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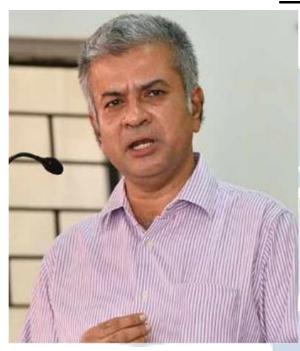
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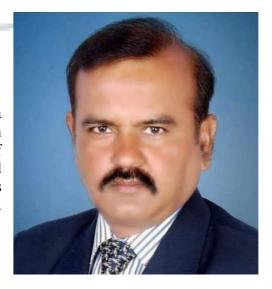


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ABOUT US

WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and

refereed journal providededicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

STUDY ON ATTRACTIVE INDEX AND PRIORITY

FILTERS IN TAMIL NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

AUTHORED BY - MEENATCHI PRIYATHARSHINI R.

PAVITHRAN S & KARTHIKA CV

1. ABSTRACT

Human Rights are rights inborn with human beings and inalienable. The thirst of freedom and

want of sovereignty could be one of the reasons for people and government to speak about

human rights. We are brought up in a society where there are people who even do not have the

knowledge of their rights, and such rights are being violated.

Thus, the primary role to acknowledge people about these rights and opportunities lies in the

hands of media, which is a powerful source of public, by public and for public. Influence and

concealment exist everywhere and media is not an exception for it. Newspaper, is the oldest

tool for mass communication. Nowadays the influence of social media has gained moment. But

the value of newspaper still exists as they reach out even a remote village.

This study covers an observational study of the 13th December, 2022, newspaper of Tirunelveli

district in the regional language, Tamil from three different papers which has large number of

readers. The importance that newspapers serve for human rights have been calculated by way

of listing how directly and indirectly the news article speaks about human rights. On an average

newspaper are still serving their duty to acknowledge people about their rights and duties.

Keywords: Newspaper, Human Rights, News, Media, Mass-Communication

2. INTRODUCTION

Newspapers play a critical role in educating readers about their rights and helping them develop opinions about the infringement of their social, economic, and political rights. News media set the agenda on many problems and persuade the people about their rights and obligations as negotiators today. The study is aimed at analyzing the newspaper's content and the information relating to fundamental human rights in the newspaper.

The effective operation of democracy is largely attributed to journalism, which has a significant impact on the problems, issues, and challenges that people encounter daily. The best way to start a constructive debate about human rights and educate the people about their social, economic, political, educational, cultural, and religious rights is through newspapers. The newspaper's main objectives are to inform, educate, and entertain readers. Newspapers also influence public opinion regarding how common people view the facts published in a newspaper and how readers perceive their complaints that are hidden in a news item.

In a democratically elected political system, media has been entrusted with the duty of guarding the rights of the people. The print media, which serve as the eyes and ears of our democracy and provide illumination for the effective realization of civil and political rights as well as social and economic justice, are crucial to safeguarding, promoting, upholding, and advancing human rights. Thus, newspapers are regarded by the public as a crucial component in preserving their fundamental rights and freedom

Newspapers have the power to promote a culture of peace, non-violence, disarmament, and the protection of human rights, irrespective of caste, creed, color, race, sex, religion, group, or language.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Montiel (2012) outlined the components of human rights. Considering the United Nations Charter of 1945 and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, which demand that all states acknowledge, enshrine, safeguard, and uphold human rights at the international, regional, national, and local levels. This work is a compilation of information about human rights violations that the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) has gathered from all around the world. This contributes to the protection and

promotion of human rights through mass media's perspective. (Montiel 2012)

Kumari (2016) addresses the importance of the media in advancing human rights as well as the reasons behind their consistent inclusion of human rights issues in their narratives. According to the study, media strongly influences public opinion and informs the general public through its efficient communication channels, which strengthen social-cultural thinking and broaden the conversation on human rights in a society. She contends that media may generate ideas to stop human rights violations by upholding moral standards and leading efforts to promote peace in society. (Kumari 2016)

