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CASTE SYSTEM AND SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA: PERSISTENCE AND IMPACT

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ABSTRACT

*The caste system has long been a defining characteristic of Indian society, structuring social relationships and influencing access to resources. Despite legal prohibitions and social reforms aimed at eradicating caste-based discrimination, its persistence in contemporary India remains a significant social challenge. This paper provides a comprehensive analysis of the persistence and impact of caste-based discrimination in modern Indian society. The caste system, rooted in ancient Indian scriptures and traditions, divides society into hierarchical groups based on birth, occupation, and social status. While officially abolished by the Indian Constitution, caste-based discrimination continues to permeate various aspects of life, perpetuating inequality and social exclusion. Discrimination based on caste affects access to education, employment, healthcare, and social opportunities, depriving millions of individuals of their fundamental rights and dignity.**[1]** This paper examines the manifestations of caste-based discrimination across different domains, including education, employment, and social interactions. It explores how caste biases shape educational opportunities, leading to disparities in academic achievement and perpetuating intergenerational cycles of poverty. In the workforce, caste discrimination influences hiring practices, wage differentials, and opportunities for career advancement, exacerbating socio-economic inequality. Moreover, caste-based violence and social ostracism continue to inflict physical and psychological harm on marginalized caste communities, perpetuating fear and insecurity. The impact of caste-based discrimination extends beyond individual experiences to hinder overall socio-economic development. Persistent caste inequalities impede efforts to achieve inclusive growth and social cohesion, hindering progress towards national development goals. Despite legislative measures and affirmative action policies aimed at addressing caste-based discrimination, challenges persist, including implementation gaps, social attitudes, and resistance from dominant caste groups. Efforts to combat caste-based discrimination require multifaceted approaches that address its structural roots, promote social justice, and empower marginalized communities. Grassroots movements, advocacy campaigns, and legal interventions play a crucial role in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and promoting social inclusion. By fostering dialogue, promoting inclusive policies, and challenging entrenched attitudes, India can strive towards a more equitable and inclusive society where caste-based discrimination no longer determines individuals' life chances and opportunities. This paper contributes to a deeper understanding of the persistence and impact of caste-based discrimination in contemporary India, highlighting the need for concerted efforts to address this entrenched social issue and promote social justice and equality for all.*

KEYWORDS: *Caste System, Social Discrimination, Inequality, Socio-Economic Impact.*

Introduction

The caste system has been an integral part of Indian society for millennia, shaping social structures, economic opportunities, and cultural norms. Rooted in ancient scriptures and religious texts, the caste system divides society into hierarchical groups, known as castes, based on birth, occupation,

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and social status. At the apex of the caste hierarchy are the Brahmins, traditionally priests and scholars, followed by Kshatriyas (warriors and rulers), Vaishyas (traders and merchants), and Shudras (manual laborers). Outside of this hierarchy are the Dalits, formerly known as Untouchables, who have historically been subjected to social, economic, and political marginalization.**[2]**

Despite the formal abolition of untouchability and caste-based discrimination through legislation such as the Constitution of India and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, caste-based discrimination continues to persist in various forms across contemporary Indian society. While the legal framework provides protection and affirmative action measures for marginalized castes, the entrenched social attitudes and practices associated with the caste system present formidable barriers to social justice and equality.

The persistence of caste-based discrimination can be observed in multiple domains of life, including education, employment, healthcare, and social interactions. In the realm of education, caste biases influence access to quality schooling, academic opportunities, and social interactions within educational institutions. Discrimination against students from marginalized castes manifests in various forms, including caste-based bullying, exclusion from extracurricular activities, and biased treatment by teachers and peers. As a result, students from marginalized castes often face challenges in achieving academic success and accessing higher education opportunities, perpetuating cycles of intergenerational poverty and exclusion.

Similarly, in the workforce, caste-based discrimination affects hiring practices, wage differentials, and opportunities for career advancement. Despite legal mandates for equal employment opportunities, individuals from marginalized castes often encounter systemic barriers to entry and advancement within the labor market. Discriminatory practices, such as caste-based preferences in recruitment and promotion, limit the socio-economic mobility of marginalized caste communities, exacerbating income disparities and perpetuating social inequality.

Caste-based discrimination also manifests in access to healthcare and social services, where individuals from marginalized castes face barriers to quality healthcare, sanitation, and reproductive health services. Discriminatory attitudes among healthcare providers, coupled with inadequate infrastructure and resource allocation in marginalized communities, contribute to disparities in health outcomes and access to essential healthcare services. As a result, individuals from marginalized castes experience higher rates of morbidity, mortality, and preventable diseases, further entrenching socio-economic inequalities along caste lines.**[3]**

Moreover, caste-based discrimination extends beyond material inequalities to affect individuals' social interactions, identities, and sense of belonging within society. Discriminatory practices, such as social ostracism and exclusionary rituals, perpetuate stigma and prejudice against marginalized caste communities, undermining their dignity, self-worth, and social integration. Caste-based violence, including atrocities, honor killings, and caste-based conflicts, continue to inflict physical and psychological harm on individuals and communities, perpetuating fear, insecurity, and intergenerational trauma.

The persistence and impact of caste-based discrimination underscore the enduring legacy of the caste system in contemporary Indian society, posing significant challenges to social cohesion, economic development, and democratic governance. While legislative measures and affirmative action policies have sought to address caste-based discrimination, their effectiveness has been limited by implementation gaps, social attitudes, and resistance from dominant caste groups. Moreover, the intersectionality of caste with other forms of inequality, such as gender, religion, and ethnicity, complicates efforts to achieve comprehensive social justice and equality for all.

In light of these challenges, addressing caste-based discrimination requires multifaceted approaches that tackle its structural roots, promote social justice, and empower marginalized communities. Grassroots movements, civil society organizations, and advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and promoting social inclusion. Moreover, fostering dialogue, promoting inter-caste solidarity, and investing in inclusive policies and programs are essential steps towards building a more equitable and inclusive society where caste-based discrimination no longer dictates individuals' life chances and opportunities.

Persistence of Caste-based Discrimination in India

The persistence of caste-based discrimination in contemporary India is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon deeply rooted in the country's social, cultural, and historical fabric. Despite legal and social efforts to eradicate caste-based discrimination, it continues to manifest in various forms across different domains of life, perpetuating inequalities and social injustices. Understanding the persistence of caste-based discrimination requires an examination of its historical origins, evolving manifestations, and enduring impact on individuals and communities.

Historically, the caste system has been a fundamental organizing principle of Indian society, dating back thousands of years to ancient scriptures and religious texts.**[4]**The caste hierarchy stratifies society into distinct groups based on birth, occupation, and social status, with Brahmins at the top and Dalits (formerly known as Untouchables) at the bottom. This rigid social hierarchy prescribed social roles, privileges, and restrictions for individuals based on their caste identity, perpetuating inequalities and hierarchies of power and privilege.

While the formal abolition of untouchability and caste-based discrimination was enshrined in the Constitution of India following independence in 1947, the legacy of the caste system continues to influence social relations, economic opportunities, and access to resources. Caste-based discrimination persists in contemporary India through entrenched social attitudes, practices, and structural inequalities that perpetuate the marginalization of certain caste groups.

In the domain of education, caste biases influence access to quality schooling, academic opportunities, and social interactions within educational institutions. Discrimination against students from marginalized castes manifests in various forms, including caste-based bullying, exclusion from extracurricular activities, and biased treatment by teachers and peers. As a result, students from marginalized castes often face challenges in achieving academic success and accessing higher education opportunities, perpetuating cycles of intergenerational poverty and exclusion.

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Moreover, caste-based discrimination extends beyond material inequalities to affect individuals' social interactions, identities, and sense of belonging within society. Discriminatory practices, such as social ostracism and exclusionary rituals, perpetuate stigma and prejudice against marginalized caste communities, undermining their dignity, self-worth, and social integration. Caste-based violence, including atrocities, honor killings, and caste-based conflicts, continue to inflict physical and psychological harm on individuals and communities, perpetuating fear, insecurity, and intergenerational trauma.**[5]**

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In light of these challenges, addressing caste-based discrimination requires multifaceted approaches that tackle its structural roots, promote social justice, and empower marginalized communities. Grassroots movements, civil society organizations, and advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and promoting social inclusion. Moreover, fostering dialogue, promoting inter-caste solidarity, and investing in inclusive policies and programs are essential steps towards building a more equitable and inclusive society where caste-based discrimination no longer dictates individuals' life chances and opportunities.

Impact on Socio-economic Development in India

The impact of caste-based discrimination on socio-economic development in contemporary India is profound and multifaceted, permeating various aspects of individuals' lives and hindering overall progress. Despite legal and social efforts to address caste-based inequalities, persistent discrimination continues to perpetuate socio-economic disparities, limit opportunities for marginalized communities, and undermine inclusive growth and development.

One of the primary ways in which caste-based discrimination affects socio-economic development is through its impact on education. Education is widely recognized as a key driver of socio-economic mobility and a pathway out of poverty. However, caste biases and discrimination in the education system create barriers to equal access and opportunities for individuals from marginalized castes. Discrimination in schools, such as caste-based bullying, exclusion from extracurricular activities, and biased treatment by teachers, not only undermines the educational experience of marginalized students but also perpetuates cycles of intergenerational poverty and exclusion.**[6]**

As a result of caste-based discrimination in education, individuals from marginalized castes often face challenges in achieving academic success and accessing higher education opportunities. Lower educational attainment among marginalized castes limits their employment prospects, earning potential, and socio-economic mobility, reinforcing patterns of inequality and marginalization. Moreover, the perpetuation of caste-based discrimination in education contributes to the reproduction of social hierarchies and the concentration of privilege and power among dominant caste groups.

In addition to education, caste-based discrimination also influences access to employment and economic opportunities. Discriminatory practices in the labor market, such as caste-based preferences in recruitment and promotion, limit the socio-economic mobility of marginalized caste communities and perpetuate disparities in wages and employment outcomes. Despite legal mandates for equal employment opportunities, individuals from marginalized castes continue to face systemic barriers to entry and advancement within the workforce, exacerbating income inequalities and perpetuating social exclusion.

Furthermore, caste-based discrimination affects access to healthcare and social services, undermining efforts to achieve inclusive and equitable development. Discriminatory attitudes among healthcare providers, coupled with inadequate infrastructure and resource allocation in marginalized communities, contribute to disparities in health outcomes and access to essential healthcare services. Individuals from marginalized castes often face barriers to quality healthcare, sanitation, and reproductive health services, resulting in higher rates of morbidity, mortality, and preventable diseases.

The impact of caste-based discrimination on socio-economic development extends beyond material inequalities to affect individuals' social well-being and sense of belonging within society. Discriminatory practices, such as social ostracism and exclusionary rituals, perpetuate stigma and prejudice against marginalized caste communities, undermining their dignity, self-worth, and social integration. Caste-based violence, including atrocities, honor killings, and caste-based conflicts, inflicts physical and psychological harm on individuals and communities, perpetuating fear, insecurity, and intergenerational trauma.

Moreover, the persistence of caste-based discrimination hinders efforts to achieve inclusive and sustainable development at the national level. Socio-economic disparities along caste lines impede efforts to reduce poverty, improve human development outcomes, and promote social cohesion and solidarity. The perpetuation of caste-based inequalities undermines social trust, erodes the legitimacy of democratic institutions, and hampers efforts to build a more inclusive and equitable society.

Efforts to address the impact of caste-based discrimination on socio-economic development require comprehensive strategies that tackle its root causes, promote social justice, and empower marginalized communities.**[7]**Grassroots movements, civil society organizations, and advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and promoting social inclusion. Moreover, fostering dialogue, promoting inter-caste solidarity, and investing in inclusive policies and programs are essential steps towards building a more equitable and inclusive society where caste-based discrimination no longer dictates individuals' life chances and opportunities.

In conclusion, the impact of caste-based discrimination on socio-economic development in contemporary India is pervasive and deeply entrenched, perpetuating inequalities and hindering inclusive growth and development. Addressing caste-based discrimination requires concerted efforts to dismantle structural barriers, challenge discriminatory practices, and promote social justice and equality for all. Only through collective action and a commitment to inclusive and equitable development can India overcome the legacy of caste-based discrimination and build a more just and prosperous future for all its citizens.

Efforts to Address Caste-based Discrimination in India

Efforts to address caste-based discrimination in India have been ongoing for decades, spurred by the recognition of its detrimental impact on individuals, communities, and the nation's social fabric. While deeply ingrained in Indian society, caste-based discrimination has been met with various legal, social, and institutional interventions aimed at promoting social justice, equality, and inclusion. These efforts, though often challenging and multifaceted, have played a crucial role in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and promoting greater social cohesion and solidarity.

One of the most significant legal interventions to address caste-based discrimination in India is the reservation system, which seeks to provide affirmative action for historically disadvantaged castes in education, employment, and political representation. Enshrined in the Indian Constitution, reservation policies allocate a percentage of seats and positions to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in educational institutions, government jobs, and legislative bodies. These policies aim to redress historical injustices and promote socio-economic empowerment and upward mobility among marginalized caste communities.

Furthermore, legislative measures such as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, provide legal protection and recourse for victims of caste-based discrimination and violence. The Act criminalizes caste-based offenses, including atrocities such as untouchability, assault, and humiliation, and prescribes stringent penalties for perpetrators. By recognizing caste-based discrimination as a punishable offense and providing legal avenues for redressal, the Act seeks to deter discriminatory practices and promote accountability and justice for victims.

Moreover, efforts to address caste-based discrimination extend beyond legal frameworks to encompass social and institutional reforms aimed at challenging entrenched attitudes and promoting greater social inclusion and solidarity. Grassroots movements, civil society organizations, and advocacy campaigns play a crucial role in raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and challenging discriminatory practices at the grassroots level. By amplifying the voices of marginalized caste communities and fostering dialogue and solidarity across caste lines, these movements contribute to the broader struggle for social justice and equality.

Education has emerged as a key battleground in the fight against caste-based discrimination, with efforts focused on promoting inclusive education policies and practices that address the unique needs and challenges faced by marginalized caste students. Affirmative action measures such as reservations in educational institutions seek to increase access and opportunities for marginalized caste students, enabling them to overcome barriers to educational attainment and socio-economic mobility. Moreover, efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in educational curricula and pedagogical practices aim to challenge caste biases and promote a more inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students.**[8]**

Similarly, initiatives aimed at promoting economic empowerment and entrepreneurship among marginalized caste communities seek to address socio-economic inequalities and promote self-reliance and dignity. Skill development programs, vocational training initiatives, and microfinance schemes target marginalized caste individuals and communities, providing them with the necessary resources, support, and opportunities to pursue economic activities and livelihoods. By fostering economic independence and self-sufficiency, these initiatives empower marginalized caste communities to break free from the cycle of poverty and exclusion.

Moreover, efforts to promote inter-caste solidarity and social cohesion play a crucial role in challenging caste-based discrimination and fostering greater understanding and empathy across caste lines. Inter-caste marriages, social integration programs, and community-based initiatives seek to break down barriers and stereotypes, promote social harmony and cohesion, and build bridges of understanding and solidarity between different caste communities. By fostering dialogue, empathy, and mutual respect, these efforts contribute to the creation of a more inclusive and cohesive society where caste-based discrimination has no place.

Efforts to address caste-based discrimination in India encompass a range of legal, social, and institutional interventions aimed at promoting social justice, equality, and inclusion. While deeply entrenched in Indian society, caste-based discrimination has been met with concerted efforts to challenge discriminatory practices, promote greater awareness and solidarity, and empower marginalized caste communities. By fostering dialogue, promoting inter-caste solidarity, and addressing structural inequalities, India can strive towards a more just, equitable, and inclusive society where caste-based discrimination is consigned to the past.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the persistent efforts to address caste-based discrimination in India have been essential in challenging entrenched inequalities, promoting social justice, and fostering greater inclusivity and solidarity across caste lines. Despite the deep-rooted nature of caste-based discrimination, legal, social, and institutional interventions have made significant strides in raising awareness, challenging discriminatory practices, and empowering marginalized caste communities.

Legal frameworks such as reservations in education, employment, and political representation, as well as legislation criminalizing caste-based atrocities, provide crucial protection and recourse for victims of discrimination and violence. These legal measures aim to redress historical injustices and promote socio-economic empowerment among marginalized caste communities. Additionally, grassroots movements, civil society organizations, and advocacy campaigns have played a pivotal role in raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and challenging discriminatory practices at the grassroots level. By amplifying the voices of marginalized caste communities and fostering dialogue and solidarity across caste lines, these movements contribute to the broader struggle for social justice and equality.

Education has emerged as a critical arena for combating caste-based discrimination, with efforts focused on promoting inclusive policies and practices that address the unique needs of marginalized caste students. Affirmative action measures and initiatives to promote diversity and inclusion in educational curricula seek to challenge caste biases and create a more equitable learning environment. Similarly, economic empowerment initiatives aim to provide marginalized caste communities with the resources and opportunities to pursue economic independence and self-sufficiency, thereby breaking the cycle of poverty and exclusion.

Moreover, efforts to promote inter-caste solidarity and social cohesion are crucial in challenging caste-based discrimination and fostering greater understanding and empathy across caste lines. By breaking down barriers and stereotypes, promoting social integration, and building bridges of solidarity between different caste communities, these efforts contribute to the creation of a more inclusive and cohesive society.

In essence, while the eradication of caste-based discrimination remains an ongoing challenge, the collective efforts of individuals, communities, and institutions have made significant progress in confronting this deeply ingrained social issue. By continuing to prioritize dialogue, empathy, and mutual respect, India can strive towards a future where caste-based discrimination is relegated to the past, and all individuals can live with dignity, equality, and freedom from discrimination.

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THE CONCEPT OF HINDUTVA: HISTORICAL EVOLUTION AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS IN BHARAT

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ABSTRACT

*The concept of "Hindutva," often translated as "Hinduness," represents a comprehensive ideology aimed at defining the cultural and national identity of Bharat (India) through a Hindu-centric lens. Initially rooted in ancient cultural expressions and religious texts, Hindutva was formally articulated by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in 1923. Savarkar's formulation extended beyond religious identity to encompass the entire civilizational heritage of Bharat, advocating for a unified Hindu cultural and political identity. This research paper explores the historical evolution of Hindutva, tracing its origins from ancient scriptures and medieval responses to Islamic invasions, through the socio-religious reforms of the British colonial period, to its institutionalization in the 20th century. The paper delves into the political implications of Hindutva, focusing on its influence on contemporary Indian politics, particularly through the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its political arm, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The BJP's electoral strategies and policy decisions, such as the promotion of cultural nationalism, the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, and the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, reflect the core tenets of Hindutva.**[1]** These actions underscore the significant role Hindutva plays in shaping national identity and political discourse in Bharat. Moreover, the study examines the social and cultural impact of Hindutva, including its influence on educational policies, historical narratives, and communal relations. Efforts to revise history textbooks, promote Sanskrit, and emphasize traditional Indian knowledge systems aim to instill pride in India's ancient heritage. However, the aggressive promotion of Hindutva has also led to increased communal tensions, incidents of violence against religious minorities, and debates over religious conversions, challenging the secular fabric of Indian society. Through a comprehensive analysis of primary sources, secondary literature, and contemporary political developments, this paper provides a nuanced understanding of Hindutva's enduring and multifaceted role in shaping the socio-political landscape of modern Bharat.*

KEYWORDS: *Hindutva, Hindu nationalism, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, RSS, BJP.*

Introduction

The concept of Hindutva, often translated as "Hinduness," is a complex and multifaceted ideology that seeks to define the cultural and national identity of Bharat (India) through a distinctly Hindu-centric perspective. The term itself, popularized by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in the early 20th century, encapsulates a vision of India where Hindu values and cultural norms form the core of national identity. While often misunderstood or misinterpreted as merely a religious doctrine, Hindutva is, in fact, a broader socio-political construct that encompasses the entire civilizational heritage of Bharat.

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To fully appreciate the significance of Hindutva, it is essential to trace its historical roots and evolution. The ideological foundations of Hindutva can be traced back to ancient Bharat, where Hinduism, in its diverse manifestations, shaped the cultural and social fabric of the subcontinent. The Vedas, Upanishads, and epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata not only provided spiritual guidance but also established a shared cultural ethos that has endured for millennia. During the medieval period, the concept of a unified Hindu identity began to crystallize, particularly in response to the advent of Islamic rule and the establishment of the Mughal Empire. This period saw a consolidation of Hindu cultural and religious practices as a means of preserving identity in the face of foreign influence.

The British colonial period was a critical phase in the evolution of Hindutva. The 19th century witnessed a series of socio-religious reform movements aimed at revitalizing Hindu culture and countering the perceived decline brought about by colonial rule. Leaders like Swami Vivekananda and Dayananda Saraswati spearheaded efforts to revive Hindu traditions, emphasizing the need for a strong and cohesive Hindu identity.**[2]** These movements laid the groundwork for the emergence of Hindu nationalism, which sought not only to reform Hindu society but also to resist colonial domination and assert India's cultural sovereignty.

It was against this backdrop that Vinayak Damodar Savarkar articulated the concept of Hindutva in his seminal work, *Hindutva: Who is a Hindu?*, published in 1923. Savarkar's vision of Hindutva was expansive, encompassing not just religious but also cultural and political dimensions. He argued that Hindutva represented the essence of Bharat's civilizational heritage, uniting all those who regard Bharat as their holy land and motherland. This definition sought to create a cohesive Hindu identity that transcended regional, linguistic, and sectarian differences, thereby providing a unifying framework for the nascent Indian nation.

The political implications of Hindutva began to take shape with the establishment of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. The RSS aimed to promote Hindu unity and instill a sense of pride in Hindu culture, emphasizing discipline, self-reliance, and service to the nation. The organization's influence grew steadily, and it played a significant role in mobilizing Hindu nationalist sentiments during the struggle for independence. However, the vision of Hindutva often clashed with the secular and inclusive ideology of the Indian National Congress, led by figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.

Following India's independence in 1947, the ideological battle between secularism and Hindutva continued to shape the political landscape. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), founded in 1951 as the political wing of the RSS, advocated for a Hindu-centric nation. Although the BJS struggled to gain widespread support initially, it laid the foundation for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which emerged in 1980 as a major political force. The BJP's rise to prominence, particularly under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and later Narendra Modi, marked a significant shift in Indian politics. Hindutva became a central tenet of the party's ideology, influencing its electoral strategies, policy decisions, and governance style.

In contemporary Bharat, Hindutva's influence is evident in various spheres of public life. The BJP's electoral successes in the 2014 and 2019 general elections underscore the resonance of Hindutva among a substantial section of the Indian populace. Policies and political rhetoric centered around cultural nationalism, the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, and the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir reflect the ideological imperatives of Hindutva. These developments have sparked intense debates about the nature of Indian identity, the role of religion in politics, and the challenges of maintaining social harmony in a diverse and pluralistic society.

The impact of Hindutva extends beyond the political realm, influencing educational and cultural policies as well.**[3]** There have been concerted efforts to revise history textbooks to reflect a Hindu-centric narrative, promote Sanskrit and other traditional Indian knowledge systems, and instill a sense of pride in India's ancient heritage. These initiatives aim to counter what is perceived as a colonial and Marxist bias in Indian historiography and foster a renewed appreciation for Bharat's cultural legacy.

However, the aggressive promotion of Hindutva has also led to heightened communal tensions and controversies. Incidents of violence against religious minorities, the rise of cow vigilantism, and debates over religious conversions have strained social harmony and raised concerns about the erosion of India's secular principles. Critics argue that the exclusive and sometimes exclusionary vision of Hindutva undermines the pluralistic ethos of Indian society and alienates non-Hindu communities.

This research paper seeks to provide a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of Hindutva, exploring its historical evolution, ideological foundations, and political implications. By examining primary sources, secondary literature, and contemporary political developments, the paper aims to shed light on the enduring and multifaceted role of Hindutva in shaping the socio-political landscape of modern Bharat.

Historical Evolution of Hindutva

The historical evolution of Hindutva is a journey through India's rich tapestry of cultural, religious, and political transformations. The concept, rooted deeply in the civilization's past, has evolved significantly over centuries, culminating in its modern form as articulated by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in the early 20th century. Understanding Hindutva's evolution involves examining its ancient origins, medieval developments, and the significant changes during the British colonial period.

In ancient Bharat, the foundations of Hindutva were laid through the vast body of Hindu religious texts and traditions.**[4]** The Vedas, Upanishads, and epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata played a crucial role in shaping the spiritual and cultural ethos of the land. These texts, revered for their spiritual guidance, also established a shared cultural framework that unified the diverse populations of the subcontinent. The idea of a collective Hindu identity, however, was more implicit than explicit during this period, as the primary focus was on spiritual and religious pursuits rather than a unified political identity.

The medieval period marked a significant phase in the evolution of Hindutva, primarily as a response to foreign invasions and the establishment of Islamic rule in India. The advent of the Delhi Sultanate and later the Mughal Empire brought about significant political and cultural changes. During this period, the concept of a unified Hindu identity began to crystallize, driven by the need to preserve and protect Hindu cultural and religious practices from perceived external threats. This era saw the rise of Bhakti and Sufi movements, which, while primarily religious, also contributed to a sense of cultural resilience and continuity among Hindus.

The British colonial period was instrumental in shaping the modern concept of Hindutva. The 19th century witnessed a series of socio-religious reform movements aimed at revitalizing Hindu culture and countering the perceived moral and cultural decline brought about by colonial rule. Figures like Swami Vivekananda and Dayananda Saraswati were at the forefront of these efforts, advocating for a return to the pure and original principles of Hinduism. Vivekananda, in particular, emphasized the spiritual and philosophical richness of Hinduism and its potential to guide India's resurgence.

These movements laid the groundwork for the emergence of Hindu nationalism, which sought not only to reform Hindu society but also to resist colonial domination and assert India's cultural sovereignty. It was against this backdrop that Vinayak Damodar Savarkar articulated the concept of Hindutva in his seminal work, “Hindutva: Who is a Hindu?”. published in 1923.**[5]** Savarkar's formulation of Hindutva was expansive, encompassing not just religious but also cultural and political dimensions. He argued that Hindutva represented the essence of Bharat's civilizational heritage, uniting all those who regard Bharat as their holy land and motherland. This definition sought to create a cohesive Hindu identity that transcended regional, linguistic, and sectarian differences.

Savarkar's vision of Hindutva was further propagated by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), established in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. The RSS aimed to promote Hindu unity and instill a sense of pride in Hindu culture, emphasizing discipline, self-reliance, and service to the nation. The organization's influence grew steadily, playing a significant role in mobilizing Hindu nationalist sentiments during the struggle for independence. The RSS's emphasis on cultural nationalism and the creation of a strong, unified Hindu society resonated with many who felt marginalized under colonial rule.

Post-independence, the ideological battle between secularism and Hindutva continued to shape India's political landscape. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), founded in 1951 as the political wing of the RSS, advocated for a Hindu-centric nation. Although the BJS initially struggled to gain widespread support, it laid the foundation for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which emerged in 1980 as a major political force. The BJP’s rise to prominence, particularly under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and later Narendra Modi, marked a significant shift in Indian politics. Hindutva became a central tenet of the party's ideology, influencing its electoral strategies, policy decisions, and governance style.

The BJP's electoral successes, especially in the 2014 and 2019 general elections, underscored the resonance of Hindutva among a substantial section of the Indian populace. Policies and political rhetoric centered around cultural nationalism, the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, and the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir reflect the ideological imperatives of Hindutva. These developments have sparked intense debates about the nature of Indian identity, the role of religion in politics, and the challenges of maintaining social harmony in a diverse and pluralistic society.

In contemporary Bharat, Hindutva's influence is evident in various spheres of public life. Educational policies, for instance, have seen efforts to revise history textbooks to reflect a Hindu-centric narrative, promote Sanskrit, and emphasize traditional Indian knowledge systems. These initiatives aim to foster a sense of pride in India's ancient heritage and counter what is perceived as a colonial and Marxist bias in Indian historiography.

The historical evolution of Hindutva is thus a complex interplay of cultural, religious, and political factors that have shaped its current form. From its ancient roots in Hindu religious texts and practices to its modern articulation as a socio-political ideology, Hindutva has continually adapted to the changing socio-political landscape of Bharat. Its journey reflects the broader struggle to define and assert a cohesive national identity in a land marked by immense diversity and historical continuity.

V.D. Savarkar and the Formalization of Hindutva

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar played a pivotal role in the formalization of Hindutva, transforming it from a cultural and religious concept into a comprehensive political ideology. His seminal work, "Hindutva: Who is a Hindu". published in 1923, laid the groundwork for a distinct Hindu nationalist identity that continues to influence Indian politics today.

Savarkar was born in 1883 in a Brahmin family in Maharashtra. His early exposure to nationalist ideas and his participation in revolutionary activities against British rule shaped his thinking. Savarkar's arrest in 1909 for his involvement in anti-colonial activities and subsequent imprisonment in the Andaman Islands provided him with the time and perspective to develop his thoughts on Hindu identity and nationalism. During this period, he deeply contemplated the essence of Hindu culture and its role in forging a unified national identity.

- **"Hindutva:** Who is a Hindu?" represents the crystallization of Savarkar's thoughts. In this work, he proposed that Hindutva went beyond religious beliefs, encompassing the entire cultural and civilizational heritage of the Indian subcontinent. For Savarkar, Hindutva was defined by three key elements: geographical unity (territory), racial features (ethnicity), and cultural traits (civilization). He argued that anyone who considered Bharat (India) both their "Pitribhu" (fatherland) and "Punyabhu" (holy land) qualified as a Hindu.**[6]** This definition sought to unify all those who shared a common heritage and cultural affinity, regardless of their religious practices.

Savarkar's conceptualization of Hindutva was aimed at fostering a cohesive national identity. He believed that a strong and unified Hindu identity was essential for resisting colonial rule and ensuring India's resurgence as a powerful nation. His vision was inclusive of various castes, sects, and linguistic groups within Hinduism, promoting a pan-Hindu identity that transcended regional and sectarian differences. However, this vision explicitly excluded Muslims and Christians, who did not regard India as their holy land, thereby creating a clear demarcation between Hindus and non-Hindus.

The formalization of Hindutva as a political ideology was further advanced through Savarkar's association with the Hindu Mahasabha, an organization dedicated to promoting Hindu interests and values. As president of the Hindu Mahasabha from 1937 to 1943, Savarkar emphasized the need for Hindus to organize and assert their rights in the face of perceived threats from Muslim political mobilization and British colonial policies. He advocated for the militarization of Hindus and the establishment of a Hindu Rashtra (nation) that would safeguard Hindu culture and interests.

Savarkar's ideas found institutional expression with the founding of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. Although Savarkar was not directly involved in its creation, the RSS adopted many of his principles, emphasizing discipline, unity, and the promotion of Hindu values. The RSS focused on building a grassroots network to instill a sense of pride and solidarity among Hindus, laying the groundwork for future political mobilization.

The political implications of Savarkar's Hindutva became more pronounced with the emergence of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) in 1951, which later evolved into the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 1980. The BJS and subsequently the BJP adopted Hindutva as a central tenet of their political ideology, advocating for a Hindu-centric nation. Leaders like Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Narendra Modi drew on Savarkar's ideas to craft a narrative of cultural nationalism that resonated with a significant segment of the Indian populace.

Savarkar's vision of Hindutva has had lasting impacts on Indian politics and society. It has influenced educational policies, historical narratives, and cultural discourses, fostering a renewed interest in India's ancient heritage and traditions. At the same time, it has also led to increased communal tensions and debates about the secular nature of the Indian state. Critics argue that the exclusivist aspects of Savarkar's Hindutva undermine the pluralistic and inclusive ethos of Indian society, alienating religious minorities and challenging the secular fabric of the nation.

V.D. Savarkar’s formalization of Hindutva represented a significant turning point in the evolution of Hindu nationalism. By redefining Hindu identity in cultural and civilizational terms, Savarkar sought to create a unified and assertive national identity that could resist colonial domination and ensure India's resurgence. His ideas have profoundly influenced Indian politics, shaping the ideological foundations of major political movements and continuing to spark debates about the nature of Indian identity and nationhood.

Political Implications of Hindutva

The political implications of Hindutva are vast and profound, significantly shaping India's political landscape over the past century. Originating as a cultural and civilizational concept, Hindutva has evolved into a potent political ideology that influences electoral strategies, policy-making, and societal dynamics in contemporary Bharat (India).

Hindutva's impact on Indian politics became particularly pronounced with the rise of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its political affiliate, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), which later evolved into the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The RSS, founded in 1925 by Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, aimed to promote Hindu unity and cultural nationalism. It laid the groundwork for a political movement that sought to counter both colonial rule and perceived threats from non-Hindu communities. The BJP, established in 1980, has since emerged as a major political force, with Hindutva at the core of its ideology.**[7]**

One of the most significant political implications of Hindutva is its role in shaping electoral strategies. The BJP has successfully leveraged Hindutva to mobilize a substantial voter base, emphasizing issues of cultural nationalism, religious identity, and national pride. Campaigns often highlight symbols and narratives that resonate with Hindu voters, such as the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, which culminated in the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya. This issue, in particular, has been a rallying point for Hindu nationalist sentiments and has played a crucial role in the BJP's electoral successes, including its landslide victories in the 2014 and 2019 general elections.

Hindutva also influences policy-making and governance. The BJP, guided by Hindutva principles, has implemented policies that reflect its ideological commitments. For instance, the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, which granted special autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, was justified on the grounds of national integration and security. This move, while popular among many of the BJP’s supporters, has been controversial and has led to significant political and social repercussions in the region.

Educational and cultural policies are another area where Hindutva’s influence is evident. The BJP and its affiliated organizations have made concerted efforts to revise history textbooks to reflect a Hindu-centric narrative, emphasizing India's ancient heritage and downplaying periods of Muslim rule. Initiatives to promote Sanskrit and traditional Indian knowledge systems aim to foster a sense of pride in India's cultural legacy. While these policies are intended to counter perceived Western and Marxist biases in Indian historiography, they have also sparked debates about historical accuracy and inclusivity.

Hindutva's political implications extend to social dynamics and communal relations. The aggressive promotion of Hindu identity and culture has often led to increased tensions between Hindu and non-Hindu communities. Incidents of violence against religious minorities, such as Muslims and Christians, have raised concerns about rising intolerance and the erosion of secular principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Critics argue that the exclusivist aspects of Hindutva undermine India's pluralistic and diverse society, fostering an environment of division and mistrust.

The concept of "Love Jihad," which suggests that Muslim men are seducing Hindu women to convert them to Islam, is an example of how Hindutva has influenced social narratives. This narrative has been used to justify legislation and actions that restrict interfaith marriages and conversions, further exacerbating communal tensions.

On the international stage, Hindutva has influenced India's foreign policy, particularly its relations with neighboring countries with significant Muslim populations, such as Pakistan and Bangladesh. The emphasis on Hindu identity and national pride often shapes diplomatic strategies and responses to regional conflicts, affecting India's geopolitical stance.

Despite these challenges, Hindutva has also fostered a sense of national pride and cultural resurgence among many Indians.**[8]** It has rekindled interest in India's ancient heritage, traditional practices, and indigenous knowledge systems, contributing to a broader cultural renaissance. This renewed focus on India's civilizational achievements has resonated with many who feel a sense of marginalization in the global cultural narrative dominated by Western paradigms.

The political implications of Hindutva are multifaceted and deeply entrenched in contemporary Bharat's socio-political fabric. While it has successfully mobilized a significant voter base and influenced policy-making, it has also led to increased communal tensions and debates about India's secular identity. The rise of Hindutva represents a complex interplay between cultural pride and political power, reflecting broader global trends of identity politics and nationalism. Its continued influence will shape the trajectory of Indian politics and society for the foreseeable future.

Social and Cultural Impact of Hindutva

The social and cultural impact of Hindutva in Bharat (India) is profound, permeating various aspects of public life, including education, historical narratives, inter-community relations, and cultural practices. As a comprehensive ideology advocating for the primacy of Hindu cultural identity, Hindutva has influenced both societal norms and state policies, resulting in a multifaceted impact on India's diverse and pluralistic society.

One of the most significant areas of Hindutva's influence is education. Proponents of Hindutva have sought to revise history textbooks and educational curricula to reflect a more Hindu-centric narrative. This includes emphasizing the achievements and contributions of ancient Hindu civilization while downplaying or reinterpreting periods of Muslim and colonial rule. The aim is to foster a sense of pride in India's indigenous heritage and counter what is perceived as a long-standing bias in Indian historiography. Critics, however, argue that these revisions often present a one-sided view of history, potentially marginalizing the contributions of other communities and fostering a less inclusive understanding of India's past.

Cultural policies under the influence of Hindutva have also promoted the revival and preservation of traditional Indian knowledge systems, languages, and practices. Efforts to promote Sanskrit, Ayurveda, and yoga, for example, are seen as reclaiming and revitalizing India's ancient cultural heritage.**[9]**These initiatives have found resonance among many Indians who feel a sense of cultural dislocation in a rapidly globalizing world. However, they have also sparked debates about cultural exclusivity and the need to balance traditional knowledge with scientific and modern educational practices.

The social impact of Hindutva extends to inter-community relations, particularly between Hindus and religious minorities such as Muslims and Christians. The aggressive promotion of Hindu identity and cultural nationalism has sometimes led to heightened communal tensions and incidents of violence. Campaigns against "Love Jihad" and conversions, for example, have contributed to a climate of suspicion and hostility towards interfaith relationships and religious conversions. These narratives often portray Muslims as a demographic and cultural threat to the Hindu majority, exacerbating social divisions.

Communal riots and mob violence have occasionally erupted in the name of protecting Hindu interests, such as in the case of cow protection vigilantes targeting Muslim and Dalit communities accused of cow slaughter. These incidents have raised concerns about rising intolerance and the erosion of the secular and pluralistic fabric of Indian society. The perception that the state apparatus and law enforcement are sometimes complicit or inadequate in addressing these issues has further deepened communal mistrust and alienation.

Hindutva's influence is also evident in the sphere of cultural practices and public symbolism. The celebration of Hindu festivals, rituals, and symbols has gained prominence, often accompanied by efforts to standardize and popularize them across regions. For instance, the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, following the demolition of the Babri Masjid, is a significant symbol of Hindu cultural resurgence and a rallying point for Hindutva supporters. Such developments aim to strengthen a unified Hindu identity but can also be seen as exclusionary towards non-Hindu communities.

The impact of Hindutva on gender roles and women's rights is another area of concern. While some aspects of Hindutva advocate for the empowerment of women within the framework of traditional Hindu values, there is also a tendency to reinforce patriarchal norms and gender roles. The emphasis on preserving the "sanctity" of Hindu women and protecting them from perceived threats often results in moral policing and restrictions on women's autonomy and freedom.

Despite these challenges, Hindutva has also fostered a renewed interest in India's cultural and spiritual heritage among many Indians. The emphasis on cultural pride, national identity, and indigenous traditions has contributed to a broader cultural renaissance, encouraging people to reconnect with their roots. This cultural resurgence has resonated with many who feel marginalized by Western cultural dominance and seek to reclaim their cultural space in a globalized world.

The social and cultural impact of Hindutva in Bharat is complex and multifaceted. While it has succeeded in fostering a sense of national pride and cultural resurgence, it has also led to increased communal tensions and debates about the inclusivity and pluralism of Indian society. The challenge lies in balancing the promotion of cultural identity and heritage with the need to maintain social harmony and uphold the secular principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution. As Hindutva continues to shape the socio-cultural landscape of Bharat, its long-term impact will depend on how these tensions and challenges are navigated and addressed.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Hindutva, as an ideology emphasizing Hindu cultural identity and nationalism, has had a profound and far-reaching impact on the social, cultural, and political landscape of Bharat (India). Originating as a response to colonial rule and perceived threats to Hindu culture, Hindutva has evolved into a potent force that influences various aspects of public life.

The historical evolution of Hindutva, from its ancient roots in Hindu religious texts to its modern articulation by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar and subsequent institutionalization by organizations like the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), reflects a complex interplay of cultural pride, political mobilization, and social dynamics. Savarkar's formulation of Hindutva as a comprehensive national identity, encompassing territory, race, and culture, laid the groundwork for a unified Hindu nationalist movement that continues to shape Indian politics today.

The political implications of Hindutva are evident in its influence on electoral strategies, policy-making, and governance. The BJP's electoral successes, built on a narrative of cultural nationalism and religious identity, highlight the resonance of Hindutva among a significant segment of the Indian populace. Policies and decisions, such as the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya and the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, reflect the ideological imperatives of Hindutva and its impact on the nation's political trajectory.**[10]**

However, Hindutva's impact extends beyond the political realm, influencing social relations, communal dynamics, and cultural practices. While it has fostered a sense of pride in India's ancient heritage and traditions, it has also led to increased communal tensions and debates about the inclusivity of Indian society. Incidents of violence against religious minorities and efforts to restrict interfaith relationships and conversions underscore the challenges of navigating religious and cultural diversity within a framework of cultural nationalism.

Despite these challenges, Hindutva has also contributed to a broader cultural renaissance, encouraging Indians to reconnect with their roots and reclaim their cultural identity in a globalized world. The emphasis on cultural pride and national identity resonates with many who seek to assert India's distinctiveness in an increasingly homogenized global cultural landscape.

In navigating the social, cultural, and political implications of Hindutva, it is essential to strike a balance between promoting cultural identity and heritage while upholding the principles of inclusivity, diversity, and secularism enshrined in the Indian Constitution. As Hindutva continues to shape the socio-political landscape of Bharat, its long-term impact will depend on how these tensions and challenges are addressed, and how the nation reconciles its diverse cultural heritage with the imperatives of modernity and globalization.

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THE EVOLUTION OF POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE: AN ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The digital age has ushered in a new era of political discourse, profoundly impacting the evolution of ideologies across the globe. This paper delves into the complex interplay between digital platforms and political ideologies, examining how the digital landscape has transformed their dissemination, adoption, and contestation. Through an exploration of social media, online communities, and digital campaigning, we uncover the mechanisms through which ideologies are shaped and spread in the digital era. Social media platforms have emerged as pivotal spaces for political engagement, enabling individuals to connect, share ideas, and mobilize support like never before. Online communities further contribute to the formation of ideological echo chambers, where individuals are exposed primarily to content that reinforces their existing beliefs. Additionally, digital campaigning strategies leverage microtargeting and personalized messaging to sway voter opinions, influencing ideological alignment on a mass scale. Drawing on case studies from around the world, including India's dynamic political landscape, we analyze the impact of digital technologies on ideological dynamics. In India, social media has played a significant role in shaping political narratives, with parties and leaders harnessing these platforms to connect with voters and shape public opinion. However, the digital age also presents challenges, including the spread of misinformation and the polarization of political discourse. Amidst these challenges lie opportunities for greater democratic engagement and transparency. Digital platforms provide accessible forums for political participation, empowering citizens to voice their opinions and hold leaders accountable. By understanding the evolving relationship between digital technologies and political ideologies, policymakers and citizens alike can navigate the complexities of the digital age and harness its transformative potential for the betterment of society.

KEYWORDS: *Digital Age, Political Ideologies, Social Media, Online Communities, Digital Campaigning.*

Introduction

The digital age has catalyzed a paradigm shift in the landscape of political ideologies, revolutionizing the way ideas are disseminated, debated, and adopted. As society becomes increasingly interconnected through digital platforms, the dynamics of political discourse have undergone profound transformations, impacting not only how ideologies are shaped and spread but also how individuals engage with them. This paper endeavors to explore the intricate interplay between digital technologies and political ideologies, delving into the mechanisms through which the digital age has influenced ideological evolution.

The rise of social media has been a defining feature of the digital age, democratizing access to information and providing individuals with unprecedented avenues for political engagement. Platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram have become virtual town squares where users converge to discuss, debate, and disseminate political ideas. The immediacy and reach of social media have empowered individuals to participate in political discourse in ways previously unimaginable, blurring the lines between citizens and politicians, activists and bystanders.

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One of the most notable impacts of social media on political ideologies is its role in amplifying voices and shaping public narratives. Whereas traditional media outlets were once the gatekeepers of information, social media platforms have democratized access to the public sphere, allowing marginalized voices to be heard and alternative viewpoints to gain traction. This phenomenon has led to the proliferation of diverse ideological perspectives, challenging established narratives and fostering a more pluralistic discourse.

However, the democratization of information facilitated by social media has also given rise to new challenges, chief among them being the spread of misinformation and the proliferation of echo chambers. The viral nature of social media can amplify falsehoods and distortions, leading to the erosion of trust in institutions and the polarization of public opinion. Moreover, the algorithmic curation of content on platforms like Facebook and YouTube tends to reinforce users' preexisting beliefs, creating echo chambers where individuals are insulated from dissenting views.

Online communities, another hallmark of the digital age, play a significant role in the formation and dissemination of political ideologies. These communities, which coalesce around shared interests, identities, or ideologies, serve as incubators for the exchange of ideas and the mobilization of collective action. From Reddit forums to Discord servers, online communities provide individuals with spaces to connect with like-minded peers, share information, and organize around common causes.

The emergence of online communities has given rise to new forms of political activism and identity formation, particularly among marginalized or minority groups. For example, the Black Lives Matter movement, which originated on social media platforms in response to police violence against Black Americans, mobilized millions of activists worldwide and sparked widespread conversations about racial justice. Similarly, LGBTQ+ communities have leveraged online platforms to advocate for equal rights and visibility, challenging heteronormative ideologies and reshaping societal attitudes.

Digital campaigning, fueled by advancements in data analytics and microtargeting, has become an integral component of modern political strategies. Political parties and candidates utilize digital tools to identify and engage with specific voter demographics, tailoring their messaging to appeal to individual preferences and beliefs. This personalized approach to campaigning has the potential to sway undecided voters and mobilize supporters, influencing ideological alignment on a mass scale.

The 2016 U.S. presidential election serves as a poignant example of the transformative power of digital campaigning. The Trump campaign's sophisticated use of data analytics and social media microtargeting played a crucial role in mobilizing supporters and shaping the public narrative.**[1]**By harnessing the emotional resonance of divisive issues and delivering targeted messaging to key voter demographics, the campaign effectively galvanized support and propelled Donald Trump to victory.

In India, digital campaigning has similarly transformed the political landscape, with parties and candidates leveraging social media and messaging apps to engage with voters. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), in particular, has been at the forefront of digital campaigning, utilizing platforms like WhatsApp and Twitter to disseminate its message and mobilize supporters. The party's strategic use of social media has contributed to its electoral success and reshaped the ideological landscape of Indian politics.

Digital Platforms and Political Discourse

The emergence of digital platforms has fundamentally altered the landscape of political discourse, ushering in a new era of connectivity, engagement, and participation. Social media platforms, in particular, have become integral to the dissemination and shaping of political ideologies, providing individuals with unprecedented access to information and opportunities for interaction. This section explores the multifaceted impact of digital platforms on political discourse, examining how they have transformed the dynamics of ideological formation, dissemination, and contestation.**[2]**

- **Democratizing Access to Information**

At the heart of the digital revolution is the democratization of information. Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram have democratized access to the public sphere, empowering individuals to engage with political content and express their views on a global scale. Unlike traditional media outlets, which operate within hierarchical structures and editorial gatekeeping, social media platforms provide a decentralized and open forum for the exchange of ideas.

The immediacy and accessibility of social media have democratized political discourse, enabling individuals from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to participate in conversations that were once dominated by elites. Whether through sharing news articles, posting commentary, or engaging in live discussions, users have the opportunity to contribute to the shaping of public opinion in real-time. This democratization of discourse has led to the emergence of new voices and perspectives, challenging established narratives and fostering a more inclusive and pluralistic public sphere.

- **Amplifying Voices and Shaping Narratives**

One of the most significant impacts of social media on political discourse is its ability to amplify voices and shape public narratives. Whereas traditional media outlets were once the primary gatekeepers of information, social media platforms have democratized access to the public sphere, allowing individuals to bypass traditional intermediaries and reach audiences directly. This decentralization of information dissemination has empowered marginalized voices and alternative viewpoints, challenging dominant narratives and fostering a more diverse and nuanced discourse.

Social media platforms serve as powerful amplifiers for political messages, enabling content to reach audiences with unprecedented speed and scale. Whether through viral videos, trending hashtags, or influencer endorsements, political messages can quickly gain traction and shape public opinion in ways that were previously unimaginable. This amplification effect has been particularly pronounced in the context of social movements and protest movements, where digital platforms have served as catalysts for mobilization and collective action.

- **Fostering Civic Engagement and Mobilization**

Beyond amplifying voices and shaping narratives, digital platforms have also played a pivotal role in fostering civic engagement and mobilizing collective action. Social media platforms provide individuals with opportunities to connect with like-minded peers, organize around common causes, and mobilize support for political initiatives. Whether through online petitions, fundraising campaigns, or virtual protests, users can leverage digital platforms to effect change and hold political leaders accountable.

The Arab Spring, for example, serves as a compelling illustration of the transformative power of social media in mobilizing mass protest movements. Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube played a central role in organizing and coordinating protests, disseminating information, and amplifying the voices of dissent. By circumventing state-controlled media and traditional communication channels, activists were able to mobilize widespread support and catalyze political change on an unprecedented scale.

- **Challenging Disinformation and Misinformation**

However, the democratization of political discourse facilitated by digital platforms has also given rise to new challenges, chief among them being the spread of disinformation and misinformation. The viral nature of social media can amplify falsehoods and distortions, leading to the proliferation of conspiracy theories, fake news, and propaganda.**[3]** Moreover, the algorithmic curation of content on platforms like Facebook and YouTube tends to reinforce users' preexisting beliefs, creating echo chambers where individuals are insulated from dissenting views.

The spread of disinformation and misinformation poses significant threats to the integrity of democratic processes and public discourse. Falsehoods propagated on social media can undermine trust in institutions, erode social cohesion, and fuel polarization. Moreover, they can have real-world consequences, influencing voter behavior, shaping public policy, and even inciting violence. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach that combines technological solutions, media literacy initiatives, and regulatory measures.

Digital platforms have fundamentally transformed the dynamics of political discourse, reshaping the ways in which ideologies are formed, disseminated, and contested. Social media platforms, in particular, have democratized access to information, amplified voices, fostered civic engagement, and challenged established narratives. However, they have also given rise to new challenges, including the spread of disinformation and misinformation. Moving forward, it is imperative that we work to harness the transformative potential of digital platforms while mitigating their negative impacts, ensuring that they continue to serve as vehicles for democratic engagement and social change.

Case Study: India's Political Landscape

India's political landscape has been significantly shaped by the advent of digital platforms, which have transformed the dynamics of political discourse, campaign strategies, and voter engagement. With over 600 million internet users and a growing presence on social media platforms, India represents a unique case study in the intersection of digital technologies and politics.

Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp have emerged as critical battlegrounds for political parties seeking to shape public opinion and mobilize support. **[4]** With the ability to reach millions of users in real-time, these platforms have become indispensable tools for political communication and outreach. Political parties and leaders leverage social media to disseminate their messages, engage with voters, and counter opposition narratives.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), in particular, has been at the forefront of digital campaigning in India. With a highly organized and tech-savvy social media team, the BJP has effectively utilized platforms like WhatsApp and Twitter to connect with voters, disseminate its message, and mobilize support. The party's digital strategy played a significant role in its electoral victories, particularly in the 2014 and 2019 general elections.

One of the key demographic groups targeted by political parties on social media is youth voters. With a significant portion of India's population under the age of 35, young voters represent a crucial voting bloc that can sway election outcomes. Political parties have recognized the importance of engaging with this demographic on digital platforms, where youth are highly active and influential.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), for example, successfully mobilized youth voters through its innovative use of social media during the 2013 Delhi Assembly elections. The party's grassroots campaign, combined with a strong presence on platforms like Facebook and Twitter, resonated with young voters disillusioned with traditional politics. This digital engagement played a crucial role in the AAP's landslide victory in Delhi.

However, the proliferation of social media has also given rise to challenges, including the spread of misinformation and fake news. In India, where communal tensions and identity politics are prevalent, false narratives circulated on social media can have serious consequences. Political parties and interest groups often exploit digital platforms to disseminate inflammatory content, sow division, and manipulate public opinion.

The spread of misinformation has led to calls for greater regulation of social media platforms and increased scrutiny of online content. The Indian government has introduced measures to address the spread of fake news, including drafting legislation to regulate social media intermediaries and curb the dissemination of false information. However, concerns have been raised about the potential impact of such regulations on free speech and democratic discourse.

India's political landscape has been profoundly influenced by the rise of digital platforms, which have revolutionized the way political parties engage with voters, shape public opinion, and mobilize support. Social media has emerged as a powerful tool for political communication, enabling parties to reach millions of users instantaneously and bypass traditional media channels. However, the spread of misinformation and fake news poses significant challenges to the integrity of democratic processes and public discourse. Moving forward, it is imperative that political parties, social media platforms, and regulatory authorities work together to address these challenges and ensure that digital technologies continue to serve as vehicles for democratic engagement and political empowerment.

Case Study: The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election

The 2016 U.S. Presidential Election stands as a landmark event in the history of political campaigns, primarily due to the unprecedented use of digital platforms and data analytics. The election showcased how digital strategies could be leveraged to influence voter behavior, shape public discourse, and ultimately determine the outcome of one of the most significant political events globally.

Social media played a central role in the 2016 election, with platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube becoming primary arenas for political engagement and information dissemination. Both major candidates, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, utilized these platforms extensively to communicate with voters, rally support, and counteract each other's narratives.

Donald Trump's campaign, in particular, was notable for its highly effective use of Twitter. Trump's frequent and direct communication via tweets allowed him to bypass traditional media channels, directly engaging with millions of followers.**[5]**This direct communication style helped him to set the news agenda, respond rapidly to events, and maintain a continuous presence in the public eye.

One of the most significant aspects of the 2016 election was the sophisticated use of data analytics and microtargeting. The Trump campaign, with the help of data firms like Cambridge Analytica, used data-driven strategies to identify and target specific voter demographics with personalized content. By analyzing vast amounts of data from social media activity, consumer behavior, and voter records, the campaign crafted tailored messages designed to resonate with individual voters' preferences and concerns.

Microtargeting allowed the Trump campaign to efficiently allocate resources and focus on swing states and key voter groups. Personalized ads on social media platforms aimed at specific demographics proved to be highly effective in mobilizing support and swaying undecided voters. This approach marked a departure from traditional mass media campaigns, highlighting the potential of digital tools to transform political strategy.

The 2016 election also underscored the challenges posed by the spread of misinformation and fake news on social media. False information, ranging from exaggerated claims to outright fabrications, spread rapidly across platforms like Facebook and Twitter. This misinformation often played on emotional and divisive issues, contributing to the polarization of the electorate.

The role of foreign interference, particularly by Russian entities, in spreading misinformation and influencing public opinion became a major point of contention. Investigations revealed that Russian operatives used social media platforms to create fake accounts, distribute divisive content, and amplify existing social tensions. These activities aimed to undermine confidence in the electoral process and sow discord among the American public.

The digital strategies employed during the 2016 election had far-reaching implications for political campaigning and democratic processes. Trump's unexpected victory highlighted the power of social media and data analytics in shaping electoral outcomes. It also raised critical questions about the ethics and regulation of digital campaigning, the role of big data in politics, and the vulnerability of democratic institutions to manipulation.

The election prompted significant scrutiny of social media companies, particularly Facebook, regarding their role in facilitating the spread of misinformation and their responsibility in safeguarding democratic processes. In response, these platforms have since implemented various measures to improve transparency, combat fake news, and enhance the integrity of political advertising.

The Rise of Populism

In recent years has been one of the most significant political trends worldwide, characterized by the emergence of leaders and movements that claim to represent "the people" against established elites. Digital platforms have played a crucial role in the spread and success of populist ideologies, providing tools for mobilization, dissemination of messages, and engagement with supporters. This case study explores the dynamics of populism in the digital age, focusing on notable examples from different regions.

Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube have become critical arenas for populist movements. These platforms allow populist leaders to communicate directly with their followers, bypassing traditional media gatekeepers. This direct communication is essential for populists, who often position themselves against the mainstream media, which they claim is biased and controlled by elites.**[6]**

Case Study 1: Donald Trump in the United States

Donald Trump's rise to the U.S. presidency in 2016 exemplifies the power of social media in populist politics. Trump's unfiltered and often controversial use of Twitter enabled him to dominate the news cycle, set the political agenda, and engage with millions of supporters. His messages, which often targeted the political establishment, resonated with voters who felt disenfranchised by traditional politics.

Trump's campaign effectively used data analytics and microtargeting to reach specific voter demographics with tailored messages. By analyzing social media activity, the campaign identified key issues and crafted personalized ads to mobilize support among undecided voters, particularly in swing states. This strategy, combined with Trump's populist rhetoric, played a crucial role in his electoral success.

Case Study 2: Jair Bolsonaro in Brazil

Jair Bolsonaro's election as Brazil's president in 2018 also illustrates the impact of social media on populist movements. Bolsonaro, often referred to as the "Trump of the Tropics," used platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp to build a loyal following.**[7]** His campaign leveraged social media to spread his messages, bypass traditional media, and mobilize grassroots support.

Bolsonaro's rhetoric, which included promises to combat corruption and crime, resonated with a significant portion of the Brazilian electorate. His social media strategy involved the extensive use of WhatsApp groups to disseminate information and mobilize supporters. These groups allowed for rapid and widespread distribution of content, including videos and memes that reinforced Bolsonaro's populist message.

Case Study 3: The Five Star Movement in Italy

The Five Star Movement (M5S) in Italy, founded by comedian Beppe Grillo and web strategist Gianroberto Casaleggio, is another example of a populist movement thriving in the digital age. M5S utilized its blog and social media channels to communicate directly with the Italian public, circumventing traditional political structures and media outlets.**[8]**

The movement's emphasis on direct democracy and online voting platforms appealed to voters disillusioned with the Italian political system. M5S's digital-first approach allowed it to grow rapidly and gain significant political influence, eventually becoming a major force in Italian politics and entering government.

The Spread of Populist Narratives

Social media has facilitated the spread of populist narratives by allowing leaders and movements to reach vast audiences quickly and effectively. Populist rhetoric often hinges on emotional appeals, simple solutions to complex problems, and a dichotomy between "the people" and "the elite." These narratives resonate strongly on social media, where content that evokes strong emotions tends to be more engaging and shareable.

Challenges and Implications

While the rise of populism via digital platforms has empowered new voices and disrupted traditional political dynamics, it has also posed significant challenges.**[9]**The spread of misinformation and the use of social media to polarize and divide electorates have raised concerns about the integrity of democratic processes. Populist leaders often exploit these platforms to disseminate false information, undermine trust in institutions, and inflame societal tensions. Moreover, the algorithmic nature of social media can create echo chambers, where users are exposed primarily to content that reinforces their existing beliefs. This environment can entrench ideological divides and make it difficult for different political groups to engage in constructive dialogue.

The rise of populism in the digital age underscores the transformative power of social media and digital platforms in contemporary politics. Leaders like Donald Trump, Jair Bolsonaro, and movements like Italy's Five Star Movement have effectively harnessed these tools to mobilize support, spread their messages, and challenge traditional political establishments. However, the proliferation of populist narratives also highlights the need for addressing the spread of misinformation and fostering more inclusive and balanced digital discourse to safeguard democratic values. As digital platforms continue to evolve, understanding their impact on political dynamics will be crucial for navigating the future of global politics.

Conclusion

The digital age has revolutionized the dynamics of political ideologies, profoundly impacting their formation, dissemination, and contestation. Social media platforms have democratized access to information, enabling direct communication between political leaders and the public, while also amplifying diverse voices and shaping public narratives. Case studies, such as the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election and the rise of populist leaders like Jair Bolsonaro, illustrate the transformative potential and challenges of digital campaigning. However, the spread of misinformation and the creation of echo chambers pose significant threats to democratic processes. These issues underscore the need for robust measures to ensure the integrity of information and foster constructive political discourse. Policymakers, social media platforms, and civil society must collaborate to mitigate the negative impacts of digital technologies while leveraging their potential to enhance democratic engagement and political empowerment.

In conclusion, the evolution of political ideologies in the digital age presents both opportunities and challenges. By understanding and addressing these dynamics, societies can harness the power of digital platforms to support vibrant, inclusive, and informed democratic processes.

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भगत सिहं और सर्वहारा वर्ग संबंधी अवधारणा

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प्रस्तावना

जब गांवों में मजदूर –प्रचार शुरू हुआ उस समय किसानों को सरकारी आदमी यह बात समझाकर भड़काते थे कि देखो यह भंगी – चमारों को सिर पर चड़ा रहे हैं और तुम्हारा काम बन्द करवायेंगे। बस किसान इतने में भड़क गयें उन्हें याद रहना चाहिए कि उनकी हालत तब तक नही सुधर सकती जब तक कि वे इन गरीबों को नीच और कमीनश कहकर अपनी जूती के नीचे दबाये रखना चहाते हैं। अक्यर कहा जाता है कि वह साफ नहीं रहते । इसका उत्तर साफ हैं – वे गरीब हैं। गरीबों का इलाज करों। ऊचे–ऊचे कुलों के गरीब लोग भी कोई कम गन्दे नहीं रहते। गन्दे काम करने का बहाना भी नही चल सकता क्योंकि माताएं बच्चों का मैला साफ करने से मेहतर तथा अछूत ता नही हो जातीं।

लेकिन यह काम उतने समय तक नही हो सकता जितने समय तक कि अछूत कौमें अपने आपको संगठित न कर लें। हम तो समझते है कि उनका स्वयं को अलग संगठनबद्व करना तथा मुस्लिमों के बराबर गिनती में होन के करण उनके बराबर अधिकरों की मांग करना बहुत आशाजनक संकेत हैं। या तो साम्प्रदायिक भेद का झंझट ही खत्म करो नहीं तो उनके अलग अधिकार उन्हें दे दों। कौंसिलों और असेम्बलियों का कर्त्तव्य है कि वे स्कूल–कॉलजे कुएं तथा सड़क के उपयोग की पूरी स्वतंत्रता उन्हें दिलायें। जबानी तौर पर ही नहीं वरन साथ ले जाकर उन्हें कुओं पर चढ़ायें। उनके बच्चों को स्कूलों में प्रवेश दिलायें। लेकिन जिस लेजिस्लेटिव में बाल–विवाह के विरूध पेश किये बिल तथा महजब के बहाने हाय–तौब मचायी जाती हैं वहां वे अछूतों को अपने साथ शामिल करने का साहस कैसे कर सकते हैं?1

इसलिए हम मानते हैं कि उनके अपने जन–प्रतिनिधि हों। वे अपने लिए अधिक अधिकार मांगे। हम तो साफ कहते हैं कि उठो अछूत कहलाते वाले असली जन–सेवकों तथा भाइयों उठो अपना इतिहास देखों। गुरू गोविन्द सिंह की फौज की अपनी शक्ति तुम्ही थे। शिवाजी तुम्हारे भरोसे पर ही सबकुछ कर सके जिस कारण उनका नाम आज भी जिन्दा हैं। तुम्हारी कुबर्नियां स्वर्णक्षरों में लिखी हुई। तुम जो नित्यप्रति सेवा करके जनता के सुखों में बढोत्तरी करके और जिन्दगी सम्भव बनाकर यह बड़ा भारी अहसान कर रहे हो उसे हम लोग नहीं समझते। लैण्ड–एलिएनेशन एक्ट के अनुसार तम धन एकत्र कर भी जमीन नहीं खरीद सकते। तुम पर इतना जुल्म हो रहा है कि मिस मेयो मनुष्यों से भी कहती हैं– उठो अपनी शक्ति को पहचानो। संगठनबद्व हो जाओ। असल में स्वयं कोशिष किये बिना कुछ भी नहीं हो सकेगा। स्वतंत्रता के लिए तो अधिक अधिकार चाहता है लेकिन इन्सान की

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धीरे–धीरे कुछ ऐसी आदतें हो गयी हैं कि वह अपने लिए तो अधिक अधिकार चहते हैं लेकिन जो उनके मताहत है उन्हें वह अपनी जुती के नीचे ही दबाये रखाना चहते हैं। कहावत है लातों के भूत बातों से नहीं मानते। अर्थात संगठनबद्व हो अपने पैरों पर खड़े होकर पूने समाज की खुराक मत बनो। दूसरों के मुंह की और न ताको। लेकिन ध्यान रहे नौकरशाही के झांसे मे मत फंसना। यह तुम्हारी कोई सहायता नही करना चाहती बल्कि तुम्हें अपना मोहरा बनाना चाहती है। यही पूंजीवादी नौकरशाही तुम्हारी गुलामी और गरीबी का असली करण है। इसलिए तुम उसके साथ कभी न मिलना। उसकी चालों से बचना। तब सबकुछ ठीक हो जायेगा। तुम असली सर्वाहरा हो़जाओ। तुम्हारी कुछ हानि न होगी। बस गुलामी की जंजीरों कट जायेंगी। उठों और वर्तमान व्यवस्था के विरूध बगावत खड़ी कर दो।

धीरे–धीरे होनेवाले सुधारों से कुछ नहीं बन सकेगा। सामजिक आन्दोलन से क्रांति पैदा कर दो तथा राजनीतिक और अर्थिक क्रांति के लिए कमर कस लो। तुम ही तो देश का मुख्य आधार हो वास्तविक शक्ति हो सोये हुए शेरो। उठो बगावत खड़ी कर दो।

भगत सिहं ने देश के भीतर व्याप्त अनेक समस्याओं पर विचार किया जियमें अछूत समस्या प्रमुख है। जून 1982 के किरती में भगत सिहं का यहा लेख– अछूत समरूया विद्रोही नाम से प्रकाशित हुआ था। भगत सिहं के लिए अछूत समस्या इस देश का एक अहम सवाल था। बीसवीं सदी में कुएँ के अपवित्र होने और मन्दिरों में अछूतों के प्रवेश से देवताओं के रूष्ठ होने की बात उनके लिए शर्मनाक थी। इक्कीसवीं सदी में दलित राजनीति के बाद भी स्थितियां एक दम बदल नहीं गयी हैं। आज धर्मान्तरण को लेकर हल्ला करने वालों को भगत सिहं की ये पंक्तियाँ पढ़नी चाहिए। –जब तुम उन्हें अधिक अधिकार मिलगें जहाँ उनसे इन्सानों–जैसे व्यवहार किया जाएगा। फिर यह कहना कि देखों जी ईसाई और मुस्लमान हिन्दू कौम को पहूँचा रहे है व्यर्थ होगा।2 संघ परिवार आज कहीं अधिक उग्र और साम्प्रदायिक रूप में ईसाई मुस्लमान विरोधी बताकर उन पर आक्रमण कर रहा है। इक्कीसवीं सदी का भारत क्या तोगड़िया सिंहल और मोदी का भारत बनेगा या भगत सिहं का ? भगत सिहं ने पूछा कुत्ता हमारी गोद में बैठ सकता है। हमारी रसोई में निसंग फिरता है लेकिन एक इन्सान का हमसे स्पर्श हो जाये तो बस धर्म भ्रष्ट हो जाता हैं3 भगत सिहं ने अछूतों को संगठित होने को कहा और यह माँग की कि उनके अपने जनप्रतिनिधि हों। उन्होंने अछूतों को अधिकार देने की बात कही। हम तो साफ कहते हैं कि उठो अछूत कहलाने वाले असली जनसेवको तथा भाइयों उठा अपना इतिहास देखो। गुरू गोविन्द फौज की असली भाक्ति तुम्हीं थे। शिवाजी तुम्हारे भरोसे पर ही सब कुछ कर सके जिस कारण उनका नाम आज भी जिन्दा है। तुम्हारी कुर्बानियाँ स्वर्णक्षरों में लिखी हुई है। तुम जो नित्य प्रति सेवा करके जनता के सुखो में बढोतरी करके और जिन्दगी सम्भव बनाकर यह बड़ा भारी अहसान कर रहे हो उसे हम लोग नहीं समझते। संगठनबद्व हो अपने पैरों पर खड़े होकर पूरे समाज को चुनौती दे दो। तब देखना कोई भी तुम्हें अधिकार देने से इनकार करे की जुर्रत न कर सकेगा। तुम दूसरों की खुराक मत बनो। तुम असली सर्वहारा हो संगठनद्व हो जाओ। सामाजिक आन्दोलन से क्रांति पैदा कर दो तथा राजनीतिक और आर्थिक क्रांति के लिए कमर कस लो। तुम ही तो देश के मुख्य आधार हो वास्तविक भाक्ति हो। सोये हुए भोरो उठो और बगावत खड़ी कर दो।4

क्या सचमुच आज की राजनीति में दलितों और आछूतों के प्रति गहरी पीड़ा है। आज दलित राजनीति हो रही है। भगत सिहं ने अछूतों को देश का मुख्य आधार और वास्तविक भाक्ति कहा था। आज के अधिसंख्य दलित नेताओं की तुलना में भगत सिहं के विचार ज्यादा उपयोगी है। क्योंकि वे दलितों को बगावत करने इंकलाब लाने के लिए कहत है। भगत सिहं सारी समस्यों का हल क्रांति मे देखते है। भारत में समस्यों की कमी नहीं है। एक समस्या का समाधान होते ही दूसरी समस्या आ खड़ी होगी। समस्याओं के होने का मुख्य कारण एक विशेष प्रकार की सामाजिक–आर्थिक व्यवस्था है। बिना क्रांति के नहीं बदल सकती। भगत सिहं ने बार–बार क्रांति की आवश्यकता सामने रखी। बिना इसके भारतीय समाज में किसी प्रकार का बदलाव सम्भव नहीं है। किसान और मजदूर को वे वास्तविक सेनाएँ मानते थे जो गाँवों और

कारखानों में रहती हैं। भगत सिहं ने यह समझ लिया था। कि हमारे बर्जुआ नेताओं में उन्हें साथ लेने की हिम्मत नहीं हैं न ही वे ऐसी हिम्मत कर सकते हैं।5 उनके समक्ष 1920 में अहमदाबाद के मजदूरों तथा 1922 का बारदोली–सत्याग्रह के उदाहरण थे।6

भगत सिहं स्त्री पुरूष के बीच प्रेम के बारे में लिखते है। जहां तक प्यार के नैतिक स्तर का सम्बन्ध है मैं कह सकता हूं कि यह अपने में कुछ नहीं है सिवाय एक आवेग के लेकिन पाशविक नहीं एक मानवीय अत्यन्त सुन्दर भावना। प्यार अपने में कभी भी पाशविक नहीं है। प्यार तो हमेशा मनुष्य के चरित्र को ऊँचा उठाता है यह कभी भी उसे नीचा नहीं करता। बशर्ते प्यार हो तुम कभी सदा पाशविक वृत्तियों के हाथों में खेलती हैं। सच्चा प्यार कभी भी गढ़ा नहीं जा सकता। यह तो अपने ही मार्ग से आता है। कोई नहीं कह सकता कब? लेकिन यह प्राकृतिक हैं हां मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि एक युवक एक युवती आपस में प्यार कर सकते हैं। और अने प्रार के सहारे अपने आवेगों से ऊपर उठ सकते हैं। अपनी पवित्रता बनाये रख सकते हैं। मैं यहां एक बात साफ कर देना चाहता हूं कि जब मैने कहा था कि प्यार इंसानी कमजोरी है तो साधारण आदमी के लिए नहीं कहा था। जिस स्तर पर कि आम आदमी होते हैं वह एक अत्यन्त आदर्श स्थिति है जाहं मनुष्य प्रार घृणा आदि के आवेगों पर विजय पा लेगा। जब मनुष्य अपने कार्यो का आधार आत्मा के निर्देश का बना लेगा लेकिन आधुनिक समय में यह काई बुराई नहीं हैं बल्कि मनुष्य के लिए अच्छा और लाभदायक है। मैंने एक व्यक्ति से प्यार की निन्दा की है लेकिन वह भी एक आदर्श स्तर पर। इसके होते हुए भी मनुष्य मे प्यार की गहरी से गहरी भावना होनी चाहिए जिसे कि वह भी एक आदमी में सीमित न कर दे बल्कि विश्वमत रखे?

