuance in the college relates with his integration into the academic and social systems (Vincent Tinto, 1975). By advisors monitoring and peer-assisted learning the dropout rate in higher education in India has declined from 10.78% in 2015-16 to 4.28% 2019-20 (The Indian Express, 2021). Due to the outbreak of the pandemic, the hindrance in mobility of students, physical closure of educational institutions, economic vulnerability and health setbacks to family members have pushed the youth to a precarious position. The impact of it on their academic integration is assessed through primary data collected from Madurai district of Tamil Nadu.

Table 2: Profile of the Sample

	Sample Respondents		Household Details		
Sex	Male	10(22)	Place of Residence	Rural	10(22)
	Female	36(78)		Urban	36(78)
Level	UG	41(89)	House Ownership	Own	18(39)
	PG	5(11)		Rent	23(50)
Major	Humanities	34(74)		Lease	5(11)
	Sciences	11(24)	Type of Family	Joint	7(15)
	Engineering	1(2)		Nuclear	39(85)
Hostel	Yes	4(9)	Family Size	<4	30(65)
	No	42(91)		> 4	16(35)
Year of Discontinuing	I year	13(28)	Caste	FC	2(4)
	II year	21(46)		BC	34(74)
	III year	12(26)		MBC	9(20)
Discontinued due to Pandemic	Yes	18 (39)		SC	1(2)
	No	28(61)	Monthly Income	<6000	5(11)
				>6000	41(89)

Source: Primary data Note: Figures in bracket indicate percentages

Table 2 reveals that 46% of the sample respondents have discontinued their studies in the second year of graduation. 39% have reported that it was due to the influence of pandemic that they withdrew from education. The underlining factor was that exclusion was high among urbanites (78%), nuclear families (85%) and families above poverty line (89%) than their counterparts. The discontinuance from the graduation included both the temporary break and total withdrawal by getting the transfer certificate.

Table 3: Reasons for Discontinuance of Higher Education

Particulars	Impact of Pandemic	
	Yes	No
Health (Personal sickness, Have to care take a family member, Demise of a parent / member of a family)	4 (22)	4 (14)
Academic (Difficult to cope with Online classes, Lack of interest in studies, No network coverage, Non availability of gadgets / net packs)	5 (28)	4 (14)
Economic (Unable to pay fees, Undertaken full-time/ part-time jobs)	6 (33)	4 (14)
Social (Marriage)	3 (17)	6 (21)
Combined Factors	-	4 (14)
None of these	-	6 (21)
Total	18 (100)	28 (100)

Source: Primary data Note: Figures in bracket indicate percentages

Table 3 depicts that among the pandemic's effect economic factors (33%) played a significant role followed by academic reasons (28%) and health aspect (22%). Because of COVID-19 and due to economic stumbling of family, the students were forced to take full-time or part-time jobs. The gestation period to overcome the negative bearing of the pandemic in the academics may take some time. Despite the epidemics impact, the general reason for withdrawal was marriage among the female student that reflects the social culture of the society. The non-stated reasons were equally high even with the pandemic outbreak in which the drop-outs revealed that they had personal issues, in process of marriage and few even had idea of continuing the studies after a gap.

Implications

● The desired trend of declining gap must be recurrent to achieve the desirable goal in higher education

● The progress in high-risk districts in terms of sex ratio and female literacy has to proceed till they attain on par level with the top-ranking districts of the state

● Apart from COVID-19, marriage has been a barrier to females in ladder of education. This block can be overcome only by attitudinal changes brought forward by education

Conclusion

The exponential growth of youth in higher education would pave way for improving employment. It is the only source through which the proportion of people in the organised sector can be increased and ultimately the well-being of the households can be enhanced. Therefore, it is not the mere increase of enrolment in higher education but the retention, completion and acquiring of degree with qualitative betterment of the individual are the issues to be addressed. The demographic dividend with increasing graduates will be powerful instrument in making the nation excel as a knowledge economy.

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Impact of Covid 19 on Women: An Indian Perspective

Dr. Satarupa Pal*

The previous year 2020 was marking the 25 the anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, considering as ground-breaking for gender equality. Instead with the spread of the covid 19 pandemic, een the limited gains made in the past decades one at risk of being rolled back. The pandemic is deepening per-existing inequalities, exposing vulnerabilities in social, political and economic systems which are in turn amplifying the impacts of the pandemic.

Across every sphere, from health to the economy, security to social protection, the impacts of covid 19 are exacerbates for women and girls simply by virtue of their sex.

It is noteworthy that fatalities alone do not fully showcase the ways in which women and men are vulnerable to the immediate risks of epidemics, or how they experience the longer—-term threats and consequences. Socially prescribed cultural norms, attitudes, and practices in relation to gender play a critical role in how individual women and men are affected during the pandemic.

In this paper an attempt has been made to explore impact of covid 19 pandemic on women with special reference to India.

Women are often the main caregivers in their homes; communities and health facilities which puts them at an increased risk of contracting covid 19. In the UK, 77% of NHS workforce and the majority of informal carers are women. More broadly, an analysis of 104 countries reveled that women from 70% of works in the health and social sectors, and 50% of unpaid cares. At the same time, over 70% of CEOs and board chairs in global health are men, while just 5% of are women from low-and-0 middle income countries. Although so many women are working on the coivid19 frontlines, women therefore, have little say in the policy measures put in place to address this crisis.

In the context of India, women and girls are very vulnerable position due to covid 19 pandemic. Incidences and reports said that violence against women within household have also risen. Thos points

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to ale psychological distress due to short-term loss of work and earnings, and subsequent violent behavior and/ or confinement at home with abusive partners during lockdown. As a result, in the long-run women's psychological well-being might be affected even more adversely than men's from financial and emotional stress, combined with psychological violence (Kotiswaran and Geetha 2021: 35).

Moreover, in many countries, women's participation in the labour market is often in the form of temporary employment. Across the world, women represent less than 40% of total employment but make up 57% of these working part time.

The effects of school closure on girls are from vulnerable background is also seen due to the pandemic. Many women also have to tutor their children as governments around the world have temporarily closed schools in order to contain the spread of covid 19. There are mounting concerns on the impact of these school closure on over 11 million girls who are living in countries affected by extreme poverty on conflict, where gender disparities in education are highest. (Gohain in https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/covid-blow-37-girls-from-poor-families-uncertain-of-returning-to-school/articleshow/79437504.cms).

Across every sphere, form health to the economy, security to social; protection, the impacts of covid 19 are exacerbated for women and girls simply by virtue of their sex:

1. Compound economic impacts are felt especially by women and girls who are generally earning less, saving less, and holding insecure jobs or living close to poverty.

2. While early reports reveal more men are dying as a result of covid 19, the health of women generally is adversely impacted through the reallocation of resources and priorities , including g sexual and reproductive health services.

3. Unpaid work has increased with children out of school, high-end care needs of older persons and overwhelmed health services.

4. As the covid 19 pandemic depends economic and social stress coupled with restricted movement and

social isolation measures, gender based violence is increasing exponentially.

5. All of these impacts are further amplified in contexts of fragility conflict and emergences where social cohesion is already undervalued and institutional capacity and services are limited.

It is noteworthy that some policy recommendations are need of the hour to tackle the menace or get rid of from problem of covid 19 pandemic. Here we suggest some policy recommendations are as follows

1. Policy makers need to incorporate a gender analysis into the development of covid 19 policies and as the pandemic unfolds, there is urgent need for sex-disaggregated data to fully understand how women and men are affected by the virus. Understanding the impact of lockdowns on women and girls could lead to the development and implementation of other effective policy makers. Similarly, assessing the gendered aspects of minimizing disruptions and maintain supply claims for essential items is likely to lead to better outcomes for all, men and women (Mitra and Saha 2021:45).

2. Unconditional cash transfer tom women bank account holders are expected to improve the financial and intra-household status of female beneficiaries, as well as their psychological well-being. Governments should, therefore, target beneficiaries under as many schemes as possible to ensure maximum reach.

3. As the lockdowns are earned, certain accessible information portals on job availability would help both men and women match with potential employees, especially in urban areas.

Admittedly, we are only learning the social-economic implications of this health crisis as it unfolds. In order to address any gendered effects, one must take into account the fact that the short-time implications may differ from the long –term.

We must therefore, have flexible policy tools to address women's concerns as the effects of the health crisis over time.

It is noteworthy that the covid 19 pandemic has made it clearer than ever that women's unpaid domestic labour is subsiding both public services and private profits. Thirds work must be included in economic metrics and decision making. We will all gain from working arrangements that recognized people's caring responsibilities and from inclusive economic models that value work at home.

This pandemic is not only challenging global health system, but our commitment to equality and human dignity with women's interests and rights front and centre, we can get through this pandemic create a space for solidarity of all communities across the world(Kapoor:2021:75).

However, the onset of the corona virus pandemic in early 2020 set off a services of health services and economic crises that feed upon each other. The health crisis exacerbates the economic crisis disrupting supply chain, through large number of people (particularly those working in the informal sector) out of work and closing down large numbers of enterprises-particularly micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME).

The economic crises also accelerates health crisis for a number of reasons-not the least of which is the fact that the economic slowdown reduces the resources needed to combat the health crisis. Furthermore, the needs of both the health recovery and the economic recovery are competing some of the richest countries in the world. Are among the worst affected implies that the short-turn effect of crisis does not impact less developed countries (LDCs) unduly.

However, the long-term effects of the crisis may have deterouting effect on LDCs (particularly women and children in these countries) more than in riche countries.

At the outset of South Asia, particularly on the women and children of the region . As unemployment rise sharply in the wake of the onset the crises in the household budget was thrown gear, particularly because a large proportion of workers in the region in the informal sector. Preliminary estimates initiate that job losses for the category of workers ranged from 25% to 56%,. Even in the formal sector, these was substantial job loss as long lockdowns and social distancing norms took their toll. Consequently, large number of migrant workers left their places of work to return their villages of origin. Keeping the view, we can say two good shock absorbers were introduces in India. Firstly, the allocation to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme was enhanced by -400 billion over budgeted amounts in order to boost employment opportunities in the villages. Furthermore, the Prime Minister announced an allocation of 500 billion for the specific purpose of providing employment to returning migrant workers.

Another safety net in operation in India was free allocation of food of the process. Even under normal

conditions within households allocation of food in the region sometimes dominate against women and (particularly female) children (Naidu 2021:40). Against this background the government of India extended free rations of basic grains for the poor until end November2020. This is evidence to suggest that in Bangladesh and Pakistan women are less likely to receive information about covid 19 than men. This is particularly worrying because rationally women have had primary responsibility for household hygiene and care for family members. In addition, women in Bangladesh and Pakistan are less likely to be convened by health insurance. This problem is likely to be less acute in India because of government health insurance scheme. (https://data.unwomen.org/resources/surveys-show-covid-19-has-gendered-effects-asia-and-pacific) Apart from that women's mental health also very much disturbed due to the covid 19 pandemic.

However, over the longer term there are some deep concern ns. First, it the pandemic induced economic crisis becomes long drawn out there might be a substantial 4rtise in poverty. The efforts of many decades of poverty reduction through economic growth and supportive measures may be wiped off. If the increased poverty speeds get protracted there will be serious consequences for households, particularly women and children in these households.

Also, the education of children in South Asia is facing considerable challenges in the Covid era. It is noteworthy that even before the Covid crisis more than 95 million children were out of school in South Asia and it is likely that some more of the total of 430 million children in South Asia may face different in continuing their education.

Although the well-known digital divide between rural and urban sectors has been bridged somewhat with rural India having more internet platforms can probe enough opportunities for online education for all children and adults is still an open question as a serious challenge for now a days.

However, the short –term impacts of the Corona crisis are still playing out, there is apprehension that a long down out crisis impact on health and education in South Asia generally and in India particularly.

Recently a new paper reporting said that around 52% of women workers had not received any wages as compared tom 46% of men, implying that women workers were at a greater risk of wage penalty after the lockdown, while 32% of female workers and 37% of male workers received full wages(Pandit 2020:5).

Though almost all domestic workers had an aadhar card, the survey found that the enrollment of these workers in government schemes is quite low (Pandit 2020:5).

In India, several schemes that served as critical delivery platforms for women's health and nutrition interventions have been suspended during the lockdown period. Recent survey reports show high demand for reproductive and post-natal health and nutrition services. Under, the Integrated Child Development schemes (ICDS), the country's 1.3 million Anganwadi centers that provide critical nutrition counseling and supplementary food to pregnant and lactating mothers have been closed since for some months in the year 2020. (https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/in/pdf/2020/06/anganwadi-report-2020.pdf) (accessed on 30th April, 2021)

The need for social distancing is also disrupting. Self-help groups that are credited with improving women's wellbeing and empowerment with the lockdown in place, female members are at risk of being cutoff credit and information as they are unable to meet mobiles the funds. If and when these services more online, women are likely to be left out again –only 46 percent of Indian women have mobile phone access.(https://wri-india.org/blog/rural-women-must-be-heart-covid-19-response-and-recovery) (accessed 30 th April, 2021)

Involving more women lawmakers in post-pandemic recovery plan is also vital. The Southern State of Kerela which has been landed for successfully containing the virus with a combination of medical and humanitarian measures, has female health minister. This may be no confidence. Putting women in leadership position in local government can ensure greater investment in public gods that serve women's needs. https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2021/mar/13/kerala-economy-on-faster-recovery-track-says-mobility-report-2275875.html (accessed on 12 th April, 2021)

To conclude we can say that globally gender inequalities have always worsened during pandemics. For India tom avoid this menace of covid 19 pandemic tom adopt gender-inclusive policy planning and implementation is need of the hour.

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Out of Pocket Expenditure Pattern of STs in Salem

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[Healthy and adequate nutritious food is basic requirements of every human. In the wake of burgeoning population around the world, it's again becoming a challenging task to meet the basic needs of the rising population in every country, especially for low and middle-income countries. Food security and nutrition are closely connected. Food insecurity is the major reason of prevalence of nutritional problems among poor people, especially for children and women. It affects nutrition quality in different ways, possibly leading to undernutrition as well as overweight and obesity.]

According to global hunger index 2020, India ranked 94 among 107 countries and serious hunger category with a score of 27.2. In 2019, almost 690 million people around the world were victims of hunger. High costs and low level of purchasing power is also the prime reason for billions of people who cannot eat healthy or nutritious food. Worldwide the burdens of malnutrition in all its forms remain a challenge.

As per 2011 census, the scheduled tribes (STs) in India are 10.45 crore. STs constitute 8.6 per cent of the country's overall population. The STs are predominantly having high infant mortality rate (IMR) of 44.4 per cent.

One of the most important consequences of nutrition transition is the variation in food expenditure along with changes in food consumption pattern. In Tamil Nadu, tribal population under BPL is 36.8 per cent in rural areas and 2.8 per cent in urban areas. So, the STs have lot of difficulties to access of occupation, education, and health, infrastructure facilities etc. So, the present study explains the income and expenditure (food and non-food) pattern of the scheduled tribes in the selected sample area.

Objectives of the study

The main objective of this study is to determine the out-of-pocket expenditure pattern of scheduled tribes in the sample area of Maramangalam.

Methodology

This study is based on both primary and secondary sources. Information is collected from the selected households with regard to family size, income and expenditure through structured interview scheduled. Maramangalam village is located in Yercaud Taluk, Salem district, Tamil Nadu. This sample (134 HHs)

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area is selected on the basis of proportionally high concentration of scheduled tribes. Basic statistical methods are used for analysing the contents. The secondary data is collected from the publications of UN agencies like WHO, NFHS, WFP, and UNICEF etc.

Analysis and Discussion

The size of families entails significant relationship to income and expenditure of the family. In the table-1, the monthly income of a family is divided into four categories based on the mean and standard deviation, like lower-income group, lower-middle-income group, middle-income group and high-income group.

Table 1: Household Members and Monthly Income of the family

HHs members (No's)	Lower income	Monthly income Lower middle income	Middle income	High income	Total	X^2 Value
Three	8 (6)	3 (2.2)	0	0	11(8.2)	Df-12P<0 .152
Four	32 (23.9)	4 (3)	1(0.7)	0 37 (27.6)		
Five	32 (23.9)	23 (17.2)	2 (1.5)	2 (1.5)	59 (44)	
Six	10 (7.5)	12 (9)	1 (0.7)	1 (0.7)	24 (17.9)	Not sig.
Seven	2 (1.5)	1 (0.7)	0	0	3 (2.2)	
Total	84 (62.7)	43 (32.1)	4 (3)	3 (2.2)	134 (100)	

Source: Complied data. Note: Significance at 0.05 per cent level

This table (1) indicates that majority of the household (44 per cent) have five members in a family. Among these, 23.9 per cent of the households belong to the lower-income group, followed by 17.2 per cent of the families hail from lower-middle-income group. While 27.6 per cent of the families have four family members in which maximum family income comes under the lower-income group. Only few families, 1.5 per cent and 0.7 per cent have the high-income level and family members are five and six respectively. So this table indicates that no significant association was found between monthly income by family members (X^2 = 16,928, P-Value <0.152).

Because some families have more than 2 children and elderly persons and this influence their income level, and at the same time, it depends upon the occupation according to which the income is changed.

Food expenditure of the households

The household expenditure is an essential parameter of economic condition and wellbeing of a family. Food expenditure is a major source for adequate nutrition based on both quantity and quality. At the household level, access to food and nutrition are inter-connected. Monthly food expenditure is classified into four categories based on the mean and standard deviation for understanding the food expenditure and households members.

Table 2: The Households Members and Food Expenditure

HH members	Monthly food expenditure					X^2 Value
	Below 4329	4329-5297	5298 - 6295	Above 6296	Total	
Three	8 (6)	3 (2.2)	0	0	11(8.2)	
Four	30 (22.4)	6 (4.5)	1 (0.7)	0	37 (27.6)	D.f -12 P<0.
Five	29 (21.6)	21(15.7)	8 (6)	1(0.7)	59(44)	000 sig
Six	7 (5.2)	8 (6)	8 (6)	1(0.7)	24 (17.9)	
Seven	0	1(0.7)	0	2 (1.5)	3 (2.2)	
Total	74(55.2)	39(29.1)	17(12.7)	4(3)	134(100)	

Source: Compiled from collected data. Note: Significance at 0.05 per cent level

As can be seen from table (2), 55.2 per cent of the households are spending on monthly food below Rs 4,329, followed by

29.1 per cent of the households spending Rs 4,329-5,297 category. Only a few of them (3.0 per cent) spend above Rs 6,296 on food. Based on the household member-wise, only three members in a household spend on food in the

category of Rs 4,329-5,297. Increase in the family members to four or more than four, the expenditure also moves to next category for expenditure incurred on food because the increase in household members leads to increase in family's needs also, mainly for food. A high significant association was found between the household food expenditure concerning family members. (X^2 = 68.648, p< 0.000).

Non-food expenditure of the households

Non-food expenditure is also one of the indicators of household well-being and available facilities. Based on the family size, the non-food expenditure also varies at a small level. Given below is the table-3 that explains the details about non-food expenditure based on the household members.

Table 3: Non-food expenditure and Family size of the households

HHs members	Monthly Non-food Expenditure					X^2 Value
	Below 4394	4395-6917	6918 - 9440	Above 9441	Total	
Three	9 (6.7)	2 (1.5)	0	0	11 (8.2)	D.f-12
Four	29 (21.6)	4 (3)	4 (3)	0	37 (27.6)	P<0.019
Five	30 (22.4)	24 (17.9)	3 (2.2)	2 (1.5)	59 (44)	Sig
Six	9 (6.7)	11 (8.2)	3 (2.2)	1 (0.7)	24 (17.9)	
Seven	0	2 (1.5)	1 (0.7)	0	3 (2.2)	
Total	77 (57.5)	43 (32.1)	11 (8.2)	3 (2.2)	134 (100)	

Source: Compiled from collected data. Note: Significance at 0.05 per cent level

As can be seen from table (3), majority of the families (57.5 per cent) spend on non-food below Rs. 4,394, followed by 32.1 per cent of household spending Rs. 4,395-6,917. In a household having three members, the majority of them spend (6.7 per cent) below Rs. 4,395. But increase in the household members – five and more than five – there is a shift to high-level expenditure (above Rs. 94, 41). So, it can be inferred from this table that with the increase in the household members in the family, the non-food expenditure also gets increased. Because the families have children and the elderly person and as such, they· spend more money on health as well as education. Together maximum, they use two-wheeler (Oil or fuel cost) for going to nearby town areas and this also adds to non-food expenditure.

Conclusion

According to WB (World Bank), India's problem is chronic poverty that is severe and increasing, with 31 per cent of the population still living on less than Rs. 123.16 per day and 58 per cent of people lives on less than Rs. 200.94 per day (World Bank, 2015). The STs also are facing different types of health issues. A very low level of literacy, coupled with widespread poverty and poor infrastructure development etc., have together wielded adverse impact on their economic conditions.

Despite the income, expenditure pattern of the tribes gives a clear picture of the standard of living of the tribal population. Therefore, additional appropriate measures are needed for the betterment of the STs, especially in the fields of education, health, income-generating activities, generating more effective agricultural farming, increased access to consumption goods along with generating basic nutrition and dietary awareness among the tribes.

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Covid-19 Crisis, the Quad, and Vaccine Diplomacy:
New Geopolitical Codes

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[*The Covid-19 crisis represents multitude of precariousness and perspectives. The geopolitical character of this crisis is complex and subtle. From early controversies on origin of virus to nuanced cooperation in combating the Covid-19 crisis through vaccine diplomacy unveils its geopolitical significance. Consequently, the Covid-19 crisis and responses to control it has been calibrated as new geopolitical codes – tools to create new boundaries and frontiers at the local, regional, and global scale keeping crude national interests in mind. This will redefine the global order and future great games in politics.*]

The global order is facing a tectonic shift ever since emergence of the Covid-19 crisis. The Covid-19 pandemic had watershed impact on human civilization and statecraft. We still don't know the extent of devastation and its future course, as it is resurfacing with a new 'double mutant variant' and Omicron. What has been discernable, amidst, of this global disaster is: the legitimacy of some international institutions is being questioned; the hypocrisies of robust health care system is being exposed; the democratic credentials and characters are being undermined; the global inequality level has widen; unprecedented amount of force is being exercised to curtail the liberty and freedom of people; and, suppressive and surveillance measures are being used to coerce dissent and constitutional demands of the citizens across the globe on the pretext of Covid-19 management.

From a global perspective, Covid-19 pandemic has acted as a fundamental force to re-define, re-design, and re-configure inter-state relations, intra-state interactions, and local socio-politico processes at local, regional and global scale. It has certainly added degree of complexity, disorder, and uncertainty to the existing realities of the global politics. In this regard, the primitive analysis predicts that Covid-19 would reshape global geopolitics (Heisbourg 2020; Cole and Dodds 2020). The Covid-19 crisis has created several new borders in our lives ranging from ghettoization in residential colonies to ban on international travel. The Covid-19's sudden genetic mutations, transnational expansion, and disparities in counter-mechanisms necessitate analyzing its geopolitical character and its implications, though it is a challenging task.

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Geopolitical Character of Covid-19 Crisis

Former US President Donald Trump and its western allies alleged that China is responsible for 'concealing the virus and unleashing it upon the world' (Web Desk 2020). On the contrary, Chinese President Xi Jinping proclaimed – China will soon provide effective and safe Covid-19 vaccines as a 'global public good'. This contrast in perceptions lays foundation for a new geopolitical model of global politics. The production of knowledge of a crisis or phenomena or event is a critical tool of geopolitical projection and representation. The temporal-spatial realities are not as natural and given as it is historicized and appears to us. They are production of social and political discourses, narratives, and power dynamics. From a critical geopolitics perspective – 'spatiality is not confined to territoriality'. Rather, tempo-spatial realties are being constructed and re-constructed through discursive practices by political agents through rhetorical representation and popular sentiments. In this regard, Covid-19 has been politicized, nationalized, securitized, and polarized to create and operationalized new geopolitical codes.

John Gaddis (1982) explored the concept of geopolitical codes to understand the changes in American foreign policy since World War II. The geopolitical codes are conceptualized as state's interests, threats, and strategies to secure interests and manage threats. Geopolitical codes are strategic assumptions for foreign policy to segregate, articulate, and conceptualize national interests. In sum, geopolitical codes are used as tools to differentiate 'we' and 'others'. The geopolitical codes are used as a popular representation to create binaries. For example, during the Cold War, ideologies were used as geopolitical codes to frame the world order. In the post-Cold War era, war on terror was used as a geopolitical code of the emerging world order (Flint and Taylor 2018: 69).

Further, geopolitical codes are institutionalized to facilitate multilateral cooperation and engagements such as the NATO, China-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), erstwhile the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), the BRICS, and the US-led Quad to name a few. In contemporary context, the geopolitical codes are more diverse and heterogeneous, as the non-state geopolitical actors are on rise. In this regard, the Covid-19 and strategies to control it is framed as new geopolitical code to set a dominant agenda and to create a 'common sense' about the problem and its solutions.

The Covid-19 crisis has geopolitical roots since it has surfaced in Wuhan. The early reporting of the outbreak of Covid-19 crisis in American, European, and Indian Press has created controversies over its origin, China's intentional spread, symbol of bio-terrorism, and leadership's role to control it. The speculations dominated narratives on its causality and influences, before it was declared as a global pandemic in March 2020. This knowledge was produced through various Western sources – oped's, speeches of political leaders, and policy briefs. To illustrate, former US President Donald Trump and US officials speculated that Corona virus was leaked from Wuhan laboratory. Chinese officials alleged that the US army and military athletes had brought the virus to Wuhan in October 2019.

Consequently, they have succeeded to create binaries in thinking of international community on Covid-19 crisis – Corona Spreader verse Corona Saviors; planner of a bio-warfare experiment verse champions of establishing global institutions for biosecurity and safety; exploiting international institutions in favour verse founding fathers of the global governance system; supplier of new threats to global order verse Waging War against Coronanoval virus through vaccine supply. This kind of binary has marginalized and suppressed one side and cherished and nurtured story of the other side.

In addition to this, the need for economic reconstruction in the post-Covid era, extensive vaccination drive through the Quad, and dealing with churning of global order inherently enhances the geopolitical character of the Covid-19 crisis. For instance, the revival of economy demands the trans-national cooperation and connectivity as well as migration of workforce. Revitalizing the global health care system seems core solution of the crisis. A Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) suggests more than 75 countries are returning to normal life and 'several countries have started to recover. However, in the absence of a medical solution, the strength of the recovery is highly uncertain and the impact on sectors and countries uneven' (Gopinath 2020).

Unfortunately, a key global health organization is constantly under attack and is in dismay. The World Health Organization (WHO) is hijacked by the China and the US has threatened to withdraw its funding to the organization. The countries are competing to grasp strategic advantages from humanitarian assistance. Not only this, a former Indian diplomat served in the UN asserts, most of the global institutions have failed to perform and are under geopolitical pressure amidst of Covid-19 Crisis (Akbaruddin 2020). Moreover, this would further politicize the global production and distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, as it impacts affordability, and accessibility of vaccine to most vulnerable on the earth. This is unfolding through aggravation of rivalry in the Indo-Pacific and vaccine diplomacy.

The Covid-19 Crisis and the Indo-Pacific

The Indo-Pacific is an evolving geopolitical code. It is developed as a mental map on several strategic parameters – economic interdependence, connectivity projects (BRI and Quad), military rivalry, securing maritime domain and trade routes. Amidst, the Covid-19 crisis, the US and China were bitterly engaged to proliferate their version of story on who should bear responsibility of the crisis. Surprisingly, the competition to control the narratives related to Covid-19 has been paralleled with geopolitical completion in the Indo-Pacific region.

To illustrate, China has strengthened its presence in the region with warships and fighter jets in the Taiwan Strait. China has encroached Indonesia, Philippines, Hong-Kong and Vietnam's areas of influence amidst of the pandemic (Kuok 2020). To counter the Chinese presence, the US has intensified its military presence as well as diplomatic engagement in the Indo-Pacific region. For instance, the US has dedicated a US \$6 billion in the Indo-Pacific Deterrence Initiative bill 'to strengthen the United States commitment to the security of the Indo-Pacific region and to increase military readiness to defend the homeland and underwrite United States national interests'.1

On the other hand, the weaker countries of region are more inclined towards China. The increased economic hardships and dependencies are visible in

Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and many weaker countries of the ASEAN. These countries are allying with China for their infrastructural and basic health care needs. The US policy of 'America first' for Covid-19 management under Trump administration has further cemented the ties of these countries with China. China has supported these governments to reduce fatality rates and causalities as well as integrated in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) project. Analysts also suggest that middle powers such as India and Australia must formulate coalitions to discuss strategic issues of the region. On the other side, President Xi is proposing a 'Health Silk Road'. In sum, the great power rivalry will intensify rather than derail in the region as the Covid-19 crisis is resurfacing. In other words, the Cold War 2.0 is unfolding in the region based on health parameters. A critical analysis of recent Quad summit's resolutions signals that securing basic medical supplies, vaccines, and health governance systems have become new symbols of geopolitical competition and rivalry.

From Mask Diplomacy to Vaccine Diplomacy

In past, epidemics have been tackled through collective responses. Ebola, and the AIDS is case in the point. However, responses to manage the Covid-19 miss that kind of collectivity and are disjointed in nature. The Covid-19 vaccine has emerged as a polarized weapon for global security. And, initiated a new kind of arms race. The production of vaccines, the vaccination programme, supply of vaccine to developing and under-developing countries on humanitarian grounds is projected as a strategic goal to augment their diplomacy and re-configure strategic relations.

Across the globe, various stakeholders have mobilized resources to produce Covid-19 vaccine. All the major powers were in race to be the first to provide affordable and accessible vaccine to their people. Rather than devising the common health security strategy, developed and powerful countries are looking for opportunities to turn transfer of vaccines to weak states as their strategic advantage. Put differently, vaccines have become new weapons to balance power. Within month of outbreak of Covid-19 crisis, the first prototype was identified and finalized to use for production of Covid vaccines. Rafael Vilasanjuan, a Spanish journalist, while tracking the history of vaccines asserts, 'never before in human history had there been so much haste to obtain a vaccine'. In fact, under the Operation Warp Speed, the US government has planned production of Covid-19 vaccine on model of Manhattan Project (1942-1946) – production of nuclear technologies; subsequently nuclear weapons through this project are being used to establish hegemony in the post-World War II era. The covid-19 vaccines would get similar strategic currency in global politics as nuclear weapons got in early years of the Cold War (Vilasanjuan 2021).

Certainly, the tight competition with secrecy in production of Covid-19 vaccines has enriched its geopolitical character. Thus, the race to obtain Covid-19 vaccines first was associated with securing strategic advantage, establishing international prestige, and wielding soft power. The race has not ended with production of vaccines rather it has intensified with manufacturing in volumes and supply on global scale. Consider this, India's Serum Institute is known as the largest manufacturer of vaccine in the world. So far, India is a leading country in supplying vaccines to developing countries. More than 71 countries have received Covid-19 vaccines manufactured in India. India's efforts to vaccinate the most vulnerable' across the globe has diplomatic, political, and humanitarian significance. India's vaccine diplomacy is gaining more geopolitical significance with a joint statement from first-ever Quad virtual summit to boost Covid-19 vaccine to supply across the Indo-Pacific.2 The Quad leaders have declared distribution of vaccines in the region as 'the Spirit of the Quad'.

On the other hand, China has been taking multiple countermeasures to brand its global image ever since the outbreak of the crisis. China has vigorously distributed masks to control the spread of the coronavirus. It has adopted multiple strategies to distribute medical equipment and PPE kits to reverse its image - the corona spreader. At present, China is moving fast to consolidate the gains of vaccine distribution on global scale (Yanzhong 2021). In fact, more than 60% of China's global vaccine supply is devoted to the Indo-Pacific region. However, the Quad's aggressive vaccine cooperation may not be aimed to counterbalance China in the region. Nonetheless, it would certainly intensify race to wield soft power in the Indo-Pacific region. The race is not limited to Indo-Pacific, it has extended to various regions. Traditional allies of the US-led western system, namely Ukraine, Morocco, countries of North Africa, Latin America and Arab world are getting vaccine supply from China and Russia. This may change the geopolitics of Eurasia and other regions. At the same time vaccine nationalism has intensified ranging from nomenclature of vaccines to extensive

reporting in media about their key features and signaling donor country's profile. For example, Sinovac is being supplied from China, *Bharat* Biotech's Covaxin from India, and Russia's Sputnik V to name a few. Thus, Covid-19 vaccine diplomacy will design a new geopolitics of the globe.

Implications on Global Order and India

These new geopolitical codes are still in primitive stage and would be enhanced through various mechanisms of knowledge production and geopolitical imaginations in the foreseeable future. However, emerging patterns indicates the following implications.

First, China has succeeded to obfuscate its role in proliferating the coronavirus. China's proactive and assertive mask, health care, and vaccine diplomacy helped to brand virtues of its political system. The vaccine nationalism and repressive policies to control the spread within the country has further glorified present Chinese leadership.

Second, the Covid-19 crisis has impelled to decouple and re-think the US-China relations. These new geopolitical codes are key determinate to guide the future foreign policy courses of the US and its allies towards China. This invites the Quad leaders to reshape the mental maps of the Indo-Pacific.

Third, China and India are axis of vaccine manufacturing and distribution. Presently, China and India's dangerous borders standoff is shifting towards vaccine rivalry. It is evident in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, countries of Southeast Asia and Latin America. Put differently, vaccines are used as an instrument to strengthen strategic ties and to forge and capitalize new avenues.

Fourth, this may induce strategic instability in the South Asian region. The new geopolitical codes compel India to assume greater responsibility in the extended neighbourhood for Security and Growth for All (SAGAR). India must provide alternative meanings to these geopolitical codes to secure and sustain its national interests, as these new geopolitical codes would govern the foreseeable future of the global order. India-centric perspectives on these issues may create new third bloc in contemporary global order.

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A Study on Entrepreneurship Development of Women Self Help Group Members: A Review

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[*The economic development of country is always dependent upon the standard of living of the people even Gandhi says the India living on its. The SHG groups created many micro and small industries at the village level provide income for day to day wellbeing therefore it has to promote more in the rural area for their economical in different forms. The financial institutional financing agency should provide more finance to the micro small and medium enterprises. Especially to the industry started by SHG groups. The NGOs should be monitor and cancelled the permission of De fraud Government funds and cheating SHG members. The state and central Government should implement the entrepreneurial programme to start and develop more SHG enterprise. The study concluded that SHG's organization not only developing the rural economy but also enhance the social economical and educational status of the village people*.]

Globalization has brought substantial benefits around the world, but in numerous developing countries it is contributing to growing disparity between the rich and poor. In a country like India, the structure of economy is dualistic. Here one can see the developing companies, booming stock market and sourcing profits, making the rich, the richer on the one hand while meager earnings of wages in the field of agriculture and allied industries and starving for their lively world on the other hand. The poor are relying on informal credit channels such as local money lenders, market vendors, shopkeepers and others including friends and relatives. Credit in the informal system is regularly accessible immediately where necessary often without collateral and extensive documentation formalities. The South Asian countries particularly India and Bangladesh have been actively pursuing the policy of setting up formal network of Micro-financing Institutions. These institutions include Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Non-Banking Financial companies (NBFCs) and government sponsored programmes. In the early decades of planning, troubles of women were looked upon as problems of social welfare rather than improvement. Throughout the third world mainly in the past 15 years, there have been proliferations of policies, programmes and projects planned to support low income women. Since 1950 many different interventions and strategies have been formulated to address women requirements which reflect changes in micro level economic of income and investments of self help group and social approach as well as in state policy towards women.

Statement of the Problem

Women in India have been oppressed culturally, socially, economically and politically for centuries. They are exploited at home, in the families, in the society and in the country. The core of the problem is that they shoulder a number of responsibilities, but they are not given adequate participatory or decision making power in the family or elsewhere. Involvement in Self Help Groups has enabled women to gain greater control over resources like material possession, intellectual resources like knowledge, information, ideas and decision making in home, community, society and nation.

Review of Literature

A brief review of some selected studies may be useful for understanding the women entrepreneurs of self help groups. Some of the related studies in the area are given below.

Sasikumar and Natarajan (2016) found their study that Self Help Groups (SHGs) are necessary to overcome exploitation, create confidence for the economic self-reliance of rural people, particularly among women. The study also found that the Self Help Group member's loans should depend on member capacities, not on targets or merely the fact of repayment of a previous loan. It is concluded that women are now participating in all productive activities and are on par with men. SHG members' savings have increased to the desirable extent which automatically increase the purchasing power and increase in standard of living and cleared that gender strategies in micro finance not only focus on increasing

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women's access to savings, solving the problems and credit and also organizing Self Help Groups.

Thakur et al., (2016) identified from his study was the exposed gender biases with men at various levels of entrepreneurial behaviour. Women should themselves fight for getting equal status in society. Empowerment of women is a solution to lower down these inequalities. Improvement of economic condition is the first step for women's empowerment. Involvement of women in income generating activities helps to empower them economically. The study also found that a positive and significant relationship was found between the entrepreneurial behaviour of the members with education, monthly income and training exposure on general training. In case of age, a negative and significant relationship was found with entrepreneurial behaviour. It is the right time to start Entrepreneurial Development Programme for women members of SHG formed under SGSY

Asharan and Sriramappa (2015) revealed both diversity and commonality of Women Entrepreneurship in Karnataka. Women are now in the forefront in economic and social activities. Educated women are involved in entrepreneurial activities in urban areas. Beauty parlour management and Tailoring business are attractive entrepreneurship in the city area. Family support is found to be essential for successful entrepreneurship. The number of women entrepreneurs is not uniform in Mysore district and highest in city lowest in rural areas. The reason for the variation in the number of women entrepreneurs in different talks is due to lack of knowledge and awareness. The RUDSETIs and SHGs movement, banking facilities and skill awareness programs are helping in promoting women entrepreneurs.

Kittur Parveen (2014) studied the Development of Rural Women Entrepreneurs through Workshop Training for the rural women who are increasingly running their own enterprises, yet their socio-economic contributions and entrepreneurial potential remain largely unrecognized and untapped. NGO's and SHG's are conducting workshops for training the rural women entrepreneurs to enhance their knowledge, skills and abilities in business development skills so that they can manage their small scale businesses on a more sustainable basis. Rural women entrepreneurs face challenges such as access to credit, lack of access to business and marketing information as well as lack of book keeping skills. Hence, the workshops must train the rural women pay back their

loans, big or small in a proper way by training them to fix the prices in such a way that all the expenses are included and when they receive the sales proceeds the percentage of amount must be saved apart to make the repayment of the loans easier.

Vijaya Bharathi and Masthani (2014) studied the SHGs functioning in Dhramavaram, C.K.Palli of Anatapur District. Even though Anatapur is considered as drought prone area, the level of participation of women in entrepreneurial activities is more. The basic occupation of the district is agriculture; the district is also famous for weaving of sarees. The women in rural areas are showing interest to become entrepreneurs because there is a lot of financial facilities from the SHGs. SHGs are self-governed with decisions about production and marketing taken collectively, although the group leader is responsible for identifying potential marketing centres and consumer in formal groups. The result given the solution of still some of the women are not showing interest to become as entrepreneurs because of their environment in which they have grown. The funds from the governments are not really reaching to the target group which they are granted for. However, there is a change in the mind-set of the family members in supporting the children to become entrepreneurs.

Sucharita Mishra (2014) studied women empowerment through micro enterprises in Odisha. It is based on the condition, family background, education level, and size of the family. The result of the study revealed that micro enterprises programme have had greater impact on both social and economical aspects of the rural women in Odisha. The successful functioning of micro enterprises provides economic independence to women leading to their empowerments.

Vasantha (2014) stated that the Self Help Group members undergo capacity building training to improve their confidence level, managerial efficiency and entrepreneurial skills to engage themselves in some income generation activities such as mushroom cultivation, tailoring, pickle making and showpieces. This paper focuses on analysing how Self Help Groups act as an instrument to enhance the livelihood of marginalized sections of women and various challenges of SHG to engage in income generation activities. The research is conducted in the rural areas of Tuticorin district of Tamil Nadu. The study reveals that 68 percent of the people have undergone training to enhance their income generation activities. The research analyzed that should try to carry out group

income generating activities so that the risk, responsibility and profit will be shared equally among all members. Training centres should be established at every district and block level for imparting skill training for income generating activities. More training should be organized related to entrepreneurial skills with special emphasis on raw material management and pricing of finished product. In the rural areas SHG members are lack of awareness about the proper maintenance of books of accounts, so proper training programmes such as maintaining accounts, bookkeeping must be provided to the SHG members to run their businesses smoothly and concluded that Capacity building training is an important to improve the capacity, capability, professional and entrepreneurial skill of self-help group members, which helps them to engage in income generation activity successfully.

Thileepan and Soundararajan (2014) considered the strategies of Self Help Group for micro-enterprise development in rural areas. It seeks to answer the questions of whether and under which conditions Self Help Group is an effective vehicle for organizing and representing local people in the development of community based micro-enterprises. Financial assistance is provided to women's SHGs in the form of micro finance. Micro finance is emerging as a powerful instrument for poverty alleviation in the new economy. In India, micro finance scene is dominated by SHGs. With the help of micro finance the Self Help Group in India emerged as a popular strategy for the facilitation of micro-enterprise development by government, nongovernment organizations and educational institutes in rural areas of India. So success of Self Help Group is based on though understanding of local conditions and possibilities to intervene.

Research Gaps

Through review of literature, the researcher identifies the uniqueness of the study. There have been a number of valuable research works on attainment of development of women entrepreneurs by women Self Help Groups in various states in India through various monetary sources from the financial institutions and evaluation of their self employment opportunities attained by them. However, none is a comprehensive study about the evaluation of inner quality of members related to effective administration of products and markets. There have been much research work on the general impact of effective utilization of training resources and very few researches have been done on various elements required for effective utilization of training resources. As far as the researcher's knowledge goes, this is the only study aiming to bring the women members in the Self Help Groups to think differently and find out their internal and external qualities which are mostly required for their successful business life.

Conclusion

The economic development of country is always dependent upon the standard of living of the people even Gandhi says the India living on its. The SHG groups created many micro and small industries at the village level provide income for day to day wellbeing therefore it has to promote more in the rural area for their economical in different forms. The financial institutional financing agency should provide more finance to the micro small and medium enterprises. Especially to the industry started by SHG groups. The NGOs should be monitor and cancelled the permission of De fraud Government funds and cheating SHG members. The state and central Government should implement the entrepreneurial programme to start and develop more SHG enterprise. The study concluded that SHG's organization not only developing the rural economy but also enhance the social economical and educational status of the village people.

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Managing Destination Image with Respect to Guwahati

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[*We investigated the reasons for which Guwahati city stopped progressing in various stages of tourism life cycle beyond only partial completion of investment stage. Improper fulfilment of various tourism product layers, effect of inappropriate destination image and gap between matching of topography of destination (Guwahati) with the ûctional fragments of online visitor are analyzed using factor analysis along with a quantitative framework that draws upon tourist perception and its formulation based upon product layers and tourism life cycle theories. The data was collected through online and physical tourists, (non-Assamese domestic tourist 99,502 with a simple random sample size 96) was collected to ascertain destination image and changes due to information boom. Findings indicate that Guwahati, is being used as a passageway, the amount of footfall of travelers in the city is large, but a fraction of footfall is tourist. Race to modernize, leaves a bitter taste in the minds of different tourists. The study can suggest ways to convert travelers, first, into casual/sundry/accidental tourist and ultimately into a dedicated tourist by changing the destination image for Millennials and generation Z looking for safe refuse from modern life hence it holds important implications for both theory and practice.*]

Tourism, being one of the worst hit industries from the recent pandemic attack on human civilization. The experiences, till now, considered as USP of tourism industry are now denied to humanity for their own safety. Homes are now being called as the safest place on earth and skepticism about everything is now regarded as a virtue. Bringing the tourist back to the track is a key concern of entire tourism industry. Taking refuge of our existing knowledge bank, in such distressed times, to handle seen and unforeseen problems is quite natural to us, the humans. If somehow the existing knowledge seems inadequate, then improving the available knowledge or resources, comes next in the order and even that, if not sufficient, then creation of new knowledge is the ultimate step. Taking care of health is a basic function of all the living beings, only health ensures survival and progression of a species. Coming in close contact with another member of the same species, once considered as a necessity for survival and growth of any species, is now regarded as embedded with risk for humans and this is becoming a bane for tourism industry in current times. Resurrecting the confidence of people in the industry and warding off the issues related with fears of meeting strangers or new places needs re-education of multiple generations starting from Millennials to Gen. I and Gen. Alpha. Though Gen. Alpha is not yet a buyer and decision maker, but they are the future of every industry and needs to be taken care of. Re-educating the three generations is going to be a tougher task and is beyond the scope of one industry, but redefining and restructuring the products offered by an industry is possible.

In order to redefine and offer in a better context, the tourism industry products need a re-visiting of product concept, product layers and product experience. Traditionally the tourism product layers start with destination as the core product, which is understandable because core products are intangible and can only be experienced or enjoyed and this experience and enjoyment leads to enlightenment and self-enrichment. But destination can be the "augmented" as well as "potential" product too.

The reason to call "destination" as "augmented product", because "augmented products" are used by the companies to create product differentiation and these products eventually become the "expected products" in the future. No two destinations can be similar; hence product differentiation starts with destination and reaches its peak, with augmentation of various facilities at the destination. Moreover, with regards to "destination" being considered as a "potential product", the basic genesis of it comes by understanding the future prospects of a product, by augmenting various facilities at the destination the scope is enhanced and hence it leads to revisit and nostalgia leading to referencing

Guwahati or Gauhati (formerly known as) or Pragjyotishpur - the City of Eastern Light is the capital city of the northeastern state of Assam. The

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etymological roots of Guwahati are derived from two Assamese words "Guva" derived from the Sanskrit word Guvaka, meaning areca nut and its plant and "Hati" meaning market, the market of areca nut. Guwahati the gateway to North-Eastern India, is situated on the southern bank of the mighty Brahmaputra river. It is a major riverine port city decorated with hills, and is one of the fastest growing cities in India. It is also known as the city of temples. The ancient cities of Pragjyotishpura and Durjaya (North Guwahati) were the capitals of the ancient state of Kamarupa. Ancient Hindu temples like the Kamakhya Temple, Ugratara Temple, Basistha Temple, Doulgovinda and the Umananda Temple with very strong historical, religious and commercial antecedents are situated in the city. The city can boast of rare animal species like Royal Bengal Tigers, Asian Elephants, One horn Rhinoceros, Python Molurus Molurus or Indian Python, gaurs, primate species, and endangered birds like Green Peafowl (Pavo muticus), Red-breasted Goose (Branta ruficollis), White-winged Wood Duck (Cairina scutulata), Baer's Pochard (Aythya baeri) and many more.

Research on tourist behavior has to begin with frequent search (Moutinho, 1987). The most important factors in the obtain of a tourist product (destination) is in order about tourist product and services. Moreover, tourists vary in the information sources they use before making a decision (Moutinho, 1987). Institutions, travel agents and tourist businesses make great efforts and spend a lot of money to make tourist information circulate. Despite the high investment made on communication and advertising, there is a Molina et al. 723 all-purpose lack of information as to which information source tourists use to make their choice (Kim et al., 2005; Nolan, 1976; Gitelson and Crompton, 1983; Snepenger et al., 1990; Weilbacher, 2003). Nolan's (1976) tried to determine how information sources are used, and the relationship between this use and tourist consumer behaviour.

The information about a concrete destination which is occasionally demanded by tourists is a particularly important means of promotion for the tourism industry. Sources of information about a intention have a great pressure on the process of tourist decision-making, and the behavior of tourists determines how the search for information is done and how information will used (Andereck and Caldwell 1993; Capella and Greco 1987; Snepenger, Meged, Snelling and Worrall 1990; Snepenger and Snepenger 1993). Coltman (1989) explanation that probable customers "will compare the brochure of

one destination or supplier with the brochure of its competitors, and it is likely that the one with the best brochure will receive the business". For many budding visitors the brochure they possess actually represents the product or destination they are purchasing. An important factor is image, because it influences destination selection. Formal sources of information, like informal and brochures sources, for example relatives and friends, have an influence on image formation in a tourist destination (Beerli and Martin, 2004; Crompton, 1979; Etzel and Wahlers, 1985). Images serve many functions at many different levels; they are used in a number of practical ways to convey ideas and messages. These are all realistic areas where support, through tourism descriptions and representation, plays a vital role in a highly competitive and constantly changing marketplace. Destination image is certainly a formative factor of tourist selling behavior. Research by Pearce (1982), and Woodside and Lysonski (1990) display that there is an evident relationship between positive perceptions of destinations and positive purchase decisions. Although these perceptions may be not based on fact or initial experience, they however exert a vital influence on a potential tourist's decision to visit a destination. Similarly, negative images, even if unjustified, will determine potential tourists and result in a decision not to purchase (Morgan and Pritchard, 1998).

Moreover, image shape can be defined as the development of a mental notion based on limited impressions coming from a single information source. In tourist target image, this information originate in frequent and diverse sources (Gartner, 1993). Firstly, induced information includes promotional material (brochures, posters), as well as tour operators' and travel agents' opinions. Secondly, self-information also plays a role and it is obtained from mass media and popular culture Moutinho L (1987). Consumer Behavior in Marketing. Eur. J. Mark. 21(10): 5-44.

The increasing competition of the recent past has necessitated the need to manage, multi-generational buyers. Lost Generation (1890-1915), Interbellum Gen (1901-1913), The greatest Gen (1910-1924) Silent Generation (1925-1945), Baby boomer (1946-1964) being irrelevant in the present context and Generation Z (1995-2012) waiting to become a buyer or only partially has become the buyer and decision maker. This leaves us with only three generations, Generation X (1965-1979), Xennials (1975-1985) and Gen Y/millennials (1980-1994) and millennials having the most buying power, as they already are in the empty nest stage where routine expenses of life are

minimal but they also have the burgeoning medical concerns.