Alaimo (2016) discusses how the government can protect women's human rights in a society. The research paper focuses on the case study of Eritrea, Yemen, and Thailand and discovers that these countries proudly report to UNO for taking greater efforts to combat human trafficking—which crosses national borders and is thus visible to the international community—than to combat violence against women, a crime that is heinous and pervasive but frequently occurs behind closed doors. (ALAIMO 2016)

Sahu and Alam (2016) conducted a study in order to evaluate how women's issues are covered in the mainstream English and Hindi newspapers. Their research showed that newspapers hardly address women's issues and instead concentrate on reporting on violence against women. Although publications report on cases of women being exploited, no issues were followed up on. The authors also made the claim that the newspaper reporting was largely insensitive to gender. They discovered that newspapers usually covered violent incidents without investigating their causes or offering remedies for the social problem they represent. (Sahu GK 2016)

Sahu and Rao (2013) used a content analytic method to follow down the coverage of the Telangana issue in The Deccan Chronicle and The Times of India, two important English newspapers in the then-undivided Andhra Pradesh. They discovered that most of the news stories in both newspapers focused on political events or leaders' utterances. The writers argued that instead of siding with the truth, the media embraced a business strategy that protected the feelings of all state residents. The news articles and their headlines appear to be written in a matter-of-fact manner without the appropriate emphasis or background information on the subject. The severity of the situation in Telangana was not considered by the newspapers. (R.

4. OBJECTIVES

- 1. To define and specify Fundamental Human rights.
- 2. To study the information given in newspaper read by most of the people in Tamil Nadu.
- 3. To confer a quantitative and qualitative value for the attractiveness gained in the newspaper.
- 4. To list out the number of advertisements and information enclosed in the newspaper.
- 5. To evaluate the overall coverage of human rights issues on front and inside pages, in terms of prominence of the stories covering human rights issues.
- 6. To classify the news of the 3 arms of the government.

5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study is aimed at analyzing the human rights related news by applying Doctrinal method of research. The copies of three major newspapers of Tamil Nadu, Dhina Thandhi, Dhina Malar and Dhina karan from 10th December, 2022 to 19th December, 2022 are taken for studying the attractiveness level of newspapers.

In which randomly, Dhina Thandhi newspaper of December 13th is analyzed thoroughly for giving the number of news that are related to human rights.

6. TOOLS USED

The factors which influence the attractiveness of a newspaper are the headline size (s), headline color (c) and the presence of photo (p). The photo can be black and white or a colorful photo. The font used in a newspaper also differs from newspaper to newspaper, even from one article to other, the font used changes. All these factors are directly proportional to the attractiveness of a news article. In this research, the factors are given a quantitative value of mark out of 100. The mark allotting pattern is given in the below table.

Color of the Headline and

S.No.	HEADLINE COLOUR	MARK
1.	Color changed	100
2.	Black	50

Size of Headline

S.No.	SIZE OF THE HEADLINE FONT	NAME	MARK
1.	More than 2 cm	LARGE	100
2.	1.5cm to 2cm	BIG	75
3.	1cm to 1.5cm	MEDIUM	50
4.	Less than 1cm	SMALL	25

Presence of photo

S.No.	РНОТО	MARK
1.	Color photo	100
2.	Black and White photo	50
3.	No photo	0

The average of the three marks is sought out to give attractiveness points for every information in the newspaper. Then the average of all the information of the newspaper is calculated for obtaining the attractiveness point of the newspaper.

Attractiveness point of single news (A_i) = $\left(\frac{c+s+p}{3}\right)$

 $Attractiveness \ point \ of \ a \ single \ newspaper \ (A_n) = \frac{\textit{Sum of Attractivessness point of }}{\textit{Every news in the Newspaper}} \\ Average \ attractiveness \ point \ for \ a \ newspaper \ (A) = \frac{\textit{Sum of Attractivessness point of }}{\textit{Every news in the Newspaper}} \\ \frac{\textit{Sum of Attractiveness point of }}{\textit{Every newspaper}} \\ \frac{\textit{Every newspaper}}{\textit{Every newspaper}} \\ \frac{\textit{Every news$

Finally, the scale for qualifying this quantitative value is obtained by following Likert scale and the scale is given below.

