CHAPTER-VII
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The society at all times has felt that grass root institutions are better suited for the efficient governance of the day to day local affairs of a locality. The PRIs constitute the base level structure to address to the rural local problems. Not only after independence but before independence also the significance of these rural local bodies especially the Panchayats were emphasized in all the periods be it Ancient, Mughals or British. The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi strongly advocated the significance of these rural local institutions to have best of the ‘Sawraj’. Gandhi ji always believed in the participatory decision making as the best policy for the successful of programme planning and sound administration. It is also being realized by academia, activists and even the people beneficiaries themselves that unless the people of the concerned area are involved, the implementations of the rural local programs are going to be far cry. The key characteristics of the modified PRIs has been outlined in the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution of India as a frame work, the operational part of the PRIs is likely to depend on the act enacted by the respective State governments. Accordingly the State governments have enacted legislations to give operational dimensions to the key principles of the 73rd constitutional amendment. The Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 has also been enacted in the same vein so as to restructure and strengthen the PRIs in the state. The said Act also establishes a three tier system and provides for representation of women/including schedule castes women equal to one third seats of the total seats at each level. The role of PRIs in rural development is to transform rural development policy guidelines into action in such a way that it empowers the rural local folk. As the democracy is maturing and the country which is on the fast track of development is on the move to direct all legislative and administrative efforts to empower the people in one or the other way. The present research work is an effort to examine and evaluate People’s Empowerment through PRIs especially in the Sirsa district (Haryana). The different chapters of the study dig them deep into multiple issues and in the pages to follow major findings, observations, recommendations and suggestions have been raked by crystallizing the issues and problems.

252
7.1 MAJOR FINDINGS IN RELATION TO THE ADHERENCE OF MAIN PROVISIONS OF HARYANA PANCHAYATI RAJ ACT, 1994 BY THE PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS.

- The Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 is in place in accordance with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.
- The Election Commission in the state was found in place as per the requirement of the Panchayat Raj Act, 1994.
- The Election Commission was playing its role as mentioned under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.
- The State government over the year has endeavoured to hold the elections to PRIs in time except during the year 2000 when futile attempt was made to delay the elections to these bodies but the judicial intervention which directed the State government to go ahead with elections at the earliest. Even then the delay was caused by four months.
- The reservation of seats for SCs/STs in all the elections was as per the laid down norms of the government of Haryana, which was strictly based on the proportion of the population in the state.
- The reservation of seats for SCs/STs in all the elections was as per the laid down norms of the government of Haryana, which was strictly based on the proportion of the population in the Sirsa district.
- The policy of reservation for women was uniformly followed in all the PRIs elections were as per the laid down norms of the government of Haryana.
- The Sirsa district also abided by the policy of reservation for women except in the elections of 2000, when this reservation for Panches stood at 31.02 per cent. The districts authorities could not find any suitable explanation for this deviation.
- Recommendations given by the First and Second Finance Commission for augmentation of internal resources for rural bodies were accepted by the State government in toto.
- Recommendations given by the First and Second Finance Commission in relation to the tax sharing were partially accepted by the State government. Only tax sharing in case of cattle fairs were accepted by the State government.
• Recommendations on grants in aids made by the First and Second Finance Commission were accepted by the State government as it is.

• The Third State Finance Commission has submitted its final report on 31 December 2008 to the State government for consideration and approval. The recommendations of the Commission have not been released.

Inferences Drawn to the Adherence of Main Provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 by the PRIs.

- PRIs as provided through the Act are in place.
- Elections are held regularly in the State.
- Finance Commissions are playing its role effectively.
- Supporting structure of PRIs is in place.

7.2 MAJOR FINDINGS RELATING TO THE PERCEPTION OF MALE REPRESENTATIVE OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

• The more of male representatives were persuaded either by the political parties or by their family members to contest the elections of PRIs

• Male representatives in age group 21-30 years, BC male representatives and illiterate/could sign name only either very rarely or never took interest in problems of the rural areas before becoming the representative of PRIs and the respondents following in other categories took interest in rural problems varying from large to some extent.

• The majority of male representative were either not aware or were aware to lesser extent of the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

• The majority of male representatives were either not aware or were aware to lesser extent about the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

• The majority of male representatives irrespective of their income and political background were not aware or were aware to lesser extent of their powers and functions as representatives of PRIs except the male representative in the age group 21-30 years, male representatives of general category, male representatives of backward lasses and representatives with graduation/post graduation as qualification were either aware to large or to some extent about their powers and functions.
• The more of male representatives found media and friends/colleagues as the source of getting information on general political issues.

• The majority of male representatives found government officials, media, political party and friends as the source of getting information regarding the government schemes for rural areas as responses were nearly equally split between all the options.

• The fair majority of male representatives attended meetings of PRIs either regularly or very often.

• The majority of male representatives were either busy in earning livelihood or did not bother about meetings to attend meetings of PRIs.

• The fair majority of male representatives either spoke in all meetings or very often spoke in the meetings of PRIs.

• The majority of male representatives either raised issues or very often raised issue in the meetings of PRIs, whereas majority of respondents with technical degree/diploma holder and respondents in age group of 31-40 years very rarely did so.

• The majority of male representatives raised welfare and economic issues in the meetings of PRIs.

• The majority of male representatives found that representatives of the PRIs gave attention or support to the issues raised by them.

• The fair majority of male representatives either repeated the issues or protested by speaking loudly to get them heard.

• The high majority of male representatives had addressed only meetings of PRIs and addressed during canvassing in the elections.

• The majority of male representatives while participating in the meetings were provided with the opportunity to make efforts for meeting the needs and demands of their areas or worked for the welfare of the people.

• The majority of male representative consulted the local people while making the rural development plans of their area either regularly or very often.

• The majority of male representatives irrespective of any variable were of the opinion that financial difficulties and political interference were the most important impediment in the empowerment of the PRIs.
• The majority of male representatives found illiteracy and lack of public cooperation as the main problems in the development of their area.

• Spread of education and mobilising popular participation were suggested as the way for development of their area by the majority of male representatives except the male representatives in age group of 41-50 years who were of different opinion.

• Local people approached the representatives either regularly or very often to redress their grievances, it was felt by the majority of the male representatives irrespective of any variables.

• The high majority of male representatives either always or very often redressed the grievances of the people who approached them.

• The majority of male representatives found significant to moderate elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs apart from the representatives with more than Rs. 20,000/- of income who opined slight to no elevation in the status.

• The positive change in the attitude of the local people was perceived by fair majority of male representatives from large to some extent after being elected to the PRIs.

