INTRODUCTION

The termination of pregnancy is one of the oldest and commonest form of pregnancy control. No human community has ever shown a marked fall in the birth rate without significant dependence on induced abortion, as contraceptive measures alone are unlikely to provide a significant measure of population control. Liberalisation of abortion laws and need of family planning have led to increased demand for termination of pregnancy throughout the world. While termination of pregnancy in first trimester by suction evacuation and D & C is easy, it is not so in second trimester. The demand for second trimester termination of pregnancy continues to be a common feature in the cities where many unmarried and primiparous young girls seek help. The reasons are, firstly, the late diagnosis of the pregnancy due to a false sense of modesty, guilt and shame which prevents them from seeking help.

Secondly, due to ignorance of the safety, reliability and legality of first trimester termination of pregnancy and lastly because of social stigma of unwanted pregnancies, many young girls postpone the decision till the second trimester of pregnancy. Another factor, which tends to increase the demand is the recent advances in prenatal diagnosis of foetal malformation.
With the advance of pregnancy abortion becomes difficult and necessitates labour contractions. There are several methods of starting labour in the second and third trimester the ultimate aim is the most physiologic delivery of the foetus to ensure the safety of mother. Various procedures have been tried through various routes for best possible results and safety and certain methods have evolved which are believed to be the standard method today. But since most require a certain amount of technical skill they are not still the ideal method today. Hence, efforts are therefore, being made to find out the method which is technically simple, safe and effective. In the present work a comparative study and evaluation of different methods of induction has been done. Efficacy of particular method is judged by comparing the induction abortion interval and maternal complications.

My series is small and fallacies many, yet I hope this study has given me some opportunity of understanding the subject.