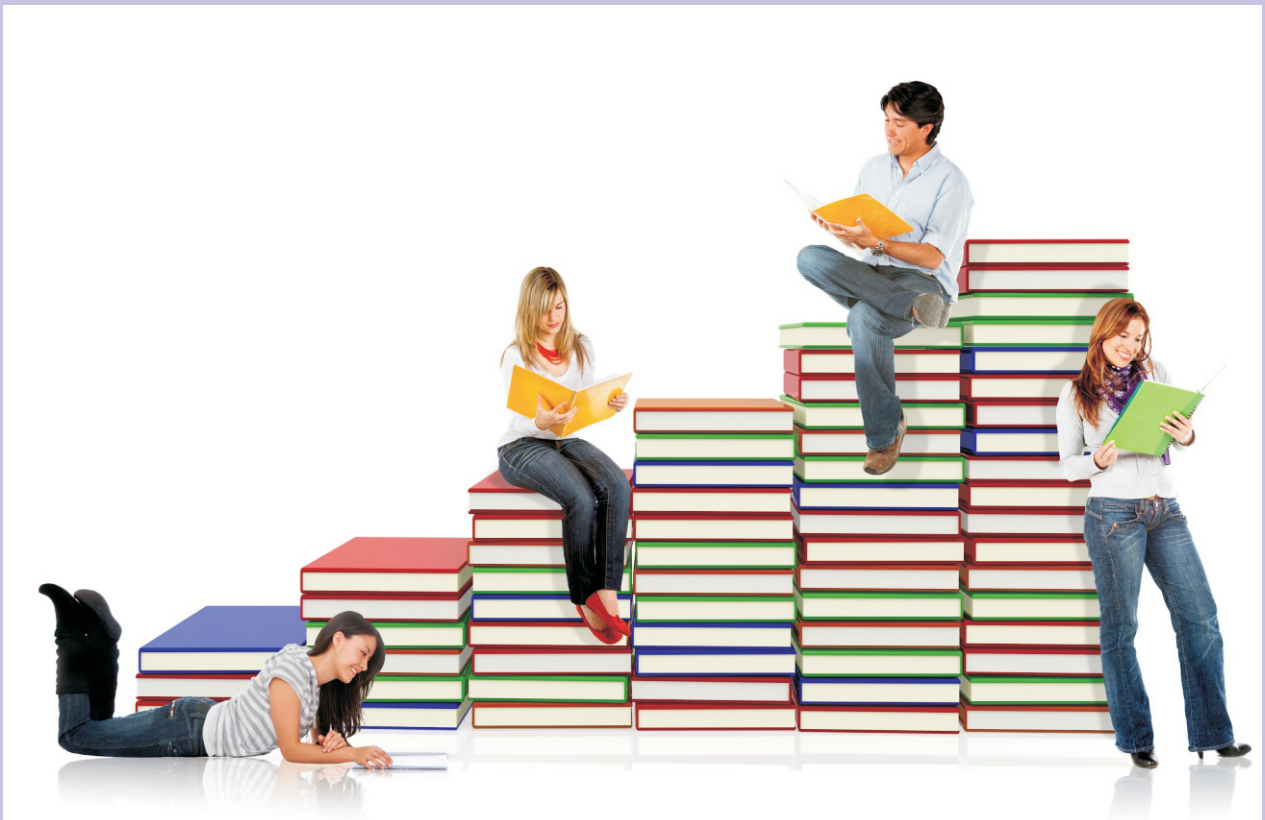


# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Issue IV October 2015

ISSN: 2394-1758



[www.academicresearchsupport.com](http://www.academicresearchsupport.com)

# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Issue. IV October 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

## Contents

Infrastructure and Economic Development <b>Dr. P. Arunachalam</b>	1 - 20
Freedom of Expression Vis-à-vis Right to Information <b>Dr. P. Ashokkumar</b>	21 - 26
Broken World of Dalit - A Critical Study on Bama's <i>Karukku</i> <b>D. Solomon Paul Raj &amp; Dr. T. Muraleeswari</b>	27 - 32
Gandhi and Temples : The wish fulfilled at Madurai <b>M. Nithyanandam &amp; Dr. S. Pandian</b>	33 - 36
A Study on The Impact of Polyphony in Joseph Heller's <i>Catch 22</i> <b>S. Ananthan &amp; Prof. Dr. R. Saravana selvan</b>	37 - 42

Cont.....ii.

Published by



**SVM Publications**

45, T.A. Koil 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Velachery,  
Chennai – 600 042, Tamil Nadu

Cell: 094440 77646

Email: [svmpublication@gmail.com](mailto:svmpublication@gmail.com)

[www.academicresearchsupport.com](http://www.academicresearchsupport.com)

# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Issue. IV October 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

## Contents...

Margaret Atwood's <i>The Year of The Flood: A Propagator of Egalitarianism</i>	43 - 50
--	---------

**M. Devi**

Dalit Movement: Perspective of Domestic Colonialism	51 - 54
---	---------

**Deepa R**

Performance of Food Corporation of India - A Study	55 - 64
--	---------

**Ms. S. S. Nirmala**

Importance of Culture in Teaching and Learning Second Language on Education: A Special Reference Irulas Tribe	65 - 72
---	---------

**UdhayaKumar S**

Published by



**SVM Publications**

45, T.A. Koil 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Velachery,  
Chennai – 600 042, Tamil Nadu

Cell: 094440 77646

Email: [svmpublication@gmail.com](mailto:svmpublication@gmail.com)

[www.academicresearchsupport.com](http://www.academicresearchsupport.com)



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

---

## Infrastructure and Economic Development

**Dr. P. Arunachalam,**  
Professor and Head,  
Department of Applied Economics,  
Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi-22.

---

### Abstract

*Prof. Irma Glicman Adelman, an Irish Economist working in California University at Berkely, in her research work on 'Development Over Two Centuries', which is published in the Journal of Evolutionary Economics, 1995, has identified that India, along with China, would be one of the largest economies in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century. She has stated that the period 1700-1820 is the period of Netherlands (Holland), the period 1820-1890 is the period of England, the period 1890-2000 is the period of America and this 21<sup>st</sup> Century is the century of China and India. World Bank has also identified India would be a one of the leading players of this century after China. India will be third largest economy after USA and China. India will challenge the Global Economic Order in the next 15 years.*

**Key Words:** Infrastructure, Economic Development, Financial inclusion

---

India, the Seventh largest economy (with the GDP of \$2.308 trillion (Nominal, April 2015) \$7.996 trillion (PPP, April 2015) overtook Italian economy (GDP \$2.149 trillion ) in 2015, England economy ( GDP \$3.133 trillion) in 2020, Japan economy( GDP \$4.210 trillion ) in 2025 and USA economy (GDP \$18.124 trillion) in 2050 (China with \$10.36 trillion already overtook Japanese economy in 2012 and will overtake USA economy in 2027). India has the following advantages compared with other economies. India is third largest GDP in the world in terms of Purchasing Power. India is third fastest growing economy in the world after China and Vietnam. Service sector contributes around 65 per cent of

GDP. The share of agriculture is around 13.5 per cent and Manufacture is 21.5 per cent in 2013-14. This is a character of developed countries. Expected GDP growth rate is 7-8 per cent shortly (It has come down from 9.2 per cent in 2006-07 to 6.2 per cent during 2008-09 due to recession. It was only a temporary phenomenon). India has \$355 billion as Foreign Exchange Reserve as on today. India had just \$1 billion as Foreign Exchange Reserve when it opened its economy in the year 1991.

India's high growth rates have been a matter of boastful self-congratulatory publicity for the Indian Government.

PricewaterhouseCoopers estimates that India will become the world's third largest economy by 2050. Liberalisation of government regulations and a deliberate strategy on the part of the Government to promote infrastructure development in India.

Infrastructure forms the foundation on which social, economic and Industrial Development is built.

Infrastructure development reflects the health of the economy of any nation because infrastructure is directly proportional to the development and growth of the country. Being a rapidly growing nation, India has always given higher importance to the infrastructure sector and it has received considerable attention from the government as well as private players. Indian infrastructure sector mainly includes development of roads, airports, shipping and ports which have contributed greatly to the economy of India over the last decade.

When it comes to development in infrastructure sector, the Government of India has always been very proactive. A large focus has always been given on execution of associated projects via Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), fiscal incentives, tariff policies, budgetary allocations and participation of private companies.

According to research done by Infrastructure Development Finance Co. the infrastructure sector of India contributes more than 8% of the country's GDP. The figures are going to touch 10% by year 2017 to uphold the growth objectives. Indian infrastructure sector is well poised to take a big leap and it provides several investment opportunities for foreign investors from across the world.

It's no secret that big economies poised for rapid growth need robust infrastructure. Without the latter's proper support, expansion will slow or worse, stall.

Infrastructure refers to the fundamental facilities and systems serving a country, city, or area, including the services and facilities necessary for its economy to function. It typically characterises technical structures such as roads, bridges, tunnels, water supply, sewers, electrical grids, telecommunications, and so forth, and can be defined as "the physical components

of interrelated systems providing commodities and services essential to enable, sustain, or enhance societal living conditions.

India's emerging economic power, like that of neighboring China, has been spurred by its momentous growth rates in the past few decades. But years of underinvestment in infrastructure have left the country with poorly functioning transit systems and power grids that have further endangered its slowing economy. Growth slipped from 10.5 percent in 2010 to 4.8 per cent in 2013, according to the World Bank. Burgeoning trade is putting pressure on India's inefficient ports, and rapid urbanization is straining the country's unreliable electricity and water networks. Bureaucratic red tape and political inertia have thwarted the success of foreign partnerships, discouraging further investment. Such large-scale failures have raised sharp debate about how the country's infrastructure weaknesses could threaten its economic future.

India's infrastructure sector has battled decades of dysfunction. Post-independence, the government led a state-centric approach to infrastructure development by building, owning, and managing projects. The system created a host of inefficiencies; after years of unmet demand and growing financial constraints, the government opened the sector to private investment as part of its economic liberalization in the early 1990s. Yet the success of the reforms has been mixed; private participation has fallen short of expectations, and energy shortfalls have proliferated. India ranked 85<sup>th</sup> out of 148 countries for its infrastructure in the World Economic Forum's most recent Global Competitiveness Report. Delhi and Mumbai, its two largest cities, ranked far below other regional capitals like Beijing and Bangkok for infrastructure in a UN report. The endemic dysfunction has bruised India's international standing and discouraged direly needed outside investment.

Importance of infrastructure in economic growth cannot be overemphasized. Infrastructure is the lifeline of an economy and the fate of the economy is intricately linked to the development or otherwise of its infrastructure. As highlighted in the 12th Five Year Plan document, infrastructure provides the basic support system for the other sectors of the economy in expanding capabilities everywhere. A well-developed physical connectivity in the form of rail network or road network, for example, can help the producers and consumers (by facilitating quicker movement of agriculture produce), facilitate education (by enabling student to access educational opportunities that are not otherwise easily accessible), ensure well-being of the citizens (by expeditiously reaching the needy to the health care centres), ensure nation's safety (by enabling movement of armed forces), and create greater employment opportunities.

Financial inclusion and infrastructure development are mutually reinforcing and can provide impetus to economic growth. Progress in basic infrastructure like transportation, communication, sewage water and electric systems coupled with access to finance through a well-developed financial infrastructure will go a long way in facilitating financial inclusion which needs to be seen as a subset of overall economic inclusion. Infrastructure not only acts as a catalyst for faster growth through both flow and stock impacts but also as an important tool in enabling inclusive growth. It has a multiplier effect on growth and development and hence rightly demands greater attention of the policy makers.

Infrastructure development involves long gestation periods, and encounters many legal and procedural issues besides planning and execution issues. The problems related to infrastructure development range from those relating to land acquisition for the infrastructure project to environmental clearances. The added uncertainty due to these factors affects the risk appetite of investors as well as lenders to extend funds for the development of infrastructure. The issues impinging on infrastructure development comprise both financial and non-financial factors and these needs to be seen in totality. While financing remains a major factor, the non-financial issues also should receive appropriate attention.

Traditionally, the infrastructure financing in India was almost completely met by the public sector. Given the huge and growing investment requirements coupled with the fiscal imperatives, public sector's capacity in financing infrastructure is understandably constrained necessitating the private sector to play a greater role. **The private sector has lived its part and over the years, emerged as a significant player and now constitutes about 40 percent of the infrastructure investment.** The 12th Plan projects an even greater role for the private sector {including the Public Private Partnerships (PPP)} with projected investments at 48 percent of GDP. There are, however, multiple challenges in channelizing private sector investment into infrastructure.

The demand for infrastructure in India is huge. Expansion and Modernization of utilities have created a huge demand for better and robust infrastructure. Urbanization, burgeoning middle class, booming service sector and increasing disposable income has also added to demand of infrastructure. Also improved access to financing has exploded the homebuyers. In recent psat the nationally average term for mortgage was 8 years, now it clearly appears payback period of 20 years.

India is plagued by inadequate infrastructure. In critical sectors such as power, transport and utilities, there are significant shortages. Political pressure to keep utility costs low has impeded investment. Electricity generators cannot obtain sufficient coal from the state-owned mining monopoly Coal India, which has been unable to increase production to match the demands of new power plants. Some electricity producers have been forced to invest overseas to ensure access to coal. Increasingly, the problems have made foreign investors cautious, creating a shortage of capital for investment in infrastructure. While its workforce is young and growing, there is a shortage of skills. In a dysfunctional public education system 40 per cent of students do not complete school. The workforce has an illiteracy level of 40 per cent. India's overall adult literacy rate is 66 per cent compared with 93 per cent in China. Indian leaders have been urging investors to trust them. But the country and its elite seem unable to face the truth and undertake fundamental long-term changes. Some universities, especially the 16 Indian Institutes of Technology, are world-class. But their limited capacity means there are significant shortages. Some estimates forecast a shortage of 200,000 engineers, 400,000 other graduates and 150,000 vocationally trained workers, such as builders, electricians and plumbers, in the coming years. In contrast, there are 60 to 100 million underemployed or surplus low-skilled workers in agriculture.

Infrastructure development has been closely associated with economic development, as higher investment in infrastructure leads to greater output. Poor infrastructure not only makes a country unattractive for investment, it also promotes inefficiency.

The International Monetary Fund's (or IMF) world economic outlook report for 2014 observed that for India, along with other emerging economies, infrastructure bottlenecks are not only a medium-term worry, but can affect near-term growth as well. The quality of present infrastructure was one of the summit's focuses that several panels addressed.

India has found it difficult to attract investment to its infrastructure sector. "Infrastructure companies always invest cautiously in India, partly because different states have different laws and taxation regimes." Electricity is the most important of all infrastructure needs in India.

The primary reason for India's slow infrastructure development is poor implementation. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation's (or MOSPI) 342nd flash report shows that out of 727 infrastructure projects on its



monitor, 317 had no information on commissioning dates. Of the remaining 410 projects that had a schedule, only five were ahead of time, 123 were on time, and 282 were delayed. These delays result in multi-fold cost overruns. Plus, once they are commissioned, they become outdated soon and are unable to serve their purpose.

Doing business has been a major concern for international businesses interested in setting up shop in India. Though India as a market is attractive to international investors, the fact that it is not a business-friendly place makes its decision to open offices very difficult.

In the **Doing Business Report for 2015 published by the World Bank, India ranks a lowly 142 out of 189 nations**, a drop of eight ranks from a year ago. For a nation touted to be a co-leader of economic growth in the world, this is not a good sign. Hence, this was another important concern the India growth outlook panel voiced.

#### *A few positives*

In this report, Delhi was included for the first time along with Mumbai. The report highlighted three areas where reforms made doing business easier:

**1.Starting a business:** Starting a business in India became easier due to a considerable reduction in registration fees. However, introduction of a requirement to file a declaration before the commencement of business made this aspect slightly harder than before.

**2.Protecting minority investors:** Minority investor protection was enhanced as India began warranting greater disclosure of conflicts of interest by board members. It also increased the available options in case of disadvantageous related-party transactions and introduced additional safeguards for shareholders of privately held companies.

**3.Getting electricity:** Electricity became cheaper as the power distribution utility in Mumbai reduced the security deposit charges for a new connection.

Except “protecting minority investors”, where India improved by **14 ranks** from 2014 to the **seventh rank**, India slid in all other aspects. India fell by six ranks each in registering property and getting credit. The worst aspect among the 10 remains “enforcing contracts”, closely followed by “dealing with construction permits.” A developing country and fast growing economy increases individual income level leading to increase in demand for housing, retail and commercial infrastructure in the country.

### **Real State of Indian Infrastructure**

Indian stands 2nd in world's population list and over the next few years the population growth is expected to be 1.6%. The growth rate of Indian real estate has been at par with the growth in population, but, still a house remains a dream for about 78 millions. Also the trend of nuclear family in India has been increasing this has led to the increase in demand of houses by leaps and bounds. The expansion of villages into towns and towns into cities also contributes to the increase in real estate's demand. India being a fast developing country will have to spend trillions of rupees for modernization and expansion of water, electricity and transportation system in order to achieve a developed nation's crown. In India only 31% of total population use improved sanitation and 88% of total population has access to drinking water. India real estate sector has always been a newsmaker in melee of headlines around IT, retail, telecom, but Indian power sector made a headline by lighting a blackout over half the country. The event has been marked in Indian power sector with red letter and exposed the paralyzed Indian infrastructure. This incident revealed the true identity of Indian power sector and its weaknesses.

### **The Challenge**

Even though the flow of investment for infrastructure has greatly improved still there are other challenges that encounter the infrastructure projects.

### **Financing**

Each infrastructure projects comes with a huge capital expenditure and huge capital expenditure brings high risks and high expected returns. Big gestation period and disrupted cash inflow have always been a major problem for any infrastructure project. Previously the projects were carried out by government and no proper viability of project was checked. Enron's Dabhol Power plant failure (2001) is one such example of ignorance of the state government in infrastructure project. Also tariffs on all infrastructure projects were regulated and private operators were not free to fix or adjust the tariffs at will. This discouraged many private players. Risk associated with infra projects pose another serious challenge in financing and implementing infrastructure projects such as market risk, operational risk, environment risk, human rights risk, commercial risk and construction risk. Today the facilities for infrastructure financing have undergone several changes since early 90's. Public agencies are sought to be accountable for the financial viability of project taken by state government. Private investments are encouraged and showed a great interest in investing in infrastructure project. India being a high developing country has also attracted many foreign investments.

### Regulatory Framework

India lacks regulatory framework for infrastructure. Several projects overrun cost and time because of the state or central govt. policies like land acquisition, environment clearances, finance approvals etc.

### Solution

Two important steps are required for Indian Infrastructure sector. First, we need to setup an independent regulatory body like SEBI for infrastructure. The primary role of this body would be to attract private investments and protect the investor for various risks. Second, we need to have an authority which should take care of sovereign obstacles. The basic role of this body will be to remove the obstacles for public projects and monitor the development of the project. The new PPP (Public private partnership) model has a lot of potential to carry out various infrastructure projects and provide a better infrastructure for each sector. Success stories of Gujarat Solar innovative project, Delhi Metro Rail Project are showcase of power of PPP.

