



**SOS POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATION  
M.A.PUB.ADMN.401  
SUBJECT NAME:LOCAL ADMINISTRATION  
UNIT-III  
TOPIC NAME:GRAM PANCHAYAT**

# INTRODUCTION

- \* A Gram Panchayat is the cornerstone of a local self government organisation in India
- \* Gram Panchayat is the lowest unit of the Panchayati Raj Institute at village level, governed by the 73rd Amendment which is concern with rural local government
- \* The Gram Panchayat is divided into wards and each ward is represented by a ward member, also refers to as a Panch
- \* The Panchayat is chaired by the president of the village, known as a Sarpanch

## **Gram Panchayat Under Panchayat Raj System, the role of gram Panchayat is very important.**

The progress and development of village depends on it. It is called the pillar of “gram swarajaya” or “gram suraj”. Under this new act, villages with 5000- 7000 population and the adjacent small villages join together to create a Gram Panchayat. Whereas in Malnad and hilly areas, villages having a population of 2500 are allowed to form a gram Panchayat. Every 400 residents will have one representative and they are elected by voters, whose age is above 18 years the term of office is 5 years. It is expected to meet at least once in 2 months.

# EMERGENCE OF GRAM PANCHAYAT

\* The Balwant Rai Mehta committee, headed by MP Balwant Mehta was a committee appointed by the Go in January 1957 - to examine the work of the CDP (1952) - to examine the national extension services(1953) - to suggest measures to improve their work

\* This committee led to the establishment of the scheme of “democratic decentralization”, which finally came to be known as Panchayati Raj in 1958

\* First adopted by the state of Rajasthan 2nd October 1959, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra

# STRUCTURE

Gram Panchayat are at the lowest level of Panchayat raj institutions (PRIs), whose legal authority is the 73rd Constitutional Amendment of 1993, which is concerned with rural local governments.

Panchayat at District (or apex) Level

Panchayat at Intermediate Level

Panchayat at Base Level

The gram Panchayat is divided into wards and each ward is represented by a Ward Member or Commissioner, also referred to as a Panch or Panchayat Member, who is directly elected by the villagers. The Panchayat is chaired by the president of the village, known as a Sarpanch. The term of the elected representatives is five years. The Secretary of the Panchayat is a non-elected representative, appointed by the state government, to oversee Panchayat activities

# FUNCTION OF GRAMPANCHAYAT

- \*Taking care of health and sanitation of the village
- \*Providing pure water for drinking
- \*Providing drainage and street light, road construction
- \* Housing
- \*Establishing khadi and village industries
- \*Providing elementary education
- \*Maintenance of such records relating to cattle census, population, crop, and census of unemployed person



# **ELECTION OF GRAM PANCHAYAT**

**Role of Gram Panchayat in promoting social welfare MGNREGS** This act aims to enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural house hold whose adult member volunteer to do unskilled manual work .The GP shall be responsible for identification of the projects in the GP area to be taken up under a scheme as per recommendation of the Gram Sabha and the ward Sabha .Prepare a development plan and maintain a shelf of possible work to be taken under the scheme as and when demand for work arises

The GP shall formed its proposal work to the programme officer for scrutiny and preliminary approval prior to the commencement of the year in which it is proposed to be executed. The GP allocate employment opportunities among the applicants and ask them to report for work. The Gram Sabha shall monitor the execution of works within the Gram Panchayat . The Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audits of all the projects under the scheme taken up within the GP. The GP shall make available all relevant document including the muster rolls, bills vouchers, measurement books, copies of sanction order and account related paper to the Gram Sabha for the purpose of conducting the social audit Source : Ministry of Rural Development GoI [2013-2014 report]

Role of Gram Panchayat in promoting Education SAAKSHAR BHARAT MISSION It aims to recast India's National Literacy Mission to focus on literacy of women, which is expected to increase the literate population of 70 million adults including 60 million women Launched by P.M. Dr. Man Mohan on 8th September 2009 as a centrally sponsored scheme from department of school education [Ministry of Human Resource Development, GoI]

Each Gram Panchayat will constitute a Panchayat Lok Shiksha Samiti [People's Education Committee] Samiti will consist of 17-20 member from various strata of the community & 50% of them have to be women Elected member should be a head master/teacher from the local school, mahila mandal/SHG member, social activities etc. Establishment of Lok Shiksha Kendra's [Literacy centers]. Their micro level tasks include the identification of non-literates, selection and training of literacy educator, sourcing and supply of teaching and learning materials etc

**Role of GP in Public Health Development** The Gram Panchayat made intervention for improving health of whole population in the GP area and promoting healthy lifestyle amongst people, come under the umbrella of public health A GP can ensure public health through various ways like - Awareness generation on crucial aspects of health .Monitoring health education and disease control programmes implemented by health department .Ensuring people participation in public health activities and survey . To assure that all member of the community can avail appropriate and affordable care, including health promotion and disease prevention services.

Accredited Social health Activists [ASHA] .To create awareness and provide information to the community on nutrition, sanitation, healthy living etc. Provide counseling to women and families for safe delivery breastfeeding, immunization, FP, STDs, RTI etc. Maintain health record, information about the birth and death in her village Auxiliary Nurse Midwife [ANM] .Provide information to VHSNC regarding services, schemes and services for maternity and child health. Inform the VHSNC on the deaths in village, especially maternal and child deaths and their possible causes . Compile Sub- Centre level health data and update the same to the health supervisor on GP on regular basis Anganwadi Worker . Provide supplementary nutrition for children below 6 years of age and lactating mother . Immunization of children and mother . Health checkups . Mass formal pre school education to children 3-6 years of age

# COMPOSITION OF VILLAGE PANCHAYAT

A Village Panchayat is divided into wards. Each ward elects a representative who is known as the Ward Member, also called Panch. All the members of the Gram Sabha also elect a Sarpanch who is called Panchayat President. The Ward Panchs and the Sarpanch form the Gram Panchayat. The tenure of the Gram Panchayat is five years. The Gram Panchayat and Gram Sabha have a common secretary. He is a person whom the government appoints. Thus, he is not an elected person. The secretary is responsible for calling the meeting of the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat. He also keeps records of the proceedings of the meeting.