यदि धर्म पीछे लिखी तीसरी और दूसरी बात के साथ अन्धविश्वास को मिलाने का नाम है तो धर्म की कोई जरूरत नहीं। इसे आज ही उड़ा देना चाहिए। यदि पहली और दूसरी बात में स्वतंत्र विचार मिलाकर धर्म बनाता हो तो धर्म मुबारक है।

लेकिन अलग–अलग संगठन और खाने–पीन का भेदभाव मिटाना जरूरी है छूत–अछूत शब्दों को जड़ से निकालना होगा। जब तक हम अपनी तंगदिली छोड़कर एक न होंगे तब तक हममें वास्तविक एकता नहीं हो सकती। इसलिए ऊपर लिखी बातों के अनुसार चलकर ही हम आजादी की ओर बढ़ सकते हैं। हमारी आजादी का अर्थ केवल अंग्रेजी चंगुल से छुटकारा पाने का नाम नहीं वह पूर्ण स्वतंत्रता का नाम है– जब लोग परस्पर घुल–मिलकर रहेंगे और दिमागी गुलामी से भी आजाद हो जाएंगे।

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आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया की भूमिकाः एक अध्ययन

महेंद्र कुमार वर्मा*

सार

वर्तमान युग में सोशल मीडिया ने आध्यात्मिक यात्रा करने और दुनिया को देखने और अनुभव करने के तरीके को क्रांतिकारी रूप से बदल दिया है। सोशल मीडिया ने वर्तमान युग में समाज में गहरी पैठ बना ली है। सोशल मीडिया का मुख्य उद्देश्य लोगों को जोड़ना और विश्व स्तर पर संचार की सुविधा प्रदान करना है। सामाजिक प्लेटफ़ॉर्म उपयोगकर्ताओं को जानकारी साझा करने, स्वयं को अभिव्यक्त करने और वास्तविक समय में व्यापक दर्शकों के साथ बातचीत करने की अनुमति देते हैं। यह रिश्तों, समुदायों और नेटवर्क के निर्माण को बढ़ावा देता है। फेसबुक, इन्स्टाग्राम, व्हाट्सअप, प्लेटफार्म एक्स व यू – टूयूब आदि सोशल मीडिया ने समाज में अपनी क्रियात्मक उपस्थिति से विश्व के सभी आध्यात्मिक यात्रियों को वैश्विक नागरिकता प्रदान की हैं। यह सोशल मीडिया विज्ञापन आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में न केवल शानदार छवियों और आकर्षक हैशटैग के बारे में है, बल्कि यह एक गतिशील मंच है जो आध्यात्मिक स्वपनिल स्थलों और उत्सुक यात्रीओं के बीच की गहराई को कम करता है। सोशल मीडिया के इन माध्यमों का उपयोग कर आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन उद्योग के लाभों में तथा रोजगार के अवसरों वृदि की जा सकती है और इसमें आने वाली विभिन्न प्रकार की चुनोतियों को दूर किया जा सकता है। प्रस्तुत शोध् लेख में आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया की भूमिका का अन्वेषण करते हुए इसके हितधारको को इनमे उपस्थित अवसरों व संभावित खतरों और चुनौतियों के प्रति आगाह करने का प्रयास किया गया है।

***शब्दकोशः** सोशल मीडिया, आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन, विपणन, हितधारक, रोजगार, वैश्विक नागरिकता, नेटवर्क।*

प्रस्तावना

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन एक विशेष प्रकार का पर्यटन है जो आध्यात्मिक और धार्मिक स्थलों की ओर यात्रा करने को प्रेरित करता है। यह यात्रा आध्यात्मिक अनुभव, ध्यान, धार्मिक अद्यतन, और आत्म–साक्षात्कार का अवसर प्रदान करती है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन हेतु भ्रमण करने वाले पर्यटक स्वयं में परिवर्तन और आत्म – खोज हेतु धार्मिक यात्राओं पर निकलते है, या जब कोई व्यक्ति स्वयं में दिव्य अस्तित्व का अर्थ तलासने के लिए सीमायें लांघकर देशाटन के लिए चल पड़ता है तो उसे आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन कहा जा सकता है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन वर्तमान परिदृश्य का एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है जो भारत में लगातार बढ़ रहा है। इसका मतलब है कि लोग धार्मिक और आध्यात्मिक स्थलों की यात्रा करने के लिए जाते हैं। यह यात्रा धार्मिक जगहों जैसे मंदिरों, गुरुद्वारों, ज्योतिर्लिगों, मस्जिदों धार्मिक तीर्थो, आश्रमों, ध्यान केंद्रों, और अन्य आध्यात्मिक स्थलों पर की जाती है।

* सहायक आचार्य व शोधार्थी–व्यावसायिक प्रशासन, श्री रतनलाल कँवरलाल पाटनी राजकीय स्नात्कोत्तर महाविद्यालय, किशनगढ़, अजमेर, राजस्थान।

पर्यटन में आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन भी महत्वपूर्ण गतिविधियों में से एक बन गया है। यह पर्यटन न केवल आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन करने वाले यात्री, पर्यटन एवं श्रदालुओं के लिए बल्कि इनके साथ–साथ आर्थिक रूप से भी काफी महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र बनता जा रहा है। पिछले एक दशक में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमाओं को पार करने वाले एक अरब पर्यटको के साथ आध्यात्मिक पर्यटको ने इतनी व्यापक यात्रा की जिसमें आध्यात्मिकता, विश्वास और संस्कृति की विविध अभिव्यक्तियों का अनुभव प्राप्त किया।

पर्यटन विपणन एक शब्द है जिसका प्रयोग उस व्यवसाय अनुशासन को संदर्भित करने के लिए किया जाता है जिसके द्वारा आगंतुकों को किसी विशेष स्थान की ओर आकर्षित किया जाता है जो एक राज्य, एक शहर, एक विशेष विरासत स्थल या पर्यटन स्थल, आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन स्थल, एक होटल या एक सम्मेलन केंद्र कुछ भी हो सकता है। (फिलिप कोटलर और जॉन बोवेन, "मार्केटिंग फॉर हॉस्पिटैलिटी एंड टूरिज्म") पर्यटन विपणन कई रूपों में हो सकता है, जिसमें पारंपरिक विज्ञापन (जैसे, टीवी, प्रिंट और आउटडोर), डिजिटल मार्केटिंग (जैसे, सोशल मीडिया, सर्च इंजन ऑप्टिमाइजेशन और ईमेल,मार्केटिंग), जनसंपर्क और इवेंट और प्रचार शामिल हैं। सफल पर्यटन विपणन की कुंजी लक्षित दर्शकों को समझना और उनके साथ प्रतिध्वनित होने वाले संदेश देना है।

इसी क्रम में हम आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन को भी सम्मिलित करते है । आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन संभावित धार्मिक यात्रियों के लिए किसी धार्मिक गंतव्य,पर्यटक आकर्षण या आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन से संबंधित व्यवसाय को बढ़ावा देने की प्रक्रिया है ताकि उस स्थान पर जाने में उनकी रुचि बढ़े और स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए राजस्व उत्पन्न हो सके। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि इस से स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ावा मिलता है, ब्रांड जागरूकता में इजाफा होता है,विविध धार्मिक यात्री वर्गों को आकर्षित करता है, धार्मिक यात्रा के अनुभव को बेहतर बनाता है तथा टिकाऊ आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन का समर्थन करता है।

संक्षेप में, आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन, अधिक आध्यात्मिक पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने, ब्रांड जागरूकता पैदा करने, राजस्व उत्पन्न करने और टिकाऊ पर्यटन प्रथाओं का समर्थन करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण उपकरण है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के विकास में सोशल मीडिया का महत्वपूर्ण योगदान है। आजकल, धार्मिक स्थलों के प्रचार और प्रसारण के लिए सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफ़ॉर्मों का उपयोग किया जाता है।

सोशल मीडिया :– एक परिचय

सोशल मीडिया वर्तमान समय में समाज का सबसे लोकप्रिय सूचनाओं के व्यापक संचार का माध्यम बन कर उभरा हैं। जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सम्पूर्ण विश्व के सामाजिक स्तर,संस्कृति , विस्तार और विकास पर अलग – अलग प्रकार का बदलाव दिखाई दे रहा हैं। सामाजिक माध्यम या सोशल मीडिया से आशय पारस्परिक संबंध के लिए अंतर्जाल या अन्य माध्यमों द्वारा निर्मित आभासी समूहों से है। सोशल मीडिया एक कंप्यूटर तकनीक है जो लोगों को ऑनलाइन नेटवर्क और समुदायों के माध्यम से विचार, राय और जानकारी साझा करने की सुविधा देती है। लोग सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करने के लिए कंप्यूटर, टैबलेट या फ़ोन पर वेब–आधारित सॉफ़्टवेयर या ऐप्स का उपयोग करते हैं।

विश्व में पहली बार 30 जून 2010 को विश्व सोशल मीडिया दिवस के रूप में मनाया गया था तथा सबसे पहले 1997 में एंड्रयू वेनरिच ने पहला सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म सिक्सडिग्री लॉन्च किया था। सोशल मीडिया के 7 अलग–अलग प्रकार होते है जिसमे कम्युनिटी ब्लॉग, डिस्कशन साइट्स, शेयरिंग इकॉनमी नेटवर्क्स, सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट,सोशल रिव्यु साइटें, इमेज शेयरिंग साइटें, व वीडियो होस्टिंग साइटें शामिल हैं।

सोशल मीडिया का मुख्य उद्देश्य लोगों को जोड़ना और विश्व स्तर पर संचार की सुविधा प्रदान करना है। सामाजिक प्लेटफ़ॉर्म उपयोगकर्ताओं को जानकारी साझा करने, स्वयं को अभिव्यक्त करने और वास्तविक समय में व्यापक दर्शकों के साथ बातचीत करने की अनुमति देते हैं। यह रिश्तों, समुदायों और नेटवर्क के निर्माण को बढ़ावा देता है।

केपीओस की टीम द्वारा किए गए विस्तृत विश्लेषण से पता चलता है कि अप्रैल 2024 की शुरुआत में दुनिया भर में 5.07 बिलियन सोशल मीडिया उपयोग करता थे जो कुल वैश्विक आबादी का 62.6ः है । पिछले 12 महीनों में भी सोशल मीडिया उपयोगकर्ताओं की संख्या में वृद्धि जारी रही है , पिछले वर्ष इसी समय से 259 मिलियन नए उपयोगकर्ता सोशल मीडिया से जुड़े हैं ।

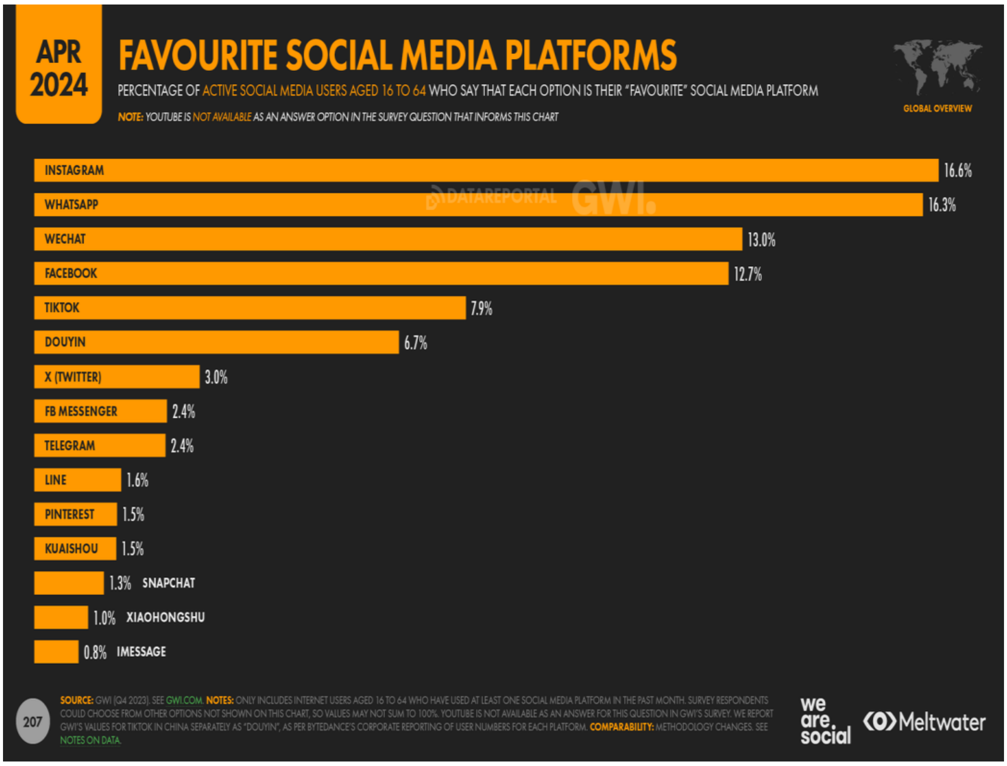

Image Source :- https://datareportal.com/social-media-users

यह 5.4 प्रतिशत की वार्षिक वृद्धि के बराबर है अर्थात हर सेकंड 8.2 नए उपयोगकर्ता की औसत दर से । नवीनतम आंकड़े दर्शाते हैं कि अब 10 में से 9 इंटरनेट उपयोगकर्ता हर महीने सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करते हैं । इस बीच ळॅ के आंकड़ों से पता चलता है की औसत सोशल मीडिया उपयोगकर्ता हर महीने औसतन 6.7 विभिन्न सोशल प्लेटफॉर्म का सक्रिय रूप से उपयोग करता है या उन पर जाता है तथा प्रतिदिन औसतन 2 घंटे 20 मिनट सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करता है । इन नवीनतम आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि लोग अपने जागृत जीवन का लगभग 14 प्रतिशत समय सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करते हुए बिताते हैं । कुल मिलाकर विश्व प्रतिदिन सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म का उपयोग करते हुए लगभग 12 बिलियन घंटे बीतता है जो मानव अस्तित्व के 1.35 मिलियन वर्षों के बराबर है। (https://datareportal.com/social-media-users)

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया की भूमिका

वर्तमान में जिस तरह से पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है, संभावित पर्यटकों के लिए पर्यटन तक पहुंच और भागीदारी के लिए सोशल मीडिया विपणन एक आवश्यक उपकरण बन गया है।

पर्यटन क्षेत्र में विपणन के लिए फेसबुक, ट्विटर, इंस्टाग्राम और यूट्यूब जैसे सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म सबसे व्यापक रूप से उपयोग किए जाने वाले टूल में से एक हैं। सोशल मीडिया विपणन प्रभावशाली है क्योंकि यह दर्शकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए सामग्री बनाने और बेचने की अनुमति देता है, जिससे वीडियो के माध्यम से पर्यटकों के साथ आत्मीय संबंध बनाने और अपना ब्रांड स्थापित करने का अवसर मिलता है।

वर्तमान परिप्रेक्ष्य के सन्दर्भ में भारत में सोशल मीडिया विपणन विशेष रूप से महत्वपूर्ण हो गया है क्योंकि भारत के विभिन्न प्रान्तों में सामान्य पर्यटन के साथ – साथ आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन भी बढ़ रहा है। टूरिस्ट इंस्टीट्यूट एसोसिएशन के अनुसार यह क्षेत्र एक महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र है जो की सम्पूर्ण भारत वर्ष में लगभग 40 मिलियन से अधिक लोगों को रोजगार देता है और कुल सकल घरेलू उत्पादों में 5.9 प्रतिशत तक अपना योगदान प्रदान करता है। जैसे– जैसे आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन उद्योग लगातार बढ़ रहा है, तो भीड़ बाजार में अलग दिखने के लिए आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन को अन्य उद्योगों से कुछ अलग करना होगा, और इसमें सोशल मीडिया विपणन इसकी ऐसा करने में मददगार साबित हो सकता है।

दुनिया के सबसे ज्यादा उपयोग में आने वाले सोशल मिडिया प्लेटफॉर्म

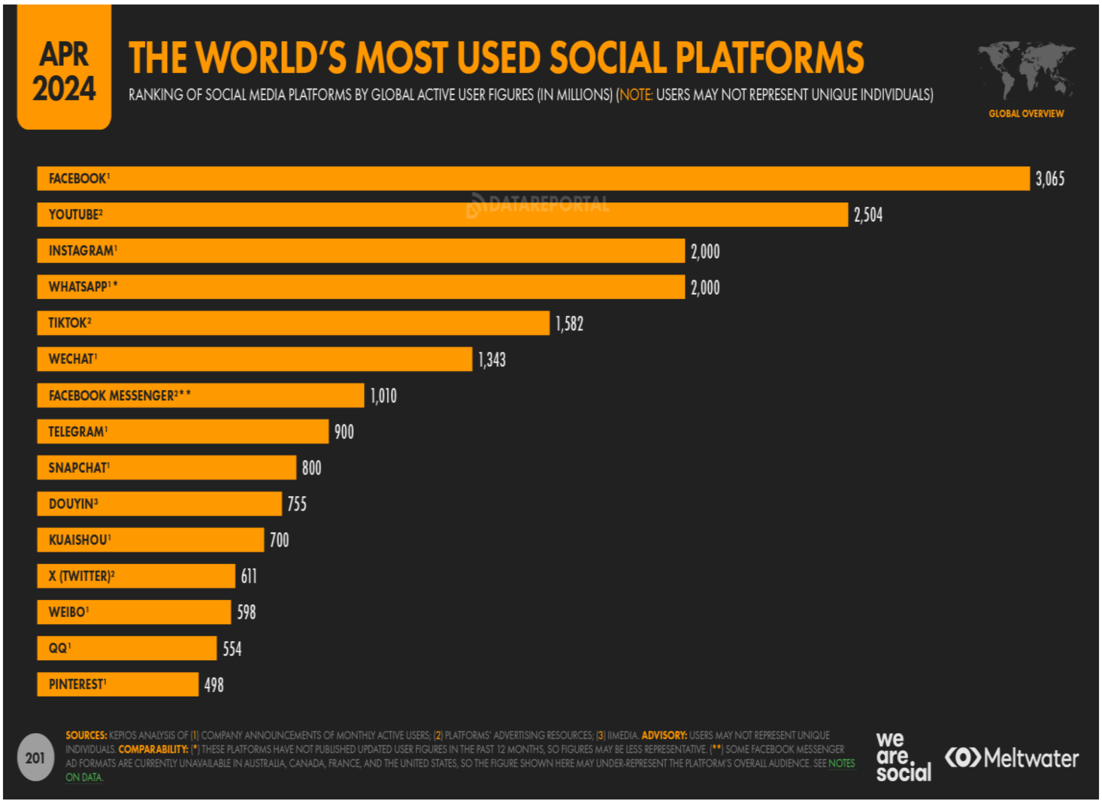

Image Source :- https://datareportal.com/social-media-users

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया से लाभ

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया के द्वारा विपणन के बहुत से लाभ हैं जिनमें शामिल हैं:

- **ब्रांड निर्माण में सहायता:** सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म के माध्यम से ग्राहकों तक बड़े पैमाने पर पहुंच संभव है जिससे किसी भी फर्म व उद्योग के लिए अपने ब्रांड का प्रचार व प्रसार करने में सहायता मिलती है। बड़े पैमाने तक पहुच से ही ब्रांड निर्माण में सहायता मिलती है इसके साथ ही विज्ञापन और बायोलॉजिकल रीच के माध्यम से ब्रांड जागरूकता में वृद्धि की जा सकती है।
- **शानदार हुई प्रस्तुति:** सोशल मीडिया के द्वारा अपने उत्पाद के विपणन हेतु जो विज्ञापन तैयार किये जाते वह ज्यादा आकर्षक बनाये जा सकते है, जिससे अपने उत्पाद की प्रस्तुती ज्यादा शानदार की जा सकती है व अपने ग्राहकों तक अपने उत्पाद की समझ को ज्यादा रोचक तरीके से समझाई जा सकती हैं।

- **विज्ञापन लागत में कमीः** सोशल मीडिया विपणन के द्वारा आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के प्रचार हेतु किये जाने वाले खर्चों में कमी आती है इस वजह से आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के लिए उपलब्ध सेवा व अन्य उद्योगों की लागत में प्रभावी रूप से कमी आती है, विशेष रूप से पारंपरिक विज्ञापन की तुलना में इसके फलस्वरूप उपभोक्ताओं को भी लाभ मिलता है ।
- **ग्राहक व्यवहार की बेहतर समझः** सोशल मीडिया के द्वारा विपणनकर्ता अपने ग्राहकों के व्यवहार ,रुचियों और वस्तुओं में प्रोजेक्टाइल पेश करते हैं, जिससे वे अपने कौशल को और अधिक प्रभावशाली बनाने की पेशकश करते हैं। ग्राहक भी सोशल मीडिया पर अपने व्यवहार और रुचियों का प्रदर्शन करते है जिससे विपणनकर्ता को ग्राहक व्यवहार की समझ को बेहतर रूप से समझ सकते है ।
- **उपयोगकर्ता जनित सामग्रीः** सोशल मीडिया में विपणनकर्ताओ द्वारा ग्राहकों हेतु अपनी–अपनी योजनाओं, सेवाओं और उत्पाद की फ़ोटो को साझा करने के लिए तथा चित्रित करने के लिए उपयोगकर्ता–जनित सामग्री का लाभ उठाने की क्षमता विकसित की जाती है।
- **अधिक दर्शक, अधिक ग्राहकः** सोशल मीडिया विपणन के बहुत से लाभों में से एक है कम समय में बड़ी संख्या में दर्शकों तक पहुच। सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म का उपयोग करने वाले अरबों लोग है। यह व्यवसाय के लिए उन लोगों के बड़े समूह तक पहुँचने का एक शानदार अवसर है जो उत्पादों और सेवाओं में रूचि रखते है।
- **उत्पाद का गहन प्रदर्शन विश्लेषणः** सोशल मीडिया का एक फायदा यह भी है कि इसके द्वारा उत्पाद एवं सेवा के प्रदर्शन का मूल्यांकन करने में विपणनकर्ताओ की मदद कर सकता है। जब भी विपणनकर्ता कोई विपणन अभियान चलाते है, तो विपणनकर्ता यह जानना चाहते है कि उनका उत्पाद कैसा प्रदर्शन कर रहा है। सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म ऐसे अभियान को ट्रेक करना आसन बनाते है ताकि विपणनकर्ता यह देख सके की वह मूल्यवान परिणाम प्राप्त कर रहे है या नहीं।

साहित्यिक समीक्षा

इस शोध–पत्र में आध्यात्मिकता, पर्यटन और सोशल मिडिया की अच्छी समझ के लिए और गहराई तक पहुँचने के लिए साहित्य की गहनतम समीक्षा का प्रयास किया गया है । आध्यात्मिकता पर अकादमिक योगदान के बारे में जानकारी और आध्यात्मिकता तक पहुंचने के लिए पर्यटन कैसे किया जाता है और इन सब में सोशल मिडिया की क्या भूमिका हो सकती है इसके साथ ही धर्म आधारित पर्यटन के कई पहलुओं पर सोशल मीडिया कैसे काम करता है, तथा आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के उपभोक्ताओं पर प्रभाव डालने वाले प्रमुख चरों के बारे में विस्तार से चर्चा की गई ।

- **भारत में आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन की पृष्ठभूमि**

जौहरी और संजीव (2010) के अनुसार, आध्यात्मिक लोग अपने दैनिक जीवन से स्वयं को बाहर निकाल कर मन की आंतरिक शांति व जीवन के वास्तविक उद्देश्य की खोज के लिए प्रयास करते है । डाउसन एटअल (2019) के अनुसार, आध्यात्मिक आत्मज्ञान मन की एक अवस्था है जिसके लिए आभा की आवश्यकता होती है या बेहतर पर्यावरण का निर्माण किया जाए या पर्यावरण का सरंक्षण किया जाये ताकि आध्यात्मिक स्थलों के आस–पास लोग रह सकें , यह विचार जौहरी (2010) से जोड़ती है क्योकि गंतव्य ब्रांडिंग के साथ आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन मौजूद है । नॉर्मन(2014) के अनुसार यात्रियों का ज्ञान स्तर , आध्यात्मिक संवर्धन और खुशहाली के अर्थ अलग–अलग होते हैं तथा आंतरिक शांति पाने के स्रोत के रूप में लोग अलग–अलग विचार रखतें हैं। मुखर्जी एट अल. (2020), के अनुसार आध्यात्मिक संबंधों से अंतर्निहित हैं व्यक्तित्व लक्षण, सांस्कृतिक पालन–पोषण और पर्यावरण प्रभाव, जिससे लोग अलग–अलग अर्थ निकालने लगे है। शैक्ली, 2001, नौमोव 2019, विलियम्स–ओरबर्ग, 2020 ने अपने अध्ययन में पता लगाया की गतिविधियों की श्रृंखला जो

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन का हिस्सा हैं जैसे योग, आयुर्वेद, ध्यान, सांस्कृतिक, धार्मिक और आध्यात्मिक गतिविधियाँ. इनमें से किसी के लिए मुख्य संसाधन पर्यटक गतिविधियाँ पूजा स्थल, मंदिर, मठ, मंदिर, मस्जिद, चर्च या गिरजाघर, आदि। वेनबू एट अल., 2017 ने अपने शोध में लिखा है की भारतीय बाजार विभिन्न आध्यात्मिकता से युक्त जिसमे धार्मिक स्थान जो मनोवैज्ञानिक विशेषताओं के द्वारा विभिन्न प्रकार के यात्रियों को आकर्षित करते हैं। उन्होंने इनमें से कई आध्यात्मिकता,स्थलों को धार्मिक स्थल के तौर पर चिन्हित किया है जिनमे जम्मू–कश्मीर में वैष्णो देवी, बोधगया (बौद्ध धर्म के ज्ञान के लिए), वाराणसी (सांस्कृतिक विरासत के लिए); अमृतसर स्वर्ण मंदिर के लिए, ऋषिकेश, केरल, हरिद्वार में योग आश्रम आदि शामिल है। वुड एट अल., 2013 के अनुसार यह सिद्धांत मुख्यतः सामाजिक परिवर्तन पर केन्द्रित है जिस तरह से समय के साथ विभिन्न आध्यात्मिक आधारित झुकावों को अपनाने के लिए समाज के लोग बदलते और परिवर्तित होते हैं ।

- **सोशल मिडिया की पृष्ठभूमि एवं सोशल मीडिया का प्रभाव**

सोशल मीडिया का उपयोग करके व्यक्ति अपनी इच्छाओं को पूरा करता है और सोशल मीडिया पर मौजूद अन्य व्यक्तियों के साथ संबंध बनाता है। इस निष्कर्ष के आधार पर अध्ययन से यह निष्कर्ष निकलता है कि सोशल मीडिया का व्यक्ति पर बहुत अधिक प्रभाव पड़ता है। सोशल मीडिया व्यक्ति को सीमाओं के पार जुड़ने, साझा करने, जानकारी प्राप्त करने और जानकारी प्राप्त करने में सक्षम बनाता है। ट्विटर, फेसबुक और लिंक्डइन लोकप्रिय सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म हैं, जिनका उपयोग दुनिया भर में विभिन्न हितधारकों द्वारा एक–दूसरे के साथ बातचीत करने के लिए किया जाता है। (गोंग एट अल., 2017;केन एट अल., 2014;किट्सियोस एट अल., 2022; ओबेम्बे एट अल., 2021)

सोशल मीडिया संगठनों को अभियान, प्रचार, विज्ञापन (प्रचार, विज्ञापन) के लिए एक आभासी बाज़ार उपलब्ध कराता है। जाफ़रोवा और बोवेस, 2021), ग्राहक वचनबद्धता (बेली एट अल.,2021; गैरिडो–मोरेनो एट अल., 2018; हुआ एट अल., 2021), ग्राहक प्रतिधारण (गैरिडो–मोरेनो एट अल., 2018) और क्राउडसोर्सिंग नवाचार। सोशल मीडिया व्यक्तियों को बाजार में अपनी प्रतिष्ठा बढ़ाने के लिए सार्वजनिक धारणा बनाने में सुविधा प्रदान करता है। (एटर एट अल., 2019; रैप एट अल., 2013) उपयोग और संतुष्टि सिद्धांत बाज़ार के संदर्भ में लोकप्रिय है। आत्म–निर्धारण सिद्धांत और सामाजिक पहचान सिद्धांत सामाजिक पर्यावरण के संदर्भ में लोकप्रिय हैं। मीडिया का उपयोग उपयोगकर्ताओं द्वारा अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए किया गया है। (ब्लमलर और काट्ज़, 1974) उपयोगकर्ता की ज़रूरत को प्रभावी, संज्ञानात्मक, व्यक्तिगत और सामाजिक के रूप में वर्गीकृत किया जा सकता है। उपयोगकर्ता की संतुष्टि तीन कारकों पर निर्भर करती है, यानी सामाजिक संदर्भ, सामग्री और मीडिया एक्सपोजर (काट्ज़ एट अल., 1973)।

बिक्री बढ़ाने, ग्राहक अधिग्रहण, कॉर्पोरेट प्रतिष्ठा के लिए संगठनों के लिए सोशल मीडिया को सावधानीपूर्वक अपनाना फायदेमंद है। (एंसिलाई एट अल., 2019;कुई एट अल., 2018;डोलन एट अल., 2019; हुआंग एट अल., 2015; कुमार एट अल., 2017; मेयर एट अल., 2017; विएरा एट अल., 2019) सोशल मीडिया के कुप्रबंधन से हितधारकों के बीच नकारात्मक धारणा पैदा हो सकती है ।(बेन्थौस एट अल., 2016).

सोशल मीडिया पर पोस्ट की गई सामग्री का प्रभाव संचारकों, प्राप्तकर्ताओं और प्रासंगिक परिदृश्यों पर निर्भर करता है (चेउंग और थडानी, 2012) सोशल मीडिया पर मौजूद उपभोक्ताओं के अनुभव (हुआंग एट अल., 2014; जॉनन और श्नीट्का, 2019; लेविना और अरियागा, 2014; ज़ी और ली, 2015), का उपयोग बाजार आसूचना के लिए किया जा सकता है।

अनुसंधान पद्धति / क्रियाविधि

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन, सोशल मिडिया तथा इसके द्वारा की जाने वाली विपणन गतिविधियों से सम्बंधित उपलब्ध साहित्य से इस अध्ययन के लिए जानकारी एकत्र की गई है। जिनमें विशेष रूप से आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन की गतिविधियों एवं आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन स्थलों के साथ–साथ सोशल मीडिया को केन्द्रीय स्थिति में रखते हुए

चर्चा की गई है। उपलब्ध साहित्यिक समीक्षा और दुनिया भर से भ्रमण हेतु आने वाले पर्यटकों की राय एवं विचार किसी भी आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन स्थल के विकास में मुख्य भूमिका निभाते है । मुख्यत : यह शोध द्वितीयक आंकड़ों पर आधारित है। यह आंकड़े पत्र–पत्रिकाओं, शोध–पत्रों, पुस्तकों, समाचार पत्रों, इन्टरनेट तथा प्रत्यक्ष व अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से जुड़ें व्यक्तियों के विचारों पर आधारित है ।

जाँच – परिणाम

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन व सोशल मिडिया द्वारा विपणन विषय में उपलब्ध साहित्य से हमें अनेक तरह की सूचनाएं प्राप्त होती है। आध्यात्मिकता से मन की शांति प्राप्त करने के अलग–अलग रूप है,परन्तु व्यावसायिकता के मुद्दों को सोशल मिडिया के द्वारा नये – नये तरीकों से बेहतर रूप से व्यवस्थित करने तथा आध्यात्मिक यात्रियों के अनुरूप प्रबंधित और क्रियान्वित करना चाहिए। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन को प्रोत्साहित करने की दृष्टी से सोशल मिडिया में अभिनव दृष्टीकोण अपनाने की जरुरत है,इससे जुड़ें विभिन्न हितधारकों के लिए कार्य किया जा सके तथा देशी व विदेशी पर्यटकों को विभिन्न यात्राओं के लिए पुनः प्रेरित किया जा सके। धार्मिक पर्यटकों को अनेकों सुविधाओं जिनमे बेहतर आतिथ्य सुविधाओं के साथ–साथ, परिवहन, पार्किंग तथा मंदिरों में देवताओं के दर्शन यह सब कुछ सुनियोजित होना चाहिए तथा इसके साथ ही इसमें सोशल मीडिया का अधिक से अधिक प्रयोग धार्मिक पर्यटन स्थलों का प्रचार–प्रसार में किया जाना चाहिए जिसके लिए प्रोद्योगिकी तथा अच्छी तरह से सुसज्जित एकल खिड़की व्यवस्था का उपयोग करते हुए निर्बाध ग्राहक सेवा प्रदान की जा सकती है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन और सोशल मीडिया के मध्य एक गहरा रिश्ता बन गया है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के विस्तार में सोशल मीडिया की अहम भूमिका है। इन्टरनेट, मोबाइल और सेटेलाइट के माध्यम से सोशल मीडिया ने पूरे संसार को एक परिवार के रूप में जोड़ दिया है। यह धार्मिक चेतना और आध्यात्मिक ज्ञान में वृद्धि करने में सहायक सिद्द हो सकता है, मीडिया भारत में पर्यटन के अनेकों प्रकारों में से एक आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन उद्योग भी विविध संभावनाओं को दर्शाता है। यहाँ पर्याप्त ऐतिहासिक स्थल, भोगोलिक विविधताएँ, जलवायु, वन, पर्वत, पठार तथा प्रत्येक धर्म के लिए आध्यात्मिक स्थल अपनी विशिष्टता और अपनी बेहतरीन संस्कृति के साथ विश्व भर के पर्यटकों को अपनी और आकर्षित करने में मदद करती है ।

इस दिशा में भारतीय पर्यटन उद्योग को सोशल मीडिया के द्वारा अपनी विकास यात्रा पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने की आवश्यकता है, ताकि यह अपने उद्देश्यों की प्राप्ति के लिए नकारात्मक प्रभावों का सामना कर सके।

सारांश व निष्कर्ष

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन में सोशल मीडिया की भूमिका के बारे में विचार करते हुए यह पाया गया की यह विषय आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के विकास और प्रचार में सोशल मीडिया के महत्व को समझने में मदद कर सकता है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन का महत्व विभिन्न घटकों पर आधारित होता है, जैसे कि धार्मिक स्थल, पूजा सामग्री, मूर्तियाँ, चित्र, श्रृंगार, फूल, फल, खिलोने, प्रसाद और आध्यात्मिक यात्रियों के रहने व खाने की विभिन्न सुविधाओं के साथ – साथ बेहतर परिवहन व पार्किंग सुविधाओं का भी महत्वपूर्ण योगदान होता है। यह सभी आध्यात्मिक यात्रा के अनुभव को सुखद बनाने में मदद कर सकते है।

सोशल मीडिया वर्तमान डिजिटल युग का महत्वपूर्ण उपस्कर है और यह विश्व के मुकुर की भांति कार्य करता है। यह आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के प्रचार व प्रसार में भी एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन की अवधारणा पर्यटन उद्योग का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू है, इसमें सोशल मीडिया की भी मुख्य भूमिका है। वर्तमान युग में सोशल मीडिया आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के संभावित यात्रियों के लिए गंतव्यों, आकर्षणों और पर्यटन से संबंधित व्यवसायों को बढ़ावा देने और किसी स्थान पर आगंतुकों की संख्या बढ़ाने में मदद कर सकता है। प्रभावी पर्यटन विपणन के लिए लक्षित दर्शकों और गंतव्य के अद्वितीय विक्रय बिंदुओं और प्रतिस्पर्धी लाभों की गहरी समझ और संभावित यात्रियों तक पहुँचने के लिए विपणन और विज्ञापन तकनीकों के संयोजन की आवश्यकता होती है।

आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन न केवल पर्यटन से राजस्व उत्पन्न करके स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ावा देने में भूमिका निभाता है, बल्कि गंतव्य के बारे में उपयोगी जानकारी प्रदान करके और स्थायी पर्यटन प्रथाओं को बढ़ावा देकर आगंतुकों के लिए समग्र यात्रा अनुभव में भी योगदान देता है। आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन विपणन की अवधारणा उन गंतव्यों के लिए आवश्यक है जो अपनी दृश्यता बढ़ाना चाहते हैं और अधिक आगंतुकों को आकर्षित करना चाहते हैं, और यह पर्यटन उद्योग के विकास और सफलता का समर्थन करने के बड़े लक्ष्य का एक महत्वपूर्ण घटक है। इस अध्ययन के आधार पर हमें सोशल मीडिया को आध्यात्मिक पर्यटन के विपणन में एक उपयोगी और प्रभावी उपाय के रूप में देख सकते है।

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भारत में एकीकृत बाल विकास योजना का मूल्यांकनः एक विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

सोनू चौहान*
डॉ. जया भण्डारी**

सार

समेकित बाल विकास योजना (ICDS) महिलाओं और बच्चों के शारीरिक और आहार संबंधी स्वास्थ्य में सुधार के लिए भारत की सबसे प्रभावी पहलों में से एक है। 1972 के योजना आयोग की संस्तुति के अनुसार, समेकित बाल विकास सेवा (ICDS) कार्यक्रम को भारत के सभी राज्यों में लागू किया जाना था। यह पहल 15 से 45 वर्ष की आयु के छोटे बच्चों, गर्भवती महिलाओं और स्तनपान कराने वाली माताओं को अनौपचारिक प्रारंभिक बचपन शिक्षा, रेफरल में सहायता, स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा और पूरक आहार संबंधी आदतों सहित कई तरह की सेवाएँ प्रदान करती है। पिछले 20 वर्षों में भारत की उल्लेखनीय आर्थिक वृद्धि के बावजूद बच्चों के पोषण के स्तर में कोई खास बदलाव नहीं आया है। समेकित बाल विकास सेवा (ICDS) एक ऐसा कार्यक्रम जो अभी तक बाल कुपोषण को कम करने में सफल नहीं हुआ है, एक तिहाई से भी कम बच्चों की सेवा करता है। निगरानी की कमी जैसी महत्वपूर्ण परिचालन कठिनाइयाँ भी ICDS का सामना करती हैं।

शब्दकोशः *समेकित बाल विकास योजना, पोषण, गर्भवती महिलाएं, स्तनपान कराने वाली माताएं।*

प्रस्तावना

बच्चों में कुपोषण हमेशा से ही देश के लिए एक समस्या रही है। कदाचित, भारत सरकार (GOI) के कई ऊर्ध्वाधर स्वास्थ्य प्रयास प्रभावी रूप से लक्षित समुदाय तक नहीं पहुँच पाते। भारत ने 1974 में बच्चों के लिए एक व्यापक राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम लागू किया। इस तरह की सोच ने सेवाओं के एक छोटे समूह के साथ एक व्यापक बहुकेन्द्रित योजना बनाने के विकल्प को प्रभावित किया। समेकित बाल विकास सेवा (ICDS) कार्यक्रम, भारत की असाधारण मानव संसाधन विकास पहल, निर्णय के कारण बनाई गई।

1975 में शुरू किए गए इस कार्यक्रम में अब 5614 कार्यक्रम हैं, जो 60 मिलियन से अधिक बच्चों, 10 मिलियन महिलाओं और 2 मिलियन स्तनपान कराने वाली माताओं को संबोधित करते हैं। यह पिछले 25 वर्षों में विकसित हुआ है । (सचदेव, 2001)

अतीत में, आईसीडीएस योजना के तथ्यों, प्रासंगिकता, प्रभावशीलता, परिणाम और प्रभाव को निर्धारित करने के लिए मूल्यांकन अध्ययन किए गए हैं। आईसीडीएस पर पूर्व शोध द्वारा अपर्याप्त कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन से जुड़े कारकों को मोटे तौर पर तीन श्रेणियों में वर्गीकृत किया गया है. खराब संसाधन प्रबंधन, खराब शासन और कार्यक्रम संबंधी कमियां। हाल ही में योजना आयोग के एक अध्ययन में पाया गया कि आईसीडीएस सेवाओं की गुणवत्ता और कवरेज दोनों ही औसत (41%) थे। यह पता चला कि अधिकांश आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ता अधिक काम के बोझ तले दबे थे, उन्हें कम वेतन मिलता था और वे अप्रशिक्षित थे, जिसका कार्यक्रम की समग्र प्रभावकारिता

* शोधार्थी, जय नारायण व्यास विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर, राजस्थान।
** सहायक आचार्य, अर्थशास्त्र विभाग, जय नारायण व्यास विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर, राजस्थान।

पर प्रभाव पड़ा। कई सेवाओं के लिए देश भर में अपर्याप्त आईसीडीएस सेवा कवरेज की शिकायतें मिली हैं, जिनमें टीकाकरण (10–65%), एनएफपीएसई (20–40%), एसएन (48.3–60.7%), और स्वास्थ्य रेफरल (8.3–3. 30%) शामिल हैं। (मीना एवं अन्य, 2017).

समेकित बाल विकास योजना (ICDS) के उद्देश्य

यह स्पष्ट है कि ICDS से अपेक्षाएँ काफी अवास्तविक हैं, बहुत अधिक हैं, और इसलिए उपलब्ध संसाधनों, श्रम और बुनियादी ढाँचे से पूरी होने की संभावना नहीं है। लेकिन ICDS के घोषित उद्देश्य इस प्रकार हैं:

- 0.6 वर्ष के बच्चों के सामान्य विकास को सुनिश्चित करना और स्थानीय स्तर पर आवश्यक सेवाएँ प्रदान करके उनके पोषण और शारीरिक स्वास्थ्य को बढ़ावा देना।
- सबसे कमज़ोर आयु वर्ग की देखभाल को प्राथमिकता देना, जिसमें शिशु और तीन वर्ष तक के बच्चे शामिल हैं।
- बच्चे के आदर्श शारीरिक, मानसिक और सामाजिक विकास के लिए आधार तैयार करना।
- मृत्यु, बीमारी और भुखमरी को कम करना।
- समूहों के बीच असमानताओं को खत्म करना (योजना का उद्देश्य समाज के वंचित और वंचित वर्गों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना था)।
- स्वच्छता, स्वास्थ्य देखभाल और शिक्षा सहित अन्य तत्वों के बीच अभिसरण इंटरफेस पर काम करना।
- कुपोषण के बहु–पीढ़ी चक्र को समाप्त करना।
- महिलाओं और किशोरियों को प्रभावित करने वाले मुद्दों का समाधान करना।
- यह सुनिश्चित करना कि किशोरियों को आवश्यक शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण मिले, साथ ही नियमित शारीरिक और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य जांच हो, ताकि वे भविष्य में शिक्षित, स्वस्थ, जागरूक और सक्षम महिला और मां बन सकें।
- (गर्भवती होने पर उनका शारीरिक और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य भी अच्छा होना चाहिए ताकि वे स्वस्थ बच्चों को जन्म दे सकें। किशोरियों को अतिरिक्त पोषण, स्वास्थ्य जांच, प्रशिक्षण और राजीव गांधी सबला योजना के तहत सशक्तीकरण की पहल की गई थी, जो आईसीडीएस के माध्यम से इसी उद्देश्य से संचालित की गई थी। लेकिन अब यह योजना अप्रभावी है।)
- गर्भवती माताओं के लिए अतिरिक्त पोषण प्रदान करना, टीकाकरण, स्वास्थ्य जांच, संतुलित आहार, सुरक्षित प्रसव, संस्थागत प्रसव और बच्चे को पहला दूध या कोलोस्ट्रम देना सभी महत्वपूर्ण हैं।

महत्वाकांक्षी उद्देश्यों के बावजूद, यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक विश्वसनीय प्रणाली के बिना यह सब करना असंभव प्रतीत होता है कि योजना को ठीक से लागू किया जा रहा है। उदाहरण के लिए, वित्तीय कमी के मामलों में मौद्रिक सहायता की मंजूरी में सुधार करने के लिए क्या किया जाना चाहिए? यह भी ध्यान रखना आवश्यक है कि स्वीकृत धन का उपयोग कैसे किया जा रहा है। इसके अतिरिक्त, संचालित आंगनवाड़ियों की स्थिति, नए केंद्रों के निर्माण में देरी, कर्मियों की भर्ती और प्रशिक्षण, भ्रष्टाचार और भाई–भतीजावाद के किसी भी मामले का आकलन करने के लिए नियमित सर्वेक्षण किए जाने चाहिए, जो दर्ज किए गए हों या नहीं।

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाल विकास अध्ययन (ICDS) का उद्देश्य बाल–केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण के साथ एक व्यापक हस्तक्षेप कार्यक्रम विकसित करना है, जो समग्र प्रभाव को बढ़ाने के लिए सेवाओं को एकीकृत करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है। कार्यक्रम परियोजना स्तर पर सभी उपलब्ध सरकारी सेवाओं का उपयोग करने, विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के बीच कार्यात्मक संबंध को बढ़ावा देने और मौजूदा बुनियादी ढांचे के इष्टतम परियोजना–दर–परियोजना उपयोग को सुनिश्चित करने पर केंद्रित है। आईसीडीएस अन्य कार्यक्रमों जैसे अंत्योदय, माइक्रो–क्रेडिट योजनाओं और

ग्रामीण विकास, शिक्षा, पर्यावरण विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी के साथ मिलकर काम करता है ताकि वंचित समुदायों के छोटे बच्चों, किशोरियों और महिलाओं की जरूरतों को बेहतर ढंग से पूरा किया जा सके।

आईसीडीएस का कार्यान्वयन

आईसीडीएस 6 महीने से 6 साल की उम्र के बीच के हर बच्चे को पोषण संबंधी उद्देश्यों के लिए 500 किलो कैलोरी (12 से 15 ग्राम प्रोटीन के साथ) प्रदान करता है। 10 से 19 वर्ष की आयु की किशोर लड़कियों के लिए मासिक खाद्यान्न भत्ता 6 किलोग्राम है। स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय का सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य बुनियादी ढांचा टीकाकरण, स्वास्थ्य मूल्यांकन और रेफरल सेवाएं प्रदान करता है। 1975 से, यूनिसेफ ने आईसीडीएस पहल के लिए आवश्यक धन उपलब्ध कराया है। विश्व बैंक ने भी कार्यक्रम को वित्तीय और तकनीकी सहायता प्रदान की है। आईसीडीएस कार्यक्रम के लिए प्रति बच्चे की वार्षिक लागत $10 से $22 तक है। राज्य सरकारें परियोजना के लिए प्रत्येक बच्चे के लिए प्रति दिन $1 (1–3 यूएस) तक का योगदान देती हैं, जिसे राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर वित्त पोषित किया जाता है। इसके अलावा, आईसीडीएस और राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन (एनआरएचएम) दोनों के लिए, भारत सरकार ने 2008 में बाल विकास और विकास के मूल्यांकन और निगरानी के लिए डब्ल्यूएचओ के मानकों को मान्यता दी। डब्ल्यूएचओ ने इन मानदंडों को बनाने से पहले 1997 में छह विकासशील देशों पर काफी शोध किया। जन्म से पाँच वर्ष की आयु तक, एक बच्चे के शारीरिक विकास, पोषण संबंधी स्थिति और मोटर फ़ंक्शन का मूल्यांकन नए डब्ल्यूएचओ बाल विकास मानक का उपयोग करके किया जाता है।

आईसीडीएस के अंतर्गत सेवाएँ

आईसीडीएस के अंतर्गत छह सेवाएँ आती हैं।

- पूरक पोषण
- प्री–स्कूल अनौपचारिक शिक्षा
- पोषण और स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा
- टीकाकरण
- स्वास्थ्य जाँच
- रेफरल सेवाएँ

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य अवसंरचना स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित सेवाएँ प्रदान करती है, जिसमें टीकाकरण, स्वास्थ्य जाँच और रेफरल शामिल हैं। गाँवों में आँगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ता और आँगनवाड़ी सहायिकाएँ आँगनवाड़ी केंद्रों पर सेवाएँ प्रदान करती हैं।

सारणी 1: आईसीडीएस के अंतर्गत सेवाएँ

सेवाएँ	लक्ष्य समूह	सेवा प्रदाता
पूरक पोषण	छह वर्ष से कम उम्र के शिशु, गर्भवती माताएँ और स्तनपान कराने वाली माताएँ	महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय, आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ता और आंगनवाड़ी सहायिका
टीकाकरण	छह वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चे, गर्भवती माताएँ और स्तनपान कराने वाली माताएँ	स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
स्वास्थ्य जांच	छह वर्ष से कम उम्र के शिशु, गर्भवती माताएँ और स्तनपान कराने वाली माताएँ	स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
रेफरल सेवाएं	छह वर्ष से कम उम्र के शिशु, गर्भवती माताएँ और स्तनपान कराने वाली माताएँ	स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
पोषण एवं स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा	15 से 45 वर्ष की महिलाएं	स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय तथा महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय
प्री–स्कूल शिक्षा	3.6 वर्ष की आयु के बच्चे	महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय

आईसीडीएस की समस्याएँ

- **शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण का अभावः** अधिकांश आंगनवाड़ी कर्मचारियों की साक्षरता दर कम है। उन्होंने पाया कि किसी अन्य माप के बजाय बच्चे के वजन का उपयोग करने से बच्चे के विकास की निगरानी करना आसान हो जाता है। नीति आयोग ने यह भी सिफारिश की है कि इन केंद्रों को आवश्यक स्टाफ़ मिले, जिनकी योग्यताओं को प्रशिक्षण के माध्यम से लगातार बेहतर बनाया जाना चाहिए।
- **निराशाजनक सेवा शर्तेंः** आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों में फ्रंटलाइन कर्मचारियों, जिनमें आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ता (AWW), आशा और ANM शामिल हैं, के पास काम करने की उचित स्थितियाँ या भविष्य में रोज़गार की संभावनाएँ नहीं हैं। आमतौर पर, कम आय वाले परिवारों की महिलाएँ आंगनवाड़ी में अधिकारी और उनकी सहायिका के रूप में काम करती हैं। अन्य सरकारी कर्मचारियों के विपरीत, इन लोगों के पास पूर्ण सेवानिवृत्ति लाभों के साथ स्थिर करियर नहीं है। जब उन्हें लॉकडाउन के बाद से एक महीने का भी वेतन नहीं मिला था, तो विभिन्न भारतीय राज्यों में आशा और आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं ने महामारी के कुछ महीनों बाद विरोध प्रदर्शन किया था।
- **बुनियादी सुविधाओं का अभावः** केवल 36% कार्यशील आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों में शौचालय हैं और लगभग 50% में पीने के पानी की कमी है। नीति आयोग ने 2015 में आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों के लिए बिजली आपूर्ति, बुनियादी चिकित्सा आपूर्ति और बेहतर स्वच्छता और पीने के पानी की सुविधाओं में वृद्धि का प्रस्ताव दिया था।
- **अपर्याप्त सीखने का माहौलः** आंगनवाड़ी केंद्र उस तरह का सीखने का माहौल प्रदान नहीं करते हैं जो माता–पिता को अपने बच्चों को इन संस्थानों में भेजने के लिए प्रेरित करे। प्री–स्कूल शैक्षिक संसाधन जैसे क्रेच और बेहतरीन मनोरंजन और सीखने के क्षेत्र केवल सीमित प्रतिशत आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों में ही पाए जाते हैं।

समस्याओं का समाधान

- **आंगनवाड़ी बुनियादी ढांचे में सुधारः** परियोजना को बढ़ाने की कुंजी अभी भी आंगनवाड़ी बुनियादी ढांचे में सुधार और क्षमता वृद्धि में निहित है। देश के 2–5 लाख ऐसे संस्थानों को सक्षम आंगनवाड़ी योजना के हिस्से के रूप में अपग्रेड किया जाना है।
- **प्रशिक्षण और क्षमता निर्माणः** केंद्र सरकार के पोषण अभियान द्वारा आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं की क्षमता निर्माण में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार किए गए हैं। नियमित आधार पर ज्ञान अंतराल की पहचान करने और उसे भरने के लिए अधिक विश्वसनीय प्रणाली का होना महत्वपूर्ण है।
- **समुदाय की मांग के अनुसार प्रक्रियाओं को संरेखित करनाः** सभी आंगनवाड़ी सेवाओं में उच्च मानकों को लागू किया जाना चाहिए। पड़ोस और प्रोग्रामिंग कर्मचारियों की मांगों को आंगनवाड़ी केंद्र द्वारा पूरा किया जाना चाहिए।
- **गतिविधि–आधारित और पर्यावरण–एकीकृत मोंटेसरी पाठ्यक्रम को अपनानाः** बच्चों के संज्ञानात्मक विकास में खेल–आधारित सीखने की रणनीति का महत्व अध्ययनों के माध्यम से दिखाया गया है। सर्वोत्तम शिक्षण रणनीतियाँ एक उत्कृष्ट पूरक पोषण योजना को प्रेरक शैक्षणिक रणनीतियों के साथ जोड़ती हैं।

निष्कर्ष

हाल ही में, आईसीडीएस का कई एजेंसियों द्वारा मूल्यांकन किया गया है, जिसके कारण उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए कई संशोधन किए गए हैं। 1975 से, कई आईसीडीएस ब्लॉक बनाए गए हैं, हालांकि उनमें से कई अपने सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन पर काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। पूरक पोषण की सीमा को निरंतर आपूर्ति बनाए रखते हुए

व्यापक बनाया जाना चाहिए, और बुनियादी ढांचे और बुनियादी सुविधाओं को उन्नत किया जाना चाहिए। इसके अतिरिक्त, भोजन की गुणवत्ता पर विचार करना महत्वपूर्ण है। बिना पका हुआ या पका हुआ भोजन परोसने के संबंध में महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों की जांच करना आवश्यक है। भोजन परोसते समय क्षेत्रीय स्वाद पर विचार किया जाना चाहिए और खाद्य सुरक्षा नियमों का हमेशा पालन किया जाना चाहिए। आईसीडीएस योजना के प्रशिक्षण घटक का पुनर्मूल्यांकन किया जाना चाहिए। कार्यबल को फिर से तैयार करना आवश्यक है। योजना का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण तत्व जवाबदेही है। पर्यवेक्षण और निगरानी के तत्वों को मजबूत करना आवश्यक है।

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FINANCIAL AWARENESS THROUGH BANKS DIGITISATION

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ABSTRACT

The banking sector has evolved significantly since the nationalization of the banks. Even the country's economic development depends upon the growth of the banking sector. In present era, there is a shift towards innovation and digitisation paving the way for technology driven financial activities. The digitisation has led to optimisation of cost structure in banking industry and also focusing on digital workflow that enable credit processing in a convenient manner. The banking sector has also transformed in terms of workforce culture and core business model. The improvisation in the banking sector activities through digitisation and reengineering the internal process related into strengthening the system. The increase in digital payment across the country also expanded the horizon of banking activities by entering into partnership with payment solution platforms. To facilitate payment online resulted into reshaping the operational activity and redesigning business model of the banking industry as a whole. The large players in banking sector as well as new age fin tech and small finance banks are impacted by the severity of the Pandemic in rural, semi-urban and urban areas. The digitisation has radically changed the banking sector and thus adopting innovative solutions for facilitating the services to the customers. The regulatory measures and risk assessment mechanism can prove to be a boost to the banking sector in the future. The digital transformation shall pave the way for implementing more agile business model for sustainability. The financial innovations implemented in the banking sector for various online transactions has also strengthened the trust of the customer and also resulted in improving the efficiency and performance of the banking sector.

KEYWORDS: *Banking Sector, Digitization, Financial Innovation, Financial Institutions, Financial Services.*

Introduction

Banking Sector plays an important role in every economic development. Financial awareness is an important aspect in today's competitive environment. Financial system may be defined as set of complex & closely connected financial institutions of an economy. It is a set of institutional arrangements through which surpluses in the form of funds are mobilized from the surplus income generating funds & relocating them to those who need them most. With the growing concept of digitalisation, awareness towards financial Services, Financial Products, financial Institutions and financial markets have increased further. Financial Institution are the financial intermediaries which collect savings from people & provide them to individuals, industrialists, entrepreneurs. It serves the interest of both the investors and borrowers. It helps in bringing about the institutionalizing of savings & conducts proper channelizing of savings. Indian banking sector has seen a tremendous growth in last two decades. Shifting from traditional banking which involved customer visiting bank branches for their day to day activities to modern branchless banking through the technologies. The digital revolution has increased the growth and scope of banking sector to new heights.

Objectives

- To analyse the importance and trends of Digitization of banking in India
- To explore the use of technology in creating Financial Awareness among masses after demonetisation phase.

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Research Methodology

Secondary data has been collected from various Journals, Magazines, Articles and Research papers.

Importance and Trends of Digitize Banking in India

There are many benefits which are provided to the general public after digitization in baking sector. Now people no longer stands in long queues to get their work done, rather they can do most of the banking transactions by sitting at their home with internet. Even in today's competitive environment people don't have time to visit branches. For some people, it's a waste of full day to visit branches for their banking activities. Some of the benefits and trends that are associated with the digitisation of banking sector are:

- With the use Cashless transactions and ATM'S, the costs are reduced for both banks and customers.
- Rural areas and backward areas lagging in banking facilities do now have access of various modernised digitised bank services. This bridges the Gap between rural and urban areas.
- Customers are more satisfied with the ease of banking transactions and variety of online dealings which ultimately leads to customer satisfaction.
- The availability of 24 hours banking services makes transferring of money quicker, easier and safer.
- Automation will eliminate repetitive tasks along with this human error are also reduced through digitisation which enhance the productivity of banking sector.
- Number of customers have been increased for banks because of convenience of banking services and digitisation.
- Mobile banking is used nowadays due to cheaper availability of internet. Different apps have been evolved over a period of time for the same.
- Offering of mixture of physical and digital processes to customers especially in the rural areas. The customers upon visiting the bank can use digital devices to operate upon different transactions with the help of banking staff.
- Introduction of chatbots by banks in their customer care operations increases speed of response, quality of services and interactions.
- The government focus on usage of electronic wallets has motivated people to adopt the use of new technology in banking related work.
- The threat of theft, fake currency is also reduced with more usage of cashless transactions and mobile banking.

Financial Awareness through Digitalisation in Post Demonetisation Phase

After Demonetisation, there is a great shift in technology and Digitisation and all the stakeholders have equipped to all these technologically changes.

Financial Inclusion

Financial Inclusion refers to access of finance and financial services to all. It paves the way for economic development of the country. Various schemes have been launched by government to promote financial inclusion such as:

- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)
- Pradhan Manrtri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)
- Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)
- Atal Pension Yojana
- Stand up India scheme
- Sukanya Samridhi Yojana
- Jeevan Suraksha Bandhan Yojana

Source: Rangarajan Committee Report

Recent Bank Mergers

Structural change in banking system in India by mergers is equally important in respect of Public sector banks. Some of the recent Public sector bank mergers are:

- In 2019, Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank have merged with Bank of Baroda.
- In 2020, Unified Bank of India and Oriental Bank of Commerce have merged with Punjab National Bank making it largest Public sector Bank in India.
- The six SBI Associates and Bhartiya Mahila Bank merged with State Bank of India.

With effect from april 2020, Syndicate Bank merged with Canara Bank, Allahabad Bank merged with Indian Bank, Andhra Bank & corporation bank of India merged with Union Bank of India.

Recent Government Approved Banking Platforms

The adoption of Core Banking System in 2002 for incorporation of sophisticated technological solutions was to enhance the productivity of Banking system. In 2011, technological integration in the banking sector increased further. Some of the Recent Government Approved Banking platforms are Unified Payment Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), National Unified USSD Platform, Aadhaar Enabled Payment System.

- **Electronic Payment Services – E Cheques:** An electronic cheque is an electronic copy (scanned image) of a real cheque, which is then transferred by email. In addition to the cheque's 'real' signature, the transfer must be digitally signed using the sender's private key to authenticate the transfer. a new technology is being developed in US for introduction of e-cheque, which will eventually replace the conventional paper cheque.
- **Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS):** Real Time Gross Settlement system, introduced in India since March 2004, is a system through which electronics instructions can be given by banks to transfer funds from their account to the account of another bank. The RTGS system is maintained and operated by the RBI and provides a means of efficient and faster funds transfer among banks facilitating their financial operations. As the name suggests, funds transfer between banks takes place on a 'Real Time' basis.
- **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT):** Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is a system whereby anyone who wants to make payment to another person/company etc. can approach his bank and make cash payment or give instructions/authorization to transfer funds directly from his own account to the bank account of the receiver/beneficiary
- **ATM: Automatic Teller Machine (ATM):** is a device that allows customer who has an ATM card to perform routine banking transactions without interacting with a human teller. In addition to cash withdrawal, ATMs can be used for payment of utility bills, funds transfer between accounts, deposit of cheques and cash into accounts, balance enquiry etc.

- **Point of Sale Terminal:** Point of Sale Terminal is a computer terminal that is linked online to the computerized customer information files in a bank and magnetically encoded plastic transaction card that identifies the customer to the computer. During a transaction, the customer's account is debited and the retailer's account is credited by the computer for the amount of purchase.
- **Electronic Data Interchange (EDI):** Electronic Data Interchange is the electronic exchange of business documents like purchase order, invoices, shipping notices, receiving advices etc. in a standard, computer processed, universally accepted format between the trading partners. Electronic Data Interchange can also be used to transmit financial information and payments in electronic form.
- **Dematerialization of Shares:** Demat of shares has been implemented for all shares traded on secondary stock exchanges as well as those issued to the public in primary markets. Even bonds and debentures are permitted in demat form. The benefit of demat trading is that it is paperless.
- **Rolling Settlement:** Rolling settlement is an essential measure for improving the efficiency and integrity of the securities markets. Under rolling settlement, all deals conducted on a trading day (T) are paid after a specific number of days (N). This is known as T+N rolling settlement. Since April 1, 2002, trades have been resolved using T + 3 rolling settlement. In April 2003, the trading cycle was decreased to T + two days. The trade cycle has shortened.
- **Mutual Funds:** Mutual funds are an essential way for consumers to invest in the securities market. As an investing intermediary, mutual funds provide a number of services and benefits to small participants. SEBI has the jurisdiction to establish rules and oversee and regulate the operation of mutualfunds.
- **Internet Trading:** Investors can place orders with registered stock brokers via the internet, which allows them to trade on stock exchanges. This allows stock brokers to execute orders at a faster rate.
- **Accessing Global Funds Market:** The Indian financial system has been opened up for foreign fund investments through Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs), and Overseas Corporate Bodies.

Conclusion

Thus, for every economy to grow, there is a need of creating Financial Awareness among general masses. Various instruments of financial institutions & markets are important along with digitalisation process. The digitisation has radically changed the banking sector and thus adopting innovative solutions for facilitating the services to the customers. The regulatory measures and risk assessment mechanism can prove to be a boost to the banking sector in the future. The digital transformation shall pave the way for implementing more agile business model for sustainability. The financial innovations implemented in the banking sector for various online transactions has also strengthened the confidence of the customer and also resulted in improving the efficiency and performance of the banking sector.

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A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS OF REGIONAL AND TEMPORAL VARIATIONS IN URBAN POVERTY IN INDIA

Bhagwana Ram Godara*

ABSTRACT

This research explores the spatial and temporal variations in urban poverty across India, revealing the multifaceted nature of urban poverty influenced by economic, social, environmental, and political factors. Using secondary data from sources such as the 2011 Census, National Sample Survey Organization, NITI Aayog, and Reserve Bank of India reports, the study highlights significant disparities in urban poverty levels among states and union territories. States like Bihar, Manipur, and Uttar Pradesh exhibit extremely high urban poverty rates, while Kerala, Goa, and Himachal Pradesh maintain low levels. The analysis underscores a notable decline in urban poverty from 49.01% in 1970-71 to 13.7% in 2022-23, attributed to various governmental programs and policies. Key initiatives like PMAY-U, SBM-U, NULM, Smart City Mission, AMRUT, PMJDY, Ayushman Bharat, and NFSA have played crucial roles in providing affordable housing, sanitation, healthcare, and financial inclusion to the urban poor. Despite these efforts, the study identifies ongoing challenges requiring adaptive strategies to address the dynamic nature of urban poverty. This research aims to offer insights into effective measures for urban poverty alleviation and sustainable urban development, emphasizing the need for continuous and innovative approaches to improve the living conditions of the urban poor in India.

KEYWORDS: *Urban Poverty, Regional Variations, Temporal Variations, Urbanization, Slum, Economic.*

Introduction

India, with its vast and diverse society, is facing various socio-economic challenges, among which urban poverty is a major problem. urban poverty is complex not only from the economic perspective but also from the social, environmental and political perspectives. This research is presented with the objective of 'Geographical analysis of spatial and temporal variations in urban poverty in India', in which various dimensions of urban poverty will be analyzed with data and facts. India's urban population is growing rapidly. According to the 2011 census, about 31.16% of the country's total population lives in cities, and this figure has increased to 34.93% in 2021. This growth is increasing the demand for infrastructure in urban areas. In 2021, India's urban population was about 48 crores, out of which about 10 crore people were living below the urban poverty line.

Spatial variations of urban poverty depend on various factors, such as geographical location, economic activities, availability of infrastructure, and socio-cultural factors. About 41.3% of the population in Mumbai lives in slums. Dharavi, Asia's largest slum, is located in this city. About 20% of the population in Delhi lived in slums in 2021, and these areas lack basic amenities. The slum population in Kolkata is about 30% of the total population. Overcrowding, waterlogging, and lack of health services are major problems in Kolkata. In Chennai, as of 2011, about 28.9% of the people lived in slums.

Patterns of urban poverty change over time, and are influenced by various economic reforms, policy changes, and external economic and environmental events. Employment opportunities in urban areas increased after the 1991 economic reforms, but the problems of poor workers working in the unorganized sector also increased. The global financial crisis of 2008 affected the incomes of the urban poor, leading to a decline in their standard of living. The COVID-19 pandemic further complicated the situation of the urban poor. In April 2020, the lockdown rendered nearly 12 crore people unemployed, a large proportion of whom were urban poor.

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Objectives

The objectives of the presented research are as follows:

- To study the spatial pattern of urban poverty in India? Under which an analytical study of urban poverty has been done in different states of India.
- To do an analytical study of what temporal changes have taken place in the status of urban poverty in India over time.
- What are the main factors affecting urban poverty in India and what is their impact on different geographical locations?
- What measures can be taken to solve urban poverty in India? To present suggestions for this.

Data Sources & Research Methodology

The presented research work is completely based on secondary data. Under this research, the researcher has used the census data of the year 2011, reports of National Sample Survey Organization on the subject of ' urban poverty and Employment', reports of NITI Aayog, reports of Reserve Bank of India, and data used in various research works. All the above data has been obtained from the official website of the concerned institutions. This research paper is based on descriptive, analytical and comparative research methods. While under the descriptive research method, the researcher has presented the details of the facts related to the spatial and temporal variations of urban poverty in India, on the other hand, analytical research method has been used to assess the spatial and temporal variations of urban poverty in India in a more nuanced way. Similarly, comparative research method was used to compare the spatial and temporal variations of urban poverty in India.

Finding and Discussion

Analysis of this table based on the number and percentage of people living below the urban poverty line in India in 2022-23 shows that there is a wide variation in the level of urban poverty across different states and union territories.

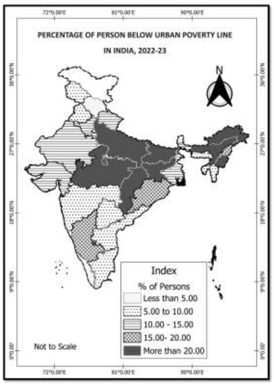
- **Extremely High Urban Poverty (more than 20 percent):** States with very high urban poverty include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh and Chandigarh. The percentage of urban poverty in these states is more than 20 percent. Bihar has the highest urban poverty rate with 31.23 percent of people, while Manipur has it at 32.59 percent. Uttar Pradesh has 26.06 percent of people below the urban poverty line, which is 11884 thousand in number, which is the highest among all states.
- **High Urban Poverty (more than 15 to 20 percent):** States with high urban poverty include Karnataka, Nagaland, Odisha and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, where the percentage of urban poverty is between 15 to 20 percent. Karnataka has 15.25 percent of people below the urban poverty line, which is 3696 thousand in number.
- **Moderate Urban Poverty (more than 10 to 15 percent):** States with moderate urban poverty include Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Daman & Diu, where the percentage of urban poverty is between 10 and 15 percent. In West Bengal, 14.66 percent people are below the urban poverty line, which is 4383 thousand in number. In Gujarat, this rate is 10.14 percent, which is 2688 thousand in number.
- **Low Urban Poverty (more than 5.00 to 10.00 percent):** States with low urban poverty include Andhra Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Delhi and Puducherry, where the percentage of urban poverty is between 5 and 10 percent. In Maharashtra, 9.12 percent people are below the urban poverty line, which is 4736 thousand in number. In Delhi, this rate is 9.84 percent, which is 1646 thousand in number.
- **Extremely Low Urban Poverty (Less than 5 percent):** States with very low urban poverty include Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep, where the urban poverty rate is less than 5 percent. In Kerala, 4.97 percent of people are below the urban poverty line, which is 846 thousand in number. In Sikkim, this rate is 3.66 percent, which is 6 thousand in number. The urban poverty rate in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is zero.

