Chapter: I

INTRODUCTION

This introductory chapter attempt to explore the role of women journalist in general perspective. For this purpose, it provides a historical perspective as well as recent development in media. In this regard, chapter tries to explain role and impact of mass communication over the society. It also addresses the importance of journalist profession. Finally, it describes the hypothesis, objective and research questions.

Mass Communication has been an effective and potential weapon to form opinions and change in the society. However, the forms of communications changes with advance of technology. In present context, means of communication like radio, television, newspapers and other mass media have been brought many revolutionary social and political changes. The profession related to mass communication is known as journalism. It is said that journalism is the mirror of the society. It is signifying the communication through sounds pictures and words and now a creative field in mass communication (Aggarwal 2002). The journalist acts as a medium for a two way communication between the mass and various statutory bodies of the society. They are like a spokesman of mankind and are required to provide an intelligent and accurate account of the events by interpreting the facts. On certain contemporary issues, a journalist’s opinion stands significant while explaining the facts and proposing ideas and also needs to interpret the events and facts about it.

Recently, mass communication has marked journalism as a dynamic profession making it a new force for many developments and achievements (Hendricks, 2010). Here, the most important fact is the study on the status of women journalists during the peak consumption of news.
For the difference in the role of labour for household and official work, a dominant life style has been evolved by our society and also a conventional pattern have been setup in which men is defined as a working class and women as a follower of tradition. Female have been restricted a confined place that is the four walls of the room in which all her activities have been put together. The male is meant to provide the means of livelihood to the family whereas the female is meant to manage the household works such as taking care of children, looking after all housekeeping and maintenance works (Cotterill 2007). She was also put to face certain male dominism such as inequality, injustices and exploitations.

Women have been considered as privileged where she was protected from the world and was seen as unnecessary and unsuitable. Women being physically unequal to men have been set aside from the outside world and kept in the home. This at times have been seen as a reflection of right as natural sexual division and good for the happiness and well being of the family (Panday: 2010).

Woman’s economic function recently lacks clarity as history has revealed that a woman was involved in all economic. Jointly both men and women were included in all sorts of works. Women’s act before industrial revolution has been very vital in all kinds of economic life of society, as they do in agricultural communities to this day (Freedman: 2011).

In the beginning of the nineteenth century, spinning, weaving and making clothes, baking bread, soap, preserving fruit and many other processes which is now usually carried out in factories, as well as a good deal of teaching and nursing were part of a woman's household routine’ Thus, no one can question the importance of a woman's contribution. Both the roles of woman such as raising a family and performing economically productive work were mixed up into a way of life of working at home. A change in this condition was due to the upcoming of industrial era day (Freedman: 2011). New technical and social developments have led to change in the external conditions of women's lives which also created a separation between household work and economic activity.
Woman was eliminated from economical activities and was indulged into the celebration of functions and ceremonies and the role of women was confined to the household work. Woman being an ornament to her husband and a figure to his wealth is the most vital requirement to be idle and this is a wide accepted phenomenon which has been accepted in all social classes (Swamy: 1997)

The emancipation of woman was the result of a female existence in the upper class. This revolution had brought on several changes like a revolt for the weaker sex against certain strong forces imposing hard rules on women since last many years (Panday: 2010). Women were always a step back to men during all faces of social evolution in both economical and political fields.

Not only had to achieve political and social freedom but also a woman had to strive than men. It was not early for women to get political freedom and democratic rights, achieving education and getting a job. When they moved from factory from house their productivity was highly understood. The women in the earlier times were focusing on their rights which were lost during the past days. However, their rights had given way to many achievements as well as social growth (Karuna Ahmad: 1979). If women now made an articulate and conscious request to go out into the outside world, they were not driven out by fashion alone but by the simple logic of economics. Women’s work had been moved from place to place and she overcame the difficulties of men.

Women’s social position has undergone a series of remarkable changes during the present century. Initially, a woman has got many types of ‘masculine’ jobs, which on the whole provided that women were unencumbered by family ties. A number of women are able to combine family and employment. This social change has resulted in a gradual recapture of positions which were lost when women were squeezed out of economic process by Industrial Revolution. The evolution of modern era, brought social, political and economic consciousness to people and imbibed them with the concepts of human rights and equality and democracy.

