



## CONSTRAINTS FACED BY GRAM PANCHAYAT MEMBERS IN PERFORMING THEIR ROLE FOR VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

DEDUN V.S.\*, NAIK R.M. AND GAMIT P.S.

Department of Extension Education, N. M. College of Agriculture, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, 396 450, Gujarat

\*Corresponding Author: Email-vijaypal.dedun@gmail.com

Received: April 09, 2016; Revised: April 15, 2016; Accepted: April 16, 2016

**Abstract-** Present investigation was conducted in Navsari district of Gujarat state during 2015 to study 100 gram panchayat members which performing role for development of village in Navsari, Jalalpore, Gandevi, Chikhli and Vandsa talukas of Navsari district. Results revealed that the most important constraints / inconveniences faced by the Gram Panchayat members in performing their role for village development were: Inadequate administrative and financial power, Inadequate financial support from government, Low knowledge regarding rural development programmes, Inadequate co-operation from village people, Lack of training, Low level of education, No whole hearted support from family, Unavailability of computer operator, Inadequate co-operation from members, Inadequate co-operation from village level worker and Less availability of time. Major suggestions offered by gram panchayat members in performing their role for village development were: administrative procedure should be quick and easy to avoid unnecessary delay in work; sufficient financial grant should be provided to the Gram panchayat; training programmes should be organized at local places and training facilities should be created for panchayat members; updated information should be given to gram panchayat members regarding PRS and development works; staff in panchayat should be increased; all required facilities should be provided in panchayat; lesson on unity and co-operation should be taught to the panchayat members, village people and village level workers and awareness and interest should be created among people in development work

**Keywords-** Constraints, Gram panchayat members, Navsari, Suggestions Village development.

**Citation:** Dedun V.S., et al., (2016) Constraints Faced by Gram Panchayat Members in Performing their Role for Village Development. International Journal of Agriculture Sciences, ISSN: 0975-3710 & E-ISSN: 0975-9107, Volume 8, Issue 21, pp.-1371-1372.

**Copyright:** Copyright©2016 Dedun V.S., et al., This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

### Introduction

Panchayats have been the backbone of the Indian villages since the beginning of recorded history. Gandhiji, the father of the nation, in 1946 had aptly remarked that the Indian Independence must begin at the bottom and every village ought to be a Republic or Panchayat having powers. The word 'panch' literary means the group of five persons. The whole village had confidence in panch and always believed that whatever panch does is always in the interest of the village. The 'Panchayati Raj' as a system of self-governance was introduced for the first time in 1959 following the Balwant Rai Mehta committee report (1958) that recommended a three-tier structure of local self-government consisting of a gram panchayat at the village level, taluka panchayat samiti at the sub-district level and zilla parishad at the district level. Functions in three-tier panchayat structure are distributed at three levels i.e. gram panchayat, taluka panchayat and district panchayat. The rural local government in India is called the panchayat, which literally means an assembly of five persons. An establishment of a Gram Sabha (village assembly) in each village, to exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the state may provide by law. A Gram Panchayat will have at least five and maximum of 30 members. Each member has a specified area and voters (constituency) that he represents which is called Gram Sansad (village parliament). Thus, role performance of a member of village panchayat is an important aspect upon which the development of the village rests. Countering the importance and facts in view, the present study was undertaken with the following specific objectives:

1. To study the constraints faced by gram panchayat members in their role performance
2. To seek suggestions from gram panchayat members to overcome the constraints

### Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Navsari district of Gujarat state. Five talukas, viz, Navsari, Jalalpore, Gandevi, Chikhli and Vandsa were selected purposively. From each talukas Four villages were selected from them gram panchayat members were selected for the study. Thus, in all, 100 gram panchayat members were selected as the respondents. The data were collected by the researcher with the help of a well structured interview schedule by face-to-face method of interview technique. The data for this study were collected by arranging personal interview. At the individual level, each person has different psychology and because of this they have a different opinion, perceptions and problems. Constraints likely to be faced by the gram panchayat members were collected with the help of available literature and were mentioned in the interview schedule. The respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which they faced a particular constraint in performing their role as a gram panchayat member by giving their response on three point continuum i.e. "high", "medium" and "never" with scores of 3, 2 and 1, respectively. The suggestions offered by the respondents with similar meanings were properly clubbed and ranked on the basis of the number and percentage of respondents who reported respective suggestions. The suggestions were asked open ended. After personal interviewed all the items collected as frequencies and percentage.

