Empowerment of women is very much essential to achieve sustainable development. Quoting from a UBEFA report, "the state of world population 1992", the newsletter of Bernard van Leer foundation says, that there can be no sustainable development without development for women, because it is women who contribute most for the development of children. The world ecology report says that the empowerment of women has multiple benefits not only for the environment but also for humanity’s well. Ensuring sustainable development requires women’s empowerment and their full, equal and beneficial involvement in decision-making process related to sustainable development. It also requires their full participation as planners, managers, scientists and technical advisors in all environment and development fields.

Women’s empowerment includes both a personal strengthening and enhancement of life chances, and collective participation in efforts to achieve, equality of opportunity and equity between different genders, ethnic groups, social classes, and age groups. It enhances human potential at individual and social levels of expressions. Empowerment is an essential starting point and a continuing process for realizing the ideas of human liberation and freedom for all.
Empowerment of women also implies avoidance of crimes and atrocities against women and improvers in education, health extra. Improvement of the status of women and their access to family planning services, make a triple contribution to sustainable development such as they make their own contribution to the quality of life and eradication of absolute poverty, they contribute economic growth, by raising the quality and skills of the work force as solving down population growth these reducing the burden on the environment which will improve sustainability, says a UVFPA report.

So when we talk of women's development and women’s status, it is important for us to recognize that interventions at all levels namely, social, cultural, political economic are required and are possible only if changes take place in the existing system and social structure’s which are not at all, favorable to the women today. Any intervention that does not contribute substantially towards women’s active and critical participation in the overall development process of the society, need to be re looks at as women's development in the real sense can take place only when the systems or structures of the society are changed in favor of women. Women’s empowerment a not and cannot be separate from empowerment of nature, empowerment of all the marginalized people and countries. Women’s struggles are and should be linked to peace movement, ecology movement, working class movement, human rights movement and movement for democratization and decentralization of society.

So Hall (1992) writes, the empowered women share some of the characteristics. They are
Empowered women define their attitudes, values and behavior in relation to their own real interests. They have autonomy because they claim their freedom from existing male hierarchies, whether they live in traditional societies or modern, industrial societies.

Empowered women maintain equal mindedness, rather than act out roles that merely confront and challenge male dominance. Empowered women do not aim at being superior to men. They respond as equals and cooperate in order to work toward the common good.

Empowered women use their talents to live fulfilling lives. They have not only survived the harshness of their own subjugation, but they have also transcended their subjugation, thus moving themselves through survival to fulfillment. Empowerment women maintain their strength in the presence of presences of family, religion, and work, and they contribute toward the empowerment of all women.

Empowered women may continue to meet their family responsibilities and participate in religion. They choose to do so in ways that strengthen rather than deliberate them, however, which is also advantageous for others. Empowered women do not retreat from these traditional responsibilities, but they forget their own ways of doing things.

Empowered women define their values and formulate their beliefs themselves. They do not drive their sense of being from male authorities, and they do not live vicariously through men. Empowered women strengthen themselves through other women’s support and sustain their own moral visions. Their actions flow from their own distinctive ideals.
Empowered women can be found in all social groups and all societies. However, the optional conditions empowered women are individual and both individual and social, and there are more empowered women in modern societies, because the collective actions of women are more visible and more palpable in those.

On the basis of these characteristics of empowered women, the present study examines the empowerment levels of the urban women councilors of study taluks with the help of the following indicators. They are

1. Decision-making.
2. Social Participation.
4. Participation in Political Activities.
5. Role Performance.
7. Access to Information.

The above indicators are analyzed and examined with reference to such independent variables as Age, caste education, and levels of income and size of family.

DECISION MAKING INDEX: - Political participation is a major path to women's empowerment and to increased decision-making power and greater ability to influence matters that affect their lives in the community and the larger society. When it comes to decision-making positions, women are a distinct minority.
Gender discrimination is a universal phenomenon. Both inside and outside the household, women are excluded from positions of power. They are denied opportunities to participate in the decision-making process. Even when the decisions are to affect their well-being, they are only passive observers. The primary challenge facing women today, therefore, is to increase their participation so that they get hold of the situation and become actively involved in the process of decision making.

In the present study, women counselors' access to decision-making is analyzed by constituting an index of decision-making.

The index of decision-making comprises ten items and these related to respondent's involvement in decision-making in the domestic affairs as well as public affairs, which fall in the official domain of the councilors under reference. For example, the councilors are asked whether they are involved in decision making in the matters such as

- Property.
- Career (education, Job, Business)
- Marriage.
- Social obligation activities.
The respondents of the ten index items are weighed and scores are allotted. The maximum score of the index is 44 and the minimum score is 10. The index scores are graded in the three levels such as low, moderate and better.

The decision-making levels of the respondents are analyzed with reference to the stated independent variables. The results and discussions are presented in following pages.

The index of decision making levels of the 120 women councilors under reference 46.7 percent of the councilors involved in decision making is at better level, and a large percentage (33.3%) of the respondents involved in decision making are at low level.

**SIZE OF THE FAMILY AND DECISION-MAKING.**

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable size of family reveals interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the size of family influences the councilors levels of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women councilors belonging to small sized families (less than five members) are involved more in decision making. In contrast, members of larger and largest families are less involved in decision-making. The details are presented the table is given at the end.

Our analysis reveals that 58.6 percent 53.2 percent and 45.5 percent of the members belong to small, average and large families respectively are more involved in decision making process on the other hand only 16.7 percent and 20.0 percent of the members belong to larger and largest families respectively. They are less involved in decision-making.
The above analysis supports that parochial considerations and traditional customs are still a constraint for women to be involved in decision-making process. Even they supposed to be the elected members of decision-making body like urban local body (municipality). But the data also supports the women form small families presently the nuclear families, by and large do not have restraints. The data also supports urbanization and industrialization are main factors that leads to the establishment of more nuclear families which gives more opportunities. To women involved in decision-making process. It also supports women in small and nuclear families are more encouraged and supported by the family and public.

In contrast, members of larger and largest families who are less involved in decision-making are 66.7 percent and 60.0 percent respectively. It shows that in joint and joint extended families, women are less encouraged and less supported. They are bound by customs, traditions and also responsibilities. They are ruled by either father or father-in-law. Usually, in joint families women are never allowed to participate in political activities and decision making. Even if they are involved in political activities, they are completely controlled by their in-laws. This reveals that after fifty years of Indians independence and 33 percent reservation for women, there is not much change in Indian women’s position.

EDUCATION AND DECISION MAKING.

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable education reveals very interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the education influenced the councilors levels of levels of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women councilors who have got secondary and higher education are better involved in
decision making. Those who got upper primary that is 4-7 years of education are moderately involved in decision-making process. All the women councilors except laterals, primary who got primary education and illiterate are also better involved in decision making and less involved in decision making is focused among illiterates and those who got upper primary secondary and above secondary level education. The details are as follows.

Our analysis reveals that 64.7 percent, 65.5 percent and 46.9 percent of the members who got higher education, secondary education and upper primary education respectively are more involved in decision-making process; on the other kind, the percentage of involvement of the primary educated,. The literate and the illiterates is 33.3, 9.1 and 33.3 percent respectively. Their involvement is at low level.

The above analysis supports the fact that the educated women participate more actively in decision-making process than the illiterate and the literate women. It also supports that educated women do not have such restraints to hinder the development of their personalities. The data shows that illiterates and the literates need minimum education and training for their involvement in decision-making. The data so reveals that government is not providing enough education opportunities to women and also they are not encourage of sufficiently but the society and their families. It can be analyzed that women must be provided with literacy programmes informal and formal education social Education, political training etc, for their better involvement in decision-making process. Because education becomes one of the basic necessities of human beings. It is the best weapon for social change. It changes our attitude also it will be more helper to women to look into the political
process and involvement. Due to the 33 percent of reservation they already jumped into politics without education. So now they must provide educational opportunities for their better involvement in politics, in political activities, and in decision-making process otherwise reservation benefits will become nominal and waste. Her position will be continued as in the tied with iron chains.

**LEVELS OF INCOME AND DECISION MAKING: -**

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable income shows interesting findings. The analysis shows that how income influenced the councilors level of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women councilors who belongs to middle income groups that is less than one lack and upper middle income groups that is lack to three lacks of rupees are more or better involved in decision making process. Their percentage of decision-making process is 57.1 percent and 49.1 percent respectively. 41.2 percent women belong to less income groups that is better poor income. The data shows that the very interesting point is no women councilor belongs to less income group. It also revels that all women councilors study areas have better economic positions. When researcher asked the respondents about their income to know about their economic conditions. And thereby to come to a conclusion that majority of women councilors of study taluks belong to well to do families, have good business, shops, complex, houses which earns income for them.
The data shows that among better poor income group 41.2 percent members are better involved in decision-making process. 27.5 percent are participated moderate and 31.4 percent of members have low involvement in decision-making process. Among middle income groups 49.1 percent are better involved in decision making, 14.5 percent are moderate are 36.4 percent have low participation in decision making process. In upper middle-income group 57.1 percent member are better involved in decision-making, 14.3 percent are moderate and 28.6 percent are low involved in decision making process. The above data reveals that middle income group and upper middle income groups women councilors are more involved in decision making than women of better poor income groups. This data also reveals that the 33 percent reservation opportunity is not reaching the less group women. They are drawn into the problems of food, cloth and shelter extra and usually less income group women belong to lower castes and classes in society. So it shows that only better poor income middle income and upper middle-income groups women are taking part in public affairs and usually they belong to higher and backward castes.

