



# ROLE OF GRAM PANCHAYAT, EXPLORE OBSTACLES IMPEDING PROPER FUNCTIONING OF VILLAGE PANCHAYATS

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## Abstract

The study was carried out during the year 2013-2014 the blocks Akbarpur, Derapur and Maitha District Kanpur dehat. The Village Panchayats very often occur in efficiency wrong working procedure and in effectiveness rampant in the village. In the course of rural development, it was considered to select active village Panchayats and then generalize for their evaluation for this purpose frequent visit the village and block level officers and District Panchayati Raj officer were made and finally fifteen Village Panchayats were selected randomly. During to limitation of time, finds the 150 respondents were selected from eight Village Panchayats area under the area of study jurisdiction of development blocks and carryout a result study on “ Role of gram panchayats in Rural development. Thus, fifteen Village Panchayats each having 10 respondents were selected randomly. The practices of official and non officials also create hindrances in normal functioning of village institutions, 2.55 (mean score) illiteracy among the member of executive body, which chocks the rural developments, 2.28 Village Panchayats are finance stricken and are unable to plan and to execute to development programme according to the need of Village Panchayats, 2.05 in adequate and lack of timely available of production in puts and 1.82 time bound development activities an over looked caused delay planning and executing the plan. the Panchayati Raj Act needs amendments to suit functions to authorities and abilities Village Panchayats 2.34 lack of coordination among officials/non officials, 2.22 pattern of electing members of Village Panchayats does not suit for all section in rural societies, 2.12 the existing set upto Village Panchayats is inefficient to bear responsibilities for agro-economic and social development, 1.98 (mean score) large size of Village Panchayats causes difficulties in planning and executing the plans.

**Key words :** Role, Gram Panchayat and Rural Development Programme.

## Introduction

Gram Panchayats as units of local self government, have existed in India since olden days. Keeping in view the importance of Panchayats in the rural administration India, the framers of Indian Constitution have provided, as a directive principle of State Policy, Article 40 which makes provisions for establishing Panchayats as well as endowing them with adequate powers. Through, the 73rd amendment to the Constitution, provisions have been made for the three tier Panchayat System ensuring elections to various Panchayats at a fixed interval and adequate powers to the Panchayats for discharge of their duties, Gram Panchayat at the level of a village or at the level of a group of villages, Zilla Panchayat at the level of a district and block (Janpad) Panchayat at the intermediate level, have also been provided. At the same

time regular elections to these three tier Panchayats at five year intervals have been ensured. The history of village Panchayats as corporate unit dates from Vedic times. The old village administration used in discharge certain judicial functions as well functions concerning internal defense and security, public works and collection of state taxes. According to old records the Panchayat literally means a council of five elders' chosen to look after the welfare of the village or for deciding an issue, whatever its significance in the past. While, it has now lost its implications, old village in idea was more or less a self supporting miniature village Republics. It managed, it own affairs and noted out justices to the satisfaction to the villagers. The Panchayat was responsible for all round rural development. The British gave a serious jerk to these village respondents and thus lost its power and prestige. Administration and justice become highly centralized.

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Panchayat slowly become defunct and absolute. By the middle of nineteenth century, this ancient village council's had practically disappeared.

The gram sabha is a concept intending to represent ordinary people's need and wishes, which appeals to the general to the mass of population of class, caste gender distinction and political partnership. The gram panchayat enable each and every of the village to participate in decision making at the local level. It is a constitutional body consisting all person registered in the elected person a village panchayat. It's provided a political issue forum to people in the village to meet and discuss their common problem conceptually, understand the need and aprisal the community. Like the Panchayats in rural areas, Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats, in urban areas have been provided in the Constitution by the 74th Constitutional amendment, for the self-governance in urban areas. Provision has also been made for regular and compulsory elections at a fixed interval to these urban bodies. The transfer of political power on August, 15, 1947 from British to Indian hands, had meant, in effect, the handling over key of administration to the people representative at the central and state levels. The fruits of democracy, however, could not immediately travel to level below that of the state. The Planning Commission appointed a committee in the year 1958 known as 'Commission on Plan Projects'. The committee was to study the industrial scheme of the It is expected that villagers who know their limitation, resources and capabilities through their process may be mobilized into a mightily movement that will not only increases food production but also help in changing the face of the country. In order to have regular elections to Gram Panchayats and urban bodies after a fixed period of time provisions have been made by Articles 243-K and 243-ZA, for the establishment of a State.

### Research Methodology

The study was carried out the blocks Akbarpur, Derapur and Maitha District Kanpur dehat. The Village Panchayats very often occur in efficiency wrong working procedure and in effectiveness rampant in the village. In the course of rural development, it was considered to select active village Panchayats and then generalize for their evaluation for this purpose frequent visit the village and block level officers and District Panchayati Raj officer were made and finally fifteen Village Panchayats were selected randomly. During to limitation of time, finds the 150 respondents were selected from eight Village Panchayats area under the area of study jurisdiction of development blocks. Rank order is the priority expressed

by the farmers about the constraints and remedial measures of the functioning of Village Panchayats. The three point rating scale was exercised with the following corresponding numerical values: Agree-3, Undecided -2, and Disagree-1. Simple statistical tools were used for the analysis of the present study. The following formula were used to calculate percentage, mean score and average, some social and economic change indices were also used in this study.

### Average

The simplest and the most important measures of average is the arithmetic average used in this thesis.

$$\text{Arithmetic average} = \frac{\sum X}{N}$$

Where,  $\sum$  = sum, X = variable, N = Number of observations.