A total of 53125 thousand people are below the urban poverty line in India, which is 13.7 percent of the total population of the country.

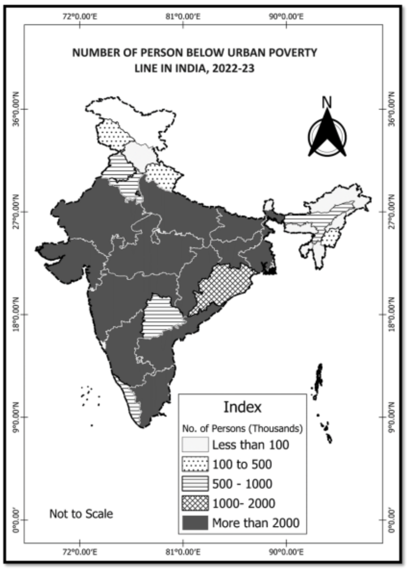
Table 1: Number and Percentage of Population below Urban Poverty Line, 2022-23

Urban Poverty Level	State/Union Territory	No. of Persons (Thousands)	% of Persons
Extremely High urban poverty (more than 20 percent)	Arunachal Pradesh	66	20.33
	Assam	921	20.49
	Bihar	3775	31.23
	Chhattisgarh	1522	24.75
	Jharkhand	2024	24.83
	Madhya Pradesh	4310	21.00
	Manipur	278	32.59
	Uttar Pradesh	11884	26.06
	Chandigarh	234	22.31
High urban poverty (more than 15 to 20 percent)	Karnataka	3696	15.25
	Nagaland	100	16.48
	Odisha	1239	17.29
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	28	15.38
Moderate urban poverty (more than 10 to 15 percent)	Gujarat	2688	10.14
	Haryana	941	10.28
	Rajasthan	1873	10.69
	Uttarakhand	335	10.48
	West Bengal	4383	14.66
	Daman and Diu	26	12.62
Low urban poverty (more than 5.00 to 10.00 percent)	Andhra Pradesh	1698	5.81
	Jammu & Kashmir	253	7.2
	Maharashtra	4736	9.12
	Meghalaya	57	9.26
	Mizoram	37	6.36
	Punjab	982	9.24
	Tamil Nadu	2340	6.54
	Telangana	938	6.8
	Tripura	75	7.42
	Delhi	1646	9.84
	Puducherry	55	6.3
Extremely low urban poverty (Less than 5 percent)	Goa	38	4.09
	Himachal Pradesh	30	4.33
	Kerala	846	4.97
	Sikkim	6	3.66
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0
	Lakshadweep	2	3.44
All India		**53125**	**13.7**

Source: Reserve Bank of India. (2024).



Map 1



Map 2

According to Table 2, India has seen significant changes in the number and percentage of population living below the urban poverty line from 1970-71 to 2022-23. According to this table, the number of people living below the urban poverty line in 1970-71 was 60,046 thousand, which was 49.01 percent of the total population. This extremely high percentage shows that urban poverty was a serious problem in India at that time. In 1980-81, the number of people living below the urban poverty line increased to 70,940 thousand, but in percentage terms it decreased to 40.79 percent. This indicates that although the number increased, there was some improvement in the proportion of the total population.

In 1990-91, the number of people living below the urban poverty line was 76,337 thousand, which was 32.36 percent of the total population. This shows that the percentage of urban poverty had reduced substantially in the last decade, but the numbers continued to rise. The number of people living below the urban poverty line declined to 67,007 thousand in 2000-01, which was 23.62 percent of the total population. This decade was a time of significant improvement in urban poverty alleviation efforts, as there was a reduction in numbers as well as in percentage.

The number of people living below the urban poverty line again increased to 76,470 thousand in 2010-11, which was 20.9 percent of the total population. Although there was a reduction in percentage terms, the increase in numbers showed that there was a need to further strengthen urban poverty alleviation efforts. The number of people living below the urban poverty line declined to 53,125 thousand in 2022-23, which was 13.7 percent of the total population. This shows that the efforts made in the last decades have led to a significant reduction in urban poverty. These figures also show that although urban poverty still remains a major challenge, there has been a significant improvement over time.

The reduction in the percentage of urban poverty during this period reflects the impact of social and economic policies. Various urban poverty alleviation programmes, social welfare schemes and economic reforms initiated by the government have played an important role.

Table 2: Number and Percentage of Population below Urban Poverty Line in India, 2022-23 to 1970-71

Year	No. of Persons (Thousands)	% of Persons
1970-71	60046	49.01
1980-81	70940	40.79
1990-91	76337	32.36
2000-01	67007	23.62
2010-11	76470	20.9
2022-23	53125	13.7

Source: Reserve Bank of India. (2024).

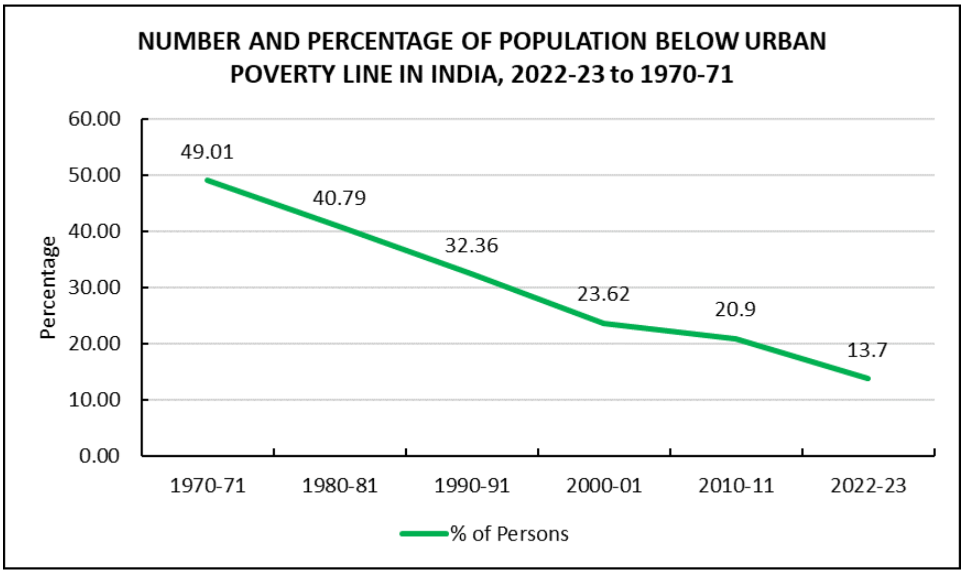


Diagram 1

Causes of Poverty in India

Urban poor in India have arisen primarily due to the overflow of poor from rural areas to urban areas, these migrant people come from rural areas to urban areas in search of alternative employment and livelihood, and settle here. Often the lack of infrastructure in rural areas is a major 'push factor', which forces rural people to migrate to urban areas, while on the contrary, the ever-increasing industrialization in urban areas is a major 'pull factor', which rapidly attracts rural workers, due to which a situation of uneven development has arisen and this has given impetus to migration. Every day in India, millions of people migrate to cities for informal jobs such as domestic help, driving cars for middle class people, driving taxis, working at construction sites, etc.

Another major problem promoting urban poverty in India is the lack of opportunities and skill training for most of the working age group. Over the years, this has resulted in a lack of adequate investment in quality education and basic services like health, sanitation, waste management and skills training. This has led to generations of malnourished, uneducated, unhoused and unskilled or semi-skilled people who find it difficult to get well-paid jobs.

Due to the lack of affordable housing, these people do not have any address on paper. They settle wherever they can, but as more people join in, a whole community of undocumented people emerges. This further complicates the process of accessing basic services like electricity, water and sanitation as public machinery can only serve those registered on paper, leaving millions of people deprived of government welfare schemes and thus setting in urban poverty.

Overcrowding in informal settlements is another major cause. Each illegal building often has only one toilet for 50 to 100 people, and lack of awareness about personal hygiene practices exposes families to diseases and infections.

Unemployment and the intermittent nature of work in urban areas lead to indebtedness, which ultimately reinforces urban poverty. Unemployment refers to an economic condition in which a person who is actively seeking employment is unable to find work. Underemployment is a situation where there is a mismatch between employment opportunities and the level of skills and education of workers.

Efforts taken by the Government to Reduce urban poverty in India

The Government has implemented several important programmes and policies to reduce urban poverty in India. These efforts aim to empower the urban poor through economic, social and basic amenities. Here are some of the major efforts in detail:

- **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (PMAY-U):** This scheme was launched on 25 June 2015. It aims to provide affordable housing to all by 2022. Under PMAY-U, permanent houses are provided to the urban poor through four verticals:
  - **Slum Redevelopment:** Rehabi litation housing for those living in slum areas.
  - **Credit-linked Subsidy:** Interest subsidy on home loans to beneficiaries.
  - **Affordable Housing Partnership:** Construction of affordable housing through government agencies.
  - **Beneficiary-led Construction:** Financial assistance for construction of housing on own land.

At present, construction of 1.12 crore houses has been sanctioned under this scheme, out of which more than 50 lakh houses have been completed.

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) (SBM-U):** This scheme was launched on 2 October 2014 on the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Its objective is to promote cleanliness and sanitation in urban areas. Under SBM-U, construction of toilets and solid waste management has been arranged for the urban poor. Under this mission, 66 lakh individual household toilets and 6 lakh community and public toilets have been built.
- **National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM):** This scheme was launched on 23 September 2013. Its objective is to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for the urban poor. Under this:
  - **Skill Development:** Training in various trades to the urban poor.
  - **Self-Employment:** Financial assistance through self-help groups (SHGs).
  - **Employment Generation:** Financial and technical support for micro enterprises. Under NULM, more than 10 lakh SHGs have been formed so far and more than 5 lakh people have been given skill development training.
- **Smart City Mission:** This scheme was launched on 25 June 2015. Its objective is to make cities smart and sustainable. It includes improving urban infrastructure, adopting smart solutions and providing better facilities to the urban poor. Under the 100 Smart City projects, comprehensive improvements are being made in urban areas.
- **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT):** This scheme was launched on 25 June 2015. Its objective is to develop infrastructure in 500 cities, including drinking water, sewerage, urban transport and green areas. Under AMRUT, more than 3 crore houses have been given drinking water connections and 2.5 crore houses have been given sewerage connections.
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** This scheme was started on 28 August 2014. Under this, an attempt has been made to connect the urban poor with banking services. So far more than 42 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been opened, out of which 55 percent of the account holders are women.
- **National Health Protection Scheme (Ayushman Bharat):** This scheme was started on 23 September 2018. Its objective is to provide health services to the urban poor through health insurance. Under this, more than 10 crore families have been provided annual health insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh.
- **National Food Security Act (NFSA):** This Act was started on 5 July 2013. Under this, food grains are made available to the urban poor at affordable rates, so that their food security can be ensured. Under NFSA, food grains are being distributed to more than 80 crore people.
- **Digital India:** This initiative was started on 1 July 2015. Its objective is to connect the urban poor with digital services, so that they can take advantage of government schemes and improve their economic condition. Under Digital India, more than 45 crore Jan Dhan accounts have been linked to Aadhaar and mobile.
- **Street Vendors (Protection and Regulation) Act, 2014:** This Act was introduced on 4 March 2014. Its objective is to protect the rights of street vendors in urban areas and regulate their businesses, thereby securing their livelihood. Under this Act, vending zones have been created in urban areas.

Conclusion

The comprehensive analysis of urban poverty in India reveals significant variations across different states and union territories, with some regions experiencing extremely high levels of urban poverty while others have managed to maintain low levels. The data indicates that states like Bihar, Manipur, and Uttar Pradesh are grappling with high urban poverty rates exceeding 20%, highlighting the need for targeted interventions. Conversely, states such as Kerala, Goa, and Himachal Pradesh exhibit urban poverty rates below 5%, demonstrating the effectiveness of their urban poverty alleviation measures. Over the decades, there has been a noteworthy decline in the overall percentage of the population living below the urban poverty line, from 49.01% in 1970-71 to 13.7% in 2022-23, showcasing the positive impact of various social and economic policies.

The Indian government has implemented several pivotal programs to combat urban poverty, such as PMAY-U, SBM-U, NULM, Smart City Mission, AMRUT, PMJDY, Ayushman Bharat, and NFSA. These initiatives focus on providing affordable housing, improving sanitation and health services, enhancing livelihood opportunities, and ensuring food security. The integration of digital services through the Digital India initiative has further empowered the urban poor by facilitating access to various welfare schemes. Despite these efforts, challenges remain, necessitating continuous and adaptive strategies to address the dynamic nature of urban poverty. The ongoing commitment to these programs, coupled with innovative solutions, will be crucial in achieving sustainable urban development and urban poverty reduction in India.

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IMPACT OF TALENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES ON EMPLOYEE AND ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE

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ABSTRACT

Talent Management is required in the day-to-day business activities of the institution. In (2005) in its global survey, Accenture justified the requirement of talent management. As per the survey attracting and retaining talent is the third biggest concern of senior business executives coming after the health of the worldwide economy and uncertainties over the competition. Many studies revealed that the problem of competition may also be tackled to some extent by talent management because by applying talent management strategies competitive advantage is gained. To beat changing workforce demographics and changing economic conditions and to realize long-run organizational success talent management is extremely important. Survival and growth of the institution in today's competitive scenario depend to an excellent extent on the talent management practices being implemented by them since employee performance and organizational performance seem to be influenced by the kinds and quality of talent management practices. The education sector is the key to a nation's growth because it helps in building and nurturing the human capital of the country. In Education institutions, the satisfaction of patients is one of the foremost important goals. The way to accomplish this objective may be a drawn-in and skillful workforce. For this the foremost critical thing is discovering, creating, and keeping the correct employees. Employees with specialized capabilities, like the conduct skills and the structure and procedures to assist them are required. That's the reason businesses in the educational services division revealed fundamentally more ability administration worries than associations in numerous areas of the economy. Numbers of studies are conducted on Talent Management by various scholars and behaviorists. But from the existing literature review, it was found that hardly any comprehensive study has been conducted to search out the impact of talent management practices on employee and organizational performance.

KEYWORDS: *Talent, Management, Innovation, Economies, Accomplishment, Obstruction, Achievement.*

Introduction

Capital, business processes, innovative technology, supportive culture are important to run a business. But all the above said is managed by people. Thus, employees are said to be the foremost important asset of the organization. It's employees of the organization, who utilize the business capital to come up with profits, develop business processes and cultures and simplify the work by innovating something new. This suggests that the corporation's workers, the higher the organization will perform. In any case, there's a general conviction that globalization and the improvement of learning economies are prompting a scarcity of managerial talent. Today's workforce is more mobile contrasted with

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the past. The procedure of globalization, combined with innovative advancement has prevented worldwide obstructions along these lines empowering the making of a situation where the trading of information and ease of movement has the quality. This successively prompted the formation of more prominent desires and requests on vocations contrasted with previous generations. This has put pressure on employers to finish up more receptive to ability requests and this can be the motivation behind why we require talent management. Numerous talented individuals join an institution with a fantasy for accomplishment, achievement, and professional development, yet in the later phase of their vocation, they understand and encounter the real culture of the organization and a major number of them feel disregarded and frustrated. Additionally, recent trends in the corporate atmosphere incorporate virtual groups, information institutions, adaptable work hours, remote workstations, unforeseen employees, and more dependence on mobile technology. These patterns are changing the employee-employer relationship and making it more troublesome for the institutions to pander to the flexibility management process.

Need of Talent Management

Talent management is emerging as the most significant process in a corporation. Without this, no company can survive. Human capital is thought to be the foremost important asset of a corporation. The reason for this is often the increasing role of services in our economy. Rather than brick and mortar companies we've got service providers where the most asset of the organization isn't the machinery or tools, but human capital. We adopt numerous means to acquire and manage capital so why not apply management practices to human capital. Human capital is managed only with the assistance of talent management practices. Thus, the scope of talent management is increasing expeditiously. There are three main objectives of Talent Management which are as follows:

- To identify, select and cultivate employees that demonstrate superior performance and encourage others to perform;
- To find, develop and position highly qualified backups i.e., succession planning; and
- To disseminate resources like mentoring, training, compensations, etc. to employees supported their competencies."

Thus, it is said that talent management's main objective is to manage the employee's lifecycle in the organization and to search out a substitute on his retirement. In this manner, it's easy to put the right people having the required skill sets at the right place where they will utilize those skills and perform their best. This helps in meeting the organization's current and future needs. So indirectly talent management's objective is to make sure the continual functioning of the organization. The scope of talent management is incredibly wide. It starts even before an employee joins the organization, it continues during the service period of the employee and it remains even when an employee leaves the organization.

Objective of Study

- To identify the organizational and demographic factors affecting Talent Management Practices in the Indian Education sector.
- To examine the impact of Talent Management Practices on Employee's Performance in the Indian Education Sector.
- To examine the impact of Talent Management Practices on Organizational Performance in the Indian Education Sector.

Review of Literature

Anand (2004) conducted a study to know the talent management innovation, practices, and processes in a very major telecom company in India, Bharti Airtel. Comprehensive interviews of HR executives and Airtel database are employed to grasp the talent management practices which were running in the company and to understand the rate of attrition. A Survey of quite 100 employees of Airtel was done to understand the employee's perception toward the talent management practices. Data was analyzed by way of statistical tools such as co-relation and percentage, mean. The research revealed that the "process of effective management of the talent pool ends up in enhanced employee effectiveness and reduced attrition. Talent management is a vital element of the event process for workers and is an organization-wide practice.

Tiwari & Shrivastava (2013) studied the impact of talent management strategies and practices on employee retention and employee effectiveness in Avera T&D Lmt in India. For the study survey was through with the assistance of a structured questionnaire. Two kinds of questionnaires were created, one was for executives of the corporate and the second for the HR executives of the corporate. Data was collected by the way of sampling. Percentage, chi squire test, and analysis of variance were tools utilized in data analysis. The study revealed that talent management practices like talent acquisition and talent development (by providing them the opportunities for growth and development through proper guidance and feedback) helps in talent retention. Pay differentiation helps in motivating the staff to perform better. Succession management is incredibly useful in filling executive positions throughout the institution.

Mitra, Gupta, and Shaw (2011) during a study of 214 institutions found that a skill-based pay plan results in a positive workforce attitude towards the work. Survey-based study in which data was collected with the assistance of a questionnaire and analyzed with the assistance of assorted leveled multivariate analysis and partial least square techniques. Skill-based pay plans compared with market-based play plans were also found to possess a positive relationship with workforce membership behavior and workforce attitudes mediate this relationship. Likewise, workforce flexibility mediates the positive relationship between skill-based plans and workforce productivity.

Singh and Sabbarwal (2010) in exploratory research supported survey in the Education sector bring into being that due to increasing emphasis on intangible assets like brand names, creativity, and entrepreneurship, innovation, success will make love the businesses which will produce the foremost essential resource that's the staff of the organization. The study revealed that “even the vision and strategy of a corporation aren't as important because those that drive the corporate into the longer term.” in keeping with the study talent may be managed only it is often measured. Therefore, the study identified a measurable set of things that constitute talent that is supported response of private and public sector employees.

As per the report of **HR Community (2008)**, there are three major stages to the Talent Management process these are a) Preparation b) Identification of Talent and c) Management of Talent. The target of the preparation stage is to confirm that the community is prepared to undertake the method and have the acceptable resources, context, and materials to try effectively. the target of the second stage i.e. identification of Talent is to capture a broad picture of the HR Community by determining key or critical positions in the HR community and identifying existing department talent. The ultimate stage management of talent is Management of talent includes succession planning, assessment, development, and high potential management.

Scope of the Study

The key resource of each organization is its employees and also the success of the organization depends on the available resources. Talent management could be due to managing the foremost important resource of the organization. This study will help in identifying the requirement and importance of talent management, especially in the Education sector which can help these institutions to higher manage their resources and supply services more efficiently. This could ultimately lead to better Education facilities for the society as a full. Moreover, the institution is in continuous rivalry with one another to draw in talent globally. This study of talent management will help in overcoming the challenges related to attracting, developing, and retaining talent in changing periods. Further, the findings of the study can be of great interest to future scholars.

Research Methodology

The present study is descriptive and exploratory because the study describes the present talent management practices in the Education sector and also seeks to explore the effect of talent management practices on employee and organizational performance. The sources of information collection are primary and secondary. Primary data for the aim of the study is collected through questionnaires by employees of various Education institutions. The researcher tried to make sure that the samples are randomly taken and also tried to make sure that the sample will represent the population by selecting the respondents from different departments and divisions of the various institutions.

Results and Analysis

The objective of the study was to search out the factors affecting talent attraction practices. to seek out organizational and demographic factors that affect talent management practices "t-test" has been used, as given below in table

Table 1: Mean, Standard Deviation and value of talent management practices of employees working in public and private education institution

Talent Management Practices	Type of Institutions	N	Mean	S.D.	't' Value	Level of Significance
Talent Attraction Practices	Public Education Institution	200	23.15	4.95	2.815	Significant at 0.01 level
	Private Education Institution	200	19.15	4.88		
Talent Motivation Practices	Public Education Institution	200	21.26	4.10	3.158	Significant at 0.01 level
	Private Education Institution	200	21.23	4.10		
Talent Deployment Practices	Public Education Institution	200	19.56	4.10	3.232	Significant at 0.01 level
	Private Education Institution	200	16.92	4.01		
Talent Development Practices	Public Education Institution	200	17.15	3.95	0.815	Not Significant
	Private Education Institution	200	19.26	2.87		
Talent Retention Practices	Public Education Institution	200	22.15	3.15	2.815	Significant at 0.01 level
	Private Education Institution	200	21.12	3.54		

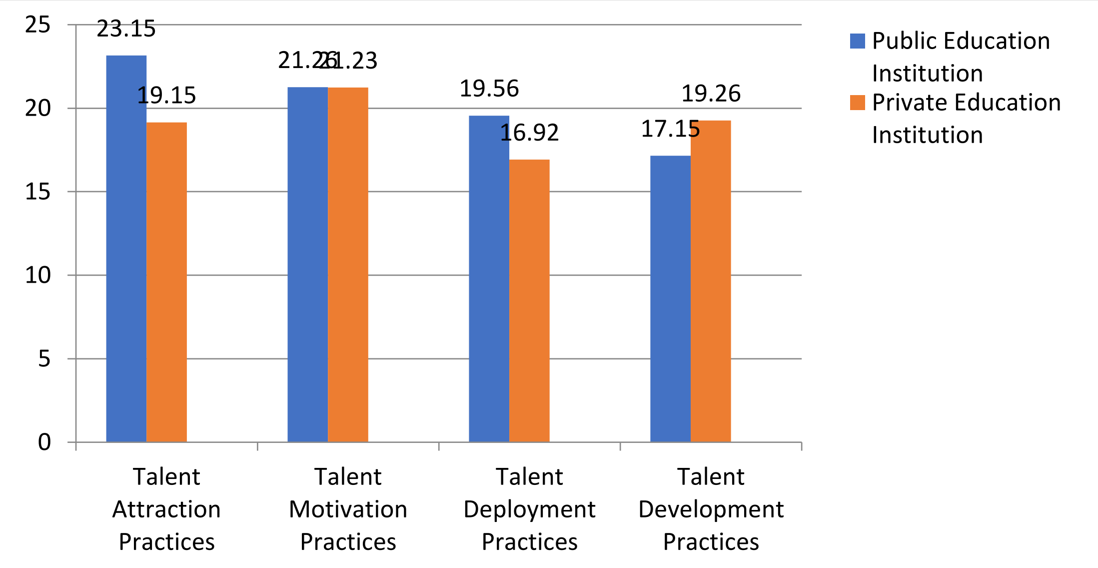

Chart: Chart Showing mean values of Private and Public Sector Employees

The mean score of talent motivation practices among employees functioning at public and private Education institutions are 23.15 and 19.15 respectively. The calculated value for 398 degrees of freedom is 2.815 which is over the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means talent attraction practices get impacted with the kind of organization as there's a big difference in talent attraction practices among employees of public and private sector institutions. The lower mean score of private-sector employees shows that talent attraction practices impact them over their counterparts.

The next section of the table shows that the mean score of talent motivation practices among employees performing at public and private Education institutions are 21.26 and 21.23 respectively. The calculated value for 398 degrees of freedom is 3.158 which is quite the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means talent motivation practices get impacted with the kind of organization as there's a big difference in talent motivation practices among employees of public and private education institutions. The lower mean score of private-sector employees shows that talent motivation practices impact them over their counterparts.

The next part of the table shows that the mean score of talent deployment practices among employees performing at public and private Education institutions are 19.56 and 16.92 respectively. The calculated value for 398 degrees of freedom is 3.232 which is over the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means talent deployment practices get impacted with the sort of organization as there's a major difference in talent development practices among employees of Public and Private Education institutions. The lower mean score of private-sector employees shows that talent deployment practices impact them quite their counterparts.

The next section of the table shows that the mean score of talent development practices among employees functioning at public and private Education institutions are 17.15 and 19.26 respectively. The calculated value for 398 degrees of freedom is 0.815 which is a smaller amount than the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means talent development practices has not impacted the kind of organization as there's no significant difference in talent development practices among employees of Public and Private Education Institution.

The last part of the table shows that the mean score of talent retention practices among employees performing at public and private Education institutions are 22.15 and 21.12 respectively. The calculated value for 398 degrees of freedom is 2.815 which is over the table value 1.96 at 0.05 and 2.58 at 0.01 level of significance. It means talent retention practices get impacted with the kind of organization as there's a big difference in talent retention practices among employees of Public and Private Education institutions. The lower mean score of private-sector employees shows that talent retention practices impact them quite their counterparts.

Four out of 5 practices get impacted by the kind of institution. So, organization type emerged out as an element that affects talent management practices. Talent management practices are better in private institutions as compared with public institutions.

Conclusion

On the strength of research and interpretation of knowledge and discussion of results, now the researcher is in a position to draw some conclusions. Therefore, this research paper deals with the most findings, discussion of results, educational implications, and suggestions for further research that are presented in the same sequence. The findings of this study are imperative to be applied to service sector employees to an outsized extent. Acknowledgment of talent management and related practices can increase employee commitment and may fabricate long-run and shut intuitive association with customers. Our findings implied that employee yet as organizational performance level may well be positively led by the talent attraction practices, talent motivation practices, talent deployment and career management practices, talent learning and developmental practices, and talent retention practices. The study implies that organizations should encourage a company culture that may improve employees' creativity, promote teamwork and make them feel associated. So, it's additionally proposed that higher authorities should encourage advancement by developing and maintaining a hierarchical atmosphere that sustains retention efforts among individual employees to fabricate a powerful relationship between talent management practices and employees and organizational performance. Also, the study implies that organizations should work on employee learning and development because healthcare is a consistently evolving sector and people's lives are at stake. Organizations should help employees remain updated about best practices, best treatments and help them to perform better.

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SPIRITUAL TOURISM IN RAJASTHAN: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF CULTURE, RELIGION, AND ECONOMY

Dr. Anuradha Sharma*

ABSTRACT

This research paper delves into the realm of spiritual tourism in Rajasthan, a state renowned for its rich cultural heritage and historical significance in India. It explores the intricate intersection of culture, religion, and economy within the context of spiritual tourism. Rajasthan, with its myriad temples, palaces, and sacred sites, offers a unique blend of spirituality and cultural allure, attracting tourists from across the globe. The study examines how spiritual tourism contributes to the local economy, fostering economic development while preserving and promoting cultural and religious traditions. Through a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including surveys, interviews, and case studies, the paper highlights the motivations and experiences of spiritual tourists, the role of local communities, and the economic impact on the region. The findings reveal that spiritual tourism not only serves as a vital economic driver but also as a means of cultural preservation and religious expression. The paper concludes with recommendations for sustainable tourism practices that balance economic benefits with cultural and religious integrity, ensuring the long-term prosperity of spiritual tourism in Rajasthan.

KEYWORDS: *Spiritual Tourism, Cultural Heritage, Economy.*

Introduction

Rajasthan, the largest state in India, is a land of vibrant colors, majestic palaces, and timeless traditions. Known for its rich cultural heritage and historical significance, it is also a prominent destination for spiritual tourism. The concept of spiritual tourism involves traveling to places considered sacred or spiritually significant, with the aim of experiencing a sense of connection, enlightenment, or tranquility. In Rajasthan, spiritual tourism is a thriving sector, intertwining the elements of culture, religion, and economy in a unique tapestry that draws millions of visitors annually. The state's spiritual tourism landscape is dotted with a plethora of temples, mosques, gurudwaras, and other sacred sites, each narrating tales of devotion and architectural grandeur. Prominent destinations such as Pushkar, Ajmer, Nathdwara, and Mount Abu attract devotees and tourists alike, offering a blend of spiritual solace and cultural exploration. Pushkar, with its sacred lake and the only Brahma temple in the world, is a focal point for Hindu pilgrims. Ajmer Sharif Dargah, the shrine of Sufi saint Moinuddin Chishti, attracts followers of Islam from across the globe. Nathdwara's Shrinathji Temple is a major pilgrimage site for Vaishnavites, while Mount Abu hosts the renowned Dilwara Temples, epitomes of Jain architectural excellence. Spiritual tourism in Rajasthan is not merely about visiting these sites; it is an immersive experience that encompasses rituals, festivals, and local traditions. The annual Pushkar Camel Fair, for instance, is a blend of religious rituals and cultural festivities, drawing thousands of pilgrims and tourists. Similarly, the Urs festival at Ajmer Sharif Dargah commemorates the death anniversary of the Sufi saint with prayers, music, and communal meals, fostering a sense of spiritual community and cultural unity. The economic

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impact of spiritual tourism in Rajasthan is substantial. It generates revenue through various channels, including accommodation, transportation, food and beverage, souvenirs, and guided tours. Local artisans and craftsmen benefit from the influx of tourists, as their handicrafts and traditional goods find a ready market. Additionally, spiritual tourism creates employment opportunities for local communities, ranging from tour guides and hotel staff to vendors and performers. This economic infusion is particularly significant in rural areas, where alternative sources of income may be limited. However, the rapid growth of spiritual tourism also poses challenges. The influx of tourists can strain local infrastructure, leading to issues such as overcrowding, pollution, and degradation of natural and cultural sites. Moreover, the commercialization of sacred sites can dilute their spiritual essence and disrupt traditional practices. Balancing the economic benefits of tourism with the need to preserve cultural and religious integrity is a delicate task that requires careful planning and sustainable practices. To address these challenges, it is essential to adopt a holistic approach to tourism management. This involves engaging local communities in decision-making processes, promoting eco-friendly practices, and ensuring that tourism development aligns with the preservation of cultural and spiritual values. The role of government and tourism authorities is crucial in regulating and promoting sustainable tourism practices that protect the interests of both the tourists and the host communities.

In conclusion, spiritual tourism in Rajasthan is a multifaceted phenomenon that intersects culture, religion, and economy in intricate ways. It offers a unique opportunity to experience the spiritual and cultural richness of the region while contributing to its economic development. By adopting sustainable tourism practices, it is possible to ensure that spiritual tourism continues to thrive, benefiting both the local communities and the visitors who seek solace and enlightenment in this enchanting land.

Literature Review

Spiritual tourism in Rajasthan, a state renowned for its historical and cultural richness, represents a compelling intersection of culture, religion, and economy. This literature review synthesizes research up to 2017, offering insights into how these elements converge and impact the region's tourism landscape.

Cultural and Religious Significance

Rajasthan's cultural and religious significance is a major draw for spiritual tourists. Sharma and Sharma (2010) emphasize that sites such as the Brahma Temple in Pushkar, the Ajmer Sharif Dargah, and the Shrinathji Temple in Nathdwara are central to the state's appeal. These sites are not only revered for their spiritual importance but also for their historical and architectural grandeur, reflecting Rajasthan's rich heritage. Bhardwaj (2011) highlights how cultural festivals like the Pushkar Camel Fair and the Urs at Ajmer Sharif enhance the tourism experience by blending spiritual rituals with vibrant cultural celebrations. Such events attract both pilgrims and cultural tourists, thereby enriching the visitor experience.

Pilgrimage and Spiritual Motivation

The motivation for spiritual tourism in Rajasthan is deeply rooted in the quest for spiritual fulfillment and religious connection. Desai (2012) discusses how pilgrimage sites such as Mount Abu's Dilwara Temples and Nathdwara's Shrinathji Temple offer more than just places of worship; they provide immersive spiritual experiences. Singh and Singh (2013) note that tourists are often driven by a desire for personal spiritual growth, seeking solace and divine connection through their visits. This motivation not only fosters spiritual enrichment but also enhances the cultural engagement of tourists, as they often participate in local rituals and traditions.

Economic Impact

The economic impact of spiritual tourism in Rajasthan is substantial and multifaceted. Gupta (2014) provides evidence of how spiritual tourism stimulates local economies through spending on accommodation, food, transportation, and souvenirs. The revenue generated supports local businesses, from small-scale artisans to hospitality providers. Jain (2015) discusses the economic multiplier effect, where tourism revenue is reinvested into site maintenance and preservation, further attracting tourists. Additionally, spiritual tourism contributes to job creation in various sectors, including retail, services, and cultural enterprises.

However, the economic benefits must be balanced with challenges. The influx of tourists can strain local infrastructure and natural resources, leading to issues such as overcrowding and environmental degradation (Chhabra, 2016). Kulshreshtha (2017) advocates for the implementation of sustainable tourism practices to mitigate these challenges. Emphasizing community involvement in tourism planning, eco-friendly practices, and the protection of cultural and spiritual values are critical for ensuring that tourism benefits are sustainable and equitably distributed.

Community and Cultural Impacts

The involvement of local communities in spiritual tourism is crucial for both the preservation of cultural heritage and the equitable distribution of tourism benefits. According to Patel (2015), local communities play a vital role in maintaining the authenticity of spiritual sites and traditions. Engaging local stakeholders in tourism planning and management helps in preserving cultural practices and ensuring that tourism development aligns with community values.

Furthermore, the impact of tourism on cultural practices and local lifestyles is a significant concern. The commercialization of sacred sites can lead to a dilution of traditional practices and spiritual values (Chopra, 2016). Sustainable tourism strategies must address these concerns by promoting responsible tourism and protecting the integrity of cultural and spiritual traditions.

Rajasthan: A Religious Overview

- **Hinduism**
  - **Major Temples:** Hinduism is a dominant religion in Rajasthan. The state is home to numerous significant temples, such as the Brahma Temple in Pushkar, the Jagmandir Temple in Udaipur, and the Dilwara Temples in Mount Abu. These temples attract devotees and tourists alike due to their religious significance and architectural beauty.
  - **Festivals:** Major Hindu festivals like Diwali, Holi, and Navratri are celebrated with great enthusiasm. These festivals often include processions, fairs, and religious rituals that draw visitors from across India and the world.
- **Islam**
  - **Sufi Shrines:** Rajasthan has a significant Muslim population and is home to important Sufi shrines, such as the Ajmer Sharif Dargah in Ajmer. These shrines are important pilgrimage sites and are visited by people of various faiths seeking blessings and spiritual solace.
  - **Festivals:** Islamic festivals like Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha are celebrated with vibrant communal activities and religious observances.
- **Jainism**
  - **Jain Temples:** Jainism, with its principles of non-violence and asceticism, has a notable presence in Rajasthan. The state features exquisite Jain temples, such as the Dilwara Temples in Mount Abu and the Ranakpur Jain Temple, known for their intricate marble carvings and serene ambiance.
  - **Festivals:** Jain festivals such as Paryushana and Mahavir Jayanti are observed with rituals and prayers that attract devotees.
- **Sikhism**
  - **Gurudwaras:** Although a minority religion in Rajasthan, Sikhism is represented by several Gurudwaras (Sikh temples) across the state, which serve as places of worship and community service.
- **Other Religions**
  - **Buddhism and Other Minor Religions:** While Buddhism is not as prominent, there are some Buddhist sites and communities in Rajasthan. The state's diverse religious landscape includes followers of other minor faiths as well.

Major Spiritual Tourism Destinations in Rajasthan

Temples and Pilgrimage Sites

- **Ajmer Sharif Dargah**
  - **Location**: Ajmer, Rajasthan.
  - **Significance**: The Ajmer Sharif Dargah is the shrine of Garib Nawaz (Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti), a revered Sufi saint. It is one of the most important pilgrimage sites in India for

Muslims and people of other faiths. The Dargah complex includes the tomb of the saint, a mosque, and courtyards.

- **Features**: The Dargah is known for its peaceful atmosphere and the practice of offering chadar (a sheet) at the tomb. Pilgrims come to seek blessings, and the site is known for its spiritual ambiance and historical significance.
- **Festivals**: The annual Urs festival, commemorating the death anniversary of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, draws thousands of devotees and tourists. The event is marked by recitations, qawwalis (Sufi devotional music), and processions.

- **Brahma Temple, Pushkar**
  - **Location**: Pushkar, Rajasthan.
  - **Significance**: This is one of the very few temples dedicated to Lord Brahma, the Hindu god of creation. Pushkar is one of the holiest cities in Hinduism, and the Brahma Temple is a significant pilgrimage site.
  - **Features**: The temple is renowned for its unique architectural style and the sacred Pushkar Lake around which the temple is situated. Pilgrims believe that a dip in the lake can cleanse sins.
  - **Festivals**: The Pushkar Fair, held annually in November, is one of the largest camel and livestock fairs in India. It coincides with the Kartik Purnima, a full moon night, and attracts visitors for its spiritual, cultural, and economic activities.
- **Dilwara Temples**
  - **Location**: Mount Abu, Rajasthan.
  - **Significance**: The Dilwara Temples are a group of Jain temples renowned for their intricate marble carvings and architectural elegance. They are considered some of the finest Jain temples in India.
  - **Features**: The temples include the Vimal Vasahi Temple, dedicated to Adinatha, and the Luna Vasahi Temple, dedicated to Neminatha. The detailed marble work, including delicate sculptures and ornamentation, makes these temples a major attraction for visitors.
  - **Festivals**: Jain festivals such as Paryushana and Mahavir Jayanti are celebrated with great devotion at these temples.
- **Jagmandir Temple**
  - **Location**: Udaipur, Rajasthan.
  - **Significance**: Situated on an island in Lake Pichola, the Jagmandir Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is a part of the larger City Palace complex and is known for its serene setting and historical significance.
  - **Features**: The temple offers panoramic views of the lake and surrounding cityscape. Its architecture features beautiful marble work and provides a tranquil setting for worship and reflection.
  - **Festivals**: Various Hindu festivals are celebrated here, attracting both devotees and tourists.

Festivals and Religious Events

- **Pushkar Fair**
  - **Significance**: The Pushkar Fair, held annually in November, is one of the largest and most famous fairs in India. It is not only a spiritual event but also a major cultural and economic event featuring livestock trading, cultural performances, and local crafts.
  - **Impact on Tourism**: The fair attracts thousands of domestic and international tourists, contributing significantly to the local economy and showcasing Rajasthan's vibrant culture.
- **Urs Festival at Ajmer Sharif**
  - **Significance**: The Urs Festival commemorates the death anniversary of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti. It is a major event for followers of Sufism and includes devotional music, prayers, and communal gatherings.

- **Impact on Tourism**: The festival sees a surge in pilgrim and tourist numbers, impacting local businesses and enhancing the cultural exchange between visitors and locals.

- **Diwali and Holi**
  - **Significance**: Major Hindu festivals like Diwali (Festival of Lights) and Holi (Festival of Colors) are celebrated with great enthusiasm across Rajasthan. These festivals involve elaborate rituals, feasts, and community celebrations.
  - **Impact on Tourism**: These festivals attract tourists who come to experience the vibrant celebrations and traditional customs, contributing to the state's tourism industry.

Intersection of Culture, Religion, and Economy

Cultural Impact

- **Preservation and Promotion of Local Traditions**
  - **Cultural Revival:** Spiritual tourism often leads to the preservation and revival of traditional practices and arts. For example, festivals like the Pushkar Fair and religious events at temples promote traditional music, dance, and crafts. This not only helps in preserving local traditions but also revitalizes interest among younger generations.
  - **Artisan Support:** The influx of tourists creates a market for traditional crafts and textiles. Artisans who create local handicrafts, such as block-printed textiles, pottery, and jewelry, benefit from increased demand. This supports the continuation of traditional skills and techniques that might otherwise be at risk of fading away.
  - **Cultural Exchange:** Spiritual tourism fosters cultural exchange between locals and visitors. Cultural events, festivals, and rituals provide opportunities for tourists to learn about and experience local customs and traditions, fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation.
- **Influence on Local Festivals and Events**
  - **Increased Scale and Scope:** Festivals and religious events often expand in scale and scope due to the influx of tourists. For example, the Pushkar Fair has grown from a local event to an internationally recognized festival, showcasing Rajasthan's cultural richness on a global stage.
  - **Cultural Authenticity:** The need to cater to diverse visitors sometimes leads to the commercialization of cultural practices, which can result in a shift from traditional to more tourist-friendly versions of rituals and festivals.
- **Urban and Rural Development**
  - **Infrastructure Development:** The growth in spiritual tourism often leads to the development of infrastructure, such as roads, hotels, and public amenities, in both urban and rural areas. This development can improve living standards and accessibility for local communities.
  - **Cultural Attractions:** The establishment of cultural centers, museums, and heritage sites enhances the cultural landscape and provides locals with platforms to showcase and promote their heritage.

Religious Significance

- **Promotion of Religious Practices**
  - **Increased Visibility:** Spiritual tourism brings global attention to local religious practices and sites, enhancing their visibility and encouraging the continuation of these practices. For instance, the prominence of Ajmer Sharif Dargah and Pushkar's Brahma Temple attracts devotees from around the world.
  - **Educational Opportunities:** Tourism provides educational opportunities for both locals and visitors to learn about religious traditions, rituals, and philosophies. Temples, ashrams, and spiritual retreats often offer guided tours, lectures, and workshops.

- **Preservation of Sacred Sites**
  - **Conservation Efforts:** Revenue from tourism often contributes to the maintenance and conservation of sacred sites. Funds are used for restoring historic structures, preserving artifacts, and maintaining the cleanliness and sanctity of religious places.
  - **Local Involvement:** Engaging local communities in the management and upkeep of religious sites helps in preserving traditional practices and ensures that the sites remain integral to local culture.
- **Interfaith Harmony**
  - **Dialogue and Understanding:** Spiritual tourism promotes interfaith dialogue by bringing together people of different religious backgrounds. Sites like Ajmer Sharif Dargah, which attract visitors from diverse faiths, exemplify how spiritual tourism can foster mutual respect and understanding.

Economic Impact

- **Tourism Revenue**
  - **Direct Revenue:** Spiritual tourism generates significant revenue through entry fees, donations, and purchases at religious sites and festivals. This revenue supports the maintenance and development of these sites and contributes to the local economy.
  - **Secondary Revenue:** The influx of tourists leads to increased spending in surrounding areas, benefiting local businesses such as hotels, restaurants, and souvenir shops.
- **Job Creation**
  - **Employment Opportunities:** The growth of spiritual tourism creates various job opportunities, including those in hospitality, tour guiding, transportation, and local crafts. This employment helps boost the local economy and provides livelihoods for many individuals.
  - **Skill Development:** The demand for skilled workers in tourism-related sectors leads to training and skill development programs, enhancing the employability of local residents.
- **Local Business Growth**
  - **Business Expansion:** Local businesses, such as handicraft stores and eateries, experience growth due to the increased number of tourists. This expansion helps strengthen the local economy and encourages entrepreneurship.
  - **Investment in Infrastructure:** The development of infrastructure to support tourism, such as improved roads and public facilities, benefits both tourists and residents. This infrastructure investment can enhance the overall quality of life in the region.
- **Economic Diversification**
  - **Alternative Income Sources:** For many communities, spiritual tourism provides an alternative source of income beyond traditional agriculture or trade. This diversification helps stabilize local economies and reduces dependence on a single industry.
  - **Community Development:** The economic benefits of tourism often lead to improved community services, such as healthcare and education, which are funded by tourism revenue and investments.

Findings and Discussion

- **Revival and Preservation of Traditions:** The research found that spiritual tourism in Rajasthan has significantly contributed to the revival and preservation of traditional arts and cultural practices. Festivals like the Pushkar Fair and religious rituals have become more elaborate, showcasing local crafts and performing arts, which helps keep these traditions alive.
- **Increased Artisan Activity:** Artisans involved in traditional crafts, such as block printing and jewelry making, have experienced increased demand for their products. This boost is linked directly to the influx of tourists who purchase souvenirs and handicrafts, thus supporting the continuation of these skills.

- **Enhanced Visibility and Promotion:** Spiritual tourism has increased the visibility of religious sites and practices. Major pilgrimage sites like Ajmer Sharif and Pushkar have attracted global attention, leading to heightened awareness and interest in local religious traditions.
- **Conservation and Maintenance:** Revenue from tourism has contributed to the conservation and maintenance of religious sites. Funds have been allocated for the restoration of historic temples and shrines, helping preserve their cultural and spiritual significance.
- **Revenue Generation:** The economic benefits of spiritual tourism are substantial. Tourist spending at religious sites, festivals, and local businesses has led to significant revenue generation, which supports local economies.
- **Job Creation:** Spiritual tourism has created a range of employment opportunities in hospitality, transportation, and local crafts. This job creation has improved the livelihoods of many residents and contributed to economic stability.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Investments in infrastructure, driven by the needs of tourists, have improved local facilities and transportation networks, benefiting both visitors and residents.
- **Cultural Preservation vs. Commercialization:** The findings indicate that while spiritual tourism supports the preservation of cultural practices, it also leads to commercialization. Traditional festivals and rituals may be altered to appeal to tourists, which can sometimes dilute their authenticity. The challenge is balancing commercial interests with the need to maintain cultural integrity.
- **Promotion of Religious Practices:** The promotion of religious sites through tourism has led to a broader appreciation of local spiritual traditions. This visibility can enhance the global understanding of these practices, fostering greater intercultural respect and engagement.
- **Economic Growth and Challenges:** The economic benefits of spiritual tourism are evident in revenue generation and job creation. However, rapid tourism growth can lead to challenges such as environmental degradation and over-commercialization. It is important to implement sustainable tourism practices that address these challenges while continuing to support economic development.
- **Sustainable Tourism Practices:** To ensure the long-term benefits of spiritual tourism, there is a need for sustainable practices that protect cultural heritage, respect religious sentiments, and minimize environmental impact. Developing guidelines and policies that promote responsible tourism can help achieve these goals.
- **Enhanced Research and Monitoring:** Ongoing research and monitoring are necessary to assess the impact of spiritual tourism and make informed decisions. Continuous evaluation can help address emerging challenges and adapt strategies to evolving needs.

Conclusion

Spiritual tourism in Rajasthan exemplifies a rich intersection of culture, religion, and economy, highlighting the region's prominence as a key spiritual destination. This convergence has been instrumental in preserving and promoting Rajasthan's cultural heritage, with events such as the Pushkar Fair and the activities at religious sites revitalizing traditional arts, crafts, and rituals. The influx of tourists has enhanced the visibility of local customs, although this has sometimes led to commercialization that can impact the authenticity of cultural traditions. Balancing economic benefits with cultural integrity is crucial to maintaining the genuine essence of these practices. The revenue generated from tourism has supported the conservation of these sacred sites, ensuring their preservation for future generations. However, it is important that conservation efforts respect the spiritual significance of these sites for local worshippers and do not overshadow their religious essence. Economically, spiritual tourism has brought substantial benefits, including increased revenue, job creation, and business growth. The development of infrastructure to accommodate tourists has improved local facilities and enhanced the overall visitor experience. By fostering responsible tourism practices and engaging stakeholders in decision-making, Rajasthan can maintain its status as a leading spiritual destination, benefiting its communities and preserving its rich heritage for future generations.

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A STUDY ON ASSESSING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ANTECEDENTS OF OCB OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES OF GUJARAT STATE

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ABSTRACT

Human resources are the most important asset of any organization, Be it corporate or educational institutes. Human resources are source for surviving in this dynamic competitive environment. Teachers are the backbone for university's effectiveness. University teachers today perform a variety of roles which are not part of their Job description. The set of all these positive behaviours undertaken by an employee in any organization is termed as organizational citizenship behaviour The study was undertaken to examine the relationship of Job satisfaction, organizational commitment and Perceived Organizational Support with Organizational Citizenship behaviour as a moderator of University teachers and Organizational Identification as the mediator. For the purpose of this study a structured non disguised questionnaire was distributed to around 200 teachers of engineering and commerce and management teachers of Gujarat state. The data was analyzed with the help of SEM analysis and Descriptive statistics using Amos and Jamovi Software. The findings of the study revealed that Organizational Identification acts a moderator in the assessing the relationship on the three major anteccedents of OCB Used in this Study. It means that higher level of OCB affects the relationship of various anteceedents to organizational effectiveness and the mediator Organizational Identification acts a significant mediator to assess the relationship the jobsatisfaction, Organizational Commitment and Perceived Organizational Support on the effectiveness of the University.

KEYWORDS: *Organizational Citizenship Behaviour, Job satisfaction, Organizational Commitment, Perceived Organizational Support, Emotional Intelligence.*

Introduction

What is Organization

A group of people who cooperate to achieve a common goal is an organization. Organizations often have some type of hierarchy and labour division, or organizational structure. According to George Terry, "Organizing is the establishing of effective authority relationships among selected work, persons, and work places in order for the group to work together efficiently". According to Terry organization is the creation of relationship among persons and work so that it may be carried on in a better and efficient way. Organizations have always been interested in what employees think and feel about their professions, as well as what they are ready to give to the company.

In today's hyper competitive dynamic environment, human service organizations like hospitals, universities, banks etc will be able to enhance, maintain, survive and have the competitive edge over others only with its people. However the major concern here is people are not working to their full potent Regarding college instructors, they are responsible for scientific research, academic advancement, and ideological indoctrination, mentoring and counselling activities of students in addition to their demanding teaching responsibilities. Having teachers that are creative and uphold high standards of professionalism is essential for an organization's growth. The administration of college professors, however, is a significant issue. Being a unique group, they have unique wants; in contrast to material requirements, they are more concerned with spiritual needs, having stronger needs for success and progress.

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In general, teachers are highly independent, highly motivated to accomplish, and have independent values. They place more emphasis on self-realization and pay closer attention to the demonstration of specialisation, self-efficacy, and dedication.

In the lives of each individual and of humanity as a whole, education organisations play a significant role (Kyllonen, 2012). As a result, higher education institutions are responsible for a variety of tasks related to developing the highly trained workforce required for sustainable development (Karlsen et al., 2017; Ajibade, 2013). Additionally, these institutions are well known for their research and innovation-driven work, which guarantees the stability and advancement of human society (Gough & Scott, 2006; Thomson, 2008). By promoting knowledge, concepts, innovations, cultural fusion, and a plethora of other things, higher education institutions help society change (Taylor, 2008; McLaughin, 2007). to continue the self-realization that these institutions are releasing. Most college instructors aspire to be very mobile. In the lives of each individual and of humanity as a whole, education organisations play a significant role (Kyllonen, 2012). As a result, higher education institutions are responsible for a variety of tasks related to developing the highly trained workforce required for sustainable development (Karlsen et al., 2017; Ajibade, 2013). Additionally, these institutions are well known for their research and innovation-driven work, which guarantees the stability and advancement of human society (Gough & Scott, 2006; Thomson, 2008). By promoting knowledge, concepts, innovations, cultural fusion, and a plethora of other things, higher education institutions help society change (Taylor, 2008; McLaughin, 2007). to continue the self-realization that these institutions are releasing. Most college instructors aspire to be very mobile. Organizational effectiveness is a concept that describes how effective an organization is thus employee behaviours that promote individual productivity and organisational efficiency have become even more important in the VUCA environment, when survival depends on acquiring a competitive edge.

Higher Education in India

Higher education, by definition, seeks to impart in-depth knowledge and understanding in order to advance students to new frontiers of knowledge in various walks of life (subject domains). It improves the student's ability to question and seek the truth, as well as their ability to critique. concerning current issues It broadens an individual's intellectual abilities within a specific context. specialisation, but it also provides them with a broader perspective of the world around them (Barnett, 1992). In general, higher education is thought to include teaching, research, and extension. which is usually done at a college or university. Higher education also provides opportunities for lifelong learning, allowing people to update their knowledge and skills as societal needs change (Sudha, 2013). Higher education institutions (HEIs) play an important role in a country's wealth by fostering intellectual capital, economic growth, human capital development, and innovation in a 'knowledge intensive economy' (Ylojoki, 2013; Ylijoki & Ursin, 2013).

India has the world's third largest higher education system, trailing only the United States and China (India country summary of Higher education, World Bank). The University Grants Commission is the main governing body at the tertiary level, and it enforces its standards, advises the government, and helps coordinate between the centre and the states (India, 2009). The University Grants Commission oversees accreditation for higher education through 15 independent institutions (UGC).

As we know that recent trends in higher education focusses on quality of teaching offered to the students. According to Coaldrake and Stedman (1999), until the late nineteenth century, teaching was the major function of universities. But the export of the German model of research and teaching to the UK and the USA led research to become the sine qua non of the University during the 20th century, whereas teaching was often perceived as a second-class activity. But because of the expansion of the higher education sector, the importance of teaching is now being reexamined and reassessed. Furthermore, higher education is increasingly viewed as an investment that will contribute to long-term national prosperity. As a result, the return on investment must be satisfactory (Yorke, 2000). Quality assurance in higher education has also become a focus of emphasis for private colleges (Jones, 2003). Students, who are increasingly paying tuition fees, may now be considered "clients" of higher education institutions (Telford & Masson, 2005). Students are therefore highly concerned about the quality of the courses they pay for. As the "culture of higher education" has become "increasingly market oriented" (Green, 1993), so have external demands for teaching quality. Thus, to stay relevant in this dynamic competitive environment to maintain and enhance university's effectiveness, we need teachers who can willingly and enthusiastically contribute towards maximizing the effectiveness of Organization. University needs teachers who can go extramile in executing work related to the organization.

What is OCB?

According to Organ (1998), It is individual behavior that is discretionary, not directly or explicitly recognized by the formal reward system which, in the aggregate, promotes the effective functioning of the organization. By discretionary, we mean that the behavior is not an enforceable requirement of the role or the job description, that is, the clearly specifiable terms of the person's employment contract with the organization; the behavior is rather a matter of personal choice, such that its omission is not generally understood as punishable. (p. 4)

Katz (1964) termed these behaviors as "innovative and spontaneous activity". He further defined organizational citizenship behavior as "actions not specified by role prescriptions which nevertheless facilitate the accomplishment of organizational goals". Bateman and Organ (1983) used the term OCB for the first time while investigating the association between job satisfaction and performace. Organ (1988), There are 5 forms of citizenship behaviours, Altruism, Courtesy, Conscientiousness, Sportsmanship, Civic-virtue. Altruism is the act of helping a specific other person with a work-related task, Conscientiousness is the act of carrying out duties beyond minimum required levels. A conscientious employee is punctual in performing job duties and follows the spirit of company policies and procedures in the absence of others. Courteous acts enhance the organizational communication system, help prevent problems from occurring, and can mitigate problems. Sportsmanship behaviors are positive when people refrain from doing them, such as not complaining about perceived slights. An employee who engages in sportsmanship behavior focuses on the big picture, avoids unproductive conflicts, and rolls with the punches. Civic virtue, is defined as responsibly participating in organizational meetings and other governance issues.

Significance of the Study

OCB has always been an area of interest for the various OB Practitioners and Psychologists since its inception. The concept was conceptualized by Barnard in 1938, followed by Katz in 1964 followed by bateman and Organ in 1983.Over a period of time the conceptualization of OCB by various scholars have taken a new direction and scope for OCB. Thus, there are numerous studies on OCB that have found their impact on performance, job-satisfaction and overall organization effectiveness. It is a known fact that organizations value employee who are willing to be engaged in extra- role behaviours rather than sticking to their job descriptions. Somech and Oplatka (2014) are of the opinion that OCB is an activity that teachers. involve in outside their pre-defined roles, which is to achieve schools' organizational goals. Teaching is a very noble profession. Teachers have the responsibility of shaping the future generation, hence, it becomes more important for them to engage in roles which extend beyond their predefined job profile.

Podsakoff et. al. (2000) stated OCB as a widely researched area with almost thirty dimensions of OCB being identified by the researchers. The current study has utilized the five dimensions of OCB (Altruism, Courtesy, Civic Virtue, Conscientiousness and Sportsmanship) proposed by Podsakoff et.al. (1990). Besides the purpose of the study is to know the moderation impact of OCB on Job satisfaction, Organizational Commitment and perceived organization support of Private University teachers of Gujarat state.

Theoretical Background

- **Job Satisfaction:** Job satisfaction basically refers to all the positive that a person have about the job. According to Luthans (1998) provides a comprehensive definition of job satisfaction that includes a reaction or attitude of cognitive, affective and evaluative and states that job satisfaction is "emotional state of happiness or positive emotions" which is derived from the assessment of work or work experience of person. Employees who are satisfied with the job work dedicatedly and also go extra mile to for enhancing organizational effectiveness

Organizational Commitment

Organizational commitment, according to Noe (2000), is the degree to which a person is positioning himself in the organization and a willingness to continue the efforts to achieve the interests of the organization. Miller (2003, p 73) also states that organisational commitment is "a state in which an employee identifies with a particular organisation and its goals, and wishes to maintain membership in the organisation". Organisational commitment is therefore, the degree in which an employee is willing to maintain membership due to interest and association with the organisation's goals and values. There are 3 types of Organizational Commitment namely affective, normative and continuance Commitment.

Affective commitment refers to the emotional bond of the employees with the organization. Normative commitment refers to the sense of obligation towards an organization. Continuance commitment refers to staying with an organization mainly for economic needs, because he/she believes that leaving an organization will be costly. Individuals who have low commitment towards the organization, generally wait for an opportunity to leave the organization in search for green pastures.

Organizational Identification

Organizational Identification is the feeling of sense of belongingness towards the organization. Employees who strongly identify with their work organizations are more motivated, more loyal to their organization, and better performers (Bartel, 2001, Blader and Tyler, 2009; Dukerich, Golden, & Shortell, 2002; Ellemers, de Gilder, & Haslam, 2004; Haslam and Ellemers, 2005, Lee et al., 2015; Mael and Ashforth, 1992, Riketta, 2005; Van Knippenberg, 2000; Walumbwa, Avolio, & Zhu, 2008. Organizational Identification is a powerful concept which reshapes the psychology of organizational membership which connects employees to the organization which ultimately enhances organizational effectiveness in the long run.

Perceived Organizational Support

Perceived organization support is the belief by the employees that the Organization's values their contribution and appreciate their efforts as well as take care about the wellbeing of employees. According to Eisenberg, POS is influenced by aspects of the organization's treatment of the employees and can thus influence their interpretation of organization motives, in addition to that, POS would influence employees' expectations of the organization in a wide variety of situations (Tansky and Cohen, 2001).

- **Organizational Effectiveness:** According to Katz and Kahn (1966) effective organizations are those that among other things, elicit "innovative and spontaneous behavior: performance beyond role requirements for accomplishments of organizational functions" (p. 337), which include cooperative acts, expressing ideas for improvement, and promoting a positive organizational climate. They noted that without such behaviors the organizational system would break down. Thus, Organizational effectiveness is defined as as an extent to which an organization achieves its predetermined objectives with the given amount of resources and means without placing undue strain on its members

Research Methodology

Research Design: Research undertaken was explanatory in nature as causal relationship between variables was highlighted through testing of hypothesis. The sample in this study includes 200 teachers of selected engineering and Management Institutes of Gujarat State.

The variables and Indicators used in this study include:

Table 1

Job satisfaction (Independent Variable)	• Intrinsic Satisfaction • Organization Culture • Compensation and Benefits • Recognition
Organizational Commitment (Independent Variable)	• Affective Commitment • Normative Commitment • Continuance Commitment
Perceived Organizational support (Independent Variable)	• Management's support • Supervisor's Support
Organizational Identification (A six item Scale by Mael and Ashforth (1992) was used	
Organizational Citizenship Behaviour (Moderating Variable)	• Altruism • Conscientiousness • Sportsmanship • Civic Virtue • Courtesy
Organizational effectiveness (Dependent Variable)	

Research Objectives

- To assess the impact of various factors of Organizational Citizenship behaviour on Organizational effectiveness
- To examine the relationship of Organizational Identification as the mediator for the relationship between antecedents of OCB and Organizational effectiveness
- To examine the relationship of organizational citizenship behaviour as the moderator for the relationship between antecedents of OCB and Organizational effectiveness.

Research Hypothesis

H_1: There is a positive relationship of OCB as a Moderator on organizational effectiveness of University's teachers

H_2: There is a positive relationship of Organizational Identification as a mediator on the relationship between Jobsatisfaction and Organizational Effectiveness

H_3: There is a positive relationship of Organizational Identification as a mediator on the relationship between Organizational Commitmen and Organizational Effectiveness

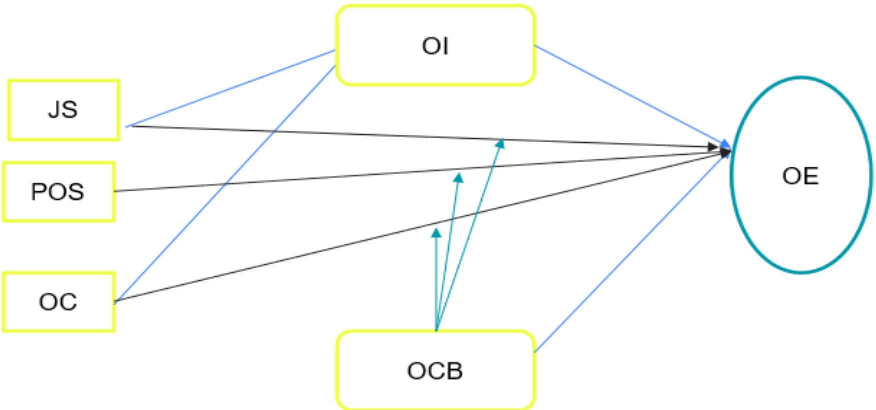
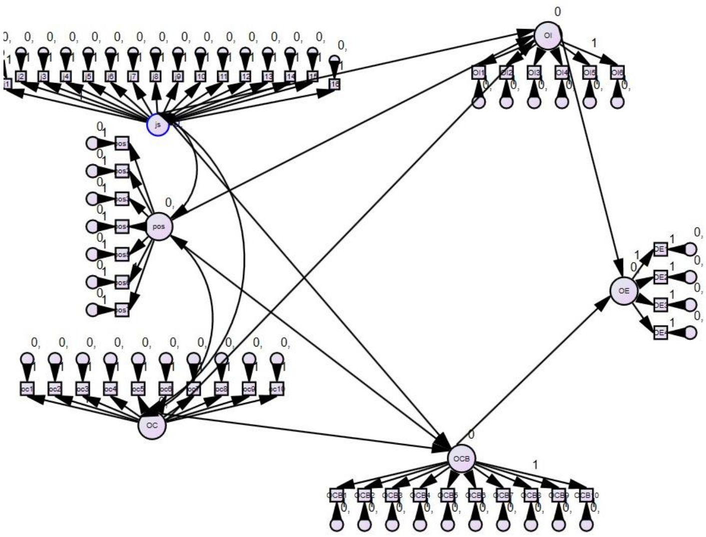


Fig. 1: Conceptual Model

Js Refers to Job satisfaction, POS refers to perceived organizational support, OC refers to Organizational Commitment, OI refers to Organizational Identification, OCB refers to Organizational Citizenship Behaviour, OE refers to Organizational Effectiveness



For the purpose of the study, A quantitative approach to data-analysis was used. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the frequency response of the research questionnaire. Inferential statistical analysis were used to test the research hypothesis.

This research involved 53 Questions of 6 Variables. The exogenus variables of the study included Job satisfaction (JS),OrganizationalCommitment(OC), Perceived Organizational Support(POS), Organizational Identification(OI), as a Mediating Variable and Organizational Citizenship behaviour as a moderator. The hypothesis in this research is to examine the mediation effect of Organizational Identification on the effect of Perceived Organizational Support Organizational Commitment, and Job Satisfaction to organizational effectiveness. The second hypothesis is to test the relationship is to assess the impact of OCB as the Moderator on Organizational effectiveness of universities.

The results of this analysis indicate Organizational Identification as a mediating variable, but not necessarily true. Also, it shows that OCB acts a Significant Moderator on the relationship of various anteceedents on Organizational Effectiveness The hypothesis is accepted if the Critical Ratio (CR) value of more than 1.96 and P-value less than 0.05 (with an error rate of 5%) (Solimun, 2009).

Table 2

Variable	Indicator	Mean	Loading Factors
Job Satisfaction	Intrinsic Satisfaction	3.72	0.701
	Organization Culture	3.65	0.545
	Compensation and Benefits	3.50	0.750
	Recognition	3.50	0.680
Organizational Commitment	Affective Commitment	3.47	0.747
	Normative Commitment	3.48	0.661
	Continuance Commitment	3.58	0.855
Perceived Organizational Support	Management support	3.45	0.747
	Immediate Supervisor's Support	3.70	0.750
Organizational Citizenship Behaviour	Altruism	3.48	0.712
	Civic Virtue	3.58	0.763
	Conscientiousness	3.54	0.781
	Courtesy	3.51	0.639
	Sportsmanship	3.52	0.845
Organizational Effectiveness	Education	3.47	0.651
	Research	3.53	0.746
	Community Service	3.59	0.689

Table 3

Mediating Variable	Statements	Factor Loadings
Organizational Identification	The main goal of this university is quality education with optimum satisfaction of students	**0.780**
	I usually talk about this university as a great place to work	**0.891**
	The success of this university is my Success	**0.877**
	I become irritated when people criticize my university	**0.849**
	We as an Educational Institute are different from others in our field	**0.882**

Goodness of Fit Model

The theoretical model on the conceptual framework of the study is said to fit if supported by empirical data. Results of testing the overall goodness of fit models to find out that the hypothetical model supported by empirical data presented in Table below

Criteria	Cut off Value	Results	Conclusion
Chi Square	Low	333.32	Fit Model
P Value	>0.05	0.000	Fit Model

SEM Analysis and Discussion without OCB as the Moderator

Table 4

Relationship	Coefficient	P value	Conclusion
Perceived Organizational Support to Organizational Effectiveness	0.173	2.00	Not significant
Organizational Commitment to Organizational Effectiveness	0.196	1.01	Not Significant
Job-Satisfaction to Organizational effectiveness	0.325	0.001	Significant

- Testing the direct effect of Perceived organizational support on the organizational effectiveness the structural coefficient values obtained for 0.173, with a p-value of 0.200 0.05, then there is no significant direct effect of perceived organizational support on organizational effectiveness. It means high and low level of perceived organizational support has no impact on organizational effectiveness.
- By testing the direct effect between Organizational Commitment on the organizational effectiveness the structural coefficient values obtained for 0.196, with a p-value of 1.01. Based on the p-value> 0.05, then there is no significant direct effect between Organizational Commitment on the organizational effectiveness. Which means that the high and low of Organizational Commitment has no effect on the high and low organizational effectiveness
- Testing the direct effect of job satisfaction on organizational effectiveness the structural coefficient values obtained for 0325, with a p-value of 0.001. Based on p-value <0.05. there is a significant direct effect of job satisfaction on organizational effectiveness. Here the relationship is positive, which means higher job satisfaction level will leads to enhancement of organizational effectiveness
- Further, The table below depicts the interaction of moderating variables with the independent variables

SEM Analysis and Discussion with OCB as the Moderator

Table 5

Relationship	Coefficient	Cr	P value
Perceived Organizational Support *OCB to Organizational Effectiveness	0.242	0.006	Significant
Organizational Commitment *OCB to Organizational Effectiveness	0.257	0.004	Significant
Job-Satisfaction*OCB to Organizational effectiveness	0.214	0.007	Significant

- The results reveals that OCB acts a pure moderator between the relationship of perceived organizational support and organizational effectiveness. Since the P value <0.05 with coefficient 0.242. The value is positive which depicts that OCB acts a moderator between POS and OE of University teachers
- Likewise for Organizational commitment the results reveals that OCB acts a pure moderator between the relationship of organizational commitment and organizational effectiveness. Since the P value <0.05 with coefficient 0.257. The value is positive which depicts that OCB acts a moderator between POS and OE of University teachers. This means higher level of organizational citizenship behaviour affects the interaction between organizational commitment and Organizational effectiveness of university teachers
- For Job satisfaction. The results reveals that OCB acts quasi moderator between the relationship of organizational commitment and organizational effectiveness, as the direct and moderaction effect affects the organizational effectiveness with P value <0.05 with coefficient 0.257. The value is positive which depicts that OCB acts a moderator between POS and OE of University teachers. This means higher level of organizational citizenship behaviour affects the interaction between Job- Satisfaction and Organizational effectiveness of University teachers

Mediation Analysis with OI as a Mediator

Relationship	Coefficient	P value
Jobsatisfaction* Organizational Identification Organizational effectiveness	**0.487**	**Significant**
Organizational Commitment* Organizational Identification Organizational effectiveness	**0.257**	**Significant**

- The results reveals that Organizational Identification acts a partial mediator between the relationship of Job satisfaction and organizational effectiveness. Since the P value <0.05 with coefficient 0.487. The value is positive which depicts that OI partially mediates the relationship between Job satisfaction and Organization effectiveness of University teachers.
- The results reveals that Organizational Identification acts a partial mediator between the relationship of organizational commitment and organizational effectiveness. Since the P value <0.05 with coefficient value 0.257 The value is positive which depicts that OI partially mediates the relationship between Job satisfaction and Organization effectiveness of university teachers.

Organizational Identification: Six measurement items were adopted from Mael and Ashforth (1992). A sample item was: The captured reliability of the items was a = 0.88.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Education is the back-bone of development of human resources starting from the basic level of college. As mentioned university teachers have a crucial role in character building of tomorrow's workforce, Thus, it is vital to promote the role of teachers as an important contributor and one of the human resource chains to construct quality into something very substantial to be examined, especially given people's high expectations of higher education institutions. A college teacher needs to adopt the mantra of Tri dharma University, education and teaching, research and development and community services.

The findings of this research reveals that Organizational citizenship behaviour (OCB) acts as a moderator variable for Job- Satisfaction, Organizational commitment and perceived Organizational Support on organizational effectiveness. It means higher level of OCB affects the increasing effect on Perceived organizational support, job satisfaction and Organizational Commitment.Also Organizational Identification acts as a significant mediator between the relationship between Job satisfaction, Organizational Commitment of university teachers.