CASTES DECISION-MAKING.

The influence of cast is marked in rule as well as in urban society in India. Caste largely determines the function, the status, the available opportunities as well as the handicaps for an individual or the family. Traditionally positions of power structure were a monopoly of the high-case Hindu and the big landowning families. However, today positions in power structure are no longer a monopoly of any single caste. They are to be greater extent detached them from caste. Factors other than caste play an important part in
determine power positions. Adult franchise, reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tries have initiated new process into urban community. However despite the new process and values brought into the power structure, cartelism in certain localities continues to grow stronger and it is being regarded as bedrock to achieve all privileges and representation. In the light of these conflicting views, attempt was made to know the role of caste in decision-making.

According to the index of decision making levels out of the 120 women councilors under reference, 46.7 percent of the women councilors involvement in decision making is at better level and a large percentage (33.3%) of the councilors involvement in decision making is at low level.

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable caste reveals that caste factors influences the councilors levels of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women councilors belonging to intermediary castes represents in decision-making at better level was found nil. In forward caste group 65.2 percent of women involvement in decision making at better level and 21.7 percent are at low level the details are presented in the following pages.

Our analysis reveals that 65.2 percent 46.3 percent and 42.1 percent of the members belong to forward, backward and not belonging to any castes are more involved in decision making process on the other hand 21.7 percent and 31.8 percent of the members belong to forward and schedule castes respectively are involved in decision making at low level. Our analysis also reveals that 50 and 50 percent of women from intermediary castes involved in
decision-making process are at better and low level. On the other hand, among schedule; castes, 31.8 percent and 31.8 percent of women councilors involved in decision-making at moderate and low level.

The above analysis suggests that, traditional customs are still a constraint for women to be involved in decision making process, even they happened to be the elected members of decision making body like urban local body. This is to be found some among women members of forward castes.

AGE DECISION MAKING.

Age is a universal determinant of social status. It is associated with prestige, experience and wisdom. Hence, greater importance places on age in the rural as well as urban committees in India. Old people are accorded greater respect than the young one. Thus, traditionally, it is the privilege of the elders to occupy important position in all spheres of village and city life. It is generally considered that age brings wisdom to one’s thinking and hence aged people are assumed to be wiser than the young ones. The higher the age group one belongs to, the greater the possibility of his or her becoming a leader in the community. However, this situation has changed after the introduction of Panchayats Raj system and universal adult franchise. Consequently the younger people are taking interest urban politics and they emerge as representatives of urban local bodies in large numbers.
The index of decision-making reveals that of the 120 women councilors 46.7 percent of the councilors involved in decision-making is at better levels and a large percentage (33.3 %) of the respondents involved in decision-making is at low level.

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable age reveals striking findings. Our analysis shows that the age factors influence the councilors levels of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women members belonging to young, middle and old age groups are involved more in decision-making process. In contrast members of very young age and old age groups are less involvement in decision making., the details are presented in following page.

Our analysis reveals that women councilors of all age groups are involved in decision-making process at better level. Women (40 percent 61.9 percent, 44.1 percent and 46.7 percent ) but, it was found to be the women form very young, young and old age group involved in decision making at moderate level (12 percent, 14.3 percent and 20 percent). In the middle age groups 25.4 percent of women are involved in decision making at moderate level. The high percentage or women from very young are one involved in decision among at low level, compared to other age groups very young age women represents low level of participation in decision making process.
Among forward castes 78.3 percent are articulated at better level, 17.4 percent are moderate and 4.3 percent are at low. In the intermediary 100 percent of women councilors are articulated at low level. In the backward castes 61.1 percent of women councilors have better social articulation, 24.1 percent are moderate and 14.8 percent are low among schedule castes 54.5 percent of women are more articulated, 13.6 percent are moderate and 31.8 percent have low social articulation. In the last category, members who do not belong to nay caste group 52.6 percent have better social articulation, 21.1 percent are at moderate level and 26.3 percent are women councilors have low social articulation our analysis suggests minimum education and training should be given to women for the better articulation.

**Political participation**

According to the index of political participation levels out of 120 women councilors under reference, 38.3 percent of the women councilors involved in political participation activities involved in political participation activities is better level; and large percentage (61.7 %) of the respondents involved in political participation is at moderate level low participation of women councilors was found to be nil.

**Age and Political participation:**

The relationship between political participation and age reveals striking findings. Our analysis shows that the age factor influences the councilors levels of political participation activities. The data reveals that young age women represents higher political participation. (47.6 %) and 52.4 percent of women are at moderate level. Very young and old age group.
Women councilors represent at more or less same percentage of moderate level (32. percent and 33.3 percent) in middle age group 39 percent of women respects better level participation. 68 percent of women from very young age 61 percent of women from middle age and 66.7 percent of women from old age groups represents moderate level of political participation. Analysis supports women members of all age groups participated in political are at either better or moderate level.

Caste and Political Participation.

The analysis of political participation levels with the independent variable caste reveals interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the caste influences the women members levels of involvement in political participation. The data reveals that women members belonging to intermediary caste group, 100 percent of women involved in political participation is that moderate level 52.6 percent of women from not belonging to any caste are participated in political activities at higher level. These women are relatively more active in political participation than other caste groups. The women from forward back ward and intermediary castes respectively are involved in political participation at moderate level 69.6 percent 64.8 percent and 100 percent among the schedule caste group 54.5 percent of women councilors are participated in political activities at moderate level and 47.4 percent of women form not belonging to any caste are involved in political participation activities is at moderate level.
The above analysis reveals that, the parochial considerations and traditional customs are still a constraint for women to be involved in political participation activities, but our analysis also shows that women councilors form study taluks are either active or active in political participation but not low participation.

**Caste Decision-Making.**

The influence of caste is marked in rural as well as urban society in India. Caste largely determines the function, the status, the available opportunities as well as the handicaps for an individual or the family. Traditionally positions of power structure were a monopoly of the high-cast Hindu and the big landowning families. However, today positions in power structure are no longer a monopoly of any single caste. They are to be greater extent detached themselves from caste. Factors other than caste play an important part in determining power positions. Adult franchise, reservations of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tries have initiated new process into urban community. However, despite the new process and values brought into the power structure casteism in certain localities continues to grow stronger and it is being regarded as bedrock to achieve all privileges and representations. In the light of these conflicting views, an attempt was made to know the role of caste in decision-making.

According to the index of decision making levels out of the 120 women councilors under reference, 46.7 percent of the women councilors involvement in decision-making is at better level, and a large percentage (33.3 %) of the councilors involvement in decision-making is at low level.
The analysis of decision making levels with the independent variable caste reveals that caste factors influences the councilor's level of involvement in decision making process. The data supports that women councilors belonging to intermediary castes represents in decision-making at better level was found nil. In forward caste group 65.2 percent of women involvement in decision making at better level and 21.7 percent are at low level the details are presented in the following pages.

Our analysis reveals that 65.2 percent, 46.3 percent and 42.1 percent of the members belong to forward backward and not belong to any castes are more involved in decision making process. On the other hand 21.7 percent and 31.8 percent of the members belong to forward and schedule castes respectively are involved in decision making at low level. Our analysis also reveals that 50 and 50 percent of women from intermediary castes involved in decision making process are at better and low level on the other hand, among schedule castes 31.8 percent and 31.8 percent of women councilors involved in decision making at moderate and low level.

The above analysis suggests that, traditional customs are still a constraint for women to be involved in decision making process, even they happened to be the elected members of decision making body like urban local bodes. This is to be found same among women members of forward castes.
Age and decision Making

Age is a universal determinant of social status. It is associated with prestige, experience and wisdom. Hence, greater importance is placed on age in the rural as well as urban committees in India. Old people are accorded greater respect than young ones. Thus, traditionally it is the privilege of the elders to occupy important positions in the spheres of village and city life. It is generally considered that age brings wisdom to one's thinking and hence aged people are assumed to be wiser than the young ones. The higher the age group one belongs to, greater the possibility of his/her becoming a leader in the community. However, this situation has changed after the introduction of panchati Raj system and universal adult franchise. Consequently the younger people are taking interest urban politics and they emerge as representatives of urban local bodies in large numbers. The index of decision making reveals that of the 120 women councilors 46-7 percent of the councilors involved in decision making is at better and a large percentage (33.3%) of the respondents involved in decision making is at low level.

The analysis of decision-making levels with the independent variable age reveals striking findings. Our analysis shows that the age factors influence the councilors levels of involvement in decision-making process. The data supports that women members belonging to young, middle and old age groups are involved more in decision-making process. In contrast members of very young age and old age group, are less involvement in decision making. The details are presented in following page.
Our analysis reveals that women councilors of all age groups are involved in decision-making process at better level. 40%, 61.9 percent, 44.1 percent and 46.7 percent but it was found to be the women from very young, and old age group involved in decision-making at moderate level (12 percent 14.3 percent and 20 percent) in the middle age group 25.4 percent of women are involved in decision making at moderate level. The high percentage of women from very young age are involved in decision making at low level, compared to other age groups very young age women represents low level of participation in decision-making process.
The index of social participation comprises fire items and these related to respondents' involvement in social participation in attending public and political meetings, attending cultural and social gatherings of the wards, attending municipal council meetings and these respondents are attended meetings even in night times also.

