

CHAPTER - IV

WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL BODIES

Preview:

This Chapter is devoted to discuss women representation in politics in India with special reference to lok sabha and rajya sabha and women in legislative assemblies of various states in Indian republic. The second part of the chapter throws light on Panchayat raj System in India and also in Andhra Pradesh. Finally, women representation in Medak district with special reference to local bodies is also discussed at a length.

4.0 INTRODUCTION:

The *Empowerment of women* in economic, social and *political arena* has become one of the most important concerns of 21st century. It is central to the issue of equality, justice and liberation in the country. Women constitute almost half of the world's population, but are the most deprived and unproductive members in the economy of many world nations. Promoting various income generating activities especially among rural women is perceived as one of the most powerful medium to resolve several socio-economic and even political problems. Empowerment is a process of awareness and capacity building, leading to a greater participation and greater decision making power. The process of empowerment strengthens ones innate abilities through acquiring knowledge, power and experience (Dharmalingam, 2000)¹.

Women empowerment in general and poor women in particular, is the thrust area of development initiatives in India today. Empowerment of women is a process whereby women are able to organise themselves in community based participatory

groups to increase their own self confidence, self reliance, assert their independent rights, counter and challenge the disparities and barriers against them, make prudent choices and also control resources which will assist in challenging and eliminating their subordination thereby bringing a beneficial social- economic and political change.(Khan,2014)².

According to studies, women enjoyed equal status and rights during the early Vedic period. However in approximately 500 B.C., the status of women began to decline with the Smritis (esp.Manusmriti), and with the Islamic invasion of Babur and the Mughal Empire and Christianity later curtailing women's freedom and rights (Barki, 2013)³

It was only in the twentieth century Mahatma Gandhi prophetically said, “as long as the women of India do not take part in public life, there can be no salvation for the country.” It is worth mentioning that way back in 1920 Smt. Sarojini Naidu and Ms. Margaret Cousins led a group of women to demand equal rights of representation for the fair sex in the Indian Provincial Legislatures. Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak was of the view that political action on the part of women could be independent of their social status and that political action was possibly more important than social reform in empowering women. In independent India, women have held important political and administrative positions. For instance, Shrimati Indira Gandhi guided the destiny of the country as Prime Minister for more than one and half decades. There are only about 10 most popular women leaders today as examples to 600 million women in India- Pratibha Patil, Sonia Gandhi, Mamata Banerjee, Girija Vyas, Jayalalithaa, Mayawati, Sushma Swaraj, Meira Kumar, Najma

Heptulla, Kiran Bedi, Shabna Azmi, Hema Malini, and Brinda Karat, along with a handful of another 50 or so at the national level.

Political representation was initially based on the premise that it deals primarily with individuals. It was believed that though very few women were actually joining politics at a given time; the overall improvement in terms of education and employment opportunities would necessarily percolate into the political sphere too and their representation would commensurately increase.

Most parts of India are patriarchal; in the sense that women are being denied to participate in the public life and that important issues associated with local politics have been an area of men (Mishra, 1999). Women are generally engaged in domestic works especially in the rural areas. In the family the husband and father make key decisions and the structure of the family is rested on men's control and subordination of the massive majority of women. According to Berglund (2009) although the Indian government tried to highlight women's issues to some extent with the aspirations of becoming a welfare state, but economic, political, and social obstacles to a large extent laid these expectations to rest.

While understanding the meaning of *panchayat* Mahanta and Sinha (2007) explain that the word *panchayat* traditionally means a body of five elders in a village who were accountable to resolve the conflicts and to give punishment to the offenders. In this traditional conception of a *panchayat*, women and lower castes were not allowed membership. Omvedt (2005) also explains the traditional working of *panchayats* (village level governmental intuitions) as caste communities which were controlled by men from the rural elite.

Mahanta and Sinha (2007) argue that Mahatma Gandhi considered village as the true centre of knowledge and thus after the independence the proposal of village

self-administration was included in Part IV of the Indian Constitution known as the Directive Principles of State Policy. However Part IV of the Constitution is not enforceable in a court of law. So it was not compulsory for the state governments to implement its provision and set up Panchayati Raj Institutions. The system of self-governance known as Panchayati Raj was introduced in 1959 following the Balwant Rai Mehta Committee Report (1957) that proposed a three-tier structure of local self-government at village level, sub-district level and district level. The Ashok Mehta Committee (1978) was set up for further investigation and recommended greater decision-making power to the local councils. In this way the Indian Government attempted to create a strong local government system but few women were elected to the *panchayat* and their participation was insignificant. Omvedt's (2005) study claims that many of these women did not even attend the meetings and merely gave their —thumbprint|| as a signature to whatever decision that was taken. The 73rd Amendment was passed in 1992 and deals with rural local self-government (Panchayati Raj) while the 74th Amendment, introduced in 1993, concerns urban local-self administration (municipalities) and established the reservation of 33% of all seats in *panchayats* and municipalities for women.⁴ The Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are divided into three tiers. At the bottom of this structure is the Gram Sabha that comprises the entire body of the citizens in a village. Above the Gram Sabha there is the Gram Panchayat which is the first level elected body and covers a population of around five thousand people and may include more than one village. At the district level there is the Zila Panchayat which is linked to the state government.

But Hust (2004) argues that the representation of women in all of these levels is not adequate in itself as it does not offer the possibility of active

participation. Hust states that in India most of the women lag behind, because they are uneducated and more dependent on men. This is the reason why many scholars such as Omvedt (2005), Chattopadhyay & Duflo (2003) and Mishra (1999) have used the word proxy or token for the women who are vested only with the formal power while the real power still resided with the male members of their family. SAP Network (2003) also defines the term proxy women as *—figurehead elected women representatives who are supposed to do the bidding of male members of the family rather than take their own decisions*||. Dahlerup further states that the point of this argument is that the women are dependent on their husbands and families and/or their parties (Dahlerup, 2006)⁴

In Lok Sabha

Even six decades after Independence, the representation of women in the Lok Sabha does not present an impressive picture. It has not crossed 10 per cent. In the First Lok Sabha, there were only 22 women constituting 4.4 per cent of the House. It increased marginally over the years except in the Sixth Lok Sabha when the House had only 19 women members. In the Thirteenth Lok Sabha, there were 49 women members. However, in the Fourteenth Lok Sabha, the strength of women members is 51.