Power plants, highways, railways and seaports, meant to be the engines of India's economic growth, are now its Achilles heel. **The 2014 World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report cites poor infrastructure as one reason it ranked India at 71 out of 144 economies in the competitiveness index.** This could prove to be the biggest hurdle economic recovery in 2015. It is also a huge opportunity. **Studies estimate fixing infrastructure bottlenecks could deliver a booster shot of between 1 and 2 percentage points to the GDP currently growing at 5.3 per cent.** Years of underinvestment in infrastructure have left the country with poorly functioning transit systems and power grids that have further endangered a slowing economy. **A 2011 Planning Commission study estimated it would take \$1 trillion (Rs 63 lakh crore) to plug this infrastructure gap over the 12th Plan period, 2012-2017.**

The trouble is the undoing of the private finance model which the Planning Commission believed would meet at least half of this ambitious \$1 trillion target. The finance ministry's mid-year economic analysis rued how "over-exuberant investment" especially in infrastructure Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) had led to "stalled projects to the tune of Rs 18 lakh crore" (about 13 per cent of the GDP). At least 60 per cent of these stalled projects were in infrastructure. An ordinance made it easier for the Government to acquire land for power, infrastructure and affordable housing projects. Access to a vital factor of production, capital, will be key to reviving infrastructure.

Private corporate sector is over-indebted. The ripples from the corporate sector have extended to the banking sector, which is increasingly unable and unwilling to lend money to the infrastructure sector. The prognosis, hence, is to revive public investment as one of the key engines of forward growth, not to replace private investment but to revive and complement it.

"In China, government banks lend to state firms to construct infrastructure. When these loans go bad, the government recapitalises its own banks, but the assets get built. In India, government banks lend to private companies for infrastructure projects; when the loans go bad, the government recapitalises its banks, but the assets did not get built. So, Indian PPPs became TTTs-'Taxpayer to Tycoon Transfer'."

The lack of capital has also throttled the revival of the railways, the world's fourth largest. The ageing behemoth is cashstrapped because it spends 94 paise for every rupee it earns towards running costs, leaving just six paise for new projects. Its main revenue source, freight, has steadily lost out to road transport. The Government will have to look for ways to innovatively raise an estimated Rs 5 lakh crore to upgrade the railways network and increase passenger train speeds that have stagnated for 26 years.

No single sector has borne the brunt of bottlenecks as much as the power sector has in recent years. **The shortages appear baffling. India's installed capacity of more than 255 GW makes it the world's fifth-largest electricity generator.** Power generation has tripled in the past two decades and the country was linked into a single power grid in January 2014. The sector loses \$27 billion (Rs 1.7 lakh crore) annually, according to a 2014 World Bank study, owing to transmission losses of over 21 per cent and loss-making utility companies.

Dwindling coal supplies-a result of environmental clearances and the cancellation of coal block allotments by the Supreme Court-have affected existing power plants and threatened the viability of new projects. The Government plans to auction 100 coal blocks by March 2015 but it may not be enough to offset the setback. "The impact of non-availability of fuel-whether coal or gas-will be felt most acutely in 2017, as we enter the 13th Five Year Plan,"

India today needs investment of about USD 1 trillion for new infrastructure over the next few years and innovative solutions were being sought for meeting this massive requirement to fulfil its reform agenda and return to the growth trajectory of about 9 per cent. "Growth is needed to create jobs, sustain poverty

reduction and maintain socio-political stability and provide resources for poverty reduction programmes." "Without economic growth, gains in other developmental indicators are simply not possible," "The Indian economy is expected to return to the pre-crisis growth trajectory of about 9 per cent in a couple of years following the reforms undertaken by the government,".

India needs investment of about USD 1 trillion in new infrastructure over the next few years and innovative solutions were being sought for meeting this massive requirement. "The Government of India is considering modern, clean and innovative solutions to total rural electrification, including solar energy and other renewable energy sources, and off-grid solutions. "India has set an ambitious target to increase production of renewable energy fivefold by 2019 and halve energy imports by 2030, despite population and demand growth,".

After revising targets for the National Solar Mission India has set a target of creating 100 Giga Watts of solar power capacity by 2022, compared to the initial plan of 20 Giga Watts. A new target set under the National Wind Energy Mission is expected to generate annual addition capacity of 10 Giga Watts every year.

More factories will lap up more electricity from power stations. The goods they churn out will need to be shipped through a wider network of roads, railways, ports, and airports. Growing cities with global aspirations cannot run without power, clean water, telecommunications, and efficient public transport such as metro systems and buses to service burgeoning urban populations.

This need is especially acute in India, where infrastructure development has lagged woefully behind that of the economy. In the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2013-14, **the country's overall infrastructure ranked 85th out of 148 countries. In comparison, China ranked 74th, neighbouring Sri Lanka clinched the 54th spot, nearby Thailand came in 61st, and even Iran ranked higher at 76th. In a country where 65 per cent of all freight is still transported by road. The average speed of trucks and buses is a crawling pace of 30–40 kilometers per hour.** In recent years, the government has made public its target for US\$1 trillion in infrastructure spending for the Twelfth Five Year Plan period running from 2012-17. It has repeatedly called on the private sector to fund half of these infrastructure investments through what is known as Public-Private Partnerships (PPP). The priority identified include three airports, two ports and elevated rail corridor in Mumbai and 9500 kilometers of new roads.

The inadequacy of quality infrastructure at globally competitive prices has long been recognised as a handicap to the development of the economy. Given the

focus of the government on Make-in-India to create mass manufacturing for job creation, it was imperative for the Budget to address issues that constrain the infrastructure sector and pursue reforms with rigour. Broadly, the key measures announced in the Budget provide a renewed impetus to the investment cycle and infrastructure sector in the country.

A few measures include creation of a National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) with annual inflows of R 20,000 crore which would make funds available to firms for new projects, corporatisation of ports, revisiting the PPP framework and the announcement of five new UMPPs. These will each be of 4,000 megawatts, totalling 20,00 megawatts and entailing investment of R1 lakh crore. The best part of the UMPPs is that all approvals will be taken in advance and bid winners will only run the risk of project development and execution. The long-standing demand for developing a bond market for infrastructure has also been addressed with the introduction of tax-free infra bonds for railways and roads. Further, R. 20,000 crore has also been allotted to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund.

For FY16, the increased provisions have been made for development of national highways, including expressways, and six-laning of crowded stretches of the Golden Quadrilateral and two-laning of highways under the National Highways Development Project. The Budget has proposed connecting each of the 1.78 lakh unconnected habitations by all-weather roads. This would require completing 1 lakh km of roads currently under construction, in addition to sanctioning and building another 1 lakh km. The planned allocation to the road transport and highways ministry has shot up to R42,913 crore in 2015-16 as compared to R28,881 crore in the current financial year.

**Infrastructure spending currently stands at 8% of GDP and the aim is to increase this to 10%.** The extent of scaling up needed in infrastructure development in India is huge as our peer China spends nearly 11% (with more than three times of India's GDP) of its GDP on infrastructure, one of the factors responsible for the competitiveness of its manufacturing sector. The projected investment in infrastructure in the 12th Plan (2012-17) is R1 lakh crore with more than a third expected from the private sector. However, private participation has been low due to several bottlenecks and challenges related to availability of bankable infrastructure projects along with land acquisition and environmental issues.

Progress is slow because of delays in decision-making and problems with **land acquisition, while environmental clearances have added layers of complexity for investors trying to navigate India's bureaucratic by lanes.** NGOs add to the delay by holding up projects by filing writ petitions. **But the government has given enough indications for transparency in environmental clearances and making land acquisition easier.** It is hoped that the measures announced in the Budget would help kick-start activity in this sector with active participation of private players in the future. One of the key reasons why infrastructure development has failed to take off in a big way is the dismal performance of PPPs, which were once considered to be a panacea for all infrastructure challenges facing the country. They were scaled up to a large extent in the last decade, presuming that they would transform infrastructure landscape. A close scrutiny of the projects reveals that they are beset with a plethora of problems. The reasons why PPPs have failed to take off include red-tapism, power struggle between different agencies, lack of trust between the government and private operators, corruption, land acquisition issues and environmental clearances. The government needs to revisit the PPP model and take up projects on its own, and then auction these to the private players for efficient management.

To improve India's poor roads, narrow bridges and dilapidated airports, which choke the flow of goods and people, a large injection of capital into the system is required. Thus, the infrastructure sector is being paid maximum policy attention to ensure that supply shortages do not trigger runaway inflation. It offers significant opportunities to private investors, both domestic and foreign. The policy measures initiated by the government are expected to reduce infrastructure supply-demand gap. A lot depends on the central and state governments' efforts to spur investment and weave together the regulatory and institutional mechanisms needed for speedy implementation of infrastructure projects. Infrastructure development is crucial to improve competitiveness for the Make-in-India initiative. While the sector will see the allocation go up by R70,000 crore in 2015-16 over last year, it needs consolidation in policy framework starting from approval to implementation, an institutional mechanism for fair pricing and competition, and developing financial markets along with enhanced budgetary allocation to help India achieve its growth potential (Geethanjali Nataraj).

**Power:** The chronic electricity shortage is viewed by the government and international business community as one of the gravest threats to India's growth. While GDP burgeoned at around 8 percent until 2010, electricity generation only increased at 4.9 per cent in a year., according to the World Bank. Thermal power—which includes gas, liquid fuel, and coal—accounts for roughly two –

thirds of power generation, with most of it coming from coal. Other sources include hydro, wind, solar, and nuclear."In India, much of electricity development has been tied to federal boundaries and a political calculus."

According to Sunila Kale, assistant professor at the University of Washington , The electricity sector is dominated by large, government-owned utilities at both national and state levels, and in earlier decades of development, jurisdictional conflicts in the sector sometimes led to inefficiencies in the use of capital, says . Institutional boundaries of the energy grid corresponded neatly to those of political constituencies, meaning a close relationship between the government and State Electricity Boards—which generated and distributed power—tied utility power to electoral power. "In the 1960s and 70s, for example, when technologies of power generation were favoring greater economies of scale, state governments were limiting the size of generating units because they were trying to serve their own territories, leading to an inefficient use of capital."

Today, the national transmission grid is in dire need of investment, and distribution companies, largely state-owned, are financially insolvent. Electricity theft has become common practice, while roughly one-third of the country goes without access. Two massive electric –grid failures in mid-2012 deprived almost 650 million people of electricity for days in northern India, raising serious concerns about the government's ability to meet the country's power needs. Dwindling energy resources exacerbate the problem; despite attempts at power sector reform, including the landmark 2003 Electricity Act gaps remain between suggested measures—such as privatization of the distribution sector, tariff reform, and anti-theft measures—and their implementation.

Progress in the nuclear sector has lent some hope. In 2008, India signed a historic civil nuclear deal with the United States that, among other things, promised U.S. assistance to India's civilian nuclear energy program. Delhi also signed similar pacts with Russia and France. The World Nuclear Association says that the country has a "flourishing" and largely indigenous nuclear power programme, aiming to supply a quarter of its electricity from nuclear power by 2050. However, India has so far signed only one deal with an American company due to a liability law in the agreement. In September 2014, India inked a civil nuclear deal with Australia that allowed Sydney to sell uranium to India, as well as increase supplies of conventional fuel to help overcome the country's chronic shortages.



**Transport:** India's roads haul roughly two-thirds of its freight and 85 percent of passenger traffic. Only half of the country is paved, and less than a quarter of its national highways meet required standards. The National Highway Development Programme is the largest active infrastructure program, aiming to upgrade 54,000 kilometers of highways with funding from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation. The project includes some flagship achievements like the Golden Quadrilateral, which was completed in 2012 and connects the four biggest metropolitan areas of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata.

The nation's rail network, the world's fourth largest, has also suffered from deterioration. The government aims to build 25,000 kilometers of new lines by 2020, yet only 1,750 kilometers have been added from 2006 to 2011. In 2009, Indian Railways released its white paper, "Vision 2020," that outlined plans to build regional high-speed rail projects and modernize rail stations. Its marquee project, the Dedicated Freight Corridor, was first proposed in 2005 and aims to build six extensive freight lines.

Project bottlenecks costs the Indian government at least 2 percent of GDP annually.

But such large-scale projects have encountered myriad setbacks, dominated by the problem of land acquisition. A legacy of colonial rule, the country's 1894 land acquisition law allowed the state unchecked power to appropriate private land for public projects. The powers were widely abused, resulting in fierce resistance by farmers. While a new land law passed in August 2013 aims to rectify the problem, industry participants are sceptical. India's rail budget, which is separate from its federal finances, has also become a platform for political opportunism rather than a financial necessity.

**Ports and Airports:** India has thirteen major ports and sixty smaller ones that handle 95 percent of the country's external trade by volume and 70 percent by value. They suffer from cumbersome customs and inefficiency, and new projects face a lengthy list of administrative and environmental clearances that can take up to five years before construction begins. Tariff issues have also severely hampered private investment appetite for the sector, although the Ports Regulatory Authority Bill of 2011 began to address some of these concerns.

India's aviation sector has also developed significantly. Passenger and cargo traffic are projected to grow at more than 15 and 20 percent over the next few years, respectively, according to the Ministry of Civil Aviation. After privatizing airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Bangalore in 2006, the

government decided to introduce private ownership of six more airports in September 2013, allowing bidders to enter a private-public partnership with the state-run Airports Authority of India. But labor unions and India's beleaguered airlines have opposed the move in October 2013.

A big push for infrastructure sector with a hefty 70,000 crore increase in investment, to pump the economy even though it means postponing by a year to 2017-18 achieving the stiff fiscal deficit target of 3 per cent. "It is no secret that the major slippage in the last decade has been on the infrastructure front. Our infrastructure does not match our growth ambitions. There is a pressing need to increase public investment. Listing infrastructure among the five major challenges with private investment in infrastructure via the public private partnership (PPP) model still weak, public investment needs to step in to catalyse investment. Investment in infrastructure will go up by 70,000 crore a year 2015-16 over year 2014-15 from the Centre's funds and resources of Central public sector enterprises.

The government has increased outlays on both the roads and the gross budgetary support to the Railways by 14,031 crore and 10,050 crore, respectively. The capital expenditure of the public sector units is expected to be 3,17,889 crore, an increase of approximately 80,844 crore over RE 2014-15,. The government also plans to establish a National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), and find money to ensure an annual flow of 20,000 crore to it. This will enable the trust to raise debt and invest in equity of infrastructure finance companies such as the IRFC and NHB and the companies in turn can then leverage this extra equity manifold.

Permitting tax free infrastructure bonds for projects in rail, road and irrigation sectors is also on the anvil. "The PPP mode of infrastructure development has to be revisited and revitalised. The major issue involved is rebalancing of risk. In infrastructure projects, the sovereign will have to bear a major part of the risk without, of course, absorbing it entirely."

To augment the power generation capacity in the country five new ultra mega power projects each of 4,000 MW in the plug-and-play mode. all clearances and linkages will be in place before each project is awarded through a transparent auction system. "This will unlock investments to the tune of 1 lakh crore. The government would also consider this plug-and-play mode for other infrastructure projects as roads, ports, railway lines and airports. To augment power sector, India will set up 5 more ultra mega power projects, entailing investments of around 1 lakh crore. Pitching for corporatisation of state-run ports in the country. The government will encourage them to become companies.

"Ports need to attract investment as well as leverage the huge land resource lying unused and, to enable us to do so, ports in the public sector will be encouraged to corporatise and become companies under the Companies Act".

India has 12 major ports including Kandla, Mumbai, JNPT, Marmugao, New Mangalore, Cochin, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Paradip and Kolkata which handle 61 per cent of the country's cargo.

For the roads sector, Indian Government announced connecting each of the 1,78,000 unconnected habitations by all-weather roads. This will require completing 1,00,000 km of roads currently under construction plus sanctioning and building another 1,00,000 km of roads,. There is a proposal for conversion of existing excise duty on petrol and diesel to the extent of 4 per litre into road cess to fund investment in roads and railways. "An additional 40,000 crore will be made available through this measure for these sectors,". The Northeast region has been accorded priority in the development process of important infrastructure projects.

## **FDI and Infrastructure in India**

### **Investment Opportunities for Foreign Investors (NRIs/PIOs) in Infrastructure Sector of India**

- Private Equity firms which are looking for stable returns on their investment can avail opportunities in the Indian Infrastructure sector. According to a recent analysis, India has been attracting huge amount of unlisted, close-ended fund, thereby making it a highly preferred choice among all other investment sectors.
- PE firms which want to invest in Infrastructure sector of India can opt for segments like roads, power, ports, telecom and many more.
- The infrastructure sector of India will attract an investment of more than US\$1.1 trillion in the next five years. This also includes ambitious projects such as National Highway Development Project (NHDP).
- Investment opportunities for foreign investors mainly offered by NHAI for executing the upcoming phases of NHDP. Contracts will be offered to foreign companies depending upon the sector being tendered. In the next five years, an investment inflow of around US\$75 billion will be required to boost the infrastructure sector in India which is projected to expand at 20% every year.
- Over the next decade, more than 90 million jobs would be generated across different sectors in India, which would create a need for more than 8 million square feet of office space. This would be one of the key attractions for foreign players who are looking for opportunities to invest in industrial infrastructure sector.
- Recently, the Cabinet has given its approval for private investment in Indian Railways (state-run) for constructing new plants and lines with enhanced capacity. This reform will help foreign players to connect railways with industrial plant, mines and port by offering services at lower costs.

- The Government of India has also projected the Indian Railways Vision 2020 which targets to tackle the issues related with infrastructure, by opening up doors for NRIs to invest in Indian infrastructure sector.
- Recently, the Indian government has approved 9 different road projects worth US\$ 2 billion to be implemented by State Governments under Public Private Partnership model.
- Indian Finance Ministry is ready to fund 20% of financial requirement, while the other 20% would come from Highways Ministry. Foreign investment may be invited in order to make all the projects financially feasible.

### **Government Initiatives to Encourage Foreign Investment in India**

- 100 percent FDI is allowed under automatic route for infrastructure development in power sector.
- Foreign Direct investment of 100% is permitted under automatic route in infrastructure related to petroleum products, natural gas pipelines and petroleum refining by private sector.
- 49 percent FDI is allowed under Government route in any petroleum refining in Public Sector Undertaking (PSU). However, dilution or divestment of domestic equity is now allowed in existing PSUs.
- 100 percent FDI is permitted under automatic route in setting up new and established industrial park.
- In order to ensure quicker execution of major projects, the Government of India has declared a single window clearance mechanism for issue and review of clearance associated with important projects under the Cabinet secretary. The clearance board will be established on the lines of Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), which would act as investment tracker and problem solver for all the infrastructure projects worth more than US\$150 million.
- The clearance board will possess representatives from ministries of defense, commerce, home, coal, environment & forest and department of space.
- The Indian Cabinet Committee on Investment would also try to ease bottleneck which restrict the expansion of infrastructure sector in the country.
- In order to attract private and foreign investment, some more sectors like telecommunication, oil, gas storage and irrigation have been allowed for viability gap funding under the scheme called 'Support to PPP in Infrastructure'.

