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Role of Financial Inclusion in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals

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ABSTRACT

Financial Inclusion is defined as the availability and equality of opportunities to access financial services. One of it's aim is to get the unbanked and underbanked to have better access to financial services. Basic goal of sustainable development is the long term stability of the economy and the environment which can be achieved through the integration of economic, social and environmental concerns during the decision making process. Financial inclusion can lead to sustainable economic development. The sustainable development goals are a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a 'Blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. These goals can be achieved through financial inclusion ..This paper examines the role of financial inclusion in achieving Sustainable Development Goals. This paper highlights the financial inclusion policies adopted in different countries worldwide. This paper focuses on the financial inclusion policies initiated by the Government of India. This paper recommends some strategies to strengthen the role of financial inclusion in achieving sustainable goals successfully.

Keywords- Financial inclusion, Sustainable Economic Development, Sustainable Development Goals.

INTRODUCTION

Financial Inclusion means individuals and businesses have access to useful and affordable financial products and services that meet their needs like transactions, payments, savings, credit and insurance delivered in a responsible and sustainable manner. Having access to a transaction account is a first step towards the broader financial inclusion as a transaction account allows people to store money, to send and to receive payments. A transaction account serves as a gateway to other financial services, that is why ensuring that people world wide can have access to a transaction account is the focus of the World Bank Group's Universal Financial Access 2020 initiative. Financial access facilitates day to day transactions, helps families and businesses plan for everything from long term goals to unexpected emergencies. As account holders are more likely to use other financial services such as credit and insurance to start and expand businesses, invest in education, health, risk management and financial shocks which can in tern improve the overall quality of their lives. Financial inclusion has been identified as an enabler for 7 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The G20 High-Level Principles for Digital Financial Inclusion. The World Bank Group considers financial inclusion as a key factor to reduce extreme poverty and boost prosperity and has put forward an ambitious global goal to achieve Universal Financial Access (UFA) by 2020. Since 2010, more than 55 countries have made commitments to financial inclusion and more than 60 have either launched or are developing a national strategy.

In India the concept of financial inclusion was first familiarized in the year 2005 by R.B.I while releasing annual Policy Statement. Financial Inclusion includes poorest of the poor people in the formal banking industry with the objective of saving their minimal finances for future purposes. Many poor people are cheated and exploited by rich landlords as well as unlicensed money lenders due to their vulnerable conditions. Financial inclusion can change this serious and hazardous condition. Financial inclusion strengthens the financial system of the country. It assures the availability of economic resources. Most importantly it strengthens the concept of savings among poor people living in both rural and urban areas. This way it contributes towards the progress of the economy. Financial inclusion promotes sustainable economic development. An efficient financial system in a country plays a crucial role in smooth and efficient functioning of the economy.

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OBJECTIVES

- 1. To examine the role of financial inclusion in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.
- 2. To highlight the financial inclusion policies adopted in different countries worldwide.
- 3. To focus the financial inclusion policies initiated by the Government of India.
- 4. To explore the outcome of financial inclusion policies initiated by the Government of India.
- 5. To recommend some strategies to strengthen the role of financial inclusion in achieving sustainable goals successfully.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

It is basically a descriptive study. The data related to this study have been gathered from various secondary data sources which include information from books, journals, articles and internet

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

On 25 September 2015,,the united nations General Assembly adopted the 2030Agenda for sustainable development, along with a new set of development goals that are collectively called Sustainable Development goals (SDGs). The SDGs are:

- 1. No Poverty
- 2. Zero Hunger
- 3. Good Health and Wellbeing
- 4. Quality Education
- 5. Gender Equality
- 6. Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7. Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 10. Reducing Inequality
- 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12. Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13. Climate Action
- 14. Life Below Water
- 15. Life on Land
- 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17. Partnerships for the Goals

Financial inclusion means that people have access and can effectively use appropriate financial services. Such services must be provided responsibly and sustainably in a well regulated environment. Financial services can help people to make investments to escape poverty.

Since ancient times the Philosophers and Thinkers have preoccupied with the issues of equality and justice. Reducing the inequalities and increasing the degrees of inclusiveness can lead to sustainable development. Financial Inclusion can be the key tool for poverty alleviation, reduction in inequalities of income levels, Social inclusion of disadvantaged and marginalized people and inclusive Growth .Hence financial inclusion can play an important role in achieving SDGs.

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Financial Inclusion Policies AdoptedIn Other Countries-

Financial inclusion is rising globally. The 2017 Global Findex data base reveals that 1.2 billion adults have obtained an account since 2011 . the share of adults who have an account with a financial institution or through mobile money service increased globally from 62% to 69% between 2014 and 2017 that is in 3 years of time span. In developing countries the share increased from 54% to 63%. Women in developing countries remain 9 percentage points less likely than men to have a bank account.

Financial inclusion is seen as a policy priority in many countries in recent periods.

- 1. Financial inclusion Task Force (2005) in U.K
- 2. Community Reinvestment Act (1997) in U.S
- 3. "No frills" Accounts in India (2006)
- 4. "Everyman Account" in Germany (1996)
- 5. "Mzansi" account in South Africa (2004)
- 6. Emphasis on right to have a bank account by law on exclusion (1998) in France.

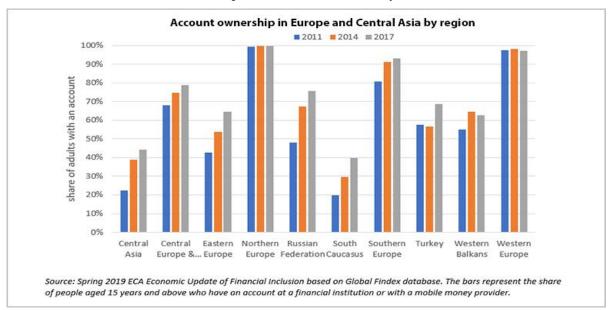
In 2017 around 116 million adults in the developing countries still had no bank account and almost 60 % of unbanked are women. In today's highly globalized, technology driven world this shows us that we have a long way to go for ensuring greater inclusion and opportunities for all.

Over the past decade account ownership has been increasing in overall Europe and Central Asia from 45 % of the adult population in 2011 rose to 65% in 2017 but the data reveals differences across sub regions. In the high income countries in Europe ,most adults already own an account and 55 % save in formally in financial institutions. However in South Caucasus and Central Asia the levels of banked adults are still low in spite of the fact that there is increase in the no. of banked adults in these countries in the recent times.

Armenia ,Georgia, Moldova, the Kyrgyz, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan are among the countries that have experienced the greatest increases globally but they started from a low base.

Interestingly over 80% of the unbanked population in Europe and Central Asia a possess mobile phone .

Source-(Asli Demirguc-Kunt and Cyril Muller , https;//www.wordbank.org/en/news/opinion/2019/04/05/financial-inclusion-in-europe-and-central-asia-the-way-forward)



Source-(Asli Demirguc-Kunt and Cyril Muller,

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2.6 Financial Inclusion Policies Initiated by Government of India And Their Outcome

1.Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)- PMJDY is a Government initiated scheme for poor and needy people with a National Mission for Financial Inclusion, particularly to provide access to financial services such as savings and deposit accounts, remittance, credit, insurance, pension etc.at an affordable rates. The scheme was announced on the eve of the Independence Day in 2014 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Features

- 1. This is a financial inclusion scheme applicable to 10 to 65 years age group.
- 2. The Government Plans to offer one lakh accident insurance cover and RS. 30,000 life Insurance cover for those who opened accounts before 26 th January.
- 3. 4% interest per annum on money deposit is given.
- 4. There is no criterion for minimum balance.
- 5. Money can be transferred to any other authorized account in India.
- 6. Overdraft facility up to Rs.10,000 is available after operating bank account for 6 months.
- 7. The Government subsidies can be directly transferred to the beneficiary's account reducing delay and any leakage to get service.
- 8. The accounts opened under this scheme are Zero balance account and if the account holder wishes to get cheque book, the person has to fulfill the minimum balance criteria if any of the bank.
- 9. The interest rate charged on the overdraft value will be lower of (base rate+ 2%) or 12 %.
- 10. The account holder is entitled to take a loan up to Rs. 5000 after six months from opening the account. The loan amount may seem very less but this scheme is meant for people who are marginalized and poor.

Outcome

- 1. 15 million bank accounts were opened on the inauguration day. The Guinness Book of World Records recognized this achievement.
- 2. 29.43 crore bank accounts have been opened so far including 176.1 million account holders from rural and semi urban areas.
- 3. Rs 65,532.77 crore balances are there in these accounts.
- 4. 1.26 lakh Bank Mitras are delivering branchless banking services.
- 5. There are nearly 25 crore Jan Dhan accounts in the country of which nearly 5.8 crore are zero balance accounts.
- **2.** Suknya SamriddhiYojna(SSY)- This scheme is a financial inclusion scheme for girls. Prime MinisterNarendra Modi launched the Suknya Samriddhi Yojna under the "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" campaign on 22 nd January 2015. The aim of this scheme is to meet the education and marriage expenses of a girl child.

Features

- 1. It permits opening of one account per girl child. A family can have a maximum two accounts if there are 2 girl children.
- 2. A third account can also be opened if the first or second delivery results in twins or triplets.
- 3. Minimum RS. 1000 and maximum of RS. 1.5 lakhs can be deposited during one financial year.
- 4. Deposits in the account can be made until the completion of 14 years from the date of opening of the account.

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- 5. The account can be closed only when the girl becomes 21 years of age. If the account is not closed and the money is not withdrawn even after 21 years of age, interest can still be earned on the account.
- 6. Birth certificate has to be submitted at the time of opening the account.
- 7. Upto 50% of the balance can be withdrawn to meet educational requirements of the girl after she turns 18 years of age.
- 8. Mony can be transferred from one authorized account to another or from post office to any authorized bank and vice versa.
- 9. It offers interest rate 8.6% and provides income tax benefits.