General Elections	No. of women elected	Percentage
First	22	4.4
Second	27	5.4
Third	34	6.7
Fourth	31	5.9
Fifth	22	4.2
Sixth	19	3.4
Seventh	28	5.1
Eighth	44	8.1
Ninth	28	5.29
Tenth	39	7.02
Eleventh	40	7.36
Twelveth	44	8.07
Thirteenth	49	9.02
Fourteenth	51	9.51

Source: Who's Who Lok Sabha

Table -3

In Rajya Sabha

Similarly, in the Rajya Sabha, in 1952, the number of women members was merely 15 constituting 6.94 per cent of the membership of the House. Over the years, the percentage of women has increased and now, out of 242 members, 23 are women constituting 9.50 per cent of the House. In the Rajya Sabha, the representation of women has never crossed 12 per cent.

Women Members of Rajya Sabha and their Percentage (1952-2008)

Year	Number	Percentage
1952	15	6.94
1954	17	17.79
1956	20	8.62
1958	22	9.52
1960	24	10.25
1962	18	7.62
1964	21	8.97
1966	23	9.82
1968	22	9.64
1970	14	5.85
1972	18	7.40
1974	18	7.53
1976	24	10.16
1978	25	10.24
1980	29	11.98
1982	24	10.16
1984	24	10.16
1988	25	10.59
1986	28	11.98
1988	24	10.59
1990	24	10.24
1992	17	7.26
1994	20	8.36
1996	19	7.81
1998	19	7.81
2000	22	9.01
2002	25	10.20
2004	28	11.43
2006	25	10.41
2008	23	9.50

Table -4

Women members in State Legislatures

Women representation in State legislatures has also been equally dismal. At present the average percentage of elected women in State Assemblies is 6.94 per cent, the highest being 14.44 per cent in Haryana and the lowest being 1.34 per cent in Karnataka. States like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Union Territory of Puducherry have no representation of women in their Assemblies.

Women Members in Legislative Assemblies and their Percentage

S.No	Name of the State/UT	Total No of Seats	Women Members	Percentage
01	Andhra Pradesh	294	28	9.52
02	Arunachal Pradesh	60	00	00
03	Assam	126	13	10.32
04	Bihar	243	25	10.29
05	Chattisgarh	90	5	5.56
06	Delhi	70	6	8.57
07	Goa	40	1	2.50
08	Gujarat	182	16	8.79
09	Haryana	90	13	14.44
10	Himachal pradesh	68	5	7.35
11	Jammu & Kashmir	87	2	2.30
12	Jharkhand	81	5	6.17
13	Karnataka	224	3	1.34
14	Kerala	140	7	5.00
15	Madhya Pradesh	230	19	8.26
16	Maharastra	288	12	4.17
17	Manipur	60	0	0.00
18	Meghalaya	60	2	3.33
19	Mizoram	40	0	0.00
20	Nagaland	60	0	0.00
21	Orissa	147	11	7.48
22	Punjab	117	7	5.98
23	Pudhucherry	30	0	0.00
24	Rajastan	200	13	6.50
25	Skimim	32	3	9.38
26	Tamilnadu	234	22	9.40
27	Tripura	60	2	3.33
28	Uttar Pradesh	70	4	5.71
29	Uttarakhand	70	4	5.71
30	West Bengal	294	37	12.59
	Total	4120	286	6.94

Source: *Website of the respective Assemblies/State Governments

Table-5

Women contestants in General Elections

Even though women enjoy equal political rights, very few of them are actually participating in the elections. In the Sixth General Elections out of the total contestants of 2439 only 70 candidates were women and in the Fourteenth General Elections, out of the total numbers of contestants of 5435, only 355 were women. Though the number of women participating in the elections may be increasing gradually, they continue to constitute a very small percentage of the total number of contestants.

Gender-wise break-up of Contestants to Lok Sabha in General Elections (Sixth to Fourteenth)

General Elections	Total Contestants	Men	Women
Sixth	2439	2369	70
Seventh	4629	4486	143
Eighth	5492	5330	162
Ninth	6160	5962	198
Tenth	4831	4517	314
Eleventh	13952	13353	599
Twelfth	4750	4476	274
Thirteenth	4648	4364	284
Fourteenth	5435	5081	355

Table-6

Women in Local Bodies

Given the low representation of women in politics, there has been a consistent demand for more meaningful ways to increase their representation in decision-making bodies. In pursuance of this notion of empowerment of women, the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act, 1993 and the Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act, 1993 reserved seats for women at the local level bodies,

namely, the Panchayats and Municipalities with the hope that these measures will set the trend to provide women their legitimate place in public life. After these amendments, Articles 243 D and 243 T were added to the Constitution to provide that not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by the direct election in the local bodies (Panchayats and Municipalities) would be reserved for women and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in the local bodies.

This, indeed, makes a historic beginning for the effective participation of women in the decision-making process at the grassroots level. In the elections to these local bodies, more than one million women were being elected every five years. In 2006, 9,75,116 women were elected to Gram Panchayats; 58,094 women to Panchayats at Intermediate level; and 5779 women to Panchayats at the District level.⁷ It is but natural that a larger number of women have participated in these elections and this signifies a very encouraging trend for women's empowerment. Though it has taken time for women to translate their numerical strength into active participation in the rural and semi-urban areas, the results have been truly astounding. Before reservation, the percentage of women in this area was merely 4.5 per cent, which after reservation has gone upto 40 per cent. As per the *Fifteenth Anniversary Charter on Panchayati Raj*, "Today more than 26 lakh representatives stand elected to the three levels of Panchayats. Of these, over 10 lakh are women. The last fifteen years of Panchayati Raj, have thus succeeded in empowering marginalized groups who have gained political representation and valuable experience. Many of them have successfully taken on the challenge of governance and brought about enduring social change through their close links with the community."⁸ Women have prioritized

issues of health, education and access to basic services and in some cases have been able to ensure a significant change in living conditions for the entire community. The efforts and work of several women representatives in Panchayats in Maharashtra, Gujarat and West Bengal have been widely acclaimed.(Rajya Sabha,2008) ⁵

State-wise Number of Panchayat Institutions (2013)

