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Recent Demonetization in India: An Impact Story

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Abstract

. Though demonetization move has been created lot of adverse short-term policy impact but the true impact of demonetization could be assessed in the medium or long term time frame. The curtailments of overall investments in both formal and informal sectors have been certainly reducing economic growth of the country. However, overall impact should be assessed integrated manner. In view of the above-

Objective of the Study

1. To Point Out the Socio Economic Impact on Informal Sector, labour intensive Manufacturing Construction,
2. To Point Out the Impact on Organized Manufacturer and Transport (Aviation) Sector
3. To Point Out Impact on unorganized Agriculture and Allied Activities and Organized Industry Sector
4. To Point Out the Impact on Service Sector
5. To Point Out the Impact on GDP
6. To Point Out the Impact on Digitalization and Innovation
7. To Point Out the Impact on Monetary and Political Economy
8. To Point out Conclusion(s)

Database Methodology

Data

Secondary data of qualitative as well as quantitative are collected from various literature available in the various soft and hard medium. The quantitative data are available from RBI, World Bank and Rabo Bank literature on demonetization

Methodology

Random Access of qualitative data and quantitative data on demonetization including RBI report and World Bank report to point out various interpretations made on that. The secondary data sources available in the web based and hard medium to arrive at the conclusive remark

Inference

This isn't the first time India has tried demonetization. In 1946, all 1,000 and 10,000 rupee notes were withdrawn and in 1978, all 1,000, 5,000 and 10,000 notes were. These two moves of demonetization showed that demonetization is not enough to tackle black money or corruption Although IMF has been cutting India's growth rate from 7.6% down to 6.6%, Modi has been

held on to most of his popularity, showing it as a genuine stand against tax evasion and the black market. Increased financial inclusion and transparency are of course fantastic goals, and if achieved, would alleviate poverty and increase productivity, but the question is whether demonetization is worth the price Indians have had to pay.(Adam Smith Institute). Though Agriculture sector have been some survived due to good cropping of rabi crops still cash deficiency surely affected it with hard. The unorganized sector including textile, small transportation etc have been found hugely affected by demonetization but the organized sector having little impact due to demonetization. Still there was a primary set back in the market of consumer durables. The World bank pointed out that the GDP growth rate of the will be surly hampered because demonetization move with a tune of 7.2% instead of 8.6% by projection. Though RBI and Rabo Bank argued that it would be very temporary reaction of demonetization actually GDP will be regained and will be as much to the figure (8.6%) in the near future. Whatever may be the consequences of demonetization there would be some sort political cal agenda behind every stock of debate arises so far in terms of theory or application of demonetization.

Key Word: Demonetization, World Bank Report, RBI Report, Black Money, Unorganized Sector, Cash Sensitivity

Introduction

On November 8th 2016, a joke went viral across India's Whatsapp users: "Tomorrow, a lot of married men in India are going to find out how much black money their wives have." The US elections of that evening overshadowed another huge political announcement elsewhere in the world – that in 50 days time 86% of India's currency in circulation would be void (Stewart)

This is the attempt of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's to reduce bribery and the reproduce parallel economy so that Indian economy may shift towards digitalized money transfers, which are more traceable and taxable. Report appears that only 2.89% of Indians filed any income taxes in 2013, compared with 45% of US citizens. Although the vast population actually the majority of Indian's incomes are probably below the tax threshold in the first place, there is no doubt that India's black market is huge: the World Bank estimated it to be 23.2% of the total economy in 2007. It's unsurprising that scrapping the 500 and 1,000 rupee note overnight (worth about £6 and £12 respectively) was a huge shock to India. Nearly 87% of transactions in India use cash, meaning the country is more cash driven than Russia, Brazil and Mexico. A huge government push for financial inclusion drove up bank account holdings from 35% to 53% (an extra 175 million Indians became account holders) between 2011-2014, but the majority of these new bank accounts are empty and only 15% of adults reported using their account to make or receive payments. Crucially, only 39% of account holders in India own a credit or debit card, meaning the remainder would require a bank teller to carry out each transaction. Even online shopping in India is done with cash: about 70% of online commerce is paid with cash on delivery.

Objective of the Study

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-
11. To Point Out Impact on unorganized Agriculture and Allied Activities and Organized Industry Sector
 12. To Point Out the Impact on Service Sector
 13. To Point Out the Impact on GDP
 14. To Point Out the Impact on Digitalization and Innovation
 15. To Point Out the Impact on Monetary and Political Economy
 16. To Point out Conclusion(s)

Plan of Study

1. Literature Review
2. Data Base Methodology
3. Observations
4. Conclusions
5. References

Literature Review

According to Amelia Stewart(2017)- Although the government was primarily targeting wealth tax evaders in an attempt to redistribute income, the poor, and particularly women and those living rurally, have perhaps suffered the most. Lower income Indians are unlikely to have their own bank account, and even given 50 days to do so, would struggle with limited education and resources to open one. They might even not be able to reach a bank in the first place, as only 27% of Indian villages have one within 5km. Women also have been particularly effected, as most do not already own a bank account – according to the UN, 80% of women in India did not have access to one as of 2014.

Rabo Bank(2017) report on demonetization showed that the GDP rates would not be impacted much rather after a slight slashing it would be gained more than expectation. It also pointed out that as the effect on informal sector cannot be pointed out due to lack of categorical data the true picture would be ascertained when available. Again it is pointed out that realty sector would be worse effected but this would not be lasted long time as it is counterbalanced by the agricultural sector and manufacturing sector growth. Primarily it was apprehended that these two sector might have been worst effected due to cash crunch but statistical data did not revealed so.

Knowledge @ Wharton(2017) in a review expressed expert comments on ‘How Will Demonetization Affect Business in India in 2017?’ outlined the trend as starting from the incidences happening due to TATA Chairmanship house to GST and timing of announcement of demonetization it has pointed out categorically abbreviating different economist,political observer about the impact of demonetization on Indian business as whole

Jayanta Kumari (2017)-‘Demonetization and its impact on Indian Economy’

The demonization initiative has caused a sudden breakdown in India’s commerce and the unbanked and informal economy is hard hit. Trade across all aspects of the economy has interrupted, and sectors like agriculture, fishing, and the huge informal market were almost shut down during the initial days of announcement. The informal sector in India employs more than a majority of the workers and most transactions are in cash.

Tim Worstall(2017)**Demonetization And Industrial Production - India's 0.4% Drop Shows Effect Is Trivial-** India's industrial production numbers for December 2016 have been announced and they show a 0.4% drop. Quite rightly at least some of this is being ascribed to the effects of demonetisation--and if this is the worst that that is going to cause then the disruptions to the economy can best be described as trivial.

Bhaskar Chakravorti(2017)-‘Early Lessons from India’s Demonetization Experiment’ questioned out the reliability of data which depicted no impact on economy due to demonetization. He also pointed out the victory in the election did not suppose to be the victory of policy always but at the same time it also pointed out that Govt. has been trying out something to do .

RBI(2017)’ **Macroeconomic Impact of Demonetisation APreliminary Assessment’** pointed out that the impact what is felt in the Indian economy would be of short run nature. The manufacturing sector has slightly rebuked but it has confessed that the unorganized sector and realty sector has been worst affected but it has assured that the impact would not be very long run in nature

World Bank (2017) in it report on **‘World Bank: Demonetization chips away at India’s GDP’**“The immediate withdrawal of a large volume of currency in circulation and subsequent replacement with new notes announced by the government in November contributed to slowing growth in 2016,” the World Bank said.

Database Methodology

Data

Secondary data of qualitative as well as quantitative are collected from various literature available in the various soft and hard medium. The quantitative data are available from RBI, World Bank and Rabo Bank literature on demonetization

Methodology

Random Access of qualitative data and quantitative data on demonetization including RBI report and World Bank report to point out various interpretations made on that. The secondary data sources available in the web based and hard medium to arrive at the conclusive remark

Observations

1. **Socio Economic Impact on Unorganized Labour Intensive Manufacturing Sector**
 - a. **The Real Turmoil:** The action of scrapping the 500 and 1,000 rupee note overnight (worth about £6 and £12 respectively) was a matter of huge turmoil to India. In India nearly 87% of transactions are made in cash, which is substantially higher than Russia, Brazil and Mexico. Implementing Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), one of the huge action of financial inclusion lead bank account holdings from 35% to 53% (an extra 175 million Indians became account holders) between 2011-2014, but the majority of these new bank accounts are remained empty and only 15% of them reported to make or receive payments by the account holders. In the contrary only 39% of account holders in India own a credit or debit card, implying that remaining populations are using other bank teller for their transactions. Even online shopping in India is made with mostly in cash (on an around about 70% of online commerce is paid with cash on delivery).

This demonetization has made chaos throughout India. The **Indian Express** reported that at least **33 people have died** as a result of demonetization, while waiting in the queues for the bank or like situations of wants of notes, a child was reported died in hospital as the parents only had only currency notes, and others committing suicide as they were unable to feed their families. Outside of these extrimities, the rest of the country faced hours of queuing outside banks and ATMs and huge income losses, as customers and employers had no cash to pay workers with. The huge cash shortages haven't been helped by the government's failure to introduce the new 500 and 2,000 rupee notes: to make demonetization a surprise, they couldn't start printing any new cash before the announcement.

Domestic abuse rates triggered in November, more than doubling the month that Modi announced demonetization. 50% of the women who received counseling afterwards said their abuse was due to troubles to cope with demonetization. India has a culture where women are keeping away small sums of cash without their husbands' knowing, for the need of emergencies. It is a country where the percentage of work-age women with jobs has fallen by 10% to 27% since 2005 (the largest drop in any country). So for most of the women this cash is a lifeline and the greatest source of control and independence they have. After demonetization, many women were faced with the choice of losing their money or handing it over to their husbands.

b. Impact of Lead Indicators of Economic Activity

According to the CSO (Central Statistical Organization) data in table 1, it has been indicated that almost all the lead industry are more or less hampered during this period of demonization after sock. The currency circulation has been shown abruptly decreased during the period. Bank credit has been increased. Indirect tax collections and service tax collections have been severely hampered. Except civil aviation all the lead industry has been found ruined during the period.

c. Sectoral Indicators of Likely Cash Intensity Industry.

In India unorganized sector encompasses huge share (44.9%) of total GVA and 82.4% of total employments. Of which Agriculture and Allied Activities comprises 94.7% of total GVA and 48.4% of the total employment. The Industry sector comprises 15.0 % under unorganized sector, in which employment has been generated to the tune of 8.5%. The Service Sector comprised 42.4% of total GVA and 25.2% of total employment share.

So, it is evident that unorganized sector takes lead role in the country's total GVA and employment generation.

d. Labour Intensive Manufacturing Sectors: According to RBI report the Realty & construction sector and some of the labour intensive manufacturing sectors such as textiles, leather, gems and jewellery and the transportation sector are use to engage casual/migrant labourers in huge. The loss of wage income for workers is also leads to loss of demand in market. This has been reduced the total wealth of economy.

II. Impact on Organized Manufacturer and Transport (Aviation) Sector

Although the organized sector as a whole remained ineffective, some manufacturing and services segments were adversely affected. The electricity generation was expected to have been impacted the least, weak demand for electricity was already a challenge before demonetization, with power

generation in excess relative to demand. In November and December, however, electricity generation increased by 8.9 per cent and 6.3 per cent, respectively, which was higher than the average growth of 4.5 per cent recorded during April-October, 2016 (Table1). In January 2017, however, it decelerated to 3.9 per cent. Coal production also increased by 6.4 per cent in November, 4.4 per cent in December and 4.8 per cent in January (as against contraction in the previous three months).

Table 1: Impact Indication of Lead Indicators of Economic Activity
(y-o-y growth in per cent)

Sr No.		Apr-Oct	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	Jan-17	Feb-17
I.	Macro indicators						
1	M3	6.4#	10.4	8.5	6.6	6.4	6.5^
2	Currency in circulation (CIC)	6.9#	17.2	-23.6	-39.9	-37.8	-28.2^
3	Bank credit \$	1.8#	8.4	6.2	4.9	4.7	4.5^
4	Indirect tax collections@	24.7	23.4	36.5	20.2	13.9	15.3
5	Service tax collections by the centre @	25.2	29.6	43.9	13.1	12.1	5.3
II	Sectoral indicators						
1	Agriculture						
		2016-17					N.A.
a.	Foodgrains production	8.1					N.A.
		Apr-Oct	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	Jan-17	Feb-17
2	Industry						
a.	PMI manufacturing (index)	52	54.4	52.3	49.6	50.4	50.7
b.	IIP	-0.3	-1.9	5.7	-0.1	2.7	N.A.
i.	Mining	-0.2	-0.9	3.7	5.5	5.3	N.A.
	Coal	0.7	-1.6	6.4	4.4	4.8	N.A.
	Crude oil	-3.3	-3.2	-5.4	-0.8	1.3	N.A.
	Natural gas	-4.0	-1.4	-1.7	0.0	11.9	N.A.
ii.	Manufacturing	-1.0	-2.4	5.5	-1.7	2.3	N.A.
iii.	Electricity	4.5	1.1	8.9	6.3	3.9	N.A.
3	Services						
i.	PMI services	52.6	54.5	46.7	46.8	48.7	50.3
ii.	Automobile sales	15.0	8.1	-5.5	-18.7	-4.7	0.9
iii.	Commercial vehicles sales	6.9	11.9	-11.6	-5.1	-0.7	7.3
iv.	Passenger vehicles sales	11.0	4.5	1.8	-1.4	14.4	9.0
v.	Three wheelers sales	11.8	4.4	-25.9	-36.2	-28.2	-21.4
vi.	Two wheelers sales	16.0	8.7	-5.9	-22.0	-7.4	0
vii.	Cargo handled at major ports	6.3	13.2	10.2	12.9	3.6	N.A.
viii.	Railway freight traffic	-1.7	-2.6	5.5	-0.1	0.3	N.A.
ix.	Tourist arrivals	10.8	10.4	9.2	13.6	16.4	N.A.
x.	Cement production	4.8	6.2	0.5	-8.7	-13.3	N.A.
xi.	Steel consumption	2.7	0.3	5.0	5.3	3.1	N.A.
xii.	Civil aviation: domestic cargo traffic	7.5	10.6	-0.6	7.5	10.1	N.A.
xiii.	Civil aviation: international cargo traffic	9.2	15.6	15.4	12.6	16.0	N.A.
xiv.	Civil aviation: international passenger traffic	9.1	7.4	7.7	7.7	8.8	N.A.

xv.	Civil aviation: domestic passenger traffic	22.5	23.6	22.0	23.9	25.6	N.A.
xvi.	Bank deposits growth	6.4#	9.3	15.7	14.9	13.5	12.6^
xvii.	Insurance premium*	31.1	22.4	72.1	21.1	32.1	-4.5**
xviii.	Merchandise exports	0.2	9.0	2.4	5.5	4.3	N.A.
xix.	Merchandise imports	-9.8	8.3	9.4	0.1	10.7	N.A.

