

Attempting to Elaborate Role of Panchayati Raj System in the Rural Areas

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Abstract – Panchayati Raj Institutions - the grassroots devices of self-government - have been proclaimed as the automobiles of socio-economic transformation in outlying India. The meaningful and effective functioning of the systems would hinge on active involvement, participation, and contribution of the citizens of both female and male. The Panchayats are anticipated to play a crucial role in the rural development of India, especially after freedom. Program files of the main and different committees and state governments have emphasized the value of the systems in the policy. Inclusive and sustainable progress of general rural development of Panchayat Raj Institutions. Empowering countryside public to take part in rural development programs for raising the quality of theirs of life. With this paper, an effort has been created to look at a variety of problems, elements as well as dimensions connected to Panchayati Raj Institutions in Rural aspects of India. It's been sought to evaluate changes in the outlying society as well as the impact of its effect on socio-economic transformation as a result of the panchayat, political participation, and political mobilization etc.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Of the days of Aryans, Indian villages had a distinctive institution called Panchayats, extremely effective, well accepted and nearly impartial institutions. Immediately after the independence, all possible measures had been taken to revive the Panchayati Raj Institutions to entail the countryside individuals not just in the own development theirs but additionally in the advancement of the nation as an entire. Gandhiji was of the opinion that for legitimate improvement of the land, every village must be capable and self-reliant of dealing with the affairs of its. Based on him, Gram Panchayats must be entrusted despite having the dispensation of justice. The poor villagers need not go into the courts, spend hard-earned cash and waste weeks as well as weeks in towns for litigation. Though this wasn't practicable in 1947, the Constituent Assembly watched merit for Gandhiji's argument of democratic decentralized governance and incorporated Panchayati Raj underneath the Directive Principles of State Policy. According to Article forty, Directive Principles of State policy of the Constitution states of ours, "The State shall do something in order to manage village Panchayats and endow them with these kinds of powers as well as an authority as might be needed to allow them to function as units of Local Self Government. To offer outcome to this Directive Principle, the Parliament passed The Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 which established a Panchayat Raj process in The Constitution and outlying areas (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 to build Municipalities process in areas that are urbanized.

The Panchayats are anticipated to play a crucial role in the rural development of India, especially after freedom. Program files of the main and different committees and state governments have emphasized the value of the systems in the policy. five-year plans, especially the next five-year strategy, laid specific focus on the job of Panchayats in outlying advancements. Rural Development in India is actually among the most crucial aspects for the development of the Indian economy. India is mainly an agriculture-based state. Agriculture contributes almost one-fifth of the gross domestic product in India. To boost the progress of agriculture, the Government has planned a few applications pertaining to rural development of India.

II. THREE TIER STRUCTURE OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

It is a three - tier system of rural self-government as given below:

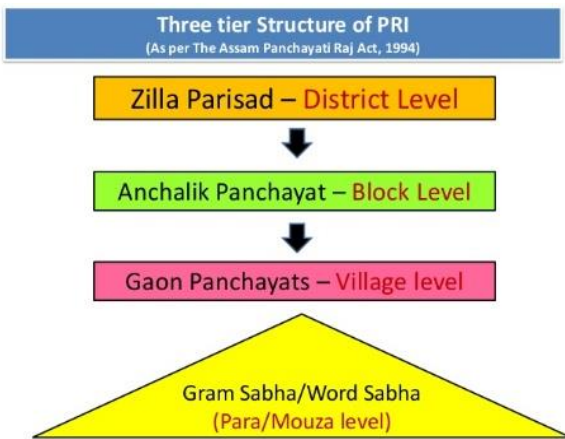


Figure 1: Three tier structure of Panchayati Raj System

► **Gram Panchayat**

Gram Panchayat is actually local governments at the point of small towns as well as villages. The truth is the Gram Panchayat is actually the base of the Panchayati process in India. A Gram Panchayat is actually formed in a village that has a population of 300 or maybe much more or perhaps different 2 or even more villages are actually clubbed together. Sarpanch heads a Gram Panchayat.