Outcome

- 1. By mid March 2015, within 2 months of launch, 1,80,000 accounts had been opened under this scheme.
- 2. Karnataka ,Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh reported highest number of new accounts.
- 3. The number of accounts opened up to October 2015 under this scheme across the country was 76,19,668.
- 4. The impact is that 76,19,668 girl children got Rs. 28.38 billion deposited in their name.

3. Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)-

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Jojna (PMMY) is a scheme launched by Prime Minister on Aril 8,2015 for providing loans up to RS. 10 lakhs to the non corporate,non farm small/micro enterprises. These loans are classified as MUDRA loans under PMMY. These loans are given by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks, Mutual Funds(MFIs) and Non Bank Financial Institutions(NBFIs). The borrower can approach any of the lending institutions mentioned above or can apply through this portal www.udamimitra.in. Under the aegis of PMMY,MUDRA has created three products namely Shishu, Kishore and Tarun to signify the stage of growth/development and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit/entrepreneur and also provide a reference point for the next phase of growth.

Features-

- 1. Under the scheme a loan of up to Rs.50000 is being given under sub scheme Shishu, between RS. 50000 to 5 lakhs under sub scheme Kishore, and between 5 lakhs to 10 lakhs under the sub scheme Tarun.
- 2. Mudra loans can be availed for vehicles (commercial vehicle loan, car loan or two wheeler loan).
- 3. Repayment of the loan is as high as 7 years.

Outcome

- 1. Loans extended under PMMY during 2016-17 have crossed the target of RS. 1,80,000 crore for 2016-17. Of this Rs.1,23,000 crore was lent by banks while non banking institutions lent about Rs.57,000.
- 2. During 2019-20 amount sanctioned Rs.185152.11 Crore, Number of PMMY loans sanctioned 36680492 and amount disbursed RS. 179586.21 crore.

4. Stand Up IndiaScheme

Stand Up India Scheme was launched by Government of India on 5 th April 2016 to support entrepreneurship among women and SC & ST communities. It is similar to but distinct from Start Up India.

Features

1. This scheme facilitates bank loans between RS.10 lakh and 1 crore to at least one Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribe borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up greenfield enterprises.

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2. This enterprise can be manufacturing, services or the trading sector.

Outcome

As on 11 th April 2017, RS. 5807.7 crore has been sanctioned in 28444 accounts. Of these women hold 22708 accounts with sanctioned loan of RS.4740.11 crore, Schedule Caste persons hold 4487 accounts with amount of RS.825.17 crore while Scheduled Tribe persons hold 1249 accounts with a sanctioned amount of RS. 242.43 crore.

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Financial inclusion can play an important role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals.
- 2. Different countries worldwide initiated financial inclusion policies.
- 3. Government of India has initiated various policies related to financial initial inclusion.
- 4. The outcomes of some of the initiatives are to some extent satisfactory.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Financial inclusion is not just about opening of bank accounts. Financial Inclusion policies should be more goal oriented to achieve sustainable development in India.

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सुनीता मिश्रा

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सारांश

आधुनिक हिंदी कविता भारतेंदु युग से चलकर द्विवेदी युग, छायावाद, प्रगतिवाद, प्रयोगवाद जैसे कई पड़ावों को पार करती हुई नई कविता के धरातल पर पहुंची। इन सभी युगों में कविता अलग दृष्टि व संवेदना से जुड़ी है,अर्थात हर युग की अपनी— अपनी काव्य दृष्टि रही है। नई कविता सतत विकास की एक रूपरेखा भी स्पष्ट करती है। परिवर्तन की परंपरा के इतिहास में नई कविता की अपनी एक अलग पहचान है,उसका अपना एक महत्व है।

नई कविता ने परंपरा से रस तो ग्रहण किया किंतु उसकी अनुगामी या पुजारी नहीं बनी, अपितु प्रबुद्ध चेतना द्वारा युग की पीठिका पर प्रयोग करके आगे बढ़ने व जीवन मूल्य प्राप्त करने में विश्वास रखती अपना स्वयं का दृष्टिबोध लेकर नितांत संवेदनशील, बौद्धिकता,समसामयिकता, आधुनिक बोध, परिवेशगत यथार्थ और लेखक के अनुभूति से अटूट रिश्ता रखती नई कविता आधुनिक हिंदी काव्य धारा में अपनी एक अलग व विशिष्ट पहचान बनाने में समर्थ रही है। नई कविता व्यष्टि से होते हुए समष्टि तक विभिन्न संवेदनात्मक बिंदुओं को अत्यंत सूक्ष्म रूप से छूते हुए पहुंचती है। नई कविता हिंदी साहित्य के आधुनिक समय में रचे गए काव्य में संवेदना, शिल्प और वैचारिक धरातल पर एक ऐसी उपलब्धि है जिसे नकारा नहीं जा सकता ।

1950—51 के बाद जिस नई कविता का सृजन हुआ वह आधुनिक दृष्टिकोण की उदारता को और भावबोध की व्यापकता को लेकर आई। इसका भवबोध किसी भी प्रकार की रूढ़ि से कुंठित नहीं है। इसीलिए यह आशा—िनराशा, निर्माण—विध्वंस, सुंदर—असुंदर,आस्था—अनास्ता आदि सभी भावों, संवेदनाओं को लेकर चलती है। यह मनुष्य के देवत्व से नहीं अपितु उसके मनुष्यत्व से परिचित कराती है। वह बताती है कि 'हर आदमी में देवता है और हर देवतापन हमको नपुंसक बनता है।'

(जो बंधनहीं सका, गरजा कुमार माथुर)

ैनई कविता के विषय में डॉक्टर राजकुमार का कथन है मैं यह बौद्धिक चिंता ना वैज्ञानिक विश्लेषण सतत विकासशील दृष्टि प्रयोगशीलता रकात्मक तटस्थता आदि से संपन्न एक संस्कार परवाह है एक दिशा प्रक्रिया है मूल्य या तथ्य नहीं बल्कि एक भाव धार हैद्र।"

(नई कविता में मिथक, डॉ राजकुमार)

शैल्पिक दृष्टि से भी नई कविता प्रयोगधर्मी नई दृष्टि के साथ आई । उसने शैल्पिक धरातल पर युगानुरूप क्रांतिकारी परिवर्तन करके शिल्प के कई नए प्रतिमान स्थापित किए। भाषा,शब्द, प्रतीक, बिम्ब, उपमान— योजना, छंद, काव्य रूप आदि सभी धरातलों पर भिन्नता को लेकर नवीन शिल्प,नवीन विधान के साथ आगे बढ़ी। इसकी भाषा रिश्म तानों—बानों से नहीं अपितु यथार्थ के मोटे खुरदुरे धागों से बुनी गई है। वह सामान्य बोलचाल के निकट होकर भी कलात्मक और बिंबात्मक है। इसका क्षेत्र बहुत व्यापक है। इसके शब्द, प्रतीक,उपमान,बिम्ब आदि विविध क्षेत्रों से लिए गए हैं जो नवीन अर्थवता से युक्त सर्वथा नवीन है।छंद विधान की दृष्टि से नई कविता परंपरा से अलग हटकर मुक्त भूमि पर खड़ी है।

इस तरह नई कविता तर्के, बुद्धिं, ज्ञान, वैज्ञानिकता व विवेक की नई भूमि पर नए भाव व दृष्टिबोध के साथ खड़ी हुई और उसने हिंदी किवता में अपनी एक अलग पहचान बनाई। साथ ही साथ नई किवता ने लोकजीवन के बिंबो, प्रतीकों ,शब्दों और उपमानों को लोकजीवन के ही बीच से चुनकर अपने को अत्यधिक संवेदनापूर्ण तथा सजीव बनाया। वह अपनी अन्तर्लय बिंबात्मकता, नवीन प्रतीक—योजना,नवीन विशेषणों के प्रयोग, नवीन उपमानों से ओत—प्रोत होकर आधुनिक हिंदी किवता के जगत में कदम रखती है और मजबूती से अपने पैर जमाकर अपने महत्व को कायम करती है।

मूल शब्दः संवेदनात्मकता, विम्बात्मक, अन्तर्लय, प्रयोगधर्मी, उपादान, प्रयोगशीलता, स्वछंद, वैज्ञानिकता, बौद्धिकता, नवीनता आदि।

1954 ईस्वी में 'नई किवता' नामक पत्रिका के प्रकाशन से हिंदी काव्य जगत में नई किवता की प्रतिष्ठा हुई, जिसने नवलेखन अर्थात नए साहित्य को रचा तथा नई काव्य प्रवृत्तियों का गंभीर विवेचन किया । विजयदेव नारायण साही और अज्ञेय के संपादन में निकली इस पत्रिका ने हिंदी काव्य जगत में नवीनता बोध की लहर— सी उठा दी। वैसे तो नई किवता के सभी किव समीक्षकों ने यह बात स्वीकार की है कि प्रयोगवाद के तत्वाधान में कई नए प्रयोग काव्य में हुए इनमें से कुछ सफल प्रयोगों के आधार पर नई किवता की नींव पड़ी है और यह भी माना कि श्तीसरे सप्तकश् के प्रकाशन के साथ नई किवता सर्व स्वीकृत हो गई । काव्य और शिल्प के सामजस्य पर जोर देती नई किवता ने काव्य जगत में अपनी एक अलग विशिष्ट पहचान बनाई है। नई किवता की सारी भूमिकाएं और मान्यताएं नई हैं।

साहित्य और शिल्प का गहरा सम्बन्ध है तथा उसका अपना एक महत्व है,क्योंकि सिर्फ शिल्प ही वह माध्यम है जो रचनाकार के भावों को न केवल सजीव व साकार है करता अपितु आकर्षक व प्रभावशाली भी बनाता है। यदि एक शिल्पी अपने उपादानों से पत्थर में भी प्राण फूंक सकता है तो एक रचनाकार अपने तूलिका से अपने विचारों को सजीव—साकार कर सकता है। उसके उपादान उसकी भाषा और अभिव्यक्ति के विभिन्न माध्यम हैं। लेखक रूपी शिल्पी इन्हीं अभिव्यक्ति के विभिन्न माध्यम हैं। लेखक रूपी शिल्पी इन्हीं अभिव्यक्ति के विभिन्न माध्यमों से अपनी रचना को सँवारता है, सजाता है। नई कविता के कवि ने परम्परा की बंधी—बंधाई लीक को तोडी और अपने अन्तर्लय को नवीन प्रतीकों, बिम्ब— योजनाओं,नये विशेषणों व उपमानों के माध्यम से नवीनता के साथ प्रस्तुत किया है।