• Caste played a role in electing leaders of PRIs and this was found by majority of male representatives varying from large to some extent.

• The majority of male representatives irrespective of any variable were of the view that representation given to SCs was adequate varying from large to some extent.

• The fair majority of male representatives were of the opinion that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate varying from large to some extent.

• The fair majority of male representatives found women representatives as competent leaders varying form large to some extent.

• High proportion of male representatives held no opinion on issue that presence of women leader made any positive difference to the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

• Reservation of women in PRI was a step towards women empowerment, this was agreed upon by majority of male representatives varying from large to some extent.
• The high proportion of male representatives very rarely or never travelled outside their village to attend meetings as part of their official responsibility.
• High proportion of male representatives rarely met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.
• High proportion of male representatives felt that officials had cooperative or responsive attitude towards the leaders of PRIs.
• The fair majority of male representatives varying from regularly to very often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

Inferences Drawn to the Perception of Male Representatives of PRIs

- The male representatives are persuaded by the political parties or by their family members to become representatives of the PRIs.
- The majority of male representatives are not aware of the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- Male representatives often attend the meeting of PRIs.
- Most of the male representatives speak in the meetings and raise welfare and economic issues.
- The male representatives only address the meetings or address the elections rally.
- The male representatives consult the local people while making the rural development plans of their area.
- The male representatives find that financial difficulties and political interference are the main impediment in the empowerment of the PRIs and lack of public cooperation as the main problem in the development of their area.
- Local people often contact the male representatives with their problems and they redress the grievances of the people who approach them.
- The male representatives find that caste plays a major role in the elections of Panchayat leaders.
- The majority of male representatives find that representation given to SCs and Women in the PRIs is adequate.
- The male representatives find women representatives as competent leaders.
- The male representatives find that reservation of women in PRIs is a step towards women empowerment.
- The male representatives find the officials cooperative/responsive towards the leaders of PRIs.
7.3 MAJOR FINDINGS RELATING TO THE PERCEPTION OF FEMALE REPRESENTATIVES OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

- The majority of female representatives expressed that they were persuaded by their family members or it was their own decisions to become the representative of PRIs.
- High proportion of PRIs representatives expressed that they took interest in village problems before becoming the representative of PRIs.
- The majority of female representatives were either not aware or were aware only to some extent about the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- The majority of female representatives of the PRIs were either aware to lesser extent or were not aware about their powers and functions as representatives of PRIs.
- Media or family members were the main source of getting information on general political issues for the found by majority of female representatives except the respondents in the age group of above 51 years who found political party and friend/colleagues as the main sources of getting information.
- High proportion of female representatives found media and friends/family as the main sources of getting information regarding the government schemes for the rural areas.
- High proportion of respondents very rarely attended the general meetings of PRIs.
- The majority of female representatives didn’t attend the meetings due to their household activities suffered or not bothered about the meetings.
- The majority of respondents either spoke in all meeting or very often spoke in the meetings of PRIs.
- High proportion of respondents very rarely raised issue in the meetings of PRIs.
- The majority of female representatives of PRIs raised either social or welfare issues.
- The majority of female representatives were of the opinion that male representatives gave attention to the issues raised by them.
• To make themselves heard in the meetings, the majority of female representatives either repeated the issue or remained silent.
• The majority of female representatives addressed in the meetings only or never addressed any gatherings. However the female representatives who were member of pressure group and local group did not address the meetings.
• Participating in PRIs meetings provided the opportunity to majority of female representatives to express their views on important issues and make efforts to meet the needs and demands of the people of their area. The respondents who were the graduate/post graduates and those respondents who were members of local group opined that the participation provided them are with the opportunity to work for a welfare of the people.
• The majority of female representatives consulted the local people either regularly or very often to make the rural development plans of their area.
• The fair majority of female representatives found disunity among representative of PRIs and political interference as the main impediment in the empowerment of PRIs.
• Lack of public cooperation and lack of public unanimity on general issues were the main problems in development of the area and this was found by majority of female representatives.
• The majority of female representatives suggested mobilizing popular participation and drawing public consensus on general issues as the way for development of their area.
• The majority of female representatives were approached by the local people of the area with the local problems.
• The majority of female representatives either always or very often addressed the grievances of people who approached them apart from member of pressure groups who very rarely or never did so.
• The majority of female respondents were approached by the male representatives of the area with the local problems.
• The majority of female representatives depended on their husband or family members to help the people.
• The majority of female respondents found significant to moderate elevation in their social status after becoming representative of PRIs except the member of pressure group who found slight or no elevation.

• The majority of female representatives found the positive change varying from large to some extent in the attitude of the people of their area after being got elected to PRIs.

• The fair majority of female representatives were of the opinion that they could not look after their children properly and their house work got neglected being a representative of PRIs.

• The majority of female respondents found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

• The fair majority of female representatives expressed that male representatives could tilt the decisions as they wished.

• The majority of female representatives found that caste played an important role in electing Panchayat Raj leaders.

• The majority of female representatives opined that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

• High proportion of female respondents very rarely travelled outside to attend the official meetings.

• The fair majority of female representatives had to travel with their family members or colleagues to attend the meetings out of their village/town.

• High proportion of female representatives rarely met the Panchayati Raj officials related to their area.

• The more of female representatives irrespective of any variable remained undecided about the attitude of the officials towards them and remaining respondents found the cooperative attitude of the officials.

• The majority of female representatives either very rarely or never met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes except the members belonging to local group.

Inferences Drawn to the Perception of Female Representatives of PRIs

- Female representatives are influenced by their own decision or persuaded by their family members to become representative of PRIs.
- High proportion of PRIs representatives take interest in village problems even before becoming the representative of PRIs.
- The majority of female representatives are not aware of the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- The female representatives are not aware of their powers and functions as the representatives of PRIs.
- High proportion of respondents rarely attend the meetings of PRIs.
- High proportion of respondents rarely raise issue in the meetings of PRIs.
- Female representatives raise either social or welfare issues.
- The female representatives find that lack of public cooperation and lack of public unanimity on general issues are the main hurdles in development of the area.
- The female representatives suggest that mobilizing popular participation and drawing public consensus on general issues are the keys to development of the area.
- Local people regularly contact the female representatives to resolve their problem.
- The female representatives are unable to look after their children properly. Further, being the members of PRIs, their household functions also suffer.
- The female respondents find their spouse or other family members happy on account of their participation in public life.
- The female representatives find that representation given to SCs is adequate.
- The female representatives very rarely travel outside their village to attend official meetings.
- The female representatives rarely meet the Panchayati Raj officials of their area.