In due course of time people became more conscious of their political and social rights. Leading a life as a human being will be the apt situation for a society to develop and
progress with ideal development in all fields. This industrial era has allowed women to
occupy independent jobs and be independent of themselves and family members. This
had resulted in a multifarious change in women’s traditional role and status of women.
Women started undergoing basic change and developed new role and status for
themselves as well as for the entire women folk. Women started gaining more
opportunities towards economic growth with best job opportunities than men.

1.1 Working vs. Non Working Women
In the earlier days, man was solely responsible for being a Bread winner. In those days
women were not allowed to work outside and she used to stay at home and manage the
household chores and raise her children. To have extra income and to have a better life,
Women have to work these days. Let us compare the lives of working women and non
working women, whom we will refer to as homemakers.

There are many Advantages and Disadvantages for Working women and
Non Working Women. Now women have become economically independent not only in
the urban cities but in the rural areas also. The working women are engaged with a hectic
than a non working girl or homemaker. A working girl has to be multitalented as she has
to look after the family, household jobs and manage her office work also. A non-working
girl or homemaker has to manage the household duties and also look after herself and her
family (Karuna Ahmad: 1979). It becomes difficult to manage household duties for
working women as they cannot devote much time to their families as compared to non
working women or homemakers. The working women have less time to themselves and
families and kids, whereas non working women have the whole time to spend for
themselves and their families. It is difficult to say which is better.

During marriage proposals, Men give more importance to girls working
in organisations than non working girls. At the time of match making, the parents or the
groom will prefer a working girl to a non working girl, but they want that the girl should
be Homely and coming from a good family also and should look after the home and
maintain a good reputation of their family culture and customs. Therefore life has become
tough for a working girl. Getting everything in life is impossible thus we have to sacrifice
some of our concerns in life and one will have to adjust. It is nice when two earnings are
coming into the family. Today women are more confident and they are walking in the step with men. They have equal rights to do so. Men think a working girl will be able to understand financial matters better and they can plan a better life together. This is a wrong attitude. Non working girls or homemakers have their own identity and can face the world and meet the challenges of life (Reena Patel: 2010). Non working girls or homemakers also have good potential to manage the household work better than working girls, even if they have no holidays like sick leave, casual leave, or earned leave which a working girl enjoys. A 24 hours duty is done by all homemakers, which is more tiring than working in the office. Working girls can take holidays in a year when required. A housewife can cook a number of items for meals as compared to working women. After coming from the office at times, after a long tiring day for a working lady it is difficult to cook. So, husbands have to help at times. This is only fair to the working woman. It is not only a female duty to bring up kids or to cook. It should be a collective effort. Luckily in India we can get help for cooking etc. but those staying abroad have to earn and do their housework also. There the husbands have to help wife.

A debate arises whether the life of a working woman is better than a non working woman or a homemaker. Working or not working is a personal choice and doesn’t make one superior to the other. Friends do let me know what you think about this.

1.2 Changing Role of Women in India

Since long, the status of women in the Indian society has been considered lower than that of men. A close association of Indian kinship and a subordinate and secondary role to women in the family has been assigned by the economic system. In India women’s status has always been a matter of great discrepancy between the motions and notions concerning the role of women and the real life situations where women were left in since long time. Male domination can be seen in the marriage and family kind of institutions. As pointed out by Neera Desai “woman was considered ideologically as well as in practice inferior to male, having no importance, no personality and socially she was kept in a state of utter subjection suppressed and oppressed”. Degraded status of Indian women in traditional society was the cause of the educational underdevelopment of Indian women and social customs like child marriage, etc.
There were majorly two movements, during the British period which had affected the position of women and aimed to improve the conditions of women in India. These were namely the social reform movement of the nineteenth century and the Nationalist Movement of the 20th century. Certain issues which attracted the attention of social reformers were some of our system such as sati, the ban on the widow remarriage, polygamy, child marriage, denial of property rights and education to women. It was thought by Social reformers that by giving women access to education and by bringing up of women status these social evils can be eradicated and people can become sensitive to the injustice perpetrated on women. In short, in pre-independence period an awareness of the need to remove social disabilities of women was created. In independent India, the constitution that was adopted guaranteed equality for all. Furthermore the International Women’s Decade had worked just like a catalyst to highlight and stimulated all aspects of women’s issues and Indian women also become a part of the world-wide awakening.