भाषा अभिव्यक्ति का सशक्त माध्यम है। भाषा के बिना साहित्य तो क्या सम्पूर्ण समाज गूंगा है। समाज की भाषा यदि बोलचाल व सम्पर्क स्थापित करने का कार्य करती है तो साहित्य सार्थक शब्दों की ललित कला है। काव्य की भाषा किसी एक पद्धति में बंधकर नहीं चलती। पहले कविता की भाषा छंदों, पदों काव्य -शास्त्रीय नियमों की गुलाम थी,परिणामतः कवि अपने मनोभावों को सहजता, सरलता व स्वतंत्रता से व्यक्त करने में कुछ हद तक मृश्किलों से जुझता था, उसके लिए भावों को अभिव्यक्त करना इतना आसान नहीं था जितना कि नई कविता के कवि लिए आसान था क्योंकि नई कविता के कवि ने सारे बन्धनों को तोड़कर जनभाषा अर्थात बोलचाल की भाषा को काव्य-भाषा के रूप में स्वतंत्रता व स्वछंदता की उडान दी। इस प्रकार नई कविता का नवीनता की प्रयोग- शीलता का पहला आयाम भाषा है। इन कवियों की भाषा सम्बन्धी प्रयोगशीलता ने कई वादों (छायावाद, प्रगतिवाद,प्रयोगवाद आदि) की सीमा तोड़ी। इनकी कविता में प्रयुक्त प्रत्येक शब्द व छंद का निर्माता कवि स्वयं है। इनकी भाषा के शब्द में बसनेवाला देवता कोई और नहीं लघु व सामान्य मानव है,जिसने उसका अर्थ निश्चित किया है तभी तो श्रमिकों की मानसिक स्थिति और कार्य करते समय उनके मुँह से उच्चरित निरर्थक शब्दों को भी सार्थक रूप में समाहित किया है। संस्कृत के साथ-साथ समाज में आसानी से प्रचलन में आनेवाले हिंदी, अंग्रेजी, देशज तथा उर्दू के शब्दों को अपने ढंग से सहेजकर नई कविता ने समाज की भाषा-बोली को नवजीवन दिया है। जैसे रू-

"बड़े शहर के ढंग और हैं, हम गोटे हैं यहाँ, दाँव गहरे हैं उस चौपड़ केदृ। ¹ (अज्ञेय) अथवा "अपना ठाठ फकीरी मंगनी के सुख—साज सेदृ।"²

(अरी ओ करुणा प्रभामय, अज्ञेय) इसी तरह अपने मन की भड़ास निकालते हुए धूमिल 'संसद से सड़के तक' में कहते हैं— "मैं खुद को कुरेद रहा हूँ जमी हुई काई और उगी हुई घास को खरोच रहा था, नोच रहा था।"³

(पटकथा)

अथवा "चिमनियों की गंध में डूबा हुआ शहर शाम थककर आ रही है, कारखानों मेंद्र।"⁴

(श्रीकांत वर्मा)

भाषा में कई नए शब्द जैसे टोये, सीटी, भभके, उसकना, ठूँस, फुंगियाना, विरस, सिराया, चिड़चिड़ी, ठिठुरन आदि गढ़कर उनका धड़ल्ले से प्रयोग करके भाषा को एक खुलापन व ताजगी देने का प्रयास नई कविता में किया है, साथ ही लोक भाषा के तत्व भी समाहित किए गए हैं।

नया किव नई संवेदना की अभिव्यक्ति करने के लिए पुरानी भाषा में अपने आप को असमर्थ पाता है। इसीलिए वह भाषा के नए शब्द रूप गढ़ने के लिए तत्पर रहता है। नई कविता भाषा के क्षेत्र में भी आधुनिक बोध के साथ बढ़ती है और नई होती है व चीजों के आर-पार दो अर्थ मिलाकर सिर्फ एक स्वच्छंद अर्थ देती है। नई भाषा में गद्यात्मकता के प्रति विशेष लगाव रहा है। अलंकृ त भाषा के बनावटी पन से दूर सपाट शब्दों में सपाट बयानी से जुड़कर कहीं—कहीं इन कवियों की भाषा खुरदरी हो गई है। जैसे

"श्रद्धा सम्मान और प्रेरणा जैसे शब्दों को, पान की पीक के साथ उठता हूं मैं, मंत्रीमंडलों में बलात्कार करने वाले लोगों, पर मेरे थूक का रंग लाल है, काश, मेरे खून का रंग भी लाल होता ।" 5

(मणि मधुकर) अभिधा शैली में अभिव्यक्ति का दंभ भरने वाले इन कवियों की भाषा में कहीं ना कहीं संस्कार हीनता भी दिखाई देती है। अशोक बाजपयी के शब्दों मेंदृ "रचनात्मक रत्तर पर भाषा संस्कार के प्रति, उसकी सांस्कृतिक जड़ों के प्रति,उदासीनता आई है और पारंपरिक अनुगूंजों व असंगों से कवियों के अज्ञान का तथा आरुचि के कारण कट जाने से काव्य भाषा में सपाटता,सतहीपन और मानवीय दिरद्रता आ गई है।" शब्द की दृष्टि से नई कविता का शब्द भंडार बहुत व्यापक है। संस्कृत,उर्दू, तथा प्रांतीय बोलियों के शब्दों के साथ-साथ अंग्रेजी के शब्दों का सामान्य रूप से प्रयोग हुआ है।

"हम ईश्वर हैं ऑटोमेटिक पोर—पोर में घुस अदृश्य हो स्थूल जगत चालित करते हैं ।"⁶ या "बड़े—बड़े आदर्श वाक्यों को स्वर्णाक्षरों में लिखवाकर अपने ड्राइंगरूम में सजा दो ।"⁷

('नयी कविता', उमाकांत मालवीय) इसके साथ ही आम आदमी के चिर—परिचित शब्दों के प्रयोग के साथ विज्ञान, धर्म, दर्शन,राजनीति व समाजशास्त्र आदि सभी क्षेत्रों से शब्द चयन का प्रयास नई कविता के कवियों ने किया है। नए कवियों ने भाषा के साथ खिलवाड़ करते हुए उसे अपनी सुविधानुसार तोड़ने—मरोड़ने की कोशिश भी की है। जैसे :-

"एकाएक मुझे भान होता है, जग का, अखबारी दुनिया का फैलाव, फँसाव, घिराव, तनाव है, सब ओर पत्ते ना खड़के सेना ने घेर ली है सड़कें ।" ⁸ ('अंधेरे में', गजानन माधव मुक्तिबोध)

जन भाषा में प्रचलित कहावतों, मुहावरों का प्रयोग व लोकगीत तथा लोकधुनों के आधार पर काव्य रचना करने का प्रयत्न इन कवियों ने किया है ।

प्रतीक विधान की दृष्टि से यदि नई कविता की ओर देखें तो हम पाएंगे कि इसमें नवीन व प्राचीन दोनों प्रतीक लिए गए हैं। परंपरागत प्रतीकों का नए परिवेश में नए अर्थ के साथ प्रयोग कविता में किया गया है। जैसे— भेंड़, भेड़िया, अजगर, सांप इत्यादि जैसे शब्द सत्ताधारी वर्ग व्यवस्था आदि के लिए नए प्रतीकों के रूप में प्रयुक्त हुए हैं, साथ ही पृथ्वी, पहाड़, सूरज, चांद, सायं व कमल आदि जैसे शब्द परंपरा गत अर्थ से हटकर नए अर्थ नए प्रतीक बनकर हुए हैं। जैसे :—

"सांप तुम सभ्य तो हुए नहीं ना होंगे नगर में बसना भी तुम्हें नहीं आया –"A ⁹ (अज्ञेय) "मैं चली जा रही हूं ऐसे जैसे लहरों पर विवश लाश बहती जाए—"। ¹⁰ ('ठंडा लोहा', धर्मवीर भारती)

किव ने नए प्रतिमानों को भी गढ़ा है। जैसे :—'कैमरे के लेंस से बुझी आंखें' (भारत भूषण अग्रवाल), 'सिली हुई दियासलाई की तरह असहाय लोग' (नरेश मेहता), 'निंबू का नमकी रूप शरबत शाम' (शमशेर बहादुर सिंह), ऐसे अनेक उदाहरण नई कविता में भ्रष्टव्य हैं।

नई कविता ने लीक तोड़कर समाज के प्रचलित अंगों को अपने साथ समेटा है। नए प्रतिमानों के साथ नयापन देने का प्रयास किया है।

"झाड़ी के एक किलो फूल ने नीली पंखुड़ियों के एक खिले फूल ने आज मुझे काट लिया ओठ से, और मैं अचेत रहा ॥" ¹¹

('फूल नहीं रंग बोलते हैं', केदारनाथ अग्रवाल) इस तरह नई कविता ने परंपरा के प्रतीकों की सीमाबंदी तोड़कर नया कुछ करने की कोशिश की है।

बिब्बात्मकता नई कविता की मूल ध्वनि, मूल छवि है। इनके बिम्ब जीवन से चुने गए हैं, साथ ही व्यक्तिगत व सामाजिक स्तरों को छूते हुए पौराणिक व ऐतिहासिक बिंबों को नए संदर्भ व नए अर्थ में लोकसंपृक्ति के साथ व्यक्त किया है। चिंतन व सौंदर्य प्रतीतियों से संपृक्त इनके बिम्ब जीवन के नए सन्दर्भों में उभरनेवाले हैं।

