

# Recent Challenges of Proper Implementation of Panchayati Raj in Haryana

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**Abstract –** *The Panchayati raj in Haryana is known as the system of rural local self-government. The Panchayati Raj system has been established in all the states of India including Haryana state, by the Acts of the state legislatures to build democracy at the grassroots level. It is related to rural development. It was constitutionalised through the 73rd constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 in India and in Haryana it is constitutionalised through Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (Act Number 11 of 1994). Panchayati raj institutions provide opportunities to the citizens to participate in the political and development process at grassroots level. But still Panchayati raj institutions are not working properly particularly in Haryana state of India. The present paper studies the challenges of Panchayati raj institutions in Haryana and tries to provide suggestions and measures to effectively reducing of problems, facing the all challenges.*

**Keywords:** Challenges, Panchayat, PRIs, Decentralization, Participation, Election, Politics.

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## INTRODUCTION

The Haryana State became a state on 1st November, 1966 & the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 was made applicable to the Panchayat Raj Institutions in Haryana. After passing the 73rd Constitutional amendment in 1992 in Indian Parliament, than Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 was passed which came into force on April 22, 1994. Thereafter Haryana Panchayati Raj Election Rules, 1994 were formulated on 24th August, 1994 followed by Haryana Panchayati Rules, 1995, notified on 16th February 1995. Subsequently the Haryana Panchayati Raj Finance Budget, Accounts, Audit, Taxation and works rules 1996 were also notified on 14th August, 1996. Under the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act 1994, the Panchayati Raj Institutions have been empowered with duties & functions. Those are related to all the 29 subjects listed in Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. The Panchayati Raj works as a system of governance in which Gram Panchayats are the basic unit of local administration. The system has three levels –

- Gram Panchayat (Village level)
- Block Samiti or Panchayat Samiti (Block level)
- Zila Parishad (District level).

## Features of the Panchayati Raj Act:

The Act has five main features:

- It provides a 3-tier system of Panchayati Raj for all States.
- Panchayat elections in every 5 years.
- Provide reservation of seats for SC and ST and women (not less than one-third of seats).
- It provides a provision of appointment of State Finance Commission to make recommendations as regards the financial powers of the Panchayats.
- Provide a facility of constitution of District Planning Committees to prepare development plans for the district as a whole.

## PANCHAYATI RAJ IN HAYYANA:

### **Brief Historical Background of Panchayati Raj in Haryana:**

The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 as amended in 1960 was implemented in undivided Punjab. In 1961, the Punjab Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act formulated on the recommendation of the Balwantrai Mehta

Committee, created the district and intermediate levels of Panchayat, to add to the existing Gram Panchayats. Therefore, at attaining statehood in 1966, Haryana already had operating in the state a three tier Panchayat system, which was retained. Following the 73rd constitutional amendment in 1992, the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 was framed which came into force in April, 1994. Thereafter, Haryana Panchayati Raj election rules were formulated in August, 1994 followed by the Haryana Panchayati Rules, 1995 notified in February, 1995. Subsequently, the Haryana Panchayati Raj finance budget /accounts /audit / taxation and works rules were notified in August, 1996.

The Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (Act Number 11 of 1994) was enforced on 22.04.1994. The objective of this act is to provide for constitution of Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads for better administration of the rural areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. This act extends to whole of the state of Haryana. There exist three levels of elected bodies for rural areas:

- **Gram Panchayat:** It consists of a Sarpanch elected by Gram Sabha from amongst its voters and there can be 6 to 20 Panches from wards in a Panchayat.
- **Panchayat Samiti:** It consists of a Chairman and a Vice Chairman, directly elected members from territorial constituencies as determined under section 58 of the Act, the members of Haryana Legislative Assembly representing constituencies, which comprise wholly or partly in the Panchayat Samiti.
- **Zilla Parishad:** It Consists of members directly elected from the wards in the districts, Chairman of all Panchayat Samitis within the district, ex-officio members, the members of the House of People, Haryana Legislative Assembly whose constituency lies within the district or part thereof, ex-officio member, a President and Vice President.

In the Haryana Panchayati Raj system, there is a provision for reservation of seats for women, SCs and STs. One-third of the seats have been reserved for women. The seats for SCs and STs have been reserved in the ratio of their respective populations. There are reservations (Chairpersons, Sarpanch) for women and SCs and STs.

#### **New Law Of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Haryana:**

The candidate who, have no pending loans of bank, institutions, agricultural co-operatives, no unpaid electricity bills, have minimum educational

qualifications can participate in election. These are some of the pre-conditions the Haryana government now imposes on electoral candidates, after amending the Haryana Panchayat Raj Act, 1994, on September 7, 2015. On December 10, a two-member bench of the Supreme Court, hearing this writ petition, upheld the law, declaring the restrictions "reasonable". The candidacy qualifications are easier for women than men, reflecting Haryana's literacy rates: 85% for men, 76% for women; but they exclude more women than men.