This scale indicates to what extent a women actively and frequently participates in social activities. Social participation means attending public meetings, taking part in cultural and social gatherings, involved in political meetings and also involved in municipal council meeting. The social participation in the present study also indicates whether women are free to take part in such activities even in the night without any restrictions.

In India, women have always been denigrated into second position in all walks of life in the society. They have been looked upon as victims of social practices or targets for development as in the post independent period, but never as participants in development. They have been subjected to various atrocities, which have made their life vulnerable despite a history of many social legislations in their favour right from 1829.
Indian constitution has granted women equal rights of participation in the political process of the country along with equal opportunity and rights in education and employment. Our constitution guarantees political equality through the institution of adult franchise. Article 15 prohibits any kind of discrimination. Article 15(3) which empowers the state to make any special provisions for women and children even in violation of the fundamental obligation of non-discrimination among citizens, on the basis of sex. This provision has enabled the state to make special provisions for women. Article 16(2) forbids discrimination in respect of any employment in office under the state on the grounds of “religion, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any one of them”. All these have assumed normatively a significant position and status of Indian women. On the basis of this, the present study is examine the levels of social participation of women councilors of study taluks by constituting an index of social participation.

The responses of the five index items one weighed and scores are allotted. The maximum score of the index is 19 and the minimum score is 5. The index scores are graded in the three levels such as low, moderate and better.

The social participation levels of the respondents are analyzed with reference to the stated independent variables such as size of family, education, income, age and caste. The results and discussions are presented in the following pages.

The index of social participation levels that of the 120 women councilors under reference, 82.5 percent of the councilors involved in social participation is at better level 13.3 percent respondents involved in social participation is at moderate level and finally 4.2 percent of women councilors involved at how level in social participation activities.
SIZE OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

Size of family reveals very interesting findings. The analysis shows that size of the family influenced the councilors levels of social participation in the community.

Family is the basic unit of the society the status and prestige of an individual significantly associated with the family. Thus, family forms a significant factor of ascriptive status. The family, therefore, exerts the most profound influence on the life of women councilors of urban area. The economic, political and social involvement of the family is the atmosphere in which thought and aspirations of women are nourished and given shape. Thus size of family, specially influence the participation of women in urban centers.

The index of social participation levels that of the 120 women councilors under reference, 82.5 percent of the councilors are involved in social participation at better level, 13.3 percent of the councilors involved in social participation at moderate level and very less percentage of women councilors that is 4.2 percent involved in social participation is at low level.

The analysis of social participation levels with the independent variable size of family reveals interesting findi9ngs. Our analysis shows that the size of family influences the councilors levels of social participation in the society. The data supports that women councilors belonging to small and nuclear families more involved in social participation. (Less than 7 members) than larger families. The details are presented as follows.
Our analysis reveals that 86.2 percent of the respondents belonged nuclear family (below 5 members) and they involved more in social participation activities. 6.9 percent participates at moderate level and 6.9 percent respondents participate at low level. It shows that only less percentage of women councilors from nuclear families are not much involved in social participation activities. It can be analyzed majority of respondents attended public and political meetings, attended social and cultural gatherings, and municipal council meetings too.

In the next category, women, councilors which they belonged to small family which has 5-7 members, among them 85.1 percent are more involved in social participation activities 12.8 percent moderately involved and very less percentage that is 2.1 percent of women councilors participated at low level. The data shows that small families are provide more freedom to women in social participation activities.

In medium size families having 7-10 members 72.7 percent of women councilors are more participated in social activities, 27.3 percent is at moderate level. There was no low participation of women among these families. The data reveals that all members are involved in social participation whether more or moderate.

In larger families like joint families which having 10-15 members women were more active. The data supports 83.3 percent of women councilors from joint families were actively participated in social activities like attend meeting, gathering extra. Remain 8.3 and 8.3 percent women councilors are involved in social participation at moderate and low level.
The same case happens in nuclear families. The data reveals that, women even in joint families showing their interest and abilities with all constraints.

In the largest joint extended families 80 percent of women councilors involved in social participation. Remain 10 and 10 percent of respondents are involved in social participation at moderate and low level. The above data reveals that, women in joint families also take actively participate in social activities. This also shows that not only small and nuclear families are involved in social participation but also by joint and joint extended families. It can be analyzed that modernization factor brought many changes in society include joint family. Both men and women changed their outlook form traditional to modernity. It also shows that joint family members showed interest in getting opportunity of 33 percent of women reservation. They felt that this is a way for them to participate in public and other activities with the help of their wives. By supporting their wives, they are involving in politics or it can be said that, men members of joint families’ showed the path of empowerment for their women.

In all, we can say that majority of women councilors of study taluks involved in social participation is at higher level. Families do not become the problem for them to involved in social participation, whether it is nuclear or joint. The data reveals that women in joint families are also have freedom they are free to take part in social and cultural activities without any restrictions like nuclear families. The data also reveals that the variable size of the family did not influence much on women councilors of study areas.
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

The analysis of social participation with the independent variable education reveals very interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the education influences the councilors levels of involvement in social participation activities. The data supports that women councilors got primary education involved at highest level that is can't percent or percent. Illiterates also more involved but found very less participation among educated women councilors. The details are presented as follows.

Our analysis reveals that 82.5 percent of women councilors involved in social participation at more level, 13.3 percent moderate or medium level and 4.2 percent at low level. It found that among illiterate category, 88.9 percent of women councilors more actively involved in social participation, 11.1 percent is at moderate level and there was no less or low participation. Among this category all members involved in social participation either high or medium.

Among literates 63.6 percent of women councilors are more involved in social predication, 27.3 percent involved at moderate level and 9.1 percent involved at low level. Compared to illiterates to literates, illiterates are far more better than literates in involvement of social activities.

In the third category of educational level of women councilors, who got primary education of 1-5 years, the interesting point is all among them were more actively involved in social participation. That is 100 percent.
In the next category, women councilors who got upper primacy education, 4-7 years, among them 84.4 percent are involved at higher level. 9.4 percent are at moderate level and 6.3 percent are at low level. It shows that women had better representation in the social activities who got little education.

Among women councilors of study area who got secondary education that is 8-10 years, 79.3 percent are involved is at high level, 17.2 percent are at moderate level and 3.4 percent are at low level. In this category, the data supports that women councilors are more involved in social participation. Compared to women councilors who got upper primary education, these women are little bit less involvement in social participation activities.

In the last category of women councilors who are educated, got above secondary level of education 88.2 percent are more involved, 5.9 percent are moderately involved and 5.9 percent are involved at low level. This shows that educated women councilors had better participation. They are taking part in all the activities of municipalities and other activities of society. The data also reveals that both illiterate and educated women councilors are more involved than other educational categories women councilors. The data supports that lack of education is not the problem for illiterate women to take part in social activities.

In all we can analyses that, women councilors of study taluks are more involved in social participation. Attending public meetings, political meetings, social and cultural gatherings, municipal council meetings are being felt duties for them. Illiterate women did
not consider lack of education in problem for them to participate in social activities, but they need education for their still better participation. they said that, they need adult education, more literacy programmes, social education, formula and informal, training, for their higher participation in social activities as well as in political activities.

LEVELS OF INCOME AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

The analysis of social participation with the independent variable income levels reveals interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the levels of income influence the councilors levels of participation in social activities. The data supports that women councilors belonging to upper middle-income groups are more involved in social participation. Next to them better poor income groups councilors are more involved in social participation than middle-income groups women. The details are presented in table.

Table reveals that 82.5 percent of women councilors are more involved, 13.3 percent are moderately involved and 4.2 percent are less involved in social participation. In the first category of income group that is better poor income group (less than RS. 30,000), 84.3 percent of women councilors among this group are more involved in social participation, 13.7 percent are at moderate level and 2.0 percent are at low level. The data shows that, women of better income group are more actively participated in social activities.

In middle income group (less than Rs. 1.00 Lakh), 80.0 percent of women are involved at higher level, 12.7 percent are at moderate level and 7.3 percent are at low level.
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Table reveals that 82.5 percent of women councilors are more involved, 13.3 percent are moderately involved and 4.2 percent are less involved in social participation. In the first category of income group that is better poor income group (less than RS. 30,000), 84.3 percent of women councilors among this group are more involved in social participation, 13.7 percent are at moderate level and 2.0 percent are at low level. The data shows that, women of better income group are more actively participated in social activities.

In middle income group (less than Rs. 1.00 Lakh), 80.0 percent of women are involved at higher level, 12.7 percent are at moderate level and 7.3 percent are at low level.
This data shows that women of middle income groups are involved at higher level in social participation activities.

In upper middle income groups (Rs 1.00 to 3.00 Lakhs), 85.7 percent of women councilors are more involved in social participation, 14.3 percent are at moderate level, there was no less or low participation. This reveals that women councilors from this income group are taking better part in social activities.