जैसे :—
"बंधी लीक पर रेलें लादे माल चिहुंकती और रंभाती अफ़सरायें डागर सी ।" 12 (अज्ञेय) या
"शाखों पर जमे धूप के फ़ाहे गिरते पत्तों से पल ऊब गए हकाँ दी खुलेपन ने फिर मुझको लहरों के डाक कहीं डूब गए।" 13 (केदारनाथ सिंह)

नई कविता के शिल्प में नवीनता नवचेतना का काम नए कवियों द्वारा नए उपमानों के प्रयोग ने किया है। इन कवियों ने अपने आस—पास फैले वातावरण और वस्तुओं को उपमान के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया है। जैसे "प्यार इश्क खाते हैं ठोकर, आटे के खाली कनस्तर से।" इसी तरह आम आदमी की हालत को नए उपमानों के साथ बयां करता हुआ किव कहता है:—

"उंगलियों में एहसास दवा है सिगरेट की तरह तथा सन्नाटा लटकी हुई कमरे की कमीज और हैंगर—सा झूल रहा है ।" ¹⁴ राजनैतिक स्थिति पर व्यंग करते हुए कवि लिखता है:— "पहले लोग सठिया जाते थे अब कुर्सिया जाते हैं दोस्त मेरे ! भारत एक कृषि—प्रधान नहीं कुर्सी—प्रधान देश है ।" ¹⁵ (डॉ. मदनलाल डागा)

कई कविताओं के शीर्षक ही उपमान बनकर आम आदमी की व्यथा का इतिहास बताते हैं। जैसे: "मोचीराम" (धुमिल) विषमताओं के कारण आम आदमी की हताशा परेशानी व निराशा को नई कविता नवीन विशेषणों के साथ उभारा है। जैसे –

"नारंगी से चांद को, रसभरी से तारों को, केसरों में बसी हुई किरणों को, पंजों में पकडकर कसकर निचोडू सारा रस खींच लूँ।" 16 (चांद की चाह, विजयदेव नारायण साही) अथवा "काठ के पैर, ठूँठ—सा तन, गाँठ-सा कठिन गोल चेहरा, लंबी उदास लकड़ी–डाल से हाथ क्षीण, वह हाथ फैला लंबायमान दूरस्थ हथेली पर अजीब घोंसला पेड़ में एक मानवीय रूप मानवीय रूप में एक ठूँठ ।" 17 (चौड़े ऊंचे टीले पर, मुक्तिबोध)

इसी तरह :—
"मेरा देश जहां बचपन भीख मांगते
जवान होता है और जवानी
गुलामी करते करते बुढ़िया जाती है
जहां अन्याय को ही नहीं
न्याय को भी
अपनी स्थापना के लिए
सिफारिशों की जरूरत होती है
और झूठ ही नहीं
सच भी रोटरी मशीनों और लाउडस्पीकरों का
मोहताज है ।" 18
इस प्रकार नई किवता अपने नए शिल्प में नवीन ठाट—बाट के
साथ प्रस्तुत हुई है।

संदर्भ सूची

- 1. नयीं कविता के प्रतिमान डॉ. लक्ष्मीकांत वर्मा
- 2. http:@@www-social research foundation-com
- https:@@hi-m-wikipedia-org

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THE IMPACT OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP ON EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Anita Jacob Assistant Professor, B. M Ruia Girls College

ABSTRACT

ABSTRACI
Competitive global markets require that organizations be equipped with a dynamic and challenging workforce to meet the unexpected challenges arising out of turbulent environment in the world around. Since a major portion of one's life is spent at work place, it is essential that the experience one has at work place is positive and constructive. A positive work place experience can lead to positive employee engagement, whereas negative workplace experience leads to employee disengagement. Recent researches conducted in this field of employee engagement shows disengaged workers showed higher levels absenteeism, accidents, lower productivity, higher levels of attrition etc. Whereas engaged employees have higher levels of productivity, they are committed to organizations goals and strategies, and have high levels of customer loyalty. Studies show that leadership is a key function in creating an engaged workforce. Thus, in view of all this the research paper tries to explore the association between leadership and employee engagement.

Keywords: Employee Engagement, Leadership

INTRODUCTION

Employee engagement is often quoted as the extent to which employees feel zealous about their jobs, are committed to their organization and walk an extra mile to deliver results to their organization. It is a concept that tries to understand and explain qualitatively and quantitatively the association between an organization and its employees.

The performance of all employees within an organization is driven by employee engagement. Engaged employees find their purpose within an organization. Companies with engaged employees are in a better position to face competition, form better teams, engage in better decision making and at the same time can face challenges and setbacks more confidently. Highly engaged employees are willing to give personal effort, time, and mindshare to the organization, above and beyond what is expected. This discretionary energy is a behavioral outcome of true engagement. Employee Engagement plays the role of a catalyst in retention and innovation within organization.

Leadership at every level is crucial to the functionality, consistency and performance of the organization Leaders with loyal followers have a greater chance of attaining exceptional outcomes with employee focus towards one vision.

For an organization to succeed in todays work environment it must foster employee engagement and leaders will need to create an environment so that each individual buys in and takes ownership of the tasks assigned to them in the organization. Employee Engagement is dependent upon the confidence and competence of the organizational leadership. Several styles and qualities exist in the workplace today with each new style there arises the need for a trusting environment with the ability to create opportunity and collaborate with others.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Leaders act as role models through idealized influence resulting in greater employee contribution that in turn leads to greater enhanced employee engagement (Shamur, House and Arthur 1993). Leaders also show genuine concern for employees which tend to reciprocate in the form of positive response from the side of employees (Saks 2006). Leaders also play an important role in helping the employees adopt the corporate mission within their own identity(Kark & Shamir 2002). Leaders provide inspiration and encouragement that help the followers to find innovative ways to overcome internal and external work challenges (Selzer & Bass 1990), Khan (1990) described the engaged employee as an individual with physical, cognitive and emotional energies concentrated

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. This study examines the role of leadership in employee engagement.
- 2. The study aims to address key drivers of employee engagement from leadership point of view.
- 3. The study explores the various employee engagement practices followed in Indian context.

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ROLE OF LEADERSHIP IN EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

1. Improving engagement through creation of Purpose

Leaders improve engagement by defining and communicating the mission and vision statements of the organization. Right from the inception stage of hiring employees to allocating responsibilities the purpose behind the existence of the organization is communicated to the employees. Every employee in the organization understands why he does what he does and leadership plays a vital role in helping him see his contribution to the organization in a big way. Engaged employees are doing meaningful work and have a clear understanding of how they contribute to the company's mission, purpose and strategic objectives.

2. Improving engagement through Communication

When devising a communication strategy an organization should ensure that their leaders and managers provide a clear, consistent message with the appropriate level of information. It must be communicated with clarity, transparency and must have an element of accountability. It must be communicated with passion and connection to business its values and beliefs.

3. Improving engagement through setting of Individual Goals

Developing an individual goal plan for the employee is critical in employee engagement. Once individual interests and career goals are understood the leader will be able to find a task that will align the employee to the organizational goals. This exercise will provide a roadmap for the employee to chalk out measurable goals and have a realistic time frame for achieving his individual goals.

4. Improving engagement through Employee Development

Leaders have a great responsibility towards employee development. Employees today are looking for organizations that will enhance their career goals and provide corporate coaching programs to bridge their skill deficiencies and knowledge gaps. Also adequate level of employee development via training, skills and learning can result in making employees more engaged with respect to the job and the organization.

4. Improving engagement through creation of a sense of community

Team work is critical to a company success because when an organization aims at fostering good team spirit it will help the organization to get its employees pull towards one unified goal. Programs aimed at fostering team spirit will enable organizations to succeed and create a sense of belonging and a sense of purpose. This sense of community is essential for improving employee engagement.

5. Improving engagement through empowerment

Leaders improve engagement by enabling the employees to express their views for decisions that might affect their functions. They must provide the opportunity wherein the employees are urged to disagree with the prevailing orthodox practices to innovate and help the organization grow. Freedom to share their innovative ideas with the top-level management and seeing it take shape definitely produces engaged employees.

EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT PRACTICES IN THE INDIAN CONTEXT

At Tata Consultancy services senior executives guide team members coming up with innovative solutions to work related issues and problems. This has resulted in successful business endeavors. TCS has diverse teams working in different geographic locations in different cultures, it has created the 'Ultimax' platform an online forum where employees across levels and geographies can come together.

At Bharati Airtel Ltd, the new joiners and the best performers for the month are rewarded with a special dinner/lunch with their chief operations officer.

Aditya Birla Group regularly monitors employee engagement at all levels across the group through the biennial organization health study which is led by the chairman. It gives the employees a unique opportunity to frankly express their opinions on a range of issues. The Aditya Birla Awards for outstanding Achievement is also a key engagement factor.

Indian Hotels which operates Taj Chain of hotels has been able to create a culture where the performance of employees is measured on customer orientation efforts and guidance given by senior leaders.

Employee Engagement at Tata Motors is Tata Club at Jamshedpur which serves as a gathering point for employees and their families as they come together network and have fun. The community development centers have also been established across India to merge family values into Tata Motors organizational culture. To promote the value of education and to highlight the achievements of employees' children merit awards are given in academics sports, extracurricular activities. The artistic talent of the employees is nurtured through Kalasagar and Kalasangam- Tata Motors Cultural Group.

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Vodafone has implemented a new model of 'Customer Centricity' to drive improved customer care and Vodafone has implemented a new model of Salad on three key words: Speed, Simplicity and Trust with employee satisfaction. The Vodafone Way is modelled on three key words: Speed, Simplicity and Trust with employee satisfaction. The Vodafone Way is modelled on three key words: Speed, Simplicity and Trust with employee satisfaction. The Vodatone way is inductive the line managers being held accountable for team engagement with performance measures and providing them the line managers being held accountable for team engagement with performance measures and providing them the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for team engagement of the line managers being held accountable for the line managers being held accounta thereby achieving increased levels of productivity and innovation.