7.4 MAJOR FINDINGS RELATING TO THE PERCEPTION OF THE OFFICIAL RESPONDENTS
- The high majority of official respondents expressed that the success of PRIs depended on the coordination between the officials and the elected representatives of PRIs.
The majority of official respondents were regularly approached by the elected representatives. The high majority of official respondents were of the opinion that elected representatives discussed mainly the financial and developmental issues. High proportion of official respondents were of the view that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area. The majority of the official respondents expressed that the PRIs representatives took personal interest in the development work pertaining to their own area. The majority of official respondents found that political parties took keen interest in the Panchayati Raj elections. High proportions of official respondents were unsure about the issue that relationship between the representatives of PRIs and officials were cordial. The majority of official respondents found that PRIs representatives participated in the meetings of PRIs. The fair majority of official respondents were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people. The fair majority of official respondents expressed that lack of adequate knowledge of rules/regulations and political interference was the main problems faced by the leaders in the working of the PRIs. The majority of official respondents expressed that financial difficulties and disunity among the representatives of PRIs were the main impediments in the empowerment of the PRIs. The significant majority of official respondents were satisfied with the allocated financial resources to the PRIs. The significant majority of official respondent found the representatives of the PRIs were aware up to lesser extent about the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994. The significant majority of official respondents found that PRIs representatives while functioning remained under the influence of political parties. The majority of official respondents remained unsure about the issue that PRIs representative were judicious in utilizations of the funds.
The more of officials were of the view that PRIs representatives were not cooperative with them while getting the work done.

The fair majority of official respondents agreed to a larger extent that PRIs representatives played an important role in the development of the locality.

The majority of official respondents to a larger extent expressed that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.

The high majority of official respondents favoured that male representatives of PRIs were quick to understand official procedure.

Less proportion of official respondents supported that caste of the representatives played any role while dealing with officials.

The fair majority of official respondents expressed that representation given to SCs in PRIs was adequate.

The majority of official respondents accepted the view that representation given to women in PRIs was adequate.

The fair majority of official respondents were of the opinion that reservation given to women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The majority of official respondents were of the view that women representatives did not contribute in decision making as much as the male representatives did.

The majority of official respondents welcomed the representatives of PRIs when they visited the office.

The majority of the official respondents expressed that representatives of PRIs sought their guidance while solving the problems of local people.

The significant majority of officials were satisfied with the working of PRIs.

Inferences Drawn to the Perception of Official Respondents

- The official respondents are in agreement that the success of PRIs depends on the coordination between the officials and the elected representatives of PRIs.
- Elected representatives regularly approach the majority of officials to discuss procedure related problems.
- The elected representatives discuss mainly the financial and developmental issues with the officials.
- The majority of the official respondents express that the PRIs are working for the development of the rural area.
The official respondents find that political parties take keen interest in the Panchayati Raj elections.

The official respondents are unsure about the existence of cordial relationship between Panchayati Raj representatives and the officials.

The majority of official respondents find that representatives of the PRIs are carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people.

The official respondents find that lack of adequate knowledge of rules/regulations and political interferences are the main problems faced by the leaders of the PRIs.

The official respondents find that the financial difficulties and lack of unity among the representatives of PRIs are the main impediments in the empowerment of the PRIs.

The official respondents are satisfied with the allocation of financial resources to the PRIs.

The official respondents find that representatives of PRIs are not very much aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The official respondents find that PRIs representatives to a large extent function under the influence of political parties.

The official respondents find that PRIs representatives are not cooperative.

The official respondents view that representatives play an important role in the development of the locality.

The official respondents find that the representatives actively participate in the planning of local programmes.

The official respondents find that male representatives of PRIs quickly understand official procedure.

The official respondents find that representation given to SCs and women in PRIs is adequate and the reservation given to women in PRIs is a step towards women empowerment.

The official respondents are of the view that women representative do not contribute in decision making as much as male representatives.

The officials welcome the representatives of PRIs on their visit to office.
PRIs representatives seek the guidance of the officials in solving the local problems.
The official respondents are satisfied with the working of PRIs.

7.5 MAJOR FINDINGS RELATING TO THE PERCEPTION OF CITIZEN RESPONDENTS

- The majority of citizen respondents were of the view that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area.
- The majority of citizen respondents found that the development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful to the local people.
- The majority of citizen respondents found that Gram Sabha meetings were not held regularly in their village.
- The majority of citizen respondents felt that they rarely participated in the meetings of Gram Sabha.
- Less proportion of citizen respondents found that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of local people.
- The fair majority of citizen respondents expressed that the main impediments in the empowerment of the PRIs were the financial difficulties and the political interference.
- The significant majority of citizen respondents were of the view that lack of awareness of the powers and functions and political interference were the main problems faced by the leaders in PRIs.
- The majority of citizen respondents opined that they participated in the elections of PRIs.
- The fair majority of citizen respondents strived to solve the problems of the people through PRIs.
- The majority of citizen respondents discussed the PRIs matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.
- The majority of citizen respondents approached PRIs representatives when they had any problem/grievance related to local governance.
- High proportion of citizen respondents was not involved in the planning of the local programmes.
• High proportion of citizen respondents was undecided about the raised query that whether the representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

• High proportion of citizen respondents negated the view that caste played an important role in electing leaders.

• The significant majority of citizen respondents supported the issue that representation given to SCs and women in the PRIs was adequate.

• The majority of citizens were of the view that representation given to the women in the PRIs was adequate.

• The high majority of citizen respondents either negated this view or held no opinion about that elected women leaders performed their assigned duties in PRIs.

• High proportion of citizen respondents found that the presence of women leaders made the difference to some extent to the conduct of PRIs meetings.

• High proportion of citizen respondents expressed that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

• The majority of citizen respondents were of the opinion that the male representatives of the PRIs dominated in decision making.

• Less proportion of citizen respondents took interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.

• The majority of citizen respondents irrespective of the variable expressed that lack of public unanimity on general issues and lack of public cooperation were the major problems in the development of area.

• Drawing public consensus on general issues and mobilizing popular participation were suggested as the way for development of the area by the majority of citizen respondents.

• The majority of the citizen respondents were not satisfied with the working of PRIs system in their area.