### **Growth Prospect of Infrastructure Sector in India**

According to the government of India the overall investment in infrastructure sector in coming years may go up to US\$1000 billion; more than 70% of it is expected from private and foreign players. For infrastructure sector, India is

relying mainly on private sector investment through Public Private Partnership. The PPP is planning to invest more than US\$ 400 billion in infrastructure sector in the next 5 years. The Government of India is also planning to set up a dedicated panel to enhance the approval process of infrastructure projects. In coming years, an investment inflow of more than US\$1 trillion will be required in different projects such as harbor, highways and power plants. The infrastructure sector of India will require investment of more than US\$ 1.8 trillion in the coming decade and this will create several opportunities for foreign investors to invest in India.

### **Infrastructure in Kerala**

Kerala is among the well performing states in India and holds an important position in the industrial front. The state holds significant industrial potential owing to good infrastructure facilities like power, transport system, airports, port and harbours and availability of rare materials. Central agencies like Railways, National Highways, Ports, Post and Telegraph, Telecommunication and Civil Aviation Authorities play a significant role in providing infrastructure facilities. Transport infrastructure of the State consists of 3.31 lakh Kms of road, 1257 Kms of Railways, 1687 Kms of Inland Waterways and 111 statute miles of Airways and 18 Ports.

The state lagged in infrastructure growth and investments mainly due to issues related to land acquisition in the state. The present government made good progress in its declared policy of 'development and care', but lacked in two areas, infrastructure development and investment. Problems and issues related to land acquisition were the main hurdle and government has taken a stand that "it cannot say not to development",. Issues related to environment and Wetland Rules have also come on the way of development. The state government was of the view that it would take up projects along with measures to conserve and protect environment. Government has decided to go ahead with land acquisition for National Highway development with 45 meter width. The focus now was on NH 17 and NH-47. It was estimated that an amount of Rs 12,000 crore was needed for acquiring land to a tune of around 3,800 acres for these two national highways. Government has no other options other than going for 45 meters width expansion of national highways, as the Centre is not ready for state's proposal for 30 meters width.

#### **1) Vizhinjam International Deep Water Seaport**

Cybercity at Kalamassery near Kochi Smart City, Kochi Commercial Seaplane

Service LNG terminal of Petronet LNG in Kochi & GAIL's pipeline project KGS Aranmula International Airport  
ORIGINALLY PROPOSED: 2004

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: 2017

CURRENT COST: Rs 6,500 crore

Implementing Agency: Vizhinjam International Seaport Ltd (VISL) (fully-owned by Kerala govt)

Current status: Final environment clearance awaited

Cause of Delay

Repeated attempts to find takers for the project did not yield any result

## **2) KGS Aranmula International Airport**

ORIGINALLY PROPOSED: 2006

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: Two years (not yet started)

PROPOSED COST: Rs 1,500 crore

PROJECT COST: Rs 2,000crore

Implementing Agency: KGS Group, Chennai. across 900 km KGS group to develop a greenfield airport on 700 acres, comprising hotels, IT park, specialty hospital and international school

Current status: Kerala govt has taken 10% stake in the project. 70% of the land acquired. Master plan approved

Cause of Delay

People's agitation against the project due to environmental concerns.

## **3) Cyber city at Kalamassery near Kochi**

ORIGINALLY PROPOSED: 2006

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: Not yet started

PROPOSED COST: Rs 2,000 crore

Implementing Agency: Housing Development and Infrastructure Ltd (HDIL)  
Project details: HDIL's subsidiary Blue Star Realtors bought 70-acre land from state-owned HMT for Rs 91 crore to develop an IT hub. The project was expected to create 60,000 jobs.

#### Cause of Delay

The project has remained a nonstarter until now. HDIL claims that it will go ahead with the project with a JV partner

#### **4) Smart City, Kochi**

ORIGINALLY PROPOSED: 2004-05

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: 1st phase of 6 lakh sq ft spread across 60 acres in 2 years

PROPOSED COST: Rs 2,000 crore

Implementing Agency: SmartCity Kochi Infrastructure Pvt Ltd, a JV of Kerala government (16%) and Tecom Investments Dubai (86%) Project details: To build an IT city in 8.8 million sq ft space at Kakkanad in Kochi, which will create 90,000 jobs. When completed in 246 acres, it will be the largest IT park in the country

#### Cause of Delay

Tecom dubai was not keen to start the project as the govt had withdrawn some sops offered to the co. now, the 1st phase is expected to start in July

#### **5) Commercial Seaplane Service**

ORIGINALLY PROPOSED: 2012

LAUNCHED: May 2013

PROPOSED COST: Rs 2,000 crore

Implementing Agency: Kerala Tourism Project: To connect main tourism destinations in the backwater districts through a seaplane service.

Current status: Service stopped due to fishermen's protests. According to them, seaplanes will cause irreparable damage to the ecology of the region

#### **6) LNG terminal of Petronet LNG in Kochi & GAIL's pipeline project**

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: 2011-end for Petronet LNG project & 2013 for two phases of pipeline project

PROPOSED COST: Rs 3,750cr & Rs 3,800 cr respectively

Project Details: The project will supply LNG to industrial units in Kochi and other parts of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka through a pipeline across 900 km

#### Cause of Delay

Land acquisition problems and protests by environmental groups. TN yet to give sanction for laying 300-km pipeline in the state

### **7) High Speed Rail Corridor from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasargod**

ORIGINALLY CLEARED: 2010

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: 1st phase consisting of rail link from Thiruvananthapuram to Kochi to be completed in five and-a-half years and the rest in two years

PROPOSED COST: Rs 1.2 lakh crore

PRESENT COST: Annual cost escalation of 5%

Implementing Agency: SPV called Kerala High Speed Rail Corporation

Cause of Delay

Protests over the route and land acquisition. The project requires around 800-hectare of land

### **8) Bolghatty International Convention Centre**

EXPECTED YEAR OF COMPLETION: 2010 end

PROPOSED COST: Rs 800 crore

Project Details: An international convention centre with a capacity of 4,000-6,000 seats and a five star hotel to be run by Grand Hyatt Implementing agency: Abu Dhabi-based Emke Group

Cause of Delay

Allegations of undervaluation of land given on lease and violation of lease agreement to build service apartments. Construction is set to begin in 3 months.

### **Conclusion**

Kerala has achieved a lot on the infrastructure front. The Kannur international airport is coming up. Government set a deadline to complete the will start in May/June 2016. The Vizhinjam port was another big challenge for Kerala. Kerala trying over the last 25 years to get a move on with the project. It did not happen for some reason or the other. In Kerala, big development projects materialise every 25 years. After Independence, Kerala's first great achievement was the Idukki dam and the hydel power project. That was in 1975. After that, Kerala had to wait until the year 2000 for the next big project, which was the Cochin International Airport at Nedumbassery, the country's first airport in the



PPP mode. Kochi Metro work will be completed in 1,065 days. That is going on as per schedule and services. But, a number of developmental programmes are being pursued at a time, as we speak. Road development is a big agenda for Kerala. Land acquisition has been a major problem though. But Kerala is managing to get the land for the development projects. Union Surface Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has announced Rs.34,000-crore worth of development in the national highways sector in Kerala.

For Kerala, land is a precious resource and rare commodity. So, when we go for acquisition, it will be for those projects which are crucially inevitable. (So we will deal with them as they come).Kerala has enough and more opportunities at home. But we missed out on lots of them in the past. Now we're trying to make up for that. With the infrastructure development now on, we're expecting more investment, and more employment opportunities. Kerala has been ranked 18th in the ease of doing business. To some extent that was correct. Now the working class is entirely changed. They're very positive. Not only workers but their leaders too are well aware of the changing times. Now the whole world is a village and highly competitive. Competitiveness is important for survival. If the industry is not in a position to compete then it will lose. So the workers know this only too well as also their leaders who are a changed lot. The experience has been very, very encouraging. In September 2012 at the Emerging Kerala summit Kerala had announced this student entrepreneurship policy. The response has been tremendous. Not just in favour of industry and IT but also tourism, agriculture, culture, education and even healthcare. They're everywhere.

## References

1. Reserve Bank of India [https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_SpeechesView.aspx?Id=968](https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_SpeechesView.aspx?Id=968)
2. [www.investorwrods.com](http://www.investorwrods.com)
3. <http://www.thefreedictionary.com/infrastructure>
4. <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/infrastructure>
5. <http://www.businesstoday.in/magazine/cover-story/satyajit-das-on-indian-economy-future/story/201853.html>
6. <http://marketrealist.com/2014/12/indias-poor-infrastructure-detractor/>
7. <http://marketrealist.com/2014/12/business-india/>
8. <http://theindianeconomist.com/infrastructure-in-india-problems-and-solutions/>

9. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/infrastructure-projects-public-funding-economy-challenges-in-2015/1/410900.html>
10. <http://www.outlookindia.com/news/article/india-needs-usd-1-trillion-for-new-infrastructure-sitharaman/899274>
11. <https://blogs.cfainstitute.org/investor/2015/01/26/indias-infrastructure-investments-huge-opportunities-but-no-takers/>
12. <http://www.financialexpress.com/article/fe-columnist/has-the-budget-done-enough-to-boost-infrastructure/50409/>
13. <http://www.oifc.in/infrastructure>
14. <http://www.cfr.org/india/governance-india-infrastructure/p32638>
15. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/budget-2015-arun-jaitley-infrastructure-sector/1/421620.html>
16. S Sanandakumar and K Krishnakumar (2013) Eight big-bang projects languishing in Kerala, [articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-22/news/40134368\\_1\\_kerala-govt-infrastructure-ltd-hdil](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2013-06-22/news/40134368_1_kerala-govt-infrastructure-ltd-hdil)
17. Kerala Economic Review, Various issues.

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

---

## Freedom of Expression Vis-à-vis Right to Information

**Dr. P. Ashokkumar B.Sc. M.L. P.hd**

Associate professor,  
Symbiosis law school, Hyderabad

---

### Abstract

*Freedom of speech and information has always been considered as the most cherished right of every human beings. IT guarantees the right to inform the public and to offer opinions of any kind to advocate any change to give the minority the opportunity to be heard and become the majority and to challenge the rise of state tyranny by force of words. In democracy all individuals and institutions whose activities have a bearing on public interest and have to be accountable to people.*

**Key Words:** Right to Information, Freedom of Expression, Freedom of speech

---

### Introduction;-

Freedom of speech and Expression and the Right to seek information are interlinked with each other. The Freedom of expression undoubtedly one the basic right which can not be effectively exercised without having access to pertinent information. Freedom of expression is the basic foundation democracy. It is a core Freedom without which democracy cannot exist. The greater to access of the citizen to information the greater would be the responsiveness of government to community needs. The right to freedom of speech and expression includes the Right to receive and impart information . A successful democracy posits an unaware citizens diversity of opinions ,views, ideas, and ideologies essential to enable the citizens to arrive at informed judgement on all issues touching them. In

S.P.Gupta vs Union of india<sup>1</sup> the Right to know is implicit in Right to speech and expression. In state of U.P. vs Rajnarain<sup>2</sup> held that freedom of speech and expression includes right of citizens to know every public act, everything done in public way with their public functionaries.

In peoples union for civil liberties vs<sup>3</sup> held that true democracy cannot exist unless the citizens have a right to participate in the affairs of the policy of the country. The citizens right to know the facts, the true facts about the administration of the government is one of the pillars of a democratic state. The court has to take a holistic view and adopt a balanced approach in the legislation providing for the right to information and lay down the parameters of the right .The right to impart and receive information is a species of the Right to speech and expression guaranteed under Art 19 (1) (a) of the constitution of India. The state is not only under an obligation to respect the fundamental rights of the citizen but also equally under an obligation to ensure conditions under which the the right can be meaningfully and effectively be enjoyed by one and all. One sided information , disinformation , misinformation, and non- information all equally create an uninformed citizenry which makes democracy a farce .Freedom of expression and right to information are core freedoms of the citizens.

#### **Need and importance of the Right to information;-**

Freedom of speech and information has always been considered as the most cherished right of every human beings. IT guarantees the right to inform the public and to offer opinions of any kind to advocate any change to give the minority the opportunity to be heard and become the majority and to challenge the rise of state tyranny by force of words. In democracy all individuals and institutions whose activities have a bearing on public interest and have to be accountable to people.

- A) **Empowerment of citizens ;-**
- B) Access to information is essential of democracy
- C) Importance for Economic Growth
- D) Curbing of corruption

---

<sup>1</sup> AIR 1981 Supp Scc 87

<sup>2</sup> AIR 1975 4scc 428

<sup>3</sup>AIR 2003 S.C2363

- E) Limiting Abuse of Discretion
- F) Promotion of civil liberties
- G) Knowledge of various schemes
- H) Accessing Land Records
- I) Participation in political and economic process
- J) Importance of Media

The Right to information has been recognized as a fundamental right , intimately linked to respect for the inherent dignity of all human beings. Freedom of information including the right to access information held by public bodies has long been recognized not only as crucial to democracy, accountability, and effective participation but also as a fundamental human right, protected under international, and constitutional law.

**Various Indian laws Provide for the Right to access information in specific contexts;-**

- 1) Sec 76 of the Indian Evidence Act (1872)
- 2) The Factories Act 1948
- 3) Sec 25(6) of Water (prevention and control of pollution Act 1974
- 4) The Official secrets amendment Act 1997
- 5) The freedom of information bill-2000
- 6) Tamil nadu Right to information Act 1997
- 7) Goa Right to information Act 1997
- 8) The M.P. Right to information Act
- 9) The Rajasthan Right to information act-2000
- 10) The Karnataka Right to information act-2000

These above state acts created awareness about freedom to information and expression. India presents a mixed picture with much secrecy legislation still in place restricting the free flow of information, but at the same time some significant developments at state level in terms of promoting freedom of information laws, as well as draft national legislations.

**Judiciary and Right to Information;-**

In DInesh Trivedi vs union of India <sup>4</sup> the court held that freedom of speech and expression includes the right of the citizens to know about the affairs of the

---

<sup>4</sup> AiR 1997 4 S.C 306

government .The Supreme court held that freedom of speech and expression is a basic and indivisible from a democratic Indian polity. In our present democratic frame work , free flow of the information for the citizens suffer from several bottlenecks including the existing legal frame work , lack of infrastructure at the gross root level and an attitude and tendency of maintaining secrecy in the day today governmental functioning . To remove these unreasonable restrictions the act provides for freedom to every citizen to secure access to information under the control of public authorities consistent with public interest in order to promote openness and accountability in administration and in relation to ,matters connected there with or incidental there to. The act is in accord with both Art 19of the constitution as well as Art 19 of the universal declaration of Human Rights, 1948 . The Act will enable the citizens to have an access to information on a statutory basis.

Sec 3 of the Act specifies that subject to provisions of this act ,every citizen shall have the right to freedom of information ,Sec 4 Provides an obligation up on every public authority to provide information and to maintain all records consistent with its operational requirement s duly cataloged indexed and published .The Right to receive information from public authorities which includes judiciary is not an absolute right but is subject to statutory and constitutional restrictions .Freedom to speech and expression provided under Art 19(2) . Similarly Right to know under Art 21 can be restricted by a procedure established by law which is just, fair and Reasonable .On the statutory side under the right to information Act 2005, a citizen is not entitled to an absolute freedom of information. In certain cases information can be withheld from a citizen The Report of an enquiry made against a judge of High court under the provisions of the judges Enquiry Act 1968 may be with held from the public by the Chief Justice of India (CJI)

In Indira jaising vs Registrar general, Supreme court of India an inquiry report was made by the committee to the CJI in respect of alleged involvement of sitting judges of High court of Karnataka in certain incidents. The petitioner seek the publication of inquiry report. The Supreme court held that it is not appropriate for the petitioner to approach this court for relief or direction for release of report The court thus rejected the contention to release the said report

## **Restrictions on Freedom of speech and Expression AND Right to information Act ;-**

The topic of Free speech is one of the most contentious issues in liberal societies. If the liberty to express is not highly valued it is violative Art 19 and 21 of the constitution.

In *A.K.Gopalan vs State of Madras* the court observed that Man as a rational being desires to do many things but in a civil society his desires have to be controlled regulated and reconciled with the exercise of similar desires by other individuals

The Restrictions which may be imposed on the freedoms guaranteed under Art 19(1) must satisfy the following three broad tests.

- 1) The restriction can be imposed only by or under the authority of law made by appropriate legislature. 2) The Restriction must be imposed in the interest of or for the particular purpose mentioned in the clause permitting the imposition of the restriction on the particular freedom. ie there must be a reasonable nexus between the restrictions imposed and the objects enshrined in the respective clause. 3) The Restrictions must be reasonable. It is the courts to determine whether it is reasonable or not
- 2) The Right to information is not absolute. There are several areas where such information need not be furnished. Even the Freedom of information Act 2002 does not say in absolute terms that information gathered at any level in any manner and for any purpose shall be disclosed to the public.

The citizen's right to know the facts, the true facts about the administration of the country is thus one of the pillars of democratic state. Freedom of speech and expression should therefore receive a generous support from all those who believe in the participation of people in the administration. (*Attorney General vs Times news papers Ltd*)<sup>5</sup>

In *union of India vs Association for democratic reform*<sup>6</sup> held that the right to get information in democracy is recognized all through out and it is natural right

---

<sup>5</sup> AiR 1973 3 All Er 54

<sup>6</sup> AiR 2002 S.C 2112

flowing from the concept of democracy. The Supreme Court of India delivered a plethora of judgements on the right to know. Finally the Indian parliament passed the law on Right to information in May 2005, the judiciary also not exempted from the R.T.I.purview.

### **RIGHT to Information and Electronic Governance;-**

Digital technologies and new communication system have made dramatic changes in our lives. Business transactions are being made with the help of computers information stored in electronic form is cheaper and easier to store. Keeping in view of the urgent need to bring suitable amendments in the existing laws to facilitate electronics commerce and electronics governance. The information of Technology Act 2000 was enacted by the parliament. The aim of E-governance is to make the interaction of the citizens with he government offices hassle free and share information in a free and transparent manner. It further makes the Right to information a meaningful really. In a democracy people govern themselves and they cannot govern themselves poverty unless they are aware of social, political, economic and other issues confronting them. The E- governance and right to information are interrelated and are two sides of the same coin. With the enactment of the Information Technology Act 2000 more and more transparency is expected in governmental functioning by keeping people aware of the state's plan, policies, objectives and achievements.

### **Conclusions;-**

Everyone has a right to impart and receive information as part of his right to information. The state is not only under an obligation to respect his right of the citizens but equally under an obligation to ensure conditions under which this right can be meaningfully and effectively enjoyed by one and all. In a democratic society people are the most powerful element and the right to information empowers them to fully realize a democratic set up. The RTI act aims at securing and ensuring transparency and accountability in the administration. The participation of people in democratic form of government



is their most fundamental and constitutional right .At the same time the right to information Act is the Architect of every individual and the society in all.

