INTRODUCTION :-

No society or country can ever progress without active participation of women in its overall development. Man has always looked down upon them as the weaker sex. Now the woman has changed and bold enough to question the male domination. The Indian women novelists like Ruth Prawar Jhabwala, Kamala Markandaya, Nayanatara Sahgal, Anita Desia, Bharati Mukherjee, Shashi Despande, Nergis Dalal, Shobha De etc. constitute the group which has favorably responded to the changed psychological realities of Indian women after independence.

The researcher aims to focus on Shashi Deshpande and Shobha De and their women characters that represent the new woman that has emerged after independence. Four novels have been selected for this study viz. “Roots and Shadows” and “The Dark Holds No Terrors” by Shashi Deshpande and “Socialite Evenings” and “Starry Nights” by Shobha De to pursue this study.

Shashi Deshpande’s novel’ “Roots and Shadow “is evident of her honest treatment of sexuality, generational conflicts. her another novel, “The Dark Holds No Terrors “ explores the India of 1980 s and illustrates the complete adjustments and social changes.

Shobha De is one of the bestselling authors. Her maiden novel, “Socialite Evenings” is about quest for feminine identity and woman’s struggle for recognition and survival. Her another novel, “Starry Nights” throws light upon affluent and aspiring middle classes with a new sexual morality.

The researcher aims to study from comparative perspective to find out the similarities and differences in articulation of their attitudes to marriage, family, love, sex, money, career and man-woman relationship.