

CHAPTER-I  
INTRODUCTION

Vocabulary plays an important role in any form of education viz. pre-primary, primary, secondary and higher education. Adult education is not also exception to this. The vocabulary provides the basis for preparation of literature which is useful for neo-literates. Hence, the researcher has undertaken the study of vocabulary for adults between the age-group of 15-35 years in the area around Peth Vadgaon, Taluka Hatkanangale, Dist. Kolhapur.

1.1 Significance of the Problem :

There is a very close relation between education and manpower development. Education helps man to increase his inner abilities and capacities. This growth is useful for making progress. The fields of progress are physical, mental, social, emotional, vocational, financial and so on. For this literacy is the fundamental thing. If literacy is acquired, digested and made use of in the day to day life then only all-around development of man is possible. It is found that in a country where there is a greater percentage of literacy, there is rapid speed in the development of that country. Unfortunately, in India there is less percentage of literacy as compared to not only developed countries like in U.S.A., U.K., Japan etc. but in under developed countries like Nigeria and Zambia in the African continent.

Many problems have been cropped up in India because she is having a big population lack of expected provision for education and hence there is frowning percentage of illiteracy. This illiteracy percentage

has given birth to problems like poverty, ill-health, underfeeling, unemployment, insecurity, dis-integration, lack of loyalty towards man as well as nation and instability in all walks of life.

The following sentences show significance of the problem not only in figures but in spirit also.

- 1) In every 10 individuals 6 are illiterate i.e. 60%.
- 2) In every 4 women 3 are illiterate i.e. 75%.
- 3) In every 10 S.C. people 8 are illiterate i.e. 80%.
- 4) In every 10 S.T. people 9 are illiterate i.e. 90%.

Hence fixing up vocabulary for adults to make them literate is undisputed. Making adult literate means nothing but making them able to use a vocabulary occurred in a word, a sentence, a para and a lesson.

It it is not done so according to the report submitted by the world bank, there will be fifty percentage illiterate people in India as compared to the world illiteracy in the year 2000. Such horrible state of affair will be there in India. So the researcher has undertaken this study related to reading part of the vocabulary useful for adults between the age-group 15-35 years.

## 1.2 Need of the Research :

India has got independence on the 15th of August, 1947. The Constitution of India came into existence on the 26th January, 1950. The Indian Constitution provides detailed guidelines for the betterment of Indian citizens. The part III of the Constitution mentions Fundamental Rights of Indian Citizens and Part-IV includes directive principles of the State policy. There are the two parts which are very valuable as

far as the day-to-day life of Indian citizens irrespective of their caste creed, colour, race, religion, sex, place of birth etc.

In a democratic country it is an accepted fact that equal opportunities be extended to all citizens. Education is one of the opportunities to be extended by the Government to its citizens. The Part IV of the Constitution is very much linked with the progress and development of Indians. These are the directive principles of the state policy and it has no legal sanction. But the nature of these guidelines is valuable for the States. When they think to launch the programmes of community development and accordingly want to frame definite legislation. Education is one of the important instruments for allround development of the personality.

It is, therefore, the constitution ensures that every opportunity shall be given to all Indian citizens. Article 45 of the Constitution has guided the State Governments about the education of the children in these terms.

"The State shall endeavour to provide within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution for free, universal, and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years." This thought also realtes to eduation of adults, even. Accordingly the Central Government and State Government took initiative and launched the primary education programme. But still after 44 years of independence, we are not able to make literate to all children below 14 years age by one or other reason.

The foremost problem before us, today, is how to accommodate all illiterate citizens within the preview of education. There are many Indians who have not even entered into the portals of the educational institutions. There are persons who are engaged in getting their bread and butter by doing traditional occupations. They are getting economic help by doing hard work for hours together. We are not going to give them the need based education which they require very badly.

In India, illiteracy is too much. According to the Census Report of 1951, the percentage of illiteracy in India was 83.33. As per the census report of 1991 the percentage of illiteracy is 48.30. This means that there is decrease of 35.03 percentage of illiteracy. But it is not so. This is a deceptive percentage because in the year 1951, illiterate population was 29.83 crores but in the year 1991 the illiterate population was 47.88 crores. These two figures show that there is not decrease but increase of 18.05 crores population. Hence, there is a great need for research to irradiate illiteracy for making vocabulary. So the researcher, due to the felt need, has undertaken the problem of fixing up reading vocabulary for adults.

Adult education is a part of self-education because if an interest for learning is created in adult then for its construction there should be a proper literature and that literature is based upon the reading vocabulary of adults between the age group 15-35 years. In my opinion lack of proper vocabulary is the most stumbling block in planning and executing programmes related to adult education for the age-group of 15-35.

