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Participation of Women Representatives of PRI's in Decision Making Process

After 73rd constitutional amendment in Maharashtra state women's got 33% reservation and in the year 2012 Government of Maharashtra declared 50% reservation to women in local self Government. Due to 73rd constitutional amendment women get equal partnership through reservation women get equal opportunity to participate in the process of decision making. After 25years of reservation the average speed of active participation of women in decision making is very slow. Most of women when introduced with PRI were belonging on man and socially and politically unaware about their rights and responsibilities. Government with the help of NGO's and other mechanism regularly conduct various women empowerment programe to strengthen the women power. Government mechanism is ready to provide knowledge related function and duties. Bur mostly found that women representatives ignore the training programme. It is found that the remote control of duties and responsibilities have tackled by husband or relatives. Women representatives face many hurdles at family, social, economical and political level.
Key Words : PRI's, women representatives, Decision making.

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Introudction :

Participation of women in the PRIs has been considered as the most effective instrument to remove their inequality, invisibility and powerlessness. The 73rd constitutional amendment accelerated the process of power and responsibilities within the members of Panchayati raj system. In such circumstances there will a need of special attention to recognize the problems faced by women representatives after their participation in PRI.

The 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India not only gave a constitutional status to the women in panchayati raj but it also provided uniformity and formal structure to these traditional institutions of self-governance for the sake of their effective functioning.

Elected Women representatives are expected to create their own environment to participate in Gram Sabha meetings, raise questions, interact and present their opinions. But unfortunately patriarchy system and tradition mind set up of the community were always against to participate the women in decision making process.

Objectives of the Study :

- (1) To study the political attitude of women with special reference to Jalgaon district
- 2) To assess the performance of women representatives participated in decision making

- (3) To find out the hurdles during participation of women representatives in decision making.

Methodology : Present paper is based on the empirical data. The data has been collected from the Chopda, Erandol, Raver and Bhadgaon of the Jalgaon district, Maharashtra, India. Present study has been conducted by using the primary and secondary source of data. Primary data is a base of this study and has been collected by using the interview schedule. Present study conducted on 50 samples from three tiers of Panchayati Raj i.e. Grampanchayat, Panchayat Samiti and ZillaParishad. Stratified sampling technique was adopted to select samples from all the three tiers of the Panchayati Raj.

Sample Size : The Researcher has selected 25 Respondents as a sample size. 11 Zilla Parishad Members, 14 Panchayat Samiti Members, 25 Grampanchayat Members through probability sampling methods

Findings :

- (1) Very few respondents found visited to PRIs on the day of meeting means mostly male family members of their family represent the duties and responsibilities of women representatives.
- (2) Most of women representatives received letter of meeting from concerned office before meeting.
- (3) Most of women representatives know about the

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Table No 1 : Monthly Meeting Attended by the women Representatives in Panchayati Raj System

S. No.	No of monthly meeting	Gram Panchayat	Panchayat Samittee	Zilla Parishad	Total
1	01 -25 Meetings	02(4.00%)	03(6.00%)	--	05(10.00%)
2	26-50 Meetings	05(10.00%)	06(12.00%)	04(8.00%)	15(30.00%)
3	51-75 Meetings	18(36.00%)	05(10.00%)	07(14.00%)	30(60.00%)
4	More than 75 Meetings	--	--	--	--
Total		25(50.00%)	14(28.00%)	11(22.00%)	50(100.00%)

Table No 2 : Gramsabha Attended by the women Representatives in Panchayati Raj System

S. No	No of Gramsabha attended	Gram Panchayat	Panchayat Samittee	Zilla Parishad	Total
1	01 -10 Gramsabha	02(4.00%)	02(4.00%)	01(2.00%)	05(10.00%)
2	11-20 Gramsabha	05(10.00%)	04(8.00%)	01(2.00%)	10(20.00%)
3	21-30 Gramsabha	12(24.00%)	02(4.00%)	07(14.00)	21(42.00%)
4	Absent to Gramsabha	06(12.00%)	06(12.00%)	02(4.00%)	14(28.00%)
Total		25(50.00%)	14 (28.00%)	11(22.00%)	50(100%)

Table 3 : Participation of Women Representatives in the Discussion of Gramsabha

S. No	Participation in Decision Making	Gram Panchayat	Panchayat Samittee	Zilla Parishad	Total
1	Yes	19(38.00%)	08(16.00%)	09(18.00%)	36(72.00%)
2	No	06(12.00%)	06(12.00%)	02((4.00%)	14(28.00%)
Total		25(50.00%)	14 (28.00%)	11(22.00%)	50(100%)

Graph No 1 : Issues raised by the women representatives in Gram Sabha

numbers of meetings in five year period i.e. 60 meetings in five years and out of 60 meetings

(4) Near about 50% women representatives attended 25 to 50 meeting during five years of period.

(5) Most of women representatives expressed that; during five years of period near about 11to 20 Gramsabhas were arranged.

(6) 44% women representatives decided their subject of discussion during Gramsabhas.

(7) For the first time in the Panchayat Raj system of Jalgaon district, women have to work in the field of rural social system, to understand the family limit and what to say in the meeting;

(8) As per 49.89% opinion of women representatives

male representatives are more prominent then women representatives due to political experience and paternal social culture.

(9) In Panchayati Raj Institution male representatives are more prominent than women in decision making process. Because women have not got opportunity to take part in the decision making.

(10) Most of women representatives reported that, people of villages faced the problems of basic amenities and lack of welfare schemes.

(11) Women representatives reported that, they are regularly took follow-up to solve the problems face by the villagers and women.

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