: Relate to Oct. 27, 2017 over Mar. 31, 2017. ^: Data pertain to February 17, 2017.

\$. Pertains to total bank credit to commercial sector. @: Data source: Central Accounts Section (CAS), Nagpur. N.A.: Not Available. *: Pertains to life and non-life insurance premiums.

** : Pertains to life insurance premiums alone.

Sources: Reserve Bank of India; Ministry of Agriculture, Market Economics, CSO, SIAM, IRDA, CMIE.

Table 2: Sectoral Indicators of Likely Cash Intensity

(per cent)

Sector	Unorganised Sector Shares in GVA	Sectoral Shares in Employment	Unorganised Sector Employment Share in Total Employment
Agriculture & Allied Activities	94.7	45.8	48.7
Industry	15.0	13.7	8.5
Mining and Quarrying	21.9	0.3	0.2
Manufacturing	12.1	13.3	8.3
Electricity	3.1	0.1	0.1
Services	42.4	40.5	25.2
Construction	75.5	11.1	6.9
Trade, Repair, Hotel & Restaurants	56.1	16.1	13.3
Transport, Equipment, Communication	55.5	5.3	
Financial Services	0.0	0.4	
Real Estate and Professional Services	56.2	1.3	0.8
Public Administration	0.0	0.0	
Other Services	23.9	6.3	4.1
Overall	44.9	100.0	82.4

Sources: Central Statistics Office (CSO) (June 2015); Labour Bureau Survey, 2015-16 and Employment

Unemployment Situation in India, NSS 68th round (2011-12).

Organized manufacturing was impacted adversely as evident from Table I.

(i)The sales of fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) and automobiles in all the months from November to January(as per the Nielsen survey) have been declined; (ii) It is observed that contraction in the manufacturing Purchasing Mangers' Index (PMI) in December for the first time in 2016; and (iii) export growth has been decelerated in during November (Table 1). The report released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) stated that auto sales contracted by 4.7 per cent in January 2017 but revived to expansion mode (by 0.9 per cent) in February. The two-wheeler sales, the impact was observed severe, especially in rural belt.

The export growth in December 2016 and January 2017 hampered severely. However, demonetization impacted sales performance of consumer durables industry (Table 3). The

Manufacturers also cut their production due to rising inventories. The adverse impact of on disposable incomes resulted in timid down in domestic demand for apparels and other end-products of textile industry. The impact has been found most severe for winter-wear retailers and manufacturers who make a significant part of their annual sales during the period October-February. In transportation sector, domestic air passenger traffic growth was huge at 22 per cent in November and 23.9 per cent in December and 25.6 per cent in January 2017 (similar to the average growth in April-October). But domestic air cargo traffic has been observed contraction by 0.6 per cent in November, but revived to 7.5 per cent in December and 10.1 per cent in January. Similarly, growth in international air cargo traffic (at 15.4 per cent) and international passenger traffic (at 7.7 per cent) remained strong in November. This trend continued in December and January. Service tax collections, a lead indicator for economic growth registered a growth of 43.9 per cent in November, but decelerated to 13.1 per cent in December and further to 12.1 per cent in January.

Table 3: Growth in Consumer Durable Segments
(in per cent)

Category	Volume Growth		Value Growth	
	October	November	October	November
	2016	2016	2016	2016
Microwave	90.6	-53.0	90.7	-51.5
Refrigerator	74.0	-41.2	73.4	-40.3
Air Conditioner	1.8	-34.0	4.0	-33.8
Washing machine	116.7	-31.7	113.1	-34.4
Flat Panel TV	94.7	-30.4	99.4	-26.6

Source: Retail sales data by GFK-Nielsen.

III. Impact on unorganized Agriculture and Allied Activities and Organized Industry Sector

In agriculture and plantation activity was higher by 4.8 per cent in November 2016 in comparison to previous year (as shown in Table 1). It is picked up about 6 per cent higher than last year by February 3, 2017. The informal workforce is largely dependent on agriculture and they are highly cash sensitive. The impact of demonetization on production was somehow less lauded because the food grains production increased by 8.1 per cent in 2016-17. The index of industrial production (IIP) which is a key proxy indicator based on GVA in unorganized manufacturing experienced a slowdown, as the manufacturing IIP contracted by as much as 1.7 per cent in December, after having record 5.5 per cent y-o-y increase in November. However, it is expanded by 2.3 per cent in January. Growth in service tax collections - an indicator for GVA from unorganized services - slowed down significantly in December 2016 and January 2017 (Table 1). So far as the other lead indicators of unorganized sector services GVA, sales of motor vehicles has been found contracted over three successive months before reviving in February. There was strong growth has been observed so far in foreign tourist arrivals with a tune of 9.2 per cent in November 2016, 13.6 per cent in December 2016 and 16.4 per cent in January 2017 (Table 1).

Based on the assessment of lead indicators used by the CSO for estimating GVA in both the organized and unorganized sectors – particularly the behavior of these indicators beginning January 6, 2017 when the CSO released the first advance estimates of GVA – the GVA growth for 2016-17 as a whole was estimated by the Reserve Bank at 6.9 per cent, as against 7.6 per cent communicated by the Reserve Bank before demonetization (Table 3)

IV. Impact on Service Sector

Demonetization move has been created a real hamper in the residential real estate sector. It is evident from the Table 2 that realty sector accounted for 56.1% in terms of GVA growth of unorganized sector. So after demonetization it was generally expected realty sector would have been impacted mostly. The average growth in deposits and credit, a key indicator for financial services, remained largely unchanged after demonetization. Insurance premiums collections, another key indicator, increased of 72.1 per cent in November and it has been moderately higher in December 2016 and January 2017. The public administration has been observed to have huge growth which was expected to be continued over the period. Both financial services and public administration, the share of unorganized sector is zero and informal employment is insignificant

V. Impact on GDP

The calculations of various agencies on GDP stood more or less similar. The RBI indicated 7.6% during 2017 but it estimated after demonization was 7.1% as revised GDP (Table 4). The World Bank estimated 7.6% GDP growth but revised it to 7.0% during 2017. And it was during 2018 estimated to 7.6% as a whole. The IMF also estimated 7.6% rate during 2017 which was corrected to 6.6% after demonetization. And it was also 7.2% during 2018. But Rabo Bank who has estimated originally 7.0% growth rate in GDP, re estimated as 5.5% after demonetization. But during 2018 it was estimated to be 8.2% GDP overall. So it was evident the growth rate of GDP has been dropped marginally due to demonetization. But it has regained the momentum very significantly. But certain parts of the formal economy proved quite ineffective during demonetization. Air travel by the urban middle class was wholly untouched during demonetization.. There are certain clues to the turmoil in the informal sector. Demand for jobs in the formal sector by February, 2016 remained unchanged with the entire demand of 2016. This is a clear indication of job lost during demonetization. However, to the other aspects of advantage of demonetization, which was related to digitization of financial transactions: That can be helpful to push India out of the shadow of its black economy. But this is remained impractical as almost whole amount of cancelled money has been returned to the Govt, stake as per announcement by Govt. in the parliament and press release.

Table 4: The GDP Calculations

	<i>Original 2017</i>	<i>Revised 2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
Reserve Bank of India	7.6%	7.1%	-
World Bank	7.6%	7.0%	7.6%
IMF	7.6%	6.6%	7.2%
Rabobank	7.0%	5.5%	8.2%

Source, World Bank. Rabo Bank, RBI

Table 5: CSO Estimated GVA Growth

(y-o-y in per cent)

Period		May 31, 2016	Aug 31, 2016	Nov 30, 2016	Jan 6, 2017	Jan 31 2017	Feb 28, 2017
2015- 16	Q1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	-	7.8
	Q2	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	-	8.4
	Q3	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	-	7.0
	Q4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	-	8.2
	Annual	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.8	7.8
2016- 17	Q1	-	7.3	7.3	-	-	6.9
	Q2	-	-	7.1	-	-	6.7
	Q3	-	-	-	-	-	6.6
	Q4	-	-	-	-	-	6.5*
	Annual	-	-	-	7.0	7.0	6.7

* Implicit, derived from annual number, given data for first three quarters; -: Not available.

Source: CSO.

VI. Impact on Digitalization and Innovation

Paytm, was the winners of the demonetization in terms of mobile wallet claiming 170 million users, with a fabulous increase of 435%, and a 250% increase in overall transactions and transaction value. The government-initiated payment app, BHIM which facilitated electronic transfers between bank accounts by using 12-digit Aadhaar ID number to make payments. Without internet-enabled Smartphone, it can enable easy-to-use system by an ordinary phone As a whole it would be radical change towards non cash digital economy as a whole. Not only that there were plans of mandatory digital payments at gas stations, hospitals, and universities and cash transactions over \$4,500 banned altogether. Indian Railways would no longer levied service charge on tickets booked online, and the government is posed to remove duties on point-of-digital sale devices and fingerprint readers.

Table 6: Growth in Select Electronic Modes of Payments¹⁶

(y-o-y growth in per cent)

Category		Oct-2016	Nov-2016	Dec-2016	Jan-2017	Feb-2017
NEFT	Volume	16.2	23.3	39.0	38.0	34.5
	Value	37.6	38.3	40.8	60.2	49.5
CTS	Volume	1.1	23.0	58.4	52.7	20.2
	Value	2.9	8.6	13.0	19.3	0.8
IMPS	Volume	116.7	89.6	157.2	177.7	150.4
	Value	150.7	135.9	186.6	196.7	184.2
NACH	Volume	53.0	30.8	58.3	19.8	-0.9
	Value	89.8	76.3	116.7	22.8	54.2

Source: RBI Bulletins and Press Releases on Electronic Payment Systems - Representative Data

It is evident in the Table 6 that almost every categories of digital payments witnessed huge growth during Dec,2016 but it has been found declined in the February, 2017. But in comparison to the October 2016 it was quite higher. But in practice we seldom found practice of digital payment in such sectors where it was introduced largely.

VII. Impact on Monetary and Political Economy

In November, 2016 the government made a risky economic intervention by making 86% of cash in circulation was voided. One and half year passed. The country emerged with few obvious resultant output. Although corruption remains in the scenario, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government had been applauded with the win in the midterm state-level elections, in few states which evidenced demonetization has its support base. The industrialists and corporate chiefs like Ratan Tata, Mukesh Ambani, K. V. Kamath and Deepak Parekh, etc., to mention a few, favor the move, economists including Nobel laureates Amartya Sen and Paul Krugman, among others are critical to the move. "The clan of economists has spoiled the party [with] their estimates of how output will be affected as spending has stopped, manufacturing hit and several workers laid off. The net result can be a fall of between 0.5% and 2% in GDP," says online news channel Firstpost. "The debate still goes on".

X. Conclusion

The demonetization move created adverse short-term policy impact but the real impact of demonetization must be assessed in the medium or long term. The reduction in overall investments, both in the formal and informal sectors, would certainly reduce economic growth of the country. However, this moves need to be followed up with ensuing actions to remain effective. These actions includes the structural changes to make the system more lawful, reducing the trap of too much bureaucracy, ensure the tax system simple and transparent. In addition, a greater effort is required to prevent illegal activities such as generation of black money and corruption should not be channeled back into the economy

This isn't the first time India has tried demonetization, and it may not be the last. In 1946, all 1,000 and 10,000 rupee notes were recalled and in 1978, all 1,000, 5,000 and 10,000 notes were recalled back. The experiences gather in the ealier two times already suggests that demonetization isn't enough to end corruption and that the new money quickly becomes 'black money' again. Yet despite the IMF cutting India's growth rate from 7.6% down to 6.6%, Modi has held on to most of his popularity, by winning midterm election in some states. Increased

financial inclusion and transparency if achieved would alleviate poverty and increase productivity. But the question is whether demonetization is worth the price Indians have had to pay.(Adam Smith Institute). Though Agriculture sector some survived due to good cropping of Rabi crop still cash deficiency surely affected it with hard. The unorganized sector including textile, small transportation etc have been found hugely affected by demonetization. But the organized sector having little impact due to demonetization still there was a primary set back in the market of consumer durables. The World Bank pointed out that the GDP growth rate will be surly hampered because demonetization move with a tune of 7.2% instead of 8.6% by projection. Though RBI and Rabo Bank argued that it would be very temporary reaction of demonetization actually GDP will be regained and will be as much to the figure (8.6%) in the near future. Whatever may be the consequences of demonetization there would be some sort political cal agenda behind every stock of debate arises so far in terms of theory or application of demonetization so far observed.

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Scenario Of Commerce Education In West Bengal: A Study

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Abstract

The aim and objectives of this paper is to show that the development of commerce education in the perspective of industrial development in our country as well as West Bengal. There have been major changes in financial reporting in India since the economic reforms and globalization began in early 1990s. In the economy a continuous change is observed from centralization to decentralization, investment to disinvestment, regulation to liberalization, nationalization to privatization and from national trade to international trade. Society is making its efforts to become “knowledge society” and a skilled worker is being changed into a “knowledge worker”. The commerce education should be in convergence with the global requirements but basically should be divergence in function. The paper specially focused on present scenario of commerce education of West Bengal. The various conceptual and theoretical issues are discussed in the present context.

Key words: commerce education, industrial development, knowledge worker.

Introduction

Due to complex social structure and regular increase in economic activities, the study and analyze commerce is needed separately. The importance of it is continuously increasing in our society. At present commerce is needed in personal life, society, business and a nation as a whole. The period when commerce is recognized as a study, the financial activities are started and gradually develop in *various* forms, is called pre-development period of commerce. The period is started from the beginning of human civilization and continued up to the latest decade. Of fifteenth century, i.e. up to 1494. For the various reasons primitive men were gathered and lived in societies. They tried to save wealth and resources for future. It gives a chance for rapid progress in industry, trade and commerce in human society. At the same time monetary system was developed for exchange in place of barter system (i.e. exchange of goods) to avoid its disadvantages. With the help of money, goods and services are exchanged among the social people. At the same time modern trade system was introduced. Koutilya, a grater learned man and economist, described the principle of trades and commerce in his book “Arthasastra” before few decades of Christ.