• The fair majority of citizen respondents found that the post amendment PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.
Inferences Drawn to the Perception of Citizen Respondents

- The citizen respondents rarely participate in the meetings of PRIs.
- The citizen respondents find that PRIs representatives are not carrying out their duties up to the satisfaction of local people.
- The citizen respondents find that the main impediments in the empowerment of the PRIs are the financial difficulties and the political interference.
- The citizen respondents find that lack of awareness amongst the representatives of PRIs about their powers and functions and political interference are the main problems faced by the leaders in the working of PRIs.
- The majority of citizen respondents participate in the elections of PRIs.
- The citizen respondents do discuss the PRIs matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.
- The majority of PRIs representatives are involved in planning the local programmes.
- The citizen respondents find that caste does not play an important role in electing leaders of PRIs.
- The citizen respondents find that representation given to SCs and women in the PRIs is adequate and the reservation of the women is a step towards women empowerment.
- The citizen respondents find that the presence of women leaders make the difference to the conduct of PRIs meetings.
- The majority of citizen respondents take interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.
- The citizen respondents find that the post amendment PRIs are playing broader role in the development of the rural area.

7.6 OBSERVATIONS

Based on informal interviews, discussions and personal opinion, the researcher has been able to point out some significant observations besides the major findings-

1. The common man is not aware of as to what is the meaning of the term People’s Empowerment. Even the different respondents perceived the term differently.
2. The elections of Panchayats are contested on political lines. The political parities not only support the candidates directly or indirectly but also provide funds for the elections.

3. The caste and money factors play significant role in the PRIs elections in Haryana.

4. The male representatives of the PRIs dominate the decision making process in the institutions and tilt the decisions as per their wishes resulting into gender bias.

5. The proxy leadership in Panchayats especially on behalf of women leaders is again a practice nullifying the concept of women empowerment thereby further strengthening the gender bias.

6. The conservatism, the age old traditions of the society and the high rate of illiteracy among the masses are some of the factors which seriously impede the process of people’s empowerment.

7. The bureaucratic hassles and indifferent attitude of the officials connected with PRIs makes the working of the institutions tough and hard which further affects the efficiency and effectiveness of these bodies.

8. The callous attitude of the citizens towards the functioning of these institutions and their non participation in the prime activities of the PRIs further dilute the efforts towards people’s empowerment.

9. The dearth of capable leaders at the grass root level is yet another important factor jeopardising the process of people’s empowerment.

10. The unwillingness of the part of state agencies to decentralize or share powers and finances with the rural local bodies caused another hurdle in the way of people’s empowerment process.

11. Another interesting observation which can be highlighted on the basis of responses is that more of male representatives and the respondent citizens have expressed the financial difficulties as one of the main impediment of the empowerment in the way of empowerment of the PRIs whereas as the more of female representatives have pointed out the political interference as one of the main impediment however the more of officials have altogether different view for them disunity among representatives of the PRIs is the main hurdle.
12. Contrary to the expectations, the more of female representatives have rather decided of their own to become the representative of PRIs whereas more of male representatives expressed that they were persuaded by a political party to become representative of the PRIs.

13. The more of male representatives of the PRIs got the information regarding the government schemes for the rural areas from a political party. On the other hand the more of female representatives got the information regarding the government schemes from their friends/family/colleagues.

14. The welfare issues remain the focus of both male and female representatives.

15. The female representatives cited house hold work as the main hurdle in the way of attending the meetings of the PRIs whereas the more of male representatives found the meetings useless.

16. Both the male and female representatives of the PRIs made themselves heard in the meetings by repeating the issue.

17. The male and female representatives and the respondent citizens pointed out illiteracy among the people as the main problem in the development of their area and have suggested spread of education as a solution.

18. The officials viewed political interference as the main problem faced by the leaders in the working of the PRIs, whereas the citizens cited lack of awareness of their powers and functions as the main problem.

7.7 TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS

Criteria for the Hypothesis testing

The findings which were in favour of the hypothesis are marked as ☑ and which were against are marked as ☐ and neutral findings are marked as =. The results are compiled on the basis of the counts of ☑ and ☐. In the end all the ☑, ☐ and = are counted separately and if ☑ are more than double in comparison to the ☐ then the hypothesis is accepted, on the other hand when the ☐ are more than double in comparison to the ☑ then the hypothesis is rejected. The counts of = are considered neutral, hence are not counted for and against the hypothesis.

The term majority is used while testing the hypothesis and to evaluate and assess the effects of variables, the term more/less is used as the indicator on the comparable basis.
Hypothesis testing benchmarks- These are the two benchmarks for accepting, partially accepting and rejecting hypothesis.

1) If the difference between the two compiled results is double or more than double, then it is either accepted or rejected.
2) If the difference between the two compiled results is less than double, then it is partially accepted.

7.8 HYPOTHESIS I: THE PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN HARYANA HAVE ADHERED TO MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE HARYANA PANCHAYATI RAJ ACT, 1994 AS HAS BEEN ENSHRINED IN THE 73RD AMENDMENT ACT, 1992. SUCH AS:

7.8.1 Sub Hypothesis I: The State of Haryana holds regular elections to the PRIs

☑ The Election Commission in the state was in place as per the requirements of the Panchayat Raj Act, 1994.
☑ The Election Commission was playing its role as mentioned under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 and the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
☑ The state has witnessed three general elections to these rural local bodies and two of these elections were held within the stipulated time. The State government over the year has endeavoured to hold the elections to PRIs in time except during the year 2000 when futile attempt was made to delay the elections to these bodies but the judicial intervention which directed the State government to go ahead with elections at the earliest. Even then the delay was caused by four months.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and zero ☒ thus the sub hypothesis got a favourable response hence it is accepted.

7.8.2 Sub Hypothesis II: Reservation of the seats in the PRIs for women and SCs is in place in the State of Haryana.

☑ During all the elections to the PRIs the reservation of SCs/STs was as per the laid down norms of the government of Haryana, which was strictly based on the proportion of the population in the state.
☑ In all the elections to the PRIs the reservation of SCs/STs was as per the laid down norms of the government of Haryana, which was strictly based on the proportion of the population in the Sirsa district.
☑ The policy of reservation for women in the PRIs which was followed by the state of Haryana as provided in the Act (33 per cent of the total seats) was found in place in the PRIs elections.
The policy of reservation for women which was followed by the Sirsa district as was provided in the Act (33 per cent of the total seats) was found in place in the two PRIs elections and was violated in one of the elections at the base level, thus it was violated in the district.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and one ☐ thus the sub hypothesis stands accepted.

7.8.3 Sub Hypothesis III: The State Finance Commission played the prescribed role in relation to the local bodies.

☑ Recommendations given by the First and Second Finance Commission for augmentation of internal resources for rural bodies were accepted by the State government in toto.

