CHAPTER-VI


[The researcher, in the present chapter, has exclusively analyzed Chetan Bhagat’s fifth novel Revolution 2020 Love. Corruption. Ambition (or Revolution 2020 for short) keeping in mind the selected dominant issues of contemporary Indian society defined in the Research Tool of the present research work. Certain predominant issues of Contemporary Indian society have been explored and analyzed with special reference to their impacts on the life of the people of the lower middle class section of Indian society depicted in the novel. The chapter is concluded with certain exclusive research findings.]

6.1 Introduction: Brief Outline of the Novel Revolution 2020

Revolution 2020 is Chetan Bhagat’s fifth fictional work published in the year 2011 by Rupa Publications India Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi. As the title manifests, love trio, rampant corruption and youth ambition are the major thematic concerns of the present novel. Along with that, the writer has thrown considerable light on some of the prevalent issues of the lower middle class section of contemporary Indian society which again reflects the thematic line of the novel. The writer seems to be very realistic when he creates the actual picture of the contemporary Indian society in the present novel. Reader is given ample opportunity, in the fiction, to see incidents and situations which are experienced in the real life around him/her. The novel has all the potential to be taken as social document of contemporary Indian society.

As usual, the plot structure of the novel has been divided into three different parts like the prologue, the main part of the novel in flashback, and the epilogue. The draft of the novel has been covered in total 296 pages. The main story of the novel has been segmented into total 42 smaller portions. Every new portion of the novel launches a new sprout to the story line of the novel. Moreover, the writer has used the page-break technique that can help the reader take a light breath while reading. The story of the novel has been told in three components; the prologue and the epilogue, the main story. The main story has been
divided into four different segments like *Seven Years Later, Kota, Varanasi, and Varanasi Three More Years Later*. The size of the book, page quality, weight and price of the book are the exclusive standards of the writer Chetan Bhagat. The front cover page has been adorned with a pen-sketch image of the setting of the novel; the town of Varanasi with temples and *Ghats* (constructed river banks) and the picture of love trio which is apt and suggestive of the thematic aspect of the novel. On the back cover page, six line summary of the novel in a Bollywood promo style, is enough to stimulate the curiosity of a reader, especially young readers to read the novel. It has been again a tendency of the writer to use the first few pages of the novel from the promotion. The same propensity has been followed in the present novel also. The opening first page and the back side of it have been used for the said purpose of promotional point of view. The quotes on the writer and his works from the big banners of the national and international magazines and newspapers like *TIME magazine, The Guardian, The New York Times, The Times of India* and *International Herald Tribune* etc. are refereed or cited on both sides of the first page. The same tendency of the writer is observed in all the other books from the first fiction *Five Points Someone* to the latest fiction named *Half Girlfriend*. The researcher has mixed opinion for this very mentality of the writer to repeatedly use the same quotations for the promotional point of view. The researcher is of the view that the writer’s fame as a bestselling or widely read author of Indian writing in English is no more reliant on words of appreciation by any big banner. The next page of the novel contains the publication and copy right details of the work. On the third page, the writer has dedicated the work to his mother (Rekha Bhagat), to Varanasi (in which the novel is set) to the holy river (The Ganga), and to the Indian student. It seems that the writer has all the ingenuity to dedicate his work to the right people at the right time. However, critics also do not miss to smell the marketing mind-set of the author in doing it. Next to the dedication, he shows his whole hearted gratitude on the following page to all those who have directly or indirectly contribute to the completion of the present fiction. The last two lines of this page again seem to reflect on the marketing mind-set of the writer when he takes an opportunity to thank the filmmakers who choose to make his stories into films. In the last line of the same page he thanks the reader (who is holding the present book) for wanting a revolution.
The title of the present fictional work is tempting and a bit strategic. After reading the present novel at least three times, the researcher gently agrees to the views of some reviewers of the present book is that the book much more a love story and less about a revolution of any kind. However, the writer has ingeniously woven various incidents that may be taken as supplement to the revolutionary voice of the bigger issue of anti-corruption movement by the famous social activist Anna Hazare in the year 2011. The revolutionary anti-corruption movement by Anna Hazare claimed much public attention in India and overseas which was started on 5th April 2011. The anti-corruption movement in the year 2011, was a revolutionary zest among the common people of the country especially the youth. The writer seems to have used the famous figure 2020 which was popularised by Dr A P J Abdul Kalam; the 11th president of India (2002 to 2007) with his conceptual dream of *India Vision 2020* published in the year 1998. In the second half of the first decade of 21st century, the concept of making India a super-power by the year 2020 received an unprecedented attention in the country. Bhagat seems to have clubbed these two different prevalent concepts of the contemporary time for the title of his fifth novel which has been published at almost similar points of time. All these give a perfect push to the work from the promotional point of view.

The novel *Revolution 2020* is the story of three young characters named Gopal, Aarti and Raghav. Gopal belongs to the lower poor class society. His father, a widower, is a compulsorily retired teacher before superannuation due to his uncured illness. Gopal is an average student. For his father’s wish, he wants to be an engineer. He appears for the entrance test but cannot get sufficient credits to get into a good engineering institute. By nature, he is very ambitious because he has seen poverty and its hardships from very close. To him, money is the only way to happiness in life and for that he does not hesitate to do any compromise in life. Raghav is a school friend of Gopal. He belongs to a well to do family. He is very clever in his studies. He easily passes the engineering entrance test and gets admission to a reputed engineering institute. He has all the potential for becoming an engineer but by nature he is a revolutionary young boy. He is not happy with what is going on in the country. He wants to bring some positive change in the country. For that, he wants to do a course in journalism and build his career in mass media. Aarti is the daughter of a district magistrate. Her grandfather was an MLA of the local constituency. She is an average
student. She wants to be an air-hostess and see the world. By nature, she is very free
minded and a modern type of girl. She is a common friend of Gopal and Raghav since their
school days. Gopal loves Aarti but he does not have the courage to admit his love for her in
front of her. He fears of spoiling the present status of friendship. He does not want to lose
her if she does not accept his proposal. Aarti likes Gopal but she is more impressed by
Raghav. Raghav is not much seriously interested in Aarti. He takes her as a good friend. That
way, love trio is one of the chief thematic concerns of the present fictional work. There is an
antagonist character named Shukla-ji who is the sitting MLA of the local constituency. He is
corrupt from top to bottom. He has on his head many charges of corruption and scams, the
chief of which is the clean Ganga scam. He is involved in black money and money
laundering. Gopal comes into his contact and he also gets involves in various corrupt
practices in the blind rush of earning more and more money. Along with the love story, the
novel represents the prevailing rampant corruption in different sections of Indian society.
The over ambitiousness of the chief protagonist Gopal for earning more and more money,
and all the comforts he dreams of, also becomes an eye-catching point of the thematic
aspect of the novel.

In the prologue, it is shown how the author Mr. Bhagat happens to visit Varanasi for
delivering a motivational speech on the occasion of an inauguration of an MBA institute,
and how Gopal and the author Chetan Bhagat happen to meet for a drink at Gopal’s house
and how Gopal is admitted to the hospital because of his alcoholism and how Gopal shares
his past life with the writer.

The next part is the main story of the fiction in which Gopal describes how he was poor and
had all the hardships of life and how he happened to earn money by doing all compromise
in life and how all his richness and luxuries are painful to him at the present time. It is
shown at the beginning of the novel that the three chief characters Gopal, Raghav and Aarti
are school classmates in standard 5 C. As the story starts, Gopal and Raghav are shown
stealing and eating from the lunch boxes of their classmates and that day Aarti complains of
putting a dirty ruler on her seat and her new school dress is spoiled. The subject teacher
immediately identifies Gopal Mishra for this mischievousness. She punishes him also. Next
day, Gopal and Aarti have a compromise and promise each other to share the lunch box
daily. This incident of primary school life of the chief characters depicted in the beginning of
the novel can be taken as the best narrative technique to prepare the background for the intimate friendship among the chief characters of the novel.

The story now takes a big leap of seven years. Now, Gopal, Aarti and Raghav are in the HSC year and they are preparing for AIEEE (All India Engineering Entrance Exam) and IIT JEE (Indian Institute of Technology Joint Entrance Exam). They go for tuition classes which give special coaching for such entrance exams. At the end of the year, Raghav could secure AIEEE rank No.5,820 score to get admission in a reputed engineering institute, but Gopal was much behind with AIEEE rank No.52,043. So, he cannot get admission in any engineering institute. His father wants him to be an engineer at any cost so he sends him to Kota in Rajasthan for coaching to repeat the entrance exam. He initially does not wish to go there but he has to go to fulfil his father’s wish. Here, the writer takes a very good opportunity to critically expose the coaching class culture which has made the field of education a money-making business. His father uses all his life savings for Gopal’s coaching classes. He is an average student and he is not equipped for engineering studies. Moreover, he is in love with Aarti. Due to all such reasons he cannot get a good score and he comes back to his town. Here, he happens to visit a career fair for the selection to private engineering colleges with his friend Vineet. There in the fair, with the help of Vineet, Gopal meets Sunil who is the event organizer of the present career fair. Gopal, between the talks, happens to discuss the family land dispute with Sunil. An idea flashes in the mind of Sunil. He gives the idea to Gopal to start a new engineering college on a disputed land. Sunil has links with MLA Shukla who may invest money. On condition of giving cut (commission) of ten percent, Sunil takes Gopal to MLA Shukla’s home. Shukla takes interest in the proposal, as he wants to do laundering of the black money which he had collected from the Clean Ganga scam. He knows that starting an engineering college will help him earn social prestige also. Gopal and Shukla-ji meet and do all necessary arrangements to start Ganga Tech Engineering College.

They bribe all; from Varanasi Nagar Nigam to the top authorities for getting approvals and affiliation. Finally, at the end of three years of restless efforts of Gopal, the college building is ready for the inauguration. Here comes Raghav on the scene. He, after completing his graduation, joins Dainik as a reporter. As mentioned earlier, he is a rebellious kind of person. He is not happy with what is going on in the country in the name of corruption and all. He wants to contribute something worthwhile to the wellbeing of the country. So,
setting aside a shining career as an engineer, he chooses press media as career. He exposes several ill doings through his editorials. He is a brave reporter. He dares to challenge the MLA Shukla by exposing his corruption and scams of all kinds. Ganga Tech Engineering College is one of them. He has all the evidences to prove that the college is built with the black money of MLA Shukla. He writes a detailed report, on the very day of the inauguration, exposing all the corrupt details of the college. Gopal and Shukla find themselves in great trouble. For the time being, they manage to cover up the issue and they start the college admission. Raghav does not stop here. He keeps on exposing the scandals of Shukla till he is fired from the job as a reporter in Dainik. He, later on, starts his own newspaper named Revolution 2020. He continues his mission against corrupt practices and against the corrupt system prevalent in the society till Shukla has to resign and he is sent to jail. The people of Shukla troop into his press and smash all the things like computer, printer and other printing material. He is left helpless but he does not stop here. He is willing to keep on his efforts to root out the corrupt system from the society. He, having all the qualifications and calibre, does not accept the job of an engineer. Though Aarti loves him, he does not spare time for her. In the midst of these, Aarti grows closer to Gopal and they cross the moral limits of physical intimacy. Still, Aarti does not accept Gopal as she is very serious in her pious relationship with Raghav. Due to the constant advances of Gopal, Aarti starts becoming interested in him on condition that Raghav and she break up their relationship. In the absence of Shukla, the college is run by Gopal with full authority. Also he takes charge of various accounts and businesses of Shukla. By now, Gopal, like MLA Shukla, has become corrupt from top to bottom. He does not hesitate to accomplish any settlement for his benefits. Elections come near and now being in jail, Shukla wants Gopal to contest the assembly elections and be the MLA. Shukla believes that once Gopal becomes the MLA, nothing would stop them. For that, he advises him to contact the Pradhans for support as this is the only family in the city on which the people put trust on. Aarti is the granddaughter of the former CM Brij Pradhan. He lives a retired life. His son i.e. Aarti’s father, the District Magistrate, is never interested in politics. The only hope is the future son-in-law of the family. Gopal finds himself fit for that as he is an intimate friend of Aarti. He is ready to enter into politics. He is ready to use his friendship with Aarti to accomplish his growing ambition. He proposes to Aarti for marriage but she is not serious about Gopal’s
Dominant Issues of Modern Society in *Revolution 2020; Love. Corruption. Ambition*

proposal. Moreover, Aarti is still interested in Raghav and she says that she can accept his proposal only after she breaks-up with Raghav. To convince Raghav, Gopal reaches his office, which is almost destroyed by the men of Shukla. His office is broken-down by the men of Shukla but not his spirit for bringing revolution. Reaching the office, Gopal sees the revolutionary zest of Raghav in a very pathetic situation. He finds that Raghav is the only hope of so many oppressed or exploited people of the town and remote villages around. Gopal’s mind is changed witnessing the present situation in the office. He feels as if revolution in India is breathing its last. He feels that not he, but Raghav should marry Aarti and be the MLA of the constituency. Gopal determines to quit the field. He works out a plan to show that he is not a good match for Aarti. He succeeds in the plan and finally Aarti starts hating Gopal and is determined to marry Raghav. The marriage is organised and Gopal is experiencing very pathetic emotional turmoil in his mind and heart. Here is the end of the main story and of course the end of the flashback with started immediately after the prologue.