Review of Literature

Ahmad (2004), in this study the author concluded that in addition to imparting academic knowledge, the student community must be prepared to meet the challenge confronted in real life and equipped to solve the problems confronting the business world from day to day; and it required restructuring of commerce syllabi at regular intervals.

Eresi, K. (1994), in this study the author observed that, every institution imparting business education should have a sort of MOU with industry or business houses to undertake development of various skills in handling real business condition.

Gupta et. al (2003) examined that the Indian business schools have required to replicate the US based organizational, pedagogical, curricula, industry-interface, and academic research models, but are struggling to initiate several adaptations because of the differences in the work culture system. Therefore, it would be fruitful to look into the challenges for enhancing the quality of commerce education.

Khairoowala et. al. (2002), in this study the authors found it essential on the part of business educationists to clear to the need of the market by imparting business education in a realistic manner with a practical touch through better linkage between Universities and Industries.

Mahajan and Shah (2000) in this study the authors concluded that global competition and proliferation of business educational institutions across the world possess stiff challenges to the business schools in India to produce quality products that could cater to the needs of corporate world and hold out the expectation of different stakeholders of commerce education.

Mishra (2005), in this study the author highlighted the vital changes to commerce education and emphasized on e-learning, virtual class room and on line education during post-world war period. Further it was observed that education system of the country was not responding in responsible way while implementing curriculum of commerce education.

Paperman and Chandra (1983) in this study the authors observed that the learner should be sent to the business houses for on the job training to enhance the class room teaching and to get practical skills and expertise. Furthermore, the interning business will also be benefited by having a bright student for a limited period of time and helping to assess the suitability of the intern for full employment opportunity.

Rust and Oliver (1984), in this study the author exhibited three dimensions of model for measurement of service quality universally across the service which is widely known as prospect model.

Sangmi, Mohiuddin (2005), in this study the author asserted that commerce education came into existence with the complexities of business, and this field of study has been undergoing through turbulent times throughout its evolution. It was found that the challenges of globalization, liberalization, and privatization and information technology have put additional pressure on commerce educational institutions to innovate and change as per changing dynamics of the business environment in the world.

Swaminathan D. (1995), in this study the author critically examine the interaction and interdependence are the well-recognized concepts in the present day global situation. Universities are no exceptions to this. They should come out from their ivory tower concepts and interact with the globe.

Objective of the Study

This paper has been conducted to study the following objectives:

1. To understand the problems of contemporary commerce education.
2. To study the development commerce education.

3. To examine problems and prospects of commerce education.
4. To study the present scenario of commerce education in West Bengal.
5. To give some viable suggestions for achieving excellence in commerce education in India.

Development of Commerce Education

From the last part of Fifteenth Century to that of Eighteenth Century (1494 – 1800), when many theories and principles were published to explain the trade and commerce is called *pre-explanatory period of commerce*.

Again the period from last part of Eighteenth Century to the middle of Twentieth Century, when reasonableness of trade and commerce principles, procedure and applications were explained and analyzed is called *explanatory period of commerce*. In this period, the volume of production was increased rapidly by the application of new technology and the production units were localised.

Presently the period from the middle Twentieth Century (1950) to till now, when the society is recognized the commerce as separate branch of knowledge and needed to commerce education to record the financial transaction and to analyze the financial results and to interpret the financial position in different dimension is called *modern period of commerce education*.

Growth of Industrial Development

There was no clear-cut industrial policy in India before the independence of the country. The British Government was not interested in industrial development of the country. After the independence of the country, there has been a growing realization of the role of the Government as an agency of initiation and promotion of industrial development of the country. For industrial development the post-independence period can be dividing into two parts, i.e. 1947 to 1967 and 1967 to present time. From 1947 to 1967, the Government of India as well as the State Governments confined their activities to creating infrastructure for industrial development so that entrepreneurs could come forward to take advantages of the various schemes.

There has been an accelerated pace of industrial growth in the small scale sector since 1967 onwards. The government took a step further and evolved a package programs to provide necessary inputs needed for starting industrial ventures. It was increasingly realised that industrial entrepreneurship does not generate on its own and the government as a prime agency as to play a positive role in the connection.

A recent development in industrial entrepreneurship is to provide encouragement and incentive to industrialist in rural employment opportunity. A country cannot become a developed nation without providing dignified living to majority of its people.

Several studies have been made on industrial development. In this studies, it is observed that artisans and merchants provide a largest group of entrepreneurship in developing countries. Artisans have the advantages of their skill, while merchants have financial resources in addition to their business acumen.

Needs of Commerce Education

Commerce education provides an efficient and skill artisan and merchants. Commerce education accelerates the flow or wave of industrialization by supplying an efficient accountant, auditor, financial analyst, manager and other valuable human resources.

After independence, the modern knowledge of commerce is the only way to meet the twin needs of creating employment opportunities and much needed industrialization of the backward areas that take the economy in new direction. Our State government realised the importance of commerce education to accelerate the economic growth. As a result our State Government take initiation to established different commerce colleges and opening department of commerce in several aided colleges and universities. Following table no. – 1 shows the picture of commerce education in our State of West Bengal.

Table – 1: Number and Percentage of Colleges in Districts offering Facility of Commerce Education & Teaching in West Bengal

District	Number of General Degree Colleges	Number of Colleges offering Commerce Education	percentage
Bankura	14	07	50%
Burdwan	26	18	72%
Birbhum	12	08	72.7%
Kolkata	67	37	55.2%
Coochbehar	10	04	40%
Darjeeling	15	06	40%
Hooghly	24	18	75%
Howrah	17	15	93.8%
Jalpaigury	12	04	33.3%
Malda	08	03	37.5%
Midnapur	33	19	57.5%
Murshidabad	18	08	44.4%
Nadia	15	11	73.3%
North Dinajpur	06	03	50%
North 24 Parganas	39	18	46.1%
Purulia	11	06	54.6%
South Dinajpur	04	02	50%
South 24 Parganas	29	20	71.4%
Total	360	207	58.15%

Sources: Annual Report of the Depart of Higher Education Govt. Of W. B.

From the above table it appears that in our State of West Bengal 207 colleges offering commerce education. As regards district wise distribution of these colleges, the percentage is high in only six districts, namely, Howrah, Hooghly, Burdwan, Nadia and South 24v Parganas.

Scenario of Commerce Education

Commerce is not a subject rather it is a stream of education. A number of subjects are studied in commerce education like, business studies, accounting, auditing, management, economics, taxation, math. & stt, law, finance etc. presently on wide area of inter disciplinary discourses are caused by commerce viz. Sociology, Economics, Management and other social sciences. In the

present scenario many management related programs like BBA, MBA, MBM (Finance, marketing etc.) can be considered as part of commerce education and can be termed as commerce related programs.

Industry and other organisation today are faced with radical and rapid changes, shrinking resources and intense competition. Companies are looking for individual who passes a broad range of practical skills and a breadth of knowledge that can be used to solve problems within the organisation. A management graduate is trained and prepared to respond to the opportunities and demand of a highly competitive business environment. Thus most organisations now recognize the importance of recruiting professionally qualified managers to help provide the skills and direction necessary for an organisation to survive, grow and prosper in this dynamic and challenging environment. Moreover, in the age of globalization, the demand for management graduates with a global outlook has increased phenomenally. In our country, the prerequisite to a career in management is a postgraduate degree or diploma offered by the management institutions or department of the institutions.

Following table shows the capacity of different management courses of different state approved institutions recognised by the higher education department Government of West Bengal.

Table – 2: Capacity of Different Management Courses:

MBA (2 yrs. Full Time)	1,480
MBA (3 yrs. Part time/Evening)	270
Other Courses	525
Grand Total	2,275

Sources: Annual Report of the Depart of Higher Education Govt. of W. B.

In the present economic condition there is a greater scope of Financial and Accounting Outsourcing (FAO) in our country. In a study it shows that our India within 2020, AFO market exceeds 3560 crore dollar, which is 30% share in the global market.

Following ways are opening after completion of commerce graduation to enter the professional world and easier to get a lucrative job.

1. Chartered Accountancy (CA)
2. Cost Accountancy (ICWAI)
3. Company Secretary ship (CS)
4. Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)
5. MBA/MBM
6. MCA
7. M. Com
8. Tax Consultancy Course
9. Financial Accounting Course.

In many universities of our country commerce has been renamed as “Business Studies”, “E-commerce” etc. Some aided universities of our country provide need based and industry friendly

syllabus and the course content is regularly updated. But this trend is not followed in all states of our country.

The present picture of commerce education in West Bengal is not so satisfactory. It is observed that some colleges fail to provide the necessary infrastructural facilities to the implementation of new syllabus content. It was a common practice for a long period that the commerce colleges, particularly the evening colleges where run by mainly part-time teachers instead of a whole time teachers. Large numbers of students were admitted although the intake capacity remained undefined. Classes were not held regularly and many students made it a practice to stay from the classes. In this way the classroom teaching gradually lost its significance. Recent declining trend in enrolment of students in commerce education in colleges of West Bengal is observed by the following table – 3 at a glance.

Table – 3: Enrolment of Commerce Students in Different Universities and Colleges of West Bengal

Students Categories		Academic Year		Decline No. Of Students	Declining Percentage
		2012-13	2015-16		
Boys	Gen.	98,901	60,718	38,183	38.61%
	SC	9,770	5,450	4,320	44.22%
	ST	1,201	1,564	- 363	- 30.22%
	Total	1,09,872	67,732	42,140	38.35%
Girls	Gen.	22,766	17,095	5,671	24.91%
	SC	1,631	1,002	629	38.56%
	ST	380	435	- 55	- 14.47%
	Total	24,777	18,532	6,245	25.20%
Grand Total		1,34,649	86,264	48,385	35.93%

Sources: Annual Report of the Depart of Higher Education Govt. of W. B.

From the above table – 3 it appears that average 35.93% decline in enrolment of Commerce students from academic year 2012 – 13 to 2015 – 16. The development of Commerce education in West Bengal is not so satisfactory. We see the hope of ray in case of ST students (both boys and girls) improved in enrolment of commerce education from 2012-13 to 2015-16.

At the college level the decline in enrolment is most prominent in districts. In the district North 24 Parganas out of nineteen colleges only two have been able to maintain the student's strength and all other have decline. In Nodia, out of twelve colleges, ten have experienced decline. In South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly and Burdwan most of the colleges have experienced decline in enrolment. Many commerce colleges have now much less enrolment than what they had before, because of the relative unpopularity of the commerce subjects for the present. These colleges may be allowed to teach humanities and science subjects, in order to make them viable.

Challenges and Opportunities in Commerce Education

Commerce education provides skill oriented education to students and society. It gives to the people for democratic living, good citizenship and proper utilization of resources. Commerce education provides to the business and society that how to use it for the betterment of self and

oneself. It provides skill oriented education to students and society. Quality education system in India has been lagging for quite some times now in comparison to the quantity.

Challenges

1. Challenges and strategies for controlling inflation and promoting growth;
2. National and international strategies for stock market and investors in competitive markets.
3. Exports and imports of trade, commerce and industry;
4. Government policies for mergers and acquisitions;
5. Role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);
6. Global issues in commerce, management and economy

Opportunities

1. Commerce graduate with specialization in banking and finance will have opportunity in banking and insurance company;
2. Commerce graduate had ample opportunity as he can join in any private and government organization as a specialist in accounting and finance;
3. Commerce student can also pursue professional courses such as CA, CS, CMA, etc.;
4. Commerce graduate can also careers in financial service as a financial consultants, tax consultants, project managers, etc.;
5. In the bank, call for commerce graduates and post graduates with specialisation in banking;
6. Insurance companies can also call for commerce graduates and post graduates with specialization in insurance.

Suggestions

Some measures for improvement may be suggested as follows:

1. The syllabus of undergraduate commerce should be restructured in such a way that it has more of a management orientation it.
2. Sufficient number of full-time teachers to be appointed in each college.
3. Teachers' up gradation is required to follow up with the changes.
4. Sufficient numbers of computers is required for IT education and it should be accessible to the students.
5. Intake capacity of the students should be strictly followed.
6. Project paper may be introduced as compulsory for all the students.
7. Evaluation system should be scientific.
8. Universities should join hands with the Institution of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI) so as to help students attain a useful mix of academic and professional learning.
9. The syllabus should be prepared and regularly revised in conformity with the requirement of the business world as well as of the society.
10. Placement assistance is needed in all institution.

Conclusion

In spite of that in the age of globalization of economy, when the business are no longer bound by national frontiers, their economic activities have been transcended such boundaries and entered

the international arena. Consequently there is a pressure for optimum utilization of human resources. In order to meet this requirement we should take our sincere response to the problem of coping up with the changes. For these purpose to update the syllabus in a proper manner we need help not only from the academicians but also the professionals and experts from industry.

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Social Movement And The Role Of Local Print Media: A Study On The Hill Politics Of West Bengal In The Gorkha Jana Mukti Morcha Period

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ABSTRACT

India is the world's biggest democratic country. In this democratic system it is seen that there is a power decentralization system running in the government. Mostly the federal nature of our new formation of the constitution has to accept the territorial uniqueness of each and every region. In the sixth schedule it is specially mentioned that the Indian constitution itself acknowledged legitimization of social movements or it can be said regionalism and giving the provision to formation of autonomous linguistic states as well as autonomous tribal areas. It has a long history of social movements in Indian democratic system. Many scholars found that behind all types of social movements there are so many factors involved like- racial, political, gender, environment, social, economic, ethnic and so on. The media especially print media take important role to mouldings public opinion toward any kind of movement. So my paper will highlight this issue with the help of Gorkha Jana Mukti Morcha of hill region of Darjeeling.

[Key Words: Democracy- social movement- autonomous state- media-print-opinion]

INTRODUCTION:-

It is widely accepted that social movement is the result of social injustice of any particular society. It is the outcome of a number of factors- social, economic, political, cultural, ethnic and the like. What is needed in the exploration of the historical-contextual setting of the society with a view to arriving at a particular and objective explanation of this phenomenon. Social movement, to be very specific is the result of the function of both integration and disintegration changes in the socio-economic aspirations of the people of a particular social setting may give rise to movement in the society. This may, in the long run, turn into what is popularly called, "protest movement".