Indian society underwent a revolutionary change at the beginning of modern era. Western education, legal system, political ideology and socio cultural values gradually came to India with the Britishers and they began to incise some of the traditional value-system and ritualistic order of the Indian society. The change of traditional social structure was brought in by the British invasion in India.

The whole state of modern social activities and factors of social change has affected the value-system and the institutional complex of the Indian society. The systems of status determination, the hierarchy of statuses in society, the role attached with each status system have been altogether affected by the process of change. After independence India struggled heavily to develop its structure and introduced different lines of modernization. Literacy was increased, communication was developed and people began to struggle for economic freedom. To bear the speed of development, India acquired parliamentary democracy based on adult franchise and adopted different measures

The developmental process called upon many segments of people to do new role in new context. The process has not left women untouched. In this changing situation women were also called upon to perform new role in new situations. The traditional position that a girl enjoyed in society, the roles she was meant to play and the status she
had in her family and the society have been completely altered by these aspects influencing social change. All efforts to give them freedom economically were done by our government and make them a potential member of the family and existing society. This brought a great change in the life of women influencing their attitudes, values, inspirations, ways of feeling and acting for effective participation in all walks of life. Thus one of the main enduring consequences of the recent social evolution for women has been their emancipation from their tradition bound aspects both legally and politically due to the emancipation of various acts and statutes. The role of housewife has been expanded now into a dominant, mature feminine role. In India, urban educated population in general and the women of middle class in particular have been affected by these social changes.

The major contributors of evolution of the society are done by factors such as Urbanisation, education and employment it has provided women with new accommodations to express and prove themselves. “it cannot be said that Working woman is a new addition to the Indian system. Women in the lower strategy of society have been working since long for wages in factories, as menial servants or as unskilled labourers. It is only the women of middle or upper classes who were confined to homes and doing jobs was compulsory for them. Various socio-economic and political and legal factors have sought and given an emerging middle class of working women in India. After attaining the freedom from household works, women have broken the traditional notion that working outside is compulsory to them or that only under very much necessary they can work outside homes. No longer does the middle class look down upon a woman doing a job, while making her expression or using her talent or being independent.

People now very much feel that work is the obtained opportunity for self-fulfillment and it is perceived as the way creativity, responsibility, and self dependency can be achieved. Nowadays women want to work in order to develop their ability and capability and have now realized that going for work is their dutiful right on the contrary of older values. Women are choosing to work because they are looking for egocentric gratification. Female liberation and freedom and the emphasis on the search for human development have altered every woman's awareness of her place in society. Women now
try to get rid of old values and create new ones. Thus, the post-Independent Indian society has witnessed a various bigger and smaller strategical changes which lead to the creation and making of industries of new roles and group structure based on recent norms of modernization. After obtaining a fruitful employment, married women have attained several responsibilities, now a new role has been taken up by them in place of role of mother and wife, which can also be said as the modern role of wage earner. As such working mother is subject to dual demands of homes and work. These demands are often antagonistic in nature, with the result; the working mother often experiences role conflict in performing her dual duties. In addition to the biological function which she has to perform because of her sex and culturally defined woman’s role in which she has to act, she is confronted with the additional duties and responsibilities connected with her employment.”

The woman earning is much accepted than the fact that men can share household work. Accepting the concept of the ‘normal’ family pattern in which male provider is head of the household and the housewife is his soulmate. Things have become modest as the fact existing in ancient times is still prevailing and cannot be accepted even after numerous changes. The social and cultural system of our society has been so structured that when any given couple departs from the existing pattern they face problems and strains of various kinds from the society. These vary from practical daily routine problems to problems associated with other critical attitudes towards them in relation to deviating from expectation in, specific situations. The new methodology of working couples tends to be a stressful one, despite the fact that it has been to some extent legitimised and has recently achieved broader prevalence. In various households, including those with some children, both husband and wives have paid jobs. Though behavioural problems have changed, values and social institutions have not changed correspondingly. In fact, special and worthy arguments based on selected data indicating potential damage to children and to marriage as a consequence of wives working can be widely seen and heard. Many couples who both opt to work find it difficult. Some do not accept the dual-work pattern; other sustain it but suffer a behaviour emotionally than is necessary; many couples are reluctant and refrained to try the pattern because of a disinterest for possible criticism a lack of social encouragement and fear of negative
consequences in their personal lives.