Based on the findings it can be suggested that the administrators of private universities should focus on improving Perceived organizational support ands level of Organizational Commitment to have an effective organization. As all these factors will lead to increase in Job satisfaction level in the organization, Satisfied and Committed employee (University teachers) here, will be working with optimum efficiency and gratification, which will reduce the turnover of teachers, leading to organizational effectiveness.

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मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

राहुल रैकवार*
डॉ. एस.के. खटीक**

सार

मध्यप्रदेश राज्य के विकास हेतु राज्य सरकार द्वारा चलायी जा रही लोक कल्याणकारी योजनाओं के लिये खर्च एवं व्ययों की आवश्यकता होती है। बिना व्ययों एवं खर्चों के विकास संभव नहीं है। खर्चों को सुव्यवस्थित रूप से किया जाना सरकार का दायित्व है। अतः सरकार बजट के माध्यम से खर्च एवं व्यय करती है। मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा मुख्य रूप से खर्चों को तीन भागों में व्यय करती है – आर्थिक व्यय, सामाजिक व्यय, सामान्य व्यय। लेकिन सबसे ज्यादा व्यय आर्थिक व्यय में खर्च करती है। तत्पश्चात् सामाजिक व्यय में एवं सामान्य व्यय में खर्च करती है। इसलिये आर्थिक व्यय एवं सामाजिक व्यय में सार्थक अन्तर है जो कि स्टूडेंट द्वारा ही परीक्षण के माध्यम से ही सिद्ध किया गया है।

शब्दकोशः *आर्थिक व्यय, सामाजिक व्यय, सामान्य व्यय।*

प्रस्तावना

मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययो से तात्पर्य है कि यह राजस्व का एक महत्वपूर्ण तथा आधारभूत भाग है। इसका आशय उन व्ययों से होता है जो सरकार द्वारा अपने अनुरक्षण तथा समाज और देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को बनाये रखने के लिये व्यय किये जाते हैं और राजस्व व्यय सरकारी अधिकारियों द्वारा किये जाने वाले व्यय को कहते हैं। यह व्यय उन व्ययों का सूचक है जो प्रशासन द्वारा अपने राज्य के नागरिकों की भलाई, न्याय, सामाजिक कल्याण के लिये किया जाता है। सार्वजनिक व्यय सार्वजनिक वित्त का महत्वपूर्ण भाग ही नहीं है अपितु आज यह सार्वजनिक या राजकोषीय राजस्व का केन्द्र बिन्दु बन चुका है। अर्थशास्त्र में जो स्थान उपयोग का है वही स्थान सार्वजनिक वित्त में राजकोषीय राजस्व में किये गये सार्वजनिक व्यय का है। सार्वजनिक आय व ऋणों की प्राप्ति सार्वजनिक व्ययों की पूर्ति के लिये की जाती है। राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों के द्वारा लोक कल्याण के कार्यों की पूर्ति की जा सकती है। मध्यप्रदेश सरकार से नागरिक यह अपेक्षा करती है कि सरकार उन मुद्दों में व्यय करे जिन पर वे स्वयं व्यय करने में सामर्थ्य नहीं रखते हैं। कोई भी व्यक्ति सामूहिक शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, आवास, सड़क, परिवहन, सुरक्षा आदि पर व्यय नहीं कर सकता है। अतः सरकार जो व्ययों के द्वारा सरकार द्वारा विभिन्न प्रकार की योजनाओं का सम्पादन किया जा सकता है। अतः हम कह सकते हैं कि राजकोषीय राजस्व व्ययों को इस प्रकार से व्यय करे जिससे कि हर नागरिक को उसका फायदा मिले और वह अपनी आवश्यकताओं को संतुष्ट कर सके।

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सार्वजनिक कल्याण में वृद्धि करने के उद्देश्य से राज्य उत्पादन को बढ़ाना चाहता है। उत्पादन में वृद्धि रोजगार व उपभोग में वृद्धि होती है। अतः राज्य उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में व्ययों को बढ़ाना होगा जिससे राज्य का आर्थिक विकास हो सके। इस शोध पत्र में मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन इसलिये किया जा रहा है जिससे यह ज्ञात हो सके कि सरकार अपने व्यय कहाँ—कहाँ पर करती है और कितनी—कितनी मात्रा में व्यय करती है। किसी क्षेत्र में सरकार ज्यादा व्यय करती है और किसी क्षेत्र में कम, इन सभी बातों का विश्लेषण इस शोध पत्र में किया जा रहा है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन का औचित्य

मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व पर व्ययों का अध्ययन इसलिये किया जा रहा है कि सरकार जनता का पैसा किस प्रकार उपयोग कर रही है और कहां—कहां पर कितनी—कितनी मात्रा में खर्च करती है, किस क्षेत्र में कितना खर्च किया है और किस क्षेत्र में नहीं के बराबर खर्च किया है। इन सभी बातों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन किया जा रहा है क्योंकि राज्य के आर्थिक विकास के लिये राजस्व की प्राप्तियां का होना जरूरी है। उनके बगैर राज्य का आर्थिक क्रियाओं तथा आर्थिक नीतियाँ क्रियान्वित नहीं हो सकती हैं और जिससे सार्वजनिक और आर्थिक कल्याण जनता का नहीं हो पायेगा परन्तु सरकार को इन प्राप्तियों के लिये पहले कुछ खर्चे करने पड़ते हैं जैसे सरकार को चलाने के लिये राज्य विधान मण्डल, राज्यपाल, मंत्रिपरिषद और निर्वाचन, न्याय प्रशासन पर सरकार खर्च करती है और राज्य सरकार को करो का संग्रह करने के लिये भी पैसा खर्च करना पड़ता है और अन्य खर्चे जैसे सम्पत्ति और पूंजीगत लेन देनों पर संग्रह करने के लिये, पुलिस और जेल पर खर्च, लेखन सामग्री तथा मुद्रण, लोक निर्माण कार्य में, पेंशन और विविध सामान्य सेवाओं, ब्याज संग्रह और ऋण चुकाने पर परिशोधन में खर्च और सामाजिक सवायें पर भी सरकार खर्च करती है। जैसे — शिक्षा, खेल, कला और संस्कृति, स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण पर खर्च, जलपूर्ति और सफाई, आवास और शहरी विकास, श्रम और श्रमिक कल्याण पर खर्च, सामाजिक कल्याण और पोषण आहार जो कि सामाजिक सेवाओं पर व्यय करती है। जैसे कृषि और कृषि से संबंधी क्रियाकलाप पर, ग्रामीण विकास पर, सिंचाई तथा बाढ़ नियंत्रण पर राज्य सरकार व्यय करती है। इन सभी बातों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन इस शोध पत्र में किया जा रहा है।

शोध साहित्य का पुर्नावलोकन

- संतोष गिरि (2022) के अनुसार : ''नेपाल का सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास'' — यह शोध पत्र 1975—2021 की अवधि में नेपाल के सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के प्रभाव की जांच करता है। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान नेपाल का सार्वजनिक व्यय काफी बढ़ रहा है। इस अध्ययन का उद्देश्य ए.आर.डी.एल. और ई.सी.एम. मॉडल द्वारा नेपाल के आर्थिक विकास पर सार्वजनिक व्यय के प्रभाव की जांच करना है।
- राज खोम (2021) के अनुसार : ''नेपाल के आर्थिक विकास पर सरकारी व्यय का आर्थिक प्रभाव'' — यह शोध पत्र 1990—2019 की अवधि में नेपाल के सरकारी व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के संबंधों की जांच करता है। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान नेपाल का सरकारी व्यय काफी बढ़ रहा है। नेपाल के सरकारी खर्च का पैटर्न नियमित व्यय और नेपाल के बजट घाटे को हर साल बढ़ाने पर केन्द्रित प्रतीत होता है। सरकारी व्यय उपयोग की क्षमता के ट्रेड में ज्यादातर कम दक्षता पाई गई है। अध्ययन के निष्कर्ष से पता चलता है कि अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान नेपाल के आर्थिक विकास पर सरकारी खर्च का महत्वपूर्ण/महत्वहीन प्रभाव है।
- रामफुल ओहलान (2012) के अनुसार : ''भारत में सरकारी व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के बीच कार्य—कारण संबंध : सक अनुभवजन्य जाँच'' — यह शोध पत्र का अध्ययन 1950—2008 की अवधि में वेक्टर आटोरिग्रेसिव (VAR) मॉडल का उपयोग करके भारत में सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास

के बीच कारण संबंध की अनुभवजन्य जांच करता है। सरकारी व्यय में भारत में आर्थिक विकास के सापेक्ष सरकारी व्यय में वृद्धि की दीर्घकालिक प्रवृत्ति के लिये कोई अनुभवजन्य समर्थन नहीं मिलता है। सरकारी उपभोग और निवेश व्यय आर्थिक विकास के ईधन के रूप में कार्य करते हैं।

- प्लाविता भट्टाचार्य (2019) के अनुसार : ''शिक्षा और आर्थिक विकास पर सार्वजनिक व्यय : भारत में राज्य स्तरीय विश्लेषण'' – इस शोध पत्र का अध्ययन का उद्देश्य शिक्षा पर सार्वजनिक व्यय और भारत के 28 राज्यों के आर्थिक विकास के बीच कारण संबंध का पता लगाना है। इस शोध पत्र में भारत के राज्यों में शिक्षा पर सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के बीच कोई कारण संबंध मौजूद है या नहीं इस शोध का उत्तर देने का प्रयास करता है। शिक्षा पर सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के बीच दीर्घकालीन संबंध मौजूद है। इसका अर्थ है कि जैसे–जैसे भारतीय राज्यों में विकास होता है। यह सरकार को अपनी गतिशीलता को बढ़ावे के लिये प्रेरित करता है। जिससे सार्वजनिक व्यय में वृद्धि होती हैं। इस अध्ययन के अनुप्रयोग यह अध्ययन सरकारी गति निर्माण के लिये भी उपयोगी हो सकता है। यह छात्रों और शोध विद्वानों के लिये भी उपयोगी है।
- पी. श्री निवासन (2013) के अनुसार :– "सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के बीच कार्य–कारण संबंध : भारतीय मामला" इस शोध पत्र का अध्ययन सह–एकीकरण दृष्टिकोण और त्रुटि सुधार मॉडल का उपयोग करके भारत में सार्वजनिक व्यय और आर्थिक विकास के बीच कारण की जांच करता है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन का उद्देश्य

शोध विषय के अध्ययन का उद्देश्य निम्न प्रकार है :–

- मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों की अवधारणा का अध्ययन करना।
- मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व की व्ययों का अध्ययन करना।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्य परिकल्पनाये इस प्रकार है :–

- मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत आर्थिक व्ययों एवं सामजिक व्ययों कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की शोध संरचना

शोध कार्य को करने के लिये समंको एवं साहित्यों की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। बिना समंको एवं साहित्य के अभाव में शोध कार्य का आगे बढना संभव नहीं है। इसलिये शोध अध्ययन के लिये शोध एवं साहित्य का अधिक महत्व है। शोध कार्य को करने के लिये द्वितीयक समंको का उपयोग किया गया है। जिसके अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित विषय से सम्बंधित शोध साहित्य के आधार पर शोध कार्य का निस्पतन किया गया है। द्वितीयक समंको का स्त्रोत सुस्पष्ट रूप से जैसे वार्षिक प्रतिवदेन, बजट, सांख्यिकी प्रतिवेदन, आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण, इंटरनेट एवं अन्य प्रकाशित दस्तावेजों का उपयोग किया जा रहा है। शोध संरचना के अन्तर्गत मुख्य रूप से मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों को किन–किन मदों पर कितनी–कितनी मदाओं में तथा किस मद पर ज्यादा और किस मद में कम आदि का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन किया जा रहा हैं। शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पनों का परीक्षण स्टूडेंस टी टेस्ट के माध्यम से किया जा रहा है जिससे ली गई परिकल्पनायें सार्थक है अथवा नहीं है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की सीमायें

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की सीमाये निम्नलिखित प्रकार की है।

- पर्याप्त समंको का अभाव है।
- समंको में विश्वसनीयता अंकेक्षण पर निर्भर करती है।

- समंको का समूहीकरण एवं वर्गीकरण शोध–विषय की आवश्यकता अनुसार किया गया है।
- मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों का अध्ययन मात्र दस महा वर्ष तक का लिया गया है।

मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत व्ययों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत व्ययों का अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। राजकोषीय राजस्व व्यय राजकोषीय राजस्व की प्रान्तियों पर निर्भर करती है। आज यह राजकोषीय राजस्व की प्रान्तियों का केन्द्र बिन्दु भी बन चुका है। राजकोषीय राजस्व की आय व ऋणों की प्राप्तियाँ राजकोषीय राजस्व के व्ययों की पूर्ति के लिये की जाती है। राजकोषीय राजस्व के द्वारा लोक कल्याण के कार्यो की पूर्ति की जा सकती है। लोक कल्याणी राज्य से राज्य का हर नागरिक यह उम्मीद करता है कि सरकार उन मुद्दो में व्यय करे जिन पर वे स्वयं व्यय करने की सामर्थ नहीं रखते हैं। कोई भी व्यक्ति या नागरिक सामूहिक शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, आवारन, सड़क, परिवहन, सुरक्षा आदि पर व्यय नहीं सकता है। राजकोषीय राजस्व के द्वारा राज्य में जो चल रही लोक कल्याण योजनाओं का सम्पादन किया जा सकता है।

मध्यप्रदेश सरकार को नागरिक प्रशासन, विकास एवं ऋण सम्बंधी सेवाओं पर होने वाला व्यय दिन–प्रतिदिन बढ़ता ही जा रहा है और राज्यों के कार्यो में लगातार बढ़ते जा रहे है। जिससे राजकोषीय राजस्व में व्ययों में वृद्धि होती जा रही है। सरकार दिन–प्रतिदन नये–नये विभाग खोलती जा रही है। उन विभागों की व्यवस्था पर भारी मात्रा में व्यय होने लगा है। प्रजातंत्र में स्थानीय निकायों जैसे ग्राम पंचायतों, जिला पंचायतों महानगर पालिकाओं, विधानसभा व संसदों पर व्यय लगातार बढ़ता जा रहा है।

वर्तमान समय में बढ़ती हुई जनसंख्या व बढ़ते हुये नगरीकरण के कारण कल्याणकारी योजनाओं में वृद्धि हो रही हैं। सरकार निर्धनों का आर्थिक स्तर उठाना चाहती है। इसके लिये वह श्रम कार्ड, बेकारी बीमा, प्रसव पीड़ित महिलाओं के लिये योजना, बच्चों की शिक्षा के लिये अभियान चलना, वृद्धावस्था पेन्शन जैसी व्यवस्थाओं में वृद्धि करती है। इन कार्यक्रमों के सामाजिक कल्याण में वृद्धि होती है और सरकारी व्ययों में भी भारी वृद्धि होने लगी है।

पहले के समय में सरकार का सामाजिक सुरक्षा संबंधी कार्य क्षेत्र बहुत सीमित था। उस समय व्यक्ति अपनी सामर्थ के अनुसार अपने–अपने कार्यो का सम्पादन स्वयं कर लेते थे। परंतु वर्तमान समय में सरकार सामूहिक आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने लगी है। सामूहिक आवश्यकताओं के अन्तर्गत जलापूर्ति, सामाजिक बीमा, योजना, यातायात आदि खर्च भी सरकार द्वारा किये जाने लागे जिस पर राजकोषीय व्यय भारी मात्रा में व्यय होने लगा हैं।

सरकार कुछ व्यय ऐसे करती है जिसके करने से राज्य को प्रत्यक्ष आय नहीं होती है। परंतु दीर्घकाल में उन व्ययों से अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से आय प्राप्त होती है। शिक्षा पर किया जाने वाला व्यय इसका एक उदाहरण है क्योंकि गरीबी प्रतीक्षा कर सकती है परंतु शिक्षा नहीं "दीर्घकाल में जब देश के नागरिक शिक्षित होंगे तो उनकी कार्यकुशलता बढ़ने से देश को लाभ मिलेगा और देश की प्रगति होगी।

मध्यप्रदेश राजकोषीय राजस्व के अंतर्गत व्ययों का विश्लेषण अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। सरकार द्वारा किसी देश या प्रदेश के विकास के लिए व्यय करना भी अतिआवश्यक हैं। सरकार जनता के विकास के लिए तीन प्रकार के व्यय करती है, जैसे सामान्य सेवाओं पर व्यय, आर्थिक सेवाओं पर व्यय और सामाजिक सेवाओं पर करती हैं। अतः सरकार द्वारा वित्तीय वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक इन सभी सेवाओं पर खर्च किए गए हैं, उनके निम्न तालिका में आकड़ों के द्वारा प्रदर्शित किया गया है।

राजस्व व्यय (सामान्य सेवायें)

(राशि रू. करोड़)

क्र	राजस्व व्यय के प्रमुख शीर्ष	2013–14 ₹	2014–15 ₹	2015–16 ₹	2016–17 ₹	2017–18 ₹	2018–19 ₹	2019–20 ₹	2020–21 ₹	2021–22 ₹	2022–23 ₹
(क)	सामान्य सेवायें										
1.	राज्य के अंग	837.74	1060.46	916.99	946.10	1189.06	1545.17	1634.85	1563.30	1564.29	2000.99
अ.	राज्य विधान मंडल, राज्यपाल मंत्रि परिषद और निर्वाचन	349.63	470.14	300.15	286.50	395.47	576.45	549.16	474.00	440.03	633.10
आ.	न्याय प्रशासन	488.11	590.32	616.84	659.60	793.59	966.72	1085.69	1089.30	1124.26	1367.89
2.	राजकोषीय सेवायें	2583.68	2135.36	2879.09	2633.27	3204.89	2931.07	3203.98	6897.41	3664.62	3693.81
अ.	आय तथा व्यय पर करों का संग्रहण	0.15	0.12	0.09	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
आ.	सम्पत्ति और पूँजीगत लेन–देन पर संग्रहण	1039.36	607.41	601.48	599.96	896.94	884.78	1072.87	3214.55	1585.12	2103.20
इ.	पदार्थो एवं सेवाओं पर करों	1542.04	1525.72	2275.57	2031.31	2305.91	2033.06	2128.76	3680.88	2077.47	1588.32
ई.	अन्य राजकोषीय सम्बंधी सेवायें	2.13	2.11	1.95	1.93	2.04	2.23	2.35	1.98	2.03	2.29
3.	प्रशासनिक सेवायें परिशोधन खर्च	6391.32	7071.25	8090.88	9079.49	11045.34	12695.69	1421.52	15917.87	18445.91	19453.27
4.	प्रशासनिक सेवायें	4833.63	5245.01	5978.16	6416.52	7347.04	8358.43	8691.87	8766.28	8689.81	9914.63
अ.	सचिवालय–सामान्य सेवायें जिला प्रशासन तथा खजाना और लेखा प्रशासन	670.51	732.80	816.18	828.08	1032.37	1025.68	1082	1172.73	1191.52	1419.83
आ.	पुलिस और जेल	3504.06	3844.61	4411.68	4806.65	5447.03	6342.75	6626.99	6701.31	6755.18	7662.26
इ.	लेखन सामग्री कार्य	42.68	46.17	35.74	41.34	43.74	45.49	44.88	39.54	36.01	47.87
ई.	लोक निर्माण कार्य	363.37	364.16	399.08	428.84	449.21	446.37	400.89	359.60	272.21	241.85
उ.	अन्य प्रशासनिक सेवायें	253.01	257.27	315.48	311.61	374.69	498.13	536.82	493.08	434.79	542.82
5.	पेंशन और विविध सामान्य सेवायें	5944.56	6853.03	7835.14	88.27.73	9313.76	12010.20	12079.56	14740.14	17096.56	19743.94
	योग–क	20590.93	22365.11	25700.26	27903.11	32100.08	37540.56	39826.78	47885.00	49461.49	54806.64
(ख)	सामाजिक सेवायें										
1.	शिक्षा, खेल, कला और संस्कृति	13697.13	16222.33	17054.74	21143.63	23653.44	26174.09	28780.25	28810.31	29504.36	92668.72
2.	स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण	3283.60	4521.34	5228.02	5375.57	6408.88	6520.71	8484.13	8947.86	11706.41	12412.23
3.	जलपूर्ति और सफाई	905.21	916.09	5228.02	5375.57	6408.88	6520.71	8484.13	8947.86	11706.41	12412.23
4.	आवास और शहरी विकास	1936.25	2361.01	4868.88	8165.29	14234.57	12011.72	10242.76	11526.42	10831.30	1336.26
5.	श्रम और श्रमिक कल्याण	2215.63	330.66	279.52	290.53	356.04	1212.31	911.68	1090.32	1690.20	1953.04
6.	अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़े वर्गो को कल्याण	2415.97	2214.12	2968.06	3095.05	3356.73	3257.02	3930.25	3917.96	4838.16	5143.87
7.	सामाजिक कल्याण और पोषाहार	5018.15	5227.01	10520.18	6332.86	6757.74	7460.42	10321.16	13004.59	11377.09	11623.79
8.	अन्य	290.27	274.59	326.44	522.54	495.88	606.01	396.84	376.46	413.40	128.69
	योग–ख	27768.21	32067.15	42650.93	47942.43	58346.17	58707.31	64224.53	68756.76	71643.46	81468.84
ग.	आर्थिक सेवायें										
1.	कृषि और सम्बंद्ध क्रियाकलाप	6213.95	8290.58	10311.12	11928.16	15602.66	13227.23	12373.04	14879.04	148779.10	13203.60
2.	ग्रामीण विकास	3405.56	6617.11	6107.83	881.65	6820.58	7374.14	8265.69	10350.25	8215.65	6602.53
3.	सिंचाई तथा बाढ़ नियंत्रण	782.97	845.20	630.45	687.61	643.33	1061.24	1122.32	998.83	978.98	1595.06
4.	ऊर्जा	3340.48	5105.75	7218.84	12476.20	9753.26	10070.69	14077.42	14973.97	23447.20	27152.53
5.	उद्योग और खनिज	1469.31	1286.49	2477.30	2846.94	1959.95	2104.29	2346.79	2087.18	3282.70	4240.57
6.	परिवाहन	1412.21	1288.35	1209.49	1244.95	110.25	1027.06	1167.13	1093.22	1425.08	1802.55
7.	विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिक एवं पर्यावरण	120.25	175.54	198.06	223.96	212.27	178.04	73.53	122.03	132.20	176.85
8.	सामान्य आर्थिक सेवायें	226.25	175.54	198.06	276.30	313.79	239.55	212.64	192.44	270.26	352.89
	योग–ग	16971.34	23715.12	25528.52	36884.73	32734.59	37657.67	40492.75	42190.95	52831.20	55126.58
घ.	सहायता अनुदान और अंशदान	4539.28	4225.44	5890.99	6807.09	7065.24	7671.66	5900.24	5900.29	7125.46	7877.50
	योग–क + ख + ग +घ	69869.76	82372.82	99770.70	119537.37	130246.09	141577.21	150444.30	164733.01	181061.31	199895.28

स्त्रोत : मध्यप्रदेश सरकार का बजट

व्याख्या

मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अंतर्गत व्ययों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। किसी देश एवं प्रदेश के विकास के लिये व्यय अति आवश्यक है। बिना व्ययों के राज्य का विकास नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिये राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत एक सामान्य सेवाओं पर व्यय किये जाते है। जो इस प्रकार वित्तीय 2013–14 में 837.74 करोड़, 2014–15 में 1063.46 करोड़, 2015–16 में 916.99 करोड़, 2016–17 में 946.10 करोड़, 2016–17 में 1189.06 करोड़, 2018–19 में 1546.17 करोड़, 2019–20 में 1634.85 करोड़, 2020–21 में 1563.30 करोड़, 2021–22 में 1564.29 करोड़, 2022–23 में 2000.99 करोड़ खर्च किये गये है। इन आंकड़ो को देखकर यह कहा जा सकता है कि प्रतिवर्ष खर्चो में वृद्धि होती दिखाई दे रही है। परंतु सरकार कुछ वर्षो में सामान्य सेवाओं पर लगातार ज्यादा खर्च कर रही है।

इस प्रकार राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत व्ययों का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन में सामाजिक सेवाओं पर व्ययों को करना पड़ता है। जैसे शिक्षा, खेल कला और संस्कृति, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण, जलपूर्ति और सफाई, आवास और शहरी विकास, श्रम और श्रमिक कल्याण अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़े वर्गो का कल्याण पर सरकार खर्च करती है। इन सभी पर खर्च वित्तीय 2013–14 में 27768.21 करोड़, 2014–15 में 32067.15 करोड़, 2015–16 में 42650.93 करोड़, 2016–17 में 47942.43 करोड़, 2017–18 में 58346.17 करोड़, 2018–19 में 58707.31 करोड़, 2019–20 में 64224.53 करोड़, 2020–21 में 68756.76 करोड़, 2021–22 में 71643.46 करोड़, 2022–23 में 81468.84 करोड़ खर्च किये है। सरकार ने प्रतिवर्ष सामाजिक सेवाओं पर व्ययों को लगातार बढ़ाया है। इन आंकड़ों को देखने से यह समझ आ रहा है कि सरकार लगातार अपने व्ययों को बढ़ा रही है।

अतः राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत व्ययों का विश्लेषण करने में सरकार खर्च आर्थिक व्ययों पर भी करती है। जिससे राज्य का ग्रामीण विकास हो सके, सिंचाई तथा बाढ़ नियंत्रण करने के लिये सरकार व्यय करती है, और सरकार ऊर्जा, उद्योग और खनिज, परिवहन, विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी एवं पर्यावरण, कृषि से संबंधी क्रियाकलाप पर भी सरकार लगातार खर्च करती आ रही है। सरकार ने किस–किस वर्ष कितना–कितना खर्च किया है वह इस प्रकार है। वित्तीय वर्ष 2013–14 में 16971.34 करोड़, 2014–15 में 23715.12 करोड़, 2015–16 में 25528.52 करोड़, 2016–17 में 36884.73 करोड़, 2017–18 में 32734.59 करोड़, 2018–19 में 37657.67 करोड़, 2019–20 में 40492.75 करोड़, 2020–21 में 42190.95 करोड़ 2021–22 में 52831.20 करोड़ तथा 2022–23 में 55126.58 करोड़ रूपये सरकार आर्थिक कृषि पर व्यय करती है। जिससे राज्य का विकास हो सके। लगातार सरकार व्यय करने से सभी आर्थिक क्षेत्रों में उन्नति या राज्य का विकास लगातार हो रहा है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना का परीक्षण

- **शून्य परिकल्पना :–** मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक व्ययों में सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

  r = + 0.72

  $$t = \frac{r}{\sqrt{1-r^2}} \ x \ \sqrt{n-2}$$

  t = 2.926

  t005 = 1.86

अवलोकन

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना का परीक्षण स्टूडेन्ट टी टेस्ट के माध्यम से किया गया है जिसमें गणना की गई अंसनम 2.926 है जबकि सारणीयन मान 1.86 हैं इससे अधिक होने के कारण आर्थिक व्ययों एवं सामाजिक व्ययों में सार्थक अन्तर है अर्थात मध्यप्रदेश के राजकोषीय राजस्व के अन्तर्गत आर्थिक व्यय सामाजिक व्ययों के अधिक हो रहे है। इसीलिये इसमें सार्थक अन्तर है। अतः शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना अस्वीकार है।

निष्कर्ष एवं सुझाव

मध्यप्रदेश राज्य के विकास के लिये व्ययों का होना अति आवश्यक है। बिना व्ययों एवं खर्चो के आर्थिक विकास संभव नहीं है। अतः राजस्व के अन्तर्गत तीन प्रकार के व्यय किये जा रहे है। सामान्य व्यय, आर्थिक व्यय एवं सामाजिक व्यय, परंतु सबसे अधिक खर्च आर्थिक व्यय एवं सामाजिक व्ययों में किया जा रहा है तथा कम मात्रा में सबसे कम सामान्य व्ययों में किया जा रहा है।

सुझाव

मध्यप्रदेश राजस्व के अन्तर्गत किये जा रहे खर्चो में थोड़ी सुधार की आवश्यकता है जो कि इस प्रकार है – सरकार को आर्थिक व्ययों में कमी कर सामाजिक व्ययों में वृद्धि करनी चाहिये जिससे कि समाज का अधिक से अधिक विकास हो सके।

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राजस्थान राज्य में सम्भागीय आयुक्त का पद एवं भूमिकाः एक प्रशासकीय अध्ययन

डॉ. नितिला माथुर*

प्रस्तावना

सत्ता प्रशासनिक विकेन्द्रीकरण लोकतंत्र का प्राण हैं। स्वतंत्र भारत में संघीय इकाईयों के रूप में जब बहुल जनसंख्या वाले राज्यों का गठन किया गया तो इस तथ्य को नजरअंदाज नहीं किया जा सका। राज्यों में राज्य स्तर, जिला स्तर और निम्न स्तर पर प्रशासन का एक क्रमिक ढांचा ही निरूपित नहीं हुआ बल्कि जिला और निम्न स्तर पर क्षितीजीय कार्यालयों का एक जाल भी अस्तित्व में आया। किसी भी प्रशासनिक संरचना में भौगोलिक विस्तार और सांस्कृतिक, सामाजिक तथा आर्थिक विविधताएं बहुस्तरीय, व्यापक लेकिन समन्वित व एकीकृत प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था को अपरिहार्य बनाती है। भारत में जिला और निम्न स्तर प्रशासकीय संरचना में विभागीय एवं कार्यालयी बहुसंख्या में आवश्यक संयोजन, समन्वय एवं समुचित सम्प्रेषण हेतु राज्य व जिला स्तर के मध्य एक सम्भागीय स्तर का सृजन किया गया। भारत के तामिलनाडु, आंध्रप्रदेश, व केरल में सम्भागीय आयुक्त का पद सृजित नहीं किया गया। अन्य राज्यों में जहॉ सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पद सम्भागीय स्तर पर प्रशासन व्यवस्था के अंग हैं वहॉ सत्ता और पदस्थिति की दृष्टि से पर्याप्त भिन्नता रखते हैं।

राजस्थान में क्षेत्रीय (सम्भागीय) प्रशासन

एकीकृत राजस्थान में पॉच सम्भागीय कार्यालय बनाए गये। ये बीकानेर, कोटा, जोधपुर, उदयपुर और अजमेर में स्थित थे। 1961 में निर्णय को गति देने और मध्यस्थ सूत्रों को सीमित करने की दृष्टि से सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पद को समाप्त कर दिया गया। 25 वर्षों के मिश्रित अनुभवों के पश्चात् सम्भागीय प्रणाली को 17 जनवरी 1987 को पुनर्जीवित किया गया। सम्भवतः इनका एक प्रमुख कारण प्रशासन के विकेन्द्रीकरण को सही अर्थ में क्रियान्वित करना, विकास योजनाओं और अकाल राहत कार्यक्रमों की सुव्यवस्था के लिए जिलाधीश के कार्यभार को कम करना एवं विभिन्न जिला स्तरीय गतिविधियों में समन्वय व समरूपता लाना था। 1987 में सम्पूर्ण राज्य को 6 सम्भागों में विभक्त करते हुए 6 सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पदों का सृजन किया गया। साथ ही इनके पृथक कार्यालयों का भी गठन किया गया। ये कार्यालय जयपुर, जोधपुर, अजमेर, उदयपुर, कोटा और बीकानेर में स्थित हैं।

वर्तमान राज्य प्रशासन में सम्भागीय आयुक्त की भूमिका एवं महत्त्व

विकासात्मक गतिविधियों की संख्या में विस्तार से कृषि, भू–प्रबन्धन, जलस्त्रोतों, एकीकृत कृषि प्रणाली, पारिस्थितिकी–पर्यावरण, ऊर्जा समस्या जैसे जटिल तकनीकी विषय और न्यूनतम आवश्यकता कार्यक्रम तथा 20 सूत्रीय कार्यक्रम जैसे बहुआयामी कार्यक्रम नियोजन और विकास के अर्न्तनिहीत अंग बन गये हैं।

जिला प्रशासन का स्वरूप अब परिवर्तित होकर अधिक सशक्त बन गया है। विकास प्रक्रिया में बैंकों की भूमिका, परिवार उन्मुख कार्यक्रम, विकास कार्यों को नाबार्ड (NABARD) के अन्तर्गत ग्रामीण ऋण व्यवस्था द्वारा साकार करना आदि अनके आयाम स्थानीय प्रशासन से जुड़ गये हैं।

* प्राचार्य, सर प्रताप कॉलेज, जोधपुर, राजस्थान।

नियोजन के निर्माण और क्रियान्वयन में विषय बहुल दृष्टिकोण महत्वपूर्ण हो गये हैं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में विभिन्न उद्देश्यों के लिये विज्ञान और तकनीक का विस्तार समन्वित दृष्टिकोण की अपेक्षा करने लगा है। पंचायत राज संस्थाओं के विकास के साथ विकासत्मक गतिविधियों में राजनैतिक और अन्य कार्यकर्त्ताओं की गतिविधियॉ पहले से व्यापक हो गई है।

स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात् लोक कल्याणकारी राज्य को मूर्त रूप देने के प्रयास में अनगिनत कल्याण–व्यवस्थापनों और विविध विकास कार्यक्रमों ने राज्य के दायित्वों को बहुगुणित कर दिया था। लोकतंत्रीय व्यवस्था ने एक और जहॉ सरकार को जनजीवन से निकटता से जोड़ दिया वहीं दूसरी ओर जनहित एवं जन सहभागिता ने प्रशासन के नियामकीय स्वरूप में आमूल–चूल परिवर्तन ला दिया। प्रशासनिक तंत्र भी समान अनुपात में विस्तृत एवं बहुआयामी हुआ। इस अप्रत्याशित विस्तार से उत्पन्न दायित्व का निर्वाह करने तथा जनोन्मुख प्रशासन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए यह आवश्यक हो गया कि राज्य स्तर से नीचे क्षेत्रीय एवं स्थानीय स्तर पर नीतियों एवं कार्यक्रम–क्रियान्वयन का सतत् एवं नियमित अध्ययन, विश्लेषण और नियोजन हो। नीतियों और कार्यक्रमों की प्रभावशीलता का निरंतर मूल्यांकन किया जाए। उन पर जनप्रतिक्रियाएं ज्ञात की जाए। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों की समस्याओं को चिन्हित करते हुए उनके शीघ्र एवं प्रभावी हल का प्रयास किया जाए। इन दृष्टियों से क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर नियमित, सतत एवं प्रभावी समन्वय सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण था।

पुनर्गठित राज्यों में विभिन्न कल्याण और विकास कार्यक्रमों तथा प्रशासकीय प्रयोजनों के लिए कुछ जिलों के समूह को एक इकाई के रूप में स्वीकार किया गया। यह प्रादेशिक अथवा क्षेत्रीय स्तर था। सम्भागीय आयुक्त एक प्रादेशिक समन्वयकर्ता है। सम्भागीय स्तर पर वह अपने सम्भाग के सभी विभागों में समन्वय लाने का जो कार्य करता है वह कोई भी अन्य प्रशासकीय अधिकारी नहीं कर सकता। सम्भागीय आयुक्त विकेन्द्रकृत समन्वय का माध्यम है। वर्तमान समय में जिलाधीश अपेक्षाकृत युवा एवं कम अनुभवी अधिकारी होते हैं। उन्हें विभिन्न मामलों में निर्देशन ओर मार्गदर्शन की आवश्यकता होती है। ऐसा मार्गदर्शन एक अनुभवी प्रशासक के रूप में सम्भागीय आयुक्त सरलता से कर सकता है। दूसरे शब्दों में क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर मार्गदर्शन की समुचित व्यवस्था राज्य एवं जनता दोनों के हित में है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त का पद राज्य स्तरीय प्रशासक के कार्यभार को हल्का करता है। विकेन्द्रीकरण को प्रोत्साहित करता है। विभिन्न मामलों को स्थायी स्तर पर ही निपटा देने के लिए अवसर प्रस्तुत करता है। यह जन–सहभागिता को प्रोत्साहित करता है और प्रशासन को जनता तक ले जाकर जनसंतोष उत्पन्न करता है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त के कार्य एवं दायित्व

सम्भागीय आयुक्त के नवसृजित पदों के साथ व्यापक दायित्व एवं कार्य संलग्न किये गये हैं। सम्भागीय आयुक्त का वृहद् कार्यक्षेत्र और दायित्वों की व्यापकता इसे विशेष महत्व प्रदान करती है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त सामान्यतया राजस्व और कानून व्यवस्था तथा विकास कार्यों का निर्वाह करता है। सम्भागीय प्रधान के रूप में वह विभिन्न जिला एवम् क्षेत्रीय स्तरीय विभागों के निरीक्षण, पर्यवेक्षण और उनमें सामन्जस्य स्थापित करने का कार्य करता है। उसे अपने क्षेत्राधिकार की परिधि में किसी भी अधिकारी से सार्वजनिक हित में स्पष्टीकरण एवं सूचनाएं मांगने का अधिकार है। उसे सम्भागीय स्तर पर वरिष्ठ पर्यवेक्षक एवं सलाहकार व संयोजक की स्थिति प्राप्त है। एक तरफ सम्भागीय आयुक्त से सरकार की ''ऑख और कान'' के रूप में कार्य करने की अपेक्षा की गई है तो वहीं दूसरी तरफ जिला प्रशासन के संदर्भ में उससे मित्र, दार्शनिक और पथ–प्रदर्शक की भूमिका अपेक्षित है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त अपने संभाग में राजस्व प्रशासन का शीर्ष एवं महत्वपूर्ण पदाधिकारी है। सम्भागीय आयुक्त सम्भाग में व्यापक राजस्व शक्तियों का अधिकारी बन गया । उसे विभिन्न जिलाधिशों से वार्षिक और अर्द्धवार्षिक प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त करने का अधिकार मिला। इन प्रतिवेदनों में जिलाधीश कार्यालय, उपखण्ड अधिकारी, तहसीलों के राजस्व मामलों से प्रगति प्रतिवेदन भूमि सीमा सम्बन्धी कानूनों के क्रियान्वयन, प्रतिवेदन, भू–आंवटन

तथा गैर कृषि उद्देश्यों हेतु कृषि भूमि के रूपान्तरण के सम्बन्ध में विवरण, टिप्पणियों और सुझाव सम्मिलित होते है। सम्भागीय आयुक्त अपने क्षेत्राधिकार में इन पर आवश्यक कार्यवाही करता है और इन्हें राज्य सरकार एवं राजस्व मंडल को प्रेषित करता हैं। संम्भागीय आयुक्त जिलाधीश द्वारा अनुशासनात्मक कार्यवाही के अन्तर्गत दिए गए आदेशों के विरूद्ध अपील सुन सकता है। उसे राजस्व प्रशासन के विभिन्न कार्मिकों और पटवारियों के राज्य सरकारी नियमों की सीमा में अन्तर–सम्भागीय स्थानान्तरण का अधिकार है। वह अपने कार्यालय के मंत्रालयिक एवं चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति भी कर सकता है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त राजस्थान शहरी भू सीमा अधिनियम और नगर सुधार न्यास अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत अपील सुनने का अधिकार रखता है। सम्भागीय आयुक्त अपने सम्भाग में कानून और व्यवस्था कायम रखने के सम्बन्ध में सर्वोच्च प्रभारी है।

कानून व्यवस्था सम्बन्धी स्थिति का पुनरावलोकन करने के सम्बन्ध में तीन महीने में कम से कम एक बार पुलिस उपमहानिरीक्षक, जिलादण्डनायकों एवं जिला पुलिस अधीक्षकों की बैठक आहूत करता है। वह इन अधिकारियों से अपराधों एवं अन्य मामलों से सम्बन्धित प्रतिवेदन मंगवाता है।

वह कानून एवं व्यवस्था की स्थिति पर नियंत्रण और निरीक्षण रखने के लिए सम्भाग के विभिन्न जिलों के कम से कम पॉच प्रतिशत पुलिस थानों का दौरा एवं पर्यवेक्षण करता है। यदि न्यायालय पुलिस अधिकारियों के विरूद्ध कोई टिप्पणी या आलोचना करता है तो ऐसे मामले जिला दण्डनायक सम्भागीय आयुक्त के माध्यम से सम्भागीय आयुक्त की टिप्पणी सहित राज्य सरकार को भेजते हैं।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त जिला स्तर पर कानून एवं व्यवस्था सम्बन्धी मासिक पुनरावलोकन मंगवाने का अधिकार रखता है। शस्त्र अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न कार्यवाहियों सम्बन्धी वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन भी जिला दण्डनायक सम्भागीय आयुक्त के माध्यम से ही राज्य सरकार के गृह विभाग को प्रेषित करते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त अल्प संख्यक समुदायों के सदस्यों, अनुसूचित जातियों, जनजातियों एवं समाज के कमजोर वर्गों को कानून व्यवस्था की जिन समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है, सम्भागीय आयुक्त इन वर्गों का विशेष रूप से ध्यान रखते हुए इन समस्याओं का समाधान करता है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त विभिन्न विकास कार्यक्रमों यथा एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम, राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार कार्यक्रम, सूखा सम्भावित सम्भाग क्षेत्रीय कार्यक्रम, मरू विकास कार्यक्रम, जनजाति क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम, ग्रामीण श्रमिक रोजगार गारण्टी कार्यक्रम, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में महिला एवं विकास योजना, जवाहर रोजगार योजना, नेहरू रोजगार योजना, निश्चित रोजगार योजना, ग्रामीण एवं शहरी आवास योजना, वृहद कृषि कार्यक्रम आदि का निरीक्षण पर्यवेक्षण एवं दिशा निर्देशन करते हैं। इसके लिए वह न केवल विभिन्न योजना व कार्य क्रियान्वयन अभिकरणों से सूचनाएं एवं सामयिक प्रगति प्रतिवेदन मंगवाते हैं वरन् स्वयं विभिन्न जिलों का नियमन एवं विस्तृत भ्रमण करते हैं।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त 20 सूत्रीय कार्यक्रम के संचालन एवं पुनरावलोकन हेतु उतरदायी होते हैं। विभिन्न कार्यक्रम अभिकरण अपने समस्त सामयिक प्रगति प्रतिवेदन की प्रतियां अनिवार्य रूप से सम्भागीय आयुक्त के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करते हें ताकि वे वस्तुस्थिति से अवगत रहें।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में पंचायत समीतियों और ग्रामीण विकास अभिकरणों का निरीक्षण करते हैं। वह इस बात का ध्यान रखता है कि ये संस्थाएं उन्हें हस्तान्तरित विभिन्न योजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों को लागू करने वाले अभिकरणों के रूप में अपनी भूमिका का निर्वहन ठीक कर रहीं हैं।

- जोधपुर सम्भागीय आयुक्त – मरू विकास आयुक्त
- उदयपुर सम्भागीय आयुक्त – जनजाति क्षेत्र विकास आयुक्त
- कोटा सम्भागीय आयुक्त – चम्बल क्षेत्रीय विकास आयुक्त के रूप में कार्य करता है।

यथा उपरोक्त तीनों को क्षेत्र विशेष के आधार पर अतिरिक्त शक्तियां व अधिकार प्रदान किए गए हैं। सम्भागीय आयुक्त विभिन्न विभागों जैसे सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, जलदाय विभाग, कृषि विभाग, सिंचाई विभाग, खाद्य एवं आपूर्ति विभाग, वन एवं पर्यावरण विभाग, परिवार कल्याण विभाग आदि पर नियंत्रण रखता है तथा उनमें समन्वय लाने की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है।

सम्भागीय आयुक्त कुछ न्यायिक कार्य भी सम्पन्न करता है। उसे विभिन्न अधिनियमों के अन्तर्गत सुनवाई करने का अधिकार भी होता है जैसे –

- राजस्व नगरपालिका अधिनियम की धारा 170 (12)
- नगर सुधार न्यास अधिनियम
- राजस्थान आबकारी अधिनियम
- राजस्थान गुण्डा अधिनियम 1975 एवं
- वन अधिनियिम इत्यादि।

विकासात्मक प्रशासन के सन्दर्भ में जिला प्रशासन

नवीन चुनौतियां एवं समस्याएॅं

विकासशील देशों में विकास प्रशासन लोकतांत्रिक विचारधारा और लोककल्याणकारी राज्यव्यवस्था के एक स्वाभाविक परिणाम और विकास के रूप में अस्तित्व में आया।

जिला प्रशासन, प्रशासन का वह स्तर है जहॉ ग्रमीण एवं नगरीय विकास को समन्वित एवं निर्देशित किया जाता है। इसे सामान्य प्रशासन की धुरी कहा जा सकता है।

जिला स्तर पर ही नागरिक सर्वप्रथम प्रशासन के सम्पर्क में आता है। यहीं पर वह एक अच्छे और बुरे प्रशासन का अनुभव करता हैं विकासात्मक प्रशासन के दौर में जिला प्रशासन व जिलाधीश के कार्यों में अभूतपूर्व वृद्धि हुई।

राजस्थान में जिलाधीशों के बढ़ते दायिक्त (1962 – 1985)

राजस्थान में सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पद की समाप्ति के साथ राज्य प्रशासन में व्यापक फेरबदल किए गए। विभिन्न अधिनियमों के तहत सम्भागीय आयुक्त को प्राप्त व्यापक शक्तियॉ राज्य सरकार, राजस्व अपीलीय अधिकारी एवं जिलाधीश में विभाजित करने की प्रक्रिया शुरू हुई। इसने राज्य सरकार और जिलाधीशों के कार्यभार में पर्याप्त वृद्धि कर दी।

राजस्थान में 1960 के पश्चात् विभन्न जिलों की जनसंख्या, शिक्षा और यातायात के क्षेत्र में द्रुत गति से विकास हुआ। जनसंख्या में लगभग तीन से चार गुणा वृद्धि हो गई साक्षरता प्रतिशत बढ़ने से जन जागरूकता बढ़ी जिसने जिला प्रशासन के दायित्वों और समस्याओं में वृद्धि की।

सड़क मार्ग, रेल मार्ग तथा वायु मार्ग से विभिन्न जिलों के सम्पर्क ने पर्यटन को प्रभावित किया। पर्यटन की दृष्टि से अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व प्राप्त करने के कारण सम्पूर्ण राज्य में जिला प्रशासन के दायित्व और भी अधिक व्यापक हुए। विकास प्रशासन के संदर्भ में जिलाधीश एवं जिला प्रशासन की विकासकर्त्ता एवं समन्वयकर्त्ता की भूमिका अस्तित्व में आई। कार्यों के विस्तार के कारण उनके कार्य निष्पादन में समय–प्रबन्धन जो कि कुशल प्रशासन की दृष्टि से महत्व रखता है गड़बड़ा गया। जिलाधीश को लोगों से नियमित मिलने–जुलने, क्षेत्र का दौरा करने, पंचायतों के कार्यों का निरीक्षण करने, पत्रावलियों को निपटाने, पत्र–व्यवहार करने, राजस्व एवं न्यायिक शाखा के मामलों की सुनवाई करने, समय–समय पर चुनाव प्रबन्ध करने, अतिविशिष्ट व्यक्तियों के जिले में आगमन पर प्रोटोकॉल सम्बन्धी दायित्व निभाने जैसे सामान्य कार्यों के अलावा विभिन्न समितियों की बैठक बुलाने, कार्य योजनाओं पर विचार रखने, समय–समय पर भंग हुए नगर विकास न्यास, डेयरी, सहकारी बैंक

आदि का अध्यक्ष एवं विभिन्न सहकारी एवं पंचायती राज संस्थानों के प्रशासन का दायित्व भी संभाालना पड़ता है। जिलें में कल्याण कार्यक्रमों को गतिशीलता देने के साथ साथ आकस्मिक घटनाओं और प्राकृतिक आपदाओं का सामना भी करना पड़ता है।

इन नियामकीय कार्यों के निष्पादन में ही उसका इतना अधिक समय व्यय हो जाता है कि विकास कार्यों की ओर वह पर्याप्त ध्यान नहीं दे पाता है। स्पष्ट है कि जिला कलेक्टर जिला प्रशासन की लम्बी कार्यसूची से अत्यधिक कार्यभार के बोझ से दबा हुआ है।

राजस्थान के अधिकांश जिलों में वरिष्ठतम् अधिकारियों एवं राजनीतिज्ञों के मध्य जिला कलेक्टरों के पद पर आसीन क्षेत्रीय ज्ञान से अनभिज्ञ युवा अधिकारी, जिलों के प्रमुख निर्देशक और नियंत्रक न होकर मंत्रियों के आज्ञानुवर्ती बनकर रह जाते हैं। अनुचित एवं अनियंत्रित राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप एवं दबाव के बीच वे स्वयं को अप्रिय स्थिति में महसूस करते हैं। फलतः इससे जुड़े कुछ प्रश्न उठना भी स्वाभाविक है जैसे– क्या जिला प्रशासन अपने दायित्वों का निर्वाह कार्य कुशलता और प्रतिबद्धता से कर पाया है? क्या लक्ष्यों में विस्तार परिवर्तन के अनुरूप प्रशासन की संरचना ओर प्रक्रिया में अपेक्षित सुधार किया गया है?, यदि नहीं, तो ये प्रशासनिक सुधार क्या हो सकते हैं? वर्तमान परिस्थितियों में जिला प्रशासन के अत्यधिक कार्य–विस्तारों के मद्देनजर क्या सम्भागीय आयुक्त का नियंत्रणकारी, समन्वयकारी व सलाहकार का पद उपयुक्त होगा? विकास के इस दौर में सम्भाग प्रमुख सम्भागीय आयुक्त, जिला प्रशासन के प्रमुख जिलाधीश के कार्यों में सहायता व निर्देशन हेतु क्या एक विकल्प प्रस्तुत करता है? क्या दोनों के तालमेल से ही राज्य सरकार विकास कार्यक्रमों की समयानुरूप, उद्देश्योंन्मुख प्राप्ति कर सकती हैं?

विकासात्मक प्रशासन के सन्दर्भ में सम्भागीय प्रशासन (सम्भागीय आयुक्त)

समस्याएं, चुनौतियां एवं सुझाव

राजस्थान राज्य क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से भारत का सबसे बड़ा राज्य है। यहां जाति, धर्म, भाषा, सामाजिक–आर्थिक स्तर की दृष्टि से पर्याप्त विविधता पाई जाती है। शिक्षा, रोजगार एवं जागरूकता की दृष्टि से अत्यधिक पिछड़ेपन ने स्थानीय प्रशासन को जटिल बना दिया है।

स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात् आधुनिकीकरण ने स्थानीय संस्कृति को प्रभावित किया है। उच्च शिक्षा, बेहतर रोजगार व बेहतर जीवन की महत्वाकांक्षा ने ग्रामीणों को शहर की ओर पलायन करने पर बाध्य किया है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप शहर की स्थानीय समस्याओं के स्वरूप में बदलाव आया। जिसके फलस्वरूप प्रशासन व उसकी समस्याओं में वृद्धि हुई है। ग्राम शैली में परिवर्तन, आधुनिक सुख–सुविधाओं की मांग और अपने अधिकारों के प्रति नागरिकों की सजगता इन सबने प्रशासन को अधिक कुशल एवं संवेदनशील बनाने पर विवश किया।

समय के साथ यद्यपि सम्भागीय आयुक्त की शक्तियों एवं कार्य प्रणाली में परिवर्तन हुआ है लेकिन अध्ययन से स्पष्ट हुआ है कि सम्भागीय आयुक्त की स्थिति सरकार के वास्तविक उद्देश्य को पूरा नहीं कर पा रही है। इसका मूल कारण सम्भवतः 1961 की तुलना में 1987 में पुर्नगठित सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पद को न्यूनतम शक्तियां प्रदान करना है जबकि कल्याणकारी राज्य, बढ़ते विकास कार्यों व जटिल प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था में इस पद को अधिक शक्तियों से वेष्ठित करना चाहिए था। आज भी यह पद अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण है। इसकी बदलती भूमिका एवं बढ़ते हुए कार्यक्षेत्र को देखते हुए यह कहा जा सकता है कि वह सम्भाग का सर्वाधिक प्रभावशील शक्ति सम्पन्न व सक्षम अधिकारी है, वह सामान्यकाल एवं संकटकालीन परिस्थितियों में ग्राम से सम्भाग स्तर पर प्रत्येक प्रशासनिक गतिविधियों का केन्द्र है।

अध्ययन से स्पष्ट होता है कि किसी भी व्यवस्था की भांति सम्भागीय आयुक्त पद भी पूर्णतः विवादरहित व समस्यामुक्त नहीं है, सम्भाग व सम्भागीय आयुक्त की व्यवस्था दोनों ही कई प्रकार की कमियों से ग्रसित है। अध्ययन के दौरान यह पाया गया कि–

- इस पद को राजनीति के प्रभाव से मुक्त रखना चाहिए, ताकि वह स्वतंत्र प्रशासनिक निर्णय ले सकें और विकास को सही व सामयिक गति दे सकें।
- पंचायत राज संस्थाओं को विशुद्ध जनसेवी जनप्रतिनिधि संस्थाएं बनाने और प्रशासनिक स्तर पर सम्भागीय आयुक्त एवं इन संस्थाओं में बेहतर भागीदारी के प्रयास किए जाने चाहिए। वर्तमान समय में यह देखने में आया है कि सम्भागीय आयुक्त यद्यपि सम्भाग का सर्वेसर्वा है, पुलिस प्रशासन उसके नियंत्रण से परे है। कल्याणकारी राज्यों को गति देने के लिए आवश्यक है कि कानून व्यवस्था व प्रशासनिक व्यवस्था में उचित समन्वय हो।
- प्रायः देखा गया है कि अधीनस्थ अधिकारियों व सम्भागीय आयुक्त में भी उचित समन्वय नहीं होता है इसका प्रमुख कारण भारत में ब्रिटिश विरासत से प्राप्त श्रेणी भेद है। आवश्यक है कि दोनों वर्ग के अधिकारियों में उचित समन्वय हो और स्वतंत्र एवं खुले विचार–विमर्श द्वारा व्यवहारिकता के धरातल पर योजनाओं को लागू किया जाए। कई बार उस समय असंमजस की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो जाती है जब सम्बन्धित विभाग, जिसके अन्तर्गत विकास कार्य करवाया जा रहा है तथा सम्भागीय आयुक्त दोनों उसी कार्य के लिए बजट पारित करवा लेते हैं। अतः इसके लए उचित होगा कि बजट पारित करवाने से पूर्व सम्भाग के सम्भागीय आयुक्त को सूचित किया जाए व आयुक्त कार्यालय एवं सम्भाग स्तरीय विभागों में उचित तालमेल कायम किया जाय।
- सम्भागीय आयुक्त प्रशासनिक कार्यों की अधिकता के कारण से न्यायिक प्रकरणों की सुनवाई में समय नहीं दे पाते। फलतः दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों से आये नागरिकों के साथ अन्याय होता है इसके लिए आवश्यक होगा कि अतिरिक्त सम्भागीय आयुक्त को भी अपीलें सुनने की शक्ति प्रदान की जाए। विकास योजनाओं का क्रियान्वयन हो या सामान्य प्रशासन के कार्य, दोनों के लिए ही प्रशासनिक मशीनरी का सरल सुस्पष्ट होना आवश्यक है। लेकिन राज्य की नीतियां व अस्पष्ट नियमन प्रशासनिक प्रक्रिया को शिथिल कर देते हैं। यह जरूरी है कि वर्तमान जटिल प्रशासनिक संरचना, नीतियों, नियमों में वर्तमान परिस्थितियों के अनुसार आवश्यक सुधार हो। आवश्यक है कि सम्भागीय आयुक्त सुचारू, नियमित एवं प्रभावी पर्यवेक्षण प्रणाली द्वारा अनावश्यक विलम्ब को रोकने हेतु उसके कारणों को दूर सके। सरकारी कार्यालयों की धीमी गति एवं योजना, परियोजना क्रियान्वयन में अनावश्यक विलम्ब उनके प्रति स्वाभाविक उत्साह को समाप्त कर देता है। इस उत्साह एवं रूझान को बनाए रखने का प्रयास किया जाना चाहिए।
- सामान्य जनता सम्भाग व सम्भागीय आयुक्त से अनभिज्ञ है। आम व्यक्ति राज्य स्तर से नीचे कलेक्टर तक ही आकर रूक जाता है। सम्भागीय आयुक्त पद की गरिमा, प्रतिष्ठा एवं सशक्तता के लिए आवश्यक है कि विभिन्न प्रकार से इस पद की स्थिति, शक्तियों व कार्यों के संदर्भ में सामान्य नागरिकों को अवगत कराया जाना चाहिए।
- इस संदर्भ में सरकार के परिवर्तन व सुधार के प्रयास नगण्य से नजर आते हैं। इस पद की व्यवस्था का सशक्त होना कुशल प्रशासन की पहली मांग है। सरकार को इस पद की शक्तियों में अभिवृद्धि हेतु विशेष प्रयास करने चाहिए। अच्छा हो यदि एक विशेष समिति इस संदर्भ में व्यापक अध्ययन एवं सुझाव देने हेतु नियुक्त की जाय। जिलाधीश और सम्भागीय आयुक्त के पद के कार्यकारी सम्बन्धों को अधिक सामंजस्य पूर्ण एवं व्यहारिक बनाया जाए। प्रशासन द्वारा सम्भागीय आयुक्त को समुचित महत्व दिया जाय। वर्तमान में अनेक अवसरों पर जिलाधीश स्चयं घटना घटित होने के पश्चात् ही सम्भागीय आयुक्त को याद करता हैं इसमें राज्य सरकार के नियमों का ही दोष दृष्टिगोचर होता है। उन नियमों में पर्याप्त सुधार अपेक्षित है।
- प्रशासनिक सेवा के विभिन्न अधिकारी जिनकी कार्य शैली एवं छवि अच्छी नहीं है, कार्यालय व जनता को उनसे यदि परेशानी है तो ऐसी स्थिति में सम्भागीय आयुक्त का अधिकार दिया जाना चाहिए कि

वह ऐसे अधिकारियों का अन्यत्र स्थानान्तरण कर सके। इससे प्रशासनिक ढाँचा संवेदनशील व सुदृढ़ एवं जनहित के अनुरूप होगा।

- सम्भागीय आयुक्तों की पदावधि के अध्ययन से ज्ञात होता है कि सम्भाग में कुछ सम्भागीय आयुक्त कुछ दिन, कुछ माह ही कार्यरत रहे हैं जबकि कुछ कई वर्ष। ऐसे भी उदाहरण है जिनमें एक दिन के लिए भी सम्भागीय आयुक्त पद पर रहा। उसका स्वाभाविक एवं सम्भवतः विपरीत प्रभाव उनकी कार्य प्रणाली पर पड़ता है यह आवश्यक है कि सम्भागीय आयुक्तों के जल्दी–जल्दी होने वाले स्थानान्तरण को रोका जाए।
- कार्यभार की अधिकता और विविधता को देखते हुए सम्भागीय आयुक्त के कार्यालय में कर्मचारियों की संख्या सीमित है। नए पदों का सृजन भी उपयोगी होगा। इस सम्बन्ध में महाराष्ट्र जैसे राज्यों का अनुकरण किया जा सकता है।
- वर्तमान सम्भागीय आयुक्त को स्वायतशासी संस्थाओं पर नियंत्रण के सीमित अधिकार प्राप्त है। सम्भागीय आयुक्त कार्यालय को सतर्कता कार्यालय की भूमिका निभानी चाहिए। इसके लिए परम्परागत ढॉचे एवं कार्यशैली में परिवर्तन अपेक्षित है।

सारांश

उपर्युक्त सुझावों के द्वारा सम्भागीय आयुक्त पद को एक सशक्त पद बनाया जा सकता है। यह राज्य के प्रशासकीय, लोक कल्याणकारी एवं विकासात्मक स्वरूप के संदर्भ में आवश्यक है। वस्तुतः सम्भाग राज्य के भीतर राज्य के रूप में आकार लेने लगे हैं। बहुसंख्यक जिलों और जिला प्रशासन के बहुआयामी, विविध एवं व्यापक कार्यों ने राज्य स्तर पर जिला प्रशासन के सीधे सम्पर्क से प्रशासन एवं समन्वय की जो समस्याएं उत्पन्न कर दी है, प्रशाससन के महत्वपूर्ण स्तर के रूप में सम्भाग और सशक्त निर्णय केन्द्र के रूप में सम्भागीय आयुक्त ही इनका एक मात्र हल हो सकता है। समय आ गया है कि विकासात्मक राज्य के संदर्भ में प्रशासन एवं जन सहभागिता के प्रभावी केन्द्र के रूप में सम्भागीय अयुक्त पद को संस्था के रूप में स्वीकार किया जाए। इसे राज्य और कार्यकारी जिला प्रशासन के बीच वास्तविक शक्ति का केन्द्र बनाया जाय। वास्तविक निर्देशन, नियंत्रक व समन्वयक के रूप में सम्भागीय आयुक्त ही लोकहिताकरी विकेन्द्रित सहभागी प्रशासन को मूर्तरूप प्रदान कर सकता है। जरूरी है कि सम्भागीय आयुक्त की महत्वता व उपलब्धियों से जनमानस को अवगत कराया जाए तभी प्रशासन में इस पद को उचित स्थान मिल सकेगा।

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EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

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ABSTRACT

The end of the 19th century, psychology emerged as an independent academic discipline. Psychology emerged to understand thought and its nature. Along with this, the discipline of educational psychology also came into existence to understand the behaviour and thoughts of the child in education. It is very important to master the skills of a teacher in the teaching profession. Knowledge of teaching principles is also necessary to increase effectiveness in the classroom. Psychology also helps to understand the internal and external behaviour of the child in education. Psychology also explains how a child learns and develops. Behavioural and educational problems of children arising in education are solved in a psychological way. Psychology makes the teacher more effective. Educational psychology helps to increase the academic achievement of children, identify gifted children, identify slow learners, special abilities of children. The behaviour and thoughts of the child in education keep changing continuously, educational psychology provides a basis for understanding this. Educational psychology is useful for studying various developmental and educational aspects of students. The concept, nature, scope, objectives of psychology and education have been discussed in this paper.

KEYWORDS: *Educational Psychology, Effective Teaching.*

Introduction

A person wishing to enter the teaching profession as a teacher requires mastery of the existing teaching profession teaching skills. Teaching effectively in the classroom requires knowledge of the principles of effective teaching. Educational psychology is the source of many such theories. These theories are derived from basic and applied research with the goal of understanding how people learn and develop, as well as to aid in learning. Educational psychology offers general principles related to all teaching methods as well as specific principles to make the teacher more effective. In light of the historical role of psychology in this chapter, educational psychology Concept, form and its scope are discussed. In the late nineteenth century, many philosophers turned their attention to the human brain Focused on questions like:

- How do we perceive the world around us?
- Are people free to act or are their actions determined by events inside or outside their bodies?
- What is the relationship between mind and body, that is, between our physical world and our thoughts, feelings and awareness?

Philosophers tried to answer these questions logically. By the end of the nineteenth century most philosophers had come to the conclusion that questions about the human brain could not be answered by reason alone; But careful observations are required.

Based on these findings, some physiologists began efforts to answer these questions. His studies were mainly scientifically focused on questions related to the nervous system and the senses. From the 1860s to the 1880s, Johannes Miller discovered that information is carried by electrical signals

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in nerves within the body. Hermann von Helmholtz proposed an explanation of how the eyes and ears receive signals from the outside world and interpret sensations; And Gustav Fechner demonstrated how our physical stimuli are instantiated. Combining these findings with the findings of philosophers led to a new idea. This idea was, "The possibility of a scientific field of psychology". As this idea was accepted, the field of psychology developed rapidly.

Nature and Development of Psychology

A full understanding of educational psychology requires a perspective on the development of psychology at its source. Psychology is now formally called the science of behaviour and mental processes. The last century has seen a radical change in the definition of psychology;however, Psychology has had to struggle to establish itself as an independent scientific discipline and to define itself clearly.

Psychology has always been the scientific study of human experiences; But the answers regarding what areas of human experience to study, how to study them, what exactly the subject of psychology should be, what methods psychologists should use for the study, etc., have been changing.

From time immemorial people have wondered why they behave the way they do. Greek and Roman philosophers first tried to answer this question. Their question was that what is Mind? That question got many interesting answers. For example, "Mental functions are concentrated in the heart." – Aristotle

This belief was revised over the years to say that mental functions are performed by the brain. Meanwhile philosophy was left with the responsibility of finding solutions to what we now consider psychological questions. In colleges, courses related to brain and behaviour were covered under philosophy-department. Psychology was recognized as an independent discipline in the late nineteenth century. Two streams of thought: (1) philosophy and (2) physiology and biology led to the early development of psychology as a separate field of study. In the nineteenth century, British philosophers began to think about the nature of thoughts and how thoughts are connected to the brain. John Locke (1624-1704) has made a significant contribution in this regard. He said that a person's brain is a 'blank slate' at birth. Sensations upon it imprint its mark. He believed that all knowledge, whether complex or abstract, is acquired through sensory interaction with the physical world.

The foundations of the ideologies of biology and physiology were laid in Germany in the 19th century. Wilhelm Wut, an anatomist and philosopher in Germany, opened a psychological laboratory in 1879 in Leipzig. Hence Wundt is considered the father of scientific psychology. In fact, William James had established a laboratory at Harvard University several years earlier; But it was used for classroom demonstrations rather than research. Wundt's researches were mainly aimed at understanding the nature of the mind's vigilance. The characters were asked to describe the sensations, images and feelings they had during their various experiences.

Wundt's psychology did not have practical applications. Wundt's American students—James, Dewey, Kettle, and others—became interested in finding practical applications of studies of the conscious process, leading to the development of pre-American psychology into practical psychology and its development into various fields.

James published a book based on the results of his studies in 1890, titled Principles of Psychology. This book contributed greatly to the development of psychology in America.

Underlying psychology from the late nineteenth century to the late twentieth century

Ideologies have Become Prevalent

- Structuralism (1875-1940)
- Functionalism (1890-1940)
- Behaviourism (1913 - Present)
- Psychoanalysis (1900 – Present)
- Gestalt (1912-1950)
- Humanistic Psychology (1951 - Present)
- Biological Psychology (1951 - Present)
- Cognitivism (1951 - Present)
- Constructivism (1981 – Present)

According to this developmental journey of psychology, the research done according to different ideologies of psychology has greatly expanded the scope of the subject matter of psychology. Hence, psychologists nowadays are recognized based on the field in which they apply the principles of psychology instead of being recognized based on an ideology. The current specializations of psychologists are:

- Biological Psychology: It studies the relationship between various physiological systems of the body and behaviour. Body systems include the brain and nervous system as a whole, the endocrine system, the immune system and the genitourinary system.
- Cognitive Psychology: It studies mental processes. These mental processes include reasoning and thinking, problem-solving, memory, visualization, mental imagery, and language.
- Developmental Psychology: It studies the physical, social, and psychological changes that occur at different ages during the life stages from conception to old age.
- Social Psychology: It studies the effect of an individual's social environment on his personality. Social psychologists mainly study topics like acceptance, obedience, interpersonal attraction, helping behaviour, prejudice, aggression, social beliefs.
- Personality Psychology: It studies the individual differences of an individual. For that it studies the characteristics that distinguish each individual from another and its origin and development.
- Health Psychology: It studies the role of psychological factors in the development, prevention and treatment of illness. It is mainly stress and adaptation, along with health Studies the relationship of psychological factors, patient-physician relationships, and motivational pathways to health-promoting behaviours.
- Educational Psychology: It studies how people of all ages learn. Educational psychologists help develop the teaching plans and literature needed to train people in academic and work situations. It helps in planning programs for intellectual, emotional and social development of children.
- Industrial Psychology: It studies the relationship between people and work. Industrial psychologists study productivity, job satisfaction, human resource selection and training, customer reactions to company products and services, etc.
- Clinical Psychology: It studies the causes, treatment and prevention of various types of psychological disorders. Such disorders mainly include anxiety, depression, eating disorders, drug abuse, etc.

Thus, psychologists have different working situations and interests; Yet they discover facts about human behaviour and mental processes using various study methods in their field.

We will now try to understand the form of educational psychology developed based on the results of the studies of educational psychologists studying the problems of education among the different fields in which psychologists work.

Meaning of Educational Psychology

Pedagogy is a normative study dealing with questions and principles of education. For educators, what should be the goals of education, how to bring about changes in children in accordance with the goals, how to ensure that the changes in children are in accordance with the goals, etc. are issues of discussion and research.

A child learns something at every stage of life from birth. Parents, brothers, friends, teachers, school, religious places, sports activities etc teach the child something consciously or unconsciously. Teaching and learning are very complex processes. Only if these processes can be analysed correctly can the teacher help the child learn. Hence, educational psychology has evolved from the results of studies conducted by educationalists working in the field of education using the principles of psychology to make both of these activities happen easily and effectively.

Educational psychology provides individuals working in education with a psychological perspective to address educational issues. It focuses on human-learning and development. Its main focus is on how to help students learn.

Educational psychologists conduct their research on human learning, human development, and teaching methods. These researches are carried out with the scientific method for the purpose of getting answers to the questions that arise in the minds of the people about the learning-teaching process rather than the educational work.

Different definitions of educational psychology can lead to an idea of what aspects of education it touches.

"Educational Psychology involves the application of Psychology to an understanding of the educative process."

-Raymond G. Kahlen

"The focus of educational Psychology is on human learning and development, with a major emphasis on discovering how students may be helped to learn."-

-Glover and Bruning (1987)

"Educational psychology, as a branch of psychology, specifically studies variables that help predict, control, and understand behaviour in the context of education."

-Dubois, Alvson and Staley

“Educational Psychology Describes the educational experiences of an individual from birth to old age”

-Crowe & Crowe

Does and explains.” “Educational psychology is a discipline concerned with the processes of learning and teaching. It uses psychology as well as its own methods and theories.”

– Woolfolk (1998)

Educational Psychology Emphasizes the following:

- The psychological study of the everyday problems of education, through which theories, models, teaching processes and practical methods of teaching and assessment are derived.
- Research methods, statistical analysis, and measurement-evaluation procedures suited to the study of teachers' thought and emotional processes and the culturally complex processes of schools.”