Theoretically speaking, it is argued that these movements are the results of "frustration-aggression" complex. Such situations are commonly found in the developing societies where the institutional measures seem to be insufficient to minimize the gap between the aspirations of the people and the performance of the system.

It is all the more compelling and complex in a colonial political system where there are signs of dissatisfaction among the people at all times. But it is generally started that in most of the colonial states the elite class of the societies leads the social and political movements. This has created a situation where the people at of grass-root level find little or no scope to play effective role in the political process. These elite-oriented movements have in many classes, widened the gap between the people in the higher scale and the people at the lower scale in the societies. So

instead of bridging the gap between these two sections of peoples it further worsens the situations creating a sense of frustration and dissatisfaction.

Another important consequence of social movement is the restriction of the scope of consensus politics, any study of this phenomenon would show that interested groups want to create such conditions as to make this both organized and institutionalized means of achieving their ends. It may ultimately subvert the normal democratic channels of communication and decision making process.

The phenomenon of social movement has been viewed by many critics as the “disfigurement of the political system” and consequently “abnormal to institutional political life”. With the changes in the attitudinal positions of men, there have been changes in the manifestation of movement-both at the individual and collective levels. Even issues, which are now-political in nature and context, may be used and exploited by the groups to achieve their political ends.¹

Social movement can be explained with refers to its durations, intensity and frequency. It is often related with the phenomenon of legitimacy. Thus social movement may be both legitimate and illegitimate. It is a kind of pattern of behavior that aims to ‘orient or disorient the behavior of others.’²

Social movement as in a broader sense, political violence may-

- (a) Arise from spontaneous change directed causes;
- (b) Develop as a process of breakdown of law and order;
- (c) Be a deliberate result of organization either by the government or by interest groups.³

Almost in a similar way, Dahrendar refers to ‘Structurally generated social conflict as one of the major sources of social movement. It is a ‘differential access to authority positions and hence the power and prestige that give rise to contemporary class conflict.’⁴ He has tried to relate political violence and social movement with the nature and extent of social change.⁵ but contrary views have been expressed by scholars like Arendt, Mosca, Stone, Bendise who do not accept the idea that social change and progress are the results of social movement or political violence.

George Samuel has viewed the phenomenon from altogether a different perspective. To him, conflicts within the groups are generated by the party in power to ensure that groups cannot put united force against the ruling authority.⁶ Coser also holds that in the café of a common enemy, cohesion within the group increases.⁷ Huntington even goes a step further and links international conflict with domestic social movement. To him, there is a correlation between international conflict and domestic violence or movement.

The frustration –aggression thesis proceeds on the assumption that frustration leads to social discontent, social discontent to social movement. Frustration may occur due to the interplay of many forces of which the following are important. These are:

- (a) Non –availability of the means for satisfying the demands;
- (b) Non- responsiveness on the part of the institutional channels to the demands from the members of the society;
- (c) Existence of wide disparity between the goal and the achievements;
- (d) Overall non-acceptance of the ruling ideology by the people.⁸

The importance of media in democratic governance has been widely acknowledged by scholars all over the world. Media is not only the maker of public opinion but also acts as a moulder of the perception of the people towards the governing process. It is the means through which people can ventilate their views on any issue, not necessarily political only but on broader social problems which may cover other aspects of social life as well.

There may be a lot of related questions in understanding the perception of the people. The word 'people' being a very comprehensive term appears to include all 'people' of a society at a particular time under reference. Does the word really mean "all people" or some 'segment' of the people. It is 'majority' of the population or a 'special section' of the people which matters in the governing process.

Such and other related questions are generally asked when conceptualizing the term of "people". Needless to mention, the primary task for an observer is too suitable the problem of examination in a proper frame- both contextual and operational. In other words, contextualization of a problem becomes the primary task of a researcher. Any study of this nature should take into consideration of the role of media not in general terms but with respect to a specific issue.

The proposed study would explore the role of the media in the agitation politics of the Gorkha Jana Mukti Morcha (here in after GJMM) in the hills of Darjeeling. For the propose of making the study more penetrating , the focus has been restricted only to print media which including , inter alia, national dailing, regional/state level dailings, local publications and the like. Considering the huge number of publications on this issue, the study will cover only some of these publications from different categories to assess the role of print media in this movement. That way, the coverage of this study must not be exhaustive but illustrative in nature.

One may notice diverjest views expressed and positions taken by these publications. While some of these favored the movement, others opposed it. There is a section which has taken a kind of 'neutral' position, neither opposing nor supporting the course of action of the movement. But on one point, there has been agreement: The nature and direction of the movement by the GJMM has been enormously influenced by this movement.

The overall impact of this movement on the national, state and sub-state level politics has been highlighted in the media. The movement terminating in the formation of the Gorkha Territorial Administration (herein after GTA) officially proves that the movement has somehow reached a stage though may not be the final stage as declared by the GJMM so far.

METHODOLOGY:-

The paper is primarily exploratory in nature. No comprehensive and systematic study on this aspect has been done so far. Since any social or political movement gets support directly or indirectly by an organized public opinion the role of the media especially print media becomes very important in that respect. It is the print media which helps to create the popular support-base of such movements. This is why; the study was based on historical-analytical method. Historical method was helped to find the roots of this movement its contextual setting and course or direction of the movement. Analytical method was help to understand the nature of the movement and its probable impact on the society, economy and polity of the region.

ANALYSIS:-

In this time to explore the importance of the movement in the hills GJMM even not published any kind of the pamphlet for the support of the public opinion. But the local language paper, poem and articles make an influential support of the people from grass root level to the elite groups. The important papers are like Himkasturi, Sunchari, Aja-Bholi, Hamro Pahar, Parichay, Swarna Bhumi, Praja Sakti etc. These papers are very much supported the activity of GJMM and also support to create public support to the movement. The main paper which influences public opinion in broader aspect was the Himalayan Darpan because this paper was widely distributed in this region and also it was written in local language. But the main problem was the lack of skilled personal for the journalism from this region. Beside this there were many problems related to the local print media like the non-effectiveness of the ethics of media, too much cost for printing, time, lack of creativity etc. All the local paper highlighted the issue of sentimental community association not logical community association of the people. Local papers have the power to mould the public opinion for this movement.

CONCLUSION:-

In conclusion it can be said that the all type of social movement in a democratic country influence by the print media. So, local print media plays an important role to mould public opinion. The newspaper of local language supported the movement and helps the movement by making support from the grass root level people. In GJMM movement in Darjeeling hills people involved themselves entirely by the ethnic sentimental issue which was raised by some local paper. The people of hills in Darjeeling were not so much politically mobilized. So it was very important for any kind of movement that people should politically mobilized with analytical power, debating power, experimental power etc to improve to expand the movement everywhere. It was also viewed that the other printed paper which was not supported the movement never entertains by the people of the hills.

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Mapping the Communication & Development

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The field development communication came into existence in the world in 1950's, when attention was focused on media, along with high hopes that media and communication can be used as a tool for the development of newly independent third world countries. It was largely accepted in the world that communication could bring the changes like improvised education, skills, and health awareness in the third world countries. The earliest phase of the development model was dominated by modernization. All development communication strategy was trying to bring the change in the society and uplift the society towards modernity." According to E. M. Rogers "Development communication refers to the uses to which communication are put in order to further development" (Chudhary. 2001:1-13).

After a long and exploitative era of colonization in the country like India, in the mid of the twentieth century, the process of political decolonization of countries, was taking its position around the globe particularly in Asia, Africa, America. In between the 1940s and 1950s, after the Second World War, the dominance of west was declining and a new centre of power had emerged. During that time, the world was divided into two parts; the first part consists of industrial capitalist countries, while the second part consisted of socialist countries. In addition, after the political decolonization, the newly independent countries were brought under the third world. In 1941, Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt signed an Atlantic Charter, in which they outlined some common principles that should lead to a better world, including economic collaboration leading to equal access to trade, improved labour conditions, and world peace (Melkote & Steeves. 2001:44). That charter was designed for the development of these third world backward countries with major hopes of development. One can say that it was an ideological victory of the USA over the rest of the world as in the designing US played a very important role. They designed the capitalist model of development for third world countries where third world was considered as "underdeveloped" or "poor". As well, it was believed that the traditional culture, custom, rituals were the central cause for the poorness and bottleneck for the development. Simply the world was divided majorly into two parts "modern" and "traditional". This dichotomy of "tradition" and "modern" is being a debatable issue, and it is believed to be so purely on the grounds of backwardness. Urbanization, industrialization, and literacy are the major indicators of being "modern".

Actually, in the time of decolonization, Empires were shrinking such as British, France, etc., in this scenario; USA came up with a proposal to develop the underdeveloped world with their model. Communication scholars like Daniel Lerner, Wilbur Schramm, T. Parson, E.M Rogers etc. came up with the idea of a dominant model of development theory for the undeveloped countries in which they considered media as an important key player. They idealized US as a model of development and stated how third world countries can be like US (Lerner, 1958). The

process of change was going on around the world. Moreover, these scholars stressed for the need of media in third world countries for their development. In addition, only the media could bring the desired change in these countries. During the time of decolonization, media and communication were emerging powerfully. The end of colonization in post Second World War period laid the foundation for a dominant paradigm for the development of the third world countries. The dominant paradigm emerged in 1950s with many of newly independent countries attempting to retrace their development over the long period of colonization. Different theorist said that the problems of development were basically deep-rooted in lack of knowledge and information and for that, intervention was needed to provide people with information to change their behaviour and their willingness to change. Therefore, this problem of third world regions was believed to be owing to lack of information and thus, communication was presented as the instrumental solution. Exposure to mass media and communication was one of the main factors among others (Lerner, 1958). Both Lerner (1958) and Rogers (1962) believed and had a clear picture of pro- media, pro-communication and pro-development. It was advocated as a dominant paradigm model of development as a tool for the economic development in these backward countries.

All scholars, including Lerner, Rogers, Schramm and other American scholars laid their focus to project America as a role model for the rest of the world. Like Daniel Lerner (1958), his theory „The Passing of Traditional Society“ is mainly based on the Americanization of the world. Apart from this E.M Rogers, (1962) his theory „The Diffusion of Innovation“ is based on technological development. Moreover, Schramm (1964) in his book“*The Mass Media for National Development*”; talks about how media is important in development for the country. All these theories focused only on the development for the third world according to America. Development as used here, refers to the complex type of economic, social and political changes that can take place in a community, as it moves from traditional to modern. All these changes include political consciousness, urbanization, and division of labour, big and heavy industrialization, mobility, education and uses of media and at last a broad general participation in nation- building.

Development Communication

Development, we can say is a concept, which includes both the political and theoretical history. It has a theoretical approach as well as a political approach too. Development means enhancing the living conditions for the betterment of the people. The parameters on which we are going to judge the development will depend upon the conditions. One can divide the history of development in three parts; the first feudal mode of development; the second is capitalist mode of development and the third is an imperialistic mode of development. One can assume with this argument that in feudal society, the control over the society was in landlord’s hand. The government was essentially a system of support that existed to protect the feudal system in society. Moreover, in feudal society, everything was fixed by birth, if a person is born in a goldsmith’s family, and then he could not move away to another profession. Feudal society was more military. Moreover, the transition starts from feudalism to capitalist society. In 18th in 19th century, the whole era was capitalist and in this time, more focus was on production. Later on,

society moved from capitalism to imperialism. This was the time when half of the world was governed by Europe.

On 20th January 1949, President of USA Truman had given a speech for the third world their development (S. Melkote, 2001). In his speech, he spoke about the development of the third world. He said that- “more than half of the people of the world are living in condition approaching misery. Their food is inadequate, they are victims of disease. Their economic life is primitive and stagnant. Their poverty is a handicap and a threat both to them and to more prosperous areas...” While talking, he was describing the present condition of third world. In his complete speech, he was in favour of taking steps for the making model of the third world countries. As he says that –“I believe that we should make available to peace-loving peoples the benefits of our store technical knowledge.” This clearly indicated that for backward and underdeveloped third world countries, he tried to project the capitalistic form of technology for the development of the third world. E.M. Rogers describes development as an extensively participatory process of social change in a society, intended to bring advancement (including greater quality, freedom and other quality) for the majority of the people (Prasad. 2009:2). He says – “Modernization is the process by which persons change from a traditional way of life to a more complex modern life, technically advanced and rapidly changing style of life”. Therefore, development is a kind of combined modernization. Development is a kind of change in which new ideas are introduced into a social system in order to produce higher per capita incomes and a better living condition, through more modern production methods and improved social organization, and a more equitable distribution of such socio-economic benefits. The dominant paradigm of development communication and modernization did not stop at merely saying that the communication would be a key to develop the Third World. It went further; the paradigm basically argued that the development of mass media and communication systems is development. Thus, the importance of the media and communication in the national development process was not just defined and limited to creating a climate for social change and modernization by introducing and/or changing values, attitudes, and behaviours of individuals. Rather, having media and communication institutions and media forms present in particular quantities was equated with certain levels of development. More growth in the media meant more national development.

When we say development and communication, it means, there is a relation between development and communication. First, we will look at what is communication and then we will delve into its relation with development. Communication, according to the dictionary; the activity, and process of expressing ideas and feelings or giving information to people. Communication generally it means, media, but it is beyond that. When we say communication, it means we are transferring, passing, informing or sharing our information or views with others. It does not matter through which medium we are passing or communicating things. It can be a verbal or it can be a non-verbal medium. It can be in the form of text, symbol, expression or something else. Communication is part of daily life. One cannot live without communication.

