

Role of women in Panchayat Raj system

Dr G S Sakreenaik^{1*}

^{1*}Assistant Professor Dept of Sociology, Sir M V Govt Aarts and Commerce college, New Town, Bhadravati Shivamogga District, E mail: sakriyanaik1975@gmail.com

Abstract:

Women faced many hurdles since immemorial time that to in medieval period her condition was very pathetic. But since from British period her condition was slightly improved because of due to British educational system. In the post independent period she is entering all sectors. Now women are working in all field with men folk without any hesitation. But in the political field her participation was less that's why under the 73rd constitutional amendment act 33% reservation has sanctioned women for political participation in panchayat raj system like Grama panchayat, Taluke Panchayat and Zilla Panchayat.

The present study is focusing on how women are actively participation in Panchayat raj system how this amendment is help full for her political carrier this

Though women form half of the population. Their contribution in the economic, social of political spheres remains negligible marginal and invisible. Due to distinct diversities in the society the social stratification and social construction reveal strong prejudices prevalent against the downtrodden. The subaltern groups always have to face multi-faceted discrimination from the elites. Women faced many hurdles in India due to over tradition, blind beliefs, Superstitious, other social restrictions, Religion impacts and men folk. But in modern India women position in all field it has been reforming due to British government education, efforts of reformers, efforts of feminists, constitutional provision and special amendment women are subsequently freeing from hurdles. In addition to this state and central government launching many projects, programs to empowering and sustain women in political, economically and socially. In this context in 1991Karnataka has been one of the first states to enact the 73rd Constitutional amendment and to conduct elections for gram panchayats. It has implemented all the mandatory provisions of amendment. Including reservation of seats and positions of authority for weaker section and women. The 73rd Constitutional amendment with the reservations for women is a landmark in India's political development. The results from the functioning of panchayats are really heartening. Many parts of India are reporting rapid transformation in the way local panchayats have begun to demand information. Monitor development programe, questioning authority and extract accountability. We hear several stories from Kerala , Andra Pradesh, Tamil nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, Madya pradesh and Rajastan all most all over India. This process of political decentralization and encouraging institutions that gave greater voice to women for further strengthened.

Key notes: in this study the researcher is trying to find how women members are function in power decentralization democracy system. Are they capable to run the government? If they are lagging behind in what way? This content he has to find in his research.

Scope: The research is concentrating only Bhadravathi taluke Gram panchayats women represents.

Methodology: The researcher has adopted secondary data methods there are 419 gramPanchayat members in this taluke among them 250 women members and rest of them are male members.

Objectives:

1. To know the women members education level
2. To know the reasons for joining politics

Table: 1 Education level of Gram Panchayat women members

SL No	Education level	No	Percentage
1	Illiterates	20	08
2	Upto primary	106	42.4
3	Upto highschool	62	24.8
4	P U C	38	15.2
5	Degree	14	5.6
6	Others	10	4.0
		250	100

Data Analysis:

the researcher has collected details from Bhadravathi taluke Panchayat office about number of Gram Panchayat members. In this taluk 250 female members are elected. Education is important to do any work that to become people represent he or she should be an educated. If you are Illiterate or semi literate its not use of becoming Member or President or even MLA Etc. under 73rd amendment female got lion share in panchayat raj. Among 419 members 250 are members are women. If we look into the statistics wise we will be very much happy and shows that India is highly developed and impartial no gender bias country. But if we see their education background upto primary education qualified percentage is 42.4 which is highest and highly qualified members percentage is respectively degree 5.6% and other qualified members are 4.0% total only 9.6% members. Up to 10th education qualified are only 24.8 and up to P U C qualification educated are only 15.2%. To become gram panchayat member government should made regulation PUC is minimum education qualification.

The table shows that highly qualified ratio is less only minimum or primary education is not enough to become a people representation. At least members must have knowledge to read government order or circular, or what PDO, other staff of that panchayat officers works. If do not minimum knowledge then no use of become member in that panchayat it will become just name sake.

Table : 2 Reason for joining to politics

SL No	Reasons	No	Percentage
1	Voluntary	18	7.2
2	Due to family members	28	11.2
3	Influence of political party	35	14
4	Social service	08	3.2
5	Community/caste support	38	23.2
6	Community development	39	15.6
7	Other reasons	64	25.6
Total		250	100

Table 2 : To know the reasons of members why they becoming people represent the researcher have asked this question. Among 250 gram panchayat members only 7.2 % members have become member voluntary to do some service to their community.

11.2% percent members came to politics by force of their family members, or to fill the female reservation. In this case if her husband did not get chance to contest election due to women reservation he will field his any female candidate from his home. How ever after her win she may become member, president or vice president these are just for name shake all the decision taking power goes to him he will enjoy the power in the name of his female members. According these 73rd amendment women should empower through the political representation. But this empowerment can seen in the documents not in practical.

Some female are entering in to politics because of some political party is always encouraging women participation without any partiality due this reason also in this study there 14% female members came to politics. Only 3.2 % members came to this field to Educated and economically empowered women may come to politics to render their honest service to their village. Among 250 members only 3.2% members were chosen this politics.

The huge no number of women members are coming in to politics is only background of their community caste strength and support how ever there are 23.2 % members are came with the background of their community or caste support. With out any proper decision thinking 25.6 % members are came to politics and become a member that's all. After becoming member or president or vice president their presence like a Rubber stamp. All other powers are enjoyed by her Husband, Brother or Son. In this way if we provide reservation to women without providing proper education what is the use of this women political reservation. The progress can be seen only in paper not in actual.

Findings: The researcher finding in his study as below.

- Illiterate's rates are decreasing even in rural area.
- Maximum Rural women's are satisfied up to primary education.
- Minimum P U C education is essential to become a member in G P.
- If more highly educated participate in Rural political system it will be very lucrative to take any constructive decision for welfare of rural community.
- Voluntary political participation among women is very less.
- Maximum women political participation is based on the support of caste and their family members.
- Illiterate and economically poor women members area not governing panchayat in their place their family men or in some other dominant community men are enjoying power.

Suggestions:

- PUC is Minimum education qualification for becoming Grampanchayat members for both men and women.
- Voluntary political participation should be there rather then by force or caste based support.

- They should have proper goal to become a rural represent.
- Becoming gram Panchayat member is should not be lively wood.

Reference:

1. Balvanth roy Mehta Report of the team for the study of community project and national, NewDelhi. Vol 1 planning commission 1956.
2. Bhadravathi taluk panchayati documents Bhadravathi panchayati office 2015-16.
3. Shimogga District statistics office Shivamogga .
4. Power decentralization, nature and functions of Gram panchayat Shivamogga District By Basavaraj H K Kuvempu university 2005.
5. Article 73rd Constitutional amendment 1993.
6. Ananth S empowerment through representation a study of women representation in panchayath raj in Shivamogga District Kuvempu University Shankaragatta Shivamogga 2005.
7. Basavaraj H power decentralization and nature and Functions of grama panchayat'Special reference to Shivamogga District. Kuvempu University Shankaragatta Shivamogga 2005.