The data reveals that upper middle income groups and better income groups women councilors are more involved in social participation than middle income groups women. Researcher did not found women from less income groups that is less than Rs 12,000. It shows that, less income groups women did not get the opportunity of 33 reservation and not reached at their level. When the researcher asked the question related to their income levels, found that most of women councilors are have better economic conditions and had good business, big shops, complexes hotels extra. These women councilors of study area are much influenced by income levels.

To sum up, women of all income groups are more involved in social participation less income groups women were not found it shows that there is a need of participation of women from less income groups. Government must provide economic opportunities to poor women. This percent reservation opportunity must reach to poor women. These poor women are land labourers and may be bonded labours, this opportunity which provided by our Indian constitution must reach them too otherwise it would became impossible to empowerment of women.
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

Age is an important factor to determine the social status. It is also important to take part in social, economic and political activities of the people. But, this situation has changed now. Younger people also take interest in all activities and they emerge as representatives of urban local bodies in large numbers.

According to the index of social participation levels out of 120 women councilors under reference, 82.5 percent of women councilors are more active in social participation and 13.3 percent are at moderate level and 4.2 percent are at low level.

**Age and Social Participation:** - The analysis of social participation levels with the independent variable age reveals interesting findings. Our analysis shows that age influences the councilors levels of involvement in social participation. The data suggests that women councilors belonging to middle age group between 40–50 years of age and that is 20-30 years are more active in social participation activities. The details are presented as follows our analysis reveals that councilors aged between 30-40 years and old aged, above 50 years have relatively low participation in social activities are at better level. The levels of social participation among very young age group councilors have less percentage of participation (9.5%). In comparison with old age group 20 percent of women councilors participate at moderate level councilors belonging to middle age group is not found to have low participation. The data also shows that among very young age group only 4.0 percent of women councilors participate at low level.
The above analysis suggests that age factor is considered as important in participation in social activities. The data also suggests that the women from old age groups are still at better participation levels. One very interesting feature is that old age group women also have more interest in social participation activities.

**Caste and Social Participation**

The analysis of social participation levels with the independent variable caste reveals interesting findings; our analysis shows that the caste factors influence the councilors levels of involvement in social participation activities. The data supports that women councilors belonging to forward caste have far better participation than intermediary castes. Women councilors are those who do not belong to any caste also participate at better level in socio-cultural activities of the urban local bodies. The details are presented in pages.

Our analysis reveals that a overwhelming majority (91.3%) women councilors belong to the forward caste are highly active in social participation activities on one hand the interesting findings is that 1.9 percent of women councilors belong to backward castes have low participation in social activities. On the other hand among the forward castes councilors participation at low level is nil.

As the reveals among the intermediary castes 50 and 50 percent of women councilors participates in social activities at moderate and low level. One of the interesting finding is among this category there is no better participation levels.
In year passed women were the underprivileged and suppressed, oppressed and exploited in all aspects in society. Even in her own family she has no access to decision making or arising out her views and feelings. But now, with the advent of British influence, education, modernization, industrialization and urbanization, improvement in transport and communication, science and technology, the outlook of society in general women in particular has been changed to enter into various fields where hitherto too it was male dominated. But today is women has to come out of the shell and be more expressive she needs to be hold, intelligent and straightforward in speaking out her views, ideal and thoughts without hesitation unless this is done she cannot be really empowered in the fullest sense. On the basis of this, the present study examines the articulation of women councilor of study taluks by constituting an index of social articulation.

Social articulation index indicates that and thoughts in words. And also how women are react and communicate with other fellow beings.

The index of social articulation comprises five items and these related to respondent’s expressions, ideas and thoughts how they are expressed these without any hesitation. By represent their ward problems with officials freely, or people come to them represent their problems how often women councilor meet officials, leaders in representing their ward problems and with whom women are more interact with freely.
The responses of the five index items are weighed and scores are allotted. The maximum score of the index is 22 and the minimum score is 5. The index scores are graded in the three levels such as low, moderate, and better which indicate the levels and social articulation.

Social articulation levels of the respondents are analyzed with reference to the independent variable such as size of family, education, income, age, and caste. The results and discussions are presented in the following pages.

The analyses of social articulation by the index reveal that of the 120 women councilors under reference, 60.8 percent of the councilors are better in social articulation; 20.3 percent respondents are moderate; and 19.2 percent of women councilors name low levels of social articulation. This our analysis shows that the U.W.C are endowed with better social articulation.

**SIZE OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL ARTICULATION:**

The analysis of social articulation of women councilors with the independent variable size of family reveals very interesting findings. The analysis shows the size of family influences the councilors' levels of size of family and social articulation in the municipal activities of the municipalities. How family influence urban women in participation and in other articulation on. How could they are able to express their views freely and independently.
Researcher analyzed the articulation level that of the 120 women councilors under reference. 60.8 percent of women councilors are better articulated, 20.0 percent are articulation moderate level and 19.2 percent are articulation at low level.

The analysis of articulation levels with the independent variable size of family reveals interesting finding. The analysis shows that the size of the family influences the councilors level of articulation by representing their views in society. The data supports what women councilors belonging to medium size families and small families are more articulated. Women councilors who belonging to joint extended or largest families are less articulated. The details are presented in table.

Table reveals that 58.6 percent women councilors belonged to nuclear families (below 5 members) are more articulated 24.1 percent are articulated at moderate level and 17.2 percent are articulated at low level.

The women councilors among small families (5 to 7 members), 66.0 percent are better articulated, 14.9 percent are articulated at moderate level and 19.1 percent are at low level.

In medium size families, 68.2 percent of women councilors are better articulated, 18.2 percent are articulated at moderate level and 13.6 percent are articulated at low level.
In larger families like joint families 58.3 percent are articulated at better level, 25.0 percent are at moderate level and 16.7 percent are at low level. In joint extended women councilors are better articulated, 30 percent are at moderate level and 40 percent are at low level.

The data supports that woman councilors among medium size and small families and more articulated than in the joint expended families. This shows that nuclear, small and medium size families are giving more supports to their women. Women ion there families are encouraged and cooperated by their family members. There women councils are able to talk with other members freely. It shows that these women councilors are representing their problem with officials, discuss there ward problems and finding salutation also. These women are expressing their views, ideals and thought, freely without hesitation. Only less percentage of women councilors are articulated in a low level. They need some support and encouragement by the family members. It also reveals that joint families are also supported their women in all activities by encouraging women councilors. In largest families where women councilors. In largest families where women councilors are less articulated, they need more support, cooperation and encouragement by the family members. They must come out from the clutches of family bindings if they get support they will be able to express their views more freely. With other in the society. It also shows that they need some entertaining to articulate themselves. It reads to their empowerment.
LEVEL OF EDUCATION AND ARTICULATION

The relationship between the level of education and articulation throws light on interesting matter. Our analysis reveals that there is a close relationship between and the index. It also says that how the education impacts on articulation of women councilors and why articulation is necessary for women members to achieve empowerment. Education, really speaking, plays very important role in articulating women councilors, which will helpful for them to participate in political and other activities of municipality. Education is necessary for all women but very necessary for step and stage. Specially for women councilors who already got political power they need more articulation power in meeting officials, concerned authorities extra education for then very necessary empower themselves.

Researcher analyzed the articulation level of 120 respondents under reference. The responses reveal striking findings. It shows that education is necessarily influence the women councilors in their political activities, in involvement in decision making in taking own decision inside the family and in municipalities. The data shows that 60.8 percent of women councilors active in political participation, 20 percent were at moderate level and 19.2 percent were participated at Low level.

The details are presented in the table
Table highlights that among illiterate group 51.9 percent women councilors were highly active in social articulation, 22.2 percent participated at moderate level and 25.9 percent are at low level. The data reveals that education will not be the hardly for them in articulation. But education is necessary for their improvement and development of the personality.

In the literates group, 54.5 percent were better articulated, 9.1 percent at moderate level, 36.4 percent are at low level the data revels that more percentage is 36.4 percent arte now articulated in this group. This shows they need education at least primary level. Compared to other educational levels of group, literate groups women are less articulate.

In the primary level group women 33.3 percent are very actively participation social articulation, 66.7 percent are moderately articulate and 0 percent at low level. This data reveals that among primary level literate group women there was no low articulate. All were better and moderate articulated members. This also shows that if women have minimum literacy they will able to do smoothing in their life.

In the upper primary level, 59.4 percent women are more articulate 21.9 percent are at medium level, 18.8 percent are at low level. It shows that majority of women are more articulated and take part in all activities of municipalities.
In the next category of level of education that is secondary educational level, 65.5 percent are more articulated 54% are at moderate level and 103 percent are at low level in social articulation. This reveals that higher the education levels higher the articulation level because generally educated women boldly express their views, mixed up with others, can discuss the matters. Education will help more in these matters.

Among above secondary level, 82.4 percent are highly articulated, 5.9 percent are moderately articulated, and 11.8 percent are at low level. The analyses data shows that, among this group highest percentage of women was highly articulated because due to education. It may also due to they may belong to higher and upper middle casts, better income groups. So they are able to capture all the facilities, which are given in the society. This also reveals how education will influence them to become articulate themselves. It also leads to empowerment. So education become are of the most important indicators of women empowerment.