Communication is important in shaping the development process of a country; it is a channel for the diffusion of constructive ideas, endorsing enlightened public opinion, highlighting the

processes of governance, serves as a forum for public policy debate, and is watchful of the excesses and violations of the development rights of public. Nevertheless, it is also important that the policy makers and planners of the country must keep in mind that the mere presence of a communication system does not assure an improved standard of living for the population. Communication must build the ability to think critically about development ideology and practices and encourage public to participate in national development. Development communication is a process of applying the strategies and the principles of communication to bring the change in society. Development communications are designed efforts to use communication and media to bring social change, generally in third world countries. The field emerged in the late 1950's along with high hopes that radio and television could be put to use in the backward and disadvantaged countries to bring about dramatic progress. In his study, Lakshman Rao (1965) explored the role of communication in development. He studied two villages and put forth his idea about the role of development communication. He confirms that through communication, a person comes to know about the information regarding the availability of works for him and if the communication is coming from outside of the society, then it creates some desires for goods. For a better economic development, society is dependent on mass media. In addition, only communication can make people shift from traditional to modern society. Communication of development is described by varied methodological and theoretical trajectories, but it is primarily about recovering development discourse from neo-imperialist assumptions that the rest of the world seeks to become like west as Lerner put forth. We can define development communication in many ways like socially, economically etc. Mainly N.C. Qubrel in 1972 defines development communication "*as the art and science of human communication applied to the speedy transformation of a country and the mass of its people from poverty to a dynamic state of economic growth that makes possible greater social equality and the larger fulfilment of the human potential* (Gupta.2000:43).

Lerner (1958) argued that the exposure to western media would create "empathy" for modernity and a wish to move from traditional to modern ways. Here it was assumed that development is a top-down approach, whereby centralized mass media could bring the change in wider level in societies. Earlier development communication especially sponsored by US only trying to make the world like America. Bofo (1985) defined development communication as the "planned conscious and systematized use of communication strategies and process to bridge informational and attitudinal gapes and to established or sustain a climate that favours the process of change and development"(Prasad:2009:5). Dipankar Sinha (1994) says that development communication has a dynamic core because it amalgamates communication with development and its problems and perspective. What is development and development for whom? He says that development is for the people, their empowerment and emancipation, and other hand communication is an ongoing process, that disseminates data, information, and knowledge in the public. Sinha (1994) maintains that communication it is a way to enlighten others or a way to spread the knowledge. However, this development communication's top down approach always had a western effect, practice, and ideas. As a communication scholar refers Kartz and Lazarsfeld's (1955) statement that communication or media has the capacity to influence the people and make them to do what

they want. In magic bullet theory Rogers says that the media can influence a majority of people with a speedy way like a bullet. Nevertheless, this theory is based on the Shannon model of communication, i.e. one way of communication. In addition, there is no feedback from receiver side; the same thing is happening in this dominant paradigm of development model. It is actually a top-down approach, in this there is no any chance of feedback from the people of bottom. It is a trickledown process of economic development. The development was planned in upper stage and trickled-down in the ground

Lerner and Development Communication

Daniel Lerner, who is suppose to be the father of modernization and development communication. Daniel Lerner, approximately fifty years ago coined a theory called “The Passing of Traditional Society”. The main theme of this concept was to develop the country and make it modern with the help of media and communication. The concept has served as an illustration of the dominant paradigm in the field of development communication. If communication is coming from outside in society, it triggers a change in a hitherto. Communication at this stage still flows only horizontally in a strictly stratified society (Rao. 1965:111)

For Lerner every society undergoes through three stages, as society moves towards development. The first stage is traditional, where there is no media in society and the society is gripped by the traditional values, custom, and ritual, then the second stage is transitional, where there the members of the society start using media and this exposure to media would inspire the “empathy” and that empathy will bring the change into the society. At third stage, society becomes modern. Here media is trying to set an agenda in their favour that Max McCombs and Donald Shaw (1972) says in agenda setting theory¹. Creating empathy is actually a process of agenda building. It depends on the public on how they use and gratify the information, play a major role in it.

Lerner (1958) defines that traditional societies are fragmented into communities, which are inaccessible from one another and in which kinship relation play a predominant role. People’s visions are limited by local and their interactions with others are limited to known persons who share their immediate milieu. This whole modernization model of development was based on

¹ Agenda-Setting Theory - The notion that the more news media emphasize an issue or event, the more importance readers, or viewers place on that issue or event. The agenda-setting hypothesis was developed by Max McCombs and Donald Shaw at the University of North Carolina, who argued that the power of mass media lies less in telling people what to think (persuasion) than in telling them what to think about (the agenda). In other words, top stories in the mass media set the agenda for public discussion, and this public agenda, in turn, sets the legislative agenda. Their ideas were built in part upon those of media professor Bernard Cohen, who argued that the media may not always be successful in telling people what to think but in what to think about. McCombs and Shaw tested their theory in the 1968 presidential election. To maximize possible effects, they surveyed 100 undecided voters and asked them what they thought were the key issues in the campaign. McCombs and Shaw also content-analyzed newspapers, magazines, and television news broadcasts to determine how much emphasis the media placed on various issues. They found a strong correlation between the voters’ agenda and the media’s agenda. The top-ranked items on the media’s agenda were also highly ranked on the voters’ agenda.

economic growth via western model by adopting a capitalist economic system. The third world countries were forced to invest in program of industrialization and make an industrial society. Therefore, for all this Lerner thinks society needs the media. “What America is...? The modernizing Middle East seeks to become” (Lerner, 1958). In his works, Lerner questions the variations in changing countries patterns where some adapt rapidly to modernization while others lag behind. He conducted a survey in some countries of the Middle East and, in order to get answers from the public regarding development and media. In the introduction (Lerner, 1958), he says that the pace of the change has been immensely accelerated by the coming of mass media; i.e. radio channels, movies, newspapers, etc. He says that with wants, new opinion comes, with new opinions new political awareness. According to Lerner, a traditional society is non-participant where members live with fragmented consensus and lack common consensus, since they are not interested in making opinions that could lead the public opinions. Lack of the foundation of interdependence people’s horizons is limited by the local and their decisions involve only those who have knowledge about the circumstances. He talked about mobile sensibility; it means the empathic readiness to try a new way of life. He says that the exposure of media would give the space to develop a mobile sensibility in public and that leads the changes in society. Lerner for modernization looks into E. M. Rogers’s model of development, where; first, city has to be urbanized and that urbanization leads to literacy and from this literacy, media exposure would raise which, would help in the active economic and political participation. Lerner followed this and added empathy, which was an outcome of media, access and played a key role in development. With spreading of mass media via technology, empathy accelerated. None of the modern societies can functions effectively without a developed model of mass media. Thus, it is necessary to have a developed model of mass media.

The media and communication talks about the gospel of desire by depicting the good life in advertisements and news stories; this raises the wants, but the communication is less able to provide the guts of development such as increase agriculture production, higher incomes and the literacy (Rogers.1974:44-54). Colin Sparks (2007) tried to work out on how development communication works. He found that the state and international agencies are related in the planning of development for countries. Then there are some development experts, who directly relate to state as well as international agencies. After this, there is media; with the help of media, state government tries to communicate the development to society. In addition, when it comes to society, those who have media or access to media become Opinion Leader or a social change agent. Moreover, these opinion leaders or social change agents try to influence the rest of the society. Clearly, there will be a knowledge gap between these opinion leaders or social change agents and the rest of the society. Moreover, these all opinion leaders and social agents, work for the state through the media to make people ready for change. In addition, all these opinion leaders and social agents directly approach to society and make them ready for change.

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चित्रपटसंगीत में शास्त्रीय संगीत की प्रासंगिकता

डॉ. स्वाति शर्मा

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हरिद्वार

मानव के मन को प्रभावित करने के जो साधन हैं, उनमें अब फिल्में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हो गई हैं, फिल्मों से जहां लोगों को मनोरंजन होता है, वहां ये शिक्षाप्रद भी होती हैं और अतीत का यथार्थवादी चित्र अंकित कर भावी युग की ओर इंगित करती हैं। भारतीय संस्कृति सदियों से समृद्ध रही है और युग पुरुष विभिन्न माध्यमों से जन-जन के हृदय पटल पर एक प्रकार की अमिट छाप छोड़ गये हैं। इन्हीं साधनों में संगीत इतनी सशक्त व प्रभावशाली माध्यम है कि इसका सानी नहीं है अतः फिल्मों के माध्यम से संगीत अगणित लोगों तक पहुंचता रहा है।

यह प्रश्न उठना स्वाभाविक है कि फिल्मों में संगीत कैसा हो, जबकि इन दिनों आमतौर से यह शिकायत की जा रही है कि फिल्म संगीत का स्तर गिर रहा है। फिल्म संगीत-निर्देशक नई चीज, रचनात्मक कार्य व अनुसंधान करने के बजाय मात्र इधर-उधर के टुकड़े जोड़ने तथा नकल करने में अपने दायित्व की इतिश्री मान लेने हैं। क्या इससे हमारी समृद्ध संस्कृति और शास्त्रीय संगीत की परम्परा की रक्षा होती है ? क्या आजीवन साधना करने वाले शास्त्रीय संगीत के गायकों अथवा वादकों का कार्य निरर्थक है ? ऐसे प्रश्नों पर विचार करना प्रासंगिक होगा।

एक समय था जब फिल्मों में शास्त्रीय संगीत का ही प्रयोग किया जाता था। परन्तु जैसे-जैसे फिल्मों में प्रगति की ओर अग्रसर होती गई वैसे ही संगीत में भी परिवर्तन आता चला गया। इस परिवर्तन की चरम परिणति इस रूप में हुई कि फिल्म संगीत में अनेक प्रकार के प्रयोग होने लगे और पाश्चात्य प्रवृत्तियां भारतीय संगीत पर आच्छादित हो गईं। परन्तु आज पुनः यह आवश्यकता महसूस की जा रही है कि फिल्म जैसे माध्यम से शास्त्रीय संगीत की महान सांस्कृतिक परम्परा की धारा को बहाया जाये। इन्हीं तथ्यों को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए कुछ महान फिल्म संगीत निर्देशकों के मत इस प्रकार हैं :-

सुप्रसिद्ध संगीतकार सचिनदेव बर्मन के विचार हैं - "हमारी संस्कृति एवं संस्कारों के अनुसार भारतीय धुनें ही हमारे लिये स्थायी बन सकती हैं। आमतौर से यह धारणा बन गई है कि शास्त्रीय संगीत कथा व स्थिति विशेष पर निर्भर करता है और सामान्यतया निर्माता विशुद्ध शास्त्रीय संगीत का खतरा उठाने के लिये तैयार नहीं होते, किन्तु स्थिति के अनुसार कुछ अंशों में यदि कहीं विशुद्ध शास्त्रीय संगीत दिया गया है तो वह जनप्रिय हुआ है, इसमें सन्देह नहीं है।" यही धारा जाने - माने संगीतकार नौशाद की प्रतिक्रिया में परिलक्षित होती है - "शास्त्रीय संगीत कभी पुराना नहीं हो सकता। इसमें एक ऐसा आकर्षण एवं माधुर्य होता है जो चिरनवीन कहा जा सकता है। शास्त्रीय संगीत हमारी संस्कृति का अभिन्न व अति प्राचीन अंग है। यह हमारे मन व उद्वेगों में समा हुआ है। हमारे रक्त कणों में विद्यमान है। जब तक हम भारतीय हैं यह हमारी आत्मा पर छाया रहेगा। मुझे विश्वास है कि शास्त्रीय संगीत पर आधारित होने के कारण मेरी सभी धुनें जनता को इतना भा सकीं और जनमन को इतना आकर्षित कर सकीं।" संगीतकार सलिल चौधरी के विचार हैं - " विश्व संगीत में भारतीय शास्त्रीय संगीत का अपना विशिष्ट स्थान है जो सर्वथा सुरक्षित है और रहेगा भी, क्योंकि भारतीय शास्त्रीय संगीत में जो गम्भीरता व सरलता है वह सारे

विश्व का मन हिला सकती है। विश्व संगीत में भले ही दिमागी करामात होगी, किन्तु मन का स्पर्श करने की शक्ति भारतीय संगीत में निहित है।”

क्या फिल्मों में शास्त्रीय संगीत को उपयोगी बनाया जा सकता है ? काफी समय से यह चर्चा का विषय रहा है जिसके बारे में संगीतकारों व टीकाकारों के अनेक मत हैं। समकालीन संगीतकारों से भिन्न, पिछली पीढ़ी के एक जाने-माने संगीतकार मदनमोहन का हम जिस अंधकार में पड़ें हुये हैं वह हमारी आंखों से हमेशा के लिए दूर हो जायेगा। हमारा शास्त्रीय संगीत हमारी फिल्मों में अपूर्व लोकप्रियता प्राप्त कर सिर्फ भारत में ही नहीं बल्कि विदेशों में भी भारतीय कला व संस्कृति के नाम को उज्ज्वल करेगा इसमें सन्देह नहीं ।

आज के जनमानस में फिल्मी गीतों का व्यापक प्रभाव इसके विकास का द्योतक तो अवश्य हैं, किन्तु यह शास्त्रीय संगीत के लिये एक चुनौती भी है। शास्त्रीय संगीत की लोकप्रियता का ह्रास हो रहा है इसके श्रोताओं का वर्ग भी अपने में सिमटता जा रहा है । वैसे देखा जाये तो फिल्म संगीत अपने में कोई अलग संगीत नहीं है और न ही यह किसी विदेशी परम्परा से जुड़ा है। यह भी इसी देश की प्राचीन शास्त्रीय संगीत की परम्परा का ही अंग है। जिस प्रकार रवीन्द्र संगीत, सुगम संगीत, भाव संगीत, नाट्य संगीत, तुमरी, गजल आदि शास्त्रीय संगी की विभिन्न शाखायें हैं, ठीक इसी प्रकार यह भी संगीत की एक नवीन शैली है, जो “राकी युग” की देन है। इसका जन्म और विकास दोनों ही सन् 1931 की सवाक् फिल्म ‘आलमआरा’ से हुआ । देखा जाए तो लगभग 60 वर्ष पुराना यह संगीत शास्त्रीय अभिजात संगीत के सामने शिशुवत है। किन्तु अपनी तकनीक और विभिन्न तरीकों से इस शैली का विकास इतनी तेजी से हुआ कि इसने संगीत की सभी शैलियों को बहुत पीछे छोड़ दिया है। यह इस संगीत की विशेषता ही मानी जायेगी। यदि कहा जाये कि फिल्मी संगीत आज की युवा पीढ़ी का संगीत है तो अनुचित नहीं होगा। गांव हो या नगर, प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में हर उत्सव और समारोह में इस संगीत का व्यापक प्रभाव है, यहां तक कि भक्ति संगीत भी इससे अछूता नहीं रहा सका है। अधिकांश महफिलें चित्रपटीय संगीत में भरी रहती हैं। व्यावहारिक रूप से सत्य यह है कि आज के युग की मांग फिल्मी गीत और फिल्मी संगीत है।