– Wittrock (1992)

From all these definitions it is clear that Educational Psychology:

- Is a branch of psychology.
- It studies developmental stages, factors affecting behaviour and learning process related to the learning process in the field of education.
- It guides the teacher on how to help students learn.
- Nature of Educational Psychology

Educational psychology is formed by generalizations and theories related to education from four major areas of psychology. That is, there are some theories and generalizations in the four fields of psychology that can be helpful in solving problems in the field of education. As a result, educational psychology has been established based on those principles. These four areas are as follows. (Raymond G. Kahlen, 1968)

- Studies related to human development
- Studies related to learning
- Studies related to personality, social psychology and adaptation
- Statistics and Measurement
- Let us briefly understand how each of these areas relate to education.

Developmental psychology is a branch of psychology that helps in studying the development of educationally important traits like strengths, personality, motivation, social traits etc. at a particular age. An effective teaching program cannot be delivered without knowing at what stage the student is in terms of these characteristics; Hence this field can be very helpful for education.

The psychology of learning is the study of the process of behaviour change caused by experience or behaviour. The function of education is to provide experiences for behaviour modification; Hence the psychology of learning can provide central concepts and theories related to education. Hence effective application of learning principles can be the key to effective teaching.

Personality psychology and social psychology study the nature of motivation and adaptation, the structure of personality, and the relationship of the individual to other individuals around him. Personality and motivational variables are important factors affecting student achievement in learning situations. Hence if the teacher wants to enhance the learning ability of the students in the learning situation, he has to be aware of the importance of these variables.

As the contribution of statistics and measurement to the development of psychology is great, when psychological principles are used in education, psychological tests become necessary to know if there is any change in the subject, or if the rate of change is increased. The development of such tests made it possible to scientifically judge a student's development. Statistics has also been instrumental in developing these psychological tests. Thus, statistics and measurement are major areas of psychology related to education.

Thus, the contribution of these four branches of psychology has been major in determining the primary form of educational psychology. Since then, as research in educational psychology has progressed, the use of those fields has become more widespread in educational psychology. Due to this, the field of educational psychology has become more extensive.

Scope of Educational Psychology

Based on the nature of educational psychology its scope may be limited to development, personality, measurement and learning; But as new problems arise in the field of education, its solution has become necessary to widen its field more and more and, in the future, also its field will have to be widened according to the need. If we keep the learning-teaching process in the classroom as the centre, five main aspects of the learning-teaching process are analysed.are: (1) setting the goal of education, (2) designing the curriculum, (3) object of the learning experience, (4) means of imparting the learning experience and (5) ensuring the attainment of the goal. Hence, educational psychology studies should focus on these five aspects.

Modern psychology has placed teaching at the centre of the entire process of education. Hence the teaching-learning process becomes effective only when; When the subject can be fully identified. In order to fully identify the learner, educational psychologists should undertake the following study questions with the learner at the centre:

- The relation of heredity and environment to achievement.
- Correlation of physical, mental, social, emotional, moral and linguistic maturity of the learner with his achievement.
- Relationship of a student's intelligence, aptitude, aptitude and personality differences to his achievement.
- Impact of student's readiness for learning, motivation, adaptation and mental health on his achievement.
- The learning process by the learner and the internal changes that occur during it.
- Relationship between teacher's learning ability and teaching methods.
- To create a learning environment for the education of exceptional children in terms of various aspects of development.
- Designing criteria and tools for measuring the student's progress towards goal attainment.

Lingren (1980) divides these various domains into three main domains: (1) the teacher, (2) the learning process, and (3) the learning situation. Adhyeta is the most central of these three aspects. Education does not exist without a teacher. A sale takes place only if there is a buyer. Hence, more and more studies in educational psychology should be aimed at understanding the subject.

Another area is the learning process. A learning process is one by which a person's behaviour changes; His achievement improves; Recognizes own thought process; Become familiar with new information and concepts. The learning process involves some things that cannot be seen or observed directly. For example, realization, thinking, remembering etc. also include some things like; which can be directly observed. Like, writing, counting, speaking etc.

A teacher learns in some classroom; Some learn outside the classroom. They learn some of what the teacher wants; Some learn what the teacher does not want. Educational psychologists should therefore be interested in exploring what happens when students learn. The third area is the learning environment. A learning situation is the context in which the learner studies and the learning process takes place. Some elements of the environment are direct. Like, classroom, library etc. Some of the components like, Board of Management, Board of Education etc. are indirect or remote. A learning situation includes all the elements that affect the teaching or learning process. It has important factors or components such as teacher's attitude and behaviour, emotional environment of school, society's attitude towards school etc. Studying all these elements is essential.

Objectives of Educational Psychology

You don't just have to be a teacher; But to be an effective teacher. A question that naturally arises in your mind is, how can the principles of educational psychology help me become an effective teacher? The answer depends on your ability to learn and apply the skills, knowledge, and principles derived from educational psychology research.

Ask yourself the question on what basis will you set your classroom teaching objectives to provide students with an appropriate learning environment? How do you decide the order of learning events in your class? How teacher-cantered and student-cantered will your classroom be? Why? What kind of teaching methods and technology will you use? How do you evaluate your students' progress, your effectiveness as a teacher, the overall effectiveness of your educational programs? The answer to these and many such questions will give you your knowledge of educational psychology.

A teacher's intelligence and personality are less useful than the skills he uses in the classroom to be successful as a teacher (Brophy & Good, 1986; Evertson & Smiley, 1987). Indeed, a teacher should be able to develop thinking skills in students, support the development of developmental characteristics of students, manage the classroom effectively, provide high quality teaching and understand the needs of exceptional children. Developing each of these strengths for the teacher to achieve is the aim of educational psychology. By acquiring knowledge of the principles of educational psychology, the teacher is able to do the following:

- **Developing thinking skills:** The main aim of education is to develop various thinking skills in students like problem-solving, decision-making, creative thinking etc. To develop such skills the teacher needs to have knowledge about meaningful learning, information-processing, language development etc. Meaningful learning occurs when students can connect prior knowledge with new knowledge. The learner must organize his new knowledge in such a way that he can use it continuously in learning new things. All this becomes possible only when the teacher organizes his teaching plan using the research findings in educational psychology.
- **Building and motivating self-concept:** Apart from developing the thinking skills of the student, the teacher has to inculcate in the student an attitude of cooperation rather than competition, establishing alliance with the student, treating them freely and easily, so that the teacher feels warm and enthusiastic. He in class Such activities are to be organized so that true self-concept develops in the student. A student's positive self-concept increases his motivation to achieve high in class. Knowledge of educational psychology helps teachers increase their motivation, meet individual needs of students, develop their interest in learning, and gain insight into their own behaviours.
- **Managing the Classroom Environment:** An effective teacher's classroom is happy, orderly andare productive. A teacher should be very sensitive about what is going on in his classroom. Disciplinary problems can be avoided only if he can manage the activities of different students simultaneously. According to Bandura (1977), the teacher himself can be an ideal model for the students, from whose observation the students can learn joyfully and cooperatively.
- **Pedagogy:** Exactly what the teacher has to do in the classroom before teaching the students should be told. If the teacher is successful in this then the student is ready to learn in the class and concentrates well in the study. Also, the teacher has to think about where to start the teaching work for each student. According to Brophy and Good (1986), a teacher with knowledge of educational psychology prepares his teaching according to the level of students,

adjusts individualized instruction where necessary and moves at an appropriate pace. It offers something for every student. Learning appeals to every student, as the content presented is suited to everyone's ability.

- **Evaluation of learning:** A teacher's teaching is considered good when it is carefully evaluatedhappens and changes accordingly. Educational psychology offers measures, tools and skills to assess how well a student learns. By using these tools and skills, the information about the quality of student learning helps the teacher to improve his teaching process. The feedback received through carefully conducted assessment helps the student to improve his/her learning a lot.
- **Meeting the needs of exceptional children:** Every child has a different pattern of physical, mental, emotional, social, linguistic, moral etc. developmental characteristics as well as personality and adaptation. According to this variation, the needs of each student are different. Discipline problems and adjustment problems arise from not meeting these needs. A professor of educational psychology and a teacher who knows his form tries to understand exactly the stage of development of each child and adjusts his treatment accordingly.Thus, the principles of educational psychology are helpful in understanding students as well as their development and nature.

Conclusion

Psychology is the science of behaviour and mental processes. Psychologists ask questions about why people behave, think and feel, and try to systematically answer them. The science of psychology is relatively new. In the last two decades of the nineteenth century, the German physiologist Wilhelm Wundrut established the first psychological laboratory. The structuralist ideology he presented, cantering on the conscious processes in man, became a practical science for functionalists in America. In opposition to constructivism, Watson introduced behaviourism. Mental process was not given place in it. Psychologists use a variety of methods to obtain reliable and objective information about human behaviour. Educational psychology has four strands: (1) studies related to human development, (2) studies related to personality, social psychology, and adaptation (3) studies related to learning, and (4) statistical and measurement studies. Modern educational psychology mainly conducts its studies in eight areas: (1) Genetics and environment of the learner and academic achievement, (2) Various developmental aspects of learner and academic achievement, (3) Learner's intelligence, aptitude, aptitude, personality and academic achievement (4) Teacher's learning readiness, motivation, adaptation, mental health and academic achievement, (5) internal changes during learning, (6) teaching methods, (7) learning environment for exceptional children, (8) effective methods of assessment. Principles of educational psychology the teacher should: (1) develop students' thinking skills, (2) build and motivate their self-concept, (3) properly manage the classroom environment, (4) organize the teaching plan, (5) evaluate learning appropriately., and (6) provide a classical understanding of why exceptional children need to be met.

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AI IN CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE: PREDICTING AND ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Suman Jha*

ABSTRACT

Climate change poses significant challenges to global agriculture, threatening food security and livelihoods. As climate patterns become increasingly erratic, traditional agricultural practices struggle to cope with the rapid changes. This paper explores the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing climate-resilient agriculture by predicting climate impacts and developing adaptive strategies. AI technologies such as machine learning, predictive analytics, and data-driven decision-making tools are employed to provide actionable insights for farmers and policymakers. This study reviews current AI applications in agriculture, including weather forecasting, pest and disease prediction, crop management, and soil health monitoring. The findings underscore the transformative potential of AI in enabling farmers to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change through precise and timely interventions. Despite its promise, the integration of AI in agriculture faces challenges such as data accessibility, technological infrastructure, and the need for farmer education and capacity building. This paper concludes by proposing a framework for scaling AI-driven solutions in climate-resilient agriculture, emphasizing the importance of policy support, investment in infrastructure, and collaborative efforts between stakeholders.

KEYWORDS: *Climate, Agriculture, Artificial Intelligence, Stakeholders, Decision-Making.*

Introduction

The agricultural sector is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including altered precipitation patterns, increased temperatures, and the frequency of extreme weather events. These changes pose risks to crop yields, livestock health, and overall food security. In response to these challenges, there is a growing interest in developing climate-resilient agricultural practices. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a powerful tool in this context, offering innovative solutions for predicting and adapting to climate variability.

AI technologies can analyze vast amounts of data to identify patterns and predict future climatic conditions, enabling proactive measures in agricultural management. For instance, AI can provide early warnings of droughts, floods, and pest infestations, allowing farmers to take preventive actions. Furthermore, AI-driven models can optimize resource use, such as water and fertilizers, enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of agricultural practices.

This paper aims to explore the potential of AI in climate-resilient agriculture, focusing on its applications in predicting climate impacts and developing adaptive strategies. By examining current AI technologies and their implementation in agriculture, this study seeks to highlight the benefits, challenges, and future directions for AI-driven agricultural resilience.

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Literature Review

The application of AI in agriculture is a rapidly evolving field, with numerous studies demonstrating its potential to enhance climate resilience. Key areas where AI has shown promise include:

- **Weather Forecasting and Climate Prediction:** AI models can analyze historical weather data and real-time satellite imagery to predict weather patterns with high accuracy. Machine learning algorithms, such as neural networks and support vector machines, are used to forecast rainfall, temperature fluctuations, and other critical climate variables. Accurate weather forecasts enable farmers to make informed decisions about planting, irrigation, and harvesting, reducing the risks associated with unpredictable weather.
- **Pest and Disease Management:** AI tools can detect early signs of pest infestations and crop diseases through image recognition and sensor data analysis. For example, AI algorithms can process images of crop fields to identify areas affected by pests or diseases, enabling targeted interventions. This approach not only minimizes crop losses but also reduces the need for chemical pesticides, contributing to more sustainable farming practices.
- **Precision Agriculture:** AI-powered precision agriculture involves the use of sensors, drones, and satellite imagery to monitor crop health, soil conditions, and resource use. Machine learning algorithms analyze this data to optimize irrigation schedules, nutrient application, and crop spacing. Precision agriculture helps farmers adapt to changing climate conditions by ensuring optimal use of resources and maximizing yields.
- **Soil Health Monitoring:** Soil health is a critical factor in agricultural productivity and resilience. AI models can analyze soil samples and environmental data to assess soil quality, moisture levels, and nutrient content. This information is used to recommend appropriate soil management practices, such as crop rotation and organic amendments, that enhance soil fertility and resilience to climate stressors.
- **Yield Prediction:** AI algorithms can predict crop yields based on various factors, including weather conditions, soil health, and crop management practices. Accurate yield predictions enable farmers and policymakers to plan for potential food shortages and take measures to mitigate the impacts of climate variability on food production.

Despite the promising applications of AI in agriculture, several challenges hinder its widespread adoption. These include data accessibility, the need for robust technological infrastructure, and the complexity of integrating AI tools into existing agricultural practices. Moreover, there is a need for capacity building and education to ensure that farmers can effectively use AI technologies to improve their climate resilience.

Methodology

This study employs a multi-method approach to analyze the potential of AI in climate-resilient agriculture. The research methodology includes:

- **Data Collection:** Data was collected from academic journals, industry reports, and case studies on AI applications in agriculture. The sources include recent publications from 2015 onwards to ensure the relevance and currency of the data.
- **Data Analysis:** A qualitative analysis was conducted to identify the key AI technologies used in agriculture and their applications in climate resilience. This involved reviewing existing AI models, algorithms, and tools, and assessing their effectiveness in predicting and adapting to climate impacts.
- **Case Studies:** Several case studies were examined to provide practical insights into how AI is being implemented in real-world agricultural settings. The case studies highlight successful AI applications in various regions, including smallholder farms in developing countries and large-scale commercial farms in developed nations.
- **Framework Development:** Based on the findings from the literature review and case studies, a framework was developed to guide the integration of AI into climate-resilient agricultural practices. The framework outlines key steps for implementing AI-driven solutions, including data collection, model development, farmer engagement, and policy support.

The research methodology aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of AI in agriculture and to identify the critical factors that influence its successful implementation in climate-resilient farming.

Results

The analysis reveals that AI technologies have significant potential to enhance climate-resilient agriculture. Key findings include:

- **Improved Prediction Accuracy:** AI models, particularly those based on machine learning and neural networks, have demonstrated high accuracy in predicting weather patterns and climate impacts. These models can provide early warnings of adverse weather conditions, allowing farmers to take timely preventive measures.
- **Enhanced Resource Efficiency:** AI-driven precision agriculture practices have been shown to improve resource use efficiency, such as optimizing water and fertilizer application. This not only enhances crop yields but also reduces the environmental footprint of agricultural activities.
- **Increased Adaptation Capacity:** AI tools enable farmers to adapt to changing climate conditions by providing real-time data and recommendations for crop management. For example, AI models can suggest drought-tolerant crop varieties or recommend changes in planting schedules based on weather forecasts.
- **Challenges in Implementation:** Despite the benefits, the implementation of AI in agriculture faces challenges such as the high cost of technology, limited access to data, and the need for training and capacity building among farmers. Additionally, there are concerns about data privacy and the ethical use of AI in agriculture.

The findings highlight the need for a collaborative approach to address these challenges and to scale AI-driven solutions in climate-resilient agriculture. This includes investing in technological infrastructure, improving data accessibility, and providing support for farmers to adopt AI tools.

Discussion

The results of this study underscore the transformative potential of AI in enhancing climate-resilient agriculture. AI technologies offer a range of solutions that can help farmers anticipate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. However, the successful implementation of AI in agriculture requires addressing several challenges.

One of the key challenges is data accessibility. AI models rely on large datasets to make accurate predictions, but access to high-quality data is often limited, particularly in developing countries. Efforts are needed to improve data collection and sharing, as well as to develop standardized data protocols that facilitate the integration of AI tools into agricultural practices.

Another challenge is the high cost of AI technologies, which can be a barrier for smallholder farmers. To overcome this, there is a need for investment in affordable and scalable AI solutions that are accessible to farmers of all sizes. Governments and development agencies can play a critical role by providing subsidies, grants, and technical support to promote the adoption of AI in agriculture.

Farmer education and capacity building are also essential for the successful implementation of AI-driven agricultural practices. Many farmers may lack the technical skills needed to use AI tools effectively. Training programs should be developed to equip farmers with the knowledge and skills required to integrate AI into their farming operations.

Furthermore, there are ethical considerations related to the use of AI in agriculture, including data privacy and the potential for bias in AI algorithms. It is important to establish guidelines and best practices for the ethical use of AI, ensuring that the benefits of AI-driven agriculture are distributed equitably and that farmers retain control over their data.

Conclusion

AI has the potential to revolutionize climate-resilient agriculture by providing innovative solutions for predicting and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Through advanced data analysis, predictive modeling, and real-time decision support, AI can help farmers optimize resource use, improve crop yields, and reduce the risks associated with climate variability.

However, realizing the full potential of AI in agriculture requires overcoming several challenges, including data accessibility, technological infrastructure, and the need for farmer education. A collaborative approach is needed.

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ATTITUDE OF TEACHER EDUCATORS TOWARDS INTEGRATED TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME (ITEP)

Dr. Vijay Kumar Gupta*

ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to investigate the perspectives of teacher educators on the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which is a program that is designed to endure for a period of four years. As a result of the kind of research that was being conducted, this study used a descriptive survey methodology. The well-known sampling method was used in order to choose one hundred teacher educators from a variety of universities and institutes of teacher education located in the areas around Agra in Uttar Pradesh. A total of fifty males and fifty females were employed in the field of teacher education. For the purpose of determining the views of teacher educators with relation to ITEP, the researcher used a self-designed instrument that has been validated and shown to be trustworthy. The instrument is comprised of a total of forty items, each of which is based on the Likert scale format, which has five points. Among the statistical measures that were used for the purpose of data analysis were the mean, the percentage, and the t-test. The results of the poll indicate that positive sentiments of ITEP are largely held by educators. There was no statistically significant difference in the feelings that male and female teacher educators had with ITEP, according to the findings. The viewpoint of ITEP, on the other hand, varies significantly across urban and rural areas, as well as between those who teach in the arts and those who teach in the sciences.

KEYWORDS: *Attitude, Teacher Educators, Teacher Education Programme.*

Introduction

Teacher education is designed to provide potential educators with the knowledge, skills, and mindsets that are necessary to effectively fulfill the multiple responsibilities that come with being a teacher and to triumph over the numerous problems that come along with the profession. This is the objective of teacher education. In order to improve the teaching profession in the nation, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), which is a statutory institution that comes under the Ministry of Education, has initiated an Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP) that will last for a period of four years. The program's objective is to provide instructors the training they need to become more effective educators. An internship, field experiences, and teaching practice are all components of the ITEP program, which is carried out over the period of four years and eight semesters. The curriculum requires students to complete all of these components. A practicum that is connected to the tasks and obligations of a school teacher is included in the professional studies component of the program. Additionally, the program offers courses on the curriculum and pedagogy of school themes, perspectives in education, and other core education courses. The area of general studies encompasses not only the disciplines of mathematics and physics, but also the social sciences and the humanities for a more comprehensive understanding.

In order to achieve its objective of bringing about a fundamental transformation in the way teachers are prepared for the school system, the ITEP has adopted some of the most advanced techniques of teacher education that are available elsewhere in the world. To assist the individual who

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aspires to become a successful educator in developing the mentality, skills, and comprehension that are required to overcome the challenges that lie ahead on the route to being a good educator. The Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) is a four-year curriculum that is aimed to develop educators who are devoted, conscientious, and competent. After students have completed Senior Secondary (+2), they have the choice of enrolling in either the Arts Stream or the Science Stream of the ITEP. Among the objectives of this curriculum is the development of a fresh perspective on the manner in which teachers are educated.

The attitude that teacher educators have toward programs that educate them to teach is a significant factor that, in the long term, has a significant impact on the education system as well as the quality of the next generation of educators. It is important for individuals who are responsible for training and mentoring future teachers to have a positive, progressive, and constructive perspective on the purpose, pedagogical practices, and curriculum of teacher education programs at all times. The degree to which they are able to inspire and include aspiring teachers in the process of cultivating creativity and adaptability in the classroom is contingent upon the viewpoint that they approach the situation from. It is possible for both trainers and trainees to benefit from the rich exchange of knowledge and experiences that takes place when teacher educators retain a cheerful and supportive approach.

There are a number of impediments that may, unfortunately, diminish the zeal of teacher educators. These difficulties include limited chances for professional development, rigid institutional standards, and outdated curriculum. If students believe that the curriculum is not relevant to the needs of current classrooms or that it is not practical, then their passion and devotion to the curriculum may decrease. This perspective carries the danger of limiting the learning process of students to a mechanical process and prevents future teachers from getting the necessary practical experience and self-reflection that are crucial to their vocation.

Additionally, teacher educators who are excited about their work in research, professional development, and continual improvement are more likely to be active in teacher education programs. This is because they are invested in their job from a professional development perspective. They do this by continually upgrading their knowledge and abilities via professional development opportunities, which they then share with their students. This helps to foster an environment that is conducive to teams working together and creativity. For the purpose of motivating and empowering trainees to confidently and professionally address challenges that they will encounter in the classroom in the real world, it is essential for teacher educators to have a strong belief in the value of the program.

When everything is taken into consideration, the only way for teacher education programs to be successful is for teacher educators to have a favorable attitude toward them. In order to create future educators who are skilled, imaginative, and adaptable, educators who embrace a growth mindset are better suited to do so. Pessimism, on the other hand, is a factor that causes development to halt, which in turn lowers the bar for teacher training programs and, ultimately, student accomplishment in the classroom.

Teacher Educators Affect the Results of Teacher Preparation Programs

It is the attitudes of teacher educators that have a significant impact on the effectiveness and quality of the outputs of various teacher training programs. When teachers themselves have a positive attitude toward the teacher education program, they are more likely to engage their students via the use of innovative pedagogy, examples from the real world, and active involvement. It is through the use of this technique that prospective educators are better prepared to meet the requirements of modern classrooms. These requirements include the use of technology, the encouragement of inclusiveness, and the development of students' critical thinking abilities. As a result of the commitment and excitement shown by teacher educators, student teachers are motivated to emulate their colleagues and perform to the best of their abilities in the classroom.

There is a possibility that the gloomy outlooks of teacher educators might be detrimental to the mood of the classroom. Instructors run the danger of alienating and demotivating their student teachers if they demonstrate a lack of passion or trust in the educational techniques or content that the program offers. Educators who fail to acknowledge the ever-evolving nature of education and who fail to appropriately prepare their trainees to navigate these challenges face considerable challenges in the form of modern difficulties such as digital learning, varying student needs, and changing curriculum requirements.

Objectives

- To investigate teacher educators' perspectives on the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP).
- To investigate how male and female teacher educators feel differently about the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP).
- To investigate how rural and urban teacher educators see the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP) differently.

Hypothesis

The four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) had a good reception among teacher educators.

When it comes to the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), male and female teacher educators have similar attitudes.

The perspective of urban and rural teacher educators on the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) is not significantly different.

Method and Sample

As a result of the kind of research that was being conducted, this study used a descriptive survey methodology. One hundred educators-in-training faculty members from colleges and institutions located in the Agra district of Uttar Pradesh were decided upon via a random selection process. A total of fifty males and fifty females were employed in the field of teacher education.

Tool Used

A self-designed instrument that has been validated and shown to be trustworthy was used by the researcher in order to ascertain the perspective of teacher educators with regard to the Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP), which is a four-year program. This instrument is comprised of a total of forty questions that are based on a Likert scale rating system with five points. The Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) is a program that lasts for a period of four years, and the goal of this scale is to assess the attitudes of Instructors regarding the program. A score of one indicates that it is never, a score of two indicates that it is seldom, a score of three suggests that it is sometimes, a score of four indicates that it is often, and a score of five shows that it is very often. Through the utilization of the split-half method, we were able to conclude that the dependability of the instrument was 0.312 (N=100).

Data Collection

As a means of gathering information, the researcher disseminated the questionnaire to teacher educators who were employed inside the educational institutions that were relevant to the study. In light of the fact that they were assured that the data would be used only for research reasons, teacher educators were encouraged and urged to provide replies that were honest and transparent from the beginning.

Statistical Techniques

For the purpose of conducting an analysis of the data, the t-test, percentage, standard deviation, and mean were the statistical tools that were used.

Analysis of Data

- **Hypothesis 1:** The four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) had a good reception among teacher educators.

Table 1: Displaying the Percentage Distribution of Teacher Educators' Attitudes towards the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) Throughout Eight Years

Variable	Sample Size	Mean	Percentage of teacher educators above mean	Percentage of teacher educators above mean
	100	26.14	68%	32%

The results of the investigation with regard to the scores that were noticed are shown in table no. 1. The findings indicate that, on average, teacher educators have a positive opinion towards the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which is a four-year program. For example, 68 percent of teacher educators had scores that were higher than the mean, while 32 percent received scores that were lower than the mean and negative. Taking all of this into consideration, it is readily apparent that the vast majority of teacher educators have a favorable attitude toward online education. It is possible to draw the conclusion that the null hypothesis that claims "there is a positive attitude of teacher educators towards the four years Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)" is correct. This conclusion may be reached after taking all of this into account. The second hypothesis is that there is no significant difference between male and female teacher educators in terms of their viewpoints on the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) over the course of four years. This hypothesis is based on the assumption that teachers are taught by both genders. It is assumed that there is a difference between the two, which is the foundation of this theory.

- **Hypothesis 2:** When it comes to the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), male and female teacher educators have similar attitudes.

Table 2: Providing the t-value for male and female educators-in-training on the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme

Variables (Categories)	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Result
Male	50	27.36	1.313	98	0.157	Not Significant
Female	50	27.11	1.411			

The data presented in Table 2 makes it clear that male teacher educators have a mean score of 27.34 and a standard deviation of 1.312. Additionally, the female teacher educators had a mean score of 27.13, a standard deviation of 1.413, and 98 degrees of freedom in their scores. The t-value that was calculated was found to be 0.157. At the 0.01 level, the t-value is 2.58, and at the 0.05 level, it is 1.96. This information is shown in the table. It should be noted, however, that the calculated t-value is lower than the table value when the significance threshold is set at 0.05 and and 0.01. This means that the null hypothesis that "there is no significant difference between the attitude of male and female teacher educators towards four years Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)" is given full consideration.

- **Hypothesis 3:** The perspective of urban and rural teacher educators on the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) is not significantly different.

Table 3: Urban and Rural Teacher Educators' Four-Year ITEP Opinions t-Value

Variables (Categories)	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Result
Rural	50	29.24	1.428	98	2.79	Significant
Urban	50	29.67	1.327			

With a mean score of 29.24 and a standard deviation of 1.428, the statistical data that is shown in table no. 3 indicates beyond a shadow of a doubt that rural teacher educators have reached this level of achievement. The mean score for urban teacher educators was 29.67, the standard deviation was 1.327, and there were 98 degrees of freedom. The mean score was also the highest score. It is similar to the last example in this regard. Upon completion of the calculation, the t-value was determined to be 2.79. The t-value is 2.58 when assessed at the 0.01 level, and it is 1.96 when assessed at the 0.05 level. The table contains this information for your perusal. In this specific case, however, the t-value that was computed is higher than the value that was found in the table at both the 0.05 and 0.01 levels of significance, respectively. As a result of this, there is a considerable knowledge gap between the perspectives of urban and rural teacher educators about the Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP), which is a program that lasts for a duration of four years. According to the results, the null hypothesis, which asserts that "there is no significant difference between the attitude of rural and urban teacher educators towards four years Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP)," is not supported by the data. This is because the findings imply that the null hypothesis might be incorrect.

Table 4: Offer the t-Value for Arts and Science Teacher Educators' Integrated Teacher Education Program Four-year Viewpoint

Variables (Categories)	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Result
Science	50	26.13	1.47	98	2.76	Significant
Arts	50	27.42	1.53			

With the help of Table no. 3, it is easy to see that the mean score for rural teacher educators was 26.13, and the standard deviation was 1.47. This information may be taken into consideration. This research has 98 degrees of freedom, and the mean scores of urban teacher educators are 27.42. The standard deviation is 1.53, and there are 98 degrees of freedom in this study. Based on the results of the calculation, the t-value was discovered to be 2.76. The t-value is 2.58 when assessed at the 0.01 level, and it is 1.96 when assessed at the 0.05 level. The table contains this information for your perusal. In this specific case, however, the t-value that was computed is higher than the value that was found in the table at both the 0.05 and 0.01 levels of significance, respectively. The fact that this is the case demonstrates that there is a substantial difference between the attitudes of artistic and scientific teacher educators about the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which is an experience that lasts for a period of four years. According to the results, the null hypothesis, which asserts that "there is no significant difference between the attitude of science and arts teacher educators towards four years Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP)," is not supported by the data. This is because the findings show that the null hypothesis might be incorrect.

Findings

The main findings derived from the analysis of data are as follows:

- When it comes to the four-year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), it has been shown that 68 percent of teacher educators have a positive or positive attitude towards it, whereas 32 percent have a negative or unfavorable attitude towards it.
- The overwhelming majority of educators who work with teachers have a positive outlook on online education.
- There is not a substantial difference in the perspectives of male and female teacher educators with regard to the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which continues for a period of four years.
- Teachers who work in urban and rural regions have extremely diverse opinions on the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which is a program that lasts for a continuous period of four years.
- The Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which lasts for four years, is seen in a variety of ways by educators who are mentoring prospective teachers in the fields of science and the arts.

Conclusion

The “National Council for Teacher Education (Recognition, Norms and Procedure) Amendment Regulations, 2019” stipulate that stakeholders and governments will support the material and human resource demands of the Four Year ITEP (Upper Primary to Secondary) and the Four Year ITEP (Pre-Primary to Primary). This is a requirement for both of these programs. The issue is becoming more important in the field of teacher education, and as a result, everyone engaged is completely enthralled by it. The implementation of the ITEP requires participation from all parties involved, including students, parents, administrators, and the government. Additionally, teacher educators should be ready to do their share to the implementation of the ITEP.

Educational Implications

In order to successfully carry out the Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP), which is a four-year program, it is necessary for teacher educators, classroom instructors, parents, and governments to implement activities that are well-organized, purposeful, and attentive.

It is necessary to educate educators of teachers, since 32 percent of teacher educators have shown a negative and unfavorable attitude toward ITEP.

While professionals in the field of education and administrators are responsible for formulating policies, it is the government that is accountable for putting the program into action. It is imperative that the government provide the necessary funds in order to successfully carry out the ITEP.

The teachers should be supplied with the resources that are required to implement ITEP, and it is essential to make certain that all of the instructors have a complete comprehension of everything that is included in the materials.

Encourage all parties engaged in the educational process, including students and coworkers, to have a positive attitude toward Internet-based educational programs (ITEP). By drawing attention to the accomplishments of Regional Institutes of Education, which have successfully provided integrated courses such as Bachelor of Science in School Education and Master of Science in School Education, we may be able to encourage educators to cultivate favorable attitudes on ITEP.

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SHRAVAKACHARA: HARMONIZING BELIEFS, CUSTOMS, AND RITUALS IN JAINISM

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ABSTRACT

Shravakachara, the ethical framework for Jain householders (Shravakas and Shravikas), provides a path for integrating spiritual values into daily life while fulfilling familial and societal roles. At the heart of Jainism are three core principles: Ahimsa (non-violence), Aparigraha (non-attachment or non-possessiveness) and Anekantavada (multiplicity of viewpoints). These foundational beliefs shape the ethical guidelines for householders, ensuring that their daily actions align with Jain values. Rituals and customs further reinforce these principles, guiding followers in their spiritual and ethical practices.

KEYWORDS: *Harmonizing Beliefs, Customs, Rituals, Ahimsa, Aparigraha.*

Introduction

Beliefs and Ethical Principles in Shravakachara

The foundational beliefs of Jainism play a crucial role in shaping the ethical framework of Shravakachara.

- **Ahimsa (Non-Violence):** This principle emphasizes the importance of non-violence in thought, word, and deed. For lay followers, Ahimsa manifests in various ways, including vegetarianism, compassion toward all living beings, and mindfulness in interpersonal relationships.
- **Aparigraha(Non-Attachment or Non-Possessiveness)** is a key principle in Jainism, encouraging individuals to minimize their material desires and avoid attachment to possessions. It promotes a lifestyle of simplicity, contentment, and restraint, urging followers to only keep what is necessary for sustenance. By practicing Aparigraha, Jains reduce greed and foster spiritual growth, helping them focus on inner peace rather than external acquisitions.
- **Anekantavada (Multiplicity of Viewpoints):** This principle promotes the understanding that truth is multifaceted. It encourages open-mindedness and respect for different perspectives, fostering a spirit of tolerance and dialogue within the community.

These beliefs shape the ethical guidelines prescribed by Shravakachara, allowing householders to harmonize their daily lives with Jain principles. For example, the commitment to Ahimsa influences dietary choices and interactions with others, while Anekantavada encourages thoughtful engagement with diverse viewpoints in family and social settings.

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Shravakachara and Jain Rituals

Jain householders participate in various rituals that reinforce their connection to the faith and its values. In Jainism, festivals are broadly categorized into two types:

Naimittika and Shashvata festivals. These are eternal festivals, observed universally without specific ties to any event or historical figure. They are considered to have eternal significance in Jain cosmology. Some examples of shashvata festivals are:

- **Daslakshan Parv:** An annual spiritual observance lasting several days, it emphasizes self-discipline, reflection, and spiritual growth. During this time, householders engage in fasting, meditation, and prayer, deepening their connection to the core values of Jainism.

Ashtanik Parv is a significant religious observance in Jainism, celebrated every four months, typically at the change of seasons. The term "Ashtanik" is derived from the number eight, as these celebrations are observed for eight days. During this period, Jains engage in intensified spiritual practices such as fasting, meditation, scriptural study, and performing rituals. Temples become centers of activity, with special prayers, discourses, and community gatherings held to mark the occasion. The Ashtanik Parv serves as a time for self-reflection, renewal of vows, and deepening one's commitment to Jain ethical principles like Ahimsa and Aparigraha. These are also shashvatparv.These rituals not only serve as reminders of Jain ethical principles but also provide a sense of community among householders, reinforcing their shared beliefs and practices.

The Role of Customs in Shravakachara

Cultural customs play a significant role in the life of a Jain householder, and they are closely aligned with the moral teachings of Shravakachara. Key areas of focus include:

- **Naimittika Festivals:** These are occasional or annual festivals observed to commemorate significant events or spiritual milestones. They occur at specific times during the year and are linked to historical or religious events in Jain tradition. For instance:

Mahavir Jayanti is one of the most significant festivals in Jainism, celebrating the birth of Bhagwan Mahavira, the 24th and last Tirthankara. Born in 599 BCE in Kundagrama (now in Bihar, India), Mahavira's teachings of Ahimsa (non-violence), Aparigraha (non-attachment), and Anekantavada (multiplicity of viewpoints) continue to inspire Jains around the world.

On this day, Jains visit temples to offer prayers, perform abhisheka (ritual bathing of Mahavira's idol), and listen to sermons recounting his life and teachings. Processions with images of Mahavira, hymns, and discourses are also organized in many Jain communities. The festival is a time for reflection on Mahavira's message of compassion, ethical living, and spiritual discipline, urging Jains to practice his principles in their daily lives.

Jains celebrate Diwali as the day when Bhagwan Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara, attained *moksha* (liberation) at Pavapuri on the 15th day of the month of Kartika (around October-November) in 527 BCE. According to Jain tradition, Mahavira's attainment of *nirvana* marks a significant spiritual moment, as it represents the liberation of the soul from the cycle of birth and death (*samsara*).

On this day, Jains remember the teachings of Bhagwan Mahaveer. The night Mahavira achieved *moksha*, it is said that the heavens were illuminated with divine light, and in remembrance of this, Jains light lamps (diyas) to symbolize the dispelling of ignorance and the emergence of knowledge.

Akshaya Tritiya holds special significance for Jains as it marks the day when the first Tirthankara, Bhagwan Rishabhadeva, ended his year-long fast by accepting sugarcane juice from King Shreyans. This event symbolizes the importance of self-discipline and renunciation in Jainism.

Jains celebrate Akshaya Tritiya by engaging in fasting, charity, and meditation, reflecting on the virtues of non-attachment (*Aparigraha*) and spiritual purity.

Marriage and Birth Ceremonies: Jain customs related to family life are infused with ethical teachings, emphasizing the importance of harmony, respect, and compassion in familial relationships. Rituals associated with marriage and childbirth are performed with the intent of fostering a spiritually conducive environment.

Balancing cultural customs with religious duties is vital for Jain householders. They navigate the intricacies of societal expectations while adhering to Jain ethical standards, ensuring that their practices reflect both their cultural heritage and spiritual values.

Harmonizing Spiritual Practice with Daily Life

Shravakachara provides practical guidelines for integrating spiritual practices into everyday life. Key practices include:

- **Devapooja**

Devapooja refers to the worship of deities, particularly Tirthankaras, in Jainism. This practice involves offering respect, devotion, and reverence through rituals and prayers. The primary objective is to express gratitude and seek blessings for spiritual growth and guidance. Devapooja also reinforces the values of humility and devotion, reminding practitioners of the path of righteousness and the importance of following the teachings of the Tirthankaras.

- **Guru Upasthy**

Guru Upasthy emphasizes the significance of honoring and venerating the guru or spiritual teacher in Jainism. This practice involves showing respect and devotion to those who guide followers on their spiritual journeys. Recognizing the guru's role is crucial for spiritual advancement, as it fosters an understanding of Jain teachings and practices. Guru Upasthy highlights the importance of knowledge and guidance in achieving spiritual enlightenment and emphasizes the relationship between the teacher and disciple.

- **Swadhyaya**

Swadhyaya denotes the practice of self-study and reflection on Jain scriptures and teachings. It is an essential aspect of spiritual development, encouraging practitioners to deepen their understanding of Jain philosophy and ethics. Swadhyaya can involve reading and reflecting on texts such as the Agamas or commentaries, as well as discussing their meanings in groups. This practice fosters personal growth, self-awareness.

- **Sayama**

Sayama refers to the practice of self-restraint and meditation in Jainism. This concept emphasizes the importance of controlling one's thoughts, actions, and desires to achieve spiritual purity. Sayama can involve observing periods of silence, engaging in meditation, or following a disciplined lifestyle to foster inner peace and concentration. Practitioners believe that through Sayama, they can attain higher states of consciousness and develop a deeper understanding of the nature of reality. This practice is crucial for those seeking to liberate themselves from the cycle of birth and death.

- **Tapa**

Tapa denotes the practice of austerity and self-discipline in Jainism. It involves various forms of penance, including fasting, limiting consumption, and performing physical and mental self-denials. Tapa is viewed as a means to purify the soul and reduce karmic attachments. Practicing Tapa helps Jains cultivate virtues such as patience, humility, and compassion, allowing them to transcend material desires and achieve spiritual growth. This practice reinforces the belief that self-discipline and renunciation are essential for progressing on the path to liberation.

- **Dhana**

Dhana refers to the practice of charity and giving in Jainism. It emphasizes the importance of selflessness and compassion towards all living beings. Jains engage in acts of Dhana to support those in need, whether through monetary contributions, food distribution, or other forms of assistance. This practice is not only a means of helping others but also serves to diminish one's attachments and foster a sense of community and interconnectedness. Dhana aligns with the Jain principles of Ahimsa (non-violence) and Aparigraha (non-attachment), encouraging practitioners to cultivate generosity and empathy.

- **Ritual Purity and Discipline**

Purity of thought, word, and action is paramount in Jainism, as outlined in Shravakachara. Key elements include:

  - **Purity:** The pursuit of purity involves not only physical cleanliness but also mental and emotional clarity. Household practices emphasize the importance of maintaining purity in one thoughts, words and Action.

- **Discipline:** Observing daily rituals such as Samayik (periods of meditation), and Prathiktraman cultivates discipline among householders. These practices encourage self-control and reflection, enhancing their spiritual journey.

Through these aspects, Shravakachara underscores the significance of discipline and purity in the daily lives of Jains, helping them remain focused on their spiritual goals.

The Importance of Non-Violence (Ahimsa) In Beliefs, Customs, and Rituals

Ahimsa permeates every aspect of Shravakachara, influencing beliefs, customs, and rituals. Key considerations include:

- **Food Choices:** Adhering to a vegetarian diet is a fundamental expression of Ahimsa, reflecting a commitment to avoid harm to living beings.
- **Fasting Rituals:** Practices like fasting are expressions of self-discipline and non-violence, enabling householders to cultivate compassion and empathy toward others.

Through these customs and rituals, the principle of Ahimsa is not only observed but actively practiced, reinforcing the ethical framework of Shravakachara.

The Role of Family and Community in Shravakachara

Family and community life in Jainism is deeply intertwined with the ethical teachings of Shravakachara. Key aspects include:

- **Child-Rearing:** Jain principles are instilled in children through cultural customs and rituals, promoting values of compassion, and honesty.
- **Community Gatherings:** Rituals and community events, such as temple visits and festivals, play a vital role in reinforcing communal bonds and shared beliefs, fostering a sense of belonging and collective identity.

By nurturing family life and community ties, Shravakachara strengthens the moral and ethical fabric of Jain society.

Spiritual Aspirations and Layperson's Duties in Shravakachara

Shravakachara encompasses a dual focus on spiritual aspirations and worldly duties.

- Laypersons are encouraged to cultivate spiritual growth through practices like meditation, self-reflection, and ethical living while actively engaging in their familial and social responsibilities.
- Fulfilling Worldly Duties: Shravakachara recognizes that engagement in worldly life does not detract from spiritual progress. Rituals and customs are designed to facilitate this balance, helping householders navigate their roles while pursuing spiritual aspirations.

Cultural Adaptation of Rituals and Practices in Modern Times

As society evolves, Shravakachara has adapted to contemporary contexts, allowing Jain beliefs and practices to thrive in diverse cultural frameworks. Key observations include:

- **Modern Context:** Contemporary Jains often find ways to harmonize traditional rituals with modern lifestyles, ensuring relevance in a fast-paced world.
- **Integration of Technology:** The use of digital platforms for community engagement, education, and spiritual practice has become increasingly common, reflecting the adaptability of Jain customs.

By embracing cultural adaptation, Jains can maintain their spiritual identity while engaging with modern society.

Conclusion: Harmonizing Faith and Practice Through Shravakachara

In conclusion, Shravakachara serves as a vital bridge between the spiritual beliefs, cultural customs, and ritual practices of Jains. By providing an ethical framework that balances spiritual aspirations with worldly duties, Shravakachara enables householders to lead lives that are both fulfilling and aligned with Jain principles. The relevance of harmonizing these aspects is paramount in cultivating a balanced and spiritually enriching existence as a Jain householder, allowing them to navigate the complexities of modern life while remaining grounded in their faith.

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THE EFFECT OF LOW CARBOHYDRATE AND LOW FAT ISOCALORIC DIETS ON FAT LOSS AND METABOLIC MARKERS AMONG OBESE INDIVIDUALS: A 12 – WEEK COMPARATIVE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Obesity is a complex issue affected by diet and lifestyle. While it is crucial to decrease calorie consumption for weight management, there is still a contentious discussion about the optimal macronutrient makeup for a diet. Debate on the best macronutrient makeup for weight management continues with inconclusive results. The study aimed to compare the effects of low carbohydrate and low fat isocaloric diets on fat loss and metabolic markers in obese individuals over a 12-week period. Participants were randomly assigned to either a low-carbohydrate (LC) or low-fat (LF) diet group for a 12-week study period. Both groups showed significant improvements in body composition and metabolic markers after the 12-week study. The LC group experienced greater reductions in body weight and body fat percentage compared to the LF group. The improvement in metabolic parameters like blood glucose levels, triglycerides (TGs), and HDL cholesterol (HDL - c), C - reactive protein (CRP) were more pronounced in the LC group as well. This suggests that low carbohydrate diets may be better for fat loss and improving metabolic health in obese individuals. Further research is needed to confirm and to determine the long-term effects of these diets on obese individuals.

KEYWORDS: *Obesity, Low-Carbohydrate Diet, Low-Fat Diet, Fat Loss, Metabolic Markers.*

Introduction

It has been more than 2,000 years since the impacts of having too much weight on illness and death were first recognised. Hippocrates observed that "naturally fat people are more likely than lean people to die suddenly." Obesity is a multifaceted metabolic condition impacted by a mix of dietary habits, lifestyle choices, and genetic predispositions.[30,31] Nowadays, the prevalence of obesity worldwide is starting to surpass undernourishment[30] and infectious illnesses as the leading cause of illness[31]. Obesity has reached epidemic proportions worldwide, not just in industrialised countries, but also in developing nations.The rise in obesity is closely related to cities integrating into the global economy,[32] leading to changes in food consumption and nutritional quality.[23] An individual with a body mass index (weight/(height)^2) of 30 kg/m^2 or greater is classified as obese.[36] It is important to note that BMI does not take into consideration the adverse health effects of intra-abdominal fat nor does it account for the increased risk of illness and death associated with less severe forms of being overweight.[36] The global rise in obesity is due to genetics, more high-calorie foods, and less physical activity. It is a worldwide epidemic, not just a cosmetic concern for a few. [37-39]

The primary reason for obesity is the discrepancy between energy intake and energy expenditure. This excess energy causes the hyperplasia and hypertrophy of adipocytes, leading to the

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accumulation of extra fat and the release of additional fatty acids and peptides.[30] These factors can contribute to a range of health issues including heart disease, diabetes mellitus type II, disease of the gall bladder, osteoarthritis and certain types of cancer. This can result in the accumulation of additional fat and the release of more fatty acids and peptides, which can contribute to various health problems such as diabetes, gallbladder disease, osteoarthritis, heart disease, and certain cancers.[30,32] These issues present various medical, social, and psychological challenges, affecting both medical and behavioural aspects.[28,30]

The effect of major dietary approaches including low calorie diets, intermittent energy restriction diet, vegetarian diet, mediterranean diet on anthropometric parameters, biochemical parameters, blood pressure, waist circumference and heart rate have been studied.[19,20,24] However, a current controversy remains over the balance of dietary macronutrients between carbohydrates and fats regardless of the concern regarding total energy intakes. Since 1970, a low carbohydrate diet has been promoted for rapid weight loss regardless of fat consumption. However, limited research on its efficacy for reversing obesity-related metabolic disorders in obese Asian adults. There is no research conducted to compare the effects of low carbohydrate vs low fat isocaloric diet on fat loss and metabolic markers among obese adults in Asian population. Therefore, this study aims to investigate this.

The obese individual should focus primarily on fat loss instead of weight loss.[22,23] There exists a need to determine the optimal dietary macronutrient distribution for controlling body fat and other metabolic states. Controversies exist about the effects of different dietary macronutrient distributions on fat loss and other metabolic markers. Some epidemiological studies report a positive relationship between energy and fat intakes to obesity[10,24], while other studies report that energy and carbohydrate intakes are positively associated with obesity[1,2,4,5]. Low carbohydrate (LC) diets have been widely used for weight loss as high fat and low carbohydrates induce a metabolic state of ketoses and ketone bodies production[22] which suppresses hunger[5], thereby resulting in decreased food intake. Several previous works mentioned a weight loss and metabolic benefits of LC diets compared to low fat (LF) diets. However, the number of comparative studies on isocaloric LC and LF diets in the same subjects is very limited. Analyses that have contrasted low-carb diets with low-fat diets, while maintaining equal energy intakes over an extended period are needed. Randomized weight loss studies with a duration of at least 12 weeks comparing low carbohydrate and low fat isocaloric diets are limited, especially in Asian populations. To fill in this gap in the existing body of knowledge, this study is carried out.

Methods

Study Design and Study Population

One hundred and two apparently healthy adult individuals (men and women) aged between 25-45 years were screened for eligibility using a questionnaire. The individuals completed an initial demographic survey that included questions about their age, gender, marital status, and educational background. To capture a better understanding of the obesity problem among adults, simple questions on the body weight, height and any existing medical conditions were asked in the questionnaire. Individuals with BMI ≥ 30 kg/m^2 were included. Out of 102 people, 7 denied to participate and 5 never came back. Out of 90 obese adults, 59 completed the study with 31 individuals in low carbohydrate (LC) group and 28 in low fat (LF) group [Figure – 1]. Exclusion criteria included obese individuals aged < 25 and > 45 years, pregnant and lactating women, having chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension, and coronary heart disease), on medications affecting appetite and weight loss, and following weight loss programs or taking weight loss supplements before the study. Women who were premenopausal were also excluded, with the rationale that hormonal changes affect metabolic activity and body composition. Before starting the study, the protocol was allowed by Research Ethical Review Committee.

Participants were given a clarifying talk on the study protocol, and when they confirmed willingness to participate, they were instructed to seek written informed consent. Participants received no monetary incentive. Subjects were assigned randomly to either low-carbohydrate or low-fat diet group. To better understand the program, participants were encouraged to ask questions. During the period of the study, individuals in both categories were asked not to make any alterations in their physical activity levels. Participants were instructed to walk for 30 minutes daily for the first four weeks. From weeks 4 to 8, they increased their walking time to 45 minutes. During weeks 8 to 12, they extended their walking time to 60 minutes. Intensity and duration of physical activity were asked at baseline and same questions were asked in follow-ups. Physical activity status was assessed and considered as confounders if necessary. Participants in both groups were closely followed-up weekly for the first 4 weeks then biweekly for the remaining time. A close follow-up was taken by calling the participants and asking them if they were following the diet plan properly. In their calling, participants were pointed that the compliance was essential for this study. Participants that failed in adherence to the diet plan for two consecutive weeks or more were dismissed from the study. To maintain compliance, weekly free dietitian consultations were provided.

Diet Composition

Individuals in the low-carbohydrate intervention group were given a diet chart with less than 40 grams per day of digestible carbohydrates (total carbohydrates minus total dietary fiber). Participants in the low-fat diet group received a dietary plan that included less than 30% of their overall daily energy consumption from total fat, with no more than 7% coming from saturated fat, and 55% from carbohydrates. Participants were provided with printed meal plans, recipes, and thorough instructions for both low-carbohydrate and low-fat diets in their respective native languages (Hindi or Gujarati). The participants were provided with diaries and diet compliance sheets and were provided with information on how to keep accurate record of foods consumed.

Study Intervention

The height of participants was taken at the baseline. The height of the individuals was measured using a stadiometer that was installed on the wall.The individual being measured should stand barefoot under the height meter, with shoulders relaxed, and the scapula, buttocks, and heels in contact with the wall. The arms should be at the sides of the body, and the legs should be straight and together.

An electronic weight scale (Omron HN 300T) was utilized to determine the weight of the participants with precision to the nearest 0.1 kg at the baseline and at the end of 4-, 8- and 12- weeks.

The BMI of the participants was measured at the baseline and at the end of 4-, 8- and 12-weeks dividing weight by height square.

The body fat percentage was assessed using the Inbody body composition analyser 270 machine at the baseline and end of the 12-week period. All measurements were taken after fasting. Participants were directed to clean their hands and feet with Inbody tissues to improve conductivity. They were then instructed to stand on the machine with their feet aligned with the foot electrodes. The participants' personal information, such as age, gender, height, and identification, was manually entered into the machine. Additionally, participants were asked to hold the handles and place their thumbs on the oval electrodes with their arms straight. Subjects were required to remain still and maintain the testing posture until the test was finished.

The measurement of waist circumference (WC) involved assessing the space between the lowest rib and the iliac crest at the midpoint above the navel during a normal exhale. The participants were measured standing up with no clothing on the abdomen, both feet firmly placed on the ground and arms hanging by their sides. A measuring tape that does not stretch was applied directly to the skin at the waistline without pressing down on the abdominal area. WC measurements were taken at the beginning and at the conclusion of the 4th, 8th, and 12th weeks.

The participants' blood samples were examined to identify metabolic markers including fasting glucose levels, serum triglyceride (TGs) levels, LDL cholesterol (LDL - c) and HDL cholesterol (HDL - c), as well as inflammatory markers like C-reactive protein (CRP) levels. Blood was collected from participants after an overnight fast to guarantee precision in the results. All tests were conducted using validated and standardized laboratory methods according to NCEP guidelines and with FDA approved kits to reduce variability and ensure trustworthy data. The blood samples for the study were collected and analysed at the baseline and at the end of 12 weeks.

Statistical Analysis

This examination included 59 individuals who participated in the study. 31 participants in LC group and 28 participants in LF completed the study. There was no baseline difference in the height, weight, BMI, body fat % and WC among the two groups. We analysed weight, BMI and WC at the baseline and at the end of 4-, 8- and 12 weeks. Body fat % and other metabolic markers (fasting blood glucose levels, serum TGs, LDL – c, HDL – c and CRP levels) were analysed at the baseline and at the end of the study. The analysis of the data was carried out through the use of the SPSS version 22.0 utilizing the independent t-test. In this study, statistical significance was considered to be present when the p-value was less than 0.05. The data was presented in the form of mean ± SD.

Results

59 obese individuals aged between 25 – 45 completed the study (31 in LC group and 28 in LF group). The detailed process of enrolment, allocation, follow-up and analysis of participants is shown in fig – 1. Both LC group (31) and LF (28) group completed the 12 weeks of the study. No statistically significant differences of the age, weight, height, BMI, Body fat %, WC, fasting blood glucose, serum Tgs, LDL – c, HDL – c and CRP levels were found at the baseline between LC and LF groups ($p > 0.05$). Table 1 displays the baseline descriptive statistics for age, weight, height, BMI, body fat %, waist circumference, and metabolic markers (fasting blood glucose, serum triglycerides, LDL cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, and CRP) for participants in both groups. The results are expressed as mean ± SD.

Body Weight

At baseline, the mean body weight of participants in the LC group was (92.13 ± 7) kg, while the mean body weight of the LF group was (93.5 ± 8.4) kg. There was no statistically significant difference ($p = 0.61$) between the baseline body weights of the two groups. After 12 weeks intervention, the mean body weight of individuals in LC group reduced to (78.6 ± 3.65) kg while that of LF group reduced to (82.8 ± 5.01) kg. The LC group demonstrated (4.2 ± 6.32) kg greater reduction in body weight as compared to LF group ($p = 0.012$).

BMI

In the randomised trial the mean BMI of individuals taken at the baseline was 34.21 ± 1.92 while that of LF group was 34.43 ± 1.73. After 12 weeks, the average BMI of LC group was 29.3 ± 5.21 while that of LF group was 31.65 ± 4.39. There was no statistically significant difference between the mean BMI of both the groups at the baseline ($p = 0.74$) but there was statistically significant difference at the end of 12 weeks ($p = 0.039$). LC group showed a greater decrease in BMI at the end of the study as compared to LF group.

Waist Circumeference

There was no significant difference ($p = 0.78$) in the mean waist circumference of the individuals taken at the baseline for LC group (106.4 ± 4.15 cm) and LF group (105.8 ± 5.6 cm). At the end of the study, the average WC for LC group is 97 ± 5.89 cm while that for LF group was 97.1 ± 7.21 cm. Both the groups showed a decrease in WC but this difference is not statistically significant ($p = 0.51$)

Body Fat %

The body fat % was measured using Inbody body composition analyser 270 machine at the baseline and after 12 weeks of the study. LC group showed statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.01$) in body fat % (33.63 ± 4.12) and those in LF group (38.21 ± 6.11).

Fasting Blood Glucose

Fasting blood glucose levels in LC (82.3 ± 5.17) mg/dl was much lower than that in the LF (89.8 ± 9.14) mg/dl. This was statistically significant with $p = 0.015$.

Serum Tgs

After 12 weeks, we observed a statistically significant reduction in serum Tgs by (59 ± 13.11) mg/dl for LC compared to (12.6 ± 7.43) mg/dl for LF group ($p < 0.01$).

LDL – c

LDL – c values measured for both LC and LF group showed that at the end of 12 weeks showed that LDL – c values increased for LC group (124.2 ± 8.1) mg/dl and decreased for LF group (102.4 ± 12.24) mg/dl. This difference was statistically significant ($p < 0.01$)

HDL – c

HDL – c values increased for both LC and LF group which was not statistically significant ($p = 0.12$) at the end of 12 weeks.

CRP Levels

The levels of the inflammatory marker C-reactive protein went down in both the LC and LF groups. The decrease was larger in the LC group (0.2 ± 0.05) mg/dl compared to the LF group (0.25 ± 0.07) after 12 weeks. This distinction was determined to be statistically significant ($p = 0.041$).

Table 1: Baseline Anthropometric Measurements and Measurement of Metabolic Markers

Characteristic	Low carbohydrate group (n = 31)	Low fat group (n = 28)	p values
	Mean ± SD	Mean ± SD	
Age (years)	35.15 ± 8.86	36.02 ± 7.75	0.66
Weight (kg)	92.13 ± 7	93.5 ± 8.4	0.61
Height (m)	1.63 ± 0.1	1.67 ± 0.14	0.91
BMI (kg/m^2)	34.21 ± 1.92	34.43 ± 1.73	0.74
Body fat (%)	41.72 ± 3.12	41.89 ± 4.10	0.87
Waist Circumference (cm)	106.4 ± 4.15	105.8 ± 5.6	0.78
Fasting blood glucose (mg/dl)	94.6 ± 9.76	92.7 ± 7.4	0.52
Serum Tgs (mg/dl)	185 ± 18.21	182 ± 12.67	0.64
LDL – c (mg/dl)	118 ± 11. 23	121 ± 9.26	0.73
HDL – c (mg/dl)	44.3 ± 3.17	46.1 ± 4.32	0.54
CRP (mg/dl)	0.28 ± 0.06	0.27 ± 0.08	0.82

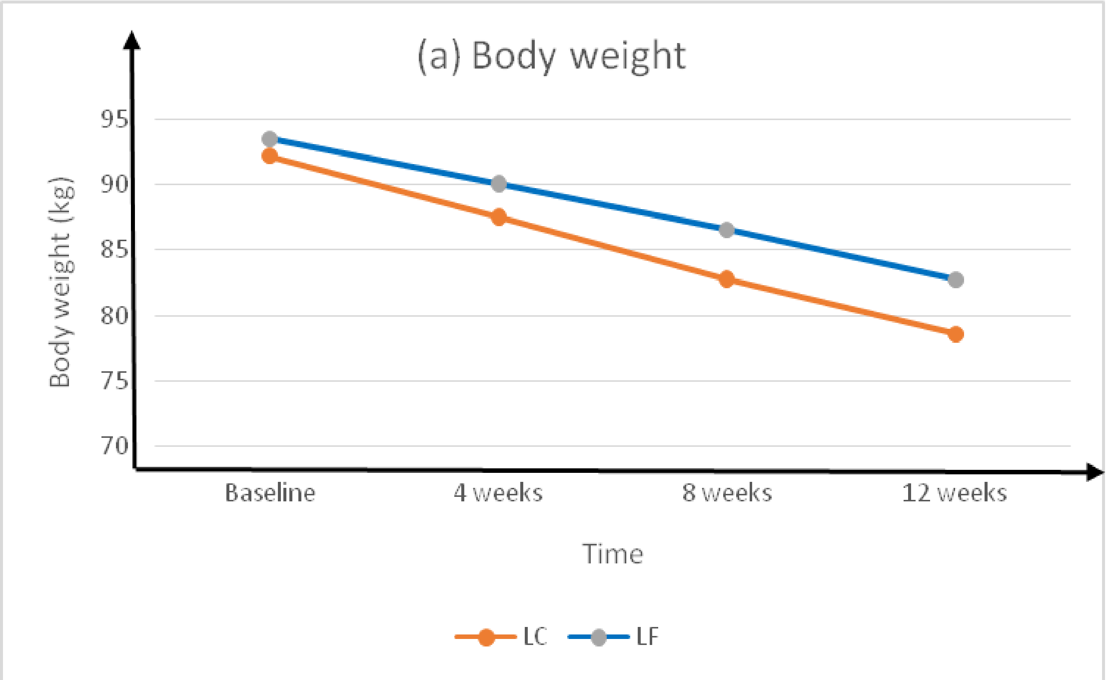
Table 2: Anthropometric Measurements at Baseline and at the End of 4-, 8- and 12 Weeks

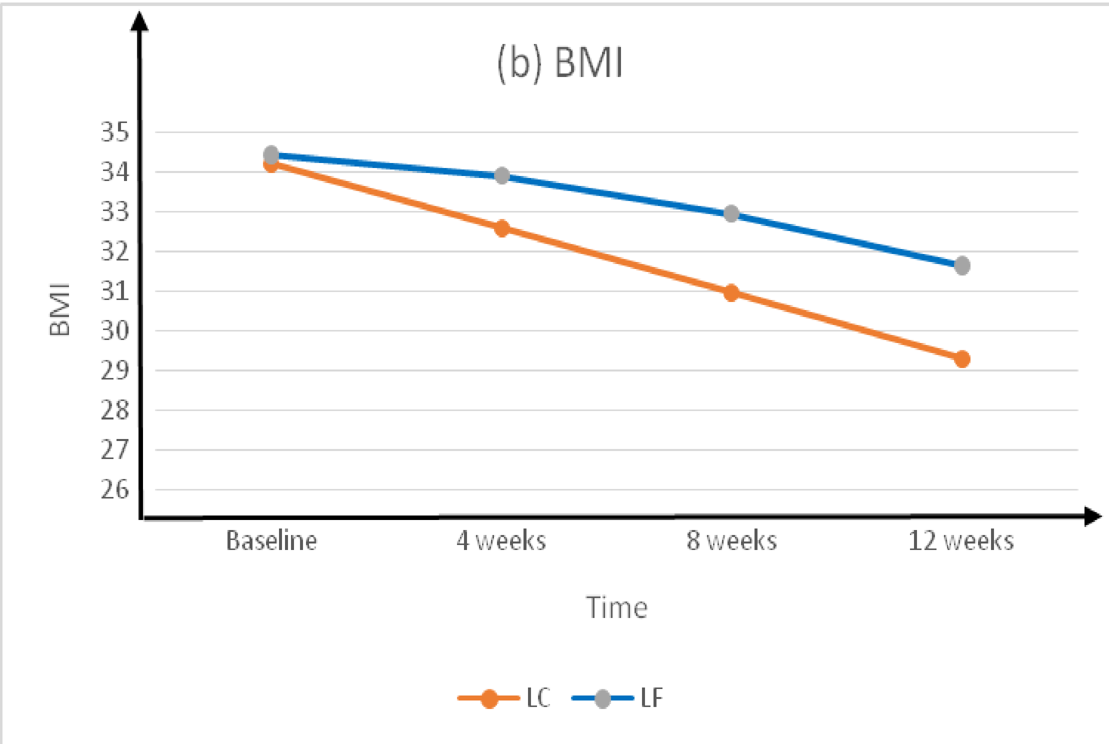
Variable and Diet	Baseline	4 weeks	8 weeks	12 weeks	p values
Body weight (kg)					
LC	92.13 ± 7	87.5 ± 5.25	82.8 ± 5.75	78.6 ± 3.65	0.012
LF	93.5 ± 8.4	90.1 ± 7.25	86.6 ± 9.11	82.8 ± 5.01	
BMI (kg/m^2)					
LC	34.21 ± 1.92	32.6 ± 5.81	30.96 ± 4.4	29.3 ± 5.21	0.039
LF	34.43 ± 1.73	33.9 ± 4.15	32.95 ± 5.76	31.65 ± 4.39	
WC (cm)					
LC	106.4 ± 4.15	103 ± 6	99 ± 7.14	97 ± 5.89	0.51
LF	105.8 ± 5.6	102.7 ± 4.1	99.2 ± 3.12	97.1 ± 7.21	

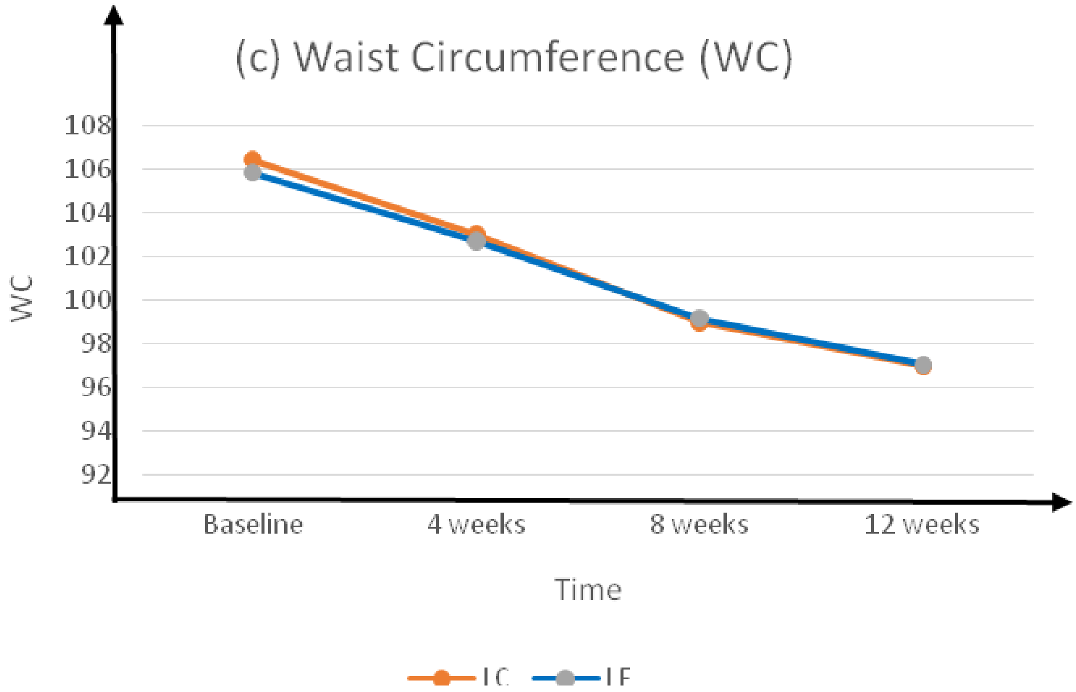
[

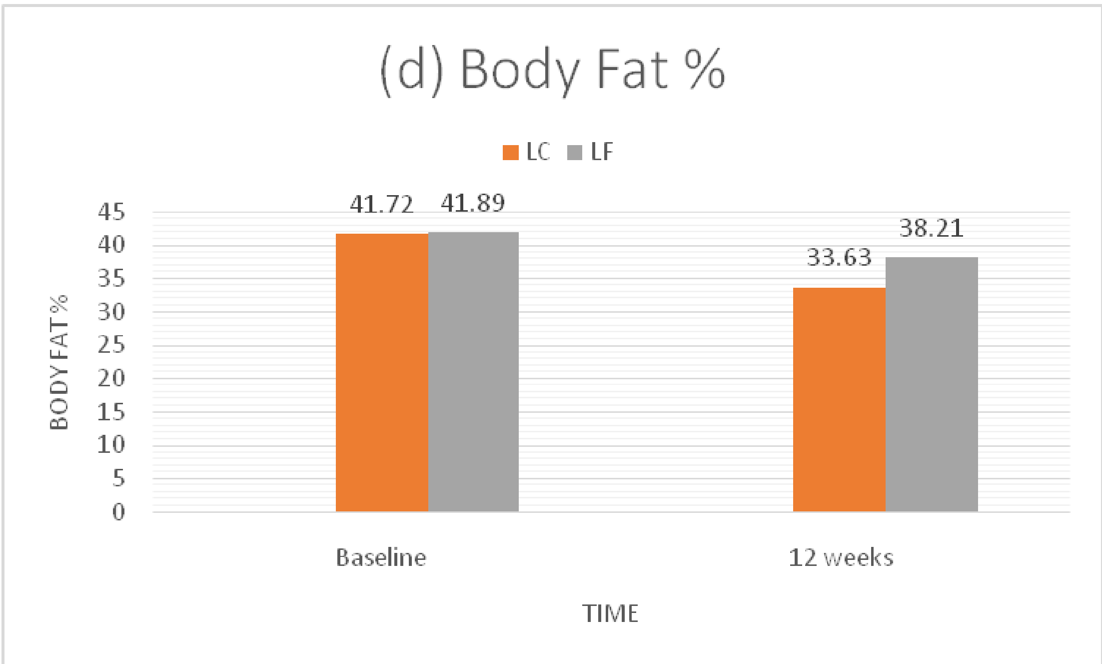
Table 3: Metabolic Markers at the Baseline and at the end of 12 Weeks