In the epilogue, Gopal and Mr. Bhagat are talking. Gopal says that Shukla is still in jail. He is thinking of buying Shukla’s share of college partnership as he also wants money for another business. Raghav is contesting the election. Gopal is asking a very simple question to the author if he is a good person and if he is the hero or the villain of his story. Finally, Chetan checks out from the hotel, and happens to meet Aarti who is a Guest Relation Officer of the hotel. On the way he finds the big hoarding at the traffic signal in which he sees the picture of a young candidate. He calls Gopal and very firmly says that he is a good person. With these last words the fiction comes to an end on the last page No.296.

Having read the present fiction three times and all the available on-line critical comments, book reviews and research articles on the book as a part of the research, the researcher is inclined to agree with some of the critics who say that the novel *Revolution 2020* is more of a love story than a revolution of any kind. However, the fact cannot be denied that there is a *spark* of a revolution of some kind in the later part of the novel, and an optimistic prophecy at the end of the novel for the actual beginning of it.
6.2 Portrayal of Contemporary Indian Society in Revolution 2020

The portrayal of society depicted in Revolution 2020 represents very accurate description of the contemporary Indian society as a whole. It is a society in which money is mightier than ethics and values of all kinds. It is a society where might is right. It is a society in which the powerful forces dominate the weaker people. It is a society in which moral values like truth and honesty are taking their last breath. It is a society in which a sort of social and moral disorder is prevalent all around. It is a society in which the survival of the fittest kind of situation has emerged. Creating fictional situations and incidents, the writer has revealed a realistic picture of the contemporary Indian society.

The story of the present novel takes place in the old city of Varanasi which is considered as a holy place for the Hindus for centuries together. The other names of the city are like Kashi or Banaras. It is the place which is taken as the gate way to salvation. Death in Kashi is taken as very much fortunate in Hindu belief system. The river Ganga passes through here, which is again considered the holiest among all the rivers in India. It is a belief in the Hindu religion that bathing in the holy water of the Ganga washes away all one’s sins. Hindus all over the country and abroad come here to Varanasi every year with a strong religious conviction. In spite of all the religious and mythological significance of the city of Varanasi, the depiction which is observed in the novel Revolution 2020 is enough to shock any outsider very badly.

The writer seems to have very honestly described the realistic picture of the society. The ‘Varanasi Model’ which can be imagined from the present novel, can be applied to every other city of India as more or less the actuality of urban milieu of contemporary India. Like Varanasi, the entire country has rich and prosperous history of human civilization, but the contemporary situation of Indian society hardly promises even a single aspect of it.

The three chief characters represent three different strata of contemporary Indian society. Gopal represents the poor class society, Raghav is from the well to do middle class society and Aarti belongs to the upper class background whose grandfather is the ex-CM of the state and her father is the District Magistrate in the city. Raghav’s father is an engineer in GAIL. Gopal’s father is a retrenched school teacher due to his failed health. His income is not enough for further treatment. Money is the constant issue in the family of Gopal. They also have family disputes about the inherited land. His father is also tired off the delay in the judiciary system. He wants his son Gopal to study seriously and be an engineer, so that
he can help his family. The hardships of Gopal and his father can be taken as the real representation of the poor class strata of contemporary Indian society. As students, Gopal, Aarti and Raghav study with a mental pressure. They fear of failure. They have parental pressure to score high enough to get admission to a good engineering institute. Gopal’s father wants him to be an engineer at any cost. He is ready to use all his savings for that. The writer seems to have represented this very actuality of the contemporary Indian middle class mentality here, and the children have to study hard to reach high parental expectations. Such things lead them to a lot of mental disorder sometimes and the same leads to suicide also.

The writer has also taken the chance to criticise the city of Kota in Rajasthan for its coaching class culture. Kota is famous for various coaching classes that prepare thousands of students every year for entrance exams like AIEEE and IIT-JEE and many others. The chief protagonist Gopal goes to Kota for getting coaching as a repeater for engineering entrance test. The scared sector of education in contemporary India has become a profit earning business. In the name of best coaching and guidance, the middle class parents are exploited with their life long savings. This situation is not only true with the city of Kota but to all the smaller and bigger cities and towns of India. The coaching class culture has taken a complete hold of the education system. It has been a common tendency that, for better studies and higher ranks, coaching is a must. Hundreds of parents do innumerable adjustments in their family budget all over India for the extra coaching of their children. Many teachers are also observed associated with the coaching class culture. They are observed forcing their students to join their coaching classes or they threaten them with their poor results. Here, the author has become a very realist when he depicts this aspect of contemporary Indian society.

The privatization of the education sector has also been given a considerable space in the present fiction. The education sector of contemporary Indian society is in the wrong hands whose only aim is to earn more and more money out of it. The description of the career fair represents the actual picture of what is happening in the society. The people who have nothing to do with the education sector are jumping into the field of education with big investments. The writer has very sarcastically criticised such people in the novel. Those who are involved in sari business, liquor business, as well as the politicians and builders are
taking interest in the educational field as they take it as one time investment-life time profit business. This reality of contemporary India cannot be denied in the present scenario. The society represented in the present fiction is shown highly indulged in corruption of all kind. From small venders to the big business men, from municipality to top ranked officers are depicted as involved in corrupt practices of all kinds. The shopkeepers of cremation material sell ordinary wood as sandalwood after spraying it with synthetic perfume, the ration shop owners do black marketing of all kind, LPG cylinders are sold illegally, and the RT Officers take bribes. All these corrupt practices are exposed by Raghav in his newspaper Revolution 2020. Shukla, the chief antagonist character is the sitting MLA of the local constituency. He is neck-deep indulged in corrupt practices of all kinds. He has made cores of rupees in the Ganga Action Plan in the name of cleaning the water of the river Ganga. He invests the wrongly amassed black money in various businesses and earns a lot more. Gopal, the main hero of the novel runs an engineering college which is established with Shukla’s black money. Shukla is the silent partner of the college. For establishing the college, Gopal has bribed many officers from Varanasi Nagar Nigam to the AICTE inspection officers for getting approvals of all kinds. The revolutionary voice of truth and honesty is buried by such corrupt people. By presenting Raghav, the writer has pointed out how the corrupt people smother the voice raising against them. The press media which is considered the fourth pillar of Indian democracy is also not free from it. The media leaders maintain good terms with the powerful people. They do not hesitate to take bribes for printing favourable news. The depiction of the corrupt society in the present novel obviously mirrors the perfect picture of the contemporary Indian society. Presently, in India, it may be very hard to find a single government sector which is untouched by the poisonous sting of the evil serpent of corruption.

Gopal, Aarti and Raghav represent the ethos and sentiments of the younger generation of contemporary Indian society. They have high aspirations in life. Gopal wants to be a big man by earning plenty of money. Aarti wants to be an air hostess and travel around the world. Raghav is different from the other two. He dreams of bringing a revolution in the present unhealthy condition of the society. In the blind rush for earning money, Gopal becomes one of the most corrupted persons of the city. He earns a lot of money by compromising with certain values of life. His over ambitious mentality takes him to the height of so called
success but he finds himself all alone. Aarti loves Raghav and she likes Gopal. Raghav cannot spare time for her due to his work for the national cause. Aarti grows physical intimacy with Gopal but she still believes that she has not cheated Raghav. The complex thinking and behaviour pattern of the youth of the contemporary India is reflected in the thinking and behaviour pattern of the young characters of the present novel. Overall, the portrayal of the society, in the present novel, is an authentic description of the actual human society of contemporary India. The writer has very sharply drawn the realistic picture of the present society in the present fiction. All the observations and expressions, throughout the course of the story content, reflect on one or the other aspect of the contemporary Indian social set-up. Almost all the incidents in the novel seem real in the present context. All the characters and incidents represent the balanced typicality of the present Indian society. The contemporary India, depicted in the novel, is not much different from the outside real India. The reader is not confused with a utopian sort of world inside the fiction which can be exaggerated, rather it like a social document of contemporary Indian society.
6.3 Dominant Issues of Modern Society in Revolution 2020

The novel Revolution 2020 echoes some of the very serious issues of contemporary Indian society. The writer, along with writing a love story of three young characters, has sensibly taken the opportunity to critically reveal the dominating issues of contemporary Indian society like corruption, black money, money laundering, power-misuse, dirty politics and many other issuers that directly affect the middle class community of people. Such issues are related to the education sector of India, lower middle class hardship, and many other issues related to the young generation of the modern India. The author has also raised his voice against such serious issues of the present India very ingeniously in the novel through the revolutionary character like Raghav.

6.3.1 Issues Related to Contemporary Education System of India

The writer has thrown light on the issues affecting the education section of contemporary Indian society as follow:

6.3.1.1 Coaching Class Culture

At the beginning of the novel, the writer has raised the issue of coaching class culture and its effects on the lower middle class people of contemporary Indian society. Coaching class culture seems to have become an inevitable part of contemporary education system of India. Extra coaching seems to have become mandatory especially for the high-school students. In the blind rush for top rank or high score, many parents do all possible compromises with their family budget and send their children for extra coaching. It causes financial burden to the parents and mental burden to the students.

In the novel Revolution 2020 Gopal, Raghav and Aarti are three school friends. The three represent exclusive aspirations of the recent jeans generation of India. Gopal and Aarti are average students whereas Raghav is good in his studies. All the three, are in the H.S.C year. They have also joined JSR coaching classes for the preparation of the engineering entrance exam. Raghav’s performance is good in local tests conducted by the coaching center but Gopal and Aarti are not showing any promise in it. Gopal does not want to be an engineer, but he has to opt for his father’s wish. At the end of the year, the AIEEE entrance results are out. As expected, Raghav’s scoring is good enough but Gopal and Aarti have not done well. Gopal’s father wants him to be an engineer at any cost so the only option is to retry the AIEEE. He wanted to do B.Sc. but it was his father who wanted him to be an engineer. The
only option was to join a coaching class in Kota, the biggest engineering coaching class hub in Rajasthan, where thousands of students from all over India come to try their luck. Gopal says;

Kota is the capital of IIT coaching classes. Tens of thousands go there, I explained. Every year, the tiny western Indian town of Kota accounted for a thousand or a third of the total IIT selections (Bhagat Revolution 38).

It is here that the writer takes the opportunity to criticize the commercialization of the education sector in Indian society. Some people have made education a big business. Thousands of students pay to such people, lots of money as fees for coaching. They are like customers to them. This is not only true of Kota but also to all corners of India. There is a turnover of millions of rupees in this coaching class business in India. The economic effect of it to middle class people is severe. The high fee packages of the coaching class culture completely disturb the family budget of the middle class community. They also offer full package with lunch and extra reading. The depiction of Bansal classes in Kota as a coaching class hub in Revolution 2020 clearly throws light on that. Gopal, when he enters the building of a coaching class, is taken aback as:

The Bansal classes did not look like the small tuition centres run at tiny apartments in Varanasi. It resembled an institute or a large corporate office. I stood in the gigantic lobby, wondering what to do next. Students and teachers strode about in a purposeful manner as if they were going to launch a satellite in space (Bhagat Revolution 59).

The money making mind set is clearly understood when the author describes the commercial culture of the city of Kota, with hundreds of smaller and bigger coaching classes offering various tempting schemes for paying fees and imparting education. The chief character of the novel Gopal is a middle class student. His father does not have much money to pay for fees.

Each institute asked for a thousand bucks for an application form. Whether they selected you or not, whether you joined or not, the fee had to be paid. I had fifty thousand rupees with me, and Baba had promised more after six months. I had limited money; I could only apply selectively (Bhagat, Revolution 57).
And the payment schemes offered by the coaching classes are very confusing to him. Here, Bhagat has exposed the moneymaking mind-set of the people who have made education a business. Their only aim is to earn profit and not to do social service at all. It is more surprising for Gopal that, there is some small banner coaching classes for getting admissions at big banner coaching classes. The big banners have very high rates for even application forms whereas small banners do not have any criteria for admissions; the only criteria are you pay and we serve.

Each institute asked for a thousand bucks for an application form. Whether they selected you or not, whether you joined or not, the fee has to be paid.... I had limited money, I could only apply selectively.

I short listed five coaching institutes- Bansal, Career Path, Resonance and two new cheaper one called Aim IIT and Career Ignite....The brochure of Aim IIT said: We believe in democratic rights of every student to be coached. Hence, we don’t conduct our own entrance test. They might as well have written: “If you have the cash, you are welcome (Bhagat Revolution 57).