इसका यह अर्थ नहीं कि शास्त्रीय संगीत से फिल्म संगीत का कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं। इसके विपरीत यह आरम्भ से आज तक संगीत से जुड़ा हुआ है। सुप्रसिद्ध घरानों से तैयार हुये संगीतकार अपने-अपने घराना संगीत का ही प्रयोग करते थे। “राकी युग” के इन कलाकारों में इसलिये स्वर, लय, ताल व राग की पूर्ण जानकारी और अभिजात संगीत की प्रतिभा होती थी। उस समय के प्रसिद्ध संगीतज्ञ अल्ला दिया खां, पं. विष्णु दिगम्बर पलुस्कर, बड़ेबुवा, अली खां आदि से सीखे हुये किरदार थे – गोविन्दराव टैवे, प्रो. बी. आर. देवधर, सुरेशान माने आदि । इसके पश्चात मास्टर माधोलाल, जह्न बाई, अनिल विश्वास, बसन्त देसाई, जयदेव जैसे चोटी के संगीत निर्देशक हुये। इन लोगों का शास्त्रीय संगीत पर पूर्ण अधिकार था और इनकी रचनायें विशुद्ध रागों पर आधारित होती थीं।

चूंकि फिल्म संगीत का उद्देश्य सदा से जनरुचि के अनुकूल चलना रहा है, इसलिये उस समय लोगों की रुचि भी शास्त्रीय संगीत के स्वरों को समझने में सक्षम थी। संगीत का एक वातावरण था । अतः इन संगीत निर्देशकों ने लोगों की रुचि को ध्यान में रखते हुये ऐसे गीतों का सृजन किया, जिनका आधार पूर्णतः शास्त्रीय संगीत था। इन गीतों में नवीनता भरने के लिये “बैक ग्राउंड म्यूजिक” का सहारा लिया गया जिसमें ढोलक, घड़ा, हारमोनियम, मंजीरा जैसे प्रचलित वाद्यों के साथ “हवाईन गिटार” का भी प्रयोग किया गया । “बैक ग्राउंड म्यूजिक” के मेल से इन गीतों में एक नया परिवर्तन आया जो जनता को बहुत भाया । शनैः-शनैः फिल्मी गीतों के साथ और नये-नये विदेशी वाद्यों को भी सम्मिलित करके बहुत आकर्षक और प्रभावी “बैक ग्राउंड म्यूजिक” दिया जाने लगा जिसके कारण इस संगीत का नवीन रूप उभरकर सामने आने लगा। आरम्भ में अभिनेता, गायक और गायिकाओं की आवाज़ का प्रयोग किया गया। कालान्तर में

पार्श्व गायक और गायिकाओं का समय आया। ये सभी कलाकार बहुत अभ्यस्त और घराना संगीत के कड़े अनुशासन से परिचित थे। पंकज मलिक, सहगल, अनिल विश्वास आदि को आज कौन नहीं जानता। ये कलाकार अपने अभ्यासन के प्रति ईमानदार रहे और किसी न किसी घराने से जुड़कर संगीत की नवीनतम जानकारी प्राप्त करते रहे। यह आकट्य सत्य है कि जब तक शास्त्रीय संगीत की विधिवत जानकारी नहीं प्राप्त की जायेगी, तब तक सुगम संगीत, भाव-संगीत और चित्रपट संगीत गाने के लिये सक्षम हो पाना सम्भव नहीं है। यही कारण है कि स्वर सम्राज्ञी लता मंगेशकर, आशा भोंसले, उषा मंगेशकर, वाणी जयराम, अनुराधा पौडवाल, रफी, मुकेश, किशोर, मन्नाडे आदि जनमानस पर पूर्ण रूप से छा गये।

शास्त्रीय संगीत मध्यकाल में अपने स्वर्णयुग में था। उस समय के गायकों ने संगीत के उन तत्वों को उभारा जिनमें सच्चे अर्थों में "आत्मा का संगीत" होता था। उन्होंने रागों की शास्त्रीयता को रखकर भी उन्हें पिंजड़े में नहीं जकड़ा, अपितु रागों की आत्मा को अपने गायन-वादन में उतार लिया। संगीत को "हृदय की भाषा" कहा गया है। इन कलाकारों के द्वारा संगीत का स्वरूप उभर आया था। तभी तो तानसेन जैसे गायक द्वारा दीपक राग गाकर अग्नि प्रज्वलित करना, मेघ राग गाकर जलवृष्टि करना उस समय की स्वाभाविक घटनायें थीं, जिन्हें आज कोरी कल्पना समझा जाता है। उस समय के कलाकार अपने फन के बेजोड़ जानकार और पारखी होते थे। संगीत की बारीकियों को समझते थे। वे एक शोधकर्ता की तरह जीवन भर संगीत कर अभ्यास करते रहे तभी तो उस समय का संगीत ऐसा जीवंत था जिसे सुनने के लिये बादशाह भी भिखारी का रूप धारण कर उनके द्वार पर खड़ा रहता था। आज सभी संगीत प्रेमी अनुभव कर रहे हैं कि संगीत में अभ्यास का सिलसिला ढीला पड़ा हुआ है। प्रतिभाओं का अभाव नहीं, किन्तु अभ्यास का अवश्य अभाव है। घराना संगीत ने जिस अभ्यास परम्परा को जन्म दिया था, उसके स्थान पर मात्र सोर्स और सिफारिश जैसे तरीकों से शास्त्रीय संगीत की ऊंचाई को छूने का विफल प्रयास चला रहा है। इसी कारण समर्थ व योग्य कलाकारों के स्थान पर अधकचरे संगीतकार उभर रहे हैं। शास्त्रीय संगीत के भविष्य के लिये यह प्रवृत्ति घातक होगी।

आरम्भ में शास्त्रीय रागों के आधार मानकर रचनाएं हुईं। कुछ समय पश्चात् पंजाबी, उत्तर प्रदेशीय, गढ़वाली तथा पहाड़ी धुनों का आश्रय लेकर फिल्मी गीतों की रचनायें की गईं। विभिन्न लोक धुनों के मित्रता से नये-नये गीतों के प्रयोग में ओ.पी. नैययर का नाम बहुत चर्चित रहा। इन्होंने तो पूरा पंजाब अंग इन गीतों में उतारकर फिल्म संगीत के मेल से एक नई विधा तैयार की, जो लोगों को बहुत पसन्द आई। इसमें एक ओर शास्त्रीय संगीत की सुगन्ध थी तो दूसरी ओर लोकधुनों की बहार। नौशाद और खेमचन्द्र प्रकाश ने क्रमशः राजस्थानी और उत्तर प्रदेशीय पुरानी लोकधुनों में नवीन स्वर प्रयोग से भिन्न भिन्न गीतों का सृजन किया। तत्पश्चात् पुनः जनरुचि बदली और फिल्म संगीत में एक नया दौर आया। पश्चिमी हारमनी और भारतीय मैलाडी को लेकर नई रोशनी के संगीत निर्देशकों आर.डी. बर्मन, सेनिक ओमी, लक्ष्मीकान्त प्यारेलाल आदि के हाथों ऐसे गीतों का निर्माण हुआ जो सुनने में बड़े मधुर और आकर्षक थे। इस संगीत की दूसरी विशेषता विभिन्न शैलियों को अपने में समेटकर चलना है। गजल, कव्वाली, लोकगीत जैसी शैलियां जो कालान्तर में प्रायः लुप्त हो चली थीं फिल्मी क्षेत्र में आकर पुनः उभरने लगीं। पुराने और प्रसिद्ध गायकों की गजलों और कव्वालियों को नये-नये स्वरों से सजाकर फिल्मी अंदाज से जनता के समक्ष पेश किया जाने लगा। गजल व कव्वाली जैसी सोई हुई शैली को जनता में लोकप्रिय बनाने का श्रेय फिल्मी संगीत को ही जाता है।

शास्त्रीय संगीत जनता को आकर्षक करने में समर्थ नहीं हो सका, क्योंकि इसने विशेषकर गायन के क्षेत्र में अपने आपको केवल ध्रुपद, धमार और ख्याल के घेरे तक ही सीमित रखा। गजल, कव्वाली तथा सुगम संगीत की अन्य शैलियों के लिये यहां कोई विशेष स्थान नहीं है। यदि इन शैलियों को भी रोगों का आधार देकर शास्त्रीय संगीत में सम्मिलित किया जाता तो निःसन्देह एक ओर शास्त्रीय संगीत को सुनने व

समझने की रुचि जागृत होती । जनसाधारण में आज जिस प्रकार का साहित्य अथवा संगीत प्रचलित करेंगे उसी के अनुरूप लोगों को मानसिक स्तर बनेगा। आज फिल्म संगीत में गजल और कव्वालियों की लोकप्रियता का कारण यही है कि लोग आम जनता की रुचि का मिश्रण तो है ही, साथ में नवीनता और सरलता भी है। इसके सामने शास्त्रीय संगीत पिछड़ रहा है क्योंकि न तो इसमें नवीनता है और न ही यह लोगों की पहुंच के अंदर है। संगीत के प्राइमरी स्तर से विश्वविद्यालय स्तर तक कहीं किसी प्रकार का परिवर्तन नहीं है। पाठ्यक्रम भी वह पुराने चले आ रहे हैं। । यही कारण है कि लोग इसकी अपेक्षा फिल्मी गीतों की ओर आकर्षित हो रहे हैं।

संगीत को केवल शास्त्रीय मानना एक भ्रम है। यदि हमें शास्त्रीय संगीत की परम्परा को समृद्ध बनाना है तो सुगम संगीत को संगीत शिक्षा में सम्मिलित करना होगा । पं. रविशंकर न विदेशी संगीत की भी कई अच्छी तकनीकों को अपने वादन में सम्मिलित करके पश्चिमी और पूर्वी संगीत के मिश्रण से एक नई दिशा खोली है तो प्रसिद्ध गिटारवादक पं. विश्वमोहन भट्ट ने विदेशी वाद्य का भारतीयकरण कर उसमें मोहन वीणा में परिवर्तित कर वादन शैली को नई दिशा प्रदान कर पश्चिमी तथा पूर्वी संगीत का मेल किया है। इसी प्रकार नृत्य के क्षेत्र में भी बहुत उन्नति हुई है । फिल्म संगीतकारों ने लोकधुनों को आधार मानकर गीत रचनायें की हैं, साथ ही इनकी उपलब्धि एक और है और वह है – पुराने, भारतीय लोकगीतों का पुनरुद्धार। देश की सभ्यता और संस्कृति के प्रतीक उन लोकगीतों की नई धुनों और नए स्वरों से सजाकर जनता के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है। इसके अतिरिक्त बहुत से लोकगीत, जो केवल पुस्तकों की धरोहर मात्र रह गये थे फिल्म के माध्यम से पुनः जीवित हो गये हैं। कुछ आलोचकों का कहना है कि फिल्म संगीतकारों ने शास्त्रीय संगीत के साथ-साथ भारतीय लोकगीतों का ढांचा ही बदल दिया है, परन्तु सत्य यह है कि फिल्मी संगीत निर्देशकों ने इन गीतों को सहारा दिया । आधुनिक सभ्यता की चकाचौंध में खामोश पड़े हुये गीतों में जान डाल दी है तथा आम जनता ने इन्हें पसन्द भी किया है।

–: निष्कर्ष :-

इस प्रकार सिने जगत में संगीत की लगभग सभी शैलियों को पनपने और विकसित होने का अवसर मिला है। इसलिये इसका दायरा शास्त्रीय संगीत की अपेक्षा अधिक खुला हुआ और लोकप्रिय है। यदि हमें शास्त्रीय संगीत को जन-जन तक पहुंचाना है तो इसके लिये हमें वातावरण बनाना होगा, साथ ही इसे जनरुचि के अनुरूप बनाने के लिए नई तकनीक को अपनाना होगा। यही नहीं, शास्त्रीय संगीत के पुराने गायकों की भांति इसमें सुगन्ध भरकर इसे लोकप्रिय बनाना होगा । तभी शास्त्रीय संगीत का भविष्य उज्ज्वल हो सकेगा, अन्यथा फिल्मी संगीत इस पर हावी होता रहेगा ।

किन्तु यह भी सत्य है कि शास्त्रीय संगीत हमारे देश की पुरानी विरासत है जो चिरकाल से चली आ रही है और चिरकाल तक चलती रहेगी। यही कारण है कि फिल्मों में जो संगीत शास्त्रीय संगीत पर आधारित हुए, उनकी तरोताज़गी अभी तक बरकारार है और आगे भी रहेगी, जबकि हल्के-फुल्के, हज़ारों गीत आए और धुआं बनकर हवा में उड़ गए। फिल्म संगीतकार नौशाद के शब्दों में – “हमारा शास्त्रीय संगीत इबादत है, विरासत है, खिदमत है।”

महाराष्ट्रातील महिलांची सक्षमीकरणकडे वाटचाल

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सारांश :

महिला सशक्तीकरणाचा विचार करता उपलब्ध संसाधने, शासन स्तरावरील कार्यक्रम, उपलब्ध संधी यांचा परिणाम होऊन आज अनेक महिला कुटूंब आणि संसार सांभाळून सुद्धा आर्थिक व सामाजिक क्षेत्रात उच्च स्थानावर पोहोचल्या आहेत. परिणामी महिलांच्या जीवन जगण्याच्या दृष्टीकोणात बदल होत आहे. होणारे हे बदल कशाप्रकारे व किती प्रमाणात झाले आहेत याविषयी प्रस्तुत शोधनिबंधात विचार केला आहे. एकूणच महिला सक्षमीकरणाकरीता महाराष्ट्र राज्याला अजून मोठ्या प्रमाणात प्रयत्न करण्याची आवश्यकता आहे.

बीजषब्द : महिला सशक्तीकरण, सामाजिक व आर्थिक विकास, स्व-सहाय्यता गट.

