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Shivanand Biradar
M.Sc (Agri) in Extension
Education, College of Agriculture
Latur VNMKV, Parbhani,
Maharashtra, India

Dr. VB Kamble
Professor of Extension
Education, College of Agriculture
Latur VNMKV, Parbhani,
Maharashtra, India

Dr. DD Suradkar
Asst. Professor of Extension
Education, College of Agriculture
Latur VNMKV, Parbhani,
Maharashtra, India

Study on role performance of gram panchayat members in village development

Shivanand Biradar, Dr. VB Kamble and Dr. DD Suradkar

Abstract

Gram panchayat is the key organization for overall progress of the village hence gram Panchayat members play a vital role in carrying out all the development activities of a particular state. With this view present study was conducted to study status of role performance of Gram Panchayat members in three talukas of Osmanabad district Marathwada region of Maharashtra state. A sample of 120 respondents was selected randomly and data collection was done survey method. Ex-post facto research design was used for the study. The study revealed that about 29.17 per cent of gram panchayat had high role performance in administrative activities followed by health care function 27.50 per cent, educational functional and cultural activities 27.50 per cent. Overall role performance level indicated that only 18.33 per cent of gram panchayat members had high role performance 65.83 per cent had medium and 19.00 per cent had low level of role performance.

Keywords: Gram panchayat members, agricultural development activities, role, performance

Introduction

Gram Panchayat is the most potential school of social and political training for the rural masses it is the key organization for overall progress of the village. The Gram Panchayat is not only a decentralized form of administration but is a medium through which Indian rural people can express their administrative social and economic problems to the upper level and try to solve them.

The Panchayat raj movement in India was started in pursuance of Balwantrai Mehta committee report (1957). The purpose of establish in Gram Panchayat. He first proposed at the time of drafting of the constitutions was precisely to give an opportunity to millions of men and women to acquire greater and greater awareness of their rights and responsibility about their surrounding and all that happens in share of politics and economics that affects them and country (Jain, 1994). Panchayat-raj institutions after being in existence for about five decades could not acquire the status and dignity as viable unit of self-government and a responsive people's body.

Gram Panchayat is the important tier of the Panchayat-raj because it is a pillar of Panchayat-raj system due to which people at grass root villagers can develop themselves and develop leadership of country.

In the recent Panchayat Raj System, an organization of village Panchayat is the third most important tier. In this system, for one or a group of village, the village Panchayat formed. Every village Panchayat is having 7-17 elected or nominated members elected on basis of adult franchise. They included representatives of backward classes, ladies etc. Gram Panchayat is formed for a period of 5 years. Sarpanch is elected by the members from among themselves. Gramsabha is the most important function of village Panchayat. In a year minimum six Gramsabhas are to be organized.

Village Panchayats have to look after administrative as well as judicial functions. Some functions regarding development activities & public services have to be implemented by the village Panchayat. Panchayat can levy various taxes for their own income to take up various development schemes in the village.

Material and methods

The present study is conducted in Osmanabad district of Marathwada region of Maharashtra state with the objective to study 'Role performance of Gram Panchayat members in village development' Osmanabad district was selected randomly, from the district Three talukas viz., Osmanabad, Kalamb and Washi were selected, from each Taluka randomly four Gram panchayat were selected from each Gram Panchayat ten respondent was selected Thus

Correspondence
Shivanand Biradar
M.Sc (Agri) in Extension
Education, College of Agriculture
Latur VNMKV, Parbhani,
Maharashtra, India

constituting the total sample size of 120 respondents. Ex-post Facto research design was used for the study.

Role Performance

Davis defined as the performance as ‘how an individual actually performance in a position as distinct from how he is supposed to perform’.

In this study role performance was defined as ‘the act of carrying out village development activities expected to the performed by the Gram Panchayat members’.

Panchayat system prescribes works to be carryout from their members. These functions were broadly categorized as follow.

- a. Agricultural development activities
- b. Animal husbandry and dairy development function
- c. Educational function and cultural activities
- d. Health care functions
- e. Welfare function
- f. Administrative function

The respondent were asked to maintain their role performance pertaining to these function on a three point continuum viz., kept proposal discussion, follow up personal and got the work done.