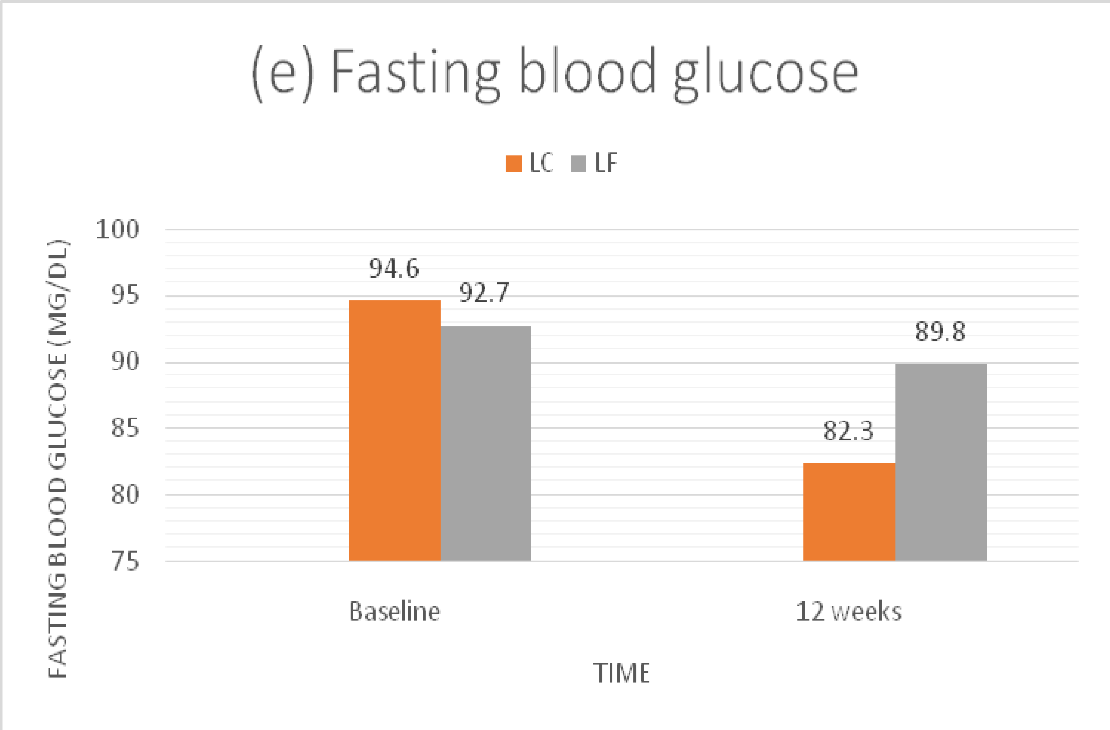
Variable and diet	Baseline	12 weeks	p values
Body fat %			
LC	41.72 ± 3.12	33.63 ± 4.12	< 0.01
LF	41.89 ± 4.10	38.21 ± 6.11	
Fasting blood glucose (mg/dl)			
LC	94.6 ± 9.76	82.3 ± 5.17	0.015
LF	92.7 ± 7.4	89.8 ± 9.14	
Serum Tgs (mg/dl)			
LC	185 ± 18.21	126 ± 28.12	< 0.01
LF	182 ± 12.67	169.4 ± 11.24	
LDL – c (mg/dl)			
LC	118 ± 11. 23	124.2 ± 8.1	<0.01
LF	121 ± 9.26	102.4 ± 12.24	
HDL – c (mg/dl)			
LC	44.3 ± 3.17	48.5 ± 4.87	0.12
LF	46.1 ± 4.32	49.2 ± 7.34	
CRP (mg/dl)			
LC	0.28 ± 0.06	0.2 ± 0.05	0.041
LF	0.27 ± 0.08	0.25 ± 0.07	

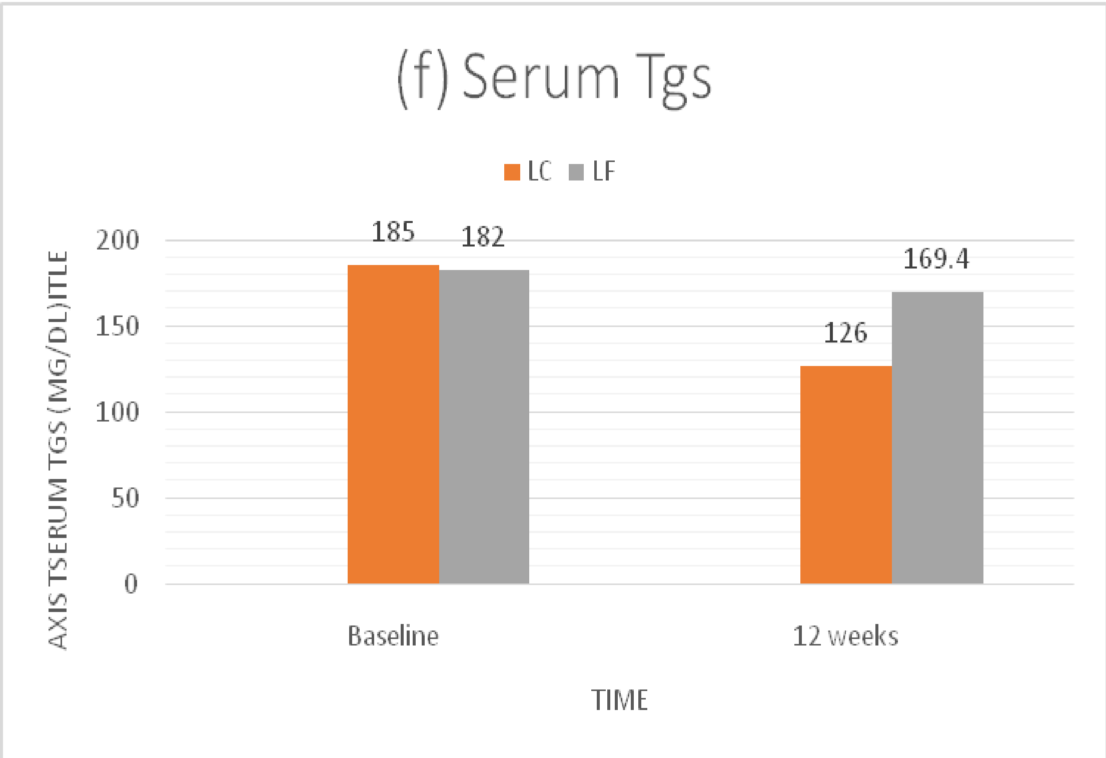

(a) Body weight
Body weight (kg)
95
90
85
80
75
70
Baseline
4 weeks
8 weeks
12 weeks
Time
LC
LF

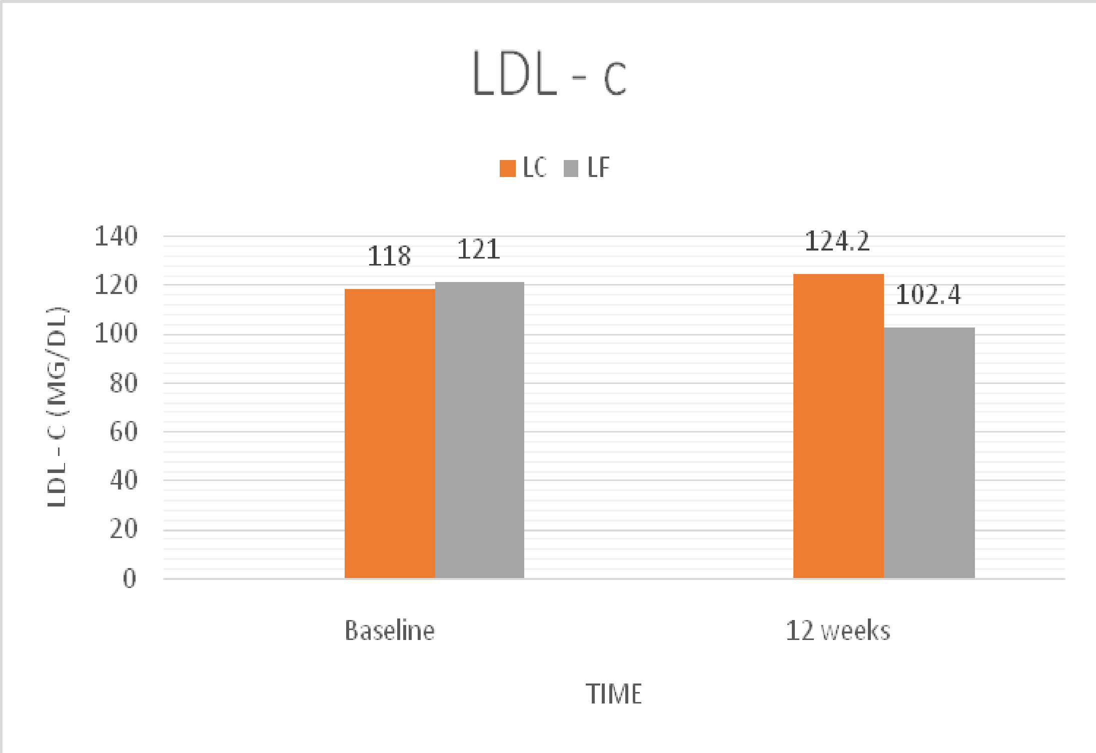

(b) BMI
BMI
35
34
33
32
31
30
29
28
27
26
Baseline
4 weeks
8 weeks
12 weeks
Time
LC
LF

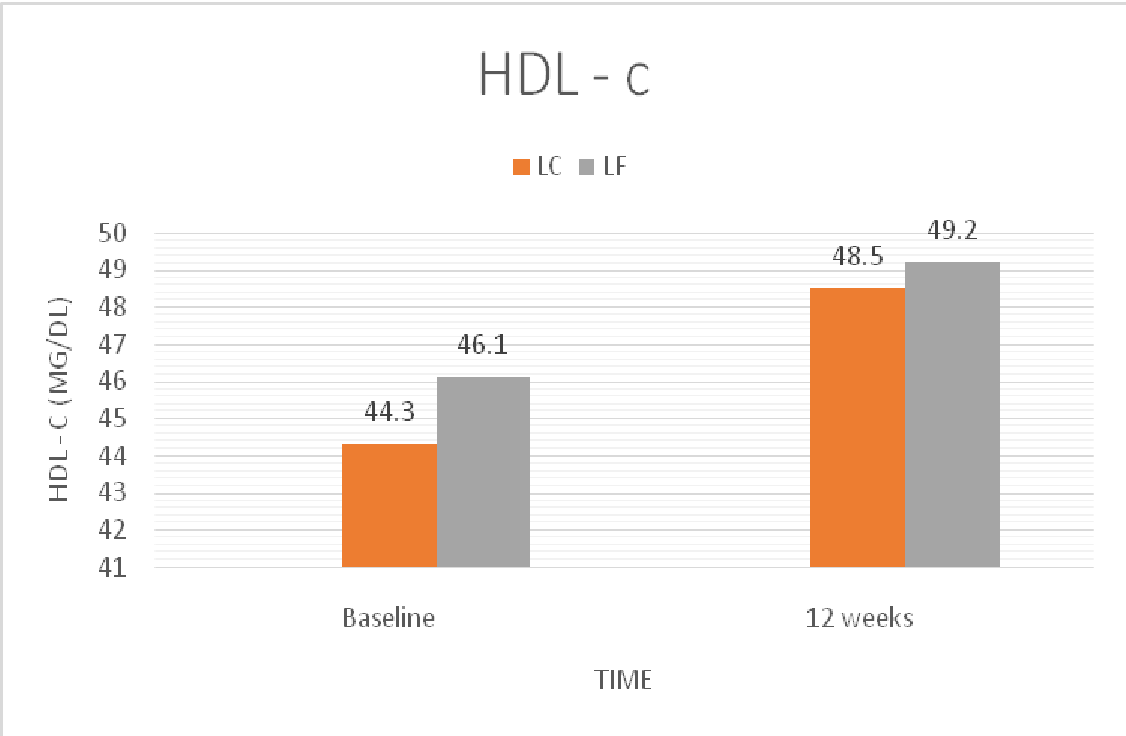

(c) Waist Circumference (WC)
WC
108
106
104
102
100
98
96
94
92
Baseline
4 weeks
8 weeks
12 weeks
Time
LC
LF

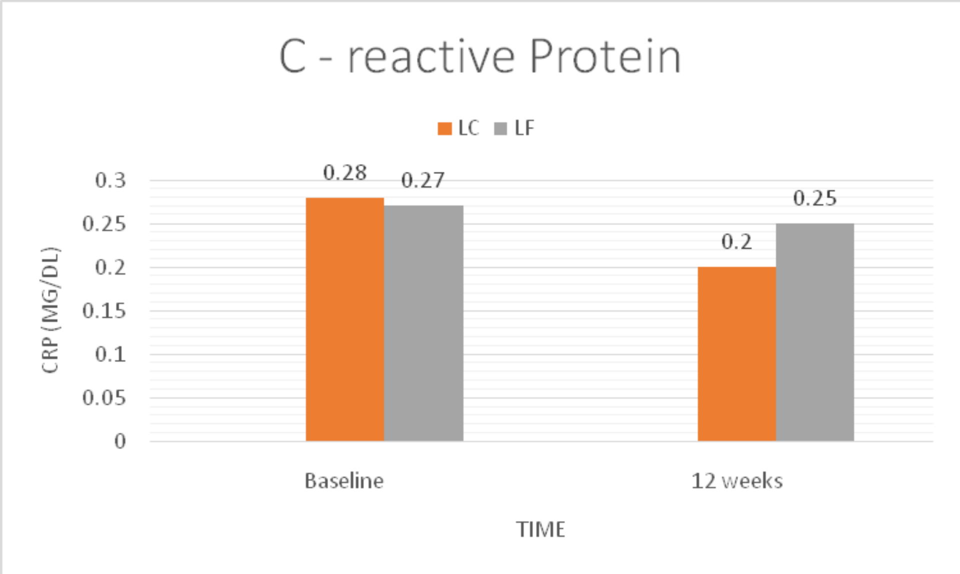

(d) Body Fat %
LC
LF
BODY FAT %
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
41.72
41.89
33.63
38.21
Baseline
12 weeks
TIME


(e) Fasting blood glucose
LC
LF
FASTING BLOOD GLUCOSE (MG/DL)
100
95
90
85
80
75
94.6
92.7
89.8
82.3
Baseline
12 weeks
TIME


(f) Serum Tgs
LC
LF
AXIS TSERUM TGS (MG/DL)ITLE
200
150
100
50
0
185
182
169.4
126
Baseline
12 weeks
TIME


LDL - c
LC
LF
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
LDL - C (MG/DL)
118
121
124.2
102.4
Baseline
12 weeks
TIME


HDL - c
LC
LF
50
49
48
47
46
45
44
43
42
41
HDL - C (MG/DL)
44.3
46.1
48.5
49.2
Baseline
12 weeks
TIME



Discussion

In a randomized controlled trial conducted in India, the effects of low carbohydrate and low fat isocaloric diets on fat loss and metabolic markers were compared among obese participants. A total of 59 participants completed the study, 31 in LC group and 28 in LF group for 12 weeks. After 12 weeks, weight reduction was 3.24 ± 6.2 % more in the LC group compared to LF group. In addition, BMI was reduced significantly more in the LC group compared to the LF group. LC group showed 10.6 ± 12.7 % more reduction in body fat % than LF group. Both the groups showed a reduction in waist circumference and it was not statistically significant at the end of 12 weeks.

Furthermore, between group comparison revealed that improvement in metabolic markers such as fasting glucose levels and serum Tgs was significantly higher in LC compared to LF group. Obesity leads to insulin resistance and low grade inflammation, which are key drivers for the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus type II and heart diseases.[30] Diet adherence is vital for weight loss and metabolism. Obese individuals struggle with dietary plans, hindering weight loss. Sustainable approaches are needed for success.

The LDL – c levels increased in the LC group and decreased in the LF group after the 12-week study. The study did not explore whether the increased levels of LDL – c were pattern A or pattern B. Pattern A LDL – c refers to large, buoyant LDL cholesterol particles typically not linked to a higher risk of atherosclerosis.[10,12] Pattern B LDL – c consists mainly of small and dense LDL cholesterol particles often associated with higher triglyceride levels, and the tendency to develop high blood sugar levels, type II diabetes mellitus, and cardiovascular disease.[7,9] Further investigation is necessary to ascertain the type of LDL – c. HDL – c increased in both the groups and the difference was not statistically significant. Obesity is associated with higher levels of C – reactive protein, a marker for systemic inflammation. Both the groups showed a decrease in CRP levels. LC group showed significant decrease in CRP levels as compared to the LF group.

Low-carbohydrate and low-fat diets continue to be popular diets for weight loss. Low carbohydrate diets, which markedly restrict the intake of carbohydrates and instead elevate protein and fat, have proven effective at inducing weight loss in both short- and long-term studies[17]. According to the low-carbohydrate diet hypothesis, avoiding carbohydrates would increase lipolysis, thus providing free fatty acids for beta-oxidation in the liver and causing weight loss due to increased energy expenditure.[18] This would cause augmenting fat loss. Several proposed mechanisms for these effects include increased daily secretion of glucagon and leptin[14], increased dopamine receptors, and prodynorphin mRNAs in the hypothalamus. This may affect appetite regulation [13]. There are alterations in energy expenditure, body composition, and postprandial metabolism as well. Improved body composition coefficients, e.g. lean: fat mass, have been observed in low-carbohydrate diets and increased thermic effect of food may contribute to greater net energy expenditure, especially after a high-fat meal, when obese individuals are more insulin resistant [3], thus increasing fat as opposed to glucose utilization. It has also been observed that energy released from dietary fat is preferentially directed to the liver for re-esterification into triglycerides, and thus transported into adipocytes via VLDL[21], as opposed to the more oxidatively metabolized glucose. This net increase in lipid transport to adipocytes as well as a decreased intake of glucose by muscle and liver exposed to insulin could yield a positive lipid: carbohydrate imbalance.

Low-fat diets (LFD) were among the first dietary adjustments offered to control weight. The biochemical basis of the LFD approach lies in the relatively high energy density of fats (9 kcal/g) compared to carbohydrates (4 kcal/g) and proteins (4 kcal/g). In absolute terms, an effective weight decrease needs energy intake reduction of about 200–400 kcal/day, which corresponds to the exclusion of 22–44 g of fat from the everyday diet. The main effects of the LFD are related to a lower energy density of the diet, which limits energy intake by food bulk effect, a reduction in the stimulation of the endogenous carnitine system, and capacity of fatty acids to activate the energy-consuming futile cycle of β-oxidation and re-esterification (Lei et al., 2022).

Conclusion

Fat loss is a complicated process where stored triglycerides (TGs) are degraded and mobilized for energy, increasing substrate availability. Dietary modifications can be beneficial and non-pharmacological methods. In a randomised trial completed by 59 obese individuals, The group following a low-carb diet experienced more significant reductions in both weight and body fat % compared to LF groups. Metabolic markers also showed a greater improvement in LC group as compared to LF group. Further research is required to analyze the increase in pattern A or pattern B for LDL-C levels. This study suggests that if carbohydrates were hidden between protein or protein and unsaturated fat, fat loss would be the largest. Dietary patterns, which are composed of types and amounts of food taken repeatedly, exert significant effects on energy balance, fat mass changes, and risk factors related to metabolic disorders. The dietary pattern change is considered to be the primary reason to promote the rapid increase of overweight and obesity.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AS A MEANS TO SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC SUSTENANCE

Samuel Biswas*
Neha Chandra**

ABSTRACT

This study article focuses on environmental protection, including afforestation and carrying capacity, for tourism purposes. Planting trees prevents soil erosion, ensuring the destination's sustainability. The sustainability of a place/destination in terms of the flora and fauna of a location contribute to its economic viability. The goal of this research is to explore the methods and forms of environmental preservation so that destination sustainability can be accomplished in the future. The study will finish with recommendations for environmental preservation approaches and instruments. Eventually, there will be managerial consequences for future developments.

KEYWORDS: *Environmental Protection, Afforestation, Carrying Capacity, Economic Sustainability.*

Introduction

The term "Environment" originates from the French word "environment," which meaning "to encircle or surround." The environment refers to the conditions around an organism or group of organisms. The term also refers to social or cultural circumstances.

The term "environment" refers to how we perceive, experience, and respond to our surroundings. It encompasses land, water, flora, air, and the entire social structure. It also encompasses the physical and ecological environments. It concerns man's ability to adapt, both physically and emotionally, to the continuous change in environment. The environment is not static. It is dynamic, and changes happen even when there is no person. This is referred to as the balance of nature. Both organisms and humans rely on their surroundings to meet their basic requirements. The necessities include the basic needs of oxygen, food, and shelter, as well as social needs include entertainment, medical, and so on. The things that man needs for his survival and Comfort is referred to as a resource. The environment is a source of resources. Maintaining the natural Conservation refers to the preservation and cautious use of environmental resources. The conservation of the environment includes the conservation of natural resources. All species, including humans, require a healthy environment to thrive. The pinnacle of evolution strives to adapt the environment to meet our demands, no matter how big or tiny. Unfortunately, this convenience is just temporary. In the long term, Man is losing a healthy environment. Singh, Savindra (2003).

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Components of Environment

The natural environment consists of various factors, including terrain, soil, climate, flora, and animal life. All of these pieces are combined and form a coherent whole. Although humans have made significant changes to the natural world, the physical foundation remains unchanged. Man places a high value on economic and commercial considerations.

The natural environment supports all human activity. The main components of the natural environment are:

- Living: a) Plants b) Animals
- Non living: a) Soil b) topography c) Minerals d) climate e) water bodies

Major Fragments of the Environment

The atmosphere is a protective blanket of gases that surrounds the Earth. It is capable of supporting life on Earth and observed it from the harsh environment of deep space. The principal components of the atmosphere are nitrogen and oxygen, while minor components include argon, CO_2, and a few other gases.

The term hydrogen refers to water in its different forms. It encompasses all sorts of water resources, including oceans, seas, rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, glaciers, polar ice caps, and groundwater. However, liquid water and the chemistry of its constituent chemical entities are of primary interest in the study of atmospheric chemistry.

The term "lithosphere" refers to the outermost layers of the solid earth. In general, the term refers to minerals present in the earth's crust as well as soil, which is a complex and changing mixture of minerals, organic matter, water, and air.

The biosphere is the world of living species and their interactions with the environment, which includes the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere. It refers to living beings and the environments in which they can survive. Both the biospheres and the environment have a significant influence on one another. A resource is anything collected from the environment to satisfy human needs and desires. Examples include food, water, shelter, manufactured products, transportation, communication, and recreation. Sam Delvin (2010).

Objectives

- To address the numerous environmental issues.
- To study the relationship between the environment and sustainability.
- Learn about various approaches and tools for environmental protection.
- To provide methods for its sustainability and economic sustenance.

Research Methodology

This paper relies entirely on secondary data gathered from published journals, periodicals, books, and research papers.

Environmental Concerns

Environmental issues can be categorized as the result of poverty or economic progress. Poverty-related concerns manifest in economic and social settings. Acute poverty can often push people to take such desperate measures to survive that they inflict long-term environmental damage, such as overgrazing. The problem emerging from economic expansion is related with by-product wastes, such as air and water pollution, or side effects of such growth, such as severe resource depletion.

An environmental concern might also have many dimensions, such as global, regional, or local. Global issues concern the entire environment, affecting nearly all countries, such as the use of fossil fuels, which affects the carbon dioxide balance, and oxides of nitrogen and sulphur, which cause acid rain and other severe effects on the ecosystem, among other things. Many environmental concerns are inextricably linked to one another as well as other socioeconomic issues. For example, procedures utilized in the forest management component of a forestry project may cause erosion and shorten the life of downstream dams due to siltation, resulting in earlier depreciation than intended.

Forestry cutting techniques incur opportunity costs in terms of future advantages, such as meeting future demand for construction materials for public housing. Tourist activities such as the construction of brick structures in hill stations and the dumping of solid waste, among others, contribute to environmental damage. All of these tourist activities in destination areas cause a slew of issues, including water pollution, soil erosion, and improper waste disposal, among others. Tourists who exceed the carrying capacity inevitably hurt the ecosystem of that location. Environmental problems can worsen over time as a result of the cumulative consequences of environmental actions or policies.

In economic terms, many environmental concerns in market economies are related to internalities, which occur when an individual decision-maker's activities affect the welfare of others in a generally shared environment without the need for explicit market transactions. More specifically, environmental deterioration causes net losses in social wellbeing. Internalities generated by an individual's environmental activities are not properly "internalized" in such persons' decision-making processes. Rajasekara C.V. (1992).

Economic Growth and Environmental Protection

Environmental considerations drive economic growth. It frequently has an impact on the environment by converting environmental resources into capital in various forms while also generating "residual wastes" into the environment. Thus, economic progress, while increasing the availability of goods and services, alters the environment and might have negative consequences, either directly or indirectly.

On the one hand, a concentration on the environment may impede economic growth by failing to assess the optimum use of various resources to raise material welfare without undermining the resource foundation for long-term growth. The relationship between economic growth and the environment, however, is more complex than such simplistic viewpoints would suggest. The extent of environmental damage associated with economic growth varies by country, depending on the development stage, composition of national product, production techniques used, assimilative and regenerative capability of the environment, and people's perception of environmental problems. Economic expansion can sometimes be beneficial to environmental preservation. Policies aimed at addressing environmental issues can also boost economic growth.

Economic growth and environmental conservation are interconnected components of the multifaceted developmental processes. Each country's development initiatives should address the complementing features of economic growth and the environment. It would also be ideal to maximize the growth potential of its resources. Endowment without damaging the ecosystem that supports long-term growth.It should be underlined that, even if the costs of environmental damage must be incurred in order to achieve immediate economic and social goals, there is always the potential of finding the best approach to carry out actions that have the least impact on the environment. Binita Verma. (2008).

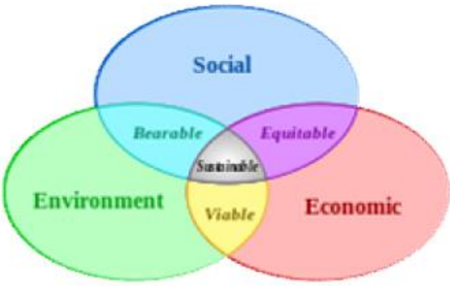
Environmental Sustainability

Brundtland Commission of the United Nations on March 20, 1987: “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need”.

When we talk about environmental sustainability, we are referring to a way of life in which we can maintain our environment without compromising future generations' resources while still meeting our own requirements. Sustainability is based on the notion that we can coexist with the environment as long as we endeavor to ensure that our actions do not destroy it. Essentially, it means leaving our environment no worse than we found it. Profitability leads to economic growth in our society, and many businesses are so focused on generating a profit that they end up exploiting the environment, forgetting that the environment also plays an important role in bringing about economic progress. Profitability and environmental sustainability are not mutually exclusive.

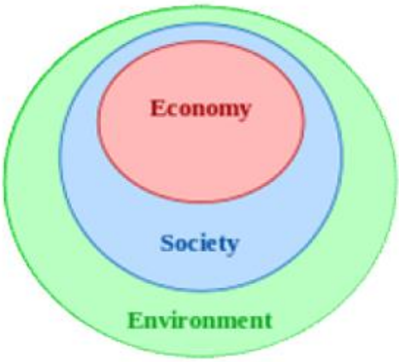
Bank of America demonstrated that it is feasible to make a profit while still protecting the environment. According to their website, they cut their consumption of paper by 32% between 2001 and 2005 while still growing by 24%. This clearly demonstrates that profitability and environmental sustainability can coexist. Many businesses are increasingly recycling products as a means of helping the environment. Resources like paper may be recycled, protecting and conserving many trees from being taken down. Glass, plastic, metal, and aluminum, in addition to paper, can all be recycled. This not only ensures environmental sustainability, but also saves money on the expense of acquiring more resources.

Profitability and environmental sustainability can also coexist by employing long-lasting materials, such as washing utensils, to prevent disposable dishes from being discarded, increasing litter on streets. Bathrooms should also be low-flow to save water and employ energy-efficient equipment. This clearly demonstrates that you are not only preserving the environment, but also saving a significant amount of money. Furthermore, customers will appreciate the efforts and thus be drawn to the business, resulting in more profit.



In ecology, sustainability is how biological systems endure and remain diverse and productive. Long lived and healthy wetlands and forests are examples of sustainable biological systems. For humans, sustainability is the potential for long-term maintenance of well being, which has ecological, economic, political and cultural dimensions. Sustainability requires the reconciliation of these environmental, social equity and economic demands-also referred to as the “three pillars’’ of sustainability.

For humans, sustainability refers to the ability to maintain well-being across time in ecological, economic, political, and cultural dimensions. Sustainability necessitates the alignment of these environmental, social equality, and economic needs, commonly known as the "three pillars of sustainability."



Humans and other species rely on healthy ecosystems and habitats to survive and thrive. There are several major strategies to reduce negative human effect. The first of them are eco-friendly chemical engineering, environmental resource management, and environmental protection. This strategy is heavily reliant on knowledge gathered from green chemistry, earth science, environmental science, and conservation biology. The second technique is to regulate human resource consumption using economic data. A third, more modern method integrates cultural and political concerns into the sustainability matrix.

Sustainability intersects with economics via the social and environmental repercussions of economic activity. Sustainability economics combines ecological economics with social issues such as culture, health, and money/finance. Moving toward sustainability is a problem that requires consideration of international and national law, urban planning and transportation, as well as local and individual lifestyle choices. Living more sustainably can take many forms, including rearranging living arrangements, reevaluating economic sectors or work methods, employing research to produce new technologies, and making changes in individual habits to protect natural resources.

Economic Sustenance

The natural environment cannot support a capitalist economy that stimulates constant development and expansion. Sustenance economies represent a return to a subsistence economy in which humans build and reproduce wealth in collaboration with nature. A sustenance economy is concerned with survival rather than overconsumption, which is encouraged by a market-based economy. The sustainability economy allows us to focus on the vast inequities that exist in our world. For example, people in the world's highest-income countries consume 80% of the world's resources despite accounting for just 20% of the world's population. In comparison, the bottom 20% of low-income countries utilize less than 10% of global resources. Sustenance economies promote resource sharing, replenishment, and a focus on frugality.

Green Economy

Green economics seeks to alter the economy so that "markets express social and ecological values." A green economy considers the impact of economic policy on all peoples and the environment, understanding that human life is inextricably linked to nature.

Environmental Preservation

Environmental preservation is the tight protection of natural resources from human useortouch, as well as human intervention. In terms of policy making, this frequently entails designating areas as nature reserves, parks, or other conservation areas. These zones typically restrict or prohibit activities that could harm habitat or wildlife. Such activities may include forestry, hunting, fishing, mining, and so on. Laws and regulations, such as the endangered species Act in the United States, are also frequently used, as they are not dependent on identifying a specific geographic area for conservation. The environmental policy of a government determines which places or species, among other things, are protected and how. Environmental preservation differs from conservation.

Conservation enables long-term development, whereas preservation imposes complete restriction. Environmental preservation refers to maintaining the current condition of regions of nature or the planet that have not yet been touched by humans. This is due to mankind's rapid encroachment on the environment, which has resulted in the conversion of diverse wild landscapes to farming, industry, housing, tourism, and other human developments. And we're losing a lot of natural regions. Preservationists also strongly believe in the safeguarding of nature for simply human grounds. However, some take a less human-centred approach to environmental protection, valuing nature in ways that are unrelated to human needs and interests. Preserving and maintaining the environment can lead to a healthier living environment.

Open Space

The word "open space" refers to natural regions within and surrounding communities that provide vital community space, habitat for plants and animals, recreational activities, agricultural and ranch property, places of natural beauty, and critical environmental areas. Open space preservation contributes to smart growth goals by strengthening local economies, protecting vital environmental regions, boosting our community's quality of life, and directing new growth into existing neighbourhoods**.**

The presence of open space has a considerable environmental and health benefit. Open space protects animal and plant habitat, natural beauty spots, and working areas by reducing development pressure and channelling new growth to existing communities. Furthermore, open space preservation improves the ecosystem by reducing air pollution, dampening noise, managing wind, preventing erosion, and moderating temperatures. Open space also preserves surface and ground water resources by filtering out garbage, debris, and chemical pollutants before they enter a water system. A greenbelt is a land use classification that protects undeveloped, natural, or agricultural land near metropolitan areas.

Ideas for Protecting the Environment and Maintaining Sustainable Development

- Refuse, reuse, and recycle: don't buy things you don't need. When purchasing anything, prioritize reusable or recyclable options.
- Utilize fabric bags for shopping groceries rather than paper or plastic ones.
- Sewage and dirty water from various sources should be well treated before it get mixed with rivers to minimize the effects on environment.

- To reduce environmental impact, sewage and unclean water from various sources should be properly treated before entering rivers.
- Avoid purchasing items merely to have them recycled later. For instance, it's a good idea to recycle plastic water bottles. Reusing a cup or bottle is even preferable.
- Avoid falling victim to those individuals or companies who attempt to profit quickly without concern for environment.
- The tourism department must make sure that popular destinations are regularly checked. Tourists should adhere to the carrying capacity of the destination they are visiting.
- Utilizing various instruments and methods, such as biofertilizer, phytoremediation, and permaculture, among others, can be crucial to the sustainability of the environment.

Conclusion

It is evident from the reading discussion above that we should think about focusing our attention, in particular, on environmental sustainability. All of us are aware that the requirements are growing rapidly, and that this is negatively affecting our ecosystem. There was a time when everyone used natural resources in accordance with their needs and there was environmentally friendly interaction. However, as society moves through various stages of transformation, it increasingly turns avaricious. As a result of human society's meddling, various environmental issues have emerged, including deforestation, soil erosion, desertification, and pollution of the air, water, and soil. These issues contribute to global warming, harsh weather, and various diseases. It is imperative that we acknowledge the effects of the activities that humans engage in and take action to reduce and manage their effects. It is imperative that we move toward sustainability. For humans, there is no other option if they wish to continue existing as a species for an extended period of time.

It is imperative that we all recognize the need to use resources as efficiently as possible while maintaining environmentally friendly relationships to improve both the environment and human well-being. Since animals use different resources depending on their needs than humans do, they should be given more consideration when it comes to protecting the environment. However, the moment has arrived when we need to use common sense to prevent it from being destroyed. The government has created numerous laws, bodies such as the Green Tribunal, and other initiatives to protect the environment, but it cannot act alone until society as a whole and each and every individual take meaningful action. In the most recent but not final, without a strong public opinion, neither the law nor the judiciary can take actionopposing the exploitation of the environment. Let's make a commitment to protect our environment and avoid catastrophe.

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A STUDY ON STAKEHOLDERS SATISFACTION WITH GRIEVANCE-HANDLING PROCEDURES IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

In the dynamic environment of higher education, effective grievance-handling procedures are crucial for maintaining trust and satisfaction among stakeholders. With institutions facing increasing demands for transparency, accountability, and responsiveness, the need for robust grievance resolution mechanisms has never been more critical. This study explores into stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures within higher education institutions across Uttar Pradesh, engaging 300 respondents, including students, faculty, and administrative staff. Through regression analysis, the research uncovers that stakeholder, on the whole, express satisfaction with the existing procedures. Key factors such as timely responses, transparent communication, and fair decision-making were found to significantly enhance satisfaction. However, the study also identifies certain gaps, particularly in the accessibility of the grievance-handling systems indicating areas that require further attention. These insights highlight the ongoing need for higher education institutions to continuously adapt and refine their grievance-handling practices to meet the evolving expectations of their diverse stakeholders.

KEYWORDS: *Grievance-Handling, Stakeholder Satisfaction, Higher Education.*

Introduction

In the complex and multifaceted environment of higher education, the satisfaction of stakeholders—students, faculty, administrative staff& parents is pivotal to the success and sustainability of institutions. Among the various elements that contribute to stakeholder satisfaction, grievance-handling procedures hold a particularly significant place. Grievances, whether minor or substantial, are an inevitable aspect of any organization, especially within the educational sector, where diverse expectations and pressures converge. The manner in which these grievances are addressed can profoundly influence the trust and confidence that stakeholders place in the institution.

Grievance-handling procedures serve as a critical mechanism for resolving conflicts and addressing concerns in a structured and transparent manner. For stakeholders, having a reliable process in place reassures them that their voices will be heard and their issues will be addressed fairly and promptly. This is not only important for resolving individual concerns but also for fostering an environment

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of trust, respect, and mutual understanding within the institution. When stakeholders feel that their grievances are managed effectively, their overall satisfaction with the institution is likely to increase, contributing to a more positive and productive educational environment.

The importance of effective grievance-handling extends beyond the individual and the institution; it has broader societal implications as well. Higher education institutions are often seen as microcosms of society, where future leaders, professionals, and citizens are shaped. In this context, teaching and practicing fair and transparent grievance resolution within these institutions can have a ripple effect on the larger society. Stakeholders who experience positive grievance-handling within their institutions are likely to carry these values into their future professional and personal lives, promoting a culture of fairness, accountability, and respect. Thus, effective grievance-handling is not just about resolving issues—it is about reinforcing the ethical and moral foundations upon which a healthy society is built.

Moreover, from an institutional perspective, robust grievance-handling procedures can enhance the reputation and credibility of higher education institutions. In an era where information is rapidly shared and scrutinized, the way an institution handles grievances can significantly impact its public image. Institutions that are known for their fair, transparent, and efficient grievance-handling procedures are likely to attract and retain talented students, faculty, and staff. This, in turn, contributes to the institution's academic and operational success, creating a virtuous cycle of improvement and excellence.

Furthermore, effective grievance-handling contributes to institutional accountability and continuous improvement. Grievances often highlight areas where policies, practices, or services may be lacking or need adjustment. By systematically addressing these concerns, institutions can identify trends, prevent future issues, and make data-driven improvements. This proactive approach not only resolves current grievances but also mitigates the potential for future conflicts, thereby enhancing the overall institutional environment.

The need for effective grievance-handling mechanisms is particularly acute in the context of higher education in India, where institutions are grappling with rapid expansion, increasing student diversity, and heightened expectations for quality and accountability. In Uttar Pradesh, one of India’s largest states with a vast number of higher education institutions, the challenges are amplified. Ensuring that grievances are handled effectively in such a diverse and dynamic environment requires institutions to be adaptable, transparent, and committed to continuous improvement.

This study focuses on understanding stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures in higher education institutions across Uttar Pradesh. By engaging 300 respondents from various institutions, the research aims to identify the key factors that contribute to stakeholder satisfaction and highlight areas where improvements are needed. The findings of this study are expected to provide valuable insights for policymakers, administrators, and educators, helping them to enhance grievance-handling procedures and, in turn, improve the overall quality and effectiveness of higher education in the region.

Overall, grievance-handling is a crucial aspect of institutional management that significantly impacts stakeholder satisfaction and, by extension, the success of higher education institutions. Effective grievance-handling is a win-win situation: it fosters a positive and productive educational environment, enhances institutional reputation and credibility, and contributes to the broader societal goal of promoting fairness, accountability, and respect. As such, it is imperative that higher education institutions prioritize the development and implementation of robust grievance-handling procedures that meet the needs and expectations of all stakeholders.

Literature Review

Grievance-handling in higher education institutions has increasingly become a focal point for researchers and policymakers alike, given its critical role in ensuring stakeholder satisfaction and institutional accountability. Stakeholders in higher education, particularly students, faculty, and administrative staff, demand transparent, fair, and efficient processes to address their concerns, making grievance-handling a vital aspect of institutional governance.

Stakeholder Satisfaction and Grievance-Handling

The satisfaction of stakeholders with grievance-handling procedures is closely tied to the overall perception of institutional quality. Studies such as those by Douglas et al. (2015) highlight the importance of understanding both satisfaction and dissatisfaction drivers within the context of higher education.

Effective grievance resolution is seen as a cornerstone of stakeholder trust, which in turn influences their overall satisfaction with the institution.(Geetika et al., 2014).

Research by Freeman (1984) and Mitchell et al. (1997) on stakeholder theory underscores the importance of addressing the needs and expectations of all stakeholder groups to maintain institutional legitimacy and performance. In the context of higher education, stakeholders include not only students but also faculty, administrative staff, alumni, and external bodies such as accreditation agencies. Effective grievance-handling systems are integral to meeting these diverse expectations, thereby enhancing stakeholder satisfaction and institutional performance.

Grievance-Handling Mechanisms in Higher Education

The mechanisms employed by higher education institutions to handle grievances vary widely, but common elements include transparency, timeliness, fairness, and accessibility. A study by Dano and Stensaker (2007) in the Nordic countries revealed that external quality assurance processes have increasingly emphasized stakeholder engagement in grievance-handling as a means to improve both accountability and quality. Similarly, Gynnild (2011) noted that clear and fair processes for handling student appeals and complaints are essential for maintaining the integrity of educational assessments and institutional reputation.

In the UK, the work of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA) has been pivotal in setting standards for handling student complaints and appeals. Their annual reports (OIA, 2016) provide insights into best practices and common pitfalls in grievance-handling within higher education. The OIA's framework emphasizes the importance of clear communication, prompt resolution, and the ability to appeal decisions, all of which contribute to stakeholder satisfaction.

Challenges and Gaps in Grievance-Handling

Despite the progress in grievance-handling mechanisms, challenges remain. Research by Harrison (2007) and Hart and Coates (2010) highlights persistent issues such as delays in the resolution process, perceived biases, and a lack of transparency. These challenges can lead to dissatisfaction and erode trust between stakeholders and the institution.

Moreover, as identified in a study by Furedi (2011), the increasing marketization of higher education has led to a shift in how grievances are perceived and handled. Institutions now face the dual pressure of maintaining high academic standards while also satisfying the expectations of students who increasingly view themselves as consumers. This shift has introduced new complexities in managing grievances, where the balance between academic integrity and customer satisfaction is often difficult to maintain.

The Role of Technology in Grievance-Handling

The integration of digital platforms into grievance-handling processes has been explored as a potential solution to many of these challenges. As noted by This study highlights the critical role that effective grievance-handling procedures play in maintaining stakeholder satisfaction and trust within higher education institutions. The findings underscore the importance of timely, transparent, and fair processes, which significantly influence stakeholders' decisions to remain associated with their institutions. By addressing the identified gaps and implementing the recommended improvements, institutions can build stronger relationships with their stakeholders, ultimately contributing to a more positive and supportive educational environment.et al. (2015), digital tools can enhance the accessibility and efficiency of grievance processes, making it easier for stakeholders to lodge complaints and track their resolution. However, the success of these tools depends on their design and implementation, as poorly managed digital systems can lead to further frustration among stakeholders.

Quality Assurance and Grievance-Handling

Quality assurance in higher education has increasingly incorporated grievance-handling as a critical component. Studies by Hopbach (2014) and Diamond (2008) suggest that effective grievance-handling mechanisms are integral to broader quality assurance frameworks. These mechanisms not only provide a means for resolving individual complaints but also serve as tools for continuous improvement by highlighting areas where institutional practices may fall short.

Moreover, Stensaker et al. (2007) observed that in many European higher education systems, external quality assurance agencies now routinely evaluate the effectiveness of grievance-handling procedures as part of their assessments. This has led to a more standardized approach to grievance management across institutions, ensuring that minimum standards are met and that stakeholders have confidence in the processes available to them.

The existing literature highlights the critical importance of effective grievance-handling mechanisms in maintaining stakeholder satisfaction within higher education institutions. While significant strides have been made in developing robust processes, challenges remain, particularly in balancing the diverse expectations of stakeholders in a rapidly changing educational landscape.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This study employs a descriptive research design to investigate the impact of factors influencing stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures in higher education institutions across Uttar Pradesh, India. Descriptive research is used for this study as it seeks to provide a detailed account of the relationship between various independent variables (IDVs) and the dependent variable (DV), which is the overall satisfaction with the grievance-handling procedure.

Population and Sampling Technique

The population for this study consists of stakeholders in higher education institutions in Uttar Pradesh, including students, faculty, administrative staff& parents. Given the scope of the research, a sample of 300 respondents was selected using convenience sampling. Convenience sampling was chosen due to its practicality, allowing the researcher to collect data from participants who were readily accessible and willing to participate in the study.

Variables

- **Dependent Variable (DV):** Overall Satisfaction with the Grievance-Handling Procedure
- **Independent Variables (IDVs):** Decision Given, Time Taken for Solving Grievance, Accessibility of Grievance System, Follow-Up & Communication, Perceived Fairness

Hypotheses

Various aspects of the grievance-handling process significantly predict overall stakeholder satisfaction with the procedure in higher education institutions.

Data Collection

Data were collected through a questionnaire designed to measure the identified variables. The questionnaire included Likert scale questions (ranging from 1 = Strongly Disagree to 5 = Strongly Agree) to assess respondents satisfaction levels and perceptions regarding the grievance-handling procedures. The questionnaire was distributed both online and offline to ensure broad participation across various institutions.

Data Analysis

The collected data were analyzed using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences). The analysis involved several statistical tests, including:

- **Descriptive Statistics:** To summarize the basic features of the data and provide simple summaries about the sample and measures.
- **Reliability Analysis:** Cronbach's Alpha was calculated to ensure the internal consistency of the survey instrument.
- **Multiple Regression Analysis:** Regression analysis was conducted to determine the impact of the independent variables on the dependent variable, thereby testing the formulated hypotheses.

Ethical Considerations

The study adhered to ethical guidelines by ensuring the anonymity and confidentiality of the respondents. Participation was voluntary, and informed consent was obtained from all participants prior to data collection. The data were securely stored and used solely for academic purposes.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Demographic data of Respondents

Demographic Variable	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Stakeholder Type	Students	192	64
	Faculty	63	21
	Staff	36	12
	Parents	9	3
Gender	Male	186	62
	Female	114	38
Age Group	18-25 years	201	67
	26-35 years	40	13.33
	36-45 years	39	13
	46 years and above	20	6.67
Educational Qualification	Undergraduate	158	52.67
	Postgraduate	104	34.67
	Doctorate	30	10
	Others	8	2.67

The demographic analysis of the respondents shows that the majority were students (64%), with faculty and staff representing 21% and 12%, respectively, and parents comprising only 3%. The gender distribution was skewed towards males (62%), compared to females (38%). Age-wise, most respondents were between 18-25 years (67%), followed by 26-35 years (13.33%), 36-45 years (13%), and those aged 46 years and above (6.67%). Regarding educational qualifications, 52.67% were undergraduates, 34.67% were postgraduates, 10% held doctorates, and 2.67% had other qualifications. This demographic profile highlights a predominantly young, male, and student-centric respondent base, which is essential for contextualizing the study's findings on grievance-handling satisfaction in higher education institutions.

Table 2: Importance of Grievance-Handling Procedure in Decision to Continue Association

Importance Level	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Extremely Important	120	40.0%
Very Important	100	33.3%
Moderately Important	50	16.7%
Slightly Important	20	6.7%
Not Important	10	3.3%

The analysis highlights the critical importance of grievance-handling procedures for stakeholder satisfaction. Table 2 shows that 73.3% of respondents consider these procedures as either "Extremely Important" (40%) or "Very Important" (33.3%) in their decision to continue their association with the institution.

Table 3: Perception of Grievance-Handling as Essential for Maintaining Trust

Agreement Level	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	110	36.7%
Agree	130	43.3%
Neutral	40	13.3%
Disagree	15	5.0%
Strongly Disagree	5	1.7%

Table 3 indicates that 80% of respondents either "Strongly Agree" (36.7%) or "Agree" (43.3%) that effective grievance-handling is essential for maintaining trust within the institution. These findings emphasize the vital role of grievance-handling in ensuring stakeholder commitment and fostering trust.

Regression

- **Hypothesis (H_1):** Various aspects of the grievance-handling process significantly predict overall stakeholder satisfaction with the procedure in higher education institutions.

Model Summary[b]

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics					Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	
1	.817[a]	.668	.662	.45144	.668	118.091	5	294	.000	1.999

a. Predictors: (Constant), PerceivedFairness, DecisionGiven, FollowUp_Communication, Time Taken for Solving Grievance, Accessibility of Grievance System

b. Dependent Variable: Overall Satisfaction

The results of the regression analysis provide a comprehensive understanding of the factors affecting overall satisfaction. The model summary indicates the strength of the relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable.

The model produced an R-squared value of 0.668, indicating that approximately 66.8% of the variance in overall satisfaction is explained by the five independent variables included in the model. This high R-squared value suggests that the model has strong explanatory power. The Adjusted R-squared, which accounts for the number of predictors, is slightly lower at 0.662, confirming that the model remains robust after adjusting for the number of variables.

Additionally, the Durbin-Watson statistic of 1.999 is close to 2, indicating that there is no significant autocorrelation in the residuals. This means the model's predictions are stable and reliable.

ANOVA[a]

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	120.333	5	24.067	118.091	.000[b]
	Residual	59.917	294	.204		
	Total	180.250	299			

a. Dependent Variable: Overall Satisfaction

b. Predictors: (Constant), PerceivedFairness, DecisionGiven, FollowUp_Communication, Time Taken for Solving Grievance, Accessibility of Grievance System

The ANOVA table further validates the overall significance of the regression model. The F-statistic for the model is 118.091, with a significance level of $p < 0.001$. This highly significant result confirms that the regression model provides a good fit for the data, meaning that the independent variables collectively have a significant impact on overall satisfaction.

Model		Sig.
1	(Constant)	.000
	Accessibility of Grievance System	.000
	Time Taken for Solving Grievance	.000
	FollowUp_Communication	.008
	DecisionGiven	.029
	PerceivedFairness	.048

The coefficients table provides detailed insights into the contribution of each independent variable to the dependent variable, overall satisfaction. The following are the key findings:

The analysis reveals several insights into the factors influencing overall stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures. The coefficient for the quality of decisions made during grievance handling is 0.613, with a highly significant p-value of less than 0.001, indicating that improving decision quality significantly enhances stakeholder satisfaction. The time taken to resolve grievances has a coefficient of 0.125 and a p-value of less than 0.001, highlighting that shorter resolution times positively impact satisfaction and underscore the importance of timely responses. Conversely, the accessibility of the grievance system exhibits a negative coefficient of -0.070 and a p-value of 0.008, suggesting that while accessibility is crucial, there may be underlying issues or barriers that need addressing. The follow-up and communication aspect shows a positive coefficient of 0.057 with a p-value of 0.029, emphasizing the importance of effective communication and consistent follow-up in improving satisfaction. Lastly, the perceived fairness has a negative coefficient of -0.052 with a p-value of 0.048, indicating that, despite statistical significance, there may be complex factors affecting perceptions of fairness.

The regression analysis strongly supports the hypothesis that the independent variables—Decision Given, Time Taken for Solving Grievance, Accessibility of the Grievance System, Follow-Up & Communication, and Perceived Fairness—are significant predictors of overall satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures.

Findings

The study on stakeholders' satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures in public higher education institutions reveals several significant insights. The demographic analysis shows that the majority of respondents were young students, with a noticeable skew towards male participants. This demographic composition is crucial in understanding the satisfaction levels and perspectives on grievance-handling procedures.

The importance of these procedures is evident, with 73.3% of respondents considering them either "Extremely Important" or "Very Important" in their decision to continue their association with the institution. Additionally, 80% of respondents either "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" that effective grievance-handling is essential for maintaining trust within the institution. These findings underscore the critical role that grievance-handling plays in fostering stakeholder commitment and trust.

The regression analysis further supports the hypothesis that factors such as Decision Given, Time Taken for Solving Grievance, Accessibility of the Grievance System, Follow-Up & Communication, and Perceived Fairness significantly predict overall satisfaction. The model explained 66.8% of the variance in satisfaction, indicating strong explanatory power. Notably, the quality of decisions and the timeliness of grievance resolution were found to have the most substantial positive impact on satisfaction.

Discussion

The analysis of stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures in higher education institutions revealed several important insights. Regression analysis showed that key factors such as timely responses, transparent communication, and decision quality have a strong impact on overall satisfaction, explaining 66.8% of the variance in stakeholder satisfaction. This indicates that while the current systems have strengths, there are notable areas that require attention.

One of the most significant findings is that decision quality ($\beta = 0.613$, $p < 0.001$) and time taken for resolving grievances ($\beta = 0.125$, $p < 0.001$) are critical predictors of satisfaction. Stakeholders feel more positive when their grievances are handled with fair and well-explained decisions, and when the time to reach a resolution is minimized. Conversely, accessibility of grievance systems showed a negative coefficient ($\beta = -0.070$, $p < 0.01$), suggesting that despite being important, stakeholders still face barriers when accessing the system. This indicates that while institutions have grievance-handling mechanisms, there are gaps in making them truly user-friendly.

Implications for Institutions

- Enhancing Accessibility: Institutions need to simplify access to grievance-handling platforms, potentially by digitizing processes and providing multiple access points (e.g., mobile apps, dedicated grievance portals).
- Improving Timeliness and Decision Quality: The findings suggest a strong link between quick, high-quality decision-making and stakeholder satisfaction. This calls for a review of existing procedures to reduce bottlenecks and ensure decisions are made impartially and with sufficient detail.
- Communication and Follow-Up: Stakeholders emphasized the importance of follow-up, with communication ($\beta = 0.057$, $p < 0.05$) having a positive impact on satisfaction. Institutions should prioritize regular updates and follow-through on grievance cases, ensuring stakeholders are informed at every step.

Further Research Directions: Future research could focus on identifying specific barriers that reduce system accessibility, such as lack of awareness, technological issues, or perceived bias in the process. Moreover, investigating how cultural and demographic factors influence perceptions of grievance-handling fairness could provide a more nuanced understanding, helping institutions customize their approaches based on stakeholder needs.

Recommendations & Suggestions

To enhance stakeholder satisfaction with grievance-handling procedures in higher education institutions, it is recommended that institutions focus on improving decision-making quality and reducing grievance resolution time. Streamlining processes and leveraging technology can aid in faster and more effective grievance management. Additionally, enhancing the accessibility and user experience of grievance systems is crucial, as is strengthening follow-up and communication efforts. Institutions should also address perceptions of fairness by promoting transparency and equity in their grievance-handling practices.

Conclusion

This study highlights the critical role that effective grievance-handling procedures play in maintaining stakeholder satisfaction and trust within higher education institutions. The findings underscore the importance of timely, transparent, and fair processes, which significantly influence stakeholders' decisions to remain associated with their institutions. By addressing the identified gaps and implementing the recommended improvements, institutions can build stronger relationships with their stakeholders, ultimately contributing to a more positive and supportive educational environment.

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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN EMERGING BHARAT

Dr. Manju Gandhi*

ABSTRACT

Nowadays, Women Empowerment is important topics to discuss. In this modern era women's needs to become empower. Today's women can do every job which a man can do. The process of strengthening women's social, economic, political, and legal clout in order to guarantee equal rights and opportunities for all is known as women empowerment. It entails providing women with the freedom to choose for themselves, access opportunities and resources, and actively engage in the advancement of society. The role of women in bharat for the better part of known history have been more domestic, than public. Thought it is believed that in some stretch of historical era. The movement for women empowerment addresses issues such as gender inequality, access to education, economic independence, reproductive rights, and protection from gender-based violence. It promotes the idea that empowering women leads to a more just, prosperous, and balanced society, as it enhances the well-being not only of women but of families and communities at large. Efforts toward women empowerment are often focused on:

- ***Education**: Providing women with the education and skills necessary to improve their socio-economic status.*
- ***Economic Empowerment**: Enabling women to participate in the workforce, access financial resources, and start businesses.*
- ***Political Participation**: Encouraging women's involvement in leadership roles and decision-making processes in government and organizations.*
- ***Health and Well-being**: Ensuring access to healthcare services, particularly reproductive health, and creating a safe environment free from violence and abuse.*
- ***Legal Rights**: Protecting women's rights through legislation that addresses discrimination, workplace equality, and property ownership.*

Women's empowerment has advanced, but much work still needs to be done. To address the remaining obstacles to gender equality, businesses, individuals, non-governmental organization (NGOs), and governments must work together. Policies and initiatives must change the social structures that support inequality in addition to empowering women as individuals. Creating a society where everyone has the chance to prosper is the goal of women's empowerment, not merely promoting gender equality. Entire communities, entire countries, and the entire world benefit from women's empowerment, which is a potent instrument for development.

***KEYWORDS**: Cybersecurity for Women, Inclusive Leadership, Economic Resilience.*

Introduction

Women empowerment refers to Progress of enabling women to have control over their lives, make independent decisions, and have equal opportunities across all areas of society. It aims to reduce gender disparities by granting women the same rights and freedoms as men, whether in social, economic, political, or legal spheres. Empowerment allows women to build confidence, improve their socio-economic status, and participate fully in shaping the world around them.

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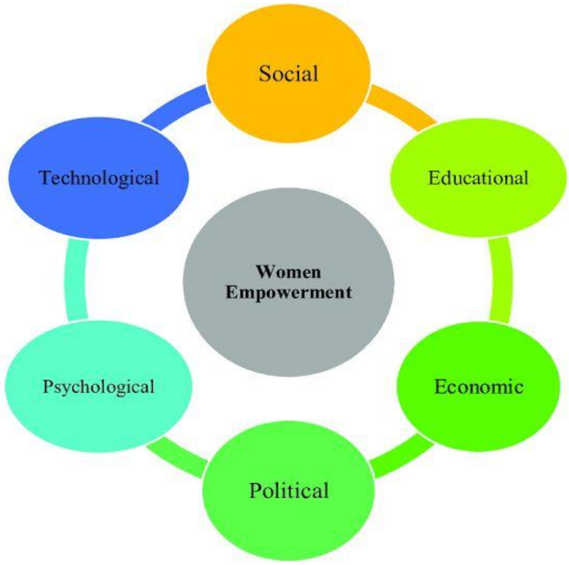
Women empowerment is often defined in some ways; it means accepting and allowing women to take their decision, giving them education, and empower them to fly them as much as they can fly towards success.

Struggle for women has been a long-standing issue, deeply rooted in historical, cultural, and societal norms. Throughout history, women have often been relegated to the role of housewife, their contributions limited to caregiving and household responsibilities. Patriarchal systems, entrenched in many cultures across the globe, dictated that men held the power and women were subservient, which led to significant social, economic, and political inequalities.

Over time, women have transcended traditional roles confined to caregiving and household responsibilities to participate more fully in society. By providing women with education, access to opportunities, and the ability to make independent decisions, society can bridge gender disparities and build a future where both men and women have equal rights and freedoms. Empowering women is not just about improving individual lives; it has a profound impact on communities and societies as a whole, fostering greater economic growth, social harmony, and progress. Achieving gender equality through women empowerment is an ongoing process that requires continuous efforts and reforms to challenge deeply entrenched norms and create an inclusive environment where women can thrive and contribute meaningfully to shaping the world around them.



What is the Aim of Women Empowerment

Empowering women is essential to the health and social development of their families, communities and countries. When women have safe, fulfilling and productive lives, they are able to realize their full potential by applying their skills to the workforce and raise happier, healthier children.

What Do you Mean by Women Empowerment

It's refers to the developing of increasing the social, economic, political, and legal strength of women to ensure their equal participation in all areas of society. It involves granting women the autonomy, resources, and opportunities they need to make decisions that affect their lives and contribute fully to their communities. Empowered women are better equipped to create stable and supportive home environments. They can make informed decisions about their families' health, education, and overall well-being.

- Woman's empowerment has three empowerment's components.
- Women's sense of self-worth.
- Their right to have access to opportunities and resources.
- Their right to have power to control their own lives, both within and outside the Home and ability to influence the direction of social life.

This broad objective can be broken down into several key goals:

- **Achieving Gender Equality**

This involves ensuring that women have the same rights, opportunities, and freedoms as men, both legally and socially. Gender equality encompasses various aspects, including equal pay for equal work, equal access to education and healthcare, and equal representation in political and economic decision-making.

- **Enhancing Economic Opportunities**

Empowering women aims to improve their economic status by increasing their access to employment opportunities, financial resources, and entrepreneurship and involves supporting women in securing jobs, starting businesses, and achieving economic independence.

- **Promoting Educational Attainment**

Another key aim is to provide quality of education and training. Education equips women with the skills and knowledge needed to pursue careers, make informed decisions, and engage in leadership roles. By enhancing educational opportunities, women can achieve personal and professional growth and contribute more effectively to society.

- **Ensuring Health and Safety**

Empowering women includes ensuring their access to healthcare services, including reproductive health and mental health support. It also involves creating safe environments free from violence and abuse. Health and safety are fundamental to women's ability to participate fully in society and achieve their potential.

- **Increasing Political and Social Participation**

An important aim is to increase women's participation in political and social spheres. This includes encouraging women to take on leadership roles, engage in decision-making processes, and advocate for policies that affect their lives and communities.

- **Strengthening Legal Rights**

Empowering women involves securing their legal rights and protections. This includes enforcing laws against discrimination, gender-based violence, and unequal treatment. Legal empowerment ensures that women have the tools and support needed to rights and seek justice.

Analysis

Feeling empowered to make decisions for themselves is a way of empowering them. Women empowerment includes actions to improve the status of girls through education, awareness, literacy and training. Women empowerment is about equipping and empowering women to take life-changing decisions on various issues in society.

Economic Women Empowerment

It focuses on enhancing women's ability to participate in economic activities, gain financial independence, and achieve equality in labour markets. It plays a critical role in increasing women's access to resources, education, and financial systems. Microfinance institutions aim for women empowerment in their community by giving them access to loans that have low-interest rates without the need for collateral. More specifically, the microfinance institutions aim to offer micro-credit to women who want to be entrepreneurs.

Here's a deeper look at the key elements and strategies involved in economic empowerment for women:

- **Key Components of Economic Women Empowerment**

Access to Formal Government Programs: Women's empowerment includes improving their access to government programs such as welfare benefits, financial assistance, healthcare, and educational opportunities. This access increases their ability to contribute economically and enhances their overall quality of life, leading to more substantial societal development.

  - **Mobility and Independence:** Economic empowerment encourages women's ability to move freely outside the home to pursue work, education, and personal growth. Mobility is essential for women to explore employment opportunities, engage in entrepreneurial activities, and participate in community development.

- **Financial Independence and Buying Power:** Gaining financial independence is a key goal, allowing women to make independent decisions and manage their personal and household finances. When women control their income, they invest more in their families' health, education, and welfare, contributing to generational improvements.

By increasing educational opportunities, improving access to land rights, and providing supportive financial tools such as microfinance, women can achieve greater economic independence. However, these efforts must also address the structural barriers and social norms that limit women's full participation in the economy.

Political Women Empowerment

Political empowerment refers to increasing women's ability to participate in decision-making processes at all levels of society, from the household to the national government. It seeks to create an environment where women have equal rights, representation, and influence in political, social, and economic spheres.

Popular methods that are suggested are to make social action policies that have a quota for the number of girls in politics and parliament positions.

As of 2017, the worldwide average of girls who hold lower and single house parliament positions is 23.6 percent. Further recommendations are to extend women's rights to vote, voice opinions, and, therefore, the ability to run an office with a good chance of being elected.

Because women are typically related to child care and domestic responsibilities within the home, they need less time dedicated to entering the labor market and running their business.

Policies that increase their bargaining power within the household would come with policies that account for cases of divorce, policies for better welfare for ladies, and policies that give women control over resources (such as property rights).

However, participation isn't limited to the realm of politics. It can include participation within the household, in schools, and, therefore, the ability to form. choices for oneself.

In essence, political empowerment of women is not just about increasing their presence in government but about fostering a society where women's voices and contributions are valued equally, leading to more balanced and fair governance. Empowered women can bring unique perspectives to policy-making, promote social justice, and create lasting change in communities, countries, and the world at large.

Barriers of Women Empowerment

While many women experience this pressure, some women are accustomed to being treated worse than men, such as members of parliament and NGOs. We are conscious of women empowerment.

Research has shown that increased access to the internet may also lead to increased exploitation of girls, with some women's safety at risk when their personal information is made public on websites.

In 2010, the organization Working to Halt Online Abuse reported that 73% of girls were victims of these sites. Types of victimization include cyberbullying, harassment, online pornography and name-calling**.**

In particular, harassment can be a significant obstacle for women in the workplace. It occurs in most industries but is most prevalent in business, commerce, banking and finance, sales and marketing, hospitality, government and education, and meetings and training. This reflects an unequal balance of power between men and women.

Furthermore, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) calls for strengthened measures to be taken to protect women from harassment and violence in the workplace. Considering the median earnings of men and women who work full-time year-round, women earned $0.79 for every $1 in income, according to government data from 2014.According to a 2014 study by the National Partnership for Women and Children, the median income of working mothers remains low at $0.71 for every $1 in income earned by fathers.

"The gap in wages is that most of the general discussions that focus on the fact that a woman who receives equality has bought the same job like a companion is fighting many women called pregnancy."

The problem is that it is difficult to live a life, but some experts often say that employers often push women to the line. Therefore, women are training the opportunity to take care of their jobs and have to have children. This issue has sparked debate about maternity leave in the United States and many other countries around the world.

Overcoming these obstacles requires a multi-faceted approach, including policy reforms, education, improved workplace conditions, and legal protections. While progress has been made, particularly through initiatives like CEDAW and microfinance, the journey toward true gender equality is ongoing. Addressing the wage gap, eliminating workplace harassment, and providing women with equal opportunities for education and leadership are critical steps in empowering women and fostering a more equitable society.

Strengthening Women's Empowerment through Education

Education plays a pivotal role in empowering women by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities necessary to improve their quality of life and contribute meaningfully to society. It is widely recognized as a fundamental tool for achieving gender equality and elevating women from positions of subordination to those of agency and influence.

In particular, education enables women to make choices that improve the health, well-being and survival chances of their children. Education is a key part of efforts to reduce malnutrition by informing others about disease prevention and control. It also enables women to make choices that improve their well-being, such as delaying marriage and having fewer children.

Importantly, education can enhance women's rights, Building Self-Confidence and Social Participation and provide opportunities to say their rights, Family and Social Welfare and Increased Awareness of Rights and Gender Equality.

Despite the major improvements in the last few decades, education is universally used, and gender inequality has continued. A major concern in many countries is not only the limited numbers of girls in school, but also the limited educational pathways for women to enter the classroom.

More efforts are needed to address women's under-representation and achievement, particularly in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Efforts must focus on breaking down barriers that prevent girls from attending school, ensuring that educational systems promote gender equality, and providing pathways for women to enter and succeed in various professions. When women are educated, not only do they thrive, but entire communities and nations benefit, leading to a more just, equal, and prosperous world.

Digital Revolution in Women's Empowerment

The rapid expansion of the internet and digital technologies has significantly contributed to the empowerment of women across various sectors. Access to the internet has revolutionized the way women learn, connect, and advocate for their rights. It has broken down many of the traditional barriers to empowerment by providing a platform for communication, education, and activism.

With the straightforward accessibility and affordability of e-learning (electronic learning), women can now study from the comfort of their homes. By learning to educate themselves through new technologies like e- learning, women also are learning new skills that will be handy in today's advancing globalized world.

Ongoing Projects for Empowering Women

The UN came out with a group of goals called the Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs, to assist make the planet a far better place. Of the 17, the fourth goal works to permit access to education for all people alike. An outsized effort has been made to incorporate women in schools to raise their education.

Similarly, the fifth goal focuses on empowering women and girls to realize gender equality through equal access to varied sorts of opportunities (health care, education, work, etc.)

List of Major Women Empowerment Schemes in Bharat

Working Women Hostel	Launch in 1972-73
Nirbhaya	Launch in 2012
Beti Bachao Beti Padho Scheme	Launch in 2015
One Step Centre Scheme	Launch in 2016
Women Helpline Scheme	Launch in 2016
Mahila E-Haat	Launch in 2016
Mahila Police Volunteers	Launch in 2016
Nari Shakti Purskar	Launch in 2016
Mahila Shakti Kendra	Launch in 2017
Swadhar Grah	Launch in 2018
Mahila Samman Savings Certificate	Launch in 2024

The Government of India has taken the safety and empowerment of women and children into serious consideration. The growing injustice toward women had to be minimized, and these schemes are the solution to the major problems related to women in India.

Interion Budget 1- Progress in Women's Empowerment

In her interim budget speech, Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman highlighted the Substantial progress made in the empowerment of women over the past decade, significantly enhancing their dignity and core of living.

In the interim Budget in February 2024, Smt Nirmala Sitaraman Noised the target for Lakhpati Didis" from 20 million to 30 million women. More can be expected on the scheme soon.

Notably, approximately 30 cook loans under the Mudra Yojana were disbursed to female entrepreneurs. There has also been a marked increase in Woman enrolling in STEM courses and pursuing higher education, as well as a his in their participation in the Workforce. Under the PM Awash Yojana, women. In rural areas now account for 70% of joint a Sole ownership of Houses.

Additionally, a proposal for reserving one-third of Seat for Women in the Lok Sabha and State assembly introduced.

Economic Surrey 2024

Women's participation in India’s labour force has surged dramatically, reflecting a significant leap in gender equality and empowerment. The Female labour force participation rate (LFPR) Soared to 37% In 2022-23 up from a more 23.3% in 2017-18 an impressive shift largely driven by rural women,

Who Dominate in Agriculture-Related Roles

This trend underscores the urgent need to elevate women from traditional agricultural positions into higher value-added sectors, particularly Agro-processes, which holds immesc potential for enhancing the skills and livelihoods of rural female workers

The CCO survey also pointed out how enterpreneseship among women is on the rise, with 68 percent of look under the PM mudra Yojana sanctioned to female entrepreneurs, while 77.7 percent of beneficiaries of the Stand-up India Scheme are Women. As digital literary expands, women constitute over half of the beneficiaries of the Prime Minister Rural Digital Literacy Campaign.

Indian Figures

India boasts a strong presence among the world's most powerful women, with four distinguished, figures making their mark on the Forbes list for 2023

- **Nirmala Sitharaman:** Leading the charge is India's Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who hold an impressive 32nd position on the prestigious list of Forbes list for 2023. Her leadership in navigating the Indian economy through complex challenges earns her global recognition
- **Roshni Nadar Malhotra:** The Chairperson of HCL Technologies entrepreneurial spirit and Visionary leadership have propelled HCL to new heights, solidifying her place as powerful force in the business word.

- **Kiran Mazumdar Shaw:** Rounding out the Indian contingent is Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, a prominent Biotechnology entrepreneur and billionaire. Her pioneering role in establishing Biocon, a leading biotechnology company, has earned her international acclaim and cemented her place as a force in the scientific Community.
- **Indira Gandhi:** Indira Gandhi is the only femurs Prime Minister in the history of India and this says a lot about her. She was a powerful, enthusiastic and an empowering woman setting an example with her run the prime minister of India.
- **Kalpana Chawla:** Kalpana Chawla was a true example of bravery as She was the first Indian woman to go into space. She was from Karnal, Haryana and later moved to America to work for NASA, Unfortunately, her space shuttle disintegrate while landing back on earth and she passed away. The story of her excellence and bravery is Still remembered by everyone and inspires every Woman In the world.
- **Indra Nooyi:** Indra Nooyi Set an example by becoming the CEO of the second biggest organization in the world. She was a brilliant Student and She graduated from IIm Kolkata and Yale School of management. She Stepped away from the position of the CEO PepsiCo. and joined the board of directors of Amazon.

These figures and organization have made Significant contribution to the cause of women's empowerment, advocating for gender equality, education, economic opportunities and leadership for Women globally.

Conclusion

It is crucial not only for individual progress but also for the overall development and success of any nation. Empowering women means providing them with the freedom to make their own choices, ensuring access to education, equal opportunities, and supporting their personal and professional growth. When women are empowered, they contribute significantly to economic, social, and political advancements. Education is one of the most important aspects of empowerment, as it equips women with knowledge and skills that allow them to compete equally in society. With the right education, women can achieve success in their careers, become entrepreneurs, and play leadership roles. Moreover, they can make informed decisions in every aspect of life, including marriage, parenthood, and personal well-being. Empowerment also enhances women's ability to raise strong, educated, and responsible future generations, which strengthens society as a whole. Whether as students, professionals, wives, mothers, or leaders have the resilience to overcome challenges and positively impact their surroundings. In conclusion, women's empowerment is not just a matter of human rights; it is essential for fostering inclusive growth and progress. By supporting women's independence and strength, nations can ensure that both men and women contribute equally to the betterment of society. For any country to develop fully, it must invest in its women, allowing them the space and resources to flourish in every role they choose to undertake.

