

PREFACE

STATEMENT – 1

THE RELEVANCE OF THE PRESENT WORK AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO SANSKRIT LITERATURE

The present work - Sanskrit literature of twenty first century is first of its research work. It is, to the best of my knowledge, attempted for the first time. Sanskrit literature is progressing day by day. Many competent and enthusiastic writers are trying their best to enlive and enrich this divine language with profound zeal and commitment. So the Sanskrit literature is not lagging behind. In the twenty first century we find many mahākāvyas, khaṇḍakāvyas, fictions, biographies, dairies, prose works, radio plays and literature for children, short stories, poems, lyrical poems, gazals, travelogues, and other new forms. They are written keeping in mind modern sensibilities. They are in fact the products of modern time. It is interesting to say that all these forms were not in the classical age. Though some traditional trends are still continuing and the poets of our time are also composing great literary works following the principles given by the ancient rhetoricians like Bhāmaha, Daṇḍin, Viśwanātha and others, still we observe change and innovation in their creativity. The modern writers of Sanskrit compose their works keeping in mind the needs and problems of the present day society. It is not true that Sanskrit writers are only composing eulogical verses and they are purely in traditional form by using the popular metres like *Upajāti*, *Anuṣṭup* etc. In our time we see that the messenger poems or *dūtakāvyas* are not composed in the imitation of the great poet Kālidāsa.

There is novelty both in structure and content. An ardent critic will not miss this kind of innovation that is made by the writers of today with the aim of making Sanskrit language simple, sweet and popular. We find plethora of modern songs composed in the tune of modern movie songs. There are plenty of fictions which are in fact good contribution for which we should feel proud of. An area of modern Sanskrit literature that has been continuously enriched and attracting the attention of the modern readers of twenty first century is the field of translation. Many important and outstanding works especially novels have been translated into Sanskrit from other Indian languages like Odiya, Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Bengali etc.

Śivarājaviṇaya is the first novel in Sanskrit language i.e. translated from Bengali. Pandit SriRama Dave has translated *Nirmalā* of Premachand and other works. Four novels of S.L.Bhayarappa have been translated into Sanskrit. *Jala aur Jwālā* of Harishankara Parasai is translated from Hindi into Sanskrit. *Chitralkhā* of Bhagavaticaran Varma is translated from Hindi into Sanskrit. This shows the unique feature and progressive nature of modern Sanskrit literature. In the present thesis I have made an attempt to critically evaluate the literature of writers of twenty first century and to bring into light the significant contributions of the creative writers of the present century. I, therefore, confidently put forth my view that the present thesis is relevant and the study will contribute significantly to the contemporary Sanskrit literature. It will be quite useful to the researchers, students and general lovers of Sanskrit literature.

STATEMENT - 2

METHODOLOGY, SOURCES AND ORIGINALITY

I have divided my study into six chapters with specific headings keeping in mind the systematic presentation of the contents. The analytical and critical methods have been adopted in the preparation of the thesis.

I have fully drawn upon all the relevant published and unpublished literature. I have studied all the available Sanskrit literature of twenty first century.

To the best of my knowledge, an attempt is made for the first time to make analytical, critical and comprehensive study of the Sanskrit literature of twenty first century.