Introduction

Secondary education is the connecting link between primary education and higher education. On secondary education rests a great responsibility since it deals with the development of adolescents, who a few years latter, would form the entire backbone of the nation. So it deals with the impressive and formative period of the lives of the students.

But when we assess the present condition of secondary education it is found that it is not up to the mark. The product of secondary education today are mostly unemployable and unfit to pursue higher education.

Today secondary schools are bitterly criticized because the standard of teaching is not up-to the mark, it is not related to life and is dominated by examination and urban requirements. It also increases rote learning. There is laxity and confusion in control of secondary schools.

In Maharashtra numbers of secondary schools established by private institutions to impart secondary education. In order to quench the quest of public for acquisition of modern knowledge and for the development of education, numbers of secondary schools is increasing day by day. The contribution of private institutions has increased, which in turn makes the system of education huge. Proper administration and management of these secondary schools has beecome a problem in the present day. The very purpose of secondary schools and its existence will be evaluated to a maximum extent on the basis of its products. So, for obtaining good products from secondary schools all the factors should contribute their share satisfactorily. Some of these factors are physical facilities and school building, reading and writing materials, infrastructure, human resource i.e. teaching and nonteaching staff and in particular the headmaster and his way of leading the school.

In 21st century we have witnessed rapidly changing society. It is now essential for schools to have effective headmasters as leaders as educational leaders headmasters face the challenge of improving teaching and learning to ensure academic
success for all students. the role of headmasters is rapidly changing from simply encouraging teachers efforts to leading teachers to produce tangible results.

So it is seen that headmaster is very important person on whom quality and efficiency of the school depends. it is the leadership of headmaster which is responsible for effective functioning of secondary schools. So it is urgent need to assess the leadership of secondary school headmasters which will help to improve the quality of secondary schools by its effective functioning.

Last 24 years researcher works as headmaster and attend number of in-service teacher training as a recourse person. Worked with Maharashtra government for school leadership training, techno savvy teacher training. Visited many school and discus with headmasters and expert personalities so researcher decided work with this subject of secondary school’s headmasters leadership and its impact on school performance.

Here is some operational definitions of secondary school’s headmasters leadership and its impact on school performance as below-

- **Study** - The term study is used in this investigation in order to indicate the process by which investigator will be able to find out and compare the factors or variables assumed for the purpose of this investigation.

- **Influence** - The capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behaviour of someone or something, or the effect itself.

- **Leadership** - The action of leading a group of people or an organization, here the ability to do this. In this study, leadership of headmasters of secondary school is considered.

- **Practises** - The actual application or use of an idea, belief, or method, as opposed to theories relating to it.

- **Secondary school** - The term Secondary School is used in this study to include high schools functioning in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra with classes from 5 to 10 or classes from 8 to 10 to impart secondary education.
• **School performance** - Here school performance means performance of key domains of the school like enabling resources of the school: availability and visibility, teaching-learning and assessment, learners progress, attainment and development, managing teacher performance and professional development, School leadership and management, inclusion, health and safety, productive community participation. On these parameters schools performance will be evaluated.

• **Headmaster** - According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1997, 474), the term headmaster means," the principal man or women in a school who is responsible for organising it". Headmaster means academic and administrative head of the school. The head of the school means the person who is appointed as headmaster or headmistress of the school by management to be in charge of and be responsible for the proper running of the school. For the purpose of this study headmasters means head of secondary school having classes from 5 to 10 or school having classes from 8 to 10.