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भारतीय संघ का वित्तीय प्रशासन

डॉ. जगदीश प्रसाद मीना*

सार

किसी भी देश में दो प्रकार की शासन व्यवस्था हो सकती है– एकांकी और संघीय। एकांकी शासन व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत देश की सम्पूर्ण शासन व्यवस्था एक ही सरकार के हाथों में होती है और यह केन्द्रीय सरकार ही होती है। संघीय शासन प्रणाली में केन्द्रीय शासन के अतिरिक्त विभिन्न–विभिन्न प्रत्येक राज्य की सरकार को अपने राज्य की सीमा में इच्छानुसार शासन करने की पूर्ण स्वतन्त्रता होती है और केन्द्रीय सरकार उसके कार्यों में किसी प्रकार का हस्तक्षेप नहीं करती है। संक्षेप में "जब किसी देश में केन्द्रीय सरकार के अतिरिक्त अन्य सरकारें भी होती हैं, जिन्हें अपने राज्य की सीमा में इच्छानुसार शासन करने की पूर्ण स्वतन्त्रता होती है और केन्द्रीय सरकार के अतिरिक्त अन्य राज्य सरकारें भी होती हैं जिन्हें अपने राज्य की सीमा में इच्छानु सार शासन करने की पूर्ण स्वतन्त्रता होती है, किन्तु कुछ मामलों में केन्द्र से सम्बन्धित होती है वे, तो यह शासन व्यवस्था संघीय मानी जाती है वित्त व्यवस्था के विभाजन को दो भागों में बाँट सकते हैंः–

- ***एकात्मक वित्त व्यवस्था :–*** *के अन्तर्गत देश की सम्पूर्ण मदों पर केवल केन्द्रीय सरकार ही व्यय करती है चाहे उस मद का सम्बन्ध केन्द्र से हो अथवा प्रान्त से या ग्राम से। केन्द्रीय सरकार के कोष में आय से समस्त से प्राप्त होने वाली आय जमा होती है।*
- ***संघीय वित्त व्यवस्था :–*** *आय व्यय समस्त मदों को केन्द्रीय सरकार, प्रान्तीय सरकारों और और स्थान स्थानीय सरकारों के बीच में बांट दिया जाता है। तीनों ही प्रकार की सरकारें अपनी–अपनी मदों पर व्यय करने तथा अपनी–अपनी मदों से आय प्राप्त करने के लिए पूर्णतः स्वतन्त्र होती है। इस प्रकार की वित्तीय व्यवस्था को संघीय वित्त व्यवस्था कहते है। संक्षेप में, संघीय वित्त व्यवस्था आशय संघ और राज्यों के वित्त का दोनों में पारस्परिक सम्बन्ध से है। विश्व में विभिन्न देशों में लोकतन्त्रीय प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत संसद को सर्वोच्च एवं शक्तिशाली सत्ता के रूप में मान्यता दी गयी है। लोकतंत्रीय व्यवस्थाओं में अन्तिम अधिकार संसद में समावेश होते हैं। जन–प्रतिनिधि के रूप में संसद सदस्य सही रूप में जनता प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं, जिनका प्रमुख दायित्व सामान्य जन के हितों की सुरक्षा करना है। लोक उपक्रम की विभिन्न गतिविधियां सरकार की नीतियों पर गहरा प्रभाव डालती है। सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों की तुलना में विभिन्न प्रकार के सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्वों का निर्वाह करना पड़ता है।*

शब्दकोशः *वित्तीय व्यवस्था, संघीय, मदों, सार्वजनिक आय, उपक्रम, पूंजी, प्रत्यक्ष कर अप्रत्यक्ष कर, प्रथुल्क।*

प्रस्तावना

संविधान में देश व राज्यों के वित्तीय सम्बन्धों का विशुद्व वर्णन किया गया है। राज्यों की उनकी आय के अतिरिक्त केन्द्र में सहायता के लिए पाँच वर्ष बाद राष्ट्रपति एक वित्त आयोग की नियुक्ति करता है। केन्द्र की आय के साधन राज्यों की आय के साधनों से कहीं अधिक हैं। फलस्वरूप राज्यों की अपने व्ययों की पूर्ति के

* सह आचार्य, ई. ए. एफ. एम., स्व. राजेश पायलट राजकीय स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय, बाँदीकुई, दौसा, राजस्थान।

लिए केन्द्र सरकार की ओर हाथ पसारना पड़ता है। किसी संघीय तथा राज्य सरकारों में कार्यों का विभाजन इस प्रकार से करना चाहिए जिससे उनमें आपस में किसी प्रकार की प्रतिद्वन्द्रिता न हो। कुछ कार्य तो ऐसे हैं। जिन्हें संघ शक्ति द्वारा ही भली प्रकार किया जा सकता है और कुछ कार्य ऐसे होते हैं। जिन्हें राज्य अथवा स्थानीय अधिकारी स्वतन्त्र रूप से अच्छी प्रकार कर सकते हैं। कार्य के वितरण में मुख्य विचार मितव्ययिता, प्रशासन की सुविधा और कार्य की कुशलता का रहता है। इस प्रकार केन्द्रीय सरकार या संघीय सरकार के अन्तर्गत पुनः उन सभी विषयों का प्रभाव आ जाता है जो अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व के होते हैं और जो सामान्य रूप से सभी राज्यों अर्थात् सम्पूर्ण देश मे सम्बन्धित होते है, जैसे– सुरक्षा, विदेशों से सम्बन्ध राष्ट्रीय सड़कें, करेन्सी व सिक्के, बैकिंग तथा बीमा, रेलवे, डाक व सन्देश वाहन के साधन, विदेशी विनिमय व्यापार, राष्ट्रीय नियोजन इत्यादि विषय संघीय सरकार के अन्तर्गत होते हैं, क्योंकि उनके प्रभाव राष्ट्रीय व अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महत्व रखते हैं। राज्य सरकारों को इस प्रकार के कार्य महत्व के होते हैं और जो कि राज्य की सीमा के अन्तर्गत रहने वाले नागरिकों के लिए तत्कालीन महत्व रखते हैं। जैसे– कृषि, पुलिस, सार्वजनिक, स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा आदि राज्य के कार्य होते हैं, किन्तु कुछ बातों में संघ सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों का संयुक्त प्रशासन आवश्यक हो जाता है, जैसे – श्रम अधिनियम, मूल्य नियन्त्रण, भोज्य पदार्थों में मिलावट रोकने के लिए नियम आदि। सार्वजनिक व्यय की उत्पादन पर ही नहीं, बल्कि आय एवं धन के वितरण पर भी प्रभाव पड़ता है। सार्वजनिक व्यय की प्रणाली श्रेष्ठतम है जो आय की असमानता को कम करने की शक्तिशाली क्षमता रखती है। इसमें यह बात बिल्कुल स्पष्ट हो जाती है कि सरकार को अपनी आय नीति इस प्रकार की बनानी चाहिए जिससे निम्न अथवा निर्धन वर्ग जिनके पास कम सुविधाऐं हो, अधिकतम लाभ मिल सके तथा इस व्यय की पूर्ति, कर के रुप में. अमीरों से की जाए। ऐसा करके धन के वितरण की असमानताऐं कम हो सकती है।

सार्वजनिक आय के स्रोत

सरकार को प्राप्त होने वाली सभी प्रकार की आय को सार्वजनिक आय कहा जाता है। जैसे–जैसे सरकार समाज के अभिकतम् कल्याण में बढ़ाने की चेष्ठा करती है वैसे वैसे सार्वजनिक व्यय में वृद्धि होती जाती है। इन लाभों को कम करने के लिए आय के साधन जुटाना अनिवार्य हो जाता है। सार्वजनिक व्ययों में वृद्धि से उत्पादन, रोजगार बचत एवं निवेश आदि में वृद्धि होती है जिससे सरकार की आय वृद्धि को और मदद मिलती है। सार्वजनिक आय में उन प्राप्तियों को सम्मिलित किया जाता है, जो सरकार को नियमित रूप से प्राप्त होती है तथा जिसे सरकार को लौटाना नहीं पड़ता। व्यापक रुप में, सार्वजनिक आय में किसी भी प्रकार से प्राप्त आय को सम्मिलित किया जाता जाता है इसके अन्तर्गत ऋण लेना तथा एक मुद्रा छापकर धन प्राप्त करने को भी सम्मिलित किया जाता है। जिसे प्रायः आगम के नाम से जानते हैं।

केन्द्र की आय के साधन

केन्द्रीय सरकार की आय के प्रमुख साधन इस प्रकार है। आयकर जीएसटी सीमा शुल्क, उत्पादन शुल्क, सम्पत्ति कर, निर्यातकर, कम्पनियों की मूल पूँजी पर कर, मुद्रा टंकन व विदेशी विनिमय से होने वाली आय, विदेशी ऋण, डाकखाना बचत बैंक, रिजर्व बैंक, डाकतार, टेलीफोन व रेलवे से आय इत्यादि।

- **कर आयः–** सार्वजनिक आय का सबसे प्राचीनतम साधन कर है। आज के युग में तो सार्वजनिक आय का अधिकतम भाग करों से ही प्राप्त किया जाता है। यह राज्य की आय को ऐसा भाग है जो प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को अनिवार्य रुप से चुकाना पडता है। सरकार इन करों से प्राप्त राशि का उपयोग सामाजिक कल्याण को अधिकतम करने के लिए करती है।
    - **प्रत्यक्ष कर –** इसके अन्तर्गत कर के भार को वही व्यक्ति वहन करता है जो इसे चुकाता है, अर्थात कराधात एवं करापात एक ही व्यक्ति पर पडता है। इसके अन्तर्गत मनोरंजन कर, ब्रिक्री कर आदि सम्मिलित करते है।

- **अप्रत्यक्ष कर** – अप्रत्यक्ष कर का भुगतान एक व्यक्ति द्वारा किया जाता है तथा उसका भार किसी उसके व्यक्ति द्वारा वहन करना पड़ता है। इसके अन्तर्गत मनोरंजन कर, बिक्री कर आदि सम्मिलित करते है।

- **गैर–कर आय** – द्वितीय महायुद्ध तक राज्य की वित्त व्यवस्था में कर साधनों का आर्थिक महत्व था। लेकिन जैसे–जैसे राज्य की क्रियाओं का विस्तार हुआ वैसे–वैसे आय के नये स्रोतों की खोज की जाने लगी। इसी के साथ राज्य की गैर–कर स्रोतों से प्राप्त आय में भी वृद्धि होने लगी। गैर कर आय के स्त्रोतों का विवरण निम्न प्रकार है।

  - **शुल्क** :– कर की भांति शुल्क भी एक अनिवार्य भुगतान है। शुल्क वह अनिवार्य भुगतान है जो किसी व्यक्ति द्वारा सरकार को किसी विशेष लाभ के बदले में किया जाता है। शुल्क वह भुगतान है जो कि प्रारम्भिक रूप में सार्वजनिक हित में, लेकिन फीस देने वाले व्यक्ति को विशेष लाभ प्रदान करते हुए सरकार द्वारा प्रदान की गयी बार–बार उत्पन्न होने वाली प्रत्येक सेवा की लागत को पूर्ण करने हेतु दिया जाता है। जैसे कोर्ट फीस, रजिस्ट्रेशन फीस तथा शिक्षा शुल्क इसी प्रकार के भुगतान के उदाहरण है।
  - **मूल्य** :– निजी व्यवसायियों की भांति सरकार भी कुछ उद्योगों तथा सेवाओं का संचालन करती है। इन व्यवसायों एवं सेवाओं को बेचने से सरकार को आय प्राप्त होती है, उसे मूल्य कहते है। सरकार द्वारा संभावित उद्योगों व सेवाओं के कुछ उदाहरण इस प्रकार है डाक व तार विभाग, रेल एवं सडक परिवहन, पानी तथा बिजली आदि।
  - **जुर्माने एवं दण्ड** :– जब कोई व्यक्ति अपने निहित स्वार्थों को पूरा करने के लिए सरकारी नियमों का उल्लंघन करती है तो उन पर जो दण्ड लगाये जाते है, वह भी सरकार की आय का स्रोत होती है। अगर यह दण्ड निर्धारित समय में नहीं चुकाए जाते है तो सरकार उन व्यक्तियों पर जुर्माना भी लगा देती है।
  - **उपहार तथा अनुदान** :– जब सरकार को निश्चित उद्देश्यों के लिए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थाओं द्वारा उपहार अथवा अनुदान के रुप में धनराशि उपलब्ध करायी जाती है, तो वह भी सरकार की आय का स्रोत माना जाता है। यह धन राशि जनता के द्वारा स्कूल, अस्पताल आदि खोलने के लिए दी जाती है।
  - **ऋण** :– सरकार अपने व्ययों की पूर्ति के लिए कई बार आन्तरिक एवं बाह्य साधनों से ऋण के रुप में राशि प्राप्त करती है, जिससे वह अपने आय के साधनों में वृद्धि करती है। यद्यपि ऋण के रूप में राशि सरकार की आय का स्थायी स्रोत नहीं कही जा सकती क्योंकि ऋण के रुप में प्राप्त राशि सरकार प्राप्त करती है वह ब्याज सहित वापिस करनी पड़ती है।
  - **सरकारी सम्पत्ति** :– प्रत्येक देश में भूमि, वन तथा खानों आदि पर सरकार का अधिकार होता है। सरकार अपनी धन सम्पत्तियों में ढेकों आदि पर देकर लगान अथवा रॉयल्टी के रूप में आवश्यक धनरशि प्राप्ति करती है। प्राचीन समय में यह सरकार की आय का मुख्य स्रोत था, लेकिन आजकल इस प्रकार की सरकारी आय में निरन्तर गिरावट आ रही है।

वित्तीय साधनों के आवटंन के सिद्धान्त

संघीय वित्त व्यवस्था का अर्थ संघ तथा राज्यों के वित्त और दोनों के परस्परिक सम्बन्ध से हैं। संघ व राज्यों के बीच कार्यों व सेवाओं का बटवारा होने के बाद यह आवश्यक है कि उनके पास पर्याप्त वित्तीय साधन हो जिससे उन कार्यों को कुशलतापूर्वक सम्पादित किया जा सके। सार्वजनिक व्यय का समाज के आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक कल्याण तथा धन के उत्पादन व वितरण पर गहरा प्रभाव पडता है। संघीय राज्य मे यह आवश्यक है

कि संघ व राज्यो के बीच कार्यो और साधनों का विभाजन है इस प्रकार किया जाए कि प्रत्येक इकाई आत्म निर्भर हो सके परन्तु प्रायः यह अनुभव किया जाता है कि किसी एक इकाई के कार्यो को पूर्ण करने के लिए आवश्यक व्यय और उनके विभिन्न स्त्रोतो से मिलने वाली आय में समानता नहीं होती। इस बात की सम्भावना सदा बनी रहती है कि एक इकाई के पास धन की कमी हो जाए और दूसरी के पास धन की अधिकता हो जाए। यह भी अनुभव किया गया है कि भाग के एक ही जोन हो विभिन्न राज्यों की आर्थिक, सामाजिक तथा अन्य परिस्थितियों के कारण असमान आय होती है। इस कारणों से सरकारों में केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों में वित्तीय समायोजन किया जाना चाहिए। वित्तीय समायोजन कि लिए आय–कर का विभाजन एक महत्वपूर्ण विधि है। इस विधि के अन्तर्गत केन्द्रीय सरकार कर लगाती है।

- **स्वतंत्रता का सिद्धान्त :–** संघीय वित्त व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत सरकार का संचालन इस प्रकार करना चाहिए कि जिससे सदस्य राज्यों के प्रति उसके व्यवहार में एकरूपता दिखाई दे अर्थात संघ सरकार द्वारा कर समस्त राज्यों के निवासियों पर समान दर से और बिना किसी रियायत अथवा पक्षपात के लगाना चाहिए। परन्तु व्यवहार में इस प्रकार की समानता स्थापित करना सम्भव नहीं होता है क्योंकि देश में समस्त राज्यों की जनसंख्या और आर्थिक स्थिति एक समान नहीं होती। यदि भारत का ही उदाहरण लिया जाये तो असम से यह आशा करना कि वह महाराष्ट्र राज्य के समान ही अंशदान देगा, अन्यायपूर्ण होगा, क्योंकि एक तो असम में महाराष्ट्र राज्य जैसे साधन उपलब्ध नहीं हैं और दूसरे उनको महाराष्ट्र की अपेक्षा अपना विकास करने में आर्थिक व्यय करना पड़ता है।
- **उत्पादकता का सिद्धान्त :–** संघीय वित्तीय व्यवस्था में सार्वजनिक व्यय इस प्रकार होना चाहिए जिससे उत्पादन क्षमता में वृद्धि, नवीन उद्योगों की स्थापना रोजगार वृद्धि तथा पूँजी निर्माण को प्रोत्साहन मिल सके। यदि सार्वजनिक व्यय से देश के सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक क्षेत्र में वृद्धि होती हो तथा नागरिकों से कार्य करने का प्रोत्साहन मिलता हो, तो ऐसा व्यय उचित समझा जाता है। कोई भी आधुनिक शब्द, सामाजिक तथा सार्वजनिक सेवाओं में वृद्धि किये बिना, अपने वर्तमान स्वरूप को प्रगतिशील नहीं बना सकता। अतः जिस व्यय में अर्थव्यवस्था सुदृढ़ होती हो तथा जनता का जीवन स्तर ऊँचा उठता हो, तह व्यय के प्रचारकता के सिद्धान्त की उचित कसोटी है।
- **न्यायोचित वितरण का सिद्धान्त :–** वित्त व्यवस्था का सिद्धान्त यह बताता है कि व्यय का वितरण समान एवं न्यायोचित होना चाहिए अर्थात सभी वर्गों तथा सभी क्षेत्रों पर व्यय इस प्रकार किया जाना चाहिए ताकि सभी को समान लाभ मिल सके । इस सम्बन्ध में यह बताना उचित होगा कि सामाजिक सेवाओं के विस्तार लिए उचित धनराशि खर्च करनी चाहिए। क्योंकि देश के नागरिकों का जीवन स्तर बहुत कुछ इन विस्तार पर निर्भर करता है। इसी प्रकार सार्वजनिक व्यय इस प्रकार किया जाना चाहिए जिसका लाभ गरीब व पिछडें हुए लोगों को अधिक मिल सकें। इस उद्देश्य की प्राप्ति के लिए सरकार को पिछडें हुए क्षेत्रों के विकास की मुख्य प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए तथा प्रगतिशील कर प्रणाली को अपनाना चाहिए।
- **लोभ सिद्धान्त :–** इस सिद्धान्त के अनुसार, संघीय राज्य में इकाइयों को आय प्राप्त करने के इतने सामान मिलने चाहिए जिससे कि वे न केवल वर्तमान आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर सकें, वरन भविष्य में उत्पन्न होने वाली आवश्यकतायों को भी पूरा कर सकें। आय के सामान सोचपूर्ण होने चाहिए अर्थात वित्त–व्यवस्था ऐसी होनी चाहिए कि आवश्यकताओं के बढ़ने के साथ संकटों के समय जैसे– युद्ध, अकाल, मन्दी आदि। साथ की विभिन्न ईकाईयों को अधिक आय प्राप्त हो सके। साधनों के विभाजन की योजना से सोचपूर्ण व्यवस्था की स्थापना होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि कोई योजना प्रत्येक आने वाले समय के लिए अन्तिम नहीं हो सकती है। परिवर्तनशील दशाओं में कोई भी योजना समय के मध्य में

अप्रचलित हो जाएगी। अतः विभाजन की योजना में इस प्रकार के परिवर्तनों के लिए प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए जो राष्ट्रीय हित के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है।

- **लाभ का सिद्धान्त :–** भारत की पंचवर्षीय योजना विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के विकास सम्बन्धी नीति इस बात का प्रतीक है कि विकास का लाभ सब क्षेत्रों को मिला है। आर्थिक और सामाजिक कार्यक्रमों को बडें आकार पर कार्यान्वित किया गया है। अतः भारत सरकार की सार्वजनिक व्यय की नीति इस बात का प्रतीक है कि व्यय का लाभ सबकों समान रुप से मिला है।

निष्कर्ष

संघीय राज्य में यह आवश्यक है कि संघ व राज्यों के बीच कार्यों और साधनों का विभाजन इस प्रकार किया जाए कि प्रत्येक ईकाई आत्म–निर्भर हो सके। परन्तु यह अनुभव किया जाता है कि किसी एक ईकाई के कार्यों को पूर्ण करने के लिए आवश्यक व्यय और उनके विभिन्न स्रोतों से मिलने वाली आय में समानता नहीं होती। इस बात की सम्भावना सदा बनी रहती है कि एक इकाई के पास धन की कमी हो जाए और दूसरी के पास घन की अधिकता हो जाए। यह भी अनुभव किया गया है कि आय के एक ही स्रोत से विभिन्न की आर्थिक सामाजिक तथा अन्य परिस्थितियों के कारण असमान आय होती है। इन कारणों से केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों में वित्तीय समायोजन किया जाना चाहिए। वित्तीय समायोजन के लिए आय–कर का विभाजन एक महत्वपूर्ण विधि है। इस विधि के अन्तर्गत केन्द्रीय सरकार कर लगाती है। केन्द्रीय सरकार ही जिसकी वसूली करती है, किन्तु जिनकी आय का विवरण राज्य सरकारों से होता है, इस प्रकार संघ सरकार आयकर का एक निश्चित हिस्सा अपने पास रखकर शेष राशि का वितरण राज्य सरकारों में करके उनकी वित्तीय स्थिति को सुदृढ करने में सहायता कर सकती है।

वित्तीय स्रोतों में विभाजन सामान्यतः अधिकारों के बटवारे के अनुसार होना चाहिए किन्तु आधुनिक।

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ब्रज होरी – एक संस्कृति

डॉ. कविता सक्सेना*

सार

किसी भी मानव जाति व देश के तीन मूल स्तम्भ होते है– उसकी सभ्यता, संस्कृति व संगीत। भारत वर्ष में सभ्यता, संस्कृति व संगीन तीनो ही सर्वश्रेष्ठ व सर्वप्रिय कारक है। भारत में सभ्यता, संस्कृति व संगीत जीवन का दर्शन ही नहीं अपितु स्वयं को जीवित व ऊर्जावान रखने की एक प्रक्रिया भी है। भारत विश्व का एक मात्र देश है, जहाँ सबसे अधिक भाषाऐं, धर्म, कला, विचार, जीवन व दर्शन मिलते है। वैदिक युग से आज तक की सम्पूर्ण परिवर्तन की प्रतिक्रिया में संगीत का महत्वपूर्ण स्थान बना रहा। संगीत ही वह प्रथम चरण था। भारत की सभ्यता में जीवन से लेकर मृत्यु तक के सभी संस्कारों व तीज त्यौहारों में संगीत का महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है। मंत्रों के उच्चारण से लेकर लोक–गीतों तक सभी कुछ संगीत के ऋणी है। लोक संगीत का मुख्य आधार वे सामाजिक विश्वास, रिति–रिवाज, उत्सव, त्यौहार एवं अन्य विशिष्ट मूल्य है, जो सामाजिक रूप में सामाजिकता से युक्त होते है। भारत में सभी समाज के लोग अपने–अपने त्यौहारों को लोक संगीत के माध्यम से मनाया करते है। भारत में मनाएँ जाने वाले प्रमुख त्यौहारों में से सबसे रंगीला त्यौहार है– होली, जिसके बारे में मेरा लेख है।

शब्दकोशः *त्यौहार, ब्रज संस्कृति, होरी–गायन, श्री राधा–कृष्ण लीला, वसंतोत्सव।*

प्रस्तावना

भारत के त्यौहारों में सर्वप्रिय त्यौहार होली का जिक्र आते ही, हम सभी के मन में एक अलग ही अहसास, मस्ती और धमाल का अनुभव होता है। होली का नाम आते ही ब्रज़ की होरी का जिक्र ना हो तो असंभव सी बात है। ब्रज़ क्षेत्र उत्तर प्रदेश प्रान्त के पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में आता है। ब्रज़ क्षेत्र हमारे आराध्य, हमारे इष्ट ''श्री कृष्ण व राधा'' की लीला स्थली रहा है। ब्रज होरी के बारे में जानने से पहले, हमें ब्रज़ की संस्कृति को समझना होगा।

ब्रज़ की होली का अपना एक स्तर है। ब्रज़ की होली नर–नारियों द्वारा खेली जाने पर भी श्री राधा–कृष्ण की होली कहलाती है। जितने भी पद या रसिया मिलते है, वें सभी ब्रज़ की होली में गांव–गांव में गाए जाते है। सभी के रचनाकार भक्त कवि है।

मेरे विवाह के पश्चात् जब मैं ब्रज क्षेत्र से जुडी तो सर्वप्रथम मैने बरसाने की लट्ठमार होरी का दर्शन किया, वहाँ का आनन्द लिया। वहाँ का समाज गायन, वहाँ के विभिन्न पण्डालों में गाई जाने वाली विभिन्न होरियों का गायन जिनमें कुछ श्री राधा व साखियों की तरफ की थी, तो कुछ होरियाँ श्री कृष्ण व ग्वालों की

* सहायक आचार्य (कथक नृत्य), राजस्थान संगीत संस्थान, जयपुर, राजस्थान।

तरफ से गाई जाने वाली थी। उन विभिन्न होरियों में भक्त कवियों के द्वारा जो भाव श्री राधा व कृष्ण के प्रति उन पदों में व्यक्त किया गया था, वो ब्रज भाषा में अनूठा ही था। यही सब होरियों के विभिन्न रंग और भावों को सुनकर मुझें इस विषय ने आकर्षित किया।

उदेश्य एवं महत्व

फागु परम्परा– नृत्याभिनय से परिपूरित वंसतोत्सव की लोकधर्मी परम्परा में फाग–गायन के प्रचलन का उल्लेख भी प्राप्त होता है। संस्कृत के 'फल्गु' शब्द से विकसित फग्गु अथवा फागु, फाग शब्द पद आख्यान, वार्ता आदि साहित्य की विविध विधाओं के समान ही ऐसी गीतियों का बोधक माना जा सकता है, जिनकी विषयवस्तु अपने वास्तविक परिधान में छंद विशेष में लिखी जाती रही है और उनका प्रयोग अभिनय से संबंधित नृत्य प्रदर्शन में किया जाता था। फागु की यह गेय परम्परा नृत्यामिनय से युक्त लोकधर्मी परम्परा की शिल्प मूलक विशेषता को लेकर रास की समानधर्मी ही प्रतीत होती है। डॉ के.एम. मुंशी के मतानुसार बसन्त–वैभव से उल्लासित फाल्गुन में गेय रास–रचनाएँ ही 'फागु' नाम से प्रख्यात हुई। परवर्ती काल में नृत्याभिनय से युक्त फागु नाम की एक परम्परा अभिनय की न्यूनता के कारण गेय काव्य बनी। कृष्ण काव्य में फागु खेलने के विविध वर्णन उपलब्ध होते है। रास परम्परा के अनुरूप ही फागु रचनाओं के नृत्यात्मक प्रस्तुतीकरण में झांझ, पखावज आदि वाद्यों का उल्लेख मिलता है। प्रेमानन्द कृत 'रास' में ताली बजाकर फाग गायन का वर्णन हुआ है। ब्रज़ की रास लीलाओं में आज भी अत्यन्त रूचि पूर्वक फाग गया जाता है। रास मंच की होरी लीला तो पूर्ण रूप से फागों के आधार पर ही प्रदर्शित की जाती है।

होरी की कथा

ब्रज़ क्षेत्र में मथुरा शहर से 40 किलोमीटर दूर श्री राधा रानी का गाँव है, जो कि बरसाना नाम से प्रसिद्व है। बरसाने में रंगीली होली लगभग 5000 वर्षों से भी अधिक पुरानी है, इसका प्रमाण गर्ग संहिता में मिलता है। यह होरी लीला बरसाना में फागुन मास की शुक्ल पक्ष की अष्टमी से आरम्भ होती है। इस दिन बरसाने से पण्डे हाँडी में गुलाल लेकर नन्दगाँव जाते है, जहाँ वो श्री कृष्ण जी को अगले दिन अर्थात नवमी के दिन बरसाने आकर होली खेलने का निमन्त्रण देते है, वहाँ उनका बहुत स्वागत होता है और उन पण्डों के द्वारा समाज गायन में गारियों का गायन किया जाता है। रसिया के रूप में गाया जाने वाला एक गीत प्रचलित है।

लाला तोइए बुलाय गई नथवारी..........

अगले दिन नवमी का नन्दगाँव के पण्डे बरसाने आते है, रंग–बिरंगी पाग पहने और हाथों में ढाल लिए आते है, जो कि गैण्डे की खाल की बनी हुई होती है। बरसाने में पीली पोखर नामक स्थान पर उनकी बहुत खातिरदारी होती है, फिर वो ब्रह्माचल पर्वत पर स्थित श्री राधा रानी के मन्दिर का दर्शन करते है और उनका समाज फाग गायन करता है। ब्रज़ का ''साखी'' गायन भी प्रसिद्व है।

आए गए हुरियारे होरी के आये–गये हुरियारे....

बाहर निकस्यां री आंगन में, लाल खडे तेरे द्वारे.........

मन्दिर में बहुत गुलाल उडता है, वहाँ ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि रंग बिरंगे बादल उमड आए है। प्राकृतिक रंगों से होली खेली जाती है, जो कि टेसू के फूलों को भिगो कर रंग बनाया जाता है, इस रंग को बडी–बडी पिचकारियों में भरकर नन्दगाँव के पण्डों पर खूब बरसाया जाता है। गुलाल और रंगों से वहाँ ऐसी कीच मच जाती है, कि रसिया गा उठते है–

कीच रंग केसर की ओ गोरी.......

होरी में सम्भल के धरियों पाँव..........

बरसाने में एक रंगीली गली है, जहाँ से नन्दगॉव के पण्डे मन्दिर से नीचे उतरते है और बरसाने की गलियों में फैल जाते है, तभी बरसाने की महिलाऐं खूब सजधज कर, श्रृंगार कर, आभूषण आदि धारण कर हाथों

में बांस के मोटे–मोटे लट्ठ लेकर उन पण्डों पर जो ढाल लिए होते है, उन पर लट्ठ से वार करती है, जिससे वो ढाल से अपना बचाव करते है और इस प्रकार बरसाने की लट्ठमार होली आरम्भर होने के बाद सम्पूर्ण विश्व में होली आरम्भ हो जाती है। इस लट्ठमार होली का बहुत ही सुन्दर सार है कि गोपियों को केवल कान्हा जी से ही होली खेलनी है, इसलिए सब सखियॉ श्री कृष्ण के सखाओं को लट्ठ मारकर भगा देती है। ऐसे समय का एक रसिया प्रसिद्व है –

फाग खेलन बरसाने आए है नटवर नन्द किशोर......

घेर लई सब गली रंगीली, छाय रही सब छटा छबीली,

ढप ढोल मृदंग बजाए है, बंशी की धनघोर.........

लट्ठमार के समय का रसिया है–

सखी डट–डट के डण्डा चलावें.......

ग्वाला होरी है हल्ला मचावें..........

लट्ठमार होली का यह दृश्य बडा ही अनोखा है। नारी का बल यहाँ देखने को मिलता है। ब्रज़ की होली फाग नहीं है, यह केवल पुरूष प्रधान नहीं है, यहाँ तो राधा रानी का राज चलता है, प्रधानता श्री राधा की ही है। ब्रज़ की होली खेलते तो पुरूष और स्त्री ही है, परन्तु उनमें भाव कृष्ण और राधा का रहता है। यही कारण है कि ब्रज़ की होली की पवित्रता बनी रहती है। ब्रज़ की होली का रंग कृष्ण और राधा की होली का रंग है। फिर भी होली तो होली है, जब श्री कृष्ण ने सखी की आँखों में जानबूझ कर पिचकारी की धार मार दी तो सखी कह उठी–

नैनन में पिचकारी दई........

मोय गारी दई, होरी खेली न जाए.....

श्री कृष्ण जी गोरी को अपने नैनों के इशारों से ही मार डाल रहे है तो एक रसिया है–

मत मारे दृगन की चोट..........

रसिया होरी में मेरे लग जाएगी.........

होली की लीलाओं में ही एक लीला है, जिसमें सखियों श्री कृष्ण को पकड लेती है और उन्हें काजल बिन्दी, मांग में टीका, पैरों में पायल, लंहगा फरिया, ओढनी पहना कर उन्हें नारी बना देती है और रसिया गाती है–

रसिया को नार बनावों री, होरी में.........

ब्रज़ की होरी साधारण नहीं असाधारण है। होरी का एक रसिया है–

सबजग में होरी या ब्रज़ में होरा.....

ऐ री सखी कैसो ये देस निगोरा.....

ब्रज़ में होरी की ऐसी उमंग है कि एक सखी का प्रति परदेश गया है और फागुन पर नहीं आ पाएगा तो वो सखी अपनी सखी से कहती है–

सखी री, अपनो बालम मोहे मांगे को दे दे, फागुन के दिन चार.......

प्रासंगिकता

ब्रज़ की होलियों का रंग बडा गहरा है, सबको लुभाता है। बसंत पंचमी से ही मन्दिरों में होली आरम्भ हो जाती है। पूरे फागुन मास यह चलता है, फागुन मास फाग खिलाता है। किन्तु फागुन को जाना भी है, होली खेलने वाले रोकते है कि न जाए, फागुन माह को जाने से रोकने के लिए सखी कह उठती है–

बैरी फगुना तू मत जाईयो श्याम जब तक नहीं आवै मेरो यार........

किन्तु फागुन चला जाता है। होली के ढप रख दिए जाते है, अगली बार की होली की प्रतीक्षा में। होली के जाते ही एक विषाद सा छा जाता है। एक लहर थी उल्लास की, उतर गई।

ब्रज की होरी के बारे में लिखने को बहुत कुछ है। यदि इन पारम्परिक होरी गायन की बात करें, जो शास्त्रीय राग व तालों में निबद्व होती है, ये होलियां अधिकतर राग काफी और दीपचन्दी ताल में निबद्व होती है। इन होलियों को गाने की एक विशेष परम्परा होती है। इनकी शुरूआत दीपचन्दी ताल से शुरू होती है, गीत की स्थाई पूरी गाने के बाद उसके बोल बनाव करके, उसी स्थाई के बोलों की ताल बदलकर कहरवा ताल में गाकर वापिस दीपचन्दी की लय पकड कर अन्तरा गाया जाता है। इस प्रकार लय बदल कर गाने से एक अलग ही रोमांच का अनुभव होता है।

कुछ होरी गीत इस प्रकार है, जो पारम्परिक है :–

- **सखी आयो बसन्त सभी मिल खेलो री होरी.....**
- **रंगन रंग हो ही होरी है.........**
- **हो ब्रज़राज दुलारें......**
- **सखी री, अपनों बलक मोहे.......**

ऐसी कई पारम्पारिक रचना है, जो आज भी अपनी सांगीतिक परम्परा को बनाये रखने में कायम है।

उपसंहार

ये लगभग पाँच हजार वर्ष पुरानी परम्पराएं आज भी ज्यों की त्यों चली आ रही है। आज भी नन्दगाँव से अष्टमी के दिन ग्वाल–बाल टोल बनाकर आते है और फिर शुरू होती है, बरसाने की रंगीली गली में विश्व प्रसिद्व लट्ठमार होली, जिसमें ग्वाल–बाल नन्दगाँव के होते है और गोपियां बरसाने की।

ब्रज़ होरी की कथा में उसके पीछे छिपे प्रेम के भाव को तथा श्री कृष्ण के प्रति गोपियों के अथाह प्रेम को देखकर जब होरी के उन्माद को अनुभव करते है तो ब्रज़ का सर्वप्रसिद्व और सर्वप्रिय रसिया को सुनकर हमारा मन मयूर स्वतः ही गा उठता है और नाच उठता है।

आज बिरज में होरी रे रसियां......

होरी रे होरी बरजोरी रे रसिया...........

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झुंझुनूं के ग्रामीण आर्थिक विकास में महिलाओं की भूमिका

संगीता कुमारी*
डॉ. तरूण कुमार यादव**

सार

भारत में ग्रामीण जीवन एक लम्बे समय तक परम्परावादी और अपरिवर्तनशील बना रहा। महिलाओं की स्थिति भी स्थिर बनी रही और घर की चार दिवारों तक सिमटी रही स्वतन्त्रता के बाद यह महसूस किया गया कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में परिवर्तन लाये बिना और महिलाओं के विकास के बिना भारतीय समाज का विकास नहीं किया जा सकता। स्वतन्त्रता के पश्चात् ग्रामीण विकास के लिए अनेक सामाजिक–आर्थिक प्रयत्न किये। ग्रामीणों के चतुर्दिक विकास के लिए सामुदायिक विकास योजना लागू की गयी। किसानों को नये भूमि अधिकार दिये गये, शिक्षा के प्रसार के लिये स्कूलों की स्थापना को विशेष महत्व दिया गया तथा गाँवों को नगरों से जोड़ने के लिए नयी सड़कों का निर्माण किया गया। ग्राम पंचायतों की स्थापना की गयी और अनेक समाज–कल्याण कार्यक्रम आरम्भ किये। कृषि की उन्नत प्रयत्नों के फलस्वरुप भारत के परम्परागत ग्रामीण जीवन में परिवर्तन होने लगा। भारत देश में नगरीयकरण ने शिक्षा वैयक्तिक स्वतन्त्रता और तार्किक दृष्टिकोण को प्रोत्साहन देकर स्त्रियों की स्थिति में सुधार लाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। नगरीयकरण में बदलाव के प्रभाव से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी महिलाओं की स्थिति में सुधार हुआ है। नगरों में बाल विवाह की जगह विलम्व विवाह को प्रोत्साहन मिला है विधवा पुनर्विवाह को बुरी दृष्टि से नहीं देखा जाता है नगरों में दहेज के आधार पर स्त्रियों के उत्पीडन में कमी हुई है। स्त्रियों द्वारा आर्थिक जीवन में प्रवेश करने से पुरुषों पर उनकी निर्भरता कम हुई है। बहुत शिक्षित महिलायें चिकित्सा, शिक्षा, टैक्नोलॉजी तथा प्रशासन के क्षेत्र में उच्च पदों पर आसीन हैं।

शब्दकोशः *वैवाहिक, सामाजिक, पारिवारिक, शैक्षणिक एवं आर्थिक समस्याएँ।*

प्रस्तावना

मनोरंजन, भ्रमण और गोष्ठियों में महिलाओं की रुचि बढ रही है नगरीयकरण ने स्त्रियों के जीवन में परिवर्तन लाने में सराहनीय कार्य किया है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में अधिकांश व्यक्ति स्त्रियों द्वारा नौकरी करने, उच्च शिक्षा ग्रहण करने अथवा परिवार के प्रबन्ध में हस्तक्षेप करने को न केवल सन्देह की दृष्टि से देखते हैं बल्कि इसे अपने अहम् के विरुद्ध भी मानते हैं।

भारत में स्वतन्त्रता के तुरंत पश्चात् संविधान और नए सामाजिक अधिनियमों के द्वारा जीवन के सभी क्षेत्रों में स्त्रियों को पुरुषों के समान अधिकार दिए गए। नगरों में स्त्रियों ने सामाजिक और आर्थिक दासता के पुराने बन्धनों को तोड़कर महत्वपूर्ण सफलताएँ प्राप्त की हैं। भारत में स्वतन्त्रता के समय जहाँ 1000 स्त्रियों में

* भूगोल विभाग, श्री जगदीश प्रसाद झाबरमल टिबड़ेवाला विश्वविद्यालय, विद्यानगरी, झुंझुनूं, राजस्थान।
** भूगोल विभाग, श्री जगदीश प्रसाद झाबरमल टिबड़ेवाला विश्वविद्यालय, विद्यानगरी, झुंझुनूं, राजस्थान।

केवल 54 स्त्रियाँ साक्षर थीं, वहीं आज यह संख्या बढकर लगभग 411 हो गई है। इस समय विभिन्न आयु के समूहों में पाँच करोड़ से भी अधिक लडकियाँ स्कूलों और कालेजों में शिक्षा प्राप्त कर रही हैं। आज लडकियों ने विज्ञान, कला और वाणिज्य की शिक्षा के साथ व्यावसायिक और राजनीतिक शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भी अपनी श्रेष्ठता को प्रमाणित किया है अपनी शैक्षणिक उपलब्धियों द्वारा स्त्रियों ने यह प्रमाणित कर दिया है कि मानसिक स्तर पर वे किसी भी तरह पुरुषों से निम्न नहीं हैं।

झुंझुनूं आज स्त्रियाँ अपनी आर्थिक आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए पूर्णतया पुरुषों पर निर्भर नहीं हैं। शिक्षा की प्रगति तथा बदलती हुई मनोवृतियों के प्रभाव से अब सभी क्षेत्रों में कामकाजी महिलाओं की संख्या में तेजी से वृद्धि हो रही है उच्च स्तर की प्रशासनिक और पुलिस सेवाओं में भी स्त्रियों की संख्या बढती जा रही है आज स्त्रियाँ बडे–बडे उद्योगों का संचालन कर रही हैं तथा चिकित्सकों एवं सलाहकारी सेवाओं में उनकी संख्या निरन्तर बढती जा रही है मध्यम और उच्च वर्ग में भी स्त्रियों द्धारा आर्थिक क्रियाएँ करने को अब अनैतिकता के रुप में नहीं देखा जाता इसके विपरीत जीविका उपार्जित करने वाली स्त्रियों की सामाजिक स्थिति को ऊँचा समझा जाने लगा है आर्थिक क्षेत्र में जैसे–जैसे स्त्रियों की पुरुषों पर निर्भरता कम होती जा रही है। परिवार और समाज में भी उनका सम्मान बढता जा रहा है। आर्थिक आत्मनिर्भरता से स्त्रियों का आत्मविश्वास बढा है तथा जीवन के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में उनके विचारों को महत्व मिलने लगा है।

वैवाहिक समस्याएँ

विवाह के क्षेत्र में स्त्रियों को पुरूषों के समान अधिकार दिये गए हैं। इसके बाद भी स्त्रियों के जीवन से सम्बन्धित विवाह सम्बन्धी परम्परागत समस्याओं में कोई उल्लेखनीय सुधार नहीं हुआ भारत के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आज भी बाल–विवाह के प्रचलन में किसी तरह की कमी नहीं हुई है। एक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार श्रमिक और मेहनतकश वर्ग में 29 प्रतिशत लड़कियों के विवाह 15 वर्ष की आयु से पहले कर दिये जाते हैं इसी के फलस्वरूप ऐसी लड़कियों के स्वास्थ का स्तर हमेशा निम्न बना रहता है। स्त्रियों के जीवन में दहेज की समस्या आज भी एक बडा अभिशाप ह‍ै कोई स्त्री चाहे कितनी कुशल सुशील आर शिक्षित क्यों न हो उसके माता पिता द्धारा वर पक्ष को विवाह के समय दहेज देना आम परम्परा बन चुकी है दहेज से संतुष्ट न होने के कारण सास–ससुर पति तथा ननद के द्धारा स्त्री को प्रताड़ित करना एक जघन्य अपराध के रूप में नहीं देखा जाता। दहेज के कारण ही हमारे समाज में बेमेल विवाह को भी स्त्री द्धारा चुपचाप सहन करने के लिए बाध्य होना पड़ता है। स्त्रियों के वैवाहिक जीवन से सम्बन्धित एक प्रमुख समस्या तलाक की समस्या है। सन् 1955 से कानून के द्वारा स्त्रियों को भी अपने पति के दोषी होने पर तलाक देने का अधिकार दिया गया है लेकिन व्यावहारिक रूप से तलाक का अधिकार आज भी पुरूषो के पक्ष में है। पत्नी से असन्तुष्ट होने पर पति द्धारा अपनी पत्नी को छोड़ देना एक सामान्य सी बात है तथा छोड़ी हुई स्त्री अपना पुनर्विवाह भी नहीं कर सकती बहुपत्नी विवाह भी एक मुख्य समस्या है। कानून द्धारा आज भी मुसलिम तथा जनजातीय पुरूषों को बहुपत्नी विवाह का अधिकार मिला हुआ है। इसके फलस्वरूप स्त्रियों को परिवार में कोई प्रतिष्ठा नहीं मिल पाती वरन् वे अपने प्राकृतिक अधिकारों से भी वंचित हैं। भारत में सभी धर्मो से सम्बन्धित स्त्रियों को अपने पति की मृत्यु के बाद दूसरा विवाह करने का कानूनी अधिकार मिला हुआ है। इसके बाद भी यदि किसी विधवा द्धारा पुनर्विवाह किया जाता है तो साधारणतया समाज में उसे सम्मानित स्थान नहीं मिल पाता। पहले विवाह से उत्पन्न सन्तानों की नये परिवार में पूरी तरह उपेक्षा करना सामान्य सी बात है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आज भी विधवा पुनर्विवाह को एक सामाजिक अपराध के रुप मे देखा जाता है स्त्री द्वारा अर्न्तजातीय विवाह करना शिक्षित और प्रगतिशील विचारों वाले परिवारों में भी एक सामाजिक कलंक के रुप में देखा जाता है स्त्री द्वारा अपने से भिन्न जाति अथवा धर्म के पुरुष से विवाह करने के प्रस्ताव का परिवार में इतना विरोध होता है कि इस स्थिति में साधारणतया लडकी को अपने परिवार में सभी तरह से अपमानित होने के साथ ही अक्सर आर्थिक सुख–सुविधाआं से वंचित होना पडता है यह नैतिकता का एक दोहरा माप दण्ड है जिसकी सबसे ज्यादा शिकार स्त्रियाँ ही हैं।

सामाजिक समस्याएँ

कानून के द्वारा यद्यपि स्त्री तथा पुरुषों को समान सामाजिक अधिकार दिए गए है लेकिन सामाजिक क्षेत्र में ऐसे सभी अधिकार अर्थहीन है सर्वप्रथम समाज में स्त्रियों की परिस्थिति लगभग सभी क्षेत्रों में पुरुषों के आधीन हैं समुदाय में जो निर्णय लिए जाते हैं उनमें स्त्रियों कि इच्छाओं का कोई महत्व नहीं होता। गाँवों में चाहे जाति पंचायत हो अथवा कोई सार्वजनिक संगठन, यह आशा की जाती है कि स्त्रियाँ अपने आप को उनसे दूर रखें। पुरुष–प्रधान समाज में छोटी–छोटी बातों पर स्त्रियों को प्रताड़ित और अपमानित होना पड़ता है। भारतीय समाज में लोगों की सामान्य मनोवृत्ति स्त्री पुरूषों की भूमिका में विभेद करने की रही है घर के बाहर एक पुरुष चाहे शारीरिक श्रम के द्वारा आजीविका उपार्जित करता हो लेकिन घर के अन्दर वह किसी भी तरह का काम करना अपने लिए अपमानजनक समझता है कोई स्त्री चाहे कितनी भी कार्यकुशल क्यों ना हो उससे यह आशा की जाती है कि वह अपना सम्पूर्ण समय बच्चों के पालन–पोषण और घरेलू कार्यो में ही व्यतीत करे। समाज में स्त्रियों की सामान्य बीमारियों के प्रति कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता अधिकांश स्त्रियाँ जहाँ कुपोषण कि शिकार रहती हैं वहीं उनकी जीवन–अवधि भी पुरुषों की तुलना में कम रह जाती है।

पारिवारिक समस्याएँ

भारत में एक लम्बे समय से संयुक्त परिवारों का प्रचलन रहा है जिसमें परिवार के सभी अधिकार किसी पुरुष कर्ता के हाथों में ही रहते हैं संयुक्त परिवारों में स्त्रियों की दशा दासी–जीवन से अच्छी नहीं कही जा सकती। परिवारों में पुरुष सदस्यों की सेवा करना उनका एकमात्र धर्म समझा और समझाया जाता है आज संयुक्त परिवारों की संख्या में काफी कमी हो जाने के बाद भी स्त्रियों द्वारा सार्वजनिक जीवन में प्रवेश करने को अच्छा नहीं माना जाता पुरुष की सन्देहपूर्ण मनोवृत्ति स्त्रियों को घर के दायरे तक ही सीमित रखना चाहती हैं। आज स्त्रियों में जैसे–जैसे शिक्षा और सामाजिक जागरूकता बढती जा रही है उनकी पारिवारिक समस्याएँ पहले से गंभीर होती जा रही हैं। शिक्षा के प्रभाव से धार्मिक अन्धविश्वासों और स्मृतिकालीन मूल्यों का प्रभाव जैसे–जैसे कम हो रहा है स्त्रियाँ पति को न तो देवता मानती हैं और न ही पुरुष के दुराचार को अपने भाग्य का परिणाम मानने के पक्ष में हैं इसके फलस्वरुप स्त्रियों के मानसिक तनाव में वृद्वि हो रही है अक्सर यह पति–पत्नी के बीच पृथक्करण अथवा विवाह विच्छेद का कारण बन सकती हैं। इस समस्या को हम नैतिक मूल्यों में होने वाले परिवर्तनों तथा आधुनिकीकरण का परिणाम मान सकते हैं।

शैक्षणिक समस्याएँ

भारत में स्त्रियों की एक प्रमुख समस्या उनके शैक्षणिक जीवन से सम्बन्धित है। सन 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार पुरुषों में साक्षरता का प्रतिशत जहाँ 64.13 था वहीं स्त्रियों में साक्षरता का प्रतिशत केवल 39.29 पाया गया। आज भी समाज में शिक्षा के दृष्टिकोण से लड़कों और लड़कियों के बीच एक स्पष्ट विभेद करने की प्रवृति बनी हुई है। अधिकांश माता–पिता लड़कियों को शिक्षा देने की जगह उन्हें घरेलू काम सिखाना अधिक अच्छा समझते हैं गाँवों में लडकियो को धार्मिक शिक्षा मिलने के कारण जीवन के आरम्भ में उनमें तरह–तरह, के अन्धविश्वास और भाग्यवादी विचार विकसित होना आरम्भ हो जाते हैं कुछ प्रगतिशील परिवारों में भी लड़कियों के लिए उच्च शिक्षा देना इस कारण अच्छा नहीं समझा जाता कि उच्च शिक्षा के बाद उनका विवाह करना अधिक कठिन हो जाता है। पिछले 15–20 वर्षों से बहुत सी लड़कियों ने उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करके चिकित्सा प्रशासन तथा अनेक दूसरे क्षेत्रों में अपनी प्रतिभा का परिचय दिया है लेकिन कुल जनसंख्या में यदि ऐसी स्त्रियों के प्रतिशत को देखा जाए तो वह बिल्कुल नगण्य है। शिक्षा की कमी के कारण स्त्रियों को परिवार में भी वह सम्मान नहीं मिल पाता जो समतावादी मूल्यों के अनुसार उन्हें मिलना चाहिए।

आर्थिक समस्याएँ

कार्ल मार्क्स ने यह भविष्यवाणी की थी कि भारतीय समाज में स्त्रियाँ और पुरुष जब आर्थिक कार्यो में समान रुप से संलग्न होने लगेंगे तब स्त्रियों और पुरुषों के बीच पाई जाने वाली असमानता स्वयं ही समाप्त हो

जायेगी। भारत में आज कारखानों चाय–बागानों निर्माण कार्यों तथा दूसरे क्षेत्रों में जो स्त्रियाँ पुरुषों के समान काम करती हैं। उन्हें पुरुषों की तुलना में मिलने वाली मजदूरी आज भी बहुत कम है स्त्रियों की आर्थिक समस्याओं को काम–काजी महिलाओं के जीवन से सरलतापूर्वक समझा जा सकता है। एक ओर पुरुष की तुलना में कामकाजी महिलाओं की संख्या बहुत कम हैं लेकिन जो स्त्रियाँ विभिन्न सेवाओं द्वारा आजिविका उपार्जित कर रही हैं उन पर परिवार का दोहरा भार आ जाता है दिन भर कार्यालय, स्कूल, बैंक की देखभाल के अतिरिक्त वे सभी काम करने पडते हैं जो सामान्य गृहणियों के द्वारा किये जाते हैं। जीविका उपार्जन में सलंग्न होने के बाद भी स्त्रियों का जीवन आर्थिक परतन्त्रता से घिरा हुआ है। स्त्रियाँ जो धनोपार्जन करती हैं उस पर विवाह से पहले उनके माता पिता का और विवाह के बाद पति का अधिकार रहता है अपने ही द्वारा उपार्जित धन का स्त्रियाँ अपनी इच्छा से उपयोग नहीं कर पाती। स्त्रियों की एक प्रमुख आर्थिक समस्या यह है कि जो पुरुष स्वयं अपनी पत्नी को कोई नौकरी करने के प्रेरणा देते है वे भी यह पसन्द नहीं करते कि स्त्रियाँ कार्यालय में अपने सहकर्मियो के साथ पुरुषों की तरह स्वतन्त्रतापूर्वक व्यवहार करे। इससे स्त्रियों का व्यक्तित्व कुंठित होने लगता है अनेक मध्यमवर्गीय परिवारों में काम–काजी लड़की को परिवार की आय का एक प्रमुख साधन समझने के कारण बहुत से माता–पिता ऐसी लडकी का विवाह करने से कतराते हैं जो युवक कामकाजी लड़कियों से विवाह करने को प्राथमिकता देते हैं। उनका दृष्टिकोण भी एक जागरुक पत्नी को प्राप्त करना नहीं बल्कि साधारणतया अपने आराम के लिए अधिक सुख–सुविधाऐं जुटाना होता है। स्त्रियों की सहभागिता के कारण उनकी सामाजिक प्रतिष्ठा तथा सुविधाओं में उतनी वृद्धि नहीं हुई है जितनी कि उनके परिवार में बढते हुए तनावो में।

निष्कर्ष

निष्कर्षतः कहा जा सकता है कि झुंझुनूं ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार की असीम सम्भावनायें हैं साथ ही चुनौतियाँ भी। इनके बेहतर तकनीकी प्रबधंकीय निगरानी की सुदृढता की दिशा निगरानी व प्रबंध की जरुरत है। सरकार के ऐसे अनेक कार्यक्रम हैं जिनमें महिला संवेदी कल्याण कार्यक्रम सहायक सेवाएँ और जागरुकता फैलाने पर जोर दिया गया है। ये कार्यक्रम स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा, कृषि और ग्रामीण विकास क्षेत्रों के कार्यक्रमों के पूरक के तौर पर काम करते हैं। इन सभी कार्यक्रमों का उद्देश्य महिलाओं को आर्थिक आरै सामाजिक दृष्टि से सशक्त बनाना है ताकि वे राष्ट्रीय विकास के प्रयासों में पुरुषों के समान और सक्रिय भूमिका अदा कर सकें राष्ट्रीय महिला सशक्तीकरण नीति 2001 में महिलाओं के साथ भेदभाव को दूर करने के लिए तीन नीतिगत दृष्टिकोण अपनाए जाने की बात कही गई है। जरुरी है कि विधिक प्रणाली और अधिक उत्तरदायी और महिलाओं की आवश्यकता के प्रति अधिक संवेदनशील हो इसके साथ ही विशेष प्रयासों के माध्यम से महिलाओं को आर्थिक और सामाजिक रुप से और सशक्त बनाया जाना चाहिए आंकडे बताते हैं कि भारत में पुरुषों के मुकाबले महिलाआं` की स्थिति चितं नीय है अतः सच्चाई को ढकने से काम नहीं चलेगा प्रतीकवाद और बहानों का सहारा लिए बिना हमें आगे आकर समस्या का समाधान करना होगा परन्तु केंवल सरकारी हस्तक्षेप से काम नहीं बनेगा बेहतर परिणाम तभी प्राप्त होंगे जब दृढ प्रतिज्ञ महिलाएं स्वयं अपने आप को सशक्त बनाने का प्रयास करेंगी और इससे उन्हें समाज के प्रबुद्ध वर्ग का प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा महिला विकास पर भारत सरकार की नीति में स्वतंत्रता के बाद से अनेक परिवर्तन हुए हैं। सबसे उल्लेखनीय परिवर्तन पाँचवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान आया जब महिलाओं के कल्याण से हटकर महिलाओं के विकास पर जोर देने की नीति अपनायी गई आठवीं योजना में पुनः विकास प्रक्रिया में महिलाओं की समान भागीदार बनाने पर जोर दिया गया आज समावेशी विकास पर हमारा ध्यान केन्द्रित है। ऐसे में महिलाओं के सशक्तीकरण के प्रति हमारी जागरुकता में और वृद्धि हुई है। समाज के निचले स्तर से महिलाओं का सशक्तीकरण होना चाहिए और इसके लिए उनके प्रति मूल्यों और व्यवहार में परिवर्तन के साथ–साथ उन्हें आर्थिक रुप से समर्थ बनाने की आवश्यकता है। स्पष्ट है कि सभी समस्याएँ असमानता के इर्द–गिर्द घूमती हैं। इसलिए महिलाआं` के साथ व्यवहार में समानता आरै देश के विकास मे उनकी पूरी सहभागिता के लिए कदम उठाना आवश्यक है। यहाँ पर स्वामी विवेकानन्द की इस उक्ति को उद्धत करना उपयुक्त होगा जब तक महिलाओं की स्थिति में सुधार नहीं होगा विश्व के कल्याण की कोई संभावना नही है। एक पक्षी के लिए पंख से उडान संभव नहीं है।

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HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF LABOUR MIGRATION FROM BIHAR

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ABSTRACT

Bihar is a labour surplus state and has a long history of labour migration to different part of India and outside. Migration of labour from the state of Bihar is basically distress migration caused due to under development. Labour out migration is way of life and a way to escape poverty. Economy of Bihar is basically Agrarian economy and it has suitable agro-climatic conditions. There are various rivers like the Ganga, the Kosi, the Gandak, the Bagmat, etc. which flow through various parts of state have played a very important role in forming agricultural economy of North Bihar. Wheat, maize, sugarcane and jute are the main crops which are grown in the state of Bihar. Though agricultural in Bihar has been heavily dependent on monsoon, farmers have tried to reduce their dependence on monsoon by using pump sets and tube-wells for irrigation in recent years. Apart from this, rivers also play important role in irrigation in these areas. Fertility of soil in the Central and south Bihar varies between medium and large. The Sone Canal System is the most important source of irrigation in these areas. Rice, wheat and grams are the main crops which are grown here. Overall, irrigation facilities in these areas are better than that of North Bihar (jha 1997). Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for most of its rural population. However, despite huge potentials, agriculture growth rate has remained sluggish due to low productivity, lack of infrastructure, poor linkages between farm and markets and institutional constrains.

KEYWORDS: *Agriculture, Labour Migration, Poverty, Agrarian Economy, Irrigation.*

Introduction

Bihar is one of the backward states of India and it was formed in 1912. According to the Census (2011) of India- the total area of Bihar is 94163 square km. There are 9(nine) divisions, 38 (thirty eight) districts, 101(one hundred one) sub-division and 534(five hundred thirty four) blocks are there in Bihar. Bihar is the third largest state of India on the basis of population which constitutes around 8.58% of total population of India and twelfth largest state on the basis of its geographical areas. Its literacy rate is 63.82 where literacy of India as whole it is 74.04%. Population density of Bihar is 1102 while it 383 for India. If we look at the distribution of population between rural and urban population we find that 88.70 percent of total population of Bihar lives in rural areas while only 11.30 percent of population of Bihar lives in urban areas. There are 44874 villages in Bihar. The Census also report that around 88.7% of people in Bihar live in rural areas.

Bihar has long history of emigration which can be broadly classified in following four phases:

- Emigration of high caste member who went to China, Cambodia, Burma, Borneo, Java, Sumatra and Ceylon for religious purposes.
- Second phase of emigration started after the abolition of slavery in the British colonies in 1834 and people from lower castes and classes migrated to European colonies.

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- The third phase of migration was consequences of the process of decolonisation after Second World War. The second and third phase of migration from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to European colonies especially to Surinam is characterised as Bhojpuri and Avadhi speaking migrants who were mainly from lower strata of the society. Almost all Indian emigrants who are working in different countries and are citizen of that country maintain the caste system and social hierarchy in the society in which they live and continue to maintain their identity with caste, class and religion (Lotty Eldering, 2005).
- Fourth phase of migration from Bihar which started after the Green Revolution in India and mainly confined to states like Punjab, Haryana and Western part of Uttar Pradesh and can be broadly characterised as rural to rural seasonal migration.

Migration from Bihar in ancient days was different from migration in modern era. In ancient time people from Bihar migrated to neighbouring countries for expansion of trade and knowledge and it was result of prosperity in the state while migration in recent years can be characterised as distressed migration and it is result of under development of the state.

Understanding the History of Labour Migration from Bihar from Literature and Government Data

According to the Habib (1963) most of the South Asian rural population had been highly mobile in Mughal period. Western Bihar also witnessed movement of workers and formed an integral part of the society and economy. Arjan de Haan found that 15 percent of the people of Saran lived outside the district. The Collector of Saran has also noted that there was large number of people who were working outside of district in services and as soldiers in 1856.

The collector of Patna in his report in 1880s observed that the condition of Bihar was relatively bad at that time. Wage in Western part was much lower than wage in Eastern part of the Province of Bengal (then united) because of surplus of labour in Western part (now Bihar especially Saran district). Nolan (1888), a researcher who conducted a study of Western part of Province of Bengal except Gorakhpur and Azamgarh, had found that most of the population were living on subsistence level because of rapid growth of population and reduction in cultivation of rice which caused migration of people from these areas to the Eastern part of Bengal Province.

Dufferin in his report has written that the wage for agricultural labourers in the western part of Province of Bengal was two seer of rice in 1880s which increased to 2 annas per day in 1901. The Village Notes of the Southern thanas of Saran district confirm that till 1918, the wage were 2 annas per day or one kilogram of grains. The Census of 1951 reported that the average wage for agricultural labourers was around Rs. 2 per day and average annual income of family of agricultural labourers were around Rs. 534 while their annual expenditure were around Rs. 574 per annum. Such data suggest that people in rural areas were living in distress and hence there large scale migration from Bihar.

According to the Census of 1951, 90% of Saran population were dependent on agriculture. There were 427264 landless labourers and 42 percent of agricultural labourers were indebted. Average size of landholding was around 4.1 acre compared to 7.5 acre for all India level. The NSSO in its 48th round estimated that rural poverty in Bihar is around 67.81%. The higher incidence of landlessness and poverty have caused out – migration of people from rural Bihar to some other places. The successive Census reports of 1951 and 1961 also confirmed that there was an increase in migration of people in relation to total population.

Table 1: Number of Out-migrant from Bihar in Thousands

Year	Total Population	No. of Out-Migrants	% of Population
1951	38786	1573	4.1
1961	45456	2043	4.5

Source: Census of India

De Haan (1994) in his study found that there were 40 percent of workers came from Saran district of Bihar to work in one jute mill of Kolkata. People from South Bihar went to work in coal mines and in tea plantation. According to him there is no relationship between landownership and migration because people migrate from top and bottom strata of society. So merely poverty and wage differential can`t explain migration. Caste also play important role in migration. According to the Census 1921, maximum worker in jute mill in Kolkata belong to different caste including Brahmin from Bihar.

According to Haan, migration of people from Bihar is a household strategy to escape poverty and hunger. Migration from Bihar is circular in nature and it is about migration of male member from the family while females and children stay at home in place of origin. Male member of the family migrates because of landlessness, low wage and social oppression. They maintain a close relation with their families by sending money to their family and by visiting their home/ family at place of origin.

Who migrates? Do poorest people migrate? Several researchers tried to found out the answer. Oberai (1989) concluded that poor have high probability to migrate in rural areas. In Bihar, Kerala, and Uttar Pradesh accounted for a relatively high percentage among out-migrants. In Bihar 15 percent of the out-migrants belongs to low income group. Migration is also a common strategy of the poor people in villages in Purnia, Bihar during last decades (Rodgers and Rodgers, 2000).

However, there are many researchers who argue that the poorest can't afford to migrate because they lack necessary material means to migrate (Connell et al 1976). De Haan (1997) finds that migrants in Indian cities are better off than those who born in cities which indicate that migrants are not poorest in the village. Lucas (1997) found that social resources and net workings play important role in process of migration.

There is little consensus among researchers about effect of remittances. Rural-urban remittances are estimated to range from 10 to 13 percent of urban income in Africa and may be same for Asia (Williamson, 1988). Connell (1976) found that the village which they have surveyed the remittance were very low. According to Oberai (1989) 72 percent of the Bihari migrants remitted to their families. Average annual remittances were in the range of Rs. 2200 (for non-cultivating household) to Rs. 2400 (for cultivating households)-compared to Bihars` average per capita income of Rs. 1513 in 1984-85. According to Haan, within the lower income group remittances was higher than higher income group and remittances constituted around 93 percent of the income of the Bihari out-migrant households in lowest income group.

Migration history of Bihar suggests that there is great deal of stability in migration pattern. Migration and remittances have contributed significantly in the socio-economic development of the state and it is a way of life for people of Bihar.

The Green Revolution of Punjab caused massive out-migration from rural Bihar to rural Punjab. Agriculture in Bihar at that time was almost stagnant and under-developed; wages were low because of less demand and high supply of labour. While in Punjab there were huge demands of agricultural labour in seasons because of high growth, high crop intensity, and withdrawal of family member from agricultural labour force. All this made scarcity of labour in agriculture in Punjab because of which wages went up. Therefore, it was wage differential which caused migration of agricultural labour from rural Bihar to the rural Punjab.

During a study S. Gill(1996) found that the system of sharecropping ('siri') has been completely eliminated, tenancy has became capitalist in nature where medium and large landowner are leasing in land, permanent labourers are replaced by casual labourers, family labour and local labour is being replaced by migrant labourers between 1980-81 to 1990-91. All these changes happened in Punjab agriculture because there was unending supply of Bihar labour to rural Punjab which proved boon for the agriculture of Punjab. The author also observed that local labourers shifted to other jobs like-paladari in grain market, vegetable selling, petty trading, etc.

Some micro level studies like study of Bhagalpur district about rural male out-migration shows that there is highest level of intra district or local mobility of rural males in the industrial cum mining belt of the Chotanagpur Plateau, while, the lowest level of such migration is seen in the North Ganga Plain. Inter-state migration clearly shows that the there is large scale migration from state of Bihar to almost every state of India and urban males are more migratory than rural males.

Conclusion

Bihar has a glorious history of prosperity and development. However, this state is now reduced to one of the under-developed states in India because of miss-management of resources and lack of appropriate planning for development by successive government over period of time. Most of the Socio-economic indicators like per capita state domestic product, literacy rate, etc are low in comparison of other states. The cost of under-development is born by people of Bihar in form of various kind of deprivation from better education, employment, health services, etc in the state and more often people migrate to other states to overcome these problems.

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THE FUTURE OF GREEN TOURISM: INNOVATIONS AND EMERGING TRENDS (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIA)

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ABSTRACT

Green tourism involves travel to natural regions to appreciate their cultural environment and understand the natural history of the region without disturbing the integrity of the ecosystem and generating economic opportunities by making conservation and protection of natural resources gainful to local residents. It entails travel to destinations where flora, fauna and cultural legacy are the chief attractions. Also known as ecotourism, green tourism also diminishes wastage and environmental influence through informed tourists. It can be one of the vehicles to safeguard local culture, flora & fauna and other natural resources. This paper aims to probe the future of green tourism, concentrating on innovations and emerging trends, with a special reference to India. By reviewing technological progressions, policy frameworks, and sustainable practices, this study aims to provide understandings about the potential of green tourism as a driver of economic growth and ecological preservation in India.

KEYWORDS: *Green Tourism, Sustainable Tourism, Eco-Tourism, Regenerative Tourism, Community-based Tourism, Agro-Tourism.*

Introduction

Tourism is a pursuit of an individual travelling to a region outside his or her location for a minimum of one night but not over a year. Tourism is a multifaceted sector that uplifts consumption, employment prospects and revenue, and aids cultural exchange. According to the data published by Statista Research Department, global employment in the travel and tourism sector increased considerably in 2023 over the previous year. Overall, travel and tourism produced, directly and indirectly, around 330 million jobs globally in 2023. This figure was projected to reach an estimated 348 million in 2024. Thus, the influence of tourism on the lives of people and on the progress of a country is enormous. Comprehending this fact, all countries have begun to accentuate on the expansion and promotion of their tourism sector (Kotler, 2021).

The contribution of travel and tourism is substantial in the economy of India. The country ranks 14th in the world in terms of Indian tourism sector's contribution to the GDP (Jaswal, S.S, (2014). According to WTTC's Economic impact 2023 report, India's travel and tourism GDP contribution grew by 5.9%. In 2021, the travel and tourism industry's contribution to GDP was US $178 billion; this is expected to reach US $512 billion by 2028. In India, the industry's direct contribution to the GDP is expected to record an annual growth rate of 7-9% between 2019 and 2030. The Indian tourism industry has a huge influence on India's development. India has a vast miscellany of geographical terrains, seashores, attractive flora and fauna, and massive natural resources. Because of all this, India has developed to be

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the perfect tourist destination for both summer as well as winter vacation. Overseas tourists predominantly from developed economies are visiting developing economies much more than earlier observed the author in the study 'Underlining the accomplishments of Maldives as a favoured destination post-covid', and how Indian tourism can acquire understandings from the strategies implemented by the Maldives tourism board. The study carries out a comparative analysis of the post-pandemic tourism situation in Maldives and India. (Tiwari, 2024).

Green tourism, also known as sustainable tourism, is a fast-developing sector within the global travel industry. The tourism industry is a substantial contributor to the international economy. According to the data published by Statista Research Department in July 2024, the total contribution of travel and tourism to the global GDP amounted to 9.9 trillion U.S. dollars in 2023. And, it is predicted to reach an estimated 11.1 trillion U.S. dollars in 2024. Nevertheless, the environmental outcome of tourism is alarming, leading to the development of green tourism. Green tourism emphasizes responsible travel practices that diminish ecological bearing and encourage cultural and ecological conservation. India, with its valuable biodiversity and cultural heritage, is exceptionally placed to leverage green tourism for sustainable expansion. India has been the most diverse country and its tourism industry is one of the most crucial industries to upsurge the pecuniary state of the country. Green or eco-tourism within India is the most flourishing sector which has helped the Indian tourism department to succeed in saving its magnificent natural exquisiteness. Numerous zoological parks, biological parks, wildlife asylums, vast green jungles, huge mountains, and tea plantations are present in India. In addition, the country has been known for its tribal population and exclusive nature. This signifies that the tourism industry, particularly green-tourism activities can grow and prosper significantly in the nation (Jv'n Ranu Wai, Jv'n Mini Amit Arrawatia, Khom, Dr. K Devi, 2020).