Scale of Attractiveness

S.NO.	ATTRACTIVENESS POINT	REVIEW
1.	0 – 20	Poor
2.	21 – 40	Need to be improved
3.	41 – 60	Satisfied
4.	61 – 80	Good
5.	81 - 100	Excellent

7. SIGNIFICANCE

- This study has tried to investigate how newspapers have contributed to the protection and promotion of human rights.
- > The present study has demonstrated the key role that print media play as watchdog and gatekeeper in the coverage of human rights.
- ➤ In this study, an effort has been made to investigate, understand, and describe the percentage of content of numerous human rights related issues.
- Further, it explores the existing frames in the news discourse.
- ➤ The paper tries to present the probability of occurrence of human rights related information along with the importance of level of attraction in determining the interest of readers.
- This study will be significant for the field of human rights because it will assist in formulating a plan to ensure that human rights programs receive priority in an era when competing media programs compete for viewers.
- > This research will also contribute in highlighting the intricacies of print media's involvement in promoting human rights.

8. HYPOTHESIS

- Newspaper serves the purpose of acknowledging people about the current affairs of the society in which, they are a part of. Such information has political influence in it and there is a consistent amount of news is published about political parties and their activities daily. This serves the people to fulfil their political right as well as duty in a democratic country.
- The news placed in newspapers which directly gives awareness for people about their rights are very less in number, rather than that, it builds people's mind with certain events that has occurred in the society and these events, indirectly registers the knowledge about human rights.
- > Serving the duty to acknowledging people, newspapers have to be more attractive and creative, so that, digital and social media dominated minds of human would get attached to newspaper.

9. <u>LIMITATIONS OF THE RESEARCH</u>

- ➤ This study covers only 10 days newspaper and so, there may be errors while generalizing the result of the research.
- ➤ Only top three newspapers based on the number of readers have been analyzed for predicting the efforts put on by newspapers for attractiveness. So, there are many other newspapers which have a lesser number of readers and they have not been included in the research.
- The study is limited to only the vernacular language, Tamil.
- ➤ Only objective factors for the attractiveness of a newspaper are considered and other subjective factors are not considered for giving the scale of attractiveness but such subjective factors also play a role in covering readers.

10. A BRIEF HISTORY OF NEWSPAPER IN INDIA

James Augustus Hicky under the British Raj published the first newspaper in India on 29th January 1780, also named as "Bengal Gazette" or "Hicky's Gazette". This period was characterized by strict government controls and restrictions. (Goyal 2017)

During the British rule, Indian newspapers emerged and played an important role in the country's struggle for freedom. Newspapers have served as the 'mouth pieces' of the freedom struggle. **Tilak** started *Kesari* and *Mahratta* newspaper. **Mahatma Gandhi** started *Young India* and *Harijan*. **Jawaharlal Nehru** started the *National Herald*.

After Independence, Indian newspapers have been playing the role of catalytic in accelerating the process of social and economic development of the country. In 1970S, Indian newspapers obtained the status of an industry. The Indian newspaper industry is one of the largest in the world which has a long and rich heritage.

11.A BRIEF HISTORY OF NEWSPAPER IN TAMIL NADU

The first Tamil newspaper was the Swadesamitran which was started as weekly newspaper in 1882 by G. Subramanya Aiyer, also one of the founders of The Hindu. It became a daily newspaper in 1899 and dominated Tamil journalism until 1934.

Newspapers are, and continue to be, powerful political and ideological instrument in Tamil

Nadu. In 1925, Periyar EV Ramasamy setup the Kudiyarasu (Republic), representing the ideals of the Dravidian movement. While the newspaper was primarily a propaganda tool, but it was in the 1930s that it became a business in Tamil Nadu. The key drivers of media production in Tamil Nadu are political propaganda and commercial gain. In some cases, these two factors are precariously mixed.