☒ Recommendations given by the First and Second Finance Commission in relation to the Tax sharing were partially accepted by the State government.

☑ Recommendations on Grants in Aid made by the First and Second Finance Commission were accepted by the State government in toto.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are two ☑ and one ☒ thus the sub hypothesis got a favourable response hence it is accepted.

As the three sub hypothesis stand accepted, hence the main hypothesis stands accepted.

7.9 HYPOTHESIS II: THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE PEOPLE THROUGH PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS HAS RESULTED IN THE INCREASED AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION OF THE MALE REPRESENTATIVES IN PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS.

7.9.1 Sub Hypothesis 1: The empowerment of the people through PRIs has resulted in the increased awareness of the male representatives in PRIs.

☒ The majority of male representative were not aware of the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

☒ The majority of male representatives were not aware about the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

☒ The majority of male representatives irrespective of their income were not aware of their powers and functions as PRIs representatives.

☒ The majority of male representatives irrespective of their political background were not aware of their powers and functions as PRIs representatives.
☐ The majority of male representatives found elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives found positive change in the attitude of the local people after being elected to the PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives were of the view that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

☐ The majority of male representatives were of the opinion that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

☐ The majority of male representatives found women representatives competent as leaders.

☐ The majority of male representatives held no opinion on issue that presence of women leader made any difference to the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives expressed that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six ☐, four ☐ and one ☐ = thus the sub hypothesis received divided response, hence it is partially accepted.

7.9.2 Sub Hypothesis 2: The empowerment of the people through PRIs has resulted in the increased participation of the male representatives in PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives took interest in rural problems before becoming the representative of PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives regularly attended the meetings of PRIs.

☐ The majority of male representatives expressed their own views in all meetings.

☐ The majority of the male representatives raised issues in all the meetings.

☐ The majority of male representatives found other representatives giving attention or supportive to their raised issues.

☐ The majority of male representatives consulted the local people while making the rural development plans of their area.

☐ The majority of male representatives were approached by the local people with their problems.

☐ The majority of the male representatives often redressed the grievances of the people who approached them.
The majority of male representatives rarely travelled outside their village to attend meetings as part of their official responsibility.

The majority of male representatives rarely met the Panchayati Raj official concerned with their area.

The majority of male representatives very often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ☑️ and two ☐️ thus the sub hypothesis got a favourable response hence it is accepted.

As one of the sub hypotheses stands partially accepted and the other one stands accepted, thus the main hypothesis stands partially accepted.

However, the main hypothesis has been accepted. It would be pertinent to assess the impact of various variables on the hypothesis. Therefore, the impact of the variable of age, category, educational qualification, average monthly income of the family and respondents political background have been analyzed subsequent paragraph

7.9.3 (a) Effects of Age Variable

Male representatives senior in age are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

☑️ The more of male representatives senior in age were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as compared to male representatives younger in age.

☑️ The more of male representatives senior in age were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

☑️ The more of male representatives younger in age were aware of their powers and functions.

☑️ The more of male respondents senior in age found significant to moderate elevation in their social status after becoming member of the PRIs.

☑️ The more of male representatives senior in age were found positive change in the attitude of the people of their area.

☑️ The more of male representatives senior in age found that the representation given to the SCs in PRIs was adequate.

☑️ Representation given to women was adequate; this was found by more of male representatives senior in age.
The more of male representatives younger in age found women representatives as the competent leaders.

The more of male representatives younger in age found presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives senior in age expressed that reservation given to women is a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and three ☐ thus it is found that more of male representatives senior in age were aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

Male representatives senior in age actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age took interest in village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as compared to the male representatives younger in age.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age regularly attended the meetings of the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives younger in age expressed their views in all meetings of PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age often raised the issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives younger in age gave support to the raised issues.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age were often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age were approached by the local people.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age often redressed the grievances of the people.

☑ The more of male respondents senior in age either regularly or very often travelled outside the village to attend the meetings of PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age regularly met the Panchayati Raj official concerned with their area.

☑ The more of male representatives senior in age regularly met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.
From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine $\mathbf{\checkmark}$ and two $\mathbf{\times}$ thus it is established that more of male representatives senior in age actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.9.4 (b) Effects of Category Variable

Male representatives belonging to general category are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as compared to the male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category were aware of their powers and functions.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category found significant to moderate elevation in their social status after becoming member of the PRIs.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to general categories found positive change in the attitude of the people of their area.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories than general category respondents found that representation given to the SCs in PRIs was adequate.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories expressed that representation given to women was adequate.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories women representatives as the competent leaders.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories found that presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

$\mathbf{\checkmark}$ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories expressed that reservation of women is a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are five $\mathbf{\checkmark}$ and five $\mathbf{\times}$ thus it is found that category had no effect on the awareness of male representatives of the PRIs.
Male representatives belonging to general category actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories regularly attended the meetings of the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category expressed their views in all the meetings of PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category supported the issues raised by any representatives.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category regularly consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

☑ The male representatives who belonged to general category were often approached by the local people with their problems.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category was often redressed the grievances of the people.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories were travelled outside their village to attend meetings.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to general category was often met the Panchayati Raj officials of their area.

☑ The more of male representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories were often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development scheme.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and four ☐ thus it is found that more of male representatives who belonged to general category actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.9.5 (c) Effects of Educational Qualification Variable

Male representatives with higher educational qualifications are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

☑ The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as against the male representatives with lower educational qualifications.
The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of their powers and functions.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications found significant to moderate elevation in their social status after becoming member of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications found the positive change in the attitude of the people of their area.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications found the representation given to the SCs in PRIs was adequate.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications expressed that representation given to women was adequate.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications found women representatives as the competent leaders.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications expressed that presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications found that reservation of women is a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six ☑ and four ☐ thus it is found that more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

Male representatives with higher educational qualifications actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as compared to the male representatives with lower educational qualifications.

The more of the male representatives with lower educational qualifications regularly attended the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications expressed their views in the meetings of PRIs.
The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications paid attention to the raised issues.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications were approached by the local people with their problems.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications travelled outside village to attend meetings.

The more of male representatives with higher educational qualifications often met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.

The more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are five ☑️ and six ☐️ thus it is established that more of male representatives with lower educational qualifications actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.9.6 (d) Effects of Average Monthly Income of the Family Variable

Male representatives with high average monthly income are aware of the main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as compared to the male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of their powers and functions.
The male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family found significant to moderate elevation in their status after becoming the member of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family found positive change in the attitude of the people of their area.