This gives us buyers with different perspectives, traits and motivators for each generation and it is a most common pitfall for managers to adopt a style specific to their own generation, rather than considering a style befitting multi-generational buyer force including the millennials. There are not less than three or sometime even four, unique generations in a market place - Baby Boomers, Xennials (1975-1985) and Gen Y/millennials (1980-1994) and every generation displays a predominantly different approach and objectives for life and to add salt to all these complexities, Corona has made the life even more difficult for the marketer. Now apart from generation conflicts with regards to purchasing power and priorities, the marketer has to deal with generation concerns with regards to health also. Every generation has shown different susceptibility and tolerance for the virus.

Guwahati is one of the 98 Indian cities scheduled to be developed as Smart Cities under a project taken upon on by Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India. It has a humid subtropical climate (Köppen climate classification Cwa), falling only a tad bit behind the tropical savanna climate with mighty Brahmaputra river in the north of the metropolis, situated at the foothills of Shillong plateau in south, Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary in the east and Bharalu River, a tributary of the Brahmaputra, flow right through the heart of the city. It has a permanent freshwater lake "Dipor Bil" to the south-west of the city which acts as a natural stormwater reservoir for the city and multiple hills within the city limits.

Guwahati's myths and history can be traced back to several thousands of years. It is very difficult to pin point the exact date of the city's beginning but it's references can be found in the epics, The Ambari excavations were able to trace the time period of the Guwahati city between 2nd century BCE and1st century CE, in the Shunga-Kushana period of Indian history. Puranas, and other traditional historical literatures of India and it is assumed to be one of the most ancient cities of Asia. Epigraphic sources have placed the capital of Kamarupa kingdom in Guwahati and it was mentioned in the Kalika Purana that Kamarupa was inhabited by Kiratas. The Guwahati city has an ancient Shakti temple of Goddess Kamakhya in the Nilachal hill which is considered to be a very important seat of Tantric and Vajrayana Buddhism, it also has the ancient and unique astrological temple Navagraha in Chitrachal Hill, and

archaeological remains in Basistha and few other archaeological locations of mythological importance.

The quality of life in Guwahati is comparatively high. According to a 2006 survey, Guwahati was ranked 17th, among all the large and medium-sized Indian cities. The city facilitates competitive residential and working environments along with beautiful landscapes, pleasant climate, modern shopping areas, modern apartments, and bungalows, and considerably developed social infrastructure.
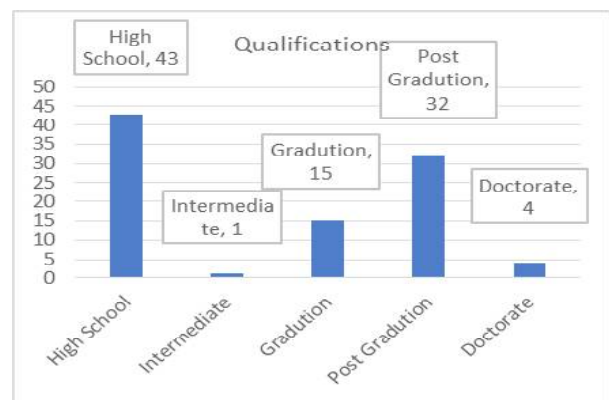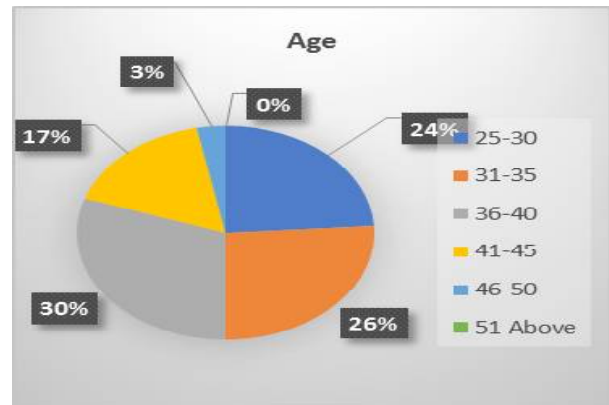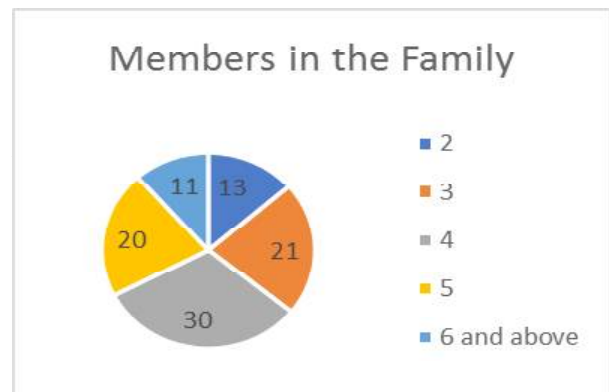

Fig. 2 Demographic Distribution of Population
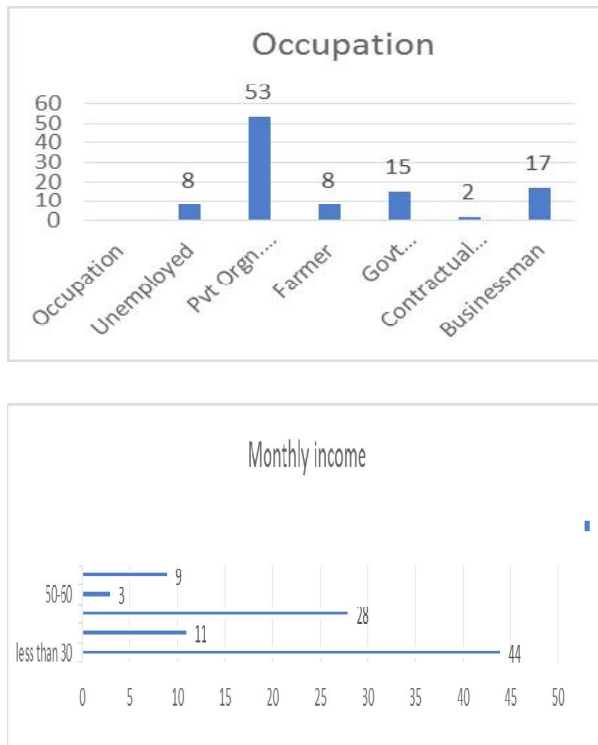*Fig. 3 Qualification status of population*

Fig.6 Financial status of population

The qualifications, occupation and family size are found to be highly correlated (Multiple R=0.441203653, R Square=0.194660664, F=22.47927168) these factors are also correlated with total number of hours for travelling and total time a tourist wants to spend at a particular sightseeing spot. The unique thing that came out after due analysis is that people who can be categorized as millennials and are in the full nest II stage or empty nest stage, want to spend lesser travel time but want to spend more time at a spot, after reaching it. This leads to a widely believed contention that infrastructural facilities with regards to travel and travel facilities leave a big impact on the popularity of a destination, if the travel to and out of a destination is tedious or longer, then it automatically decreases the prospect list and if the tourist spot at the destination has been adequately developed, infrastructure vise then even the sundry footfall can be converted into a dedicated or loyal tourist.

One more common contention was proved right with this study that Guwahati is mainly being used as a transit point and not as a destination (Multiple R= 0.039589687, R Square=0.001567343, F=0.145991749) and though the footfall of travelers is very high but tourism industry isn't able to realize the benefits of this footfall. With this finding, instead of revisiting the previously drawn conclusions of lack

of infrastructure, education and appropriate marketing approaches, let's revisit the tourism life cycle. We already have well recognized six stages in the tourism product life cycle, the issue that Guwahati is facing currently is non progression of tourism into next stage of life cycle. Exploration stage, successfully occurred in Guwahati and then Investment stage happened only partially, hence researchers are able to claim that that Guwahati has skipped the development and

consolidation stage and has directly jumped to stagnation stage only after partially venturing into investment stage. For such cases, the researchers have already coined another tourism life cycle curve, popularly known as cycle-recycle curve.

Guwahati started promisingly and traversed through growth and maturity stages of cycle-recycle curve and then moved to the final stage of this curve and incorporated the slump stage.

Now in order to re-establish Guwahati on the global tourism map the cycle-recycle curve demands reinvestment after hitting the slump phase (Multiple R=0.459819595, R Square=0.21143406, F=24.93560346). And rules of business have taught us that re-investment will only happen if the cost-benefit analysis of promised returns shows sustainable returns. But the rates of historical returns are not showing promising future. And this seems logical also, as to start the recycle stage, quantum of investment seems abruptly large and life time of investment seems pretty short, which warrants exorbitantly high rates of return (Multiple R=0.481711086, R Square=0.23204557, F=28.10093569). For such large investments the government and private investors, both would shy away on the grounds that high returns entail high risk and high risk renders a project as unviable.

Now it is getting apparent that makeover of destination image for Guwahati would need large amount of investment and that is not possible because of lack of large investors. Since large investment, seems improbable, so the next logical approach seems to be efficient and effective small investment with smaller life cycle. Smaller life cycles are able to realize the time value of money, show promising results of cost-benefit-analysis and they are able to lay further grounds for next series of investments (Multiple R=0.55236386, R Square=0.305105834, F=40.83332962).

The scalloped life cycle, though applicable to white goods market, but seems to be a logical choice for upgrading the destination image of the Guwahati city. It allows small investments, upgrades the

infrastructure prepares the fertile ground for continuous investment and re-investment and keeps the risk down (Multiple R=0.437609446, R Square=0.191502027, F=22.02811769). And all this is possible with small private investment and only efficient government structure which promotes ease of business.

Leasing out the business space to private operators by creating business corridors for them allows instant revenue to government, surge in employment status of the region and all this only demand an effective control mechanism so as to check the over-exploitation of the infrastructure and natural resources.

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Blended Teaching and Learning in Indian Higher Education

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[The pandemic is set to bring about a paradigm change in the way world operates. Post-covid vaccination, as the economies gradually open up the higher education sector has to brace itself for a teaching learning mode which will be an optimum blend of physical face to face and online modes. During the pandemic the entire education sector was exposed to the challenges of online education. These experiences can be used as the first step towards preparing for blended learning. The UGC in May 2021 has released a concept note signaling a gradual shift towards this new mode of teaching and learning in Indian higher education system. This paper looks at the meaning, types and advantages of blended learning. It examines the impending challenges and the way forward.]

Indian higher education system has primarily relied on classroom teaching using chalk-talk and face-to-face mode. Increasingly digital technological interventions have been transforming the traditional face-to-face classroom teaching and learning environment. Educational institutions have been adopting new ICT infrastructure, tools and devices in order to make classroom teaching interesting, visually appealing and more interactive. However,

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the sudden lockdown of physical classroom teaching in educational institutions due to covid pandemic has resulted in a complete shift of education on the online platform. It has thrown open questions about the preparedness of the education infrastructure to handle such a situation now and in the future. With vaccination drives in full swing in many parts of the world including India, countries are bracing themselves to open gradually but with caution. It is becoming increasingly clear that the education sector cannot continue to function solely either on the online

mode or offline mode. In India the University Grants Commission on May 20, 2021 released a concept note to introduce blended learning mode of teaching and learning in universities and colleges, where up to 40 per cent of any course can be taught in online mode and rest 60 per cent in the offline mode. Undoubtedly blended learning mode is learner centric, flexible, interactive and time saving but will it be possible to introduce it across the country uniformly? What are the challenges that will be faced by the higher educational institutions, teachers and students? The paper tries to find answers to these questions. The objectives of the paper are

1. To discuss the features and types of blended learning

2. To review the literature available on blended learning

3. To understand the impending challenges and the way forward

Features and Types of Blended Learning

Blended learning is a hybrid method of learning which combines the elements of traditional classroom mode with the online mode of learning. In other words it is a blend of in-person and technology based e-learning methods. In the physical space the teacher can control the learning process whereas in the virtual space the student has the flexibility to control the pace, path, place and time of learning (Staker and Horn,2016). It refers to a well-planned combination of meaningful activities in both the modes which mainly focusses on learning outcomes and the learner centred instructional environment (UGC May 2021). The definition of blended learning has evolved over the years. Graham 2006 had defined it to be a combination of two modes face-to-face and tech-based which was asynchronous. With technological revolution tech-based learning has become synchronous too. Students are face to face not only in the physical space but also on the digital space. Watson and Murin 2014 defines blended learning as

 "..a formal education program in which a student learns at least in part through online learning, at least in part in a supervised brick-and-mortar location away from home; and the modalities along each student's learning path within a course or subject are connected to provide an integrated learning experience".

With the availability of synchronous and asynchronous communication technologies the possibility of juxtaposing face-to-face and distance learning methods of teaching is increasing. Covid-19 pandemic has suddenly forced the world of teachers and learners into an environment of remote learning using technology. The post pandemic world can utilize the learnings during the pandemic period and bring together the best of both physical/ offline and online modes of teaching through blended learning. Thus, the post pandemic world will be full of opportunities for blended learning.

The features of blended learning are

● Blended learning offers convenience and flexibility. The availability of digital infrastructure, tools and devices like mobile phones, laptops, internet connectivity has made it convenient for teaching and learning possible conveniently. High quality teaching material, guidance from experienced teachers is accessible anytime anywhere and in different languages.

● Blended learning can be offered to a larger group of learners spread over a wider geographical area.

● Blended learning is remote and self-paced. In case of situations when students are not able to reach the educational institution, they will still have access to education. The asynchronous components of online education will help the learners to complete their education according to their own convenience and time.

● Blended learning provides a comprehensive understanding of the course content. In classroom teaching teachers often do not get enough time to extensively cover certain topics. With better and efficient use of ICT, content rich interactive e-modules can be created for self-paced learning beyond the classroom.

● Blended learning allows interaction with fellow learners and facilitator. In blended mode teachers and students will get more time to interact with each other in the classroom as learning materials can be shared through the online mode. Class discussions, debates, presentations, clarification of doubts etc can be given more time during physical classroom hours.

● Blended learning leads to reduction in cost on travel or printed reference materials. It is beneficial mainly for students who are also employed or located at distant places, as they can save time lost in travelling and use it to learn using online course content. Expenditure on printed reference

material also goes down as digital resources are easily available to them free or at a cheaper cost.

According to the available literature there are various models of blended learning. Blended face-to-face class requires significant offline class supplemented with online activities like reading, quizzes, assessments etc. Blended online class is the reverse which involves significant teaching through online mode supplemented with in-person activities like lectures or lab work. Flipped classroom is the opposite of the traditional classroom method. It involves learn the theory online while apply it through discussions, projects, presentations in the classroom. Rotation model involves rotation between various modalities, one of them is online learning. In a self-blend model a student gets enrolled in an online course other than the traditional face-to-face course. This is quite common amongst the college going students. The blended MOOC is a form of flipped classroom using in-person class meetings to supplement a massive open online course. The flexible-mode courses offer all instruction in multiple modes - in person and online and students choose how to take their course. There are multiple models and each institution can adopt the best suited model for itself depending upon its objectives. Thus, there is no one best model for all.

Challenges of Blended learning and the Way Forward

The challenges of blended learning will be mainly in terms of online learning. During the initial days of the pandemic there was a lot of resistance and hesitation towards converting traditional courses to online format. This was due to lack of administrative support, insufficient or no training by institutions of higher education, additional internet cost, slow internet connections, no electricity in interior areas, increased workload, no student contact, device or equipment concerns, etc. Teachers feel preparation of online course material will require a lot of time especially those who are technologically challenged. Similar concerns were cited in previous studies even in the pre-pandemic environment (Allen & Seaman, 2008; Keengwe, Kidd, & Kyei-Blankson, 2009). Faculty felt that teaching online is more difficult than teaching traditional courses (Gerlich, 2005) as well as complain that online delivery was more labour intensive because of the amount of time required to grade papers and respond to questions (Lao, & Gonzales, 2005; Wegmann, & McCauley, 2008). Another challenge would be in terms of the instructional design which has to focus not only on the content but also on the mode. Face-to-face teaching methods cannot be the same as the online teaching methods, therefore the course content has to be reviewed and segregated according to the mode of teaching employed. There is a growing concern among the existing faculty that that they may lose autonomy and control of the curriculum. There are concerns regarding the workload of teachers. Blended learning will reduce the required posts of teaching staff as the workload might get affected. During the lectures many students do not like to switch on their cameras which makes it difficult for the teachers to understand presence of students during the lecture. It is difficult to gauge the amount of learning that is happening on the online mode when students are behind dark screens. Since online learning is an integral part of blended learning the requirement of devices, internet connections and electricity become very important. This increases the cost of accessing education for many students. In many areas of the country poor electric and internet connections pose a major challenge. Thus, higher education through the online mode even if it is a small percentage of the blended learning mode will be difficult to access in semi urban and rural areas with poor connectivity. The pandemic has exposed the massive digital divide existing in India. Therefore, higher education institutions must identify the amount of blending that would be possible for it to achieve. This will differ according to programmes, courses, socio-economics status of students, cost, available infrastructure and other resources.

Though blended learning provides flexibility in multiple ways, the first and foremost requirement is that it should be done very gradually in a phased manner so that the everybody gets enough time to adapt. The facilitators and learners should be familiarised with the various aspects of blended learning. They should be made aware of the advantages and disadvantages of blended learning before its implementation. Courses have to be restructured and reviewed so that the collaboration between instructors and learners becomes possible. The curriculum should be redesigned considering the varied learning styles required according to the need of the subject and the topics covered. Depending upon the developmental needs of the students the proportion of physical face-to-face and online sessions should be set. The faculty has to be given adequate

training to shift to the hybrid mode because they will be designing, developing and instructing in both the physical classroom as well as the online mode. The challenge in shifting to blended leaning is not only using technology but how to effectively teach and learn using technology. The role of the faculty will not remain limited to the content to be taught, rather it will become more complex. Coppola, Hiltz, and Rotter (2002) identified three faculty roles: cognitive, affective, and managerial. The cognitive role is connected with the mental processes of learning, information storage, and thinking. The affective role is influenced by the relationships between students, faculty, and the classroom environment. The managerial role relates to class and course management. At the policy level issues regarding workload, tenure, promotions etc should be reconsidered and reformulated supporting the faculty.

Blended learning is an emerging trend in India where the teachers and students of higher educational institutions are coming to terms with the new experiences of online mode of education. The policy makers at different levels have to adopt a strategic and systematic approach in order to integrate the changing needs, objectives, available resources, and the mode of teaching so that an optimum blend of face-to-face and online learning mode can be created. Before the shift to this new mode of customised blended leaning, a test of readiness of students and teachers is imperative.

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Nature Connectedness Construct:

Cognitive, Affective and Behavioural Components in David Malouf's Fly Away Peter

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[*Nature connectedness refers to the extent to which one connects, internalises and identifies oneself with Nature. One has to lead one's life in a manner without causing any harm to the environment and contribute to the sustainable development. Fly Away Peter by Australian writer David Malouf portrays the cognitive, affective and behavioural components pertaining to Nature connectedness inherent in the central characters of the fiction. This paper glances at the graphic eco-consciousness cherished by Jim Saddler, Ashley Crowther and Imogen Harcourt, the major characters who are susceptible towards Nature. Despite all the catastrophic events they encounter in their lives, their affinity towards the elements of Nature and responsiveness to the various birds and plant species that surrounds them, gives them a kind of positive energy. They share this positivity with their other beings and through their respective profession contribute to the well-being of the community.*]

Fly Away Peter, a novella by Australian writer David Malouf, has received *The Age Book of theYear*, an annual literary award from The Age newspaper in 1982. He has received many literary awards for his works. He has written novels like, *Johnno, Harland's Half Acre, The Great World* and *The Conversations at Curlow Creek. Fly Away Peter* illustrates how the central characters Imogen Harcourt, Jim Saddler and Ashley Crowther connect themselves with Nature and how it adds to their psyche with respect to their cognitive, affective and behavioural components. Nature connectedness refers to the extent to which one connects, internalises and identifies oneself with Nature. It also talks about the 'intrinsic value' pertaining to all the biotic and abiotic organisms on the earth irrespective of their aesthetic or economic value. The cognitive component denotes how an individual integrates his emotions with Nature. The affective component indicates one's care and affection for Nature and the behavioural component refers to the commitment an individual shows to conserve and protect Nature. Peter Schmuck & W. P. Schultz in *Psychology of Sustainable Development* articulates their thoughts on Nature connectedness in the following manner:

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The extent to which an individual believes that she/he is connected to nature has cognitive, affective, and behavioural components. But an interesting place to begin is the amount of time that people spend in natural versus built environments. (62)

Jim begins his career as an ornithologist in Ashley's swampland and gradually befriends Imogen, a Nature photographer. Circumstances drag Jim and Ashley in to World War I. Jim is inducted into the ANZAC regiment and Ashley, as an officer. Despite all the catastrophic events they encounter in their lives, their endurance to accept the pain and sufferings taking refuge in the elements of Nature and predilection towards the birds and various plant and animal species galvanises them to spread a kind of positivity and advance towards life with exuberance.

As the narrative begins, the readers are introduced to Ashley Crowther's swampland in Brisbane through the eyes of Jim Saddler, the protagonist of this fiction. In Jim, the affective component is dominant as he shows much care to the rich biodiversity that enriches Ashley Crowther's swampland such as the intensely blue mountains, tea-trees half-standing in water, and a vast population of waterbirds, a lot of lorikeets, rosellas and pigeons in the paddocks and the wooded area beyond. He intensely rejoices at the bounty of Nature and seems to add meaning and value to his life with the company of various bird species. This can be seen when he resents at the flight of the bi-plane that had its take-off near the paddock. He

watches the bi-plane through the corner of his eye and to him "the noise it made, which was also a disturbance and new" (2).

Bird's gives a kind of aesthetic enjoyment and adds colour and beauty to one's life. It helps one to be devoid of the stress of everyday life and gives a kind of solace and comfort. The sounds of the birds are so appealing and they are the major contributors in maintaining the ecological balance. Birds add a helping hand to the ecologists, meteorologists and geographers as they are extremely sensitive to their habitat. They easily sense the change in seasons, various environmental conditions and natural calamities. Through them one can gain awareness about the environment and prepare to prevent and reduce the mishaps. Thus, birds travel throughout the world and does a mapping of it. The bird's journey to various parts of the globe is described by Jim in the following manner:

This creature that I could catch so easily in my hands, feeling the heartbeat and the strong wings flutter against my palms, has been further and higher even than that clumsy plane. It has been to Siberia. Its tiny quick eye has seen something big. A whole half of the earth. (3)

Ashley Crowther, the owner of the swampland, is a person with keen ecological consciousness. The commitment that he shows in protecting the species present in his swampland and the significance he gives to its 'intrinsic value' is indicative of the behavioural component predominant in him. He is happy that the birds visit his swampland and is aware about the significance of birds and their contribution in maintaining the ecological web. Birds are of great help to the agriculturalists and play a major role in pollination, seed dispersal and insect control. Their droppings serve as good fertilizers. He seems to be conscious of the interdependence of man, plants and animals and the rich biodiversity that enables sustainability and a minutest harm that one creates to the bird species may cause a devastating effect leading to an imbalance in the ecosystem and hamper life on earth. This can be seen as he believes the swampland belong to the birds. He opines: "All this

water, all these boughs and leaves and little clumps of tussocky grass that were such good nesting-places and feeding grounds belonged inviolably to the birds" (7).

Ashley Crowther has an encounter with Jim and adores at his knowledge about the birds and offers him a job as an ornithologist in his swampland. His swampland offers the birds healthy plants, fresh air, food and a safe place for incubation. He invites guests in the weekends because he wants everyone to be happy and rejoice at the beauty of his swampland thus adds utility to his community. In *Fragment on Government* Bentham mentions about how one's act should bring happiness to maximum number of people as "it is the greatest happiness of the greatest number" (393).

Jim, as an ornithologist, passionately looks into the psychology, behaviour and habitat of the multitude of bird species, its arrival, departure and so on and records in his calligraphic writings in 'The Book' that Ashley entrusts upon him. As he makes his notes, he wonders at the migratory pattern of the birds. Birds migrate from one place to another for various reasons such as scarcity of food, seasonal variation, instinctiveness, photoperiodism and gonadal changes. They take shelter in the trees in the woodlands. Ashley Crowther observes the birds 'flapping into a tree' and is immersed at the beauty of it which can be seen in the following manner: "Ashley stared, focused, found the branch; with a little leap of surprise and excitement" (15)

Trees plays a prominent role on the element earth. They retain the carbon-di-oxide and releases oxygen thereby helpful in the process of respiration. They form a beautiful canopy and absorbs the pollution prevalent in the air, acts as a physical filter and thus ensures the health of the various organisms. They are helpful in preventing floods, soil erosion and reduce the pace of global warming. Most of the trees, plants and shrubs are of rich medicinal value. The greenery and the serene environment they provide brings in a kind of peace, tranquillity and freshness to one's mind. Trees form a great abode to insects, fungi, lichens apart from various bird species like

owls, woodpeckers, beetles and so on through the hollow space in their trunks. Thus, trees boost wildlife, strengthen the community of species, stabilise the wildlife, control soil erosion and also add to the economy and development.

Jim become friends with Imogen Harcourt, a nature photographer, when she captures the image of the sandpiper in Ashley's swampland. Like Jim who records the details of the birds in 'The Book', she captures the beauty of the birds through her camera lens. She is from Norfolk and takes nature photographs for a London magazine. As a person who is much interested in ecology, she connects, emotes and integrates herself with Nature thus representing the core of Nature connectedness exhibiting the cognitive component. She captures the beauty of the landscapes, multitude of bird species, plants and animals and documents it in newspaper. For Imogen, Ashley's swampland becomes a best natural source for nature photography. Thus, all the three of them become friends with birds being the common thread that connects them together. Robert Frost in his poem *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* relishes the exquisiteness of the woods as he travels in a wagon in the following manner:

The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep. (275) Frost opines that it is not possible to adore the beauty of the woods forever as he has a lot of commitments and responsibilities to fulfil. The protagonist of this fiction too is forced to refrain from his job and induct into the ANZAC regiment to take part in World War I. Ashley too joins as an officer in another regiment. He travels through the landscape that is newly prepared for the promotion of war. He looks at a Dunlin and wonders how the world of the birds are undisturbed by war. In the war field, he witnesses a lot of catastrophic events that sickens him.

Jim is thoughtful about the consequences of war and considers it as an unwelcome one that should be avoided. At that time, he looks at an old man strenuously working in the fields with his hoe to plant the seeds. This brings in him the confidence to comprehend life with positivity. He believes that there is light at the end of the tunnel and after war there is definitely peace (life). He ponders over the interconnectedness of all the biotic and abiotic community. He feels happy that he too is connected with Nature, for he may become a manure to the plants that the old man sows and embraces death.

Imogen receives the news about Jim's death through Ashley and mourns for the same near the seashore. As she keenly observes the waves, she looks at a man surfing. She could not refrain herself from looking at the newness of the sport despite her grief. She understands that man's life is interconnected with Nature and it is Nature that gives one the hope and confidence to approach life with positivity and Zeal. Rachel Carson in her seminal work *The Silent Spring* brings out the hope one gains from Nature in the following manner:

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts … There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature … the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter. (89)

Indeed, this article brings out how Nature is both the source and solace for Imogen, Ashley and Jim and how they relate their life with Nature with cognitive, affective and behavioural components predominant in them. By interpreting psyche of the characters in this fiction, one may relate to, appreciate, and identify oneself with Nature and approach life with positivity.

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A Comparative Study on the Educational Thoughts of Rabindranath Tagore and Swami Vivekananda

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[*Rabindranath Tagore, the renowned poet and Swami Vivekananda, the spiritual leader were two contemporaries in India whose vibrant ideas had shaped the social, cultural and political landscape of the society. The present paper attempts to make a comparative study of their educational thoughts by highlighting the relevance of their ideas in the present day. Both of them considered education as an agent of social change. They were idealists, naturalists, pragmatists, as well as humanists. In the present day, the recommendations of UNESCO reiterates the ideas of education as envisaged by the two eminent personalities.*]

India is a country which has a rich history and tradition in education. Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941) and Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902) who lived during the latter half of the 18th century and at the first half of the 19th century, made significant contributions to the freedom movement and the cultural renaissance of the country. Both of them considered education as a tool for social change. The objective of the present paper is to make a comparative study of their educational thoughts by highlighting the relevance of their ideas in the present day.

Rabindranath Tagore's Perception of Education

The experiments carried out by Rabindranath Tagore gave birth to his *aims of education*. He recommended that the primary aim of education is the development of all the potential faculties of a child which would lead to an all-round, harmonious development of the personality. Among the other aims of education, Tagore emphasized on intellectual development of the child, natural growth of the child in natural circumstances, freedom to the learner, self-realization and spiritual knowledge of individual, love for humanity, physical development of the child, practical teaching, correlation between man and nature, importance of fine arts in the educational curriculum, mother tongue as the medium of instruction, moral and spiritual development for achieving integral development of human personality, social development of the learner, unity of west and the east, rejection of book centred education for students, and education for rural reconstruction.

Principles of self-education is based on self-realization and the process of self-realization is as permanent as that of education.

- *Independence*: Rabindranath believed in complete freedom of every kind for the students, the freedom of intellect, decision, knowledge, action and worship.

- *Perfection*: Perfection here implies that the students must try to develop every aspect of his personality and all the abilities and power with which he has been endowed by nature.

- *Universality*: Development of the individual remains imperfect and incomplete until he acquires faith in the universal soul, a part of which exists inside himself.

- *Integral Development*: The fundamental purpose of education is not merely to enrich ourselves through the fullness of knowledge, but also to establish the bond of love and friendship between man and man.

Rabindranath Tagore observed that for *all-round, harmonious development* of the personality of a child all his potential faculties should be improved. His philosophy of total acceptance of life made him realize this broad aim. He tried to build an institution where children would have freedom to discover and learn in the open learning environment of nature.

Religious education was extremely significant for Tagore but he did not involve the formal teaching of any religious dogma in the curriculum. Religious training for him is a spirit, an inspiration, encompassing every facet of human life, confirming its relationship with the highest values and giving man a sense of kinship with the Real.

According to him, *sociability* and human fellow-feeling are the two requisites of a truly educated person. His idea of fellow-feeling was not limited to only his countrymen but he spread the message of internationalism through his writings.

He explained his concept of *ideal education* which covered the description of ideal atmosphere, institution, teacher, and method. For him, the formal method of teaching is not the most important part of an ideal education, but it is the atmosphere which surrounds the educational pattern. He opined that a school should be an open world and the guiding spirit should be personal love under the guidance of an ideal teacher.

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Tagore believed that it is essential that a centre of learning is not only the centre of intellectual life but also a centre of country's *economic life*. He started a school in Sriniketan to put his theory into practice and the objectives set for the Department of Rural Reconstruction and Village Economics give a good insight into his theory.

Swami Vivekananda's Perception of Education

Swami Vivekananda, a great thinker and a reformer of India, held education to be 'man-making', which was also the sole mission of his life. He developed the scheme of *man-making education* in the light of his overall philosophy of Vedanta. According to Vedanta, in addition to the body and mind, a man also possesses his soul and the most important existence of a man lies in this soul. Based on the Vedantic philosophy, Swamiji defined education as 'the manifestation of perfection already in man'.

Vivekananda has explained the meaning of education in a remarkable manner. First of all, the word 'manifestation' implies that something is already present in the latent form and is waiting to be expressed. Through learning the hidden ability of a learner is manifested. Next in importance in his definition of education is the expression 'already in man'. This refers to a human being's potential, which is the range of the abilities and talents, known and unknown, that he is born with. 'Perfection' is the objective of realizing the highest human potential.

Training of Mind

Vivekananda asserted that a student should give highest priority to the training of his mind, and not just on accretion, memorization and repetition of facts. The power of keeping the mind on a particular task can be improved through several stages. The initial stage is learning how to collect the mind and prevent it from running here and there. Next, the student must learn how to detach his mind from various distractions. Lastly, he must direct the mind on to the desired subject and focus the full force of his mind on it.

Swamiji also wanted the students to cultivate *will-power*. Will-power not only helps to conduct the learning process, but also strengthens one's character.

Method of Education

Vivekananda's method of education reflects the *heuristic method* of the modern educationists. In this system, the teacher instigates the spirit of inquiry in the pupil who then finds out things for himself under the unbiased guidance of the teacher.

Swamiji laid immense importance on the environment of the home and school for the proper growth of the child. The parents and teachers should set examples for the child through their own lives. Swamiji recommended the old institution of gurukula where the students can constantly observe the ideal character of their teacher, who serves as their role model.

Field of Study

For man-making education, all those subjects which are necessary for the all-around development of the body, mind and soul of the individual should be included in the curriculum which include physical culture, aesthetics, classics, language, religion, science and technology. According to Swamiji, teaching of *cultural values* of the country should form a major portion of the curriculum. He reiterated that *religion* is the innermost core of education. By religion he did not mean any specific religion but realization of the divinity already present in man.

Culture and Education – The Teacher and the Taught

Vivekananda observed that, through education, a child learns a culture and his behaviour is moulded accordingly, and he is thus guided towards his eventual role in the society. In this process he needs assistance from several agents, such as his parents, peers and teachers. In today's institutionalised formal education teachers are expected to play a vital role. A teacher's duty is to show a student how to think, what to think, how to discriminate and how to appreciate things.

Education of Women

The main objective of Vivekananda's scheme of female education is to make women bold, fearless, and aware of their chastity and dignity. He observed that although men and women are equally skilled in academic matters, yet women have a special aptitude and proficiency for studies relating to home and family. Hence, he recommended the introduction of subjects like sewing, nursing, domestic science, culinary art, and so on in the curriculum for women. Japa, worship, and meditation should be an indispensable part of their curriculum. Women should also acquire the spirit of valour and heroism.

Education of the Masses

Vivekananda realized that for a sustainable regeneration of India top priority must be given to mass education and help the people restore their lost individuality. They should not only be given education to become self-sufficient, but also ideas, moral training and an understanding of their own historical situation so that they could work for their own rescue.

Similarities between Rabindranath Tagore and Swami Vivekananda's Concepts of Education

When the comparison is done on the philosophies of the two eminent personalities, it can be seen that, being contemporaries, both of them were idealists. They saw

spiritualty and religion as the soul of the nation. They viewed education as the main tool for social change which is the fundamental similarity in their philosophies. It was the Vedic philosophy that influenced their thoughts.

Development of leadership by Tagore in Viswabharati is same as Vivekananda to the missionaries of Ramakrishna Mission to train the youths for leadership in rural areas. Both of them emphasized on education through the medium of mother tongue. Both of them highlighted on the improvement of the conditions of the masses and supported mass education. Both of them considered women to be the incarnation of power.

In a nutshell, the main factors of influence which worked on them are the following:

- They were contemporaries;
- They were idealists;
- They believed that the soul of India rested on spiritualism;
- They were social reformers;
- They viewed education as an instrument of social change;
- Both were uncompromising nationalists;
- They were humanists as well;
- They mingled spirituality with scientific ideas;
- They gave equal respect and educational opportunities to both men and women with economic self-sufficiency;
- They believed in productive activity or learning by doing. In this way they were pragmatists;
- They broke the narrow concept of nationalism and believed in international brotherhood;

All the above factors made it imperative that these two personalities had similar visionary perceptions, innovative mind-sets and ideological identities and were engaged in similar activities.

Dissimilarities between Rabindranath Tagore and Swami Vivekananda's Concepts of Education

Despite the above similarities between Tagore and Vivekananda's ideology on education, there are certain differences in their outlook and their actions. Even though they held similar viewpoints on many issues, they had their differences too.

- Swami Vivekananda's spiritual outlook is India's age old 'Advaita' concept based on the Vedanta. But, Tagore's spirituality included certain original philosophical ideas that were entirely his own. This is known as 'Anandabad'. His thought was much influenced by Upanishad.

- Tagore believed that man would further evolve into a perfect being (amritsyaputra) by enlightenment of creative self-expression and all round development of personality. But according to Vivekananda, liberation is the eventual goal of every human being. He made his educational philosophy influenced by his religious thoughts whereas Tagore's educational philosophy is secular in nature.

- Swami Vivekananda was someone who had taken up sanyasa in a traditional manner at a very young age. Tagore was someone who had a unique blending of idealism, naturalism and pragmatism on the one hand and a creative self-expression on the other hand.

Relevance in the Present Context

The ideals of Rabindranath Tagore and Swami Vivekananda assume more and more importance in modern times because of the dynamics of globalization and 'free market' economy forced upon or undertaken by one country after the other. Tagore and Vivekananda emphasized on value education which is very important in the modern age of value erosion. In the present day, UNESCO has mentioned about the five pillars of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014 and has reiterated the ideas of education as envisaged by the two eminent personalities. 'Learning to Know', 'Learning to Be', 'Learning to Do', 'Learning to Live Together' and 'Learning to Transform Oneself and Society' are the reflections of Tagore and Vivekananda's concepts of education. Thus, their ideas of education are still relevant in the contemporary society.

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Empowerment Momen in Rural India

Dr.B.Ramalingam*

[*The empowerment is a systematic procedure by which the in capable increase and larger control in excess of resources of their lives. Empowerment of women is a positive approach that aims at promoting equality and eliminating subordination of women through positive state actors, and the law and Government can ensure empowerment by conferring certain rights to the women, who need to be empowered. Equal rights do not ensure any change in their activities which women have been carrying out traditionally. It can only enable women to get same education, apply for same jobs and vote but family issues such as child care, support, nurturing and maintenance of various house hold activities are not been defined as real work, thus women rights need to be redefined as human rights to ensure equitable and fair treatment to them. The present article is going to discuss women empowerment in rural areas of India and empowerment indicators, development policies and programmes for women empowerment.*]

Empowerment of women is a positive approach that aims at promoting equality and eliminating subordination of women through positive state actors, and the law and Government can ensure empowerment by conferring certain rights to the women, who need to be empowered. On the other hand Government can also impose responsibility on those who have to execute such law on women empowerment to suit the existing needs and times. Women empowerment actors such as food, medical care, shelter, income ,job, property, respect and also liberty freedom from violence sexual abuse and even deciding the family size and so on. The Empowerment also means the ability to emphasize oneself, which is psychological state of being powerful. Such assertion or use of power for growth and progress. Women independent thinking assertion and functioning is dependent on cultural norms and institutional arrangements that regulate their lives, hence there is a need for empowering on women's education, modifying the societal norms ensuring equal rights and challenging the practical structure. In this direction activists and feminists have been demanding for full empowerment of women and not just simply for equal rights. According to them equal rights simply allow women, the rights to compete with men in various spheres. Equal rights do not ensure any change in their activities which women have been carrying out traditionally. It can only enable women to get same education, apply for same jobs and vote but family issues such as child care, support, nurturing and maintenance of various house hold activities are not been defined as real work, thus women rights need to be redefined as human rights to ensure equitable and fair treatment to them.

Concept& Definition

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The empowerment is a systematic procedure by which the in capable increase and larger control in excess of resources of their lives. Women lives impacted in multiple areas like house hold, the community, the market, and the state. The diversified influences on women need to be channelized for their betterment. Empowerment of women is also vital in securing their reproductive and marital rights which are universally valid, since Women empowerment is based socio economic conditions and can be defined as anything that women wants in her life.

Empowered women whether living in traditional societies or modern industrial societies have defined themselves differently, their attitudes , values and behaviours are in relation to their own real interests. They claim freedom and autonomy from existing male dominated hierarchies and do not associate their existence and living with male authorities, as they have their own beliefs and values.

They define their multi dimensional facts of life as follows:

i   The economic component requires the women encompass admittance to and have power over, dynamic possessions ensuring a little degree of fiscal self-sufficiency.

ii   The political part entail women comprise the ability to examine, arrange and gather together for social change and

iii   There is a material factor of ahead be in command of above one's body and sexuality, capability to defend oneself alongside sexual cruelty as part of empowerment process.

Review of Literature

The study of Sultana (2004) entitled "Participation Empowerment and Variation in Development for Rural Bangladesh Women" draws the attention that

participation of women in paid work was not worth adequate to increase autonomy and voice of women in the family and subsequently in neighbourhood and the village. In other words, the formation and regular saving of women self help groups contribute to raise the income levels of them and that also provides the new knowledge and consciousness to meet the change over traditional dogmatism which may not allows the women into mainstream by attaining the higher status in the society.

The proclaim of Kurato (2004) on development of entrepreneurs not only empowers individual women but also renders the collectiveness of women who involve in self help group activities. The findings of focus group of women held in the Mid-Michigan in the United States with respective to poverty and empowerment which combined with fourfold dimension such as Economic, Social, Psychological and Political. They also proclaimed that women empowerment through awareness as an individual consciousness that grows into action to cherish the broad coconscious level.

The work of Reddy (2006) entitled "Empowering Women through Self Help Groups and Micro Credits" states the significance of the various issues pertains to women in development and also revealed the obstacles to their development equality with men, girls education, their participation in public affairs/community activities in villages etc. Since a huge number of women were illiterates who can learn through pictorial charts, audio-visual were extensively used to make them as potential and empowered. "Fieldwork tours were part of the training packages which were found to be very effective and efficient in motivating women to take part in SHG movement and take of several community activities that were also magnitude to them".

Dramatic connotation of Jayanti Gosh (2008) proclaimed in terms of social interaction within the rural areas, more particularly in Talangana villages of Andhra Pradesh where women engage in paid agriculture workforce and a large number of women have been participating in the workforce that outside of the home, As consequence of which, the membership of women in cooperative societies has massively increased and also much more mingling to cherish the great equality between women of different classes and castes as well. The community participation of women in several villages is now in a stronger position within workforce especially in terms of affairs.

The emphasis of Laxmi (2002) on several strategic effects towards the women empowerment divulge that the nation policy of empowerment of women seeks to adopt and integrated approach towards empowering women through effective convergence of existing service, resources, infrastructure and manpower in both women specific and women related sectors.

Devasia (2004) in their study state that "Empowering of women pre-supposes a drastic, dynamic and democratic change in the perception of and expectation from women in our society. To help women attain economic independence is the first priority for such a change. When a woman attains economic independence, she naturally becomes the mistress of her own body and author of her own decisions. Even she can take free choices of her sex life and no one can force her to use her for their pleasure and benefit. A scientific perception of women's needs is essential for this process."

Indicators For Women Empowerment

Empowerment means allowing women to lead their life effectively as they are the best judges to review their family circumstances, their abilities and the societal conditions which they live in. There are the some important indicators need to be reviewed.

Health

Women should be provided good and easily approachable medical facilities especially during pregnancy (both prenatal and postnatal) and infancy to ensure their life and health. Sonography is legally prohibited the determination of sex test, it is in practice in rural areas.

Education

Women should be given proper education which creates awareness among them and makes them conscious of their rights and equal status in society. This will be in the greater interest of the society at large and will have far reaching and lasting impact, because women as mothers are called the first educators of their children.

Society

Social awareness will be enable women to understand that they cannot be discriminated against only on the base of sex they should be treated equally to the men.

Political

Women's participation in politics has to be ensured at every level to make them politically strong so they can facilitate proper legislation for protecting rights of women. This can be done through "Progressive Reservation Policy".

Legal

Women should be given adequate legal education to make them capable of understanding their own rights and how to enforce them for fair justice. This is essential because without legal knowledge and activism all the formal constitutional arrangements made by the state become useless.

Psychological, Moral and Cultural Aspect

In some cultures women are brought up in a way that they accept their "secondary status" automatically as

"natural" without raising any questions. Nor fight for their rights and status. Their mindset is so conditioned that they do not even They do not even protest against inhuman discrimination on any grounds. This is hurdle for empowerment, hence needs to be dealt objectively to ensure progress and social up liftment of women.

Empowering from within

Empowerment of women in the above mentioned areas will contribute to their self reformation and reformation and advancement of society at large. This is in turn will create an appropriate environment that will enable them to realize their rights, status and dignity. There by empowering them in the right direction.

Socio, Economic and Political Empowerment

The extent of empowerment at various levels is determined by socio, economic and political identity of women. But these factors are independent and interlinked that they cannot be considered and sustained in isolation, therefore true and holistic empowerment of women the convergence of social, economical and political aspects and will ensure the desired out comes effectively addressing of all the three factors will show the way for progress and development of women.

Social Empowerment

Gender injustice and discrimination has its origin generally in the family structure. Family traditions and customs, social norms related to issues like dress code, food habits, rituals, religious, practices etc. which are great impact on the progress of the women. In order to over come from all such social discrimination domestic empowerment has to be ensured and that will promote freedom and autonomy to women both in parents and In laws houses. Empowerment within the family will ensure equality for women in matters like successor, inheritance, socialization at home social space and status at home etc.

Education

Education is the stepping stone to promote and strengthen the women in the procedure of empowerment. Education strengthens democratic procedures as it allows for better and more impartial partaking. This in turn paves way for development and for good governance. Education gives more confidence and built self esteem but due to lack of literacy among women and poor disadvantaged do not derive any benefits from the process of development, advantages, Though education and literacy are important components for empowerment that the content but they necessarily do not ensure it. Only good quality of education can enable women to understand the and analyses the convergence of gender discrimination. Thus face the challenges of patriarchal system. They can make informed choices and question

subordination through empowerment. Empowerment through formal education alone not the panacea for the progress of women. Capacity building modes of learning to suit the needs of deprived women can enhance their capabilities for better livelihood.

Media

The role of the Media in highlighting he issues of women has been debated here. The electronic, Print media, Television, films are generally glorify and sensitize the issues like rape murder, dowry and also domestic violence, sexual harassment etc. but today media is showing hype and sometimes we can observe women roles and characters as villains. The general public is thus made to understand that women and girls are substandard race that be able to be easily exploited. The media needs be more responsible and the gender sensitive to upgrade the status of women. Portray women and the female gender as a whole leaves much to be preferred.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) & Women Empowerment

Women in developing countries are among the most important of these groups. Even though women account for nearly a 1/3 of information technology workers in developing countries, they are concentrated in lower-level jobs and paid lesser salaries than men. For example, many of these women work in call centre, data entry, and programming positions few are project managers. But this need not be the case with helpful policies from employers, complement by progressive national employment laws, women can move up the expert ladder. Girls' and women's low enrolment in science and technology education is one of the main obstacles to higher-level employment in information technology. There is need for national labour laws and policies for providing better opportunities for women.

Status of Women in Rural Society

The Women treated equally to men during the Vedic period possessing property and in participating social and cultural activities and festivals and started declining the position of women over the period of time. The position of Women in society in relation to men have little opportunities. In this context mahatma Gandhi expressed that since the women possess equal mental capacities like men they need to enjoy right to freedom and liberation in participating in all kind of activities.

India as a developing country saw majority of its population suffering from malnutrition, unemployment, and poor health care paving way for poverty. Women being the weaker section had low economic status low earning capacities due to high rate of illiteracy and low rate of education status. In order to improve their socio

economic status there is a need to provide equal employment opportunities and income generating activities in this context government of India and the state governments initiating various programmes to empower the Women in the society.

Women and the Constitution of India

In constitution of India women have been placed on par with men enabling them to realize their goals equal to men. The civil, political and economic rights have been constitutionally granted to women for their all round upliftment and development. The Indian women enjoys the political right of franchise and right to vote and also participate in election process like men and also they have given an opportunity to occupy highest positions like president. Prime minister, Judge, Speaker of house etc.

The following provisions of constitution ensure women equal to the men:

1. Article 14: guarantees to all equal protection of laws as well as equality before law. Both of the expressions used in "Universal Declaration of Human Right". The equality before law is guaranteed to all irrespective of sex, race, colour or nationality.

2. Article 15(3): has been empowers the state to make special provisions for women for safeguarding their health. The Indian constitution has recognized the discrimination of women prevailing in the society in addition to their disadvantaged physical structure and biological behaviour.

3. Article 16(2): lays down the rule that no citizen can be discriminated for any employment under the State on ground only on religion, race, caste, or sex.

4. Article 21: of the constitution has interpreted by the supreme court providing some special provisions for women by way of compensation to rape victims and prevention of sexual harassment.

5. Under the Constitution 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 Article 243 D provides that in every Panchayat, The State shall be reserved for SC & ST and not less than 1/3 seats shall be reserved for women, and office of the chairperson in the Panchayat at village shall be reserved in such manner as the legislature of the State may by law provide.

6. Under the Constitutional 74th Amendment Act, 1992 Article 243 T provides that 1/3 seats in Municipal Corporations shall be served for women. Such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in the Municipality.

Institutional mechanism

It includes not only the central, state and local governments but also given to the Nongovernmental organizations. The central and state governments have been advocating for gender budgeting as a innovative policy for integrating gender issues. The National Policy for Empowerment aims at strengthening the existing Institutional mechanism. This is expected to facilitate better policies and programmes for women empowerment by providing adequate resources like skill development and other related trainings for development

Women Empowerment Programmes at National Level

The Government of India started different kind of programmes for the welfare and development of women in the country. The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development corporation, National Rural health mission, Integrated child development scheme, Sarvashiksha Abhiyaan, Support training and employment programme for Women, Mahathma Gandhi Rural employment guarantee scheme.

Self Help Groups and Rural Development

From the context very important aspect of rural self-employment is the structure of Self Help Groups, which is a precious savings of human resources from side to side instruction and capability building procedures. The group members use combined understanding and guarantee suitable use of fund and its timely settlement. Women in rural areas come together and form a group for their empowerment, this includes savings, institutional building and participation in different livelihood activities.

Conclusion

Empowerment of women is a positive approach that aims at promoting equality and eliminating subordination of women through positive state actors, and the law and Government can ensure empowerment by conferring certain rights to the women, who need to be empowered. On the other hand Government can also impose responsibility on those who have to execute such law on women empowerment to suit the existing needs and times. Women empowerment actors such as food, medical care, shelter, income ,job, property, respect and also liberty freedom from violence sexual abuse and even deciding the family size and so on. The Empowerment also means the ability to emphasize oneself, which is psychological state of being powerful. Such assertion or use of power for growth and progress. Today Women became centre focus of the society and worldwide many programmes were adopted for women empowerment and there is no exception for India here also constitution providing rights to women and there are various programmes for women empowerment particularly in rural areas. The study revealed that with the data women participation is increasing day by day in politics, education, and employment.

