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- ❖ **Nuclear Arms Control**
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Perils of OBOR

Euphoria over China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative is seemingly on the wane in the wake of growing skepticism in some host countries. Launched with great fanfare in 2013 by the Chinese president Xi, this initiative entails a web of 'New Silk Road superhighways' linking China with 68 countries and 4.4 billion people across Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Europe in a labyrinth of multi-trillion-dollar infrastructure projects. Reports appearing in the Chinese state-run media make it discernible that China has invested more than US\$60 billion in countries along the OBOR route, while trade volume has reached 5 trillion yuan (\$734.29 billion), along with creation of about 200,000 'local jobs'. Nevertheless, there are also concurrent reports in the international media about growing skepticism over the Chinese investments in the wake of rising debt burden in the host countries. In March 2018, a report published by the Center for Global Development, a Washington-based think tank, claimed that China was proving a grave risk to the finances of a number of countries as a result of its aid activities and excessive lending. The report listed seven specific countries whose finances were at serious risk: Mongolia, Laos, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, the Maldives, Djibouti and Montenegro. A study by some Harvard scholars in May 2018 had highlighted dangers when it cautioned the US State Department about what were perceived to be cheap loans, calling it "debt book diplomacy." There is a growing feeling that China is using OBOR initiative to enhance its politico-military clout in Southeast Asia and beyond. While rummaging through the vast array of media reports, it can be discerned that there is no dearth of skeptics of China's OOR initiative and these reports often refer to the evocation of "debt traps" and "vassal states."

While there are reports about Myanmar's decision to scale back plans for Chinese-assisted port due to debt risks, recently Malaysia is reported to have pulled out of a major Beijing-sponsored railway project because of the costs. Nepal has reportedly been trying to halt construction on two Chinese-built hydroelectric dams. Laos and Cambodia are said to be "wholly owned subsidiaries of China" after having borrowed more than \$5 billion. Beijing is said to be inking trade deals worth \$600 billion with Iran and recently China is said to have been even offered the Chabahar port development, much to India's disquiet. According to some experts, Chinese investments under OBOR initiative have come to be perceived as sinister "debt-trap diplomacy" at work. Chinese investment of \$1.3 billion into the 'Pearl Port' of Hambantota in the southern tip of Sri Lanka has reportedly morphed into an unserviceable debt trap within seven years, "only to result into a sovereign surrender leading to a handover of the port to the Chinese on a 99-year lease." The Chinese investments for infrastructure projects in Djibouti are seen as a ploy to develop a logistical base there to the consternation of Australia, New Zealand and the US.

China's infrastructural funding' in Vanuatu, according to some experts, makes that country vulnerable to the possibility of a military outpost like Djibouti, that typically follows the original agreement to allow Chinese naval ships to dock for "logistical purposes and refueling". More benefits are accruing to China from its investments in Pakistan, especially from the Gwadar Port wherein about 91 percent of the port revenue accrues to China and only 9 percent residual is left for Pakistan for the next four decades. With regard to much-hyped China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the cautious warning of the chairman of Pakistan's Senate Standing Committee on Planning and Development cannot be sidetracked when he said: "Another East India Company is in the offing; national interests are not being protected. We are proud of the friendship between Pakistan and China, but the interests of the state should come first". China's OBOR policy extends beyond mere economic activity, however, and includes establishing a whole host of rules, from cultural exchange to the movement of people. In order to allay misapprehensions about China's OBOR policy, Chinese President Xi Jinping has recently said in Beijing that this policy is an "economic cooperation initiative not a geopolitical or military alliance, it is an open and inclusive process, and not about creating exclusive circles or a China club." Yet skepticism continues to grow.

— BK

Keeping the Nuclear Arms Control alive

Alexander Savelyev*

[“Back to the heydays of the global Cold War, what eventually kept the US and the USSR from deploying nuclear weapons was the dangerous and costly struggle called: ‘mutual destruction assurance’. Already by the late 1950s, both sides achieved parity in the number and type of nuclear warheads as well as in the number and precision of their delivery systems. Both sides produced enough warheads, delivery systems’ secret depots and launching sites to amply survive the first impact and to maintain a strong second-strike capability. Once comprehending that neither the preventive nor preemptive nuclear strike would bring a decisive victory (put a premium on striking first to gain the initial advantage and set the course of the war, by element of surprise and quick assertion), but would actually trigger the final global nuclear holocaust and ensure total mutual destruction, the Americans and the Soviets have achieved a fear–equilibrium through the hazardous deterrence. Thus, it was not an intended armament rush (for parity), but the non-intended Mutual Assurance Destruction – MAD – with its tranquilizing effect of nuclear weaponry, if possessed in sufficient quantities and impenetrable configurations – that brought a bizarre sort of pacifying stability between two confronting superpowers” – prof. Anis H Bajrektarevic stated in his well-read policy paper on Security structures of Asia and Europe, concluding that: “MAD prevented nuclear war, but did not disarm the superpowers.”]

What is the state of nuclear disarmament today? Following lines are giving a comprehensive overview of the efforts in the post-Cold period.

For almost eight years we have been witnessing a decline (or even absence) of Russian and U.S. efforts in the sphere of nuclear arms control, which can be seen at both the official and expert levels. The last achievement in this field was the Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (New Start Treaty) which was signed by Russia and the United States in 2010 and entered into force in February 2011. Since then, issues pertaining to further steps in nuclear disarmament have disappeared from the agenda of Russian-American relations.

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In the past, such pauses were filled with active consultations and were used to rethink one’s own policy in this area and comprehensively assess the other party’s position. Preparatory work continued even in the period between the fall of 1983 (when the Soviet Union withdrew from all nuclear arms negotiations with the United States) and the spring of 1985 (when the negotiations were resumed), while informal contacts between the parties (primarily through scientific communities) became much stronger.

Over a period of fifty years, the United States and the Soviet Union/Russia achieved significant progress in curbing the nuclear arms race and gradually and steadily lowering the level of nuclear confrontation between the two major nuclear powers. In the Soviet Union/Russia, the greatest achievements in nuclear arms control were made during the rule of Leonid Brezhnev and Mikhail Gorbachev. Vladimir Putin played an important role in the ratification of the START II Treaty (2000) during his first term as president,

as he convinced legislators of its effectiveness and usefulness for Russia's security interests, and in the conclusion of the Russian-American Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (2002).

Dmitry Medvedev earned a place for himself in the history of nuclear disarmament by signing the aforementioned 2010 Treaty. It was only during the brief rule of Yuri Andropov (from November 1982 to February 1984) and Konstantin Chernenko (from February 1984 to March 1985) that there was no tangible progress in nuclear arms control.

In the United States, all the eight presidents that preceded Donald Trump—from Richard Nixon to Barack Obama—had achievements in this field. It is still an open question whether Trump will want to break with this tradition. In any case, there are several arguments both in favor of and against such a possibility. It should be emphasized that not everything depends on the desire or unwillingness of the U.S. administration to conclude new agreements in this area. Russia's position has an equal role to play, and this position does not inspire much optimism at the present time.

Politicians and experts name many reasons for the breach of Russia-U.S. relations in the field of nuclear arms control. One of them is believed to be the deterioration of Russia-West relations over the Ukraine crisis. But facts show that the problem arose much earlier. In March 2013 (that is, one year before the events in Ukraine), former chief of the presidential administration of Russia Sergei Ivanov openly said that Russia was not interested in further reductions in armaments and named the reason for that: the completion of the modernization of Russia's strategic nuclear forces and its unwillingness to eliminate new strategic weapons that had only recently entered service.

Another argument, named by President Putin in February 2012, is the need to involve third nuclear powers in the nuclear disarmament process after the 2010 treaty. Further explanations

provided by some other officials, including Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, claimed that deeper reductions (outside the treaty's framework) would make the strategic offensive weapons of Russia and the U.S. "comparable" with those of third nuclear powers.

Moscow puts the main blame for the failure to achieve new nuclear arms control agreements with the U.S. on the missile defense problem. This problem arose now and then in Soviet times and came to a head in 1983 when President Reagan proposed the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). The SDI slowed down START I negotiations and nearly blocked the conclusion of this and other nuclear disarmament agreements.

The United States' withdrawal from the open-ended ABM Treaty in 2002 and its subsequent efforts to create and deploy missile defense in its own territory and territories of its allies, coupled with unsuccessful attempts to reach agreement with Russia on joint missile defense programs, exacerbated the situation still further.

Moscow also explains the lack of progress in strategic nuclear arms reductions by the possession of nuclear weapons by Washington's NATO allies. Anatoly Antonov, who at that time was Russian deputy defense minister, said this factor "cannot be ignored." Other factors that Moscow says should be "taken into account" include the "Global Strike" concept, the deployment of strategic precision-guided conventional weapons, plans to deploy weapons in outer space, the presence of U.S. non-strategic nuclear weapons in Europe, and some other disproportions, many of which are mentioned in Russia's present National Security Strategy, approved by Putin in late 2015.

Russia's position on further steps towards nuclear disarmament resembles that of the Soviet Union in the late 1960s. It is based on the principle of "equal security," which means that all factors determining the balance of power between the opposing sides should be considered. This

explains why in negotiations with Washington on strategic nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union considered it justified to demand compensation for imbalances in other categories of arms.

Naturally, fifty years ago, the categories of weapons subject to “compensation” were different from those of today. They did not include conventional weapons of any kind. Moscow was concerned about nuclear weapons possessed by the U.S.’s NATO allies, and U.S. forward-deployed nuclear weapons in Europe. Now Russia has taken a broader approach, focusing more on non-nuclear armaments, which creates additional difficulties in the search for mutual understanding with the United States and which calls into question the possibility of concluding new agreements.

If we recognize that Russia’s concern over the effect of missile defense and precision-guided and other conventional weapons on the strategic balance is of a fundamental nature, a natural question arises: How to accommodate this concern if a political decision is made to continue the nuclear disarmament process? And should Russia agree to deeper reductions in nuclear weapons if its concern is ignored?

Needless to say, no agreement on strategic offensive arms can set unequal ceilings on the number of warheads and their strategic delivery vehicles remaining after reductions. That would be at variance with the very meaning of an international treaty, which should be based on the principle of equality of the parties and which should conform to its subject matter. Nevertheless, there are other ways to accommodate the aforementioned concerns. For example, in the second half of the 1980s, the Soviet Union was very concerned about the SDI program and American nuclear weapons deployed in Europe. This is why a package solution was proposed—simultaneous negotiations on three issues: medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, strategic offensive arms, and defense and outer space.

Moscow put forward a condition that the three planned agreements should be signed simultaneously. Washington did not object. However, the Soviet Union did not adhere to this position for long. At first, the term ‘nuclear delivery vehicles’ was used to designate only land-based ballistic and cruise missiles, while aviation was excluded from the negotiations. Later, Moscow removed this category of weapons from the initial package, after which, in December 1987, the parties signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF Treaty), which is of unlimited duration.

For a much longer time, almost until all provisions of the START I Treaty were agreed, the Soviet Union insisted on a linkage between strategic offensive and defensive weapons, which was reflected in official statements and the structure of the Soviet delegation to the talks. Moscow sent one delegation to the talks on these two types of weapons. Negotiations on defense and outer space were conducted by a separate group within the delegation. The United States was represented by two separate delegations. One worked on START I, and the other held consultations on defense and outer space.

When it became clear that the defense and space negotiations would fail and that the START I Treaty was almost ready, the Soviet Union signed the treaty but made a unilateral statement on the need to observe the ABM Treaty as a condition for implementing START I.

This experience proves that one real way to accommodate concerns is to conclude separate agreements on the most pressing security problems, including missile defense, precision-guided long-range weapons, and space weapons. The authors of *World 2035. Global Forecast*, published by the Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations in 2017, admit of this possibility but consider it the least likely of the proposed four scenarios for the development of the military-political situation in the world in the period until 2035.

Speaking of concrete ways to accommodate concerns, one should assess, at least approximately, the effect of missile defense, precision-guided weapons and space weapons on the Russian-U.S. strategic balance. First of all, let us note an interesting circumstance. When it comes to the effect of various factors on the strategic balance, Russian officials insisting that this effect should be considered somehow fail to mention air defense. If we follow this logic, then any weapons capable of combating strategic offensive weapons should be included in the overall balance of power, especially if they are intended to combat retaliatory systems.

These weapons definitely include the aviation component of the strategic triad. Without going into further discussion, let us note that this omission of air defense issues seems to be due to some other considerations than a desire to strengthen strategic stability.

Of the remaining three categories of weapons, which, in the opinion of the Russian leadership, have an effect on the strategic balance, space weapons are the most interesting from the point of view of concluding a possible agreement. The fact is, there are no such weapons yet, as far as we know. Therefore, they have no effect on the strategic balance. It is worth recalling the Soviet Union's struggle against the SDI program in the second half of the 1980s. Many experts said then that "space strike weapons" would be created in the foreseeable future.

The most skeptical participants in discussions said that such systems would appear in 20 to 25 years at the earliest. 30 years have passed since then, but this type of weapon (space-based lasers, railguns and other exotic weapons) has not come into existence so far. There are no serious reasons, either, to suggest that space weapons will be in the strategic arsenal of the United States or other countries within the next two to three decades, even if new technologies make this possible. In this case, the following factors will come into play: cost, combat effectiveness of

weapon systems, their vulnerability, and possible reaction from the domestic opposition, individual countries and the international community as a whole. These factors may not only slow down but prevent the militarization of space.

In addition, there are no commonly agreed definitions for such terms as 'weapons', which can be the subject of an agreement on space issues. Unfortunately, such an agreement can hardly be based on the draft international Treaty on Prevention of the Placement of Weapons in Outer Space, the Threat or Use of Force against Outer Space Objects, submitted by China and Russia to the Conference on Disarmament in 2008 (and its updated version, submitted in 2014). The draft only proposed preventing the deployment of weapons in outer space and made no mention of prohibiting their development or testing in space. Nor did it mention weapons deployed on Earth but capable of destroying outer space objects.

Criticisms of this document can be continued, but the main problem is whether it is possible to reach a verifiable agreement on limiting or banning space weapons, whatever this term might mean, even if all parties show real interest in it. There are more doubts than optimism regarding this possibility. Answering this question requires more than just efforts by diplomats, the military and developers of space weapons. More experts should be involved in these efforts, including scientists from countries that may be parties to future agreements.

Another interesting question concerns long-range precision-guided conventional weapons and their effect on the strategic balance. According to the majority of specialists, this type of weapons includes cruise missiles, non-nuclear ICBMs, and some weapon systems (for example, hypersonic gliders). As a rule, the degree of effect such weapons may have on the strategic balance is not assessed. Nevertheless, it is asserted that they can not only weaken but also undermine strategic stability. This is a doubtful statement.

If we view these systems from the point of view of strengthening the offensive capability, they are absolutely incommensurable with nuclear weapons in terms of power. Precision-guided weapons are absolutely unsuitable for preemptive strikes for many reasons. Speaking of non-nuclear ICBMs, their accuracy should by far exceed that of nuclear ICBMs. Otherwise, they won't be able to destroy hard targets (such as missile silos or command centers).

According to open source data, modern ICBMs have accuracy (circular error probable - CEP) of several dozen meters, at best. Destroying a hard target with a conventional warhead requires this accuracy of not more than several meters, which is impossible to achieve at the present technological level of these systems.