प्रस्तावना :

सक्षम महिला केवळ कुटूंबाच्याच नव्हे तर समाजाच्या उत्पादकतेमध्ये देखील मौलिक भर घालते, ज्यामुळे भावी पिढीचे भवितव्य सुधारण्यास मदत होते. महिलांचे शिक्षण, आरोग्य आणि आर्थिक परिस्थिती सुधारल्यानंतर महिला सक्षमीकरण साध्य होईल. या अनुषंगाने महाराष्ट्र हे महिला धोरण आखणारे देशातील पहिले राज्य आहे. या अंतर्गत महिलांना सर्व क्षेत्रात समान संधी उपलब्ध करून देणे, स्त्री-पुरुष जन्मदर समान ठेवण्यासाठी प्रभावी उपाययोजना करणे, समाजातील सर्व महिलांच्या हितांचे व हक्कांचे संवर्धन करणे, अनिष्ट प्रथांपासून बचाव करण्यासाठी प्रतिबंधात्मक उपाय करणे, असंघटीत क्षेत्रामध्ये कार्यरत महिलांच्या हक्कांसाठी प्रयत्न करणे, हिंसाचार विरहीत व सुरक्षित वातावरण निर्माण करणे ही उद्दिष्टे समोर ठेऊन धोरणाची अंमलबजावणी करण्यात आली.

महिलांच्या आर्थिक विकासाचा विचार करित असतांना भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था ही महिलाकेंद्री आहे असे म्हणता येईल. कारण आज महिलांना केंद्रस्थानी ठेऊन अनेक योजनांचे क्रियान्वयन होत आहे. समाजातील अर्थव्यवस्थेतील महिलांची क्रियाशिलता बघता त्याचप्रमाणे जागतिक पटलावरील महिलांच्या सहभागीतेचा विचार करता भारत त्याबाबतीत स्वतःला वेगळे ठेऊ शकत नाही. त्यादृष्टीने शासन स्तरावर अनेक पाऊले उचलली आहेत. अनेक उपक्रम महिलांना अधिक सक्षम करित आहे. याकरीता केंद्र व राज्य सरकार महत्वाकांक्षी योजनांच्या माध्यमातून महिलांकरीता उद्योजकीय वातावरण तयार करित आहेत.

महिला सक्षमीकरणाकरीता राज्य षासनाच्या योजना :

2014 च्या महिला धोरणानुसार महाराष्ट्र राज्यातील महिलांच्या विकासाकरीता राबविण्यात येणा-या काही महत्वाच्या महिला विकास योजना जसे शासकीय महिला वस्तीगृहे, महिला आधार गृहे, संरक्षण गृहे, राज्यगृहे, महिला समूपदेशन केंद्रे, शुभ मंगल सामूहिक विवाह

योजना, मनोधैर्य योजना, नोकरी करणा—या महिलांसाठी वस्तीगृहे प्रशिक्षण व रोजगार कार्यक्रमासाठी आधार, स्वाधार, उज्वला, प्रधानमंत्री मातृ वंदना योजना यासारख्या योजनांच्या माध्यमातून महिलांच्या सक्षमीकरणाकरीता शासन स्तरावर प्रयत्न सुरू आहेत. या सर्व योजनांच्या माध्यमातून अलीकडे लाभार्थी संख्या वाढत आहे व त्यावरील शासन खर्चातसुद्धा वृद्धी झाल्याचे दिसते.

निर्णय प्रक्रियेतील महिलांचा सहभाग :

आज भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्थेतील महिलांचे महत्त्व लक्षात घेता केंद्र शासनाने महिलांना स्थानिक संस्थांमध्ये एक तृतीयांश आरक्षण देण्याचा निर्णय घेतला आहे. महाराष्ट्र सरकारने हे आरक्षण 50 टक्क्यापर्यंत वाढविले आहे. महाराष्ट्र राज्य निवडणूक आयोगाच्या मते, राज्यातील स्थानिक संस्थांमधील महिलांसाठीच्या राखीव जागांची संख्या विचारात घेता महानगरपालीका, नगर परिषद, नगर पंचायत, जिल्हा परिषद, पंचायत समिती, ग्रामपंचायत यामध्ये 2,69,523 एकूण जागा असून 1,34,912 महिलांसाठी राखीव जागा आहेत. म्हणजे जवळपास 50 टक्के महिला आज प्रत्यक्ष निर्णय प्रक्रियेत सहभागी आहेत. परिणामी निर्णय प्रक्रियेतील सहभाग वाढून महिला राजकीयदृष्ट्या सक्षम होत आहेत.

सक्षमीकरणाकरीता स्व-सहाय्यता गट :

महिलांच्या आर्थिक सक्षमीकरणाकरीता स्व-सहाय्यता गट हे एक चांगले माध्यम आहे. स्व-सहाय्यता गटांमार्फत महिलांविषयक विविध विकास योजना राबविण्याकरीता राज्य शासनाने महिला आर्थिक विकास महामंडळास (माविम) राज्याची नोडल संस्था म्हणून घोषित केले आहे. या संस्थेच्या कार्याची व्यापकता दिवसेंदिवस वाढत असून अनेक महिला बचत गटांच्या माध्यमातून आर्थिक सक्षम होत आहेत. या अनुषंगाने राज्यातील 33 जिल्ह्यांमध्ये 10,495 खेड्यांमध्ये तेजस्वीनी ही योजना सन 2007 पासून राबविली जात आहे. या कार्यक्रमाद्वारे माविमने गरीब कुटूंबातील 9,39,816 महिलांचा सक्रिय सहभाग असलेले 78,318 स्व-सहाय्यता गट आणि 361 लोक संचालित साधन केंद्राचे जाळे यशस्वीपणे स्थापन केले आहे. सन 2017-2018 पर्यंत बचत गटांची एकूण बचत सुमारे 136.48 कोटी आहे. हीच बचत महिलांच्या यशस्वी जीवनाकरीता सहाय्यक ठरत आहे.

महिला सुरक्षा :

महिलांच्या सक्षमीकरणाचा विचार होत असतांना महिलांच्या सुरक्षेचाही प्रश्न तितकाच महत्त्वाचा आहे. सुरक्षित वातावरण महिलांच्या विकासाला पोषक असतो. सोबतच कार्यक्षमता सुद्धा वाढवितो. याकरीता महाराष्ट्र राज्य महिला आयोग ही संस्था महिला सुरक्षेविषयी कार्य करते. राज्यातील पिडीत महिलांना त्यांच्या समस्यांचे निराकरण करण्यासाठी व निःसंकोचपणे संवाद साधण्यासाठी व्यासपीठ उपलब्ध करून देणे या प्राथमिक उद्दिष्टासाठी विभागवार व जिल्हावार सार्वजनिक सुनावण्यांचे आयोजन करून हा आयोग महिला सक्षमीकरणाकरीता सहाय्य करित आहे.

महिलांच्या सामाजिक व आर्थिक स्थितीमध्ये परिवर्तन :

देशातील महिलांच्या सामाजिक स्थितीमध्ये आमूलाग्र परिवर्तन झाले आहेत. मागील काही दशकांमध्ये महिलांवर झालेल्या अत्याचाराचा विचार करता आज त्यांच्या स्थितीमध्ये ब-याच सुधारणा झालेल्या दिसून येतात. महिलांना अधिकारांची जाणीव झालेली आहे. आज प्रत्येक स्त्री सन्मानाने जगण्याकरीता आत्मनिर्भर बनण्याकरीता प्रयत्न करित आहे. विविध क्षेत्रातील तिचे योगदान स्पृहणिय आहे. उद्योजकतेच्या क्षेत्रामध्ये सुद्धा आज अनेक महिला पुढे येत आहेत. परिणामी महिलांच्या सामाजिक स्थितीत सुधारणा असल्याचे वरवर दिसत असले तरी वास्तविकतः काही वेगळीच आहे.

भारताची 2011 ची लोकसंख्या विचारात घेतली असता ती 121 कोटी आहे. यामध्ये महाराष्ट्राच्या लोकसंख्येचे प्रमाण 9.3 टक्के आहे. लोकसंख्येतील स्त्री व पुरुषांचे प्रमाण 50-50 टक्केच असणे गरजेचे आहे. परंतू पुरुषप्रधान भारतीय संस्कृतीत हे आजपर्यंत शक्य झाले नाही. महाराष्ट्रात देखील वेगळी परिस्थिती नाही. कारण 1981 च्या दशकाचा अपवाद वगळता प्रत्येक दशकात महाराष्ट्राच्या एकूण लोकसंख्येत पुरुषांचे प्रमाण वाढत असून स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण कमी होत असल्याचे दिसून येते. 1961 मध्ये महाराष्ट्राच्या एकूण लोकसंख्येत पुरुषांचे व स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण अनुक्रमे 51.65 व 48.35 टक्के होते. हेच प्रमाण 2011 मध्ये अनुक्रमे 51.83 टक्के व 48.17 टक्के एवढे झाले. याचा परिणाम प्रती हजार पुरुषांमागे असणारे स्त्रियांचे प्रमाण घटत आहे. महाराष्ट्रात 1981 च्या दशकाचा अपवाद वगळता प्रत्येक दशकात प्रती हजार पुरुषांमागे स्त्रियांचे असणारे प्रमाण घटलेले आहे. 1961 मध्ये महाराष्ट्रात प्रती हजार पुरुषांमागे 936 स्त्रिया होत्या तर 2011 मध्ये प्रती हजार पुरुषांमागे 929 स्त्रिया आहेत. स्त्री साक्षरतेचा विचार करता साक्षर लोकसंख्येच्या बाबतीत महाराष्ट्राचा भारतात केरळ राज्यानंतर दुसरा क्रमांक लागतो. महाराष्ट्रात 2011 मध्ये एकूण लोकसंख्येपैकी 88.04 टक्के पुरुष साक्षर आहेत. 75.09 टक्के स्त्रिया साक्षर आहेत. विशेष बाब म्हणजे स्त्रियांच्या साक्षरतेचे प्रमाण महाराष्ट्रात हळूहळू वाढत आहे. परंतू आजदेखील स्त्रियांच्या शिक्षणाला आवश्यक त्या सोयी-सुविधा व पुरेसे स्वातंत्र्य सरकार, समाज व कुटूंबातून मिळत नाही. एकूणच स्त्रियांची सामाजिक स्थिती दुय्यम दर्जाची आहे. महाराष्ट्राच्या भविष्यकालीन पिढीच्या अनुषंगाने ही बाब स्वागतार्ह नसून चिंतेची आहे.

महाराष्ट्राच्या श्रमशक्तीमध्ये महिला श्रमशक्तीचा एक प्रमुख भाग आहे. परंतू रोजगारीची पातळी व गुणवत्तेच्या दृष्टीने महिला पुरुषांच्या तुलनेत मागे आहेत. महाराष्ट्रामध्ये 2011 च्या जनगणनेनुसार 4.94 कोटी लोकसंख्या आर्थिक कार्यात सहभागी असून त्याचे प्रमाण 44.00 टक्के आहे. यामध्ये राज्यातील एकूण लोकसंख्येपैकी काम करणा-याचे प्रमाण पुरुषांमध्ये 56.00 टक्के तर स्त्रियांमध्ये 31.1 टक्के इतके आहे. मागील दहा वर्षांमध्ये राज्यातील कामाचा सहभागाचा दर 42.4 टक्केवरून 44.00 टक्के इतका झाला आहे व यामध्ये स्त्रियांच्या कामाचा सहभागाचा दर फक्त 0.3 टक्क्याने वाढला आहे. यामध्ये शेतीमध्ये काम करणा-या स्त्रियांची संख्या 29.00 टक्के, स्त्री शेतमजुरांची संख्या 40.00 टक्के, घरगुती उद्योग करणा-या स्त्रियांची संख्या 4.00 टक्के व इतर सेवा करणा-या स्त्रियांची एकूण संख्या 27.00 टक्के आहे.

निष्कर्ष :

आर्थिक विकास हा मानवाकरीताच असतो. मानव आर्थिक विकासाच्या माध्यमातून आपले जीवन गौरवशाली व सुखमय करण्याचा प्रयत्न करतो. अलीकडे जिवनातील पैशाचे महत्व बरेच वाढले असून कुटूंबाची संपूर्ण जबाबदारी एकटा पुरुष पार पाडू शकत नाही. आज अनेक महिला आर्थिक सक्षम होऊन कुटूंबाला हातभार लावण्याकरीता स्वयंप्रेरणेने पुढे येत आहेत. ब-याच महिला आर्थिक, सामाजिक व राजकीय क्षेत्रात पुढे येऊन विकासामध्ये आपली भागीदारी निश्चित करित आहेत. तरीपण विकास प्रक्रियेच्या सर्वच क्षेत्रात ज्यावेळेस महिला आणि पुरुष यांचे योगदान समसमान असेल त्यावेळेस ख-या अर्थाने या देशात महिलांना समान दर्जा मिळून त्यांचे सक्षमीकरण घडून येईल.

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वाढत्या शहरीकरणाचा नागरी सुविधांवर पडणारा ताण : एक विवेचन

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सारांश :

नागरी सुविधांचा प्रत्यक्ष संबंध जीवनाच्या गुणवत्तेशी आहे. कारण शहरातील लोकांच्या राहणीमानाचा दर्जा शहरात उपलब्ध शिक्षण, आरोग्य, मनोरंजन, वाहतूक, दळणवळण, पाणी पुरवठा, प्रकाश व्यवस्था, मलनिसारण, कचरा निर्मुलन इ. सेवासुविधांवर अवलंबून असते. या सेवासुविधांच्या कमतरतेमुळे शहरातील लोकांच्या राहणीमानाचा दर्जा खालावलेला असतो. आज शहरी भागात लोकसंख्या वाढीचा दर हा शहरी भागातील उपलब्ध सोयीसुविधांच्या प्रमाणापेक्षा कितीतरी अधिक प्रमाणात असतो. त्यामुळे शहरात या सुविधांवर ताण पडू लागतो.

बीजषब्द (Keywords) : शहरीकरण, सेवासुविधा, शिक्षण व आरोग्य.

प्रस्तावना :

आर्थिक विकास व शहरीकरण यांचा जवळचा संबंध आहे. ज्या विशिष्ट ठिकाणी शैक्षणिक सोयी, आरोग्याच्या सोयी, करमणुकीच्या सुविधा व अधिक आर्थिक सुविधा इ. घटक अनुकूल असतात अशा ठिकाणी स्थलांतराची प्रवृत्ती दिसून येते. थोडक्यात एखादे ठिकाण जसजसे विकसित होऊ लागते. तसतसे सभोवतालच्या भागातून त्या विकसित भागाकडे लोकसंख्येचे स्थलांतर होऊ लागते. यावरून आर्थिक विकास लोकसंख्येच्या शहरीकरणाला चालना देणारा असतो. मात्र शहरातील लोकसंख्या अपेक्षेपेक्षा वेगाने वाढत आहे. त्यामुळे एका विशिष्ट मर्यादेनंतर शहरातील उपलब्ध सेवासुविधांवर ताण पडू लागतो.