In Godrej the company's motto is 'take yourself lightly and take your job and your responsibilities seriously'. In In Godrej the company's motions take yourself and beginning and Boyce there are various initiatives that have been taken up by practically all the divisions and Godrej and Boyce there are various initiatives that have been taken up by practically all the divisions and Godrej and Boyce there are various initiatives and corporate HR. Each divisional Personnel Head organizes some fun initiatives for the division, Wall of fame to announce employee of the quarter/month.

Tata AIG General Insurance Co Ltd. commemorates individual and team achievements by organizing a fun Tata AIG General insurance Co Etc. Comments a fun filled evening for the employees. Employee Town Hall is an event where the head of the organization addresses and interacts with all employees giving them an insight about the company's progress and unfolding the way forward. Inter departmental cricket and football matches organized every year for sports enthusiasts helps foster a spirit of team work. World of Work (WOW) is another event when employees' children are invited to come and spend time at their parent's workplace.

HCL prides in its 'Campus organization'. HCL gets young minds fresh from the campuses and grooms them so that they can attain leadership positions within the organization. HCL was the one of the first in India to talk about Employees Stock Option Plans (ESOP's) which they braced in 1988 and by 2005 all employees were covered under the scheme.

Ajuba Solutions India Pvt Ltd has pioneered and succeeded with the concept of 'loyalty interviews' (as opposed to traditional exit interview) to find out what is it that makes its employees engaged with their firm. This feed back from loyal employees is taken as a reflection on the leadership style and is seen to work as a great motivator.

Lenova India has a work environment built in a manner that employees get the opportunities to reinvigorate themselves. The company has a fun initiative club and simple initiatives like nominating employee of the month and celebrating their birthdays which tend to boost employee morale.

CONCLUSION

In the advent of changes in the global economy there is an increasing realization in organizations across countries to retain skilled work force and make the employees feel fully connected to their organizations and to be passionate about their job. Employee Engagement is the need of the hour, organizations must coach and envision its leaders at various hierarchical levels to engage their employees through effectively communicating the mission and vision of the organization, they must work towards empowering the employees and building a strong team spirit at the same time invest in their individual development through corporate training programs etc. An engaged employee in the long run will contribute to the overall development of the organization.

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Socially Responsible Investing – An Investor's Wisdom or Folly??

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ABSTRACT

Socially responsible investing (SRI), also known as social investment, is an investment that is considered socially responsible due to the nature of the business the company conducts. Common themes for socially responsible investments include socially conscious investing. Socially responsible investments can be made into individual companies with good social value, or through a socially conscious mutual fund or exchange-traded fund (ETF). Deciding how to invest your money is a complicated business. There are many factors to consider, such as risk and return, taxes, inflation, dividends, and diversification. Just figuring out how to get the best return on your money takes a lot of thought and planning. There are investors who have to choose stocks to invest in, they don't just worry about how financially stable a company is and whether its stock is selling at a good price – they also ask whether it's a company that helps to make the world a better place. This paper tries to understand this approach of investors.

Keywords: Socially responsible investing, invest, return on investment

CONTENT

Socially responsible investing, or SRI, is the act of choosing your investments on the basis of social good as well as financial gain. Socially responsible investors aim to invest in companies that do business in positive and responsible ways. In general, they look for companies that have a good record on what are known as ESG issues: environment, social justice, and corporate governance. Although most investors aren't socially responsible investors, their ranks are growing.

HISTORY

The roots of socially responsible investing (SRI) go back hundreds of years. In the 1700s, members of the Religious Society of Friends – better known as Quakers – refused to take part in the slave trade or to invest in weapons of war. Around 1750, John Wesley, an early leader of the Methodist church, wrote a famous sermon, "The Use of Money," in which he declared that it was a sin to make money at the expense of your own or your neighbor's welfare. He specifically urged his congregants not to be involved in gambling, usury (loaning out money at unreasonably high interest rates), and industries that used toxic chemicals such as arsenic and lead.

For centuries, many socially responsible investors focused on avoiding "sin industries" such as gambling, tobacco, and liquor. However, that began to change in the 1960s, when investors became interested in using their money to promote civil rights, equality for women, and better treatment of workers. SRI achieved one of its most notable successes in the 1980s, when both individual investors and institutions began pulling their money out of South Africa because of its policy of apartheid, for strict separation between races. Their efforts played a major part in bringing an end to apartheid in 1994. It was also during the 1980s that SRI began to attract more attention from mainstream investors.

GOALS OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTORS

The essence of SRI is choosing investments that are in line with your values. However, those values aren't the same for all investors.

Socially responsible investors choose their investments to promote a variety of different goals, including the following:

• Cleaner Environment. "Green" investors prefer companies that don't pollute the environment. Some refuse to invest in fossil fuels, while others look for companies that minimize the carbon footprint of their products and services.

- Social Justice. Some investors refuse to do business in countries with a record of human rights violations. Others look for companies that provide their workers with fair wages and decent working conditions.
- **Promoting Peace**. Peace investors won't invest in war in any way. They avoid all companies that make weapons or profit from conflict in foreign countries.
- Promoting Health. Many socially responsible investors refuse to invest in companies that sell tobacco or alcohol. Others refuse to invest in products that they think pose a threat to human health, such as genetically modified organisms. Since some of these products can also be seen as threats to the environment, this category overlaps with green investing.
- **Promoting Morality**. Many socially responsible investors today continue the time-honored practice of avoiding "sin industries." Different investors see this category as including different types of enterprises, such as liquor, gambling, pornography, and contraception.

Ways to be a Socially Responsible Investor

To promote their social goals, socially responsible investors rely on four main strategies:

- 1. Negative Screening. Negative screening means refusing to invest in companies that don't meet your social standards. For instance, many socially responsible mutual funds screen out tobacco companies. An extreme form of negative screening is divestment: pulling all your assets out of specific companies because of how or where they do business.
- 2. **Positive Investing**. Although negative screening is the strategy people most often associate with SRI, an equally important tool is positive screening: choosing companies to include in your portfolio specifically because you approve of their behavior. Positive investing is also known as impact investing, or ESG incorporation.
- 3. Community Investing. This is a specific subcategory of positive investing that focuses specifically on investing in community-based organizations, especially in low-income areas. Community investment provides loans to people and organizations that would have trouble getting them otherwise. These loans can be used to fund small businesses and provide needed services such as housing and education. Community investment can also focus on making communities more sustainable by financing projects such as green energy and smart growth, a type of urban planning designed to reduce sprawl and protect green space.
- 4. Shareholder Action. Socially responsible investors don't just use their values to choose companies for their portfolios they also try to influence the behavior of companies in which they hold stock. One way to do this is by filing shareholder resolutions proposals for management about how to run the company. One popular example is a resolution requiring the company to disclose all the donations it makes to political campaigns.

Types of Socially Responsible Investments

Socially responsible investors have a wide range of investments to choose from. Major types include:

- Mutual Funds and ETFs. There are hundreds of mutual funds on the market that use ESG criteria. These are published in which socially responsible mutual funds offered by its member firms, with information about both their financial performance and the criteria they use for choosing their investments is mentioned.
- Alternative Investments. Alternatives to traditional investments, such as hedge funds and property funds, are also getting into the SRI game.
- Community Investments. Socially responsible investors can also lend money directly into community organizations. One way to do this is to put money into community development financial institutions (CDFIs), including banks, credit unions, and loan funds, which provide credit and other financial services in low-income areas.
- Microfinance. Another way for investors to invest money where it can do the most good is through microloans, small loans made directly to startup businesses.

GETTING STARTED WITH SRI

Putting your money into SRI isn't all that different from making any other investment. All you're really doing is adding an extra step to the process: deciding what your social goals are, and then choosing investments to promote those goals. True, this limits your investing options, but that can actually be helpful. With such a huge array of funds out there, it's much easier to choose if you have a way of narrowing down the field first.

Here are some basic steps to follow when making your first socially responsible investment:

- 1. Choose Your Social Criteria. You can't choose socially responsible investments until you know what social goals you want to promote. Don't worry at this point about what's actually available or how the funds perform. Instead, just think about your values and what you want to achieve with your money. Then, write down a list of criteria that your investments need to meet to put them in line with your conscience.
- 2. Choose Your Financial Criteria. Next, consider your investment goals just as you would when making any other investment. Think about what you're investing your money for, when you expect to need it, how much risk you can handle, and how big a return you need to meet your goals. And don't worry that you'll hurt your bottom line any more than in traditional investments by investing in a socially responsible way.
- 3. Find Funds that Meet your Needs. Once you've nailed down your social and financial goals, the next step is to find investments that meet them.
- 4. Compare and Choose. Look at the investments on your short list and ask yourself which ones do the best job of meeting both your social goals and your financial goals. Of course, depending on what those goals are, you may need to make some tradeoffs. For example, one of my aims as an investor is to keep fees as low as possible, but the SRI funds with the lowest overall expenses don't do the best job of meeting my social goals. So try to strike a balance based on what's most important to you.

THE PROS OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

When you see someone taking the SRI strategy, it tends to be all-or-nothing. What I mean is, you either fill your portfolio entirely with "socially responsible" stocks and funds, or you don't put a targeted focus on them at all. Here are some of the benefits of employing a socially responsible investment strategy:

1. You're talking the talk and walking the walk.

If your values are important to you, then socially responsible investing allows you to put your money where your mouth is, so to say. It's hard to insist you're a committed environmentalist if part of your portfolio is invested in companies or industries that are destroying the environment. By investing in socially responsible businesses you're doing more than talking the talk, you're walking the walk—with your money.

Having this kind of approach, and sticking to your core values, will allow you to focus on other aspects of your financial life, such as automatic payroll savings, college savings, and purchasing a home. The limitations of ethical investing provide you with some assurance that you don't have to check in on your investments continually. Just pick a few socially responsible funds and go with it.

2. You're taking a stand.

It's easy to complain about awkward situations, but infinitely harder to do anything about it. When you commit to socially responsible investing, it's an opportunity to withhold your investment dollars from businesses that are not behaving. If more people invested only in companies that acted responsibly, the bad apples would be forced to shape up and make better choices.

Now, this is strictly a theory, but if you're standing for a cause, it might motivate you. It's the same reason people protest and stand up for purposes that may face insurmountable odds. But if nobody took a stand, no changes would ever happen.