Objectives

The objectives of this research article are:

- To examine the existing state of green tourism in India;
- To pinpoint innovations and emerging trends in the sector.
- To evaluate the potential of green tourism to support sustainable development in India.

Methodology

This paper is primarily descriptive where an attempt has been made to portray an evolving concept of green tourism, its inter-connectedness with the other auxiliary impressions. The article is prepared with the support of published secondary sources such as research articles, statistics from reports published by various agencies and organisations, magazines, and newspapers, The study also makes use of data and information provided by, UNWTO, Ministry of Tourism, Books, Economic Journals, etc.

Review of Literature

Green tourism or sustainable tourism, as it may be called has grown significantly over the past few decades, owing to increasing ecological awareness, government policies, and rising consumer demand for responsible travel. This section provides a review of existing literature on the current state of green tourism in India, along with key innovations and emerging trends that are shaping the future of green tourism with special reference to India.

Global Outlook on Green Tourism

According to Anoop Gurunathan, K.S. Lakshmi (2024); travel and tour have always been an inherent element of one's life. The basic requirement for recovery from the tensions of modern lifestyle compelled people to go on tours for leisure and even medical reasons. The increasing awareness among people for travelling has led to a desirable environment for the growth of the tourism sector in India.

Green tourism has been established worldwide as an essential component of sustainable development. According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), green tourism can considerably diminish the environmental impact of the tourism industry and strengthen the socio-economic benefits for local communities (UNWTO, 2019). A study by Gössling and Peeters (2015) emphasizes that sustainable tourism practices, such as decreasing carbon emissions, managing waste successfully, and preserving biodiversity, are vital for the long-term sustainability of the tourism sector. The study also highlights that travellers are increasingly looking for eco-friendly options, leading to an upsurge of green certifications and sustainable practices among hospitality providers.

Studies have also indicated that green tourism is not merely a niche market. It is a growing trend that is influencing conventional tourism. Research by several authors also brings out the economic benefits of green tourism, observing that it frequently involves higher spending per visitor as compared to old-style tourism. The global inclinations provide a framework against which India's green tourism sector can be comprehended and contextualized. In yet another study on eco-tourism, with reference to Himachal Pradesh, it is highlighted by the author that ecotourism is the fastest-growing segment of the tourism business. "Eco-tourism is more than just a buzzword for nature-loving vacations. The purpose of eco-tourism is to preserve and perpetuate the diversity of the world's natural and cultural settings. With the growing interest in conservation and environmental issues in the late twentieth century, ecotourism arose" (Shivam Sharma, 2022).

Technological Advancements in Green Tourism

Technological advancements have played a crucial role in fostering green tourism. Buhalis and Law (2008) in their article titled, 'Progress in information technology and tourism management: 20 years on and 10 years after the internet', stressed the significance of digital platforms and mobile applications in heightening the tourist experience and allowing access to alternative eco-friendly tourism opportunities. The use of renewable energy in tourism set-up has also been acknowledged as a vital innovation, with solar and wind power being increasingly adopted in eco-resorts and hotels (Mandal and Banerjee, 2020). India is one of the largest and fastest-growing economies of the world, with a fast-growing population and increasing energy needs. In contrast, the country also faces momentous environmental challenges, including air and water pollution, deforestation, and climate change. "To address these challenges, India has begun to shift towards renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydropower. The embracing of various sources of renewable energy shall help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promote energy security, and create jobs." (Dr. Shriharsha. B. S., 2023). These initiatives are expected to boost the tourism sector and thus the Indian economy.

Green Tourism with reference to India

There are over 30 World Heritage sites in different parts of India. Taj Mahal, Kutub Minar, Charminar and Salarjung Museum are some of the attractive destinations (Jaswal, 2014). Other attractions are Chennai – The city of fine arts, Bangaluru – the Garden City of India, Kerala – God's own country and Kolkata – the cultural capital of India. Darjeeling, Goa, Shimla, Kashmir, and Kulu-Manali also attract a good number of tourists every year (Singh and Goel, 2021). India has different circuits like, "Sangam – Kashi, Vindyachal – Allahabad, Vrindavan – Mathura, Sufi trail – Deva Sharif – Lucknow, the trail of Ayodhya, etc. India possesses a lot of diversity in its ecology, mythology, history, festivals and medicinal diversity such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Naturopathy. The country has varied historical monuments, beaches, landscapes, hill stations, etc, making India an ideal tourist destination for both summer and winter holidays (Sneha and Ajai, 2015). Additionally, to boost tourism; "Incredible India!" and "Athiti Devo Bhava," are the taglines of Indian Tourism" (Vijayaragavan, 2014).

India's policy towards green tourism is entrenched in its diversified cultural and natural heritage. According to the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India (2021), eco-tourism has the potential to create employment opportunities, save its biodiversity, and contribute to sustainable development. However, the sector faces challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, lack of awareness, and inconsistent policy implementation (Singh and Bisht, 2018). Findings by Sharma and Sharma (2016) emphasize the need for a wide-ranging policy framework and larger stakeholder partnership to tackle these challenges.

Aditi Narain, Dr. Brijesh Kumar, in the article titled, 'Eco-tourism in India', highlight the fact that India, with its varied landscapes and abundant cultural heritage, offers vast opportunities for green tourism. The concept of sustainable tourism in India has been gaining popularity, predominantly in ecologically sensitive areas such as the Western Ghats, the Himalayas, and various national parks. The article further states that the landscape of the country is amazingly varied, with terrain that includes deserts, plains, hills and plateaus along with snow- capped mountain ranges. Because of huge geographical diversity, India is blessed with natural beauty and wide-ranging species of flora and fauna. This makes India a very suitable country for promoting Ecotourism." (Narain, Kumar, 2022)

The Government of India has taken several initiatives in promoting green tourism in India. Policies and guidelines circulated by the Ministry of Tourism stress on the need for sustainable practices, community involvement, and protection of natural resources (Ministry of Tourism, 2019). In spite of these endeavours, the literature points to numerous challenges, comprising scarce infrastructure, absence of awareness among stakeholders, and the requirement for capacity building.

Community-Based Tourism and Agro-Tourism

Community-based tourism (CBT) and agro-tourism have developed as major trends in India's green tourism scenario. CBT implies the involvement of local communities in handling tourism activities, confirming that the benefits of tourism are justifiably distributed. A study by Dangi and Jamal (2016) underlines the role of CBT in promoting sustainable tourism practices and augmenting the socio-economic well-being of local communities. Correspondingly, agro-tourism, which involves tourists partaking in agrarian activities, has gained significance as a way of promoting sustainable agricultural practices and providing tourists with an engaging experience of rural life. "Agrotourism is closely related to rural tourism and eco-tourism. It refers to the set of activities offered to the tourist at agricultural farm such as horse riding, milking, pottery etc. which leads to income generation. It has vast scope in India as major population of India is dependent on agriculture. It is sustainable way of development" (Swati Suman, Vineeta Chandra, Atanu Deb and Sameer Mahapatro, 2023).

Modernizations in Green Tourism in India

In terms of digital tools being used for planning, booking, and experiencing a journey, India is really advanced. Its growing middle class and swelling disposable income has reinforced the development of domestic and outbound tourism. By 2028, tourism and hospitality sector in India is expected to yield US$ 50.9 billion as visitor exports compared with US$ 28.9 billion in 2018. The travel market in India is projected to reach US$ 125 billion by FY27 from an estimated US$ 75 billion and Indian airline travel market was estimated at ~US$ 20billion and is projected to double in size by FY27 because of developing airport infrastructure and growing access to passports. The Indian hotel market was estimated at ~US$ 32 billion in FY20 and is expected to reach ~US$ 52 billion by FY27, owing to the swelling demand from travellers and constant efforts of travel agents to boost the market. (Singh and Goel, 2021).

India ranks 68th among the world's 139 most attractive destinations and ranks 8th in terms of natural resources and 24th in terms of cultural resources. The country has 30 world heritage sites and strong creative industries in the country (Prima Patel, 2020).

Recent studies have recognized innumerable innovations that are boosting the development of green tourism in India. One of the most noteworthy trends is the increase in the availability of eco-resorts and eco-friendly spaces. These organisations are progressively implementing renewable energy, waste managing systems, and water conservation procedures and practices (Kumar & Kaushik, 2021).

Yet another innovative development is the amalgamation of technology in promoting eco-tourism. The use of mobile apps, online platforms, and simulated reality to showcase eco-friendly places and update tourists about sustainable practices is gaining momentum. These digital tools not only augment the tourist experience but are also instrumental in managing tourist flow and reducing the conservational impact. "The tourism industry has not been impervious to developing advancements in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Innovative technology solutions and methods have potential to considerably revolutionize this sector, making the vision of smart tourism universal." (Zvjezdana Gavrilović, Mirjana Maksimović, 2018).

Furthermore, community-based tourism (CBT) has developed as a vital trend in India's green tourism landscape. By engaging local communities in tourism activities, CBT creativities ensure that the economic benefits are shared with the community, resulting in sustainable development. Tourism is generally criticized on the grounds of dominance of business by the outsiders. It has been observed that locals/hosts usually get low-end jobs as they lack required skills. As a result, host community feels alienated in their own places with no substantial economic benefits flowing to them from the new developments and traditional systems crumbling. Community Based Tourism (CBT) has been offered as an alternative to solve such issues where community is kept at the centre of tourism development. (Rinzing Lama, 2014). The success of such endeavours in the states of Kerala and Sikkim, in particular, validates the potential of CBT in promoting green tourism.

Emerging Trends in Green Tourism in India

Several emerging trends are expected to shape up the future of green tourism in India. Firstly, there is a mounting emphasis on experiential tourism, where tourists look for indulging experiences that are directly linked to the destination's nature, history, people, food and cultural environment (Bhattacharya & Kumari, 2022). This inclination is pushing the demand for eco-tours, wildlife safaris, and cultural custom tours that are operated in an environmentally accountable manner. Modern travellers want more from their experiences than mere swift peeks at the local way of life- a variety of connections, culture, and customs. Experiential tourism, a type of travel that places an emphasis on immersive experiences rather than passive sightseeing, is the result of this change in the traveller's mindset. (Singh N., Singh UNK., Indapurkar, K., 2024).

Secondly, the idea of regenerative tourism is gaining dominance. Dissimilar to sustainable tourism, which aims to minimize harm, regenerative tourism aims at leaving a positive impact on the environment and communities. Regenerative tourism takes cultural preservation a step further by actively contributing to the revitalization of local cultures. As stated by Chumki Bharadwaj in India Today, (Oct.10, 2023)," Regenerative travel is an even more forward-adjacent travel trend than sustainable tourism. Whereas sustainable tourism offsets the social and environmental influences associated with travel, 'regenerative travel' involves leaving a place better than you found it. In India, this practice is being followed through projects that concentrate on habitat rebuilding, wildlife conservation, and community empowerment.

Thirdly, the literature draws attention to the ability of policy intrusions in shaping the future of green tourism in India. The government's emphasis on sustainable development goals (SDGs), related to climate action and responsible consumption in particular, is expected to initiate the implementation of green tourism practices across the country (UNDP India, 2021).

The current literature on green tourism in India highlights the significance of innovation and emerging trends in driving the Indian tourism sector forward. Although, challenges still remain, many factors like the growing awareness and commitment to sustainability among stakeholders promise an encouraging future for green tourism in India. With the increasing developments in its tourism infrastructure, the integration of environment - friendly practices and the upgrade of sustainable experiences will be decisive in ensuring the long-term success of the tourism industry in the country.

Present State of Green Tourism in India

India's wide-ranging landscapes, extending from the Himalayas to the coastal regions, provide abundant prospects for development green tourism in the country. The Indian government has adopted various policies to promote sustainable tourism, such as the Eco-Tourism Policy and Guidelines 2021, which encourage the development of eco-friendly tourism infrastructure. Nevertheless, the sector faces challenges such as scarce infrastructure, lack of awareness, and erratic policy implementation.

- **Government Initiatives**

The Indian government has initiated several schemes to promote green tourism, comprising the Swadesh Darshan Scheme and the PRASAD Scheme, for the purpose of promoting eco-friendly tourism circuits and heritage sites. The Ministry of Tourism has also entered into partnership with private stakeholders to encourage responsible tourism practices.

Some of the recent schemes introduced by the Government of India to promote green tourism include[1]:

- **Swadesh Darshan 2.0:** The Ministry of Tourism launched its flagship scheme of 'Swadesh Darshan' in 2014-15 and financial assistance to the State Governments/ UTs Administration provided /Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure at various destinations. A total of 76 projects totaling Rs. 5292.57 crore were approved under designated thematic circuits across 31 States and Union Territories of the nation between 2014–15 and 2018–19.

The Ministry of Tourism has now revamped its Swadesh Darshan scheme as SD2.0 with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible destinations following a tourist & destination centric approach.

- **PRASAD Scheme:** The Government of India launched the PRASAD scheme in the year 2014-2015 under the Ministry of Tourism. Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Augmentation Drive is the full name of the program. The objective of this initiative is to enhance the religious tourist experience by creating and identifying pilgrimage destinations throughout India. In order to offer a comprehensive religious tourism experience, it seeks to

[1] Source: (https\\tourism.gov.in)

integrate pilgrimage sites in a planned, sustainable, and prioritized manner. Travel for pilgrimages has a major influence on the expansion of domestic tourism.

- **Scheme of Capacity Building for Service Providers:** The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India therefore plans to provide education, training and certification to the tourism service providers at every level through the CBSP Scheme. The primary goals of this initiative are to train and upgrade personnel at all service levels in order to: i) fully utilize the nation's enormous tourism potential; and ii) offer professional expertise to the local population and generate new job opportunities in the tourism sector, both in urban as well as rural areas.
- **Prayatan Didi and Prayatan Mitra:** On the occasion of World Tourism Day, the Ministry of Tourism launched "Paryatan Mitra" and "Paryatan Didi," a responsible tourism initiative aimed at improving tourist experiences across India. The initiative focuses on empowering local communities, especially women and youth, to serve as ambassadors and storytellers of their destinations, enhancing hospitality, cleanliness, and sustainability. These initiatives aim to promote tourism as a means of social inclusion, employment, and economic growth. The program emphasizes cleanliness and the value of a pleasant visitor experience while concentrating on teaching people hospitality, safety, and sustainability skills.
- **Travel for Life:** The Ministry of Tourism also launched the 'Travel for LiFE' campaign in 2021. The campaign aims at encouraging India's 300 million domestic tourists to change their adverse behaviours and consumption of resources in a responsible way when travelling.

Innovative initiatives in Green Tourism

Technological developments and innovative practices are restructuring the topography of green tourism in India.

- **Digital Platforms and Mobile Applications**

Initiatives in the field of digital platforms and mobile applications are playing a critical role in promoting green tourism. Applications such as "Incredible India" and "Eco-Tourism in India" disseminate information regarding eco-friendly destinations, sustainable travel practices, and booking options for green lodgings.

- **Community-Based Tourism**

Community-based tourism (CBT), an emerging trend in India, involves local communities actively participating in handling tourism activities. This approach is instrumental in promoting sustainable tourism practices as well as ensuring socio-economic benefits to local communities.

- **Renewable Energy and Sustainable Infrastructure**

The amalgamation of renewable energy sources, that implies energy from renewable natural resources that are replenished on a human timescale, such as solar and wind power, in tourism set-up is gaining influence. There is a growing trend towards eco-resorts and lodges in India to use solar panels and rainwater harvesting systems to minimize their environmental footprint.

- **Regenerative Tourism**

Regenerative tourism is a model of tourism that aims to expand the natural environment and local communities. It embraces local communities in decision-making and assures that they gain economically as well as socially from tourism. Goa is the first state in India to introduce regenerative tourism. The state's tourism department is endeavoring to make Goa a model for sustainable tourism in India.

- **Sustainable Accommodations**

Sustainable accommodations can promote tourism in India by reducing the environmental impact of tourism and supporting local communities. Some examples of sustainable accommodations and tourism practices in India include rural homestays, eco-lodges that use renewable energy and are good example of sustainable tourism practices in India.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has also launched the Sustainable Tourism Criteria of India (STCI) to evaluate and approve tourism-related activities. The STCI includes accommodation units, tour operators, and destinations.

- **Agro-Tourism or Agriculture Tourism**

Agriculture tourism is a exceptional way to understand rural India. The practice of bringing tourists or other visitors to a farm is also termed as Agrotourism. It is a chance for tourists or other visitors to experience agriculture closely and personally. Due to its many advantages, the idea of agro-rural tourism has grown over time in India. There is a growing trend among tourists to visit farms and participate in agricultural activities. This trend promotes sustainable farming practices and provides tourists with an engaging experience of rural life.

- **Over-Tourism**

Tourist destinations in India have found it very difficult to manage tourist populations, overcrowding and over-clutter of different kind. There is the problem of overtourism as tourism is being over-exploited. Some of the popular tourist spots are not fully prepared against nature's whims and cyclical rush. One way out could be to charge a tourist tax and use it for the development of lesser-known destinations (The New Indian Express, Oct.2, 2024). Some other steps that the Governments can take to tackle the problem of over-tourism are:

  - Limiting the number of visitors to protect susceptible sites.
  - Boost responsible travel through education and awareness campaigns.
  - Promote unknown or lesser -known destinations.
  - Promote travel during off-peak season.

Emerging Trends in the Indian Green Tourism Sector

Numerous trends are determining the future of green tourism in India:

- **Wellness Tourism**

The growing focus on health and well-being has led to the upsurge of wellness tourism that encompasses activities such as yoga, meditation, and Ayurvedic treatments. India, with its rich tradition of wellness practices, is becoming a popular destination for wellness tourism.

- **Adventure and Eco-Friendly Pursuits**

Eco-friendly adventure pursuits, such as trekking, flora and fauna safaris, and bird viewing, are becoming increasingly popular among tourists from India and abroad. National parks and wildlife sanctuaries in India are promoting sustainable tourism models to meet this demand.

- **AR/VR Travel**

Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) are becoming increasingly important in the travel industry, and are expected to have a significant impact on the tourism sector in India. Augmented reality and virtual reality technologies in travel and tourism enhance customer experiences ranging from AR travel guides to opening new avenues for revenue stream. Findings from the data report state that the potential for the virtual tourism market is projected to grow at 30.2% CAGR from 2023 to 2028. (statista.com)

Challenges and Opportunities

Notwithstanding the fact that there lies a lot of potential of green tourism within the Indian tourism industry, yet it faces several challenges that are obstructing its growth in India.

Challenges

- **Infrastructure and Connectivity:** Deficient infrastructure and inferior connectivity to green-tourism sites create substantial challenges. There is a strong need to improve infrastructure facilities like air, rail, road connectivity, and hospitality services to connect various cities across the country. Poor infrastructural development remains a major concern for the development of green tourism in the country.
- **Lack of amenities:** There is a lot of scope of improvement in the basic amenities such as drinking water, well- kept and clean waiting rooms and toilets, among others.
- **Lack of Awareness and Knowledge:** Lack of awareness and knowledge among tourists and local communities about sustainable tourism practices is a key blockade.
- **Implementation of Policies:** Though several policy decisions are taken by the Indian Government to promote sustainable tourism practices but their implementation is erratic. Besides, there is lack of coordination among stakeholders which is drastically affecting the growth of green tourism in the country.

Opportunities

- **Creation of Jobs and Growth of Economy:** Development of green tourism has the potential to create substantial economic advantages by creating jobs and promoting local businesses leading to economic growth of the area and thus the country. It has been projected that the sector's direct contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) In India, would grow at 7.8 per cent per annum during the period 2013-2023. The tourism sector in India is prospering owing to the increase in foreign tourist arrivals (FTA) and a greater number of Indians travelling to domestic destinations. (Dr. Vijayaragavan, T., 2014)
- **Environmental Protection:** Sustainable tourism procedures and practices are instrumental in promoting preservation of biodiversity and natural resources in the country.
- **Cultural Safeguard:** Green tourism is essential for safeguarding our cultural heritage by fostering responsible tourism practices.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The future of green tourism in India is extremely encouraging, owing to numerous innovations and emerging trends influencing the sector. Nevertheless, it is essential to tackle the challenges related to poor infrastructure, lack of awareness, and faulty policy implementation for the sustainable growth of green tourism in India.

The following recommendations are suggested:

- **Infrastructure Expansion:** There is a need to emphasize on the development of infrastructure and creation of smooth connectivity to eco-tourism destinations through implementation of appropriate Government policies.
- **Awareness Drives:** Awareness drives and educational curricula need to be conducted in order to encourage sustainable tourism practices among tourists.
- **Policy Frameworks:** A renewable wide-ranging policy framework is required to be introduced to confirm the reliable implementation of green tourism initiatives and ensure its growth.
- **Rewards and Recognition:** Businesses can offer discounts, vouchers, or loyalty points to customers choosing eco-friendly options.
- **Local community involvement:** Local communities must be involved in the planning and management of green -tourism initiatives.
- **Encourage use of technology:** Use of technology by the travel industry should be encouraged to reduce its carbon footprint, such as electric vehicles, energy-efficient accommodations etc.
- **Encourage use of reusable items:** The use of reusable cutlery, food containers, cloth napkins, water bottles etc. should be encouraged.

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HEG लिमिटेड के स्कंध का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

शांतनु शर्मा*
डॉ. बसंती मैथ्यू**
डॉ. एस. के. खटीक***

सार

HEG लि. एक निर्माणाी कंपनी होने के कारण स्कंध का महत्व और अधिक बढ़ जाता है स्कंध कम या अधिक होने के कारण मॉग एंव पूर्ति को प्रभावित करते है। इस शोध विषय के अध्ययन में यह निश्कर्श निकला है कि कंपनी के पास स्कंध कार्यशील पूंजी की तुलना में र्प्याप्त नहीं है। यद्यपि कंपनी के पास कार्यशील पूंजी की मात्रा की कुल संपत्तियों की तुलना में र्प्याप्त नहीं हैं स्कंध एंव कार्यशील पूंजी दोनों की स्थिति ही ठीक नही होने के कारण व्यवसाय पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव डाल रही है। क्योंकि स्कंध मांग,पूर्ति को प्रभावित करता हैं इसी प्रकार कार्यशील पूंजी भी दिन प्रतिदिन के खर्चों एंव अल्पकालीन खर्चें को प्रभावित करती है। इस शोंध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्य परिकल्पना स्वीकार्य हुई हैं जिसमें यह सिद्ध हुआ है कि स्कंध की मात्रा अंशदान कार्यशील पूंजी के अनुपात में सार्थक नहीं है इसीलिए शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना स्वीकार्य हुई है।

शब्दकोशः *स्कंध, कार्यशील पॅूजी, चालू दायित्व, कुल संपत्तियॉ।*

प्रस्तावना

HEG को 1972 में इलेक्ट्रो ग्रेफाइट्स के रूप में शामिल किया गया था। यह कंपनी भारत की अग्रणी ग्रेफाइट इलेक्ट्रोड निर्माताओं में से एक है। HEG एल एन जे भीलवाड़ा समूह की एक प्रमुख कंपनी है। HEG कंपनी ग्रेफाइट इलेक्ट्रोड; एनोड और अन्य ग्रेफाइट और कार्बन उत्पादों का विनिर्माण करता है। एंव उत्पा्दन का 80% से अधिक 25 से अधिक देशों में निर्यात करता है। इस समूह ने 50 गौरवशाली वर्ष पूर्ण कर लिए है।

स्कंध प्रबंधन

स्कंध प्रबंध दो शब्दों से मिलकर बना है। स्कंध एंव प्रबंध अथवा नियंत्रण है। इसके अनुसार स्कंध का अर्थ दो प्रकार से है। प्रथम का आशय चल वस्तुओं की विवरण सहित सूची से होता है। और दूसरे का आशय गणना से है।

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स्कंध का आशय ऐसे समस्त माल से हाता है जो किसी व्यापारिक संस्था या औद्योगिक उपक्रम के द्वारा अपने सामान्य संचालन हेतु अपने पास रखा जाता है। जिसका उद्देश्य उसका विक्रय करना अथवा विक्रय के लिए उत्पादित की जाने वाली वस्तुओं के निर्माण में उसका प्रयोग करने से है। एक व्यावासायिक संस्था की कार्यशील पूँजी के अंतर्गत 3 To Clc एक महत्वपूर्ण पद है।

कार्यशील पूँजी में स्कंध का अनुपात 30% से 80% तक हुआ करता है। इसमें पर्याप्त पूँजी का निवेश होता है। स्कंध की प्रवृत्ति स्थायी न होकर परिवर्तन शील हेाती है। एंव स्कंध की प्रकृति, किस्म व मात्रा अलग–अलग व्यवसाय के लिए भिन्न –भिन्नी होती है। अतः व्यवसाय में स्कंध का प्रयोग वस्तुओं एंव सेवाओं के उपयुक्त उत्पादन को सफल बनाने के लिए किया जाता है।

परिभाषा

श्री युत मोंक्सं के अनुसार इनवेण्ट्री एक ऐसा उपयुक्तन साधन है जो आर्थिक रूप से मूल्यवान होता है।

संस्थाा के परिचालन में लाभदायकता और निरंतरता बनाये रखने के लिए स्कंध का उचित नियोजन, नियंत्रण एंव प्रबंध अति आवश्यरक है।

स्कंजध में निम्न को शामिल किया जाता हैः–

- कच्चीं सामग्री Row material
- निर्माणाधीन सामग्री Work In Progress
- निर्मित माल Finished Goods
- अन्य माल Other Goods

इन चारों क्रियाओं को स्कंध के संबंध में संपादित किया जाए तो इसे स्कं्ध प्रबंध कह सकते है।

प्रबंध या नियंत्रण से आशय स्कंध की मात्रा एंस उसमें विनियोजित राशि पर नियंत्रण से लगाया जाता है,एक व्यापारिक उपक्रम की कार्यशील पूँजी का बड़ा भाग स्टॉक के रूप में रहता है। अतः यदि इसका प्रबंध उचित ढंग से न किया जाये तो पूँजी का एक बड़ा भाग बेकार पडा रहेगा। तथा संस्था् को अनावश्यक रूप से हानि होगी। और यदि स्टॉक की मात्रा कम है तो उत्पादन कम होने से संस्थां लाभ से वंचित रह जायेगी।

यद्यपि स्कंध रखने में फर्म के कोषों का अवरूद्ध हो जाना तथा इसके संग्रहण व रख–रखाव की लागतें नीहित होती है। फिर भी प्रत्ये्क संस्था को बिना रूकावट उत्पादन को सुविधाजनक बनाने और व्यवसाय को सुचारू ढंग से संचालित करने के लिए स्कंध को एक निश्चित स्तर बनाए रखना पड़ता है।

स्कंध प्रबंध का तात्पर्य स्कंध की मात्रा व मूल्य संबंधी नियोजन संगठन, नियंत्रण व समन्वय से होता है वस्तुरतः स्टॉक प्रबंध का उद्देश्य स्कंध के अनुकूलतम आकार का नियोजन होता है जो न अधिक हो ओर न कम हो और साथ ही समय पर उपलब्धत हो। अनूकूलतम आकार के साथ–साथ समय पर उपलब्धि के लिए नियोजन के साथ नियंत्रण भी आवश्यक होता है। विभिन्न नियंत्रण तकनीकियों के आधार पर भी यह निश्चित किया जा सकता है कि समय पर स्कंध उपलब्ध है। परंतु प्रभावशाली नियंत्रण अपने आप में संगठन व समन्वय पर निर्भर करता है। अतः यह कहा जा सकता है कि स्कंध प्रबंध में सभी प्रकार के माल के प्रकार मात्रा स्थिति भावागमन तथा समय क्रय को नियोजित नियंत्रित एंव संगठित करने की क्रियाओं को सम्मिलित करते है।

स्कंध प्रबंध व्यावसायिक प्रबंध का एक महत्वतपूर्ण अंग बन चुका है। व्यवसाय के तीन मुख्य पहलुओं का प्रत्यक्ष संपर्क स्कंध प्रबंध से होता है। ये क्रियात्मक प्रबंध हैः– उत्पादन प्रबंध, विक्रय प्रबंध, वित्तीय प्रबंध।

अतः प्रत्येक व्यवसाय की नीजि आवश्कता को ध्यान में रखते हुए स्कंध की मात्रा निर्धारित की जानी चाहिए। स्क्ंध की मात्रा न तो आवश्यकता से अधिक होनी चाहिए और न आवश्यकता से कम। स्टॉक की मात्रा का आधार आर्थिक या अनुकूलतम होना चाहिए। मध्यप्रदेश के HEG कंपनी रायसेन जिले के मण्डीदीप में स्थित है यह कंपनी ग्रेफाइट बनाती है। इस उत्पादन में इस कंपनी का एकाधिकार जैसा है। भारत के सबसे ज्या्दा ग्रेफाइट का उत्पानदन करने वाली अग्रणी कंपनी है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन का औचित्य

एक निर्माणी कंपनी के लिए स्कंध प्रबंधन का अधिक महत्व है स्कंध चालू संपत्ति एंव कार्यशील पूंजी का महत्वपूर्ण भाग होता है। स्कंध चालू संपत्ति एंव कार्यशील पूंजी का महत्वपूर्ण भाग होता है। स्कंध का अधिक होना या कम होना दोनों ही स्थिति हानिकारक है क्योंकि अधिक मात्रा में स्कंध का होना कच्चे माल की चोरी, माल का खराब होना,टेक्नोलाजी में परिवर्तन होना इत्यादि का अधिक खतरा बना रहता है। स्कंध के कम होने से मॉग एंव पूर्ति में संतुलित न होने के कारण कालाबजारी को जन्म देती है। इसलिए स्कंध का आवश्यकता के अनुसार किसी व्यवसाय में होना आवश्यक हैं इसलिए इस शोध विषय के अध्ययन का चयन HEG स्कंध प्रवधन का विश्लेषण अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। स्कंध प्रबंधन के अध्ययन हेतु हगने स्कंध का कार्यशील पॅूजी में अनुपात स्कंध का चालू संपत्ति में अनुपात स्कंध का कुल संपत्ति में अनुपात एंव स्कंध का चालू दायित्वों में अनुपात का अध्ययन किया गया है। इनके माध्यम से स्कंध प्रबंधन का विश्लेषनात्म्क अध्ययन किया गया है।

शोध साहित्य का पुनरावलोकन

हम यहॉ निजि क्षेत्र की कंपनी HEG हिन्दुस्तान इलेक्ट्रो तिमि के स्कंसध प्रबंध का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन कर रहे है। अभी तक इस विषय से संबंधित अन्य क्षेत्रों में भी शोध कार्य संपन्नम हुए है। निजि एंव सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनियों से संबंधित शोध का साहित्ये का वर्णन इस प्रकार हैः–

- इस क्षेत्र में पूर्व में किए गए कार्यें की संक्षिप्त समीक्षा

गुप्ता 2010– ने अपने शोध कार्य में बताया है कि अच्छी कार्यशील पूँजी कंपनी की विकास दर को विकसित करने में मदद करती है। और मौलिक तौर पर अपने प्रतियोगी और अंशधारियों की संपत्ति में वृद्धि करती है। इसमें यह दर्शाया गया है। कि उचित मात्रा में कार्यशील पूँजी का प्रबंध होने से कंपनी की लाभदायकता पर सकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ता है,जिससे कि कंपनी की धन संपदा में वृद्धि होती है जिससे अंशों में भी वृद्धि होती है।

गर्ग समीर (2003) ''एन टी पी सी LMT के विशेष संदर्भ के साथ सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के विद्युत उघोग में कार्यशील पूँजी प्रबंधन की क्षमता''पर एक अनुभवजन्य अध्ययन से यह निष्कर्ष निकाला है कि कार्यशील पूँजी के उपयोग में सुधान के लिए कंपनी को अपने कार्य में सुधान के लिए पर्याप्त प्रयास करने चाहिये।

विक्रय को बढ़ाकर पूँजी कारोबार और विस्तार और विदेशी विविधीकरण के माध्यम में से भी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। और साथ ही प्राप्तियों और इन्वेंट्री में अधिशेष निवेश को कम करके।

एड्रीव एंव सरकीन (2003) ने कार्यशील पूँजी के प्रबंध द्वारा नवीनीकरण के महत्व तथा उत्पाद के विकास की तुलना में नकद उत्पन्न करने की प्रक्रिया को दर्शाया गया है। इन्होनें अपने शोध कार्य में नकदी को अधिक महत्व दिया है तथा यह निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचें कि व्यवसाय के विस्तार के लिए नकदी का होना आवश्यक है। अतः कार्यशील पूँजी में नकदी की मात्रा अधिक होनी चाहिए जिससे व्यएवसाय को उँचाइयों तक पहुँचाया जा सके।

कंपनी की चालू संपत्तियों में देनदार स्टॉक प्राप्य बिल,लोन रोकड़ बैंक शेष आदि सम्मिलित होते है। किंतु इन संपत्तियों में अधिक राशि रोकड़ की होनाी चाहिये जिससे उपक्रम अपने व्यवसाय का विस्तार आसानी से कर सके।

थिमैया (2016)– ने कार्यशील पूंजी प्रबंधन तरलता और लाभप्रदता पर प्रभाव में बवंस इंडिया लि. में कार्यशील पूंजी प्रबंधन का तरलता और लाभप्रदता पर प्रभाव का अध्यपयन किया है। इस दोनों के मध्य एक नकारात्मनक एंव कमजोर संबंध पाया गया है। डवजंस के परीक्षण का भी प्रयोग किया गया था और साथ ही कंपनी की तरलता की स्थिति में सुधार की स्थिति पाई गई है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन के उद्देश्य

- स्कंध की अवधारणा का अध्ययन करना।
    - कार्यशील पूँजी में स्कंध की स्थिति का अध्ययन करना।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की परिकल्पनाएँ

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्या परिकल्पना इस प्रकार है।

HEG की कार्यशील पूँजी में स्कंध का सार्थक अंशदान नही है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की संरचना

किसी भी शोध कार्य को करने के लिए समंकों एंव पर्याप्त साहित्य की आवश्यकता होती है इस शोध कार्य में मुख्य रूप से द्वितीय समंकों का प्रयोंग किया गया है। इनके मुख्य स्त्रोत वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन बजत, प्रकाशित, दस्तावेज, इंटरनेट, सांख्यिकी रिपोर्ट आदि है। अतः यह शोध अध्ययन द्वितीय समंकों पर आधारित है। इस अध्ययन में लिए गये उदेदश्य एवम परिकल्पनाओं का विश्लेशण किया गया है। तथा परिकल्पनाओं का परीक्षण स्टूडेन्ट री टेस्ट के माध्यम से किया गया है।

शोध विषय के अध्यायन की सीमाएँ इस प्रकार हैः–

- पर्याप्त शोध समंकों का अभाव है
- द्वितीय समंकों की विश्वसनीयता अंकेक्षण पर निर्भर करती है।
- इस शोध कार्य में एक ही कंपनी HEG का अध्ययन किया गया है।
- इस शोध विषय के अध्ययन के लिए 10 वर्ष की अवधि ली गई है।
- समंकों का समूहीकरण एंव वर्गीकरण शोध विषय के अध्ययन के आधार पर किया गया है।

HEG कंपनी ने स्कंध प्रबंध का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन HEG कंपनी के स्कंध प्रबंधन का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन इस प्रकार है।

HEG कम्पनी एक निर्माणी कम्पनी होने के कारण स्कंध का महत्व बढ़ गया है। स्कंध कार्यशील पूंजी का महत्वपूर्ण भाग है इसमें लगभग कार्यशील पूंजी का 60% से अधिक भाग रहता है। स्कंध प्रबंध का विश्लेशण हेतु अनुपात विश्लेषण तकनिक का उपयोग किया गया है। इस हेतु निम्न लिखित अनुपातों का प्रयोग किया गया है जो इस प्रकार है–

- Inventory to Current Assets
- Inventory to Working Capital
- Inventory to Total Assets
- Inventory to Current Liabilities
- Inventory to Share Holder Fund

तालिका 1: Inventory to Current Assets

(रू करोड.)

Year	Inventory (Rs.)	Current Assets (Rs.)	Ratio
13–14	494.00	1185.75	0.416
14–15	401.90	925.63	0.434
15–16	371.19	735.19	0.504
16– 17	257.80	700.45	0.368
17–18	511.44	1614.92	0.316
18–19	1308.39	3435.57	0.380
19–20	1005.14	2058.88	0.488
20–21	580.61	2073.63	0.279
21–22	977.81	3007.03	0.325
22–23	1440.12	2852.46	0.504

स्त्रोतः– (HEG कंपनी का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक)

निर्वचन

तालिका 1 में स्कंध व चालू संपत्तियो के मध्य– अनुपात दर्शाया गया है। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान स्कंध की तुलना में चालू संपत्ति में उतार–चढ़ाव की स्थिति देखने को मिलती है। वर्ष 2013–14 में यह अनुपात 0.416 देखा गया,एंव अगले दो वर्षो में वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात क्रमशः 14–15 में 0.434 एंव 15–16 में 0.504 पर रहा। किंतु पुनः अगले वर्षो में कमी का दौर देखा गया जो वर्ष 16–17 में 0.368 वर्ष 17–18 में 0.316 पर यह अनुपात रहा। वर्ष 18–19 मे वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात 0.380 के स्तर पर रहा एंव इसी तरह वर्ष 19–20 में यह अनुपात 0.488 पर पहुँच गया। वही, वर्ष 20–21 में अत्यधिक गिरावट के साथ यह अनुपात 0.279 पर रहा जो अध्ययन अवधि के वर्षो में सबसे कम था। वही वर्ष 2021–22 में वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात 0.325 था। वर्ष 2022–23 में इसी तरह वृद्धि के साथ–साथ यह अनुपात 0.504 पर रहा जो अध्य यन अवधि के वर्षो में सर्वाधिक था।

तालिका 2: Inventory to Working Assets

(रू करोड.)

Year	Inventory (Rs.)	Working Assets (Rs.)	Ratio
13–14	494.00	(–) 54.9	(–)8.99
14–15	401.90	47.19	8.51
15–16	371.19	(–)10.09	(–)36.7
16– 17	257.80	2.78	92.73
17–18	511.44	913.05	0.560
18–19	1308.39	2217.7	0.589
19–20	1005.14	1242.37	0.809
20–21	580.61	1429.6	0.406
21–22	977.81	1719.94	0.568
22–23	1440.12	1536.37	0.937

स्त्रोतः– (HEG Ltd कंपनी का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक)

निर्वचन

तालिका 2 में स्कंध एंव कार्यशील पूंजी के मध्य अनुपात दर्शाया गया है। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान स्कंध की तुलना में कार्यशील पूंजी की स्थिति में उतार–चढ़ाव दिखाई दिया है। वर्ष 2013–14 में कार्यशील पूंजी की नकारात्मक स्थिति को भी बतला रहा है। यह अनुपात (–) 8.99 है। अगले वर्ष 2014–15 में यह अनुपात

सकारात्मक स्थिति के साथ 8.51 पर पहुँच गया किंतु पुनः वर्ष 2015–16 में यह अनुपात नकारात्मसक स्थिति के साथ (–) 36.7 पर देखा गया। वर्ष 2016–17 में छलांग लगाकर यह अनुपात 92.73 के स्तर पर पहुॅच गया। वर्ष 2017–18 में 0.560 एंव वर्ष 18–19 में यह अनुपात 0.589 रहा। अगले वर्ष 19–20 में थोड़ी वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात 0.809 पर हो गया। अगले वर्ष में कमी देखी गई अतः वर्ष 20–21 में यह अनुपात 0.406 पर आ गया। वर्ष 2021–22 एंव 22–23 में बढ़ोत्तरी कर यह अनुपात 0.568 एंव 0.568 एंव 0.937 तक पहुॅच गया।

तालिका 3: Inventory to Total Assets

(रू करोड.)

Year	Inventory (Rs.)	Total Assets (Rs.)	Ratio
13–14	494.00	2505.79	0.197
14–15	401.90	2246.23	0.178
15–16	371.19	1953.21	0.190
16– 17	257.80	1852.51	0.139
17–18	511.44	2734.51	0.187
18–19	1308.39	5144.36	0.254
19–20	1005.14	4438.35	0.226
20–21	580.61	4244.17	0.136
21–22	977.81	5307.94	0.184
22–23	1440.12	5691.96	0.253

स्त्रोतः– (HEG Ltd कंपनी का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक)

निर्वचन

तालिका 3 में स्कंध एंव कार्यशील पूंजी के मध्य अनुपात दर्शाया गया है। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान स्कंध एंव कुल संपत्ति, के मध्य उतार–चढ़ाव की स्थिति देखने को मिलती है। वर्ष 2013–14 में यह अनुपात 0. 197 रहा। वर्ष 2014–15 में यह गिरकर 0.178 के स्तर पर देखा गया। वर्ष 2015–16 में वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात 0.190 हो गया। किंतु अगले वर्ग 2016–17 में अनुपात में गिरावट देखी गई जो 0.134 थी। यही अगले दो वर्षो में वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात वर्ष 17–18 में 0.187 एंव वर्ष 18–19 में 0.254 हो गया। जो सर्वाधिक अनुपात था वर्ष 18–19 मे। अनपुात 0.226 हो गया। वर्ष 20–21 में यह अनुपात गिरकर 0.136 पर देखा गया। पुनः अगले दो अंतिम वर्षो में वृद्धि 2021–22 में 0.184 एंव वर्ष 2022.23 में 0.253 के स्तर तक पहुॅच गया।

तालिका 4: Inventory to Current Liabilities

(रू करोड.)

Year	Inventory (Rs.)	Current Liabilities (Rs.)	Ratio
13–14	494.00	1240.65	0.398
14–15	401.90	878.44	00457
15–16	371.19	745.25	0.498
16– 17	257.80	697.67	0.369
17–18	511.44	701.87	0.728
18–19	1308.39	1217.87	1.074
19–20	1005.14	816.51	1.231
20–21	580.61	644.03	0.901
21–22	977.81	1287.09	0.759
22–23	1440.12	1316.09	1.094

स्त्रोतः– (HEG Ltd कंपनी का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक)

निर्वचन

तालिका 4 में स्कंध एंव चालू दायित्वों के मध्य अनुपात को दर्शाया गया है जो कि वर्ष 13–14 से वर्ष 22–23 तक की अवधि में स्टॉक की तुलना में चालू दायित्वों की स्थिति को बतलाया है। वर्ष 2013–14 में यह अनुपात 0.398 रहा है। वही वर्ष 2014–15 में वृद्धि के साथ यह अनुपात 0.457 पर देखा गया। साथ ही अगले वर्ष 2015–16 में यह अनुपात 0.498 के स्तर पर पहुॅच गया। किंतु वही वर्ष 2016–17 में गिरकर यह अनुपात 0. 369 पर पहुंच गया। पुनः अगले तीन वर्शो में वृद्धि का दौर देखा गया। जो कि क्रमशः वर्ष 17–18 में 0.728 वर्ष 18–19 में 1.074 एंव वर्ष 19–20 में 1.074 एंव वर्ष 19–20 में 1.231 अनुपात रहा जो सर्वाधिक था। अध्ययन अवधि के दौरान अनुपात में उतार–चढ़ाव की स्थिति बनी रही। इसी तरह वर्ष 20–21 में यह अनुपात 0.901 के स्तर पर पहुंच गया। यह अनुपात घटकर वर्ष 2021–22 में 0.759 तक आ गया। किंतु अंतिम वर्ष 2022–23 में वृद्धि कर यह अनुपात 1.094 के स्तर पर देखा गया।

तालिका 5: स्वामित्व कोश (Inventory to Shareholer Fund)

(रू करोड.)

Year	Inventory (Rs.)	Shareholder (Rs.)	Ratio
13–14	494.00	999.94	0.494
14–15	401.90	1014.02	0.396
15–16	371.19	995.86	0.372
16– 17	257.80	952.56	0.270
17–18	511.44	1907.52	0.268
18–19	1308.39	3793.69	0.344
19–20	1005.14	3511.72	0.286
20–21	580.61	3495.07	0.166
21–22	977.81	3913.63	0.249
22–23	1440.12	4280.94	0.336

स्त्रोतः– (HEG Ltd कंपनी का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन वर्ष 2013–14 से 2022–23 तक)

निर्वचन

तालिका 5 में स्कंध एंव स्वामित्व कोश के मध्य अनुपात दर्शाया गया है। जो कि वर्ष 2013.14 से वर्ष 2022–23 तक की अवधि तक स्कंध की तुलना में स्वामित्व कोश को बतलाता है। वर्ष 2013–14 में यह 0.494 था। वर्ष 2014–15 में गिरकर यह अनुपात 0.396 पर आ गया। अगले तीन वर्शो में निरंतर कमी के साथ यह अनुपात वर्ष 15–16 में 0.372 वर्ष 16–17 में 0.270 एक वर्ष 17–18 में 0.268 पर रहा। वर्ष 18–19 में वृद्धि देखने को मिली, जो कि 0.344 रही वर्ष 19–20 में यह अनुपात 0.286 के स्तर तक पहुॅच गया। वर्ष 20–21 में सबसे कम अनुपात रहा जो कि 0.166 था। वर्ष 21–22 में यह अनुपात पुनः बढ़कर 0.249 के स्तर पर देखा गया एंव अंतिम वर्ष 22–23 में यह वृद्धि का अनुपात 0.336 हो गया।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की परिकल्पना का परीक्षण

इस शोध विषय में ली गई शुन्य परिकल्पना इस प्रकार है। भ्मह स्जकण की कार्यशील पूंजी में स्कंध का अंशदान सार्थक नहीं है।

$r = +0.52$

$t = \frac{r}{\sqrt{1-r2}} \times \sqrt{n-2}$

$t = 1.720$

$t_{005} = 1.860$

$t < t_{005}$

अवलोकन

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना स्वीकार्य है क्योंकि गणना की गई value सारणीयन मान से कम है अर्थात $t < t_{005}$ (1.720<1.860)" स्कंध का कार्यशील पूंजी में सार्थक अंशदान नहीं है इसीलिए शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्य परिकल्पना स्वीकार्य है। जबकि कार्यशील पूंजी के स्कंध का अंशदान कम से कम 60% या इससे अधिक होना चाहिए।

निष्कर्ष

- HEG लि. की स्कंध से चालू संपत्तियों की स्थिति संतोशजनक नहीं है क्योंकि स्कंध चालू संपत्तियों की तुलना में कम है परंतु HEG Ltd. एक निर्माणी कंपनी होने के कारण इसमें चालू संपत्ति की स्थिति संतोशजनक नहीं है। स्कंध प्र्याप्त मात्रा में न होने के कारण कंपनी को उत्पादन करने में कठिनाई हो रही है। तथा स्कंध वृद्धि से होने वाले लाभों से भी वंचित हो रही है। अतः यह व्यवसाय पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव डालता है।
- HEG लि. की स्कंध से कार्यशील पूंजी की स्थिति भी संतोशजनक नहीं है क्योंकि कंपनी की स्कंध से कार्यशील पूंजी की स्थिति व्यवसाय पर नकारात्म्क प्रभाव डाल रही है जो कि दिन प्रतिदिन के खर्चो का भुगतान करने के लिए एंव व्यवसाय को सुचारू रूप से संचालित करने में कठिनाई हो रही है यद्यपि कुछ वर्शो में 2019–20, 2016–17 एवं 22–23 में स्कंध से कार्यशील पूंजी की स्थिति संतोशजनक है क्योंकि स्कंध कार्यशील पूंजी का 60% से अधिक है। अतः कंपनी को अपनी कार्यशील पूंजी में एंव स्कंध में सुधार की अति आवश्यकता है। जिससे व्यवसाय और अधिक सुचारू रूप से संचालित हो सकें।
- HEG लि. के स्कंध से कुल संपत्ति की स्थिति भी अच्छी नहीं है, कुल संपत्तियों के अनुपात में स्कंध कम मात्रा में हैं क्योंकि एक निर्माणी कंपनी होने के कारण स्कंध अधिक मात्रा में होना चाहिए। यह वर्तमान व्यवसाय पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डाल रही है।
- HEG लि. के स्कंध से चालू दायित्व की स्थिति भी संतोषजनक नहीं हैं क्योंकि स्कंध एंव चालू दायित्वों की राशि दोनों ही कम है इसकी वर्तमान स्थिति संतोशजनक ना होने के कारण यह व्यवसाय पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव डाल रही है।
- HEG लि. की स्कंध से स्वामित्व कोश की स्थिति संतोशजनक है क्योंकि स्वामित्व कोश की राशि का लगभग 30% से अधिक विनियोग स्कंध में किया जा रहा है। यह स्थिति व्यवसाय को सुदृढ़ करने में सहायक सिद्ध हो रही है।

सुझाव

- HEG लि. को अपने स्कंध में वृद्धि करनी चाहिए जिससे कि चालू संपत्ति एंव कार्यशील पूॅजी में वृद्धि हो सके तथा इस वृद्धि होने वाले लाभो को अर्जित किया जा सके। यह स्थिति व्यवसाय पर सकारात्मक प्रभाव डालने में अधिक सार्थक होगी।
- HEG लि. को व्यवसाय पर और अधिक सकारात्मक प्रभाव लाने के लिए स्कंध एंव कार्यशील पूंजी दोनों में ही वृद्धि करनी चाहिए जो कि कंपनी की आर्थिक स्थिति सुदृढ़ करने में सहायक है।
- HEG लि. को स्कंध की मात्रा कुल संपत्तियों के अनुपात में बढ़ानी चाहिए जिससे कि स्कंध में होने वाले लाभों को अर्जित किया जा सकें।
- HEG लि. को सुचारू रूप से चलाने के लिए स्कंध की राशि एंव चालू दायित्वों की राशि दोनों में ही वृद्धि करनी चाहिए। जिससे कि व्यवसाय और अधिक सुचारू रूप संचालित हो सकें।
- HEG लि. को स्कंध एंव स्वामित्व कोश की राशि में वृद्धि करनी चाहिए परंतु स्वामित्व कोश की राशि को स्कंध की तुलना में और अधिक बढ़ाना चाहिए।

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निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता हेतु संचालित इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

रामसेवक बंशकार*
डॉ. एस.के. खटीक**

सार

समाज में रहने वाले निर्धन व्यक्तियों को वृद्धावस्था में अधिक आर्थिक सहायता की आवश्यकता होती है। सरकार ने इसी तथ्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुये 2 मई 1995 से इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना लागू की गई। इस योजना के अन्तर्गत एक निश्चित राशि 600 रूपये प्रति निर्धन व्यक्ति को सहायता के रूप में प्रतिमाह दी जाती है। यह सहायता उनके लिये मील का पत्थर साबित हो रही है। सरकार के द्वारा स्वीकृत की गई राशि एवं व्यय की गई राशि में अन्तर होने के कारण अधिक लोगों को उसका फायदा नहीं मिल पा रहा है। अतः सरकार को स्वीकृत राशि का अधिक से अधिक उपयोग करना चाहिये एवं प्रति व्यक्ति आर्थिक सहायता दी जाने वाली राशि में बढ़ोतरी करना चाहिये जिससे कि वृद्धावस्था में निर्धन लोगों को अपना जीवन सुव्यवस्थित रूप से सुधार कर सके।

शब्दकोशः *इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना आवंटन (स्वीकृत की गई), हितग्राही की संख्या।*

प्रस्तावना

इस शोध पत्र में निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता हेतु कई योजनायें चलायी जा रही हैं। उनमें से एक योजना इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना है, जो 15 अगस्त 1995 को राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम की शुरूआत के तहत शुरू की गई थी। यह योजना पूरी तरह से वित्तपोषित केन्द्र एवं राज्य प्रयोजित योजना है। इसका लक्ष्य निर्धन वर्गों के लोगों को लाभ पहुंचाना है। इन लोगों में ऐसे व्यक्ति शामिल हैं जिनके पास अपने स्वयं के आय स्त्रोत या परिवार के सदस्यों या अन्य स्त्रोतों से वित्तीय सहायता के माध्यम से जीवनयापन का कोई नियमित साधन नहीं है। इन लोगों की पहचान राज्यों और केन्द्रशासित प्रदेशों द्वारा की जाती है जिसका उद्‌देश्य बुनियादी स्तर की वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करना है। ''इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना'' राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम की पांच उप–योजनाओं में से एक है। इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना के तहत गरीबी रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले वरिष्ठ नागरिक जिसकी उम्र 60 वर्ष से अधिक तथा 79 वर्ष से कम है, उन्हें केन्द्र सरकार 200 रूपये तथा राज्य सरकार 400/– स्वयं प्रदान करती है और जिसकी आयु 79 वर्ष से अधिक पर केन्द्र सरकार 500 रूपये तथा राज्य सरकार 100 रूपये मासिक प्रति व्यक्ति की पेंशन दी जाती है। राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम का संचालन ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा किया जा रहा है। यह कार्यक्रम ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के साथ–साथ शहरी क्षेत्रों में भी लागू किया जा रहा है।

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राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम भारत के संविधान में निहित राज्य नीति के निर्देशक सिद्धांतों की पूर्ति की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है, जो राज्य को अपने साधनों के भीतर कई कल्याणकारी उपाय करने का निर्देश देता है। उनका उद्देश्य नागरिकों के लिये आजीविका के पर्याप्त साधन सुनिश्चित करना, जीवन स्तर को ऊपर उठाना, सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य में सुधार करना, बच्चों के लिये निःशुल्क और अनिवार्य शिक्षा प्रदान करना आदि है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन का औचित्य

मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा निर्धन वर्गों को आर्थिक सहायता देने हेतु कई प्रकार की योजनायें चलायी जा रही है। इनमें से एक इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना भी है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार दोनों मिलकर व्यक्तियों की पेन्शन इस योजना द्वारा संचालित करती है। जिसमें राज्य सरकार का अनुदान रू. 400/– और केन्द्र सरकार का अनुदान रू. 200/– है, कुल राशि रू. 600/– प्रति व्यक्ति जिनकी उम्र 60 वर्ष से अधिक एवं 79 वर्ष से कम हो, उन्हें प्रदान की जाती है। परन्तु 79 वर्ष से अधिक होने पर केन्द्र सरकार रू. 500/– तथा राज्य सरकार रू. 100/– कुल राशि रू. 600/– प्रति माह प्रति व्यक्ति सरकार द्वारा प्रदान की जाती है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत कुल कितने वरिष्ठ नागरिकों को प्रतिवर्ष कितनी राशि अनुदान के रूप में प्रदान की जाती है, का अध्ययन इस शोध विषय के अंतर्गत किया जा रहा है। यह राशि निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता में कहां तक कारगर साबित हुई इन समस्त पहलुओं को ध्यान में रखते हुये इस शोध विषय के अध्ययन का चयन किया गया है।

शोध साहित्य का पुर्नअवलोकन

- **मोहन ध्रुव (2024) :** ''राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना द्वारा वृद्धजनों के आर्थिक, सामाजिक सशक्तिकरण का अध्ययन'' – प्रस्तुत अध्ययन राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना द्वारा वृद्धजनों के आर्थिक, सामाजिक सशक्तीकरण का अध्ययन छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य बस्तर जिले के संदर्भ में अध्ययन का प्रमुख उद्देश्य वृद्धजनों के आर्थिक, सामाजिक एवं स्वस्थ्य दशाओं पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का अध्ययन करना है। अध्ययन में प्राथमिक एवं द्वितीयक विधियों का प्रयोग कर सविचार एवं देव निर्देशन विधियों द्वारा यादृच्छिक रूप में 153 लाभार्थियों का चयन न्यादर्श के रूप में चयन किया गया है। निष्कर्ष रूप में पाया जाता है कि निम्न आय वर्ग के लाभार्थियों की संख्या 45.75 प्रतिशत है। अधिकांश लाभार्थी अपने पेंशन राशि का उपयोग स्वयं के उपभोग में करते हैं। अध्ययन में यह भी पाया गया कि करोना महामारी के समय लाभार्थी के आर्थिक मंदी को दूर करने में 88.23 प्रतिशत रहा है। लाभार्थी की प्रमुख समस्यायें प्रसार–प्रचार की कमी एवं न्यादर्श परिवारों में शिक्षा एवं जागरूकता की कमी है। अध्ययन में यह सुझाव दिया गया है कि राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना की व्यापक प्रचार प्रसार किया जाना चाहिये जिससे अधिक से अधिक वृद्धजन इस योजना से लाभान्वित हो सकें।
- **वी. देवी प्रसाद (2009) :** ने अपने अध्ययन "Implementation of the old age pension scheme in Vishkhapatnam" में आंध्रप्रदेश राज्य के विशाखापटनम जिले के 18 गांवों से 185 लाभार्थी जो राष्ट्रीय पेंशन योजना से संबंधित लाभार्थियों को न्यादर्श परिवार के रूप में चयन किया गया है। इन्होंने अपने अध्ययन में पाया कि अधिकांश लाभार्थियों को पेंशन की राशि को प्राप्त करने में अनेक समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है।
- **सना हाशमी (2018)** : ने अपने अध्ययन "Government Policies and programmes for elderly women in India a special reference to Indira Gandhi Natonal Old Age Pension Scheme in Slums areas of Aligarh" में अलीगढ़ शहर में झुग्गी इलाकों में रहने वाले वृद्ध महिलाओं पर इंदिरा गांधी वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना के पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का अध्ययन किया गया है। इन्होंने अपने शोध अध्ययन में पाया कि लाभार्थियों को अपनी पेंशन राशि को प्राप्त करने में अनेक समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है।

- **श्री तम राम्या (2014) :** ने अपने अध्ययन "The old age pension and his Impact on the livelihood chance of Fibel elderly people in Arunachal Pradesh, India" में भारतीय राज्य अरूणाचल प्रदेश में जनजातीय वृद्धजनों के आजीविका से इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना के प्रभावों का अध्ययन किया। इन्होंने अपने अध्ययन में पाया कि इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना से लाभार्थियों में उनके जीवन स्तर में सुधार लाया है। वृद्धावस्था पेंशन से जनजातीय वृद्धजनों को समाज में गर्व की स्थिति में पहुंचाना है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन के उद्देश्य

शोध विषय के अध्ययन के उद्देश्य निम्न प्रकार है :–

- वृद्धावस्था में सरकार द्वारा चलायी जा रही पेंशन योजना का अध्ययन करना।
- निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता हेतु वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना की आवंटन राशि एवं खर्च की राशि में कोई सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की शोध संरचना

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में शोध संरचना की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण होती है क्योंकि कोई भी शोध कार्य समंकों एवं साहित्य के अभाव में नहीं किया जा सकता है। शोध कार्य को कार्य के लिए पर्याप्त समंकों तथा साहित्य की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। इस शोध कार्य के लिये द्वितीयक समंकों का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है जिसके अंतर्गत प्रकाशित विषय से संबंधित शोध साहित्य के आधार पर शोध कार्य किया गया है। द्वितीयक समंकों के लिये मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा महिला बाल विकास विभाग और अन्य विभाग के द्वारा समय–समय पर प्रकाशित बुलेटिन पत्र–पत्रिकाओं अभिलेखों का सहारा लिया गया है। अध्ययन एवं समंकों को सांख्यिकी की मान्य विधियों का प्रयोग किया गया है।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की सीमायें

शोध विषय के अध्ययन की सीमायें निम्न प्रकार है :–

- शोध पत्र में द्वितीयक समंकों की विश्वसनीयता अंकेक्षण पर निर्भर करती है।
- किसी भी विषय में पर्याप्त समंक एवं साहित्य का अभाव रहता है।
- शोध विषय का अध्ययन द्वितीयक समंकों पर आधारित है।

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय पेंशन योजना का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन

निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता हेतु संचालित योजना इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना का विश्लेषणात्मक अध्ययन इस शोध पत्र में किया जा रहा है। यह राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा संचालित एक कल्याणकारी कार्यक्रम है। यह कार्यक्रम ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के साथ–साथ शहरी क्षेत्रों में भी लागू किया जा रहा है। राष्ट्रीय सामाजिक सहायता कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत भारत सरकार का ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवनयापन करने वाले वृद्ध लोगों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने के लिये इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना लागू कर रहा है। यह योजना राज्य में सामाजिक न्याय एवं विकलांग जन कल्याण विभाग मध्यप्रदेश सरकार द्वारा 15 अगस्त 1995 से चलाई जा रही है।

इस योजना का उद्देश्य उन गरीब जरूरतमंद वृद्ध लोगों के लिये चलाई जा रही है जो अपनी आजीविका चलाने में असमर्थ हैं। इस योजना में ऐसे वृद्ध लोगों को शामिल किया गया है जिनके पास अपनी आय के स्त्रोतों से या परिवार के सदस्यों या अन्य स्त्रोतों से वित्तीय सहायता के माध्यम से जीवनयापन का कोई नियमित साधन नहीं है।

इस योजना का लाभ वही व्यक्ति ले सकता है जिसकी आयु 60 वर्ष से अधिक है और वह गरीबी रेखा से नीचे आता हो और इससे कम उम्र के लोगों के लिये इस योजना का फायदा या लाभ नहीं मिलता है। यह योजना केन्द्र सरकार एवं राज्य सरकार दोनों मिलकर चलाती है जिसमें केन्द्र सरकार की अनुदान राशि 200 रूपये तथा राज्य रकार की अनुदान राशि 400 रूपये कुल राशि 600 रूपये दी जायेगी जिसकी आयु 60 वर्ष से अधिक एवं 79 वर्ष से कम होती है। अतः जिसकी आयु 79 वर्ष से अधिक होने पर केन्द्र सरकार की अनुदान राशि 500 रूपये तथा राज्य सरकार की राशि 100 रूपये कुल राशि रूपये 600 दी जायेगी। यह राशि प्रति माह प्रति व्यक्ति के हिसाब से दी जायेगी। इस योजना में आवेदन करने के लिये ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के आवेदकों को विकासखण्ड कार्यालय जाना होगा तथा शहरीक्षेत्र में इस योजना में आवेदन करने के लिये जिला समाज कल्याण अधिकारी के पास जाना होगा। नागरिक अपने पत्र प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। फार्म भरते समय उचित विवरण प्रदान किया जाना चाहिये। फार्म में क्या–क्या भरा जायेगा जैसे राज्य/जिला/ब्लॉक आदि दिया हो तो वह व्यक्ति कहां रहता है। उसको वहीं फार्म भरा जायेगा और ग्राम पंचायत का नाम, सोसायटी का नाम, लाभार्थी का लाभ, वारिस का लाभ, घर का नम्बर, लिंग, वर्ष में उम्र, जन्म तिथि, जन्म प्रमाण पत्र, वार्षिक आय एवं बी.पी.एल. कार्ड, यह दस्तावेज के आधार पर विधिवत भरा हुआ कार्य सहायक दस्तावेजों के साथ संलग्न करके समाज कल्याण अधिकारी को जमा करना होगा। आवेदन को समाज कल्याण अधिकारी द्वारा गहन जांच और सत्यापन किया जाएगा, इसके बाद समाज कल्याण विभाग लाभार्थियों की सिफारिश जिला समाज कल्याण अधिकारी को करेगा, यदि सत्यापन प्रक्रिया पूरी हो जाती है और जिला समाज कल्याण अधिकारी द्वारा फार्म को मंजूरी दे दी जाती है तो अंतिम मंजूरी जिला स्तरीय मंजूरी समिति द्वारा दी जायेगी।

राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना का उद्देश्य न्यूनतम मानकों को सुनिश्चित करना है। इसके अलावा राज्य वर्तमान में जो लाभ प्रदान कर रहे हैं या भविष्य में प्रदान कर सकते हैं। इसका उद्देश्य यह भी सुनिश्चित करना है कि देश भर में लाभार्थियों को सामाजिक सुरक्षा बिना किसी रूकावट के समान रूप से उपलब्ध हो, आदि इस योजना का प्रचार प्रसार करने से यह योजना सभी निर्धन वर्गों तक पहुंचना जिससे उनका आर्थिक सहायता से जीवन थोड़ा ठीक हो सके आदि। इस शोध पत्र में यह बताया जा रहा है। यह योजना से कितने हितग्राहियों को लाभ हुआ तथा सरकार इस योजना पर कितनी राशि खर्च करती है और यह योजना कितनी सफल हुई आदि बातों को ध्यान में रखकर इस शोध पत्र को बनाया गया है।

निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता के लिये चलाई जा रही इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना के अंतर्गत खर्च की गई राशि तथा हितग्राही की संख्या का एक सारणी बनाकर प्रस्तुत किया गया है जो इस प्रकार है।

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना

(रूपये लाखों में)

वर्ष	आवंटन (रूपये)	व्यय (रूपये)	हितग्राही
2014–15	45233.00	31418.52	1423018
2015–16	42903.00	39362.46	1362291
2016–17	54159.00	40260.02	1579999
2017–18	54159.70	45444.90	1771525
2018–19	57732.05	51854.45	1569627
2019–20	102983.87	101701.85	1569627
2020–21	1143.53	941.94	1569627
2021–22	1143.53	847.60	1569627
2022–23	1143.53	836.11	1569627
2023–24	1143.53	848.38	1575079
योग	361744.74	313516.23	613692723214

स्त्रोत : सामाजिक न्याय एवं दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग (म.प्र.)

व्याख्या

निर्धन वर्गों के आर्थिक के चलाई जा रही इंदिरा गांधी वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना के आंकड़े प्रस्तुत किये जा रहे हैं। इन आंकड़ों में सरकार द्वारा कितनी राशि खर्च की गई तथा कितने लोगों या हितग्राहियों को यह लाभ मिला है। इसमें जो आंकड़े लिये गये हैं वह 2014–15 से 2023–24 तक लिये गये हैं। 2014–15 में खर्च की गई राशि 31418.52 तथा 2015–16 में 39362.46 रूपये, 2016–17 में 40260.02 लाख रूपये, 2017–18 में 45444.90 रूपये, 2018–19 में 51854.45 रूपये, 2019–20 में 101701.85 रूपये खर्च की गई यह आंकड़े यह बताते हैं। सरकार लगातार खर्च की राशि में वृद्धि कर रही है। 2020–21 में सरकार द्वारा खर्च की राशि 941.94 रूपये एवं 2021–22 में 847.60 रूपये, 2022–23 में 836.11 रूपये। यह पिछले तीन वर्षों लगातार खर्च की राशि घट रही है और 2023–24 में 848.38 रूपये खर्च की। इस वर्ष थोड़ी वृद्धि देखी जा रही है। सरकार द्वारा कुछ वर्षों में लगातार खर्च की राशि में कटौती की जा रही है।

इसी तरह इस योजना में कितने हितग्राहियों को लाभ मिला है। इसके आंकड़े प्रस्तुत हैं। 2014–15 में 1423018 एवं 2015–16 में 1362291 अतः पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में हितग्राही की संख्या घट रही है तथा 2016–17 में 1579999, 2017–18 में 1771525 अतः पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में इस वर्ष हितग्राही की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है। 2018–19, 2019–20, 2020–21, 2021–22, 2022–23 में 1569627 इन वर्षों में हितग्राही की संख्या न तो बढ़ी है और न ही घटी है। 2023–24 में 1575079 हितग्राही की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है पिछले वर्षों की तुलना मे।

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्य परिकल्पना का परीक्षण

- इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था योजना की स्वीकृत राशि (आवंटन राशि) एवं व्यय की गई राशि में सार्थक अन्तर नहीं है।

  r = 0.90

  $$t = \frac{r}{\sqrt{1-r^2}} \; x \; \sqrt{n-1}$$

  t = 5.382

  t005 = 1.86

अवलोकन

शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई परिकल्पना का परिकल्पित मान 5.382 है जबकि सारणीयन मान 1. 86 है। अतः शोध विषय के अध्ययन में ली गई शून्य परिकल्पना सार्थक है अर्थात इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना की स्वीकृत राशि एवं व्यय की राशि में सार्थक अन्तर है। इसलिये ली गई परिकल्पना अस्वीकार है। इस प्रकार योजना में ली गई आवंटित राशि एवं खर्च की गई राशि में सार्थक अन्तर है।

निष्कर्ष एवं सुझाव

इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना राज्य और केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा 2 मई 1995 से लागू की गई है। यह योजना निर्धन वर्ग के व्यक्ति के लिये मील का पत्थर साबित हुई है क्योंकि निर्धन गरीब व्यक्तियों को वृद्धावस्था के समय आर्थिक एवं शारीरिक साधनों की जरूरत होती है। इन तथ्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुए पेंशन योजना के द्वारा आवश्यक निश्चित राशि दी जा रही है जो कि उनके लिये अधिक उपयोगी एवं आर्थिक पूर्ति हो रही है। सरकार प्रतिवर्ष वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना पर एक निश्चित राशि का बजट में प्रावधान के रूप में दी गई राशि को खर्च की जाती है अर्थात पेंशन के रूप में वृद्ध निर्धन लोगों को बांटती है।

सुझाव

- सरकार इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय वृद्धावस्था पेंशन योजना को निरन्तर गति से लगातार तीस वर्ष से चलाती आ रही है। जिसका उद्देश्य समाज में निर्धन असहाय व्यक्ति को पेंशन के रूप में एक निश्चित राशि का भुगतान करती है। इस शोध विषय के अध्ययन में यह पाया गया कि इसमें हितग्राहियों की संख्या प्रतिवर्ष बढ़ती जा रही है। परन्तु आवंटन एवं व्ययों की राशि में अधिक परिवर्तन नहीं हो रहा है। इसलिये सरकार को चाहिये कि आवंटन की राशि का अधिक से अधिक उपयोग कर निर्धन वर्गों की आर्थिक सहायता पर खर्च करना चाहिये तथा स्वीकृत राशि को पूरा उपयोग करना चाहिये।
- स्वीकृत राशि एवं आवंटित राशि इन दोनों में अन्तर नहीं होना चाहिये बल्कि इनमें स्वीकृत राशि पूरी तरह खर्च की जानी चाहिये अर्थात सरकार को इसमें हितग्राहियों की पेंशन राशि 600 रूपये की जगह 1000 रूपये देना चाहिये जिससे स्वीकृत राशि एक आवंटित राशि में अन्तर नहीं होगा, इससे निर्धन लोगों को कुछ आवश्यकता की और पूर्ति कर सके।

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