**Qualifications To Contest Elections in Haryana**

Category	Qualification
General – Male	Matriculation (10th class)
General – Female	Middle School (8th pass)
SC – Male	Middle School (8th pass)
SC – Female	5th pass

#### **Recent Challenges of Panchayati Raj in Haryana:**

The Haryana Government facing the many sort of problems And challenges in proper implementation of Panchayati Raj in territory of Haryana. Some of major problems and challenges given as below:-

##### **Lack of Awareness:**

The lack of awareness in implementation of Panchayati Raj is due to Bureaucratic delays, political interference, economic reasons and social pressures make Panchayati Raj dis-functional. The Sarpanch and Panch of village not properly create awareness among people.

##### **Lack of Transparency:**

The lack of transparency in work and functioning leads the dis-functioning of panchayati raj system. This is the challenge to the government of Haryana and lack of transparency becomes the reason of corruption in the administrative system of state.

##### **Less Participation of Women:**

This is the vital problem and challenge of panchayati raj system of Haryana, less participation of women in politics. This is due to the mentality of society specially men of state and lack of interest of women to participate in the politics.

##### **Less Literacy Rate:**

The illiteracy rate among men and women in the Haryana state has very high. The women condition

is bad than men. This is create a problem in batter implementation of panchayati raj in the state of Haryana.

State	Literacy Rate (2011 Census)	Male Literacy Rate (2011 Census)	Female Literacy Rate (2011 Census)
Haryana	76.6%	85.4%	66.8%

#### **Political Interference in Fund Allocation & Policy Formation to Panchayats:**

In the all level of administrative system of Panchayati Raj, has very high political interference. It is create a lot of imbalance, discrepancy, delays of work and inadequate policy formation. The fund is allocated to panchayats by political pressure and this pressure is also on policy formation process, due to this pressure they unable to form better policy.

#### **Inadequate Finance Allocation:**

This is big problem of Panchayati Raj that not get adequate fund for development of panchayat. The panchayat mostly get not sufficient fund, this leads the carelessness, corruption and delay in work of progress.

#### **Lack of Cordial Relation between Officials and People:**

In the Haryana Panchayati raj system of administrative officials not have better relation with public, due to irresponsible behaviour and misbehaviour to people. This is a drastic situation to the panchayati raj in Haryana.

#### **Khap Panchayats:**

The khap Panchayats in the state create a problem to panchayati raj system in haryana. Khap panchayat some time gives a illegal decision on some social issues, by custom basis. Most of time khap panchayats refuse to accept the decision of court. So this is big challenge to the panchayati raj system of haryana.

#### **Honour Killing:**

The honour killing is murder of family a member due to dishonor of family in the society eye watch. This murder is do by girl side people. So this is a greate challenge to proper establishment of panchayati raj in haryana.

#### **Corruption in all Level of Administration:**

The corruption is the major challenge and problem of haryana, this is found in all administrative system of haryana, also affects the panchayati raj system in haryana. It is affect the development of panchayati

raj system. The government should have start program to reduce corruption from the state.

#### **Baseless Agitation & Strikes:**

In the last few years back in the state of haryana, the gram panchayats was fully support the some agitation and strikes against the government i.e. baseless. This is such new types of challenge to the state of haryana as well as panchayati raj system of Haryana.

#### **Caste Based Politics:**

In the Haryana, there is a dominance of specific upper caste people those follows the castism, not open way but take it in his mind. They follow the cast system in politics and not want to reduce it rather than they are very few in number. So this is a major problem to panchayati raj system in Haryana.

#### **Politics in Draw of SC and BC Seats in Panchayats:**

In the election time some people of specific upper caste make politics in getting of general seat again and again because they have dominance in his area, they remove SC and BC from district seat allocation draw, by give statement that "Not Suitable Candidate Found." This is drastic situation to panchayati raj system in haryana.

#### **SUGGESTIONS:**

- Gram Sachiv and Sarpanch should make responsible for his work and duties.
- Committee should be made for resolve the problem of people.
- Create proper awareness among people.
- The authorities should make responsible towards his work and behave softly with people.
- Should increase the participation of women in panchayati raj system.
- Should remove the caste base politics and increase the participation of SC and BC without any pressure.
- Efficiently reduce the situation of baseless agitation and strikes.
- Removed the corruption from all level of administrative system.

- Should create transparency in work of panchayati raj system.
- Should declared illegitimate to illegal decision of khap panchayats and reduce the honour killing in state.

## CONCLUSION:

The Panchayati Raj system in Haryana is working well except some problems and challenges. Haryana government started some program to remove these problems. After the 73rd Constitutional Amendment in 1992, the States properly decentralize their authority to the Panchayati raj system or institutions at the local level. The purpose was to take democracy to the grass-root level so that the people should manage their own affairs at that level. Purpose is only to make participation of people at local government. The people know what is best or not and what needs to be done. The Panchayati Raj system was not only to entrust the people with the power of decision-making but also to give them authority and capacity of governing local government and manage their affairs.

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