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The Human Resource Management Practices in India and South Korea- A Comparative Study of Chaebols of South Korea and the Private Indian Family Business Organizations

Dr. Pragyan Pushpanjali*

[*A family owned business is any business in which a majority of the ownership or control lies within a family. The Hoshi Ryokan is a Japanese restaurant run by the Hoshi family in Japan since 718 AD making it the world's oldest family firm in the hands of the 47th Generation. The 'KongoGumi' of Japan founded in 578 AD was the oldest family Business in Japan managed by the 40th generation, until it succumbed to the economic turmoil in Japan in the 1980s. (KPMG, 2016) Chaebols are family owned Businesses in The Republic of Korea. "A chaebol generally refers to a collective of formally independent firms under the single common administrative and financial control of one family. It literally means a group or party of wealth: chae (¡Œ) means wealth or fortune, and bol means a group or party." (Murillo, David, & Yun-dal, 2013.]*

Some of largest family business firms worldwide are: Novartis – Swiss pharmaceutical, Roche Swiss pharmaceutical, Wal Mart (USA) – Sam Walton Family- American Multinational Retail, Facebook –Mark Zuckerberg , online social media platform, Oracle – Larry Allison, 6) Berkshire Hathaway – Warren Buffet,) Samsung, Volkswagon – Piech Porshe family Germany, Koch Industries – David Koich, Cargill - Food ingredients and other products – William Wallace Cargill, Samsung Group (South Korea), Foxconn (Taiwan) and Tata Group (India). And Birla , Goenka , Murugappa , Bajaj , Modis , Bangurs, Mafattals , Godrej , Wipro, Ambani etc in India.

As of date the following 5 Chaebols are responsible for South Korea's current economic success –.Samsung Group, Hyundai, SK (best known for SK Telecom), LG, Hanwha

Why compare the family run businesses of India and South Korea?

In the recent years the prominent place that the big family houses like Ambanis. Adanis and TATA occupy not only in the Economic but also in the Socio-political environment and setup of India and the impetus given by the Government of India to Small and Medium enterprises and entrepreneurship and innovation is comparable to the Post Asian crisis Innovation Centric phase of South Korea. Both India and Korea have reached their current stage after a long struggle with the corruption that comes with capitalism and Investment centric growth. And hence the historical phased growth trajectory of both countries with respect to Family owned Business Houses are comparable and very similar.

In one of the author's previous paper titled " *India – South Korea, Management Lessons for the Next Millenium"*presented in the 10th RASK conference in New Delhi, on the basis of SWOT analysis (done in that paper) of the bilateral potentialities and realities

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emerging between the two countries, it was quite evident that there were structural and trade complementarities between the two countries. Both countries have undergone robust economic growth and are keen on the matter of regional integration and strategic alliances to gain competitive advantage. The following similarities were also evident:

a. Both countries were roughly the same in terms of economy in 1990s (about $300 billion in GDP), after which they both showed comparable development trajectories;

b. They both started from extensive poverty post independence;

c. They have unfriendly countries as neighbours (Pakistan for India and Nort Korea for South Korea);

d. The starting point of their economic growth can be traced back to the late 80s;

e. Giant family owned businesses play an important role in their economy and

f. They have cultural similarities.

After identifying the historical growth similarities and the above commonalities, it is evident that the two countries can learn a lot from each other – hence the comparison.

Characteristics of the Chaebols' Human Resource Management:

The common Management and HRM (Human Resource Management) characteristics of the Chaebols are as follows:

1. Family oriented management styles

2. Hire their top level managers and executives from among family, loyal friends and schoolmates and those who bear religious ties with the owners– to ensure trust and loyalty..

3. Centralized Personnel office – so the haejang (conglomerate chairman) can control the conglomerate.

4. Patrimonialism (where authority is personal power based and administration is based on the personal whims and desires of the administrator (Chang, 2011)) and yon-go (relation based behavior) is common

5. Job security and lifetime employment

6. Seniority based HRM

7. Group Training

8. Paternalistic symbols like slogans and songs are very important in the chaebols.

9. One-setism –one industry dominated by one company and self-sufficiency. (Chang, 2011)

Characteristics of the Indian Family Businesses

The following are some peculiar features of family businesses in India:

1. Long term commitment, seniority based decisions (pay, promotion)

2. Loyalty towards customers and employees,

3. Social identity due to the company,

4. On the job training experience, lesser training as compared to public sector organizations

5. Risk taking capacity,

6. Centralized and quick decision making ,

7. Respect for generations and family culture and lack of professional management and professional participation

Challenges and problems faced by Indian Family Businesses

As per a2019 PWC Report (PWC, 2019) on Indian Family Business the top 10 challenges faced by the Indian Family Businesses are as follows: (In decreasing Order of magnitude and importance)

1. The need to innovate to keep ahead

2. Accessing the right skills and capacities

3. Economic Environment

4. Regulation

5) Digitalisation

6. Professionalisation of Business

7. Domestic competition

8. Cyber security

9. Prices of Energy and Raw material

10. Access to financing

Challenges and problems faced by Chaebols

Public discontent with chaebol has long been brewing. This is evident from the following incidents and events which were in news:

In 2017, Jay Y Lee the head of Samsung Group was sentenced to a jail term of 5 years for bribing in order to get to the top position at Samsung. This was also a part of the scandal that dethroned The President of South Korea, Park Geun-hye.

Later on in February after Lee's appeal in court, he was freed and his sentence was suspended and this sparked off public ire in South Korea. (source: Washington Post Peter Pae | Bloomberg October 5, 2018 and The globe and Mail Iain Marlow, Asia-pacific Correspondent, Seoul, Published April 24, 2015 Updated May 12, 2018)

In the same year, in a repeat story, Lotte Retail group's Chairmaion and was sentenced to a 30 months jail term which was then suspended by an Appeal Court adding fuel to public outrage against corrupt Chaebol magnates.

Korean Discount - It refers to the historic discount that foreign investors impute when they calculate the valuation of Korean investments such as stocks, etc.

The reasons for the discount include

i.   existential risk of conflict with North Korea;

ii.   perception that management at Korean companies is less professional or competent;

iii.   perception that Korean investments are harder to dispose of due to regulatory or cultural limitations.

Korean Air "Nut Rage" Fiasco – is an example of the lack of professionalism in the New Generation of leaders of Chaebols. The following news item will explain this point:

Korean Air "nut rage" fiasco was the infamous case in which Cho Hyun-ah, an airline senior executive and daughter of the

Korean Air Company's chairman, flew into a rage and ill treated the on board crew of the flight for a petty matter of being served macadamia nuts in a bag and not on a proper plate befitting a royal treatment. The public was outraged at this pompous behavior of the new generation of Chaebol mogul.

Suggestions

On the basis of the above analysis the following changes are suggested:

Changes that are Required in the Chaebols:

The following changes are now slowly creeping into the Chaebols and are the need of the hour:

1. Downsizing, hiring contingent workers (part time and contractual), internal job postings – as against their lifetime employment using the concepts of Human Resource Accounting.

2. Performance based pay-systems- yun-bong-je (15 in Chaebols in 1980 to 60.3% in 2002 (Chang, 2011)) as against seniority based pay systems and also based on the concepts of Human Resource Accounting.

3. From people based to work based

4. From Staff manager based to Line Manager based

5. From Domestic based to International based

6. From Vertical Structure Based to International structure based

7. From recruiting family members (top positions) and friends to Gong-chae (open employment syatem)- Samsung has maximum number of non-family member executives among all the Chaebols.

8. From seniority system strongly influencing the decisions regarding promotions to merit-oriented promotion system. Human Resource accounting can again play a major role here.

9. From team or group training to individual training

Changes that are evident and required in the Indian Family run businesses:

Similarly the changes that are evident in Indian Family run Businesses are as follows: These changes are coming in slowly yet certainly

1. Shift from Rigidity to Flexibility

2. Balancing of resources and capabilities keeping in mind the needs – both internal and external environmental needs

3. Shift from national to international orientation

4. Knowledge Management so that it is easily available at all levels

5. Innovation based Organizational development and excellence

6. Managing and encouraging diversity at the workplace

7. Minimizing risk and maximizing opportunities

8. Job Flexibility and role /task flexibility through the use of Human Resource Accounting

9. Increased and balanced focus on Technology, People and also Concepts like Human Resource Accounting

10. Encouraging Mentoring at all levels as a means of Learning and Development

11. Employee engagement and lean workforce.

Conclusion

On the basis of a comparative analysis of the HRM practices and the changes that are recommended for them and those they are undergoing - there seems to be a lot of scope for mutual learning in the light of the above mentioned similarities and differences. The Chaebols should adopt a strategy to include taking a forward-thinking, active role in proposing and instituting reasonable changes – changes that can at once satisfy critics and solidify public perception of chaebols as fully committed to what's best for the Korean economy and make their workforce efficient at the same time.

Chaebols should also use Strategic Corporate Communication with a strategy that should include a public awareness campaign aimed at highlighting the unique benefits of the chaebol model, featuring voices from citizens, academics, the business community, the government, and, most critically, prominent international voices. This strategy will not only muffle the voices of antagonistic critiques but will go a long way in enhancing the public image of Chaebols and also making the young generation of Chaebol leaders more aware about their responsibility to the economic development of South Korea and to society in general.

Similarly the Indian Family owned Businesses have to focus on innovation, professionalization of Management and managing sibling rivalry and succession related issues. They should not take domestic competition as a threat but leverage and join hands with the budding entrepreneurs for a synergistic growth. The Family Businesses in India have to realize that digitalization and cyber security will be an issue in the near future if it has not already cropped up and brace up for the same using it as a positive force rather than avoiding it.

Both Chaebols of South Korea and the family Run Business Houses in India will have to understand that irrespective of technological advancement and digitalization – the Human Resources will always remain the source of their competitive edge and their most important stakeholders and therefore they should use the concepts of Human Resource Accounting for various HR related decisions.

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Forensic Accounting: The Indian Perspective

Prof. Ritu Sapra* Dr. Shivani Abrol*

[*The forensic accounting domain is becoming increasingly sought-after, not only in business but also in academia and research. Corporate manipulations and malpractices are multiplying across the world, which requires a deeper examination of financial irregularities. Formal white-collar crime is on the rise, which allows us to have a new special field of accounting. This paper examines Indian forensic accountants' attitudes toward fraud on all scales. Additionally, it describes their tasks and job opportunities as well as their expertise. India inevitably has to implement stricter laws and policies. When the world of business becomes more complicated, there should be more organisations like the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners that are needed to provide education and training to professionals committed to combating fraud.*]

Forensic Accounting has been becoming an emerging field not only for the business industry but also for research and academics also. Numerous corporate deception and malfeasance have sprung up all over the country, necessitating a deeper study of financial irregularities. According to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners report to the nation on occupational fraud and abuse, 2020, on average each year an organisation loses 5% of their revenue to frauds which could amount to a potential global loss of USD 4.5 trillion every year (Association of Certified Fraud Examiner, n.d.). As white-collar crime becomes more prevalent, this creates a new area of accounting. "Forensic accounting services generally involve the application of specialized knowledge and investigative skills possessed by CPAs to collect, analyse, and evaluate evidential matter and to interpret and communicate findings in the courtroom, boardroom, or other legal or administrative venues" (https://www.aicpa.org). In

other words, "forensic accounting can be defined as a science of gathering and presenting financial information in a form that will be accepted by a court of jurisprudence against perpetrators of economic crimes" (Manning, 2011). One can therefore conclude that forensic accounting is the integration and application of accounting, auditing, and investigating skills in tracking and collection of forensic evidence for embezzlement or fraud to prove in the court of law. This paper studies Indian forensic accountants' attitudes toward different facets of fraud and their occurrence. Additionally, this study explores the different skills which help them to perform their duties and their view of their career options.

The objective of the study

The objective of the paper is to study the perspective of the Indian forensic accountant in terms of (a) occurrence and frequency of fraud; (b) characteristics and skills required by a forensic accountant; (c) tools and techniques used by a forensic auditor in fraud examination and investigation; (d) scope of future for forensic accountants in India to find out is whether India requires more strict laws and regulation to

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combat fraud; and more institutions to impart training and education to forensic accountants.

Review of literature

ML Bhasin studied the concept, the responsibilities, areas, abilities, and skills required for forensic accounting as a distinct niche consulting. Specifically, it was noted that business strategies and practices will help forensic accountants be successful in the future (Bhasin, Forensic Accounting: A New Paradigm for Niche Consulting, 2007).

Ghosh and Banerjee in their paper threw light on terminology, job role, origin, the techniques involved in their work, and the current scenario of forensic accounting in India. The researcher expected that forensic accounting would be used to better combat white-collar crimes and new measures would be implemented for those purposes shortly (Ghosh, 2011).

"Bhasin (2017) did an extensive investigation to identify the necessary skills, educational, and training prerequisites for the forensic auditor. Results suggest that critical thinking, written and verbal communication, legal understanding, flexibility, auditing skills, problem-solving aptitude, investigation skills, and problem-solving are the most important qualities of forensic auditors"(Bhasin, Integrating Corporate Governance and Forensic Accounting: A Study of Asian Country, 2017).

Oyedokun investigated the available techniques of forensic accounting and interrogated their legitimacy. He recommended that accounting functions in businesses should incorporate forensic accounting practices and forensic accounting programs should be implemented in all colleges to better prepare accountants (Oyedokun, 2018).

Research Methodology

The study is based on primary data gathered through questionnaire surveys. The survey targeted Certified Fraud Examiners (CFE) or forensic auditors who have administered the cases of fraud examination and investigation. The questionnaire consists of 40 questions that have been sent to respondents via LinkedIn to more than 500 respondents. Despite repeated reminders, only 150 respondents turn in and thirty respondents have to be excluded from the sample as they have not handled any fraud case to date. The sample size for the paper is therefore finalized to be 120. The questionnaire is broadly classified into 4 categories in terms of the objective of the paper. Varied questions are raised to the respondents, covering different aspects such as more

common frauds, skills possessed by a forensic auditor, tools and techniques used in investigation and examination, and the scope of forensic accounting in India.

The hypothesis of the study

The paper examines the following null and alternate hypotheses to understand the perspective of forensic accounting in India.

H (1:0): More rigorous legislation and regulation are not required to combat fraud.

H (1:1): More rigorous legislation and regulation are required to combat fraud.

H (2:0): There is no reason to formalise forensic accountant's education and training.

H (2:1): There is reason to formalise forensic accountant's education and training

Statistical Tools

For analysis, the percentage method and Relative Importance Index (RII) are used in this study. Relative Importance Index (RII) allows for the most important criteria to be identified based on participants' responses and is an appropriate tool to prioritize indicators rated using a Likert- type scale.

Relative Importance Index (RII) ="W/AN×100 (0d"RIId"1)

W= Weight given to each item by the respondents

A= Highest Weight Rate (5 in 5 points Likert scale, 7 in 7points Likert scale) N= Total number of respondents

Finding

The sample data has been collected through the respondents who have been holding positions of assistant manager, or senior consultants, or compliance officer, or internal auditor, or fraud examiner in reputed firms such as Deloitte, Ernst & Young, Grand Thornton & KPMG to name a few. The respondents have varied experience in their respective fields ranging from 1 year to 30 years and have worked in fraud investigations regularly.

In India, the terms forensic accounting and forensic audit are used interchangeably. Forensic auditing is the application of financial accounting and investigative skills for detecting fraud within a company, including obtaining evidence, interviewing, writing reports, and testifying. In the perspective of Indian forensic accountants, forensic accounting and forensic auditing are not the same terms and of opinion, that forensic auditing is wider in terms and encompassing everything a forensic accountant does. (Fig 1)

Figure 1

Forensic Accounting and Forensic Auditing are same terms

- Yes 13%
- No 87%

Wider Scope

- Forensic Accounting 31%
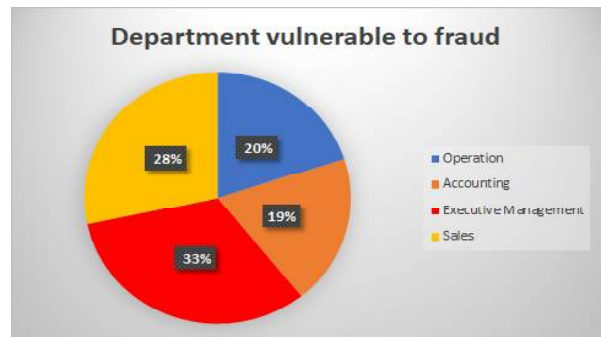- Forensic Auditing 69%
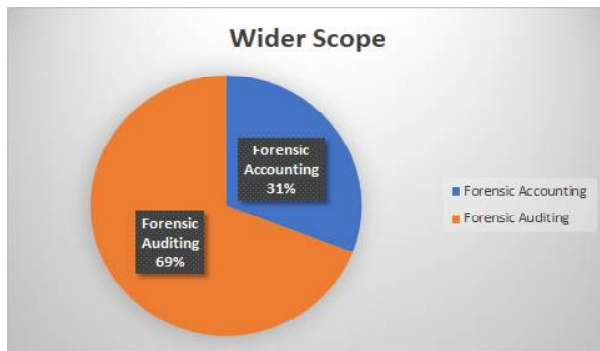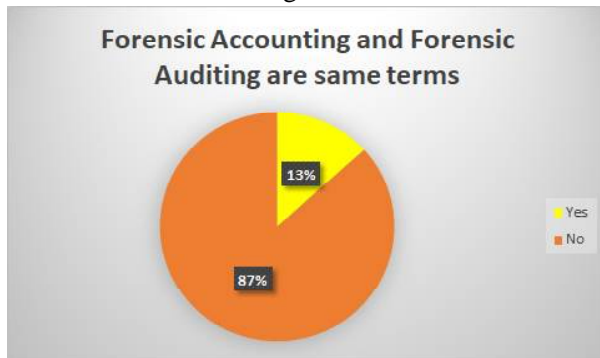
Occurrence of Fraud

According to the ACFE global fraud survey of 2019, 72% of occupational frauds are committed by men and also caused larger losses than women. In addition, only 20 percent of occupational fraud is committed by owners, as stated in the report (Association of Certified Fraud Examiner, n.d.).

The statistical analysis reveals that respondents believe that in more than 90% of fraud cases, the perpetrators are men, and the owners and managers commit more frauds than their subordinates do, as shown in figure 2.

Figure 2

Who Commits more fraud?

- Male 97%
- Female 3%

Figure 3

Who commits more frauds?

- Owner 38%
- Manager 33%
- Employee 29%

Department vulnerable to fraud

- Operation 20%
- Accounting 19%
- Executive Management 33%
- Sales 28%

As per ACFE Report to the Nation 2020, out of three primary categories of occupational fraud, asset misappropriation involving stealing by an employee or misusing of organizational resources by an employee is at the highest level, and financial statement fraud, where a preparator intentionally causes material misstatements or omission in the organization's financial statement are least common (Association of Certified Fraud Examiner, n.d.). Using the sample data, it was inferred that fraudulent financial statements contribute to 40% of fraudulent cases, while the rest by asset misappropriation and corruption.

Figure 4

More Frequent Corporate Frauds

- Corruption 30%
- Asset Misappropriation 28%
- Fraudulent Financial Statements 42%
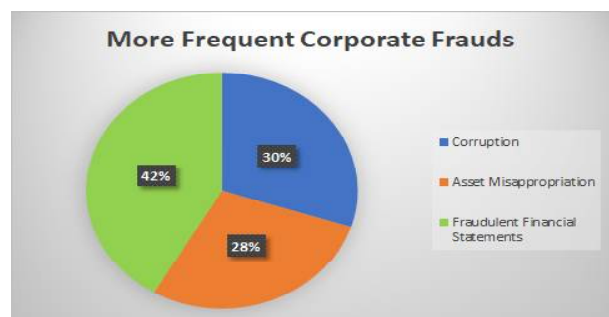
As per ASSOCHAM and Grant Thornton's study (2014), the highest proportion (52%) of the survey respondents feel that businesses operating in the real estate and infrastructure sector are most prone to frauds (Grand Thorton. ASSOCHAM India, 2014)

Figure 5 shows, to this day, respondents continue to perceive real estate as the most vulnerable industry to fraud, with the Real Estate Regulation Act of 2016 having been implemented. As identified by the respondents, the second or rather equivalent, most targeted sector is the financial sector, which can also be witnessed by the recent frauds in India. Based on the finding, it appears that information technology and tourism are sectors that are most resistant to fraud.

Figure: 5
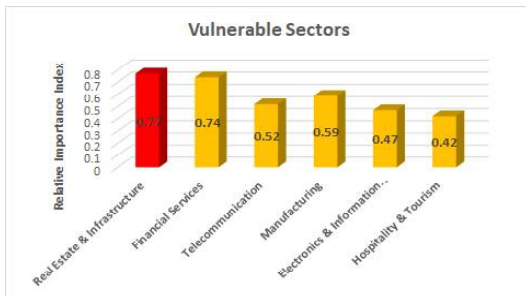
Crowe Horwarth's Fraud Pentagon emphasizes, today's preparators are more prepared and informed than previous generations. It is said that " competence, arrogance, pressure, opportunity, and realisation " induce fraud (Institute of Chartered Accountant Of India, n.d.). The data reveals in Figure 6, opportunity and rewards are the two most important conditions for the incidence of fraud out of these five variables.

Figure: 6
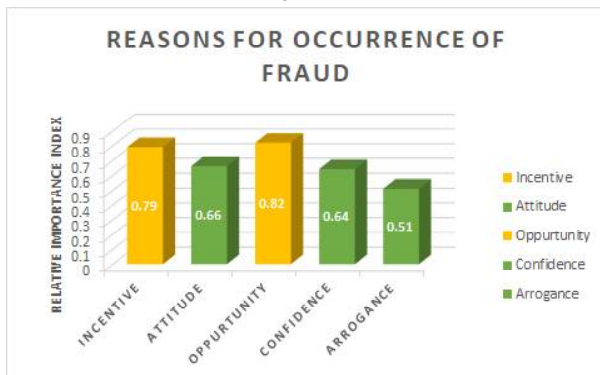
As can be seen in Figure 7, the data analysis indicates that amongst the 7 categories; bank, corporate and cyber fraud account to be more vulnerable to frauds in India. The Central Bureau of Investigation registered about 190 cases of bank fraud in the year 2020, involving alleged misappropriation of approximately. [1] 60,000 crores (The Hindu, 2020). Some of the biggest bank scams; Vijay Mallya ([1] 9,000 crores) in 2016 and Nirav Modi PNB bank fraud ([1] 11,400 crores) in 2018 have shocked the whole nation.

Figure: 7
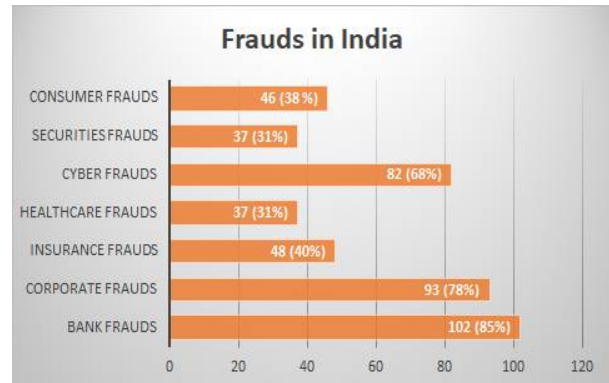
Characteristics & Skills of Forensic Auditor

The data collected for the importance of characteristics and skills required by forensic auditors are analysed on a five-point Likert scale. From the responses, it can be seen that respondents believe out of box thinking; creativity; confidence; discretion; curiosity; strong visualisation & imagination; detailed orientation; skepticism; inquisitiveness; and persistence, and sound professional judgment are critical for an efficient forensic auditor. Forensic auditors must have in-depth knowledge of accounting principles and standards, and must also have a good understanding of other aspects, such as human psychology, investigation techniques, information technology, and different laws and procedures to have a good comprehension of the issues that pertain to investigative techniques.

Tools and Techniques

Fraud is difficult to uncover because it may be concealed either by falsifying documents or concealing the fraud altogether. Adoption of sound investigation tools and techniques at appropriate times leads to an increase in the likelihood of discovery of fraud or error. The study reveals that laboratory analysis of physical and electronic evidence; physical surveillance; electronic surveillance; interviews; confidential resources; undercover operations; and financial statement analysis were found to be the same in importance to perform fraud detection and analysis.

Scope & Future of Forensic Accounting

As white-collar crimes increase, so will the demand for forensic accountants. Figure 8 provides a visual depiction of the areas where forensic auditors expect their services will be demanded soon.

Figure: 8

The alarming potential of bank fraud, as seen in the case of Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi with PNB where the borrower cheats the banks with hypothecation agreement, the forensic auditors could end up being a part of the investigation team of inquiry. Other than that, since the introduction of provisions under the Companies Act of 2013, where auditors can be held liable for frauds, auditors would likely become forensic auditors.

Conclusion

A forensic approach to auditing promotes better corporate governance, as well as creating better and more effective control systems. The task of combating frauds is supported by the Information Technology Act 2000, Foreign Exchange Management Service Act, 1999, and Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, which incorporate various provisions, and various agencies including the Serious Frauds Investigation and the Bureau of Police and the Central Vigilance Commission, each of which is vital in the endeavour to protect India's economy and financial system. To deal with frauds in real estate, the Govt. came up with The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, but still, the forensic auditor perceived real estate as the most vulnerable Sector to fraud in India.

Many new provisions have been imposed in the Companies Act, 2013 that address fraud and include greater accountability and responsibility for independent auditors. Over the last few years, the issue of money laundering has increased globally. There must be more stringent legislation and regulations in India to combat fraud. There should be some policy to spot both organizational weakness and improper internal controls, as well as fraudulent financial management controls. It is appropriate to use forensic accounting to use as a preventative tool.

In India, it is presumed that chartered accountants or works accountants are best prepared for financial or accounting investigations. Thus, the certified course on "Forensic Accounting and Fraud Detection" has been introduced by the Indian Institute Chartered of Accountants (ICAI). With the increased use of technology in all walks of life, new standards of financial competence have been required. One must have an advanced understanding of other multi-discipline fields such as psychology, information technology, and data analysis to be able to deal with a complex system. Therefore, there should be separate institutions like the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) which impart education and training to anti-fraud specialists who need to be highly trained because of the complexities of the current business environment.

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"Point Counter Point": Sentinel Music

Dr. Kokila Sehgal Mathur*

[*Aldous Huxley, the brilliant English novelist, translates the abstract spirit of music into narrative voice in his novel Point Counter Point. The novelist in the novel, Philip Quarles, suggestive of Huxley himself, writes a dense novel of ideas. He constructs the novel on the analogy of a Classical musical composition with contrapuntal texture, blending a polyphony of feelings and perceptions. Huxley reveals fracture and dissonance, the cynicism generated by the loss of values and meaning for the post war generation of the 1920's. Both music and language have a guiding syntax; music and literature both have affective impact; both unfold in time itself, yet transcending the temporal they occupy the timeless realm and invoke empathy. Through the technique of musicalization of fiction, Huxley presents a slice of life, the atmosphere of hell, the world as an asylum of perverts. Yet where Beethoven's symphony elevates, Huxley's music is disturbing and offers cultural criticism, a vital call for course correction away from nihilism.*]

Huxley elucidating on the structures of his novels said they represented experiments in the technique of narrative and of the exploration of the mind carried on by one who was, in the words of his novelist persona, Philip Quarles in Point Counter Point, not "a congenital novelist" and therefore was compelled to resort to devices which the born novelist would never think of using — being perfectly capable of covering the necessary ground without departing from straightforward techniques (PCP, 303). In his masterpiece of structural ingenuity Point Counter Point, Huxley attempted to apply to fiction, the compositional principles of symphonic music. The elaborate design far from being superfluous, is at one with the vision. Huxley presents the points and counterpoints of a situation in the manner of a musician who can play many variations of the same theme. The central theme of the novel is the "wearisome condition of humanity" and through "the musicalization of fiction", Huxley presents various aspects of the twentieth century wasteland. Huxley writes the modern novel, one in which the idea and technique and content exist only in each other's terms.

The title, Point Counter Point, refers to its fugue-like structure of polyphonic themes developed contrapuntally. As the composer in the classical sonata-form alternates from one mood to another while stating his theme, developing it, and then re-stating it when it seems to have disappeared, so the novelist can work with abrupt transitions, rapid shifts, contrapuntal characters and plots. This musical effect can be gained through the repetition of motifs, through dissimilar people involved in the same problem, or similar people confronted by dissimilar problems. Here, the variations are inexhaustible, and the thematic development complex.

Philip Quarles, the novelist within the novel, expounds and explains the technique of "musicalization of fiction". Just as in Beethoven's symphony there is "majesty alternating with a joke", the Bach fugue in Chapter II emphasizes by contrast how stupidly people are behaving at the elegant party at which it is played (PCP,302). The contrast between the "celestial melody" and "paradise" of Beethoven's music and the shooting of Spandrell by the Freemen at the end of the novel brings out the futility of what human beings actually do (PCP,442-3). Alternation of moods is a consistent feature of the novel. Chapter I is serious, dealing with the disintegration of the world of love of Marjorie Carling and Walter Bidlake. In Chapter II there is comedy with the entrance of John Bidlake, "a great laugher" which is again alternated with the high seriousness of the Bach fugue (PCP, 26). This counterpointing is also done with characters. Spandrell who represents nihilism is contrasted with the Rampions who represent a wholesome delight in life; his diabolism is contrasted to their life- worshipping attitude. Mary Rampion, the devoted wife stands in sharp contrast to Lucy Tantamount who is "a putrefaction" and "irrevocably corrupted" (PCP, 60).

In writing this novel, Huxley was greatly influenced by Andre Gide's The Counterfeiters which has a novelist within the novel. Philip Quarles' enunciation of the

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technique draws attention to Huxley's experiment with the Novel of Ideas and gives coherence to the book. Moreover "if you have him telling parts of the same story as you are, you can make a variation on the theme" (PCP, 302). This variation is important to the musicalized effect. There is also an alternation of themes. There are four sub-themes: self-division in love; philosophic differences; death; and filial relationships — all of which are connected to elaborating the wearisome condition of humanity, "vainly begot….created sick" and living in "the atmosphere of hell" (PCP, 5, 126).

The theme of love-affairs, generally illicit, is the one constant note that emerges from Huxley's literary counterpoint and it is a rather unpleasant one. The principal embodiment of this theme is Walter Bidlake whose passion for Lucy Tantamount is, as he realizes, mad and shameful. Variations upon this theme, ranging in tone from the serious in relation to Walter, to the farcical in relation to Sidney Quarles, and embracing the past or present activities of a number of characters, contribute to the 'rhythm' of the novel. In fact, the novel opens and ends with the love-motif. Both Spandrell and Burlap advance insidiously in their love affairs; Lucy thinks of it in terms of cumbersome luggage while Elinor does not consider it morally wrong to take a lover. In contrast to all of them is the beautifully integrated relationship of Mark and Mary Rampion.

A second motif is that of death and there are different reactions to it. John Bidlake is terror - stricken at the thought of death whereas Sidney Quarles feels he can die "quite contentedlah" (PCP,386). Everard Webley dies a violent death like Spandrell; Miss Cobbet commits suicide. The deaths of Webley and Spandrell vivify the meaningless violence peculiar to the twentieth century ethos. The death of Philip Quarles junior, in addition to that of others provides "rhythm" or "repetition plus variation" and contributes to the musicalization technique (Forster,149). While Illidge and Spandrell are engaged in the almost farcical scene of trussing up the dead body of Webley, Elinor heart brokenly nurses her dying son. Elsewhere Philip Quarles is copying down in his notebook the gibberish of a paraphasia patient when in fact his son is suffering from meningitis which leads to brain damage. Illidge has just abandoned Webley's dead body in a car and soon after Lord Edward Tantamount discusses with him the best method of disposing dead bodies in a way that their phosphorus content is able to enrich the soil. Hence these are the 'modulations' on one theme.

The death-motif parallels the retention in music of an original thematic note. Philip Quarles writes that "a theme is stated, then developed, pushed out of shape, imperceptibly deformed, until, though still recognizably the same, it has become quite different" (PCP, 302). This aspect of Beethoven's music is also fulfilled in another manner. Marjorie Carling thinking of the baby growing within her feels "a little sac of tissue, a kind of worm, a potential fish with gills, stirred in her womb and would one day become a man" (PCP, 8). Initially she is thrilled with this mystery of birth. The same growth of cells in John Bidlake's body heralds the horror of cancer and death and he thinks of "death in the form of a new life growing and growing in his belly, like an embryo in a womb" and this thing "exuberantly and increasingly alive was death (PCP, 319). Here are similars facing dissimilar problems.

The philosophic theme is introduced with Mark Rampion who denounces materialism, Christianity, intellectualism and asceticism as all of these maim the whole man. He believes in "worshipping with the body" which is very different from mere promiscuity (PCP,125). He wants to pursue "human truth", man responding to his instincts which can never be wrong. Excessive intellectuality and excessive spirituality are rejected in favour of the Greek ideal of a balanced life, a harmony between "mind and consciousness and spirit" and the "body and instinct and all that's unconscious and earthy and mysterious at the other" (PCP,410,414-15). Huxley is a novelist in search of a workable creed with which to face and triumph over the twentieth century wasteland. Philip Quarles' arid intellectualism proves inadequate; one possible solution is through Christianity as advocated by Rachael Quarles or mysticism which Mrs. Bidlake just about hints. Here there are "dissimilars solving the same problem" of the modern dilemma (PCP, 302). But all of these are rejected by Huxley in favour of Mark Rampion's philosophy which he finds quite adequate because Mark leads a happy life in which ethical values have meaning. Yet Mark is almost persuaded by Beethoven's music about the existence of God. Later on in Island, Huxley advocates Vedantic mysticism as the cure for the modern malaise.

The filial motif is again a comment on the loss of values in the fracture and dislocation of the modern twentieth century world. Lucy Tantamount makes fun of her father and Spandrell too has no respect or affection for his mother and rather takes selfish advantage of her love for him. Philip Quarles is not very interested in his son.

Chapter XI presents the counterpointing technique at its perfection. The four sub-themes converge and are alternated and fulfil another method of "musicalization of fiction". The chapter is divided into thirteen sections and each makes its implicit comment on the neighbouring sections. Comment by continuity is basic to the novelistic design. Section one is a conversation about sexual inhibitions and in the following section Beatrice is shown suffering from it and this creates "rhythm" in the novel. Section three has Mark Rampion denouncing science and industrialization which is followed by Lord Tantamount commenting on the depletion of coal reserves on account of industrial usage. The hatred for life by Illidge is echoed by Spandrell's nihilism. In section six Lucy is described as one of those professional sirens and this is contrasted by the wholesomeness of married life of the Rampions. This is followed by a variation on the sub-theme of filial relationships where Lucy mocks her father whereas Lord Edward gives a patient hearing to his brother Charles expressing his conviction about God's existence although he cannot agree with this view. In section thirteen Spandrell exploits his mother's love for him ruthlessly whereas Polly Logan cannot sleep unless she has an intimate talk with her mother. Chapter XII marks the end of the "first movement" and the next chapters develop in detail the lives of Burlap, Spandrell, the Quarles who have been mentioned before. Chapters twenty-three to thirty-one deal with Webley, Burlap and Beatrice while Walter and Lucy fade into the background. Here again as in music new notes are introduced from time to time and then developed and then replaced by newer ones.

In Point Counter Point, Huxley delineates the music of ideas. The variety of themes fulfils Huxley's wish to define the individual by considering various aspects: "emotional, scientific, economic, religious, metaphysical (PCP, 302). The question of money crops up time and again in the novel. Mark Rampion, Philip Quarles are not much concerned with money whereas Illidge has turned a communist almost because he hated the rich but at heart would like to be wealthy.

A picture of the fragmentation of society after the first World War is consummately presented through the technique of "musicalization of fiction". The various aspects of disintegration are presented as different motifs and notes in a piece of music unified by the central theme stated ironically at the end of the novel: "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven" (PCP, 444). But the music does not elevate as the Sarabande of Chapter II which is "a beauty, a goodness" or like Beethoven's symphony in chapter XXXVII (PCP, 30). Burlap's statement, "I accept the Universe" is a final coda of triviality and the novel offers no positive solution to the modern angst. The music of Point Counter Point is disturbing. It is like Beethoven's Fifth Symphony in E.M. Forster's Howards End where the goblins let loose evil on the world and there is the vision of "panic and emptiness" (HE, 46).

Huxley wrote the Novel of Ideas and offers a cultural criticism of the 1920's. David Daiches in Novels of Aldous Huxley, writes how the theme of loss and anomie in Huxley reveals his "tendency to tug hardest at the tooth that aches most" (364). Huxley offers no panacea but the novel as an art form reveals the palpitating moment and serves society by sounding sentinel music.

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Computer-Supported Cooperative learning & Cognitive Skills

Dr. Seema Sareen* & Ms. Gagandeep Kaur**

[*The present study was experimental in nature with Pre-test-Post-test Control group design. The sample of study comprised 76 students of class VIII selected from two Government schools situated in Amritsar city, Punjab. 38 students were assigned to experimental group and 38 to control group. The experimental group was taught some topics in science through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy and control group was taght the same topics with traditional lecture method. The results of the study revealed a significant difference in pre-test and post-test mean scores in experimental group but the difference was not significant in control group. Further, it was found that mean gain in cognitive skills of the experimental group was significantly higher as compared to control group. Thus, the study revealed Computer Supported Cooperative learning strategy to be effective in enhancing cognitive skills of class VII students as compared to lecture method*.]

In the 21st century, the general classroom has now become a global classroom. Modern technology expands the variety of media available for learning and also significantly enhances the opportunities for supporting cooperative learning. There is a dire need for innovative learning environments to support the individual as well as cooperative learning (Kreijns, Kirschner & Jochems, 2003; Stahl, Koschmann, & Suthers, 2006). The collaboration can help learners in monitoring their understanding of dynamic visualizations (Hoffler & Leutner, 2007). Cooperative learning along with media usage can be incorporated into the classroom management system in order to satisfy the needs of the present-day learner and for promoting the performance of the pupils.

According to Slavin (1980), "The cooperative learning includes group learning in which students work on learning activities in small groups and receive rewards or recognition based on their group's performance. According to the Johnson & Johnson model (1989), "cooperative learning is an instruction that involves students working in teams to accomplish a common goal, under conditions that include the elements like positive interdependence, face to face promotive interaction, individual and group accountability, social skills and group processing" (Felder & Brent, 2007).

Different Forms of Cooperative Learning

There are different types or structures or models of cooperative learning like STAD (Student-Teams-Achievement Division), Jigsaw, co-op team building (Kagan, 1992), Think-Pair-Share, as well as cooperative activities such as spontaneous group discussions and projects (Lopata, Miller & Miller, 2003). In the present study, the researcher selected STAD technique to deliver the content.

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STAD (Student-Teams-Achievement Divisions)

In this, students are placed in small groups or teams. The whole class is presented with a lesson and the students are subsequently tested. Student Teams Achievement Divisions (STAD) allows students to work in mixed-ability teams to master the teacher-presented material (Slavin, 1991). Individuals are graded on the team's performance. Although the tests are taken individually, students are encouraged to work together to improve the overall performance of the group

Computer Supported Cooperative Learning

This is an evolving branch which deals that how people can learn together with the help of computers (Gutwin & Greenberg, 2002). It encompasses collaboration in which technology plays a central role. People may engage in these behaviours at the same time (real-time collaboration) or at different times (asynchronous collaboration). It involves computer support which may involve a computer simulation of a scientific model or a shared interactive representation. In this, a group of students use a computer to browse through information on the Internet and to discuss, debate, gather and present what they found collectively (Stahl, Koschmann, & Suthers, 2006).

Cognitive Skills

Cognitive skills are those mental related skills that are used in the process of acquiring knowledge. These skills include reasoning, perception, and intuition (North Central Regional Educational Laboratory, 2003).Cognitive skills involve conscious intellectual effort, such as thinking, reasoning, or remembering (Anita, 2011).

According to Askar & Altun (2009), "Cognitive skills will be able to provide a personalized path for each learner, based on his/her progress or responses."

Most of the studies have reported positive impact of cooperative learning on achievement (Swab, 2012;

Smart, 2015; Vuopala, Hyvonon & Jarvela, 2016). Many studies have reported a positive effect of cooperative learning on self-efficacy (Yang, Guo & Yu, 2016) and attitude (Griffin, 2008).

Many studies reported that computer or web-based instructions and use of databases in education enhanced cognitive skills (Weng, Maeda & Bouck, 2014). Cognitive variables were also studied to enhance reading and writing skills (Medford, 2012).

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study were

i. To study the significance of difference in mean pre test and post test scores in cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy

ii. To study the significance of difference in mean pre test and post test scores in cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through conventional strategy

iii. To compare the mean gain scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy and traditional method

Hypotheses

i. There exists no significant difference in the mean pre test and post test scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy

ii. There exists no significant difference in the mean pre test and post test scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through conventional strategy

iii. There exists no significant difference in the mean gain scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy and conventional strategy.

Method

The present study was experimental in nature

Sample

The study was carried out on 76 students of schools of District Amritsar studying in class VIII in Government schools affiliated with PSEB, Mohali. The two schools were selected randomly on which experiment was conducted. 38 students in one school were randomly assigned as experimental group and 38 students in other school were assigned as control group.

Tools

The following tools were used for the data collection:

1. Lesson Plans based on Computer Supported co-operative learning strategy (CLS) and conventional

teaching strategy (CS) in science for class VIII students were developed by the investigator.

2. Cognitive Skills test (CST) was developed and tandardized by the investigator.

Design and Procedure

The present study employed Pre-test-Post-test Control group design. The study was conducted in three phases

Phase I (Pre Test) in this phase both experimental and conrol group were assigned cognitive skills test as the pre test

Phase II (Experimental Phase) In this stage the experimental group was taght selected topics in Science using Computer Supported STAD strategy of cooperative learning while he control group was taught same topics through traditional lecture method

Phase III (Post Test) In this phase both experimental and control group were assigned the post test of the same test of cognitive skills which was given as pre test.

Staistical Techniques Employed

The obtained data were anlysed by employing paired sample t test to study the significance of difference in mean scores of pre test to post test in both the groups and independent sample t test to compare the significance of difference in gain scores of experimental and control group

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Mean, SD, N, r and Correlated t-test of Cognitive Skills in Science for Experimental Group taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy

Test	Mean	Std. Deviation	Corr(r)	Corelated t-test	Remark
Pre Test	14.78	5.27	0.58	5.26	Signifi-cantp P<0.01
Post Test	18.86	5.19			

Table 1 shows the paired statistics for the cognitive skills score for the experimental group. The analysis of the table shows that correlated t value is found to be 5.26 which is significant at 0.01 level This indicated that there were significant differences among the mean scores of the experimental group in Pre-test from Post-test (p < 0.01). Thus the null hypothesis, "There exists no significant difference in the mean pre test and post test scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy was rejected. Further the higher the mean score of post test (Mean =18.86) as comared to pre test (Mean = 14.78) indicates that that Computer Supported cooperative learning strategy was effective in enhancing the cognitive skills of students.

For testing the difference between pre test and post test scores of cognitive skills of class VIII students taught through conventional strategy (CS), another paired t test was carried out.Table 2 gives the paired statistics for the cognitive skills score for control group in pre and post-test.

Table 2: Mean, SD, N, r and Correlated t-test of Cognitive Skills in Science for Control Group taught through Conventional strategy

Test	Mean	Std. Deviation	Corr(r)	Corelated t-testk	Remark
Pre Test	12.34	3.66	0.82	1.86	Not Signifi-icant
Post Test	13.00	3.51			

The insignificant t values in Table 2 (t=1.86, p>.05) reveals no significant differences in the mean pre-test and post-test scores of the control group. Thus the null hypothesis, "There exists no significant difference in the mean pre test and post test scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through conventional strategy" stands accepted.

Table 3: Mean, SD, N, r and Correlated t-test of Mean Gain Scores of Cognitive Skills in Science for Experimental Group and Control Group

Test	Mean	Std. Deviation	t-valu	Remark
Experimental Group	4.08	4.78	3.97	Significant at .01 level
Control Group	.658	2.18		

Table 3 shows the t values between experimental group and control group for the mean gain scores of cognitive skills. The analysis of the table shows that computed t value is found to be 3.74 which is significant at 0.01 level This indicated that there were significant differences among the mean gain scores of the experimental group and control group. Thus the null hypothesis, "There exists no significant difference in the mean gain scores of cognitive skills of Class VIII students taught through Computer Supported STAD cooperative learning strategy and conventional strategy" was rejected.

Further the higher the mean gain scores of Experimental group taught with Computer Supported cooperative learning strategy (Mean =4.08) as comared to control group (Mean = .658) where conventional strategy was used indicates that that Computer Supported cooperative learning strategy was effective in enhancing the cognitive skills of students as compared to conventional strategy.The findings of the present study are in congruence with the studies conducted by (Weng, Maeda

& Bouck, 2014; Prihatnawati, Al & Amin, 2017) where also cooperative learning based techniques were used which enhanced the cognitive skills.

Educational Implications

The results revealed that significant differences were found in the mean gain scores of computer-supported cooperative learning instructional strategy as that of conventional teaching strategy. The students taught with CLS were found to attain better scores on cognitive skills scores in science.

Thus Computer Supported Cooperative learning strategies must be implemented in an appropriate manner in school curriculum so as to improve the cognitive skills among students. The teachers should be given in service as well as pre service training on how they can plan their instructional strategies while using the learning material in the teaching sessions so that we can enhance the cognitive skills of students in the science subject.

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Wheat, Pulses and Oilseeds Area, Production, Yield in India: Trends and Pattern

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The Result of study revealed all the selected three aspects i.e. area, production and yield have shown positive trend for selected crops. During the period of investigation except the year 2012-13 (42.75 million hectares) rest of the period recorded minor change in area under rice. The production of wheat has also showed an increasing trend, from 80.8 to 102.19 million tons from 2009-2010 to 2018–2019. India has produced about 32.26 million tons of oilseeds in 2018-19. Production and yield of the entire selected crops rise is due to adoption of high-yielding varieties, other inputs and awareness among the farmers.

India is the seventh largest country in the world in term of area. Its share of land area is 2.29 percent and 11.25 percent arable land of the world. Indian agriculture plays important role in the process of economic development as well as it supports 58 percent of the workforce. However, agriculture and allied sector contribute to 16.50 percent Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It supports 17.74 percent of world population (Agricultural Statistic, 2019). As compared to world (11 percent) India's about 51percent geographical area is under cultivation. The implementation of the modern technologies, use of high yielding varieties of seeds and chemical fertilizers has shifted the agriculture status (Thripathi, A and Prasad, A.R,2010) from food shortage, hunger, starvation to food self sufficiency, reduce poverty, buffer stock and food export (RBI, 2009). Due to this boost the agro-based industries, employment generation, income growth, transport and communication, education and health facilities and thereby increase in standard of living of rural masses (Naidu and Venkatalakshmi, 2007). Besides, it contributes to market of industrial goods and earns foreign exchange. Above all drastic change in agriculture is the result of change in the attitude of farmers is equally important (Adnaik, A. 2012).

Objectives

To study the changing scenario of rice, wheat, pulses and oilseeds crops in India

Data base and Methodology

The study was entirely based on secondary data. The data related to area, production and yield of rice, wheat,

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pulses and oilseeds in India for the period of 10 years i.e. 2009-2010 to 2018-2019 was obtained from report of agricultural statistic, at a glance – 2019. The growth and variability patterns of area, production and yield of selected crops have been examined by year wise.

Results and Discussion

Area under crops

India has a diversified cropping pattern based on amount and distribution of rainfall, soil types and climatic conditions. Quantity of agricultural production depends on area under crops (Mishra S.K). In India variety of crops are grown in agriculture but all crops are not equally important. Crops are grouped in three categories i.e. food crops, cash crops and fodder crops. Rice, wheat and pulses are the major food crops. In the category of cash crop oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, various fruits and vegetables are the major crops. Corn, alfalfa and grass are the major fodder crops. In the present study, rice, wheat and pulses are considered in the category of food crops, while in the category of cash crops only oilseeds is considered.

Fig.1 reveals that during the period of investigation rice occupies first rank in gross area under cultivation. It occupied one third of total cultivated area of the country. It is a major food of more than half of the Indian population. In the year 2009-10 area under rice is about 41.92 million hectares. However, except the year 2012-13 (42.75 million hectares) rest of the period there is recorded minor change in area under rice.

Wheat is the second ranking food crop in term of area and production next to rice. During the year 2009-10 it occupies 28.46 million hectare area after that area under wheat continuously increased up to 2014-15 it reaches up to 31.47 million hectares. Afterword it shows decreasing trend, it decreased up to 29.14 percent in 2018-19.

India produces wide variety of pulses such as chickpea, black gram, red gram (pigion pea), green gram (mungbean), lentil, field pea etc. India is the largest producer (25% of global production), consumer (27% of world consumption) and importer (14%) of pulses (Singh, P., 2016). Pulses required less water compared to rice, wheat and oilseeds. They also contribute to improve soil quality by fixing nitrogen in the soil. During the year 2018-19 total area under pulses was 29.03

million hectares. Fig 1 reveals little fluctuation in area under pulses up to 2015-16, after that it has sharply increased by 4.54 million hectares in the next year. During the year 2018-19 area under pulses was again decreased.