**LEVELS OF INCOME AND ARTICULATION**

The analysis of articulation with the independent variable income levels reveals interesting findings our assess shows that the levels of income influences the councilors levels of articulation in municipal activities. The economic position of families \( \text{determines that status and available opportunities for their members.} \) Generally, women do not enjoy independent economic identify. This is more so in the case of rural as well as urban Women. The economic background of their families
reflects their economic background. Therefore, the economic background of the respondents' families has been analyzed here. The major component of the economic position of the respondent’s families considered in the present study were: the annual household income, household occupation extreme of family land holdings, material assets and type of housing.

The data reveals that women councilors belonging to upper middle income groups are highly articulated. Than women councilors of better poor income groups. Middle income groups women are articulated at medium level neither high nor low. The details are presented in table.

Table reveals that among 120 women councilors 60.8 percent are better articulated 20.2 percent are articulated at moderate level and 19.2 percent are articulated at low level.

In the better poor income group, 58.8 percent of women councilors are better articulated. 19.6 percent are at moderate level and 21.6 percent are at low level. This shows that women councilors from better poor income groups our less articulated compared to other tow levels of income groups that is middle income and upper middle income. This also shows that women in this group need more articulation power to take part in municipal activities. They need economic support by their family members. This also reveals women of this group must provided with more
economic opportunities To stand on their own, and this leads to empowerment themselves.

In the middle income groups 60 percent of women councilors are better articulated 20 percent are at moderate level and 20 percent are at low level. The data supports that only 60 percent of women councilors are better articulated. Remain low percent 20 percent and 20 percent are at moderate and lower level. Compared to first group, this group is better articulated. It shows when the income level increase, the level of articulation will also increase. The good economic background of women councilors will support them to get articulation power.

In the upper middle-income group 71.4 percent of women councilors are better articulated, 21.4 percent are at moderate level and 7.1 percent are at low level. The data reveals that women of upper middle income groups are highly articulate than better poor income and middle income groups. This also reveals when the income level increase, the articulation level will also increase women from this group have good economic support and cooperation by their family members. The study reveals that there women councilors are belonged to higher forward castes. This shows how income levels influence the women councilors in their municipality activities.
SOCIAL ARTICULATION

According to the index of social articulation levels out of 120 women councilors under reference, 60.8 percent of the councilors have better social articulation; and 19.2 percent of respondents are at low level.

AGE AND SOCIAL ARTICULATION

The analysis of social articulation levels with the independent variable age reveals striking findings our analysis shows that the age factor influences the women councilors levels of social articulation. Women councilors belonging to young age group are better articulated (71.4%) on the other hand middle-aged group councilors represent low in social articulation. The details are presented in the following pages.

Our analysis throws light on these findings. Among very young age group 52 percent have better social articulation, 24 and 24 percent have social articulates at moderate and lower level.

Among the young age group 71.4 percent have better articulation 4.3 percent have social articulation at moderate level, and 23.8 percent are at low level.

In the middle age group 61 percent are socially articulated at better levels, 23.7 percent are at moderate level and 15.3 percent are at low level.
In the old age group 60 percent of women councilors are articulated at better level 20 and 20 percent are at moderate and low level.

Our analysis reveals that old age group women councilors are socially articulated at better level than very young age group women it suggests that education and training must be provide to young women to secure better social articulation which help for their empowerment.

CASTE AND SOCIAL ARTICULATION

The relationship between social articulation and caste has made interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the caste influences much the councilors level of social articulation, the data supports that women councilors belonging to intermediary castes have very low-level social articulation (100 percent). Ti shows there is no higher or moderate level of articulation among intermediary castes. Where as among the forward castes they have better articulation (78.3) percent the data reveals that forward castes backward castes councilors have better social articulation (78.3%) and those percent on the other hand women from schedule castes and not belong to Amy other castes have also better articulation but comparatively less than the women from forward and backward castes. The details are presented in the following pages.

Among forward castes 78.3 percent are articulated at better level, 17.4 percent are moderate and 4.3 percent are at low. In the intermediary 100 percent of women councilors are articulated at low level. In the backward castes 61.1 percent of women
councilors have better social articulation, 24.1 percent are moderate and 14.8 percent are low. Among schedule castes 54.5 percent of women are more articulated, 13.6 percent are moderate and 31.08 percent have low social articulation. In the last category members who do not belong to any caste group 52.6 percent have better social articulation 21.1 percent are at moderate level and 26.3 percent are women councilors have low social articulation our analysis suggest minimum education and training should be given to women for the better articulation.
Women in India remain largely inactive and indifferent towards politics. Life of the country is substantially low. This is accounted for by the absence of such traditional that encourage women in politics, the social backwardness of women, their economic dependency, the restraint placed on their social foredoom and mobility by a number of conservative obscurant and irrational taboos and above all heavy demands that family makes on a women’s time, attention and energy. The report of the committee on the status of women brought out that the absence of a serious political and social motivation in the post independence period has contributed to the lack of political consciousness and participation amongst women. In views of all these, politics is still seen as a male preserve and this applies rights from the national level down to the village.

Of late, it has been realized that women need to be in politics, because only they could adequately represent women’s opinions and deal with the problems affecting women and children. Further, a country cannot have a mass movement without the participation of half of its population which constitutes women. This the policy of reservation of seats for women has been adopted in urban local bodies in different states including the state of Karnataka therefore, women have got political form, to represent their grievances and to struggle for the attainment of social and economic status. The urban local bodies have now provided women representatives a political atmosphere to improve their political consciousness, links as well as the participation in political process. They largely determine the extent of their involvement in the urban local bodies.
Political participation includes right to vote, right to contest and the right to candidacy, for this women must be accepted as campaigners as well as women as members of parties and they need to be involved in all the decision making process. Women must be appointed at all levels of government, including Panchayat Raj Institutions. The major obstacle to women's full participation in politics is a nearly universal societal attitude that has valued women principally as mothers and wives. Reservation seats in one of the instruments of political empowerment of women as it guarantees representation to women in reserved seats for from becoming a power to be reckoned with might be easily excluded from real authority. Nevertheless the presence of women in political institutions can be ensured which intern may encourage other women to slowly come out of the age old barriers imposed on them by the social structure to share political power on an equal footing with men. On the basis of this, the present study is examining the levels of political participation of women councilors of study taluks by constituting an index of political participation.

The index of political participation comprises eleven items and these related to councilors involvement in participation in municipal activities, involvement in election process their roles participation in election campaign, political parties, contesting in elections, and future positions, whether they are real or reel member and empower.

The responses of the eleven index items are weighed and scores are allotted. The maximum score of the index is 53 and the minimum score is 11. The index scores are graded in three levels such as low Moderate and better.
The level of political participation activities of the women councilors analyzed with reference to the stated independent variables such as size of family, education, income, age and caste. The results and discussions are presented in the following pages.

The index of political participation levels that of the 120 women councilors under reference, 61.7 percent of the councilors are involved in political participation at better level 38.3 percent of women councilors involved in political participation activities are at moderate level low political participation is not available the time research.

SIZE OF THE FAMILY AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES.

The analysis of political participation levels with the independent variable size of family reveals striking findings. The analysis shows that size of the family influences the councilor levels of political participation in the municipal activities.

Family plans important role in individual’s life in the society. The status and prestige of an individual significantly associated with the family. Formative influence is the main character of family that individuals get by the family there family forms a significant factor of astrictive status. The family, therefore, exerts the most profound influence on the life of women councilors of study areas. The economic, political and social involvement of the family is the atmosphere of women are nourished and given shape. Thus size of the family, specially, influence at he participation of women in urban centers.
The analysis of political participation levels with the independent variable size family brought forth interesting findings. Our analysis shows that the size of the family influences the councilors' levels of political participation in the municipality activities. Data supports that women councilors belonging to joint and joint extended families are more involved in political participation activities, than medium size families and nuclear families. The details are presented in ensuring pages.

Other analysis reveals that 34.5 percent of the women councilors belonging to nuclear families are very active in political participation, 65.5 percent of respondents take active part in political activities. There are no women councilors found that they passive. In average size of families 31.9 percent of women councilors very actively participate in political activities, 68.1 percent are actively taking part in political activities of the municipalities. In large size families 40.9 percent of women more actively participated, 59.1 percent women moderately active in political participation. In joint families 58.3 percent women are in joint extended families, 50.0 percent of are active.

The above data throws light on; women belongs to small nuclear families, less percentage of them are less active in participation of political activities compared to that of large size families. This is some as in case of joint and joint extended families. The data also reveals that women councilors belonged to small and average size families have some constraints to participate in political activities. They are not more active because they have small children and more responsibilities towards their children but among this group high percentage of women moderately participate in political activities for higher participation in
moderate level because they have ideal size family in that they have more freedom than in
traditional joint families. Our analysis also highlights women from overage families usually
do not get elders support, to reduce their work and responsibilities, but they realize about
their duties and roles and aware of their role performance in municipality activities. This it
can be said that, women councilors are not very active in participating political activities.
They are neither more active nor less active but at medium level.