States	Village Panchayat	Intermediate Panchayat	District Panchayat
Andhra Pradesh	21,649	1,098	22
Arunachal Pradesh	1,734	155	16
Assam	2,206	191	21
Bihar	8,474	534	38
Chhattisgarh	9,777	146	18
Goa	190	n.a.	2
Gujarat	13,883	223	26
Haryana	6,081	124	21
Himachal Pradesh	3,243	77	12
Jammu & Kashmir	4,098	143	22
Jharkhand	4,423	259	24
Karnataka	5,631	176	30
Kerala	977	152	14
Madhya Pradesh	23,024	313	50
Maharashtra	27,935	353	33
Manipur	160	n.a.	4
Odisha	6,235	314	30
Punjab	12,430	139	20
Rajasthan	9,193	248	33
Sikkim	176	n.a.	4
Tamil Nadu	12,524	385	31
Tripura	511	26	8
Uttar Pradesh	51,972	821	72
Uttarakhand	7,555	95	13
West Bengal	3,239	333	18
All-India	237,539	6,325	589

Source:Ministry of, Panchayati Raj Government of India 2013

Table-7

State-wise Proportion of Elected SC, ST and Women Representatives in Panchayats (Per Cent) (as on 1 March 2013)			
States	SC	ST	Women
Andhra Pradesh	18.4	8.3	33.5
Arunachal Pradesh	NA	100	41.6
Assam	5	3.3	36.9
Bihar	16.3	0.8	50
Chhattisgarh	12.4	40.2	54.5
Goa	NA	5.9	32.3
Gujarat	7	20	33
Haryana	21.5	NA	36.5
Himachal Pradesh	26.8	4.4	50.1
Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA	NA
Jharkhand	11	34.1	58.6
Karnataka	18.6	10.8	43.6
Kerala	4.5	0.6	51.9
Madhya Pradesh	15.1	27.3	50.5
Maharashtra	10.9	14.9	49.9
Manipur	1.2	2.2	48.5
Odisha	16.2	22	50
Punjab	32	NA	34.9
Rajasthan	17.2	12.6	50
Sikkim	7	38	50
Tamil Nadu	24	1	35
Tripura	26.6	5.4	36
Uttar Pradesh	23.9	NA	40
Uttarakhand	19.9	3.4	56.1
West Bengal	34.2	8.1	38.4
All-India	19.4	11.7	46.7

Source: Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India 2013

Table-8

PANCHAYAT RAJ SYSTEM IN INDIA

This is a kind of local administrative system, which originated from the southern part of Asia. This structure of government is headed by a person, who is accepted as well as elected by the local inhabitants of the respective rural area. Though, traditionally, the gram or village panchayats were set up to settle the disputes between the villages and the individual residents. However, in the present times, these

local administrative bodies are established so as to carry on different responsibilities for the overall growth and improvement of the allocated areas.

Andhra Pradesh Panchayats

Like the several other modern day panchayat systems in the different rural areas in India, the rural panchayats in Andhra Pradesh are divided into various departments such as Agriculture, Finance, Education, General Administration, Public Works, Health, Social Welfare etc. Headed by the Panchayat Raj Commissioner of the Department of Panchayat Raj Institutions or P. R. I.s of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, each of these public governing bodies is recognized by the Union Government of India and has a legal status. This P. R. I. department of the state of Andhra Pradesh comprises of the following 3 tiers:

- Zilla Parishad: The highest district level tier
- Mandal Parishad: The middle level tier
- Gram Panchayat: The lowest village level tier

These Panchayats or local bodies are represented by an elected member of the area. Such elections are conducted by the State Election Commission of Andhra Pradesh. The elected local representatives of the respective areas look after the varied requirements of the citizens. Some of the major functions and responsibilities of these PRIs areas as follows:

Classification of Functions Listed in the 11th Schedule

Core functions	Welfare functions	Agriculture and allied functions
Drinking water	Family welfare	Agriculture, including agricultural extension
Roads, culverts, bridges, ferries, waterways, and other means of communication	Woman and child development	Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation, and soil conservation
Rural electrification, including distribution of electricity	Social welfare, including welfare of the handicapped and mentally retarded	Minor irrigation, water management, and watershed development
Health and sanitation, including hospitals, primary health centers, and dispensaries	Welfare of the weaker sections, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	Animal husbandry, dairying, and poultry
Maintenance of community assets	Public distribution system	Fisheries
Rural housing		Social forestry and farm forestry
Non-conventional energy sources		Minor forest produce
Poverty alleviation programme		Fuel and fodder
Education, including primary and secondary schools		Markets and fairs Industries
Technical training and vocational education		Small-scale industries, including food processing industries
Adult and informal education		Khadi, village, and cottage industries.
Libraries		
Cultural activities		

Table-9

MEDAK DISTRICT-PROFILE :

Medak District is one of the 23 backward districts of Andhra Pradesh. It is located in the northwestern part of the state. To the north are the districts of Nizamabad and Karimnagar, to the east are the districts of Warangal and Nalgonda, to the south is Rangareddy district and the west is the state of Karnataka. Medak has a total area of 9,699 square kilometers with a population of about 2,670,097 (according to the 2001 Indian census), giving it a total population density of 274 persons per square kilometer. As of 2001, about 14.36% of the population, however, was urban. Literacy rate is also lower than the national average of 59.5%, with only 53.24% of the population literate. Medak's district headquarters is the first grade municipality of Sangareddy. The capital city of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, is located 100 kilometers south of the district.

The district derived its name from Methukudurgam", the then headquarters town of the taluk of the same name originally known as "Methukudurgam" which was subsequently changed into Methuku due to the growth of fine and coarse rice in this area and was rechristianed as Medak.

The district was originally called Siddapur and since the early times, has been a strategically important region. Not much is known of its ancient history but it is a fact that the region was ruled over by the Devagiri Yadavas and Hoysalas of Dwara Samudram before being taken over by the Kakatiyas. The other rulers of the Medak region were the Satavahana, Western Chalukya, the Qutub Shahi dynasty of the Golcondan empire and the Nizam kings. There is also evidence to suggest that the Romans settled and ruled in the area for some time.