Like all causes, it takes a snowball effect of people getting on board to make a change. As James Kynge of Financial Times says that "although ESG is still evolving as a concept, the pull it exerts over investors appears to be reaching critical mass." Ethical investing is growing in popularity, which means more and more people are focused on investing in companies that are doing the right thing. I can't say

for sure what will happen, but I can't help but think this is a good sign for big companies beginning to shift their practices to be more socially responsible.

3. You're rewarding ethical companies.

It may seem like it's being done on a small scale, but socially responsible investing punishes companies that act unethically, and it also rewards companies that are doing the right thing. If you want companies to make more responsible choices, you have to support them in the most tangible way possible, which is through investment capital.

To build off of the point above, the more people that begin to invest in socially responsible companies, the more rewards those companies will see. Long-term, this could be a catalyst for significant social change. A perfect example of this is Lego, who ended their partnership with Shell Oil a few years ago and is now partnering with companies like the World Wildlife Foundation on social initiatives. They're also working toward having 100% renewable energy capacity by the year 2030 while committing to reduce their overall carbon footprint. Those are causes that couldn't be funded unless individuals like you were investing in them.

4. You'll sleep better at night.

If you haven't picked up on this theme by now, I'll say it for you. By investing in a socially responsible way, and assuming that it aligns with your values and you're completely committed, you'll sleep better at night knowing that you're trying to do good in the world. Although none of us are perfect, most people genuinely want to do some good in the world. If you can invest your money in socially responsible companies, and make a profit doing so, you'll have two things to feel good about—making money and using your money to improve the human condition.

The most rewarding feeling when you take an SRI strategy is when the companies you invest in begin to make a profit and reward you financially. Not only does it show that you're aligned with the values of the companies you've invested in, but it also shows they're profitably doing good. It's a win-win, and quite rewarding.

You also don't have to feel wrong about paying a little more for these investments (management fees, etc.) as one study shows that 66% of people around the globe are willing to pay more for sustainable goods. That number jumps to 73% with millennials of the always smart to focus on performance, but if you're doing your research appropriately, you should rest easy knowing that you're investing in a higher cause.

THE CONS OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

SRI isn't all sunshine, rainbows, and solar panels. While socially responsible investing offers plenty of benefits, there are drawbacks as well. Here are a few cons:

1. Ethics might become more important than performance.

When we limit your investment options and potentially pay more to invest in companies that practice social and ethical responsibility, we may give up on your return on investment. Let's not forget the reason we're investing in the first place-obtaining the highest return on investment possible. When socially responsible investing becomes the primary objective, the financial side of the equation will likely suffer-at least part of the time.

2. You may be leaving a lot of great investments on the table.

Building off of the point above, if you focus solely on socially responsible stocks and funds, you could be leaving strong investments on the table. Let's say you find a new company with below average performance regarding social responsibility, but a history of creating innovative products and services that improve lives and generate jobs. If you pass on this attractive investment opportunity because of the social responsibility factor, you may lose out. The converse of this is true as well. If you choose not to invest in a company because you don't consider them ethically responsible, you might be missing out on a perfect investment.

3. Many companies claim to be socially responsible, but they aren't.

Putting a marketing spin on anything for sale is part of a modern business culture. In many cases, it's more important to craft the image of being socially responsible than to actually be socially responsible. As the saying goes, it's not the truth, but what the people believe that counts. With the right marketing

campaign, people will believe nearly anything. The lesson here is that just because a company says its socially or ethically responsible, doesn't mean it is. This can be blatant or much more subjective.

4. The definition of socially responsible investing is highly subjective.

What constitutes socially responsible investing is not always universal. Perhaps the best example is nuclear energy. If viewed from a perspective of damage from nuclear accidents, it might be seen as one of the worst investments possible. But if it is considered to be a substitute for fossil fuels, it could constitute a socially responsible industry. You can see how this can cause both outward and innercontroversy when selecting a fund or individual stock.

CONCLUSION

Moving your money into socially responsible investments is really a win-win. It lets you make the most of your money in two different ways: You can earn good returns, and promote values that are important to you.

The only real downside is that it takes a bit more work to find the right investments to meet two sets of goals – social and financial – instead of just one. But the good news is, that's a job you only have to do once. Once you've made your investment choices, you can just keep putting your money in the same place, secure in the knowledge that it's going toward companies you can approve of.

For many investors, socially responsible investing is a powerful way to align their investment portfolios with their personal philosophies. Everyone can choose their own assets to buy shares in, but it's good to know that socially responsible investing in an option. Before you make your next investment, consider what a company stands for in addition to what they might earn and how risky backing it may be. Whether this investment is wisdom or folly, it's a decision which every investor individually has to make

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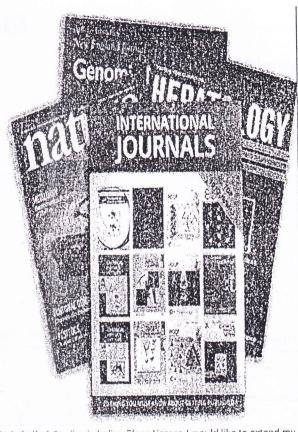
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भारतीय परिपेक्ष्य में दलित विमर्श की शुरुआत महाराष्ट्र में दलित साहित्य आंदोलन के रूप में 1960 के दशक से होती है। इस आंदोलन की वैचारिकी का निर्माण ज्योतिबा फुले तथा बाबा साहब अंबेडकर ने किया है। उन्होंने सर्वप्रथम जाति प्रथा, वर्ण व्यवस्था, अछूत समस्या, जातिवादी सांप्रदायिकता, दलितोद्धार व दलितों के अधिकारों की लड़ाई को तीव्र किया साथ ही उन्होंने दलितों में राजनीतिक चेतना के स्तर पर लोक जागरण का कार्य किया। बाबा साहब अंबेडकर का दुढ़ विश्वास था कि भारत में आर्थिक व्यवस्था से ज्यादा जरूरी है सामाजिक-धार्मिक व्यवस्था को बदलना क्योंकि हिंदू सामाजिक संरचना और सामाजिक व्यवस्था पूर्णतया जाति प्रथा से नियंत्रित है। अतः भारत में जाति प्रथा को तोड़े बिना कोई भी सामाजिक परिवर्तन संभव नहीं है। हिंदी की दलित-महिला-कथाकार व कवि सुशीला टाकभौरे अपने कहानी संग्रह 'संघर्ष' की भूमिका में लिखती हैं- "समय के साथ शताब्दियाँ बीत रही हैं मगर इन पिछडी दलित जातियों की सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षणिक, राजनीतिक और धार्मिक स्थिति में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हो सका है। इन जाति-समुदायों की स्थिति में परिवर्तन होना कभी संभव हो सकेगा जब वे गांधीवादी और मनुवादी विचारधारा को छोड़कर अंबेडकरवादी विचारधारा से जुड़ेंगे।"01 हिंदी दलित साहित्य की विधाओं में कविता ही दलित साहित्य की वह विधा है जो बाबा साहेंब आंबेडकर से सर्वाधिक प्रभावित रही है और उन्हें सबसे अधिक उद्धत करती रही है। दलित कवियों की मौखिक परंपरा में बाबा साहेब आंबेडकर के जीवन संघर्ष, कार्यों और उनकी उपलब्धियों को गीतों के रूप में गाया जाता है।

दलित साहित्य की अवधारणाः दरअसल दलित साहित्य की अवधारणा दलित विमर्श की अवधारणा से जुड़ी है समय के साथ यह अवधारणा व्यापक अर्थ में प्रयुक्त हो रही है और इसमें आज समाज का वह वर्ग आता है जो सामाजिक रूप से जाति के आधार पर शोषित, अपेक्षित, दिमत, पदाक्रांत, कुचला हुआ, अपमानित, उत्प्रीड़ित, प्रताड़ित किया जाता रहा है, उसे दिलत कहा जाता है। इतना ही नहीं दिलतों को भारतीय सामाजिक व्यवस्था की मुख्य धारा का अंग कभी नहीं माना गया है। इनके शोषण और उपेक्षा का आधार सिदयों से इनकी जाति रही है। दिलत साहित्य की अवधारणा को प्रोफेसर चमनलाल की इन पंक्तियों के द्वारा समझा जा सकता है, "दिलत साहित्य, वह साहित्य है, जो दिलतों के जीवन, उनके सुख-दुख उनकी सामाजिक-राजनीतिक स्थितियों, उनकी संस्कृति, उनकी आस्थाओं-अनास्थाओं, उनके शोषण व उत्पीड़न तथा इस उत्पीड़न-शोषण के द्वारा प्रतिरोध की परिस्थितियों को व्यापकता तथा गहराई के साथ कलात्मकता से प्रस्तुत करता है।"02 बीज शब्द: संवेदना, प्रोटैस्ट, अस्मिता, फोकस, अन्वेषी, सामृहिक स्मृतिकोष आदि।

स्थापनाः हिंदी साहित्य में जब दिलत किवता की बात की जाती है तो हिंदी स साहित्य के भक्तिकाव्य में पहली बार दिलत जीवन की चित्रण मिलता हैय वह भी कबीर और रिवदास के रूप में। इन दोनों ही संत किवयों ने पहली बार अपनी जाित को गर्व के साथ घोषित किया और उच्च जाितगत अभिमान को डंके की चोट के साथ मिथ्या सिद्ध कियाय इतना ही नहीं मध्यकाल में अपनी वािणयों से निम्न कहीं जाने वाली जाितयों में स्वािभमान की चेतना संचािरत की। प्रोफेसर चमनलाल के शब्दों में, "कबीर और रिवदास सही मायनों में उत्तर भारत के दिलत साहित्य के अग्रदूत बनकर उभरे, क्यों कि उन्होंने जाितगत उच्चता की भावना को अपनी वाणी से ध्वस्त कर सच्ची मानव—समता व कर्म आधािरत उच्चता—नीचता की अवधारणाएँ विकसित की। "03 रीितकाल आते—आते दिलत लेखन की धारा अंतः सिलला के रूप में विलुप्त हो जािती है, क्यों के प्रेम क्रीड़ाओं और नायक—नाियका—भेद का वैचित्र्यपूर्ण चित्रण इस काल की किवता का उद्देश्य बन जाता है। बीच—बीच में कुछ किवयों को छोड़कर अधिकांशतः यह काल सामंतों के चाटुकार किवयों का काल है। इस युग के किवयों का सारा बल रीित निरूपण, श्रृंगारिकता, अलंकारिकता, आश्रयदाताओं की प्रसंशा, नारी के प्रति कामुक दृष्टिकोण के चित्रण पर ही अवलंबित रहा है।