**Reference & books;-**

- 1) Constitutional law by Dr.J.N.Pandey
- 2) Constitutional law by Dr.D.D Basu
- 3) Constitutional law by V.N Shukla
- 4) Constitutional law By M.P.Jain
- 5) Constitutional law by S.K.Kapoor
- 6) Constitutional law by G.C.V subba Rao

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

## Broken World of Dalit - A Critical Study on Bama's *Karukku*

**D. Solomon Paul Raj**

*Assistant professor of English,  
Karpagam Academy of Higher Education  
Coimbatore-641021*

**Dr. T. Muraleeswari MA.,M.Phil.PhD,**

*Principal,  
Kongunadu Arts and Science College  
Coimbatore*

### Abstract

*The origin of Dalit literature is in regional literatures in the late nineteenth century. Dalit literature doesn't follow any particular literary conventions and they have created their own localized languages that created a unique writing style. Real incidents are revealed in their languages. Dalit literature expresses the Dalit's knowledge of themselves as oppressed people and enables them to demand liberation through a revolutionary transformation of the system that oppresses them.*

*Faustina Mary Fathima Rani writes under the pen name Bama. She has published four full length works of prose: her autobiography *Karukku* (1992). She is hailed as the first Dalit woman writer in India. *Karukku* highlights the oppression borne by Dalits at the hands of the police, the Panchayat, the upper castes and the church. Bama also highlights how Dalit women are oppressed further by Dalit men at home. The practice of patriarchy along with caste hegemony is a highly unjust suppression of Dalit women as shown in the works of Bama. *Karukku* discusses various forms of violent oppression of Dalits, specifically on the paraiyar caste.*

*The important aspect of this work is that the church too oppresses the Dalit Christians. The series of incidents that took place in the life of Bama enabled her to discover herself as a woman, Dalit and Christian. Bama, as a Dalit encountered many problems in her life; as a woman she is rejected; faced the cruelty from her childhood and caste bias taught her the meaning of shame. This paper discloses the harshness faced by the dalit community and*

---

*the perilous situations they live in. The most striking thing about the paper is that it reveals the oppression in the modern form and the unchanged attitude of the so-called forward-thinking society.*

**Key Words:** Dalit, Karukku, Oppressed class

---

The larger function of literature is to teach morality and to probe philosophical issues. But the question is that whether the literature at present teaches morality or ideas of higher degree. Literature reflects the society which is more corrupted and contaminated with many issues. The so-called forward society still denies to widen its horizon when it comes to caste and gender. As the time period has modernized, the troubles put forward for the marginalized community has also gained a modern version. The community of dalits is still facing hardships from the hands of brutal oppressors. The irony is that the human values and concerns are talked by those brutals at many instances. This falsity that lingers everywhere in the Indian society is unveiled in dalit literature that gains the limelight in the recent years. The paper discusses the real human concerns and its false prevalence in the society.

Dalit literature is a literature of protest and rejection. "Dalit (oppressed or broken) is not a new word. Apparently, it was used in the 1930 as a Hindi and Marathi translation of 'depressed classes' a term the British used for what are now called the scheduled castes" (*Contemporary Dalit Literature* 1). The term 'Dalit' forcefully expresses their oppressed status. It comes from the Sanskrit root 'dal', which means to crack open, split, crush, grind and so forth and has generally been used as a verb to describe the process of processing food grains and lentils. Dalit Panthers defined this word in their 1972 Manifesto as: "A member of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, neo-Buddhist, the working-people, the landless and poor peasants, women, and all those who are being exploited politically, economically, and in the name of religion." (Holmstrom xviii-xix) Noted Dalit Laureate Pantawane Gangadhar writes: "Dalit is not a caste; Dalit is a symbol of change and revolution. The Dalit believes in humanism. He rejects the existence of god, rebirth, and soul, sacred books that teach discrimination, fate, and heaven because these make him a slave" (Who Are Dalits?)

To root out the caste system we must understand its origin and development. The caste system that is present in India for more than 3000 years is a shameful system of social segregation which works on the principle of purity and impurity. B.R.Ambedkar writes: "Purity is rich and white or whitish, impurity is poor and dark. Hidden powers of wealth can be easily traced in every feudal Brahminical concept of the ideal. Material setting of purity and beauty and

prominence and command and comforts is also wealth. Economic division is reflected in the social classifications. But it should not be registered that caste is racial or economic"(Ambedkar 49).

The practice of untouchability was legally abolished by the Constitution of India in 1950. But even today, the Dalits are still subjected to extreme forms of social and economic exclusion and discrimination, physical and mental torture. When they try to fight for their rights, they face tortures and threats from the higher castes which results in cruel rapes, massacres, and other atrocities.

The origin of Dalit literature is in regional literatures in the late nineteenth century. Although many of the pioneering works have been produced in Maharashtra and Gujarat, Dalit literature has also been published in a variety of Indian languages such as Kannada, Tamil, Hindi and Malayalam. A large number of these texts are also available in English translations for a wide audience. Dalit literature does not follow any particular literary conventions and these writers have created their own localized languages that created a unique writing style. Real incidents are revealed in their languages. Dalit literature expresses the Dalit's knowledge of themselves as oppressed people and enables them to demand liberation through a revolutionary transformation of the system that oppresses them.

Dalit literature in Tamil has received critical attention since 1990. Tamil Dalit writing came into existence nearly two decades after Marathi Dalit literature came into being. When compared to Marathi and Kannada Dalit literature, Tamil Dalit literature started late but has achieved a lot in a short period of time. Novels, poetry, autobiographical narratives, short stories, critical essays, and plays in Tamil written by Dalits are often published by Dalit publishing houses or in little magazines edited and published by Dalits. The emergence of Dalit literary writing in Tamil is often traced to the publication of Sivakami's novel *Pazhiyana Kazhidalum* in 1989. It discusses "the issue of Dalit leadership and points out the pitfalls inherent in an imitative model wherein Dalit leaders duplicate corruption and the manipulative politics prevalent among empowered, upper caste politicians" (*Contemporary Dalit Literature* 108). Bama's autobiographical narrative *Karukku* brought out in 1992 is also crucial to the emergence of Tamil Dalit literature.

Faustina Mary Fathima Rani, a Tamil Dalit woman from a Roman Catholic family, writes under the pen name of Bama. She has published four full length works of prose: her autobiography *Karukku* (1992). She is hailed as the first Dalit woman writer in India. Bama now works as a teacher in a school in a small

village of Uthirameroor near Kancheepuram. *Karukku* means Palmyra leaves, with their serrated edges on both sides; they are like a double edged sword.

*Karukku* highlights the oppression borne by Dalits at the hands of the police, the Panchayat, the upper castes and the church. Bama also highlights how Dalit women are oppressed further by Dalit men at home. The practice of patriarchy along with caste hegemony is a highly unjust suppression of Dalit women as shown in the works of Bama. *Karukku* discusses various forms of violent oppression of Dalits, specifically on the paraiyar caste. The important aspect of this work is that the church too oppresses the Dalit Christians.

*Karukku* depicts how Dalit Christians are not allowed to sing in the church choir, are forced to sit separately away from the upper caste Christians, and are not allowed to bury their dead in the cemetery within the village, behind the church, but are made to use a different graveyard beyond the outskirts. The paraiyars converted to Christianity in order to escape the caste oppression at the hands of the orthodox Hindus. Bama points out that the church distorts the real image and teachings of Christ and preaches docility, meekness and subservience to the faithful while suppressing the radical, liberative teachings of Jesus.

The works of Bama in Tamil exemplify the emergence of Dalit writings. She is hailed as the first Dalit woman writer in India. *Karukku* means Palmyra leaves. With their serrated edges on both sides, they are like a double edged sword. Bama herself describes in the preface of the book:

The driving forces that shaped this book are many events that occurred during many stages of my life, cutting me like karukku and making me bleed; unjust social structures that plunged me into ignorance and left me trapped and suffocating: my own desperate urge to break, throw away and destroy these bonds; and when the chains were shattered into fragments, the blood that was split all these taken together (*Karukku xxiii*).

The first autobiography by a Dalit woman writer and a classic of subaltern writing, it is a bold and poignant tale of life outside mainstream Indian thought and function. Bama narrates the rough treatment given to Dalit women in the following lines: "In North Street, while they were beating up Maariappa's son, it seems a five rupee note fell out of his pocket. It seems his mother stooped to pick it up, weeping all the time. At once a policeman put his boot against her stomach, kicked her aside, and took the money himself" (37). Even the local parish priest sides with the upper caste people and does not hesitate to betray the Dalit people who belong to his church.

There are much more humiliating experiences faced by Bama. She shares her pain and anguish through these incidents. Young Bama once sees an old man who carries the vada and a bhajji that he bought from a tea shop in a string. She wonders seeing the old man and finds it ridiculous. Then she narrated this incident in a comic tone to her elder brother, but he kept mum. Her brother explained the situation to young Bama: "Annan told me the man wasn't being funny when he carried the package like that. He said everybody believed that Naickers were upper caste, and therefore must not touch Parayas. If they did, they would be polluted. That's why he had to carry the package by its string" (*Karukku*15).

After she heard this from her brother, she felt terribly sad. This incident left an imprint in the mind of young Bama. She could not resist her anger toward the inhuman acts done to them. Her rage is clearly expressed in these words: "The thought of it infuriated me. How was it that these fellows thought so much of themselves? Because they had the scarped four coins together, did that mean they must lose all human feelings? What did it mean when they called us 'Paraya'? Had the name become that obscene? But we too are human beings. We should work in their fields, take home our wages and leave it at that" (*Karukku* 16).

*Karukku* does not present the events that have taken place in the life of Bama in a chronological order. The events in the life of Bama are grouped and depicted under different perspectives. The series of incidents that took place in the life of Bama enabled her to discover herself as a woman, Dalit and Christian. . It was very hard for her to face politics and caste bias inside the convent. In a place of sanctity, she could neither show her anger nor withdraw herself from the place. She was made to live a kind of artificial life in the convent. They showed indifference not only towards the nuns but also towards the school pupils. Wealthy pupils were left to study and Dalit students were asked to do all the menial jobs: "...people of my community [Paraya] were looking after all the jobs like sweeping the premises, swabbing and washing the classrooms and cleaning out the lavatories. And in the convent, as well, they spoke very insultingly about low-caste people" (*Karukku* 25).

Bama, as a Dalit encountered many problems in her life; as a woman she is rejected; faced the cruelty from her childhood and caste bias taught her the meaning of shame when she was in her seventh standard itself. She is knocked down to the earth. Her life was in a miserable condition then. Seeking a cure for her wounded heart, she indulged herself in spiritual development. She decided to

join a nunnery to dedicate her life to serve God and the society. She was shocked to see the caste discrimination to prevail even in the place of so-called holy people.

Bama have given us anxious novel to read and reflect. All the Dalit writers want their readers to reflect on their writings. They expressing views about caste discrimination and about all the social issues that be it Marxist ideologies or child labour. Dalit literature is not only considered as a marginalised literature but also the voice of freedom for every denied group regardless of the caste.

### **Works cited**

Kumar, Ajay. "*Karukku: Essentialism, Difference and the Politics of Dalit Identity*". Littcritt, June 2007: 126-134.Print.

Ambedkar, B.R. *Dr.Babasaheb Ambedkar: Writings and speeches*, Vol.1:49; compiled by Vasant Moon. Bombay: Education Department, Government of Maharashtra, 1989. Print

Bama, *Karukku*. Trans.Lakshmi Holmstrom.2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012. Print.

Abedi, Zakir. *Contemporary Dalit Literature: Quest for Dalit Liberation*. New Delhi. Arise Publishers & Distributors.2010.Print.

\*\*\*\*

## Call for Papers for an Edited Volumes

**Title of the books: (1) Emerging Markets  
(with ISBN) (2) Entrepreneurial  
Perspectives**

The paper writers can follow the general guidelines as specified for the articles in standard journals. A paper has a cover page covering Title of the paper, name, address, email ID, contact Number and Abstract. At the end of the paper references must to be mentioned. Articles may be sent to the given email ID. Nominal publication fee will be collected

### Sub Themes

#### Emerging Markets

1. Digital marketing and social media
2. Redefining the value for customers
3. Branding in emerging economies
4. Marketing to Rural Customers
5. Social Enterprise & Healthcare
6. Consumer Behavior in Emerging Markets
7. Distribution and Retailing in Markets
8. Product Management in Marketing
9. Pricing and Value in Emerging Markets
10. Marketing Strategies

#### Entrepreneurial Perspectives

1. Entrepreneurial Perspectives
2. Creativity and Innovation
3. Entrepreneurial Environment
4. Business Ideas
5. Enterprise Challenges
6. Social Entrepreneurship
7. Entrepreneurial Leadership
8. Entrepreneurial Opportunities
9. Inclusive Development
10. Sustainable Growth

**Email :**

**[vnmegam@rediffmail.com](mailto:vnmegam@rediffmail.com)  
[vnmegam1973@rediffmail.com](mailto:vnmegam1973@rediffmail.com)**





# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

## Gandhi and Temples : The wish fulfilled at Madurai

**M. Nithyanandam**

B.Com., M.A. (Gandhian Thought)  
Mahatma Gandhi Library  
Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015, Tamil  
Nadu.

**Dr. S. Pandian (In English)**

Secretary,  
Gandhi Study Centre,  
Chennai-600 017, Tamil Nadu.

### Abstract

*Untouchability is an age old disease. It was observed as a tenet of shastras. Mahatma Gandhi intended to see people observe equality and live unitedly. He tried his might to remove the evil; he founded All India Harijan Sevak Sangh in order to 'touchables' could treat the so called untouchables as their brethren by bringing forth change of heart. Further he undertook a special yatra to propagate removal of untouchability. He did not enter any temple to pray whichever was not open to Harijans. He entered even the Madurai Sree Meenakshi Temple after it was thrown open to all inclusive of Harijans.*

**Key Words:** Madurai, Temple Visit, Mahatma Gandhi and Harijans

### Introduction

Mahatma Gandhi travelled the length and breadth of this country to propagate his Doctrine of Non-violence many a time. During his visits to Tamilnadu he had visited Madurai five times. Among them two are significant. Two notable incidents happened here; one in 1921 and the other in 1946. In 1921 he changed his attire and began to wear Dhoti only leaving his turban, shirt, etc. In 1946 he visited the great Sree Meenakshi Temple and had the Dharshan and Blessings of Goddess

Sree Meenakshi and Lord Sundareswarar. Even during the twentieth century almost all temples were not open to all people. This temple was no exception. In 1939, Sree Meenakshi Amman Temple entry took place. Only after this entry did Gandhi go to Temple on his last visit.

### **Madurai Meenakshi Temple**

In Tamilnadu there are many ancient temples. One such big temple is Madurai Sree Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple. It consists of four Rajagopurams, halls with pillars containing artistically out sculptures. The temple had been renovated by Kings then and there. The more ancient the temple, the greater is its puranas. Many puranas sing in praise of this temple.

As per Mahatma Gandhi's desire, prominent citizens of Madurai like, Messrs. A. Vaidyanatha Iyer, P.K. Ramachary, Halasyam Iyer, P. Varadarajulu Naidu, S. Krishnaswami Bharathi, Krishnaswami Iyengar and others were propagating Temple Entry.

Mahatma Gandhi was passing through Madurai on his way to Thiruvananthapuram. At the Madurai Railway Junction, he addressed people on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1937. During his address he appealed to Madurai citizens thus: "I am on a pilgrimage to Thiruvananthapuram. The King of Travancore has thrown open all temples in the State of Travancore. I appeal to good hearted citizens of Madurai to work for the entry of Harijans into the Temple and for the same you must prepare people for a change of heart."

### **Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer**

Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer commenced the work and arranged meetings, individual house visits, conversation with people and street corner meetings, etc. He tried to create public opinion in favour of temple entry. Then people were asked to cast their votes either in favour or against Temple entry according to their wishes. Majority of Hindus voted in favour of temple entry.

There was a group of people at Madurai under the leadership of Advocate Natesa Iyer who were dead against temple entry.

Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer arranged for the conference of All India Harijan Sevak Sangh at Madurai. It was held under the Presidentship of Smt. Rameshwari Nehru. The then Prime Minister of the Madras Premier Sri C. Rajagopalachari and the Health Minister Dr. T.S.S. Rajan took part in the conference. Eight hundred

delegates participated in it. All of them raised their hand in union to register their support for temple entry.

### **Temple Entry**

Messrs. L.N. Gopaldaswami, P. Kakkan, Muthu, V.S. Chinnayya and others entered Sree Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple in Eight July 1939 under the leadership of Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer. Sri R.S. Naidu, the then executive officer of the temple welcomed them and took them into the temple. This was the great historically significant event which led to the opening of many temples in Tamilnadu for Harijans. The next day i.e. on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1939 itself both Koodal Azhagar and Kallazhagar temples were thrown open to Harijans.

Later in 1946 when Mahatma Gandhi visited Madurai he went into the Sree Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple and prayed.

Advocate Natesa Iyer and his orthodox supporters filed criminal complaints in Court against Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer and others. Then the Government of Madras under the Premiership of Rajaji, sought the then Governor to pass an ordinance which resulted in the dismissed of the case.

Mahatma Gandhi wrote praising the Madurai Temple Entry in his journal "Harijan". He wrote in his journal Harijan dated 12.7.1939 in praise of Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer and his associates who untiringly tried to change the hearts of Madurai people.

But on the other hand Natesa Iyer and his friends who were bent upon their orthodox views started troubling Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer. Telegrams were sent to Mahatma Gandhi intimating the same. Mahatma wrote to Sri A. Vaidyanatha Iyer pacifying him. Mahatma also wrote about it in his journal "Harijan".

### **Solemn Prayerful Mind**

During his visit to Madurai in 1946 Mahatma Gandhi stayed at the Sivaganga Palace situated on the northern bank of Vaigai River. The Palace now form part of the Sree Meenakshi College for Women, Madurai when he started from the Palace to the Temple he saw the four gopurams of the temple. Thereupon he started murmuring something and he continued the same throughout his temple visit. He was in a solemn prayerful mind and he did not utter any word until he came out of the temple.

To the temple Mahatma was accompanied by Thakkar Bapa, K. Kamaraj, President TNCC, Dr. T.S.S. Rajan and Sri Munuswami Pillai. The Executive Officer

Sri R.S. Naidu and other officers welcomed Mahatma with Poornakumbam and led him into the temple.

The Sanctum Sanctorum was dark without lights. And as such Mahatma was led with the aid of oil lamps. At the Meenakshi Shrine he was given a Parivattam and an archana was held in his name. Saffron was applied in his forehead. Archana was also held at the shrine of Lord Sundareswarar.

Mahatma used to say that he did not believe in Idol worship. But yet when he was inside the temple at Madurai he was formed to be dumb founded probably he was enthralled in spiritual experience received from the Goddess.

### **Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Meenakshi Temple**

Mahatma was inside the Temple at Madurai for an hour and a quarter on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1946. He had told that when he was inside and prayed he had a significant & spiritual experience.

His 1946 visit was really a pilgrimage only during this trip his long lasting dream had been realised Mahatma wrote in the visitors book of the temple in Hindi. And that had been translated into English by his Secretary thus:

"I am glad that the desire that I had entertained for years is fulfilled today".

### **Conclusion**

In Tamil nadu, the Premiership of Sri Rajaji, lasted for only two years from 1937 to 1939. The British Government did not consult the Provincial Governments headed by Congress in participating in the Second World War. So, all the Congress Governments resigned.

Suppose this Temple Entry incident did not take place in 1939, then it would have been very difficult thing to happen till Indian Independence.

Soon after this Madurai Temple Entry, in other parts of Tamil Nadu many temples were opened to Harijans. Untouchability a great sin in Hinduism, which lasted for many centuries, started disappearing from the minds of High Caste Hindus. Mahatma Gandhi Harijan Sevak Sangh was started in 1933 to remove the untouchability from Hinduism. Many high caste Hindus dedicated their life for the upliftment of Harijans as appealed by Mahatma Gandhi.