"The British had set up many Tamil newspapers earlier, such as *Jana Vinothini*. They were more about curiosities and were essentially translations of news articles from English to Tamil," says Professor V Arasu, former head of the Department of Tamil Literature, University of Madras and is a keen observer of media culture in Tamil Nadu. He adds, "The Sudesamitran was the first of a series of anti-British, pro-independence journals that started coming out in Tamil Nadu, especially Chennai. (Arasu 2021)

The famines in Bengal and other parts of India around this time were also a catalyst for strong, pro-independent sentiments and triggered Indian journalism. A Tamil newspaper called the Desa Bhaktan (Patriot) was set up towards the end of the twentieth century.

Major newspapers and magazines in Tamil Nadu are: Dina Thanthi, Dina Malar, Dinakaran, Dina Mani, Malai Malar and The Hindu (Tamil) are the major Tamil daily newspapers. Vikatan Group and Kumudham Group are the largest magazine groups and publish numerous weekly and monthly magazines. Thanthi, Malar and Dinakaran dominate most of the market in terms of circulation. Together, they boast a total circulation of about 1.5 crores, with Thanthi alone reaching a readership of about 70 lakhs.

12. HUMAN RIGHTS

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly which states the rights and freedoms of all human beings. Under UDHR there are 30 Articles which speaks about more than 40 rights such as right to equality, right against discrimination, etc.

When we come to Indian Human Rights Jurisprudence, the history traces back centuries ago right from Arthasasthra and Dharmasasthra, to many kings and emperors of India, who are known for their righteousness, justice, and morality. But there were centuries in Indian history where people exploited and struggled during the colonial period.

Finally, the Constitution of India, being the Supreme law of the land, have given a defined structure for the basic rights that a human should never be deprived off, called the Fundamental Rights, which is enshrined under Part III of the Constitution and it includes,

- 1. Right to Equality
- 2. Right to Freedom
- 3. Right against Exploitation
- 4. Educational and Cultural Rights
- 5. Religious Rights
- 6. Remedial Rights

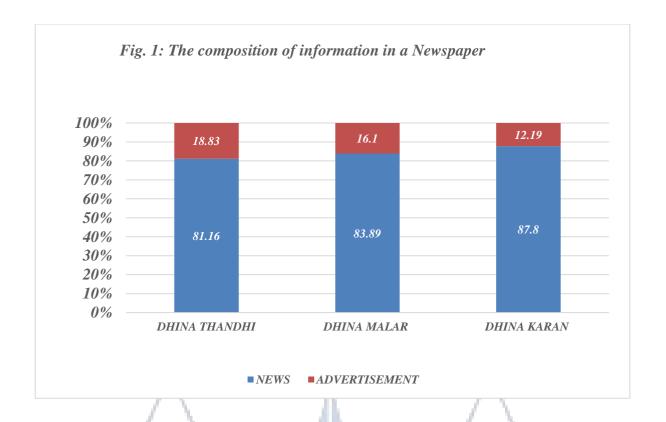
Not all the Human Rights given in UDHR are given under the Fundamental Rights. Political and Civil rights are stated under Fundamental Rights, whereas, the socio-economic rights are listed under the Directive Principles of State Policy. The rights given under Part III can be stated us Fundamental Human Rights, for better analysis of the newspaper in this research. Here, we will consider the relevance of news with that of Fundamental

Human Rights and not all the Human Rights, as because these FHR have a special position in Indian judicial perspective as they are the enforceable rights and as per Article 13, if any law is in contravention of these rights, the law will be null and void.

13.ANALYSIS OF NEWSPAPER

The average of the composition of news and advertisements in the top three newspaper for ten days is given in figure-1. Dhina Thandhi has an average of 18.83 percent of advertisement, Dhina Malar has 16.1 percent and Dhina Karan has 12.19 percent, and the rest are news which are related to various concepts such as political, religious, etc.

L L U A



The number of news published under every concept is categorized for Dhina Thandhi Newspaper on December 13th, 2022.