In Indian society, the working woman's problems are enhanced by the multiple problems and confusion which relates to look after and manage the duty of the role. In joint family system the parents-in-law still have the expectations from their daughter-in-law in the matter of looking after their household affairs or serving them. In most cases, the husband also expects the same kind of attention from her, as he would have had she not been in gainful employment. She does not receive much consideration for the additional income she brings home. The emergence of working women as an earning member has, thus, created an abnormal situation because the expectations attached to women’s role in our society is not drastically changed. Most of the Indian people expect that women's activity be performed in religious and traditional framework.”

Having multiple her roles the behavior of working women becomes complex in terms of expected and actual conduct and lot of confusion is faced by working women with regard to her role and status. The dual responsibilities not only overload the wage earning wife but may be so incompatible that they cannot be performed properly. Having less time and more integral demands of dual roles, the working woman is experiencing more and more role conflict in modern situations.”

1.3 Working Culture and Gender

Equality in the gender can be achieved when people are able to access and enjoy the same rewards, resources and opportunities regardless of whether they are a woman or a man. Women continue to earn less than men, and are less likely to advance their careers as far as men, and are more likely to spend their final years in poverty. At the same time, some men find it more difficult to attain family-friendly policies or flexible working arrangements than women.

The aim of gender equality in the workplace is to achieve majorly achieve better rewards for women and men, not exactly the same outcome for everyone. To achieve this requires:
• Working areas and places to provide equal remuneration for women and men for work of equal or comparable value
• Avail conditions suitable for the full and equal participation of women in the workforce
• Complete and unbiased access to all occupations and industries, also to include leadership roles for women and men
• Elimination of diverse factors of discrimination on the basis of gender particularly in relation to family and caring responsibilities for both women and men

Attaining a equality of status among men and women is important for workplaces not only because it is a valid thing to do, it is also vitally important to the bottom line of a business and to the productivity of our nation.

**Gender equality attracts top talent**

A workplace that is equally appealing for women and men will provide businesses access to the entire talent pool. As women are increasingly more highly educated than men, a workplace that is not attractive to women risks losing the best talent to competitors? Gender equality can reduce expenses

By departing employee an organization can cost 75% or more of their annual wage. As both women and men are more likely to remain with an organization they view as fair, employee turnover for an organization offering gender equality can be reduced, thereby decreasing the inevitable expense of recruitment.

**Companies with gender equality perform better**

A range of employment firms of research suggests a link between gender equality and better organizational performance. While there exists a vide range of reasons to explain this link, one factor is that diversity brings together a number of varieties, produces a more holistic analysis of the issues an organisation which also offers and provides and distributes greater effort, leading to improved decision-making.
Gender equality improves national productivity and competitiveness

The World Economic Forum has found a strong correlation between a country’s competitiveness and how it educates and uses its female talent. It states that empowering women means a more efficient use of a nation’s human talent endowment and… reducing gender inequality enhances productivity and economic growth. From there on, a nation’s competitiveness depends, among other things, on whether and how it educates and utilizes its female talent.”

1.4 The Status of Working Women Journalist in India

The improved status of women and their development has been the top most priority for the last half a century globally. There is general consensus and belief that while there is progress in some areas, there exist still many issues facing development of women. There are regional and sectoral differences and there are also imbalances that show up based on vocation.

Significant progress in the field of Journalism in India where women have made in the past few decades. Women reporters have covered wars and reported from the varied events and places of calamitous events. They have become the face of many news channels and are even accepted in cricket reporting, for long a male bastion.

Women in media

Journalism being a profession for women was restricted by custom and law from access to journalism occupations, and they had to be a part of heavy discrimination for being in this profession. Never in the history women operated as editors, reporters, sports analyst and journalists even before the 1890s.