Education is a sacred dharma or a social responsibility. It has its noble importance in itself. But the commercial people, who have invested their money in the education sector, cannot understand this. Their only aim is to get maximum profit out of the investment. Even the words they use are from business culture. It sounds quite funny to people who still consider education as a sacred Dharma. Chetan Bhagat very comically and satirically takes a chance here, to critically expose the corporate culture people who have jumped into the education field for making money. When Gopal inquires about the details of the fee to be paid for the coaching, he gets the following response:

If you have more than 85 per cent aggregate in class XII, or if you have AIEEE rank up to 40,000, you get a thirty per cent discount, the bespectacled gentleman at the computer explained me.

‘I have 79 per cent AIEEE rank 52,043’, I said.

‘Oh in that case you apply for full-rate program’ the admission officer said” (Bhagat Revolution 60).

The coaching class culture is not only an outcome of the corporate body or business people. It is observed that many school teachers and college professors are also involved in this
activity. In many private and government schools, many of the classrooms are observed empty whereas the coaching classes are overcrowded. The poor parents can’t afford the extra-coaching and the school teachers do not teach seriously, so obviously it affects the studies of the poor class students. Either they are greedy or they are not paid well. In most of the cases they are observed greedy. There is an official ban, for in-service teachers and professors, to engage in paid tuitions. Such people very tactfully manage to run coaching classes with the help of non-serving persons. They are observed giving paid coaching sometimes by neglecting their assigned duties. Such people run coaching classes like perfect businessmen. They hire some fresh graduates, train them well and run coaching classes. They pay very little to such fresh graduates and gain high profit. Their only aim is to earn. There is no concern for the students. They are sometimes found to have forgotten their sacred duty. They force the students to join their coaching centres or coaching centres of their associates. They give special treatment to students in regular classrooms like flexibility in attendance, relaxation from extra assignments, never minding their mischievous behaviour. Some schools are also involved in this business. Some schools have started offering Day-Care facilities with full package of schooling and coaching with lunch and extra preparations for exams. They sometimes hire famous coaching faculties as profit partners for running Day-Care schools. The concept of day-care school seems an off-shoot of the coaching class culture and commercial mind-sets in the education sector. High rate packages of day-care schools offer regular teaching, extra coaching, breakfast, lunch, transportation and other extra-curricular activities at one place. Such packages cost in lakhs which is not in the reach of the lower middle class people. Such joint ventures exploit the parents economically. Even the parents take it for granted that coaching is unavoidable for excellent results and so they do not have any complaints.

In reality, the class XII students never go to school. Career path had an agreement with a cooperative CBSE school, which had a flexible attendance policy. It was rumoured that the CBSE school received a handsome kickback from Career Path for the cooperation extended (Bhagat Revolution 65).

The writer, in the present novel, has very critically exposed the coaching class culture of contemporary Indian education system. The writer has very truly pointed out some of the ills of the coaching class culture. It is very true to mention that, at the very beginning of the
present novel, he has drawn a vivid picture of the money making coaching class culture of contemporary India.

6.3.1.2 Commercialization of Education and the Effects that Follow

The researcher has responded on the issue of commercialization of education in India and its effects in his research paper with the title: ‘Commercialization of education and its Effects on Contemporary Indian Society with the Special Reference to Chetan Bhagat’s Revolution2020’ published in ‘International Journal of the Frontiers of English Literature and the Patterns of ELT’ (ISSN: 2320-2505) in Volume 2, Issue 2 dated July 2014. The Researcher’s responded as: Presently, education sector in India is becoming a onetime investment industry for lifelong profit. The mushrooming of self-financed schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions has been taking complete hold of the education sector. Under the declared aim of no profit no loss, the education sector of India is becoming the best profit making industry. People, investing in this sector, sometimes have nothing to do with this sacred sector of the society. The corporate culture is visible in all its bloom in the present education system. It has as prime objective, either to whiten the black money under the shade of social service or to take away optimum profit out of it. Five star facilities which are provided in such institutions have almost eliminated the existence of government schools and colleges. The students’ community has been divided into two segments; the private school students who study with all the rich facilities and the government school students; who study with minimum facilities. The competitive atmosphere in education sector is not healthy for society. The corporate body is moulding education sector with ultra-modern facilities whereas the government occupied education institutes are sometimes devoid of some of the basic facilities for imparting education. The negotiations promoted by such culture in quality have started showing its effects on society. The ultimate aim of education; to uplift the soul is not anyway nurtured. The students will not nurture in them the ideals of social responsibility as they are paying for what they are gaining. The investment in education for qualifying themselves will definitely stimulate them to get maximum returns and that may not be good for society. The passed out are sometimes not a quality product and have no market value. Such a culture does not cultivate in them, the aptitude of employability so the passed out population adds to the already burning problem of unemployment in India. Such a culture in education sector
stimulates corruption which is again a burning issue of Indian society. The cultural and moral devaluation can also be considered some of the chief outcomes of such a culture. The money making mind-set of the owners of such commercial or corporate factories of education, sometimes do not pay the employees sufficiently. This causes a great damage to the development of a student into a good citizen. The prime objective of education is not only to produce doctors, engineers, managers, professors but also to prepare good professionals, better citizens, and better human beings. The investing agencies cannot have such objectives in consideration; rather they concentrate on maximum profit from their investment. Such a culture will sweep away the social and national ideal of education and the same can be dangerous to the overall growth of Indian society.

Education sector is one of the most favourite sectors for rich people for investment in contemporary India. Here, they get both profit and social prestige. Black money is easily whitened here. They see many escape routes from the income tax in the education sector. More and more businessmen and industrialists are entering this sector. Many of the private schools, colleges and universities in India, are owned by businessmen and industrialists in India now a day. Have a look at the bigger private education banners and one can find the names of big business groups. More surprising is to know that those who have nothing to do with education invest in this sector. Their purpose is very clear; one time investment for long time returns. When Gopal attends a career fair, he finds that a trader in sarees has opened an engineering college.

I asked around. RSTC seemed slightly better than others. I don’t think there is much difference.

‘What is RSTC?’ I said

Riddhi Siddhi Technical College; The owners have a sari business with the same name’.

‘Oh’ I said, trying to make a connection between sari business and education

(Bhagat Revolution 106).

Bhagat in this novel very bluntly exposes how and why some socially rejected people invest in the education sector. He puts his own protest in the mouth of Gopal as;

What was that? They own a college?’ I said
‘It is Verma family from Allahabad. They are into country liquor, now they have opened a college’.

‘Why?’ I said

‘Money. There is huge money in private colleges. Plus, it enhances their name in society. Now they are noble people in education, not liquor barons (Bhagat Revolution 116).

The business of education does not stop here. It is observed that an education fair is organized in all its grandeur and the students are tempted by every representative to join his/her institute. The corporate environment is created to attract maximum number students by offering various schemes and offers for discounts in fees. They advertise and the total expense is directly or indirectly put on the head of the students. In the novel, Gopal attends one such fair and he observes;

I attended the career fair held in a giant tent put up in the Dr Sampooranand Sport Stadium...I entered the main tent. Hundreds of stalls made it resemble a trade expo. Private colleges around the country were trying to woo the students of Varanasi. Members of managing bodies of colleges stood with smiling faces. Banners inside the stalls displayed campus pictures like real estate projects (Bhagat Revolution 111-12).

Along with social prestige and profit, the corporate bodies have some more hidden motives behind the investment in education sector. The reference is found in the novel as, Shukla talks to Gopal as: “Once the college opens and airport is built, we may even get residential or commercial zoning” (Bhagat Revolution 124).

In this novel, Gopal believes himself a big loser in the competitive world. Now he wants to earn a lot of money at any rate. It makes little difference to him which way money comes. The failure of the education system and the commercialization of education kill the inner-self of Gopal and now he is ready to do any compromise to be rich. Through his friend Sunil, he comes in contact with the Mr. Shukla, the sitting MLA of his town. Gopal has some land on the highway, a disputed land with his uncle. An idea comes in Sunil’s mind to start an engineering college. Now Gopal starts believing what his friend Sunil says: “Stupid people go to college, smart people own them” (Bhagat Revolution 120). The problem of initial fund is solved by MLA Shukla who has collected a lot of money from government projects
through unfair means. Gopal now enters the mud of corruption through the education system. From the college building plan approval in Nagar Nigam to the final AICTE approval for starting admissions, he practices limitless corruption. He starts believing that everyone has to be taken care of because it is the standard in India. Through the character of Gopal, Bhagat has drawn the attention of his readers to the truth how corruption affects the education section. The big failure of education sector in India is that, people like Gopal are not born corrupt but they are made so by such a system. Through the character of Gopal, the writer has exposed the wide spread corruption in the education sector. People like Gopal are made because of the corruption and commercialization of education.

In the novel, Revolution 2020 Gopal confesses in front of his girlfriend Aarti,

I felt nothing. May be because I knew the exact amount of bribes it took to reach this day. Seventy-two lakhs, twenty-three thousand and four hundred rupees to obtain everything from electricity connections to construction site labour approval (Bhagat Revolution 141).

In the novel, Gopal says to MLA Shukla that they had spent rupees six crore already on construction, equipment, and faculty and of course on fixing government officials. The AICTE inspection team was given accommodation in a five stars hotel. Every single need of them is taken care of; from wine to call girls on demand, along with extra-large gift packages. The point here becomes very clear that one cannot spend more than six crore rupees and such corrupt negotiations for the purpose of social services. In response to the inquiry of Gopal, for earning revenue, MLA Shukla says: “Relax, we will recover the money” (Bhagat Revolution 166). Shukla’s statement proves word by word right, when the college is actually started with full strength of students. Gopal talks with the writer in the prologue as:

Sixteen hundred students now, Chetan-ji, across all batches. Each paying one lakh a year. We already have a sixteen–crore turnover. And you inaugurated the MBA coaching today. That’s another new business (Bhagat, Revolution 3).

Education sector has its sacred responsibility towards society to produce better human beings. So, the guru-shishya or master-disciple relationship is still considered sacred relationship in Indian society. Now it has turned into the vendor-customer relationship where giving with one hand and getting with another is the only way of life. So such a
relationship cannot have anything sacred about it. The students passing out cannot have much accountability towards the society as they have not been given from the society but they have purchased from the market. They have invested much money to achieve the degrees or the skills and now they will expect maximum returns out of it. So, their education will be an ultimate instrument for earning money. They cannot be much obliged to society and society cannot expect any moral obligation from such passed outs. The commercial people sometimes do a lot of compromises in the quality of education. Their clear objective is to earn money, so the poor quality of imparting education produces poor quality of professionals. When such people go for work, they cannot perform well, so it affects their overall production. Society is the sole consumer of any production so the poor quality production of any kind, will again affect the society more adversely. For example, a passed out from such an institute, by hook or crook, becomes a teacher or a professor and he serves poor quality of education. So he affects the new generation also. The mushrooming of such commercial institutions like schools, colleges and universities produce maximum number of passed outs (sometimes by unfair means) so the problem of unemployment is increased. As, any Tom, Dick or Harry gets degrees easily, it devalues the importance of degrees and education in society. The commercialized people in education compromise with basic discipline measures, so the pass outs lack democratic values that ensure a healthy society. It is observed that, sometimes, underperforming, but students with rich background join such institutions which are run purely on a commercial basis. Their intention is not to get knowledge but to get the degree or the certificate to be used in the market to run the family business untroubled. Such a commercial culture is a boon to them. They get maximum advantage of such a system and finally it is the society which has to suffer. They do not hesitate to engage in corruption, bribing of any kind and all possible things to earn money and prestige. The middle class people have to bear a lot in such a system. An under performer of a middle class family sometimes has to join such commercial institutes. So, the family budget or lifetime earnings is sometimes wasted, as such an institute does not promise any job guarantee. The reference is found in the novel Revolution 2020 itself. Gopal is a middle class under performer. He gets very low rank in AIEEE exam, so he has to join a coaching class with high commercial base. It completely disturbs his family budget. His father gives him all the money he has saved for his life. It
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gives a lot of stress and frustration to both the son and the father. The commercialization of education affects some of the institutes which are run on the basis of no profit -no loss with pure social service purpose. It is observed now a day, that some of the educational streams or branches are overcrowded with students whereas the others are not opted. This happens because some commercial minds that run such institutions are only interested in running such branches as promise them good returns. In this way, the imbalance in the passed out ratio in various fields, shows its consequences in the form of unemployment or under-employment. The selected few passed out generation is exploited with limited salary and other allowances. They suffer from tension, worries, frustration and mental stress due to job insecurity. They know that the employer has many options and if they protest against any exploitation, they would be driven out from job. The educated but unemployed passed outs sometimes involve themselves in unsocial or anti-social activities which is a big threat to the ultimate peace and harmony in society. In the novel, Gopal is a boy of values and merits at the beginning but as the novel progresses, it is observed that he feels insecurity and depression for his future and he gradually gets involved in corrupt practices of every kind as if it is his way of life.