### Results and Discussion

The table 1 revealed that the elected representative take election of Village Panchayats have given the rise of power functionalism of the village resulting poor performance of duties having mean score 2.35 followed by lack of true representative of active, honest and loyal public men into administrative and executive bodies of gram sabha cause poor functioning of Village Panchayats un-educated, un-experienced but politically strong representative, misuse of the privilege and thus create indifferences among the rural people for the village, the elected representative seldom take interest in preparing plans executing as required in the directive planning for below and three tier administration often imposes difficulties in executing the programmes and policies in time with full benefits and their mean score was found as 2.20, 2.15, 1.98 and 1.65 respectively. On the basis of findings the respondents often accuse. The election of village Panchayats have given. The rise of power functionalism in the village resulting were performance of duties as conceptual ground.

The table 2 consisted the observations of respondents on 5 major criticism in the structural frame work. The analysis of the table revealed that the Panchayati Raj Act need amendments to suit functions according to authorities and abilities of Village Panchayats having mean score 2.84 followed by lack of coordination among development of government educational institutions and financing organizations hampers the functioning of the Village Panchayats, the pattern of electing members of Village Panchayats does not suit for electing representative for all section of gaon sabha communities, the existing setup of Village Panchayats inefficient to bear responsibility of agro-economic and social

**Table 1 :** Conceptual obstacles impeding functioning of Village Panchayats.

N=150

S. no.	Observations	Mean Score	Ranks
1.	Lack of true representative of active, honest and loyal public into administrative and executive bodies of gaon sabha causes poor functioning of Village Panchayats.	2.15	III
2.	Un-educate, un-experienced by politically strong representative, misuse of the privileges and thus creates indifferences among the rural people for the village.	1.98	IV
3.	Three tier administration after imposes difficulties in executing the programme and policies in time with full benefits.	1.65	V
4.	The elections of Village Panchayats have given the rise of power functionalism in the village resulting poor performance of duties.	2.35	I
5.	The elected representative seldom take interest in preparing plans and executing as required in the directive planning for below.	2.20	II

**Table 2 :** Structural obstacles impeding functioning of Village Panchayats.

N=150

S. no.	Observations	Mean Score	Ranks
1.	The size of Village Panchayats is large enough causing difficulties in planning and executing development plans.	2.22	III
2.	The pattern of electing members of Village Panchayats does not suit for electing representative for all section of gaon sabha communities.	2.12	IV
3.	Panchayati Raj Act needs emendments to suit functions according to authorities and abilities of Village Panchayats.	2.84	I
4.	The existing setup of Village Panchayats is inefficient to bear responsibilities of agro-economic and social development of the village unless provided ample technical, financial and administrative assistance by the government.	1.98	V
5.	Lack of coordination among development of government educational institutions and financing organization hampers the functioning of the Village Panchayats.	2.34	II

**Table 3 :** Functional obstacles impeding functioning of Village Panchayats.

N=150

S. no.	Observations	Mean Score	Ranks
1.	Village Panchayats are finance stricken and unable to plan and to execute to development programme according to the need of village community.	2.28	III
2.	Illiteracy among the members of executive body which checks the rural development.	2.55	II
3.	Inadequate and lack of timely availability of production inputs.	2.05	IV
4.	Time bound developmental activities are over looked caused delay planning well as executing the programme.	1.92	V
5.	The corrupt practices of officials also create hindrances in normal functioning of village institutions.	2.63	I

development of the village unless provided ample technical, financial and administrative assistance by the government and the size of Village Panchayats is large enough causing difficulties in planning and executive village development plans and their mean score 2.34, 2.22, 2.12 and 1.98 respectively. On the basis of above findings, the respondent often accused the panchayati raj act need amendments to suit functions according to authorities and abilities village panchayats on structural ground.

The analysis of the data in table 3 revealed that the

corrupt practices of officials also created hindrances in normal functioning of Village Panchayats having mean score 2.63 followed by illiteracy among the member of executive body which checks the rural development, Village Panchayats are finance stricken and are unable to plan and to execute to development programme according to the need of village community, Inadequate and lack of timely availability of production inputs and time bound development activities are over looked caused delay planning well as executing the programme and their

mean score 2.55, 2.28, 2.05 and 1.82, respectively. On the basis of the above results most of the respondents accepted that corrupt practices officials also create hindrances in normal functioning of village Panchayats on functional ground. Khalge *et al.* (2010) reported to appraise the role performance of Gram Panchayat members and its relation with their profile, Keeping the above objective in mind regarding relational analysis it was found that the characteristics of Gram Panchayat members namely education, occupation, annual income, social participation achievement motivation, mass media exposure, cosmopolitans leadership background and leadership experience were positively and significantly related with role performance of Gram Panchayat members.

### Conclusion

Research finding participation in gram sabha meeting has been low despite the people knowing about the inbuilt advantages of the gram swaraj. On the basis of research findings, it can be concluded that to fight against insect pest and diseases of crop, prevention of epidemic in diseases, gram panchayat fulfill the need of primary education for boys and girls medical facilities to up keep for animal health, has the functional feeling been removed from the general behavior of the villagers were the major role performed by the panchayat for rural development, rural health, rural education, animal husbandary and village administration regards the village problem illiteracy of villagers lack of cooperation and conservativeness were the major social problems expressed by the Villagers. Lack of assured irrigation, no provision for imparting technical training were also the occupational problem faced by the villages. Most of the basic rural problem,

which have hardly any cost effect, can be solved through motivation among the village and the gram sabha is the right forum to discuss all such issues. Vibrancy and efficacy of gram sabha will remain dismal. The functioning of village panchayats was impeded by conceptual, structural and function obstacles. Corrupt practices of official and non officials created hindrances in normal functioning of village Panchayats.

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