Fig. 1
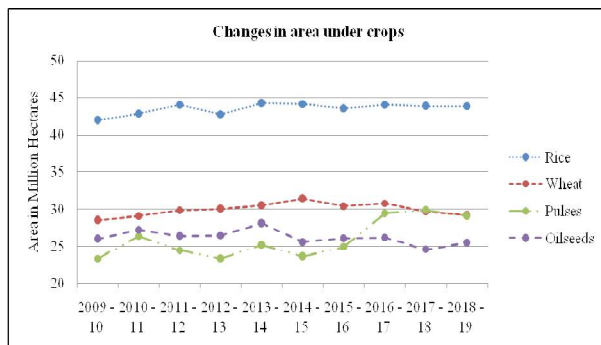
During the year 2018-19 India is the third leading oilseeds producing country in the world, next to the Canada and China, producing about 32.26 million tons of oilseeds, grown in an area of nearly 25.5 million hectare. Oilseeds have an annual turnover of about Rs 80000 crores which subjugate a vital position in the agrarian economy of the country (Viswanatha Reddy K and Kingsly Immanuelraj T., 2017). Area under oilseeds is lowest as 25.5 million hectares in 2018-19 and highest as 28.5 million hectares during the year 2013-14. India occupies first rank in the world in production of groundnut.

Production of Crops

The production of rice has also showed an increasing trend, from 89.09 to 116.42 million tons from 2009-2010 to 2018–2019 (fig.2). It increased by 27.33 million tons during the period of investigation. The major reasons for increase in the production is expansion of area under rice, increase the area under irrigation, innovation in farming technologies, use of high yielding variety of seeds, chemical fertilizer and pesticides (Nisha *et al*, 2019).

The production of wheat mainly depends on distribution of rainfall, climatic conditions, soil fertility, availability irrigation facilities, credit, fertilizers and pesticides, policy and institutional support (Sendhil Ramadas *et al*, 2019). The production of wheat has also showed an increasing trend, from 80.8 to 102.19 million tons from 2009-2010 to 2018–2019. Fig 2 reveals that the trend of production of wheat continuously increased, during the period of investigation it increased by 21.39 million tons.

India is the largest producer of pulses in the world accounting 19 per cent of the world's production. Domestic demand for pulses is very high from the large

size of population in India (Jayanta Sen *et al*, 2018). Fig. 2 shows that production of pulses was fluctuate during the period of investigation. It was 14.66 million tons during the year 2009-2010. Highest production of pulses (25.42 million tons) was recorded in 2017-2018.

In India, production of oilseeds has increased from 24.88 million tons during the year 2009-2010. It continuously increased and reaches up to 32.26 million tons during the year 2018-2019. In the year 2013-2014 production of oilseeds was increased up to 32.75 million tones. India oilseeds are growing in both *Kharif and rabi* season. However, in *kharif* season oilseeds productivity is less compared to *rabi* season because of low pest problem and assured irrigation availability (Viswanatha Reddy K and Kingsly Immanuelraj T, 2017). The growth in production of oilseeds during the study period is gives an idea of the pace of oilseeds development in the country.

Fig. 2
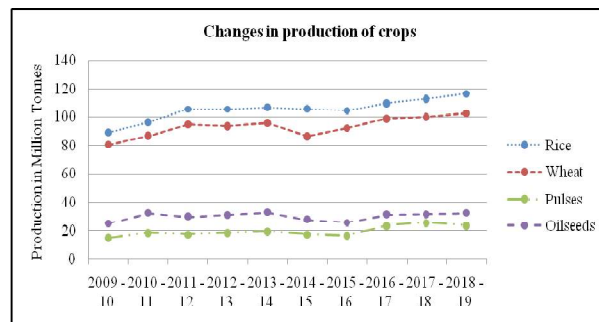
Yield of Crops

Fig. 3 reveals changing pattern of yield in India. The yield trend of rice showed a drastic improvement, which has increased from 2125 kg/ha to 2659 kg/ha from 2009-2010 to 2018–2019 (fig. 3). This rise in yield is due to adoption of high-yielding varieties as well as other inputs. The small and medium farmers reported high average yield of rice compared to large framers (Chakraborty, A., 2011). During the period of investigation yield of rice was increased by 534 kg/ hectare. The trend of yield of wheat showed continues increase up to 2012-2013 afterward it decreased up to 2014-2015 and it again recorded positive change.

The yield of wheat during the year 2009-2010 was just 2839 kg/ha, which increased to 5307 kg/ha in the year 2018-2019. Interestingly the wheat productivity during the period of investigation increased by 668 kg/ha. The trend showed it was increased up to 2013-2014. Due to unfavorable climatic conditions the yield of wheat in 2014-2015 fell to 2750 kg/ha. Afterward it recorded positive change. It was the result of better irrigation and increased use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides as well as awareness among the framer community.

Fig. 3

Changes in yield of crops
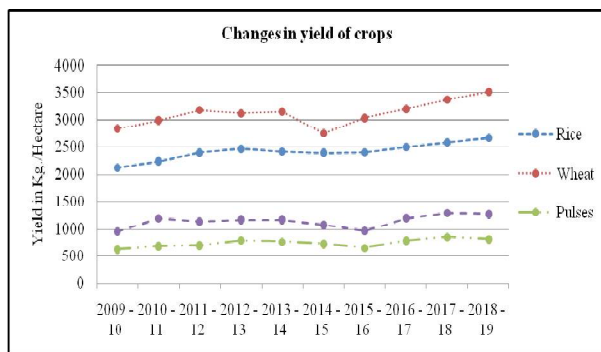
Lack of high yielding and short duration varieties, high vulnerability to diseases and insect pests, flower drops, poor inputs are the major reason of low yield of pulse. The lowest yield (630 kg/ha) of pulses was recorded in 2009-2010 while highest production (25.42 million tons) and yield (853kg/ha) recorded in the year 2017-2018. Except the year 2015-2016 rest of the period recorded positive change in yield of pulses.

Fig. 3 showed the trend of yield of oilseeds. The trend was decreased during 2014 to 2016 but afterward it shifted positive. In the year 2018-2019 it again decreased (1265 kg/ha). Highest yield of oilseeds was recorded in 2017-2018 it was 1284 kg/ha.

Conclusion

The overall development of agriculture sector in India is depend on the quality inputs such as irrigation, pesticides, fertilizers, HYV seeds, credits etc. provides within time and sufficient amount. Govrnment should take initiative to make these inputs available to the farmers at a low cost. Most of the time crops are failure due to unfavorable climatic condition. Therefore, Government should take initiatives to endorse debt waiver scheme for the needy farmers. Government should provide subsidies for parches of agricultural inputs and basic infrastructure of agricultural and provide crop insurance facilities.

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Analyzing an effective S among the 5S towards employee perception in the health care sector

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[5s provides a major contribution towards total quality practices. Employees play a major role in rendering quality services in the health care. Hence it is very important to examine the perception of the employees towards 5S .This paper attempts to evaluate the awareness level and the efficiency of employee performance, the performance indicators can be monitored by implementing 5S in health care sector.]

5s being an important invention of lean management was a major turning point in the history of the healthcare sector. The concept of 5S was introduced by the Japanese, Toyota production system (TPS) which was first implemented in the manufacturing sector. It increased the value of the products or services to its customers and also to eliminate waste, reduce cost, high quality, increase productivity, greater employee satisfaction and to create a safe work environment. Health care sector being one of the leading private sector faced en number of issues as there was an increasing population in the healthcare .The existing management methods were not sufficient to face the needs. So new management practices were adopted to create a better quality service. The implementation of 5S becomes a strategic role for optimizing quality health care service by achieving healthy and safety operating lean system. Implementing 5S practices creates a major turning point in the history of healthcare sector as 5S a "lean" tools is a set of approaches for continuous improvement that aim to maximize added value by removing all necessary factors that do not generate value in the healthcare. This tool is being used in healthcare to reduce inventory, it also creates space, and reduce travel and search times by reducing unwanted medical waste from the stock. 5S has recently received attention from health-care professionals as a potential solution to improve the service quality of resource-poor government health-care facilities in low- and middle-income countries Service providers, patient centered care, Administrative management are some of the major dimensions of healthcare system. The study mainly focuses on the service providers to study the level of employee perception and its impact on the total quality practices in health care sector. In order to study the employee perception 5 S is been adopted to measure the impact of service quality inclined with 5s practices were as 5S denotes Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain. In order to study the employee perception the awareness level of 5S among the employees are analyzed, and also to identify the effective S out of the 5s which creates the major impact towards employee perception to maintain a better quality of service on the healthcare. 5S has been recognized as one of the key quality improvement approaches in health-care.

Review of Literature

To identify the relevant studies on the application of 5S in health-care facilities, the literature survey was investigated in the public health databases in English, including, PubMed, Science-Direct, and Web of Science, for relevant peer-reviewed research articles published using the keywords 5S, lean, quality, health, and hospital.

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S.No	Year	Author	Journal	Title	Aim	Result
1	2018	Jugraj Singh Randhawa Inderpreet Singh Ahuja	International Journal of Quality & Reliability Management	Empirical investigation of contributions of 5S practice for realizing improved competitive dimensions	To evaluate the capabilities of 5S program to meliorate the different competitive dimensions of organizations	It focused on overall organizational achievements, production achievements, quality and continuous improvement achievements.
2	2016	Shogo Kanamori Akira Shibanuma Masamine Jimba	Tropical Medicine and Health	Applicability of the 5S management method for quality improvement in healthcare facilities: a review	A narrative literature review to explore its applicability to health-care facilities globally, with a focus on three aspects: (a) the context of its application, (b) its impacts, and (c) its adoption as part of government initiatives.	The studies presented its impacts on quality improvements; the changes resulting from the 5S application were classified into the three dimensions of safety, efficiency, and patient-centeredness.
3	2016	Ravi Chourasia Dr. Archana Nema	International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology	Review on Implementation of 5S methodology in the Services Sector	To review the implementation of 5S methodology as one of the tools of lean management in the services sector.	Results have shown that 5S can be applied to the service industry with beneficial effects
4	2016	Marija Kovacevic Milos Jovicic Marko Djapan	International Journal for Quality Research	Lean thinking in healthcare: Review of implementation results	To study the automotive industry originated lean concept which has been successfully implemented in healthcare systems	As main result lean concept implementation ensured to healthcare organizations to focus on their main core function
5	2015	Shogo Kanamori Seydou Sow Marcia C. Castro	Global Health Action	Implementation of 5S management method for lean healthcare at a health center in Senegal: a qualitative study of staff perception	To assess how the 5S management method creates changes in the workplace and in the process and outcomes of healthcare services	The 5S program created changes in the work environment, including fewer unwanted items, improved orderliness, and improved labelling and directional indicators of service units.
6	2014	Nouri Hosseini Dalvandi	Journal of Health Promotion Management	The effect of workplace organizing technique (5S) on nurses' productivity in Isfahan hospitals' operating rooms	The objective was to compare the impact of implementing Hybrid 5S with Traditional 5S to improve healthcare warehouse operations.	The Hybrid 5S approach had additional improvements including 15.7% space saved and the least non-conformities to the 5S ideals.
7	2013	Sanjith Venkateswaran Isabelina Nahmens Laura Ikuma	IIE Transactions on Healthcare Systems Engineering	Improving healthcare warehouse operations through 5S	This paper demonstrates that safety is an integral part of 5S by examining five specific 5S events in acute care facilities. We provide two arguments for how safety is linked to 5S	Reports of 5S events from five departments in one health system were used to evaluate how changes made at each step of the 5S impacted safety.

Source: created by author

Literature gap

In the literature survey most of the studies implanted the significance of 5s to be implemented in hospital industries focusing on work environment and proper disposal of medical waste but the highest contributing factor among the 5s inclined with employee perception has been inadequately focused. This study attempts to identify the specific factor among the 5S that contributes a spike in employee's performance level.

Objectives

The objectives of the study focuses on the employee perception and the total quality practices in health care sector .The main aim of the study is

- To examine the level of awareness of 5s among the employee's
- To measure the highest contribution S among 5S towards employee performances.
- To measure the impact of service quality inclined with the highest contribution S among 5s practices.

Hypothesis

- The satisfied employees are discriminated against the dissatisfied employees towards the awareness of 5's

- The self-discipline has a positive impact towards quality employee performance

Research Methodology

Population Frame: Total population includes in the selected hospitals in order to find out the employees perception in the healthcare service quality conditions. Based on the research question the study tends to narrow down the scope towards the hospitals which as implemented 5s were chosen the size, popularity and large number of patient visit were considered.

Sample Size and selection: To evaluate the employee perception towards 5s survey using structured questionnaire method was adopted. The secondary data was collected through a theoretical study. The total population size N=100, Simple random sampling method was adopted for the study.

Data Collection

Research tool for quantitative research

An empirical study measures the quality of the employee performance, to identify the factors contributing factor analyses is adopted .An in-depth interview with the employee were conducted. The researcher has used SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) version 20 package for data analysis. Tools which used in the study are as follows

- Fried man rank Test
- Discriminant analysis

Result

The results are consequences of using the methods elaborated in Methodology and tools section. The data were examined using SPSS program and the results cover survey responses, description of respondents, hypotheses test and conclusions. Researcher has made some explanations and derivative some conclusions while carrying out the research work. These observations are summarized below in the form of conclusion which are very useful for further actions and taking policy decisions by the concern administration. These findings explain whether it answers the research questions and meet objectives of the research.

Hypotheses Findings

The satisfied employees are discriminated against the dissatisfied employees towards the awareness of 5's in total quality management.

Discriminant Function Analysis

The original discriminant analysis was developed by Sir Ronald Fisher in the year. The analysis is to combine the variable scores to produce a new composite variable. In the research discriminant analysis is used to discriminate the values between the satisfied and unsatisfied employees working in the hospital .Further to identify the dimension that contributes to increase the level of satisfaction in total quality management. To find the discriminant score of an employees is positive or negative. If the discriminant score is negative, he is classified as dis –satisfied employee. If the discriminant score is positive then he is consider as a satisfied employee.

The validity of the model is ensuring by the confusion matrix (or) classification matrix obtained as a computer output.

Dependent variable	Dis–satisfied	satisfied	Total
Dis –satisfied	1	0	1
Satisfied	3	46	49
Dis –satisfied	100.0	.0	100.0
Satisfied	6.1	93.9	100.0

94.0% of original grouped cases correctly classified.

5.7 Statistical significant Wilks' Lamba

Test Sig.	ofFunction(s)	Wilks' Lambda	Chi-square	df
1	.739	13.760	5	.017

Interpretation The wilks lambda was found to be .739. This value indicates good discriminating power of the model. The probability of chi- square test indicates that the discrimination between the two groups is highly significant. This signifies that the chi- square is highly satisfied.

5.8 Standardized Canonical Discriminant Function Coefficients

	Function	Rank
	1	
SORT	.279	3
SET IN ORDER	-.186	5
SHINE	.263	4
STANDARDIZED	.336	2
SELF –DISCIPLINE	.800	1

Interpretation

The quality practice shows that the hospital has a fair performance on quality management. But the organization wants to concentrate on the level of set in order for better performance among the hospital employees.

Conclusion

The researcher found few aspects in the hospitals the objectives, contents and the importance of total quality management has been clearly sort out. The employees should concentrate more on the level of set in order. Employee practices should focus on top level management and their level of understanding so that the level of set in order will automatically increase among the employee's. The overall evaluation of the study can says that the performance of 5's is strong in hospital. The level of 5's benefits of the organization in reducing negative approach among the employee's. From this study the employees are working more effectively in sort, shine and standardize, self –discipline but the level of set in order is lacking more among the employee's, only because the human resource is not more focused on the top level management. When the human resource is giving more importance to top level commitments and their level of understanding the employees can concentrate on set in order.

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Social Concept of Vidyadhar Guruji

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Vidyadhar Guruji, has been highly intelligent, forth-fight and rebellious a person who would break all barriers of outdated values. Guruji joined Government middle school Gurumathkal where education was imparted through Urdu Medium, to all the students, irrespective of their mother tongues, whether Kannada, Telugu or Marathi. Fortunately for him a kind Jain teacher with a social awakening, was available to Guruji at this school. He was Vishwanath Gopichand Kandle, an aulumnus of the Nizamcollege, Hyderabad. Sri. Kandle was teaching a lesson captioned "Donkey Riding' and the students were much inspired by his way of teaching. He suggested to the students that the lesson should be further demonstrated. So forty donkeys were deployed and the students rode them through the sheets of Gurumathkal. When the students asked him if the donkey was not untouchable, Sri Kandle replied that the donkey was the most serene, self less and sustaining an animal, and they society should be grateful to it. He said that the very idea of untouchability is abhorring and degrading, not to speak of untouchability towars the Harijan's. In the school, there were water pots kept exclusively separate for the high caste Hindus. He allowed boys to drink water from any where it was available, irrespective of caste barriers. The provided foremost grooming to Guruji to follow in his future days.

Sri Kandle created awareness amongst the students about the cultural heritage, and taught them to honour great persons. Once there was some derogatory remark caste against Swami Dayanand Saraswati, by some bigot. The students had already learnt that Swamiji was a pioneer amongst men of Indian Renaissance. They wanted to agitate against disparagement shown towards swamiji. Sri Kandle said that no agitation is necessary. He took the students to the open court yard of the school, and asked them to spit over the sun, which they could not do.

Hyderabad was a feudal State, carved out of wresting of territory from the inept Moghul Emperor, by his Governor. The first Nizam had established his rule in the Doccan with the cooperation of all sections of Society, including Rajput and Kayasthas. It was in the interest of the ruler to see that his subjects are harmoniously governed. Eighty percent of them were Hindus, and of other persuasions while only twenty percent were Muslims. Muslims showed propensity for joining State service, while Hindus were mostly in other fields of occupation. As subjects they were

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indiscriminately treated. But in the thirtees of the last century the political climate began to change.

A section of Middle class got a fancy to treat the Nizam as a fig leaf and transform the Hyderabad State into a Muslim State, ruled by Muslims only. The Nizams dominion was earlier non communal. Nawabs, Deshmukhs, Patwaris, Patels and even High posts of authority were available to non Muslims. Now what was in the offing was altogether a different thing. Nawab Bahadur Yar Jung formed a Muslim organization called Ittehadul Muslemeen, consummated later by Qasim Razvi, with his Razakar movement. Hence the Hindus were being harassed, so that they flee and Muslims were being invited from toehr parts of India to occupy their properties and to found a Mini Pakistan.

This was the background of Gurujis struggle, for which there was to precedent, no tutelage, training and grounding anywhere in sight, except the instance of all round social programmes led by Gandhiji, but all that was a far cry for people living in the Nizam's Dominion.

As against the path of bigotry, followed by the Razakars, the non-muslims and progressive forces consisting of all communities, and political parties, wanted the Nizam to be a Constutional Head, and allow an elected representative Government to work under him. Though Arya Samaj was not a political party, its participation in all these struggles was momentous. Congress was a National main stream party, like socialists, and communists, who played their role according to circumstances were feasible.

Inspite of limitations, all these democratic forces, at least did not indentify the Razakar Movement as presentative of Islam, because, Hindus Muslims and other communities in India have had a glorious Cultural heritage of tolerance. Here was a Society where a Muslim Teacher was teaching Sri Bhagwat in Pathashalas, to the students of Vernacular Languages, and Hindu Teacher, teaching Persian and ethics to Muslim students. Here was a culture, when in the month of Moharram, the Hindus sang of the glory of Hazrat Hussain, the great martyr who fought against the monarchical type of Rule, of Yazid. Hyderabad State was known for observing Moharram, irrespective of caste and communities. Hindus were seen as becoming "feqeers" during those ten days of mourning.

Dr. Tarachand in his book "Impact of Islam on Hindu Culture" states that in the 8th century when Shankara Charya professed Adwaita Philosophy. Muslim Sufis and saints, hailed it as quite akin to Wahdatul Wujood Concept (Unity of Being) of Islamic faith. Although India was invaded by Mohammed Bin Qasim, Mohamood Ghaznavi, Shahabuddin Ghori, Alauddin Khilji, etc., and

thousands of temples and images were pillaged and wealth usurped, nobody in India regarded all that as an Islamic enterprise, because they believed that Quran like Vedas, forbids hatred, and love with peace is its message. Quran does not promise any concessions to Muslims for the day of Judgment. What would weigh in favour for them are the good deeds and no other consideration.

Guruji's grooming also was on the same lines of tolerance, not with-standing the communal, and sectarian treatment meted out of the Non-Muslims. One instance could portray the new milieu, heralding the spectre of Razakar culture. At the Middle School, there was a venerated Teacher Venkateshwar Rao Bharati, who was beaten by his student Azeemuddin, with a shoe. The incident sparked off unrest, and the Muslims of Gurumathkal alike joined others in protests and made the body apologise. The good Teacher who had filed a suit withdrew the case and pardoned the body.

As Guruji was out of School due to rustication, he was a full time Arya Samajist by now working for removing untouchability, illiteracy and other ills from the society. At this hour he was fortunate to have a visit of Swami Ramgiriji who had come on invitation of Sarabayya Kaamin, a noble Sahukar of Gurumathkal. Actually when the Swamiji was on pilgrimage from Haridwar to Tirupati, the Sahukar met him and thus the Swamiji was now committed to devote six months for Haridwar, three months for Poona and three months for Gurumathkal. Sri Ghantappa took Guruji to the Swamiji and introduced him a Bhikshappa, from a washerman's community. The Swamiji was enraged and said that, he should be called as Vashist Kulotpanna. He also changed his name as Vidyadhar. That happened in 1930. Now Guruji became Swami's beloved Shishya. The Swamiji was not only broadening the vision of the young men, but was also lecturing about the revolutionaries and their sacrifices rendered for the cause of India's freedom. Chandra Shekar Azad, Bhagat Singh and other heros became the icons of the young people. Now Guruji formed a Nanu Yuvak Sangh where a Marathi Nationalist weekly "Gnanodaya" was being read, collectively, and group meetings were held. Guruji stated a "Pathshala" teaching Hindi and crowds of young people were joining the pathshala, and the entire atmosphere was buzzing with activity. Along with Guruji, two others joined him as teachers. They are Gurunath Reddy Patel and M.F. Shastri.

In order to remove untouchability, Guruji gave a call to people different communities to eat, sweets made by the Harijan women. They thus took Maleeda (bread mashed with Jaggery) and Mangoe Juice. As there was an arrest warrant against Guruji, he had to leave the place and thus he went to Lahore in 1937 and imbibed Vedic Education until 1942, when a call for Quite India

Programme was given by Gandhiji, and Guruji was a Yadgir. He organized Youth with great enthusiasm. Group meetings were organized at the dead of night, clandestinely so as to avoid being detected. He organized six night Hindi Pathashalas, where no fees was charged to the students and no remuneration paid to the Teachers. The following six Night Schools revolutionized the atmosphere of Yadgir. Yadgir was now a pre-eminent Place of National Consciousness.

All praise for his sincerest service. Mr. Ismail Hundekar Railway contractor for goods, regaled us to refreshments and said that he is a Hundekar and one of the devoted followers of Guruji, Sri Shantappa Harijan 75 and Sri Ghalappa alias Hanumanthappa Kisan aged 75 years, representing most down trodden communities, paid glowing tributes to Guruji. It is due to Guruji, that now they could sit with high caste people and enjoying company on an equal footing. Guruji had organized Harijans boys to go in a long file to various wells, draw water themselves and offer a sip of it to one and all, and them move on to the next well, like this all the wells were made accessible to them. Likewise Guruji was taking them all to all the temples of Yadgir to eradicate untouchability. It is due to Guruji that beedi workers of Yadgir, and down trodden people learnt Hindi and sent their children to schools. Consequently, most of them go services in Government and Municipal offices and elsewhere.

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Political news stories in Kannada Dailies: A Case Study of Vijayavani

Dr. Nandini Shivasharanappa*

[*The study tries to explore the political news is a very important part of the newspaper in its circulation. Without political news we can't imagine the face of any newspaper. It's very essential to the public to know about the issues happening in the politics. Political news presented is various forms like special stories, editorials, columns and news format. Political stories are mainly covered in the front pages of the daily. The regional political news is regularly reported in the forwarded pages. So, political news is considered as a central attraction of newspaper.*]

Political newspaper Viajayavani is a Kannada daily newspaper started by the Vijay Sankeshwar and after that Vijayakarnatak also started by him and then sold to the Bennet Colman's of the times group. Vijayavani started in 2011 and got its success very early. Both these newspapers cover the political stories and give these gives more important to the political issues. Because of the politics matters readers are attracted to it. Political scandals news on Political scandals this newspaper has led to more circulation of newspapers. The day to current airfare about government and state are another attraction for the citizens. This newspaper is started with the same ideology, but now this is in the different way, giving more space to the political stories and this is very expressively presenting the political news in the front page its lead to people's attraction about the political news.

Vijayavani Kannada dailies Newspaper

Vijayavani is the famous Kannada daily newspaper. It was circulating with the motto of voice of Kannadiga's Kannada language daily Newspaper distributed in Karnataka. It is published by VRL Group owned by logistics tycoon Vijay Sankeshwar. Having launched on 1 April 2011, Vijayavani started with merely three editions. Today it has editions in several places like Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubballi, Mysuru, Vijayapura, Gangavathi, Chitradurga, Shivamogga and Kalaburgi. Vijayavani the flagship entity of the VRL Group is the largest circulated newspaper in Karnataka. Vijayavani created a media frenzy by being the only Kannada newspaper to launch 9 editions in just 90 days from its 1st launch. Vijayavani is an all color paper in all

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Karnataka. With a growth rate of 262% in 3 years, Vijayavani today has a certified circulation of 8, 03, 738 copies. Vijayavani has an unmatched reach which covers 28 districts out of almost 30 districts in entire Karnataka. Apart from the regular content, a four-page Vijayavani Kannada daily newspaper printing in the format of broadsheet in 16 pages from VRL group of media. Current editor was Hariprakash Konemane, a newspaper founded in 2011 in independent political alignment from Bangalore and Hubli, in India. One of the top most successful businessman of Karnataka Vijay Sankeshwar who made revolution in Kannada journalism in a short period and made this newspaper number one Kannada daily in Karnataka

Statement of the problem

Political news stories in Kannada Dailies: A Case Study of Vijayavani Therefore, it was felt necessary to have an in-depth research study on this topic. Besides, these kinds of studies have not conducted yet. Hence, with this advantage the present investigation carried out with the following objectives.

1. To study, the preferred news coverage of Vijayavani

2. To assess the coverage of Political issues in Vijayavani

3. To analyze how much importance people give to know Political issues.

Methodology

The present paper was conducted to find out the coverage of political issues in newspapers. The content analysis method is adopted for this study. In the directions of the content were measured separately with regard to the Political issues to determine the directions of the contents of the media. News stories, columns, special stories, articles, advertisements, editorial, letters to editor etc. Is evaluated in the present study. For this study, Vijayavani for the period of one month of December 2016 have been selected. A total of 31 newspapers were selected for this study. Newspapers were selected based on their circulation. Researching used simple random sampling method for the selection of newspaper.

Results and Discussions

The present study is processed on 2016 December one month data has been collected. The newspapers of 31 days 1696 news's had been collected. The newspaper has published 4 pages daily, it relates to health, ladies column, business, commercial, youth corner, children's stories, travel essays, and for employment and other article were published. Most of the space covered for the advertisement in supplements. Supplements are giving more importance to the advertisement therefore here present research neglected that supplements.

Mainly focused on which is useful pages contain within 14 pages. Research focus on political stories in a month. That statics are political stories 377, Crime/accused of stories 154, Accident stories 58, Educational stories 134, Commercial stories 62, Development stories 143, Sports stories 202, Defense stories 76, international stories 89, Social issues stories 301, were published in the Vijayavani Kannada newspaper in a month of December 2016. Related to this study one month newspaper was analyzed and data collected of December 2016 31days papers. Data collected of the Vijayavani newspapers 1696 stories of 31 days.

The table 1 indicates the major categories covered by Vijayavani newspaper. The study reveals that in this newspaper majority of the news published is political. In the period of one month of the December total 31 newspapers published 1696 total number of stories taken for the present study and the study reveals that the one that more of the space given to the political stories 377 stories are published in that month this shows that more priority given to the political stories. And also the second preference for the social issues, sports, and development, basic needs of citizens like water, food, power, sanitation, stories also published in the month. Also give importance to the developmental stories. Now in the present days publishing news is if also increasing and the page number of newspapers increased so newspaper looking different. The newspaper is looking colourful with the colour in the pages, this is quite different looking, but sometime over colorizing of the pages makes confusion to the readers.

The table 2 Viajayavani newspaper published 6 issues in the editorial page in a month. The issues are, politics, which has 7 stories, development has 12 stories, social issues 3, sports contain 1, defense 3, stories, and educational has 1 story in a month. Total number of stories 27 in a month. Newspaper focuses on development stories published because more number 12 stories were published in editorial pages and given less importance to the political stories.

Conclusion

The newspaper plays a vital role in a democratic nation like India. The media publish/broadcast all the happenings in the field of social, economic, political and moral problems in the society. This newspaper is very helpful to get an expulsion of several types of problems from our society. Newspaper is a mode of mass communication. It is very helpful in creating awareness about social problems and raising voices against social issues.

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Political Empowerment of Women:
A Study of Rabha Women in the Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council

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[*Empowerment is the process of gaining control over power, resources and material assets. It involves power to power with and power within. Empowerment can moreover be defined as a procedure of awareness, of potentiality building which can lead to greater participation. It also enables one to take effective decision making and to gain control leading to transformative action. Infact, one of the important aspects of human development is Women empowerment. It has been considered as one of the eight Millenium Development Goals (MDG) to which India is a signatory. Empowerment is a multidimensional concept which economic, political, economic and cultural. Political empowerment is the technique of gaining an extend of elements of power which consists of capabilities, positions and resources. Political empowerment of women is necessary for their enhancement and progress. Women will be politically empowered only if they are given equal and adequate chance of participation and representation in politics. A democratic system becomes more viable and effective only if both men and women are given equal chance and opportunities to realize their potentiality. But even after 70 years of Independence women in our country have been recognized as a secondary citizen and has to confine within the four walls of the household. They play a very marginal role in politics. The Constitution of India incorporates a number provisions to secure social, economic and political justice to all its citizens. The Constitution has also provided specific provisions for the upliftment of the backward and vulnerable section of the society. This paper will mainly make an attempt to study the political empowerment of Rabha women who have not been able to mark their presence in the regional or national political scenario. The study will mainly concentrate on the Rabha women making a special reference to the Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council ranging from Rani of South Kamrup to Joyramkuchi of Goalpara district. Both primary and secondary sources of data has been used for the purpose of the study. Moreover empirical survey has been conducted with the help of questionnaire to conduct the study.*]

Women constitute approximately half of the world's population. The development of women is the reality of 21st century. Women are sharing with the men not only in the development process, but in the field of administration and political system also. Improved conditions and opportunities for women and gender equality are crucial to international efforts to boost social, economic and political development. Both men and women are the most essential component for human resource development. Therefore, the development of both the sexes were equally important for all round human development. However they are always considered as a weaker sex. Women since time immemorial have experienced several disadvantages of various degrees and types at different levels. In rural India, women are discriminated in terms of education, politics, health care facilities, resources etc. only because of their gender. Thereby the

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past three decades have increasingly focused on the need to empower women in-order to raise their status at all levels. The empowerment of women is the urgent need of the hour as it seems to be the best way to stop the degeneration of the society and to bring about harmony, happiness, progress, peace and prosperity in our society. Empowerment means empowering oneself to recognize one's own capacities and contribution to the family, community and society at large. Empowerment is a multi-faceted, multi-dimensional and multi-layered concept. Women empowerment can be described as a process in which women gain greater share of control over resources. It is the process of challenging the existing power relation in the society which is heavily biased against women.

Political empowerment as one of the dimensions of women empowerment is now on the international agenda and permeating many regional and national plans of action. The issue of women's political empowerment came to the forefront of global debate at the fourth World Conference on Women held at Beijing in 1995. Thereafter the issue continued to hold center-stage of all discussions on gender justice and equality. The Beijing Platform for Action regarded women's access to and full participation in the decision making process as one of the critical areas of concern. It declared that women's equal participation in all political life plays a pivotal role in the general process of the advancement of women. It also recognized that power structures are mainly dominated by men and women representation continues to be low. Thus there has been a need to increase the presence and participation of women in decision making bodies at all levels.

Political empowerment of women is possible only if the political status will improve. Women in India largely participated in the national struggle for freedom. But in the post independence period, women hardly get a chance to get represented. The number of women voters have been increasing but their representation is very low. Unless women's political status gets improved, to think of empower them politically is distant dream. Assam, one of the seven states of North east India has been witnessing the problem of women deprivation. In the rural and remote areas of Assam, women are generally found as less educated, less political aware or low political status, less participation in various aspects of society. This paper will mainly focus on the political empowerment of Rabha women in the Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council.

Material and Methods

The Rabhas, one of the indigenous community of Assam is mainly found in the districts of Goalpara, Kamrup, Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Darrang, Dhubri and Nalbari. After a prolonged struggle for autonomy, the Rabha Hasong Autonomous Council (RHAC) was constituted in 1995 with the signing of the Rabha Accord. The Council was formed to satisfy the hopes, needs and aspirations of the people of the Council area. However Rabha women has not been able to play a vital role in politics in regional, national or state politics. Although a woman organisation exclusively for Rabha women has been formed namely All Rabha Women Association, yet it has not been able to do anything worth mentioning. The RHAC has reserved 6 seats for women out of 40 seats. However, these 6 seats are not exclusively reserved for Rabha women. It is in this regard, the study of political empowerment of Rabha women become important in order to know their actual development.

The Methodology used for the purpose of conducting the study is mentioned below.

- The study is based on both primary and secondary sources of data and information.

- The primary data has been collected from the two Districts ie. Kamrup(rural) and Goalpara by using purposive and multi-stage random sampling.

- It is purposive in the sense that only the rural areas of Goalpara and Kamrup district has been considered for selection of sample as the purpose of the study is related to Rabha women who mostly reside in rural areas.

- It is multi- stage sampling as because there are 36 Constituencies in both the districts. Out of 36 constituencies, 2 constituencies from each district has been selected. In the second stage, among the 2 Constituencies, 1 village from each Constituency has been selected randomly taking into the consideration the Rabha dominated areas for the field survey. The two villages include South Dudhnoi in Goalpara District and Chakrapani in the Kamrup District..

- In the last stage 20% of the total households of these two villages have been selected for constructing the final sample for the study.

- For the secondary data various published and unpublished documents which include relevant books, journals, newspapers, magazines etc.

Results

The respondents have been selected from the voter list of those areas. The following table clearly shows the manner in which the sample has been selected.

Table 1.1

Percentage of sample respondents village-wise

Name of Constituency	Name of the Village	Total households	20% of the household selected
Goalpara	South Dudhnoi	270	54
Kamrup	Chakrapani	234	46

Profile of the Educational Qualification of Respondents

Literacy and educational attainment is considered as the key process of socio-political development of any society. Decision making ability, better employment opportunities, awareness towards society is largely affected by the level of educational attainment achieved by an individual during his life. As women became more educated, they will become active members in development process rather than mere benefeciaries of programmes and services.

Table 1.2

Educational Qualification of the Respondents

Qualification	Number of respondents	Percentage
Illiterate	68	68%
HSLC/HS	25	25%
Degree	06	06%
Masters	01	01%
Others	00	00%
Total	100	100%

Table 1.2 shows the educational attainment of the sample respondents. As it is evident from the table that almost 68% of sample are illiterate which is definitely a major concern. This is one of the main reason for the low socio political status of the Rabhaa women. Only 25% of the respondents have cleared their HSLC/HS level. The number of women who are having higher education and technical education is negligible. This definitely intensifies the need to enhance the educational level among the Rabha women if their political status needs to be really enhanced.

Primary Data Analysis

In general, improvement of political status leads to political empowerment. Some indicators such as casting of votes, membership in political organization, participation in socio political rally, awareness regarding welfare schemes of the government have been mainly taken into consideration to conduct the study. Accordingly the following analysis have been made.

Table 1.3

Political Awareness of the respondents

Questions	Responses	Number of respondents	Percentage
Do your vote regularly?	Yes	92	92%
	No	08	08%
	Total	100	100%
Are you a member of any political organization?	Yes	18	18%
	No	82	82%
	Total	100	100%
Are you aware of the various welfare schemes of the Government?	Yes	29	29%
	No	71	71%
	Total	100	100%
Have you ever participated in any socio political rally?	Yes	21	21%
	No	79	79%
	Total	100	100%

As mentioned already, a total 100 respondents have been randomly selected for the purpose of the study. The above table i.e. 1.3 clearly shows that the Rabha women of the study area are aware of their voting rights. Around 92% respondents informed that they have been casting their votes regularly which is definitely a good sign of political participation. But there is a lack of awareness about their political status which is clearly reflected from the table. Only 18% of the respondents admits that they are the members of different political organization

the remaining 8[2 respondents are not member of any political organization neither they are keen to join any. Without joining any organization they will not develop their confidence of decision making which is very necessary for active political participation. Moreover around 71% of the respondents do not know the welfare schemes implemented by government from time to time for the upliftement of the socially and economically weaker section of the society. On the one hand, the Rabhas are economically backward , and on the other, they are not much aware of the welfare schemes of the Government. Unless they are made aware of the various development and welfare schemes of the government, they may remain outside the purview of the welfare enhancing measures. Regarding the participation in any socio political rally, it has been found that only 21% of the respondents have the experience to participate. Others have no interest or do not know of such activities. Therefore, political parties, pressure groups, local NGOs, social workers should play an active role to increase the participation of women in politics.

Discussion

From the analysis if the above data we may discuss the main aspects of the present study as follows.

a. The study reveals that majority of the Rabha women are casting their vote regularly which is a good sign of participation as voters according to their wishes without the influence of others.

b. The study reveals that majority of the respondents are not at all interested in campaigning for elections.

c. They did not show any interest to join in political parties, locally available women groups like ARWA (All Rabha Women Association).

d. Another important indicator for measuring political status of women is their awareness regarding welfare schemes of the government. The study shows that most of the respondents are not aware of the existing government welfare schemes.

Thus the study shows that Rabha women have remained mere as voters, not as decision makers. As a result they cannot play the required role because of their low profile, poor orientation, lack of encouragement and lack of political background.

Conclusion

Women empowerment is the need of the hour. Only merely making policies and acts is not enough. There should be a sea change in the mindset of the people. At the village level, awareness programme should be organized to give them knowledge about women empowerment. Political status of women should be linked with actual realities. Women empowerment can further strengthen the institution of democracy. Abundant opportunities are waiting and women should make use of these opportunities. Women empowerment can eliminate all forms of social, economic and political injustice against women. Inorder to have all round development, women needs to be given equal opportunities and rights in every spheres of life such as social, political, economical and cultural. Thus society can flourish only when women are given equal share in every sphere of life.

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Syndrome of Internal Colonialism in India's Northeast

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[*This is an up gradation of working paper. The research for which started in 2001 when the idea was published in cotton college research journal. It was in 2017 that the up-gradation continued and the working paper on the subject was published by KKSOU in 2017. After prolonged research at the idea, theoretical and empirical level, a full paper with substance is being presented here. In this paper an attempt has been made to diagnose the problem of sub nationalism in India's Northeast and to initiate a new theoretical formulation for conflict resolution in the light of the deficiency syndrome in the Indian political system.*]

While initiating the idea of Internal Colonialism in India's Northeast, the methodology adopted to explain the same is post methodology. Here the emphasis is on the autonomy of the researcher to present ideas not being restrained by the traditional methodology discourse. Post-methodology is not to be understood as a critic of the traditional methodology of research. It is a kind of independent reaction to a situation in which there is a need to float and explain the ideas relevant to a particular syndrome or situation. It is believed that there is a higher possibility of original ideas being floated in this type of research investigations rather than making the ideas tailor-made in accordance with the provisions of traditional research methodology prescriptions. For example we may refer to the developments in China when thousands of students of Peaking University were massacred by army tanks because political protests and pro-democracy movements were not permitted in China which is under one party rule of Chinese Communist Party. Similarly Nelson Mandella in the prison of White South African regime for freedom and Independence was also a case study that is more convenient to undertake in the post methodology discourse. Reference could also be made to Liu Xiaobo, the Chinese critique of the political system in the country, human rights activist, political essayist and noble prize winner and his crusade for the rights of the Chinese people could also be a case study in post methodology discourse. While my intention is not to initiate a debate on the respective merits and demerits of the Traditional methodology and Post-methodology discourse, it has been decided to opt for the second in this paper in the hope that it would facilitate and unfold a more extensive discussion on the issues in hand with a higher degree of freedom and autonomy researcher to deal with such issues.

It is pertinent to mention here that in the Post-methodology, the value component constitutes a very important dimension of social research. Here values

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refer to the individual belief and faith of the researcher which was utterly ignored in the scientific methodology discoursed in social research. In the traditional approaches to the study of political science and other social sciences, value component was crucial to the whole approach of study. It was mainly because of the emergence of the behavioral approach that increasing importance was sort to be given on fact rather than values. The intellectual community all over the world had witnessed that the scope of social research and investigations was significantly reduced because of specific methodological compulsions. In fact there was a "mad craze for scientism" for the mathematical and statistical approach in social research that significantly restrain the free flow of ideas on the part of the thinkers, philosophers, social scientists and investigators who were almost intellectually coerced to follow a particular line of action and methodology in social research. In the light of the emerging intellectual protest against this trend of behavioral research that post-behaviorism emerged with equal emphasis on fact and value in the process of social research. David Estone, the celebrated American political scientist, who was the pioneer of the behavioral revolution in research, saw the writings of the wall and substantially modified and altered the emphasis of the behavioral research from fact to both fact and value with equal reflections. But it would be wrong equate Post-methodology to that of the post behavioral approach. To my understanding post-methodology provides the largest possible freedom to the researcher and more in tune with the post- modern approach which reduces the importance of "the Grammar" i.e. the presence of a definite format to pursue research activities. Apart from the individual freedom of the researcher, the Post-methodology has also has a vibrant component of rationality. What is rationality as such? Can it be equated to that of reality? Is reality always rational? Here the wisdom of the researcher is obviously important in the formulation of this rationality reality doctrine. It could also be put in the form of raw ideas on the part of the researchers, thinkers or philosophers that may influence in the studies in different spectrum of

human civilization. It means that the raw ideas coming from the researchers could be meaningful component of research. In fact when too much emphasis was given on the methodology part of research, there are many ideas that gets sidelined and marginalized without coming to the fore. In the process the human civilization is deprived of the precious values that could have been there in the form of raw ideas. From that point of view methodological constrains may not always be considered as fundamental research. At the same time it would not be right if the view of the critics for whom methodology in the specified format is crucial to the whole process of research. The exponents and the supporters of the traditional methodology doctrine believed that methodology does not constrain the flow of ideas rather try to channelize fundamental human thought leading to a particular proposition of truth.

I would like to make it absolutely clear that the theory of internal colonialism is already there in the domain of academic disciplines like political science and economics. It is also been studied in relation to the story of Disintegration in relation to the issues like ethnicity. Here in this paper a humble attempt has been made to make the theory and its explanations pertinent to India's Northeast. The emphasis here is not to put the ideas and the arguments within the bindings of the traditional methodology format. In this paper attempt has been made to put my thoughts and arguments in the post methodology format. While it is true that the whole idea needs to be taken to a new height in the process of research investigation. In this paper attempt has been made to incorporate certain fundamental arguments in relation to the thesis of internal colonialism in India's Northeast. At the very outset of my discussion in my paper, I must admit that the theoretical concept of internal colonialism even today eludes a straight and clear cut conceptual framework. There are many who have straightly rejected th idea of internal colonialism in reference to India's Northeast as redundant, obsolete, incongruous and irrelevant. In spite of the fact that the idea has been severely critiqued, I am taking this opportunity of further refining the original concept of internal colonialism to make it a theoretical instrument for explaining the post-colonial development in India's Northeast.

It is generally stated that with the dawn of post-colonial era. After the end of British Raj that Nehruvian guardianship started in India. It is a kind of mission of coercive nationalization. The critics of the coercive nationalization pointed out that it completely ignored the differentiation that exist among the people of India and more particularly and intensely in India's Northeast. There is noticeable evidence of violent conversation between the exponents of the coercive nationalization and the exponents of "imagined nation" in India's Northeast. While the exponents of coercive nationalization were in favor of a common Indian identity, it was all together a different story for the supporters of "imagined nations." The narratives of the imagined nations were based on socio cultural and political expectations of various ethnic communities like the Nagas, Mizos, Axomiyas and the Bodos for the formation of their separate geographical territories. In the context of the polity and society, it was a situation of state v/s the imagined nations. The fundamental thrust of the statist is that the Sovereign Democratic Republic have been proclaimed in India with its commitment for the welfare of the people, the exponents of the "imagined nations" resorted to the doctrine of identity and nationalism of the respective communities. While the struggle for the "imagined nations" where on the India's Northeast, the state in India adopted a mechanism for suppressing these movements citing a threat to unity and integrity of the nation. It is alleged that the State in India did not demonstrate the kind of sensitivity that is required for the purpose.

The State approach basically identified the whole issue as law and order problem. The Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) was enacted to provide police power to the armed forces to suppress the movements while it is difficult to be in total agreement with the demands of the supporters of the "imagined nations," the State in India we believe had ample opportunity to make a thorough sociological and humanitarian study of the issue raised by the supporters of the imagined nations. In our view the demands raised by the supporters of the imagined nations was a kind of indication of their gradual recruitment to the Indian political system. But to our understanding, the state in India missed this opportunity by strictly confining their approach to law and order angle only.

While explaining the concept of internal colonialism in the context of India's Northeast, it would be better if we go back to the society first and let's remember the pre-colonial space of the region. The Ahoms ruled the region for almost 6 centuries at a stretch starting from 1228 to 1826. The Ahom rule was strict, monolithic and monarchical structure with a developed political sense and high level of religious tolerance. The economy was largely agricultural and the village was the focal point of the whole economic system it was mostly a barter trade and hard cash circulation was not prevalent among the people and was minimal to a select class. The rich section of the people made their own arrangement to save in terms of gold and silver. The people had produced their need from agriculture. It was mostly a sustenance economy and no surplus generation could be seen in it.

The ahom regime was known for its innovation in the field of land management and developed a coordinated structure of "the paik and the khel." Under this system there was this personal liability of every adult male to work for a period of three to four months a year, while land was the absolute property of the monarch. The paiks secured their right to cultivate the land in lieu of personal service to the monarchs. It is in this was that the Ahoms maintained their control over the economy and the polity. However the stable political regime gradually disintegrated because of the internal power struggle in the hierarchy of the Ahom Kingdom and the East India Company (EIC) being a party to the treaty of Yandaboo, took the helm of affairs of Assam.

It was beginning of the colonial rule that took upon itself the self-imposed responsibility of "civilizing" the local people. The EIC also started a regime of mobilization of resources to register higher revenue to sustain colonialism. The EIC after securing power got down to their business and initiated policies to protect their interest in land and promote a business in tea, oil, coal and timber trade. R. Wilcox, a geologist in uniform noticed the presence of petroleum in the bed of river Buridihing and Supkong near the coal bed. The Company formed the Geological Survey Of India (GSI) to explore the mineral resources of the province. At the same time, the Assam Oil Company (AOC) was formed in London and huge commercial venture started. The colonial government also made a conspiratorial move to deprive the legitimate right of the indigenous people to cultivate their land and almost forced them to become full scale laborers in the tea gardens. The government raised the rates of revenue so that the people are forced to abandon the land to become laborers in the gardens.

The people resisted the move to multiply land revenue and the popular resistance was way reflected in Pathorughator Rann, 1894, Phulaguri Dhewa, 1861 and the rebellion of Rangia and Lachima. It may be noted that as a result of colonial initiaitves, scientific efforts were made by The Tea Committee for commercial cultivation of tea. The tea industry in Assam opened up new avenues for the investment of surplus capital of Great Britain. But the investors faced the problem of labor as the local population was not interested to work permanently in the gardens. In the process, the poor tribal communities from Chotanagpur who were under the impact of severe famine were brought into work in the gardens under the direct patronage of the colonial state in most human brutal conditions. In the process about 98 tribes like Munda, Kharia, Bhomij etc were brought in who started to live in and work in the colonial habitat in the gardens. Reference could also be made to that of the colonial trade interventions in coal and timber. Lt.

Wilcox made the first recorded notice of the existence of coal in Upper Assam in April 1825. By 1828 colonialism was ready with all logistics necessary for the extraction of coal in Upper Assam. Timber was another segment that earned huge profit for the colonial government. The forest in Assam were abundant with Sal, Titasappa, Ajhar, Nahor, Jamu, Koroi etc. which were made use of by the government to earn profit without any substantial investment. The colonial regime also strengthened the communication network through river, rail and road and provided a boost to the British colonial economy. The company government tried to develop the road, rail and water ways so that the raw materials and natural resources could be mobilized from the respective centres and taken out of the province and the final products were put into the doorsteps for a series of retail networks. Reference could also be made to the idea of excluded and partially excluded areas which were devised to protect the colonial business interest and to ensure safety and security of the British capital and its personnel. In fact the government was not ready to provide any governmental mechanism to the areas from where revenue was not generated, these were known as excluded areas.

At the same time the areas from which revenue was partially generated were described as Partially Excluded areas. In other words it was a classic case of colonialism where the spirit and the unwritten code of a colonial regime were clearly reflected. The frontier therefore was a completely marginalised space and the manifestation of the brutality of the colonial order in the form of economic exploitation as well as political subjugation was evident. To my understanding there was nothing unnatural on the part of colonialism to embark upon such a policy because colonialism survives on the resources and revenues generated from the colonies. Therefore the colonial phase of the political history of Assam made the space in the region a fully marginalized space. Here economic exploitation, political subjugation and the emergence of a society in despair are the definite externalities of it.