The researcher observes the severe effects of commercialization of education in contemporary Indian society and immediate actions need to be taken. Education to society is like the wind pipe to human body. No casual approach is to be entertained in this regards or the entire society will turn into disorder in no time. Good education promises a better civilized society. If this fact is overlooked or actions are delayed, the society will have to pay a high price for it. If immediate actions are not taken, the active commercial forces will demolish the great Indian education system and the society will have to suffer catastrophic consequences sooner or later. (Web link: www.englishjournal.mgit.ac.in)

### 6.3.1.3 Corruption leads to Crimes in Education

The researcher firmly believes that corruption is prevalent in the education system with all its intensity especially in the administrative division of the education system. Hardly any educational admin office is left untouched by corruption and bribing of some kind. From the peon to the top ranked officers, everybody seems to be involved in corrupt practices of some or the other kind. For any sanction, approval or affiliation, corruption and bribery...
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seem to have become the accepted convention in this sacred field of education. The following extract from the present novel supports the above argument:

‘I imagine we have to pay somebody to clear the inspection? I said.

Bedi laughed. ‘You learn fast. Of course, we pay. A thick packet to every inspector. However, right now, we pay to obtain an inspection data. First things fast’

My eyebrows went up. ‘Joking, right? I said.

‘No, any government work, especially in education, requires a fee. Get used to it’. Apart from the UGC, we had to apply to AICTE…They clear the engineering colleges. Also every private college requires a government university affiliation. For that, we have to get approvals from the vice-chancellor of a state university. Shukla-ji’s connections and a generous envelope would do the trick.

‘Otherwise the vice-chancellor can create a lot of hassle’, Bedi said.

‘So who are these UGC and AICTE inspectors, anyway?’ I said.

‘University lecturers from government colleges are appointed as inspectors. Of course, since it is such a lucrative job, the lecturers have to bribe to become one,’ Bedi said.

‘Whom?’

‘Senior management at UGC, or someone in the education ministry (Bhagat, Revolution 138).

Due to privatization of schools and colleges, corruption and bribery have become a set mentality. The commercial forces in education system keep on nurturing the same as they want to get their work quickly done or they want to beat their competitors. The writer, in the present novel, has pointed out this very reality of contemporary Indian society. It is shown in the novel that Gopal, the chief protagonist, practices all possible corruption and give all possible bribery to various authorities for getting approvals and affiliations. From the municipal corporation of his city to final AICTE approval for his college, he gives money for getting his work done in time. He accepts that he has got tired of stuffing bundles of notes in the mouths of the corrupt people. In response to the inquiry of his girlfriend Aarti,
about when his college would actually have students, he replies that when they manage to please every Indian government official on this earth (Bhagat Revolution 169). By the time, the college actually starts in full strength of students; Gopal becomes so confident that he is able to manage every wrong with his money. He knows that by bribing, he is able to manage all the authorities so he does not hesitate to do any wrong in his college. Gopal has only one principle in his life for winning a person, that is, bribe him and get the work done. The following conversation between Gopal and the accountant throws light on the above face very well:

‘Sir, we have more requests for admissions,’ he sought to change the subject.
‘We are full,’ I said. ‘You know that. We have as many students as we are authorised to take.’
‘Sir, if the AICTE can adjust...’
I sighed. ‘How many more?’
‘Five, ten...’ he said. ‘Twenty at the most.’
‘Take them in,’ I said. ‘I’ll manage the AICTE when the time comes’ (Bhagat, Revolution 207).

From the admission process to the placement of passing out students, Gopal is ready to give bribes. The following conversation among Gopal, the dean and Jayant, the placement officer, reflects the fact how even corporate people are willing to take bribes from the money making people in the education sector:

‘Let’s look at the placement soon,’ I said (...).
‘Jayant is the placement coordinator’ the dean said.
‘Sir, I am already meeting corporates,’ Jayant said.
‘What is their response?’ I said.
‘We are new, so it is tough. Some HR managers want to know their cut,’ Jayant said.
‘Director Gopal, as you may know...’ the dean began but I interrupted him.
‘HR manages want a cut if they hire from our colleges, correct? I said.
‘Right sir,’ Jayant said.

Every aspect of running a private college involved bribing someone (Bhagat, Revolution 273).
When he finds that people in the corporate sector ask bribes for arranging placement in his campus, he does not refuse it to give it to such people, as he knows that more placements will attract more students to his college.

Further, it promotes crime in society. It is very clearly mentioned in the novel how Raghav, a common friend of Gopal and Aarti, also a newspaper reporter, exposes the corruption in constructing the college and how Gopal and his partner Shukla treat him. They force Raghav’s boss to drive him off the job. Moreover, when he starts his own newspaper ‘Revolution2020’ and keeps on exposing the wrong doings of them, the people of Shukla troop into his office, beat him a lot, tear the papers and smash the computer and other printing equipment. Such people can go to any extent for silencing the voice against corruption. People like Shukla can go to any extent to silence the voice of the people like Raghav who expose their wrong doings. And one can easily observe cases of mental harassment, transfer of job, trapping in corruption, kidnapping or even an indirect murder these days. An incident of kidnapping is depicted in the novel. Gopal has a piece of disputed land which is now a matter of litigation. His father’s elder brother has taken complete possession of the land. He happens to contact MLA Shukla with the proposal to open a college. The deal is done because he believes as ‘we don’t fix cases. We fix the people in the cases (Bhagat Revolution 125). Next day, Shukla’s men kidnap Ghanshyam tayaji’s four year old grandson Bittoo to create pressure on the family to negotiate the old land dispute. People with such criminal mind-set, can go to any extent if the judgement is not in their favour. This can be taken as a reality of contemporary Indian social scenario.

6.3.1.4 Black Money and Money Laundering in Education

It is appropriate to recollect the definition of black money given by Ram Ahuja. He is of the opinion that black money is unaccounted money, tax- evaded, concealed income and undisclosed wealth, collected by various professionals and businessmen who do not reveal it, as whole income, for tax purposes. The reference is found in the present novel wherein, a professional named Shrivastava asks for salary in black which can save him from paying the income tax. The following extract from the novel supports the fact.

‘You don’t have to disclose my salary,’ he said.

‘How will we keep it hidden? The accounts department will have the details,’

I said.
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‘Pay the part of it in cash,’ Shrivastava said (. . .)

‘How much? I said.

‘Fifty per cent? May be more,’ he suggested. ‘It only saves me taxes. And nobody feels jealous of me. In fact, my on-paper salary will be lower than that of the teachers’ (Bhagat, Revolution 157).

Along with the professionals and businessmen, a huge amount of black money is supposed to be amassed by the present or past politicians of India. Such money is earned from corruption scams of one or the other type. The black money is tactfully whitened by secretly investing in certain charitable trusts and NGO’s. Many religious places, NGOs, educational institutes and even political parties in India are run using the secret donations of black money holders.

The writer, in the present novel, has raised the issue of black money and money laundering in the education sector. A completely corrupt person like, MLA Shukla in the novel, makes a huge amount of black money and he invest in certain educational trusts for whitening it. Gopal, the chief protagonist of the novel, does not know to how people whiten the black money in the education sector so he is well trained by Bedi who is an assistant of Shukla.

The following talk between Gopal, the narrator of the fiction and Bedi reveals the fact very well:

‘Why would a private player open a non-profit college? I said.

Bedi took a deep breath before he proceeded to explain.

‘Well, you take a profit. The trustees can take out cash from the trust, showing it as an expense. Or take some fee in cash, and not account for it. Or ask a contractor to pay you back a portion of what you pay them. There are many more ways... (Bhagat Revolution 126).

It is also observed that black money is invested in huge amount in the land purchasing market. The land mafias seem to possess and invest quite a considerable amount of black money in this market. They pay very little government duty on land purchase and whiten their black money by paying high to the land owners. This leads to further multiplication of black money round the year. It is shown in the present fiction that the chief antagonist MLA Shukla has collected much black money from the Ganga action plan scam. He is depicted as a member of big land mafia also. When he hears from Sunil, the education consultant, that
Gopal who has come to visit him, has fifteen acres of land off the highway, hardly ten kilometres from the city, he leaves all the work aside and immediately consults them. Sunil explains to him the idea of opening an engineering college on the land, he promptly agrees as he comes to know that the land is near the proposed site of the new airport. He starts calculating that once the colleges is opened and the airport is built, they may even get residential or commercial zoning (Bhagat Revolution 124). He keeps on investing the black money in various businesses and charitable trusts like the Ganga Tech Engineering College. Raghav, the revolutionary news reporter has definite information of Shukla’s black money as follow:

‘He is accused of stealing twenty crore from the Ganga Action Plan. Government money meant to clean our river.’

‘It is an accusation. Not proven,’ I said.

‘Right after that he made many property investments, including this college. Can’t believe you didn’t see through it. How can a politician have so much money? He comes from a humble background’ (Bhagat, Revolution 163).

In spite of all the exposure and defamation in Ganga action plan scam, Gopal and Shukla manage to open and run the college. The revolutionary voice of Raghav is silenced through unfair means. The writer here perhaps wants to show how powerful such people are in the contemporary Indian society who collect black money without fear and invest it and multiply it also, but the system does not harm them anyway as they hold the system in their own pockets.
6.3.2 Issues Related to Contemporary India

Chetan Bhagat, in the fiction *Revolution 2020*, has focused on some of the very serious national issues of contemporary scenario of India. He has drawn much attention of the readers towards the adverse effects of the same on the people of contemporary Indian society. A deep literary analysis of the novel brings to the surface the following such issues.

6.3.2.1 Corruption

The most serious issue which is depicted in a more detailed manner in the present fiction is the issue of the prevalent corruption in every nook and corner of contemporary India. Corruption is one of the major thematic concerns of the novel and that is why perhaps it is mentioned in the tagline of the title. The entire second half of the storyline of the present fiction centers round the issue of corruption. Through the two major characters like Gopal and Shukla, the writer has very critically exposed the current issue of the corrupt practices of all kinds widely spread in contemporary India. Shukla, in the fiction, is the sitting MLA of the constituency. From top to bottom, he is a corrupt man. He, as mentioned in the fiction, has collected a lot of money in the Ganga action plan scam. Raghav, Gopal’s school friend, now an active and revolutionary reporter of the city, discloses Shukla’s corrupt practices in the Ganga Action Plan in his local newspaper *Revolution 2020* as:

*Revolution 2020* found many truths about the GAP scam. However, the most shocking one is about MLA Raman Lal Shukla’s Dimnapura Sewage Treatment Plant in Varanasi. Built at a cost of Rs. 25 crore, the plant remained dysfunctional for years. When finally made operational, it never cleaned the water. We have stealing facts, with proof, on what happened inside the plant (Bhagat, Revolution 235).

Raghav has printed all the evidences in his editorial to prove how Shukla has practiced corruption in the Ganga Action Plan. Gopal, the narrator describes how Raghav has exposed Shukla’s corrupt practices with evidences as:

The bottom of the page had several images. These included fake invoices for pumps amounting to Rs. 15 crore. However, the actual site pictures showed no such pumps installed. A scanned latters from the pump manufacturers showed they never supplied the pumps. The ownership structures of Allied Con confirmed links to Shukla-ji’s family (Bhagat, Revolution 236).
Gopal, at the beginning, is depicted as a very innocent young man but accompanied by a completely corrupt man like Shukla, he becomes well-versed in corrupt practices. He and Shukla jointly open an engineering college. From the time of constructing college building to the final approval of AICTE, he happens to face many people neck-deep involved in corrupt practices of all kinds. Gopal does not hesitate to practice corruption and bribing of any kind because, through his experiences, he becomes very much confirmed that everything can be managed in his favour by offering money. Through his experiences, he is sure that if you are willing to pay, government officers can do more overtime work than MNCs (Bhagat, Revolution 138). When he is celebrating the Bhoomipujan ceremony of the college building, he calculates how much money he has given as to bribe to various officers as:

I had slogged for months. However, I felt nothing. May be because I know the exact amount of bribes it took to reach this day. Seventy-two lakhs, twenty-three thousand and four hundred rupees to obtain everything from electricity connections to construction site labour approvals (Bhagat, Revolution 141).

Giving bribe has become a routine in the life of Gopal. During the construction, when Rao, the MNC officer, comes with bulldozers, to demolish the whole college building as it is illegally constructed, he immediately calls MLA Shukla and settles down the case as follow:

‘Sir, we have bulldozers here.’

‘What?’ Shukla-ji said.

I handed the phone to Rao, who repeated his mission to the MLA. However, he became silent as the MLA spoke at the other end. Rao stepped aside to have a lengthy animated conversation with Shukla-ji for ten minutes.