Among the news printed on December 13th, the number of information which speaks about FHR are given in table-2. Before that, we must be clear that newspaper itself does the job of providing information which serves for people to do all their duties and to fetch all their rights. Excluding pure political news, we find six rights being majorly discussed in the December 13th, 2022 Dhina Thandhi newspaper. That too, in page no. 6, the number of news mentioned are the highest, 21.43 percent. And totally, **27.27 percent** of the total news are related to FHR. The six FHR are,

- 1. Cultural and educational rights
- 2. Religious rights
- 3. Remedial rights
- 4. Right against detention and unlawful arrest
- 5. Right to freedom and
- 6. Right to life.

Table-2: News related to Fundamental Human Rights

Pg. No.	News related to Fundamental Human Rights	Percentage (%)
1	0	0.00
2	4	9.52
3	0	0.00
4	7	16.67
5	2	4.76
6	9	21.43
7	3	7.14
8	2	4.76
9	7	16.67
10	0	0.00
11	3	7.14
12	1	2.38
13	3	7.14
14	1	2.38
15	0	0.00
16	0	0.00
Total	42	100.00

Among these, news content related to right to life (35.71 percent) is the highest, followed by religious rights (21.42 percent) and right to freedom (23.80 percent). In these, 11.90 percent of the news are about direct awareness about those rights whereas, the other news indirectly insists about these FHR by way of following or by way of breaching the FHR. Among these the number of news which directly conveys about FHR by way of any incident which follows FHR, is the highest and it is 47.61 percent, followed by the news which breaches the FHR (40.47 percent) (Refer table-3). The political relevance of these news which are in relevance of politics are given in Table-4. In these, **85.71 percent** of the news are not related to politics whereas, **14.28 percent** are clubbed with political relevance.

Table-3: Nature of News related to FHR

Fundamental Human	Follows FHR	Breaches	Awarness	Total	
Rights	rouows riik	FHR	about FHR	10iai	
Cultural and Educational	4	1	0	5	
Rights	(9.52%)	(2.38%)	(0.00%)	(11.90)	
Deligious Pights	6	1	2	9	
Religious Rights	(14.28%)	(2.38%)	(4.76%)	(21.42%)	
Remedial Rights	2	0	0	2	
Kemeuui Kignis	(4.76%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	(4.76%)	
Right against detention	1	0	0	1	
and unlawful arrest	(2.38%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)	(2.38%)	
Dight to fundam	6	3	1	10	
Right to freedom	(14.28%)	(7.14%)	(2.38%)	(23.80%)	
Dialet to life	1	12	2	15	
Right to life	(2.38%)	(28.57%)	(4.76%)	(35.71%)	
Total	20	17	5	42	
101111	(47.61%)	(40.47%)	(11.90)	(100.00%)	

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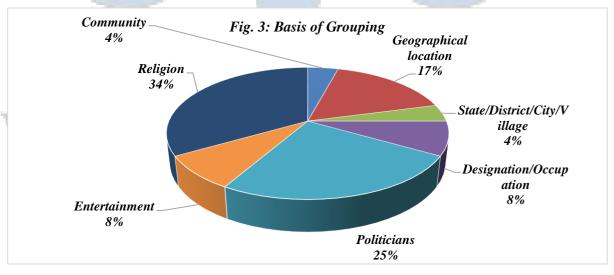


Table-4: Political relevance of news related to FHR

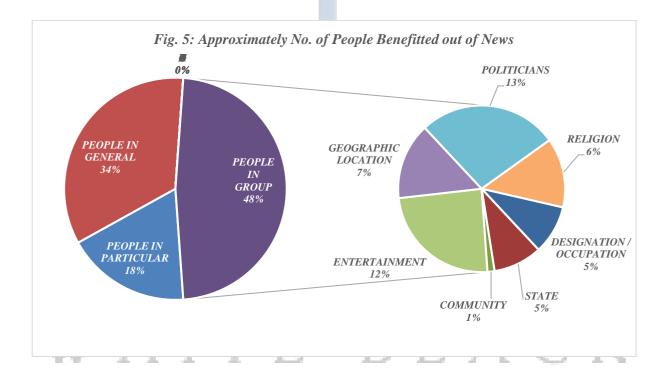
Fundamental Human Rights	Yes	No
/ Political Relavance		
Cultural and Educational Rights	0	5
Cuturut and Educational Rights	(0.00%)	(11.90%)
Policious Pichts	1	8
Religious Rights	(2.38%)	(19.04%)
Domodial Dialita	1	1
Remedial Rights	(2.38%)	(2.38%)
Right against detention and unlawful arrest	0	1
Right against detention and undwjut arrest	(0.00%)	(2.38%)
Dight to freedom	2	8
Right to freedom	(4.76%)	(19.04%)
Dight to life	2	13
Right to life	(4.76%)	(30.95%)
Total	6	36
Total	(14.28%)	(85.71%)