### **Reference**

1. Tamil Naattil Gandhi (Tamil) by A. Ramasamy

2. Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi
3. Madurai Vaidyanatha Iyer Life History (Tamil)
4. 'Sarvodayam Malargiradhu' Tamil Magazine in February, 2013.

\*\*\*\*



**SVM Publications**

**Multidisciplinary Global  
Journal of Academic Research  
(MGJAR)**

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

**A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF POLYPHONY IN JOSEPH  
HELLER'S CATCH 22**

**S. ANANTHAN,**

Ph.D Research Scholar,  
Department of English and  
Foreign Languages,  
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore

**Prof. Dr. R. SARAVANA SELVAN**

Professor and Head,  
Department of English and  
Foreign Languages,  
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.

**Abstract**

*Polyphony is a theory of 'authorial point of view' propounded by the Russian Literary Critic Mikhail Bakhtin. Polyphony literally means 'multi-voicedness'. Polyphony arises in fiction when the special position of the author allows great freedom of interaction to the characters. The characters in a polyphonic novel are allowed maximum freedom so that they could argue with each other and even with their author. That is, in polyphonic novels different centres of consciousness are allowed to interact on the plane of the novel. The voice of the author is here never dominant and the characters 'answer back' with great freedom.*

*Joseph Heller's Catch 22 chosen for the present study is written in a third person limited omniscient voice, from the protagonist, John Yossarian's point of view. This paper aims to unveil the polyphony in Catch-22 which has lengthy satiric dialogue of different voices. A major theme throughout the novel is the conflict that occurs when individuals interact with powerful institutions as corporations, the military, and the federal government. Heller repeatedly rendered the chaos and absurdity of contemporary existence through disjointed chronology, anachronistic and oxymoronic language, and repetition of events while emphasizing the necessity of identifying and accepting responsibility social and personal evils and, as individuals, adopting beneficial behavioral changes.*

**Key Words:** Polyphony, Dialogic and characters

---

The ideas of the Russian Literary Critic Mikhail Bakhtin received wide scholarly attention as his writings combined a theoretical rigour that is characteristic of contemporary literary theory and a humanistic approach. Bakhtin's works, on a variety of subjects, inspired scholars working in a number of different traditions and in varied disciplines. Although Bakhtin was active in the debates on aesthetics and literature that took place in the Soviet Union in the 1920s, his distinctive position did not become well known until he was rediscovered by Russian scholars in the 1960s.

The 'dialogic', the 'carnavalesque', and the 'polyphonic' are Bakhtin's key concepts. The 'Dialogic' is central to his thinking in general and his novel theory in particular; the 'carnavalesque' refers to a source of liberation, destruction and renewal; and, the polyphony designates a special position of the author in the text created by him. This paper aims to analyse Joseph Heller's most popular novel *Catch 22* in the light of Bakhtin's polyphony.

Polyphony is a theory of 'authorial point of view' which means '*multi-voicedness*'. Polyphony arises in fiction in which position of the author allows great freedom of interaction to the characters. The characters in a polyphonic novel are allowed maximum freedom so that they can argue with each other and even with their author. That is, in polyphonic novels different centers of consciousness are allowed to interact on the plane of the novel. As already mentioned, the peculiarity of a polyphonic novel is that the characters are absolutely free from authorial control. The voice of the author is here never dominant and the characters 'answer back' with great freedom. The hero occupies a unique position in a polyphonic novel. His position is as important as that of the authors. He stands along the side of the author, and as another individual human being he listens to the author, responds to him, agrees or disagrees with him.

A study of this plurality of voices in *Catch 22* reveals that, it can be read as a polyphonic text as the author allows full independence to his characters. More importantly, the author refrains from imposing his own moral or ideological control over the destinies of his characters. In the introduction to *Catch-22* Heller states,

“The island of Pianosa lies in the Mediterranean Sea eight miles south of Elba. It is very small and obviously could not accommodate all of the actions described. Like the setting of this novel, the characters, too, are fictitious” (6).

Essential to the polyphonic novel is the fact that “a plurality of consciousnesses, with equal rights and each with its world, combine but are not merged in the unity of the event” (PDP 6). Thus we understand that *Catch 22* carries a dialogic sense of truth that is constitutive of polyphony.

The title of the novel which has become a part of the modern day parlance is itself indicative of the absurdist theme of the novel. According Jerome Klinkowitz “*Catch 22*” is a “code word for for any self-contradicting bureaucratic order in society, used by people who never read the novel (31)”. *Catch-22* concerns a World War-II bombardier named Yossarian who believes his foolish, ambitious, mean-spirited commanding officers are more dangerous than the enemy. In order to avoid flying more missions, Yossarian retreats to a hospital with a mysterious liver complaint, sabotages his plane, and tries to get himself declared insane. Various defined throughout the novel, the term “*Catch-22*” refers to the ways in which bureaucracies control the people who work for them. Many critics contend that while *Catch-22* is ostensibly a war novel, World War II and the Air Force base where most of the novel's action takes place function primarily as a microcosm that demonstrates the disintegration of language and human value in a bureaucratic state. *Catch-22* enjoyed enormous success during the Vietnam War, when many soldiers strongly identified with Yossarian's plight.

A major theme throughout his writing is the conflict that occurs when individuals interact with such powerful institutions as corporations, the military, and the federal government. Over the course of his career, Heller's novels displayed increasing pessimism over the inability of individuals to reverse society's slide toward corruption and degeneration. Heller repeatedly rendered the chaos and absurdity of contemporary existence through disjointed chronology, anachronistic and oxymoronic language, and repetition of events while emphasizing the necessity of identifying and accepting responsibility social and personal evils and, as individuals, adopting beneficial behavioral changes. Disguise, that is, carnivalistic shifts of clothing, and of positions and destinies in life, serve in the polyphonic novel the purpose of “imparting a joyful relativity, carnival levity, and rapidity of change” (*Problems*, 125).



The paradoxical nature of *"Catch 22"* can be seen in several areas outside the realm of the military and economic authority, such as Orr's explanation about the flies in Appleby's eyes,

"Oh they're there, all right, "Orr had assured him about the flies in Appleby's eyes ... "Because he's got flies in his eyes," orr explained with exaggerated patience. "How can he see he's got flies in his eyes if he's got flies in his eyes?" (55).

The circular logic of *"Catch 22"* is revealed yet again when Yossarian seeks Lucian's hand in matrimony. She refuses the offer calling him crazy

"You want to marry me because I am crazy and you say I am crazy because I want to marry you" (72).

Luciana believes that Yossarian must be insane to marry her since she was not a virgin. And she did not want to marry a crazy person. Yossarian's story forms the core of the novel, so most events are refracted through his point of view. Yossarian is placed in ridiculous, absurd, desperate, and tragic circumstances—he sees friends die and disappear, his squadron gets bombed by its own mess officer, and colonels and generals volunteer their men for the most perilous battle in order to enhance their own reputations. The extraordinary independence enjoyed by characters who are freed of authorial control in the polyphonic novel is thus described by Bakhtin: "It possesses extraordinary independence in the structure of the work; it sounds, as it were, alongside the author's word and in a special way combines both with it and with the full and equally valid voicex of other characters. (*Problems*, 7)

Bakhtin observes that in polyphonic novel, there can be "no final, finalizing discourse that defines anything once and forever. There can be no firm image of the hero answering the question "Who is he?" (*Problems*, 47). 'Catch-22' is a law defined in various ways throughout the novel. First, Yossarian discovers that it is possible to be discharged from military service because of insanity. Always looking for a way out, Yossarian claims that he is insane, only to find out that by claiming that he is insane he has proved that he is obviously sane since any sane person would claim that he or she is insane in order to avoid flying bombing missions. Elsewhere, *Catch-22* is defined as a law that is illegal to read. Ironically, the place where it is written that it is illegal is in *Catch-22* itself. It is yet again defined as the law that the enemy is allowed to do anything that one can't keep him from doing. In short, then, *Catch-22* is any paradoxical, circular reasoning that

catches its victim in its illogic and serves those who have made the law. Catch-22 can be found in the novel not only where it is explicitly defined but also throughout the characters' stories, which are full of catches and instances of circular reasoning that trap unwitting bystanders in their snares—for instance, the ability of the powerful officer Milo Minderbinder to make great sums of money by trading among the companies that he himself owns.

Also in the polyphonic text, an idea is passed through the mouths of different people by the author, As Yossarian struggles to stay alive, and a number of secondary stories unfold around him. His friend Natelly falls in love with a whore from Rome and woos her constantly, despite her continued indifference and the fact that her kid sister constantly interferes with their romantic rendezvous. Finally, she falls in love with Natelly, but he is killed on his very next mission. When Yossarian brings her the bad news, she blames him for Natelly's death and tries to stab him every time she sees him thereafter. Yossarian decides "to live forever or die in the attempt and his only mission each time he went up was to come down alive" (37). He has a "morbid aversion to dying" and has "deep seated survival anxieties" (322). Another subplot follows the rise of the black-market empire of Milo Minderbinder, the squadron's mess hall officer. Milo runs a syndicate in which he borrows military planes and pilots to transport food between various points in Europe, making a massive profit from his sales. Although he claims that "everyone has a share" in the syndicate, this promise is later proven false. Milo's enterprise flourishes nonetheless, and he is revered almost religiously by communities all over Europe.

Heller displays remarkable verbal wit in juxtaposing contradictory elements even in short sentences. Usually a sentence raises some expectation in the reader and the very next one undermines it. For instance.

"The Taxman turned out to be good-natures, generous and likable. In three days no one could stand him" (16).

"Natelly had a bad start. He came from a good family (19)".

Sometimes Heller substitutes just a word to reverse the expectation of the reader. Doc Daneeka's description of a virgin is one such example,

"She was built like a dream wore a chain around her neck with a medal of Saint Anthony hanging down inside the most beautiful bosom I never saw" (49).

Earlier, Yossarian describes Dunbar as “one of the finest, least dedicated men in the whole world” (20). As in the Menippean genres pointed out by Bakhtin, there is a strong combination in *Catch 22* “of absolutely heterogeneous and incompatible elements: philosophical dialogue, adventure and fantasticality, sum naturalism, utopia, and so forth” (*Problems*, 134)

The polyphony of *Catch 22* ensures the freedom of characters with “equal valid” voices. This polyphony is achieved by relativizing the author’s voice which becomes simply one more voice in the text. The novel draws to a close as Yossarian, troubled by Nately’s death, refuses to fly any more missions. He wanders the streets of Rome, encountering every kind of human horror—rape, disease, murder. He is eventually arrested for being in Rome without a pass, and his superior officers, Colonel Cathcart and Colonel Korn, offer him a choice. He can either face a court-martial or be released and sent home with an honorable discharge. There is only one condition: in order to be released, he must approve of Cathcart and Korn and state his support for their policy, which requires all the men in the squadron to fly eighty missions. Although he is tempted by the offer, Yossarian realizes that to comply would be to endanger the lives of other innocent men. He chooses another way out, deciding to desert the army and flee to neutral Sweden. In doing so, he turns his back on the dehumanizing machinery of the military, rejects the rule of *Catch-22*, and strives to gain control of his own life.

The present study of *Catch 22* demonstrates the plurality of voices in open-ended dialogue. The essential characteristics of the polyphonic text, summarized by Morson and Emerson, are to be seen everywhere in *Catch 22*,

“the polyphonic author is supremely active in conceptualizing whole personalities, setting up open-ended dialogues, and provoking characters to speak” (251).

The novel attacks bitterly a number of aspects of contemporary American life. Life at Pianosa in *Catch 22* is a microcosm of life in America. Using the military unit as representing American society, Heller attacks American business, medicine, organizations and even religion. Milo Minderbinder is the personification of capitalistic spirit in the western world. In the figure of Doc daneeka he criticizes the medical profession as practiced in America. Metaphorically, Heller convincingly proves in the novel that the mysterious principle of *Catch 22* is not limited to any time or place. It is therefore futile on the part of Yossarian to flee to Sweden, Even there he is bound to face death, disease and mutilation. In this polyphonic universe, the once mighty authors are both

reduced to tiny speck in the corner of a grand universe that is everywhere studded with bright stars.

### WORKS CITED

Bakhtin, Mikhail. *Rabelais and His World*, tr. Hélène Iswolsky. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1968.

----. *Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics*, ed. and tr. Caryl Emerson. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1984.

----. *Speech Genres and Other Late Essays*. Trans. by Vern W. McGee. Austin, Tx: University of Texas Press, 1986.

Bell, Michael Mayerfeld and Michael Gardiner, eds. *Bakhtin and The Human Science; No Last Words*. London: SAGE P, 1998.

Burhans, Clinton S. Jr. "Spindrift and the Sea: Structural Patterns and Unifying Elements in *Catch-22*." *Critical Essays on Joseph Heller*. Ed. James Nagel. Boston: G. K. Hall, 1984. 40-51.

Craig, David M. "From Avignon to *Catch-22*." *War, Literature and the Arts*. 6.2 (Fall-Winter 1994): 27-54.

Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*. New York: Dell Paperback, 1961.

—. *Now and Then: From Coney Island to Here*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1998.

Morson, Gary Saul, and Emerson, Caryl. *Mikhail Bakhtin: Creation of a Prosaics*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1990.

Ruderman, Judith. *Joseph Heller*. New York: Continuum, 1991.

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

---

## Margaret Atwood's *The Year of The Flood*: A Propagator of Egalitarianism

**M. Devi**  
Doctoral Research Scholar  
Department of English  
Thiruvalluvar University  
Vellore-632 115

---

### Abstract

*Margaret Atwood, the most celebrated writer of Canada is known for her deep sense of ecoconsciousness which gets embossed in her novels. A great number of Atwood's novels dwell upon the conflict between man and nature which eventually pleads and leads to a reconciliation between the two entities. The Year of The Flood is a vivid portrayal of the confrontation between anthropocentrism and ecocentrism. It ventures to delve deep into the anthropocentric psyche of man and it also concentrates on how Atwood debunks anthropocentrism by drawing man's attention to ecocentrism.*

**Key Words:** Anthropocentrism, Ecocentrism, Ecosystem.

---

### Introduction

Anthropocentrism is an offshoot of man's indiscriminate and inequitable exploitation of nature. Man's primacy over nature has been reinforced by the advent of science and technology, and it is evident that he wants to do away with nature. For man, once nature was the source and means of survival, but now it is susceptible to his exploitative earnestness. There was a time when man had to live at the mercy of benevolent nature, but now nature has to live at the mercy of malevolent man. Deep ecology emerged out as a reaction against

anthropocentrism which emphasises on the interconnectedness between the human and the natural world. It implores man to acknowledge the intrinsic value which is inherent in every species. It acts as an eye-opener that all life forms should be allowed to flourish and fulfil their evolutionary destinies. It entreats man to resort to an egalitarian approach towards life.

### **Anthropocentrism Versus Ecocentrism**

*The Year of the Flood* mirrors two conflicting ways of life: the technoscientific group that relies on science and technology for genetic splicing and cross-species is juxtaposed with the minority group of environmentalists who militate against the technoscientific culture. The technoscientific group represents man's usurpation of the position of the creator and the assumption of himself to be the life-supporting and life-denying forces of the world. The environmentalists represent the unrealized and forgotten part of man that he has been entrusted with the responsibility of stewardship. They relentlessly fight for the revival of the ecosystem.

*The Year of The Flood* is placed in the United States of America, probably somewhere on the east coast. The plot is situated around two main characters Ren and Toby. The environment which is portrayed is disturbed in many ways: the effects of a global climatic change are apparent, disharmony in the society that splits it into different groups. The society has become belligerent and lost its ethical values. The whole of human race is extinguished by a pandemic and only a few survive. Apart from Toby and Ren, the survivors mainly consist of the members of the ecoactivist group.

*The Year of The Flood* gives a magnified image of anthropocentrism. The tussle between anthropocentrism and ecocentrism is more vividly captured in the novel. *The Year of The Flood* begins with a remorseful note that man has betrayed nature's trust in him. Nature entrusted itself to man with the hope that he would make the world a better place for all the species to thrive. But man is trampling over unwary nature with utmost hostility:

How much have we lost, dear Fellow Mammals and Fellow Mortals!  
How much have we wilfully destroyed! How much do we need to restore, within ourselves! The time of the Naming is not over, my Friends....stretch out your hand towards those gentle eyes that regard you with such - a trust that has not yet been violated by bloodshed and gluttony and pride and disdain. (TYF 15)

Adam addresses all the species that have become extinct as fellow creatures and expresses a deep sense of bereavement for their disappearance. By doing so, he restates the idea that man is just a part of nature and the most dependant part of nature. John Bellamy Foster underscores man's dependence on nature - "Man, as animal forms, well as human society, are products of nature, part of this great, endless whole. Man can never escape from nature, and even when he 'controls' nature, he is merely making use of the laws of nature for his own ends" (241). Nature is extremely kind in permitting man to live on itself, but man has exceeded the limits of utilization and transgressed the laws of nature.

Adam extols the greatness of nature by saying that man has mishandled nature and misappropriated its resources. Even after such ill-treatment, nature has not given up on man. It still remains patient to revive its symbiotic relationship with man. Adam berates man's ingratitude and indifference, and beseeches him to adopt the right appropriation of nature. In *The Year of The Flood*, Atwood uses Toby to exemplify Adam's argument of ethical handling of nature. When Toby senses a threat from the pigs on the rooftop of Eden garden, she decides to kill them immediately with her rifle but withdraws from executing her will when it strikes her that it a causeless action:

...she goes cautiously to the rooftop railing. Three huge pigs are nosing around the swimming pool... Toby follows the railing, tracking them...."Get away from there!" Toby shouts at them... She scrambles down the stairs as fast as she can without slipping. She should keep the rifle with her at all times. She grabs it from her bedside, hurries back up to the roof...but then she hesitates. They're God's Creatures. Never kill without just cause, said Adam one. (TYF 21)

In *The Year of The Flood*, Atwood demonstrates through Adam that man can reform his ways and resort to a life centered on nature. Once Adam also belonged to the egotistical world of anthropocentrism, but he put himself through a transformation process after realizing that man is not the primal species of creation. He says "I, too, was once a materialistic, atheistic meat-eater. Like you. I thought Man was the measure of all things" (TYF 48). Adam's words precisely explain that anthropocentrism has been propelled by materialism. Inspired by materialism, man started considering nature as an inert object that can be exploited and executed to his heart's content.

Adam's proclamation of the right appropriation of nature is the need of the hour. Man has misconstrued the laws of nature. He takes nature for granted and

employs it as a ploy to gratify his own unjustifiable desires. He projects himself to be the pivotal point of creation. Adam condemns such hard core anthropocentrism and disagrees with it by saying that nature does not belong to man rather it is man who belongs to nature. Man's dominance over nature is nullified by man's dependence on nature. Adam, time and again, reiterates that man is only the guardian of nature and not the guide. But man obliterates nature by driving himself into an oblivious state of his dependency:

Why do we think that everything on Earth belongs to us, while in reality we belong to Everything? We have betrayed the trust of the Animals, and defiled our sacred task of stewardship. God's commandment to "replenish the Earth" did not mean we should fill it to overflowing with ourselves, thus wiping out everything else. How many other species have we already annihilated?... Please consider that, my Friends, the next time you crush a worm underfoot or disparage a Beetle! (TYF 63)

Man underestimates the power of nature and underrates its existence. He provokes nature to account for his virulent behavior in the form of a retaliation. As William Reuckert portends in his essay *Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism* "We are violating the laws of nature, and the retribution from the biosphere will be more terrible than any predicted on humans by gods. In ecology, man's tragic flaw is his anthropocentric... (as opposed to biocentric) vision and his compulsion to conquer...exploit every natural being" (113). Most of the problems between human and non-human others are induced by man's failure to acknowledge the inherent worth of non-human world.

