



RESEARCH PAPER

Role performance of Panchayat samiti members in village development

P.S. More¹, A.N. Deshmukh*, S.U. Mokhale¹, J.L. Khedkar¹ and S.S. Chavan¹

Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Shri Shivaji Agriculture College, Amravati.(M. S.) India
(Email : abhaydeshmukh40@gmail.com)

Abstract : The present study is conducted in Amravati district of Vidharbha region of Maharashtra state with the objective of study 'Role performance of Panchayat samiti members in village development' The district was selected randomly; from this district, eight talukas, namely Amravati Chandur railway, Tiosa, Achalpur, Daryapur, Dhamangaon railway, Anjangaonsurji and Chandur Bazar, were selected. From each tahsil or block, respondents were selected according to members of the Panchayat samiti of a particular block. Thus, constituting the total sample size of 60 respondents. An exploratory research design was used for the study. The data was collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of the presented structured schedule. The collected data was first tabulated, and then mean, frequency, standard deviation, and correlation were employed for interpretation of the findings.

Key Words : Role performance, Development, Panchayat samiti, Village, Members

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INTRODUCTION

The Panchayat Raj institutions in India are the prime instruments of decentralization at the grass roots level. The concept of Panchayat Raj has been a part of the ideal of Purna Swaraj as enunciated and emphasized by Gandhiji. Pandit Nehru once said. "Panchayat Raj" is becoming solid foundation of the democracy in the country and powerful instrument not only in the political but also in the social and economic field. Panchayat Raj for the supporters of parliamentary democracy assumes coordination between parliamentary government and political parties. The principle of unanimity may lead to some form of totalitarianism. It is normally a visionary

concept.

This research study is an attempt to understand the present condition of female representatives in the Panchayat Samiti as compared to male members. As only the panchayat samiti of the Panchayat Raj institutions are taken for the study, it is assumed that the present study could yield valuable results. The outcome of the result would facilitate planners, administrators, policymakers, extension educationalists, research workers, and women representatives of Panchayat Raj Institutions, which in turn would play a pivotal role in bringing common folk into the mainstream of development. The study was conducted with following

*Author for correspondence:

¹Department of Agriculture Extension and Communication, Shri Shivaji Agriculture College, Amravati (M.S.) India

objectives:

- To study the profile of Panchayat samiti members.
- To study the role performance of Panchayat samiti members.
- To study the relationship between profile of the Panchayat samiti members with their role performance in village development.
- To identify the constraints faced by Panchayat samiti members in their role performance.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study was conducted in eight talukas/08 blocks of Amravati district. namely, Amravati, Chandur railway, Tiosa, Achalpur, Daryapur, Anjangaonsurji, Dhamangaon railway and Chandur bazar. From each block respondents were selected. Out of 14 blocks of Amravati district 8 blocks were selected. From which total 60 respondents were taken randomly. An exploratory research design was used in the present investigation. Data were collected by personally interviewing the respondents with the help of a pretested structure schedule. The collected data were tabulated properly. Mean, standard deviation, frequency, percentage, and coefficient of correlation methods of statistics were used for the interpretation of the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented under following heads.

Profile of Panchayat samiti members :

The study of profile of Panchayat samiti members was made with reference to age, education, family size, cosmopolitanism, social participation, socio-economic status, extension contact, and work experience. The results have been furnished as follows.

The findings of the present study revealed that the majority 66.67 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members were from the middle age group. The majority of Panchayat samiti members, *i.e.*, 35.00 per cent of Panchayat samiti members, were educated up to junior college. The majority of respondents, 55.00 per cent, were from a medium family size (4-6 members). The majority, 80.00 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members having medium cosmopolitanism, the majority, *i.e.*, 71.67 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members, had medium social participation; 73.33 per cent of the respondents

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their profile (n=60)

