

Elected Women Panchayat Samiti: An Structural Arrangement for Farm Women Empowerment in India

Anuradha Ranjan Kumari¹, S. K. Dubey² and US Gautam³

ABSTRACT

Women represent almost half of the human resources and half the potential in all the societies. India being no exception to it and, therefore, the employment and autonomy of women and level of women's social achievement are the indicators of sustainable development. Empowerment is a process, not an event, which challenges traditional power equations and relations. Abolition of gender-based discrimination in all institutions and structures of the society and participation of women in policy and decision making process at domestic and public levels are few dimensions of women empowerment. The present study was an effort to know the extent of empowerment and associated problem of elected women members in Panchayati Raj institutions. Total Twenty Three women representatives were randomly sampled from Pusa and Kalyanpur block of Samastipur district in Bihar province in India from the 40 randomly drawn villages from the two selected blocks of the above districts. The tool used for collecting information was pre-structured interview schedule and data were collected through personal interview method. In order to determine the conditions sowing the empowerment of women the data were subjected to correlation and multiple regressions analysis. Their extent of empowerment was taken as dependent variables. The finding revealed that 21.73 percent of the respondents were highly empowered with respect to "Health welfare and Development of Public Property. The association between empowerment and farm womens' age was negative but highly significantly associated ($P < 0.01$). The results of correlation and multiple regression analysis between empowerment and Socio-economic & Psychological Variables of elected women Panchayat Samiti members was highly significant with variables like caste, family size, family income and interaction style ($P, 0.01$). The partial regression coefficient were significant only in case of two variable *i.e.* caste and age.

Key words: Farm women empowerment, panchayat samiti, panchayati raj institutions (PRI)

INTRODUCTION

Women represent almost half of the human resources as well as half the potential in all the societies across the globe. India being no exception to it and, therefore, the employment and autonomy status of women and their level of social achievement are the parameters of sustainable development in all areas of life. Paradoxically, however, India women continue to languish in the prevailing patriarchal society and colossal percentage of them are forced to be comfortable with low social status. The scenario is still worst in traditional Bihar province of India. The female literacy rate of India whereas stood at 54.16 per cent in 2001, it is only 33.5 percent in Bihar. The work participation rate of women has steadily risen from 14.22 per cent in 1971 to 19.6 per cent in 1981 and was steeper further from 37.81 lakhs in 1991 to 47.74 lakhs in 1998. Further, only a meager 14.1 per cent of women are employed in organized sector, but

the majority find jobs in the informal unorganized private sector, mainly in the low to not paid household activities. Nataraju *et. al.* (2013) found that majority of women members (80%) involved occasionally in nursery activities. Women empowerment has been recognized as a central issue in determining the status of women. Empowerment covers aspects such as women's control over material and intellectual resources. Empowerment is a process, not an event, which challenges traditional power equations and relations. Abolition of gender-based discrimination in all institutions and structures of the society and participation of women in policy and decision making process at domestic and public levels are few dimensions of women empowerment. Empowerment, as the word suggests, is to empower or enable women to do certain things and in most cases it connotes women wielding political power. A deeper understanding of word throws light on many of its dimensions and implications. The very concept of empowerment of women which is

¹ Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR-IIVR, Deoria (UP), India, ^{2 and 3} ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kanpur (UP), India

based on equality between sexes is a long drawn, conscious and continuous process comprising enhancement of skills, Capacity building, gaining self confidence and meaningful participation in decision making. But women are not involved in the process of development activities which are affecting their lives. Women are appraised and exploited in various repressive ways as ever and the special needs of women are postponed or put aside as trivial item (Vijayanthi, 2000). Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) were chosen to play a vital role in empowering the women with the local self governance either directly in the hands of women or significant of women as members thus is supported to reach to large number of women including down trodden, SC/ST and minority communities. Rashmi *et. al.* (2014) About 70 per cent of the agricultural workers, 80 per cent of food producers, and 10 per cent of those who process basic foodstuffs are women and they also undertake 60 to 90 per cent of the rural marketing; thus making up more than two-third of the workforce in agricultural production (FAO,1985). Thus if women are mobilized to take up agripreneurship, desired rural and agricultural transformation is possible. The present study was undertaken with the specific objectives to characterize the profile of elected women Panchayat Samiti members of Panchayati Raj System and to determine the extent of empowerment and associated problems of elected women Panchayat Samiti members in Panchayati Raj System for suggesting measures for improvement towards empowerment. Accordingly, what could be the guiding factors of women representations of Panchayati Raj system have been explained.

METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in purposively selected Samastipur district in Bihar state of India as the state is having higher population density (1106 person /sq km) and good sex ratio (918) and also because of ease in data collection owing to the investigators' acquaintance with the area. Out of twenty blocks of Samastipur district, two blocks namely Pusa and Kalyanpur were selected so as to represent the whole district. Forty villages from these blocks constituted the sample frame for the study (20 villages from each block). For selection of respondents, stratified random sampling procedure was utilized. As per the availability at the time of investigation, 23 women representatives were randomly selected from all the gram panchayats who represented the various caste strata of the selected villages. A pre-tested and structured schedule was used to collect the data by personal interview method. In order to determine the conditions governing the empowerment of women the

data were subjected to multiple correlation, regression and path analysis. Empowerment was taken as dependent variable which was calculated on the basis of their awareness and extent of participation in their duties and function. A score of 2 was given to the respondents who were "aware" and 1 was given to the respondents who were "not aware" about their duties and functions, Similarly a score of 3, 2 and 1 was assigned to the participation response categories namely "always" "Sometime" and "never" respectively. According to this scoring pattern "Highly Empowered" were those respondents who were "aware" about their duties and functions and "always" participated/performed their assigned duties. "Empowered" category respondents were those who were "aware" and "sometimes" performed their duties. "Somewhat Empowered" were those respondents who had the awareness about their duties and functions only. "Not Empowered" were those village Panchayat members who were neither "aware" nor performed their assigned duties under Panchayati Raj system. The efficiency of each respondent was computed on a four point continuum against the 9 activities related to their duties and functions and accorded the scores of 4, 3, 2 and 1 were assigned to "Highly Empowered" "Empowered", "Somewhat Empowered" and "Not Empowered" respectively. The extent of empowerment was computed as below:

$$\text{Extent of Empowerment} = \frac{\text{Empowerment Scores obtained}}{\text{Maximum possible Scores}} \times 100$$

Women empowerment has been operationally defined in this study as the impact of women participation in Panchayats, changes in the social status of the women participants, benefits of this participation of the work experience on the efficiency of women members in their day-to-day life. The changes in social status of women members since elected as perceived by them were revealed in terms of frequency distribution and percentage. However, effect of Panchayat experience of the work efficiency of the women members was measured on a four-point continuum. The scores were assigned to the responses recorded on this efficiency measure as under Efficiency level Scores Substantial improvement 4 Good improvement 3 Little improvement 2 Negligible improvement 1 The efficiency measure contained 13 statements. The efficiency score of each respondent were calculated against all these statements. The improved efficiency index expressed in terms of percentage was calculated for all the member respondents individually with the help of the formula given below

$$\text{Efficiency Index (EI)} = \frac{\text{Scores obtained by a respondents}}{\text{Maximum possible Scores}} \times 100$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

General profile of women panchayat samiti members (PSMs) : Data in Table 1 indicate that a majority (60.86%) of the elected PSMs were under 35 years of age. Majority (56.22%) of them belonged to backward caste followed by upper (26.08%) and scheduled caste (17.39%). Most of them (91.30%) were married. The above findings are in line with those of Gowda (2000) who also revealed the majority of elected women members were young and married. A look at Table 1 further reveals that 47.82 per cent of respondents had formal education up to 8th standard and also had medium level of family education (47.82%).

Table 1: Socio-economic and psychological profile of elected women Panchayat Samiti members.