Our analysis says women councilors belonging to larger and larges families are
highly active in political participation of municipality activities. There women are not only
involved in political activities but also social work such as helping poor people by providing
assistance for them to get sites, house for houseless and some other benefits under
government schemes. They also help women like widows, old age and backward section of
women by assisting them to get pension benefits,. Our analysis highlights their women
belonged middle upper castes and economically in better condition. It means they are ready
to give them financial help also.

Our analysis also throws light on why these women one more active in political
activities of municipalities it is because they are getting help guidance and cooperation from
the elders, in laws and other members of the family. Usually women from this type of family
belonged 40-45 age groups. Their responsibility towards their children is lesser than women
of small families. In largest families, the number of people is more to look after the family
instead of women councilors all other member will reduce what workload of women
councilor. By this, they can more concentrate on their work; can become more active and
also participation in political activities. It also reveals that modernization and democratic principles are much influenced on large families. Now the attitude of men towards women has been changing and they realize that women are also equal to them. Due to the invention of new science and technology, modern education brought many changes in society, particularly to women. Now women are getting educated of they understand the principles of democracy and are moving towards new world. The policy of reservation would also help them too moving towards the light.

**EDUCATIONAL LEVEL AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION:**

The relationship between the level of education and political participation shows light on striking matters. Our analysis shows how educational levels influence political participation in municipality activities. Education, specially influence the urban women in their attitude and activities. This shows how they are able to involve themselves in political affairs Freely and independently. The results and discussions are presented in the following pages.

The researcher analysis the level of political participation of the 120 women councilors under reference. 38.3 percent of women are more active and 61.7 percent women are moderately involved in municipal political activities. The 38.3 percent of women who are more active have got primary secondary level, and above secondary level of education the data shows that educated women are more active in taking part in political affairs than literate women. The details are presented in table. The table reveals that, among illiterate women 37 percent more active than literate women their percentage is 27.3. But among
literate councilors, 72.7 percent are very active at moderate level than illiterate women their percentage is 63 percent. The study throws light on up to primary level of education that is 1 to 5 years; the moderate level of participation goes on increasing. But it is decreasing among those who got above primary level of education. But these women are more active at the better level than just literate women. In this study there is no passive participation of women councilors in municipality activities. They are wither more active or just active.

The above data shows that women who are in urban local bodies need at least minimum educational level to participate in political activities. These women at least inevitably interest with officials, discuss their and wards problems must meet officials and minister sometimes. They badly needed for this these women councilors need minimum level of education, articulation boldness and must be taluketive also. These things will be helpful to them to reach higher level of participation in political activities. They need education for their empowerment too. Because being educated at least they can express their views freely. They are able to oppose the exploitation injustice, discrimination extra. Which experience in their likes. They are also able to over come these evils.

That woman who get above primary level of education are more active showed by our data. The data also supports that these women are highly active because they are educated and enlightened. The education is helpful to realize their rights and responsibilities. Therefore, they would more active not only in political activities but also in cultural, social and other activities.
In total, it can be analysed concluded that without giving minimum education the illiterates and the literates too must thought some political training, both formal and informal education family, the policy of reservation will not be useful only the educated women get all privileges, but this policy must be applied to poor and illiterate women. It has already reached them theoretically but not in practically.

LEVELS OF INCOME AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.

The relationship between the levels of income and political participation brings forth the striking facts our analysis throws light on how, the level of income increases the levels of political participation. How income levels are helpful for the activities of women councilors of urban local bodies municipalities. And also it shows how much income influences women councilors participation in social activities, municipality activities and in decision-making authority.

The researcher analyzed the political participation levels of 120 represented under reference. The analysis of the index with the independent variable income levels reveals striking findings. The economic background plays important role in the participating activities, it influences women councilors a lot when income levels are increased automatically the participation in all fields is also increased. The data shows that upper middle-income group women are more active than middle-income group women and middle-income group women more active than better poor income group women. The details are presented as follows.
Our analysis reveals that 64.3 percent of women councilors of upper middle-income groups are more active and 3.5.7 percent of women active at moderate level. This data support that upper middle-income group women councilors are highly active in social, cultural and political activities, this may be due to the help and cooperation of their husbands with better economic background. And these women can concentrate more on their activities than better poor economic group women, the low income group women would more concentrate on getting higher income and satisfy their based necessities. This is one of the restraints for them to participate at better level.

In the middle-income group, 40 percent of women councilors are more active and 60 percent are active at moderate level. The data shows that women councilors of middle-income group are not much active but highly active in moderate level. It shows that they are very particular about attending meetings, access for information, involve in municipality activities extra but may not take more part in decision making process.

In better poor income group 29.4 percent of women more active and 70.6 percent, which is the highest percentage of women, participate in political activities of the municipality at modular level. The above data reveals that 29.4 percent of women are more active not in decision making but may be in other political activities of the municipality. The 70.6 percent of women are simply active in solving the problems of their wards, of the poor people and of the women in this way they are highly active at moderate level.
To sum up, the women councilors who come from middle income and upper middle-income group participate at better level, compared to better poor income group women. It also reveals that poor income level group women have not become the members of urban local bodies. It also highlights, the policy of reservation is not a blessing for women of low-income group. It reaches the women of those belonged to better income and middle-income group. If this opportunity reaches the poor women that will be blessing for them. Other wise the policy of reservation will be no use.
ROLE PERFORMANCE OF WOMEN COUNCILLORS.

The concept of ‘Role’ means the pattern of behavior associated with the position of an individual either as a member or office bearer in an institution. Linton describes role as the dynamic aspect of status, which is the collection of the rights and duties of a position an individual occupies. As a structural concept it refers to the contextual relationship between persons and actions in groups. The role may have both prescribed (formal) and accepted (informal) behaviors. Prescribed roles refer to the minimum set of behaviors necessary to a designated status, which are obligatory in nature. Accepted roles are optional and flexible and do not normally come under formal prescription. Formal roles strengthen the institutional activities while informal roles enrich the programmes and prepare a fertile ground for leadership development. Both the types of actions are essential for an effective functioning of the institutions and the success of programmes. In this context, the role performance of women councilors of the municipalities was analyzed in the present study in terms of their attending meetings of municipal council, roles performed earlier and after become councilor, whether these role performance is satisfactory or unsatisfactory, are they playing effective role and in which area.

Meeting are viewed as an important device to judge the working of any institution, at the national, state or local level. This is mere so in the case of urban local bodies. Meeting in the municipalities serves as a forum to their members to express their views, need and grievances of the electorate and for deciding upon the action to be taken. Meeting also help councilors to learn of the development schemes or programmes of the
government and also to review the progress made in respect of the various development programs already executed. An attempt is made to analyze the extent to which women councilors had attended their formal meetings, to fulfill a basic obligation of being the members of urban local bodies.

Since there was variation in the number of meetings conducted by the municipalities in the study taluks. The percentage of attendance of the respondents was more than 75 percentages whether they were accompany with their men or other member of the family without missing. The over all attendance of the respondents at the meetings, however, found to be satisfactory.

The sample respondents were also asked as to what factors prevented them to attending the meetings regularly. The respondents gave a number of factors for their intermittent absence form the meetings. The majority of the respondents were absent from the meetings, specially formal at kampli and kudligi, due to their pre-occupation with domestic and agricultural chores. Only few respondents says that small children and domestic responsibilities are the factors for their intermittent absence from the meetings. This indicates that women even in urban areas still have a feeling that they are primary meant for attending to the family work and their participation outside the family is secondary.
ROLE PERFORMANCE

When we compare women councilors of urban local bodies with women leaders of Panchayat Raj as far as attending the meetings concerned women in urban areas have more awareness and consciousness about their primary obligation of an formal institution. Women in urban areas have more facilities than rural women. This may also leads to their absence of meetings. Regular attendance of meetings is also a symbol of her role performance outside the family. Attend the other political meetings which are not come under municipality meetings are her's political role.

Generally women playing different role in her domestic life. As a daughter, as sister, as wife, as mother and as mother-in-law. Her workload will change according to her roles. She has to manage the entire family and meet their various needs. She has no rest from these chores, it is a full-time job for which she does not expect any reward. The role of urban women has vigorously changed due to several factors like industrialization, urbanization, modern education democratic ideas improvement and development in the means of transport and communication. These factors lead to get education, searching job, and encourage her to enter into political field also. This is become truer after providing 33 percent reservation for women. Now women, her routine work continues with the extra responsibility of serving the public so she has to make time for perform the public role. This has to be done by visiting various places, people, meeting the officials, ministers, discuss the problems and find out the solutions. To know the role performance of women councilors of urban local bodies, an attempt was made. An attempt was also made to know role performance of councilors enter and now
Among 120 councilors of study taluks 59.16 percent of them were doing only performed domestic roles 40.83 percent were doing extra work with the domestic work data when discussion held at the time of data collection to learn about the what is the extra work they expressed the extra work includes helping the poor people, arranging to provide training about craft, embozing, sewing, stitching, painting extra for women, few women councilors already work for the public like helping the old age people to get old age persons, help widows to get widows pension, provide economic help for orphan children and old age homes, for marriages extra. Our data supports that these women councilors really got more respect, more status and identification by the society. Because they already identified by the public, now they achieved the political position and power. This position and power would help them to achieve more status and respect in the society as personal and help them for public achievement that is by solving their word problems like water, electricity, roads, street lights, tanks, health and sanitation, drinking water extra. Through their ability and efforts, they are able to provide all these facilities to their ward people certainly they will get higher status and respect in the society.