### Result and Discussion

It is evident from the data presented in [Table-1] that major constraint faced by the gram panchayat members were inadequate administrative and financial power (70.00 per cent) which ranked first, followed by inadequate financial support from government (67.00 per cent), low knowledge regarding rural development

programmes (65.00 per cent), inadequate co-operation from village people (59.00 per cent) and lack of training (56.00 per cent) which ranked second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively. The other important constraints were: low level of education (52.00 per cent) ranked sixth, no whole hearted support from family (48.00 per cent) ranked seventh, followed by unavailability of computer operator (40.00

per cent), inadequate co-operation from members (38.00 per cent), inadequate co-operation from village level worker (37.00 per cent), and less availability of time (36.00 per cent) which ranked eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh, respectively. The findings are similar to the findings reported by [1,2,4,6].

**Table-1** Constraints faced by gram panchayat members in their role performance. n=100

Sr.	Constraints faced by Gram panchayat member	Per cent	Rank
1	Less availability of time	36.00	XI
2	Low level of education	52.00	VI
3	No whole hearted support from family	48.00	VII
4	Inadequate financial support from government	67.00	II
5	Low knowledge regarding rural development programmes	65.00	III
6	Lack of training	56.00	V
7	Inadequate co-operation from village level worker	37.00	IX
8	Inadequate administrative and financial power	70.00	I
9	Inadequate co-operation from village people	59.00	IV
10	Inadequate co-operation from members	38.00	X
11	Unavailability of computer operator	40.00	VIII

**Table-2** Suggestions offered by the gram panchayat members to overcome the problems n=100

Sr.	Suggestions	Per cent	Rank
1.	Staff in panchayat should be increased	67.00	V
2.	Lesson on unity and co-operation should be taught to the panchayat members, village people and village level workers	53.00	VII
3.	Administrative procedure should be quick and easy to avoid unnecessary delay in work	90.00	I
4.	Training programmes should be organized at local places and training facilities should be created for panchayat members	83.00	III
5.	Updated information should be given to gram panchayat members regarding PRS and development works	81.00	IV
6.	All required facilities should be provided in panchayat	65.00	VI
7.	Sufficient financial grant should be provided to Gram panchayat	87.00	II
8.	Awareness and interest should be created among people in development work	50.00	VIII

The gram panchayat members were asked to suggest the possible solutions to overcome the constraints associated with their role performance. The data presented in [Table-2] explicitly indicate that major suggestions offered by gram panchayat members were administrative procedure should be quick and easy to avoid unnecessary delay in work (90.00 per cent) ranked first, sufficient financial grant should be provided to the Gram panchayat (87.00 per cent) ranked second, training programmes should be organized at local places and training facilities should be created for panchayat members (83.00 per cent) ranked third, updated information should be given to gram panchayat members regarding PRS and development works (81.00 per cent) ranked fourth, staff in panchayat should be increased (67.00 per cent) ranked fifth, all required facilities should be provided in panchayat (65.00 per cent) ranked sixth, lesson on unity and co-operation should be taught to the panchayat members, village people and village level workers (53.00 per cent) ranked seventh and awareness and interest should be created among people in development work (50.00 per cent) ranked eighth. The findings are similar to the findings reported by [1,2,3,6]

[6] Saiyad, A. S. and Patel B. S. (2004) *Rural India*, 67, 46-60.

## Conclusion

In performing gram panchayat members role for development of village, major constraints faced by the gram panchayat members were: inadequate administrative and financial power and inadequate financial support from government, while suggestions major suggestions offered by gram panchayat members were administrative procedure should be quick and easy to avoid unnecessary delay in work, sufficient financial grant should be provided to the Gram panchayat and training programmes should be organized at local places and training facilities should be created for panchayat members.

**Conflict of Interest: None declared**

## References

- [1] Chaudhary K. L. (2013) *M.Sc. Thesis (Unpublished)*, AAU, Anand.
- [2] Diwan Y. B. (2007) *Ph.D. Thesis (Unpublished)*, AAU, Anand.
- [3] Kujur A. (2008) Unpublished M.Sc. thesis, AAU, Anand.
- [4] Rathi R. J. (2005) *Unpublished M.Sc. (Agri.) Thesis*, I.G.K.V.V., Raipur.
- [5] Shirke V. S. and Sawant G. K. (2001) *Maha. J. Extn. Edn.*, 20, 97-99.