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Role performance of gram panchayat members about agriculture development programmes in Faizabad district of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract
The study was conducted in Milkipur block of Faizabad district (U.P.), selected purposively. A total number of 100 respondents were selected through random sampling from the list of twenty samples Gram Panchayat. The structured schedule was develop keeping in view the objectives & variables under study. The respondents were contacted personally for data collection. The percentage, mean, standard deviation and correlation were used for calculation and drawing the inferences. The result revealed that Majority of the respondents (61%) were observe in the medium category of awareness extent about agriculture development programmes followed by (21%) high and (16%) having low level. Like awareness extent most of the gram panchayat members (63%) suffers from medium category of role performance about agriculture development programmes followed by (19%) low and (18%) having high level, respectively. Agriculture departmental staff cannot provides information due to inadequate staff, lack of training and less publicity to agricultural development programs was the major constraints faced by the respondents in a particular study.

Keywords: Personal interview, random sampling, variables, etc.

1. Introduction
Once Mahatma Gandhi said that "India is the country of villages, go to villages, that is true India. Every village is the soul of India". Panchayati Raj system is an age-old concept of local self government or democracy practiced in the history of civilization in India. Importance of village panchayats noted anciently from Vedic period.

India is essentially land of villages and ultimately our progress will be really regulated by the advancement that the village people can show. Out of 121.87 crores Indian population about 64.26 crores population lives in rural area (Census, 2011). Rural population directly and indirectly depends upon agriculture. Hence, development in agriculture is very important for overall development of our country. Planning for development should start from the village level.

After independence government of India appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Balvantrai Mehta in 1957 to review and assess the impact of Community Development Programme (1952) and National Extension Service Programme (1953). The committee observed that these programmes failed to achieve the expectation due to lack of involvement and active participation of people.

Therefore, the committee suggested establishing the pattern of local self Government to get maximum involvement and participation of people. As a result suggestion of Mehta Committee Panchayati Raj a three tier system came to an existence. Under 'Panchayati Raj System' there are 'Gram Panchayat' at village level, 'Panchayat Samiti' at block or taluka level and 'Zilla Parishad' at district level as self government in three tier system.

At present 2, 38,054 Gram Panchayats are covering 5, 68,558 villages in the country. There are 6,312 Panchayat Samities and 640 Zilla Parishads in the country. In Utter Pradesh at present there are 5,628 Gram Panchayats in 43,722 villages, 176-Panchayat Samities and 75 Zilla Parishads.

2. Methodology
The study was conducted in purposively selected faizabad district of uttar Pradesh. There are eleven community development blocks in this district out of that, the block milkipur was selected purposively. This block constitutes 69 gramsabha from which ten were selected randomly for the study and then the list of total farmers was prepared for each selected gramsabha. Thereafter 100 GPMs were selected as respondents though proportionate random sampling techniques (ten from each selected gramsabha).

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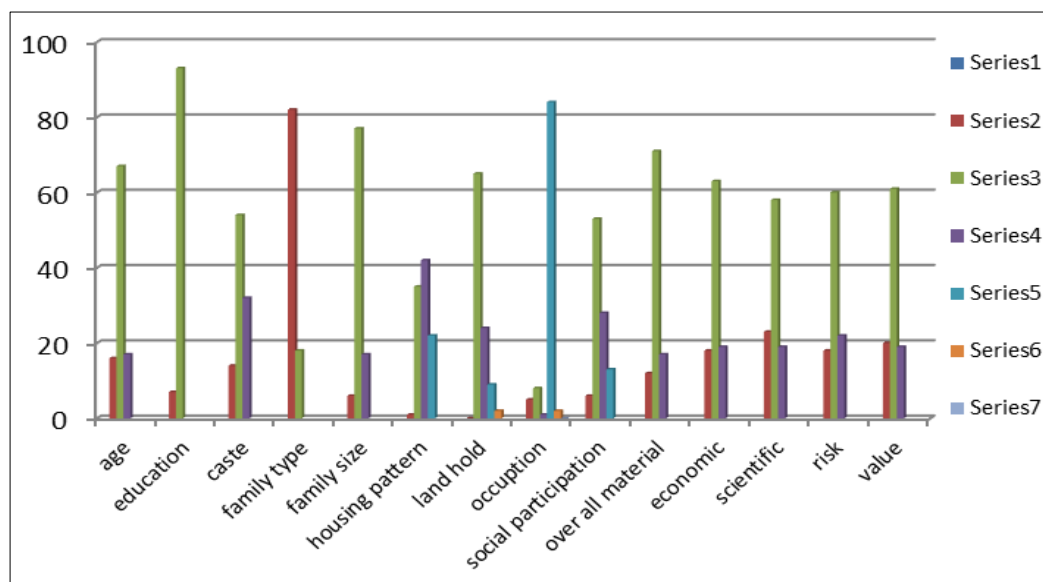(Peppeganj), Gorakhpur,
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Data were collected with the help of semi-structured interview schedule specially developed on standard scales with some modifications in the light of objectives and analyzed with suitable statistical methods, respectively.