But this is not the main concern. If an aggressor decides to use precision-guided weapons (conventional ICBMs) in a surprise attack to destroy a significant part of the opponent's nuclear arsenal, it will have to plan a massive attack. Such an attack cannot go unnoticed due to a missile warning system. There is no guarantee that the attacked party will not use nuclear warning systems when it receives information confirming the attack. So, it does not really matter to the victim of such aggression whether the approaching ICBMs carry nuclear or conventional warheads. The response will almost certainly be nuclear, with all the ensuing consequences.

Finally, one more important argument is that if Russia or the United States decides to deploy a great number of non-nuclear ICBMs, they will most likely have to do this at the expense of their own strategic nuclear weapons. If the 2010 treaty remains in effect (until 2021) and if it is extended (until 2026), all ICBMs will be counted under the treaty's limits for strategic delivery vehicles (700 deployed delivery vehicles for each party).

In order for non-nuclear ICBMs not to be counted under the treaty, one needs to create a new strategic delivery vehicle and prove that this

weapon system is not covered by this treaty. This will be very hard to do, given the strained Russian-American relations. Unilateral actions will most likely lead to the collapse of this international agreement.

As regards cruise missiles as an element of precision-guided weapons, one important issue should be clarified above all. Under the New START Treaty of 2010, long-range (over 600 km) nuclear cruise missiles are not counted as strategic offensive arms. In other words, in the opinion of Russia and the United States, they are not strategic weapons. Each heavy bomber carrying nuclear-tipped air-launched cruise missiles is counted as one delivery vehicle and one warhead, no matter how many missiles it may carry. Sea-launched cruise missiles are not covered by this treaty at all. It does not even mention the term 'long-range nuclear cruise missile.'

Simply put, the parties do not think that these nuclear weapons can undermine the strategic balance; therefore, they see no reason to limit them in the START Treaty. In this case, however, it is completely unclear why long-range nuclear cruise missiles do not affect the strategic balance between the parties, as Moscow and Washington stated in the above-mentioned agreement, whereas similar conventional weapons should undermine strategic stability, especially since some studies show that conventional cruise missiles are not capable of destroying highly protected strategic offensive weapons.

It is believed in Russia that the most serious threat to strategic stability comes from missile defense. However, there is much more ambiguity in this issue than evidence confirmed by practice. First of all, many experts and politicians follow a strange logic when talking about missile defense issues, and their logic differs significantly from the normal perception of the security problem. For example, it is claimed that the U.S. missile defense system "threatens" Russia's strategic potential. But such a threat can be translated into

action only after Russia strikes with ballistic missiles.

For as long as these missiles are not used, missile defense does not threaten them. Saying that missile defense poses a threat to someone's nuclear potential is the same as saying that a hard hat worn by a construction worker is a threat to a brick that may fall on his head.

Opponents of missile defense argue that it will be used after the enemy delivers a first strike against its opponent's strategic forces, thus greatly weakening the latter's retaliatory strike. It is this retaliatory strike that will have to be intercepted by missile defense. This abstract and senseless reasoning underlies the logic of missile defense opponents who denounce any programs for creating and deploying missile defense. They view such efforts as an attempt to achieve military superiority and create conditions for victory in a nuclear war. In fact, the entire concept of strategic stability is based on the assessment of the consequences of a first strike and the aggressor's ability to repulse a retaliatory strike.

Debates over the effect of missile defense on strategic stability have been going on for sixty years, so there is no need to cite here all arguments for and against, set forth in numerous publications. Let us only note that these debates were largely held in the U.S. In the Soviet Union and Russia, an overwhelming majority of experts shared the view that the development of missile defense systems undermines strategic stability, increasing the probability of a first strike in crisis situations and spurring a race in strategic arms in all areas. As a rule, the debates focused on the assessment of effectiveness of missile defense systems and time required for the deployment of new weapon systems.

Now let's see how the United States can repulse Russia's "retaliatory strike" after its own "large-scale nuclear attack," if such plans really exist. First of all, let's take a look at the geography of U.S. missile defense systems. If the main task of the U.S. were to defend against a Russian

retaliatory strike, it would deploy its missile defense system primarily along its borders and deep in its heartland. A thin defense of the country would require at least 10 to 12 deployment areas with several dozen interceptor missiles in each.

As far as is known, nothing like this is happening. Such a program does not exist, and such proposals have never been submitted. By the end of 2017, 44 Ground-Based Interceptors (GBI) are to be deployed in U.S. territory (40 in Alaska and 4 in California). By 2025, the number of GBIs is planned to be increased to 56.

It should be recalled here that the most important provision of the 1972 ABM Treaty (from which the U.S. withdrew in 2002) was the limitation of interceptor missiles capable of shooting down incoming ICBM warheads. Each party was permitted to have up to 200 ABM systems in two ABM deployment areas. The Protocol of 1974 to the Treaty limited the number of ABM systems to 100 at each ABM site. In other words, the U.S. has not yet exceeded the limit set by the ABM Treaty and will not do so in the foreseeable future, which means that strategic stability, as understood by missile defense opponents, is not undermined.

Russia is greatly concerned over the proposed missile defense system for Europe and keeps an eye on programs for deploying similar systems in the Middle East and some Asian countries. But all these systems are not strategic in terms of location and performance. Of course, some modifications of the U.S. Standard interceptor missiles, THAAD and some other systems have a certain potential to combat strategic ballistic missiles. But they are not intended to perform such tasks and can shoot down ICBM warheads only accidentally. It is also important that the above BMD systems have never been tested against strategic missiles (warheads); so, they cannot be relied on for intercepting retaliatory strikes with strategic ballistic missiles.

In addition, these systems pose no threat to Russia's strategic potential due to the geography

of their deployment. This will be clear if we move from a two-dimensional to a three-dimensional vision of this geography. Simply put, we should be looking not at the flat map of the world, but at the globe. Then many things will look differently. For example, we will see that the shortest way from Russia to America is not via Amsterdam or Paris, but across the North Pole.

To my view, there are no serious military-strategic obstacles to further dialogue between Russia and the United States on more reductions in strategic offensive arms. The effect of precision-guided and space weapons on the strategic balance between the parties is clearly exaggerated. In the foreseeable future, their effect will continue to be minimal, if at all.

U.S. missile defense programs are limited in terms of their impact on Russia's ability to deliver a crushing retaliatory strike, even if weakened by a U.S. first strategic strike. The latter, too, is a very dubious strategic concept, which, nevertheless, underlies many discussions about ways to strengthen security and so-called strategic stability. No sane leader of a country would rely on an unreliable missile defense system, which has failed many tests and which can be bypassed by changing the direction of attack.

As for political obstacles to new negotiations, they have piled up both in Russian-American and Russia-West relations. They are difficult to

overcome, and this will most certainly take much time and effort. There is a view that negotiations on deeper reductions in strategic offensive arms are possible only after relations between the two countries more or less improve or, at least, show a clear tendency towards improvement.

But this problem can be approached from a different perspective by setting the goal of concluding a new agreement on deeper reductions in strategic offensive arms and limiting the number of strategic warheads to 1,000 for each party. If concluded, the new agreement could serve as a positive example of cooperation and give a chance to reach mutual understanding in other areas. This will be facilitated by the beginning of broad consultations on the whole range of security problems, including those that evoke Russia's concern.

In July 2018 in Helsinki Putin and Trump agreed to pay special attention to the problem of extension of a New START Treaty for the following 5 years (until the year of 2016), as well as to preserving the INF Treaty which became a subject of serious criticism during the last 3-4 years. It is obviously a positive step into a right direction. But it is not enough. Both states have quite a big potential for further reductions of their nuclear arsenals – strategic and tactical as well even without the participation of the third nuclear states in this process. This possible participation needs serious investigation and special attention of all the interested parties.



To our Contributors.....

- & Original articles are welcome.**
- & Only Original copy of the manuscript, neatly typed in double-space should be sent. Please do not send carbon, cyclo-or photo-copies.**
- & Please check up grammatical & typographical mistakes before sending. Editor will not be responsible for these lapses.**
- & Editor reserves the right to reject/ modify / edit an article without assigning any reason.**

Media Literacy Research

Being Ethical within Information blizzard

Sabahudin Hadžialić*

[Who is responsible for the media's current state of affairs? Is there any greater freedom of expression today, or is it actually a greater repression, or is it two sides of the same coin? The so-called "libertarian society" (S. Hadžialić, 2015) has come to the place of the desired "healthy society", and thus we appear to have moral anarchy. Above all, the interests of big capital and politics, technological unpreparedness, and non-compliance with ethical and professional standards prevail and overcome all.]

There is also the problem of over-production of too many young people in the media field who possess poor skills, the result of the lack of a good education and monitoring of contemporary trends in journalism, as well as too many media outlets for such a small space such as Bosnia and Herzegovina (everything written about this country relates as well to Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia and Kosovo*).

It is not questionable that there is freedom of speech, but its application is mostly abusive or inadequate. The abuse of the freedom of speech leads to everyone being able to say anything about anyone and anything without suffering almost any consequences or sanctions with very often really low fines.

Media owners, journalists and editors are not difficult to pay for slander punishment and similarly when they have met the goal — to smear someone, spin real problems, etc. BiH's libertarian society (if we can call it that) should be seen in the context of a non-free, captive and imprisoned society, a society that is chained to poverty, existential fear, subject to an epidemic of ignorance coupled with the absence of elemental courage and curiosity.

Freedom of Speech and Poverty

Freedom of journalistic speech and expression in such a society is primarily limited by the

* Assoc. Prof. Dr. and Dr. Honoris Causa.

employers' interests and the fact that journalism, as it is currently being sought in the labor market, appears to argue that anybody can be a journalist. This is happening, while the authors of the commentaries and important columns within the newspapers with highest circulation¹, as the most respected form of writing in journalism, are often under the legal age, and lack experience, both professional and in real life. This is unacceptable from the perspective of professional ethical standards, if such a thing does indeed exist.

Often, in the newsrooms, the sentence is heard: "Whoever does not like it, then he/she can go, as I can find a new person for 100 euros per month on the street." And what is even worse, that's the truth. People under the pressure of poverty and unemployment are willing to work, not only for 100 euros, but for free, just to get involved in the profession, and there is no positive selection of staff as more microphone holders are required, than quality and engaging journalists.

With their willingness to look under each stone, such journalists often even annoy employers as boring and even dangerous people who can make problems with advertisers, patrons, political and business friends. Here's a banal example of what I am writing about: when is the last time that you have seen an article or commentary that examines the work of a Telecom operator?

The media are almost totally subordinated to political elites and national interests, which is why they have lost their freedom. Let's take

examples in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (entity of BiH) where we can immediately talk about who is currently in power (the left and / or right option within one nation) by the chosen topics of public service TV – while in the Republika Srpska (entity in BiH) we have two equally powerful TV companies one public TV service – RTRS, and the other private TV channel – BN TV belonging to different political options.

Has there ever happened a case that an option that is under the “control” of any one of the media mentioned above is this media “asking” that “option” for this or that? Unfortunately, not. And that is why professional ethical standards of journalism are in question. Where everyone thinks the same, no one thinks the God knows what, said the great Duško Radovic (former Yugoslav writer and journalist, Belgrade 1922-1984) in the eighties of the last century.

It is believed that the above-mentioned penury has contributed to the reduction of media freedom. As an example, we can state that in the years after the war (1992-1995) in Bosnia and Herzegovina international donors donated millions of euros, and because of that it was easier for journalists to write and speak, as they were not dependent on anyone in the country².

The beginning of the 21st Century brought a rapid reduction in these donations. In fact, today it is possible to speak about very small amounts in relation to those immediately after the war³. Because of this, the media have been subjected, when seeking funding sources, to look to the other side. Given that BiH is more and more dependent on political interests, as a result of the public and private sectors of the economy largely financing the media, so the media have become politically dependent.

The very fact that the strongest tycoons are, depending on the economic and territorial area they cover, in direct connection with political actors, has led to the interaction of the organized alignment of indirect pressures on the media that

leads to blackout⁴ or underestimation⁵, since the circulation of “inappropriate media to a reasonable measure” cannot harm “wider”⁶ interests.

Money Makes Journalists Go Around

Since the money is mostly in the hands of parties and companies associated with them, it is very difficult for the media to survive if they do not have someone behind them. Much of the media, especially in the Republika Srpska (BiH entity), are funded from the state budget. Can they criticize the government that finances them? A lot of issues are addressed by professional ethical standards in these areas, which are under the umbrella of precisely designating subjects of political pluralism in the context of the development of a healthy society.

A recently released World Press Freedom Index claims that BiH is in the 68th place⁷, and after which many media said that media freedom in BiH has stagnated. Namely, in 2006 BiH was ranked 19th, and in 2010 at 47th, and the position of 2017 is, in BiH so far, the lowest ranking.

I am convinced that instead of “stagnation”, it would have been better to say that the situation in the media has changed and that the pressures have now been embedded into the system, and by that they are less visible, recognizable and far worse, in the long run. While the situation is no better in other countries in the region, in BiH this influence is more pronounced because of the economic and social situation.

Specifically, try to be a Journalist, journalist of daily” *Dnevni avaz*” and publish something against Fahrudin Radonèiæ (Tajcoon) or a journalist of daily “*Nezavisne novine*” and criticize Milorad Dodik (Politician), or even a journalist of the daily “*Oslobođenje*” and write something against the owner of Oslobođenje, Mujo Selimoviæ (Tajcoon). It’s simply impossible. First of all, because of self-censorship, because journalists are aware that something like this would not pass the editor’s desk and as such they don’t even try, but even if

they did try, such a text would not be published — and we aren't even to speaking about the consequences for the journalist.

And there are still a number of such examples. On the one hand this can be understood in the context of the fear of journalists and that more and more of them are left out of jobs. But for the profession — professional journalism — it's a disaster! Those who are willing to sell their human and professional dignity to (even a small one) salary, a free ride with or smile of a politician should not be doing this job. By doing such, they are doing a disservice not only to him/her, but also to the ethics of journalism.

There are legal frameworks in BiH that provide an undisturbed working atmosphere for journalists, and that is largely a good basis for respect for media freedom, but these do not apply in practice.

However, in addition to legal regulations, physical attacks on journalists' teams, court bans, police clashes in the newsroom, denial of accreditation for certain journalists and verbal attacks, are just a part of what journalists in BiH are suffering. Since 2006, 65 physical assaults on journalists and direct threats to death have been reported, and only 15% of criminal offenses against journalists have been faced with final judgments.

It is true that Bosnia and Herzegovina have a pretty good legislation that would be envied by journalists who are fighting against the hardcore restrictions and free information in many countries around the world. It is far away, however, though, to say that in BiH we are satisfied. The growing political pressures on the media, the information (half-information and fake news) that journalists receive, pressures from media owners towards journalists, have influenced that all of these laws are almost not being applied.

That said, there is no adequate control of the application of these laws. The best way to properly control these laws would be the

establishment of an independent parliamentary commission, made of non-party members, outsiders, intellectuals with huge moral dignity, that would monitor the implementation of these laws every six months.

In addition to violent behavior towards the media, journalists are denied access to information, although we have, as I said earlier, the Laws on Freedom of Access to Information at all levels of Dayton (back in 1995) made in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Many of the businesses of the governing structures are hidden from the eyes of the public and completely unavailable to journalists, which shows a high degree of corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Radio Slobodna Evropa, 2015).

The Laws and How to Avoid It?

The Law on Freedom of Access to Information stipulates that the deadline for the provision of information is 15 days, and misdemeanor sanctions are prescribed if the institution or other legal entity does not provide the information within that deadline, but there have been no effects of that provision so far — no one has been sanctioned due to denial of information to journalists up to date.