The Scene in India

Tackling the challenges of global and national women has equipped her to handle the role of pen and women journalists have not been far behind for keeping themselves updated about their abilities and making themselves fit enough for any challenges.
It is not a point of discussion that we read anything about Indian women journalists who worked during the British Raj? Were Indian women not competent to take on this 'difficult' profession? On the contrary, the perception that Indian women journalists appeared on the scene only after Indian independence is totally incorrect. The role played by women journalists during the British Raj has been completely overseen. In fact several Indian women edited women’s journals since 1850s and their role had been nothing but exemplary. These journals emerged from several cities and editorials reveal many unknown historical facts regarding the long journey towards freedom.

If we consider for instance, Asian Age which carries a Photograph captioned-“Somnath with achiever”. It goes on to elaborate- “Lok Sabha speaker Somnath Chatterjee with Vidya Munshi, the first women journalist of Kolkota, after giving her the women achiever’s award during a programme organised by FICCI Ladies Organisation in Kolkota in Monday…”. It’s good to honour veteran journalist like Vidya Munshi, but she was certainly NOT ‘first woman journalist of Kolkota”. There were numerous women journalists in Kolkota before Vidya Munshi. To cite a few, in April 1870, Mokshodayani took out the first issue of Banga Mahila which was stood up for women’s rights and pledged it would fight for women’s causes. Swarnkumari Devi was the sole editor of Bharti from 1885-1905, 1909-1915. Her daughter Sarla Devi was also involved in this venture.

What was Nivedita’s role as a Journalist? Take a clue from Ramanada Chatterjee, the editor of Modern Review about Sister Nivedita as a Journalist:

Sister nivedita as a journalist has pant role in journalism.

She was, if one may be pardoned a trite epithet, a born journalist. Even on commonplace themes her writing was considered to be effective and realistic, with something like inspired fervor. She was equipped with writing with great efficiency to write with great facility and on a great variety of topics, and could therefore comply with the requests of many editors for her paragraphs and articles. But nothing that she wrote was common place; even the most hackneyed topics were invested by her pen with new power and grace, and became connected and with the primal source of all strength all her efforts of writing had become the first principles of human action. She could never be a
hireling, she would either write on topics of her own choice and when the spirit moved her, or not write at all.....

After the bringing up of this Review, she helped us with her contributions and suggestions and in other ways in an uncommon measure. Her unsparing criticism, in private conversation, of our shortcomings and faults, was of no less advantage to us. The sense of the value of all this help is daily growing upon us, and we feel that we must not try to give it inadequate expression. Would that all who are kindly were as unsparing in their criticism, and all who are severe critics as kindly and helpful as she! She was, indeed, a sister and she was Nivedita, dedicated to the service of all who came within the orbit of her life’s way

**The First Woman Journalist in Hindi**

Hemant Kumari Dev was the first woman journalist in Hindi with her active participation in journalism was Born in 1868, Hemant Kumari Dev, was daughter of the Shillong-based Navin Chandra Rai, a follower of Brahmo Samaj. She was the first woman journalist in Hindi, the editor of journal for women- *Sugrihini* which was published from Allahabad. She insisted upon a message in the opening lines of her editorial in the first issue of her journal *Sugrahini*,

‘O my dear sisters, open your doors and see who has come to visit you. This is a sister of yours called Sugrihini. She has come to you because you are oppressed and illiterate and in bondage..... Welcome her and bless her. May the mother help you and Sugrihini…?’

The spread of Hindi belt even in those days was a backward area, where illiteracy amongst women was endemic and even within well-to-do families; most women did not receive any formal education. The Brahmo-Samaj, mind-set, which encouraged education of women, was undoubtedly a major factor behind the emergence of various publications. Hemant Kumari Devi’s mother tongue was Bengali. She was educated in Roman Catholic convent in Agra and later in Lahore and Calcutta, she was also known as Hemant Kumani Chaudharni. In 1906, she went to Patiala, where she stayed till 1924 and was transferred to Dehradun as a Municipal Commissioner, where she died during 1953.
Journalist Nivedita