3. Results and discussion
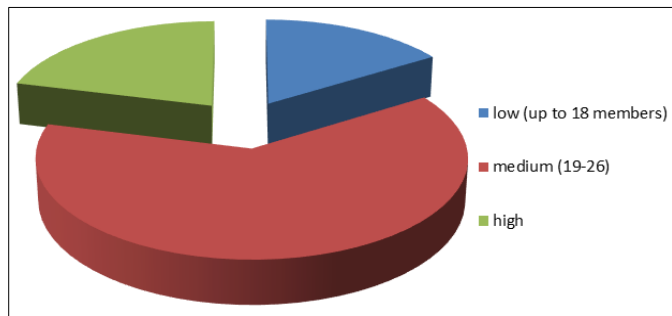### 3.1 Socio-economic profile of the respondents
The Figure: 1. depicts that:

A. The majority of the respondents (67%) were observed in the middle age category followed by old (17%) and young (16%), respectively.

B. The majority of respondents (GPMs) (93%) were literate against this only (7%) gram panchayat members were illiterate. Among literate respondents, the level of education ranged between primary and post-graduate.

C. A majority of gram panchayat members (54%) belonged to backward caste followed by scheduled caste (32%) and general caste (14%) Kubde *et al.* (1990) [3] in their study on background profiles of members of Gram Panchayat and their opinion about the institution revealed that in most of the Panchayats the majority of the members came from other backward classes.

D. The respondents (82%) were observed who residing in joint families, while 18 per cent respondents belonged to single family system.

E. The 77 per cent respondents were observed such who had 5 to 8 members in the families and 17 per cent had more than 9 members and only 11 per cent respondents were found having up to 4 members in their families.

F. Around half of the respondents 44% were found having houses of mixed type followed by kuchcha house (35%), pucca house (22%), respectively. There was one per cent, respondents having hut type of house.

G. The maximum respondents (65%) were found in the land holding category of marginal farmers followed by 24% in the category of small farmers, medium category (9%) and

in large category of GPMs (2%), respectively. Mankar (2003) [4] found the same result.

H. The majority of respondents (84%) reported agriculture as their main occupation followed by caste based occupation (8%), agriculture labour (5%), agro-based enterprise (2%) and service (1%), respectively. The result indicated that no one have business venture. Garje (1997) [2] also found the same result and concluded that majority (84.38 per cent) of Gram Panchayat members had agriculture as their main family occupation.

I. Little more half of the respondents (53%) participate in one organization, followed by 28 per cent respondents participated in two organization and only 13 per cent respondents participated in more than two organizations. Six per cent of the gram panchayat members were not participating in any organizations of agriculture and its allied farming.

J. The maximum (71%) respondents were observed in the medium category of materials possession followed by high and low categories of materials possession i.e. 17% and 12%, respectively.

K. A majority of the respondents (63%) was found having medium level of economic motivation, followed by high (i9%) and low levels (18%), respectively.

L. The 58 per cent of the respondents were found having medium level of scientific orientation followed by low levels (29%) and high (8%), respectively.

M. A majority of the respondents (60%) was found having medium level of risk orientation, followed by high (22%) and low levels (18%), respectively.

N. An overwhelming majority (61%) of the respondents were found having medium level of value orientation followed by low level (20%) high (19%) and, respectively.
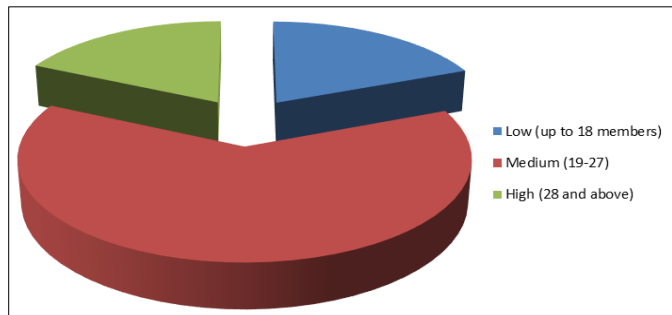