Journalists are today the target of many forces, from political to economic power potentates, but the truth is that media owners are now employing a staff who meets "house rules" and if he / she is not necessarily a good journalist.

Responsible journalism and media freedom can be protected. However, the job and work of journalists in BiH is heavily burdened by low wages and pressures from commercial advertisers, and because of these poor working conditions, journalists go down to lethargy and live in fear of their own existence.

The freedom of media journalists must be defended with responsible journalism with high professional ethical standards. But, with a unanimous appearance, none of the journalists can do anything alone, but together they can do a

lot. Journalists are often faced with various types of pressures and the duty of all journalists is to be with their colleagues and support them when needed. Journalism can be rescued by raising professional standards, and education outside of standard institutions is essential; scholarship programs such as BIRN and Reuters, Media Center workshops, and independent learning, as well as studying at universities that have no influence on this or that policy (whether it is social, economic, and / or political).

Responsible journalism starts with each of the individual journalist, because the first – journalist is responsible to himself/herself, to the people around him, and then to all who may read what he/she writes and then to the profession itself.

There is lack, first and foremost, of collegiality in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, no matter about which kind of media we are talking about. For example, politicians have a meeting and allow journalists to wait for 5-6 hours in the winter cold, refuse to appear at scheduled time. Why do not all journalists simply agree to leave the site and not report on the meeting? Yes, someone will probably stay and break the deal, but believe me the politicians will do the same when such things happen on several occasions. There needs to be in the media, not a collegial grouping of just one or two, but an understanding that all must be involved (T. Meyer, 2002).

For many, it is funny when, for example, Milorad Dodik jokes or offends one of their colleagues or they are silent about it. Journalists are still squatting for hours in all possible weather conditions waiting for the unpardonable end of a meeting, lunch or some other political event. It's as if we are cleaning the garbage in a stranger's yards, and yet we do not see the trash in our own area of the media. How many journalists are still working in the black economy — working full-time, often more than ten hours a day, earn just a small amount of money. Media bosses have been employing journalists for many years on fake contracts, giving them a miserable salary. At least a third of them have not had

internships and they are not paid for health and other benefits.

Of course, auto-censorship exists in the worst possible form. A large number of journalists are waiting for a job, so this means that there are the same number of people who think twice before editing something within the line of words. Journalists fail to convey to their colleagues how editors put pressure on them because they (editors) have been called from the “central” (party on power). Surreal reality is at work, and the freedom of journalistic speech has also been lost.

Five Criteria: Becoming and Being Ethical

We can conclude that there are numerous reasons for disturbing the dignity of the journalistic profession, and for some they are solely responsible – the journalists — and for others there is a government that is accustomed to keeping the media “curbed”.

Unfortunately, some practices that violate media rights have become permanent and are not likely to change until there is fundamental change in society as a whole (who mentioned MEDIA LITERACY?).

However, even journalists are just humans. They too are people who, like other citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, suffer from extreme poverty and existential fear. Because of this they often work under rules and conditions that are counter to a positive media and are silent about what bothers them.

To avoid all of the above, and to create the prerequisites for the creation of professional ethical standards aimed at the creation of a healthy society, it is necessary to respect and implement five basic criteria that are the core part of every ethical system, including those belonging to professional journalists:

1. First of all, the ethical system must have common values relating to honesty, democracy, truth, objectivity, honesty and

privacy. This is because before we can come to an ethical judgment/stand, society must reach an agreement about standards of moral behavior. How to do that within deeply polarized society such as Bosnia and Herzegovina? Maybe through consensual shape of democracy – yes, but not by the side which will only speak, but also listen with the goal of finding compromises which will not 100 % satisfy individual (or group) interests, but will 100 % satisfy the interest of the entire society.

2. The second criterion is that these standards must be established and based on reason and experience and they should harmonize the rights and interests of people⁸ with their obligations to other people.
3. Third, the ethical system must seek for justice. There must not be double standards of behavior unless there are compelling and morally viable grounds for discrimination. As an example - If the judge, in the interest of process protection, asks from the journalist to reveal the source of the news which can lead to the solving of the process and help for the person who is within the process and very often happens that it comes to that – because, by doing that it does not jeopardize dignity of the process, but it helps motions towards the goal – satisfying the justice.
4. The ethical system should be, as the fourth criterion, based on the freedom of choice and an ethics' system that includes responsibility, to encourage honest behavior. If that is not done, then we get moral anarchy.
5. Finally, my firm stance is that I always use my own sentence in work and behavior: “However many rights I win, I must win the same amount of the responsibility.” (S. Hadžialić, 2018).

And of course, how can we still better shape and not allow the continuation of the maintenance

of moral anarchy? Should we focus on the Law or Ethics? The question of quality is unavoidable.

What is important is that if a particular profession wants to call itself professional, it has to do its job on an ethical basis with what is most important — those who accomplish it must be responsible for their work and acts.

Information blizzard pros political manipulation

Theoreticians (Lea Tajic, 2013) from different scientific disciplines (politology, sociology, communicology) recently conducted an analytical observation of the different processes exactly within the aspects of political manipulation which are a joint denominator of the fragmented cultural, social and political area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, as stated (Lea Tajic, 2013), media literacy still belongs, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to the pioneer category of the research efforts.

Every day there is a bigger risk that the citizens will, within the time of effusive offer of media contents, be lost in the “information blizzard”. Paradoxically this is, but true, that the possibilities of the manipulation and allurements have increased in parallel with number of media and strengthening of their mutual competitions. Being thought with a few bad (mainly manipulation within the preparation of war interventions) examples, the public reacts in decreasing the general trust into the media. Those are, for the science, known reasons with which has been explained the support of the citizens, and which they gave for the establishment either of regulations or self-regulations which have, for the goal, increased media's responsibility and journalists – for the public word.

Within the field of public politics, the described mood of the citizens did not stay without echo. Many European states have destined to provide their own contribution for the strengthening of the Bodies that will create codices/codexes of the professional ethics (Belgium, Denmark, Portugal, Cyprus...). They have initiated creation

of the Press Council (or Media Council) ensuring for them the premises and funding for the beginning of the work.

After that, they leave to those bodies to take care about the responsibility for public word of the media and journalists without interfering into their work. In other examples, and especially when in question are codices/codexes and editorial guidelines of RTV companies like Public broadcasting service – the representative of the state has their word within the bodies which adopt and bring their own documents. Mainly, indirect presence of the representative of the state ensures through the way of choosing/electing of the members of the independent regulation agencies which monitor the work of electronic media⁹.

Finally, aside of strengthening of the self-regulations, the state, in case of the need, which is allowed in democratic society, intervenes also by its legislative activity. At the same time, the state creates legal norms through which it “covers” appearances which have been overlooked by codices/codexes of professional ethics, or which one has not been overlooked, or which one is not approbates.

Media literacy, if it is, in an appropriate way entered into the society, through suitable and adequate educational process, can be a help in defining of the possibility of the development of society of immediate democratic consciousness.

However, there is one more thing which we cannot avoid at all, when we are talking about the truth within one society, regardless about which ideological array it is about. Namely, Martin Luther (Thomas Meyer, 2002) sealed off the end of visual culture of the metaphysical era, in which the people have not been reminded on divine order through the listening of Latin articles but through the watching of the painted biblical messages with the saying: “Christ’s kingdom is the kingdom of listening, and not the kingdom of watching.”

But, the speculator of today, who, under the impression of slashing universalism of its culture, proclaimed and founded revisualization of the communication culture as the promise of the future, was the Hungarian artist Bela Balasz (2011). He underlined the visual as the new truth, and it is visible that we have anesthesia of the social order as domination of visual five things in comparison with what is in written and/or spoken word.

Today, 90 % of information that goes towards our brain is visual and we are getting to the social media (Internet) that encircles visualization with written and spoken word within virtual reality. Sometimes we really do need to ask ourselves the question: Is our real world really the real world or is it within a virtual online world?

Exactly that is why I am addressing media literacy research presented within *Third Concept* since May 2018 (Volume 32, Issues 375 and 376), including this paper as well, and the ones to come in the near future on the pages of *Third Concept*, founded on the mentioned aspect of visualization, identification and shaping up of the followers instead of critical questioners of the society.

This study, within the scientific sense, continues and widens possible debate about the role and importance of media literacy within the society, as a basic presumption exactly of the development of the society, and not the creation of the obedient followers who will carry out simple wishes of the principals. Simply, to avoid arbiters/intermediators with the possibility of executing conclusions, on time and based on arguments, for the benefit of the society as the whole (S. Hadžialiaë, 2016) within critical observations, thinking and also, by all means, through the adequate actions.

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Vision To be recognized by the BH public as an expression of good will of the media industry to apply self-regulatory system in the print and online media, adhering to the Press Code in everyday work of the print and online media journalists (- To be recognized by the public as an expression of readiness of the print and online media industry to fully protect citizens from the irresponsible print and online media and unethical and unprofessional journalistic reporting

Mission Improvement of ethical and professional standards in the print and online media, by supervising the application of the Press Code, and by permanent education of journalists and the public about necessities to respect freedom of expression and responsible, professional reporting (- Sustainable Press Council in Bosnia-Herzegovina as self-regulatory body for print and online media, recognized by the media industry and the public as a tool for protection of media freedom and professional journalism from political, economic or any other pressures that jeopardize freedom of informing

Values First self-regulatory body for the print and online media in the Region of Western Balkan and SEE, whose establishment is supported by the BH print and online media industry and journalists’ community (- Genuine in Bosnia-Herzegovina, registered at the state level (- Has representatives of the media industry, public and journalists in its bodies (- Has multiethnic structure (- Decisions on the public complaints on unprofessional print and online media reporting, are adopted in accordance with the BH Press Code standards”

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A view on the US migration policy development

Ingrid Stephanie Noriega*

[The US Department of State's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report was started in 2001 as a diplomatic means for the United States to communicate with other foreign governments on goals towards eliminating human trafficking. TIP is meant to facilitate dialogue with nations for anti-trafficking initiatives, as well as find resources on prevention, prosecution, and protection programs of human trafficking, highlighting the United States as a global leader in human rights and law enforcement. The TIP Report ranks countries based on a Tiers model ("2017 Trafficking in Persons Report"). The policy outputs and policy outcomes of TIP have been continuously debated within government, advocacy groups, and law enforcement (Kraft 6)].

There are various critiques on the given Tiers system the Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP) has used in the previous years. In the "Accountability Over Politics: Scrutinizing the Trafficking in Persons Report" hearing before the Subcommittee on Africa Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations of the Committee of Foreign Affairs through the House of Representatives during the 114th Congress, David Abramowitz, the Managing Director of Policy and Government Relations of Humanity United Action, has expressed concern on the Tiers model. Abramowitz believes Malaysia is exemplary of a nation praised for the betterment of the human trafficking when undoubtedly there is no accountability for the mass graves incident of 2015, where 130 dead bodies were found (United States 32).

Ineffective measures of the tiers in the TIP Report reduce the diplomatic effectiveness of the mechanism, as embodied in both Thailand and Malaysia. Increased effort towards reform of Malaysia and Thailand's legal framework is needed. This could be achieved through the State

Department, more specifically the embassies in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur and the Department's East Asia and Pacific Bureau. Congressional action could assist in the reform as well (United States 33).

In the Committee on Foreign Affairs' "Nomination of Rex Tillerson To Be Secretary of State," one of the commentaries to the Secretary of State included the notion that the current administration allowed political consideration to manipulate expert recommendations of the State Department's human rights and trafficking professionals, which contributed to the 'politically-driven' upgrade of countries like that of Cuba and Malaysia from the Tier 3 category to the Tier 2 Watch List (United States). According to the Honorable Susan Coppedge, Ambassador-at-Large for the Office to Monitor Trafficking in Persons of the US Department of State, as stated during the Committee on Foreign Relation's hearing for *Review of the 2017 Trafficking in Persons Report*, law enforcement services should be provided to human trafficking victims.

Government involvement tends to instill fear in victims. In defense of Malaysia status change from Tier 3 watch to Tier 2, as prompted by Mr. Cardin, Coppedge states that Malaysia has had quadrupled trafficking investigations increasing from 158 to 581, as well as improvements in law

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enforcement measures on trafficking. Additionally, Senator Robert Menendez had been successful in uncovering the waiver report for Malaysia as well as other countries that are not allowed for disclosure by the Department of State.

The Honorable John J. Sullivan, Deputy Secretary of State for the US Department of State, noted Ukraine's improvement to Tier 2 status as well as China's ineffectiveness to end slavery and trafficking downgraded it to Tier 3 (United States). Previous concerns and criticism regarding TIP from the "*Demanding Accountability: Evaluating the 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report*", House of Representatives hearing include concern on grade inflation and favoritism for certain countries through the Department of State tier ranking of the TIP.

To further elaborate upon the TIP Tier model, Tier 1 would include nations that meet the minimum standards to combat human trafficking, Tier 2 would include those making noticeable efforts towards the minimum standards, and Tier 3 would include those not making minimum standards and in danger of receiving sanctions, respectively (United States 2). Cuba had been noted as Tier 2 status for 2015, even with the legal permission for prostitution of 16-year old girls, being a top destination in the Western Hemisphere for child sex tourism, and not criminalizing labor trafficking (United States 3).

Uzbekistan's government incites forced labor in the cotton industry on a daily basis, making it rather undeserving of Tier 2 status (United States 4). India as a Tier 2 is undeserving of its ranking as well, since it had been preventing trafficking victims and families who had obtained T-visas to leave India (United States 27-28).

As professor Anis H. Bajrektarevic rightfully observed in his revealing work on the Justice-Home Affairs diplomacy, a very corruption (public sector of) is an elementary part of any THB business. "It is a (hidden and) seemingly victimless tradeoff between influence and gain" – as professor brilliantly defines corruption, that 'runs the engine'.

Hence, as founded by the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), from the representation of the Trafficking Victims in Persons Act of 2000, federal agencies have inspected allegations of trafficking crimes, provided training and executed state and local initiatives to support investigations and prosecutions, and established organizational structures, agency-level goals, plans, or strategies. For instance, agencies have trained both new and current staff on investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons crimes through their agency training academies and centers, provided Web-based training, and developed and disseminated guidance on case pursuance.

Agencies have also made training initiatives at the state and local law enforcement levels, nongovernmental organizations, and the general public through a toll-free complaint line, newsletters, national conferences, and model legislation. Some agencies have established special units for continuing their anti-trafficking duties. Federal agencies coordinate across agencies' investigations and prosecutions of trafficking crimes on a case-by-case basis, premised on individual needs per case, and established relationships among law enforcement officials across agencies.

The Department of Justice and Department of Health Services officials recognize the need to increase United States efforts to combat trafficking through more practical and cooperative strategies to identify trafficking victims. Previous GAO efforts on interagency relationship prove a strategic framework with shared goals, mutually reinforcing approaches, and compatible policies and actions to function across agency boundaries helps improve and sustain relationships among federal agencies dealing with national and cross agency jurisdiction issues ("Human Trafficking: A Strategic Framework Could Help Enhance the Interagency Collaboration Needed to Effectively Combat Trafficking Crimes."). Based on 2016 data collection from the GAO, it is questionable as to whether provisions are being fully effective.