The functions of Gram Panchayat include:-

- Providing sufficient water supply.
- Maintenance of village roads.
- Making the arrangement of lights on village roads.
- Public health, hygiene and sanitation.
- Development of agricultural activities, etc.

► **Panchayat Samiti**

Every district is divided into a selection of Blocks comprising of several neighbouring villages. For every Block, there shall be one Panchayat Samiti of which the Block Development Officer (BOD) will take measures as ex officio Executive Officer.

► **Zilla Parishad**

Zilla Parishad appears after the administration of countryside areas in a district. The officer on the Zilla Parishad is positioned to the district headquarters. The fundamental feature of this particular governing body revolves around giving the essential facilities to the outlying individuals as well as to commence the growing programs in the village.

III. THE ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ

With a view to making a target to the decentralization of empowerment as well as powers of the Panchayats as institutions of regional self-government, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) was created in four May 2004 after carving out the Panchayati Raj Division from the Ministry of Rural Development. The main features of the Ministry are actually overseeing the implementation of Part IX of the Constitution, placed by the Constitution (Seventy-Third Amendment) Act, 1992, the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA), 1996 and Article 243 ZD of Part IX A of the Constitution concerning the District Planning Committees come across information saying with the Eleventh Schedule which illustratively sets out a list of twenty-nine matters, which can be thought by the State Legislatures for devolution to the Panchayats in order to make sure they perform as 'units of Self-Government.'

Some other tasks include servicing of the Empowered Sub Committee of the National Development Council (NDC) on Financial and administrative Empowerment of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), review of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministries which deal with topics included in the Eleventh Schedule to allow duties and function of PRIs, capacity building as well as education of elected representatives of PRIs and promoting efficiency, accountability, and transparency on the part of the PRIs. The question that we're left with then is if the brand new passion for Panchayat rules is actually apt to fare any much better than the ones that have gone before, and whether it's a long-cherished dream eventually come true, or perhaps simply the most recent twist in a struggle for control and power over government expenditure between main and state governments & freshly emergent village elites. Given the symptoms of a backlash against several of the more extreme implications of the legislation, as well as the proof of extreme tries at foot-dragging by State governments of the fashion of the implementation of its, it's appealing to determine that the latter is very likely.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The current study has been conducted in the outlying area of India. It's primarily based on the main source of information as well as info. The sample size is 300.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Outcomes of the collected data from the study area have been talked about as follows:

Political Participation:

With this section, an effort has been created to assess the political participation of countryside individuals such as job perception at the grassroots level in the study region. Additionally, it's sought to look at aspects, dimensions, and issues connected to the political participation of countryside individuals at the grassroots level.

Table – 1 Views of the Respondents about Political Awareness According to age groups

Age of the Respondents (in complete d years)	Do you follow-up Panchayati Raj System in your village?		Are you member of any political party?		If yes, tell name of political party						
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Congress	BJP	Samajwa Di Party	Bahujan Samaj Party	Communist Party	Others	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
18-25	12	04	17	06	02	02	07	06	00	00	
	(7.00)	(1.33)	(5.66)	(2.00)	(0.89)	(0.89)	(3.12)	(2.67)	(0.00)	(0.00)	
26-45	106	14	93	29	12	11	30	37	02	01	
	(35.33)	(4.66)	(31.00)	(9.66)	(5.35)	(4.91)	(13.39)	(16.51)	(0.89)	(0.44)	
46-60	110	11	91	27	11	10	31	36	01	02	
	(36.66)	(3.66)	(30.33)	(9.00)	(4.91)	(3.33)	(13.83)	(16.07)	(0.44)	(0.89)	
61 and above	29	05	23	14	03	02	08	09	01	00	
	(9.66)	(1.66)	(7.66)	(4.66)	(1.33)	(0.89)	(3.57)	(4.01)	(0.44)	(0.00)	
Total	266	34	224	76	28	25	76	88	04	03	
	(88.66)	(11.33)	(74.66)	(25.33)	(12.50)	(11.16)	(33.92)	(39.28)	(1.78)	(1.33)	