आधुनिक काल की शुरुआत के साथ ही रीतिकाल में विलुप्त हुई दलित जीवन के चित्रण की अंतः सिलला सामाजिक यथार्थ के चित्रण के रूप में प्रकट होती है। और आधुनिक काल के प्रणेता भारतेंदु हिरेश्चंद्र हिंदी साहित्य को भारतीय जन की पीड़ा का उद्घोषक बनाते हैं। जहाँ रीतिकालीन किवयों ने सामाजिक जीवन से अपनी आँखें फेर ली थी। वहीं इसके विपरीत भारतेंदु ने नारी शिक्षा, विधवा की दुर्दशा, अस्पृश्यता का निवारण, सतीप्रथा, छुआछूत आदि को अपने काव्य का विषय बनाया और सामाजिक कुरीतियों छल—कपट एवं पाखंड का खंडन करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। भारतेंदु हिरश्चंद्र के बाद नाथूराम शर्मा 'शंकर', रूपनारायण पांडेय, रामचंद्र शुक्ल (अछूत की आह), सुभद्राकुमारी चौहान, मैथिलीशरण गुप्त, सोहनलाल द्विवेदी, गयाप्रसाद शुक्ल सनेही जैसे अनेक कवियों ने दिलतों पर होने वाले अत्याचार के विरोध में कविताएँ लिखीं।

छायावादी कवियों में निराला दिलतों की व्यथा—कथा को वाणी प्रदान करने वाले प्रमुख साहित्यकार बने। उनकी कविता 'दिलत जन पर करों करुणा' दिलत जीवन पर केंद्रित है। इसी युग से हिंदी साहित्य में दिलत कवियों की उपस्थिति दिखाई देने लगती है। प्रगतिवाद का संपूर्ण साहित्य लेखन दिलत जीवन के संघर्षों को वाणी देने लगता है।

विषय विस्तारः वस्तुतः आधुनिक काल में दलित विमर्श, दिलतोद्धार पर विशेष बल दिया गया और दिलत साहित्य बहुतायत में लिखा जाने लगा। किवता के क्षेत्र में तो दिलत किवता की लहर सी आ गई। दरअसल दिलत साहित्य के अंतर्गत दिलत किवता दिलत जीवन के यथार्थ की किवता है अर्थात दिलत जीवन के व्यथा—कथा का यातनामय जीवन चित्र है। दिलतों के द्वारा दिलत जीवन के दुख—दर्द और उनके द्वारा भोगी गयी यातना को शब्द बद्ध करने को दिलत किवता के रूप में स्वीकारती है। इस रूप में हिंदी मुख्य धारा की किवताओं की स्वीकारोक्ति के बावजूद गैर दिलतों द्वारा लिखी गयी दिलत जीवन की किवताओं में संवेदना के स्तर पर सहानुभूति ही दिखाई देती है न की स्वानुभूति की पीड़ा। डॉ. प्रमोद कोवप्रत के शब्दों में दिलत किवता की संवेदना के वैविध्य धरातल को देख सकते हैं, "दिलत किवता संताप और संघर्ष की किवता है। यह अनुभवों व स्मृतियों की किवता है। यह त्रास की किवता है, न्यायविचितों के आक्रोश की किवता है। यह नए इतिहास—निर्माण की किवता है। घिसी—पिटी लकीर को मिटाकर नए रास्ते की तलाश की किवता है। किसमें विरोध, नकार और बहिष्कार का स्वर प्रमुख है।" 04 इनके साथ—साथ दिलत किवता में सामाजिक विकृतियों का पर्दाफाश, अस्मिता की तलाश, संघर्ष की चेतना, परंपरागत मान्यताओं की अस्वीकृति, ब्राह्मणवाद, जातिवाद का विरोध संवेदना के धरातल के रूप में दिखाई देते हैं।

जब हम हिंदी दलित कविता को संवेदना के धरातल खड़े होकर देखते हैं तो पाते हैं कि इस कविता में संवेदना के कई धरातल हमें दिखाई देता। अंबेडकर से पूर्व की हिंदी दलित कविता। इसके अंतर्गत हम स्वतंत्रता पूर्व तक की हिंदी दलित कविता का मूल्यांकन कर सकते हैं। स्वतंत्रता पूर्व काल में जिन कवियों की रचनाएँ हमें मिलती हैं, उनमें हीरा डोम के कविता 'अछूत की शिकायत' सरस्वती मासिक के सितंबर 1914 अंक में प्रकाशित हुई थी। इसे हिंदी की पहली दलित कविता के रूप में स्मरण किया जाता है। यह पूरी कविता दरअसल भोजपुरी में लिखी गयी है। इस कविता में हिंदू समाज की जाति—व्यवस्था के भीतर दलितों की यातना की मार्मिक अभिव्यक्ति है। इस कविता में जाति—व्यवस्था तथा उसकी परिणितियों के बारे में तरह—तरह के प्रश्न पूछे गए हैं। इस कविता में प्रश्न पूछने की जो प्रवृत्ति है वह नई चेतना जगाने वाली है। डॉ. मैनेजर पांडेय हीरा डोम के प्रश्न पूछने की इस प्रवृत्ति की तुलना कबीर से करते हुए लिखते हैं कि, " जाति—व्यवस्था के बारे में, उसके ईश्वर के बारे में, कर्मकांड के बारे में और वेद तथा पुराणों के बारे में जितने सवाल पूछते हैं उतने सवाल किसी और किय के यहाँ शायद मिले। "05 हीरा डोम की प्रस्तुत कियता की अंतिम चार पंक्तियाँ जितनी मार्मिक हैं उतनी ही प्रेरणादायी और अर्थगर्भित भी है—

हमनी के इनरा का निगिचे ना जइले जां, पाँके में से भरि–भरि पियतानी पानी पनहीं से पिटि–पिटि हाथ–गोड़ तुरि देले, हमनी के एतनी काहे के हलकानी? 06

इस काल के दूसरे सबसे महत्वपूर्ण किव श्री अछूतानंद हरिहर हैं जिनकी किवता 'आदिवंश का डंका' विशेष रूप से उल्लेखनीय है। इस परंपरा बिहारीलाल 'हरित' और माता प्रसाद को याद किया जा सकता है। इस युग की किवता में एक और जहाँ करुणा, पीड़ा, सहानुभूति की भावना मिलती है वहीं दूसरी ओर इस युग का किव अमानुष वैमनस्य के बारे में ईश्वर से प्रोटैस्ट भी करता है और शिकायत

रविंद्र भारती, सुखबीर सिंह, हरकिशन संतोषी, अशोक भारती, दयानंद बटोही, निर्मला पुतुल, अनीता भारती, बच्चा लाल 'उन्मेष' आदि।

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हिंदी दलित कविता को एक नया रूपाकार देने वाले किव के रूप में ओमप्रकाश वाल्मीिक का नाम लिया जाता है। उनका 'सिदयों का संताप' और 'बस्स!बहुत हो चुका' चर्चित कृतियाँ है। भारतीय समाज व्यवस्था में दिलतों के साथ 'आस्था का खेल' सिदयों से खेला जाता रहा है। जिस आस्था ने दिलतों को शताब्दियों तक दासत्व के घेरे में बंद रखा उस आस्था से मुक्त की उम्मीद लगाना बहुत दूर की कौड़ी लगती है क्योंकि यह व्यवस्था 'चूहड़े' तथा 'चमार' से हमेशा अस्पृश्यता का ही व्यवहार करती रही है। इसी पर टिप्पणी करते हुए ओमप्रकाश वाल्मीिक लिखते हैं—

तुम्हारे रचे शब्द तुम्हें डसेंगे साँप बनकर गंगा किनारे कोई वटक्क ढँढ लो कर लो भागवत का पाठ आत्म संतुष्टि के लिए कहीं अकाल मृत्यू के बाद भयभीत आत्मा भटकते–भटकते किसी कुत्ते या सूअर की मृत देह में प्रवेश न कर जाय या फिर पुनर्जन्म की लालसा में किसी डोम या चूहड़े के घर पैदा न हो जाय चूहड़े या डोम की आत्मा ब्रह्म का अंश क्यों नहीं है? मैं नहीं जानता शायद आप जानते हों। 10

हिंदी दलित साहित्य में दलित संवेदना के विशिष्ट किव के रूप में मलखान सिंह का नाम समादृत है। इनकी किवताएँ सिदयों से दलित समुदाय पर होने वाले अत्याचारों का सामूहिक स्मृतिकोष हैं। इनकी किवताओं में उत्पीड़न कारी ब्राह्मण केंद्रित समाज—व्यवस्था का पूर्णतया नकार मिलता है। वे अपने किवता संग्रह "सुनो ब्राह्मण" की भूमिका में लिखते हैं, " मैं नहीं जानता कि मैं किवता क्यों लिखता हूँ? हाँ, इतना अवश्य जानता हूँ की जाति—पाँति, ऊँच—नीच, छूतछात, पाखंड, शोषण और अत्याचार का शिकार जब मैं स्वयं होता हूँ या किसी सहोदर को होते देखता हूँ तो मेरे अंदर कुछ उबलने लगता है, कुछ घुमड़ने लगता है जिसे मैं शब्दों में पकड़ने की कोशिश करता हूँ अस्तु मेरी किवताएँ मेरी भोगी हुई यातनाएँ हैं।"11