“For 91 provisions, all responsible federal entities reported taking action to implement this provision. For 11 provisions, all responsible federal entities reported that they had not acted to implement the provision. For 2 provisions, at least one of the responsible federal entities reported that they had not acted to implement the provision or they did not provide a response. For 1 provision, none of the responsible federal entities provided a response (“Human Trafficking: Implementation of Related Statutory Provisions, Law Enforcement Efforts, and Grant Funding”).”

The above provisions covered topics addressing human trafficking and related affairs, inclusive of victim services, management and information sharing, and procedural training. Agency officials gave various explanations for why there were no arrangements to implement provisions for which they were chosen as the lead or co-lead. To be rather frank, in three cases, officials cited funding was not appropriated for the activity. Federal, state, and local law enforcement officials and prosecutors interviewed by the GAO reported properly investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases is challenging for many reasons, including lack of victim collaboration, limited available services for victims, and the problematic nature of identifying human trafficking victims.

According to these representatives, victim service programs, such as those that offer mental health and substance abuse services, have helped improve victim cooperation. The availability of services is limited. Federal, state, and local agencies have taken or are taking actions to address these challenges, such as increasing the obtainability of victim services through grants and executing both training and public awareness initiatives. GAO identified 42 grant programs with awards made in 2014 and 2015 that may be used to combat human trafficking or to assist victims of human trafficking, 15 of which are planned for these purposes only.

Although there are similarities among human trafficking grant programs, federal agencies have

recognized processes to help avert unnecessary duplication. For instance, in response to endorsements in a previous GAO report, the Department of Justice requires grant candidates to expose any federal grants they are currently operating under as well as federal grants for which they have applied. Additionally, agencies participating in the grantmaking committee of the Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG), an entity through which federal agencies unify their efforts to combat human trafficking, share grant solicitations as well as information on proposed grant awards.

The SPOG effort allows other agencies to remark on proposed grant awards and determine whether they plan to award funding to the same organization (“Human Trafficking: Implementation of Related Statutory Provisions, Law Enforcement Efforts, and Grant Funding”).

On the issue of child soldiers, The House Committee on Foreign Affairs 2017 hearing, “*Winning the Fight Against Human Trafficking: The Frederick Douglass Reauthorization Act*,” affirms that child soldiers are largely affected by the human trafficking industry. The United States has been involved in helping curtail the use of child soldiers. The United States had ratified the United Nations treaty of 2002 which banned the use of children in conflicts. By mandate of ratification, all armed services branched implemented rules to not have underage soldiers in combat. United States’ action on this matter was exemplary for other militaries to follow suite.

In 2008, Congress had adopted the Child Soldiers Prevention Act as part of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008. Nevertheless, within the United States there is still a prevalence of sex trafficking of girls. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had reported 60 percent nationwide range of trafficked girls were either from foster care or group homes. More transparency will be required for the allocation of funds towards improving efforts on the issue of child soldiers. The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims

Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act authorizes \$130 million over four years to prevent human trafficking, protect victims, and better prosecution in the United States and overseas. The act limits the time a nation could be on the Tier 2 watchlist (United States).

In the “*Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017, H.R. 1191*”, sponsored by Representative Christopher Smith in the 115th Congress, it was mentioned that Congress’ Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protections Act of 2000 would probably be the pivotal achievement on the issue of child soldiers. With the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, Congress made the Child Soldiers Prevention Act (CSPA) of 2008 part of the TVPA. Regulations included the TIP Report to have a listing of foreign governments which recruit and utilize child soldiers in their militias or government funded armed groups.

The 2017 TIP Report identifies the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen as nations on the CSPA list (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017” 7). TVPA restrictions on grants to nations began with TIP Report 2003 (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017” 14). Nations which have used child soldiers as listed in the most recent TIP report are prohibited from receiving various forms of security assistance, including defense articles, global military education and training, peacekeeping operations programs, military financing, and the issuing of licenses for direct commercial sales of military equipment for child soldier recruitment purposes (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017” 18-19).

Relevant legislation oversight on the TIP Report includes closed hearings on the topic of human trafficking, commonly held by the Committee on Foreign Relations, in anticipation of the TIP’s yearly release as well as commentaries post-publication in public hearings. The House Foreign Affairs Committee, specifically its Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, has also hosted hearings on the TIP Report

(“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017” 31). A bill from the 115th Congress to further modify requirements associated with the TIP Report, include H.R. 2200, the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017, which passed the House on July 12, 2017, and contains several changes to the TIP Report’s country ranking process.

Other bills introduced in the 115th Congress that, if passed, would modify requirements associated with the TIP Report include H.R. 436, the Human Trafficking Prioritization Act, S. 377, the Trafficking in Persons Report Integrity Act, H.R. 1191, the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017 and H.R. 2219 and S. 952, the End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017 (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017” 31).

In a statement at the 114th Congress, at a House of Representatives hearing entitled “*Get It Right This Time: A Victims-Centered Trafficking in Persons Report*,” the following is established:

“While democracy does not guarantee the absence of slavery, and some struggling democracies and even democratic regimes have effectively fought trafficking, autocracy and weak or ‘emerging’ democracies are less equipped to tackle this horrific human rights challenge. Respecting the human rights, fundamental freedoms, and dignity in full of women, people in prostitution, and migrants, holding traffickers fully to account, and expunging corruption as the catalyst of human trafficking, are matters of governing justly. In particular, an independent judiciary, the rule of law, and a dynamic civil society are the markings of governments that are governing justly, and central to the success of modern day abolition efforts (United States 2).”

Witness protection under the Ministry of Justice had been found to be favorable, however these were still unaccounted for occurrences in Thailand. In 2015, Thailand did not allow traffickers’ ships on land, allowing criminals to escape via ocean routes. There were also unaccounted for Rohingya passengers refused

entry. A ‘push-back’ policy does not assist with combatting human trafficking (United States 21). As the Myanmar elections were not free nor fair, political circumstances only escalate the higher risks of the Rohingya for human trafficking (United States 28-29).

Referencing the 114th Congress House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs hearing “*Accountability Over Politics: Scrutinizing the Trafficking In Persons Report*”, a statement released by Secretary of State John Kerry focused on the three P’s of the TIP report: prosecuting traffickers, protecting and empowering victims, and preventing future trafficking crimes. The honorable Susan Coppedge, Ambassador-at-Large to the Department of State, voiced concern for the protection of domestic workers as well as ‘corrupt or complicit officials’ who benefit from trafficking (United States 5).

TIP staff members work in conjunction with individuals at embassies, posts abroad, and the US Department of State regional offices (United States 7). Coppedge asserts housing for girls rescued from trafficking should be provided by the United States (United States 20). There is only a small amount of prosecutions and convictions on foreign labor trafficking in the United States, which needs to be reformed. More to protect unaccompanied undocumented children, as well as further address roots of the problem, need to be made feasible (United States 30).

Bills relevant to TIP include the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017, H.R. 2200 (“Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017”), The Trafficking in Persons Report Integrity Act, S. 377 (“Trafficking in Persons Report Integrity Act”), The Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017, H.R. 1191 (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017”), the End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017, H.R.

2219 (“End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017”), and the End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017, S. 952 (“End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017”).

The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017, H.R. 2200, sponsored by Christopher Smith April 2017, had twenty-nine cosponsors from House of Representatives, which ensured approval through the House of Representatives. The twenty-nine cosponsors were Representatives Karen Bass, Edward R. Royce, Sheila Jackson Lee, Susan W. Brooks, Lois Frankel, Ann Wagner, Tony Cardenas, Ted Poe, Ryan A. Costello, David N. Cicilline, Brad Sherman, Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., Patrick Meehan, Lynn Jenkins, Susan A. Davis, Salud O. Carbajal, Gwen Moore, Dwight Evans, Denny Heck, James P. McGovern, Tulsi Gabbard, Alcee L. Hastings, Raul M. Grijalva, Kristi L. Noem, Barbara Comstock, Luke Messer, David Young, Erik Paulsen, and Carolyn B. Maloney.

This bill states that instead of only the President, the Secretary of Health and Human Services has the authority to award grants to local education agencies, in partnership with nonprofit agencies for awareness services. H.R. 2200 further ensures priority funding for lodging and accommodation purposes that lack policies on child sexual exploitation, and calls for making certain the United States does not fund human trafficking. H.R. 2200 calls upon credible evidence on nations’ human trafficking reform progress. Additionally, airport personnel should identify and report human trafficking victims (“Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017”).

The Trafficking in Persons Report Integrity Act, S.377, was introduced in 2017 by Senator Robert Menendez, and cosponsored by five Senators, including Marco Rubio, Tim Kaine, Cory Gardner, Rob Portman, and Christopher Coons. The bill aims to amend the Trafficking Victims

Protection Act of 2000 to clarify standards upon which countries are held accountable for the TIP Report tier ranking model, as well as other purposes related to concrete measures taken towards ending human trafficking. The S.377 amendment includes identifying ‘concrete actions’ and ‘credible evidence’ towards improving the epidemic of human trafficking.

Additionally, reports on the amounts of loans towards Tier 2 and Tier 3 countries are to be submitted to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee of Foreign Relations sections in the Senate as well as the House of Representatives, to be distributed by the Secretary of the Treasury (“Trafficking in Persons Report Integrity Act”).

The Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017, H.R. 1191, was sponsored by Representative Christopher Smith, and cosponsored by Representatives Frederica Wilson, Randy Hultgren, James P. McGovern, and Randy K. Weber, Sr. The purpose of this bill would be to ensure operative enactment of the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2008 and hold régimes responsible for having children part of armed conflict, whether that may be as soldiers, servants, or sex slaves. H.R. 1191 also prohibits the selling of armament to nations that look favorably upon the utilization of child soldiers (“Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2017”).

The End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017, H.R. 2219, was sponsored by Representative Edward Royce, and cosponsored by Representatives William Keating, Carolyn Maloney, Mia Love, Patrick Meehan, Brian Fitzpatrick, and Kyrsten Sinema. H.R. 2219 aims for including the financial industry to assist with combatting human trafficking. The purpose would be to resolve and ensure financial accountability of funding towards human trafficking through means such as the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Human Trafficking (“End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017”). H.R. 2219 is not to be confused with S.952, which is of the same bill title. The End Banking

for Human Traffickers Act of 2017, S. 952, was sponsored by Senator Elizabeth Warren, and cosponsored by Senators James Lankford and Marco Rubio. S. 952 is an amendment to the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 to include the Secretary of the Treasury within the President’s Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking.

This task force is responsible for submitting recommendations to Congress for revising anti-money laundering programs to target money found in the human trafficking industry. The Federal Financial Institutions Examinations Council examines processes to improve anti-money laundering programs to combat human trafficking actions and referrals for potential human trafficking cases to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. S. 952 also establishes that the Department of Justice must report both efforts to eliminate money laundering on to human trafficking, and the quantity of formal examinations, custodies, allegations, and criminal offenses in money washing cases related to human trafficking (“End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2017”).

Overall, the TIP Report of 2017 of the Department of State has shown improvement from previous report versions, but is still in need of amendments to address misdemeanors found within the Tier ranking system of nations as well as preferential agreements on the issue of allocation of funding. In defense of efforts made by the Department of State, on September 14, 2017, the Department awarded \$25 million to the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery, through the Office to Combat and Monitor Trafficking of Persons. The Global Fund to End Modern Slavery is a non-profit organization focused on developing public-private partnerships to decrease modern slavery (Tillerson). However, a true dedication to the cause of human trafficking, although wanted by many advocacy member groups as well as Congressional members, is a decision today mainly influenced by the executive branch’s priorities.

As Secretary of State Rex Tillerson stated in his nomination hearing, “*Nomination of Rex Tillerson To Be Secretary of State*”, his commitment to end human trafficking is only to the extent that is compliant with the policies and law preferences of President-elect Donald Trump. This response was given various times throughout the report, inclusive of a specific interlude question on the seafood industry, raising numbers of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the need for transparency measures in the fishing industry, and human trafficking (United States). More information on United States’ legislation on the TIP Report could be found if there were public accessibility to Closed Hearings’ materials as well as other confidential material Congressional staffers have access to, such as that of the “*CLOSED: Preparing for the Trafficking in Persons Report*” of June 2017 (United States).

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Operational Challenges of MSMEs in Telangana

Dr. K. V. Sasidhar*

[The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector constitutes the spine of India's national economy and acts as the bulwark for the national economy, providing it resilience to ward off shocks and adversities. With the enactment of 2006 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, the definition of MSMEs has been changed. The number of MSMEs which stood at 36.1 million in 2006 had risen to 51.6 million in 2014-15. Manufacturing over 6000 products ranging from traditional to high-tech items, the MSME sector contributes around 7% of the manufacturing GDP, about 25% of the GDP from service activities and around 35% of India's manufacturing output. Providing employment to around 45% of India's total workforce, this sector contributes substantially to India's overall exports.]

The new industrial policy of the Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self Certification System (TS-iPAS) Act, 2014, is said to be the first policy of its kind in India. As a result of this new policy, Telangana has attracted appreciable investments in industrial sector in a very short span of period. There is significant growth in number of factories registered in Telangana. The number of factories registered in 2008-09 that stood at 7,357 rose to 11,068 in 2013-14, posting 50 percent growth. Similarly, the other indicators have also registered a positive growth during the said period. The percentage of the Telangana State with respect to All India, the share of Net Value Added was 3.47 percent and Gross Net Value was 3.38 percent during 2013-14.

The medium enterprises had grown up to 2014-15 and registered a decline in 2015-16. The micro and small industries which had reached peak in 2013-14, also recorded a fall afterwards. Investments in Micro enterprises had reached high in 2011-12 and thereafter it has remained stable, whereas investments in small enterprises reached at peak in 2013-14 and witnessed downward trend thereafter.

The key problems affecting the MSMEs are classified as financial, raw material,

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technological, managerial and labour. These problems are classified into as internal and external. The internal problems are outcomes of internal management of an enterprise and related to a single unit. There are so many schemes offered by government, but these enterprises are not aware of it and do not understand how to get benefit out of them.

Mahatma Gandhi had stated that India lived in villages and that only through their salvation. India could regain its growth and prosperity. He emphasized on cottage and small industries as a landmark and strong instrument of attaining rapid economic growth. A significant feature of the Indian economy since independence has been the rapid growth of small scale sector.

The MSMEs have been playing a significant role in Indian economy. The total number of units in MSMEs which stood at 361.8 lakh in 2006 had risen to 516.6 lakh in 2014-15. The MSMEs sector manufactures more than 6000 products ranging from traditional to high-tech items. More than two-thirds of the enterprises (68.21 percent) in the MSMEs sector are service providers, while 34.79 percent are engaged in manufacturing.

Definition of MSMEs

Government of India has revised the definition of small industries over the years, presently as per the enactment of Micro, Small and Medium

Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 in terms of which the definition of micro, small and medium enterprises is as under in table-1.

Table-1: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006

Type of enterprise	Investment in Plant and Machinery/ Equipment (excluding land and Building)	
Manufacturing Enterprises	Services Enterprises	
Micro	Up to Rs. 25 lakh	Up to Rs. 10 lakh
Small	More than Rs.25 lakhs and up to Rs. 5 crore	More than Rs. 10 lakhs and up to Rs. 2 up to Rs. 5 crore
Medium	More than Rs.5 crore and up to Rs. 10 crore	More than Rs.2 crore and up to Rs. 5 crore

Source: Ministry of MSME

Objectives of the study

1. To analyze the growth and performance of MSMEs in Telangana and India.
2. To study the major problems faced by MSMEs in Telangana.
3. To study the structure and distribution of industries in Telangana State
4. To understand the performance of industries of Telangana and India

Methodology

This paper is based on secondary data pertaining to micro, small and medium enterprises. The data are collected from different sources that comprise books on Indian economy, yearbooks, journals of national and international repute, socio-economic survey of Telangana State etc. The oral interviews with industrial experts, officials and micro, small and medium enterprises entrepreneurs, in the field discussed variables like financial, managerial, marketing, technological, raw material and labour problems are also considered for the study. Information gathered was tabulated and was analyzed by using percentage and one-way/two-way tables.

