

## Role of grampanchayat members in agriculture development

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken with the specific objective to know the role-played by the Grampanchayat members under the characteristics they possessed for agricultural development. It was observed that out of total role performance of Grampanchayat members, the welfare work and protective work were performed by majority of the members as individual role and the role of veterinary and other cottage business work and administrative work were performed by majority of the members as group role.

**KEY WORDS** : Performance, Welfare, Protective work, Cottage work, Administrative work.

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### INTRODUCTION

Panchayat Raj was introduced in Maharashtra on 1st May 1962 for the first time after independence. The rural representatives in Panchayat Raj were delegated with administrative and executive powers. The Grampanchayat in Panchayat Raj is linked up with Panchayat Samiti and Zilla parishad has been assigned the various duties out of which agricultural development was to be implemented by the Grampanchayat and its members as the highest national priority. Thus, Grampanchayat and its members have to play a vital role in agricultural development programmes of the village such as preparation of village production plan every year and its implementation with local participation. The Grampanchayat being the basic organization, it is obvious that, the success or failure of Panchayat Raj will depend more or less on the role-played by its members.

In present era farmers acting alone cannot bring agricultural development. In order to increase the agricultural productivity, the farmer now depends less and less on natural resources of the farm and more on resources from outside. Therefore, the present study was undertaken with the specific objectives to know the role-played by the Grampanchayat members under the characteristics they possessed for agricultural development.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in purposively selected Kalmeshwar Tahasil of Nagpur district of Maharashtra state (India). Kalmeshwar Panchayat Samiti consists of 108 villages, under 51 Grampanchayat from which 20 Grampanchayats were selected and 150 respondents were selected by using random numbers for the study. A schedule was designed to collect the information with the objectives of the study. The schedule was pretested by interviewing. Eight Grampanchayat members were selected outside the research area.

The dependent variable for the present study was role performance. The respondents were asked to mention their degree of role performed completely and role not performed.

Thus, their level of role performed in the agriculture development function and activities was recorded. The score one and zero were allotted to role performed completely, role not performed respectively.

### OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSION

The data of Table 1 reveals that majority (76.00) per cent Grampanchayat members were found medium level of individual role performance while 14.66 per cent and 9.34 per cent Grampanchayat members belonged to low

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