In *The Year of The Flood*, Adam gives a revelatory discourse in which he exalts the significant role played by the insignificant species. Each of these species contributes tremendously to the upkeep of the ecosystem. Man is the only species who strives hard for the degradation of the ecosystem. Every constituent part of earth plays out its role coherently to accelerate the sustainability of earth. A major part of the functioning of these species contributes enormously to the survival of human race. For instance, earth worms and nematodes drill in and out to make the soil more fertile for cultivation. Honey bees' relentless struggle for honey has been made easily obtainable. Maggots are every effective in controlling oozing of blood:

...The Earth worms and Nematodes and Ants, and their endless tilling of soil, without which it would harden into a cement - like mass, extinguishing all life. Think of the antibiotic properties of the Maggots and of the various moulds, and of the honey that our Bees



make, and also of the spider's web, so useful in the stopping of blood flow from a wound. For every ill, God has provided a remedy in His great Medicine Cabinet of Nature! (TYF 193)

Through this episode, Adam offers a revelation that man cannot live as a separate entity as he has to admit and acknowledge his dependency. In this regard, Lawrence Buell says that "the non human environment is present not merely as a framing device but as a presence that begins to suggest that human history is implicated in natural history" (7- 8). Adam tries to drive home the message that man has to internalize nature as an indispensable part of himself because nature accompanies man even in times of turmoil. Man keeps endangering nature whereas nature keeps embracing and ennobling him.

Nature has been communicating to man in a subtle way, but it is man who is not very receptive to reciprocate. As Christopher Manes puts it "in addition to human language, there is also the language of birds, the wind, earthworms, wolves, and waterfalls - a world of autonomous speakers whose intents (especially for hunter-gatherer people) one ignores at one's peril" (15). Man has to synchronize his own ways with the ways of nature and by doing that he leads a life which is productive for both nature and man. If man lives in tune with nature, he can comprehend the trajectory of nature's course and follow it without flouting its laws.

Adam proclaims that every species on earth has been created by God with a purpose. The beetle plays a vital role in the process of decomposition. He unravels the sacredness of decomposition by saying that it is a process which enhances the standard of living for other creatures by breaking down the components of dead bodies and transmuting them into productive elements. He reprobates the traditional method of preserving corpses as a selfish act because it hinders man from merging into nature as it is believed in the Hindu philosophy that man is combination of the five elements of nature. He exposes man's ingratitude in the following lines:

Through the work of the Carrion Beetles and the putrefying Bacteria, our fleshy habitations are broken down and returned to their elements to enrich the lives of other creatures. How misguided were our ancestors in their preserving of corpses... What a horror - to turn the soul's husk into an unholy fetish! And, in the end, how selfish! Shall we not to repay the gift of Life by regifting ourselves to Life when the time comes? (TYF 193)

Adam preaches the members of the God's Gardeners sect to have unflinching faith in nature because it will never fail them. God's Gardeners are an ecocentric lot whose ways are eco-friendly. They depend on nature for both sustenance and medication. When a disease strikes them, they turn to nature for recuperation. These Gardeners have a conventional way of curing diseases with juices extracted from herbs and mushrooms. Toby and Pilar are entrusted with the responsibility of preparing medicinal juices and preserving it for future use. In one of these experiments with medicinal herbs, Toby becomes apprehensive of the efficacy of a particular juice, and that is when Pilar asserts the greatness of nature "Nature never does betray us" (203). She alleviates Toby's fear by extolling nature's generosity.

The concept of creation has been misinterpreted by man. Christianity extols man as the master of all the species because God created man in his image. But God's idea in creating man in his image is that he acts as an imitation of himself in every way and also as an embodiment of divinity. He transferred the responsibility of stewardship from his hands to man's hands. While doing so, He anticipated the devastation which human race were to bring in the world. So, He sent a messiah who would monitor the actions of man. Adam says that Jesus descended on earth to transform mankind and to save nature from the murderous hands of man:

...Fish image was used by the early Christians as secret signals of their faith in times of oppression. The Fish was an apt symbol, for Jesus first called as his Apostles two fishermen, surely chosen by him to help conserve the Fish population. They were told to be fishers of men instead of being fishers of Fish, thus neutralizing two destroyers of Fish! That Jesus was mindful of the Birds, the Animals, and the plants is clear from his remarks on Sparrows, Hens, Lambs, and Lilies... (TYF 234)

Adam starts a campaign against unethical meat-eating as it is expunging a maximum number of species from the face of earth. He attacks all the restaurants that encourage secret burgers selling because it is these restaurants which are dwindling the animal flock. He says that in the phase of depletion of earth, man is not only over populating but also over exploiting. In another few decades, the sustainability of the ecosystem will get vitiated by the extermination of its constituent parts and man will find himself in entropy. Adam and his fellow eco-warrior Zeb want to prevent the world from sinking into an irretrievable state:

“Our way is the way of peace,” said Adam one, frowning even more. “Peace goes only so far,” said Zeb. “There’s at least a hundred new extinct species since this time last month. They got fucking eaten. We can’t just sit here and watch the lights blink out. Have to begin somewhere. Today Secret Burgers, tomorrow that fucking gourmet restaurant chain. Rarity, that needs to go. (TYF 300)

Nature, which was considered to be a womb that nourishes all her children is changed to a tomb by man. The exploitative humanity has wilfully exhausted all the resources. Nature made itself tamable and available for human need and not for human greed. If man continues to exploit in a manner which threatens the existence of nature, it will harden itself and will become invincible to be enslaved by human beings. Peter Childs explains it as “to exploit with impunity the mineral resources of the universe, to contain nature, which reasserts itself as radically unknowable, all-powerful, and fundamentally inimical to human domestication” (72). Man has to shun his exploitative outlook towards nature.

Instead of creating a balance in the environment, man is creating a fissure. Zeb makes insightful comments on the behaviour of man towards other species. In *The Year of The Flood*, when Croze happens to see the Crakers who are outlandish in their appearance, he fears of an attack from them. But Zeb assuages his fear by saying that “they’re not dangerous - it’s us that’s dangerous to them” (TYF 476). Zeb explicates further that man is predatory by nature and through this quality has made the entire planet his prey. The most burning issue of today is the cruelty of man towards the flora and fauna of earth. As Pi remarks in *Life of Pi* that “We commonly say in the trade that the most dangerous animal in the zoo is man” (Martle 29).

In *The Year of The Flood*, towards the end, Atwood succinctly exposes the vanity of anthropocentrism. She says that man asserts his supremacy over other life forms by vandalizing nature. It is a foolish act because by vandalizing nature he is making himself vulnerable to a holocaust. Agreeing with Atwood, Ambika.S points out that “nature is not a subject, it has a language of its own. It has been talking to us and its natural signs portend danger and perhaps catastrophe. Whatever happens Nature will go on without us. And so, we are the ones who must act wisely to sustain and value the present living ecosystem and our position in it” (18). Adam brings out the vainglorious attitude of anthropocentrism in the following lines:

What is it about our own species that leaves us so vulnerable to the impulse to violence? Why are we so addicted to the shedding of

blood? Whenever we are tempted to become puffed up, and to see ourselves as superior to all other Animals, we should reflect on our own brutal history. (TYF 372)

Adam seems to have a premonition that the end of human race is fast approaching. He says that anthropocentrism will surely lead to an upheaval and it is going to prove inimical to the survival of human race. Man can never recover from such devastation though nature will take some time to rejuvenate itself. Adam says that the Waterless Flood is going to occur in the form of a plague which would wipe out a considerable amount of human population. Anthropocentrism will pave way for man's damnation and nature's redemption, because after the disappearance of man, serenity will be restored and nature will experience an unhampered growth:

Take comfort in the thought that this history will soon be swept away by the Waterless Flood. Nothing will remain of the External [sic] World but decaying wood and rusting metal implements; and over these the Kundzu and other vines will climb; and Birds and Animals will nest in them, as we are told in the Human words of God: "They shall be left together unto the Fowls of the mountains, and to the Beasts of the Earth; and the Fowls shall summer upon them, and all the Beasts of the Earth shall winter upon them". For all works of Man will be as words written on water. (TYF 373)

*The Year of the Flood* is a depiction of the confrontation between anthropocentrism and ecocentrism, and the much awaited moment of the victory of nature over man. The Waterless flood has cleansed and sanctified the universe by turning it into a natural world without human interference. Through this novel, Atwood emphatically stresses upon the need to practice egalitarianism by portraying the ecosystem as an ensemble in which all the species are interconnected and interdependent.

### Works Cited

1. Ambika, S. "An Ecocritical Reading of Robert Frost's Select Poems." *The Criterion: An International Journal in English*. ii.1 (2011): 18-22.
2. Atwood, Margaret. *The Year of The Flood*. London: Virago Press, 2009
3. Buell, Lawrence. *The Environmental Imagination: Thoreau, Nature Writing, and the Formation of American Culture*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1995.
4. Childs, Peter. *Texts: Contemporary Cultural Texts And Critical Approaches*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2006.

5. Foster, John Bellamy. *Marx's ecology: Materialism and Nature*. New York: Cornerstone Publications, 2001.
6. Manes, Christopher. "Nature and Silence." *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology*. Eds. Cheryll Glotfelty and Harold Fromm. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1996.
7. Rueckert, William. "Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism." *The Ecocriticism Reader: Landmarks in Literary Ecology*. Eds. Cheryll Glotfelty and Harold Fromm. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1996.
8. Martel, Yann. *Life of Pie*. New Delhi: Penguin Books India Pvt. Ltd, 2001.

\*\*\*\*

## Call for Papers for an Edited Volumes

**Title of the books:** (1) Emerging Markets  
(with ISBN) (2) Entrepreneurial Perspectives

The paper writers can follow the general guidelines as specified for the articles in standard journals. A paper has a cover page covering Title of the paper, name, address, email ID, contact Number and Abstract. At the end of the paper references must to be mentioned. Articles may be sent to the given email ID. Nominal publication fee will be collected

### Sub Themes

#### Emerging Markets

1. Digital marketing and social media
2. Redefining the value for customers
3. Branding in emerging economies

#### Entrepreneurial Perspectives

1. Entrepreneurial Perspectives
2. Creativity and Innovation
3. Entrepreneurial Environment

**Email :**

**[vnmegam@rediffmail.com](mailto:vnmegam@rediffmail.com)**

**[vnmegam1973@rediffmail.com](mailto:vnmegam1973@rediffmail.com)**



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

## Dalit Movement: Perspective of Domestic Colonialism

**Deepa R**

Assistant Professor

Department of English

Milad-e-Sherief Memorial College,

Kayamkulam, Kerala.

### Abstract

*Dalit, meaning 'oppressed' or 'crushed' refers to group of marginalized people devoid of all privileges of free citizens. Though colonialism, European movement of disempowerment was mainly for political, cultural and economic repression, the issues within the colonized race was often suppressed. Postcolonialism as a philosophical and intellectual movement paved the way for the colonized nations to establish a platform of their own. The dichotomy between the colonizer and colonized, white/black, male/female is often addressed in postcolonial theory. Edward Said and Franz Fanon discussed the contradictions prevalent between the colonized and colonizer and the way for regaining the lost identity of the colonizer. But the system of colonialism prevalent within a particular nation or race is rarely discussed. While foreign colonial rule emerges from the contradiction between the central and peripheral nations within an empire, domestic colonialism emerges from the contradiction between the centre and periphery within a single Nation, State or Society. Dalit literatures often take these issues and address the domestic colonization which is fiercer than the European colonialism. This paper attempts to present a history of dalitism and domestic colonialism in Indian and parallels in other nations.*

**Key Words:** Dalit, Domestic Colonialism, Marginalization

The year 1947 put an end to the long term political colonialism that the natives suffered for the past three centuries. Even though independence marked

the end of political rule and hegemony of the Eurocentric powers, there stood a greater colonial oppression at the domestic level which was a greater menace than the foreign one. So the statement "I prefer British Raj to Hindu Raj" by Bhim Rao Ambedkar and in the context of Gandhi's Yervada fast, the statement generated a disturbing controversy. The statement of course hurt the nationalist sentiment that propelled the Indian freedom struggle. Ambedkar's statement revealed that institutions of rule and the discourses of hegemony stood at two levels, foreign and domestic. The British rule and hegemony was no doubt an instance of colonialism associated to imperialism but apart from the Eurocentric colonial rule and hegemony, as Fanon and Said put it, there existed another system of oppressive rule and hegemony at the domestic level, the domestic colonial rule which Ambedkar found as greater menace than the British Raj.

Dalit is a term that gained currency in India during mid-1960s, displacing the term 'Harijan' coined by Ganhiji referring to the victim- population of domestic colonialism-the majority population with mutilated human rights discriminated as outcasts by the Hindu theological faith. The term Dalit was defined by Gangadhar Patwade thus:

For me the word Dalit denotes not only caste, it means the man who is exploited economically, socially by the Traditional of the country. He does not believe in God, religion, rebirth, Holy books, Heaven, Hell of this land, since all these things have made Him a slave, he believes in Humanism, The real symbol of present Dalit is Change and revolution.

Prof. Aravinda Malagatti defines:

The people who are economically, socially Politically exploited from centuries, unable to live in the society of human beings have been living outside the village depending on lower level of occupation, and unable to spell out their names, lived as "untouchable" are regarded as 'Dalits'.

Though India gained freedom on Aug. 15 1947, the political freedom that marks the departure of the foreign colonizer by no means meant a solution to the domestic hegemonic oppression entertained at the informal level overriding the various species of anti-slavery legislations introduced by the foreign colonizer. In the Indian villages there existed flocks of slaves unpurchased, slaves of the upper-class society –the unequals among the equals.

Colonialism is traditionally defined as the system of exploitation within an empire. The empire is built around a center, with the annexed nations placed at the periphery of power. The nation at the center exploits and oppresses the peripheral nations; reduce them to the level of colonies of the master nation. As far as the peripheral nations are concerned, the ruler at the center is foreign colonizer who uses brutal means of suppression and exploitation to make them peripheral forever. The so called *developments* introduced by the institutions of rule and the



accompanying *emancipation discourses*-for example, Railways in India and the education reforms during the British rule- endowed on the peripherals are the subtle methods contrived by the center for their benefit. As a result the marginalized nations were subjugated to a secondary position from which they thought they couldn't have any escape.

While foreign colonial rule emerges from the contradiction between the central and peripheral nations within an empire, domestic colonialism emerges from the contradiction between the center and periphery within a single nation. Though all the races, regions, castes and religious sub sects in a nation are supposed to be equal beneath the feet of god the power exerted by the center on the marginalized sects is brutal and discriminatory. Though our constitution guarantees equal rights for all citizens, some are "more equal" than others. The Dalit's are those categories who are restrained from merging in the mainstream of society. They were brutally suppressed both by equals as less equals and denied a voice of their own. Dalit's in India are a people alienated within their nation and state.

The beginning of Postcolonialism is marked by Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*, (1962) and later proceeded forth in theory by Said and it gained momentum as movement in 1990s. Postcolonialism confined colonialism around the concept of Euro hegemony reduced its dimensions to the narrow straits of Euro-centrism and ignored the thesis and praxis of domestic colonialism. Domestic colonialism was a major theme of discussion till 1960s. Robert L Allen in *Black Awakening in Capitalist America* traces the history of the thesis of domestic colonialism back to 1920s with the Communist International and finds that it was applied in socio-political discourses in the early 1960s Harold Cruise and Kenneth Clarke elaborated the thesis of domestic colonialism in 1926 . The Latin American Liberation struggles during 1950s were read against the back ground of the thesis of domestic colonialism. In U.S and Canada the contradiction between the migrant whites, natives and Negroes are viewed from the perspective of domestic colonialism. *Stolen Black Labour: Political Economy of Domestic Colonialism (2012)* by Omali Yeshitela and *On the Dialectics of Domestic Colonialism* by Karama , Jem Adari and Tony Menelik are noted works on domestic colonialism

By 1960s the term internal colonialism nearly vanished though it was an ailing problem with the nations which boast of the achieved political freedom. It is true that even after the foreign colonizer left the colonial space of subjugation, the values disseminated by the foreign colonizer stayed with the colonized for good or bad . But this foreign influence of the colonizer of the past projected to mythical levels by post colonialism ignores the hard reality of the oppressive domestic colonialism which stayed with nations like India during the pre-foreign colonial period, the foreign colonial period and the post (foreign) colonial period. The

influence of the British colonial values fall irrelevant in the context of neo finance colonialism where finance or capital is the major hegemonic value that subjugates or colonizes a people like India. The second major colonizing element is that of domestic colonialism which survived against all foreign , and global forces of colonization from pre euro colonial periods to the present period of finance colonialism, where finance capital subdues the euro-colonial values .

*Black Awakening in Capitalist America* depicts the changes in U S and Third World and states that:

Black America is undergoing a process akin to that experienced by many colonial countries...Under neocolonialism an emerging country is granted formal political independence but in fact it remains a victim of an indirect and subtle form of domination by political, economic, social, or military means. Economic domination usually is the most important factor, and from it flow in a logical sequence other forms of control. This is because an important aim of neocolonialism is "to retain essentially the same economic relationship between imperialism and the developing countries as has existed up until now".

In Postcolonialism, the domestic colonial aspect is ignored, but the issue of the subaltern is agitated at the ethnocentric level; but, back to narrowed quarters of ethnic identity is a fall back to the repressed pre euro colonial past and liberation to the wider prospects of humanity is the agenda of anti-domestic colonial politics from its beginning in 1920s. Violence and exploitation were the methods used by the powerful elites in the society to oppress the Dalit community. Massive protests arose from various shades of Dalit community against inadequate housing, poor wages, health care and education. Since these sections were denied seminal fundamental human rights, right even to drinking water they were constrained to estimate themselves as ugly, sinful, worthless and unethical.

The Indian apartheid, with its terrorizing repressive ideology is close to the American apartheid and is laid in similar planes of American domestic colonialism. The Great Sree Narayana movement often estimated as an enlightenment movement and humanist socio-political struggle is the most significant anti domestic colonial political movement that scripted the modern history of Kerala, which attracted the great leader Ayyan kali and the likes towards a determined struggle against domestic colonialism. B.R. Ambedkar while making contrast between the British Raj and Hindu Raj was not inciting Dalit caste sentiment; it was a potent voice registered against domestic colonialism that bred all departments of caste including the Dalit castes and sub castes. The literature in the formative phase of Malayalam social novel interacted with the domestic colonial situation. *Indulekha (1888)* by O.Chandu Menon was opposed to

domestic Vedic hegemony; the protagonist in the novel states it in plain terms that he is loyal to the foreign colonizer and favors British Raj, yet finds that time is not ripe for a struggle against domestic colonialism. *Saraswathee Vijayam (1890)* by Potheri Kunjambu was pro-British writing but projected an important question: Can a subaltern—Dalit- youth speak or sing a song. It is novel written against the prevailing thesis and praxis of domestic colonialism which concludes with a Dalit male marrying a Brahmin girl daughter to a woman tortured by inquisition and declared outcaste to the society--- it was a novel that terribly disturbed the ethos of Vedic belief that sustained domestic colonialism. Later Kumaranasan in his humanist writings carried the spirit of revolt against domestic colonialism .Dalit movement in the present, following the trails of Fanon and post-colonial perspectives finds return to ethnic identity as remedial measure against colonialism. Whether it is a regressive confinement or progressive liberation is yet another relevant question.