Rao returned my phone. ‘Here, Shukla-ji wants to speak to you.’

‘Sir?’ I said, still dazed.

‘How much cash do you have in the office?’ Shukla-ji wanted to know.

‘Not sure. Sir. Around two lakhs in the safe.’

‘Give it to him. Put the notes in an empty cement bag, topped up with sand.’ (Bhagat, Revolution 193).

It is mentioned earlier, how Gopal is ready to fix all the educational officers like the dean his college, the AICTE inspectors, the UGC representatives, the Vice-chancellor of the state
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university for affiliation. Also, he is ready to fix the school principals for recommending his college for engineering and to the placement officers for arranging campus interviews in his college.

Raghav is against corruption of every kind in society. He keeps on fighting against the prevalent corrupt system. Through his daily editorials, Raghav keeps on exposing various corrupt practices like black marketing of various commodities by ration shop owners, LPG cylinders are sold illegally, and the RTO officers take bribes. All these daily routine corrupt practices are exposed by Raghav in his newspaper *Revolution 2020*. He also exposes the illegal construction sites in the city as follow:

This is not all, the city has new hotels, residential towers and office buildings where the VNN has taken its cut. We have proof to compare the vast difference between what is allowable and what VNN approves... A box next to the article listed the controversial approvals.

1. The V-CON apartment building a ten-storey tower on a low-flying zone.
2. Hotel Vento, constriction of which has taken over a neighborhood park.

Bhagat has portrayed a very realistic picture of the society wherein corruption is dominating the society with all its intensity and this can be taken as a realistic picture of contemporary Indian scenario.

Here, a question can be raised about the various reasons behind the all-round corruption prevailing in India. The researcher is of the opinion that people tempt to practice corruption and bribery of all kind is because it is a set-mentality in their mind that there is no other way out. The past efforts at local and national level to eliminate corruption from the society have not shown sustainable results. They find the way of bribery as short-cut to get their works done. People also fear of raising voice against corruption because they do not want to see themselves indulging in more trouble. Moreover, their small or big deficiencies are covered up by giving bribes. The corrupt authorities develop a channel of corruption so that no action is taken against them for any corrupt practices. That way their power for corrupt practices is doubled. Some of the honest officers, as mentioned in the present fiction, do not practice corruption of any kind but they do not or cannot stop others from practicing...
the same. Pradhan, the District Magistrate in the city, is shown very honest as he does not practice corruption of any kind, but he is not in a position to stop others from doing it. Bedi and Shukla talk as:

‘DM has to be bless it too. But Pradhan is honest. However, if it is for a college, and VNN recommends, he will approve it,’ Bedi said.

‘How honest?’ Shukla-ji said.

‘Honest enough to not take money. But not so honest that he will stop others from taking it (Bhagat, Revolution 135).

In the researcher’s opinion, the issue of corruption has become very serious in the present scenario of India. Many states governments and central governments of various tenures promised removing corruption from the country but no sustainable results are achieved. Many commissions and committees were formed in the past and some of them are still working on it, but no rock-solid outcomes are attained. It has almost become a conviction among the people that corruption shall never be eliminated from Indian society. Strong will power, honest efforts and immediate actions, from the ruling government are urgent need of the time, to remove corruption from the country or the new generation will have to face unpredictable catastrophic consequences in the time to come.

6.3.2.2 Power Misuse

The researcher, in the present novel, explores the issue of power misuse in contemporary India by some politicians, administrators and government officers. The power or the authority which is given to them is to be used for imparting better services to the people and not for misusing it for their personal interests. The politicians, the administrators and the government officers are appointed for serving people in general and not for serving the elite few who bribe them or corrupt them. Generally, in many of the cases, it is observed that the so called public servants of the country serve as real servants of such corrupt people. They misuse the power or the authority given to them and practice corruption, bribery or nepotism fearlessly. In the present fiction, many instances are found in support of the above arguments.

The eye-catching illustration of the powerful politician, misusing his power, in the present novel is MLA Shukla. He is the sitting MLA of the constituency. He uses his political power more for his personal interests. He is involved in the Ganga Action Plan Scam from which he
has pocketed Rs.20 crore by misusing his political power. He uses his party workers for accomplishing his corrupt practices. He can go to any extend to reach his determined objectives. He gets Bittoo, a boy of four years, kidnapped to threaten the family of Gopal’s Tayaji (elder brother of his father) for forcing him to compromise with Gopal on the disputed land. He can’t tolerate any voice against him. He immediately silences any one raising voice against his work. Shukla uses his power of political position and gets Raghav dismissed from his job as a reporter from Dainik as he challenges his corrupt practices in his editorials. Raghav does not stop there. He starts his own newspaper Revolution 2020 and keeps on exposing Shukla’s misdeeds. In the end, Shukla sends his men to his office. They smash all the furniture, computer and printing material. The character of Shukla is depicted as the most powerful political character who misuses his power for all he wants to do. He starts an engineering college in partnership with Gopal by using his full political power and the black money he has. He is the sitting MLA of the ruling party, so he has links and contacts up to the CM of the state. No one dares to refuse his proposal of any kind as he is the most powerful person of the city. He knows how to silence anyone by hook or crook. He seems to have only one way of life to win over a person and that is first convince him, then confuse him, and if not, then corrupt him. He can easily influence with his political power from the Municipal Corporation to the higher authorities. When he is sent to jail for his corrupt practices, he forces the policemen to give him all the comforts inside his cell. When he is in the jail and has very little hope of coming out, still he dreams of regaining his political power. He convinces Gopal to fight the up-coming state election because he thinks as:

‘Do you realise where your Ganga Tech will be if you become an MLA? I will be back one day, anyway, may be from another constituency. And if both of us are in power, we will rule this city, may be the state (Bhagat Revolution 255).

The administrative officers from Varanasi Nagar Nigam misuse their power of designation to get bribes when they are to give the approval for the construction permission of Gopal’s college. The officers of AICTE and UGC are shown in the fiction misusing their power for giving government approvals for starting a new college. Shukla’s assistant Bedi fears that the vice-chancellor of a state university can create a lot of hassles for giving affiliation, if he
is not entertained with his cut (Bhagat Revolution 138). Even the senior officers of the news firm misuse their power of media for supporting the corrupt people like Shukla. It is shown in the novel how the people of the press misuse their power for making money by printing positive news even on people like Shukla and Gopal.

The novelist has drawn special attention of the readers in the present book towards the issue of power misuse in the contemporary Indian political and administrative sections. He has rightly pointed out with perfect illustrations how political leaders and administrative officers fearlessly use the power of their positions for achieving personal benefits. The author seems very realistic when he portrays the fictional world of such contemporary situations of India.

6.3.2.3 Delay in Court Judgments

Another issue that the author has pointed out in the present fiction is the problem of delay in court judgements in our country. It is generally assumed that the working method of Indian judiciary system is very slow. It is an accepted truth in Indian judiciary system that a hundred guilty may escape, but an innocent person should not be punished. This promotes the proverb that justice delayed is justice denied. About thirty million cases are pending in the Indian judiciary system and more and more cases are being piled on.

The writer, in the present fiction, has also criticised the judiciary system of India by depicting incident of delay in court judgement and has revealed its impact on the lower class people of contemporary Indian society. Gopal’s father has a dispute with his elder brother Ghanshayam on thirty acre of the ancestral land. Ghanshayam has taken a big loan for business by forging documents and giving bribes to the bank manager. The bank has mortgaged the land. The land is jointly owned by Gopal’s father and his elder brother Ghanshayam. He has lost all money in business. Now, he is not in a position to repay the loan. The bank keeps on sending foreclosure notices to both the brothers. Gopal’s father protested and the bank has filed a case on both the brothers. Now the whole land is under the court’s jurisdiction so Gopal’s father is not in a position to use it or sell it. Many years have passed; still Gopal’s father is waiting for the judgement. He is paying for no fault of himself. He has wasted much money on the legal hearings, but no final decision is taken by the court. Dubey, the lawyer of Gopal’s father, comes with a box of sweets and gives the message of court hearing date. Gopal’s father becomes shocked and surprised that Dubey is
dominating sweets on getting hearing date after many years. This can be taken as a sarcastic comment of the author Chetan Bhagat on the judiciary of contemporary India. Moreover, he has managed to critically satirise the judiciary by putting a mocking metaphor in the mouth of the narrator of the fiction as: All these cases moved through our legal system slower than a bullock cart on the national highway (Bhagat, Revolution 14-15).

6.3.2.4 Evil of News Fixing in the Press

A deep analysis of the present novel brings to the surface one more serious issues of contemporary India that is, fixing of news or paid news in press media. Press is one of the strongest pillars of democracy. Both the paper media and the electronics media have a very strong hold on the contemporary Indian society. Both the media have all the power expose all the evils prevalent in society. If only the media works honestly and efficiently, there will be considerable fall in corruption and crime rates in the contemporary society. This is because the media has reached almost every nook and corner of the country in the present time. Raghav, the young reporter in the novel, exposes all the major crimes of the local MLA Shukla and many others of his city through his news articles and editorial notes. The following extract form his article strengthens the above argument:

Interestingly, MLA Raman Lal Shukla is one of the trustees of Ganga Tech. He has helped fund the college. Shukla also owns land around the Ganga Tech campus, estimated to cost between five and ten crore. Where did Shukla obtain these funds from? Incidentally, he floated the college three years ago, around the same time his name came up in the Ganga Action Plan scam. Is this college an attempt to clean their sins? Is Shukla trying to clean away his sins against Ganga? (Bhagat, Revolution 176).

As soon as the above matter is printed in the daily newspaper on the very day of the inauguration of his new college, the countdown for Shukla’s bad time starts and it continues till he is sent to jail. The news spreads like wild fire. The CM who consented to come for the inauguration of the college, has to cancel his visit. Both Shukla and Gopal find no place to hide their faces. Such is the power of the press in the society.

Along with the influence of press media on people, the writer throws noticeable light on the darker side of the press. Here, in the novel, the writer has taken the opportunity to expose the darker side of the press. He has satirised the wrong doing of the press media for the
readiness of publishing positive articles on criminals by taking money. In the present time, it is also observed that many newspapers and news TV channels run programmes by taking a lot of money. The political leaders seem at the top for managing paid news and promotional advertisements. Gopal goes to the office of one of the publishing houses named *Varanasi Times* for giving paid news which may recover the image he has lost through Raghav’s article. There the marketing manager Amar Trivedi shows his whole hearted readiness to publish the paid news. The following talk between Gopal and Amar Trivedi reveals the fact well:

‘Why don’t you make us media partner? He said.
‘What is that?’ I said.
‘For a little extra fee we publish positive articles about your college. We get news, you get an image. It is a win-win partnership,’ he said (Bhagat, Revolution 179).

After *Varanasi Times* office, Gopal goes to the *Dainik* office. There he meets Sailesh Gupta, the marketing manager. Gopal is now very angry as the defaming article was published in this newspaper. The talk between Sailesh and Gopal reveals the fact how the press has been sold out to the hands of corporate people like Gopal:

‘Sailesh, I signed you the biggest cheques among all the places we advertised in. And what did you do? On the day of our launch?’ ( . . .)

Sailesh understood my context and shifted his gaze.
‘I have five lakhs more to spend next week. Tell me why I should not make *Varanasi Times* happy and give them this? I waved the trust’s chequebook at him.
‘Gopalbhai,’ Sailesh said in a low voice, ‘what are you saying? We are the number one newspaper.’ So? You fuck us? ‘Gopalbhai, I didn’t do it.
‘College made with corrupt money! You have made money from us too.’ (Bhagat Revolution 179).

The above extract sufficiently illustrates how there is a tie up or fixing of some kind between the media and the regular clients. Sailesh knows and he accepts that Gopal’s college is built with the corrupt money of MLA Shukla but he does not run the same news, in his paper rather he is busy collecting big cheques from Gopal for positive promotional
news and advertisements. Before leaving, Gopal meets the editor-in-chief of the same newspaper. The following conversation between them clearly reflects on how the news media is fixed in the contemporary scenario. Seeing Gopal in annoyance, Ashok, the Editor-in-chief, ask Sailesh as:

‘What happened Sailesh-ji. Why is your client so upset? We have done a half-page profile on their college,’ Ashok said.

‘Why the last two paras? And the headlines? I butted in...

‘What is the big deal in that?

‘It affects our image,’ I said (. . .)

‘If you are so concerned about image, why did you open a college with MLA Shukla? Ashok said.

‘Sir, Ganga Tech is expected to be our biggest account,’ Sailesh said...

‘Ashok sir, let’s talk in private for two minutes,’ Sailesh said (. . .)

Sailesh called me back in. ‘Don’t worry, it is all settled. Ashok sir will speak to the MLA directly. We will sort it out. Please, let’s continue our association,’ Sailesh said (Bhagat Revolution 180-81).