Review of Literature

Dr. M.S. Vasu & Dr. K. Jayachandra (2014), in their “Growth and Development of MSMEs

in India- Prospects & Problems”, have discussed about the growth and performance of MSMEs and listed out the problems faced by MSMEs in India. They focused on problems in general but not on problems of a particular state or region.

Dr. A.S. Shiralashetti et al., (2014) in their “Prospects & Problems of MSMEs in India”, have covered the growth, performance and contribution of MSMEs vis-à-vis GDP and have mentioned about the problems faced by MSMEs located in Dharwad district of Karnataka State.

Rajib Lahiri (2011) in his study has tried to critically analyze the definitional aspect of MSMEs and explored the opportunities and the constraints faced by them in the era of globalization. After analyzing the performance of MSMEs in India during the pre- and post-liberalization period, the study reveals that there is a marginal increase in growth rate in employment generation. The growth rate in other parameters is not encouraging during the liberalization period.

Dr. Padmasani, S. Karthika (2013) has conducted a study on “Problems and Prospects of Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprise in Textile Exports with special reference to Tirupur and Coimbatore District”. He has examined the problems of MSMEs in the era of global economy and also has identified the factors affecting MSMEs. The study also examines the socio-economic aspects of MSMEs. The survey

reveals that the problems can be overcome if MSMEs get involved in standardization of the business process, and adoption of latest technology to improve the productivity. The author suggests that banks can support the industry by providing credit facilities at low interest rate. The Government and institutions relating to Small and Medium Scale industries should take effective measures to improve the export performance of MSMEs in order to develop economy.

Nishanth P & Dr. Zakkariya K.A. (2014) have reviewed the problems faced by the MSMEs in accessing finance from banks and financial institutions. In their view, this problem may differ from region to region between sectors or between individual enterprises. While focusing on various barriers faced by these units in raising finance, the study also tries to identify various sources of finance other than banks and this study is restricted to Kozhikode district in Kerala.

Dr. Neeru Garg (2014) in the study entitled “the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in India: Current Scenario and Challenges”, attempts to highlight the growth of MSMEs sector and analyze various problems and challenges faced by MSMEs in India in general.

K. Suneetha and T. Sankaraiah (2014) in their study entitled “Problems of MSMEs and Entrepreneurs in Kadapa District”, have conducted a survey on 156 enterprises to study their problems. It was found that 103 enterprises were facing financial problems and among them 62.8 percent are from Micro enterprises. Moreover, 23 percent receive meager assistance from government agencies. In the study, the divisions of Kadapa, Jammulamadugu and Rajampet are covered.

Performance of MSMEs in India

The MSMEs Act came into force from 2006-07 financial year, although the data taken from the year 2001-2002 to make in-depth study of the growth of MSMEs in India. The following Table-2 states that the working enterprises’ annual

growth was recorded at 13.33 percent. The Index value is increased from 100 to 464.

Table-2

Growth of MSMEs in India

Year	Working Enterprises (in Lakh)	Growth Index (SSI-MSME)
2001-02	105.2	100
2002-03	109.5	104
2003-04	114.0	108
2004-05	118.6	113
2005-06	123.4	117
2006-07	361.76	344
2007-08	377.36	359
2008-09	393.70	374
2009-10	410.80	390
2010-11	428.73	408
2011-12	447.64	426
2012-13	447.54	425
2013-14	488.46	464
Mean	302.05	
Average Annual Growth Rate	13.33	

Source: Ministry of MSME

During the period of 2006-07 to 2013-14, the number of MSMEs has gradually increased from 361.76 lakh to 488.46 lakh. The growth of index value is progressively raised from 100 to 464. The MSMEs mean value was 302.05 per year. It shows that there are fluctuations in the growth of MSMEs in India.

Share of MSMEs in GDP

The share of MSMEs in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has declined over the years. The contribution of MSMEs to total manufacturing

output and gross domestic product in 2006-07 stood at 42.02 percent and declined to 37.33 percent respectively in 2012-13. The following

table-3 Shows that here is a fluctuation in MSMEs' output in total manufacturing output.

Table-3

Share of MSMEs in GDP

Year	Gross Value of output MSMEs Manufacturing sector in Crore)	Share of MSMEs in Total GDP (%)			Share of MSMEs output in total Manufacturing output in percent
		Manufacturing Sector MSME	Services Sector	Total	
2006-07	1198818	7.73	27.40	35.13	42.02
2007-08	1322777	7.81	27.60	35.41	41.98
2008-09	1375589	7.52	28.60	36.12	40.79
2009-10	1488352	7.45	28.60	36.05	39.63
2010-11	1653622	7.39	29.30	36.69	38.50
2011-12	1788584	7.27	30.70	37.97	37.47
2012-13	1809976	7.04	30.50	37.54	37.33

Source: Fourth All India Census of MSME 2006-07

Telangana State has attracted investments rapidly in industries in a very short span of period.

Industrial Sector in Telangana

In order to facilitate growth of Industrial Sector, the Telangana State Government initiated industry-friendly policies. The new industrial policy, that is the Telangana State Industrial Project Approval and Self Certification System (TS-iPAS) Act, 2014, is said to be the first policy of its kind in India. As a result of new policy, the

Structure of the Industries in Telangana State

The structure of industry in the Telangana State is analysed using the data from Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) from 2008-09 to 2013-14. The data cover all units registered under the Factories ACT, 1948 that is, those units employing 10 or more workers with power and 20 or more workers without power, respectively.

Table-3: Industries in Telangana State

S.No	Characteristics	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Factories	7,357	7,729	8,980	9,005	10,279	11,068
2	Fixed Capital (in Crore)	37,710	39,193	52,672	54,094	59,521	57,596
3	Employees (incl. workers)	7,07,487	6,56,438	7,09,863	7,00,357	7,07,738	7,45,005
4	Emoluments (Rs. Crore)	5,042	5,642	7,172	8,267	9,757	9,920
5	Total Input (Rs. Crore)	70,246	71,023	1,12,300	1,18,287	1,20,647	1,33,318
6	GVA (Rs. Crore)	24,117	24,373	31,034	36,476	33,975	35,985
7	NVA Rs. Crore)	21,584	21,428	27,394	31,986	28,728	31,113

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Telangana (Gross Value Added-GVA, Net Value Added-NVA)

There is significant growth in number of factories registered in Telangana State. The number of factories registered in 2008-09 which stood at 7,357 rose to 11,068 in 2013-14, posting 50 percent growth. Similarly, the other indicators

have registered a positive growth during the said period. The percentage of the Telangana State with respect to All India, the share of Net Value Added was 3.47 percent and Gross Net Value was 3.38 percent during 2013-14.

Table- 4: Distribution of industries by Organization, 2012-13 and 2013-14

Organization	No. of Factories		Number of Employees		Net Value Added		Gross Capital	
	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13	2013-14	2012-13
Non-Corporate Sector	7,395	7,018	3,61,378	2,83,115	3,067	2,937	1,132	958
Corporate Sector	3,614	3,214	3,56,252	3,97,048	27,702	25,606	8,163	9,580
Other Sectors	59	47	27,375	27,575	344	186	-17.17	22

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Telangana.

The distribution of industries by organisation in 2013-14 and 2012-13 is shown in Table-4. It is noted that 89 percent of total net value added (NVA) in 2013-14 was contributed by the Corporate Sector alone. The other two sectors (non-corporate and other) contributed only 11 percent. The Non-Corporate sector has seen

growth in number of factories, employees, Net Value Added and Gross Capital formation. The gross capital formation, which is an indicator for investment in the sector, shows that 88 percent of total investment in the state was in the corporate sector in 2013-14, while it was 91 percent in 2012-13. The other sectors have negative gross capital formation in 2013-14.

Table-5: Comparative performance of Industries in Telangana and India in 2013-14

State/ India	Factories	Employees	Total Output (in Crores)	GVA(in Crores)	GCF(in Crores)
Telangana	11,068	7,45,005	1,69,304	35,985	9,278
India	1,85,690	1,35,38,114	65,55,251	10,65,112	3,53,738
Share of Telangana	5.96	5.5	2.58	3.38	2.62

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, 2013-14, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Telangana.

Table-5 shows that comparative performance of Industries in Telangana and India in the year 2013-14, It is evident that Telangana accounts for about 6 percent of the total number of factories in India and contributes about 3.4 percent of the

total Gross Value added and 2.6 percent Gross Capital Formation in the country. It indicates the low productivity because most of the factories functioning in the Telangana are small in size.

MSME's in Telangana State

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector plays a significant role in the economic and social development of the state. It

is providing direct employment opportunities to 7,82,406 people, with a vast network of around 69,120 units. Its contribution is immense in terms of direct employment, providing /raw material for other sectors and export earnings. Sector-specific issues and inadequate credit have dampened the growth of the micro and small enterprises post-2013-14. The medium enterprises are in an almost stable state since 2007-08, without much effect from the vicissitudes of time.

Table- 6: MSME Units in Telangana State:

Year	Micro	Small	Medium	Total
2007-08	1,792	776	4	2,572
2008-09	1,993	814	2	2,809
2009-10	1,838	945	9	2,792
2010- 11	3,103	1,521	15	4,639
2011- 12	3,257	2,104	20	5,381
2012- 13	3,066	2,030	29	5,125
2013- 14	4,312	2,499	33	6,844
2014- 15	3,543	2,237	37	5,787
2015- 16	2,311	1,451	17	3,779

Source: Commissionerate of Industries, Telangana.

It can be discerned from Table -6 that Micro, Small and Medium enterprises in Telangana continued to record upward growth up to 2014-

15 and in 2015-16 it registered a fall. Investments in micro enterprises reached high in 2011-12 and thereafter remained stable, whereas investments in small enterprises peaked in 2013-14 and witnessed downward trend thereafter. Investment in medium industries is almost stable throughout the period. Decline in growth rate is largely due to the medium and large enterprises steeped in Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), defaulting in payments to the MSE vendors on the one hand and on the other, the ineffective delayed payment redress mechanism, with the governments, PSUs and judiciary not adequately and appropriately responding to the arbitration mechanism of the MSE Facilitation Council.

Employment generation by micro enterprises is less compared to small and medium ones. The employment generation, after reaching high in 2013-14, is in declining pace due to inability of the enterprises to honour contractual payments, the migratory practices of labour, and largely mismatched skills.

The Problems of MSMEs in Telangana

The key problems specifically affecting the MSMEs can be broadly classified as financial, managerial, raw material, technological and labour. These problems can further be classified into internal and external. The internal problems are those outcomes of internal course of management of an enterprise and related to a single unit. Whereas external problems are those which are generally faced by all enterprises in the industry and are beyond their control.

Table-7: Problems of MSMEs

Problems	Internal	External
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *High cost of borrowings Management of . Finance *Inadequate finance *Insufficient working capital *Recovery from debtors *Diversion of working capital funds *Low promoters contribution *Excessive paper work while availing loan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Non-availability of Finance *Excessive collateral Security *Discriminative treatment of financial Institutions

Managerial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Lack of technical know-how *Absence of long term Planning *Lack of management Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Locational disadvantage *Government price controls *Change in Government policies *Dealing with Government laws
Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Lack of sales promotion *Limited local market *Less varieties of goods offered to market *Lack of marketing research *Depending of small group of customers *Dependency on large scale industries *Defecting Price Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Market saturation *Weak market demand *Competitive market environment *Availability of better substitutes
Technological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Outdated plant and Machinery / Production process * Inadequate infrastructure of the firm *Poor Capacity of Utilization *High wastage*Transport Bottleneck * Lack of distribution system *Inadequate maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Delay in Delivery of machines
Raw material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Poor inventory management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Raw material not available *Low Quality of raw material *Fluctuation in cost of raw material
Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Labour Absenteeism *High rates of wages *Excessive manpower *Inefficient handling of labour problems *Poor industrial relations *Lack of coordination and control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Unavailability of Skilled Labour

After the discussion with industrial experts, officials and micro, small and medium enterprises in the field from among the above-mentioned variables of financial, managerial, marketing, technological, raw material and labour, ten different factors are considered for the study. The different factors are affecting the operational performance of MSMEs. These have led to poor performance of MSMEs.

Conclusions

The main purpose of the study is to ascertain as to how the entrepreneurs managed the micro, small and medium enterprises and to know as to

what are the various problems faced by these enterprises. While ascertaining the role of MSMEs in assisting in economic development of India, it is revealed that hurdles like financial constraints and issues relating to power, raw material procurement should be more effectively dealt by the government. Further, it is revealed that overall globalized business environment of India has been average favorable for the growth of micro and small-scale industries.

It is found that the MSMEs have played role in employment generation in India. Due to the acute power shortage, industrial units are managing

only less per cent of capacity and the situation has turned from bad to worse without ability to pay even workers' salary. Most of the enterprises complained about non-availability of skilled labour.

The government is also providing promotional programmes and training for MSMEs entrepreneurs. Simple and clear policies and acts are to be made so that these enterprises can understand them and utilize as well as implement them in the business for compliance and secure benefits. There are many government schemes, but these enterprises are not aware and do not understand how they can benefit out of them.

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Benefits of Breastfeeding

Dr. Anjuly Sharma*

[World Breastfeeding Week, celebrated this year from 1-7 August, is an annual event highlighting the critical importance of breastfeeding for children across the globe. Breastfeeding gives children the healthiest start in life and is one of the simplest, smartest and most cost-effective ways we have of ensuring that all children survive and thrive. The theme of this year's World Breastfeeding Week is 'Women and work – Let's make it work' which emphasizes the need for better support systems and policies to enable working mothers to breastfeed.]

Breastfeeding is not only the best thing for baby but also good for mother- and even for the environment. Breast milk is best for baby and the benefits of breast feeding extend well beyond basic nutrition. In addition to containing all the vitamins and nutrients, baby needs in the first six months of life, breast milk is packed with disease fighting substances that protect baby from illness.

Breastfeeding will help reduce baby's risk of:

- obesity
- Type 1 diabetes
- Sudden Infant Death syndrome (SIDS)
- pneumonia and other respiratory infections
- coughs and colds
- gastrointestinal illnesses
- vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation
- urinary tract infections
- ear infections that can damage hearing
- meningitis

- childhood cancers, including leukaemia and lymphoma
- Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis
- Celiac disease
- heart disease and liver disease in adulthood

Breast milk is the safest and healthiest food for baby. It's easily digested and provides all the nutrition baby needs for the first six months. Babies who breastfeed have better mental development and emotional security. They also have better jaw and tooth development and stronger immune systems.

Breastfeeding helps women:

- heal after baby's birth and avoid severe post-partum bleeding
- return more quickly to pre-pregnancy weight, burning 500 extra calories per day
- have stronger bones later in life
- build a strong emotional bond with their babies
- relax; every time a baby feeds, the mother gets a surge of the bonding hormone oxytocin, which has a calming and relaxing effect.

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- save time and money; formula is expensive and time consuming to prepare. But breast milk is always ready and always at the right temperature - ideal when you're tired.

