

# Contribution of Rural Women in Grampanchayat

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## ABSTRACT

In 1990 Government of Maharashtra declared women policy .Because of that woman got 30% reservation in local self-government. After that in 1993, 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendment happened., than women got 1/3 reservation in local self-government .in 2011 government of Maharashtra kept 50% reservation for women in local self-government. Because of reservation women are taking active participation in Grampanchayat. Many women without political family background are getting elected independently .Women are developing their leadership quality strongly and actively with the help of reservation .In last 25 years women are actively participating in local politics .Because of that local development is happening fast. Rural women along with family responsibilities in Grampanchayat women are focusing on the issues related women, cleanliness, environmental degradation and water scarcity. Women are proving the trust of government true. Women are showing their capacity because of this reservation .Excitement and confidence level of women have grown because of reservation .Women are facing all kinds of problem without fear .Through self-help group they are growing skill of empowerment. Because of active participation of women now a day's rural politics and social environment is changing.

**Keywords** – PanchayatRaj, Local self-Government, Reservation,

## Introduction: -

In Maharashtra in 1990 women policy was declared because of that women got 30% reservation in local self-government. Due to 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendment in 1993 government

kept 1\3<sup>rd</sup> reservation for women. Because of reservation women actively participate in rural politics. In the house of these people who were considering politics as a secondary place for women and the

duty of women is only to handle a kitchen, there also politics played an important role because of reservation. Due to reservation political status of women reached on the top. Because of amendments in all state laws regarding panchayatRaj came in existence large number of women participate in politics. There are chances of change in social and political condition in rural area. Women develop self-decision power. Government declare 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of reservation for women along with membership and authority power in panchayat Raj.

In 2011 Maharashtra Government declare 50% reservation for women in local self-government .Today women actively participate in rural politics .They got opportunity to show their capacity at local level while solving various problems .They are focusing on developmental works like development of road, primary school building ,drinking water, health facility, water scarcity and women problems also. Along with overall development of a village and they are planning for that. Up to this day women who are not coming outside the house are also actively participating in Grampanchyat. Their way of presenting problems about themselves as well as taking their own decisions related village development is appreciable.

## **Methodology**

To present this research paper, information collected from magazines, newspapers, internets are used as a secondary data.

## **Objectives of study**

- 1 .To study the participation of rural women in Grampanchayat.
- 2.To study the transformation of women due to participation in politics.
- 3.To complexities of women during the participation in grampanchayat.

## **PARTICIPATION OF RURAL WOMEN IN GRAMPANCHYAT**

Due to 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment women got opportunity to participate in rural politics and in actually they are participating in decision making process .In Maharashtra 28003 Grampanchayat are there and approximately 1,11,927 women are working as a member of Grampanchyat. In last 25 years approximately 40 to 50 lakhs women participated in election process and this is appreciable as consider there education and secondary treatment in society .

After amendment women got 1/3 reservation in local self-government .In2011 Maharashtra government declare 50% seats reserved for women. Because of reservation women got opportunity to

participate in rural politics for the first time .Along with family responsibilities women confidently handle their authorities and responsibilities. They are taking it as a challenge .If women is participating in politics then who will cook the food? Such a questions arise in men’s mind .Today women play dual role by cooking food at home as well as successfully handling rural politics .In panchayat raj after the declaration of reservations in the first session of politics there was need of encouragement for women .Only those women were participating in politics whose family members are handling different position like sarpanch or deputy sarpanch .Now days without political family background women can achieve different position in rural politics .Some women elect with support of political parties and some women are elect independently and confidently. Now days schedule caste and schedule tribe women also participated in ruralpolitics due to reservation. In rural politics women given first preference to solve various local problems. They have given priority to the problem regarding drinking water, sanitation and village cleanliness. They have given contribution to the development of roads in remote and backward area.

### **Transformation in Grampanchayat due to the participation of women**

After 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment women participated in rural politics. Since, nowadays women those who are handling only family responsibilities now they are actively participating in Grampanchayat and taking decision of development by their own. At the initial stage of reservation 40 to 50 age group women were participated due to not much family responsibilities. But now scenario has change and now women between age group 25-40 are participating in politics in more numbers. Women’s are taking initiative by their own for being member of Grampanchayat. Nowadays educational status of rural women has raised. Highly qualified women’s are also participating in Grampanchayat.

Many women confidently handling position of Sarpanch successfully. People looking forward Sarpanch position as a full of authority and right and on a such important position woman are handle responsibly. At the initial stage women were not able to put up their views whereas, these days they are fearless to put up their views. Problems of the society are taken under consideration by women’s of

Grampanchayat. They have eager to do something about the society. In seminars, workshops they are confidently introducing themselves and giving information about developmental work done by them. There should not be caste discrimination, have peaceful environment, awareness about proper sanitation, provide proper education system, implementation of new technology in agriculture, rain water harvesting, Women empowerment and Clean India Mission. 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment has completed 25 years. In these span many positive changes takes place in women in rural politics. Now they are aware about panchayat laws and importance of Gram Sabha, audit mission, aware about self - development. Now women are attending seminars and workshops regarding panchayat work.

Due to participation in Grampanchayat and ultimately in Rural politics women are willingly doing there work and defeating their fear. They are taking efforts to unroot the problem of scarcity of water. With the help of Self-help group and Mahilamandal women are getting stronger. Due to 14<sup>th</sup> finance commission panchayat are getting direct funds. The sarpanch, members of panchayat and gram Sabha have to decide utilisation of such funds collectively, because of

that women are taking decision of village development successfully.

### **Problem face by women in Grampanchayat**

Due to reservation women got opportunities to participate in politics. From the membership to authority women are participating in Grampanchayat, but while working women are facing no of problems because of illiteracy and less education women are facing many problems in Grampanchayat work. In many places men are handling total work of Grampanchayat on the name of their wife. At some places women are becoming sarpanch only for the sake of name and signature.

At the working place women are facing many problems like male ego, poor mentality, dominating nature etc. It affects their work place. Sometime women are facing Unbelief Resolution from men authority because women handle their work strongly and unbiasedly and which hurt the men ego.

### **Suggestions**

1. There is need to arrange training sessions to give knowledge about panchayatRaj for women.

2. Women have to attend training programs regularly.
3. They have to be mentally strong for facing any problem.
4. Women have to use their authority without fear of any force.
5. Women have to be present in Gram Sabha and they have to encourage other women also.

## Conclusion

With the help of reservation rural women participated in politics and ultimately in Grampanchayat. As a result Politics and Socialization has changed. Due to the participation in Grampanchayat women got the power of taking decision by their own. Government has released GR for the support of women in Grampanchayat. With the help of this GR women make their strong position in politics .Like women and child fund ,Right of hosting flag ,50% partnership in Gram samiti and independent women Gram Sabha . With the help of all this women are taking important decision in the development of village .They are giving priority to the social problems and women related issues .Rural women are actively participating in social life .As a result they able to change socialization and rural politics also.

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