The responses of the members were recorded. The weightings 1, 2 and 3 for kept personal discussion, follow up proposals and got the work done were assigned, respectively.

Based on the total scores of all function obtained by members, overall role performance index was calculated.

Scores obtained

$$\text{Role performance index} = \frac{\text{-----}}{\text{Obtainable scores}} \times 100$$

Results and discussion

It is reported from Table. 1 that (50.83 per cent) of Gram Panchayat members had medium role performance followed by (28.34 per cent) of them with low role performance and (20.83 per cent) of the respondent had high role performance in Agricultural development activities.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in Agricultural development activities.

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	34	28.34
2	Medium	61	50.83
3	High	25	20.83
	Total	120	100.00

From Table. 2 it is noticed that (51.67 per cent) were having medium level of role performance in Animal husbandry and dairy development function. While, 27.50 per cent had low and 20.83 per cent had high level of role performance in Animal husbandry and dairy development function, respectively.

Table 2: Animal husbandry and dairy development function Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in animal husbandry and dairy development function

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	33	27.50
2	Medium	62	51.67
3	High	25	20.83
	Total	120	100.00

It is observed from table 3 fifty per cent of Gram Panchayat members were medium level of role performance in Educational functions and cultural activities whereas, equal per cent age 25.00 per cent of the Gram Panchayat members were having low level and high level of role performance in Educational functions and cultural activities.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in Educational functions and cultural activities

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	30	25.00
2	Medium	60	50.00
3	High	30	25.00
	Total	120	100.00

It is observed that 45.00 per cent of Gram Panchayat members were medium level of role performance in health care functions whereas, equal percentage 27.50 per cent of the Gram Panchayat members were having low level and high level of role performance in health care functions respectively (table 4).

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in Health care functions

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	33	27.50
2	Medium	54	45.00
3	High	33	27.50
	Total	120	100.00

From the study it was inferred that 60.83 per cent of the Gram Panchayat members were having medium level of role performance in welfare function while 23.34 per cent and 15.83 per cent of the Gram Panchayat members were from low and high level of role performance in welfare function respectively (table 5).

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in Welfare Function

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	28	23.34
2	Medium	73	60.83
3	High	19	15.83
	Total	120	100.00

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance in Administrative functions

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	36	30.00
2	Medium	49	40.83
3	High	35	29.17
	Total	120	100.00

It is evident from study that 40.83 per cent of Gram Panchayat members had medium level of role performance in administrative function while, 30.00 per cent had low and 29.17 per cent had high level of role performance in Administrative functions, respectively (table 06).

Over all Role performance of Gram Panchayat members

It is noticed that 65.83 per cent of Gram Panchayat+ members were having medium level of role performance, where as 18.33 per cent were having high role performance and 15.84 per cent had low role performance (Table 7).

Table 7: Distribution of respondents according to their role performance

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	19	15.84
2	Medium	79	65.83
3	High	22	18.33
	Total	120	100.00

Study further revealed that most of the Gram Panchayat members had medium role performance in respect of agricultural function, animal husbandry and dairy development function, educational function and cultural activities, health care functions, welfare function and administrative function.

Gram Panchayat members with better knowledge about rules, acts, functioning of Gram Panchayat may perform the administrative function and welfare function in better manner. Agricultural function is the major concern of village life because of which those who guide in these area are given latest Agriculture technology and reorganization Agriculture information to village farmers. The animal husbandry and dairy development function, animal rearing is a sub occupation of most of villagers hence Gram Panchayat member given more preference towards dairy development and animal health management and health care functions are the most important criteria of village development Gram Panchayat members shown more emphasis on reducing of contaminated disease like malaria, dengue, maternity management There is a need to have more emphasis on these factors. Participation in educational function and cultural activities is valued by people and has faith in these activities Gram Panchayat member given concentration towards primary and high school facilities availability at locally or near to village. Those who work in cultural field are more acceptable and trust worthy to the other people these findings are supported by Suradkar (2005) ^[4], Bhosle (2005) ^[1], Khalge (2006) ^[2] and Rewatkar (2006) ^[3].

Conclusion

Present study clearly concluded that majority of the Gram Panchayat members had medium level of role performance in respect of most of the areas of function such as agricultural development activities, animal husbandry and dairy development function, educational function and cultural activities, health care functions welfare functions and administrative functions.

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