The district is well-known for the multitudes of temples it has adorning the area. These temples, scattered all around the district, depict fine architectural magnificence, reflecting the various kingdoms and empires that have inhabited the region. They are usually regarded as an attraction by the tourists that visit the area, and as important religious symbols by the devout. The more popular temples include the Veerabhadra Swamy temple in the Bonthapally, the Sapta Prakarauta Bhavani Mata temple in Ismailkhanpet and the Koti Ligeshwara Swamy Temple in Siddipet. However, one of the more popular modern tourist attractions/religious buildings is not Hindu, but rooted in Christianity instead. The Medak Cathedral was built in 1914 by Charles Walker Pasnet and is widely acknowledged to be the biggest church in Southern India. In fact, it is regarded as the single largest diocese in Asia and is the second largest in the world, dwarfed only by the Vatican. It took 10 years to build, and was finally sanctified on December 25, 1924.

The district is mainly agricultural, with about 78% of the population engaged in agriculture or something that is related to it. The major crops in the region are rice, jowar, maize and sugar cane. High-quality teak is also available in Medak, owing to the fact that one-tenth of the district is covered in forests, extending to 97,093 hectares.

The climate in Medak is very tropical, with the summer being particularly hot and dry. Summer extends from March to May, after which the monsoon season comes, which usually brings with it heavy rains until September. From October to November, the rains recede and December to February is marked by winter.

Ranked 12 in Human Development Report (2007) of Centre for Economics and Social Studies (CESS), Medak as per the latest census of 2011 has a population of 30, 31,877. From the previous census of 2001, the population shot up by 13.55 per cent and the density of population stands at 313. Medak district has a total area of about, 9,700 sq km with average literacy rate at 62.53 per cent. Male and female literacy is 72.50 & 52.49 respectively.

NATURAL FEATURES :

Pocharam Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary, located 15 km from Medak and 115 km from Hyderabad, was the favourite hunting ground of the Nizam and was declared a wild life sanctuary in the early part of the 20th century. Named after the Pocharam lake formed from bunding of the Allair in the years 1916-1922, it is spread over 9.12 km. Surrounded by lush green forest, it is rich in flora and fauna and attracts a lot of winged visitors, like the bar-headed goose, Brahminy ducks and open billed storks. There is a center for Eco-Tourism where visitors can see five species of antelopes and deer. Summer temperatures go up to 46 degrees C., and in winter it drops to 6 degrees C. The sanctuary is a home to animals like leopards, forest cats, wild dogs, wolves, jackals, sloth bears, sambars, nilgais, chinkaras, cheetahs and four-horned antelopes. Forest of Medak is giving a chance to live animals. It is one of the more forests favourite.

AREA :

In respect area, it occupies the sixth place with an area of 9.519 Sq. Kms which account for 3.47 percent of the total area of the state.

The district is divided into 3 Revenue divisions with 11 Talukas.

1. Medak Revenue Division
2. Siddipet Revenue Division.
3. Sangareddy Revenue Division.

REVENUE DIVISIONS AND TALUKAS IN MEDAK DISTRICT :

S.No.	Name of the Revenue Division	Constituent Talukas
1.	Sangareddy	Sangareddy Sadashivpet Narayankhed Zaheerabad
2.	Medak	Medak Andole Narsapur Ramayampet
3.	Siddipet	Siddipet Gajwel Dommata

Source: *Micro politics in Medak District*⁸

Table-10

The Talukas are: 1. Narayankhed, 2. Andole, 3. Medak, 4. Ramayampet, 5. Dubbak, 6. Siddipet, 7. Gajwel, 8. Narsapur, 9. Sangareddy, 10. Sadasivapet, 11. Zaheerabad. Among the 11 Talukas, the Andole taluka is the largest of all in area whereas the Medak Taluka is the smallest in respect of area.

The district, before the introduction of Mandal System had eleven Samithis each of which was headed by a Samithi president. Due to the introduction of Mandal system, the district is divided into 45 Mandals. They are: 1. Sangareddy, 2. Patancheru, 3. Ramachandrapuram, 4. Sadasivpet, 5. Munipalli, 6. Kondapur, 7. Zaheerabad, 8. Kohir, 9. Jarasangam, 10. Raikode, 11. Nyalkal, 12. Narayankhed, 13. Kangti, 14. Kalher, 15. Manur, 16. Medak, 17. Kulcharam, 18. Papannapet, 19.

Yeldurthi, 20. Andole, 21. Pulkal, 22. Alladurg, 23. Shankarampet, 24. Regode, 25. Tekmal, 26. Ramayampet, 27. Pedda Shankarampet, 28. Chegunta, 29. Narsapur, 30. Jinnaram, 31. Shivampet, 32. Kowdipally, 33. Hatnura 34. Siddipet, 35. Chinnakodur, 36. Nangunur, 37. Kondapak, 38. Dubbak, 39. Mirdoddi, 40. Gajwel, 41. Jagdevpur, 42. Daulhabad, 43. wargal, 44. Mulugu, 45. Toopran.

The district has got 1,265 Revenue villages but the inhabited villages are only to the tune of 1,228. Further the district has 5 Municipalities.

The names of the Municipalities with the area in 5 K.M is given below:

MUNCIPAL TOWNS IN MEDAK DISTRICT :

S.No.	Name of the Municipality	No. of House Holds	Area in Sq.M.
1.	Medak	5,068	5.00
2.	Siddipet	8,248	13.34
3.	Sangareddy	5,508	13.60
4.	Sadashivpet	3,570	1.66
5.	Zaheerabad	4,963	5.19

Source: Handbook of Mandal Statistics⁹

Table-11

RIVERS :

The district is not watered by any big river. The river Manjira, a tributary of the Godavari, is the only important river in the district. This rises in Bidar district and enters Medak district in South-Eastern direction. It flows for about 96 K.Ms in Western and North-Western Taluka of Narayankhed, Zaheerabad, Sangareddy, Narsapur and Medak. In this district the other important streams are the Haldi or Pasuperu and the Kudlair. Pasuperu is a tributary of the Manjira and enters the

district from the North and flows through the Medak town. Kudlair flows through Siddipet Taluka.

GEOLOGY :

In Medak district, most of the area is occupied by the peninsular granite complex. Minor inliers of Dharwar rocks occur as narrow bands of small extent. A part of Sangareddy Taluka in the South-Western portions of the district is covered by Deccan rock (Basaltflows) formation. The Dharwar rocks occur as narrow bands in the granite and consists of Horn blende schists, chlorite schists and banded or massive ferruginous quartzites. A few such exposures are seen due north and northeast of Siddipet.