The data also throws light on these things. The women councilors who constitute 59.16 percent were engaged only in domestic work, now their workload is increased. Now they are acting as social service agents also. Their role is again changed. Now they are working as councilors, as politician and also as social service agent.
With regard to the role performance, researcher asked the question their role performance is satisfactory or unsatisfactory; and do they hesitate to interact with the men in social gathering and meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role performance of women representatives.</th>
<th>Percentage of Yes.</th>
<th>Percentage of No.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work satisfaction</td>
<td>88.4</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interact with men</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

of the 120 councilors a overwhelming majority of want percent expressed that their work is satisfactory it shows that being a councilor their performance is satisfactory in the municipalities. It shows they are able to do both domestic and public work 11.6 percent of women are expressed that their work is not satisfactory; this is due to belonging non-ruling party or independent parties. Their socio-economic ground was not in a better condition and also they have law articulation level and belonged to better poor income group.

65 percent of women have expressed that they are interacting with men without any hesitation in social gatherings and meetings. This is really appreciable matter of 65 percent of women leaving or loosing traditional attitude towards society and men in particular. It shows that they are moving towards modernization and wanted to achieve true democracy. Remain 35 percent of women have expressed that they are hesitating to mix with men. It shows that these women are still on the traditional bound. This is due to lack of literacy, less economic opportunity and male dominance. In India generally
women have no freedom to taluk with men, to mingle, and to visiting places alone. She needs to be accompanied and forced to depend on the men she has to do it with an escart. In certain comities women cannot go out openly and freely they have to cover their faces fully.

The above said 65 percent of respondents have expressed confidence in discharging their official rules and believed that they can now (as councilors) represent their ward problems to officials freely and demandingly. However it is not the same with regard to 35 percent of the respondents; the position of councillorship has not given them any confidence (empowerment) to discharge their rules.

When researcher asked the question about their membership in standing committees, the researcher found that there is none of women councilors in standing committees. For effective functioning of any institution, the committees are considered as indispensable. These committees provide a chance of through discussions on the issues before brining them to the general meetings for final decisions. Standing committees constitute production committee, social justice committee, health committee, and education committee, Amenities committee and the like. These committees must constituted with the inclusion of women but it is found that when the focused discussion held between researcher and respondents they expressed that in kottur and kampli; taluks standing committees were not allotted to them. They said that men among themselves allotted committees because women not able to manage the committees. This indicates and supports that there is men as a handle for women to empower.
From the foregoing analysis, it is evident that role performance and status charge are closely related each other. This is so in the case women councilors of study taluks. This makes clear that women are ready to perform political role properly along with domestic work but their man and colleague councilors or co-councilors create problem to avoid role performance of women that will closely connected with their status. So it can be analyzed that there are number of handles come in the way of role performance of women which level empowerment to their men attending the meetings are not considered as political role. The political role is analyzed in terms of decision making, social participation, and attending political and public meetings. In order to understand the political role of women councilors an attempt was assessed in terms of political participation and social participation. The political participation of respondents was assessed by awarding grades for involvement in political activities considered in the study. The grade has been awarded according to the scores obtained by the respondents. Based on the pooled scores obtained by the respondents, the levels of index political participation were determined as more or high moderate and low participation on political activities.

**SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN MEMBERS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of social participation of women councilors</th>
<th>No. of women in social participation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High/ More</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the examination of the mean scores in the above table, it is evident that the social participation of women councilors of study taluks was significantly high/more. This may be attributed to the influence of various factors such as their higher educational and income levels and spread of media communication. 13.3 percent of women participated in social and cultural activities at moderate level. The data through light on this 13.3 percent of women mostly participated at low level. These women either never bother about other things or illiterates.

Our analysis suggested that educational facilities must be provided to women at minimum level. They need primary level education to change their attitude towards others, to go here and there, to mingle with others, to involve in other socio-cultural activities, to talk with men extra. It also higgests that, mere provide reservation opportunity to become member of political institutions but also would provide training and formal education at the minimum level. And the degree of modernization attained by the women members has a profound influence on their role performance.

**SELF ESTEEM AND STATUS CHANGE.**

Gandhiji had bi-dimensional view of ameliorating the conditions of Indian women. First to abolish the evils of child marriage, widow obstruction and raising the consciousness among women through education, secondly, he had an ideal vision of women hood, which had its roots in the cultural tradition of India. Gandhiji is ideal women was one who combined the virtues of Indian womanhood delineated in the epics along with the virtues of modern women.
Self-esteem is one of the qualitative indicators of women empowerment. It leads to individual and collective confidence among themselves. The self-esteem is increased when women attain modernization. This is what Gandhiji said about Indian women.

Modernization reflects the spirit of the scientific age. It is rooted in the scientific worldview with an emphasis on rationality and calculability. The concept of modernization is used to designate "the process of transformation of traditional or pre-technological society into a society characterized by machine technology, rational and secular attitudes and highly differentiated social structures". Lerner holds that modernization process involves a fundamental deep seated and widespread change involving attitudes, the development of rationalist and positive spirit, and the applications of new knowledge to the ways of living. It involves changes not only at the but also at the personal level; changes of modes of thinking, beliefs, opinions, attitudes and action. Modernization is therefore, a process of socio-cultural transformation that results from factors and processes that are distinctive of the contemporary industrial world. Thus the modernization represents changes in both the social structure and a wide range of attitude, belief and behavior relating to social, economic, political and cultural life of individuals and groups. In short, modernization is a process of change of individual, cultural and structural aspects of society. Therefore, the study of modernity of women councilors assumes importance in the study of self-esteem and status change.
Self-esteem of women can be increased by education. Education has made them to be self-reliant economically by entering into the serviced sector. They perceive themselves in no way inferior to the male earning member in the family. Education has changed their outlook towards their role which they do not think appropriate in limiting to the private domestic field. But their attitude has little attested the attitude of the family and the society. Educational attainment of women have dynamically made her a powerful resource and in her own development. It has raised her status and respect. On the basis of these assumptions an attempt was made to assess the extent of self-esteem and status change of women councilors of study taluks. In the context of empowerment, self-esteem and status change help the women councilors to get empowered.

Based on these researcher asked the women councilors whether their work is more appreciated and respected now; and they are in a position to help people more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self Esteem of Women councilors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very confident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

of the 120 councilors 27.5 percent of respondents said their work is very much appreciated and followed by another 35.8 percent who felt their worker appreciated and respected on the other hand 10.8 percent were not sure whether their work is appreciated and respected; and 21.6 percent have confused their work is not appreciated and they are not respected.
Similarly 20.8 percent of the councilors have felt that they are not in position to help people; and 10 percent of the respondents were not sure about their ability to help people. On the other hands 30 percent of the respondents were very confident that as councilors they can help people more now; and 35.8 percent were confident about their position to help people.

**STATUS CHANGE: -** when researcher asked about status change of women councilors to know whether they experience any change in social status now.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status change of women councilors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councilors got more status and respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Got less respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No status change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table reveals that only 7.5 percent of the councilors said they did not experience of status change. Whereas a majority of women councilors expressed that they obtained more respect and status in the society (75%) 17.5 percent of respondents were obtained less respect and status in the society.

Our analysis indicated that among the women who experienced higher status, respect and recognition in the society, most of them belonged to forward and intermediary castes; maimed and of middle age group; and are from better poor income and middle income groups and have above primary to secondary level of education; and
represent medium sized and larger families; and engaged in petty business, white color, contractor and other works. Apart from these above said chrematistics they enjoy a good reputation as counselor in urban local body. Thus this new position has added more status to them. Of 120 women councilors 17.5 percent experienced less respect and status. The data indicates that among them 8 belonged to very young age group 2 from young, 10 from middle age group and one from old age. Majority of them were just literates and belonged to small families and all councilors except 1 belonged to better poor income and middle-income group.

The data indicated clearly that these women are young; most of them belonged to backward caste groups and scheduled castes, only literates, but not even up to primary level; represent small families. These factors lead them to obtain less respect in society and also due to they are unmarried. In India, usually married women get higher respect than unmarried forward castes then backward class people, educated then literates extra.

The data also indicates that they are taking part in social, cultural and political activating is very low 7.5 percent of women said there is no status change. These women belonged to opposition parties or independent party, belonged to scheduled castes.

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that there is a good number of percentage of women obtained less respect. The reasons for obtaining less respect in the society were that most of them belonged backward castes, and illiterates.
Our analysis suggested that there must be provide educational facilities either formal or informal. Education has raised the status. Thus, minimum education is necessary to them to achieve higher status, respect and recognition in the society.

**POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND STATUS CHANGE.**

Political participation is a major path to women’s empowerment to increased decision-making power and greater ability to influence matters that effect our lives in the community and the larger society. In the broad sense, participation in politics goes far beyond electoral politics, voting and election to public office.

When it comes to leadership and decision-making positions within most of these organizations and movement women are district minorities. This situation, however, is beginning to change. Women are forcing not any male dominated structures but also process to change.

Moreover, women have successfully incorporated their perspectives into many organizations and movements and have brought their issues to the agenda.