Later in life women who do not breastfeed are at higher risk for diabetes, osteoporosis, breast, ovarian and endometrial cancers.

Breastfeeding and the environment

In addition to its health benefits, breastfeeding is also great for the environment.

- It is the ideal green product - no waste for the land fill and it's free.
- There is no effect from dairy industry waste (a baby will drink far more formula - which is dairy based - than the amount of cow's milk consumed by a breastfeeding mom)
- Breastfeeding is natural, but that doesn't mean it's always easy.
- Here's some advice and information to help you deal with the issues many moms face.

Getting comfortable with breastfeeding in public

That's understandable. It's tough to learning a new skill when people are watching. And many women are embarrassed by the thought of exposing their breast. There are lots of ways around these concerns. Here are some ideas to consider:

- Breastfeeding is normal – breasts exist for feeding babies.
- Breastfeeding can be performed discreetly. Try it sitting in front of a mirror. See how little breast actually shows when you breastfeed.
- Some mothers will place a cover, such as a light receiving blanket, over their baby while

they latch on, removing the cover once the baby is latched.

- When enough mothers breastfeed in public it will become so common, no one will notice.
- If someone has a problem with breastfeeding, it is their problem, not yours or your baby's.
- In British Columbia, all mothers have the legal right to breastfeed in any public area. Asking a mother who is breastfeeding her child to move or cover up is illegal.
- Breast milk is the only food your baby needs for the first six months.
- Continue to offer breast milk until your baby is two years old and older.

Feed on Demand (Advice to mother)

- Follow baby's hunger and fullness cues. This will establish milk supply to match what baby needs. Babies may feed about eight times in 24 hours
- In the early days, breastfeed from both breasts to help make your milk supply. Later baby may still feed from both breasts, or may be satisfied after one.
- Feed on the first breast until the baby falls away from your breast. This usually tells you when baby has had enough milk. Don't rush though –baby may just be resting and not yet finished.
- After burping, offer the other breast. If still hungry, baby will latch on, suck and swallow.
- Begin the next feeding on the breast you didn't use at the last feeding, or the one you finished last.
- Watch for signs that baby is feeding well.

- If baby isn't feeding well, express or pump milk at every feeding. It can be provided to baby using another method such as a cup, spoon or bottle.

If your baby is two weeks old; you're breastfeeding or expressing milk at least eight times a day; and you're concerned that you don't have enough milk, seek support from your healthcare provider. Some herbs and medicine may increase milk production, but they only work if you're emptying your breasts often.

If it's not possible to give baby your breast milk, try pasteurized donor breast milk (if available) or store-bought formula. A prescription from a doctor or midwife is required for donor milk

Learn together

Spend time cuddling baby skin-to-skin. This closeness encourages baby to feed often. Seek out support and information to learn more about the skill of breastfeeding. It takes patience. Mother and baby both need time to learn. Spend time cuddling mother and baby skin-to-skin; this close contact encourages breastfeeding.

This special first milk comes in small amounts - perfect for your baby's tiny tummy. Colostrum is concentrated and rich in nutrients that are good for your baby. It also contains high levels of antibodies and key ingredients to help protect your baby from infections. Colostrum also helps your baby pass meconium (baby's first poop). It also helps to coat the gut (digestive tract), making it less vulnerable to any harmful bugs. If mothers decide not to breastfeed, their babies benefit from even a few feedings of colostrum.

Societal Impact of Breast-feeding Promotion

In the daily breastfeeding routine, the family is the first reference for child, transmitting beliefs,

habits and behaviors. We believe in the valorization of the family context by the health professional, in which actions and interactions in the breastfeeding issue are developed in order to constitute the foundations for a new care model in breastfeeding. By taking breast milk child automatically gain values of mother, so it is always better to think good, eat well while breastfeeding the baby. During this very first phase of life, traits of mother are transferred to new born. So, mother is the basic or first school for new born baby.

Conclusion

Breastfeeding usually plays an integral role in forming the deep attachment between mother and baby. Bottle-feeding mothers, of course, can also be securely attached to their babies. In fact, nursing mothers tend to be with their infants altogether more than other mothers. Breastfeeding burns extra calories, so it can help you lose pregnancy weight faster. It releases the hormone oxytocin, which helps mother's uterus return to its pre-pregnancy size and may reduce uterine bleeding after birth. Breastfeeding also lowers your risk of breast and ovarian cancer.

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Urbanization & Sabarmati's Cultural Heritage

Dr. Mercy Samuel* & Prof. Manvita Baradi**

[Historically, many cities have developed around the edge of the rivers owing to the advantage of economic activities. The Indian culture closely associates the people with the rivers, culturally as well as religiously. The rivers are considered as holy and are believed that they have power to purify people from their sins thus many traditions and practices such as funeral rites are all done along the banks of rivers. "There is arguably no place in the world that should have a higher standard of river quality than India, for there is no other culture in which rivers have such a central role in the daily ritual lives of countless millions. There is no other place in the world where worshippers and pilgrims repair daily to the great rivers and river fords to bathe, sip water and make water offerings for the departed". (Eck, 2012, p. 187)]

The growth of the city has influenced the relationship of the people with the river overtime.

The rivers located along the urbanizing cities are found to be highly polluted due to the disposal of waste water from sewage, industrial effluents etc. Since historically the rivers were used as a primary source of drinking water, many of the communities still use it as a source of water, for household activities as well as religious activities which indicate alarming health risks.

Ghats have long formed a part of India's cultural landscape for centuries, important for 'social and functional needs of people' and a source of spiritual respite. This is demonstrated through traditions and rituals such as daily bathing, 'aarti' and funeral rites throughout India along the Ganges and other sacred rivers. Sinha (2015) conducted research in the Braj region where many sacred sites are located along the Yamuna River and found that rapid urbanization and environmental degradation of the river have led to disengagement with this cultural landscape.

The Yamuna River is a place of pilgrimage which, with other natural features in the Braj region,

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embodies the link between earth and the heavens, experienced through immersion in the river via the ghats – steps down into the river (or other water body). However, ghats have been jeopardized by lack of maintenance and recent reduced usage levels due to pollution. Indian religious stakeholders criticized Alley's (2002) research in India for espousing pollution discourses based on eradicating pollution and enhancing human health, which are dominant in the western world. Alley explored alternative narratives of why one falls ill due to water-borne diseases, one of which was attributed to the individual, their immunity and level of faith, not the quality of the (sacred) water (2002, p. 7).

This example highlights the importance of local context and terminology: the term 'pollution' does not permit a nuanced understanding of a distinction between 'purity' and 'cleanliness' which Hindus (and other religious groups) would instinctively make (Alley, 1998). This points to a need to understand better the perceived connections between cultural practices and rituals, heritage, environmental quality and quality of life.

To understand context in relation to the urban river, requires engagement with local governance and policymaking, heritage and conservation strategies, planning and urban design practice.

Determining who should be part of the interpretation of the river, past and current, as urban heritage and the role of communities therein, a question that needs more attention, particularly in light of the rapid urbanization occurring in India, and elsewhere.

This research study focuses on deepening the understanding of the cultural role of the river for urban residents with increasing urbanization. This research attempts to bring together practitioners, academics and policymakers from different sectors to reflect on the role and meaning of the river in rapidly urbanizing settings as cultural heritage and as a setting for cultural practices over time; An attempt was made to explore the multiple narratives of the changing urban river through existing representation and visualizations over time; and investigating how and why the river has been used (past and present).

Sabarmati River & Riverfront

Sabarmati River flows through the city and ‘has always been the defining feature of Ahmedabad’ (Yagnik & Sheth, 2011, p. 298). The city is split east- west by the Sabarmati – on the west, a predominantly Hindu and more affluent population where significant rapid urbanization is occurring, and on the east lower-income and more Muslim populations with almost half of the city’s slums (Our Inclusive Ahmedabad, 2010). Gandhi’s ashram is found along the river, as is the Ravivari Sunday market at the Ellisbridge ghats on the eastern riverbank, Mahatma Gandhi’s ashram (north-west), shrines and ceremonial space as well as temples located on the outskirts of the city (various locations).

Sabarmati being a perennial river is monsoon fed and it effectively dries up in summer months. The river has since been significantly changed due to an upstream dam and the Municipal Corporation-led riverfront regeneration scheme, ongoing since 1997.

The aim of the project was “to provide Ahmedabad with a meaningful waterfront

environment along the banks of the Sabarmati River and to redefine an identity of Ahmedabad around the river” (Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation Limited). This will be achieved through environmental improvement (dealing with sewage and flooding), social infrastructure (e.g. creation of social amenities including parks, museums and theatres), and sustainable development (ensuring financial viability of the project). This study was an attempt to understand the changes to the river, and the way the river is accessed, used and represented as well as to understand how the changed waterfront is now ‘meaningful’ or how it contributes to the redefinition of the city’s identity around the river.

Methodology

It’s a qualitative research study based on exploratory research design. Secondary data was gathered through review of existing academic and non- academic literature, representations of the river in photography, performing/ fine arts, poetry, CEPT archives, reports, books, scriptures, newspapers, visual material, Masters’ Thesis, identifying different themes about the river to collect relevant information. Discussions with historians, art groups, academicians, city level decision makers, practitioners, culture and heritage organizations were held to understand and develop the normative interpretations of the tangible and more importantly the intangible heritage.

The fieldwork involved exploring the sites in the vicinity of the river that were culturally relevant to Sabarmati riverfront. Simultaneously, historical and visual data and any other material (in poetry, written or art form) were collected that captured the present and past use of river. In-depth primary interviews were conducted with Riverfront users, Laundry Campus workers, Ravivari vendors and association leader, displaced community, riverside temples, designers, architects, managers of the River Front project, heritage experts, local government, Academics and others.

A unique methodology was developed to ignite the thoughts and emotions of the people to converse about the Sabarmati River and their memories in the form of narratives to identify past and present associations, perceptions. A performance was hosted at the riverfront garden on a fine evening open to public and invited guests. The methodology involved performances from reputed performing groups and other artists in the form of poetry reciting, painting, dance performance depicting the river and the impact of urbanization on Sabarmati River and its changing impact on human beings in different literary forms like plays, poetry, paintings. The poetry recitals were all centered on the city of Ahmedabad and the Sabarmati River and the east-west divide the river brought into the expanding city.

While the performances were going on, the memoirs of the river were gathered from the people witnessing the show. The researchers interacted with the audience while the event was going on with preset questions to elicit their associations, perception and bonding with river. This was a unique one of its kind methodologies to revive memory about a place. This kind of a setting enabled vivid description from citizens and revealed the intensity of associations that citizens had with the river and also their expectations from the same.

Discussions

On the basis of the interactions with the citizens during the show and otherwise at the riverfront, deeper insights were obtained as to how the image of the river changed overtime right from the days of freedom struggle to the present.

Relevance of the River in the Past

The literature and interactions from the citizens revealed that the river in the early days was a seasonal river and it was used for multiple purposes during the dry and wet spells. The interactions with the citizens was broken down demographically according to age and categorized as elderly (50 years and above),

adults (in the group of 30 – 50 years) and young individuals (in the age group of 10 to 30 years). This categorization helped capture the timeline and changes in perceptions overtime with people who have witnessed such events in history to current happenings.

When citizens were asked of their past memories with respect to the river, what emerged was very fond memories and deeper associations. The senior citizens and elderly very fondly enumerated how the river was used as a source of water to wash clothes ‘the dhobhi-ghat’. They had fond memories of swimming in the river and taking bath. There were swimming marathons too being organized during those days in the river. The water was clean and clear during those days. During dry spells the river bed was still used as a space for drying clothes.

Various recreational activities like circus and kite flying also used to happen. It was a very engaging space with temples touching the shore of the river and the water being used for holy purposes. The river was indeed an integral part of the life of the citizens. It was a highly interactive and social place. The river also had significance in the freedom struggle as the river was the place from where Mahatma Gandhi started his Salt March in 1930.

Further interactions revealed how urbanization started affecting the river in the post-independence period, especially during the 1980s. People started migrating from villages to the cities in search of work and slowly started settling along the banks of the river. This resulted in the formation of the slum by the riverside. The citizens then had a negative association for connotation with the space as slums blocked access to the river and made it crowded making it difficult to find way to reach the river. Negative aspects prevailed from the immediate past. All age groups have memories of the dry river and the slums.

Mature adults and elderly have memories of the polluted river; and elderly of flooded river, stench and mosquitoes. Few of them responded

that they didn't visit the river at all due to this reason and the major highlights of this negative association was "Inaccessible, congested, unappealing, polluted; nothing to visit; viewed river only from bridges etc." Some users reported that they would not visit the river itself but would visit sites that were near the river like temples and Sabarmati Ashram for different purposes or visiting the Ravivari market.

They would not visit the river itself but they would catch glimpses of it in their commute to these sites or in a sense as part of the setting for these sites. All age groups except youngsters remember visiting River or riverbank for events, circus, to swim or to play when it had water.

The river became all the more polluted due to neglect by the local body and inappropriate use by the slum dwellers. The slums had their backs facing the river. All the dirt and waste from the river use to go straight to the river water. Moreover, the river is also connected with multiple drains from city emptying them into the river. All this put together made Sabarmati river a polluted and unhygienic site within the city and people excluded it from their lives though they fondly remembered the fun-filled social space that the river offered previously.

Current River Setting

When comparing the river in the past as to what it is today, the majority considered it was an improvement now having a pleasant atmosphere, which is due to the river water nearby. For youngsters the river is an important space because it is public and it is outdoors, so having more outdoor public space is greatly appreciated to hangout. This is because they want to be outside not indoors like malls. Similarly, for young adults and families, the current river setting is less polluted and they prefer to see the river as a permanent body of water. Overall this indicates that the river itself influences the way its surroundings are perceived and experienced.

In terms of significance of the river in the current state, the respondents mentioned its importance

in terms of relaxation, spiritual connect, away from the hustle bustle of the city. But they wanted to see more plantations and wildlife to connect it with the nature. They mentioned the water in the river provides a sensorial richness but unfortunately, they don't have any connect with the water anymore as there is a big wall, which separates the water. They consider the river as an historical reference when Mahatma Gandhi started his Salt March from the beds of the Sabarmati River. The river is an integral part of the city.

Today the people visit the river (riverfront) for a number of purposes like to refresh, leisure stroll, to attend events like yoga day, kite festival etc. They want more activities and vegetation to be seen in the near future with food shops and also places to conduct the rituals.

Sites influenced by the Riverfront

Temples & Heritage on the Riverside:

Historically, temples were located on river edges and water came to them. Some temples, e.g. Mukteshwar temple, Usmanpura have lost this and even the visual connection with the river. Previously the water used to come up to the temple steps, so would snakes and other animals. The people are unhappy with the development at this point as they don't have any connect left with the water.



Figure 1: Mukteshwar Temple



Figure 2: Dadhichi Rishi Ashram on the riverbank with stepped access to the riverfront



Figure 3: Temple stuck amidst development

A number of such temples with heritage and historical value are now missing amidst development.

Gujari / Ravivari Market

Gujari Bazaar, now also known as ‘Ravivari’ is an informal market, is held under Ellis Bridge on Sundays and continues to take place even as the market is being redeveloped to provide better facilities for the vendors and visitors. “The market accommodates more than 1200 traders, one third of which are women, most of them selling used items, though recently there are traders who also sell fresh goods.”