The birth date of nivedita has been remembered by Mahamedha the only newspaper from capital as 28 Oct 2009 as Birthday of Sister Nivedita. The motto of this not well known Hindi newspaper reads- “satya, satya he kota hai”. However the article in this paper did not throw light on her role as a journalist. Margaret Elizabeth Noble (Sister Nivedita) was born on October 28, 1868 in Ireland. Her family had close connection with the Irish freedom movement. Nivedita’s journalistic works spread over more than decade and half. Very often for her writing pseudonyms she was praised by many. Her early writings appeared in some provincial British journals and were on divergent issues,


1.5 Working Women Journalist of NCR

In the sixties there were very few women in daily newspapers, both in English as well as in regional languages, either on the desk or as reporters. Most papers did not even have a single woman. Several newspapers had an unwritten law that they would not admit women into what was considered a male domain. They had to struggle to push open doors.

Very few women were there in newspapers in the early sixties and they were not allowed to do night duty. The labour laws recommend that, at least two women should be available on a night shift. The office also has to provide transport back home after night duty. So till the mid-seventies this important shift, which brings out the newspaper, was devoid of women. While several news editors and editors used this pretext of the 'law' to keep women out of the desk in newspapers, there were a few women, who quoted the law, to avoid the night shift. When the first woman to get on the desk in the Times of India, Delhi, refused to do night duty, sighting labour laws, the management's back was up against employing women on the desk. Subsequently, this young woman left to join
the Indian Administrative Service. It was much later that a gutsy woman called Suchitra Behl opted to do night duty even if there was no other female support on the desk.

As said by kamla mankekar, a veteran journalist who worked for the Times of India and the Indian Express in the fifties and sixties, The Statesman, Delhi, was one of the first newspapers to employ a fulltime sub editor in the says that. Raj Chawla, was an extremely competent sub editor who wielded the pen with a flourish that could make or mar a story. However, she did not do night duty and Pran Chopra, the editor of Statesman, used it as the reason for keeping out Razia Ismail when she approached him for a job. 'You will not do night duty or work late evenings,' he said and did not give her a chance to prove him wrong.

In the reporting side too there were so few women that no one was asked to do night duty. Coomi Kapoor of the Indian Express recalls that she was one of the first women who volunteered for night duty. This won her immediate acceptance by her male colleagues.

The research and observation has revealed the fact that there is still reluctance to employ young women in the reproductive age group because they may take maternity leave or because they fear her home will receive greater priority, especially if she has children. Late marriages postpone having a child, are quite common among. In the old days, when promotion for reporters were few and far between, the upwardly mobility was doubly difficult for women. To be taken seriously, women journalists of yesteryears had to look grown up.

The kind of work assigned to journalist was the biggest challenge for the early women to get into mainstream. They were literally given the crumbs from the newspaper table. Senior male colleagues hogged the prime beats -- political parties, Parliament, Prime Minister's office, important ministries like Home, Commerce, Finance and Foreign Office. Women were initially asked to cover flower shows, fashion shows, health and education - all considered soft beats. Till the seventies there may have been just one woman in each newspaper and two or three on the news desks in the English national
dailies of the Capital. The picture was much bleaker for the regional press. In fact even today you hardly find any women working as special correspondents or even as reporters in the language press in the Capital. It is much worse in other parts of the country.

Before the eighties and from then onwards the scene began to change dramatically. In the English language national newspapers of the Capital, it was as if the floodgates had opened. As women topped in the journalism courses of the country and their writing skills got recognition, the women had started to give a bash to male journalist. By mid-eighties, on some days you could see an all woman shift bringing out the early editions of the Delhi Times of India. The appointment of the first women chief sub, actually bringing out the newspaper, was a landmark in the

There has been a drastically change since the eighties and world has began to change dramatically. In the English language national newspapers of the Capital, it was as if the floodgates had opened. After the women’s position on top in the journalism courses of the country and their writing skills got recognition, they began to come out of the male domination before the end of mid-eighties, on some days you could see an all woman shift bringing out the early editions of the Delhi Times of India. The appointment of the first women chief sub, actually bringing out the newspaper, was a landmark in the same newspaper. The news editor is one of the most powerful persons on a newspaper and currently the Statesman in New Delhi has Usha Mahadevan as its news editor. Gauri Chatterji was news editor in the Anand Bazar Patrika before moving to the Telegraph as features editor. At the Indian Express, Delhi, TOI -Delhi and Mumbai, Hindustan Times-Lucknow, women are currently resident editors.