| Sr.No. | Variables | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Age | | |
| | Young (Up to 35 years) | 12 | 20.00 |
| | Middle (36 to 54 years) | 40 | 66.67 |
| | Old (Above 55 years) | 08 | 13.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 2. | Education | | |
| | Illiterate (No schooling) | 00 | 00 |
| | Primary school (up to 4) | 00 | 00 |
| | Middle school (5 to 7) | 06 | 10.00 |
| | High school (8 to 10) | 16 | 26.67 |
| | Junior college (11 to 12) | 21 | 35.00 |
| | Senior college (above 12) | 17 | 28.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 3. | Family size | | |
| | Small (Up to 3) | 14 | 23.33 |
| | Medium (4-6) | 33 | 55.00 |
| | Large (Above 7) | 13 | 21.67 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 4. | Cosmopolitanism | | |
| | Low (up to 5.76) | 04 | 6.67 |
| | Medium (5.77 to 10.85) | 48 | 80.00 |
| | High (10.86 and above) | 08 | 13.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 5. | Social participation | | |
| | Low (up to 10.41) | 09 | 15.00 |
| | Medium (10.42 to 18.80) | 43 | 71.67 |
| | High (18.81 and above) | 08 | 13.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 6. | Socio-economic status | | |
| | Low (up to 58.49) | 09 | 15.00 |
| | Medium (58.50 to 71.70) | 44 | 73.33 |
| | High (71.71 and above) | 07 | 11.67 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 7. | Extension contact | | |
| | Low (less than 10) | 11 | 18.33 |
| | Medium (11 to 16) | 42 | 70.00 |
| | High (Above 17) | 07 | 11.67 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |
| 8. | Work experience | | |
| | Low (Up to 5 years) | 46 | 76.67 |
| | High (Above 5 years) | 14 | 23.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |

belong to medium socio-economic status; more than half of the Panchayat samiti members, 70.00 per cent had medium extension contact. The majority 76.67 per cent of respondents had low work experience.

Role performance of Panchayat samiti members:

Distribution of respondents was done according to

their role performance function -wise which have been furnished in Table 2.

Further study revealed that most of the Panchayat

samiti members had medium role performance in respect to general functions, agriculture and allied areas, village improvement programme, education, welfare

Table 2 : Distribution of the respondents according to their role performance function -wise

| Sr. No. | Statements | Respondents (n=60) | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | | Freq. (%) | Freq. (%) | Freq. (%) |
| | | Kept proposal for discussion | Follow up proposal | Get the work done |
| 1. | General functions | | | |
| 1. | Preparing annual plan | 9 (15) | 14 (23.33) | 37 (61.66) |
| 2. | Consolidating the annual plans for Panchayat samiti. | 9 (15) | 15 (25) | 36 (60) |
| 3. | Preparing annual budget | 5 (8.33) | 30 (50) | 25 (41.66) |
| 4. | Providing relief in natural calamities. | 9 (15) | 39 (65) | 12 (20) |
| 2. | Agriculture and allied areas | | | |
| 1. | Promoting and developing agriculture and horticulture | 26 (43.33) | 19 (31.66) | 15 (25) |
| 2. | Organizing various trainings for farmers | 25 (41.66) | 25 (41.67) | 10 (16.66) |
| 3. | Supplying chemicals and fertilizers. | 13 (21.66) | 20 (33.34) | 27 (45) |
| 4. | Implementing land improvement and soil conservation programmes. | 15 (25) | 25 (41.66) | 20 (33.34) |
| 5. | Assisting irrigation and water management works | 22 (36.67) | 24 (40) | 14 (23.33) |
| 6. | Promoting animal husbandry and dairying business | 27 (45) | 22 (36.66) | 11 (18.34) |
| 7. | Other than this implementation of various animal husbandry and veterinary schemes. | 27 (45) | 21 (35) | 12 (20) |
| 8. | Promoting and developing social and farm forestry. | 21 (35) | 25 (41.67) | 14 (23.33) |
| 3. | Village improvement programmes | | | |
| 1. | Distribution of house sites | 23 (38.33) | 17 (28.33) | 20 (33.34) |
| 2. | Providing drinking water facility | 23 (38.33) | 15 (25) | 22 (36.67) |
| 3. | Providing rural electrification | 18 (30) | 25 (41.67) | 17 (28.33) |
| 4. | Construction and maintaining roads, building, bridges etc. | 15 (25) | 33 (55) | 12 (20) |
| 5. | Maintaining community assets | 16 (26.67) | 39 (65) | 5 (8.33) |
| 6. | Promoting and developing non-conventional energy sources | 21 (35) | 28 (46.67) | 11 (18.33) |
| 7. | Regulating markets and fairs | 21 (35) | 24 (40) | 15 (25) |
| 8. | Monitoring public distribution systems | 18 (30) | 25 (41.67) | 17 (28.33) |
| 9. | Promoting cooperative activities | 17 (28.33) | 19 (31.67) | 24 (40) |
| 10. | Try to people participate-on in development programmes. | 22 (36.67) | 27 (45) | 11 (18.33) |
| 11. | Providing transport and intercommunicate facility. | 11 (18.33) | 37 (61.67) | 12 (20) |
| 4. | Education | | | |
| 1. | Providing education facilities including primary and secondary schools. | 11 (18.33) | 9 (15) | 40 (66.67) |
| 2. | Organizing adult and non- formal education | 25 (41.67) | 21 (35) | 14 (23.33) |
| 3. | Maintaining libraries | 30 (50) | 22 (36.67) | 8 (13.33) |
| 4. | Giving technical training and vocational education | 21 (35) | 29 (48.33) | 10 (16.67) |
| 5. | Welfare programmes | | | |
| 1. | Implementing public health and family welfare programmes | 24 (40) | 26 (43.33) | 10 (16.67) |
| 2. | Participating in women child welfare programmes | 23 (38.33) | 25 (41.67) | 12 (20) |
| 3. | Implementing social welfare including of handicapped and mentally retarded | 23 (38.33) | 29 (40) | 8 (30) |
| 4. | Promoting the welfare of weaker sections and in particular to SCS and STS | 16 (26.67) | 33 (55) | 11 (18.33) |
| 5. | Implementing and maintaining alleviation programmes | 27 (45) | 21 (35) | 12 (20) |
| 6. | Other activities | | | |
| 1. | Promoting sericulture | 24 (40) | 22 (36.67) | 14 (23.33) |
| 2. | Providing sports and youth services | 23 (38.33) | 25 (41.67) | 12 (20) |
| 3. | Promoting Khadi Udyog | 19 (31.67) | 29 (48.33) | 12 (20) |
| 4. | Promoting village and cottage industries | 22 (36.67) | 30 (50) | 8 (13.33) |
| 5. | Promoting small scale industries including food processing industries and post-harvest techno-logy. | 17 (28.33) | 26 (43.34) | 17 (28.33) |
| 6. | Implementing religious and cultural programme. | 17 (28.33) | 23 (38.33) | 20 (38.34) |