शहरीकरण वाढते आहे आणि ते वाढत जाणारे आहे. 2030 पर्यंत देशातील लोकसंख्येच्या 40.00 टक्के लोक शहरात राहत असतील असे अनुमान केले जाते. 1951 च्या जनगणनेनुसार भारतातील शहरीकरणाचे प्रमाण 17.29 टक्के होते. ते आज सहा दशकानंतर 2011 च्या जनगणनेनुसार 31.16 टक्के झाले आहे. तसेच 1951 मध्ये फक्त 5 दशलक्ष महानगर होते. 2011 मध्ये देशात दशलक्षी महानगरांची संख्या 53 पर्यंत वाढली आहे.¹ पण आवश्यक शहर विकास मात्र कागदोपत्रीच राहिला आहे. शहरीकरणाबरोबर शहरातील विभिन्न नागरी सेवा-सुविधांचा विकास होणे आवश्यक आहे. मात्र मर्यादीत सेवासुविधांच्या विकासांमुळे शहरातील नागरिकांना अनेक समस्यांना तोंड द्यावे लागत आहे.

शिक्षण सुविधा, आरोग्य सुविधा, सुरक्षित पाणीपुरवठा, विद्युत पुरवठा, रस्त्यांची व्यवस्था, शौचालयाची उपलब्धता इ. पायाभूत सोयीसुविधा मानवाच्या जीवन जगण्याच्या आधार आहेत. या पायाभूत सोयीसुविधा जशा शहरात वाढत जातात तसा शहराचा विकास होतो. मात्र वाढत्या शहरीकरणामुळे शहरातील उपलब्ध सुविधांवर ताण पडत आहे. या सोयीसुविधांचे प्रमाण जास्त लोकसंख्येच्या शहरात जास्त प्रमाणात असणे आवश्यक आहे. मात्र या सुविधा लोकसंख्या वाढीच्या तुलनेत कमी पडत आहेत. परिणामतः शहरातील नागरीकांना व नगरपालिकांना अनेक समस्यांना तोंड द्यावे लागत आहे. काही प्रमुख सेवासुविधांवर पडणा-या ताणाचा अभ्यास खालीलप्रमाणे करण्यात आला आहे.

1) पाणी पुरवठा :

शहरात पाण्याचा उपयोग पिणे, सफाई, मल वाहून जावा म्हणून व औद्योगिक घटकांकरीता करण्यात येतो. भारतात शहरामध्ये नदी, तलाव व विहीरी पासून पाण्याची व्यवस्था शहरी प्रशासनाद्वारे केली जाते. मात्र भारतात शहरातील वाढत्या लोकसंख्येच्या प्रमाणात पाणीपुरवठ्याच्या व्यवस्थेचा विकास झालेला नाही. त्यामुळे अशा पाण्याचा उपयोग करण्यात येतो की ज्याला सुरक्षित पाणी म्हटल्या जावू शकत नाही. थोडक्यात भारतात तीव्र शहरांच्या विस्तारामुळे बहुतांश शहरात पाणी पुरवठ्याची व्यवस्था नाकाम झालेली दिसून येते.² बहुतांश भारतीय शहर मर्यादित साधनाच्या उपलब्धतेमुळे फक्त आपल्या अर्ध्या लोकसंख्येलाच पाणी पुरवठ्याची सुविधा देऊ शकत आहेत.³

एका बाजुने पर्यावरण बिघडल्याने पाणी जिरण्याची क्रिया दुबळी झाली आहे. त्यामुळे जमिनीच्या पोटातल्या पाण्याच्या साठ्यात भर पडत नाही. तर दुस-या बाजुने शहरांसाठी पाण्याचा वापर दिवसेंदिवस वाढत आहे. त्यामुळे पाणी टंचाईची समस्या निर्माण झाली आहे. शहरी वस्तीला प्रतीव्यक्ती किमान 40 लिटर पाणी रोज इतकी गरज गृहीत धरतात. अनेक मोठ्या शहरात आता इतके पाणी मिळू शकत नाही.⁴ पाणी टंचाईमुळे मिळेल ते पाणी वापरावे लागते. त्याचा परिणाम आरोग्याच्या दृष्टीने घातक आहे. म्हणून पुरेसे पाणी असणे हे ते शुद्ध असण्याइतकेच महत्वाचे आहे.

2) सार्वजनिक पक्के रस्ते :

रस्त्याचा उपयोग पैदल चालण्याकरीता व वाहणांच्याद्वारे एका ठिकाणाहून दुस-या ठिकाणी जाण्याकरीता होतो. वाहणांमुळे प्रवासी व वस्तुंचे स्थानांतर होते. सध्या स्थितीत भारतीय शहरांमध्ये वाहनाच्या साधनात म्हणजे व्यक्तीगत मोटार गाड्यांच्या संख्येमध्ये अप्रत्यक्ष वाढ होत आहे. मात्र रस्त्यांच्या व्यवस्थेत कोणताही खास फरक पडलेला नाही. परिणामतः रस्त्यावरील वाहणांच्या गर्दीमुळे प्रवासाची समस्या वाढली आहे. वाढत्या वाहणांच्या संख्येमुळे वाहने रस्त्यावर कुठेही ठेवली जातात. त्यामुळे देखील शहरांच्या विस्ताराबरोबर शहरातील रस्ते रुंद करणे ही एक अतिशय महत्वाची गोष्ट आहे. ज्या ठिकाणी वस्ती वाढत जाऊन त्या ठिकाणाचे रूपांतर शहरात होते. अशी ठिकाणे पक्क्या रस्त्यांची केंद्रे असतात.⁵ मात्र शहरांचा विकास मोठ्या प्रमाणात झाल्यामुळे गर्दी उसळते. त्यामुळे पूर्वीचे रस्ते वाहतूकीच्या दृष्टीने योग्य होते तेच रस्ते अतिशय अपुरे पडू लागतात.⁶ थोडक्यात शहरीकरणामुळे शहरातील उपलब्ध रस्त्यांच्या व्यवस्थेवर ताण येऊ लागतो.

3) रस्त्यावरील प्रकाश व्यवस्था :

पाश्चिमात्य देशांमध्ये शहरातील योग्य व्यवस्थापनामुळे प्रकाशाची समस्या नाही. मात्र विकसनशील देशांच्या शहरामध्ये ही एक महत्वपूर्ण समस्या आहे.⁷ जगातील बहुतेक शहरांचे विद्युतीकरण करण्यात आलेले असले तरी शहरांना होणारा विद्युत पुरवठा तसा अपुराच असतो. भारतीय शहरात याची दशा चिंतनीय आहे.⁸ भारतात विजेची मागणी व विजेचा पुरवठा यात

बरेच मोठे अंतर निर्माण झाले आहे.⁹ त्यामुळे भारतीय शहरात विद्युत कटोती सामान्य बाब झाली आहे.

शहराच्या विकासाबरोबर शहरामध्ये प्रकाशाची व्यवस्था ही एक महत्वपूर्ण बाब आहे. मात्र शहरातील विद्युत पुरवठ्याच्या कमकुवत व्यवस्थेमुळे वा नागरी शासन संस्थेच्या दुर्लक्षामुळे सार्वजनिक रस्त्यांवर अंधाराचे साम्राज्य असते. शहरातील अपु-या प्रकाशाच्या व्यवस्थेमुळे वाहणाचे अपघात, चो-या, अनैतिक कृत्य इत्यादी समस्या उद्भवतात.

4) शौचालय व मुता-यांची व्यवस्था :

भारतीय नगरांमध्ये अस्वच्छता निरंतर वाढत असल्याचे दिसून येते. शहराच्या गलिच्छ वस्त्यांमध्ये तर सार्वजनिक आरोग्य व्यवस्था पूर्णपणे कोलमडलेली असते. अशा ठिकाणी शौचालय व मुता-यांचा अभावामुळे सर्वत्र अस्वच्छता निर्माण होऊन वातावरण दूषित होत जाते. त्यामुळे डास, माशा यांचे प्रमाण वाढते व ते रोगराईस एक प्रकारचे आमंत्रणच असते. याकरीता नागरी प्रशासनामार्फत स्वच्छतेचे अनेक उपक्रम राबविले जातात. त्यामध्ये सार्वजनिक शौचालय व मुता-यांची व्यवस्था करणे, शिवाय खाजगी शौचालय बांधण्याकरीता नागरीकांना प्रोत्साहन देणे हे महत्वपूर्ण उपक्रम आहेत.

5) आरोग्य सुविधा :

शहरामध्ये प्रामुख्याने होणा-या रोगाचे व अपघाताचे प्रमाण अधिक असते. त्यामुळे शहरातील लोकसंख्येनुसार पर्याप्त मात्रेत आरोग्य सुविधांची सोय असणे गरजेचे आहे. शिवाय शहरांमध्ये ग्रामीण लोकसंख्यापण मोठ्या प्रमाणात आरोग्याच्या सुविधेकरीता येत असते. ज्यामुळे आरोग्य संस्थांवर गर्दी वाढत जाते. शहरातील वाढत्या लोकसंख्येने आरोग्य सुविधेच्या व्यवस्थापनात समस्या उभी केली आहे. एका साध्या रोगाच्या निदानाकरीता पूर्ण दिवस लागणे एक सामान्य गोष्ट आहे. तसेच विशेष म्हणजे घरगुती बजेटमध्ये आरोग्य खर्चात वाढ झाली आहे. ज्यामुळे जीवनातील गुणवत्तेचे क्षरण होणे स्वाभाविक असते.¹⁰ महाराष्ट्रात खाजगी आरोग्य सेवांची वाढ व विस्तार मोठ्या प्रमाणात होत आहे. पण गरीब जनतेला खाजगी क्षेत्र परवडण्यासारखे नाही. तेव्हा सरकारने सार्वजनिक आरोग्य क्षेत्रावरील गुंतवणूक वाढविणे आवश्यक आहे. जागतिक आरोग्य संघटनेच्या तत्वानुसार राज्याच्या ढोबळ उत्पन्नापैकी 5 टक्के हिस्सा आरोग्यावर खर्च होणे गरजेचे आहे. त्या निकषावर आपले प्रमाण आजही एक टक्क्यांपेक्षा कमी आहे.¹¹

6) शिक्षण सुविधा :

काही शहरामध्ये शहरीकरणाच्या प्रक्रियेला प्रोत्साहित करण्यामध्ये शिक्षण संबंधीत सुविधांचे सर्वाधिक योगदान असते. या सुविधांमुळे शहराचे महत्व दिवसेंदिवस वाढत जाते.¹² मात्र एका मर्यादेनंतर लोकसंख्येच्या प्रमाणात शिक्षणाच्या सोयी असत नाहीत.¹³ सर्वात गंभीर शैक्षणिक समस्या माध्यमिक स्तराच्या खालच्या शैक्षणिक संस्थांची आहे. आजकाल प्राथमिक शाळांमध्ये देखील मुलांना प्रवेश मिळणे दिवसेंदिवस बिकट होऊ लागले आहे. चांगल्या शाळेत

प्रवेश मिळविण्यासाठी पालकांची गर्दी असते. थोडक्यात शहरीकरणामुळे शहरात उपलब्ध शैक्षणिक सुविधांवर ताण पडत आहे.

7) वित्तीय सुविधा :

महाराष्ट्र राज्यात बँकिंग व वित्तीय संस्थांचा विकास मोठ्या प्रमाणात झाला आहे. शहरांचा मोठ्या प्रमाणावर आर्थिक, व्यावसायिक विकास झालेला असतो. त्यामुळे शहरी भागात अनेक वित्तीय संस्था कार्यरत असतात. शिवाय ग्रामीण भागातील अनेक लोक शहरी भागातील उपलब्ध वित्तीय संस्थांवर अवलंबून असतात. शहरातील वाढत्या लोकसंख्यांच्या गर्दीमुळे उपलब्ध वित्तीय संस्थांवर ताण येऊ लागतो. शहरी भागातील सर्वच लोक बँकींग सेवेचा उपयोग करतांना दिसून येत नाही.

8) मनोरंजनाच्या सोयी :

शहरामध्ये सतत धावपळ करणा-या कष्ट करणा-या मनुष्याला मनोरंजनाची आवश्यकता असते, की ज्यामुळे शारीरिक व मानसिक ताण कमी होतो. शहराच्या विकासाबरोबर शहरात मनोरंजनाच्या केंद्राचा विकास होऊ लागतो. परंतु नगरामध्ये लोकसंख्येच्या मानाने करमणूक किंवा मनोरंजनाच्या सोयी त्या प्रमाणात उपलब्ध नसतात.¹⁴ शहर मोठा असो वा लहान प्रत्येक शहरात काही-ना-काही मनोरंजनाच्या सोयी असतात. आजकाल शहरामधून मुलांना खेळण्यासाठी मोकळी जागा मिळणे दिवसेंदिवस बिकट होत आहे. जी खेळाची मैदाने आहेत ती घरापासून दूर अंतरावर असतात. मैदानात बरीच गर्दी असल्यामुळे मुलांना खेळाचा पुरेपुर आनंद लुटता येत नाही. सर्वसामान्य लोकांची करमणूक म्हणजे चित्रपट होय. परंतु नागरी भागात चित्रपटगृहाची संख्या पुरेशी नसते तसेच त्यांची स्थितीही चांगली नसते. याशिवाय सभागृहे, ग्रंथालये, वाचनालये इ. मनोरंजनाची सुविधा आहेत. पण ह्या सुविधासुद्धा वाढत्या लोकसंख्येच्या तुलनेत कमी पडत आहेत.

निष्कर्ष :

शहरातील वाढत्या लोकसंख्येमुळे शहरामध्ये उपलब्ध सोयीसुविधा कमी पडत आहेत. म्हणजे शहरीकरणामुळे शहरातील उपलब्ध सुविधांवर ताण पडत आहे. यासाठी जर ग्रामीण क्षेत्राचा विकास केल्यास व रोजगाराच्या संधी उपलब्ध करून दिल्या तर शहराकडे जाणारा लोकसंख्येचा ओघ कमी होईल व शहरातील साधन संपत्तीवरील ताण कमी होईल. तसेच शहरातील सोयीसुविधा वाढविल्यास लोकसंख्येचा सोयीसुविधांवर पडणारा ताण कमी होईल.

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