Women are more visible in the regional press but they are largely on the desk or in the Sunday sections of newspapers. A lot of them write for the supplements. They write about social gossip, party circuits, films and celebrities. There are very few women reporters and special correspondents. However, the regional press bureaus in Delhi do have a few women who do city reporting and even cover Parliament.
The formation in the English national newspaper offices is vastly different. Newspapers are teeming with young women journalists. All types of news is being covered and attractively managed economic and business news, politics, the CBI, the foreign office, sports and even the stock market. They are a talented and educated lot and extremely ambitious. The existence of a cut throat competition is prevailing to get to the top. In the old days there was a lot of bonding among journalists. News from different beats was often shared, but no longer. Today, being closer to the management and newspaper owners is the reason for successful male and women journalists.

Anciently and before long women were secured in their jobs. Most of them were on wage board scales and promotions were few and far between. This is no longer so, in the national or the regional press. Most journalists are on contracts or still worse is the voucher system. At the end of the month, like daily wage labour, they sign vouchers and get a pittance that could vary from Rs 1500 to Rs 3000 in the regional press. Contracts, even in the national press, are for two and three years, so you are always at the mercy of the management. There is arm twisting of journalists on wage board scales to compel them to accept the contract system. They are transferred to other states and distant places, even if they have a family at their place of work. In the process many of them opt out of journalism or have to look for jobs elsewhere. In the absence of wage board scales in most newspapers, there is tremendous variation in the earnings of the journalists. While many journalists in senior positions earn between Rs 30,000 to Rs 50,000, others in the regional press are barely able to keep body and soul together on the monthly salary of Rs 1500 to Rs 3000.

A lot of youngsters are starting to consider this as a permanent career option. Not only because the whole nation stick to the TV to remain updated on various news feed around the world, but there is also a huge touch of glamour being added to spice things up. There is a great number of hottest women news anchors in the world, but this article focuses only on the glamour of India. Just like the glamorous world of Bollywood, the risky and bold field journalism is home to some of the most stunning beauties. We’ve rounded up the 10 ‘Glamorous News Anchors’in India right now.
1.6 Future Scope for Women in Journalism Profession

A very dominant part of this stream has been women in this profession. There was a belief that male members would overpower this profession. But, with the passage of time, the thoughts of the people have changed and this profession gave space for women journalists. L. K. Advani, former Deputy Prime Minister of India, stated in National Conference on Women and Media (2000) that women are coming into media and journalism in larger numbers. There is immense potential for the combination of media and voluntary sector as a force for bringing about the empowerment of women. There are chances that this would bring women’s power and media power together as a formidable weapon.

Women has to constantly excel in every field of journalism women’s role in media, specifically in journalism, it provided that the future is bright for women in this field. But, time and again women have to prove their worth in every sphere of life, so, in this profession. There are many qualities that women ingrain in them from birth, and many she accepts from the environment. Hence, given the chance and congenial environment, women have flourishing future in this field.

1.7 Women Journalists - The Challenging Profession

To reach unto managerial position, the general assumption according to societal trend seems to be that it is difficult for women due to their so-called inherent inability and the traditional upbringing at home.

No specific reason has been set as why women cannot choose journalism as career. Just as, there is no reason why women cannot choose any discipline or area as career. Women are not handicapped by birth nor have they been found intellectually unfit. They are however, burdened with certain disadvantages as a result or the responsibilities (Swamy: 1997). These get further accentuated when confronted by male prejudice in professions that have been traditionally male dominated, like journalism.

One of the journalists named ‘Charlie Hands’ reported that revolution is bound to come when more women than ever before work in newspaper and do, reporting, sub-
editing, news editing and even editing. Further, he added that all the advantages are with women. Firstly, they normally do not drink. Secondly, they are more in touch with the realities of life, women are better judges, they have more taste, and they are more human. Their outlook is really wider than that of men. Women journalists have proved a every bit as resourceful and enterprising in their work as their male colleagues, and they have gone places winning laurels on the way by way of awards, fellowships abroad and prestigious assignments.