Colonialism gave in and finally the Sovereign Democratic India was proclaimed. It was in 1947 that India became a post-colonial entity in 1947. But the continuation of the identical policies in referece to India's Northeast even after securing political independence has no doubt inititive a debate on the premise of internal colonialism. In the colonial period, it is understandable that policies were formulated to ensure huge profit for the regime. But the continuation of such policies even in Post-colonial India has raised eye brows, compelling many to describe the space in India's Northeast as internally colonial space. It may be noted that apart from the areas which British identified

for their resource exploitation in the region namely tea, petroleum, coal, timber, minerals etc., the Post-colonial State has expanded the list by way of including water in it. About 168 river dams are in the process of construction in the whole region. In view of such a policy of producing electricity by regulating the rivers, the River Valley civilization of the entire region may be threatened in the long run. Moreover the decision of the Union Government to lease out the oil fields in the state to corporate houses has further strengthen the argument of internal colonialism in India's Northeast. It is in the light of the above considerations, can I be permitted to place the idea of Internal Colonialism as a major premise policy premise in India's Northeast.

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Gunas 'Natural Romanticism' Versus Meluha's 'Shallow Romanticism' in Amish Tripathi's "*Shiva Trilogy'*

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[*By the mid of eighteenth century the word 'Romantic' was synonymous with landscape depictions in literature. Amish Tripathi can be called an ecologist, for he offers a truly transformative discourse. In his book Shiva Trilogy, he offers the debate how romantic aesthetic beauty of nature is threatened, being embedded in various cultural space of Indus - Saraswathi civilization. This article traces the romantic, aesthetic construction of nature by Amish Tripathi in 'Shiva Trilogy' of 1900 BC India from romantic dwelling of Gunas tribe's Kailas to the endangered ecological view of 'shallow romanticism' of the most civilized 'Meluhans'*.]

Romanticism and aesthetic touch of nature was in vogue in European literal and cultural history in the late eighteenth and mid nineteenth centuries. By the mid of eighteenth century the word 'Romantic' was synonymous with landscape depictions in literature. It changed the way of writing and thinking in literary field. Romanticism was about the conservation of the beauty of nature, fine arts, architecture and history of nature. 'Romantic' poets of British literature have sung of nature, wild and imagined, and have reflected the aesthetic beauty of their representation on the earth. The American transcendentalists like Emerson, Fuller and Thoreau wrote about nature, life and force. They fecundate the renewal of a new self through return to nature.

Reading and rereading the *Shiva Trilogy* with ecological perspective, it has been able to deduct that the aesthetic beauty of the pastoral, agricultural and the wilderness are in relationship with the 'dwelling' of the tribe in the space. The aesthetic beauty of nature is best comprehended with the passions of men dwelling around there. As Peter Barry in his book *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and cultural Theory* convinces of this kind of view of beauty of nature, "Nature is the name under which we use the nonhuman to validate the human to interpose a meditation able to make humanity more easy with itself" (Barry 244-45).

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Amish Tripathi's sequels *Shiva Trilogy* is a grand rhetoric on ecology. To portray the beauty of nature and its essential for the existence of man. He likes the readers to the picture mythical India of 1900BC. He expounds the myth of avatar of Shiva's as '*Neelkanth'* in Indus *Saraswathi* Civilization. Graham Hancock in his book *Underworld - the Mysterious Origins of Civilization* speaks of this civilization,

.... Subsequent excavation continuing today have led to the realization that the majority of the approximately 2600' Harappan sites so far discovered in fact the outside the Indus valley particularly to the east along the course of the ancient Sarasvathi, a river that has been dry for almost 4000 years. This wide distribution of sites has been recognized by scholars, many of whom now prefer to speak of the 'Indus Saraswathi civilization', the term that I shall generally use here, since it more accurately describes the very large geographical catchment and in which this mysterious culture flourished. (Hancock 90)

In his first novel *The Immortals of Meluha* focus is on the rhetoric of the ecology of the Tibet and Meluha – 'a land of pure form of nature'. The Tribal people of this Tibet are '*Gunas'* for whom nature is God and fort. This Tribe's leader as the novel introduces the story is 'Shiva' and they live at the foot of *Kailash*. The story set in 1900 BC, in the Mansarovar Lake begins with Shiva gazing at the sky, "Shiva gazed at the orange sky. The cloud hovering above Mansarovar had just parted to

reveal the setting sun. The brilliant given of life…. But the sunset…. the sun and the Himalayas stretching far back as the eye could see…." (IM 1).

Shiva, a tribal leader of Gunas, now in trouble because he is asked to quit his land and come to another land, which the leader from the other land called as 'Heaven'. "The man from the other tribe called his land 'Heaven' and his land as 'rough arid land' …" (IM 2). The romantic aestheticism of the pure land is called by the other warrior as 'rough arid land'. Shiva enjoying the chillum contemplates on the pros and cons of the invitation; he was given by the *Meluhan* tribe. The beauties of the sun rise and the sunset, the pebble that bounce back from the lake are not attractive anymore for him. The sublime beauty of the mount *Kailash* and stewardship of protecting the holy lake from *Prakratis* does not anymore stand against the peace that was promised by the foreign warrior.

The sudden surprising attack of the *Prakratis* at dusk helps Shiva to fasten to his decision. Gunas traditional chore at the dusk as explained by the author is very interesting.

Dusk was usually a time when the Gunas soldiers took tune to thank their gods for a day without battle. The women did their chores by the lakeside. If there was a time when they were not a fearsome martial clan, but just another mountain tribe trying to survive in a tough, hostile land, this was it. (IM 5)

Again this pure beautiful land not yet appropriated by the ideologies of the politics of human mind is called by the author as "tough, hostile land" (IM 5). The author's intends to expose that the sublime beauty of the mount *Kailash* or the avatar *Neelkanth* is not visible to their tribe because of their greediness to owe the holy lake. In the same chapter of the novel he describes the *Gunas* tribe and their warring life as a regular affair, "The Gunas, despite being used to the brutality of regular battle…." (IM 6). As the expression 'regular' can be used as adjective or used as 'adverb' with many nouns but before the noun 'battle' it seems cruelty. So it leads 'Shiva' to take a decision to move to a land of peace as told by the warrior and the *Gunas* speak in one voice 'Your decision is our decision'. This expostulates that *Gunas* are yet to be infiltrated with politics that divides men hence unraveling the fact that they were yet noble savages.

The dwelling of *Gunas* explains well the rustic beauty as Amish describes their habitation, "The huts in Shiva's village were luxurious compared to others in their land. A grown man could actually stand upright in them. The shelter could withstand the harsh mountain winds for nearly three years surrendering to the elements…." (IM 3). *Gunas* society was anthropocentric and eco

centric. Their survival was anthropocentric with their dwelling matching the challenges of harsh mountain winds. It was so strong that it can survive the worst of ecological destructive forces for three years. A f t e r Shiva's experience of the survival of the fittest, the author uproots his life of a noble savage to a more civilized urban space called as '*Meluha*'. If Wordsworth were to criticize this migration he would rather say that *Gunas* uprooted them from a state of greater simplicity, the essential passion arising from a better soil, language which is plainer and simple that can be more forcibly communicated, occupation more easily comprehended and of course, from the rural life that germinate those elementary feelings. But rather Nandi, the warrior of *Meluha* claims that his urban space is "The land of pure life". (IM 10) Amish Tripathi as a third party only remarks that Shiva was mortified with the sight of *Meluhan* Empire as he could not imagine the sublimity of the pastoral beauty of *Meluha* having come from "simple homeland". (IM 10) Amish while explaining the aesthetic beauty of the river, the capital valley of Kashmir, the feminine seducing image of nature flows through those lines, the picturesque and the beautification of the words chosen, proves the romantic quality of the tribe in the text. "The mighty Jhelum River, a roaring tigress in the mountains, slowed down to the rhythm of a languorous cow as she entered the valley. She caressed the heavenly land of Kashmir meandering her way into the immense Dal Lake. Further down, she broke away from the lake, continuing her journey towards the sea" (IM 10). Then he continues with the pastoral beauty of the land, he delineates so precisely and preciously, reconstructing the ecology of 1900BC is rather an authentic experience as it is seen as follows:

The vast valley was covered by a lush green canvas of grass. On it was painted the masterpiece that was Kashmir. Rows upon rows of flowers arrayed all of God's colours, their brilliance broken only by the soaring Chinar trees, offering a majestic, yet warm Kashmir welcome. The melodious singing of the birds claimed the exhausted ears of Shiva's tribe, accustomed only to the rude howling of icy mountain winds. (IM 10)

The sight of non-human beings was so beautiful and welcoming, that Shiva is being reassured of the beauty and perfection of the province that his tribe is going to immigrate. Amish Tripathi does not fail to paint the picturesque dwelling of the city of Srinagar, a contrast to the romantic rustiness of the Gunas place at the Mansarovar Lake and the Mount Kailash. A deconstruction of this part of the discourse is so eclectic that the author has tried his best to make the reader comprehend the exact contrast of the *Gunas* and the *Meluhans*. The experience of the sublimity and the beauty of nature embedded according to the culture of

society are well put in words and images that none can miss the beauty or the dualism of the mechanism of culture both being sensuous and participatory.

The dwelling and architecture of the Srinagar, which is christened by the author as 'respected city' does not whisper any endangered situation. A long passage suitable to be commented as found on Georgic Philosophy of dwelling is expressed. The Georgian philosophy explains that "They lived in harmony with nature and with the divine scheme of things..," (http://classics.mit.edu/virgil/georgics.html.)

So also Amish Tripathi in designing or reconstructing 1900 BC Meluhan Empire's respected city delineates that how they live in harmony with nature and with divine scheme of things. The expression used here may belong to what Neal Evernden in his '*The Nature Alien'* would define as 'Shallow Romanticism'. It suggests false consciousness and nostalgia for a lost pastoral age. The city Srinagar is on the banks of mighty Jhelum River and on the western side of Dal Lake. It is important to quote the way the author Tripathi builds the dwelling of *Meluha* and the design of then dwelling so aesthetically .The city is well thought for the protection of their subjects and the author says that it had everything that would be required for 'sophisticated urban living':

Srinagar had been raised upon a massive platform of almost a hundred hectares in size. The platform built of earth, towered almost five meters high. On top of the platform was the city walls which were another twenty meters high and four meters thick. The simplicity and brilliance of building an entire city on a platform astounded Gunas. (IM 10-11)

Gunas were amazed at the view of architecture as they lived in a place where nature was a fort and protector. They were yet to be polluted by the political authority, for their leader to whom they were obliged for protecting them was living as one among them. But the design of the Kashmir showed how far the Indus - Saraswathi civilization different from their noble savage life was. The sublimity of the noble savage was different from the agrarian and architectural sublimity of the Meluhans. Amish Tripathi, before going into political ideology of Meluhans, he pictures the landmarks of the city in the following passage which celebrates the beautiful present:

Inside the fort walls, the city was divided into blocks by roads laid out in a neat grid pattern. It had specially constructed market areas, temples, gardens, meeting halls and everything else that would be required for sophisticated urban living. All the houses looked like simple multi storage block structures from the outside. The only way to differentiate a rich man's house from that of a poor man's was his block would be bigger. (IM 11)

This kind of classical pastoral sublimity of urbanization with paradise tonality in the closely mapped familiar world is idyllic. Nature is used here as a reflection of human predicament rather than sustaining an interest in nature and for itself. Though the author continues in the same way to explain the "extravagant natural landscape" (IM 11), he says they have painted in restrained colors like "grays, blues and white" (IM 11). The Meluhans were romantic in nature because 'the entire city was a picture of cleanliness order and sobriety'   (IM 11). The obsession with cleanliness, order and sobriety is seen as aesthetic quality of the Meluhans. While Shiva is taken to the immigration camp, he sees the strange things on the road though: "Nandi, what are those differently colored stones running through the center of the road? asked Shiva "they cover the underground drain, Shiva. The drain takes out all the waste water of the camp. In ensures that the camp remains clean and hygienic" (IM 13). The noble savage tribe Gunas is amazed at the meticulous sublimity of cleanliness of the Meluha tribe. The Gunas being the on lookers of this environmental inflection do not understand the political ideology or the standards of labor but thanked Shiva, "for the umpteenth time, they thanked the wisdom of their leader in deciding to come to Meluha" (IM 13-14).

The most ironic of the eco critical aspect of the 'romantic ecology' of this novel are the titles of the chapters chosen to express by the author. For example, he calls the second chapter as "Land of Pure Life" (IM 25). Here he introduces the Meluha capital Devagiri, "The Abode of God's" (IM 55). Amish Tripathi's subtle comments on the comforts of Shiva, on the spatial distinction of urban and rural is explicit as Shiva is uncomfortable because of the new life, as he was tossing and turning on his bed constantly, he threw his bed sheet on the floor and lay down, he feels

This was a little better. Sleep was stealthily creeping in on him. But not as strongly as at home. He missed the rough cold floor of his own hut. He missed the shrill winds of Mount Kailash, which broke through the most determined efforts to ignore them. He missed the comforting stench of his tiger skin. No doubt his current surroundings were excessively comfortable, but they were unfamiliar and alien. (IM 17)

Amish chooses to express the feelings of the noble savage as 'unfamiliar and alien'. Shiva's feeling of the environment around him seems to be alien. Richard Kerridge's comments in a broad cultural eco criticism book, *Writing the Environment*: "The ecocritic wants to track environmental ideas and representation whenever they appear to see more cleanly a debate which seems to be taking place, often part concealed, in great cultural spaces" (Kerridge, 5).

Amish Tripathi can be called as eco critic for he offers a truly transformative discourse since the debate on romantic aesthetic beauty of nature as expressed is threatened being embedded in various cultural space of Indus - Saraswathi civilization. Greg Garrard also points out that "The challenge for eco critics is to keep one eye on the ways in which 'nature ' is always in some ways culturally constructed, and the fact that nature really exists, both the object and albeit distantly, the origin of the discourse."(IM 10). Tripathi's discourse, *Shiva Trilogy* when rendered a rhetoric analyses with reference to the tribes and cultures embedded offers more room for both culture and science inflecting the aesthetic and romantic beauty of the nature of 1900 BC India. Especially when Shiva falls for the beauty of "... the land of abundance, of almost ethereal perfection…." (IM 35). The land is called as Punjab which literally meant the land of the rivers. The sublime beauty of the five rivers is described in abundance.

The land of the Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi and Beas. The four eastern rivers aspired to grasp the grand Indus, which flowed farthest to the west. They succeeded spectacularly, after convoluted journeys through the rich plains of Punjab. The Indus itself found comfort and succor in the enormous, all embracing ocean. The mystery of the ocean's final destination though was yet to be unraveled. (IM 34)

The abundance of water flowing to grasp the grand Indus and they are succored into the ocean which is enormous with no finite finish line. The beauty is expressed with words so sublime, picturesque and beautiful. Amish Tripathi concentrating on such images of natural abundance of beauty emphasizes that romantic ecological expression are part of endangered situations of shadow romanticism though that makes Shiva call it "... Paradise right here on earth" (IM 35).

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A Study of Women Characters in Vijay Tendulkar's Select Plays

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[*The Image and the role of the women have been observed through the centuries and studied in various ways, and the acquired knowledge has been recorded in literature, works of art, religious texts, mythology and codes of social behavior. Indian drama is one of the most prolific and conspicuous generic sites of struggle and contestation, Indian drama has become more trenchant and successfully interrogated the man-made boundaries of nation, culture, gender, sexuality and course of language. Vijay Tendulkar has powerfully articulated the socio-political situations in his plays, He has expressed as*.]

The position of women has greatly improved after Independence. The constitution of India states that no citizen shall, on the ground of sex, be ineligible for any employment or office under the state.

One of the most striking contrasts in modern Indian history is the one between the position of the upper caste Indian women in the mid-nineteenth century-subservient, uneducated, secluded – and their position in the mid-nineteenth century-articulate, educated and active in professions and public life (Everett 1)

Although this observation is only partially true, some changes can be seen in the lives of the middle class women of Indian society. This change is reflected in the Indian drama of the fifties and sixties. Many plays depict women who are trying to come out of the margins and to occupy subject positions. A more realistic picture of the Indian woman began to emerge from the Indian drama in English too. An exegesis of the culled plays of selected dramatists of the Post-Independence period reveals the changes in the portrayal of the Indian Women.

Most of Vijay Tendulkar's plays deal with the themes related to love, sex and violence. They have become rather noticeable in some glaring light ever since

Silence! The Court is in Session, Kamala, The Vultures and *Encounter in Unbugland*

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These plays are a ruthless dissection of human nature as it depicts violence, avarice, selfishness, sensuality and sheer wickedness inherent in man's life.

In Arundhati Banerjee's view

The beating up of the father by his own sons, the two brother's forcible abortion of their sister's child, the mutual hatred among the member of family underline the fundamental evil inherent in human nature (32)

New Women

In *Encounter in Unbugland*, the character of Vijaya is portrayed with utmost care. She symbolizes the concept of a 'New Woman'. She is a rebellious and an assertive woman, who is capable of controlling not only her fate but also the nation's destiny. She changes from a self-willed and politically inexperienced woman to an intelligent and victorious rules. Her refusal to accept the authority of the rules in the beginning of the play and her relationship with prannarayan reveal her potential as a woman.

Vijaya has to face the encounters like the one between the ministers and the Kadamba Tribe and between Vijaya and her ministers. Under the guidance of prannarayan, Vijaya succeeds everything. Gradually, she learns and absorbs everything in administering her country. In her transformation from a princess to a ruler, she learns that hypocrisy leads her towards success and achievement, particularly a politician. Shailaja B. Wadikar in Vijay Tendulkar: A Pioneer Playwright writes:

"In the political crisis Vijaya succeeds against her rivals as she takes the situation under her control, brings the crisis to an end, and imposes her own wish on her subjects instead of allowing herself to be dictated by others. She is rational, guided by reason and has the capacity to turn the tables on her rivals (50)

Old dominant power has a control as Women

In *Silence! The Court is in Session,* Vijay Tendulkar has depicted the difficulty of a young woman, who is a victim of the male dominated society. He has criticized the follies prevailing in the society. The play carries all the vitalities of contemporary life. It focuses on the human mind and detects the ugliness

in it. All the plays of Vijay Tendulkar are the result of his own life. He has noted in an interview that:

I personally don't bother about people who haven't seen life. They close their eyes at the sight of suffering as if it doesn't exist. The fact is that life is dark and cruel, it's just that you don't care for the truth. You don't want to see it because it might make you uncomfortable. If escapism is your way of living, then you will fail to see the truth. I have not written about hypothetical pain or created an imaginary world of sorrow. I am from a middle class family and I have seen the brutal ways of life by keeping my eyes open. My work has come from within…… an outcome of my observation of the world in which I live. If they want to entertain and make many, fine go ahead, but I can't do it, I have to speak the truth.

In *Kamala,* Saritha comes to discover her real position at the end. Kamala's words force her to think about her own status. Kamala, too, is in a world of illusion, thinking that she will be a mistress in the house of Jaisingh Jadhar. But reality comes to her in a cruel form. Jaisingh treats women as mere stepping stones in his achievements.

Kamala is presented at the press conference without her knowledge. Saritha hates her husband's deeds. She is showed at his selfishness. But Jaisingh justifies himself under cover of social purpose. For him, Kamala is just an evidence. Her further life is of no concern to him. There is no difference of pains between Saritha and Kamala but in different contexts only. Though his father, Kakasaheb warned him, he doesn't bother about it. And finally his aim is shattered.

In *The Vultures* illusion and reality collapse. Again, the result is violence. When their expectations fail to materialize, they become violent towards one another. It related to the character of Manik, Ramakant, and Umakant. This play highlights the violence that translates itself into cruelty. Drunkenness and Immortality and the root causes of the Violence in *The Vultures*. It throws light in the impairment of human relations caused by lovelessness within a family. There is no healthy relationship, whether it is father – children or husband – wife or brother – sister. They behave like monsters. Revenge motif ruins

through the play. The pitales believe that money is the only solution to their problems. In an interview, refened to by Arundhati Banerjee, Vijay Tedulkar says:

Gidhade (The Vultures) was born out of personal crisis in his life. He wrote it just in four days. He himself was shocked that he could give expressions to so much violence. It was a kind of cathartic process. Soon after writing Gidhade, he commented that he did not think that he could write such a play, wrought (sic. Fraught) with sex, and violence, again. But he did. Just sixteen months later, he wrote Sakharam Binder. It evoked more resistance from the censor board than Gidhade had"

Women are portrayed as helpless victims, whereas men are portrayed as embodiments of hypocrisy, selfishness, and treachery. They preach the sanctity of motherhood, but show absolutely no compunction in asking Benares to destroy the foefus in her comb in *Silence! The Court is in Session.*

Woman is an instrument

Tendulkar creates characters and situations in *Kamala* to show the trouble standards prevalent in social institutions. There is also a study in contrast, the first is between *Kamala* and *Saritha*, and he second between Jaising and Saritha's uncle, an old-style newspaper owner – editor. But in the case of Manik, she is pregnant out of wedlock. While Manik is one of the Vultures, Rana is a foe. However, both Manik and Rana become victims at the hands of the male chauvinists. Both the brothers, Ramakant and Umakant, ruthlessly break Manik's leg in a plot to blackmail her wealth lover the Raja of Hondur. When the Raja of the Hondur dies before he can be blackmailed, they kick her unborn child out in a savage range. Rama, who finally becomes pregnant, is aborted by the vindictive Manik.Most of his plays revolve around women characters, Kamala, Rama, Miss. Benare and Vijaya are suppressed by the dominant males, Tendulkar conveys in his plays that women are oppressed by men.Vijay Tendulkar is indeed a Keen-Sighted observer, and unspring critic of contemporary middle clean society of India. His plays are, therefore, a critique of present day Indian urban mitien, educated but hypocritical.His characters are happy to be in the world of Illusion. When the

expectations of the characters fail the result is violence. Saritha and Kamala of *Kamala,* and Rama of *The Vultures* Vijaya of *Encounter in Unbugland*, are all victims of the violence that their male counterparts inflict on them, despite their being educated and Good-natured women.

Conclusion

Tendulkar raises several questions about love, sex, marriage, and moral values prevalent in the society. And, women are points of reference. He makes use of irony satire, pathos and even humor to highlights the hollowness of middle class, male-lustered ethics. The characters of Vijay Tendulkar, whatever their roles be, as the ultimate victims of the violence perpetrated by the male chauvinists' world. Vijay Tendulkar's plays present the life of women in all its ugliness and complexities bordering a Socio-Political issue, Psychological maladjustments and sexual abuses. The tragedy of a modern women, exile in power and sexual politics, greed for money and fame, man-woman relationship, and psychological depressions on the psyche of a woman become major thematic concerns of Vijay Tendulkar's plays.

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Impact on Secular Learning - Educational Progress in Vijayapura Region – With Special Reference to Adil Shahi Rule

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[*This paper focuses on the educational progress and important educational centres around Vijayapura region during Adil Shahi sultanate rule, and examines the influence of educational progression on the secular learning. Vijayapura region has affluent cultural, educational and historical heritage showcased through wide range of educational centres across Vijayapura region. Local literary sources abundantly speak about various stages of educational progression of the region. Key significance attached to education was evidenced through the vibrant local literary effloresce. The present day Vijayapura reflects a cultural conglomeration of Marathi, Urdu, Hindi, Kannada languages. The expansion of trade routes, the urban centres, commercial activity also directly influenced the education pattern of the region.*]

Current Vijayapura region has affluent cultural, educational and historical heritage showcased through inscriptions and local literary sources. Since, Vedic times Gurukula system of education was a common form of education in India. In Ancient India, Gurukula System of education was a predominant method of schooling. This continued in early medieval times as well. But in Medieval times, temples occupied an important seat as centres of learning. Inscription evidences- Several Inscriptions refer to system of education, subjects taught, subjects experts, student boarding facilities etc. According to Sanskrit inscription of Krishna II among schools attached to temples in Vijayapura the Tripurusha temple of Salotagi in present Indi taluk of Vijayapura region was most ancient and it was a very popular educational centre too. The inscription gives details of Narayana panditha who was a Sandhi Vigrahi (a prime minister). He started a school here after consecrating the idol of trimurthis There were 27 rooms for students. These students came from various other parts of India two hundred Nivartanas of land for lighting facilities 500 Nivartanas for the school and fifty Nivartanas for land for the teachers One Nivartanas was equal to five acres Scholars opine that this was one of the biggest Vedic schools.

Important educational institutions of the Viajayapura region- Inscriptions say that;

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1. Devuru, 2) Hebbala, 3) Hipparagi, 4) Kadlevada, 5) Kule Kumatagi, 6) Mudebikala, 7) Muttagi, 8) Rugi, 9) Sindagi, 10) Tumbagi, 11) Vijayapura

The following are the important temple schools of the Vijayapura region.

1. Shivalinga Devara Devasthana Temple in Vijayapura

2. Saraswathi Temple Of Hebbala

3. Marasingeshwara Temple Of Devuru in Sindagi Taluk

4. Chandeeshwara Devara Mutt of Kule Kumatagi

5. Kali Devasthana Temple In Hipparagi

6. Nageshwara Temple in Rugi in Indi taluk

7. Siddeshwara Temple in Vijayapura

8. Tripurusha Temple At Tumbagi Of Mudebikala

9. Muttagi of Viajayapura Kadlevada and rugi Mutt

10. Kondaguli school in Sinadgi taluk

11. Chandranata school of Konnuru in Beelagi taluk

12. Kibbareshwara temple of Hegguru

13. Swayambhu Somanatha temple of Kadelvada

Establishment of Choultries (Feeding Houses) for Students- The Vijayapura region has several inscriptions which give information about establishment of feeding houses for the support of students who come to study from various distant places. The kings of the region donated abundantly for the establishment of feeding houses for students. The Inscriptions of the region also give information about tradition of donating land to temples. While donating land for educational purposes, some portions was set separate for management of Choultries.

Important Choultries of Vijayapura Region- According to inscriptions of this region following are some of the important Choultries.

1. Hire Bevinura,
2. Kule Kumatagi,
3. Alamela,
4. Salotagi,
5. Tumbagi
6. Arasibeedi in Hunugunda taluk,
7. Banashankari in Badami taluk
8. Koppa in Beelagi taluk,
9. Ingaleshwara in Bagewadi taluk,
10. Yaravala

There were some other villages also which had feeding Choultries. These centres served students who came from various parts of the Deccan region. Sometimes they were also known as Vidya Chathra. The Noble class and the royal family members donated for the running of these feeding houses. Ministers, Army Generals, Princes, and such other nobility class donated for the management of the feeding houses.

Information about Subjects taught- Several inscriptions of the Vijayapura region also give information about subjects taught. Purana, Vedantha, Mimamse, Nyaya, Darshan, Vyakarana and linguistics was taught by great academicians and subject experts. It is known from local inscription that at the Diwakareshwara temple of Malaghana, purana, bala shiskhe and discourse on Nyasa were imparted. Astrology was one of the important subjects taught in ancient and medieval Karnataka. But this was for higher educational students. The learning of metallurgy, Astronomy, Astrology, Jurisprudence, Logic, Philosophy, continued to gain significance.

Significance of Balashikshana/Primary Education - Bala shikshana meant primary education. The children ranging from age group 5-7 were taught in these primary education centres. They were taught grammar alphabets, simple word construction etc as a part of Bala Shikshana. Boys were given education after Upanayana, this was a ceremony for boys. According to an inscription from Vijayapura region, Kalyani Chalukya king, Sathyashraya Deva donated Muttagi village in Bagewadi taluk to Vidyanidhi Vishubhatta who was the teacher to his son Vikramanka deva, considering his scholastic achievements.

Centres of Higher Education

A Student who sought higher education was called as Chathra meaning pupil. The inscriptions of Muttagi in Bagewadi taluk say that donations were given to schools in Rugi in Indi taluk. Devura and Alamela in Sindagi taluk for the Boarding, Lodging and medical facilities of these students. These places were centres of Higher education. Kalakeri Inscription gives information about the splitting up of land donation for teachers teaching different subjects. Hence, teachers teaching different subjects were individually given part of the land donation.

Donations to Khandikaras – The inscriptions from Vijayapura region mention about land donations to Purana Reciters, who was recited Purana everyday temples. This was called Khandika pathana. The Ingaleshwara and Salotagi inscriptions inform about liberal donations made to scholars called as Khandikaras who recited Purana. An inscription of Huvina Hipparagi provides information about that donation to Hipparagi village to Goveyabhatta, an erudite scholar by Rastrakuta king, Nripatunga. This inscription refers to several other scholars of the region as well. Nalatavada inscription mentions about the donation of four Mathras of lands to Govinda jois who was a renowned scholar of the region considering his scholastic achievements in astrology.

Jain education centers

Ingaleshwara temple in Bagewadi taluk was an important Jain education centre during the From Badami Chalukyan period. Aihole was an important centre and Jain sculptors have education here. A Jain mutt at Jamakhandi was important Jain educational centre. The Somanatha Jinalaya of Teredala was an important education centre. Mudhol Jain mutt, Badami Jain mutt and Pattadakallu Digambara Jain mutt were also centres of education for Jain students.

Muslim education

Muslim rulers gave us much importance to education as to their religion. Education was out of reach for common people. Munshi and Moulvis imparted education in Madrasas housed in Mosques. Village schools were run with the help of donations from local rich persons. Higher education institutions were run with the support of donations from Royal people.

During the Bahamani rule, Khankhas of Shaik Sirajuddin Junedi and Khwaja Bande Nawaz were the learning centres of religion and philosophy.

The rule of king Mohammad Adil Shah was an important period for the development of education in the Vijayapura region. The king emphasised on the importance of educational centres and established Madrasas and free Muslim educational Institutions for the spread of high quality education. The king appointed proficient teachers to teach Arabic and Persian languages in Madrasas (Islamic religious schools). The king even appointed award winning teachers in his royal court to support and guide him in administration. The king established one Arabic school at Vijayapura and one Persian school at Jumma Masjid. One hun (gold coin) was kept aside for maintenance of educational expenditure. Those who passed in the annual examination were given away rewards by the king himself. Educated people were honoured with key positions in the royal court.

Sufi Education Centers

Shahapura in western part of Vijayapura was a Sufi education centre and has its influence among non-Muslim local population. It was called as Khwaja Aniuddin Dargah. It is known from contemporary literary evidences that there were more than 5000 students studying in this Dargah. Syed Ali Mohammad was a prominent Sufi teacher and Shahabuddin Alvi (1674) Mohamamd Mudaris (1674) and Khaji Ibrahim Junaidi (1683) were some of his students. Hazarath Shaik Ilamulla came to Vijayapura from Burana on invitation from King Adil Shah II and he established a school at Abutarab Mohalla near Jumma Masjid and delivered religious and secular education. Moghul emperor Aurangzeb recognized his scholarship and invited him to his court in Delhi. Another famous teacher who was invited to Vijayapura was Syed Asadulla Gujarathi also established a school near Jumma Masjid. His son Syed Ali Mohammad was also a famous teacher and has the title Ustad–e-Shahar-eApuliya. He was one of the prominent Sufi teachers and both Muslims and non- muslins were attracted by his lectures.

Impact on Education

1. After the disintegration of the famous Vijayanagara Empire, Medieval Karnataka underwent a transition in socio- cultural arena. The influence of Maratha soldiers through repeated incursions was felt on the language and literature. The expansion of trade routes, the urban centres, commercial activity also directly influenced the education system of the region.

2. Marathi language became a popular subjects and medium of instruction. Local educational institutions also taught Marathi as a main language.

3. After the fall of the Peshwa rule Bijapura, Dharwada Belgaum and North Canara regions came under the British direct rule. A board of education was set up in 1840, Schools and colleges were established soon after.

Conclusion

Thus, educational progression was steady and balanced and Kings of the region supported the educational institutions with donations and land grants. All rulers of this region were equally caring about supporting educational institutions. Secular learning was promoted and subjects with varied secular aspects were taught. This had a great influence on literary accomplishments.

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An initiative of KKHSOU for Ensuring Quality of School Education

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[*The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is set to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030. One of the major goals of SDGs is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education to all. In case of school education, teacher is one of the most important aspects for ensuring quality of education. On the other hand, in the present context, quality of teacher is determined by the kind of professional training provided to them. In view of the above, ODL is one alternative through which teachers can undergone training for their professional development. This paper is aimed to study the impact of D.El.Ed. Programme on quality of school education which was given by KKHSOU to around sixty thousand elementary school teachers of Assam in ODL mode. Survey method is used for the study. From the study, it was revealed that the D.El.Ed. training offered by KKHSOU greatly helped the teachers in imparting their duty efficiently and effectively. Almost majority of the teachers opined that knowledge and skills acquired through this training have been immensely helped them to perform their duty smoothly in schools. In case of overall quality of school education, 90% of sample teachers believed that quality of school education has been enhanced due to this teacher training programme offered by the University.]*

The studies in the field of education are based on proper methods and techniques for effective teaching. Due to the recent developments taking place in the school sector in India, the demand for more numbers of well qualified and professionally trained teachers has also been increasing exponentially. With the launch of Rastriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan (RMSA) which aims to offer meaningful quality secondary education to the children in the age group of 14-18 years by 2017 and achieve universal retention by 2020, an increasing demand for professionally trained teachers at the secondary level has become very evident. But there found to be a shortage of qualified and professionally trained teachers at all levels right from pre-primary to secondary levels in our country.

In view of the above, ODL is one alternative through which teachers can undergone training for their professional development. The present study aimed to focus the impact of D.El.Ed. Programme on quality of school education which was given by KKHSOU to around sixty thousand elementary school teachers of Assam in ODL mode.

Background of the Study

The Department of Teacher Education, KKHSOU was established in the year 2011. The department had been successfully conducted the two-year Diploma in Elementary Education (D. El. Ed.) Programme on 58,576 elementary school teachers of Assam in project mode in 2019.

Need and Significance of the Study

Pre-primary stage of education serves as the foundation of whole education system. But the training of the pre-school teachers has not been given due importance in our state. It has been found that around 95% school teachers in rural India are unfamiliar with ICT-based education, urban spaces are no better (SSA, 2018). So, an extensive training of teachers in using ICT in schools will not only make them familiar with it but also make them able to integrate ICT into teaching-learning and evaluation process.

As such, an effort is being made by the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University to intervene in the most important aspect of quality improvement, i.e. teacher training at various levels and in various aspects as per requirement by introducing specific diploma and certificate programmes for professional development and capacity building of the teachers. The main target group of the programmes is the in-service teachers. KKHSOU, being an open university, is in the best position to provide training to the in-service teachers through open and distance mode without hampering their regular service. The relevance of all the programmes that are proposed has been well-studied.

Objective of the Study

The main objective of the study was to identify *the quality and effectiveness of the D.El.Ed Programme* provided to the in-service deputed teachers under Assam Government, SSA and BTC.

Methodology of the Study

The researchers here adopted descriptive survey method to conduct the entire study. A Self-developed questionnaire were used to collect data from the deputed

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teachers to find out the effectiveness of the D.El.Ed programme provided by the learners. The questions were developed on the basis of three stage of training-pre-course, during the course and post course.

Population and Sample of the Study

The population of the study comprises of all the deputed teachers under SSA, Assam government and BTC from year 2012- 2017. The total number of teachers enrolled were 58,557. Out of which 2994 were deputed under BTC. For the present study 15% of the total sample were taken into consideration, i.e, out of 58,557, 8784(15%) were taken as a sample.

Findings and Analysis of the Study

To crisscross the quality of the D.El.Ed program provided by KKHSOU, the researcher adopted some standardized indicators provided by INSET, NCERT to highlight whether the program fulfills the following characteristics or not. These characteristics were provided to the teachers to make their comments against those statements. Their remarks were analyzed with a three point Likert scale from 0-2 by stating 'No', 'somewhat' and 'Yes'. The characteristics are as follows:

N= 8784

|	Indicators	No	Somewhat	Yes
Pre-Course	A systematic structure in planning was undertaken involving teachers.	1109 (12.62%)	1236 (14.07%)	6439 (73.30%)
	The program was designed as a long-term course on going course.	1196 (13.61%)	5462 (62.18%)	2126 (24.20%)
	The program content were planned according to teachers' needs	937 (10.66%)	635 (7.22%)	7212 (82.10%)
	A bottom-up structure was taken (views from experts, panelist, basically teachers who are stakeholders while designing the course)	1271 (14.46%)	535 (6.09%)	6978 (79.43%)
During the Course	Materials and resources were adequate	607 (6.91%)	653 (7.433%)	7524 (85.65%)
	Physical atmosphere was suitable.	3219 (36.64%)	1672 (19.03%)	3893 (44.31%)
	Teachers were given opportunities to reflect on their experiences	1462 (16.64%)	526 (5.98%)	6796 (77.36%)
	Teachers' experiences and contexts were taken into consideration	1047 (11.91%)	2413 (27.47%)	5324 (60.61%)
	Teachers were actively involved in the teaching/ learning process	4096 (46.63%)	1152 (13.11%)	3536 (40.25%)
	Teachers were given opportunities to practice what they learned	786 (8.94%)	1374 (15.64%)	6624 (75.40%)
	Feedback was provided to teachers on their practice/application	852 (9.69%)	0	7932 (90.30%)
	A variety of methods/tasks was used in the course	786 (8.94%)	1215 (13.83%)	6783 (77.21%)
	Teachers collaborated with their peers	1296 (14.75%)	1736 (19.76%)	5752 (65.48%)
	The specific techniques and lessons were modeled by the trainers.	2003 (22.80%)	2533 (28.83%)	4248 (48.36%)
	Teachers' ideas were valued and they were treated as experts.	3856 (43.89%)	1634 (18.60%)	3294 (37.5%)
Post Course	The Course was evaluated afterwards to improve the program	1248 (14.20%)	2574 (29.30%)	4962 (56.48%)
	A school based follow-up support was provided to teachers.	2693 (30.65%)	2877 (82.75%)	3214 (36.58%)

Analysis of the Study
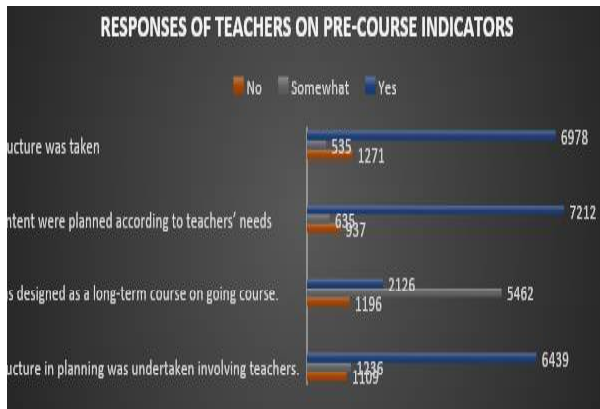
FIG 1: Graphical Representation of Reponses of Teachers on Pre-Course Indicators

From the above data collected on responses of pre-course indicators, it can be analyzed that around 73.30% of teachers reacted positively and stated that the entire D.El.Ed Course is designed very systematically involving teachers. Besides 62.18% of teachers are of the opinion that they were somewhat sure that the program was designed as a long term course. 82.10% of teachers are of the view that the program or course content were designed according to teacher's needs. Moreover 79.43% were also positively stated that the entire course was designed taking the views of the stakeholders mostly the teachers who were to undergo the entire course as an in-service training for their career advancement.
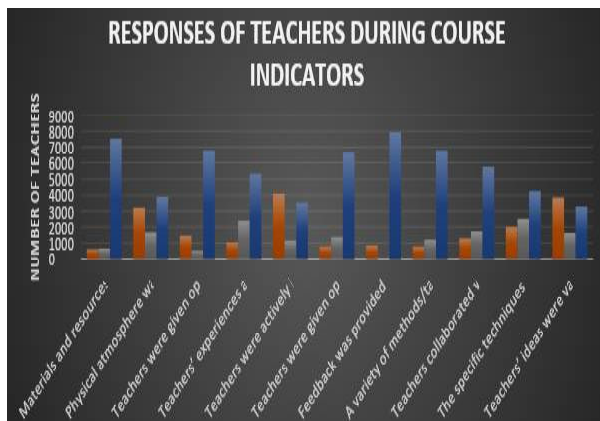

FIG 2: Graphical Representation of Reponses of Teachers on During the Course Indicators

From the diagrammatic representation on during the course indicators or statements it can be analyzed that 85.65% of teachers were of the view that materials and resources were adequate which were provided during the course. But 36.64% of teachers also stated that physical atmosphere was not suitable for them during the course. This was because of some lack of infrastructural facilities in their respective study centers during the course. 77.36% of teachers were of the view that they were given opportunities to reflect on their experiences during the course which is very positive for the developer of the course. Again 60.61% of the teachers stated that their experiences and context were taken into consideration during the entire course. But again 46.63% teachers were of the view they were no actively involved in the teaching-learning process. After proper analysis it has been found that many study centers focused on delivering the course they were not interested in teachers' active involvement during the course. Again this the failure on the part of some study centers which should be monitored by the University at large. 75.40% again opined that course was designed in such a way that they got opportunities to practice what they learned. The most important part of the study was to collect teachers view regarding feedback. In this regard we can see that 90.30% of teachers were of the view that feedback was provided to them on their practice/application. It itself ensure the quality of the course. Besides, 77.21% of teachers opined that a variety of methods/tasks was used in the course. Again 65.48% of teachers were of the view during the course they came in contact with different teachers pursuing the same course so they have collaboration with their peers. Moreover, teachers also opined that 48.36% the course was developed in such a way that through this course specific techniques and lessons were modeled by the trainers. There is also some dissatisfaction among the teachers where 43.89% of teachers viewed that their ideas were not valued and they were not treated as experts rather they were treated as general students pursuing a particular course.
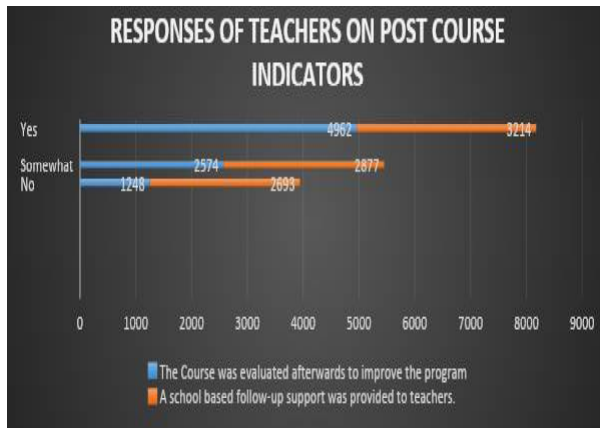
FIG 3: Graphical Representation of Reponses of Teachers on Post-Course Indicators

The above figure provides the responses of teachers on post course indicators. From the statements it can be seen that 56.48% of teachers stated that the course was evaluated afterwards to improve the program. But 82.75% of teachers stated that a after the course a school based follow-up support was not fully provided to teachers which hampers in successfully implementation of their knowledge which they gained during the course.

Conclusion

We can see from the entire analysis that D.El.Ed program which was offered by KKHSOU as in-service teacher training program was implemented and conducted very effectively for the development of teachers of working under Assam Government. But all programs have both merits and demerits. Though teachers were very satisfied with the development of the course content and deliberation of the course with all hands on tasks during the course there are some lacunas which should be removed if further such program will be implemented by any institution for training of teachers. As KKHSOU had taken the initiative for taking opinions of stakeholders, any institution before developing any course should take the views of the stake holders. It helps in the ensuring quality of any program. The program aims at bringing out desirable changes in all three domains viz., cognitive, affective and psychomotor domains of all teacher trainees personality. Hence, providing appropriate learning experiences is necessary to monitor the program. Though majority of the teacher trainees were provided with appropriate learning experiences but due to lack of proper monitoring 36.64% of teachers were deprived of full learning experiences. In the context of Universalization of Elementary Education by 2010 and Universalization of Secondary Education by 2020 and the recent constitutional amendment to make education a fundamental right, it is the need of the hour to focus on improving the teacher education system. This study helped to focus on the initiative taken by KKHSOU through D.El.Ed program to improve the quality of teacher education in Assam. Hence, we can conclude with the remarks that KKHSOU contributed to a large extent by providing quality in-service teacher training course to produce quality teachers which lead to quality school education in Assam.

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An Overview of India's Energy Scenario: Trend Analysis

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nergy is considered as a foundation stone of economic growth and human development of a country. Since the beginning of human civilization, people started to use energy in their day-to-day life. The prehistoric human used fire as a source of energy for domestic cooking. A few millennia later, people started to use energy from various sources for domestic cooking, lighting, heating during winter, air-conditioning during summer, agriculture, industry, communication, transportation and other activities. In 20th and 21st century, human beings started to use energy for various domestic purposes including cooking, space/water heating, lighting, entertainment, operation of electrical appliances for various purposes, running automobiles, food production and storage, education, health computers, transportation, communication & information technology, mineral extraction, agriculture, and industrial production and transportation. In the present century, it is very difficult to maintain a balanced human life without the use of energy. Economic growth and development depend on energy demand and per-capita energy consumption, availability of environment friendly and cost-effective sources of energy. Evidence shows that energy consumption pattern and economic development are strongly correlated to each other. On the one hand, energy demand determines the level of economic development and on the other hand economic growth and development depends on the availability of cost-effective as well as environment friendly energy sources (Sahu, 2008). India's energy consumption pattern has been changing due to rapid population growth, urbanization, industrialisation and economic development. India's energy scenario has been changing from time to time. Till the end of the 1980s, India's energy scenario was based on availability of traditional energy resources. Coal was the largest source of energy. In the early 1980s, India set up Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) which was the first ministry of non-conventional energy resources in the world. It was found that between 1981 and 2001, primary energy demand in India grew at the rate of six per cent (Planning Commission, 2002). In 2003, the share of India's commercial energy demand to the world was only 3.5%.Although, demand for energy is increasing day by day, the per capita energy consumption of India is very low as compared to other developed countries of the

world. India's per capita energy consumption is 0.6 tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) as compared to 1.8 toe of the global per capita energy consumption. (Economic Survey, Govt. of India, 2018-19).India sustains18 per cent of world's population, but the use of primary energy in India is only 6 per cent of the world's primary energy.

In recent years, India has seen extraordinary successes in energy sector, but many challenges still remain. Well-balanced analysis of the energy scenario of a country is very important for understanding the proper economic development of the country.

Literature Review

Sahu (2008) analysed the nature, trend and pattern of energy consumption in Indian economy from 1980 to 2005, relationship between total energy consumption, GDP, population, production of energy resources and per capita energy consumption. In India, the commercial energy consumption is highly dependent on fossil fuels. There is a large gap between demand and supply for energy in the country. The energy scenario is not satisfactory. A large portion of oil consumption i.e. 79 percent is met through import. 93.16 percent of North eastern region's hydro--electric potential is yet to be utilised and developed due to geological characteristics, environmental factor and difficulties in land acquisition. Although there are potential of various energy sources, biomass contains one-third of energy demand in India. India is not an energy secured country. For balancing between requirement and proper utilisation of potential energy resources, India must overcome the financial resource crunch and constraints of technology (Panda, 2011).Various renewable energy sources are available in India for electric power generation to meet the demand of Indian needs. For achieving sustainable development utilization as well as development of renewable energy sources is the urgent need of hour for India (Reddy et al. 2013). India's energy sector affects the growth of economy of India. Regarding electricity, India is the 6th largest energy consumer (3.4 percent) of global energy consumption. It has 5th largest electricity generating capacity. Although the production and consumption of commercial fuels has increased, most of the rural people still depend on non-commercial energy sources. This paper focus on mismatch between electricity demand and supply in India and suggested a massive renovation and modernization program to improve the performance of existing old power plants need to be launched (Kumar et al. 2014).

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Objectives of this paper

The objectives of the present paper are- a) to compare the trend of primary energy consumption, per capita primary energy consumption, primary energy consumption by fuel of India with some other developed countries of the world and b) to analyse the trend of consumption and production of commercial energy resources in India.

Methodology

This paper is an analytical paper. Analysis is done on the basis of secondary data. Secondary data are collected from different Reports such as BP Statistical Review of World Energy (2021); Energy Statistics, Government of India (2020, 2021); Economic Survey, Govt. of India (2018-19) and India Energy Outlook (2021) etc.

Analysis of Data

Objecivewise analysis is done in the following way:-

Primary energy consumption of India and some other developed countries of the world Primary energy consumption implies the use of energy embodied in natural resources that has not been subjected to any human-made conversions or transformations. For example- coal, crude oil, wind, sunlight, vegetation, rivers, etc. can be considered as primary energy. The primary energy consumption of India along with some other developed countries of the world is shown in table1.

Table 1

Primary Energy Consumption of India and some other Developed Countries(Exajoules)

Country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Share in 2020(%)	Growth Rate 2020(%)
Canada	13.14	13.27	13.78	13.81	14.14	14.19	13.26	14.11	14.24	14.44	14.45	13.63	2.4	-5.9
US	89.88	92.91	92.05	89.62	92.04	92.99	92.09	91.96	92.26	95.64	94.90	87.79	15.8	-7.7
India	21.45	22.48	23.80	25.04	26.02	27.79	28.68	29.95	31.14	33.14	33.89	31.98	5.7	-5.9
Brazil	9.95	10.95	11.46	11.67	12.10	12.38	12.20	11.89	12.04	12.12	12.42	12.01	2.2	-3.6
China	97.53	104.29	112.54	117.05	121.38	124.82	126.53	128.63	130.80	137.58	142.03	145.46	26.1	2.1
Australia	5.37	5.33	5.48	5.42	5.49	5.54	5.67	5.70	5.67	5.70	5.88	5.57	1.0	-5.5
UK	8.71	8.92	8.43	8.53	8.48	7.99	8.08	7.99	7.96	7.95	7.73	6.89	1.2	-11.0
Singapore	2.67	2.87	2.99	3.00	3.06	3.15	3.35	3.48	3.59	3.61	3.53	3.42	0.6	-3.4
Total World	481.72	505.38	517.64	524.61	534.32	539.56	544.41	551.74	561.82	576.13	581.51	556.63	100	-4.5

Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2021

The primary energy consumption was 21.45 Exajoules in 2009 and it increases to 33.89 Exajoules in 2019. The primary energy consumption of India shows a decreasing trend (31.98 Exajoules) in 2020. India is the third-largest primary energy consumer of the world after China and USA. In 2020, the global share of India regarding primary energy consumption is 5.7 percent which is less than that of China (26.1percent) and United States (15.8 percent). The global primary energy consumption has been increasing since 2009 to 2020. The global primary energy consumption was 481.72 Exajoules in 2009 which increases to 581.51 Exajoules in 2019.The global primary energy consumption also decreases in 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic which is 556.63 Exajoules. For the first time the global primary energy consumption falls to 4.5 percent since 2009.

