

Correlates of knowledge of tribal women Sarpanches about various administrative function under Panchayati Raj System

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Received: 21.08.2012; Revised: 15.10.2012; Accepted: 18.11.2012

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■ **ABSTRACT** : Present investigation was conducted with 88 tribal women Sarpanches of Dahod district of Gujarat state to know their knowledge regarding various functions. The study revealed that majority of the tribal women Sarpanches had medium level of knowledge in operating financial function, planning function, administrative function, income sources of Gram Panchayat, duties of Sarpanch and schemes of Gram Panchayat. The variables, like political contact, mass media exposure and change agency contact had influenced the knowledge positively and significantly, whereas size of family had influenced the knowledge negatively and significantly. While rest variables viz., age, education, annual income, cosmopolitaness and achievement motivation failed to show any significant influence.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Administrative function, Tribal women Sarpanches, Panchayati raj system

■ **HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER** : Bhabhor, S.M., Kunchala, K.D. and Patel, J.K. (2012). Correlates of knowledge of tribal women sarpanches about various administrative function under Panchayati Raj System. *Asian J. Home Sci.*, 7 (2): 453-455.

Majority of the Indian population residing in rural area and therefore overall development of country depends on proper implementation of rural development programmes. The panchayati raj as a system of self-governance was introduced in the year 1959 following the Balwant Rai Mehta Committee Report.

Three-tier structure of local self-government consisting of gram panchayats at the village level, taluka panchayat Samitis at the sub-district level and zilla parishads at the district level operates to govern rural development scheme with the help of peoples participation. The Comprehensive knowledge about the different administrative function of tribal women sarpanches in panchayati raj system is an important factor in determination of effective implementation of rural development scheme. Form getting information on this dimension, this study is a modest attempt in developing sound and systematic knowledge of the tribal women sarpanches. With this view in mind the present study entitled knowledge of tribal women sarpanches about various administrative functions under panchayati raj system was under taken with the specific objectives to study the knowledge of tribal women Sarpanches about various administrative functions under

Panchayati raj system and to find out the relationship if any between overall knowledge of tribal women Sarpanches and their profile.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present investigation was carried out in Dahod district of Gujarat state. The Talukas viz., Dahod, Zalod and Limkheda were selected purposive which had maximum total number of women Sarpanches. All 88 woman Sarpanches were selected as the respondents. The independent t variables were measured by using suitable scales whereas dependent variable, knowledge of the tribal women Sarpanches regarding various administrative functions of Gram Panchayat was ascertained by asking questions pertaining to individual component. The questions were framed on different aspects related to (i) financial (ii) plannings (iii) administrative (iv) income source (v) duties and (vi) scheme. The overall knowledge index and individual item wise knowlege index was calculated in terms of percentage. To determine the relationship between independent variables and dependent variables, co efficient correlation test was applied.