Variables	Categories	F	%
Age	Young (up to 35 years)	14	60.86
	Middle (35 – 50 years)	9	39.13
	Old (75 years)	-	-
Caste	Forward	6	26.08
	Backward	13	56.52
	Sc	4	17.39
Merital status	Unmarried	-	-
	Married	21	91.30
	Widowed	2	8.69
	Divorces	-	-
Personal education	Illiterate (No formal Education)	2	8.69
	Low (up to 8 th standard)	11	47.82
	Medium (Matric and intermediate)	4	17.39
	High (Graduate & above)	6	26.08
Family Education Index	Illiterate (No formal Education)	-	-
	Low (up to 8 th Standard)	3	13.04
	Medium (Matric and intermediate)	11	47.82
	High (Graduate & above)	9	39.13
a) Family type	Nuclear	15	65.21
	Joint	8	34.78
b) Family size	Up to 3 members	8	34.78
	3 – 6 members	7	30.43
	> 5 members	8	34.78
Occupation	Household work	22	95.65
	Caste occupation	-	-
	Small scale industries	-	-
	Independent profession	-	-
	Construction work	-	-
	Business	1	4.34
	Farming	-	-
	Service	-	-
Land holding	Landless (No. Land)	2	8.69
	Marginal (up to 2.5 acre)	12	52.17
	Small (5.1 to 10 acre)	3	13.04
	Medium (5.1 to 10 acre)	6	26.08
Family Income	LIG (up to Rs. 20,000)	12	52.17
	MIG (Rs. 20000 – Rs. 35000)	7	30.43
	HIG (>Rs. 35000)	4	17.39
Material Possession	Low (up to MPS)	13	56.52
	Medium (MPS 4.6)	8	34.78
	High (MPS > 6)	2	8.69
Type of house	Kutcha	4	17.39
	Mixed	15	65.21
	Pucca	4	17.39
Social linkage	No. Membership	10	43.47
	Membership of more than one organization	-	56.52

L.I.G. = Low Income Group H.I.G. = High income Group M.I.G. = Medium Income Group
M.P.S. = material Possession Score N = Elected women Panchayat Samiti members.
Note - Figures in Parentheses indicate Percentages

Majority (65.21%) of SPMs maintained to nuclear families even in rural setup and rest (34.78%) had joint family showing the declining trend of joint family system even among rural society. Maximum (52.17%) percent of them were marginal farmers and 30.43 percent constituted medium (3-6) membered family size. Maximum (95.65%) of respondents were engaged in household work followed by Business (4.34%). Majority of respondents (56.52%) were small followed by marginal up to 2.5 acre (52.17%), Medium (26.08%) and landless (8.69%), respectively. More than half proportion of elected women (52.17%) belonged to low income Group followed by the medium income group (30.43%). Maximum (56.52%) of respondents had lived in mixed house followed by 17.39 percent in pucca and Kutcha type of house. The results reveals that most of the respondents having their better house. The majority of the respondents (56.52%) were the members of one organization followed by 43.47 percent were no member of any organization and not a single woman respondents were members of more than one organization. Therefore, it can be said that the amount of social linkage among the majority of respondents are only in one organization.

Table 2: Distribution of elected women Panchayat Samiti members with reference to their extent of empowerment on the basis of awareness and extent of participation in duties and functions.

Duties and functions	Awareness		Extent of Participation			Extent of Empowerment							
	Yes	No	A	S	N	H.E.		E		S.E.		N.E.	
Activities related to						F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Agriculture	19	4	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	21	91.30	2	8.69
Poverty alleviation	18	5	2	2	19	2	8.69	2	8.69	16	69.56	3	13.04
Small scale industries	20	3	-	2	21	-	-	-	-	20	86.95	3	13.04
Rural housing & Rural electrification	4	19	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	3	13.04	20	86.95
Construction, repair and maintenance	23	-	4	1	18	4	17.39	2	8.69	6	26.08	11	47.82
Education	23	-	-	2	21	-	-	2	8.69	21	91.30	-	-
Culture, Market and Fairs	6	17	-	4	19	-	-	3	13.09	-	-	20	86.95
Health, welfare & Development	23	-	5	-	18	5	21.73	-	-	18	78.26	-	-

A= Always; S= Some times; N=Never, H.E. – Highly Empowered; E= Empowered; S.E. = Some What Empowered; NE= Not Empowered.3

The figures in the table 2 Shows that maximum 21.73 percent of EWPSMs were “Highly Empowered” with regard to “Health, Welfare and Development” related activities followed by 17.39 percent of “Construction, repair and maintenance” and only 8.69 percent of “Poverty alleviation” related activities. 86.95 percent of elected women Panchayat Samiti members were “not empowered” with respect to “Culture, Market and fairs”, “rural housing and electrification” related activities

followed by 47.82 percent of “construction, repair and maintenance” and only 13.04 percent were “poverty alleviation”, “Small scale industry related activities. This shows that they were neither aware nor participated in the functions in the Panchayati Raj Act. It was further found that 13.04 percent to 91.03 percent respondents were “Somewhat empowered” with respect to different heads of activities.

