

## **Role performance of Village Panchayat in the field of Agricultural Development and Village welfare in Unnao District of Uttar Pradesh**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The project intended to study the role performance of Village Panchayats with respect to role in the field of Agricultural Production and Social welfare of village community the histogram of specific role performed by the Village Panchayats showed the frequency of responses perceived by the respondents. It was analysed that the maximum (93.75%) respondents opined in favour of motivation farmers for availing financial and technical help by the local cooperatives (87.50%) by making efforts for the availability of chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc. (83.75%) of technology transfer for the maintenance of livestock and making efforts for improving cattle breeds (78.75%) of assisting for assured supply of irrigation by canal and public tube-well (75.00%) or preparation of agricultural production plan (75.00%) by arrangement for reviving the traditional village cottage industries (68.75%) by making efforts for undertaking user reclamation (62.50%) of distribution of land among landless, (62.50%) of organising fairs and meals and (56.25%) to organise and layout field demonstration. It was also analysed the social services and maintenance of buildings, provision of drinking water facilities. It was calculated that respondents opined in favour of the perception that the agricultural sub-committee was responsible for pooling and making available agricultural resources to the cultivators. It was studied the social welfare committee was worked for constructing Village Panchayats buildings, culverts, irrigation channels, wells and tanks, improvement of family welfare programme, contagious diseases and epidemic and eradication of social evils like gambling, untouchability *etc.*

**Keywords:** Cottage industries, epidemic, histogram, untouchability, village panchayats.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The old village administration used to discharge certain judicial functions as well as functions concerning internal defence and security, public works and collection of state taxes. According to old records the Panchayat literally means a council of five elders chooses to look after the welfare of the village or for deciding an issue, whatever its significance in the past. Old village in idea was more or less a self-supporting miniature village republic. It managed its own affairs and noted out justice to the satisfaction of the villagers. The Panchayat was responsible for all round rural development. After independence the dynamic necessity of Gram Samaj was realized that every village of India should be a small Kingdom governed by village folks themselves and village should be a unit in a true democracy. Democracy to be real and effective, the public should administer its affairs and should be shaped by its own leaders in tapping local resources, mobilizing community organization,

organizing functional groups and voluntary agencies to solve the felt needs of the people. The idea of decentralization, therefore, seeks to transfer the power of administration now vesting in Government officials to help their representative to assess the needs of the areas, workout scheme and meet the same. The Planning Commission appointed a committee in the year 1958 known as 'Commission on Plan Projects'. The committee was to study the industrial scheme of the Government of India and to recommend that how this working can be improved. This committee appointed a special team presided over by Shri Balwant Rai Mehta. This team recommended three tier system of district administration as pattern of democratic decentralization. The Panchayat at the village level will be the basic institution for planning and execution of developmental programme. The Panchayat Samiti will draw up the plans for the area and execute them through Panchayats and functional committee. Panchayati Raj was accepted as the new concept because, it means administration by mutual

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consultation, consent and consensus. It fitted closely into the ancient cultural pattern of India. The village Panchayats is the formal executive body of Village Sabha, elected by the adult franchise of the village. From 1952 onward the Village Panchayats have been playing an increasingly significant role in rural development programme. This basic local government unit of rural India bear no resemblance to the Village Panchayats at the existence of British rule in the country. The Village Panchayats of by gone times functioned in the set-up of a self-sufficient village, isolating from the surrounding country due to lack of swift means of communication, and stratified into sectional groups of caste and communities. Village Panchayats also assume the responsibilities of raising agricultural production, expanding rural industries and mobilising other natural resources for the common welfare of the village. A general appraisal of the working of Village Panchayats would indicate that the existing system did not prove to be very effective the economic, social and political transformation of the village communities through these institutions must being tradition bound villagers to overcome resistance to change to witness positive impact of various development activities.

The functions of the Village Panchayat can be divided into obligatory and discretionary. They cover a wide range including municipal administration, cultural, social, agricultural and other development activities. In shorts, these functions centre on preparation and implementation of village plans for agricultural development, provision of all civil amenities to the village and suitable power of taxation (Muthayya 1972).

### METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted in the year 2010 in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh, it has 954 Village Panchayats. Eight village Panchayats from two blocks were selected randomly. The minimum number of respondent observed were ten (including the Sarpanch). So, keeping this as criterion, ten respondents from each selected village panchayat were randomly selected. Thus, total 80 respondents formed the sample size of the study.

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

It is noticed from table 1 that, 75 per cent of the respondents agreed that panchayats played role in preparation of agricultural production plan, while 25 per cent disagreed about its role. More than half the respondents i.e. 55per cent agreed that the panchayats made efforts for carrying out reclamation work in Village

sabhakshetra. Half of the respondents i.e. 50per cent agreed that panchayats distributed the Village samaj land among the land lessees of village, while half disagreed with this. More than half of the respondents i.e. 56.25per cent agreed that panchayats organised field demonstration of various crops during different cropping seasons. About 83.75 and 87.50 per cent of respondents agreed that panchayats had role in transferring technology for maintenance and improvement of livestock and in making available chemicals and pesticides, etc., respectively. Almost all the respondents i.e. 93.75 per cent agreed that panchayats motivated them in taking financial and technical help through local cooperatives.

**Table 1: Role performance of Village Panchayats in the field of Agricultural Development**

Agricultural activities	Respondents (n = 80)	
	Extent of role performance	
	Frequency	%
Preparation of agricultural production plan with the help of development staff	60	75.00
Making efforts for under taking user reclamation work in the Village SabhaKshetra	55	68.75
Distribution of Village Samaj Land among land lessees of Village	50	62.50
To organise and layout field demonstration of various crops during different cropping seasons	45	56.25
Technology transferred for the maintenance of live - stock and making efforts for improving cattle breed	67	83.75
Making efforts for the availability of chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc.	70	87.50
Motivating farmers for availing financial and technical help through local cooperatives	75	93.75
Assisting for assured irrigation by canal and public tube-wells	63	78.75
Organising Melas and fairs in the village	50	62.50
Arrangement for reviving the traditional village cottage industry	60	75.00

The analysis of performance of activities by the Village Panchayats clearly revealed that member agreed that Village Panchayats were helping the agricultural production to maximum extent of 93.75 per cent respondents opined that "Motivating farmers for availing financial and technical help by the local cooperatives" followed by Making efforts for the availability of chemical fertilizers, pesticides etc.

Technology transfer for the maintenances of

livestock and making effort for improving cattle breeds, assisting for assured irrigation by canal and public tubewell, preparation of agricultural production plans with the help of development staff, Arrangement for reviving the traditional village cottage industries, Making efforts for under taking user reclamation work in the VillagesabhaKshetra, Distribution of Villagesamaj land among land-lasses of village, organising Melas and Fairs in the village and to organised and layout field demonstration of various crops during different cropping seasons and their percentage value was found as 87.50 per cent, 83.75 per cent, 78.75 per cent, 75.00 per cent, 75.00 per cent, 68.75 per cent, 62.50 per cent, 62.50 per cent and 56.25 per cent respectively. Agricultural development pertaining to item No. 7, 6, 5 and 8, but the item of work at serial No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9 and thus needed more attention by the Village Panchayats.

The Village Panchayats worked to do better in the course of Agricultural production, but could not be generalised that these activities are being performed by the Village Panchayats.

**Table 2: Role performance of Village Panchayats in the field of village welfare**

Specific social welfare activities	Respondents (n = 80)	
	Extent of role performance	
	Frequency	%
Development of educational facilities, maintenance and upkeep of the building of village school	65	81.25
Arrangement of night school for adult education	47	58.75
Arrangement of urinals and latrines in the Village SabhaKshetra	38	47.50
Maintenance and improvement of public streets, drains, lightening and medical centre	70	87.50
Filling and levelling of dirty water pits and repairing of wells and ponds	55	68.75
Provision of drinking water facilities	50	62.50
Prevention of contagious diseases and creating healthy hygiene condition in the village	42	52.50
Construction of houses under JawaharRojgarYojna to the weaker sections of the village	58	72.50
Organising the village markets (hats)	60	75.00
Organising youth clubs and imparting training to the villagers to lead a cooperative way of living	35	43.75