The peninsular granite complex consists of a variety of rocks, chiefly granites, which occur in the form of hills, tors and sheets or domelike masses scattered over a flatter undulating country. The granites seen as boulders packed together are precariously poised. These were once a part of a much larger mass of granite disintegrated or cut up later by natural weathering agents.

Some granites as sheet like masses tending to spall off in thin sheets, rendering extrication of horizontal slabs and cubical blocks from quarries easy for building purposes. The granites are essentially composed of quartz, grey and pink felsar, biotite and or muscovite and less commonly hornblende. Quartz veins and dolerite dykes are common in the rocks.

The Deccan traps in Sangareddy taluka, Eastern extremity of the great mass of traps enter west wards into Mysore and Bombay States. They form plateaus with steppe appearance and are described as plateaus basalts. These traps were formed by the solidification of lava and are in the form of layers of differing texture and

thickness cryptocrystalline forms of silica such as chalcedony, agate, plasma and jasper are found filling the cavities at some places in the traps.

MINERAL RESOURCES :

There are numerous quartz cutting across the granite all over the district and quartz useful for glass industry may be obtained from some selected deposits. The more important among them are the three reefs, (1) about 3 kilometres south-west of Shankarampet, (2) about 6 kilometres rest of the same place and (3) Near Papannapet, all in Andole (Jogipet) taluka. A few quartz reefs were investigated in 1958 for assessment of the reserves and quality by the department of 'Mines and Geology'. Out of these reefs, the more promising ones are the two found in south and east of Narsapur. These two deposits were estimated to contain reserves of 8,39,310 tonnes and 74,740 tonnes of good quality Quartz respectively. They are situated at a distance of about 51 kilometres north of Hyderabad and although the Quartz as such is of good quality, the cost of transport of material by road is somewhat prohibitive now. Another Quartz deposit investigated in 1956 is the one near Andole-Jogipet. The northern extremity of the reef near Andole consists of good quality Quartz. Initially about 5,55,500 tonnes of good quality quartz used to be obtained by open cost quarrying from here. These deposits lie 93 kilometres north-west of Hyderabad and suffers the disadvantage of high transport cost.

In the granites, feldspars are colonised in some places giving rise to small deposits of White clay in the form of veins and pockets. One such deposit is found about 1.6 kilometres north of Gambhirapur in Siddipet taluka.

FORESTS :

The area under forests in the district is 997.66 Sq.Kms. against the total Geographical area of 9,595,925 Sq.Kms accounting 10.4 percent of the total land area. The entire district is covered by southern tropical dry deciduous forests. The national forest policy of 1952 had laid down that 33-1/3 percent of the land area must be brought under forests as an essential minimum. But the district falls far short of the essential minimum as far as the forests are concerned.

The existing forests are divided into six ranges including one sub range namely, Medak, narsapur, Zaheerabad and Narayankhed of Medak division and Ramayampet and Siddipet of Kamareddy division. A part of Medak taluka falls within the three jurisdictions of Yellareddy range under the Medak division. Except in the Andole (Jogipet), Sangareddy and Gajwel talukas, the forests are distributed over the remaining part of the district.

The period of monsoon is very short. The aspect has a significant bearing on the floristic composition of the forests of this district. The common species met with are maddi, chinangi, satinwood, Mahuanim and abnus. Abnus leaves are used for making beedis and are the most important among the minor forest produce. Most of the trees are practically deciduous for considerable periods in the dry season. The shedding of leaves starts around January and the trees remain leafless till June. Some dry ever green species like *laxora parri flora* (korivi) *nmemeylon edule* (alli) and *mimusops hexandra* (pala or sapota) are seen intermixed with other species. The most valuable of all the species is *tectona grandis* (teak).

CLIMATE :

Medak generally experiences a dry climate. The year may be divided into four seasons. This is followed by the South-West Monsoon season from June to September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season. The cold season is from December to February.

RAINFALL :

There is average rainfall in this district. The rainfall during the monsoon season i.e., from June to September amounts to about 84 per cent of the annual rainfall. July is the rainiest month. There is some rainfall during the latter half of the summer and the post-monsoon season mostly in the form of thunder-showers. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is appreciable.

TEMPERATURE :

After February, temperatures increase rapidly. May is the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature. With the onset of south-west monsoon by about the middle of the June, temperature decreases appreciably and the weather becomes more pleasant. With the withdrawal of the monsoon early in October, the day temperatures steadily decrease. After October, both day and night temperatures steadily decrease. December is the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature.

HUMIDITY :

Here, winds are generally light to moderate in strength with some increase enforce in May and the South-West monsoon season. During the post-monsoon, winds are very light and variable in direction in the mornings and below from

directions between North and East in the afternoons. In the period from December to April, winds continue to be light and variable in direction in the mornings and blow from directions between North-East and South-East in the afternoons. By May, Westerlies begin to blow in the South-West monsoon season and winds are mostly Westerly to North-Westerly.

WEATHER PHENOMENON :

Storms and depressions originating in the Bay of Bengal during September and the post-monsoon season affect the weather over the district causing widespread heavy rains and strong winds. Thunder storms occur in the summer season and also towards the end of the South-West monsoon and early retreating monsoon seasons.

PANCHAYATH RAJ SYSTEM: MEDAK DISTRICT

Three Tier Panchayath Raj system has been functioning in this district since 1961 various changes had been taken place during the last 50 years in case of electing the heads. 73 amendment the constitution strengthened the system further.

1. Gram Panchayath - Headed by Sarpanch
2. Mandal Praja Parishad - Headed by Mandal President
3. Zilla Praja Parishad - Headed by Zilla Chairperson
4. Municipalities – Headed by Municipal Chairperson

1st Ordinary elections to Panchayath Raj Bodies were held in the month of March'1995 and 2nd Ordinary elections were held in the month of July'2001. Very recently 3 Ordinary elections to MPTCs and ZPTCs were held on 28.06.2006 and 02.07.2006 in two phases. The elections to Gram Panchayats are scheduled to be held in three phases i.e. on 29.07.2006, 02.08.2006 and 06.08.2006.

