### Appendix -I

**Questionnaire/Schedule For Sampled Voters / Villagers**

1. Name of Panchayat and District. : [ ]

2. Status of Panchayat
   - Open
   - Reserve

3. Are you a member of any political party?
   - Yes
   - No
   If yes, which political Party.

4. Do you know about the 73rd constitutional amendment?
   - To a great extent
   - To some extent
   - Not at all

5. Do you know about the Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act of 1994?
   - To a great extent
   - To some extent
   - Not at all

6. Do you consider the system of reservation of seats and offices in Panchayati Raj Institutions as appropriate?
   - Yes
   - No

7. Are the meetings of Gram-Sabha held regularly?
   - Regularly
   - Irregularly
   - Not at all

8. What percentage of people participate in the Gram-Sabha?

9. Do you feel that people’s participation in Panchayati Raj has increased after the 73rd amendment
   - Yes
   - No

10. Do the Panchayati Raj Institutions really represents the all sections of rural society?
    - To a great extent
    - To some extent
    - Not at all
    How?

11. Do you feel that corrupt practices are still followed in Panchayati Raj politics? If Yes, give instances.
    - Yes
    - No

12. Was money and muscle power used by contestants during the Panchayat elections?
    - Money
    - Muscle
    - Both
13. While voting which one of the following do you consider important factor.

i. Caste

ii. Area

iii. Efficiency of Candidate

iv. Any other, please specify

14. Are there any factions in your village or Panchayat? Yes No

If Yes, are they based on caste, area or some other factors?

15. Do you feel that your Panchayat is divided into factions? Yes No

16. Some people say that grass-root democracy has taken politics to the doorstep of the rural people? Yes No

If Yes, what has been its impact on rural society:

17. Even after the provisions of reservation for SCs/STs/OBCs and women, power is still with the higher castes.

To a great extent To some extent Not at all

Do you agree with it?

18. Has this political process raised the level of political consciousness among the people of Himachal Pradesh? Yes No

19. It is said that political consciousness has led to differences and dissensions in the society.

To a great extent To some extent Not at all

How?
20. Sometimes it is said that introduction of politics at grass-root level has created groupism and conflict formation in the village.  

Yes  No

21. It is said that grass root democracy is creating fissures in the local communities.  

Yes  No

Do you agree with it?

22. Is there proper coordination among institutions of local self-government i.e. Village Panchayat/ Block Samiti/ Zila Parishad?  

To a great extent  To some extent  Not at all

How does it work? ________________________________

23. Some people say that the struggle for power has intensified at the village level after the 73rd amendment.  

Yes  No

24. Is there any struggle for power within the lower castes?  

Yes  No

25. Is there struggle for power between upper and lower castes?  

To a great extent  To some extent  Not at all

26. Is there any polarization in your Panchayat?  

Yes  No

If Yes, on what basis ________________________________

27. Do you notice any inter-caste, inter-clan and inter-village conflict in your area?  

Yes  No

28. Do you fully support your present sarpanch/pradhan?  

Yes  No

Please give reasons. ________________________________

29. Some people say that there is also intra-caste struggle for power?  

Yes  No

If yes, how? ________________________________
30. People say that social and political values of common people in village are changing due to social mobility. Do you agree?

31. What are the reasons of the lower castes poor representation in Panchayati Raj Institutions?

32. Is voting in Panchayat elections based on cast factor.

33. Name of the Respondent. :

34. Gender :

35. Age :

36. Qualification :

37. Occupation :

38. Annual Income :

39. Religion :

40. Caste :