It is clear from table 3 indicates that the maximum 26.08 percent of EWPSMs were “substrata improvement” with regard to establish independent identity followed by 13.39 percent for participating independently in social works and decreased in male /female discrimination and only 13.04 percent were decrease in perusals system, can go anywhere any time freely and plan for future.

Table 3: Effect of Panchayat Experience on work efficiency of elected PanchayatSamiti members.

Statement	Negligible improvement		Little improvement		Good Improvement		Substrata improvement	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Started taking decisions in household affairs	4	17.39	15	65.21	2	8.69	2	8.69
Finding money for house hold expenses	18	78.26	3	13.04	1	4.34	1	4.34
Participating independently in social works.	1	4.34	12	52.17	6	26.08	4	17.39
Taking decisions independently	3	13.04	13	56.52	5	21.73	2	8.69
Have establish independent identity	3	13.04	4	47.82	3	13.04	6	26.08
Can plan for future	2	8.69	10	43.47	8	34.78	3	3.04
Inference of husband and others has decreased on their personal affairs	8	34.78	10	43.47	3	13.04	2	8.69
Can spend self earned money as per their own desire.	7	30.43	12	52.17	2	8.69	2	8.69
Decreased in male/Female discrimination.	6	26.08	10	43.47	3	13.04	4	17.39
Decrease in perusals system	3	13.04	13	56.52	4	17.39	3	13.09
Can go any were any time freely	4	17.39	8	34.78	8	34.78	3	13.04
Improvement in health and standard of living Diet.	8	34.78	9	39.13	4	17.39	2	8.69
Increase in consciousness against exploitation	3	13.04	8	39.78	10	43.47	2	8.69

A little improvement was reported by 56.52 percent of EWPSMs more confident in taking independent decisions independently in the society. Decrease in perusals system. That she was a bit more confident in terms at their enhanced freedom to participate signs of improvement in various faculties of the women members 78.26 percent of respondents were “Negligible improvement” with finding money for household expenses followed by 34.78 percent of respondents were inference of husband and others has decreased on their personal affairs and improvement of health and standard of living diet and 30.43 percent of respondents can spent self earned money as per their own desire.

Table 4: Changes in social status of elected women members since elected in Panchayat Samiti.

Statements	Frequency	Percentage
Provides satisfaction	23	100.00
Contact with all types of people have increased	22	95.65
Respect in society	20	86.95
Respect in family increased	18	78.26
Finds less time for family	16	69.56
Respect in family decreased	10	43.47
Respect in society decreased	02	8.69

The data in table 4 shows that all the respondents gained in their social status after becoming representatives of the people of certain area of the Panchayat Samiti.

Maximum 95.66 percent of respondents were contact with all types of people but 8.69 percent of respondents mentioned of decrease in their respect in society since elected in Panchayat Samiti, However as many as 78.26 percent respondents confirmed about increase in their respect back home. To push up the concern, the rest 43.47 percent of the representatives reported a decrease in their family respect.

There were 69.56 percent members who graded for time for their family due to engagements in Panchayat Samiti.

Thus, it can be summed up that Panchayati Raj institution was able to provide satisfaction in life and honored the women so far neglected with more contacts with the people in the society and as such proved to be a boon in the form of an increase in their respect in the society and their families. This is a clear sign of accelerated extent of empowerment of the elected women members of the Panchayat Samiti.

Whether the empowerment stopped at women members or did it spill to ordinary women in the society. An Endeavour to obtain the considered opinion of the women to obtain the considered opinion of the women members of Panchayat Samiti yielded following information as show in table 5.

Table 5: Overall impact of participation of elected Women in Panchayat Samiti.