During the development of Sabarmati River front the Ravivari Market was designed as a multi-purpose space, with ‘Ravivari’ on Sundays and seasonal markets and other kinds of organized vending facilities on a daily basis. A community of vendors living alongside the river was rehabilitated during the development of the riverfront. The primary survey of the vendors as well as the president of the Ravivari vendors association was conducted to assess the impact on the livelihood of the vendors. This set up has its own positives and negatives.

The creation of an organized market space has increased the number of buyers and visitors.

Better infrastructure facilities like toilets, drinking water as well as street illumination has been provided during the redevelopment which increases the business hours and quality of life at work place. But as the location changed it led to reduced visibility. The relocation of the families has created a different set of challenges for the vendors in terms of the location of the resettlement, transportation, increased cost of living etc.

Laundry Campus (Dhobi Ghat)

‘The Dhobi Ghat entities’ were also one of the development-affected communities. The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation provided the entities with a ‘Laundry Campus’ instead at a location different from the previous ghat setting. They were provided with amenities like water and electricity at the campus with a nominal charge of Rs. 440 per month for using the campus, its maintenance and toilet cleaning etc.

The laundry campus has 7 blocks and 168 units in total. Each unit has water and electricity supply. The terrace is provided for drying the clothes. These amenities have changed the way these people do business. They all use machines to wash and dry the clothes. Now their business turnover increased and they are satisfied with this change. Demographically, men are quite happy with it and females have cited both pros and cons as the campus is far off from their homes making things difficult to manage but at the same time it is far safer to work for extended hours even during night time when volumes are more.

Rehabilitation and Resettlement of Slum Dwellers

During the development of the riverfront, around 10,000 slum dwellers were relocated during the development process. The municipal corporation didn't plan for such rehabilitation earlier but with the intervention of local NGOs and judiciary the municipal corporation was compelled to make a rehabilitation plan as well as infrastructure for the displaced slum dwellers.

The rehabilitation plan and the promise of infrastructure to the slum dwellers brought some amount of relief, although the process of rehabilitating the dwellers was not very well planned. During the stakeholder consultation, it was found that there was lot of uncertainty in the rehabilitation process. The slum dwellers were not provided the transit housing post-evacuation. Some of the dwellers were forced to construct and live in temporary houses before being allotted permanent residence.

The displaced communities are now rehabilitated in multiple locations; this has created a set of economic as well as social challenges for the individuals. During the primary survey, it was found that few individuals are satisfied with the relocation as they have a permanent settlement but there is an unsatisfied lot too which is unhappy after the displacement due to varied reasons like amenities, distance, neighborhood etc. Nevertheless, in their

memories they gather more about the living space and the memories with respect to the river was only limited to washing utensils or doing laundry or bathing.

Other than these, it seemed the connection with the river was not much. All the activities of interacting with the river were polluting the river in one or the other way. When asked about the feelings about the riverfront and the river, they looked at it as a lost space which used to be their dwelling at one point of time. The houses which they have been allotted are having the basic amenities of kitchen toilet and water. Drinking water is still a problem.

Conclusion

The river has great memories in the minds of the older generation but later on before the development of the river front it was occupied by slum dwellers and it was no more an accessible part of the city occupied with dirt and waste. Rapid urbanization had led to the deterioration of the river. The development of the riverfront had given it a new image but the relevance of the river as an integral part of the lives of the citizens has vanished due to urbanization. People now use the place more as a place of recreation without much physical interaction with water. Urbanization has definitely changed the meaning of a river in terms of cultural aspects, traditions and heritage.

The cultural settings around the river have seen a major shift. The religious settings along the river have also changed with the changing times and pace of life. The urban river once used as a source of livelihood and a dwelling place of urban poor has seen a dramatic shift. Now it is used more for relaxation, recreation, events etc. The general public feels associated with the river and has pride in the setting up of the riverfront in the city. The River is now witnessing more of commercialization. It can be concluded that the urban setting of the city has changed the role and meaning of the river. Now it is to be seen as to 'how commercialization is going to impact the river'.

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Inorganic and Organic Farming in India

Prof. A.V.V.S.K. Rao* & Dr. M. Ramulu**

[Today, there is awareness that “Green Revolution” model of agricultural development based on the package of inputs in the form of high yielding varieties, irrigation and agro-chemicals, has over the years, resulted in degraded soils, depleted and poisoned water, caused seed / biodiversity erosion and resulted in stagnating yields with high input costs and indebtedness for many farmers¹.]

There is now an intelligibility of the need for sustainable increase in yield often referred to as “Ever Green Revolution”. In the context of moving away from the earlier paradigm, two pathways are advocated by two distinctly different schools of thinking. On the one hand, there is a strong propaganda from the global seed companies that controls the patents of Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs) technology that this is the “Ever Green Technology” that is essential to provide food security and higher incomes.

On the other hand, another path, as enunciated in the world’s largest study of agricultural science and technology, the international assessment of agricultural science, knowledge and technology for development (IAASTD Study) commissioned by the World Bank, FAO and a number of UN agencies that supports agricultural systems that include organic farming, natural farming, bio-dynamic farming and a number of organic systems such as non-pesticide management rather than chemical based technologies.

The study points out that it is not GM but ecological agriculture by small farmers that holds the key to addressing issues of improved farm yields, food security and poverty reduction. This report was adopted by India amongst other countries.² The present paper gives a brief account of “Inorganic (GMO Crop) and Organic

Farming in India”. For the sake of analysis, the paper is sequenced into three sections as follows-

Section I deals with agricultural situation in India between 1960-1998. Section II examines organic (GMO Crop) Farming since the mid-1990s and Section III is about organic farming – Status and Trends.

SECTION – I

Agricultural Situation in India, 1960-1998

Indian economy at the time of Independence was overwhelmingly rural and agricultural in character with nearly 85 percent of the population living in villages and deriving their livelihood from agricultural and related pursuits using traditional, low productivity techniques. The backwardness of Indian economy is reflected in its unbalanced occupation structural with 70 percent of working population engaged in agriculture. Even with this large portion of population engaged in agriculture, the country was not self-sufficient in food and raw materials for industry. The average availability of food was not only deficient in quantity and quality but also precarious as exhibited in recurrent famines.³

Thus, agriculture is having been the mainstay of Indian economy because of its high share in employment and livelihood creation, notwithstanding, its reduced contribution to nation’s GDP. It is the most important sector of the Indian economy from the perspective of poverty alleviation and employment generation.⁴

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By the 1950s, the conditions in Indian agriculture were deplorable, besides, productivity of land as well as agricultural worker had been declining and comparatively lowest in the world. In spite of the fact that over 70 percent of working population was engaged in cultivation, the country was facing food-grain shortage and had to depend on large imports of food grains.

With a view to improve stagnant conditions in Indian agriculture, the Government of India implemented institutional reforms. However, it was clear by Sixties that incremental reforms had not yielded any substantial results. The achievement in this respect was depressing and frustrating.

Consequently, for rejuvenating Indian agriculture there was no alternative to technological change. The new technology substituted traditional robust but low-yielding varieties of seed by the exotic High-Yielding Variety (HYV). This created heavy demand for chemical fertilizers to supplement the natural fertility of the soil.

From 1966 to 1990, India had made substantial achievements in agricultural production in different phases. A radical change in food-grains production between 1966-1972 enabled India to become self-sufficient, food-grains imports declining to nearly zero. This had also led to the raise in the farmers' income, while output growth and increased food-grain supplies caused a decline in real food-grain prices, benefiting the poor. Thus, rural poverty declined significantly in this phase.

The HYV programme which ushered in Green Revolution initially experimented in wheat in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Western U.P. later on it was extended to rice in selected district of A.P., Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Later in early 1980s, the HYV technology spread eastward to states like West Bengal and Bihar which experienced surpluses in rice. However, in the rest of the country the Green Revolution ran out of steam by late 1980s.

TABLE-I
Food grains area and production

Year	Area (million hectares)	Production (Million tons)
1960-61	115.58	82.02
1970-71	124.32	108.42
1980-81	26.67	129.59
1990-91	1127.84	176.39
1997-98	124.00	192.43

Source: Indian budget.nic.in

It was been realized by the late 1990s that there were limits to increasing the food-grains production through increase in the area under cultivation because the country had almost reached a plateau in so far cultivatable land is concerned (Table-I). The contribution of high yielding varieties which had been the basis of Green Revolution in the seventies had now plateaued and there was hardly any fresh contribution to growth in yields.

Slowdown in growth

The sixties recorded a low annual growth of 1.72 percent necessitating large scale imports of food grains. Annual growth of 2.08 percent was recorded during the seventies. This decade was the turning point in India's food grain economy. An annual growth of 3.5 percent in food grains in the eighties was the hallmark of the Green Revolution that enabled India to become self-sufficient in food grains and marginal exporter (Table -II)

Table - II
Compound annual growth rates of food grains (percent per annum)

Crop	1960-61 to 1969-70	1970-71 to 1979-80	1980-81 to 1989-90	1990-91 to 1997-98
Rice	-8.05	1.91	4.29	1.53
Wheat	5.90	4.69	4.24	3.67
Coarse cereals	1.48	0.74	0.74	-0.49
Total cereals	2.51	2.37	3.63	1.84
Pulses	1.35	-0.54	2.78	0.76
Total food grains	1.72	2.08	3.54	1.66

When in 1987 the worst drought of the century struck the country, food needs could be easily met without any loss of lives. The decade of the nineties could not maintain this pace and annual growth having fallen to 1.7 percent was just about equal to annual population growth rate. This trend had to be reversed.

SECTION –II

“Two things are infinite

The Universe and human stupidity, and

I’m not sure about the Universe”

-Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Inorganic (GM Crop) Farming

Global population was around 1.6 billion in 1900 today it is nearly 7.2 billion. The recorded population of Indian sub-continent was around 271 million. Average life span at birth in India in 1900 was 23 years, today it is around 65 years. For a while, imagine a world in which medical revolution would have occurred, but agriculture would have stayed frozen at 1900 levels i.e. no chemical fertilizers, no agrochemicals for crop protection, no mechanization and no systematic agri-research. A health revolution sans agricultural revolution would have caused massive starvations, untold human misery and rise of extreme ideologies.

The World Health Organisation defines (GMO) as “organisms in which the genetic material

(DNA) has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally⁵. The first Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) field trials were conducted in the case of sunflower in 1990. Later, an American seed giant Monsanto introduced Bt. Technology in India in cotton (1995) and brinjal (2005). India’s leading seed company Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company better known as MAHYCO licensed and used the gene obtained from Monsanto. MAHYCO signed an agreement to develop Bt. Brinjal with two agricultural universities, University of Agricultural Science (USA) in Dharwad (Karnataka) and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) in Coimbatore.

Monsanto’s seeds in India did not produce what the company promised and farmers hoped. The farmers were not aware that GM seeds require more water than the traditional seeds. Beside this, frequent monsoon failure in different parts of India worsened crop failure. With no harvest, the farmers could not pay back debts.

Monsanto seed monopolies, the destruction of alternatives, the collection of super profits in the form of royalties, and increasing vulnerability to monoculture had created a situation of debt, suicides, and agrarian distress driving the farmer suicide epidemic in India. To date an estimated 200,000 farmers have committed suicide all over India. The farmers who took to this extreme step usually cultivated cash crops such as cotton and chilies, which are either not part of government

procurement system or inadequately covered by it. Usually, they are marginal farmers working on small, un-irrigated land holdings and parts of their borrowings are private sources. The systemic control has been intensified with Bt. Cotton. That is why most suicides are in the cotton belt chiefly Maharashtra⁶.

According to a latest study (March 2015) published by Center for the Analysis of Sustainable Agricultural System, California (USA), annual suicide rates of farmers in rain-fed areas are directly related to increase in Bt. Cotton adoption. Revisiting the raw annual suicide data for Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra during 2001-2010, the study found 86,607 of 549,414 suicides were by farmers and 87 percent men in the age group of 30-44⁷.

The reaction of farmers to this new technology has been mixed in the initial stages. Some farmers have quickly adopted the technology. Other farmers, mindful of the controversy surrounding GMO crops, have hesitated to use GM seeds as part of their agricultural operation. GMO technology may be more appropriate for farmers who face difficulties in spraying pesticides and herbicides. GM seeds may work well for farms that are highly mechanized farms and close to water bodies.

SECTION –III

“If rational men cooperated and used their

*Scientific knowledge to the full, they could now
Secure the economic welfare of all”*

-Betrend Russel (1872-1970)

Organic Farming –Trends and prospects

It is clear that India recorded a tremendous growth of agricultural production in the era of Green Revolution (GR). In spite of the fact that food security of India was definitely addressed by GR technology, an important setback was that farmers using these technologies still had to depend on purchased inputs – chemical

fertilizers and pesticides. It is due to many advantages of organic farming over the modern agricultural practices that is drawing the attention of farmers across the globe.

Organic farming system essentially encompasses supportive biological processes without the intervention of inorganic remedies such as chemicals or bio-technological intervention like genetically modified organisms (GMO). The concept of organic farming has been given a special relevance in *Rig Veda*.

Commercialization of agriculture has been found to have a negative impact on the environment. An interesting fact is that the fertilizers have a short – term effect on productivity but on the contrary have a long-term negative effect on the environment. In the name of meeting the ever-increasing needs of population growth, we have taken a wrong turn of unsustainability.

Organic Farming in India

Organic farming system in India is not new and is being followed from ancient time, it is a method of farming system which primarily aims at cultivating the land and raising crops in such a way as to keep the soil alive and in good health by use of organic wastes (crop, animal and farm wastes, aquatic wastes) and other biological materials along with beneficial microbes (bio-fertilizers) to release nutrients to crops for increased sustainable production free environment⁸.

More than 60 percent of India’s arable land is under traditional agriculture where no synthetic inputs are being used. Although, the products grown under such systems have so far not been defined as organic products but by any measure they are genuine organic products. The renewed interest in organic farming in India is mainly due to three main reasons, reduction in agriculture yield in certain areas as a result of excessive and indiscriminatory use of chemical inputs, decreased soil fertility and a concern environment.

TABLE – III

Organic Agriculture – Area, number of producers retail sales-2015

Country	Area	% of total agricultural land	Producers
Australia	22,690,000	5.6	1876
China	2,609,928	0.5	9990
Argentina	3,073,422	2.1	1074
USA	2,029,327	0.7	14871
Italy	1,492,579	11.7	52602
Uruguay	2,307,421	9.0	690
Spain	2,969,570	7.9	34673
Brazil	756,000	0.3	10323
Germany	1,088,838	6.5	27078
UK	495,929	3.0	3434
Canada	944,558	1.4	4267
France	1,375,328	5.0	28884
India	1,180,000	0.7	585200
Japan	10645	0.3	2230
World (Total)	50,929,006	11.1	2417424

Source: FiBL-IFOAM survey 2017

Organic agriculture is now practiced in more than 170 countries with a total area of 50.9 million hectares by 2.4 million producers of organic farms. This constitute about 11.1 percent of total agricultural land of the World (Table-III). Global demand for organic products remains robust, with sales increasing by over 5 billion US Dollars a year. Globalized sales of organic food and drink reached 81.6 billion US dollars in 2015. North America and Europe generate the most organic product sales, nearly 90 percent.

