OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT LITERATURE:

The feministic study is done by many Indian English women writers like Arundhati Roy, Toru Dutt, Kamala Das, Sarojini Naidu, Shoba De, Jumma Lahiri, Suniti Namjoshi, Nergis Dalal, Dina Mehta, Attia Housain, Santa Rama Rau, Meena Alexander, Raji Narsimhan, Uma Vasudev, Anita Desai, Githa Mehta, Githa Hariharan, Namita Gokhale, Jai Nimbalkar, Ajit Cour, Indira Goswami, Krishna Sobti, Malati Chendur, Gouri Deshpande, Namita Gokhale, Nayantara Sahgal, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, Manju Kapur, Anita Nair, Susan Vishwanathan, Kamala Markandaya etc. Basically, having sympathy for women both men and women writers have presented various problems regarding their status in society. The study of women by women writers is very sensitive part. Some writers have studied the novels of Anita Desai, Shahsi Deshpande and Bharati Mukherjee with various angles with above images. Some critics have analyzed these selected novels in different perspectives as follow:

1. Latha R. Nair points out in the article *Locale as an Extension of the Self: A study Of Anita Desai’s Novels* the locale or milieu becomes a commanding centre in her novels. She highlights the total representation of the women’s self. It is never gained without highlighting the participation of the Locale color.

2. V. Ramesh criticizes the novels of Anita Desai as women’s alienation, anxiety, insecurity and fear in the article *The Dravidian Aesthetics in the Novels of Anita Desai: A Feminist Perspective.*

3. S. Sophy Pereppadan presents Anita Desai’s Concept of loneliness and aloneness with two contrastive human experiences whose result is the individual distancing from the normal and conventional conditions in the article *She had been Alone: A Moment of Private Triumphs: Alienation in Anita Desai’s Fire on the Mountain.*
4. Vincent Arratha reveals great importance of Childhood in the life of women through the novels of Shahsi Deshpande. She shows how childhood experiences so a long way in determining or influencing their adult life. Through her novels, she reveals that characters had peculiar childhood experiences and that the uncommon experiences have contributed largely to their inability to establish and maintain personal relationships in later life through the article *The girl is Mother: Girl Children in Shahsi Deshpande’s Select Novels*.

5. Asha Susan Jacob described the issue of silence chosen and thrust in marital, filial and social relations depicted in some of Shahsi Deshpande’s novels. In the novel *A Matter of Time* projects the silence hovering over three generations of women in the Big House. It is given in the article *Voice of the Silenced: A Reading of Shahsi Deshpande’s novels*.

6. G. Baskaran criticizes Shahsi Deashpande’s novels through the angle of girls as a grown up individuals who are in the threshold of adulthood. She highlights on the minor psychological disturbances in the minds of the girls in the article *Incoherent and Loosened Relationship: A Reading of Shahsi Deshpande’s Wingless Angles and Amputated Mothers in her short stories*.

7. Lata Mishra critically points out that Mukherjee fictionalizes the process of Americanization by tracing a young Indian Women’s experiences of trauma and triumph in her attempt to forge a new identity for herself in the article *Representing Immigration through the logic of Transformation: Bharati Mukherjee’s Jasmine*.

Though these three novelists are studied with various angles by critics and authors, not particular study is done on various images of women in Indian fiction and compared to each other to understand the attitude of the particular novelists or writers. No one has studied the topic with image of women in Indian English Fiction with this point of view. Therefore, the present
research work modestly attempts to analyze the select novels based on the term *Feminism* and study different image of Women in Indian English Fiction.