The more of male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family found representation given to the SCs in PRIs was adequate.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family expressed that representation given to women was adequate.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family found women representatives as the competent leaders.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family found that presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family expressed that reservation of women is a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are eight ☒ and two ☐ thus it is found that more of male representatives with high average monthly income of the family were aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

Male representatives with high average monthly income actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as compared to the male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family.

The more of the male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family were often attended the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often expressed their views in the meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.
The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family gave attention and supported the raised issues.

The more of male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were approached by the local people with their problems.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility.

The more of male representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often met the Panchayati Raj official concerned with their area.

The more of male representatives with lower average monthly income of the family often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and four ☒ thus it is established that more of male representatives with high average monthly income of the family actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.9.7 (e) Effects of Political Background Variable

Male representatives with political background are aware of the main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

The more of male representatives other than political background were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as compared to the male representatives with political background.

The more of male representatives other than political background were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of male representatives other than political background as compared to male representatives with political background were aware of their powers and functions.
The more of male representatives with political background found significant to moderate elevation in their social status after becoming member of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with political background found positive change in the attitude of the people of the area towards the representatives.

The more of male representatives with political background found that representation given to the SCs in PRIs was adequate.

The more of male representatives with political background expressed that representation given to women was adequate.

The more of male representatives other than political background found women representatives as the competent leaders.

The more of male representatives other than political background found that presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with political background expressed that reservation of women is a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are five ☑️ and five ☑️ thus it is found that political background had no effect on the awareness of male representatives of the PRIs.

Male representatives with political background actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with political background took interest in the village problems as compared to the male representatives other than political background.

The more of male representatives other than political background regularly attended the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives other than political background often expressed their views in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives other than political background often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of male representatives with political background gave attention or supported the raised issues.

The more of male representatives with political backgrounds often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.
The more of male representatives with political background were approached by the local people with their problems.

The more of male representatives with political background often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of male representatives other than political background travelled outside the village to attend the meetings of PRIs.

The more of male representatives with political background were often met the Panchayati Raj official concerned with their area.

The more of male representatives with political background often met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and four ☐ thus it is established that more of male representatives with political background actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.10 HYPOTHESIS III: THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE PEOPLE THROUGH PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS HAS RESULTED IN THE INCREASED AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION OF THE FEMALE REPRESENTATIVES IN PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS.

7.10.1 Sub Hypothesis 1: The empowerment of the people through PRIs has resulted in the increased awareness of the female representatives in PRIs.

The majority of female representatives were not aware about the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The majority of female representatives were not aware about the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The majority of female representatives were not aware about their powers and functions as PRIs representatives.

The majority of female representatives found elevation in their social status after becoming representative of PRIs.

The majority of female representatives found the positive change in the attitude of the people of their area after their being elected to PRIs.

The majority of female representatives expressed that representation given to SCs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and three ☐ thus the sub hypothesis equally divided, hence it is partially accepted.
7.10.2 Sub Hypothesis 2: The empowerment of the people through PRIs has resulted in the increased participation of the female representatives in PRIs.

The majority of female representatives took interest in village problems before becoming the representative of PRIs.

The majority of female representatives very rarely attended the meetings of PRIs.

The majority of female representatives expressed their views in the meeting of PRIs.

The majority of female representatives very rarely raised issue in the meetings of PRIs.

The majority of female representatives were of the opinion that male representatives gave attention to the issue raised by them.

The majority of female representatives regularly consulted the local people while making the rural development plans of their area.

The majority of female representatives were approached by the local people with their problems.

The majority of female representatives very often redressed the grievances of the people who approached them.

The majority of female representatives were approached by the male members of the area with the local problems.

The majority of female representatives depended on their husband or family members to help the people.

The majority of female representatives found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

The majority of female representatives very rarely travelled outside to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibilities.

The majority of female representatives rarely met the Panchayati Raj officials of their area.

The majority of female representatives rarely met the MLAs/MPs of their area to push the local development schemes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are eight ☑️ and six ☐ so the sub hypothesis got partial response, hence it is partially accepted.

Both the sub hypothesis are partially accepted. Therefore, the main hypothesis stands partially accepted.
However, the main hypothesis has been partially accepted. It would be pertinent to assess the impact of various variables on the hypothesis. Therefore, the impact of the variable of age, category, educational qualification, average monthly income of the family and respondents political background have been analyzed subsequent paragraph

7.10.3 (a) Effects of Age Variable

Female representatives senior in age are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

- The more of female representatives younger in age were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as against the female representatives senior in age.
- The more of female representatives younger in age were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- The more of female representatives younger in age were aware of their powers and functions.
- The more of female representatives senior in age found significant to moderate elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.
- The more of female representatives senior in age found positive change in the attitude of the people.
- The more of female representatives younger in age found representation given to SCs in PRIs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are two ☑ and four ☐ thus it is found that more of female representatives younger in age were aware of provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

Female representatives senior in age actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

- The more of female representatives younger in age took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as against the female representatives senior in age.
- The more of female representatives senior in age often attended the meetings of the PRIs.
- The more of female representatives senior in age expressed their views in the meetings of the PRIs.

284
The more of female representatives senior in age raised issues either in all meetings or very often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of female representatives senior in age found male representatives giving attention to the issues raised by them.

The more of female representatives senior in age often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

The more of female representatives were approached by the local people with their problems.

The more of female representatives senior in age often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of female representatives senior in age were approached by the male members with their problems.

The more of female representatives younger in age depended upon their husband or family members for helping the people.

The more of female representatives senior in age found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

The more of female representatives senior in age often travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility.

The more of female representatives younger in age regularly met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.

The more of female representatives senior in age met the MLAs/MPs of their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are ten ☑ and four ☐ thus it is found that more of female representatives senior in age actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.10.4 (b) Effects of Category Variable

Female representatives belonging to general category are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as against the female representatives who belonged to general category.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
The more of female representatives who belonged to general category were aware of their powers and functions.

The more of female representatives who belonged to general category found elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to general category found positive change in the attitude of the people.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories expressed that representation given to SCs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and three ☒ thus it is found that category had no effect on the awareness of female representatives of PRIs.

Female representatives belonging to general category actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to general category took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as compared to the female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories very often attended the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories expressed their views in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories found male representatives giving attention to the issue raised by them.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

The more of female representatives who belonged to general category often approached by the local people with their problems.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories often approached by the male representatives of their area.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories depended upon their husband or family members for helping the people.
The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

The more of female representatives who belonged to general category very often travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility as compared to other categories.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.