In 2015, the countries with the largest organic markets, included the USA (35.8 billion Euros), Germany (8.6 billion Euros) and France (5.5 billion Euros). The largest single market was the United States (nearly 47 percent of the global market, followed by the European Union (35 percent) and China (6 percent)

TABLE –IV

Area shown and area under organic Certification process
(Including wild harvest)

States/UTs	Net Area Shown (000' ha)	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Andhra Pradesh	6686 (4.72%)	44395.67 (0.97%)	14350.72 (0.32%)	47456.77 (0.85%)	5909.13 (1.17%)	12325.03 (1.70%)
Goa	131 (0.09%)	13175.72 (0.29%)	13303.7 (0.30%)	153684.60 (2.76%)	8290.60 (1.64%)	12853.94 (1.77%)
Gujarat	10302 (7.20%)	102488.4 (2.25%)	48518.91 (1.09%)	41978.94 (0.75%)	45275.62 (8.97%)	46863.89 (6.40%)
Jammu & Kashmir	732 (0.51%)	32687.11 (0.70%)	776.48 (0.01%)	26834.26 (0.48%)	5121.14 (1.01%)	10035.38 (1.38%)

Karnataka	10523 (7.43%)	121507.56 (2.66%)	88728 (2.00%)	118739.70 (2.13%)	27191.27 (5.39%)	30716.21 (4.24%)
Kerala	2072 (1.46%)	15372.62 (0.33%)	6597.65 (0.14%)	15790.49 (0.28%)	10568.40 (2.09%)	15020.23 (2.07%)
Madhya Pradesh	15119 (10.68%)	2829249 (62.15%)	2866571.88 (64.74%)	432129.50 (7.78%)	144239.75 (28.59%)	232887.36 (32.20%)
Maharashtra	17406 (12.29%)	35449.98 (0.77%)	177345.48 (4.00%)	245339.30 (4.42%)	66504.92 (13.18%)	85536.66 (11.83%)
Orissa	4682 (3.30%)	92452.47 (0.53%)	24417.55 (0.55%)	43868.18 (0.79%)	18186.40 (3.60%)	49813.51 (6.88%)
Rajasthan	18349 (12.96%)	260827.88 (5.73%)	217712.19 (4.91%)	222319.10 (4.00%)	38289.04 (7.59%)	66020.35 (9.13%)
Sikkim	77 (0.05%)	7393.09 (0.16%)	1726.34 (0.03%)	25716.55 (0.46%)	43107.74 (8.54%)	60843.51 (8.41%)
Uttar Pradesh	16593 (11.72%)	26567.68 (0.58%)	111644.83 (2.52%)	2593821 (46.73%)	32889.85 (6.52%)	44670.10 (6.17%)
Uttarakhand	723 (0.51%)	33181.3 (4.72%)	105465.98 (2.60%)	122880.60 (2.21%)	20563.75 (4.07%)	24739.46 (3.42%)
Total	141515	4551899	4427519	5550405	504439.47	723039.04

Source: National Project on organic farming, Estimates Committee (2015-16), Lok Sabha, 9th report, Chapter-4.

By 2013-14 in India, there were about 141515 hectares areas under organic farming with 723039 number of certified organic farms. This accounts for about 0.7 percent of total agricultural land. Indian organic farming industry is estimated at 100.4 million US Dollars and is almost entirely export-oriented. Some estimate that this sector is growing at nearly 50 percent per annum in India. Besides, the total volume of organic exports was pegged at 1.6 lakhs metric tonnes in 2012-13 and this was worth Rs.1156 crore.⁹

The Indian states involved in organic farming are West Bengal, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Orissa.

It has been demonstrated extensively that plant products from organic farming are substantially better in quality like bigger in size, look, flavor and aroma. Animal products are of better quality when they are fed with feed and fodder produced organically. The underground water of the area where organic farming system is in practice has been found to be free of toxic chemicals.

Though 50 percent of the organic food production in India is targeted towards exports, the domestic consumption has been rising for the last one decade. Domestic demand is low for the simple reason as organic food is priced over 25 percent more than conventional food in India. But not good numbers of people are willing to pay this higher premium due to perceived health benefits of organic food.

It may be noticed that even though the cost production of organic farming is low, yet the cost during the initial transition from chemical farming

to organic farming is quite high. Currently, most of the organic farmers in India are still in transition phase and hence their costs are still high. As these farmers continue with organic farming, the production costs are expected to reduce making India as one of the most important

producers of organic food. Presently, organic food products exported from India include the following:

Organic cereals	:	Wheat, rice, maize or corn
Organic Pulses	:	Red gram, black gram
Organic fruits	:	Banana, Mango, Orange, Pineapple, Cashewnut, Walnut
Organic Seeds & Oils	:	Soybean, Sunflower, mustard, cotton seed, ground nut castor
Organic Vegetables	:	Brinjal, garlic, potato, tomato, onion
Organic herbs & spices	:	Chilli, peppermint, cardamom, turmeric, black pepper, amla, Tamarind, ginger, vanilla, clove ³ , cinnamon, nutmeg, mace.
Others	:	Jaggery, sugar, tea, coffee, cotton, textiles

Many studies have revealed that organic agriculture is productive and sustainable, organic food production costs are higher in the developed countries as organic farming is labour intensive and labour is costly in these countries. But in a country like India, where labour is quite abundant and relatively cheap, organic farming has immense potential.

Conclusion

Agriculture as the backbone of the Indian economy is supported by the fact that nearly 67 percent of India's population and 55 percent of total workforce depends on agriculture and other allied activities. In the wake of Indian agriculture reaching its heights with increasing area under cultivation, productivity and production of food grains, thereby food security is being taken care of. In India a little more than half of total land mass of 328.73 million hectare i.e. nearly 182.46 million hectares (55.5 percent) is used for agriculture. Still nearly 44 percent of land mass can be used for farming purpose in sustainable manner.

As India entered globalization and reforms were initiated, Indian agriculture faced difficulties.

Hitherto, the government had supplied nearly all agricultural inputs at highly subsidized rates that resulted in a kind of revolution in Indian agriculture. The cheaper availability of inputs supposed to increase the consumption of fertilizers and land under irrigation facilities so as to increase the total food grains production by increasing the yield and area under cultivation. With cut in subsidies, input costs hiked for farmers thereby farming became a costly proposition.

The growth performance of Indian agriculture has decelerated significantly after the opening of the economy. Since agriculture continues to be the largest sector of the economy in terms of employment, the deceleration of growth of this sector has serious implications for the living standard of agricultural workers, both farmers and agricultural labour¹⁰.

Since it is proved by many economists and policy makers that there is strong correlation between increase in agricultural output on one hand, and increase in industrial production and national income on the other, India has to look for better farming techniques, as it has to feed large population.

There are many who while approving organic agriculture, want a mixture of both the systems or advocate a careful approach by proceeding slowly towards the conversion of the conventional farms into organic. The questions about the yield and financial viability are crucial from the point of view of farmers; but they remain unanswered to a large extent. As per World Hunger Report India's hunger index report improved to from 97 to 100 (2017). However, India tops with 191 million people. If food grains situation is not improved with better farming techniques there is the possibility, the country sliding into the 'failed state' category as happened in the African Continent four decades ago. This has to be averted¹¹. Any changes in farming practice pose a serious threat to agriculture, therefore, to the economy and food security.

For several problems being faced by Indian agriculture, The Estimates Committee under the chairmanship of Murali Manohar Joshi on Organic Farming (2015-16) suggested some solutions. One of the suggestions is promotion of organic farming cultivation in India. A change over from agro-chemical farming to bio-fertilizer organic farming, the Government of India can reduce subsidy burden of Rs.80 thousand crore a year to a third.

For the last two decades, governments irrespective of their political leanings have not done anything substantially for agriculture sector. People with higher food safety, better health and training can contribute to improve productivity in major segments of economy, namely agriculture and industry. This will lead to a better quality of life for all people enabling the country to achieve the ideal of welfare in a liberal, mixed economy.

*"The farmers are the founders of
Civilization and prosperity"*

- *Danial Webster*

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Scheduled Castes in Kerala – An Empirical Analysis

Dhanya Shankar.K.S*

[Even though the Government is providing a wide array of schemes and policies for the emancipation of the Scheduled Caste population, it often fails to bring them to the forefront of the society and to reduce the existing gap between them and affluent sections of the society. The existing literature showcased their lack of capacity as the fundamental reason for their deprived status. This lack of capacity is attributed to their income, caste, wealth and educational status. But various modern thinkers repudiate the notion of calculating deprivation on the basis of money and income and point out various approaches for evaluating human deprivation. Nobel laureate Amartya Sen pointed out that the lack of capability to achieve different functions caused for deprivation in people's lives rather than the low income and scarce resources. So, the present study tries to find out the extent of capability and economic deprivation among SC population in Kerala and pattern of their human capital investment, their socioeconomic status and various schemes intended for their welfare and human capital formation. A multistage sampling method was adopted for the study. Various domains, indicators, statistical tools like discriminant analysis, regression analysis etc. have been employed in the study and it is proved that increasing the level of capability and human capital formation will ensure their progress. Both rural and urban areas have been experiencing deprivation depending on different domains and their indicators.]

The term 'SC' appeared for the first time in Government of India Act of 1935. The deprivation of Scheduled Caste population is associated with the historical processes of economic & social exclusion and discrimination based on caste (Varna System). In spite of sustained and consistent efforts on the part of the government to improve the condition of Scheduled Castes, this social group continues to be categorized amongst the poorest and most subordinated in Indian society by any measure of human development.

The caste system has implanted all its perils on the shoulders of scheduled caste population and made them the most oppressed class of Indian subcontinent. The origin of caste system in India dates back to the advent of Aryans. Later Indian society has been stratified on the basis of Varna. Vedic texts and literature throws light to that

segregation and subjugated condition of lower caste population. The only menial occupation has been allowed to such sections of the population. They had been deprived of all types of social and economic benefactions. Hence, they remained on the lowest ladder of growth and development.

Their situation was always worse during all the eras of Indian history. The practice of 'untouchability' resulted in great injustice to the members of the concerned castes because they were discriminated against in every respect, and denied ownership of productive assets like land, as well as basic rights like education and equality, which resulted in the perpetuation of their extreme socio-economic deprivation.

Research gap

The existing literature states about the issue of the caste system, insufficient income, poverty, low educational status, inadequate consumption expenditure which leads to an impoverished life

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of SC masses (Ambedkar 1948; J.H. Hutton 1963; Saradmoni 1980; Kakar 1990; Pattil 1990; Ahuja 1992; Gopal Guru 1993). Due to various constitutional safeguard measures, government schemes and legislation, educational policies over last few decades, their status has undergone vast changes (R.B. Bhagat 2013; Govardhan Wankhede 2016; Thiagu Ranganathan 2017).

Even though it has caused a positive shift to their addressed issues mentioned earlier, still they remain in a deprived position compared to the advantaged sections of the society. Their enrolment ratio has increased but it can't claim the improvement in their educational status and attainment of gainful employment. It is an undeniable fact that money income can't always procure welfare to the individual. The welfare of the individual includes freedom of choice, the capability of living a good life at their disposal with adequate means of living. The government envisages and implements an adequate level of health amenities, educational facilities, housing schemes etc to the SC population.

But whether they are deprived of in availing and using these facilities? Whether the attained educational qualification is enough to make them self-reliant or capable of having a decent standard of living? Are there any barriers to the attainment of basic needs of housing, services, proper living environment etc? Whether they suffer from the lack of capabilities related to satisfying basic needs of food, shelter, nutrition, water, living environment etc? The present study focuses on these unidentified areas of Scheduled Caste population.

Statement of the Problem

Kerala is well known for its achievements in social sectors - literacy, basic education, sex - ratio in favour of females, health, and life - expectancy, public distribution etc. Even though the condition of scheduled caste population in Kerala is better, when compared to the other states of India, still they are considered to be an excluded social group. Kerala can't claim a major improvement in reducing their inequality

and deprivation in all fields of their life with the rest of the population. The government of India has introduced various schemes at the central, state and even at grass root level. Yet, they are still living in a very pathetic condition. In this context, the socio-economic development of scheduled castes has been considered to be an important obligation.

The outcome of social and economic reforms is uneven and far from satisfactory as far as the achievement of the stated goals is concerned. In spite of the various constitutional safeguards and all the different schemes for their enrichment, the socio-economic condition of Scheduled Castes is found to be much lower than that of the rest of the society. Even though the state has achieved progress in economic terms, we can't determine it as the status of all subdivisions its population.

Economic progress is not the sole measure of individual's wellbeing. But, the social well-being of the citizen, freedom of choice, women empowerment, political freedom etc. matters. The present study of deprivation of Scheduled Caste households in Kerala is an effort to investigate and collect evidence on their present conditions in this perspective.

Objectives of the study

The following are the main objectives of the present study.

- To study the status of Scheduled Caste population in Kerala on the basis of various socio-economic domains and indicators.
- To understand the pattern of human capital investment by Scheduled Caste households in Kerala.
- To assess the capability and economic deprivation among scheduled caste population in both rural and urban areas on the basis of gender.

Hypothesis

- There is a direct relationship between the income and expenditure for the human capital formation by the SC household.

- Economic deprivation among Scheduled caste females exceeds than that of Scheduled Caste males.
- Capability Deprivation exceeds among Scheduled Caste households in rural area than Scheduled Caste households in urban areas
- Theoretical Framework

This segment deals with the theoretical foundation of the present study and different approaches to growth and development. The theoretical perspective developed in this study may be prefaced with a discussion of the existing theories of development that have been evolved by academicians to explain the process of development. The classical theory based primarily on the work of Adam Smith is taken as the first attempt to explain economic growth. According to his theory, growth is the result of the expansion of productive inputs and improvements in technology. For him, investment in physical and human capital is the key to economic growth. Adam Smith identified three main factors, which determine development viz., the productivity of labour, markets and zero political interventions.

Solow, the best exponent of neo-classical theory, included the productivity of labour and its re-investment as the two determinates of growth. The neo-classical economists assumed that individuals in the economy are independent of political control. The another category is the geographic and location theory largely popularized by Jeffery Sachs and Jared Diamond. This theory suggests that climatic conditions and access to market are the primary determinants of development.

The other approach emphasizes substantive nature of the economy. It is known as the institutional approach and stresses the importance of creating an institutional framework and policy environment conducive to the smooth operation of markets, the realization of gains from trade and entrepreneurial activities. Douglass North and Peter Bauer are the main proponents of this theory. The main approach of the study, inter alia,

includes Human Capital Investment Approach and Capability approach

Even though the Government is proving a wide array of schemes and policies for the emancipation of the Scheduled Caste population, it often fails to bring them to the forefront of the society and to reduce the existing gap between them and affluent sections of the society. Various Studies have been conducted so far, for understanding the underlying factors for this particular issue. The existing literature showcased their lack of capacity as the fundamental reason for their deprived status. This lack of capacity is attributed to their income, caste, wealth and educational status.

But various modern thinkers repudiate the notion of calculating deprivation on the basis of money and income and pointed out various approaches for evaluating human deprivation. Human capital formation approach popularized by Adam Smith, Veblen, Marshall, Gary Becker, Harbison, Schultz, Dension, Kendrick, Abramowitz, Bowman, Kuznets etc focuses on increasing knowledge, health and skills of all people of the country thereby decreasing the deprivation among the population.

Nobel laureate Amartya Sen pointed out that the lack of capability to achieve different functions caused for deprivation in people's lives rather than the low income and scarce resources. So, the present study emphasises on the need and prospects of improving capability and human capital formation among SC population for reducing their deprivation.

Rationale for selecting sample areas/Sample design

A multi-stage sampling procedure was adopted for selecting the sample units

— First Stage-Clustering of all districts of Kerala into two groups based on generalized deprivation index of Scheduled Caste population based on HDR 2005

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