### **Bibliography**

“Dalit Movement”. Dalitindia.in/chapter2. pdf. Web.10 Jan. 2014.

Kamara Jemadari and Tony Menelik Van Der Meer. “On the Dialectics of Domestic

Colonialism and the Role of Violence in Liberation from Fratricide to Suicide”. *Human Architecture: Journal of the Sociology of Self Knowledge.V*, Summer 2007.Web. 8 Jan. 2014

Zaks, Michael Caldereron. “Domestic Colonialism: The Overlooked Significance of Robert L. Allen’s Contributions”. *The Black Scholar*. Vol.40, No.2, Summer 2010. Web.7 Jan 2014.

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

---

## PERFORMANCE OF FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA - A STUDY

**Ms. S. S. NIRMALA**  
Head, Department of Commerce,  
BWDA Arts and Science College,  
Kolliyangunam, Villupuram-605602

---

### Abstract

*Food Corporation of India (FCI) was established under the Food Corporation of India Act 1964 for the purpose of trading in food grains and other foodstuffs. The Act extended to the whole of India. The Corporation acts as a body corporate. The general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs and business of the Corporation vests in a board of directors, which exercises all such powers and does all such acts and things as may be exercised or performed by the Corporation under the FCI Act. FCI performs the major functions of procurement, storage preservation, movement, transportation, distribution and sale of food grains and meets the requirements of Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country. In other words, it handles or manages the entire supply chain in food grains distribution in India. It acts as a nodal agency of the central government based on ethical business principles having regard to the interest of the producers (farmers) and consumers. FCI engages large number of workers (loaders) to get the job of loading and unloading done smoothly and in time. Currently there are roughly 16,000 departmental workers, about 26,000 workers that operate under Direct Payment System (DPS). The stock of food grains in the Central Pool as on 01.01.2015 was 368.56 Lakh MT, which Comprised of 251.13 Lakh MT of wheat and 117.43 Lakh MT of rice (excluding 113.87 Lakh MT of rice due to be received from the-milled paddy lying with the state agencies) and 2.55 Lakh MT of coarse grains. These grains are effectively maintained by the trained workers. Further, the FCI is feeding to entire Nation and ensure food security*

---

---

*to the Nation.*

**Key Words:** Food Security, Food grains, Procurement, Distribution, Storage

---

## **Introduction**

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the nodal agency of the Government of India responsible for executing food policies of the Central Government. The functions of FCI primarily consist of purchase, procurement at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from farmers, storage, and movement of transportation, distribution and sale of food grains on behalf of the Central Government. It is one of the largest corporations in India and probably the largest supply chain management in Asian continent and second in world position. It operates through 5 zonal offices and 24 regional offices. Each year, the Food Corporation of India purchases roughly 15 to 20 per cent of India's wheat output and 12 to 15 per cent of its rice output. The purchases are made from the farmers at the rates declared by the Govt. of India. This rate is called as Minimum Support Price (MSP). There is no limit for procurement in terms of volume, any quantity can be procured by FCI provided the stock satisfies Fair Average Quality specifications with respect to FCI. In this context, the present study concentrates to discuss performance of Food Corporation of India.

## **Operation of FCI**

Food Corporation of India operates through well trained human resources such as Field Offices and District Offices which are headed by an assistant general manager, designated as area manager. Under his control there are managers to deal with each and every section viz., sales, contracts, movement, establishment, quality control, operational accounts etc., who consolidate the field level operations and through the area managers' authorization, they transmit the necessary information and periodical statements to regional offices of their respective regions. Regional offices are headed by a general manager, who is in most of the cases from Indian Revenue Service, Indian Administrative Service and All India Services under deputation. Under his control deputy general managers who are FCI's officers coordinate with daily operations through the assistant general managers who were posted in various sections to oversee the functions of district offices units of their particular section. All these officers appraise the

general manager periodically on various issues pertaining to district offices of that particular region. FCI had five zones i.e. North, South, East, and West and North-East. All the regional offices are under the control of zonal offices which are headed by an executive director, who is in most of the cases from Indian Administrative Service and Indian Revenue Service under deputation. Under his control three or more than three general managers coordinate with all regional Offices of their particular zone through subordinate officers like deputy general managers and assistant general managers dealing with their allotted operational sections in their zone. All the zonal offices are under the control of Headquarters, New Delhi, which is headed by chairman and managing director, who is an Indian Administrative Officer of secretary rank on Central Deputation. Headquarters instruct, communicate, consolidate and refine the voluminous information required for the streamlined execution of day-to-day operations and coordinates with Ministry of Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution and Food Secretary and various sister corporations like Central Warehousing Corporation, Indian Railways in formulating food policy or amending the existing policy to suit the emerging challenges in managing Food Security scenario of the nation.

India has emerged as the largest exporter of the rice in the world. In the Financial Year 2013, total cereal exports amounted to 22 MMT and in FY 2014, it amounted to 21 MMT. So, in two years it amounted to 43 MMT which India has never achieved in its entire recorded history. In brief, there is a paradigm shift on food (cereal) front, between the time when FCI was created and today. The production has increased substantially; India has emerged as net exporter of cereals with more than comfortable stocks with public agencies and reasonably good foreign exchange reserves giving ample cushion to leverage global markets for imports, as and when the need arises. On top of all this, consumption patterns are shifting away from cereals; the per capita consumption of cereals is falling over time and this is now happening even in the lowest expenditure decile groups. With rising incomes, as one would expect, people are consuming more of non-cereals food products, ranging from oils and fats, to fruits and vegetables, milk and milk products, and eggs, fish and meat.

The role of Food Corporation of India (FCI) becomes even more important in the backdrop of National Food Security Act, 2013. Performance of any institution should be judged against the objectives it was supposed to perform. The Food Corporation of India came into existence in 1965 under the Food Corporation's Act of 1964 to fulfill the following objectives of the food policy:

- To provide effective price support operations to safeguard the interests of the farmers;
- To distribute food grains through-out the country for public distribution system(PDS);

- To maintain satisfactory level of operational and buffer stocks of food grains to ensure National Food Security.

It is important to understand these three objectives for a proper evaluation of the FCI because it is time to re-examine its role and functions in the light of substantial changes on food front, especially cereals. There are a lot of issues relating to the internal working of the FCI, one of the major issues is related to the procurement operations of wheat, paddy and rice to different States. FCI was procuring 12 per cent of the wheat produced and 70 per cent of the rice. Rice millers are usually at the mercy of the FCI Officials, but States may be given equal opportunity to procure not only wheat but also rice. There is corruption within the FCI which is frightening. There is a terrible need to remove the root causes of corruption. This can be controlled well trained Human resources with the help adequate training. The maximum corruption is in the quality control specification and checking. Right now, food grains are manually checked, someone picks up a fistful of grain and says the moisture level is 5 per cent or 10 per cent.

Also it has suggested that there should be a cash transfer of food subsidy. It is believed to have recommended that food subsidies be transferred in cash for the 52 cities having a population of more than a million, over the next two years. This system of cash transfer will definitely support both the poor farmer and the poor consumer. Even if this system would be followed, it will not be possible for the subsidized food to reach all the beneficiaries. In the case of fertilizer subsidy, the cash transfer of Rs. 7000 per hectare will result in savings of Rs. 15,000-20,000 crore. In the case of food subsidy, the government will save Rs. 30,000 crore. Cash transfers would be beneficial for those farmers who don't get subsidized rations because of leakage, they have to buy from the market and are not compensated for it. But, it is said that Minimum Support Price (MSP) is essential to provide relief to the farmers. MSP will have no meaning if we don't procure.

In the short run, the panel has suggested that the National Food Security Act be curtailed. Instead of providing subsidized grain to at least 67 per cent of the population across the country, the law should provide 7 kg of grain per person (instead of 5 kg) at a much lower subsidy to a maximum of 40 per cent of the population. But, one criticism that can be leveled against this is that on one hand we are reducing the coverage from 67 to 40 per cent, on the other hand we have recommended increasing allocation to 7 kg per person from 5 kg. This report is both pro-farmer and pro-poor.

FCI engages large number of workers (loaders) to get the job of loading and unloading done smoothly and in time. Currently there are roughly 16,000 departmental workers, about 26,000 workers that operate under Direct Payment System (DPS), some under no work no pay, and about one lakh contract workers. One of the loopholes is the incentive system in notified depots and widely used

proxy labour. This aberration should be fixed either by de-notifying these depots, or handing them over to states or private sector on service contracts, and by fixing a maximum limit on the incentives per person that will not allow him to work for more than say 1.25 times the work agreed with him. Secondly, conditions should be improved by providing them with better facilities like health, sanitation, water supply, etc.

### **Role of Food Corporation of India**

The broad objective of food policy in India has been to make food available to the people at reasonable prices. Specific objectives include providing remunerative prices to cultivators; supplying food at subsidized prices to the undernourished; controlling inflationary pressures; stabilizing prices for consumers' and producers; reducing fluctuations in food availability and achieving self-sufficiency in food grains production. On behalf of the Central Government, Food Corporation of India (FCI) along with State Governments and their agencies procure a sizeable quantity, of the total grain that is harvested in a season. Since production is concentrated in a few states of India, there is a large regional mismatch between supply and demand of food grains, which is relieved by the transfer of grains from surplus to deficit states.

In order to facilitate the farmers to bring their produce to the procuring agencies, purchase Centers (Mandies) are supposed to be opened in all corners of the country. However procurement of wheat and rice are usually being done in selected states only. The FCI and Government Agencies purchase all the grains offered at the minimum support price (MSP). The main areas for procurement of wheat and rice are the surplus states like Punjab, Haryana, and some parts of Uttar Pradesh for both crops and Andhra Pradesh for rice. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) was set up under the Food Corporations Act of 1964 to be the nodal central government agency responsible for the purchase, storage, inter-state movement, transport, distribution and sale of food grain and other food items. In short, the FCI is responsible for implementing central government policies on procurement, storage, and distribution. In certain operations such as the maintenance of national buffer stocks, the FCI has sole responsibility whereas in certain other operations such as procurement, the FCI has to work with State government organizations (such as State marketing federations) and within the purview of State government policies.

The role of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has evolved over time, from being an agency to procure food grains and distribute to states for the operation of the public distribution system (PDS), in recent years it has become a device of maintaining the Minimum Support Prices by procuring whatever is



offered. FCI's procurement operations are concentrated in only a few states. This has led to problems of two kinds, one, growing buffer stock with FCI as the MSPs have been set above the market clearing price. In the year 2001 buffer stock accumulated in FCI's go-down had toughed to the historical high. There was a huge debate going at that time among policy maker's academician and planners about the proper utilization of this buffer stock. Irony of the situation was that our go-down was reporting overflowing stocks of food grains, but, at the same time some parts of the country reported death due to starvation. This shows inefficiency of distribution system in delivering food grains to needy. This buffer stock situation continues till recent past. But now the situation has changed rather than having over flowing buffer stocks countries has resorted to import of food grains. Second farmers of those states where FCI price support operations are not well organized do not fully get the benefit of the support price.

### **Human Resource position in FCI in India**

There are four categories of Human Resources available in FCI namely Category I, Category II, Category III and Category IV. In the I Category, total sanctioned strength is 1012 but actually appointed 779. Under II category staffs, there are 6292 sanctioned strength and in position staff is 4249. Under category III, the total sanctioned strength is 26,831 and actual appointment is 14,304. In the IV Category, sanctioned strength is 2380 but actual appointment is 4516. It is clear that in the IV category only staffs have appointed excessively. Other categories staffs are appointed less than the sanctioned strength. The report of FCI in the year 2014-15 says, there are 36,515 sanctioned strength of employees from all categories and the actual appointment is 23,848. Among the staff, there are 5712 employees are coming under the category of SC and 2626 staffs are coming under ST category. It is clear that staffing strength is lesser than the actual sanctioned category.

### **Procurement of Grains by FCI**

The Government policy of procurement of Food grains has broad objectives of ensuring MSP to the farmers and availability of food grains to the weaker sections at affordable prices. It also ensures effective market intervention thereby keeping the prices under check and also adding to the overall food security of the country. FCI, the nodal central agency of Government of India, along with other State Agencies undertakes procurement of wheat and paddy under price support scheme and rice under statutory levy scheme. Coarse grains are procured by State Government Agencies for Central Pool as per the direction issued by Government

of India on time to time. The procurement under Price Support is taken up mainly to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce which works as an incentive for achieving better production.

Before the harvest during each Rabi and Kharif Crop season, the Government of India announces the minimum support prices (MSP) for procurement on the basis of the recommendation of the Commission of Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which along with other factors, takes into consideration the cost of various agricultural inputs and the reasonable margin for the farmers for their produce. To facilitate procurement of food grains, FCI and various State Agencies in consultation with the State Government establish a large number of purchase centres at various mandis and key points. The number of centres and their locations are decided by the State Governments, based on various parameters, so as to maximize the MSP operations. For instance for Wheat procurement more than 20,000 procurement centers were operated during RMS 2015-16 and for Rice procurement more than 44,000 procurement centres were operated. Such extensive & effective price support operations have resulted in sustaining the income of farmers over a period and in providing the required impetus for higher investment in agriculture sector for improved productivity. The stock of food grains in the Central Pool as on 01.01.2015 was 368.56 Lakh MT, which Comprised of 251.13 Lakh MT of wheat and 117.43 Lakh MT of rice (excluding 113.87 Lakh MT of rice due to be received from the unmilled paddy lying with the state agencies) and 2.55 Lakh MT of coarse grains.

Whatever stocks which are brought to the Purchase centers falling within the Government of India's specifications are purchased at the fixed support price. If the farmers get prices better than the support price from other buyers such as traders or millers etc., the farmers are free to sell their produce to them. FCI and the State Government and its agencies ensure that the farmers are not compelled to sell their produce below support price.

### **Strengthening farmer welfare and food security through FCI**

In order to give relief to the farmers affected with unseasonal rains and to save them from distress sale of wheat, quality norms for procurement relaxed. The Central Government decided to reimburse amount of value cut on MSP, if any imposed, to the states so that farmers get full Minimum Support Price (MSP) even for shrivelled and broken wheat grains or having lustre loss. Such a farmer's centric step was taken first time by any Central Government. An action plan is being finalized by FCI to provide better price support services to the farmers in the Eastern States, especially to the small and marginal in Eastern UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam where at present procurement system

has poor outreach to the farmers. It will save farmers from distress sale and exploitation by the middlemen. Improved MSP coverage will also encourage farmers to adopt technology and improve yield of paddy/ rice in these States, where productivity levels at present are below national average. This will ultimately increase income and will bring in prosperity to the farmers of the region. In the interest of farmers, FCI is also working on a procurement plan for pulses and oilseeds to ensure MSP for farmers for both the crops.

To ensure payment of minimum support price to more paddy farmers, millers levy on rice brought down to 25% in the Kharif Marketing Season 2014-15, and decided to abolish it from October, 2015. This will save farmers from exploitation and they will not depend on millers for selling their paddy. This initiative has improved delivery of MSP to the farmers for paddy even in the situation of market prices ruling below the MSP, especially in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, where the farmers are substantially dependent on millers for selling their paddy. During Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2013-14 only a quantity of 8.52 lakh MT of paddy had been purchased directly from the farmers by the State Agencies in unified Andhra Pradesh, but in KMS 2014-15, such direct purchase of paddy has gone upto 36.76 lakh MT in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana together. The reduction of levy in KMS 2014-15 has not resulted in any substantial reduction of overall procurement of rice in these two States till date compared to KMS 2013-14. Similarly in Uttar Pradesh, the procurement of paddy has gone up from 9.07 lakh MT in previous season to 18.18 lakh MT in current season and overall procurement of rice has gone up from 11.05 lakh MT of previous season to 16.10 lakh MT till April, 2015. In West Bengal also, the procurement of paddy has gone up from 5.79 lakh MT in previous season to 13.29 lakh MT in current season and overall procurement of rice has gone up from 8.27 lakh MT to 13.31 lakh MT till April, 2015. In order to ensure that beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act get entitled foodgrains positively, rules notified in January, 2015 for payment of food security allowance in the case of non-delivery of foodgrains to the beneficiary. The central Government also decided to share 50% (75% in the case of Hilly and difficult areas) of the cost of handling & transportation of foodgrains incurred by the states and the dealers' margin so that it is not passed on to the beneficiaries and they get coarse grain Rs1/kg, wheat at Rs2/kg and rice at Rs 3/kg.

### **Improving Foodgrain Management**

A high level committee of experts setup in August 2014 to recommend restructuring of Food Corporation India for improving food grains management,

ensuring efficient MSP operations, scientific storage and strengthening food grain supply chain in the country. Action has been initiated on the report submitted by the committee. To bring all operations of FCI Godowns online and to check reported leakage, "Depot Online" system initiated and integrated security system is being set up in all sensitive depots. In order to modernise food grain storage in the country, 20 lakh tons storage capacity is being created in the shape of "Silos" in first phase. In order to have better targeting of "other welfare schemes" for poor, a committee of ministers set up under the chairmanship of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. The Committee not only decided continuation of food grain allocation for other welfare schemes but also nutritional support by providing milk and eggs etc. under the schemes. 612.42 lakh tonnes of food grains allotted to States / UTs for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System and Other Welfare Schemes during 2014-15. Due to progressive procurements from farmers, the stock of food grains in central pool as on 1.4.2015 reached to 343.15 lakh tons against minimum buffer norms of 210.40 lakh tons.

Adequate supplies of food grains ensured during natural calamities of Hud-hud cyclone in Andhra Pradesh and devastating floods in J&K. Availability of sufficient food grains in North Eastern States was also ensured in spite of disruption in major rail route because of gauge conversion work. 80,000MT food grains moved through roads every month besides creating additional storage of 20,000 MT in the region. Food grains also inducted into Tripura via riverine route passing through Bangladesh. An additional storage capacity of 43,480 MT has been created in the North East with funds amounting to Rs.76.85 crores. This storage capacity enhancement will help in meeting food grain requirement of the region. Meeting with the representative of farmers, Chief Ministers of major sugarcane growing states and representatives convened to discuss measures to facilitate payment of sugarcane arrears. Accordingly to improve the liquidity of the sugar sector and to facilitate the payment of sugarcane arrears to the farmers following steps were taken: Import duty on sugar first increased from 15 per cent to 25 per cent and then 40 per cent. The duty free import authorisation schemes for exporters withdrawn. Decision to withdraw the excise duty on ethanol, for blending with petroleum, from next sugar season, so that the price benefit to the sugar mills could facilitate payment of sugarcane arrears. The policy for procurement of ethanol for blending with petrol also modified.