The more of female representatives who belonged to SC and BC categories met the MLAs/MPs of their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and eleven ☐ thus it is established that female representatives who belonged to general category did not actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs than representatives belonging to SC and BC category.

7.10.5 (c) Effects of Educational Qualification Variable

Female representatives with higher educational qualifications are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as against the female representatives with lower educational qualifications.

The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 as compared to the female representatives with lower educational qualifications.

The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications were aware of their powers and functions.

The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications found elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.

The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications found positive change in the attitude of the people.

The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications expressed that representation given to SCs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and three ☐ thus it is found that educational qualifications had no effect on the awareness of female representatives of PRIs.
Female representatives with higher educational qualifications actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as against the female representatives with lower educational qualifications.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications often attended the meetings of the PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications expressed their views in the meetings of PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications raised the issues in the meetings of the PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications found male representatives giving attention to the issue raised by them.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

☑️ The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications were often approached by the local people with their problems.

☑️ The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications often redressed the grievances of the people.

☑️ The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications were often approached by the local people with their problems.

☑️ The more of female representatives with lower educational qualifications depended upon their husband or family members for helping the people.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications often travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications met the MLAs/MPs of their area as compared to female representatives with lower educational qualifications.
From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ☑️ and five ☐️ thus it is established that more of female representatives with higher educational qualifications actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.10.6 (d) Effects of Average Monthly Income of the Family Variable

Female representatives with high average monthly income are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as against the female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 as compared to the female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were aware of their powers and functions.

☒ The more of female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family found elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.

☒ The more of female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family found positive change in the attitude of the people.

☒ The more of female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family expressed that representation given to SCs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑️ and three ☐️ thus it is found that average monthly income had no effect on the awareness of female representatives of the PRIs.

Female representatives with high average monthly income actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑️ The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs as against the female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family.

289
The more of female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family were regular in attending the meetings of the PRIs.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family expressed their views in the meetings of PRIs.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family found male representatives giving attention to the issue raised by them.
The more of female representatives with lower average monthly income of the family often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were approached by the local people of the area with their problems.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often redressed the grievances of the people.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family were approached by the male representatives of the area with their problems.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family depended upon their husband or family members for helping the people.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.
The more of female representatives with higher average monthly income of the family often met the MLAs/MPs of their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are twelve ☑️ and two ☐️ thus it is established that more of female representatives with higher average monthly income actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.
7.10.7 (e) Effects of Political Background Variable

Female representatives with political background are aware of main provisions, functions and working of PRIs.

- The more of female representatives with political background were not aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 as compared to the female representatives other than political background.
- The more of female representatives with political background were not aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.
- The more of female representatives with political background were aware of their powers and functions.
- The more of female representatives other than political background found elevation in their status after becoming the representative of PRIs.
- The more of female representatives with political background found positive change in the attitude of the people.
- The more of female representatives with political background expressed that representation given to SCs was adequate.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are three ☑ and three ☒ thus it was found that political background had no effect on the awareness of the female representatives of PRIs.

Female representatives with political background actively participate in the activities related to the PRIs.

- The more of female representatives other than political background took interest in the village problems before becoming the representatives of PRIs.
- The more of female representatives with political background often attended the meetings of the PRIs.
- The more of female representatives other than political background as against the female representatives with political background expressed their views in the meetings of the PRIs.
- The more of female representatives other than political background often raised issues in the meetings of the PRIs.
- The more of female representatives with political background found male representatives giving attention to the issue raised by them.
The more of female representatives with political background often consulted the local people while making rural development plans for their area.

The more of female representatives with political background were approached by the local people for their problems.

The more of female representatives with political background as compared to the female representatives often redressed the grievances of the people.

The more of female representatives with political background were approached by the male representatives of the area.

The more of female representatives with political background depended upon their husband or family members for helping the people.

The more of female representatives other than political background found their spouse or family happy with their participation in public life.

The more of female representatives other than political background often travelled outside their village to attend the meetings as part of their official responsibility.

The more of female representatives other than political background met the Panchayati Raj officials concerned with their area.

The more of female representatives other than political backgrounds met the MLAs/MPs of their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and seven ☑ thus it is established that political background had no effect on the awareness of female representatives of the PRIs.

7.11 HYPOTHESIS IV: RELATIONSHIP OF OFFICIALS OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IS CORDIAL AND OFFICIALS OPINE THAT PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTATIVES ARE EMPOWERED ENOUGH TO WORK FOR THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT.

7.11.1 Sub Hypothesis 1: Relationship of officials of PRIs with representatives of PRIs is cordial.

The majority of official respondents agreed that the success of PRIs depended on the coordination between the officials and the elected representatives of Panchayats.

The majority of officials were regularly approached by the elected representatives to discuss procedure related problems.
The majority of official respondents were unsure about the issue that relationship between Panchayati Raj representatives and officials was cordial.

The majority of official respondents were satisfied with the allocated financial resources to the PRIs.

The majority of official respondents were of the view that PRIs representatives were not cooperatives with them while getting the work done.

The majority of official respondents expressed that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.

The majority of official respondents favoured that male representatives of PRIs were quick to understand official procedure.

The majority of official respondents supported that caste of the representatives did not play any role while dealing with officials.

The majority of official respondents welcomed the representatives of PRIs on their visit to office.

The majority of official respondents expressed that representatives of PRIs sought their guidance while solving the problems of local people.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are one =, eight ☑ and one ☐ so the sub hypothesis got a favourable response. Hence it is accepted.

7.11.2 Sub Hypothesis 2: Officials opine that PRIs representatives are empowered enough to work for the local development.

The majority of official respondents were of the view that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area.

The majority of official respondents expressed that PRIs representatives took personal interest in the development work pertaining to their own area.

The majority of official respondents found that political parties took keen interest in the Panchayati Raj elections.

The majority of official respondents found that PRIs representatives participated in the meetings of PRIs.

The majority of official respondents were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people.
The majority of official respondents found that the representatives of the PRIs were not aware about the main provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The majority of official respondents found that the representatives of the PRIs were not aware about the main provisions of Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The majority of official respondents found that PRI representatives while functioning remained under the influence of political parties.

The majority of official respondents remained unsure about the issue that PRI representative were judicious in handling funds.

The majority of official respondents agreed that PRIs representatives play an important role in the development of the locality.