Table - one depicted that 88.66 percent of the respondents agreed with the follow up Panchayati raj process in the village, as well as 11.33 percent of the respondents experienced against about it. Additionally, 74.66 percent of the respondents had been discovered to be part of different political parties, out of which 39.28 percent of the respondents had been fellow member of the BSP, 33.92 percent of the respondents supported to SP, 12.50 percent of the respondents had been members of Congress, 11.16 percent of the respondents were members of the BJP, 1.78 percent of the respondents felt communist party and 1.33 percent of the respondents were discovered along with other political parties for membership. As a result, the vast majority of the respondents had been connected with regional political parties.

Table – 2: Views of the Respondents about Political Awareness and Activities in Political Parties according to Age Groups

Age of the Respondents (in completed years)	Did you participate in election campaign?			If yes, tell which level of participation?			
	Yes	No	Rare	Lok Sabha	State Legislative Assembly	Municipality	Panchayat
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18-25	12	07	04	03	02	02	05
	(4.00)	(2.33)	(1.33)	(1.56)	(1.04)	(1.04)	(2.60)
26-45	77	27	10	07	09	22	39
	(25.66)	(9.00)	(3.33)	(3.64)	(4.68)	(11.45)	(20.31)
46-60	84	21	12	08	11	25	40
	(28.00)	(7.00)	(4.00)	(4.16)	(5.72)	(13.02)	(20.83)
61 and above	19	17	10	02	03	06	08
	(6.33)	(5.66)	(3.33)	(1.04)	(1.56)	(3.12)	(4.16)
Total	192	72	36	20	25	55	92
	(64.00)	(24.00)	(12.00)	(10.41)	(13.02)	(28.64)	(47.91)

Table two discovered that 64.00 percent of the respondents participated in an election campaign, out of which 47.91 percent of the respondents participated in panchayat elections campaign, 13.02 percent of the respondents had participated in the state legislative elections plan and 10.41 percent of the respondents had actively participated in Lok Sabha election campaign. As a result, the vast majority of the respondents had participated for grassroots level elections campaign.

Factors Related to Rural Development

Table – 3 Views of the Respondents about the Major Development Programmes According to level of Education

Level of Education	Do you want to give credit about some major development programmes to gram sabha?		If yes, tell about programmes				Did you write to panchayat about problems?		If yes, was it solved by panchayat?	
	Yes	No	Construction of roads and sanitation	Health and Education	Small saving schemes	Hand pumps	Yes	No	Yes	No
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Upto Primary	48	24	12	14	13	09	39	29	18	21
	(16.00)	(8.00)	(5.50)	(6.42)	(5.96)	(4.12)	(13.00)	(9.66)	(9.89)	(11.53)
Upto Middle	44	21	13	12	10	09	36	28	15	21
	(14.66)	(7.00)	(5.96)	(5.50)	(4.58)	(4.12)	(12.00)	(9.33)	(8.24)	(11.53)
Upto High School	54	18	13	15	14	12	43	29	19	24
	(18.00)	(6.00)	(5.96)	(6.88)	(6.42)	(5.50)	(14.33)	(9.66)	(10.43)	(13.18)
Upto Intermediate	36	10	11	10	07	08	32	17	12	20
	(12.00)	(3.33)	(5.04)	(4.58)	(3.21)	(3.66)	(10.66)	(5.66)	(6.59)	(10.98)
Graduation	24	06	05	08	07	04	21	10	09	12
	(8.00)	(2.00)	(2.29)	(3.66)	(3.21)	(1.83)	(7.00)	(3.33)	(4.94)	(6.59)
P.G.	12	03	03	04	03	02	11	05	05	06
	(4.00)	(1.00)	(1.37)	(1.83)	(1.37)	(0.91)	(3.66)	(1.66)	(2.74)	(3.29)
Total	218	82	57	63	54	44	182	118	78	104
	(72.66)	(27.33)	(26.14)	(28.89)	(24.77)	(20.18)	(60.66)	(39.33)	(42.85)	(57.14)