With a view to streamline and strengthen the Panchayath Raj Administration, Panchayath Secretariat was constituted to be headed by the Sarpanch and to be organized by the Panchayath Secretary. Revenue and Panchayath system were amalgamated and the VAOs, VDOs and such other employees are now functioning as Panchayath Secretaries.

FUNCTIONS OF GRAM PANCHAYAT :

Gram Panchayath is headed by Sarpanch voters elect him. Entire village divided into some wards. The voters in each ward, elect their members. The sarpanch and the ward members constitute the Gram Panchayath executive body. They take decisions and the Gram panchayath secretary implements them. Sanitary workers will help.

Gram Panchayat is a village level administrative unit. One Gram Panchayat is constituted for every village. Every village has a Gram Sabha. All the villagers who get their names enrolled in the electoral roll of that village are members of the Gram Sabha. It is a general body. It meets twice in a year and considers the following matters:

1. The annual statement of accounts and the audit report.
2. The report on the administration of the previous year.
3. The programme of works for the present year. Etc...

The Gram Panchayat discharges compulsorily functions and voluntarily functions like cleaning the roads & drainages, planting trees along roads and in open places and growing them properly.

Implement schemes for the development of agriculture.

Establishment of primary health centers and primary schools.

Supply of drinking water, drainage, construction/repair of roads.

Development of cottage and small-scale industries and opening of cooperative societies.

Establishment of youth organizations etc.

VILLAGE LEVEL PANCHAYAT

Panchayati Raj is a system of governance in which gram panchayats are the basic units of administration. It has 3 levels: village, block and district. At the village level, it is called a Panchayat. It is a local body working for the good of the village. The number of members usually ranges from 7 to 31; occasionally, groups are larger, but they never have fewer than 7 members.

The block-level institution is called the Panchayat Samiti. The district-level institution is called the Zilla Parishad.

GRAM SABHA

Gram sabha is constituted by all members of a village over the age of 18 years. The Gram Sabha elects the Gram Panchayat, a council of elected members taking decisions on issues key to a village's social, cultural and economic life: thus, a Gram Panchayat is also a village's body of elected representatives. The council leader is named *Sarpanch* in Hindi, and each member is a *Gram Panchayat Sadasya* or *Panch*. The panchayat acts as a conduit between the local government and the people. Decisions are taken by a majority vote (Bahumat).

It is said that in such a system, each villager can voice his opinion in the governance of his village. Decisions are taken without lengthy legal procedures and the process remains for the most part transparent.

Panchayat is an ancient Indian word that means Five Persons (Headmen). Since its inception, Panchayat has come a long way; it is currently included in the constitution of the Government of India.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL PANCHAYATH :

Panchayat samiti is a local government body at the Tehsil or Taluka level in India. It works for the villages of the Tehsil or Taluka that together are called a Development Block. The Panchayat Samiti is the link between the Gram Panchayat and the district administration. There are a number of variations of this institution in various states. It is known as Mandal Praja Parishad in Andhra Pradesh, Taluka panchayat in Gujarat, Mandal Panchayat in Karnataka, etc.

CONSTITUTION

It is composed of ex-officio members (all sarpanches of the panchayat samiti area, the MPs and MLAs of the area and the SDO of the subdivision), co-opted members (representatives of SC/ST and women), associate members (a farmer of the area, a representative of the cooperative societies and one of the marketing services) and some elected members. The samiti is elected for 5 years and is headed by the chairman and the deputy chairman.

DEPARTMENTS

The common departments in the Samiti are:

1. General administration
2. Finance
3. Public works
4. Agriculture
5. Health
6. Education
7. Social welfare
8. Information Technology and others.

There is an officer for every department. A government appointed block development officer is the executive officer of the samiti and the chief of its administration.

SOURCES OF INCOME :

The main source of income of the panchayat samiti is grants-in-aid and loans from the State Government.

LARGEST PANCHYATHS IN MEDAK DISTRICT

S.No.	Name of the Panchayath	Name of the Mandal	No. of Votes
1	Ameenpoor	Patancheru	19,922
2	Bollaram (IDA)	Jinnaram	18,975
3	Narsapur	Narsapur	11,741
4	Ramayampet	Ramayampet	11,547
5	Narayankhed	Narayankhed	11,404

Source: Enadu daily 8th July, 2013. ¹⁰

Table-12

The table demonstrates that the largest votes were from Ameenpur (M/O patancheru) with 19,922 votes. In the 2nd place is Bollaram (M.O. of Jinnaram) with 18,975 votes. Narsapur is in 3rd place with 11,741 votes. Ramayampet is in fourth place with 11,547 votes and the Narayankhed is in the fifth place with 11,404 votes.

NO. OF WOMEN SARPANCHES IN MEDAK DISTRICT

(As Per 2006 Elections)

Total Women Sarpanches in Medak Dist		376
Reservation	SC	70
	ST	19
	BC	154
	OC	31
	Un Res	92
	Gen	09
	Un Known	01
Community	SC	42
	ST	14
	BC	114
	OC	50
	Un Res	14
	Gen	-
	Un Known	142
Education	Below SSC	108
	SSC	30
	Inter	18
	U.G.	07
	P.G.	02
	Illiterate	23
	Un known	188

Source: Medak District Handbook ¹¹

Table-13

As per (2006 elections) the results shown in our Medak district, there are a total of 1054 Surpanches. In this male Surpanches are 678. Female surpanches are 376. The people are using reservation system and some times they are ready to contest to achieve their respective jobs. According to my knowledge BC's are more than all other categories.

MANDAL PRAJA PARISHAD :

1. The president is elected by Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency Members, Local MLA & MP.

The meetings of MPP are attended by the above political leaders, Dist Collectors, Zilla Parishad Chair Person, all the Surpanches of Mandal area. The ZPTC Members and the Presidents of all market committees in mandal area

MANDAL PARISHAD :

Under the three-tier Panchayat Raj System, the Gram Panchayat is at the lower level, the Zilla Parishad is at the upper level while the Mandal Parishad is at the middle level. There are 20-30 Gram panchayats in the jurisdiction of Mandal Parishad. The mandal Parishad strives to develop the villages in its jurisdiction.

Every mandal Parishad has got a mandal development officer, Presidents and a vice-president elected for each mandal Parishad.