The primary energy consumption of India and other countries (Exajoules) is shown in figure 1.
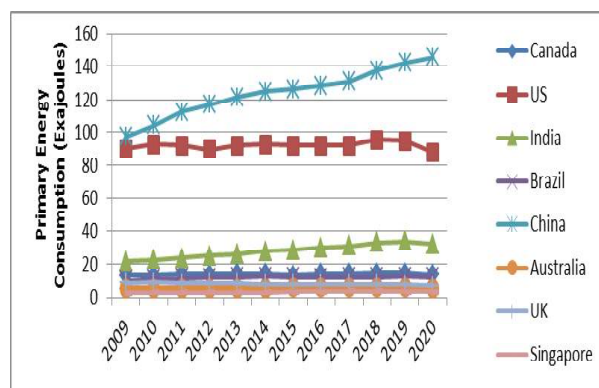

Fig.1. Primary Energy Consumption of India and other Countries (Exajoules)

Per capita primary energy consumption of India and some other developed countries of the world: Per capita primary energy consumption determines the pattern in which people live their lives. The per capita primary energy consumption of India along with some other countries of the world is shown in table 2.

Table 2

Per Capita Primary Energy*Consumption (Gigajoules per capita)

Country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Growth Rate (%) (2020)
Canada	377.4	388.8	398.9	395.5	400.7	398.0	395.9	387.7	387.8	389.4	386.3	361.1	-6.8
US	293.6	300.7	295.4	285.4	290.9	292.8	287.0	284.7	283.8	292.4	288.4	265.2	-8.3
India	17.7	18.2	19.0	19.8	20.3	21.4	21.9	22.6	23.3	24.5	24.8	23.2	-6.8
Brazil	51.5	56.0	58.0	58.5	60.2	61.1	59.7	57.7	57.9	57.8	58.9	56.5	-4.3
China	71.6	76.2	81.8	84.6	87.2	89.2	89.9	91.0	93.5	96.4	99.1	101.1	1.7
Australia	251.8	240.5	243.3	236.5	235.9	234.8	237.0	230.5	228.8	233.2	233.2	218.4	-6.6
UK	138.8	140.5	131.6	132.1	130.5	122.1	122.7	120.5	119.3	118.4	114.4	101.6	-11.5
Singapore	537.9	559.5	567.1	558.3	561.8	570.4	599.5	615.3	628.8	626.3	607.8	583.9	-4.2
Total world	70.2	72.6	73.5	73.6	74.1	73.9	73.8	73.9	74.4	75.5	75.4	71.4	-5.5

Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2021

In 2020, the per capita primary energy consumption of Singapore is (583.9 Gigajoules), followed by Canada (361.1 Gigajoules), United States (265.2 Gigajoules), Australia (218.4 Gigajoules), United Kingdom (101.6 Gigajoules), China (101.1 Gigajoules) and Brazil (56.5 Gigajoules) and India (23.2 Gigajoules).

The per capita primary energy consumption of India and some other developed countries of the world are shown in figure 2.
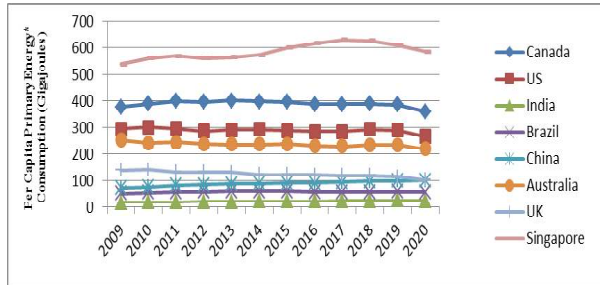

Fig.2. Per capita Primary Energy*Consumption (Gigajoules)

It is clear that India's per capita primary energy consumption the per capita primary energy consumption of India is very less as compared with other developed countries of the world.

Primary Energy: Consumption by Fuel and some other developed countries of the world: The primary energy consumption by fuel of India along with some other countries of the world is shown in table 3.

Table 3

Primary Energy: Consumption by Fuel (Exajoules) in 2020

Country	Oil	Natural Gas	Coal	Nuclear Energy	Hydro-electricity	Renewable	Total
Canada	4.26	4.05	0.50	0.87	3.42	0.54	13.63
US	32.54	29.95	9.20	7.39	2.56	6.15	87.79
India	9.02	2.15	17.54	0.40	1.45	1.43	31.98
Brazil	4.61	1.16	0.58	0.14	3.52	2.01	12.01
China	28.50	11.90	82.27	3.25	11.74	7.79	145.46
Australia	1.83	1.47	1.69	-	0.13	0.45	5.57
UK	2.39	2.61	0.19	0.45	0.06	1.20	6.89
Singapore	2.93	0.45	0.02	-	-	0.01	3.42
Total world	173.73	137.62	151.42	23.98	38.16	31.71	556.63

Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2021

In India, the total primary energy consumption of coal is maximum in 2020 which was 18.60 Exajoules; followed by crude oil (9.02 Exajoules), natural gas (2.15 Exajoules), hydroelectricity (1.45 Exajoules), renewable power (1.43 Exajoules) and nuclear energy (0.40 Exajoules). Coal holds the largest share of the energy mix of India. In 2020, the global share of primary energy consumption by fuel is highest in China which is 145.46 Exajoules.

Trends in Consumption of Commercial Sources of Energy in India: Commercial energy sources are those energy sources that are available in the market with a specific price. The trends in consumption of commercial energy sources (in Petajoules) in India from 2009-2010 to 2018-19 are presented in table 4.

Table 4

Trends in Consumption of Commercial Energy Sources (in Petajoules)

Year	Coal	Lignite	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Electricity	Total (in Petajoules)
2009-10	8894	391	7811	2288	2206	21590
2010-11	8972	428	8248	2471	2500	22620
2011-12	9664	476	8547	2483	2827	23996
2012-13	10794	527	9178	2210	2967	25676
2013-14	11186	499	9316	2017	3147	26166

2014-15	12439	534	9347	1976	3415	27711
2015-16	12660	480	9750	2023	3604	28517
2016-17	12667	491	10273	2145	3820	29397
2017-18	13595	527	10549	2279	4044	30993
2018-19	14650	521	10769	2340	4170	32450
2019-20(P)	14262	481	10651	2471	4649	32514
% Share in total consumption for 2019-20	43.9	1.5	32.8	7.6	14.3	100.0
CAGR 2010-11 to 2019-20 (%)	5.28	1.28	2.88	-0.003	7.14	4.11

Source: Energy Statistics, 2020 & 2021

In 2009-10, the total consumption of commercial energy sources in India was 21590 Petajoules which increases to 32450 Petajoules in 2019-20. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the total consumption of coal, lignite, crude oil shows a decreasing trend in 2019-20 but the total consumption of natural gas and electricity shows an increasing trend in this period. The trends in consumption of commercial energy sources from 2009-2010 to 2019-20 is shown in figure 3.
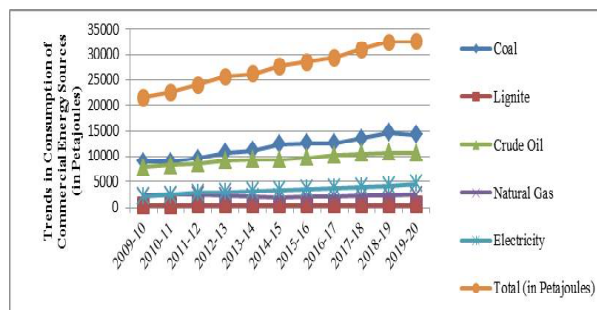
Fig. 3: Trends in Consumption of Commercial Energy Sources (in Petajoules)

From the above figure it is clear that in India, the trend of consumption of commercial energy sources is increasing since 2009-10 to 2019-20(P).

Trend in Production of Commercial Sources of Energy in India from 2010-11 to 2019-20 (P): The trend in production of commercial sources of energy in India from 2010-11 to 2019-20 (P) is shown in table 5.

Table 5

Trend in Production of Commercial Sources of Energy in India

Year	Coal	Lignite	Crude Oil	Natural Gas	Electricity (Hydro, Nuclear and RES)	Total (in Petaj -oules)
2010-11	8,059.66	429.02	1,577.66	2,011.51	647.74	12,725.60
2011-12	8,169.44	481.31	1,594.83	1,832.01	770.49	12,848.08
2012-13	8,418.36	528.17	1,585.20	1,566.99	734.53	12,833.25
2013-14	8,560.02	503.36	1,582.20	1,363.87	844.54	12,854.00

2014-15	9,266.22	548.83	1,568.49	1,296.48	860.07	13,540.09
2015-16	9,671.55	498.48	1,546.75	1,242.24	808.46	13,767.48
2016-17	9,953.54	514.27	1,507.69	1,228.66	870.63	14,074.79
2017-18	10,218.80	530.34	1,494.10	1,257.65	958.71	14,459.61
2018-19	11,025.50	503.50	1,432.09	1,266.28	1,078.07	15,305.45
2019-20(P)	11,058.11	478.71	1,346.93	1,201.22	1,226.08	15,311.05
% Share in total consumption for 2019-20	0.30	-4.92	-5.95	-5.14	13.73	0.04
CAGR 2010-11 to 2019-20(%)	3.58	1.23	-1.74	-5.57	7.35	2.08

Source: Energy Statistics, 2021

In 2010-11, the total production of commercial sources of energy was 12,725.60 Petajoules which increases to 15,311.05 Petajoules in 2019-20. The trend in production of commercial sources of energy is shown in figure 4.
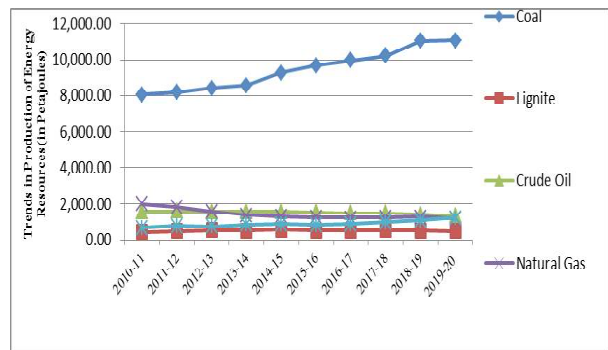

Fig. 4: Trend in production of commercial sources of energy

The trend in production of commercial sources of energy shows both increasing and decreasing trend since 2010-11 to 2019-20.

Conclusion

To conclude, to meet India's growing energy demand, India has to raise its per capita energy consumption. Although, the government of India has been trying to provide secure, clean, modern and affordable energy sources to all citizens of India still India has very low per capita energy consumption as compared with other developed countries of the world. Since energy sector is considered as a key barometer of overall economic performance of a country, the policy maker of India should focus innovative development including massive expansion in renewable energy.

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Assessment of Agricultural Water Demand with Potential Evapotranspiration and Crop Coefficient in Nilwande Left Bank Canal Command Area

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[*The agricultural sector is the largest consumer of water use in the command area. However, the main purpose of the most multi-purpose projects is to implement irrigation schemes for agriculture in the command area. As well as water used for domestic and industrial uses also in the command area. The rapid growth of population and expansion of agricultural area is escalating pressure on water resource in the command area. In such a situation, it is necessary to implement sustainable water management plan in all water use sectors. The sustainable water management includes, water demand calculation. It helps to insure the net availability of water resource and assess the utilization pattern in all sectors of the command area. Regarding same issues, the agricultural water demand of the left bank canal command area has been calculated with the help of suggested proposed cropping pattern in the Nilwande left bank canal command area.*]

Agricultural sector is the largest consumer of water use in the command area. However, the main purpose of the most multi-purpose projects is to implement irrigation schemes for agriculture in the command area. Planning and management is needed to make optimum use of available water for irrigation and to maximize the area under irrigation (Hajare,2008). Agricultural water management has been a challenge due to differentiate precipitation, soil types, cropping patterns and other socioeconomic factors (Dawod, 2013). The agricultural water need depends on the crop water requirement (CWR) and actual water available for the crop (Frenken, 2012). The estimation of CWR is the fundamental need for irrigation planning in the command area (Dhamge, 2012). The crop water requirement is affected by the climatological factors i.e. precipitation, temperature, wind velocity, sunshine, and radiation. In addition, the CWR varies according to the moisture retention capacity of soil and the stage of crop growth (FAO, 2005). The estimation of water requirement for various crops is an essential need for irrigation planning, and it depends on the cropping pattern of the command area. Therefore, present research paper evaluates the proposed cropping pattern of Nilwande left bank command area and calculating the agricultural water requirement of the command area.

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Study Area

Geographically, the study area lies between 19Ú 26' 32.59" north to 19Ú 57' 33.55" north latitude and 73Ú 35' 30.48" east to 75Ú 02' 17.22" east longitudes including the part of Ahmednagar and Nasik districts of Maharashtra. The left bank canal comprises maximum areas of Ahmednagar district, including Akole, Sangamner, Rahata, Shrirampur, Kopargaon and only Sinnar tehsil of Nasik district.

Database and Methodology

The values of potential evapotranspiration (PET) are taken as per the WAPCOS adopted for the Kukadi project of Ahmednagar station. These values have been computed by using the climatological data for ten years of the station at Ahmednagar as per following formula PET = [WRn + (1-w) f (u) (ea -ed)] c (1) Where, PET- Potential Evapotranspiration in mm

W- Temperature related weighing factor Rn- Net Radiation in mm F (u)- Wind related function (ea-ed)- The difference between saturated vapor pressure at mean air temperature and mean actual vapor pressure of air in mb C- Correction factor

The crop coefficient is the property of plants utilized in the predicting ET. The ratio between the ET observed for the crop and the standardized reference crop ET under the same condition is called 'crop coefficients'. KC =

ET ÷ ETo (2) Where, KC = Crop Coefficient
ET = Crop Evapotranspiration ETo = Reference Crop Evapotranspiration

The net irrigation requirement (NIR) at the field has been worked out for each crop as per the suggested crop patterns in the command area as NIR = [ET - ER] + PI (3) Where, NIR = Net Irrigation requirement ET = Evapotranspiration (Calculated as Modified Penman Method) ER = Effective Rainfall PI = Pre-sowing Irrigation (mm)

Discussion

The irrigation plan is divided into the two seasons, namely *Karif* and *Rabi* in the area under rain fed conditions. The total *Kharif* season covers 40 per cent area of total irrigable command area (ICA), and the *Rabi* Season covers 60 per cent area of the total irrigable command area. Hence, the left bank canal furnishes an agricultural water demand of the total 43886 ha irrigable command area.

Generally in Maharashtra, there are three agricultural seasons. They are *Kharif* (Rainy season), *Rabi* (Winter) and Summer season. The period of the *Kharif* season start during mid June and July. It is seen that the monsoon rainfall in the month is 97.80 to 113.83 mm (Average 105.8 mm) in the command area. This rainfall can be considered just enough for soaking or for the purpose of land preparation for the *Kharif* crops as per suggested cropping pattern. During the month of June farmers sow *kharif* crops, according to the soil types. But, the statistics of the past few years show that during the *kharif* season, rain breaks up for many days after sowing. During the same period ground water level also deplete enormously. During this period, it is important to supply artificial water to crops. In some lean years or years of delayed monsoon the water supply can be met by the LBC system. In the proposed cropping pattern and irrigation planning the *Kharif* season has given 40 % weighted in irrigable land in the command area. The proposed Kharif season has five crops in planning, within that, Bajra 13% (5705 ha), Vegetables 3 % (1317 ha), Fodder crops 2% (878 ha), Groundnut 2% (878 ha) and Pulses 20% area will occupy of the total irrigable command area (17554 ha) in the season.

The *Rabi* season has given 60% weighted in the proposed irrigation planning. Generally, it is considered 15th October to 15th February in the year. During this season, soil moisture decreases rapidly and it becomes dry in the water scarce region. Some farmers sow some pulses crops (Chickpeas, Tur etc.) at an early period, but during the post maturity, there is not any source of irrigation, hence, the production is reduced by 50-60 percent of irrigated land. It is observed that, many times, there is not any crop grown by farmers. The left bank canal is proposed to irrigate about 26332 ha area in *Rabi* season

of the total irrigable command area (43886 ha). The proposed *Rabi* season has suggested the five crops in irrigation planning. The maximum shares are covered by gram crops (25%) in suggested cropping planning. It includes mainly cash crops like Chickpeas (*Harbara*) and *Tur*. After that, high yielding hybrid *Jowar* (20%), Maldandi traditional Jowar (8%), Wheat (5%) and Vegetables (2%) crops will be cultivated in the total 26332 ha area of the total ICA (43886 ha.) in Rabi season.

The month wise effective rainfall has been considered for calculating the each crop NIR. The effective rainfall is calculated as, the total rainfall minus the rain water infiltrated below the plants root zone and water flows over the surface that is run-off. The 80 per cent chances considered, against the 100 per cent use of rainfall of assurance rainfall while calculating the effective rainfall (EF). The effective rainfall is read from the graph of average monthly consumptive use against normally used monthly rainfall. The maximum water need on the basis of NIR has been calculated in M3 (Cubic meter) per 100 hector irrigable command area, according to the suggested crops in the time period. According to the NIR for root zone of each crop, the delta of the crop has been computed. The delta of each crop is calculated as the total quantity of water divided by the total irrigated area.

The net water requirement for agriculture of the Kharif and Rabi seasons is calculated 106399767.7 m3 / (3.76 TMC) as per Modified Penman Method. The overall irrigation efficiency of the Nilwande irrigation project is 42 %, according to the irrigation planning report of the dam. Hence, to fulfill the 3.76 TMC (42 %) water requirement at the root zone level, the canal head will be supplied with 8.95 TMC (100 %) water from the reservoir. After that, as per the suggestion of Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI), Aurangabad the total water requirement is reduced with the 20 per cent, due to the ET values estimated by Modified Penman Method is higher-15-20% than the measured by Lysimeter. Hence, the total water requirement of the left bank canal in the command area of the Nilwande dam for the suggested cropping pattern is 202666224.23 m3 (7.16 TMC) with the 42 % overall canal irrigation efficiency.

Conclusion

The total recharge will be available in the proposed left bank canal command area is 5613 Mcum (1.99 TMC). Therefore, the Net irrigation requirement (NIR) for 43886 hectare irrigation is calculated as total Gross irrigation requirement (GIR 7.16 TMC) minus available recharge (1.99 TMC) in the LBC command area, means the total actual agricultural water demand will be 5.17 TMC as per the suggested cropping pattern.

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Model Village as a Solution for Sustainability and Rural Development in India

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[*About 800 million people in India live in approximately 640,000 villages. In fact, 82% of the population is residing in rural India. Of the 75% poor living in rural India, 30% live under chronic poverty. At a time when India's GDP growth rate is over 8 per cent, rural India is growing at a meagre 2.1 per cent. For creating an impact that leads to inclusive growth, the area of focus is clearly the villages of India. Model Villages can be considered as the panacea for the problems faced. This paper gives clarity on the concept of a Model Village in Indian Perspective, it illustrates the basic structure of Model Village within the given parameters, identifies the challenges and key drivers for Model Village financials and discusses the key indicators for improving the standard of living in villages. The pillars of Sustainability for the villages are studied and the role of Model Villages in creating sustainable livelihoods is elaborated. The paper brings out a strong case for the replicability and scalability of the Model Village concept in promoting sustainability and rural development in India.*]

A model village can be termed as a sustainable village which produces more value than it consumes. Families within the village have an option of a livelihood and access to basic services thus making migration a choice and not a necessity. Rural Development seems feasible with the implementation of the model village concept across India. Model Villages should be envisioned to design and provide the structure, services, and technology for the development of community ventures, based on the strength and assets of the community in order to promote sustainable livelihoods and raise the overall well-being of the community. In order for model villages to thrive, entrepreneurship has to be embedded and encouraged in all levels and entrepreneurs must assume a leadership role, take risks and service the large, disaggregated village markets available. Such comprehensive approach requires a great level of understanding of a community's ecosystem: the village dynamics, the needs, the problems, the root causes of the problems as well as the existing knowledge and skills and the most cost-efficient solutions.

Based on various studies, the following constraints for the sustainable livelihood in villages can be identified as follows:

● Shortage of Irrigation Water - insufficient irrigation methods, unpredictable rain

● Lack of cost-efficient inputs (fertilizer, pesticides, and seeds) for agriculture

● Increase in agri-Input Costs (water, fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, and labour)

● Natural Shocks & Unpredictable Rain (affecting mango/crop yield)

● Insufficient water in Canal (water not released & rainwater dries up in 3-4 months)

● Lack of access to better market or supply chain for mango produce and milk

● Lack of non-agri livelihood options

● Educated Youth lacks training for entrepreneurship

● Low Wages to contract laborers (both agri and non-agri)

● Lack of access to cost-efficient financial services

But there exist some opportunities to enhancesustainable livelihoods viz:

● Value addition to farm produce

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- Capacity building for unemployed youths and women interested in non-agri livelihood

- Availability of good roads with connectivity - could lower the logistics costs considerably

  There exist a few causes that affect most the core problem:

- Shortage of Irrigation Water; Failure of crops; Lack of diversification of crops; Natural Shocks & Unpredictable Rain (affecting crop yield); Lack of access to quality agri-inputs at affordable price; Lack of non-agri livelihood options or off-farm employment; Lack of diversification of crops (better farming practices); Lack of access to better market or supply chain for farm produce; Lack of financial services for entrepreneurial purposes; Lack of hospital and doctors

With these issues, some of the key challenges confronting the creation of the Village Model include:

' Implementation: Inefficient supply chains due to poor or non-existent infrastructure increasing the cost of starting or doing business. This will particularly be a problem in remote areas as the model relies on economies of scale involving clusters of Model Villages to reduce costs. Access to capital is critical as the current model relies on initial investment from villages many of whom lack access to rural credit. Loans would have to be provided or work with microfinance organisations would have to be initiated so as to enable villagers to afford initial investments or to start micro-enterprises. Identifying committed and capable entrepreneurs. Significant resources, training and follow-up may be needed. Existing supply chain challenges need to take into consideration remoteness, poor infrastructure, and lack of area service providers etc.

' Governance: An appropriate governance structure will be necessary to establish accountability and transparency serving both the interests and needs of villages and private investors. Clear direction on how to integrate this new business within its current business and structure model.

' Human Resources: The spread of villages and remote locations may have to stretch the resources and ability to provide adequate and timely oversight and support. External technical expertise may be needed for example when installing new technologies like solar energy sources.

There are multitudes of problems that need to be tackled before a Model Village can actually take shape. But it requires a consistent effort and a well-planned effort at multiple levels. In this context, the concept of Village Company can be proposed.

The Model Village Partnership: Exploring Avenues

A sustainable village is the one which is able to generate and maintain the resources necessary to increase their level of well-being and happiness without depleting economic, social & environmental values. With the goal of enabling more sustainable rural communities, Model Village can be created - an approach that believes in the power of enterprise and community ownership as driving forces for sustainable social change. In order to make a workable model to create a healthier community, on one hand it is needed to promote economic development through microfinance, clean energy, global ethics and community service to revitalize low-income communities, and on the other hand, create efficient, self-sufficient and equitable marginal communities to enable them to connect to more than 4000 villages across India. With a major cause for rural poverty in India being the lack to productive assets and financial resources, it is required to envision sustainable rural communities that have the ability to generate and maintain the resources necessary to increase their level of well-being and happiness without depleting economic, social & environmental values. This approach can establish a supportive relationship with local entrepreneurs to provide them with the capacity, credit and channel that could enable the development of increased livelihood, better services, and comprehensive infrastructure in the village.

Proposed Model Village Structure for Sustainability

It is proposed that the members of village come together to form a Village Company (VC). This company can be tasked with obtaining capital, building and maintaining the fundamental infrastructure components necessary within a village, such water production and electricity generation as well as some basic services needed to stimulate economic activity within the village. Use of these components will be to be sold incrementally to the village population, entrepreneurs and service providers to recover the costs incurred during construction and operation. By combining both the basic infrastructure components with some services within the village company, the Village Company will be able to become a financial sustainable company and not require subsidies for initial capital investments or operating expenses. The purpose of the Model Village Project will be to show that by providing the structure for the Village Company and associated services, the population of a village could use their resources to provide basic infrastructure and services to the village, stimulate the village economy and create economic opportunities within the village. All of these should be done in a way that raises the overall standard of living of the village residents and allow for the structure to be rolled out with minimal barriers across all of India.

In the Model Village there could be two types of business. One could be a larger company owned and operated by village population, the Village Company (VC). The other type could be the individual services provided by entrepreneurs within the village. These two types of business could be dependent on each other to be successful. The VC could be responsible for raising equity and capital to build and operate all infrastructure and services components within it. The VC could provide the basic infrastructure components necessary to allow the village economies to develop and progress. The services provided by the VC would be those that require a large initial capital investment and those necessary to ensure that the VC be a profitable company and capable of providing returns to the village at a level high enough to ensure continued investment by the village population. Equity for the VC could be raised from the village population and should equal one-thirds of total capital funds necessary for all infrastructure and service project within the VC. The ownership and equity structure of a village company could be defined in such a way that all members of the village would be able to purchase an equity stake in the VC.

For the Model Village the following infrastructure and services components were suggested to be included in the VC:

• Electricity generation; Water production and distribution; Mall Structure; Micro Finance Institution; BPO Center; Health Center; Market Place

The individual services could be responsible for raising the equity and capital necessary to start the business and be owned by individual entrepreneurs within the village. These service businesses may rely on some or all of the VC infrastructure components to operate, (water, electricity and retail space) but otherwise be independent from the VC. The services within a village could vary greatly in number and type across the villages where the Model Village structure was to be applied. This variation could be driven by many factors not exclusive to but including, village population, economic status, existing business and unique local conditions. For the Model Village the following services outside of the VC have been included: Education center, Entertainments Center, Product Retail Shop

Model Village: Key Areas to Review

There are three key areas to review to identify the financial success/failure of the Village Company: Capital requirements, Cash flow and percentage of village income used as explained below:-

• Capital Requirements - Initial equity investment for the model village must be at a level that can be supported by the village population. A reduction in the overall capital necessary for the model village could be obtained by building the electricity and water capacity in two separate components during the life of the village company. This reduction would create a 5% gain in the total return for the VC and would leave more funds in the hands of the village company for use on other activities.

• Cash Flow - A positive cash flow and an IRR are important to show that the village company can pay its bills and generate a return to investors.

• Percentage of Village Income - The percentage of the village income that is spent on the Village Company could be an important factor to look at when analyzing the reasonability of the Village Company. Most of the village population has very limited disposable income to spend with the VC and any amount above 10% to 12% could be viewed as an unrealistic expectation to place on the village population when the model village project would start. For all analysis of the village income spending, a yearly income growth of 7% was assumed to reflect the added opportunities that could be brought to the village as it becomes a model village. The largest portion of the villagers' income going to the model village could be for water and electricity which could account for three-fourths of the total spend.

The key drivers of model village financials are Interest Rates, Management Costs, Population, Village Wealth, Maximizing Returns from Electricity and Water. The purpose of the Model Village is to show that by providing the structure for the Village Company and associated services the population of a village can uses their own resources to provide basic infrastructure and services to the village, stimulate the village economy and create economic opportunities within the village. All of these should be done in a way that raises the overall standard of living of the village residents. Based on initial study, Model Village concept is showing viability where further work should be continued to refine the inputs and better understand the social impacts. The key driving components of the Village Company are the water, electricity and the Micro Finance Institution. Special attention should be paid to these components to ensure that the assumptions are as accurate as possible. Once the assumptions validated a pilot of the model village should be created to test the overall structure and produce an example that can be used when marketing the Model Village to villagers and funding organizations.

Next Steps and Conclusion

The next step will be to enhance the existing resources and livelihood sources including maximizing farm yield and quality, irrigation - options of surface water and ground water management. A team of committee of farmers, nearby local agriculture and irrigation experts and a coordinator could work on building sustainable solutions for the main issues hindering their agriculture output. They should explore crop and weather insurance to protect their income. Also the team can explore value

additional to existing produce for maximizing profit. To build entrepreneurship in the community, small and medium financing option needs to be in place alongside with capacity building and financial literacy. For this banking services through business correspondence models, credit and cooperative societies need to be evaluated. This will also help in developing saving for rainy days among the villagers. In addition, Rural Distribution systems and Market linkages needs to be effectively in place. This will complete the cycle of creating a sustainable village. Better healthcare and secondary education are basic services that will be better addressed once capacity building, community mobilization and sustainable livelihoods have been secured. Sustainability and community ownership could be the two main principles of a model village. And this is a replicable and scalable model, which can be implemented across the country, provided there are organizations ready to believe in the success of the model village concept.

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A sociological study of Old Age Home

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A place where old people can live together and be cared for they are weak or ill to take care of themselves .old age home also called retired home there are multi residence facility intended for senior citizen. old age home is a place for elderly who can care of themselves more and need a little extra help. an old people called different type words like old people (world wide), seniors (American uses), senior citizen (Britain and American uses), older adult (uses by social scientist), the elderly and elders (in many culture). In ancient Greece and Rome elderly people who required care had to rely on their children or extended family. An ancient Greece Athenian law required that children care was ultimately of the elders family

In 1823 the Philadelphia's indigent widows and single women's society , one of the first home for the elderly , opened in US .Old age is period of physical deterioration and social alienation in same case, loss of spouse, friends, jobs, property and physical appearance. In old age home physical strength deteriorate mental stability diminishes, financial power becomes break and eye sight suffer a setback. It is a period of disappointment , dejection, disease, repentance and loneliness.

India have different type of old age home . now a day there are found multi facilities old age home. OAHs provides physical and mental care, solve health related issues, extra care and safety ,gives motivation, gives playing facility and play ground ,provides many entertainment facility and shelter, food and drinking water , ambulance ,mobile health care etc. From many different type of reason old person are not comfortable from their family, they feel alone, they are suffering from psychological problems, financial problems, social problems, political problems family problems. So many reason with elderly, they can not solve their problems alone.

From sociological perspective old age home is emerging as a strong social institution in society who helps elderly and provides complete facility . the elderly feel safe after entering the old age home.

Now a day we can feel that old age home have advantage for old people when their children go to abroad to live and work, so the next needful step is to put on old father and mother in an old age home. Old age home provides safety ,and safety is definitely on issue for elderly. Old age home gives protection and helps them lives safe and secure life. Loneliness is a serious issue for elderly but old age home always gives companionship and, specially when elderly who have loss their spouses.

In other words old age home is very expensive, elderly people are pensioners and they do not have more money because they get money their son or daughter .so they can not pay medical bill this is a challenge for them. Old age home provides limited choice for living space and choice of food and there is lack of privacy.

Emotional problems are always be with them and they get depressed because elderly may miss their relatives, friends , children, groups and grand children.

The main objectives of the research work :— The following objectives of the present study are…..(1)To

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get information about old age home and elderly .(2) To know about age, gender and Marital status of elderly in old age home. (3)To identify elderly category and type of family. (4)To do comparative study of both old age home.

Hypothesis :—Following hypothesis was created for the research work presented.1 .Due to the disintegration of the joint family, the elderly are forced to go to the old age home.2. Social , economic and medical facilities are provided to the elderly in the old age home.3. health and safety are the major reasons for go to the old age home.

Data and Method :—-The research is mainly focus on due to the elderly going the old age home, management and NGOs role. methodology was followed for this article ,comprising literature review and analysis of primary and secondary data . In primary sources –old age home was observed and interview scheduled was completed. In secondary sources are drawn classified from the   publications of books, monthly journals, articles, magazines and internet or many websites.

Study Area :—Udaipur Rajasthan was selected for the research work presented. there are One old age homes Asha dham ,)In Asha dham old age home has 100 elderly registered. A total of 100 elderly was selected on the basis of Area Sampling. Researcher have gone to government and nongovernment offices for data collection . Other department were also helpful for researcher like Ministry of social Justice and Environment jaipur , Department of social welfare kota and jaipur , Indian social welfare council jaipur (NGO), Help age India jaipur (NGO),Asha Dham Ashram Udaipur.

Through the following table,researcher have tried to explain the age, gender, and merital status etc. of elderly in old age home.

TABLE NO. 1

Age Wise Distribution Of Elderly

S.No	Particular	Asha Dham Old Age Home Udaipur					
		M	%	F	%	Total	%
1	Below 65	42	70.00	32	80.00	74	74.00
2	65-75	06	10.00	08	20.00	14	14.00
3	76-85	06	10.00	-	-	06	06.00
4	86-95	06	10.00	-	-	06	06.00
5	95above	-	-	-			
Total	60		100.00	40	10.00	100	100.00

The above table shows that ,the number of elderly under 65 was found more,which is 42 (70%).In the age group of 65-75, 76-85, 86-95 and 95 above,which is 06 (10%).It is clear from the analysis of above table that as the age increases,the number of old people in the old age home decreaces.

Table No.2
Distribution Of Elderly With Merital Status

S.No	Particular	Asha Dham Old Age Home Udaipur					
		M	%	F	%	Total	%
1.	Married	06	10.00	04	10.00	10	10.00
2.	Unmarried	03	05.00	04	10.00	07	07.00
3.	Widow/Widower	42	70.00	24	60.00	66	66.00
4.	Devorced	09	15.00	08	20.00	17	17.00
	Total	60	100.00	40	100.00	100	100.00

The above table shows that widow and widower who have lost their life partners, they are more in old age home which are men 70% and women 60%,married men are 10% and women are also 10%, unmarried men are 5% and women are 10%,devoiced men are 15% and women are 20% in Asha Dham old age home .If analyzing the total data , the researcher found that there are more (66%) widow and widower in the old age home.

Widow and widower however more than in old age home because they have lost their life partner so their children are not care to them and they have felt loss their companion. due to this reason they want to come to old age home or children are also want to send them in old age home.

Table No. 3
Distribution Of Elderly With Type Of Family

S.No.	Particular	Asha Dham Old Age Home Udaipur					
		M	%	F	%	Total	%
1	Nuclear/ Single Family	48	80.00	32	80.00	80	80.00
2	Joint/ Undivided Family	12	20.00	08	20.00	20	20.00
	Total 60		100.00	40	100.00	100	100.00

The above table shows, in old age home 80% men and 80% women have come from joint family and 20% men and 20% women have come from nuclear family. The analysis of above table that there is more tendency to go from single family to old age home and reduced tendency to go from joint family to old age home. Hence it can be said that single family is responsible for sending elderly to old age home.

Conclusion

From the above study the researcher has made the following conclusion.

Elderly under 65 years of age were found to be more, in Asha Dham old age home elderly over the age of 95 were not found . Widow and widower are alone, elderly go to the old age home more.married and unmarried elderly go to the old age home less often than divorced.

By conducting a comarative study of nuclear and joint family , the researcher found that the elderly move from nuclear family more and more in old age home.

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Economic Empowerment of Tribal Women: A Study in East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh

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[*The present study seeks to understand economic development in the living conditions of tribal women of Arunachal Pradesh. The study examines the changing scenario in term of their participation in economic activities through the pattern of occupation, socio-economic conditions and political representation. The paper made use of both primary and secondary data. The result of the study shows that economic development made tremendous progress and transforming the status of women in general and tribal women in particular, while women have broken the barricades confining themselves merely to reproduction and child rearing in the domestic sphere.*]

Today, empowerment of women has become one of the central and global issue in the process of development in the worldwide. Empowering of women notion has become one of the major goals of democratic and participatory movement along with the women's organization in order to achieve empowerment by increasing women participation in all the aspects of social, economic and political life. Empowerment is a multifaceted, multi-dimensional and multi-layered process. The concept of empowerment is defined as the process in which women acquire power to exercise greater control over both resources and life choice. It enables control over decision making, to make their own decisions and taking risks in order to increase their income, by breaking all personal limitation of the family and society. It also increases in the spiritual, social, educational and economic strength of individual and communities. Their interest is also represented by the degree of autonomy and self-determination. This allows individuals to think beyond the box and gain confidence in their ability to control their lives, asserting their right to be right and independent in all parts of life.

However, traditionally the socio-economic and cultural institutions of tribal community are integrated in such a deep manner that it becomes difficult for the tribal women to isolate them from each other. In a tribal society, mostly economic activities are constructed, conditioned and legitimized on the basis of socio-cultural activities. Tribal women faced many problems and hindrances while participating on domestic sphere, in terms of relative deprivations in earnings, education, employability and other developmental facilities. Overall creates strong barriers for effective participation of the majority of women in the decision-making process hampering the empowerment of tribal women. Also, the history tells us that their role in biological reproduction has generally restricted women's participation in the mainstream of social, economic and political processes.

In the state of Arunachal Pradesh, it is evident that women never took part in politics directly or indirectly before the introduction of reservation policy women were confined only to household chores. The introduction of 73rd amendment and the working of the panchayats have brought about a number of changes and a possible creation of social and politically spheres especially with regard to the status of women. This has empowered the women to participate in the decision-making process and bought landmark changes in the outlook of society towards the women folk. It has enabled women to attain social status confidence and to alter the age-old traditions. For a country, women, employment and empowerment of women through gainful employment is a constituent as well as instrument for development. Promotion of women and gender equality require political commitment at the highest level for the advancement of national machineries (Bhatnagar. Tinku Paul, 2011). Henceforth, the Indian constitution has guaranteed women equal rights of participation in the country's political processes, as well as equal opportunities and rights in education and employment, in accordance with the objectives of the Five-Year Plan

Concept of Empowerment

Women were completely negligible to perform economic activities and the importance of women to economic development first recognized during the country's struggle for independence. This reflects, how the inclusion of 'Women Empowerment' becomes prime goals to achieve the status of a developed country.

Economic empowerment is the capacity of women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from growth processes in ways which recognise the value of their contributions, respect their dignity and make it possible to negotiate a fairer distribution of the benefits of growth (Eyben. R, 2008). Economic empowerment of women changes the society as well as economy. They perform in multiple roles of working but still they are not equal to men. Women empowerment includes women awareness and control over their rights, self-confidence, and ability to bring a change both at home and outside the society. Elements of Empowerment, depend upon and relate to each other in many ways, such as; economic, social, political and personal. Fundamentally, women

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should also have respectable value in the society. Economic empowerment means to give woman her rights in the economy. Social empowerment means status of woman in the society should be equal to man by eliminating injustice and inequity. Political empowerment means women should have access to political positions from provincial level to national assemblies and be given right to vote along with men without any discrimination. Personal empowerment means women should have freedom in their personal matters (Mariam. Sohail, 2014).

Women empowerment revolves around the power base on, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural. It is sharing of power equal to men. In a positive sense, by religious-ideology and change maker, power should get away from men by educating women, making men to understand women that they are equal human beings in the society and it is for equality that women had been in the society (B. Suresh Lal, 2015).

Objectives of the Study

1. To investigate the socioeconomic status of tribal women.

2. To understand the occupational patterns and examine the economic empowerment of tribal women.

Methodology

The present study is based on both primary and secondary sources of data. A qualitative method was employed in this study. The participants were females having different educational, economic and occupational pattern. Participants were selected from various sectors to bring variation in sample. 52 women were selected as a sample of the study from the field. The researchers have collected information through random sampling by using unstructured interviews among the tribal women of East Siang Districts of Arunachal Pradesh. The Secondary sources of data have been collected from various books, journals, newspaper, websites, government documents and available literature etc.

The Area of the Study

The East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh has been selected for the study on Economic Empowerment of Tribal Women. The district is predominantly dominated by Adi Tribe. Adi tribe is one of the majority tribes of Arunachal Pradesh. According to 2011 census, East Siang district has a population of 99,214, with a sex ratio of 962 females for every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 73.54%.

Results and Discussion

In this context an attempt is made to analyze the economic empowerment, specifically to find out the factors correlates with the significant impact in determining the emergence of women empowerment of east Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh. Empowerment of women has emerged as an important issue in recent times. The economic empowerment of women is being regarded these days as a progressive social transformation for a country. Hence, the issue of economic empowerment of women is of paramount importance. Taking the aspects into consideration, an attempt has been made in this paper to appraise the socio-economic status of the tribal women respondents.

Table 1: Socio-Economic Factors:

Percentage Age Group	Category	Numbers
Below 25	2	4
25-35	18	35
36-45	20	38
46-55	10	19
56 & above	2	4
Educational Qualification		
Illiterate	0	0
Primary Level	2	4
Secondary Level	8	17
Higher level	6	12
Graduation and above	35	67
Marital Status		
Married	43	83
Unmarried	4	8
Widow	2	4
Divorce	1	2
Separated	2	4
Types of Family		
Joint Family	14	27
Nuclear Family	38	73
Size of Family		
0 (unmarried)	4	8
2	11	21
3-4	30	58
5-7	7	13
8 & above	0	
Income (Monthly)		
Below 5000	3	6
6000-9000	16	31
10000-15000	24	46
Above 16000	9	17
Decision Making Process		
Wife	14	27
Husband	6	12
Both	20	38
Son(s)	2	4
Daughter(s)	1	2
All	12	23

Saving Account Particular		
Insurance	6	12
Banks	38	73
Post office	8	15
No Saving	0	0
Occupational Pattern		
Agriculture	3	6
Self-employed	9	17
Government job	23	44
Private Job	2	4
Shopkeeper	4	8
Street Vendor	6	12
Government Representatives	5	10

Source: Compiled by researcher based on field study of East Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh, during 2019

Table-1 presents detail on socio-economic factors from the women respondents of the sample. The research findings indicate that, majority of the respondents are in the age group between 36-45 years whereas, 35 percent of those are in the age group of 25-35 and 19 percent in 46-55 years and 4 percent are above 56 and 4 percent below 25 years category.

All of the female sample respondents were literate, according to the literacy composition of the female respondents. Sixty-seven percent of female respondents hold a college diploma (35 respondents out of 52 sample). It demonstrates the value of educational ideals among the Adi people in East Siang District. According to the 2011 census, the female literacy rate in East Siang District was 66.49 percent. This demonstrates that one of the most significant variables is education, as well as the fact that more education leads to stronger dedication among the Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh.

Marriage has a vital role to play in deciding the social status and living conditions of women. In Table-1 it shows that married women were in large majority consisting of 83 percent and 8 percent unmarried female respondents. Four percent of female respondents were widow and separated while remaining 2 percent divorced.

From the female sample of respondents, it shows that, there is a greater role of empowerment of women in term of type of family. It reveals that 73 percent respondents lead a nuclear family while 27 percent lead joint family life. It shows the attributes of change and a new trend in respect to family life in the traditional society of Adi community of East Siang District.

As shown in the table, the size of family of the sample respondents reveals that 30 respondents, (58 percent) out of the 52 are under the size of the 3 to 4 members and 11 respondents (21 percent) are under the size of 2 members in the family. 13 percent are of 5 to 7 members while 8 percent of the female's respondents were still unmarried and without children. This demonstrates that tribal women are concerned about family planning and societal transformation.

Six percent respondents out of the 52 earn below Rs 5000, 31 percent respondents earn up to 6000-9000, 46 percent up to Rs 10000 -15,000 and 17 percent respondents earn above Rs.16000. It shows that most of the respondents earn up to Rs.15000.

Decision-making from the table 1, shows that the participation of decision making plays a vital role in any family for its upliftment. Out of the 52 respondents, 27 percent respondents take the role of decision making, a slight curve of 12 percent by husband, 38 percent respondents by both husband and wife. Two respondents from the son and one daughter respectively take the decisions while 23 percent where whole family agree with the decision being taken. As the data shows that wives have more role than husbands in decision making process.

The sample respondents also save their money in different agencies. The types of agencies and saving accounts of the sample respondents as shows in table1, reveal that 38 (73 percent) respondents out of the 52 respondents save money in Banks, 8 (15percent) respondents in post office, 6 (12 percent) in insurance. The table also illustrates that respondent saves money for their livelihood in different ways.

Fig-2: Occupational Pattern
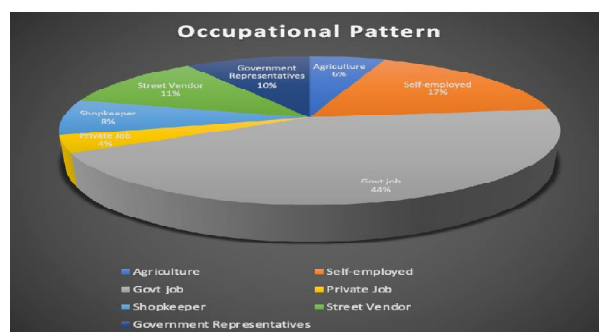
The occupational pattern of the sample female respondents (figure 2) demonstrates differences between the categories. Six percent work in agriculture, with family agriculture and agricultural labour being a major source of income, while eight percent work as shopkeepers, eleven percent as street vendors, and ten percent as government representatives. According to the data, only 4 percent of male respondents work in the private sector, while 17 percent are self-employed and manage their own businesses, engaging in various mediums of labour, while the bulk of female respondents (44%) work for the government. It demonstrates how occupation is a key factor in shaping participation and how it has a substantial impact on socio-political values and ideology in the development of skill and knowledge. Apart from income, a person's occupation also influences their status and, as a result, their lifestyle.

Suggestions and Conclusion

Tribal cultures in India are regarded the poorest sectors of the population due to socio-economic, educational, and demographic consequences. Education is a key factor of status for both men

and women in any society. As a result, education facilities in tribal communities must be enhanced in order to eradicate illiteracy. In this context, government schools should be strengthened because tribal children rely on them the most. Tribal females should have equal rights in the social, political, and economic spheres of life. Counselling should be used to reduce discrimination between sons and daughters. Women are an important component of our culture, but they hold less power. Women's contributions are essential to the creation of an equitable society. Consequently, their conditions should be improved for the good of society. As a result, women's empowerment has been proposed as a means of achieving a more balanced society and bringing women on an equal footing.

Women's empowerment improves not just their quality of life, but also the conditions of their families and villages. Social, cultural, financial, skill, and knowledge empowerment are all part of this process. What are commonly referred to as grassroots level women's organisations are an important instrument for promoting indigenous women's participation in the development process not just as beneficiaries but as change agents. The 73rd constitutional amendments, which advocate for a one-third reservation of seats in local bodies for women, have significantly increased their number. This has given tribal women in Arunachal Pradesh more political clout, allowing them to participate more fairly in society's decision-making processes.

The study has revealed that the socio-economic background of the majority of the women are from government jobs. This demonstrates that education is a powerful agent of social and economic variables in transforming the structure of the Adi group in Arunachal Pradesh's East Siang District. However, several factors influence tribal women's empowerment. Empowering women entails not only providing services, but also acknowledging their lived realities of numerous levels of prejudice that obstruct their access to those services. Empowerment is no longer a faraway goal for tribal women in the twenty-first century, and they can play a critical role in bringing about revolutionary change in their communities' social, political, economic, psychological, moral, and cultural aspects.

Nonetheless, few attempt was made to empower women by reserving seats, and thus established a status for women in society. However, succeeding governments have focused on policies for women, attempting to provide them with a place of dignity, equality, and opportunity within a legal framework that protects them. Despite many obstacles and limitations, women have demonstrated that given the chance, they can become equal players in the growth process. Therefore, it is indeed an immense task for both of government and voluntary agencies to find different ways and means to assist the tribal societies in general and the tribal women in particular to climb the ladder of progress, awareness, knowledge, and development.

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Struggle for Dalit Women Recognition: A Critical Study of Bama's *Karukku*

Ashwini L Gaddad*

In India, both women and Dalits are equally exploited and strategically excluded because of caste. Ambedkar did a war against these two social evils." (Challapalli Swaroopa Rani.16)

The first message from Ambedkar to the Dalits was to: "Educate, organise, unite" that is validated in this instance that a young Dalit girl should take the initiative to empower Dalit consciousness to analyse and evaluate unjust social practice. (Anand. Annihilation of caste an undelivered speech by B. R. Ambedkar. 1990)

'Dalit' literally means 'oppressed' and is used to refer to a marginalized group of "untouchable" casteless sects who have historically suffered exploitation, subjugation and oppression in Indian society. For centuries, in mainstream Indian Dalit feminism, untouchability is considered to be the greatest evil in society subjected to contempt and injustice. Exploitation and oppression of weaker sects by the stronger is as old as mankind itself. Dalit Literature broadly delineates their consciousness, experiences as well as their anguish. The plight of Dalit women in Indian society is horrible as they are oppressed on the basis of class, gender and caste. All women are victims of a particular kind of exploitation on account of their womanhood. In dalit community, each and every women has to survive under the dual power of caste and patriarchy.

"It has a long time for Dalit women to overcome their oppression, as Dalits and put to creative use the gains of social and literary movements. There are of course common issues that bind Dalit men and women, like untouchability and caste oppression. But women also suffer from patriarchal oppression."(Challapalli Swaroopa Rani, 21.)

The powerful entry of Dalit Literature on the literary scenario in Maharashtra in the 1960s was followed by increasing Dalit women writings especially autobiographical narratives in the 1980s which was inspired by Ambedkarite thought. A detailed study of dalit feminist writing reveals a tale of endless miseries, inhuman victimization and shocking gender discrimination but in the modern era, dalit is a symbol of change, revolution and resistance. Dalit women used literature as a weapon to counter the mainstream feminist writing. A renowned first Dalit woman writer, Faustina Bama's intrusion in Dalit literary discourse in the early 1990s made a significant contribution in the arena of gender and caste intersections in the lives of the Dalits. She redefined 'woman' from the political perspective of a dalit. Her works foreground the cursed lives of Dalit women, oppressed on the basis of their caste as well as gender by the aristocratic class. Dalit Literature challenges the upper caste ideologies and delve into the neglected aspects of life. She feels that for the better survival of women empowerment it is essential to eradicate inequality and untouchability, by empowering them through education and employment and by taking pride in their identity.

