

Correlets of Role Performance of Gram Panchayat Members

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted with 120 gram panchayat members selected from three talukas of Anand district. Role performance was found to be good in case of more than two-fifth (44.17 per cent) of gram panchayat members, whereas it was excellent and moderate in case of 30.00 per cent and 23.33 per cent of gram panchayat members, respectively. Only 2.50 per cent of the gram panchayat members were observed in the category of poor role performance, while none of them was found in very poor category. The study also shows that only three variables viz. knowledge of role to be performed, co-ordination ability and communication ability had positive and highly significant correlation with the role performance of gram panchayat members, whereas age, education, size of family, time spent for gram panchayat work, experience as gram panchayat member, caste, social participation, political contact, annual income and occupation could not show any significant correlation with their role performance.

Keywords : Role performance, Gram panchayat members

INTRODUCTION

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 gram panchayat at the village level, Taluka panchayat samiti at the sub-district level and zilla parishad at the district level. Accordingly, Panchayati raj system has been in operation in the country.

The village panchayat at the grass root level is the pivotal agency for the holistic development of the village, which in turn rests on the role performance of its members. These members in true sense are the formal leaders of the village and are regarded as the symbols of rural development and they reflect the entire community. Thus for proper development of the village, it is quite essential that the members should understand their role clearly and carry out it effectively. This role performance by the members may be affected by various characteristics of the members. Keeping in view present study was conducted with following objectives:

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To ascertain the role performance of gram panchayat members

- (i) To study the relationship if any between the profile of gram panchayat members and their role performance

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in Anand district, which is operational area of Anand Agricultural University. Three talukas viz., Ankav, Borsad and Petlad were selected for the study and from each selected taluka, eight villages with full fledged gram panchayat were randomly selected. From each selected village, five gram panchayat members were selected making the total sample of 120 respondents. The data were collected in the light of the objectives of the study with the help of well structured, pre tested Gujarati version interview schedule. For measurement of role performance, 17 different statements reflecting various roles of gram panchayat members were developed and weighed on four point continuum. Correlation of coefficient was worked out to study the relationship between role performance of gram panchayat members and their various characteristics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Role performance of gram panchayat members

Sound development of village is only possible if gram panchayat members perform their role in effective manner. With this consideration, role performance of gram

panchayat members was studied. The data in this regard are presented in Table-1.

Table 1 : Distribution of the respondents according to their role performance n=120

Sr. No	Category	Gram panchayat members	
		No.	Per cent
1	Very poor (17 to 26 score)	00	00.00
2	Poor (27 to 36 score)	03	02.50
3	Moderate (37 to 48 score)	28	23.33
4	Good (49 to 58 score)	53	44.17
5	Excellent (59 to 68score)	36	30.00

It is evident from the data presented in Table 1 that role performance was observed good in case of more than two-fifth (44.17 per cent) of gram panchayat members, whereas it was excellent and moderate in case of 30.00 per cent and 23.33 per cent of gram panchayat members, respectively. Only 2.50 per cent of the gram panchayat members were found in the category of poor role performance, while none of them fell under very poor category. Thus, it can be concluded that three-fourth (74.17 per cent) of the gram panchayat members had good to excellent level of role performance.

This might be because of the combined effect of their high to medium level of knowledge of the role to be performed, high to very high level of coordination ability and high to very high level of communication ability.

Correlates of role performance of gram panchayat members

As it is observed, only three variables viz. knowledge of role to be performed, co-ordination ability and communication ability had positive and highly significant correlation with the role performance of gram panchayat members, whereas age, education, size of family, time spent for gram panchayat work, experience as gram panchayat member, caste, social participation, political contact, annual income and occupation failed to establish significant correlation with their role performance. Thus, the results give us the indication that to have better role performance by gram panchayat members, efforts should be made to provide sufficient knowledge about role and develop coordination and communication ability among the gram panchayat members who are found poor in these qualities.

Table: 2 Correlates of role performance towards gram panchayat members about gram panchayat n=120

Sr. No.	Variable	Correlation Coefficient (r value)
X1	Age	-0.1107NS
X2	Education	0.1241NS
X3	Size of Family	-0.0726NS
X4	Time spent for gram panchayat work	0.0735NS
X5	Experience as gram panchayat member	0.0768NS
X6	Caste	0.0414NS
X7	Social participation	0.0488NS
X8	Political Contact	0.0128NS
X9	Annual Income	0.0384NS
X10	Occupation	0.1055NS
X11	Knowledge of role to be performed	0.3107**
X12	Co-ordination ability	0.5422**
X13	Communication ability	0.5359**

** Significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability

NS : Non Significant

CONCLUSION

To epitomize the results, it can be said that that three-fourth (74.17 per cent) of the gram panchayat members had good to excellent level of role performance. Only three variables viz. knowledge of role to be performed, co-ordination ability and communication ability had positive and highly significant correlation with the role performance of gram panchayat members, whereas other variables failed to establish significant correlation with their role performance.

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