The writer has created such a realistic situation of fixing of the press that, in such a scenario, one cannot expect honest reporting of the daily news. By raising the issue of fixing of media by the powerful people, the writer has very rightly pointed out how some powerful people, in contemporary India; manage to manipulate the truth and how it is represented in public. There is always a clear gap between which is truth and what is good. Every truth cannot be good and every good cannot be truth. Millions of people read newspaper early in the morning and if they are served with manipulated truths, it creates a big question mark on the genuineness and public accountability of one of the strongest pillars of democracy.
6.3.3 Issues Related to Lower Middle Class People

It has been a common tendency of the writer to depict the middle class sensibilities in all of his fictions. He has given considerable space in his writings for raising the issues related to middle class people of contemporary Indian society. Most of all the characters depicted in his fictions, are from middle class background with their middle class genuine problems and issues like education, job, money, love, marriages, relationship issues or social tensions of one or the other kind. A close analysis of the present fiction Revolutions 2020 brings to the surface, the following issues related to lower middle class people of contemporary Indian society.

6.3.3.1 Lower Middle Class Hardships

The researcher could explore the first issue related to middle class people which comes to the surface is the lower middle class hardship. The writer seems much genuine in his descriptions of middle class hardships because he also comes from a middle class background. He has personally experienced the hardships of middle class life from very close as he accepts at the beginning of his non-fiction work ‘What Young India Want’. It is shown in the beginning of the present fiction that Gopal, the chief protagonist, belongs to lower middle class background. His father is a retrenched teacher before retirement due to his never ending illness of coughing. Their family income is very little. It is very hard for them to get through the day. Shortage of money is a constant matter of tension in the family. The source of family income is so limited that even the treatment of his father is not possible. It is mentioned in the fiction that many a time, Gopal has to skip lunch because of the shortage of food. Dal and roti is the entire usual lunch recipe in their dishes (Bhagat, Revolution 26). Gopal narrates his present condition of life as follow:

My father had turned sixty last year. His non-stop coughing bouts made him look like an eighty year old. The doctors had given up. We had no money for surgery either. His school had fired him long ago. You can’t conduct a fifty-minute class with ten respiratory breaks. He had a pension that lasted us three weeks in a good month (Bhagat, Revolution 26).

Gopal’s father represents the middle class parental mentality of contemporary Indian society. He expects that his son Gopal should study seriously and become an engineer. That way, he believes, lays the only hope for his family’s happiness. He is ready to spend all his
life savings for Gopal’s studies. He is ready to do all possible compromises in his life to get his son study seriously. The following conversation between Gopal and his father reveals the fact how a middle class father compromises in his life for his son’s education:

    My father showed me his shriving index finger. It had a thick gold band around it. ‘I don’t need this useless ring,’ he said. ‘We also have some of your mother’s jewellery.

    You want to sell Ma’s Jewellery for coaching classes?’

    ‘I had kept all that for your wife, but after you become an engineer, you can buy them for her yourself.’

    ‘What if you fall ill, Baba? Better to preserve all this for medical emergencies.’

    ‘You join an engineering college and my age will reduce ten years,’ Baba laughed (Bhagat, Revolution 42).

When Gopal reaches Kota for coaching, he has to face many hardships due to the shortage of money. He has to accommodate himself in a small non air-conditioned room because he cannot afford more than two thousand rupees per month. It is the same room in which a student once committed suicide, so pupils dare not hire it. He has to take coaching at a low price coaching center as he cannot afford the top performance classes. He has to do many compromises in his daily meals due to the shortage of money. The middle class hardship of the contemporary Indian society can apparently be observed through the following extract.

When Gopal comes back to Varanasi from Kota, He narrates as:

    I hadn’t told anyone about my arrival, hadn’t wanted Baba to waste money on an auto-rickshaw to the station. Hadn’t told me that the loans and interest we owed totalled one and a half lakhs. Loan sharks continued to charge interest at three per cent a month (Bhagat, Revolution 95).

Middle class hardship seems one of the constant thematic concerns in all the fictions of Chetan Bhagat. The writer has depicted the middle class background of society in all his fictional works. Certain serious issues and problems of contemporary middle class section of Indian society are ostensibly described in all his novels. The fiction Revolution 2020 also reveals some of the glimpses of lower middle class hardships of contemporary Indian society.
6.3.3.2 Disturbed Inter-Personal Relationships

Another issue that is explored from the storyline of the novel is the disturbed interpersonal relationships among the people of contemporary middle class section of society. The issue of disturbed interpersonal relationships has also been one of the frequently revealed issues in all the novels of Chetan Bhagat. In the present novel the writer has pointed out the same issue in the best possible manner. One can observe two conspicuous illustrations in the storyline of the present novel that reveal the issue of disturbed interpersonal relationships of contemporary middle class section of society.

The first example is the father-son relationship between Gopal, the chief protagonist and his father. Gopal’s father is a retrenched teacher before retirement. The family income is almost nothing. They live in all kinds of financial crisis. He lives in constant illness of asthma. They do not have money for medication. In spite of it, Gopal’s father wants him to become an engineer, get a good job and remove their poverty. Gopal’s father has many parental expectations from his son, Gopal but Gopal cannot fulfil them. His father has spent all his savings for his son’s studies but, to his misfortune, his son has not achieved the expected results. Gopal tries very hard but he is not competent enough to be an engineer. Both the father and the son live in tension. The father-son love or affection is not experienced fully in this relationship. They have frequent arguments and counter-arguments over the issue of his studies and future career. Most of the times, they live in a state of tension. Gopal keeps on avoiding coming in front of his father so that can avoid further clashes. The father even does not miss any opportunity to speak to his son regarding his studies and career. This causes constant tension in their relationship.

The second example of interpersonal relationship in the present novel is the spoiled relationship between two the brothers i.e. Gopal’s father and his elder brother Ghanshayam. They do not talk to each other for many years because of their land dispute. Ghanshayam has taken a huge loan by mortgaging the shared land and now he is not in a position to repay it. Moreover, Ghanshayam keeps on harassing Gopal’s father to give him his share of land taking some lakhs of rupees. The case has reached in the court and Gopal’s father has to face many difficulties for no fault of himself. The family and social relations have been cut off between the two brothers. It gives a lot of tension to Gopal’s father because he cannot sell his share of land in his tough time. Gopal narrates that his toyaji has
sucked his father’s blood all his life. When Gopal’s father dies, Ghanshayam come for cremation. He comes with two muscular men to threaten him to sell his land share for just rupees three lakhs. He narrates:

He flapped through the document he had prepared for me. ‘You sign here, you get three lakhs. Loan sharks are after you. They are dangerous. I am trying to help you.’

I examined the document. I didn’t really understand. ‘Three lakhs is too low. They offered ten lakhs ages ago,’ I said.

‘That is right, age ago. When your father didn’t take it. Now they know you can’t do anything. And you need money’ (Bhagat, Revolution 111).

After the death of Gopal’s father, even Gopal does not talk to Ghanshayam tayaji’s family. He does not resume any relationship with them. When he comes in contact of MLA Shukla, he gets the land dispute solved by getting his uncle’s family threatened by the men of Shukla. Shukla’s men also kidnap Bittoo, four year old only son of Ghanshayam’s son Ajay. When the family comes to him, he gets the land dispute settled in just eight lakh rupees.

The status of disturbed interpersonal relationship among the people of middle class Indian society is a burning issue of contemporary Indian society. The writer, in all his fictions, raised this issue in the best possible manner. In the present fiction, the writer has depicted some glimpses of disturbed interpersonal relationships which is caused by parental anxiety in the first case and money in the second case.

6.3.3.3 Scams in Ganga Action Plan Affect Health of Common People

As the present fiction is located in the city of Varanasi, the writer has grabbed the opportunity to critically reveal the scams in sewage water treatment plants on the river Ganga. He has also drawn the attention towards its hazards on the health of the common people. It is shown in the present novel that the chief antagonistic character Shukla the sitting MLA, has practiced a big scam in the Ganga Action Plan. He has collected about fifteen crore rupees by practicing corruption of all possible kinds. Raghav, the revolutionary character, a reporter by profession, in his newspaper Revolution 2020 exposes the increasing pollution in the water of the river Ganga its effects on the health of the common people as:
Early Monday morning in Navabaga a group of children walk towards their school waist-deep in sewage water. It is a gut-wrenching sight to see filthy water everywhere. Stink pervades the air. People of the neighbourhood don’t know what happened. They do know that this hadn’t happened before the government implemented the Ganga Action Plan (GPA). Yes, the same plan meant to clean up our holy river has ended up spreading more filth around our city.

He further writes in his newspaper about the increasing proportion of pollutants in the river water as:

How? Well, because none of the projects meant to clean up the river were implemented. The Navabaga flooding apart, the river is filthier than ever. To give you an idea, the presence of feral coliform, a form of bacteria, should not be more than 2,000 units/litre. At the Ghats, the fecal coliform levels are 1,500,000 units/litre. Not only is our river dirty, we are living with serious health hazards (Bhagat Revolution 234).

Raghav exposes the wrong doings in the Ganga Action Plan as:

When untreated water reached the plant, eighty per cent of it was diverted downstream into the Varuna River, and dumped right back without any cleaning. The remaining twenty per cent of water was released at Dimnapura plant’s own exit, untreated. When the inspectors took the input and output measurements at points before and after the plant, it showed an eighty per cent drop in pollutants. Meanwhile, the water was dumped into the Varuna river met the Ganga a few kilometres later (Bhagat Revolution 235).

Raghav has collected full evidences against the scams in the Ganga Action Plan. He has printed fake invoices of the pumps and other machinery to be used for cleaning the water of the river Ganga. He openly writes in his article as:

Shukla took credit for the plant showing an eighty per cent drop in pollutants. The construction company, AlliedCon, is owned by the MLA’s uncle, Roshan Shukla, who made fake invoices for pumps that were never purchased (Bhagat Revolution 235).
The character of Raghav seems to be the mouthpiece of the writer in the present novel. Through this character, the writer seems to have exposed the corruption of all kinds, practiced in the Ganga Action Plan for many years. The writer seems to have depicted his personal observations and his expressions regarding the Ganga Action Plan in the present novel. He also throws light on the effects of the pollution on the health of the common people by creating a fictional incident of Raghav’s meeting a village farmer Bishnu-ji. Bishnu-ji has come to Raghav’s office to request him to do a story in his newspaper giving voice to the present condition of people who are affected by the pollutants in the water of the river Ganga. With tears in his eyes, he describes the present condition as:

‘I have lost one child and my wife. I don’t want to lose more members of my family. He is all I have,’ the man said, hands folded.

‘Bishnu-ji, I understand,’ Raghav said. ‘My paper did a huge story on the Dimnapura plant scam. They broke our office because of it.’
‘But you come and see the situation in my village, Roshanpur. There’s sewage everywhere. Half the children are sick. Six have already died’ (Bhagat Revolution 261).

The writer has very realistically depicted the situation of the Ganga Action Plan with various scams and corrupt practices and their effects on the health of the common people. He has also exposed the inaction of the system. Bishnu complains that the present condition of the village people due to the pollution is neither noticed by the press, nor even actions are taken by the authorities. The people are dying and the government is doing nothing for them, not even sending any doctors for their children (Bhagat Revolution 261). Thus, one can observe that the writer has very earnestly revealed the issue of pollution in the water of the river Ganga and its effects on the health of the common people. All these realistic representations of the contemporary Indian society help the writer to earn the credit for being the most read writer in India today.
6.3.4 Issues Related to Young Generation of India

The representation of youth ethos and sentiments has been one of the constant thematic concerns of the writer Chetan Bhagat in all of his novels. The voice of youth sentiments is recurrently echoed in all his fictional works. Along with that, the stories of his fictions revolve round the issues and problems faced by the modern generation of the country. The young generation seems more advanced and modernized in its approach to life. And also the growing globalized approach and competitive atmosphere in modern world have created a kind of unrest among the young people of India. The same has caused a lot of stress and frustration in their minds and hearts. The unavailability or shortage of resources for further advancement in life causes a fear of failure in life. This is not only true with young generation of India; rather the people in general have to face the strokes of frustration and depression in life due to various uncertainties of life. A deep analysis of the present fiction with reference to the issues of contemporary Indian society depicted brings to the surface following issues related to the young generation of India.

6.3.4.1 Parental Pressure and Youth Isolation

The first issue related to the modern generation of India which is explored in the present novel is the isolation of youth due to the pressure of over expectations of parents. It is shown in the novel that the chief protagonist Gopal feels high intensity of isolation due to his father’s expectations regarding his studies and career. Gopal’s father wants him to do engineering and get a good job and set everything right for the financial condition of his family. Gopal, as he feels, is not competent enough to do so and his father is stubborn to make him an engineer at any rate. It gives equal pain and mental pressure to his father when he comes and reports to him his results. To fulfil his father’s wish, he takes AIEEE exam and he gets very low rank which is almost useless to get admission in a good engineering institute. Gopal’s sick father is ready to spend all his life savings for his studies, but he cannot fulfil his father’s expectations. The following narration by Gopal supports the arguments how the parents expectations are equally dreadful to the children.