Table 3 discovered that 72.66 per cent of the respondents felt that gram sabha has been playing a crucial role in rural development programmes of the village. 26.14 per cent of the respondents supported the programmes i.e. building of highways as well as sanitation works. 28.89 per cent of the respondents supported additional programmes on wellbeing & education. 24.77 per cent of the respondents felt that panchayat has begun little saving schemes for the countryside people. 20.18 per cent of the respondents supported the programmes of hand pumps. 60.66 every cent of the respondents had been composed to the panchayat to fix these issues, as well as 39.33 per cent of the respondents didn't write to panchayat about the same. 42.85 per cent of the respondents agreed with panchayat have resolved these issues and 57.14 per cent of the respondents felt that the panchayat didn't fix the problems of theirs. As a result, the panchayat has been playing an enormous function to fix the issues of theirs of the individuals.

As a result, it's apparent that a selection of elements has been influencing grass roots politics in the PRIs. These elements are actually: democratic consciousness, participation of elections, welfare of the masses, pleasure on the performance of panchayats, education, countryside banks, and voters. And associated with these other things such as greater part caste domination, property, land, religion, affiliations of various parties and political leaders, politicalisation, and socialization of countryside masses. This's an undeniable fact that these elements have been playing a pivotal role in figuring out the amount of grass roots politics in functioning and duties of the panchayat leaders as well as panchayat process in outlying society.

Different growth programmes have been started by the government for rural development of India, these programmes have been beneficial in eliminating poverty, unemployment, inequality, raising educational facilities, infrastructure development, agricultural development, improvement in tiny scale as well as cottage

industries etc. These programmes have been discovered to be very useful for the upliftment of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes' folks, females as well as kids living in outlying places. The devolution of power to panchayats for organizing as well as executing several programmes of socio economic growth and supplying enough financial support for the objective will be making the program formulation as well as the execution of theirs through people's participation much more reasonable and economical. The strengthening of panchayati raj institutions through certain provisions in the constitution will significantly support this process of transfer of planning features from the state level to the district as well as panchayat amount.

It's real that panchayati raj structures set up in the nation of ours aren't doing perfectly and that there's a want to revitalize them. There's essentially a need to evolve an extensive idea of panchayati raj, which obviously spells out as to what roll type is actually anticipated from it. It's likewise essential to recognize that symbolic participation might not result in mass participation in the sort of ours of socio-economic countryside power structure. To change this framework or perhaps at least fortifying the role of the very poor against exploitation is a crucial necessity for the good results of panchayati raj. The emerging situation of the dynamics of growth and also the thrust on decentralized preparation opened brand new vistas of development. In sum, structural, institutional, and purposeful contours of Panchayati Raj have to remain in conformity not simply with the accelerating speed of growth but additionally with the developmental tactics as well as policies that have developed over a space of time.

VI. CONCLUSION

The implementation of rural development programmes with the Panchayat Raj Institutions has brought an extreme change in the socioeconomic problems of the countryside tribal individuals in the study village. The implementation of rural development programmes has impacted actually the political and social affairs of the individuals. In the economic sphere, these programmes have formed an enhancement in the economic role of the village. Being a result, nearly all almost all of the tribal villagers have acquired additional revenue. In the 21st century it's vital that the implementation of countryside developmental schemes as well as programmes to be made from the ca of panchayat raj institutions. As this study clearly suggests that with the growth of such PRIs there's a substantial change in the life of countryside individuals. In the economic face of the rural development plans have produced an enhancement in the economic role of the selected spot, as a consequence of setup of rural development plans the majority of the individuals acquire extra income.

Similar to MGNREGA there have been many programmes which wish to eliminate countryside poverty and unemployment. With all the growing role of panchayat raj institutions, the people's participation in developmental tasks in addition have increased.

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