The proposed research will investigate the factors affecting the career of female journalists. In particular, the attention will be paid to analyze the three main aspects:-

(i) Family & social condition, (ii) Atmosphere at workplace & (iii) Legal protection.

A) Family and social condition

Women form the focal point of family structure in the Indian society. The challenging phase in the family life of women begins mainly with their marriage. The proposed study will undertake a concerted effort to understand the complex relationship between job and career of women journalists on the one hand and the demands of marital life and child care on the other. Women journalists working in Delhi/NCR also face lot of problems due to lack of security measures put in place for women in the public sphere. Apart from this, they also face problems in finding appropriate accommodation meant for working women. The study will conduct a micro-analysis of social life of working female journalists.

B) Atmosphere at the Workplace

Atmosphere at the workplace affects the quality aspects of any employee. This is more so in the case of working women. The important aspects of conducive work atmosphere are: good & friendly HR policy, cordial atmosphere among colleagues, job security, attempt to minimize gender disparity etc. These aspects will be looked into with a view to understand the impact of these variables in respect of working women journalists.
C) Legal Protection

Legal and organizational conditions affect the career aspects of female journalists. Special attention would be given to examine the link between the two. Under the Indian legal system there are special provisions certain rules that are applicable to women journalists, such as: the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955, Equal Remuneration Act, 1976: or Equal Pay Act (EPA), The Sexual Harassment of Women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, and Majithia wage boards for journalists and other newspaper employees.

There are a no. organizations working for safeguarding the working condition of women journalists, eg:

Indian Women’s Press Corps (IWPC), Journalist Association of India (JAI), Indian Federation of Working Journalists (IFWJ), Indian Journalists Union, Press Information Bureau (PIB), Press Council of India and Indian Federation of Journalists (IFJ). The proposed study will try to study the impact of these organizations.

1.8 Objective of Research

The objective of this study is to understand the status of female journalists in mainstream print and electronic media in Delhi-NCR. In order to address the above objective, the study will explore in to the following -

1. To explore the status and conditions of working women Journalist.
2. To know the family and social status of working women
3. To find out the greater role of women journalists in their respective work place.
4. To find out the proper HR policy in various media organizations
5. Understand the perceptions and attitudes of female journalists regarding their participation in the media industry
6. Identify what contributes to or limits female participation in the media industry

1.9 Hypothesis

Two hypotheses have been tested. The first one is in a conceptual framework and the second is based on the empirical case study where the research has been conducted.

1. Family and social responsibilities are the major hindrances for the working women journalists to continue their job.

2. Working atmosphere and legal protection affects the motivation of working women journalist.

1.10 Methodology

The study which has been decided will adopt historical as well as analytical methodology. In finding out the historical roots of the problem relevant to Women Journalist Historical methods would. Besides, a sample survey will be conducted among the working women journalists for the primary data collection. The primary data will be based on survey and interviews. The secondary sources of data will include government documents, reports, acts, books, news reports, journal articles, newspaper clipping and various academic papers. The filed survey will cover 400 women journalists of Delhi region. This research work will cover Delhi NCR like Faridabad, Gurgaon, Ghaziabad and Noida.

1.11 Proposed/ Expected Outcome of the Research

The adaptation and the designed research consist of six chapters dealing interrelated concepts and issues. In the beginning of the chapter it is introductory in nature, consisting of the background, scope and the statement of problem and concept of working women. Chapter second presents literature survey. This chapter will provide literature gap about working women journalist of Delhi region. Chapter three describes the research methods of proposal research work. It will deal tools, techniques, and sample size of questionnaire. Chapter four will present conceptual framework of thesis. It will conceptualize the influencing factors life family and social life, working atmosphere and
legal policy of working women journalist. Chapter five analyses the working women journalist of Delhi. It will be statistical analysis of questionnaire. It will reflect the collection of data. The last chapter is conclusion, which will be based upon the overview of the previous chapters. These chapters will be an attempt to evolve a theoretical understanding for working women journalist this chapter will put light on the obstacles to be eradicated for working women journalist. Appropriate suggestions will also be discussed in this chapter.