"All women in the world are second class citizens. For Dalit women, the problem is grave. Their dalit identity gives them a different set of problems. They experience a total lack of social status; they are not even considered dignified human beings. My stories are based on these aspects of dalit culture...The hard labor they have to do all their lives. Other problems are the same for all women. The Dalits particular caste...more agony and hard labor can be attributed to them. Dalit women have put up with a triple

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oppression, based on class, caste and gender. They die in order to live."(Limbale 116)

Bama's novel *Karukku* (1992) depicts the exact way to explore the sufferings of Dalit women and subversive strategies to overcome the oppression they are going through. '*Karukku*' means Palmyra leaves with their searing edges on both sides, like a double edged sword. Here, Karukku symbolises the desperate urge to break these unjust social bonds. In this autobiography, Bama tries to discover the identity of being a 'Dalit woman'. A central section of the narrative in *Karukku* is presented through the eyes of a Dalit girl child where the author/ narrator relate her experiences as an eleven-year-old girl. A continuous quest for self is the prime concern that is depicted in *karukku*. Bama freed herself from the shackles of unemployment and poverty by completing her education not for a luxurious life but for her passion to uplift Dalit community the so called unprivileged. She decided to become a nun to serve her community and this continuous search for self and ongoing struggle constitutes the core theme of *karukku*.

Further in the novel, Bama discusses the issue of identity crisis. Patriarchal society considers women as unworthy and have always engaged in the task of constructing and deconstructing identity. This form of discrimination based on identity is similar to racism. As Simon de Beauvoir states.

Bama's novel *karukku* is a powerful portrayal of the most agonising and suppressed lives of the Dalit women where they are subjected to sexual harassment and physical assault. It was emphasized that sexual oppression, economic exploitation, and socio- cultural subjugation are the sources of unequal gender relations. It is the patriarchal division that defines woman as a marginalized being. According to Bama, "Dalit life is excruciatingly painful, charred by experiences". Experiences solely presides over the writings in Dalit Literature making authenticity as its prime hallmark. *Karukku,* is not only a testimony on Bama's life but also the life of Dalits as a whole which unfolds the various problems that are responsible for the suffering of the Dalits.

"The driving forces that shaped this book are many: events that occurred during many stages of my life, cutting me like *Karukku* and making me bleed; unjust social structures that plunged me into ignorance and left me trapped and suffocating; my own desperate urge to break, throw away and destroy these bonds; and when the chains were shattered into fragments, the blood that was spilt then; all these, taken together." (Holmstrom.XIII.)

Caste uses gender to construct caste status, power relations and cultural differences and thereby oppressing lower caste women. Since childhood Bama was aware about untouchability as she saw the act of handing over the sweets using a string to an upper class person by a dalit elder and this was a painful reminder of her caste. Bama's anger against this and her longing to grab that packet and pollute it with her dalit hands throw light at the malicious system of caste divide. The special financial grants by the government to the Harijans was more humiliating for Bama as it highlighted her caste. It is the caste which shapes the integral part of the gender status and identity of dalit women. According to Dr. Ambedkar, the complexity and sustainability of the caste system is the main factor of graded inequality. Due to this factor, each and every caste regards itself to be superior to other caste which are lower in caste hierarchy.

This kind of caste discrimination is vividly evident in *karukku*. Bama has an ambivalent attitude towards Christianity. She explores how violence and discrimination against Dalit women is legitimised and institutionalised by state, family, church and upper caste communities. She is full of grief when she observes how Dalits are treated within church where they are forced to render menial service, shouted at, and branded as uncultured creatures, not amenable to improvement. (Bama 21) *Karukku* depicts the denial of dalits singing in the church choir and the formation of separate schools for all sections in the same campus levelled on the basis of caste.

Further in *karukku*, Bama portrays the prejudice showed by the warden sister to the dalit children "these people get nothing to eat at home; they come here and they grow fat" (Bama 19)When she sees these things, she thinks of her own people living in misery, taking in only gruel all the time. Bama realises that through the right type of education the whole community of Dalit can be empowered and they can regain self-dignity and respect. Bama passes through many emotional encounters and experiences. The whole process is a trail of discovery, which makes her a self-made woman.

Bama ends the novel with a positive note appealing for the change and better life of a dalit women in various fields that includes sex, caste and gender discrimination, equal opportunities for employment, educational rights etc. She further says that dalit women are now challenging their oppressors like the double edged Karukku. Dalit women's are denied voice thus withering away at the margins of such literature. Bama's feminist writings has done justice to the plight of dalit women by not only encouraging them rather spreading the consciousness so that the dalit woman themselves can stand up for their own rights. Dalits in the 21st century still have to undergo casteist oppression even though caste discrimination has been declared as an offence under the law. Inequality still prevails not on the basis of economic disparity but by the unequal order caused by the caste system. Bama is very optimistic and hopeful of the fact that the century old historical neglect, alienation, humiliation, hatred, shame, bondage and misery of dalit women would convert into overall freedom and upliftment for a better future. Therefore, Dalit Literature intends to bring a change in the existing norms that is dominated by inequalities on the basis of caste and gender. Bama has left the major responsibility of formulating her vision in searching their true identity to the community itself.

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Qualitative Research in Education in India

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Qualitative research uses in depth studies of small groups of people to guide and support the construction of hypotheses. The results of qualitative research are descriptive rather than predictive. Qualitative research methods originated in the social and behavioural sciences: sociology, anthropology and psychology. Today, qualitative methods in the field of marketing research include in-depth in interviews with individuals, group discussions. Several unique aspects of qualitative research contribute to rich insightful results.

Qualitative research relies on data that is less amenable to statistical analysis. These data are qualitative in nature, collected through open-ended questionnaires, observation, and interview, documents both historical and current. The qualitative researches include the methods like case study, narrative research, grounded theory etc.(Creswell,2009, Johnson& Christen 2012)

The Status of Qualitative Research

There is some kind of conservative outlook among the researchers and guides on qualitative research in India. Qualitative research is still struggling for its acceptance amongst the research community. Unfavourable attitude towards qualitative research could be due to many reasons. There is poor exposure to qualitative research at research level – research methodology papers. The courses on research methods teach only quantitative methods. Students mostly take dissertation work based on quantitative methods as most of the thesis available in the library are of this kind. Another cause includes the lack of information on qualitative research. Most textbooks on research methods contain very little

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on qualitative research. Also in Journals one can find only quantitative researches. Over allthe research environment is dominated by quantitative researchers and researches. Qualitative researchers and researches are very few. In the west, qualitative research has established its foothold strongly in social science and in education. This is evident from the text books in research methods on special Chapters on qualitative research method (Creswell. 2009 Borden& Abbott, 2005) selection of research problem for both qualitative and quantitative research is discussed (Johnson &Christensen 2012) special handbook on qualitative research (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011) Exclusive qualitative research journal. Qualitative inquiry, field methods, Educational researchers, International Journal of Qualitative studies in education, seminars and conferences on qualitative researches, Increasing numbers of qualitative researches in journals .Exclusively on qualitative research method books(Flick,2007 Merriam 2009) All these developments are interrelated and contribute to the field of qualitative research.

Review of past studies

Most of the research studies have adopted only quantitative methods of analyzing data. In addition to the quantitative approach, the researchers need to use qualitative methods of data analysis. This will help them in developing new and more comprehensive perspective (Passi & Sansanwal 1991) It is interesting to note that studies completed in the department of sociology of the universities have used simple percentages and qualitative techniques where as studies completed in the department of education and psychology have used sophisticated statistical techniques in their studies (Shah, 1986,)

As an alternative to measurement, nobody seems to have taken up qualitative techniques of studying the learner characteristics and environment (Menon& ojha, 1986)

Qualitative methods of research do not seem to find a place with our researchers yet. Reflection, a priority thinking, theory building should be adopted in researches with teachers and teacher education. They complement and provide substance to empirical studies. (Mehrotra, 2006) From these surveys of different studies we could conclude that the Indian intellectuals at the top level are aware of the status of research in education. Qualitative research could be undertaken to supplement the quantitative research. The status of qualitative research did not improve in the field of education in terms of number and quality in spite of recommendation for qualitative research in education (Goel & Goel 2012)

Need of Qualitative Research

Most of the quantitative researches in social sciences are repetitive, replication type of something done in the west, to confirm or refute the previous findings (Sutar 2014). In experimental research in education, the usual findings we get. There is nothing new in this kind of research. Once you read the title you know the findings. Sachidananda (1997) commenting on methods employed in research stated that most of the works are excellent academic exercises using various kinds of scales and other instruments devised for this purpose. He regretted writing 'sometimes at the end of the study one is apt to conclude that not much has been added to the existing stock of knowledge

The need of qualitative research both as an alternative and supplement to quantitative research in education. Qualitative research is an altogether different approach of looking reality and doing research. Unfortunately this way of doing research is lacking in the field of education. Here are a few reasons why we should go for more qualitative research in education:

Education is a process with different motives. The process being very complex requires a much sustained effort to understand, discern and find their interrelationship holistically. The process part of education in different settings like how inclusive education is carried out in a normal school, how teachers handle classroom discipline, how decision is made etc. cannot be studied through questionnaire and experiment. An intensive observation, discussion with the stake holders and at time participant observation to get the feel of the situation is required and thus, there is need for qualitative research. In this context Misra (2006) wrote, "In a multicultural and pluralistic setting like India qualitative of work is more relevant and studies that involve in –depth analysis of a phenomenon.

Teacher behaviour, organisational climate, classroom climate and personality were quantified. This was scientific, but gave an impression that there was no place for imagination, logic and intuition in educational research. This has proved a barrier to its solving real educational problems. (Buch 1991) This way of doing research and understanding reality looks very superficial. The use of modern tools has not brought about a major, qualitative change in research in education. No efforts is made in most cases to present the findings and analysis so that they could be understood without the statistical results. Hence, instead of looking at subjectivity as a limitation, qualitative research has accepted it as its merits. It admits individual way of looking and interpreting reality that may look subjective to others. Rather the subjectivity of the researcher is considered as the essential feature in qualitative research (yadav, Roy & Lakshmi 1989) the qualitative researchers seek knowledge and understanding of specific situation.

Development of theory from bottom is possible with the help of qualitative research employing grounded theory research. (Glaser& straauss, 1967) Because of overdependence on quantification in research, in the process of local issues and concerns are

ignored particularly in developing countries like ours studying of local issues and problems to a great extent requires in depth analysis of interview, observation and documents that is essentially qualitative research

Measures to improve the qualitative research in Education

1. Attitude towards qualitative research among the guides need to be changed. The status of educational research depends to a great extent on the research guides. Their competency and attitude towards qualitative research needs to be addressed. The basic understanding of research methodology is lacking among the research guides (Sansanwal 2015)

2. Refresher courses for research guides on qualitative research could be organised. Even university departments could organise a series of talks, workshops on qualitative research to orient the guides in this area.

3. Knowledge of students in this area need to be strengthened. At research level, both qualitative and quantitative research should be given equal importance.

4. Some university departments and colleges could be identified for specialising on qualitative research. All resources like man power, materials should be provided. Training for teachers, guides and students on using qualitative research must be organised regularly.

5. Qualitative research journals in education would be very much helpful in this direction. Exclusive journals devoting to qualitative research could be encouraged. A list of topic suitable for qualitative research should be updated by each university department for their research students.

Conclusion

The concern is there has to be committed effort strengthening qualitative research in education. We should accept any attempt of doing qualitative research without any hesitation and suspicious even though there are concern about the quality of qualitative research. (sansanwal, 2015) Globally the status of qualitative research has grown considerably. But in India the situation is more or less stagnant. Hence it is the right time Qualitative research could be undertaken to supplement the quantitative research by scholars and research community to solve the real educational problems.

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Artificial Intelligence: A new media age

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[*Artificial intelligence is considered as a transformational technology of the digital age. In today's world which is ruled and impacted by digitalization, technology is the powerful magic tool giving wings to our imaginations and creativity and used in multiple mass media platforms that include Newspapers, TV and Mass Media. The use of Artificial Intelligence is constant and ever-evolving in every sector of life. Artificial Intelligence holds a massive degree of power and capacity and the promise of evolution and booming of the media and all its varied sectors. The global media and entertainment industry is witnessing a rapid transformation in the way content is distributed. The growing ubiquity of content creation software, smart technologies allowing to create, publish, and distribute written, audio, and video content. This paper is discussed on the role of Artificial Intelligence in communication, creativity and collaboration in transforming media and entertainment industry.*]

Many in the business have hailed artificial intelligence (AI) as the digital age's revolutionary technology as the century's electricity that would power everything. It was also claimed that AI adoption is a matter of schedule and strategy, rather than choice, because all firms must now incorporate AI capabilities. Rather than adopting a specific tool or technology, the value of AI appears in creating a foundation of competences for businesses. Furthermore, due of its rapid expansion compared to other technologies such as computers and the Internet, as well as the revolutionary influence of its utilities, companies today can benefit from it. In essence, artificial intelligence is becoming a more important business mindset and capability for businesses, particularly those in the media industry.

The media sector has undergone substantial changes in audience behaviour, delivery platforms, content strategy, and economic models as a result of tech corporations like Netflix, Amazon, Apple, Google, and Facebook. In such an unstable environment, media firms are looking for long-term competitive advantages that can help them survive and even thrive in present days. Artificial intelligence appears to be the next big change, with its transformational potential (Castelino, 2018). There is a lot of literature on AI's uses and ramifications, but there isn't much on the media industry. Because of the market and customer factors that are unique to it (Picard, 2005).

Background and context

"In the future, the world may be governed by beneficent AI", according to a Pew Center analysis on the benefits and drawbacks of algorithms (Rainie & Anderson, 2017). Artificial intelligence is a broad word that encompasses a wide range of technology. AI is frequently referred to as "cognitive technologies" since it is a collection of technologies that can perform and/or augment tasks, analyses, interactions, and judgments that normally requires human intelligence. What truly distinguishes artificial intelligence is its ability to learn from data sets and tasks, rather than following and implementing a predetermined set of procedures and rules.

AI functions and technologies

AI is a catch-all phrase for a variety of cognitive technologies. From machine learning to physical robots, it spans eight core fields. Despite the fact that they may focus on separate functions or use various technology, the majority of them can be combined to obtain better results. The most often discussed AI technique is machine learning (ML). It use statistical modelling to allow computers to learn and grow from their experiences over time in the same way that humans do. The structure and operation of neural networks inspired deep learning neural networks, which is a complicated form of machine learning. A computer model learns to execute classification tasks from images using deep learning.

AI could be used to perform basic operations including classification, estimation, clustering, optimization, anomaly detection, suggestions, ranking, and data generation, according to Bughin, Seong, Manyika, Chui, and Joshi (2018). They go on to say that AI has the most promise in marketing and sales, as well as operations like supply-chain management and manufacturing. In terms of actual business adoption of cognitive technologies in the field, the most popular AI applications in 2018 were largely concerned to security, analytics, and customer service/relationship management (Technalysis Research, 2018).

Artificial Intelligence in the Media

Companies in the advertising and media industries appear to be equally enthusiastic about AI. According to a market survey conducted in Europe, 80 percent of media professionals believe AI would have a substantial impact on their sector (Shields, 2018). While 62 percent of

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respondents thought AI would improve decision-making, only 47 percent even it would boost productivity. However, one-third of the respondents have low confidence in their knowledge of AI and how it may be used in their jobs. According to the survey, the two top worries were less human control (47 percent) and trustworthy insights (55 percent). Few people believed AI will have a detrimental influence on their career or job availability.

Tech companies like Amazon that provide responsive services and active interaction, today's audience has higher expectations in all part of their digital lives. Media, like other tech companies, must respond faster and better to audience expectations in this data-driven and direct-to-consumer environment (Raconteur, 2018). Media firms should give engaging unique experiences to every consumer, in the present, and all the time, as media is now interwoven with consumers' daily lives and technological bundles. As a result, in this new environment, human resource commitment is crucial, and the solution is logically the emergence of cognitive technology.

AI applications in media

According to the report, AI applications in the media have so far occurred in eight core functional categories, all of which have the potential to improve the prediction, perception, and cognition abilities of media firms (Agrawal et al., 2019; Brynjolfsson & Mcafee, 2017). While some applications are more concerned with media audiences (the demand side), others are more concerned with the internal operations and goals of media companies (the supply side). Additionally, some are more relevant to content providers (for example, content creation/management and automation), while others are more important to content distributors (for example, content discovery), or both (for example, audience engagement/insights, augmented experience).

Audience experience with enhancements

Cognitive technologies improve picture quality and a better comprehension of user input/intent, content association, and contexts for a rising media offering, virtual reality and augmented reality-related experiences, which is relevant to the engagement element. AI is being used by Netflix, Apple, Facebook, YouTube, and Amazon, as well as other standalone streaming providers such as Sports Illustrated and CBS, to improve enhanced user experience. In terms of technology, AI may be utilised to improve consumer media experiences by creating smoother, more enriched presentations.

For better video streaming experiences, AI can assist with video encoding and delivery. Similarly, iHeartMedia employs Super Hi-Fi AI in audio to provide personalised

song transitions and manage level differences at the scalable rate required for streaming, much like a live DJ would. Artificial intelligence (AI) can help OTT services improve a range of aspects of the video ecosystem and customer experience. For certain audiences, AI may personalise content and brand experiences (Castelino, 2018). Media firms can employ AI applications to improve their technological interactions with viewers and provide better user experiences. The following five application themes are more focused on the firm and strategy.

Message refinement

This term refers to the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to provide personalised messages, particularly in the context of advertising and marketing campaigns. When done appropriately, this application helps both the audience and the media. For example, AI can index and analyse movies in real time for video-related businesses, providing advertising partners with a better message-audience match in context for content marketing (Bragg, 2018). As a result, advertisers gain from increased visibility, openness, and accountability (McNevin, 2017). The same may be said for audio products. AI enables digital audio ad servers to deliver the correct message to the right person at the right time, as well as new ways to track interest of customers.

Content creation

AI can not only assist with content management, but it can also generate media content. Furthermore, AI can determine which material provides the best return on investment. AI may be used to automate a variety of creative tasks, including storyline discovery, scene selection, and post-production scripting. For instance, Hollywood studios have used AI to translate information and build trailers with crucial plots (Bragg, 2018); NLP to convey meaning from data for storyline development; and other algorithms for data visualisation. For the Fox horror picture Morgan, IBM Watson generated a cognitive movie trailer in 2016. (McNevin, 2017). The Weather Company also created a smart ad for Toyota using machine learning and natural language processing. Disney Research invested on a system that can learn the relationship between sights and the sounds they can produce on its own (e.g., car and car engine sound). These research' conclusions are likely to be used in sound effect systems or to appeal to specific audiences.

Forbes was able to offer article themes to writers based on their prior articles and headlines based on the sentiment of their photographs thanks to artificial intelligence. Forbes is also implementing an AI story-writing tool that generates initial draughts of articles for authors to improve (Willens, 2019). AI has enabled a better division of content creation between humans

and machines in this industry, allowing humans to focus on deeper insights while machines provide more complete, data-based, and timely material.

AI and Automation

AI programme highlights the several functions that have been presented thus far. Because of the variety and frequency with which it is used, it is explored separately. The major benefit here is the automation of routine chores to improve the efficiency of normal media operations and processes. Reuter's News Tracer, for example, tracks down breaking news, freeing reporters from mundane tasks. It extracts insights from a stream of social media using cognitive computing and machine learning. It uses algorithms to uncover breaking news by analysing a portion of Twitter's daily tweets.

AI is also becoming a significant tool for combatting disinformation or fake news in terms of automating data access and research procedures. Voyc, a voice-scanning AI system, is supposed to recognise a problematic remark virtually in real-time to fact-check live news. It works by transcribing live audio and comparing it to a fact database created by reputable sources and fact-checking organisations. If a statement is in conflict with verified data, an SMS alert will be sent to the appropriate party, requesting additional information. Similar AI-powered fact-checking platforms, such as Full Fact and First Draft News, allow journalists to employ machine learning to automate fact-checking. The media sector deals with a lot of unstructured data, which necessitates a lot of human labour for content management, processing, interpretation, and quality control, among other things. With scalability, speed, and repeatability, AI automates workflow processes while producing relevant audience insights (Narang, 2017). AI also facilitates the division of human and machine roles in content creation and enhancement to give the greatest user experiences.

Challenges in AI media applications

So far, media coverage of AI applications has revealed certain unstated barriers. Concerns have been raised regarding balancing human and artificial intelligence, as well as managing AI's evolutionary potential for the sake of the future and the good of society. Many of these past discussions on human-machine interaction and AI ethical quandaries. The difficulties identified are based on the contents of the material as well as the hazards or conflicts demonstrated in relevant literature and practical scenarios.

Achieving balance between AI and human judgement

One of the main themes of the algorithm era, according to Pew Center study on AI, is that humanity and human judgement are lost when data and predictive modelling become crucial (Rainie & Anderson, 2017). The application of AI in the media is a fascinating mix of creativity and logic, an algorithm and human relationships. Netflix's battle for the comedy show Grace and Frankie between the algorithm-obsessed IT/product team and the Hollywood-based creative team exemplifies this tug of war. Netflix's algorithm-centric business is having difficulty combining hard data and soft relational metrics as it invests extensively in Hollywood output with over 700 original shows/movies each year. When media businesses try to combine data metrics with connection building, tensions between creative and technology/product teams will only grow. As AI becomes more prevalent in media operations, media businesses will face a critical difficulty in balancing artificial and human intelligence in decision-making.

Evolutionary vs. revolutionary AI

It's vital to remember that AI is often used to solve relatively specific problems rather than make complex decisions. The AI market is highly fragmented, with a plethora of applications and providers vying for market share. To put it another way, cognitive technologies are evolutionary rather than revolutionary. The media industry has a long way to go before it can use AI to make synthetic, sophisticated decisions that humans can make. In the media, AI's value is primarily based on functional enhancement rather than replacement. Furthermore, AI does not generate its own viewpoint; previous bias or disposition is programmed into the system's parameters by humans. As a result, human objectivity is crucial in the application design process. The difficulty for media firms is to remember AI's evolutionary character while developing tools that help humans produce and strategize more successfully.

Conclusion

AI, like the Internet, is evolving into a general-purpose technology that can be applied to a variety of businesses (Castellanos, 2018). Its benefits and transformative power are so great that the question for media firms isn't whether to employ cognitive technology, but when and how to build an AI foundation to improve existing operations and uncover new business opportunities. The question is also not about whether AI will do bad things (Bernazzani, 2017), but rather how to harvest AI's potential in a transparent and equitable manner. According to Gentzkow (2018), this is an area where a media corporation may gain a lot of value. It may, however, be the most difficult, since it necessitates the removal of siloed data across departments and the appropriate balancing of human intelligence/experience and AI. By reducing the need for lower-level personnel and enhancing operational efficiency, AI and automation save money. Insights are all about making sense of

massive amounts of data in order to deliver real-time knowledge and insights that help humans make better and faster decisions. Netflix's audience viewing analytics algorithm supplies it with valuable information for show promotion and development.

Media firms must overcome a number of obstacles in order to fully utilise AI's benefits. They must strike a balance between human and machine intelligence and interactions, experiment with personalised products and delivery, and develop the skills and insights needed to integrate AI into their existing systems and processes. It's vital to highlight that this review is exploratory and descriptive in nature, relying on established notions and academic literature sparingly. The purpose of this article is to provide a complete overview of a critical topic in media management. Future research could include more primary data from individual media businesses or concentrate on a certain topic.

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15th Finance Commission: Transforming Rural Local Governments (Panchayats) in India

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[*The local governments in a federal country play a very important role in providing various basic services to the local people, especially in rural areas by the rural local governments. Our country (India) has also no exception to this, where (68.1%) of our population according to the 2011 census lives in rural areas. However, despite having constitutional status because of the 73rd constitutional amendment act, the rural local governments (panchayats) can't able to function effectively, the main reason being inadequate resources. Against this backdrop, the article attempts to study the recent 15th Finance Commission recommendations related to grants for rural local governments in India.*]

The first Union budget at the beginning of the third decade of the 21st century is very special, reason being the presentation of the Fifteenth Finance Commission Report (hereinafter referred to as 15th FC) for the period from (2021-22 to 2025-26). In a federal country like India, which is geographically very big with a huge population, the importance of local governments i.e. panchayats in rural areas to serve the people at the ground level more effectively and efficiently, especially in providing very critical civic services is very important. Although, the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) gave constitutional status to the panchayats which came into force on 24th April, 1993. More importantly, the above CAA added Eleventh Schedule for the (panchayats) where 29 functional items are given like rural housing, drinking water, rural electrification, agriculture, etc to the constitution (*Laxmikanth, 2020, p.38.11*). To perform its aforementioned functions, Article (243H) mentions that the state legislature may by law authorise panchayat to levy, collect, and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls, etc; and also provide for the grants in aid to the panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the State, etc (*Bakshi, 2011, pp.231 & 238*). Similarly, Article (243I) talks about constituting a State Finance Commission at the expiration of every fifth year by the Governor and, the former will make recommendations to the latter in respect of improving the financial position of the panchayats (*ibid. pp.232 & 238*).

However, in reality, the panchayats find it very difficult to provide the necessary civic services to the people under their jurisdiction, even after more than two and half decades of achieving constitutional status. The main reason being the inadequate resources at their disposal.

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The rural local governments in India facing a challenge of inadequate devolution of fiscal autonomy and also the limited capacity to raise resources through their own source of revenue. As a result, they are depending more on the State and Central government transfers (*Kaur, Prachi and Gupta, Shruti, 2020*). In this regard, this article tries to study the central government transfers in the form of grants from the 15th FC to the rural local governments in India for the period from (2021-22 to 2025-26).

Rural Local Governments in India

Table 1.1 shows that (as on 28th June 2021), a total of 2,63,062 panchayats existing in India, out of which 660 are District Panchayats, 6,836 Intermediate Panchayats, and 2,55,566 are Village Panchayats. The largest number of panchayats are in the state of Uttar Pradesh with a total of 59,090 which constitutes (22.46%) of the total panchayats in the country. It was followed by 28,274 (10.74%) panchayats in Maharashtra, 23,146 (8.79%) in Madhya Pradesh, 14,538 (5.52%) in Gujarat, 14,044 (5.33%) in Andhra Pradesh, etc. At the district level, Uttar Pradesh is having 75 District Panchayats which is (11.36%) of the total District Panchayats in the country, followed by Madhya Pradesh 51 (7.72%), Bihar 38 (5.75%), Tamil Nadu 37 (5.60%), while both Rajasthan and Gujarat having 33 (5%) District Panchayats respectively in their state. Similarly, at the intermediate or block level, Uttar Pradesh having 826 Intermediate Panchayats which is (12.08%) of the total Intermediate Panchayats in the country, followed by Andhra Pradesh 660 (9.65%), Telangana 540 (7.89%), Bihar 534 (7.8%), Tamil Nadu 388 (5.67%), etc. The last and the most important tier of the panchayats system has been the Village Panchayats which alone constitute (97.15%) of the total panchayats in the country. Here again, as with the other two tiers of the panchayats system, the largest number of Village Panchayats are in Uttar Pradesh with 58,189 which is (22.7%) of the total Village Panchayats

in the country, followed by Maharashtra 27,889 (10.91%), Madhya Pradesh 22,782 (8.91%), Gujarat 14,257 (5.57%), Andhra Pradesh 13,371 (5.25%), etc (see Table 1.1).

Table 1.1: Number of Panchayats in India (as on 28/06/2021)

States	Number of District Panchayats	Number of Intermediate Panchayats	Number of Village Panchayats	Total Number Panchayats
Andhra Pradesh	13	660	13371	14044
Arunachal Pradesh	25	178	2106	2309
Assam	26	192	2197	2415
Bihar	38	534	8387	8959
Chhattisgarh	27	146	11658	11831
Goa	2	N.A.	191	193
Gujarat	33	248	14257	14538
Haryana	21	126	6234	638
Himachal Pradesh	12	81	3615	3708
Jharkhand	24	263	4359	4646
Karnataka	30	227	6006	6263
Kerala	14	152	941	1107
Madhya Pradesh	51	313	22782	23146
Maharashtra	34	351	27889	28274
Manipur	6	N.A.	161	167
Meghalaya	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Mizoram	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Odisha	30	314	6798	7142
Punjab	22	151	13263	13436
Rajasthan	33	352	11341	11726
Sikkim	4	N.A.	185	189
Tamil Nadu	37	388	12525	12950
Telangana	32	540	12769	13341
Tripura	8	35	591	634
Uttar Pradesh	75	826	58189	59090
Uttarakhand	13	94	7702	7809
West Bengal	22	342	3340	3704
UTs#				
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	7	70	79
Chandigarh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Delhi	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Jammu & Kashmir	20	275	4290	4585
Ladakh	2	31	193	226
Lakshadweep	1	N.A.	10	11
Puducherry	N.A.	10	108	118
Dadra & N.H@ and Daman & Diu	3	N.A.	38	41
Total(States+ UTs)	660	6836	255566	263062

Notes: a) # UTs means Union Territories b) @N.H.　　means Nagar Haveli c) N.A. means Not Applicable

Source: Local Government Directory, Government of India. Retrieved from http//lgdirectory.gov.in on 28th June 2021.

Union Finance Commissions (UFCs) and Rural Local Governments

Article 280 of the Indian constitution talks about constituting the Union Finance Commission by the President of India every five years, which is playing a very important role in maintaining fiscal federalism in the country. However, the relationship between Union Finance Commission and Local Governments can be seen in Article 280 (3) bb & c, which reads as '*the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats and Municipalities in the State on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of the State*' (*Alok, 2019, p.38*). Thus, along with the state government's responsibility to devolve resources to local governments, the union government also has constitutional obligations as mentioned in the above article of the constitution.

The grants to the Panchayats from the Union Finance Commissions (UFCs) begin from the 10th Finance Commission, thus so far five UFCs have recommended the grants including the current one i.e. 15th FC. The 10th Finance Commission (1995-2000) allocated Rupees 4380.93 crores to the panchayats which increased to Rupees 8000 crores by the 11th Finance Commission (2000-05). The 12th Finance Commission (2005-10) allocated Rupees 20000 crores; the 13th Finance Commission (2010-15) allocated Rupees 63,50.50 crores; the 14th Finance Commission (2015-20) allocated Rupees 200292.20 crores (*ibid.p.38*). Finally, the current 15th Finance Commission (2021-25) allocated Rupees 236805 crores. It's important to note that since the 10th FC, the largest increase in the amount allocated to panchayats from one UFC to another UFC was seen in the 14th FC with a total of Rupees 200292.2 crores, which is an increase of Rupees 137241.7 crores in comparison with the 13th FC. In the case of (10th FC to 11th FC) it was Rupees 3619.07 crores; (11th FC to 12th FC) Rupees 12000 crores; (12th FC to 13th FC) Rupees 43050.5; and (14th to 15th FC) Rupees 36512.8 crores.

Table 1.2 reveals the grants to rural local bodies in different states from 13th FC to 15th FC. The reason for discussing only data for the last three UFC been the huge increase in the amount allocated to the rural local bodies as was mentioned before. During 13th FC, Uttar Pradesh has been allocated Rupees 9787.7 crores which constitutes (15.52%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies, followed by Maharashtra with Rupees 5498.6 crores (8.72%), Andhra Pradesh Rupees 5226.2 crores (8.29%), Bihar Rupees 4954.5 crores (7.86%), Karnataka Rupees 4504.8 crores (7.14%), etc. These states alone account for (47.53%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies in the country. In the 14th FC, Uttar Pradesh has received the highest grants of Rupees 35776.56 crores (17.86%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies, followed by Bihar Rupees 21017.83 crores (10.49%), Maharashtra Rupees 15035.68 crores (7.51%), West Bengal Rupees 14191.78 crores (7.09%), Rajasthan Rupees 13633.63 crores (6.81%), etc. These five states account for (49.76%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies. The current 15th FC followed the same criteria for distributing grants to panchayats as was done by the 14th FC i.e. weight of (90%) for the 2011 census population and (10%) for a geographical area. As a result, the 15th FC allocated Rupees 38012 crores to Uttar Pradesh which is (16.05%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies in the country, followed by Maharashtra Rupees 22713 crores (9.59%), Bihar 19561 crores (8.26%), West Bengal Rupees 17199 crores (7.26%), Madhya Pradesh Rupees 15527 crores (6.56%). All the above-mentioned states account for (47.72%) of the total grants to the rural local bodies (see Table 1.2).

Table 1.2: Grants to Rural Local Bodies from Union Finance Commissions (in Crores)

States	13th FC#	States share out of total grants for rural local bodies	14th FC	States share out of total grants for rural local bodies	15th FC	States share out of total grants for rural local bodies
Andhra Pradesh	5226.2	8.29%	8654.09	4.32%	10231	4.32%
Arunachal Pradesh	274.1	0.43%	819.92	0.41%	900	0.38%
Assam	1577.4	2.50%	5416.58	2.70%	6253	2.64%
Bihar	4954.5	7.86%	21017.83	10.49%	19561	8.26%
Chhattisgarh	1670.7	2.65%	5244.13	2.62%	5669	2.39%
Goa	90.1	0.14%	133.77	0.07%	293	0.12%
Gujarat	2332.8	3.70%	8634.73	4.31%	12455	5.26%
Haryana	1086.7	1.72%	3883.52	1.94%	4929	2.08%

Himachal Pradesh	556.9	0.88%	1809.8	0.90%	1673	0.71%
Jharkhand	1516.6	2.41%	6046.74	3.02%	6585	2.78%
Jammu & Kashmir	918.3	1.46%	3463.73	1.73%	N.A.	N.A.
Karnataka	4504.8	7.14%	9288.66	4.64%	12539	5.29%
Kerala	1950.2	3.09%	4017.61	2.01%	6344	2.68%
Madhya Pradesh	4113.8	6.52%	13556.36	6.77%	15527	6.56%
Maharashtra	5498.6	8.72%	15035.68	7.51%	22713	9.59%
Manipur	219.2	0.35%	206.04	0.10%	690	0.29%
Meghalaya	313	0.52%	N.A.	N.A.	711	0.30%
Mizoram	201.3	0.32%	N.A.	N.A.	362	0.15%
Nagaland	305.4	0.48%	N.A.	N.A.	486	0.21%
Odisha	2591.2	4.11%	8850.31	4.42%	8800	3.72%
Punjab	1125.1	1.78%	4091.13	2.04%	5410	2.29%
Rajasthan	3938.7	6.25%	13633.63	6.81%	15053	6.36%
Sikkim	184.5	0.29%	148.49	0.07%	165	0.07%
Tamil Nadu	3083.9	4.89%	8777.43	4.38%	14059	5.94%
Telangana	N.A.	N.A.	5375.28	2.68%	7201	3.04%
Tripura	293.4	0.47%	335.68	0.17%	746	0.31%
Uttar Pradesh	9787.7	15.52%	35776.56	17.86%	38012	16.05%
Uttarakhand	591	0.94%	1882.69	0.94%	2239	0.95%
West Bengal	4144.3	6.57%	14191.78	7.09%	17199	7.26%
Total	63050.5	100%	200292.2	100%	236805	100%

Note: a) #FC means Finance Commission b) N.A. means Not Applicable

Source: Author compilation from the three Union Finance Commissions Report.

15th Finance Commission and Rural Local Governments

The 15th FC recommended entry-level conditions for availing grants to rural bodies in the form of undertaking some reforms. The most important reforms are: a) Setting up of State Finance Commissions (SFCs) by every state and acting on their recommendations before March 2024, otherwise, grants will not be released for the last two years (2024-25 and 2025-26) (*Roy, Jayanta and Nayar, Aditi, 2021*). The importance of this condition can be gauged from the fact that so far only four states (Rajasthan, Assam, Punjab, and Bihar) and eleven states (Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Tripura, Haryana, Kerala, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, and Madhya

Pradesh) have constituted sixth and fifth state finance commissions for the former and latter in their states respectively; whereas in states like Manipur, Goa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Gujarat where only third state finance commissions constituted till now. Therefore, the 15th FC wants to ensure through this condition that one of the important feature of the 73rd CAA can be implemented in the form of constituting SFCs by the states after every five years and, their recommendations can be implemented on time (*15th Finance Commission of India, 2020, p.177)*. b) The accounts of rural bodies need to be audited timely and available in the public domain online from 2020-21 onwards (Op.cit., *Roy, Jayanta and Nayar, Aditi, 2021)*. This is also important because various UFCs had found it very difficult to exactly know how much resources are needed by the rural local governments for carrying out their basic functions. The main reason being the lack of availability of accounts of rural local governments

including audited accounts on time (*Op.cit., 15th Finance Commission of India, 2020, p.175*).

Apart from the above entry-level conditions, some other important features of the 15th FC are: firstly, it has divided the grants for rural local governments into two parts a) *Untied Grants or Basic Grants* for which Rupees 94721 crores allocated which is (40%) of the total fund for the rural bodies and, the panchayats have freedom without any conditions to use for 29 subjects given in the eleventh schedule excluding salaries and other establishment costs. b) *Tied Grants* consist of Rupees 142084 crores (60%) which will be used only for activities that are of national priority. This grant has been divided into two sub-parts: (30%) of the fund i.e. Rupees 71042 crores earmarked for drinking water, rainwater harvesting, and water recycling. The balance (30%) Rupees 71042 crores allocated for sanitation and maintenance of Open Defecation Free (ODF) status (*ibid. pp. 196-197*). So, implementing the above national priorities activities will help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 of clean water and sanitation. So the tied grants of 15th FC are somewhat different from performance grants as recommended by 13th and 14th FC.

Secondly, the 14th FC recommended grants should be given only to the Gram Panchayats excluding Block Panchayats and District Panchayats. Although, the constitution gave constitutional status to all the three-tier panchayats system. So unlike 14th FC, the 15th FC allocated grants to all the three-tier in the rural local governments. In addition, it also provided grants to those non-Part IX areas where panchayats system non-existence i.e. 'Fifth and Sixth Schedule areas and Excluded Areas' like Mizoram; Nagaland; Hill areas of Manipur where District Council exist, etc. Thirdly, in states which have a three-tier panchayat system the distribution of grants amongst them will be done by following the bands of: for Gram Panchayats not below less than (70%) and not above (85%); Block Panchayats not below less than (10%) and not above (25%); District Panchayats not below less than (5%) and not above (15%), provided it should not cross more than (100%) by adding up for all three-tiers. Similarly, in states having two-tier panchayats system, the grants will be distributed in the bands of: Gram Panchayats not below less than (70%) and not above (85%), whereas for District Panchayats not less than (15%) and not above (30%) (*ibid. p.191*).

Conclusion

The impact of recommendations of the 15th FC will be going to see in the coming years, which will be very interesting to consider the fact that it is implementing when the Covid-19 pandemic impacting every aspect of our society. Nonetheless, the most important thing that needs to be seen is the implementation of conditional reforms which could lead to more accountability and effective governance at rural local bodies in the country which is still lacking, and also highlighted by various UFCs in the past. Apart from that, to achieve shared national goals, it is important that rural local governments work in tandem with both central and state governments with the grants earmarked by the 15th FC, which will be also helpful in achieving some Sustainable Development Goals which are due in the year 2030.

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Organisation of Shrub type Medicinal Plant Resources of West Bengal, India, Using Open Source Software

Laltu Aich* & Dr. Swapna Banerjee**

[*Digital libraries deal with data. These data are digitized from digital as well as their analogue form. So there is a need to save digital resources for future use. This paper represents the digital archiving on shrub type medicinal plants through GSDL/ GEMS. This work helps to learn the methodology of compilation of an organisation of shrub type medicinal plants of West Bengal, India. LIS professionals have not only the responsibility of saving and disseminating metadata of information sources, but also creating metadata using various software. The article gives an explanation of developing a model of digital repository of shrub type medicinal plants by using Greenstone Digital Library Software.*]

In India, the references to the remedial properties of some herbs in the Rig Veda seem to be the earliest records of use of plants in medicine. There are various thousand drug yielding plants all over the world. Most of the plants are known and utilized by herb doctors and ayurevd ic vaids. Only a few drug plants are cultivated. Most of the supply of drugs is obtained from wild plants growing in all parts of the world and especially in tropical regions. These drug yielding wild plants are popularly known as 'jari-butis' in India. The drug plants are collected and prepared in crude indigenous way. The medicinal importance of drug plants is due to the presence of some chemical substances in the plant tissues which produce a definite physiological action on the human body. The most important chemical substances of drug plants are alkaloids, carbon compounds, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, glucosides, essential oils, fatty oils, resins, mucilages, tannins, gum etc. Some of these substances are powerful poisons and therefore, the preparation and administering of drugs should be done by competent physicians.

The world is going for digitization through the proliferation of internet. At the present time internet has become a valuable resource for every type of information. Information available on the internet is very fast and accessible. The organisation of shrub type medicinal plant resources on the web is not satisfactory in the view of appropriate information retrieval. It is difficult to access right information due to the noise in retrieval. The huge numbers of heterogeneous resources of medicinal plants are in a distributed environment. In this situation, there is an obvious requirement for metadata to be suitable.

Literature Review

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- Lee (2015) in this article proposed metadata packages that can support the description of digital objects from the perspective of the core processes of digital archiving. The construction of preservation metadata is a prerequisite for the preservation of digital information. [5]

- Rahman & Zaman (2015) in their article stated that the current research work is based on the local knowledge of most generally used medicinal plants of Myrtaceae family. [6]

- Anyaoku, Nwafor-Orizu & Eneh (2015) describe the role of medical libraries in the preservation of traditional medical knowledge. The article recommends that as a task to the people's collective indigenous knowledge heritage, medical libraries in Nigeria as a matter of precedence should extend inclusive policies that support collection development of traditional medical knowledge information resources. [1]

- Chikonzo (2013) in his, article gives an outline of the importance of African Indigenous Knowledge. It highlights which information communication technologies have been used to preserve Indigenous Knowledge successfully. The paper further lists projects which are still underway, in which information communication technologies are being harnessed in the collection and preservation of the Indigenous Knowledge. Lastly the paper looks at the challenges faced by African countries in harnessing information communication technologies in preserving Indigenous Knowledge and gives recommendations on the way forward. [2]

- Hunter (2013) in this article provides an overview of the current state of IT tools, services and projects relevant to Indigenous Knowledge management. In particular it describes information technology tools being developed at Distributed Systems Technology that have been designed to enable Indigenous

communities to capture, control and share their knowledge within local information bases according to their unique, specific local needs. [4]

◦ Das & Kholia (2010) in their paper showed the value of taxonomic information; problems faced in accessing, the information and proposed the need for the development of an Integrated Plant Taxonomic Information System (IPTIS) at national level to meet the growing needs of taxonomic information. [3]

◦ Samaddar & Chaudhary (2010) in their paper aims to facilitate the design and deployment of semantic web portals for Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) for Santal medicinal systems (TKDLS) so that framework can be utilized for documentation of traditional medicinal knowledge and practices available all over the world in different forms. Traditional knowledge belongs to Indigenous and Local Communities (ILCs) of various regions all over the world. [7]

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of our study are:

i. To identify the shrub type medicinal plants of West Bengal, India;

ii. To understand the role of medicinal plants as the crude drug;

iii. To develop a model digital repository of medicinal plants by using Greenstone Digital Library software.

Scope and Coverage

The scope of this article is to present information on organisation of shrub type medicinal plants resources of West Bengal, India. These are –

i. To document medicinal plants bio-diversity and promote their conservation;

ii. To create awareness among local communities on the urgent need of conservation of medicinal plants;

iii. To enhance the proficient visibility of the Information Science (IS) professionals in formulating strategies for digital preservation shaped with consideration of scholarly information in the vicinity of medicinal plants.

There is a vast amount of medicinal plants in India. This huge amount of medicinal plants in India is not possible to be surveyed. In this study has been made, attempt to cover only shrub type medicinal plant resources of West Bengal, India.

Methodology

In this article, Greenstone Digital Library Software (GSDL) was utilized, as DMA software, and Greenstone Librarian Interface (GLI), as a tool for designing a searchable and brows able information product available on optical storage media. The five basic steps which are involved for building the product are as follows –

(i) Gather (ii) Enrich (iii) Design (iv) Format (v) Create

Initially a pilot survey is conducted to test the validity of tool and know any possibility to study in this topic. Data collection method was followed to know shrub type medicinal plants.

Organisation of Shrub type Medicinal Plant Resources of West Bengal, India through GSDL Collection Building

This article describes how to build a greenstone digital library software comprehensive, open source system for constructing, processing and maintaining digital collection. The collection can be built and rebuilt automatically in GSDL. The collections are easily maintainable, and provide effective full text searching and it is easy to use.

Greenstone runes on all versions of Windows and Unix, and Mac OS X. The sharing includes ready-to-use binaries for all versions of Windows, and for Linux. It also includes total source code for the system, which can be compiled using Microsoft C++ or GCC. Greenstone works with connected software that is also freely available: the Apache Web server and PERL. The user interface uses a Web browser: naturally Mozilla Firefox or Internet Explorer.

Collection Building with Greenstone's Librarian Interface (GLI) under Linux (Ubuntu)

The GLI is a Java based interface for building digital library collections and this provides very user-friendly approach. The GLI supports six basic activities, i.e. Download, Gather, Enrich, Design, Create and Build & Preview the collection, which may be considered as modules of GLI. Among these six activities the latter five are indispensable for making Greenstone collection. It collects the documents, import or assigns metadata, and builds the document in a digital library, and converts it into a CD-ROM library. Major tasks of GLI are:

(i) Gather (ii) Enrich (iii) Design (iv) Format (v) Create (vi) Convert

One has to go to the Greenstone admin interface, then to start a new collection, then select New from the File menu (Figure 1).
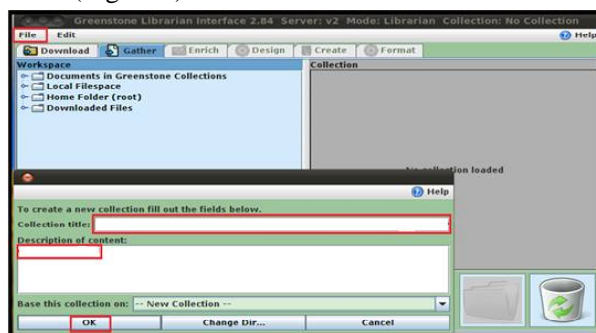
Gather: GLI allows us to Gather organisation of shrub type medicinal plant resources from different ways. These are- (a) Documents in greenstone collection (b) Local file space (c) Home folder (d) Downloaded file (Figure 2).

Here, first we have gathered shrub type medicinal plant resources from Local Filespace. So, the steps are-

Gather -Local file space - Home- Select the files- File and folder drag (Left to right side).

Enrich

Enrich is to enter the data of the source document(s) in the metadata fields to assign metadata for each source document. Metadata have to be prepared for all the source documents in the collection (Figure 3).

Design

'Design' is for specifying collection configuration in terms of indexes, classifiers, display formats, document plugins etc. Automatic extraction of simple metadata such as Title, Date, etc. is possible. Explicit metadata has to be extracted via 'Classifiers' e.g. Subject, Author, Organization, etc. If we choose Design, different options appeared which provide different functions. These are:

(a) Document Plugins (b) Search Indexes (c) Partition Indexes (d) Browsing Classifiers

Document Plugins

Document plugins is needed to convert the document format required for Greenstone (Figure 4).

Search Indexes

The steps are (Figure 5)–

Design- Search index-All files delete-New index Full text-Add index.
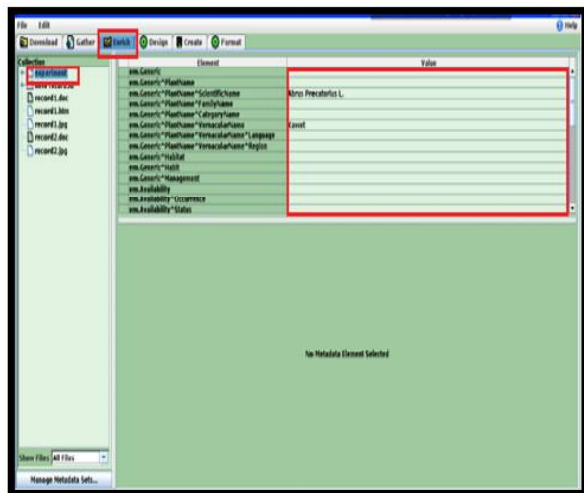
Figure 2: Gathering procedure of shrub type
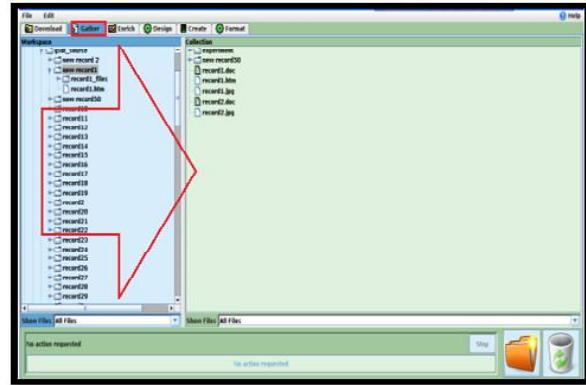
Figure 3: Enriching of shrub type medicinal plant resources from the medicinal plant resources

Local Filespace from Gather section
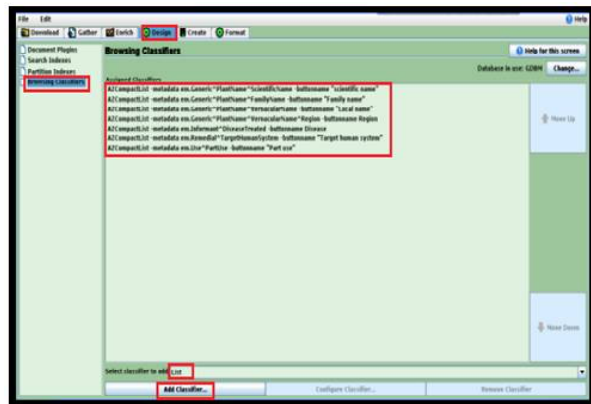
Figure 4: Document plugins

Figure 5: The search indexes process

Browsing Classifiers:

The steps are (Figure 6)–

Design Browsing classifiers -All file remove classifier Select classifier to add--List-Add-classifier Metadata-Sort - Battonname- Ok.