Table 2 indicates that 87.50 per cent respondents agreed in favour of village panchayat activities related to social services viz. lightening, improvement of public streets,

drains and medical relief 81.25 percent respondents agreed that educational facilities and maintenance of school buildings 75.00percent respondents in favour of panchayat for organising the Village market (hats) 72.50percent respondents agreed for construction of houses under JawaharRojgarYojna to the weaker sections in the village68.75percent respondents agreed filling and levelling of dirty water pits and repairing of wells and ponds in village 62.50percent respondents agreed to panchayat for provision of drinking waters facilities 58.75percent respondents agreed arrangement of night school for adult education 52.50percent respondents agreed prevention of contagious diseases and creating healthy hygiene condition in the village47.50percent respondents agreed arrangement of urinals and latrines in the VillagesabhaKshetra43.75 per cent respondents agreed organising youth clubs and imparting training to the villagers to lead cooperative way of living. Thus, on the basis of above findings, it can be generalised that the Village Panchayats had contributed significantly in the fields of social welfare in the villages.

**Table 3: Perception of respondents towards working of agricultural production committee of Village Panchayats**

Perception	Respondents (n=80)	
	Perception of respondents	
	Frequency	%
The committee was responsible for getting the agricultural production plan prepared and executed with the help of block staff	40	50.00
The committee was responsible for pooling and making available the agricultural resources to the cultivators	50	62.50
The committee was responsible for solving problem in the village of agricultural production	35	43.75
The committee was responsible for helping and arranging of marketing and storage facilities for the yield of crops	45	56.25
For providing loans for meeting production expenses through local cooperatives	60	75.00

Table 3 indicates that the respondents had favourable most the items of providing the loans for production expenses through local cooperatives 75.00 percent 62.50 per cent respondents agreed that pooling and making available agricultural resources to the cultivators 56.25 per cent respondent agreed helping and arranging the marketing and store facilities 50.00 per cent respondents agreed preparing and executing the agricultural production plan with the help of block staff and 43.75 per cent respondents agreed solving problems in the field of agricultural production. Thus, it is obvious that the agricultural production committee was rendering help creating agricultural production in the Villages.

**Table 4: Perception of respondents towards functions of welfare committee of Village Panchayats**

Perception	Respondents (n=80)	
	Perception of respondents	
	Frequency	%
The committee was responsible for overall improvements of family welfare programme	66	82.50
Helped in the eradication of social evils like gambling, untouchability, beggings <i>etc.</i>	50	62.50
Committee was worked for constructing Village Panchayats buildings, culverts, irrigation channels, wells and tanks	70	87.50
Helped in combating with contagious diseases and epidemics	60	75.00
Committee was worked for organise sports/cultural shows/exhibition <i>etc.</i>	55	68.75

Table 4 indicated that the committee was worked for constructing Village Panchayats buildings, culverts, irrigations channels, drinking well and tanks ranked first & their calculated percentage was 87.50 percent, 82.50 per cent respondents agreed overall improvement of family welfare programme 75.00 per cent respondents agreed helped in combating with contagious diseases and epidemics 68.75 per cent respondents agreed worked organise sports/cultural shows 62.50 per cent respondents agreed exhibitions and helped in the eradication of social evils like gambling, prohibition *etc.* The above table clearly indicate that villagers an different view that the Village Panchayats are able to do some work, the general functioning and ability for the development of the village.

### CONCLUSION

On the basis of the findings if can be concluded that panchayats are gaining favourable responses of the members, the work of panchayats in the sphere of Agricultural Production plan, rejuvenation of traditional village cottage industries, social welfare programme, particularly construction of buildings, irrigation channels, wells and family welfare programmes recognisable. Although the panchayats are working in the supposed direction but there are also some obstacles which impeded the normal and smooth functioning of village Panchayats which needs further study and correction duly to get more and more form this recognised systems.

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### REFERENCES

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