GPMs= Gram Panchayat Members

Fig 1: Socio-economic profile of the GPMs, N=100

GPMs= Gram Panchayat Members

Fig 2: Showing the range of awareness of GPMs, N=100

It is apparent from the fig. 2 that the maximum numbers of respondents (63%) were found having medium level of awareness about agriculture development programme followed by low level (16%) and high level (21%) of awareness. The average mean of scores of awareness about agriculture development programme was observed to be 22.27 with a range of minimum 9 and maximum 37. Hence, it can be concluded that most of the respondents were found having medium level of awareness about agriculture development programme. The almost similar result observed by (Saiyad *et al.* 2004) [5] that majority (62.50 per cent) of the Sarpanchs had medium level role perception followed by 23.75 per cent of them with low role perception and 13.75 per cent respondents had high level of role perception.

GPMs= Gram Panchayat Members

Fig 3: Showing the range of role performance of GPMs: N=100

The fig. 3 indicared that the maximum numbers of respondents (63%) was found having medium level of awareness about agriculture development programme followed by low level (19%) and high level (18%) of role

performance. The average mean of scores of role performance about agriculture development programme was observed to be 22.97 with a range of minimum 13 and maximum 37. Hence, it can be concluded that most of the respondents were found having medium level of role performance about agriculture development programme.

Suradkar (2005) [6] reported the similar things in supporting of the above research.

Table 1: Correlation coefficient (r) between different variables and Awareness

S. No.	Variable	Correlation coefficient
1	Age	0.194
2	Education	0.016
3	Caste	0.082
4	Family type	0.074
5	Family size	-0.005
6	Housing pattern	0.068
7	Land holding (ha)	0.097
8	Occupation	-0.119
9	Social participation	-0.002
10	Materials possession	0.133
11	Extent of contact with information sources	0.163
12	Economic motivation	-0.288**
13	Scientific orientation	-0.328**
14	Risk orientation	-0.044
15	Value orientation	0.074

*Significant at 0.05% probability level
** Significant at 0.01% probability level

On perusal of the table-1, it could be noticed that out of the 15 variables studied, two variables namely, scientific orientation, economic motivation were negatively and significantly correlated with awareness of developmental programme.

The variables *i.e.* age, education, caste, family type, housing pattern, land holding, extent of contact with information sources, overall materials possession and value orientation was found to be insignificant and positively correlated with awareness. The variables having non-significant negatively relationship were occupation, social participation, risk orientation and family size.

Hence, it may be concluded that the variables like age, education, caste, family type, housing pattern, land holding, extent of contact with information sources etc are increasing the awareness level among GPMs about agriculture development programme.

Table 2: Correlation coefficient (r) between different variables and Role of Performance.

S. No.	Variable	Correlation coefficient
1	Age	0.237*
2	Education	-0.080
3	Caste	0.052
4	Family type	0.097
5	Family size	0.093
6	Housing pattern	-0.080
7	Land holding (ha)	-0.047
8	Occupation	-0.168
9	Social participation	-0.056
10	Materials possession	0.078
11	Extent of contact with information sources	0.053
12	Economic motivation	-0.205*
13	Scientific orientation	-0.403**
14	Risk orientation	-0.073
15	Value orientation	-0.091

*Significant at 0.05% probability level
** Significant at 0.01% probability level

The Table-2 reveals that out of 15 variables, the variables like only age were found positively correlated and moderately significant with extent of role performance. Other variables *viz.,* caste, family type, family size, overall materials possession, extent of contact with information sources, positively correlated but insignificant with extent of role performance about agriculture development programme.

The variables *viz.,* housing pattern, land holding, occupation, social participation, risk orientation and value orientation were found to be negatively insignificant. Scientific orientation was found to be negatively significant, economic motivation were negatively correlated and moderately significant.

Hence, it is concluding that as the independent variable like age, caste, extent of contact with information sources, etc. increases the extent of role performance about agriculture development programme would also increases.