Statements	Frequency	Percentage
Social prestige of women has improved	23	100.0
Opportunity to express the views	21	91.30
Enhancement in information accessibility	21	91.30
Increase in self image and self respect.	20	86.95
Growth in capability of decision making	19	82.60
Development in the status of Women	18	78.26
Openness in the style of functioning	17	73.91
Growth in political consciousness	16	69.56
Expansion in developmental aspects.	15	65.21

It can be observed from table 5 that all the EWPSMs were improvement in their social prestige and 91.30 percent of respondents felt that there was a unique opportunity to express views and enhancement in information accessibility. 86.95 percent of EWPSMs increased in self image and self respect. There were 82.60 percent elected women members who felt an improvement in their decision making ability since their association with Panchayat Samiti. Again 78.26 percent of respondents expressed that there was an increase in openness of their working style which they considered a welcome change in their personality. There has been improvement in the overall status of the women indicated by 73.91 percent of the respondents. There are also 69.56 percent of them who informed about increase in the political consciousness since their linkage with Panchayat Samiti. That the women had also become the focus of development and hence there was expansion in the developmental aspects in the developmental aspects in the society was felt by 65.21 percent of the respondents. Therefore, it can be concluded that there was an overall positive impact of increased participation of elected women members in Panchayat Samiti as the representations of the Society.

Relationship of empowerment of elected women Panchayat Samiti members with other variables

The results of correlation analysis between empowerment of elected women Panchayat Samiti members of Panchayati Raj System and 17 independent variables including participation are presented in table 6. Table 6 indicated that the association of empowerment was significant with Caste ($r = 0.602$, $P > 0.01$), Family Size ($r = 0.562$, $P > 0.01$), Family Income ($r = 0.710$, $P > 0.01$) and Interaction style ($r = 0.611$, $p > 0.01$) at 1 percent level of probability. It was also significant with Participation ($r = 0.486$, $P > 0.05$), Knowledge ($r = 0.449$, $P > 0.05$) and development constraints ($r = 0.441$, $P > 0.05$) at 5 percent level of significant.

The association between empowerment and their age was negative but highly significant at 1 percent level of probability ($r = -0.674$). The correlation coefficient of other independent variables Personal Education ($r = 0.170$), Family Type ($r = 0.261$), Occupation ($r = 0.161$), Material Possession ($r = 0.201$) and Social Linkage ($r = 0.053$) were found to be positive but non significant rest of the independent variables of Marital Status ($r = -0.139$), Family Education ($r = -0.068$), Size of Land Holding ($r = -0.391$) and House Type ($r = -0.111$) were found to be negative but no significantly correlated with Empowerment.

This implied that, the degree of empowerment of EWPSMs increased significantly with improvement in their Caste, Family Size, Family Income Interaction Style, Knowledge and Participation. A further, developmental constraint doesn't affect the empowerment of these elected women.

The negative correlation with Marital Status, Family Education, Size of Land Holding and House Type was also but natural as the women in greater need of the help from Panchayat projects were making more efforts to manage the same and so gradually seem to learn to command an increased empowerment.

Table 6: Co-efficient of correlation between empowerment and Socio-economic and Psychological variables of elected women members of Panchayat Samiti.

Independent Variables	Value of Coefficient of Correlation
Age	-0.674**
Caste	0.602**
Marital status	-0.139 ^{Ns}
Personal Education	0.170 ^{Ns}
Family Education	-0.068 ^{Ns}
Family type	0.261 ^{Ns}
Family Size	0.562**
Occupation	0.161 ^{Ns}
Size of land holding	-0.391 ^{Ns}
Family income	0.710**
Material possession	0.201 ^{Ns}
House type	-0.111 ^{Ns}
Social linkage	0.053 ^{Ns}
Knowledge	0.449*
Development constraints	-0.441*
Interaction Style	0.611**
Participation	0.486*

* Significant at 5% level of probability ** Significant at 1% level of probability
Ns- Non-significant

The estimation of contribution of 17 independent variables made to the empowerment of EWPSMs presented in table 7 indicated that the partial regression coefficients were significant only in case of two variable i.e. caste and age. However, in terms of standard regression co-efficient caste, family income and occupation occupied the first three ranks. The partial regression co-efficient obtained for these three variables revealed that a unit gain in term was capable of affecting a change in the empowerment of EWPMs individually to the tune of 12.835, 10.311 and 8.602 units, respectively provided all other variables were kept constant.

Table 7: Multiple regressions between empowerment and Socio-economic and Psychological variables of elected women members of Panchayat Samiti.