### **Promoting Consumer Protection**

A conference of State Food Ministers organized and integrated action plan on tackling food inflation adopted in July 2014. Potatoes and Onions notified

“Essential Commodities” enabling State Governments to impose stock control orders on both the commodities and to take anti-hording measures. Number of price reporting centres increased from 57 to 64 to strengthen price monitoring of 22 essential commodities by the Ministry. To enhance supply of wheat during lean period and to moderate prices, 100 lakh tonnes of wheat approved for sale under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) during 2014-15 and 50 lakh tonnes of additional rice released through Targeted Public Distribution System. In order to ensure availability of fruits and vegetables at reasonable prices to consumers and wider selling option to farmers, fruits and vegetables delisted from the APMC Act in Delhi. Kissan Mandi set up for selling both the commodities. All other states were also advised to adopt the arrangement. After 360 degree review of the Consumer Protection Act, comprehensive amendments finalised in the Act to ensure quick, inexpensive and simple redressal of consumer’s grievances, enabling e-filing of cases and not requiring personal appearance till the stage of admission, and time bound admission of cases proposed. A “Central Consumer Protection Authority” also proposed to investigate unfair trade practices; initiate class action, order recall or replacement of defective products. Provision made for product liability to enable consumers to sue for damages caused by defective products/ deficient services.

Joint campaign organised with Health, Financial Services and other departments for greater consumer awareness. During the last year the Department of Consumer Affairs intensified its multimedia campaign under the banner of Jago Grahak Jago. With special emphasis on rural areas, tribal areas and North East, the campaign makes consumers aware of their rights/obligations. Joint campaigns were organized with the Reserve Bank of India, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance to focus on specific issues of consumer interests. An Inter-Ministerial Group of key sectors that matters to consumers viz Agriculture, Food, Healthcare, Housing, Financial Services and Transport, to facilitate policy coherence and coordinated action on consumer advocacy has been constituted besides an Inter- Ministerial Committee to address the problem of Misleading Advertisement and Unfair Trade Practices. Six key sectors viz. food and agriculture, health, education, real estate, transport and financial services have included for this purpose. The complaints lodged are taken up with the relevant authorities or the sector regulators. The consumer is informed after the action taken. To provide a host of consumer services under one roof, Grahak Suvidha Kendras launched in six locations: Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Kolkata, Patna and Delhi on March 18, 2015. Such centres will be set up in every State in phased manner. They will provide guidance to consumers regarding consumer laws, the rights of the consumers, the procedure of approaching Consumer Courts and

various other consumer related issues including quality assurance and safety of products.

## **Conclusion**

From the days when there was insufficient food grain to meet internal requirements to today's self-sufficiency, from the days of import of food grain to the days of maintaining buffer stocks and to the days of export of food grains, FCI has come a long way. In the year 1965, the allocation of food grain was only 59 Lakh tons for wheat and rice, which has increased enormously to approximately 670 lakh tons i.e. an increase more than ten times in these 46 years. FCI has played a vital role in providing food security to the nation and with the proposed Food Security Act, the role and the responsibilities of FCI will increase many folds. Keeping this and the ever changing scenario of food grains in mind, lot of initiatives have been taken by FCI in the recent past so as to keep itself ready in advance to face the new challenges effectively. Having learned from the experiences over the period of time, FCI is modernizing its operations to meet existing challenges. Further, trained staff of FCI will take the FCI in a new height.

## **References**

1. The Economic Times (2013). 'Food security' jacks up food prices. 13 June, 2013, 12.
2. Braun, J. V., and Tadesse, G. (2012). Global food price volatility and spikes: an overview of costs, causes, and solutions. ZEF-Discussion Papers on Development Policy, 161.
3. Wilson, E.J. (2005). Foodgrain price policies in India: The effects on foodgrain production and rural poverty, 1951-2001. Applied Econometrics and International Development (AEID), Vol. 5-3.
4. World Bank (1999). India food grain marketing policies: reforming to meet food security needs. Report No. 18329-IN.
5. Gulati, A. and Saini S. (2013). Taming food inflation in India. Discussion Paper No. 4, CACP, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. New Delhi.

6. Gulati, A. and Jain S. (2013). Buffer stocking policy in the wake of NFSB: concepts, empirics and policy implications. Discussion Paper 6, CACP, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. New Delhi.

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. II Iss. IV Oct. 2015 ISSN:2394-1758

---

## Importance of Culture in Teaching and Learning Second Language on Education: A Special Reference Irulas Tribe

**UdhayaKumar, S**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Cultural Anthropologist Tribal Research Centre,  
Udhgamandalam

---

### Abstract

*In India the tribal population constitutes nearly 8.2% of the total population (RGI 2001). There are 36 sub- groups of Tribes in the state of Tamil Nadu. The combined Scheduled Tribes population of the State as per 2011 census is 7.94 lakh. Of which Toda, Kota, Kurumbas, Kattunayakan, Paniyan and Irular have been designated as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) there in settle in Nilgiri District. It is often noted by linguists that language and culture are closely related hence cannot be studied independent of each other. Cultural values are both reflected by and carried through language. It is inevitable that the representation of culture implicitly and explicitly enters into second language education. A vast amount of cultural information is needed for linguistic competence, as acquisition of language remains incomplete without cultural competence. Owing to this fact, the teaching of culture in the second language classroom is important. This research paper is concerned with the teaching of the learners' culture in second language teaching for the Irula students of the Tribal schools. Learners' culture is emphasized here with the view that familiar cultural content in English language teaching in the context of Irula students would enhance the learning process, better comprehension and understanding of the content by the learners.*

**Key Words:** impact of learners, culture and education, nilgirs, irulas tribe.

---



**Introduction:**

Learners in Tribal schools understandably are non- native speakers of English and English is a second language to them. They are linguistically very diverse. Their attitudes towards the target language, culture and their world views directed by their cultural orientations have to be meticulously looked into while teaching and developing teaching materials and designing curriculum. The main concern of this paper would be teaching of learners' culture while teaching English in the Tribal schools. To achieve this end would mean to teach the target language by drawing materials from culturally indigenous materials or culturally familiar content (Byram 1997) like folk tales, folk songs, legends, myths, dances, festivals, rituals, beliefs, ideologies and so on translated from the Adi- vasi baasha into English and use such material for teaching of English rather than using the Indian English culture material that remain unfamiliar and abstract to the learners.

**The Scheduled Tribes in India:**

There are altogether 705 ethnic groups, etc., which are notified as Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the 30 state/ UTs of the country. Their total population according to the 2011 Census, is 104.30 million, and formed 8.60 per cent of the country's total population. Of the total tribal population, 52.40 million are males and 51.90 are female. Similarly, majority (i.e 90%) of the tribals live in rural areas, whereas some (i.e., 10%) live in urban areas too. While the overall growth of population during the decade 2001-2011 has been 17.64 percent, it is 23.70 percent in case of STs. It is said that India is home to almost more than half of world's tribal population. The tribal in India are spread over the length and breadth of the country.

They also vary in strength from a few thousands to several lakhs. In 2011, state- wise, the distribution of the STs Population is under Madhya Pradesh: 14.70 per cent; Maharashtra: 10.10 per cent; Odisha: 9.20 per cent; Rajasthan: 8.90 percent; Gujarat: 8.60 per cent; Jharkhand: 8.30; per cent; Chhattisgarh: 7.50 per cent; Andhra Pradesh: 5.70 per cent; West Bengal: 5.10 per cent; Karnataka: 4.10; Assam: 3.70 per cent; Meghalaya: 2.50 per cent and rest: 11.60 per cent. The top five State/UTs ranked by the proportion of STs are Lakshadweep (94.80%), Mizoram (94.40%), Nagaland (86.50%), Meghalaya (86.10%), and Arunachal Pradesh (68.80%). Similarly, the bottom five State/UTs are Uttar Pradesh (08.80%), Tamil Nadu (1.10%), Bihar (1.30%), Kerala (1.50%), and Uttarakhand (2.90%).

Some of the important features of the tribal are: most of them live in isolated terrains; the main source of their livelihood are agriculture and gathering of forest produce, they do not cultivate for profit; they still largely rely on barter system; they spend a greater part of their earning social and religious ceremonies; and a large number of them are illiterate and are victimized by unscrupulous forest contractors and moneylenders.

### **Profile of Scheduled Tribes in Tamil Nadu:**

The geographical area of Tamil Nadu state is 1,30,058 sq.km. There are 36 sub groups of Tribes In the state. The main tribes among them are Malayali, Kattu naickan, Toda, Kurumbas, Paniyan, Irular, Kattunayakan, Paniyan, and Irular, etc. of which Toda, Kota, Kurumbas, Kattunayakan, Paniyan and Irular have been designated as Particular Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).The combined Scheduled Tribes population of the state as per 2011 census is 7.94 lakh representing 1.10% of the total population of the state (which is 721 lakh).Out of the 7.94 lakh Tribal, 50.50% constituted Males and 49.50% constituted Females. The Nilgiri district total population of Scheduled Tribe is 32,813. And over all literacy rate is overall in tribal population is 60.76. (Tribal sub plan, 2011).

### **The Concept of Culture :**

The definition given for the term culture are numerous. Anthropologist, Kroeber and Kluckhohn, (1955) reviewing these definition and the conceptions of culture associated with them list over one hundred and sixty different formal delimitations of the term. There is general agreement that culture is learned; that it allow man to adapt himself to his natural and social setting; that it is greatly variable; that it is manifested in institutions, thought patterns and material objects. Cultural Anthropology studies human behavior that is learned, rather than genetically transmitted, and that is typical of a particular human group. These learned and shared kinds of human behaviour including material result this behavior is called culture. Culture is the major way in which human beings adapt to their environment. Culture anthropologists attempt to understand culture in this general sense; they study its origins, its development, and among peoples. They also examine its transmission through teaching and learning and its relation to Homo sapiens as a biological species. Cultural anthropologists are also interested in particular culture; they want to know how different societies adapt

to their environment. In its comparative perspective, cultural anthropology attempts to discover what is specific and variable in human behavior and what is general and uniform.

### **Methods:**

The sources of information were collected from various books, articles, journals, reports, and websites etc. others official statistics and information were obtained from various institutions and organization like Tribal Research Center, Udhgamandlam. The present study focuses on Nilgiri tribal people's perspective on importance of education in the preservation of tribal culture the researcher use to find out the need of museum according to tribes of Nilgiri the method use to for this study is qualitative empirical research through PRA technique and most important tool of case study methods we collect data different kind of perspective about the importance of education in the preservation of modern tribal youth and them perspective about the own culture. In the case of primary data the method of participant observation was followed.

### **The main Objective of the Study are:**

- To identify the cultural and educational features inhabiting in Nilgiri tribal people.
- To understand the preservation of education on cultural perspective on importance of tribal culture.
- To create awareness of the culture education and in future tribal people in the Nilgiri districts.

### **Language learning and Culture:**

Language and culture are inseparable categories. The behaviorists' and the functionalists' idea of culture has commonly been applied in second language classroom teaching practices. The definitions of culture state that language is an integral part of culture or an expression of culture. The knowledge, beliefs, customs, values, practices, rituals, manners, etc. expressed in language become part of a particular culture. Language is not only the essence of defining culture but also manifests it. Thus it is assumed that a language associated with a particular culture cannot be learned in a few lessons of literature, grammar and other teaching material but can be best learned in creating a cultural context in which the teaching of language occurs. For this, incorporation of local cultural components like folk tales, folk songs, legends either written in English or in translation need to be part of the syllabus. Brown (1990) has suggested that

learning a second language could be done through the learners' culture as it would make learning easier for the learners.

### **Importance of Culture in Language Teaching and Learning:**

The intertwined relation between language and culture has become a matter of concern for second language teachers and educators. For cultural understanding to take place a synthesis between inputs from learners' home culture and the target language culture have to be incorporated. It is in this point that an attempt may be made to incorporate the learners' cultural components into the second language teaching and learning with the view that curriculum supports the students' culture and helps them gain cultural awareness, self-confidence, fight ethnocentric attitude and cultivate positive attitude towards other cultures. Therefore lessons should support the students' culture so that teachers can draw attention and create curiosity and creativity in them. The point is that by understanding and appreciating their own culture would not only facilitate the learning process but also help them appreciate the other culture. Ultimately, the learners would be prepared for intercultural learning and communication. Teaching culture in the language classroom would have a tremendous humanizing effect on the learners and the learning process. Teaching culture in the language classroom would help the language learners observe similarities and differences among various cultural groups at the same time help them appreciate the other culture and overcome their prejudices.

### **Techniques for teaching of culture in English language:**

Language teachers should in the first place make the students aware that there is no such thing as superior or inferior cultures. They need to motivate the students, the language teachers deal with learners' culture, focusing on its importance and implications in their day to day life. They have to enable the learners to learn the target language in their own immediate environment.

### **Authentic materials:**

Teaching aids from many different sources such as video clips, recordings of authentic interactions, extracts from television, radio and newspapers, signs, maps and charts, photographs, time tables and songs can be of immense help to the students in broadening their mental image of culture. For Instance The Irula 'tene paatu' is also called 'caame okka paatu'. Their cultivation of tene, came,

pandi and ragi was a vital aspect of their economy. Due to the predominance of 'tene' and 'came', this song is named as 'tene paatu' or 'came okka paatu'. These millet songs are sung by the Irula men and women while they are sowing, weeding, harvesting and removing millets from harvested fields. This song can be used as a teaching aid

### **Proverbs:**

Proverbs from different tribal groups would be helpful in learning a second language. Through the use of proverbs and phrases as a means to unravel culture would enable the teachers to analyze the stereotypes of culture. Ultimately, it would facilitate the tribal students to explore the values and meanings that are often represented in the proverbs of their own native culture.

### **Folk Tale:**

Folktales can form one of the major indigenous components and serve as an integral component of teaching culture in English. It provides a natural environment for discussing cultural similarities and differences, which is crucial for understanding the thoughts of students, improving their language flow, understanding the language structures and meanings. The narrative art promotes the Irula group, feeling of solidarity, maintains conformity to the accepted patterns of behavior, and converts work into play. The Irulas themselves usually distinguish between two kinds of narratives: 'palame' (oldness, antiquity) and 'parsanga' (narration).

### **Role Play:**

Role-playing is one of the ways where learners can get the taste of real culture, for demonstrating emotions and gestures. There are a number of infotainment programmes which are shot with the participation of tribal. But pride of place is given to the Irula news broadcast. Two Irula women, Kali K. and Rangamma M. of Naikkampadi Ooru, do the reporting and news anchoring in the Agali at 6.30 p.m. The same can be enacted in language classrooms.

### **Local literature:**

The use of local literature helps students in identifying and realizing the use of language in different communicative contexts. 'Pee paatu' are songs on family deity. 'Pee paatu' literary piece is classified into two kinds on the basis of their contents. One is about deities, and the other about nature.

### **Conclusion:**

The present paper is an attempt to understand one particular Scheduled Tribe i.e., Irulas of Nilgiri district within a Cultural Anthropologist frame work. The Irular are found in Southern part of India in the state of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka. In Tamil Nadu, Irulas are one of the Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups and major Scheduled Trib. Irulas, were hunters and gatherers and long time practiced shifting cultivation. The Irula social organisation seen in their social design. On the basis of the territory they occupied, the Irulas are divided into Southern Irulas and Northern Irulas. They strictly follow community level endogamy. Education system Irular tribe slightly improvement present situation. Language teachers should in the first place make the students aware that there is no such thing as superior or inferior cultures. They need to motivate the students, the language teachers deal with learners' culture, focusing on its importance and implications in their day to day life. They have to enable the learners to learn the target language in their own immediate environment. From the above discussions, it is inferred that culture has a vital role to play in second language teaching and learning. As Peck (1998) asserts, culture should be our message to students and language our medium. Learners can be successful in learning the second language only if cultural components are judiciously incorporated into the curriculum.

#### **References :**

- Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department Government of Tamil Nadu, (2015). Tribal Sub Plan. Chennai.
- Ahuja, R. (2015). Social Problem in India. New Delhi: Rawat Publication.
- Brown, G. 1990. Cultural Values: The Interpretation of Discourse.
- Byram, M. 1997. Teaching Towards Intercultural Competence.
- Gupta. A, L. (1998). Tribal Development Administration. New Delhi: Sanjay Printers.
- Parthasarthy, J. (2003). Irulas of Nilgiri District Tamil Nadu. A Tribal cultural Document,. Coimbatore: Tribal Research Center.
- Peck, D.1998.Teaching Culture Beyond Language. Yale: New Haven Teachers' Institute.
- Singh, K. (1997). People of India. Calcutta: Anthropological Survey of India.
- Mikkelsen, B. (2012). Methods for Development Work and Research A New Guide for Practitioners(2nd ed.). New Delhi Thousand Oaks London: SAGE.

Paulsen, F. (2013). Cultural Anthropology and Education. *Journal Of Educational Sociology*, Vol. 34,(No. 7), pp. 289-299.

Philip De Vita, R. (1985). Anthropology and the Teaching of Human Values. *American Anthropology Association*, Vol. 16,(No. 4.), pp. 251-256.

\*\*\*\*



# Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

---

## Editorial Board

---

**Dr. V. Neelamegam**

Editor in Chief  
Assistant Professor, FS&H.,  
SRM University, Tamil Nadu , India.

**Dr. P. Arunachalam**

Professor  
Department of Applied Economics  
Cochin University of Science and  
Technology  
Kochi - 682 022, Kerala. India.

**Dr. José G. Vargas-Hernández**

University Center for Economic and  
Managerial Sciences,  
University of Guadalajara.  
Periférico Norte N° 799, Núcleo  
Universitario  
Los Belenes, C.P. 45100, Zapopan, Jalisco,  
México.

**Dr. Sonia Selwin**

Business Management Trainers,  
Commercial Studies Division,  
Bahrain Training Institute, Ministry of  
Education,  
Kingdom of Bahrain

**Dr. Sanjay N.Tupe**

Associate Professor & Head,  
Dept.of Banking and finance,  
B.Y.K. College of Commerce  
College Road, Nashik-422005, India.

**Dr. Pranam Dhar**

Associate Professor,  
Department of Commerce & Management,  
West Bengal State University. Barasat,  
West Bengal, Kolkata – 700126, India.

**Dr. B. Johnson**

Associate Professor  
Dept of Commerce and Management Studies  
University of Calicut

**Dr. S. R. Sheeja**

Assistant Professor of Economics  
School of Distance Education (SDE)  
University of Kerala



Kerala State 673 635, India.

**Dr.R.Ramachandran**

Asst. Professor  
Commerce DDE, Annamalai University  
Annamalai nagar 608 002  
Tamilnadu, India.

**Dr. K.Kaviarasu**

Assistant Professor of English,  
Bishop Heber College (Autonomous),  
Trichirappalli - 620 017

Thiruvananthapuram -34, India.

**Dr. D. Amutha**

Associate Professor (Economics)  
St.Mary's College (Autonomous),  
Thoothukudi, Tamilnadu, India

This journal is published in good faith, that  
the work of the authors is original and the  
Editor is not responsible for any claims.



[www.academicresearchsupport.com](http://www.academicresearchsupport.com)