programmes and other activities.

Performance is act of carrying out certain activities expected to be carried out by Panchayat samiti members. The performance of members under same situation may differ from person to person.

The data in respect of performance of Panchayat samiti members about their different role were collected and that were grouped into different categories the distribution according to their level of role performance is given in Table 3.

It is revealed from Table 3 that majority 86.67 per cent of members had medium level of role performance Whereas 10.00 and 3.33 per cent of member had low and high role performance, respectively.

Table 3 : Distribution of respondents according to their level of role performance

| Sr. No. | Category | Respondents(n=60) | |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| | | Frequency | Percentage |
| 1. | Low (up to 56.23) | 06 | 10.00 |
| 2. | Medium (56.24to 72.84) | 52 | 86.67 |
| 3. | High ((Above 72.84) | 02 | 3.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100.00 |

Relational analysis :

It is depicted in Table 4 that the significant variables, education, cosmopolitaness, socio-economic status, extension contact and work experience, found a positive and significant level of probability of 0.01 with role performance, variables, family size and social participation found a positive and significant level of probability of 0.05 with role performance. The variables age shows a non-significant relationship with role performance.

Table 4: Correlation co-efficients of selected characteristics of the respondents with their role performance

| Sr. No. | Variables | 'r' values |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Age | 0.041 ^{NS} |
| 2. | Education | 0.289** |
| 3. | Family size | 0.201* |
| 4. | Cosmopolitaness | 0.288** |
| 5. | Social participation | 0.214* |
| 6. | Socio-economic status | 0.380** |
| 7. | Extension contact | 0.313** |
| 8. | Work experience | 0.271** |

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively
NS = Non- significant

Conclusion :

It is concluded that the majority 66.67 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members were from middle age group has positive and non-significant relationship with

the role performance of Panchayat samiti members, The majority numbers *i.e.*, 35.00 per cent of Panchayat samiti members were educated up to Junior college has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members, The majority of respondents, 55.00 per cent, were from medium family size (4-6 members) has positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of panchayat samiti members, The majority 80.00 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members having medium cosmopolitaness, has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members.

The majority *i.e.*, 71.67 per cent of the Panchayat samiti members had medium social participation, has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members, The 73.33 per cent of the respondents belong to medium socio-economic status has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members, more than half of the Panchayat samiti members 70.00 per cent had medium extension contact has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members, The majority 76.67 per cent of respondents were having low work experience has a positive and highly significant relationship with the role performance of Panchayat samiti members.

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