Women have also brought significant changes to movements for liberation and democracy, which in the past have frequently considered women’s concerns to be secondary issues.
Further women in non-governmental organizations and people's movements have refused to be confined to so-called women's issues in the narrow sense, but are affirming the right to bring women's perspectives to all issues.

Political participation includes the right to vote, right to contest and the right to candidacy, for this women must be accepted as campaigners as well as women as members of parties and they need to be involved in all the decision-making processes.

The major obstacle to women's full participation in politics is a nearly universal societal attitude that has valued women principally as mothers and wives.

Reservation of seats is one of the instruments of political empowerment of women as it guarantees representation to women as a group. These is a danger that the women in reserved seats for from becoming a power to be reckoned with night be easily excluded from real authority. Nevertheless, the presence of women in political institutions care be ensured which in turn may encourage other women to slowly came out of the age old barriers imposed on them by the social structure to share political power on an equal footing with men.

To analyze the level of political participation of women councilors an attempt was made in this study.
POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of participation</th>
<th>No. of women in political participation.</th>
<th>Percentage.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Better/high</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>38.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>61.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table reveals that 38.3 percent of women councilors were very active or better participation. 61.7 percent of women participating in political activities are at moderate level. One of the most sticking high light is their was no low participation. Researcher found there was either higher participation or moderate. None of them were in low participation.

The above data reveals that who were more active in political participation, most of them belonged large and larger families, belonged to middle income and upper middle income group, and got above primary level education. This shows that education and income levels plays important in political participation of women councilors. The data suggested on this issue: women must provide with better education and better economic opportunities. Because fundamental changes in the social reality takes place only when in addition to the new educational and professional opportunities for women a change in their consciousness also takes place where they combine the egalitarian ideology with
their already attained socio-economic independence and attack the intra family structure and authority. An amalgam of the “changed objective situations” and “changed consciousness” will have an impact on the larger societal environment. The change will not limited to a few persons and places. A broad based movement is therefore, essential for accelerating the process.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

Access for information is a channel through which we can reach out and gather information. Hither to it was an unthought of thing for women to gain access in this field. It is only through certain factors like modernization, education, spread of modern democratic principles elevation of women’s status in society liberation from fear and self confidence extra can women gain access for information. Now a days we see women working in all fields which was liter to

Dominated only by men. Women, now taking active part in political and economic fields. This is an opportunity for women to gain more access for information. And it is also a blasing for women the government to pass the reservation policy. Because of all these above said opportunities, women has access to various means of information from different sources such as libraries, computer, and media women can also access for information by interacting with others. In different fields without any restraint. It is very important for those women who are involved in politics and in public affairs by based on these things and attempt was made to know the parameters of access for information of women of urban local bodies.
Among 120 women councilors 92 were more access, 18 were less access and 10 were very offerly access.

**Access of information of women representatives.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>No of women access information</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. By agenda, notice, chief officers, meetings, advertisement extra</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. By lunch men and well-wishers</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Do not get information</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When researcher asked the respondents whether they have access for development plans, proposed welfare, auction schemes extra and on whom there are depend for access for information. The table reveals that 76.6 percent of women access information by agenda, notice by chief officers, meetings, advertisement and concerned authority. 15 percent of women councilors said that they access information by lunch men, wellfishers and family members. 8.3 percent of women often access information.
The above table reveals that majority of women 76.6% access information through correct channels, which are existed due to modernization. So it can be analysed that these women are moved towards modernity, and their educational level help them to access information.

15 percent of women access information is less data reveals that, these women only by the help of lunch and other access information. It shows their dependency on their men. These women are from medium size families, better poor income group, illiterates and backward castes. Thus our analysis suggested that education and modernization will really helpful them to access more which would help them to their empowerment.

With regarding the same access for information, the researcher asked the question about access for municipal budget provisions and other records; and access for developmental plans.

**ACCESS FOR INFORMATION OF WOMEN COUNCILORS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage of Yes</th>
<th>Percentage of No</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Budget Provisions and other records</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Plans</td>
<td>75.8%</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above tables reveals that 75 percent of women councilors have access for municipal budget provisions and other records. It shows that majority of women councilors are able to have access information through the means of agenda, notice, meeting, by chief officer and concerned authorities.

It also supports that majority of women councilors have above primary educational level. 25 percent of women members said that they have not access. This also reveals that they are unable to have access due to because they are illiterate, and have economic problems and domestic constraints.
LEVELS OF EMPOWERMENT

Based on the concept and characteristics, the level of empowerment of women councilors of urban local bodies is analyzed in terms of social participation, social articulation, decision making, political participation, role performance, access to information and self-esteem.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators or characteristics.</th>
<th>Levels</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Better</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision making</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social participation</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social articulation</td>
<td>60.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political participation activities</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-esteem</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Role performance</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to information</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our analysis reveals that 82.5 percent of women involved in social participation this group is at higher level; and only 4.2 percent of women representatives participated in social activities are at low level however, 13.3 percent of women members represent moderate social participation level. A overwhelming majority of women councilors from forward caste represents very higher participation in socio-cultural activities and their percentage is 91.3 percent all categories of caste groups have above 70 percent in social participation activities except the intermediary castes. It is found that very less percentage of women councilors are have low participation levels our analysis also reveals that members all of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Size of family</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making</td>
<td>Below 5 58.6</td>
<td>H.S 65.5</td>
<td>1-3 lacks 57.1</td>
<td>F.C 65.2</td>
<td>V.Y 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A.S 64.7</td>
<td>B.C 46.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Low 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N.B.C 42.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Y 61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M 44.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Old 46.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Participation</td>
<td>Below 5 56.21</td>
<td>Primary 100</td>
<td>No variation.</td>
<td>F.C 91.3</td>
<td>M 86.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upper primary 84.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Others 89.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Above primary 82.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Articulation</td>
<td>5.7 66</td>
<td>H.S 65.5</td>
<td>1-3 lacks 71.4</td>
<td>F.C 78.3</td>
<td>V.Y 71.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-10 68.2</td>
<td>A.S 82.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Participation</td>
<td>10.15 8.3</td>
<td>U.P 40.6</td>
<td>1-3 lacks 64.3</td>
<td>N.B.C 52.6</td>
<td>Y 47.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15-20 50</td>
<td>H.S 41.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sc's 45.5</td>
<td>M 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A.H.S 41.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F.C. 69.6</td>
<td>V.Y 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I.M 100%</td>
<td>Y 52.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B.C 64.8</td>
<td>M 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>O</td>
<td>66.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
aged groups represents higher participation level in social activities; only 4 and 6.6 percent of women form very young and old age groups is fond to be at low level of participation. None of the women councilors is found to be in poor income groups 85.7 percent of women from upper middle-income group represents higher social participation but low participation is nil. Women of all sized families except medium sized have above 80 percent of social participation. At better level only 2.1 percent of women belonging to 5-7 members families age low level of social participation. L one of the interesting findings is that women having primary educational legal, represent 100 percent higher participation is social activities. Among illiterates and above secondary educational level more or less the sense percentage of women participated in social activities at higher level. Illiterates and those women of 5 years schooling their low level is nil.

The index of social articulation reveals 60.8 percent of women councilors are better articulated; 13.3 percent of women have moderate and 19.2 percent are articulated at low level. It as highlights that among forward castes 78.3 percent of women are better articulated; 71.4 percent of women from young age group are better articulated 100 percent of women from intermediary caste participated in social articulation at lower level. It represents only low participation of social articulation. Their moderate and higher participation in nil. 82.4 percent of educated women (above secondary level of education) are highly articulated and 30.4 percent illiterate women represent low social articulation.

At the decision making level only 46.7 percent of women councilors involved in decision making process at better level and large percentage of women less involved in
decision making (33.3%) 65.5 percent of educated women involved more in decision making and 48 percent of women of very young age have low participation in decision making 65.2 percent are from forward castes represent higher participation in decision making.

The political activities of women councilors reveals 61.7 percent of women participation at moderate level. Low participation in political activities is found nil. Among forward castes women 69.6 percent are better in political participation. Among women that obtain above higher secondary level of education that is 41.2 percent participate in political activities at better level very young and old age groups present moderate participation in political activities. Their percentage is 68 percent and 66.7 percent.

The self-esteem of women councilors reveals 64.5 percent of women have strong confidence about their position and they are able to help the people but 21.2 percent of women confuse they are not in a position to help the people and these women are not respected by the people. This is because they belong to non-ruling party, they belong to young age group, schedule castes and come from better poor income group.

76.7 percent of women have expressed that their work is satisfactory and 24.8 percent have said that their work is not satisfactory. They due to very less amount that is allotted to their wards they belong to lower section of the society illiterate and also to very young age.

Access to information of women councilors reveals, 75.4 percent of women get access to development plans municipal budget provisions and records through the means of
agenda, notice, meeting or concerned authorities. Only 24.8 percent get access information by their lunch men and well-wishers.

Thus, our analysis suggests that all the above-mentioned indexes except decision making and political participation. Participation of women councilors of study taluks have represented above 60 percent is appreciable. But the data shows that above 35 percent of women councilors have get involved in decision-making and political participation. It is also good. But women should have more involvement in decision-making process in political bodies have to asset their voices so as to strengthen the urban local bodies.
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