COMPOSITION :

The Mandal Parishad is composed of the members stated below:

1. Members directly elected by voters from the territorial constituencies.
2. Members of legislative Assembly in whose constituency it falls.

3. The member of the Lok Sabha in whose constituency the mandal falls.

FUNCTIONS OF MANDAL PARISHAD :

The Mandal Parishad discharges some functions :

Takes up community development programmes with the help of gram panchayats, co-operative societies, voluntary organizations and the public.

Popularization of improved methods of cultivation. Etc...

NUMBER OF MANDAL PRAJA PARISHAD WOMEN MEMBERS (MPP)

IN MEDAK DISTRICT AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS

No.of MPP Mandals		19
No.of MPP Members		19
Political Party	Cong	10
	TDP	07
	TRS	02
Reservation	SC	04
	ST	01
	BC	09
	OC	05
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	02
	SSC	01
	Inter	01
	U.G.	-
	P.G.	-
	Illiterate	-
	Un Known	15

Source: Medak District Handbook¹²

Table-14

NUMBER OF MANDAL PARISHAD TERRITORIAL COUNCIL WOMEN MEMBERS (MPTC) IN MEDAK DISTRICT AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS

(Political Party, Reservation, Education Qualifications)

No. of MPTC Members		254
Political Party	Cong	109
	TDP	102
	TRS	28
	CPI	2
	BJP	2
	IND	11
Reservation	SC	53
	ST	10
	BC	96
	OC	12
	UR	71
	Un Known	12
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	73
	SSC	33
	Inter	9
	U.G.	5
	P.G.	-
	Illiterate	8
	Un known	126

*Source: Handbook of Medak District*¹³

Table-15

By the reservation system the women candidates are participating from various political parties to get elected as MPTC members in Medak district. Most women candidates are elected from the congress party.

Male MPTC Members in Medak District: 406

Female MPTC Members in Medak District: 254

Total MPTC Members in Medak District: 660

ZILLA PARISHAD :

The administration of zillaparishad is divided in to two parts.

1. Peoples's representatives.
2. Government Officials.

1- The Zillaparishad Chairperson is elected by ZillaParishad

Territorial Constituency Members, Dist MLAs,MPs

2- The administration of ZillaParishad is headed by Chief Excutive

Officer, Dy.CEO and many under officers.

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF ZILLA PARISHAD :

In the district level of the panchayati raj system, we have the "Zilla Parishad". It looks after the administration of the rural area of the district and its office is located at the district headquarters. The Hindi word Parishad means Council and Zilla Parishad translates to District Council. It is headed by the "district collector" or the "district magistrate" or the "deputy commissioner". It is the link between the state government and the panchayat samiti (local self government at the block level)

CONSTITUTION :

Members of the Zilla Parishad are elected from the district on the basis of adult franchise for a term of five years. Zilla Parishad has minimum of 50 and maximum of 75 members. There are seats reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward classes and women. The Chairmen of all the Panchayat Samitis form the members of Zilla Parishad. The Parishad is headed by a President and a Vice-President.

FUNCTIONS :

1. Provide essential services and facilities to the rural population and the planning and execution of the development programmes for the district.
2. Supply improved seeds to farmers. Information regarding the new techniques of training. Undertaking construction of small-scale irrigation projects and percolation tanks. Maintaining pastures and grazing lands.
3. Set up and run schools in villages. Execute programmes for adult literacy. Run libraries.
4. Start Primary Health Centers and hospitals in villages. Start mobile hospitals for hamlets, vaccination drives against epidemics and family welfare campaigns.
5. Construct bridges and roads.
6. Execute plans for the development of the scheduled castes and tribes. Run ashramshalas for adivasi children. Set up free hostels for scheduled caste students.
7. Encourage entrepreneurs to start small-scale industries like cottage industries, handicraft, agriculture produce processing mills, dairy farms, implement rural employment schemes, etc.
8. They construct roads, schools, public properties, and take care of them.

9. They even supply work for the poor people.(tribes, scheduled caste, lower caste, etc).

Sources of Income

1. Taxes on water, pilgrimage, markets, etc.
2. Fixed grants from the State Government in proportion with the land revenue and money for works and schemes assigned to the Parishad.

CHAIRPERSON : The Chairperson, Zilla Parishad is assigned the Status of a Minister of State – He/She being the head of the Zilla Praja Parishad – shall convene and preside over all meetings of the Zilla Praja Parishad and such of the Standing Committees of which

he/she is the Chairperson and review the subjects relating to all the developmental departments and he/she shall pass orders on important files relating to issue of transfers of staff.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER : The Chief Executive Officer will be appointed by the Government and he is the Chief Executive authority of the Zilla Praja Parishad. He shall be responsible for implementation of the resolutions of Zilla Praja Parishads and Standing Committees .He shall supervise and conduct the execution of all activities of Zilla Praja Parishad.

DY.CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER : He/she shall supervise the day to day functions of the Zilla Praja Parishad and operate the General Funds of Zilla Parishad and also perform such other functions as delegated by the Chief Executive Officer.

ACCOUNTS OFFICER : He/she shall be over all charge of the Accounts and finance of Zilla Praja Parishad. His main function is to act as a financial adviser and

as an internal auditor. He /She shall be the vigilance officer of PR Department for the District.

DY.EDUCATIONAL OFFICER : He/she is an officer borne of the cadre of Education Department and works under the control of Zilla Praja Parishad to assist the Zilla Praja Parishad in the work of management of secondary schools. He/she shall visit schools (surprise visit) for inspection and is responsible for drawl of salaries to the teaching and non teaching staff working in Zilla Parishad Schools.