"सुनो ब्राह्मण" कविता संग्रह की अधिकांश कविताएँ दलित यातना और पीड़ा को बयान करती हैं। इस संग्रह की कविताओं में यातना और पीड़ा सहने वाले को देखें तो हम पाते हैं कि वे कोई और नहीं, हमारे समाज का दलित वर्ग ही हैं, जिन्हें पश्ओं से भी नीचे ढकेल दिया गया है।

> मैं आदमी नहीं स्साब जानवर हूँ दो पाया जानवर जिसकी पीठ नंगी है कंधे पर मैला है

आदमी नहीं स्साब जानवर हूँ दो पाया जानवर जिसे बात—बात पर मनुपुत्र—माँ—चो बहन—चो कमीन कौम कहता है । 12 भी। यहीं से यहीं से दलित कविता ईश्वर की सत्ता को नकारना शुरू होता है। अछूतानंद हरिहर की एक कविता का एक उदाहरण—

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में अछूत हूँ छूत न मुझमें क्यों जग ठुकराता है छूने में भी पाप मानता, छाया से भी घबराता है मुझे देख नाकें सिकोड़ता दूर हटा वह जाता है हिरेजन भी कहता है मुझको, हिर से विलग करता है फिर जब धर्म बदल जाता है मुसलमान बन जाता हूँ अथवा ईसाई बन करके हैट लगा कर आता हूँ छूत छात सब मिट जाती साहब मैं कहलाता हूँ उन्हीं मंदिरों में जाकर के उन्हें पवित्र बनाता हूँ क्या कारण है इस परिवर्तन का एक सवर्ण बतला दे तू क्यों न तजूँ इस अधम धर्म को, इसे जरा जतला दे तू नहीं, नहीं मैं समझ गया, क्या तेरा मेरा नाता है तू है मेरा शत्रु पुराना, अपना बैर चुकाता है। 07

आजादी के बाद दलित समाज में डॉ. अंबेडकर को मुक्तिदाता के रूप में देखा जाता है। दलित हिंदी कविता की एक परपाटी वह विकसित हुई जिसका मानना था कि हमें बाबा साहब अंबेडकर ने ही मनुष्यता का ज्ञान कराया और हममें सम्मान और अस्मिता, शिक्षा, संघर्ष और संगठन की भावना से परिपूर्ण होना चाहिए। परिणामस्वरूप बाबा साहब अंबेडकर के प्रति वंदना में सदियों से अवरुद्ध वाणी फूट पड़ी—

दलित अछूत ढूँढ रहे थे पीज़ओं से मुक्ति का मार्ग अंधेरे में आशा का प्रकाश जिससे विश्वास कर सकें दुनिया उनकी भी है उन्हें भी जीने का हक है। दलितों के मसीहा बाबा साहब ने राह दिखाई है। विद्रोह, आंदोलन और क्रांति से पा सके हैं वे अपने अधिकार मृक्ति का मार्ग। 08

इस धारा के कवियों ने बाबा साहब के जीवन को, उनके संघर्ष को और उनके संदेश को दलित समाज तक पहुंचाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। इस कविता ने दलित समाज को उनके 'मसीहा' से परिचित कराया और दलित समाज में आत्मविश्वास जगाने एवं स्वाभिमान लाने में ऐसी कविताओं का महत्व है। इन कविताओं में मानवीय संवेदना को सर्वोपिर महत्व देते हुए जाति—वर्णवाद के नकार और समता मूलक मूल्यों की अभिव्यक्ति हुई है। ऐसी कविताओं में बिहारी लाल की 'भीमायण', लक्ष्मीनारायण सुधारक की 'भीम सागर' रामदास निमेष की 'भीमकथामृतम' आदि को याद कर सकते हैं। 'भीमकथामृतम' की दो पंक्तियों को उदाहरण के रूप में देख सकते हैं।

प्रबुद्ध भीम की गाथा। इसे नवाये जो जन माथा।। पाप कर्म उसके मिट जाये। बिस बैकुंठ अमर पद पाये।। 09

1980 के बाद हिंदी दलित कविता में एक नया मोड़ आता है। नए विचार और संवेदना से लैस दिलत रचनाकारों की यह पीढ़ी बाबा साहब के प्रित पूरा सम्मान तो रखती है लेकिन उसका फोकस अपनी व्यथा—कथा पर ही प्रमुख रूप से रहा। ये किव समतामूलक, शोषण—मुक्त, आत्म—सम्मानपूर्ण, छुआछूत रहित समाज बनाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध दिखाई देते हैं। अज्ञेय के शब्दों में ये नयी राहों के अन्वेषी बनकर उभरे हैं।

दलित हिंदी कविता के संवेदना के इस परिदृश्य को एक आंदोलन के रूप में आज सैकड़ों किव अपनी लेखनी से समृद्ध कर रहे हैं। जिनमें ओमप्रकाश वाल्मीकि, मलखान सिंह, जयप्रकाश कर्दम, जयप्रकाश लीलवान, एन सिंह, कमल भारती, श्यौराज सिंह बेचौन, मोहनदास नैमिशराय, सी.बी भारती, सोहनपाल सुमनाक्षर, सुशीला टाकभौरे रजनी तिलक, सूरजपाल चौहान, कुसुम वियोगी, नीरा परमार,

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दलित कविता ही नहीं दलित साहित्य की संवेदना को ओमप्रकाश वाल्मीकि का यह कथन स्पष्ट करता है— "समाज के गहन पीड़ा, उसकी मान्यताएँ, चिंताएँ, उसका संघर्ष, मुक्ति की चाह को शब्द बद्ध करना मेरे लिए जरूरी है ताकि बदलाव की सुगबुगाहट पैदा हो सके शब्द की आग और ऊर्जा को पहचानना जरूरी है। दलित साहित्य इस आग की आंच से जन्मा है। उसकी ऊर्जा समाज की तड़प है। लेखन के जिरए खुद को तलाशने की एक लंबी संघर्ष यात्रा शुरू की है जो अभी अधूरी है।" 13

ओमप्रकाश वाल्मीिक का यह अधूरापन पूरा होता है, दलित साहित्य के पटल पर महिला रचनाकारों के आगमन से और हमें संवेदना का एक नया धरातल भी मिलता है। जहाँ एक ओर जाति के आधार पर शोषण हमारे समाज की सच्चाई है, वहीं दूसरी ओर लिंग के आधार पर होने वाला अत्याचार हगारे रागाज की वारतिकता भी है। शुरुआती दौर में दिलत रचनाकारों ने रित्रयों के रााथ होने वाले अमानवीय अत्याचारों पर ध्यान नहीं दिया, आगे चलकर जब उनकी दृष्टि उस ओर गई तो पहली बार दिलत रचनाओं में स्त्री पीड़ा को स्थान मिला और उनकी व्यथा—कथा संवेदना के रूप में व्यक्त होने लगी और दिलत समाज में स्त्री के साथ होने वाले भेदभाव शोषण अत्याचार विशेष रूप से चर्चा का विषय बना जब स्वयं दिलत महिला रचनाकारों ने अपनी पीड़ा को शब्द बद्ध करना शुरू किया। दिलत हिंदी किवता के क्षेत्र में विशेष रूप से अनुसूया, कावेरी, नरेश कुमारी, विमल थोरात, सुशीला टाकभीरे, रजनी तिलक, कुसूम वियोगी, अनीता भारती, निर्मला पुतुल आदि महत्वपूर्ण हस्ताक्षर हैं।

सुशीला टाकभौरे जी की दलित कविता में एक विशिष्ट पहचान है। दलित पीड़ा के साथ उन्होंने स्त्री की पीड़ा को भी सशक्त ढंग से अपनी कविताओं में प्रस्तुत किया है। 'स्वाति बूँद और खारे मोती", "यह तुम भी जानो", "तुमने उसे कब पहचाना", "हमारे हिस्से का सूरज" आदि उनके महत्वपूर्ण काव्य संग्रह हैं।

वर्ष 1993 में सुशीला टाकभौरे जी का कविता—संकलन 'स्वाति बूंद और खारे मोती' प्रकाशित हुआ। 61 कविताओं के इस संकलन में कवियत्री ने अपने स्त्री—जीवन के अनुभवों का पूरी बेबाकी से साक्षात कराया है। उनकी स्त्री का 'यथार्थ' कठोर और विषयुक्त हैद

> यथार्थ की भूमि सत्य का धरातल कितना कठोर कितना विषयुक्त क्या कहें इस आभास को जीवन—सुधा या हलाहल? 14

स्त्री के लिये प्रतिबंध सब जगह हैं, वहाँ भी जहाँ वह पैदा हुई और वहाँ भी जहाँ वह ब्याही गयी। इस कविता में सत्य के ये दोनों धरातल मौजूद हैं। स्त्री का विद्रोह कहाँ तक जा सकता है, इसे सुशीला की कविता 'आहत' में देखा जा सकता हैदृ

दुनिया के चमन में दुनियादारी के बीज किसने बोये? किसने पानी डाला? अब कटुता, दुरावे की फसल उगी है काट भी दोगे तो टूंठ रह जायेंगे जमीन को आदत हो गयी है अब एक ही फसल उगाने की। 15

निष्कर्षः कुल मिलाकर कंवल भारती के शब्दों में कह सकते हैं कि सामंतवादी व्यवस्था ने स्त्री को भोग्या बनाने में उसके नख-शिख से लेकर पैरों तक की प्रशंसा कर डाली, सोने—चांदी के आभूषणों से सजने—संवरने में ही उसके अस्तित्व को सीमित कर दिया गया। मेंहदी, लाली, नूपुरों की रुनझुन और खनकती चूड़ियों के बोझ तले उसकी मौलिक प्रतिभा दबा दी गयी और यह सब इतने व्यवस्थित ढंग से किया गया कि उसे इसका भान तक नहीं होने दिया। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि सृजनशीलता से परिपूर्ण स्त्री आश्रिता, अबला, पराधीन और खिलौना बनकर रह गयी। धर्म ने उसे दासी बना दिया और मर्यादाओं ने गूंगी।

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