III) Objectives of the Present Research Work:

As the world of a novel is a contract reflecting the real world, it is natural that the problem highlighted and solutions suggested in fiction are very much relevant and applicable to the real world. Hence such an exploration is useful in our understanding of social problems. Therefore, the objectives are:

1) To study the nature and use of irony in novels as a literary device.

2) To analyze Kamala Markandaya’s select novels with special reference to the different types of ironies in the form of linguistic features.

3) To identify and explain the literary and aesthetic values of the device in communicating and enriching the fictional narration.

4) To highlight the recurrent theme of poverty, suffering and helplessness in the select novels from the ironic point of view.

5) To acquire further knowledge about the social phenomenon and social facts.