NUMBER OF ZILLA PARISHAD TERRITORIAL COUNCIL WOMEN MEMBERS (ZPTC)

IN MEDAK DISTRICT AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS

(Political Party, Reservation, Educational Qualifications)

No.of ZPTC Members		15
Political Party	Cong.	9
	TDP	5
	TRS	1
Reservation	SC	3
	ST	1
	BC	6
	Others	5
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	8
	SSC	2
	Inter	3
	U.G.	1
	P.G.	-
	Illiterate	-
	Un Known	1

Source: Medak District Data Collection Book ¹⁴

Table-16

ZPTC Members in Medak District :

Male	:	31
Female	:	15
Total	:	46

**WOMEN WHO WON IN MEDAK DISTRICT AS
MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

S.No	Year	Total Votes	Poled Votes	Valid Votes	Candidates Who Won	Party
1	1952	55,865	31,732	30,764	R.Rathnamma	Congress
2	1962	59,653	39,263	37,653	K.Anandadevi	CPI
3	1967	74,141	44,020	41,861	R.Rathnamma	Congress
4	1989	1,35,190	1,01,701	97,664	Dr.J. Geetha	Congress
5	1999	1,51,179	1,21,611	1,17,829	V.SunitaReddy	Congress
6	2002 By Elections	-	-	-	K.Umadevi	TDP

SOURCE: FROM TELUGU TEERPU (1952 to 2002) ¹⁵:

Table -17

**DATA OF WOMEN SARPANCHES IN MEDAK DISTRICT:AS PER 2006
GRAM PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS (Reservation, Community, Education)**

No. of Women Sarpanches		376
Reservation	SC	70
	ST	19
	BC	154
	OC	31
	Un-Res	92
	General	09
	Un-Known	01
Community	SC	42
	ST	14
	BC	114
	OC	50
	Un-Res	14
	General	-
	Un-Known	142
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	108
	SSC	30
	Inter	18
	U.G.	07
	P.G.	02
	Illiterate	23
	Un-known	188

*Source: Hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District*¹⁶

Table-18

DATA OF MANDAL PRAJA PARISHAD WOMEN MEMBERS IN MEDAK DISTRICT AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS

(Political Party, Reservation , Education Qualifications)

No.of Women in MPP		19
Political Party	Cong	10
	TDP	07
	TRS	02
Reservation	SC	04
	ST	01
	BC	09
	OC	05
	General	-
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	02
	SSC	01
	Inter	01
	Un Known	15

Table -19

*Source from hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District*¹⁷

MPP Members in Medak District :

Male	:	27
Female	:	19
Total	:	46

**DATA OF WOMEN MPTC MEMBERS IN MEDAK DISTRICT.
AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS (Political Party , Reservation , Education)**

No. of Women MPTC Members		254
Political Party	Congress	109
	TDP	102
	TRS	28
	CPI	02
	BJP	02
	Indi	11
Reservation	SC	53
	ST	10
	BC	96
	OC	12
	Un-Res	71
	Un-Known	12
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	73
	SSC	33
	Inter	09
	U.G.	05
	Illiterate	08
	Un-known	126

Table -20

Source from hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District ¹⁸

MPTC Members in Medak District :

Male : 406

Female : 254

Total : 660

DATA OF WOMEN ZPTC MEMBERS IN MEDAK DISTRICT.**AS PER 2006 ELECTIONS****(Political Party , Reservation , Education)**

No. of Women ZPTC Members		15
Political Party	Congress	09
	TDP	05
	TRS	01
Reservation	SC	03
	ST	01
	BC	06
	Others	05
Education Qualifications	Below SSC	08
	SSC	02
	Inter	03
	U.G.	01
	Others	01

Table -21

*Source from hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District.*¹⁹

ZPTC Members in Medak District:

Male : 31

Female : 15

Total : 46

DATA OF MP PRESIDENTS IN MEDAK DISTRICT :

S.No	Name of the Mandal	Name of the President	Party	Caste
1	PATANCHERU	DATHU SWAROOPA	INC	SC
2	R.C. PURAM	S.MADHAVI	INC	BC
3	RAIKODE	P.SHARADABHAI	INC	BC
4	NYALKAL	S.JANGAMMA	INC	BC
5	MANOOR	K.VEERAMANI	INC	OC
S.No	Name of the Mandal	Name of the President	Party	Caste
1	KOLCHARAM	D.MANEMMA	INC	OC
2	PAPANNAPET	C.H. VINODHARANI	INC	SC
3	TEKMAL	K.MANEMMA	INC	OC
4	CHEGUNTA	M.KRISHNAVENI	TDP	SC
5	SHANKARAMPET-R	B.ARUNA	TDP	BC
6	YELDURTHI	B.MALLESHWARI	TDP	SC
7	NARSAPUR	LALITHA	INC	ST
8	JINNARAM	K.NIRMALA	INC	OC
S.No	Name of the Mandal	Name of the President	Party	Caste
1	SIDDIPET	M.SARASWATHI	TRS	BC
2	KONDAPAK	A.SHARADA	TDP	BC
3	DUBBAK	S.ANASUYA	TDP	BC
4	GAJWEL	SATHYALAXMI	TDP	BC
5	JAGDEVPUR	Y.MANGAMMA	TDP	BC
6	MULUGU	C.SARALA	TRS	OC

Table - 22

Source from hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District²⁰

S.No	Name of the ZPTC Member	Name of the Mandal	Name of the Political Party	Reservation Category	Educational Qualification
1	S. Sunitha	Andole	Congress	UR(W)	SSC
2	G. Geethabai	Regode	Congress	BC(W)	7 th
3	V. Lalitha	Shankarampet.A	TDP	BC(W)	5 th
4	R. Uma rani	Shivampet	Congress	UR(W)	BA
5	M. Shashikala	Hathnoora	Congress	UR(W)	-
6	N.Andalamma	Thoopran	TDP	BC(W)	8 th
7	G. Laxmi	Toguta	TDP	SC(W)	2 nd
8	P. Kavitha	Mirdoddi	TDP	BC(W)	Inter
9	T. Sudharani	Wargal	Congress	BC(W)	9 th
10	P. Nagamani	Sadashivpet	Congress	UR(W)	5 th
11	D. Tharabai	Munipally	Congress	UR(W)	SSC
12	D. Anitha	Kalher	Congress	ST(W)	Inter
13	Manikyamma	Zahirabad	Congress	SC(W)	9 th
14	Bharathi	Sangareddy	TRS	SC(W)	Inter
15	Ch. Sulochana	Mulugu	TDP	BC(W)	5 th

Table-23

*Source from hand book of 2006 elections from ZP SangaReddy, Medak District*²¹

SUMMARY :

As stated earlier this chapter tries to bring home the idea that women representation in local bodies, legislative assemblies and in lok sabha and rajya sabha seems to be in embryonic stage. This is evident from a backward district like Meedak, where women representation is nominal. The ensuing chapter highlights the perceptions of women especially in local bodies in Medak District with regard to their attitudes in representing the local bodies.

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