Table-5: No. of Benefitted out of News related to FHR (Approx.)

Fundamental Human Rights	People in	Group of	People in
/ Political Relavance	Particular	People	General
Cultural and Educational Rights	1	1	3
WHITE	(2.38%)	(2.38%)	(7.14%)
Religious Rights	0	9	0
	(0.00%)	(21.42%)	(0.00%)
Remedial Rights	0	1	1
	(0.00%)	(2.38%)	(2.38%)
Right against detention and	1	0	0
unlawful arrest	(2.38%)	(0.00%)	(0.00%)
Right to freedom	0	9	1
	(0.00%)	(21.42%)	(2.38%)
Right to life	7	4	4
	(16.67%)	(9.52%)	(9.52%)

Total	9	24	9
	(21.42%)	(57.14%)	(21.42%)

Among that 42 news which are related to FHR, approximately, the number of people benefitted out of the news are segregated. 57.14 percent of the news are beneficial for a group of people and 21.42 percent of the news are beneficial for a few numbers of people and the rest 21.42 percent are for all people in general. The group of people benefitted are grouped based on religion, politicians, geographical location, designation, occupation, entertainment, and community (Refer table-5 and figure-3).



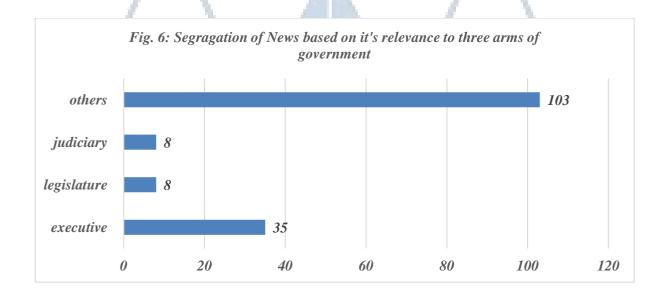
Categorizing all the news based on approximately how many people will be utilizing the news, the news which serves a particular group (seventy four news) of people is more in number, followed by general news (fifty three news) and news related to few numbers of people (twenty seven news). In figure-5, the basis of grouping is picturized.

Table-6: Level of Attractiveness for news related to FHR

Fundamental Human Rights Scale of Attractiveness	
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Cultural and Educational Rights	71.67
Religious Rights	60.83
Remedial Rights	54.17
Right against detention and unlawful arrest	33.33
Right to freedom	61.67
Right to life	52.98
Total	55.77

Cultural and educational rights (71.67 points) religious rights (60.83 points) and right to freedom (61.67 points) have good level of attraction followed by right to life (52.98 points), and remedial rights (54.17 points) related news have a satisfied level of attraction whereas, detention rights (33.33 points) related news have a level of attraction which could be made better. Overall, news related to FHR, have a satisfied level of attraction (55.77 points) (Refer table-6).



The news in the newspaper is segregated based on the three wings of the government. 5.19 percent of the news are related to judiciary, 5.19 percent is related to legislature whereas, 22.72 percent are related to executive (Refer Figure-6).

Table-7: Attractiveness of different Newspaper

Newspaper	Scale of Attraction
Dhina Thandhi	63.96
Dhina Malar	54.70
Dhina Karan	59.60

In table-7, the level of attraction in the three vernacular newspaper is given in an average for 10 days. Dhina Thandhi (63.96) have good level of attraction, followed by Dhina Malar (54.70) which has a satisfactory level of attraction and Dhina Karan (59.60) has a satisfactory level of attraction.