‘My rank is 52,043.’

‘Is that good?’

I shook my head.

‘You won’t get a good branch?’
‘I won’t get into NIT,’ I said.
My father’s expression changed. He had the look every child dreads. The look that says, ‘I brought you up, now see what you have done!’ (Bhagat Revolution 32).

The parents of today are observed hardly keeping in mind their children’s inborn limitations and they push them to tough competitions with the talented children of their age. Parents fear of their children’s career as they want their children to do what they have failed to do never dare to do in their life. Their limited understanding or biased general mentality towards a particular course or career, gives considerable pressure to their children and equal stress to themselves. Gopal knows that he is not an engineering material. He plans to take a B.Sc. course, but his father does not like his ideas as he has some complexes regarding such low category courses. Gopal and his father talks as:

‘I could do a B.Sc. Baba,’ I said.
‘What good will that do, huh? He said, His voice too loud for a sick man,
‘I will finish my graduation. Look for a job. There should be plenty of opportunities,’ I said, making up words as I spoke.
Who gives a good job to a simple graduate? Baba said.

Correct, a ‘simple’ graduate meant nothing (Bhagat Revolution 32).

The family is financially already broken. The only hope is Gopal and his studies. The father has many expectations and the son is not competent enough to reach them the result is fear, anxiety, depression, tension and mental conflict. The following narration and conversation between the father and the son reveals the fact as:

My father pressed a hot water bottle harder against his forehead. He looked pained, by the headache and me. ‘Go away,’ he said.
‘I am sorry,’ I said automatically.
‘Fail exams, scream at your father. You are going in the right direction, son,’ he said.

‘I’ll do something. I won’t let you down. I will become rich one day,’ I said.
‘It is not easy to become rich. You have to work hard. You don’t, he said ( . . .)
‘Go away. Let me have some peace in my final days,’ he said (Bhagat Revolution 33).
Later on, Gopal’s father convinces Gopal to retry the AIEEE exam by getting coaching in Kota which is famous for engineering and other entrance exam coaching. His ultimate goal is to make his son an engineer. He is ready to manage thirty thousand rupees a year for the coaching and thirty thousand rupees more for accommodation expenses. He is ready to break the fixed deposit of forty thousand rupees for the same which is his life saving. He is ready to sell Gopal’s mother’s jewellery if needed. That way, Gopal’s father is ready to stake all he has, for making his son an engineer, without bothering about his son’s limitations.

Gopal goes to Kota to get coaching. And the end the result is equally disappointing. Gopal gets 44,342nd rank this time which is not in any way helpful to him to get admission to a good engineering institute. All the parental expectations of the father from his son turns into great depression. It gives more pain, frustration, anxiety, and deep depression to both the father and the son. The following is the way how the father reacts to his son’s failure:

‘I have a bad news, I said. Baba spoke in a hushed voice. ‘What?’
‘The worst has happened.’ I shrugged my shoulders.
‘When are the AICTE results out?’
‘They are out,’ I said and walked into the living room.
‘And? Baba followed me and stood right in front of me.
I turned my gaze down. Baba waited for a few seconds.
Slap! I felt my right cheek sting (. . .)
‘How?’ Baba said. ‘You did nothing in Kota, right?’ Nothing.’
I didn’t say anything. I cried like a child, as if my remorse would make him feel better (. . .)
‘What are you thinking? Do you have any shame? He said and went into a coughing fit. His body shook, he found it hard to balance (Bhagat Revolution 104-05).

The father and the son live in a state of never ending anxiety due to the uncertainties in their lives. There is no way out. The son feels that he is a complete failure and good for nothing. He is ready to do a job in coffee house which may help him earn at least five thousand rupees. The father is so much disappointed on hearing the results of his son that he cannot live any longer. When Gopal goes with the idea of doing a job, his father is no more there to listen to it. The writer has very accurately depicted the mental condition of
an over expecting father from his average son. That way, he has pointed out the reality of the middle class parental mentality of contemporary Indian society.

Another parallel case that the writer depicts in the fiction regarding over parental expectation is the example of Gopal’s friend Prateek who meets him in the city of Kota. Like Gopal, Prateek is an average student. He is not capable of doing engineering still his parents have sent him to Kota for engineering coaching. He cannot perform well. The lectures seem boring to him. He bunks the classes. He smokes and drinks. He wastes time here in Kota. He thinks that he is a looser. When Gopal meets him, he tells him about his present condition of uselessness in life. He lives in Kota because his parents force him to be here and study for engineering entrance exam. He personally believes that nothing favourable is going to happen in his life. Gopal and Prateek talk as:

‘What happens after this year? I said.
‘Nothing, really check for my parents. Both of them are teachers. Hopefully, the passing of two years and half their savings will make them realise that their son can’t crack any entrance exam.’
‘No, I can’t, Prateek said, his voice firm. ‘The selection rate is less than three per cent. Most of us can’t crack these tests, basic probability. But who will drill it into our parents’ head (Bhagat, Revolution 80).

Both Gopal and Prateek feel an unbearable sense of helplessness in life. They are victims of parental over expectations. They can’t decide anything for themselves. They are directionless in their life. They feel isolated in the world around them.

‘We are such losers. We don’t get things easily. Marks, ranks, (and) girls—nothing is easy for us.’
‘Yea, everyone takes us for a ride (. . .)
I better go home.’
‘We don’t have a home. We are like people stuck in outer space. No home, no school, no college, no job, Only Kota.’ He winked at me (Bhagat, Revolution 79).

The case of Gopal and Prateek is an excellent illustration which represents mental trauma of the young generation experiencing the deadly pressure due to the parental over expectations. The writer has very ingeniously depicted this very reality of the contemporary
Indian society. It is observed in the present time that many parents put their children under mental and physical pressure to achieve what they expect from their children. They do not give any freedom of thinking for their career options. The children are forced to study or opt for the course of the parents’ choice. They sometimes do not bother to take into account the competence of their children for the course they are forcing them to take. The end results are frustration, depression and anxiety as well as waste of time, money and energy of both the parents and the children. This sometimes leads the children to suicide attempts also.

6.3.4.2 Love Triangle (Trio) and Mental Trauma

Cambridge dictionary (online) defines the term ‘Love-triangle’ as a situation in which two people both love a third person. Bhagat has created the same situation of love triangle in the present novel. Two young characters Gopal and Raghav love the same girl Aarti. He has also highlighted the mental trauma of the youth in love triangle. The chief protagonist Gopal loves Aarti the chief female protagonist. Aarti is more impressed by and interested in Raghav—a major character who is by nature a revolutionary kind of young man with national interests. Three of them are school friends. Ever since schooling, they know one another. They used to go for tuitions in a same at and used to enjoy common lunch boxes. They care for and they are concerned about one another. Till the high school, they studied together. After the AIEEE results are out, they are separated as all of them all could not obtain good ranks. Raghav was very clever so he could get good rank and got admission to the engineering institution of his choice. Aarti and Gopal were average students. Aarti wanted to join a course in aviation and wanted to be an air hostess but she had to join a course in hotel management. Gopal’s rank was very low, so she had to reappear at the engineering entrance exam as his father insisted on making him an engineer. He had to go to Kota in Rajasthan for getting coaching for the preparation of engineering entrance exam. Now they live in different places but they are in contact with one another. Raghav and Aarti are in the same campus doing different courses. Gopal and Aarti continue their contact through internet chat and telephones. They frequently talk, chat and share their happiness and sentiments. They are best friends. Sometimes Aarti talks about Raghav which Gopal does not like, as gradually Gopal starts loving Aarti. Aarti takes Gopal as the best friend but Gopal has different feelings for her. He loves her but he cannot confess in front of her that he
seriously loves her. Raghav likes Aarti but he is so much busy in his mission of revolution against the prevailing corruption that he cannot give attention to Aarti. Aarti is confused about her future. Her parents are forcing her to decide on someone for her marriage. Gopal is good to her but not her final choice as she does not want to leave Raghav. Raghav has no time for such less important matters in life. He is all focused to his mission against corruption. On the one side, Gopal, without directly telling her any direct words, constantly approaches Aarti to convince her how much she is important in his life. On the other side Aarti wants Raghav as her life partner but he does not give any time or attention due to his mission to expose the corrupt forces in the city. Gopal is a rich young man now whereas Raghav is still struggling for his survival. Due to depression or loneliness Aarti has slept twice with Gopal that shows that she cannot completely refuse his importance in her life and she is not ready to forget Raghav as she fears of doing injustice to him. Aarti is now in a dilemma that she should accept as the life partner.

Here, a point becomes very clear that many characters of Chetan Bhagat are very pragmatic in their approach to modern life. Like Priyanka of One Night @ the Call Center, Aarti seems very practical in her life. She cannot see any safe or secure future with Raghav like Priyanka does not see any future with Shyam. So both the heroines are confused about their relationships with their boyfriends. They put the heroes in equal confusion whether they love them or not. At the end of the novel, one can observe that Aarti is almost ready to marry Gopal if he could convince Raghav to forget her. Aarti likes both Raghav and Gopal but she is not in a position to decide whom to accept as her life partner, as, along with love, life security is also equally important to her.

Among the three characters, Gopal, the narrator feels a deeper sense of mental trauma in the fiction. In the prologue of the novel, the mental condition of Gopal is clearly witnessed. Having all the riches and comforts of life, Gopal feels a high degree of loneliness and emptiness in his life. Having achieved all the success in life, he feels himself a complete loser. He has sacrificed his love for doing his bit for bringing revolution in the country but he cannot forget his love. All the comforts and riches are of no meaning to him. He is left in a state of utter mental depression. It is shown in the prologue that the author, on his visit to Gopal’s house, happens to ask if he had any girlfriend, Gopal’s past wounds starts bleeding again and immediately he rushed up stairs to his bedroom and locks himself in the
bathroom. Later he is found over drunken when the door is broken to bring him out. The author admits him in the hospital. When he comes to consciousness, the author advises him to drink less. Talking in general, the writer asks him about his love for his girlfriend. Gopal’s reply to the author’s question about how much he loved her, it reminds us of Laertes Hamlet’s love for Ophelia, when he expresses his love for his beloved Ophelia in front of Claudius as:

I love Ophelia. Forty thousand brothers could not with all their quantity of love makes up my sum.

Gopal says:

Imagine every sadhus and priests in Varanasi. More than all their devotion put together, that’s how much I loved her (Bhagat, Revolution 7).

In due course of the story of the fiction, it is observed that Gopal deeply loves Aarti but he cannot directly express his love in front of her. Aarti takes him as her best friend, but Gopal takes her something more than that. Due to all these, the mental condition of Gopal is very critical. He is experiencing all the hardships of life; moreover, he is not in a position to perform better in his study. The only hope of support and sympathy is Aarti during this critical time. He cannot bear Aarti’s closeness to Raghav. So many a times, he taunts Aarti for the same. He constantly reminds her how she is important to his life. He frequently takes her for boating and he keeps on expressing his interest for her. He wanted to tell her that he loves her but he can only say he missed her a lot. After the death of his father, he lives in a mental disturbance that he is all alone in life, as Aarti whom he loves deeply and wants her to get married to is not in love with him or not much interested in him. The situations in the life of Aarti and Gopal take such a turn that both share sympathy for each other. Aarti is confused with whom she should advance her relationship. Raghav is now struggling and having no stability in life whereas Gopal is making his future with wrong and corrupt practices. She has a deep hearted love for Raghav and on the other side she does not see any love, security, attention or support of any type in her relationship with Raghav. She is still interested in Raghav but he does not show any sign of positivity for the advancement of their relationship.

In the disturbed mental state of dilemma, she experiences a temporal love and support from Gopal as he is taking every opportunity to make her realise her how much she is
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valuable in his life. She once happened to enjoy physical relationship with Gopal in the state of mental trauma of insecurity and loneliness in life. Having enjoyed sexual relationship with Gopal, she feels that she has cheated Raghav. She thinks that she has broken the trust of Raghav. She feels that she should not have done what she did. The following conversation between Gopal and Aarti, reveals the mental trauma Aarti is experiencing in her life:

‘Why are you so much tense? I said. ‘I am your Gopal. Don’t you care for me?’

‘You still need proof? She said. I came next to her. I held her hand. It felt cold.

‘I don’t want you to feel ashamed about it,’ I said. ‘This is special. We have to be proud of it.’

‘But I am in relationship,’ she said.

‘With a guy who is never there for you? I said. She turned to me in surprise.