Format

The next step of collection building is Format. If we choose Format, different options appear which provide different functions. This are-

(a) General (b) Search (c) Format features (d) Translate text (e) Cross-collection search (f) Collection specific macros (g) Depositor metadata.

General

We can choose the Format tab, and select 'General' to provide the general information about the collection. We can choose a picture that needs to appear as an icon of the collection in the home page (Figure 7).
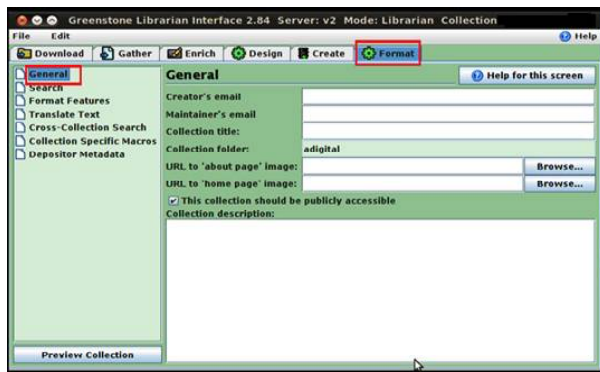
Figure 6: Browsing classifiers for the collection
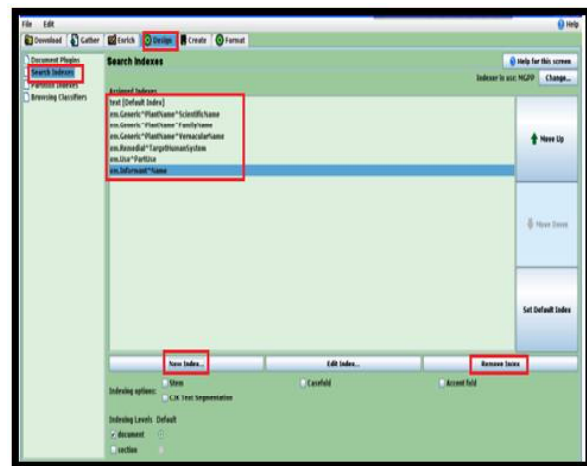
Figure 7: General format

Create

'Create' is for initiating the building process and 'Build Collection' is to build the collection in the GSDL system in compressed form of the source documents and coordinating all the activities done in the previous modules. 'Preview collection' is a link to the 'User Interface', by which one can view the current collection (Figure 8).
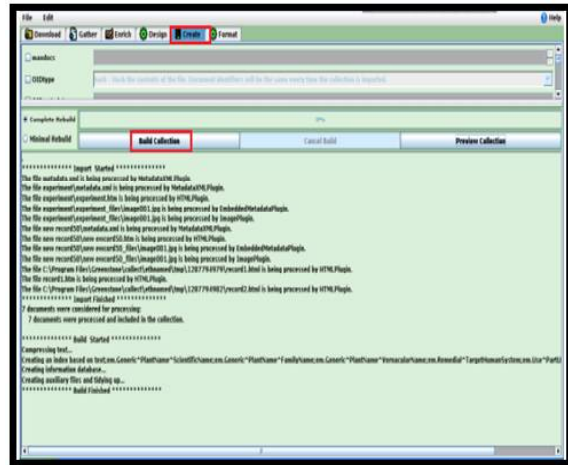
Figure 8: The building collection process
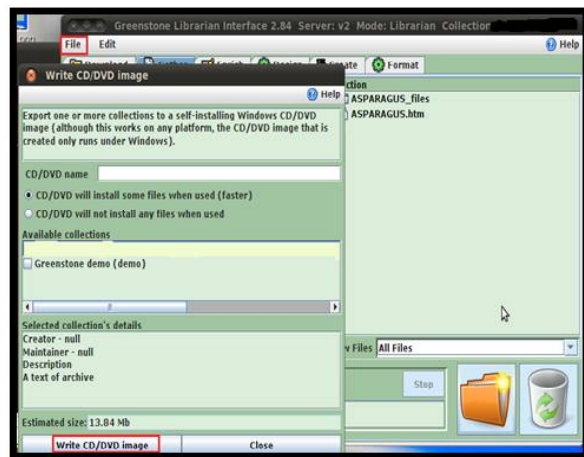
Figure 9: The collection name

Convert

The main feature of this paper is to make a CD-Rom compatible which is searchable or accessible from any PC in any platform of operating system. The steps to convert the collection into CD-Rom through GSDL are as follows (Figure 9)-

File-Choose write CD/DVD's image-Check box to choose your collection-Write CD/DVD image-Close.

The CD-Rom product will install necessary retrieval programs and Mozilla Firefox web browser into the computer. The GSDL software allows easy browsing facilities of digital objects and both simple and advance searching. The system has common homepage (Figure 10).
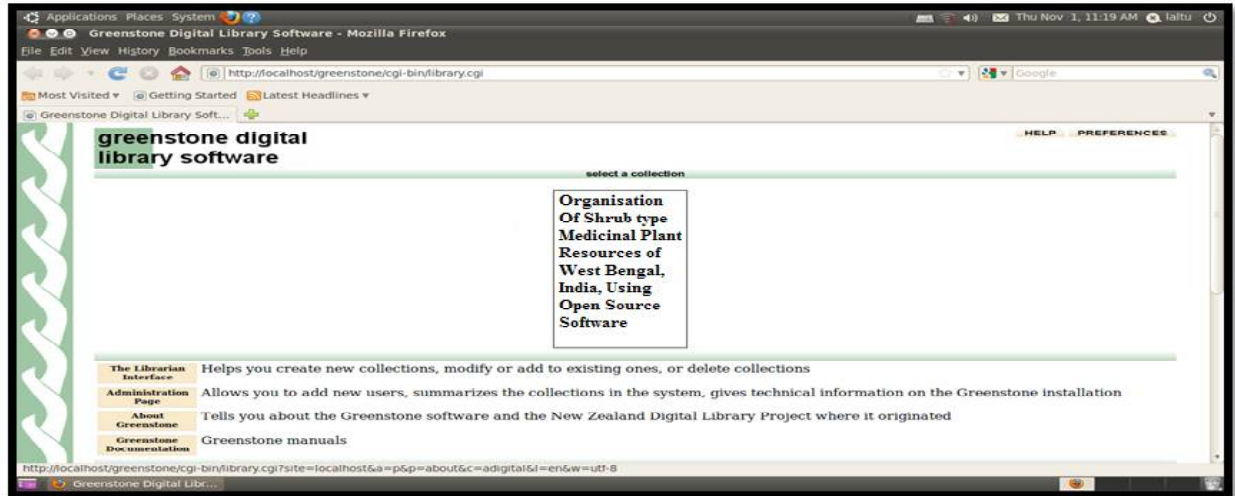
Figure 10: The homepage of Greenstone Digital Library Software

This display is simple and advanced search is possible through any keywords.

Simple search

Simple search is possible from the 'search' page. It can

Figure 11: The simple search result
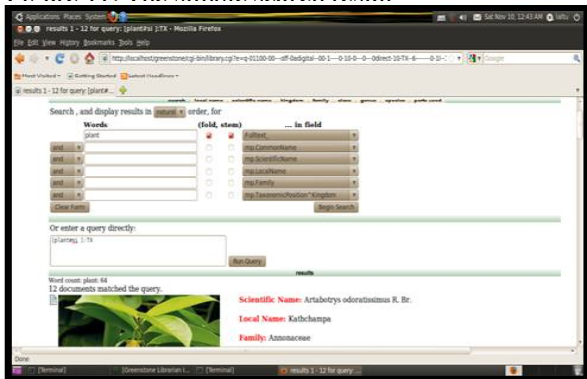
Figure 12: Advance search result page

Advanced search

In advanced search there are 6 fields and many search in options (Figure 12).

The steps are -Preferences-Query mode-Query style Set preferences-Search

A real example of searching and browsing through GSDL software

Now we will show a real example of searching and browsing of any shrub type medicinal plant through GSDL software.

a. First of all go to the home page and click on "Organisation of Shrub type Medicinal Plant Resources of West Bengal, India, Using Open Source Software".

b. The user can choose any searching keywords like scientific name, local name, family, propagation etc. and browse by click on button.

c. If the user searches with a scientific name such as *"Artabotrys odoratissimus R. Br."* it will show (Figure 11).

d. If the user wants to see the full document, then he should click on the small icon in the corner of the left hand image to see the full document (Figure 11).

e. So, result can be seen in retrieval of detailed information of that plant like scientific name, local name, family, propagation, parts used, useful link can also be seen.

f. After that, if any user wants to see the list of total scientific name or local name, it can be seen in alphabetical order. This way user can do one by one general search and advanced search (Figure 12).

Users can search for any information on shrub type medicinal plant through general search (Figure 11) and advanced search (Figure 12).

Conclusion

Libraries all over the world have been working on this daunting set of challenges for quite a few years now. Traditional medicines inhabit a vital sector of health care system in West Bengal, India and shrub type medicinal plants represent a major national resource. It is important to fortify their preservation for sustainable use. It is suggested that library professionals may take up similar initiatives so, as to promote open source digital library software, which can initiate the search and development programmes in the society.

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Problems and Prospects of Scheduled castes student in Higher Education of Assam- A case study

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[Scheduled castes population takes vital part in Indian society. The modern higher education in India is 163 years old from the beginning of the higher education. In Assam, higher education is started after the establishment of Cotton College (1901) and Gauhati University (1948). In the higher education system, the gross enrolment ration (GER) of India is 27.1%, (male 26.9% and female, 27.3%) in which Scheduled Castes constitutes 23.4% and Scheduled Tribes 18% (AISHE, 2019-20). Higher Education takes a central place in the development of human resources. So, Present study attempts to focus on the social problems, academic problems and economic problem of scheduled castes in higher education of Assam. Researcher collected the data from both primary and secondary sources and he used random sampling method for the present study.]

Castes system in India finds its origin in Spanish word "Custa" meaning breed or race. Thus, basically caste means people belonging to the same breed. An individual gets his caste from his very birth and usually he is not capable of changing that through anyhow. The term "caste" has been defined differently by different scholars. According to Cooley "When a class is somewhat hereditary we call it caste" (p-36, Indian social systems by HR Mukhi) .In the words of Risley "Caste is a collection of families or groups of families bearing a common name, claiming a common descent from a mythical ancestor, human or divine, professing to follow the same hereditary and regarded by those who are competent to give an opinion as forming a single homogeneous community" (p-36, Indian social systems by HR Mukhi). Before the 18th century, the lower castes were known in different ways - Brakeman, Untouchable, out caste, Panchamas, Unusable, and Unapproachable, Atisudras, Avarnas, Antyajas, Namasudra, Pariahasetc etc. In the British role the term depressed classes were used for the scheduled castes. There are five types of caste systems in India, they are- Brahmin, Kshatriyas, Vaishya, Sudra and Horizons (Ghuyre, 1996) and they are considered as actual "castes or jatis". They never exchange their own social customs, principles and traditions with others; rather they restrict them among themselves.

The term "Scheduled Caste" was first used by the Simon Commission (1935) and embodied in the Government of India Act of 1935 in section 309. Out of more than 121 crore population in India, scheduled castes populations constitutes 16.41%. Assam is the state of North East India and having large number of scheduled caste population. Out of more than 3.12 crore population there are 22.3 lakh scheduled castes population (census, 2011) in Assam. The scheduled caste people are facing different types of problems in the higher education in Assam.

It is found that modern higher education in India had begun in the middle of the 19th century; when the University of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay were established in 1857. Then the colleges and universities imparted English education to prepare the workers to help the British in their administration of our country. After 1947, several committees and Commissions were formed and provided suggestions and recommendation to development of higher education in India. University Education Commission (1948), Secondary Education Commission (1952-53), Kothari Commission (1964-66), National Policy of Education (1986), National Knowledge Commission (2005), ICSSR (Indian Council of Social Science and Research) in 1971 etc. had given emphasized on higher education in India..

In 1947 there were 25 universities, 700 colleges, and one lakh students were enrolled in higher education in our country. Now, in India, there are 1,043 numbers of universities, 42,343 numbers of colleges and 11,779 numbers of standalone institutions are providing higher education in the country and in Assam, it has 558 numbers of colleges and 26 universities for higher education (All India survey in higher education, 2019-20).

Cotton College (1901) is the first College and Gauhati University (1948) is the first university of Assam, not only in the Assam but also in entire North -East region. The higher education provides Bachelor degrees, Master degrees and doctorate degrees to the students.

Objectives of the study

● To study social problems of scheduled castes in higher Education of Assam.

● To study academic problems of scheduled castes in higher Education of Assam.

● To study economic problems of scheduled castes in higher Education of Assam

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Significant of the study

The large numbers of research studies in Indian university are started after 1947. From theses research studies it is found that more than 222 research studies had completed in the field of higher education and 55 studies have been carried out in the field of education among the scheduled caste people of backward group (sixth survey research). From the review of related literature of this study showed that there are hardly any study has been done on the problems of scheduled caste students in higher education of Assam. Therefore, it is very important to study in this field for better understanding and clear picture about the problems of scheduled caste students in the higher education in Assam.

Methodology

Descriptive survey method is used to study the problems and prospects of Scheduled caste in higher of Assam.

Sample

The present study has been conducted on the sample of 500 Scheduled caste students present in the year of 2019 in 20 colleges and 2 universities in Assam.

Research Tools for data collection

The researcher has used the following research tools for data collection –

Questionnaire

Researcher has prepared a questionnaire with 20 questions to know the academic, institutional, social and economic problems of scheduled castes student in higher education of Assam.

Sources of Data

The data have been collected from both primary and secondary sources.

Delimitation

Present study covers 500 numbers of scheduled castes student (from arts, science and commerce stream) enrolled in 2019, 20 numbers of general colleges, 2 numbers of universities and delimited general courses of the higher education institutions of Assam.

Analysis and interpretation of data related to the problems faced by the scheduled castes in higher education of Assam.

In the present study, the objectives are identified to study the problems of scheduled castes in higher Education of Assam. The problems faced scheduled castes student during their Higher education are analysis interpreted as follows-

Table No.1. Problems of scheduled castes students in higher education in Assam

Total responses (N=500)	% of social problems	% of academic problems	% of institutional problems	% of economic problems
Yes	77%	74%	67%	80%
Sometimes	12%	16%	12%	13%
No	11%	10%	21%	7%

The above table reveals that 77% of scheduled castes students have given respondent that they are suffering social problems, 12% face the problem sometimes and 11% students do not face the social problem in their higher education.

Above table indicates that 74% of scheduled castes student responses that they face academic problems in their higher education. Only 10% scheduled castes students do not face academic problems in their higher education. Again 16% students said that they get academic problems sometimes.

The table reveals that 67% scheduled castes student face institutional problems in their Higher education, 12% students face institutional problems sometimes and 21% Scheduled castes never face institutional problems in their education.

The above table shows that 80% of scheduled castes students face economic problems in their higher education, 7% scheduled castes students do not get economic problems in their higher education and 13%

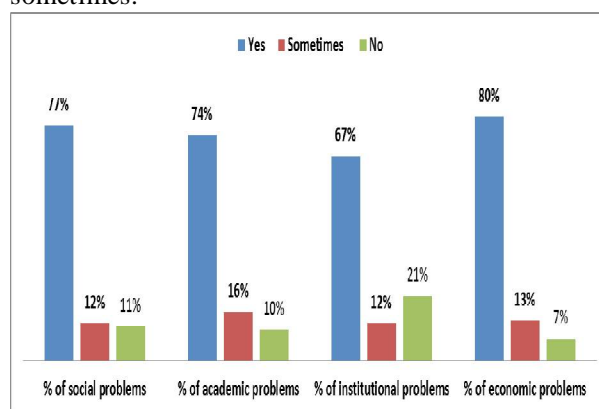student revealed that they face economic problems sometimes.

Fig. no. 1. Graphical representation of the problems of scheduled castes student in higher education in Assam

Above graphical representation shows the social, academic, institutional and economic problems of scheduled castes student in higher education of Assam.

Table No. 2: Monthly income of scheduled castes family (from all sources)

Monthly income of the scheduled castes families from all sources (N= 500)

More than 50,000	Rs. (30,000-50,000	Rs. 20,000-30,000	Rs. 10,000-20,000	Rs.5,000-10,000	Less than Rs. 5000
0 %	0.15%	2%	5%	56%	37%

Above table is the evidence of the monthly income of scheduled castes families' from all sources of Assam.

Findings

From the analysis of the data following finding are found.

- In the study it is found that 77% Scheduled castes students have social problems in their higher education, 12% students face social problems sometimes and only 11% students do not found social in higher education of Assam. So, it is indicated that maximum scheduled castes students have social problems in their higher education in Assam.

- Form the investigation it is found that 74% of scheduled castes student face academic problems in their higher education. Only 10% scheduled castes students do not face academic problems in their higher education and 16% students get academic problems sometimes.

- The study reveals that 67% scheduled castes student face institutional problems in their higher education, 12% students face institutional problems sometimes and 21% Scheduled castes student never face institutional problems in their education.

- From the investigation it is shown that 80% of scheduled castes students face economic problems in their higher education, 7% scheduled castes students do not get economic problems in their higher education and 13% student revealed that they face economic problems some time.

- In the present study it is found that 56% Scheduled castes families have five thousands to ten thousands monthly income , 37% have below five thousands and no families have more than fifty thousand monthly income in Assam. So, it is found that the scheduled castes people have limited monthly income. Therefore the Scheduled castes students face problems in their higher education.

Conclusion

Researcher has conducted the investigation among the 20 numbers of colleges, 2 universities and 500 numbers of scheduled castes student in the higher education. In the study it is observed that scheduled castes people have social, economic, academic and institutional problems in their higher education. Therefore, the government of India as well as Assam should implemented the schemes, policies and awareness programmes properly and strictly among the scheduled castes people to cope up the GER of the country.

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Author without Text: Gandhi in Myths of the Masses

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Born to India, Mahatma Gandhi allowed entire mankind to explore and study him. Probably, no area is found empty where we do not find him accorded a space for his ideas and ideals. The more he grows old, the merrier is the interest to discover him. It is believed, as if Gandhi refuses to die out from our memory and thought. Gandhi is a truth eliciting a reality of life, an icon testifying humanity, a concept professing saintliness and an ideal mustering the masses. Gandhi runs volumes in pages, but still goes short in everyone's mind. People try to imagine him, deal him, translate him, mythicise him, deify him and write him, but still leave space for pages to fill in. Gandhi as concept is as fluid as the mind is. It seems, as if texts continue to continue, but find no author to end with.

It is a romanticist vs. positivist/rationalist kind of a struggle in me to deify or humanize him in my mind to believe. And I believe, I must understand him the way the world believes him to believe to. The epithet 'Mahatma' epitomizes an elixir laden with his kindness, sacrifice, simplicity, righteousness and saint-like approach. Gandhi's extraordinary powers are perceived as something providential and supernatural impacting the common mass honing saintliness at a time and place when things did not happen as to happen under colonial yoke. Aura of Gandhi in the remotest rural was no less than in the urban elites, despite being veiled within ignorance. It is in this context that the present exercise is undertaken as to how he could reign on the perception of the masses without being ever dealt by him.

The paper articulates my response to reading four of the articles appeared in two different volumes of the Subaltern Studies (III and VI) - a) Sahid Amin: Gandhi as Mahatma, Gorakhpur, 1921-22, Ranajit Guha, *ed.*, *Subaltern Studies III*, Delhi: OUP, 1998, pp. 01-61; b) Sumit Sarkar: The Conditions and Nature of Subaltern Militancy: Bengal from Swadeshi to Non-Cooperation, 1905-22, Ranajit Guha, *ed.*, *Subaltern Studies III*, Delhi: OUP, 1998, pp. 271-320; Sumit Sarkar, 'Kalki Avatar of Bikrampore- A Village Scandal in Early 20th Century Bengal, Ranajit Guha, *ed.*, *Subaltern Studies VI*, Delhi: OUP, 1996, pp. 01-53; and Veena Das: Subaltern as Perspective, Ranajit Guha, *ed.*, *Subaltern Studies VI*, Delhi: OUP, 1996, pp. 310-324. Apart from it, a

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pamphlet (Odia) entitled *Gandhi Budha* by Nityananda Mohapatra, Bhadrak 1937 is empirically viewed.

The area of Gandhi is multi-dimensionally dissected. Many praise him to the skies, stopping short of virtual deification.[1] People mostly illiterate treated the British arbiters and perpetrators of exploitation and hence found a saviour in Gandhi. They spontaneously attributed him mythical qualities they had been familiar with. Gandhi stood an icon to the concept of incarnations or *Avatarvaad* because of his style of austere living, saintly attire and strong belief in *Niskam Karma* of the Bhagabat Gita. Practicing 'asceticism' was a miracle for the masses and hence Gandhi was venerated as *Messiah*.[2]

To spectacle Gandhi in person was an elixir for most of the people gathering in any procession. Touching instances of devotion and childlike manifestations of affection are highlighted in the narratives of his tour in northern India during the winter of 1920-22.[3] The sight and sound of uncouth peasants invading the train carrying Gandhi, rending the sky with cries of '*jai*' and demanding *darshan* at an unearthly hour speak high of the Gandhian myth, their boundless love and obeisance to him.

A passage titled 'Boundless Love' from the tour diary of his secretary is representative of how peasant attitudes towards Gandhi have been written about in nationalist perspectives wherein people from all sections- peasants, weavers, women, students, brothers, sisters and even *sanyasis* in huge concourse smothered Gandhiji with their enthusiasm when Gandhi and Shaukat Ali were on their train journey on B.N.W. Railway line to Bihar. Women stirred out of home, students swarmed out, sisters took off coral necklace, *sanyasis* left their rosaries on his lap and villagers presented him many yards of handspun and hand-woven cloth for his robing.[4]

Seeking *darshan* was obviously a fairly visible sign of popular reverence, and no wonder it occupies a prominent place while describing Gandhi on tours. D. G. Tendulkar writes of the Mahatma's 'tour of mass conversions to the new creed' in 1921 and describes how an old lady of 104 years compares Gandhi with an avatar just as Lord Rama and Krishna and expresses her last obstinate quest for his *darshan* before she allows finally death to appear for her even if visited various holy places.[5] Pertinent here to introspect is- the centurion lady could not have imagined Gandhi even a decade ago while in her nineties. Her cognitive psychology and belief in God must have been eight decades older to her

cognitive perception on Gandhi. For her, Gandhi of ten was as godly as her Lord Rama and Krishna of ninety. Stories and myths on Gandhi must have asked her deifying Gandhi in her belief which might have prompted her seek a glimpse.

This simple faith was enough to move millions to greet him everywhere with the cry, 'Mahatma Gandhi-ki-jai'. From Aligarh to Dibrugarh and down south Tinnevelly he went from villages to villages, from town to town, sometimes speaking in temples and mosques. Wherever he went he had to endure the tyranny of love.[6] People looked him as a servitor and some even went to the extent of deifying him for things happening by his name in the form of recovery of things lost and regeneration of trees and wells. This was no less of miracle for an ordinary man to be believed of captivating people by his simple *mantra*.

One gets astonished to realize how people of the eastern and southern United Provinces believed in the metaphor of 'fertile soil'. They stood superstitious to afford a 'fertile soil' where a belief in the powers of the "Mahatmaji" was allowed to grow, lest it would produce more. How and what should one address such event of about- is it superstition or myth or miracle. It could be a superstition for us to see them practicing this, but it was too their faith in the miracles of Gandhi that they never wanted to get deprived of. The 'Gandhi Panchayats' organised by the people in UP too establishes almost similar faith in the magical power of Gandhi practiced for dispensing justice. Anybody suffering from any mental or physical affliction was found guilty of violating such panchayat decisions and was perceived as evidence of Gandhi's extraordinary powers.[7] Stories about Gandhi's occult powers first appeared in the Banaras daily *Aaj* and then in *Swadesh* under the heading: 'Gandhi in dream: Englishmen run away naked'.[8]

Women despite being stigmatized by the age of veils and social restrictions too stood very supportive to Gandhian ideology. Sarojini Naidu, Annie Besant, Kamala Devi, Mira Behn, Khursheed Behn, Mithubehn Petite and Sushila Nayyar were a few of the national women leaders who got genuinely predisposed by his non-violent disposition of vulnerable issues. Women at the distant villages also desired to take the pride of being associated with Gandhi by contributing their self whatever way was made possible. We see them jumping headlong into the non-violent movements launched by Gandhi. Sushila Devi, a widow and aide of Rama Devi, sister-in-law of Nabakrushna Choudhury, ex-Chief Minister of Odisha, packed up her ornaments and offered to the nearest Congress house for Gandhi coming in her dream.[9] Gandhi's visit to Assam in 1921 had profound effect on the womenfolk. Mongri, an alcoholic tea-garden labourer being inspired by Gandhi left wine and herself got victimized while picketing shops. Bhanumati Talukdar of Godebari in Kamrup, a mother to three,

popularly called Volunteerani Bai was a devout Gandhian whom Gandhi called 'Sarojini of Assam'. Even Promila Medak, a Mishing of Golaghat continued to be an active Gandhian despite being excommunicated.[10]

An Odia poem contained in a pamphlet "Gandhi-Budha"[11], if translated into English would read as follows:

What Gandhi has not done?

He has been able to effect a change in the *Juga* (age). A frog caught hold of the tale of snake and made it vomit poison. Goat is the food of tiger but goat is now leading the tiger by nose strings and dragging it. An unruly wild buffalo has been yoked to an oil-grinding machine. A troublesome rat was sitting defiantly but ran away by saluting a mouse. The bald-headed thin old man performed a sort of magic unheard of an unseen before.

This is the land of the Aryans and is better than the heaven. It was full of riches; people lived in peace and happiness. After long years, *Kali-Yuga* made its appearance. People lost their freedom/wealth. Distrust, theft, gambling, disease, hunger and beggary set in. Goddess Lakshmi deserted them….. On seeing this Almighty God was kind enough to spread out his *Maya*. He appeared in the garb of a poor man by the name Gandhi who spun yarn and dressed in cloth five cubits in length. He lived saintly, performed the *Karma-Joga*, fought untouchability and united people through Non-Cooperation and Satyagraha Movement. Poor will now be relieved of the debts. The oppression of '*Bethi*' will also vanish. People will reap good harvest and will become educated. *Satya-Yuga* will come back. Let everybody sing the praise of God. Let *Sadhus* and other religious men become disciples of Gandhi, take shelter at his feet by which they will not fall into error. Let everybody shout '*Gandhi ki Jaye*'.

The text could be read at a level where one sees '*Kali-Yuga*' and '*Kalki-Avatar*' (Sumit Sarkar's article) signifying a set of images, emotions, beliefs and an entire structure of feelings. In the specific context of Gandhian Satyagraha, the open message of his traditionalist idioms in terms of *Kali-Yuga Avatar*, indicates moments of self-assertion by peasants and concern for poverty- more specifically, the anguish of pre-industrial lower middle class groups, poor literates in villages and small towns; school teachers and clerks. But this assertion is to be read in terms of "assertion-within-deference".[12] In other words this would spell out its explicit nationalist implication i.e. how middle class nationalism relates to the subjected class like peasants. Peasants would be simultaneously mobilized and controlled through a strategy and language, which modified as well as adjusted but never fundamentally overturned the hierarchies and norms of deference of caste, class and gender.

No doubt, the imagery as well as the description of Gandhi in the text explicitly indicates the spirit of inversions. But the tenor of optimism reflected in the

text with the Gandhian *avatar* setting right the inverted *Kali-Yuga* may indicate attempts at discipline and orderliness. Rumours, myths and ritual obligations alike invariably hovered around Gandhi and varieties of popular actions were undertaken by his name. Here, the historical problematic is in fact two-fold. "The extraordinarily open nature of the reception of Gandhian message, the way in which it becomes a text without an author; and equally also, a mythical authorship is being centrally imputed to Mahama".[13]

So, the religious dimension has to be placed along with other aspects of the total Gandhian message. In the specific contexts of Gandhian message, "one could still argue that secret lay not so much in organisation from above or the peasant appeal of Gandhian anti-industrial populism, but in the combination of his expectation for saintliness with two rather different elements".[14] Gandhi was a holy man with the already-acquired reputation. This religious dimension can also help us in understanding why despite so many betrayals Gandhi could retain so much authority among peasant masses than was ever enjoyed by radical left critics. Gandhi made ample and effective use of this aspect of religious faith, fixing the responsibility of the retreats, he so often ordered on the inadequacies of himself and his followers with respect to issues like non-violence and untouchability etc.

Rather than characterizing this as evidence of a mentality that places emphasis upon magical transformation, as Sumit Sarkar suggests, it may be better to systematize the nature of charismatic leadership as well as the community that forms around a charismatic leader. On the implications of myths, one can state that as Sarkar suggests as far as the emergence of Gandhian charismatic leadership is concerned, we can locate three moments of such a leadership.[15]

1. As an author endowed with extraordinary power (*avatar*) to bless, gift or punish anyone who associates or dissociates with any of the doings of Gandhi as Sahid Amin views in his article 'Gandhi as Mahatma: Gorakhpur District…'

2. Gandhi is observed as conferring immunity to his followers. With this type of myth, it could be believed that the ability for miracles might pass on to followers or minor local leaders.

3. There is a call for total transformation of the world, as seen in our text with identification of the *Satya Yuga* with its millennial character. In such rumours and myths (highest type) it is the theme of sudden miracles and total transformation or reversal, as different from supernatural removal of specific personal issue. Logically, the context of Congress Swaraj assumed a vision of total end of tax, rents, and rejection of colonial forest lands.

What we require is to determine whether Gandhi textually did appear in terms of local leadership. However, what look see-through in it are the indices of popular tendency to look upon the Mahatma across time as an alternative source of authority. It is probably due to myriad authorless texts created by Gandhi that left impeccable impact on everyone who read the text *Gandhi*. Millions in India and beyond have been influenced by Gandhi's unique personal traits, ideologies, personal charm and vision. His spell of influence on great personalities of the world, Romain Rolland, Martin Luther King Jr., Louis Fischer, Albert Einstein, G. B. Shaw and even Winston Churchill (Churchill called Gandhi a 'half-naked fakir' probably on some matrix comparing him with others which allowed him to know more about Gandhi and find some positive strands in Gandhi); his ideology of *satyagraha* (truth and non-violence), *rajdharma* (code of righteous conduct), *niskam karma* (selfless action), *aparigraha* (non-possession) *sarvodaya* (socialism), moral individualism, conflict resolution, passive resistance and fight against discrimination allow us to introspect through this age of materialism and cross-egoism and leave enough space to rekindle our thoughts as to how could we address Gandhi- as an author without text or a palimpsest with myriad-page-texts hidden within its womb.

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Cyber Crime against Children in India

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[Cybercrime is very new concept and most complex problem in the cyber world. Cybercrime is an illegal practice in which a computer is used as a tool or target. Now anyone can quickly access data and information from all over the world due to the growth of the Internet. However, rather than benefiting from the Internet, some people use computers and the Internet to commit crimes like as cyber pornography, network setup, email bombardment, virus attacks, and web attacks. In addition to these crimes, criminals abuse minors through the internet. It is a sort of cybercrime as well. Exposure to material can be psychologically harmful, as well as cause bodily harm or allow children to be hurt in other ways. Harassment and bullying, including 'intimidation' are all forms of harassment. The latest victims of cybercrime are children. Offenders use illegal activities such as online grooming on children to become their victims. The objective of this paper is to examine cyber- crimes against children in India.]

In an age where computers are increasingly using the Internet, technical advancements are becoming more prevalent, and the term "cyber" has become widely used. Cyberspace was born as a result of the advancement of information technology (IT), in which the internet gives everyone with equal access to any information, data storage, analysis, and other services through the use of high technology. *(Farooq Ahmad, Cyber Law in India- Law on Internet, 2008, p. 367)*

Cybercrime has been on the rise in recent years. The majority of cybercrime targets personal, business, or government information. takes occur on the Internet through personal or business virtual entities. People all across the world utilise social networking sites to find information, connections, messages, communications, court summons, and emails. All classes at school and college are online, even during lockdown, thanks to cutting technology. Even young children are skilled at using technology. Kids use social media to play games, talk, form groups, videoconference, tik tok, and do a variety of other things. Some people, including youngsters, deliberately or unknowingly abuse technology for criminal reasons, and they engage in wrongdoing, harassment, bullying, harassment, bullying Online Puppets via mobile phone, laptop, computer, USB stick, and other devices as a result of their emotions.

Objectives of study

The main objective of the paper are as follows

1. To define cyber crime.

2. To discuss the challenges in controlling cyber crimes.

3. To study the ways of cyber crimes.

4. To describe legal provision for protection of children against cyber crime.

5. To examine the present status of cyber crimes against children in India.

Methdology

This study is based on doctrinal research and data which is recently published on internet and news papers. The data are based on secondary sources and internet maaterials, according to the need of the study.

Limitation of the study

The present study focuses cyber crimes against children only. Cyber crime is a broad concept. It is done in varous ways and other people like women, banking fraud etcs are affcted by cyber crimes. But this is focused on talk about cyber crimes against children only. The study is based on secondary sources and is limited to selected readings of books, article and online materials.

What is cyber Crime?

Cybercrime refers to offences committed on or through the internet. A wide range of illicit actions are among them. The phrase "cybercrime" is a catch-all term that encompasses a wide range of unlawful behaviours. Because of the internet's anonymous character, there are numerous troubling actions taking

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place in cyberspace that may allow perpetrators to engage in a variety of criminal activities known as cybercrimes. (*Cyber Crime & Law, Dr. Vishwanath Paranjape, 2010*)

In other words cybercrimes are activities in which computers or networks are a tool, a the target or location of the criminal act. Some definitions try to take objectives or intentions into account and define cybercrime more precisely, such as "computer-mediated activities which are either illegal or considered illicit by certain parties and which can be conducted through global electronic networks".(*Hale, Cybercrime: Facts & Figures Concerning this Global Dilemma, CJI 2002, Vol. 18*)

Cyber Crime and Child Abuse

Children are the maximum susceptible elements of society and are without difficulty exploited withinside the cyber global due to a loss of nice in them. These days it's miles clean that even infant sexual abuse has began out on-line. Criminals chat on-line with minors via way of means of claiming / representing their age inappropriately and sexually abusing them. It is considerably easier for a criminal to communicate with children using today's technologies. Cybercriminals may readily exploit children, not only because of their age, but also because they rely extensively on social networking sites to communicate with others. To attract victims to private meetings, criminals exploit fake information in chat rooms. As a result, children are subjected to harassment and exploitation, including human trafficking and sexual harassment. On the internet, children are harmed. Day by day, the situation deteriorates further. Child abuse has escalated as a result of technological advancements.

Many kids dedicate suicide whilst their images published at the Internet via way of means of someone. Children frequently keep away from it telling to their dad and mom approximately their mistake which creates trouble in every other way. Victims of cyberbullying are pressured to stay with their abuse for life. It additionally contributes to the intellectual improvement of kids. Children frequently percentage non-public facts accidentally or

deliberately with out knowing that via way of means of clearly conveying the message, they will be going through disciplinary action. Facebook photos, WhatsApp messages are downloaded and shared with kids with out even understanding the appeal of factors and their effect on their future. It is want of hour that determine must contend with their kids in shielding your kids from Cyber Abuse.

Cyber Crime against Children

Modern technology makes it easier for criminals to reach their children in ways that were not possible before. Children are at greater risk of being exploited by predators online because they rely heavily on social networking sites for social media. The internet presents users with a wealth of benefits, but it also comes with a slew of threats. While our country fast approaches becoming a Digital India, it is vital to ensure that suitable legal mechanisms for internet user safety and security are in place.

The perpetrator uses a fake ID in the chat room to lure the victim into a physical meeting, which connects the world of cybercrime with virtual crime. When this happens, classic types of child abuse and exploitation, such as human trafficking and sexual assault, often follow.

"Almost every school-going child has access to social media these days, but shockingly hardly any of them know about the privacy settings on their profiles. With details of their personal lives going public, they make themselves vulnerable to all sorts of cyber harassment."(Cyber Crimes And Its Impact On Children And The Alternative Solutions, *Kiran Bhardwaj*).

Cyber crimes committed against children witnessed a sharp rise of more than 400 per cent in 2020 from those committed in 2019, according to the latest numbers released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). Stating that a total of 842 instances of cyber crime targeting kids were reported in 2020, the report stated that among these, 738 or nearly 87 per cent depicted minors engaged in sexual acts. In comparison, a total of 164 cyber crimes against children were reported in 2019, 413 per cent lower than those in 2020. The corresponding figures for

2017 and 2018 stood at 79 and 117, respectively. (NCRB)

New forms of exploitation are emerging as a result of easy access, such as "made-to-order" child sexual abuse material, in which offenders order materials depending on their preferences, such as the victims' age and race, the nature of the sexual conduct, the setting, and fantasy plot lines.

(a) Child pornography (b) Online grooming (c) Online extortion (d) Online child trafficking (e) Cyber bullying (f) Cyberstalking (g) Hacking (h) Cheating (i) Online sexual harassment (j) Violation of privacy

A number of pieces of legislation address online offences against children: (i) In India, the Information Technology (IT) Act of 2000 is the primary law governing cybercrime against children and adults. It is augmented by a number of Rules enacted under it. (ii) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 is a crucial piece of legislation that handles sexual offences perpetrated against children. POCSO prosecutes child pornography, cyber stalking, cyber bullying, defamation, grooming, hacking, identity theft, online child trafficking, online extortion, sexual harassment, and invasion of privacy as crimes against minors. (iii) The Indian Penal Code (IPC), enacted in 1860, protects everybody, especially children, from all types of crimes. The IPC covers a number of cybercrimes that are variations on traditional crimes like stealing, cheating, forgery, mischief, and defamation. In some circumstances, these statutory requirements overlap, and an accused person may be charged with several offences under the IPC, POCSO, and IT Act. If an accused is found guilty of all three offences, he or she is punished under the clause that carries the harshest penalty.

Concusion

As technology evolves, so do opportunities child abuse. Cybercrime in children it is a serious problem even though it is not well understood. Pornography of children now a global problem with terrible consequences to the victims. Adults involved in this property usually represents the greatest threat community. There are a number of characteristics that put children at danger of cybercrime: gender plays a significant role (the majority of victims are girls), but race, age, and the general hazardous behaviour of teenagers make certain children more vulnerable than others. Children should be provided better education of using internet. Good parental care for the children by their parents is recommended. The time children spend online should be monitored and regulated. Exposing children to the Internet without proper monitoring from the parents or teachers on how to protect themselves can lead to sexual exploitation.

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Role Perception of Grassroots Leaders in Tribal Area of Andhra Pradesh

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[At the grass roots level, there is a strong relationship between democracy and local self-governance institutions that nurture and sustain the element of liberty, which forms the very core of democracy. Scholars like Lord Bryce and Alexis de Tocquevile have held the view that the grass-roots democratic institutions are the best guarantee to the success of democracy. Political democracy flourishes best where its roots are planted deep in Local self-governance. Mahatma Gandhi had also written that "the centre of power is not in Delhi or Calcutta or Bombay or in the big cities; it should be distributed among the seven hundred thousand villages of India" (Gandhi). So, the Local self-governance is a bulwark against centralization and an insurance against tyranny. Besides, the local governments create amongst the people their universal interest in common relations, whoever understands to be public determined and upright in the affairs of the village has learnt the primary instruction of the duty of the incumbent as the political appointee of a country. "Local self- government institution guide man not just to work for others but also work efficiently with others". They extend sensibleness, decision, friendliness. Democratic polity involves the decentralization of power in a method that the affairs of the local people are managed by means of their optimistic contribution. It implies that the extension and a fair deal to the institutions of democracy at the grass roots levels. Democracy should not only be exercised at the 'top' level of government but also at the 'tap' (bottom) level of the political system. The current credo "think globally but act locally" has added greater salience to democratic ethos.]

The Behaviouralist Movement that came into existence in the late 1930's in USA had blossomed into a distinctive sub discipline over the past seven decades. And this movement had sensitized the scholars in the fields of Comparative Politics and Political Socialization to shift their conspectus of research from the 'static aspects' of historical and legal analysis to the dynamic aspects of behavior of individuals and of political institutions and at the same time it had oriented the structural functional methodology towards the institutions, a new trend or model for political studies. Since the 'behaviouralist movement' had been concentrating more on global and national problems, it had led to the neglect of regional and local studies. Hence, it is imperative to take the behavioural studies to a micro-level so that macro-studies would also gain from the 'systemic' approach in political studies over time.

India is known for its local administration through ages. The present local government structure has its roots in Lord Mayo's policy of decentralization of 1870 followed by Lord Ripon's enunciation of local government in 1884, which had heralded a new trend of bringing people to the centre-stage in managing their own affairs. In this context, Panchayat Raj (PR), which became a reality

through the Constitution 73rd Amendment in 1994, assumes greater significance as a politico-administrative arrangement for rural growth and for the execution of various bottom-end developmental programmes. The significance of local government in India have significantly greater than before in the post–independence period by means of the investiture of the Constitution embody the ideology of democracy and a welfare of state and emphasize upon the government both in rural and urban area to endorse social and economic growth. After attaining Independence in 1947, Balvantrai Mehta studied the problems of local government and suggested ways and means for civilizing the execution of Community Development Programme (CDP) and National Extension Service scheme (NES), which were launched respectively in 1952 and 1953, through the institutions of panchayati raj countrywide in phased manner. Both the Central and State governments to give more momentum to local government, especially panchayati raj institutions, have enacted several legislations. However, a constitutional status was accorded to them after a prolonged struggle. Although many States have not shown interest in establishing local self-government institutions, the States were forced to accept the panchayati raj system as it has the backing of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment. Thus, the Constitution 73rd Amendment Act of 1992, which fulfils the long-felt demand for the rejuvenation of the rural local bodies to have a meaningful mechanism at the

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grass-roots level. In other words, it gives a Constitutional mandate to the three-tier PR system in India. The aim of this constitutional amendment include: (a) empower downtrodden sections of the people in the society, viz., schedule caste (SC) and schedule tribe (ST), backward classes (BCs), and women in local self-government through reservations in elective offices; (b) strengthening the Gram Sabha for direct participation of the people in identifying their felt-needs and fulfilling the same through panchayati raj institutions; (c) providing a mechanism State Finance Commission (SFC) to ensure flow of funds through rural local governments facilitate them to discharge their function and responsibilities; and (d) ensuring devolution of function as mentioned in the XIth Schedule of the Constitution providing regular and timely elections to multi-level panchayat raj institutions through State Election Commission. Thus in fact, the Constitution 73rd amendment has become a milestone in the Constitutional history of India (T.N.Dhar, S.R.Gupta, 1995). To give effect to Constitution 73rd Amendment Act Tamil Nadu has enacted a new Panchayati Raj Act, which is known as the Tamil Nadu Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

Gram Panchayat (GP) plays an important role at the village level in proper functioning of the 'PRS'. It is the most potential school of social and political training for the rural masses. The village Panchayat is at the root of our concept of new society and that of the root of our constitution. It is the keystone of the Panchayat raj. It is the major organization for the overall progress of a village. The GP is not only a decentralized form of administration but also a medium through which Indian people from rural areas can express their administrative, social and economic problems to the upper levels. It is the local government of the villages that touches most nearly the lives of the rural people.

GP is the last link in the TTS of Panchayat Raj. As coordinator, GP and its members undertake all the developmental activities. GP members play the role of advisor to the rural people. They provide information about various government schemes to the people in village. Thus the GP and its members has definitely and undoubtedly a key role to play in Panchayat Raj. The elected members of the PRIs could play a significant role in overall development. However, their success and efficiency depends upon the knowledge and role perception possessed by them about developmental activities and performance of the expected role by Panchayat in agricultural and village developmental fields. This aspect has not been studied so far, in much detail, especially in tribal region.

This study was conducted to study the role perception of GP members in tribal area of Vishakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts of Andhra Pradesh

Methodology

The present study was undertaken in the Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam districts selected randomly of Andhra Pradesh. Seethampeta mandal from Srikakulam district and Paderu mandal from Vishakhapatnam districts were selected randomly. Six GP from each Mandals and Eight members were selected randomly from each of the GP for the study as respondents. Thus total of 192 GP members from 24 villages were selected for the study. The design one-shot-case study under the ex-post-facto approach was used for the present research study. Data was collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of specially designed and pretested schedule. The statistical methods such as mean, standard deviation, coefficient of correlation, multiple regressions were used for analysis of data. Perception is the process by which we receive information or stimuli from our environment and transform it into psychological awareness (Van Den Ban and Hawkins, 1988).

Gibson (1959) defined perception as the process by which an individual maintains contact with the environment.

So in this study perception is defined as the general awareness of the respondents regarding their role to be performed.

Panchayat system is having some of the prescribed works to carry out from their Panchayat. These functions were broadly categorized as follows.

(a) Administrative functions (b) Agriculture development functions (c) Educational and cultural functions (d) Health care functions (e) Welfare functions (f) Public work functions (g) Defense and vigilance functions (h) Other functions.

The respondents were asked to mention their role perception in these functions on a three point continuum *viz.,* fully aware, partially aware and unaware.

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The responses of the members were recorded. The weightings 3, 2 and 1 for fully aware, partially aware and unaware were assigned, respectively. By considering this an attempt was made to categorize the role perception of the respondents.

Based on the total scores obtained by all the members overall role perception index was calculated by using the following formula

$$\text{Role Perception Index} = \frac{\text{Scores obtained}}{\text{Obtainable scores}} \times 100$$

Results of the study have been given in conclusive form below

Results

It could be observed from Table 1 that, three fourth (74.48 per cent) of members were having medium level of role perception followed by high level (14.06 per cent) and low level (11.46 per cent).

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their role perception

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	%
1.	Low	22	11.46
2.	Medium	143	74.48
3.	High	27	14.06
	Total	192.00	100.00
	Mean	51.58	
	SD	9.40	

Function wise role perception of GP Members

The data was collected regarding various areas of activities of GP and role perception of members in these areas. Data in Table 2 showed that majority of the leaders had medium role perception pertaining to all the identified areas viz., administrative functions (76.04 per cent), agricultural functions (80.73 per cent), health care functions (85.94 per cent), welfare functions (80.73 per cent), public work functions (69.27 per cent), defense and vigilance functions (84.90 per cent) and other functions (81.77 per cent).

Only satisfactory numbers of members in high role perception category were in 'educational and cultural functions' (49.48 per cent)

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to function-wise role perception

Sr. No.	Functions	Low	Medium	High	Total
1.	Administrative functions	24(12.50)	146 (76.04)	22 (11.46)	192 (100.00)
2.	Agricultural functions	10(5.21)	155 (80.73)	27 (14.06)	192 (100.00)
3.	Educational and cultural functions	10 (5.21)	87 (45.31)	95 (49.48)	192 (100.00)
4.	Health care functions	6 (3.12)	165 (85.94)	21 (10.94)	192 (100.00)
5.	Welfare functions	16 (8.33)	155 (80.73)	21 (10.94)	192 (100.00)
6.	Public works functions	22 (11.46)	133 (69.27)	37 (19.27)	192 (100.00)
7.	Defense and vigilance function	9 (4.69)	163 (84.90)	20 (10.42)	192 (100.00)
8.	Other functions	35 (18.23)	157 (81.77)	0 (0.00)	192 (100.00)

(Figures in parentheses indicates percentage)

Relationship between the personal characteristics of the GP members and role perception

It is observed from Table 3 that the independent variables viz., age (0.519), caste (0.246), land holding (0.506), annual income (0.512), socio-economic status (0.519), Social participation (0.466), achievement motivation (0.418), mass media exposure (0.350), cosmopolitans (0.484), linkage with development agencies

Table 3: Relationship between the personal characteristics of the leaders and their role perception   N = 192

Sr. No.	Variables	Correlation coefficient (r)
1	Age	0.519**
2	Education	0.172
3	Caste	0.246*
4	Occupation	0.045
5	Land holding	0.506**
6	Annual income	0.512**
7	Socio-economic status	0.519**
8	Social participation	0.466**
9	Achievement motivation	0.418**
10	Mass media exposure	0.350**
11	Training received	- 0.010
12	Cosmo politeness	0.484**
13	Leadership background	0.136
14	Leadership experience	- 0.0568
15	Linkage with development agencies	0.473**
16	Knowledge	0.266**

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

** Significant at 0.01 level of probability

(0.473) and knowledge (0.266) were positively and significantly related with role perception. Whereas education (0.172), occupation (0.046), training received (-0.010), leadership background (0.136) and leadership experience (-0.057) were not related with role perception of members of GP Multiple regressions between the personal characteristics of the GP members and their role perception A close perusal of Table 25 depicting that 'F' value 14.14 was significant at 0.01 level of probability. The 56.39 per cent of variation in role perception has been explained by the 16 independent variables. The unexplained variation to the tune of 43.61 per cent may be due to the factors not included in the study.

Multiple regression analysis of role perception with independent variables

N = 192

Multiple regression analysis of role perception with independent variables

The "t" value indicates that in multiple regression analysis the role perception of GP members was found significantly related with age, annual income and linkage with development agencies. The regression coefficient of 0.389, 0.000 and 1.065, indicates that one unit change in age, annual income and linkage with development agencies would affect 0.389, 0.000 and 1.065 units change in role perception.

Summery

It was concluded that majority of GP members had medium role perception of functioning of GP. It was found from the study that most of the GP members had medium perception of role about administration, agricultural functions, health care functions, administrative functions, welfare functions, public work functions defense and vigilance functions and other functions. While educational and cultural functions perceived is in high category. While educational and cultural functions perceived is in high category. It is observed that the independent variables viz., age, caste, land holding, annual income, socio-economic status, Social participation, achievement motivation, mass media exposure, cosmopolitans, linkage with development agencies and knowledge were positively and significantly related with role perception. Role perception of gram Panchayat members was found significantly related with age, annual income and linkage with development agencies

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