14. MAJOR FINDINGS

- ✓ There is a consistent number of politics-related news present in every day newspaper regardless of the type of newspaper, around 15 to 20 percent. This amount of news helps people to be acknowledged of the activities of the political parties which in turn help them in fulfilling people's fundamental right to vote and their duty to participate in politics of this democratic country.
- ✓ Though a rough look into the newspaper gives an idea that it has many advertisements, on an average 20 percent of the newspaper is filled with advertisements and of course, these advertisements are attractive.
- ✓ Getting into the attractiveness level of news given in newspapers, no newspaper can be excellently attractive with attractiveness point of more than ninety points. Newspaper with 60 to 80 points is expected to make the newspaper much more attractive.
- ✓ The attractiveness point of Thandhi is the highest of the top three newspapers, which coincides with the existing data that this Thandhi newspaper has the highest number of readers among the other three newspapers.
- ✓ In a single day, 27.27 percent of the total news present in a newspaper are related to Fundamental Human Rights among which civil related contents are dominated. Among these FHR, Right to Life and Religious Rights, are the majority. But most of this news are indirectly conveying about FHR as they explain any specific event which has happened in the society.
- ✓ The number of positive approaches towards FHR and negative approach towards FHR are equal. Positive approach is 47.61 percent and negative approach is 40.47 percent. But, level of attraction provided for negative incidents and positive incidents are

- similar, but it is the subjective human mind that gives more and more attention towards negative news. And this creates a general image that nowadays newspapers give fully negative news.
- ✓ Diversity of culture in Indian Continent, is proved by newspapers, where considerable number of news are related to a specific group of people who are grouped based on community, religion, landscape, occupation, etc. News which benefits few people, is also there in newspapers which satisfies the people's wishes and signifies their part in this society.
- ✓ The factors of attraction are objective and subjective in nature. The objective factors include, the headline size, the headline color, the presence of photo whether, color or



black and white photo. The subjective factors include, the understanding capacity, the truthfulness of the news, the length of the news, personal interest towards the news and influence of others.

15. SUGGESTIONS

1. When all the news given in a newspaper are presented with pictures and colorful headlines, the news which needs to be highlighted will not be taken into consideration. Therefore, obtaining excellent attractiveness points is not practical welcomed but good level of attractiveness must be the aim of newspapers so that their service to provide information for people will be completed to the fullest.

- **2.** A consistent number of political as well as FHR related news must be maintained as how it is done already because this helps people to enjoy their fullest existence in this democratic society.
- **3.** A positive approach of explaining FHR related news must be developed and encouraged as a negative approach would lead to a hopelessness among people and would even more move people towards a moral-less society. But still, acknowledging people about the negative aspects of the society is a necessary evil which saves many people's life at times. So, negative news cannot be totally neglected but could be reduced.
- **4.** Direct awareness about FHR as well as Fundamental Duties must be increased either by way of any legal analysis in newspaper or by way of stories and series. This would build a sense of transparency between people and the government.
- **5.** Emojis, smileys and symbols could be used in headlines to highlight the news content rather than giving it as a simple statement or exclamatory sentence. This would give more and more attachment between the young generations and newspapers.
- 6. A limit for the size and number of advertisement present in one single page of the newspaper must be fixed to a reasonable number so that, there would be enough space for news articles.
- 7. Tax reduction can be given for newspapers which includes FHR related news.
- 8. Opinion of students about FHR has to be given higher priority in newspaper.
- 9. Editors should be trained and given awareness about Human Rights available for people in a regular basis.
- 10. Ranks and merit grades can be given for newspapers which cover FHR related news.

16. CONCLUSION

Therefore, by exposing human rights abuses, information related to fundamental human rights and educating newspaper readers about these rights, newspapers can have a constructive impact on the promotion of human rights. Human rights news should be treated separately from other news, and reporters reporting it should have a comprehensive awareness of the socioeconomic circumstances surrounding the rights pertaining to human beings in a society as well as the intricacies of their problems.

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