Table 3: Constraints faced by the GPMs in performing their roles: N=100

S. No.	Constraints	Total score	Mean score value	Rank order
1	Lack of finance	83	0.83	V
2	Lack of training	91	0.91	I
3	Non co-operative among the GPMs	54	0.54	XIII
4	Agriculture departmental staff is not interested in implementing various schemes in village	67	0.67	X
5	Booklet of agricultural developmental schemes does not available at proper time	68	0.68	IX
6	Language in the information booklet is hard	86	0.86	IV
7	Agriculture departmental staff cannot provides information due to inadequate staff	87	0.87	III
8	Farmers are not organized	79	0.79	VI
9	Farmers not believes in new technology earlier	56	0.56	XII
10	Non observation of suggestions by officials	69	0.69	VIII
11	Less publicity to agricultural development programs	64	0.64	XI
12	Insufficient use of communication media due to load shading of electricity	76	0.76	VII
13	Due to personal work there is less time for agricultural development work	87	0.88	II

The above table reveals that due to 'lack of training' (0.91) got ranked first followed by 'Due to personal work there is less time for agricultural development work' (0.88) was ranked of second and 'Agriculture departmental staff cannot provides information due to inadequate staff' (0.87) was ranked at third, Language in the information booklet is hard was ranked at V (0.86), lack of finance (0.83), Farmers are not organized (0.79), Insufficient use of communication media due to load shading of electricity(0.76), Non observation of suggestions by officials (0.69), Booklet of agricultural developmental schemes does not available at proper time (0.68), Agriculture departmental staff is not interested in implementing various schemes in village(0.67), Less publicity to agricultural development programs(0.64), Farmers not believes in new technology earlier (0.56), non-co-operative among the GPMs (0.54), for these score the rank order were given VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, and XIII, respectively.

The same result revealed by the scientist in supporting of the study that there was no training given to any members of Gram Panchayat about the Panchayati Raj (Wankhede, 1994) [7] and (Bhosale, 2007) [1].

Table 4: Suggestive measures to overcome the constraints faced by GPMs.

S. No.	Suggestive measures	Total score	Rank order
1	More effective publicity should be given to agricultural development programme for their effective implementation at village level.	74	VI
2	Method demonstration on various aspects should be conducted in village to encourage farmers for adoptions of new technologies on their farm.	85	II
3	Frequent training should be organized to introduce GPMs with their role and responsibilities.	87	I
4	Funds should be providing to GPs in time of effective implementations for various development programmes.	56	VII
5	GPs working for agriculture development should be motivated by awards and prizes for best performance.	77	V
6	Use of alternative communication media & traditional media may help to overcome the publicity constraints & also help to improve awareness level of the GPMs about agriculture development programmes.	78	IV
7	GPs should organize the social and cultural programme in villages to increase involvement and co-operation of villagers.	45	VIII
8	The level of awareness and role performance of GPMs can be improved by organization field visits, workshop, trainings also by distributing agricultural related literatures to the GPs offices.	81	III

The suggestive measures as stated by GPMs to overcome the constraints in agriculture development programme can be placed in a descending order with their score and rank order *viz.,* Frequent training should be organized to introduce GPMs with their role and responsibilities Iˢᵗ (87) followed by Method demonstration on various aspects should be conducted in village to encourage farmers for adoptions of new technologies on their farm IIⁿᵈ (85), The level of awareness and role performance of GPMs can be improved by organization field visits, workshop, trainings also by distributing agricultural related literatures to the GPs office (81) rank III, Use of alternative communication media & traditional media may help to overcome the publicity constraints & also help to improve awareness level of the GPMs about agriculture development programmes (78) rank IV, GPs working for agriculture development should be motivated by awards and prizes for best performance (77) rank V, More effective publicity should be given to agricultural development programme for their effective implementation at village level (74) rank VI, Funds should be provide to GPs in time of effective implementations for various development programmes (56) rank VII, GPs should

organize the social and cultural programme in villages to increase involvement and co-operation of villagers (45) rank VIII, respectively.

4. Conclusion
On the basis of the findings, it may be concluded that majority of the respondents were middle aged, literate and belonged to back word caste. The study projected that 82 per cent respondent's belonged to single family followed by 18% families to joint family. It revealed the fact that the joint family of rural society is now breaking up. Contact of respondents with Gram-Pradhan was maximum among of formal source followed by Kisan Sahayak and V.D.Os. An over whelming majority *i.e.* 84 per cent respondents families was reported Agriculture as their main occupation in which most of them were marginal (below one hectare size of land holding**).** The study also examining the range of awareness of GPMs members and the result revealed that the maximum numbers of respondents (63%) were found having medium level of awareness about agriculture development programmes. It can be concluded that most of the respondents were found having medium level of role performance about agriculture development programme but the role performance of the GPMs can be improved by providing them Frequent training to introduce GPMs with their role and responsibilities and fulfil the requirements of agricultural functionaries at the base level.

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