The year 1990 was celebrated as 'International Literacy Year'. It means adult literacy programme is considered at the world level. Hence, I strongly influenced by this problem in this year. From this the need can be stated because it provides the basis for preparation of literature for neo-literates.

### 1.3 Title of the problem :

"A Study of Reading Vocabulary for Marathi Speaking Illiterate Adults Between Age-group of 15-35 Years Residing In Neighbouring Area of the Peth Vadgaon."

### 1.4 Definition of the problem :

India is a land of villages. More than 75 percent people live in villages. According to census of 1991, there is 47.83 illiterate population. Majority of this population is living in villages. Here population means those people living in villages and speaking Marathi mainly. Those villages are neighbouring area of Peth Vadgaon. Those <sup>are</sup> called as neighbouring villages of Peth Vadgaon because these villages are 3 to 15 kms. away from Peth Vadgaon. Those villages are selected for study. The illiterate population includes male as well as female. The age group of population is between 15-35 years. This age group has been settled because the Government of India has executed A.E.P. for this age group only. The population which is called working force or productive one is generally between the age group of 15-35 years. Male and female have been selected because the vocabulary to be prepared should be useful for the both the sexes. Here the researcher has considered the illiterate population between the age group of 15 to 35 years. This population

has called illiterate adults in this research. Some adults doing occupations have been decided to consider because the vocabulary should have broad base. The researcher has tried to define of the word and vocabulary in Chapter No. IV separately.

#### 1.5 Statement of the problem :

If adult education programme is to be made successful, then there should be suitable vocabulary to create interest in adults in taking education. Many efforts have been done and are being done to achieve cent-percent literacy in India. But target has not completed as yet. There may be many causes for this failure. One of them is lack of suitable vocabulary useful for making illiterate adults to be literate. The result of this is that adults are not ready to educate themselves.

The researcher has thought over this problem. He discussed this matter with his friends, colleagues, social workers, adult education officer, adult education organisers and class conductors. After this he has come to the conclusion that this is because of not having proper vocabulary. So the researcher has undertaken the above stated problem for his dissertation. The investigator proposes to study critically the aspects of vocabulary in general and reading vocabulary in particular. The researcher wanted to study the knowledge of various occupations of adults and to prepare a word-list useful to their learning.

#### 1.6 Objectives of the problem :

Each researcher has to have before him objectives whenever he undertakes any problem to study. Taking into consideration the nature, significance, need, scope and limitations of the problem under research.

I have framed the following objectives :

The main purpose of this study is to prepare reading vocabulary for illiterate adults. With the help of this vocabulary the percentage of literacy will be increased. The specific objectives of the study are as follows :

- 1) To select words for adult vocabulary from standard Marathi dictionary.
- 2) To determine number of words occurred in news papers related to adult vocabulary.
- 3) To calculate words from various occupational forms.
- 4) To calculate words from books viz. 'Naveen Vachan', 'Vidyan Tantradyan' and 'Rogariche Nivaran' prepared by Indian Institute of Education, Pune for adult illiterate people.
- 5) To find out common words from dictionary newspaper , occupational forms and new literature prepared for illiterate adults.
- 6) To prepare a reading vocabulary related to major occupations done by adults.
- 7) To compare words fixed by the researcher with the vocabulary occurred in the books prepared by Indian Institute of Education for neo-literates.

#### 1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study :

The scope of this problem has been clarified. The scope of the subject under study is very vast. Hence, it has been decided to limit the scope of the study to the following aspects.

- 1) This study is limited to geographically to the neighbouring 15 villages of Peth Vadgaon.

- 2) This study is limited to the subject of illiterate adults.
- 3) This study is limited to the age group of adults from 15 to 35 years.
- 4) This study is restricted to Marathi speaking illiterate adults.
- 5) This study is confined to occupations which are mentioned in the census booklet of the year 1991.
- 6) It is also for preparing a word list workable for reading purposes not for writing purposes.
- 7) This study has not touched language aspects such as functional and structural. Functional means parts of speech and structural means sentence construction. It is also not tried other aspects such as pronunciation, stress and intonation of language skills. Syntax which is the essence of the language has been omitted.

The future of mankind is depending on education. Education is one of the major means to make progress. This has been true from the progress done by developed countries like U.S.A., U.K., Japan etc. in the world. Education is also regarded as a third eye of a man. It is, therefore, the researcher has tried to take historical background of adult education in the next chapter i.e. Chapter No. II.