‘I haven’t ever commented on you and Raghav. That doesn’t mean I don’t notice. Aarti you deserve better. You deserve all the joys of life.

‘I am a simple girl, Gopal,’ Aarti said, biting her lip.

‘Even a simple girl needs love, security, attention, support. Right?’

She kept quiet (Bhagat, Revolution 223).

Aarti cannot easily come out of the mental despair ever since she has cheated Raghav. Her behaviour has changed. She cannot take everything easy. She feels a deep sense of frustration. She feels guilty within for doing something unusual in her life. When Gopal tries to console her, she seems breathing out frustration. He asks her:

‘What is the matter with you? At least accept your feelings now,’ I said.

‘Do you want to know what I feel? She said.

‘More than anything else,’ I said.

‘Guilt,’ she said (. . .)

‘Raghav did me no wrong,’ she spoke after a minute staring outside the window (. . .)

‘I shouldn’t have cheated on him. I am a terrible person’ (Bhagat, Revolution 225).

Raghav is so busy in his work that she cannot spare any time or attention to Aarti. He is interested in marrying her but he wants her to wait for one or two years moral till he is
settled down in his life. Aarti’s parents force her to get married as soon as possible as many of her cousins have already married. Aarti’s emotional and psychological condition is so much disturbed that she cannot find any way out. She says:

‘My parents are pressuring me to get married. I can’t fight them forever,’ she said. Raghav doesn’t seem to understand that.’
‘He doesn’t want to marry you?’ I said.
‘Only in a couple of years. He avoids the topic. Sometimes it is about not being settled, sometimes about work being too dangerous, mostly he is too busy. What about me? (Bhagat, Revolution 226).

Gopal also feels that Aarti is disturbed from within. She is with him physically, but not mentally and emotionally. She is in a great dilemma whom to choose in her life out of the two. She does not want to cheat Raghav anymore. She is repenting for what she has done with Gopal in the absence of Raghav. Gopal says:

‘That night at Ramada had your body, not your soul. I couldn’t want it to be like that again.’
‘You don’t get people out of your system overnight,’ she said.
‘I know.’ She said. ‘No matter how much I deny it, the fact is I meet you almost every day.’ She sat on the armrest of my chair (Bhagat, Revolution 229).

Along with Gopal and Aarti, Raghav also feels mental trauma in his relationship with Aarti. He, due to his anti-corruption mission, does not give any priority to Aarti and so he feels that he is losing her gradually. He now understands that nothing is going on well between him and Aarti. He feels that Aarti is going away from him. On the one side his career is fluctuating and on the other hand he is losing Aarti. The writer has not apparently referred the psychological trauma of Raghav in the fiction, but the following talk between Gopal and Raghav indicates the mental status of him as:

‘You and Aarti. Aren’t you? I said (. . .)
Things aren’t going so well between me and Aarti.’
‘I haven’t spoken to her in weeks.’
'What happened? I said. Raghav squirted tomato sauce over his samosa.

'It’s my fault. When the paper started, I didn’t give her enough time. Soon, we drifted apart. The last couple of months she seemed so disconnected,' Raghav said.

Further talk between them reveals the mental position of Raghav in his relationship to Aarti as:

‘Did you guys talk about it? I said.’

‘No we planned to, but didn’t, he said.

‘She loves you a lot,’ I said.

‘I don’t know’ Raghav said.

‘She does. I know her from childhood, Raghav. You mean everything to her.’

Raghav seemed surprised. ‘Do I?’

‘She wanted to marry you. Isn’t it?’

‘At the wrong time. Look at me, I am nowhere with respect to my career,’

Raghav said (Bhagat, Revolution 287).

At the end, Gopal decides to sacrifice his love for supporting Raghav’s mission of bringing revolutionary change in the country. He believes that, if he marries Aarti’ he will have the advantage of the political legacy of Aarti, but he will use it for selfish purposes but if Raghav marries her, the same legacy shall be used by Raghav for bringing revolution in the society for making it better. He manages to convince Aarti to marry Raghav by planting a fake story of his physical relationship with call girls so that Aarti starts hating him and marry Raghav. In spite of his planning, on the day of Aarti and Raghav’s marriage, Gopal feels so much mental trauma that he cannot attend it. So he books a room in the same hotel but he keeps himself away from the marriage ceremony. He narrates as:

I couldn’t bear it after the jai-mala ceremony. I had wanted to see Aarti as a bride, but I did not have to watch the whole wedding live.

I came back into the room, shut the door and drew the curtains. I switched on the TV at full volume to drawn out the sounds coming from outside (Bhagat, Revolution 292).
The situation of losing Aarti for ever becomes so much unbearable for Gopal that he cannot control his mind. He calls his dean Shrivastava and orders him to keep him so much busy in his business matters that he does not have time to think of Aarti and his past as:

‘Dean Shrivastava, I want to work hard. Let’s take Ganga Tech to new heights. I want us to be present in every field of education. Keep me busy. So busy that I don’t have time to think (Bhagat, Revolution 293).

In spite of all his efforts to forget Aarti, he cannot forget her. In the epilogue, when the author asks him if it is a year since to Raghav and Aarti’s marriage, he replies that the time is a year and twenty two days. One can observe that he is counting each and every day of his separation from Aarti. All these means, he is still feeling a mental trauma in his life due to his permanent separation from Aarti.

The writer, by creating a situation of love trio, has realistically represented the mental trauma experienced by many such young people of contemporary Indian society. The failure in love gives them a lot of mental depression and frustration in life. It affects them in their studies, career and life in general. Many of the young boys and girls in the present time are observed committing suicide or murdering their partners, attacking them with acid or raping, torturing or blackmailing for not getting their so called love in life. Many others turn towards some anti-social ways in life which is equally dangerous for the society. The young generation, which has all power and potential to contribute something for the mission of making the country a better nation, is wasted in anti-social activities in the absence of proper counselling and motivation. The energy which is wasted in pursuance of the so called love, can be diverted and utilized for the sacred mission of nation building live in. The writer, in the present fiction, seems to have pointed out this a need of the time through the character of Gopal and Raghav. The character of Gopal is an excellent illustration of sacrificing one’s personal interests for contributing one’s bit for the building a better nation. Raghav is equally an excellent example of the modern youth’s spirit for giving priority for contributing to make a better nation by sacrificing personal comforts and happiness.
6.3.4.3 Crushing the Revolutionary Voice of Youth

Most of the major characters of Chetan Bhagat in his fictions are observed young, energetic and revolutionary in their temperament. They are observed revolutionary in the sense that they do not fully agree with the present conditions of the society around them. They do not accept the things which are not up to the mark. Moreover, they do not merely put up with them. They revolt against what is bad in society. For example, Ryan of *Five Point Someone* does not merely put up with what is not up to the mark in the education system of the country. Priyanka of *One Night@ the Call Center* revolts in public against the dowry system. Govind, Ishaan and Omi of *The Three Mistakes of My Life* are irritated by the communalism prevailing in the society and they react on the same. Ananya of *2 States* is a girl with self-respect and she does not accept the over domination of any kind on her by the old generation. The same quality of revolutionary zest is observed in its full bloom in the character of Raghav in the present fiction *Revolution 2020*. Raghav’s revolutionary temperament is associated with the national values and national interest. Prevailing corruption in the country irritates him a lot. He is not a man of words; rather he is a man of action. He raises his voice against corruption. He wants to bring some change. For that, he prefers journalism to engineering. He is passionate about his fight for eliminating corruption from the country. He strongly believes that one has to contribute to bring the change in the adverse conditions of the present time in the country. He expresses his guts and commitments to the same in front of Gopal as:

‘What are you passionate about?’
‘Making a difference. Changing India for the better. That is what we live for,’ Raghav said.
‘Is it true that you believe India will have a revolution in the year 2020?’
‘Yes’ but we all have to work towards it and make sacrifices for it.’
‘What exactly where truth, justice and equality are respected more than power. Such societies progress the most.’
‘Can you explain that?’
‘Power-driven societies resemble animal societies. “Might is right” is the rule of the jungle and applied to beasts. And beasts do not progress. Humans do’ (Bhagat, Revolution 244).
As mentioned earlier, he sacrifices his bright career of engineering and he opts for journalism as he thinks that he might be able to contribute more by this profession than becoming an engineer. As soon as he joins as a journalist, he exposes the corruption being practiced in the society in various fields. He also exposes the local MLA Shukla for all the illegal money he has made in the Ganga Action Plan. He exposes how the Government ration shop owners, cooking gas cylinder distributors and much other practice corruption and exploit the lower middle class people. He exposes all the government offices for taking bribes for various approvals and sanctions. From politicians to public servants, nobody has escaped his power of the pen.

He expresses his annoyance against the present condition of the country in a high revolutionary tone in his articles under the title ‘Because enough is enough’ as:

What do you say about a society whose top leaders are the biggest crooks? What do you do in a system where almost anyone with power is corrupt? India has suffered enough. From childhood we are told India is a poor country. Why? There are countries in this world where an average person makes more than fifty times that an average Indian makes. Fifty times? Are their people really fifty times more capable than us? Does an Indian farmer not work hard? Does an Indian student not study? Do we not want to do well? Why, we are we than doomed to be poor? (Bhagat, Revolution 205).

He further expresses his revolutionary thinking as:

This has to stop. We have to clean the system. Che Guevara, the great revolutionary, one said, ‘Power is not an apple that falls from a tree into your lap. Power has to be snatched from people who already have it.’ We have to start a revolution, a revolution that resets our corrupt system. A system that shifts power back into the hands of the people, and treats politicians like workers, not kings (Bhagat, Revolution 205).

He strongly believes that:

Of course, this won’t happen overnight. This also won’t happen until the real suffering begins. As India’s young population increases, we will need more good colleges and jobs. Soon, there won’t be enough. People will realise who is fooling them. It could take ten years. I call it Revolution 2020, the year in
Dominant Issues of Modern Society in *Revolution 2020; Love. Corruption. Ambition* which it will happen, the movement that will finally shake the much off India. When the internet will connect all colleges across the country. When we will go on strike, shut down everything, until things are fixed. When young people will leave their classes and offices and come on to the streets. When Indians will get justice and the guilty will be punished. And it will bring you in Varanasi. For that reason, we bring you *Revolution 2020* (Bhagat, Revolution 205-06).

The above revolutionary voice of Raghav has some truth and potential for bringing revolution of some kind in society but what he does and he gets in return? The revolutionary voice of Raghav is crushed to death. Shukla does not let him live peacefully. He is fired from his job as a reporter because of the pressure of Shukla on the newspaper agency. When he starts his own newspaper and keeps on exposing the corrupt doings of Shukla, Shukla’s sends his men to his office. They smash his office completely. They smash his computer, printer and other printing material. His is left in a helpless condition. All he had was demolished. He is left jobless and helpless.

The writer has taken the opportunity to reveal how the revolutionary voice of any kind is oppressed or crushed to death in the country. From the J P movement against misrule and corruption to Anna movement against corruption and bureaucracy, the country has witnessed the crushing of revolutionary voice of all kind. At the start of any such movement, the people of country happen to experience a ray of hope for a better tomorrow, but the dominating forces have either crushed or oppressed such revolutionary voice of the common people of India. The youth is considered a powerful force for bringing any revolutionary change in the country but it is observed in most of the cases that the power and potential of youth is exploited for personal interests in spite of using it for national interests. Through the character of Raghav, the writer Chetan Bhagat in the present fiction has taken the opportunity to critically point out how the political forces crush the revolutionary voice of the new generation to cover up their malpractices in public life.
6.4 Summing Up

In the due course of the literary analysis of the present novel with special reference to the Research Tool defined in the first chapter of the present research work, the researcher could explore certain national issues of contemporary Indian society already defined, as well as some other issues which are not defined in the Research Tool. The defined national issues of contemporary Indian society which could be explored in the present chapter are corruption, black money, crony capitalism, power misuse, and other issues related to the contemporary education system of India like coaching class culture, corruption and bribing in education, black money and money laundering in education and commercialization of education. The researcher could explore certain other issues which are not identified in the ‘Research Tool’ like delay in court judgements, evil of news fixing in press media and scams in Ganga action plan and its effects on the health of the common people. Certain other issue related to the modern generation of contemporary Indian society are also explored like parental over expectations on the youth for their career, love trio and mental trauma and crush of revolutionary voice of youth in contemporary social scenario of India.

Along with that, the researcher is interested in summing up certain exclusive observations which he could observe in the due course of the research analysis of the present novel. The research could observe that the writer has followed his distinctive style of narration in the present novel. All the characteristics of his exclusive narration technique like simplicity of language, plain style of storytelling, modernized urban milieu as location, simple characterization, lofty narration, with sparkling dialogue and revolutionary zest of some kind. The narration and conversations between characters are sparkling and thought provoking. The writer has ingeniously interwoven his personal observations and thinking on various issues of contemporary Indian society.