Characters	Standard regression	Standard error	T-value	SDR regression co-efficient
Age	-1.662	0.700	-2.374*	-0.469
Caste	12.835	5.912	2.171*	0.568
Marital status	3.747	10.711	0.350	0.057
Personal Education	-3.219	4.258	-0.756	-0.168
Family Education	0.667	5.509	0.121	0.024
Family type	9.752	11.699	0.834	0.252
Family Size	8.194	15.054	0.544	0.378
Occupation	8.602	5.305	1.622	0.476
Size of land holding	-2.702	3.979	-0.679	-0.142
Family income	10.311	5.773	1.786	0.485
Material possession	-4.204	9.275	-0.453	-0.148
House type	4.814	6.167	0.781	0.154
Social linkage	0.375	6.764	0.055	0.010
Knowledge	-0.520	0.370	-1.407	-0.423
Development constraints	0.292	0.356	0.819	0.266
Interaction Style	1.347	11.246	0.120	0.063
Participation	-0.383	0.311	-1.233	0.288

R2 = 0.968 F = 4.327 * Significant at 5% level of probability **
Significant at 1% level of probability

Further, some other independent variables though failed to show significant t - value, have substantial standardized regression coefficient. In order to magnitude there were Caste, Occupation, Family Income, Knowledge, Family Type, Family Size, Participation and Constraints. An unit change in these variables is likely to cause a change in the empowerment of elected women to the extent of 12.385, 8.602, 10.311, -0.520, 9.752, 8.194, -0.383 and 0.292 respectively provided each one of these were allowed to operate alone other variable being kept constant.

The path analysis under taken to obtain the direct and indirect effects has been presented in table 8.

The direct effects of the independent variables on the empowerment of EWPSMs recorded in table 61 revealed that it was substantial in case of Interaction Style (0.4321), Personal Education (0.41281), Participation (-0.4064), Caste (0.3467), House Type (-0.34231), Social Linkage (-0.3211), Material Possession (0.3201), Development Constraints (0.2421), Knowledge (0.2361), Family Type (0.2341), Family Income (0.0752), Size of Land Holding (0.0721), Age (0.0468), Family Size (0.0431) and Family Education (0.0321) did not have substantial direct effect.

The substantial indirect effect of Family Education, Interaction Style, Material Possession and House Type channeled through Education to the tune of 0.8321, 0.3489, 0.3129 and 0.2042, respectively.

Table 8: Direct-Indirect effect of independent variables with empowerment of elected women members of PanchayatSamiti.

Characteristics	Direct effect	Total indirect effect	Maximum indirect effect	Though
Age	0.0468	-0.2307	-0.6232	Caste
Caste	0.3467	-0.0892	0.3721	Age
Marital status	0.2421	0.2483	0.2921	Caste
Personal Education	0.4128	-0.0403	-0.2720	Knowledge
Family Education	0.0321	2.0123	0.8321	Education
Family type	0.2341	0.0213	0.0921	House types
Family Size	0.0421	0.0321	0.0428	House type
Occupation	0.2431	0.0428	0.0321	Knowledge
Size of land holding	0.0721	-0.3419	-0.4321	Age
Family income	0.0752	0.2489	0.2937	Knowledge
Material possession	-0.3201	0.2341	0.3129	Education
House type	-0.3423	0.1421	0.2042	Education
Social linkage	-0.3211	0.2489	0.3241	Age
Knowledge	0.2361	-0.6721	-0.8421	Age
Development constraints	-0.2726	0.3725	0.3820	Family Education
Interaction Style	0.4321	0.2472	0.3489	Education
Participation	-0.4064	0.3630	0.2043	Age

CONCLUSION

In Indian constitution, there are provision for equal rights for all citizens irrespective of their socio and economic status. Socio-economic and psychological background of the elected women members, what degree of preparedness did these representative have to turn this basic institution into a key player in accelerating the socio-economic development in the country side while there may be numerous indicators to this effect, a knowledge of the sources of motivation for the women to fight a for the rules and regulations of Panchayatsamiti and awareness to the developmental programmes under the Panchayati Raj was considered important towards effective role playing by the elected women members.

The above finding concluded that there was an overall positive impact of increased participation of elected women members in PanchayatSamiti as the representative of the society. That is why more than 90.0 percent respondents spoke positively with respect to different life situation which was the consequence of their association with PanchayatSamiti. There is enough evidence that the PanchayatSamiti are capable of providing a right platform from where a substantial change might take place in the status of women. However, a concrete impact on the life of either elected women members of PanchayatSamiti in the society will take some time to take place.

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