The majority of official respondents expressed that representation given to SCs in PRIs was adequate.

The majority of official respondents accepted this view that representation given to women in PRIs was adequate.

The majority of official respondents were of the opinion that reservation given to women in PRI was a step towards women empowerment.

The majority of official respondents were of the view that women representatives did not contribute in decision making as much as male representatives.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are one =, ten ☑ and three ☐ so the sub hypothesis got a favourable response. Hence it is accepted.

As both the sub hypotheses are accepted, so main hypothesis is also accepted.

However, the main hypothesis has been accepted. It would be pertinent to assess the impact of various variables on the hypothesis. Therefore, the impact of the variable of age, gender and educational qualification have been analyzed subsequent paragraph

7.11.3 (a) Effects of Age Variable

Official respondents senior in age find the cordial relationship between the officials and PRIs representatives.

The more of official respondents senior in age agreed that the success of PRIs depends on the coordination between officials and the elected representatives of PRIs as compared to the official respondents younger in age.
The more of official respondents younger in age were regularly approached by the elected representatives to discuss procedure related problems.

The more of official respondents younger in age found the relationship between Panchayati Raj representatives and officials was cordial.

The more of official respondents senior in age were satisfied with the financial resources allocated to them.

The more of official respondents senior in age expressed that PRIs representatives remained cooperative towards officials while getting the work done.

The more of official respondents senior in age were of the opinion that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.

The more of official respondents senior in age found male representatives of PRIs were quick to understand official procedure.

The more of official respondents senior in age expressed that caste of the representatives played role while dealing with the officials.

The more of official respondents younger in age supported the view point that they welcomed the representatives of PRIs whenever they visited to the office.

The more of official respondents senior in age expressed that representatives of the PRIs sought their guidance while solving the problems of local people.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and three ☒ thus it is found that more of official respondents senior in age found that there existed the cordial relationship between them and PRIs representatives.

Official respondents senior in age opine that PRIs representatives are empowered enough to work for the local development.

The more of official respondents younger in age expressed that PRIs were working for the development of the rural areas as compared to the official respondents senior in age.

The more of official respondents younger in age expressed that PRIs representatives took personal interest in the development work pertaining to their own area.

The more of official respondents senior in age were of the opinion that political parties took keen interest in the Panchayati Raj elections.

The more of official respondents senior in age found that Panchayat representatives participated in the meetings of PRIs.
The more of official respondents senior in age thought that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people.

The more of official respondents senior in age found that the representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of official respondents senior in age found that the representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of official respondents younger in age found that PRIs representatives while functioning remained under the influence of the political parties.

The more of official respondents senior in age found that PRIs representatives were judicious in handling the funds.

The more of official respondents senior in age agreed that the PRIs representatives played an important role in the development of the locality.

The more of official respondents senior in age were of the opinion that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of official respondents younger in age found that representation given to the women in PRIs was adequate.

The more of official respondents younger in age were of the opinion that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of official respondents younger in age thought women representatives contributed in the decision making as much as the male representatives.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are eight ☑️ and six ☐️ thus it is established that more of official respondents senior in age opined that PRIs representatives were empowered enough to work for the local development.

7.11.4 (b) Effects of Gender Variable

Male official respondents find the cordial relationship between the officials and PRIs representatives.

The more of male official respondents agreed that the success of PRIs depended on the coordination between officials and the elected representatives of PRIs as compared to the female official respondents.

The more of male official respondents opine that the elected representatives did not approach them to discuss procedure related problems.
The more of male official respondents found the relationship between Panchayati Raj representatives and officials was cordial.
The more of male official respondents were not satisfied with the financial resources allocated to the PRIs.
The more of male official respondents expressed that PRIs representatives remained cooperative towards officials while getting the work done.
The more of male official respondents were of the opinion that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.
The more of male official respondents found that male representatives of PRIs were quick to understand official procedure.
The more of male official respondents expressed that caste of the representatives did not play any role while dealing with the officials.
The more of male official respondents supported the view point that they welcomed the representatives of PRIs whenever they visited the office.
The more of male official respondents expressed that PRIs representatives sought the guidance of the officials in solving the problem related to their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and three ☐ thus it is found that more of male official respondents were of the opinion that there existed the cordial relationship existed between them and PRIs representatives.

Male official respondents opine that PRIs representatives are empowered enough to work for the local development.
The more of male official respondents thought that PRIs were working for the development of the rural areas as compared to the female official respondents.
The more of male official respondents expressed that PRIs representatives took personal interest in the development work pertaining to their own area.
The more of male official respondents were of the opinion that political parties took keen interest in the Panchayati Raj elections.
The more of male official respondents agreed that Panchayat representatives largely participated in the meetings of PRIs.
The more of male official respondents thought that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people.
The more of male official respondents thought the representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of male official respondents thought that representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of male official respondents agreed that the PRIs representatives while functioning remained under the influence of the political parties.

The more of female official respondents found PRIs representatives judicious in handling the funds.

The more of male official respondents agreed that the PRIs representatives played an important role in the development of the locality.

The more of female official respondents were of the opinion that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of male official respondents found that representation given to the women in PRIs was not adequate.

The more of female official respondents were of the opinion that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of female official respondents thought women representatives contributed in the decision making as much as the male representatives.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ☑️ and five ☑️ thus it is established that more of male official respondents opined that PRIs representatives were empowered enough to work for the local development.

7.11.5 (c) Effects of Educational Qualification Variable

Official respondents with higher educational qualifications find the cordial relationship exist between the official and PRIs representatives

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications agreed that the success of PRIs depended on the coordination between officials and the elected representatives of PRIs as compared to official respondents with lower educational qualifications.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications opined that the elected representatives regularly approached them to discuss procedure related problems.
The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications found the relationship between Panchayati Raj representatives and officials as cordial.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications were satisfied with the financial resources allocated to the PRIs.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications expressed that PRIs representatives remained cooperative towards officials while getting the work done.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications were of the opinion that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications were of the opinion that PRIs representatives participated in the planning of local programmes.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ✔ and one ✗ thus it is found that more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications found that the cordial relationship existed between the officials and PRIs representatives.

Official respondents with higher educational qualifications opine that PRIs representatives are empowered enough to work for the local development.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications thought that PRIs were working for the development of the rural areas as compared to official respondents with lower educational qualifications.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications expressed that PRIs representatives took personal interest in the development work pertaining to their own area.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications expressed that political parties took keen interest in the Panchayat raj schemes.
The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications agreed that Panchayat representatives participated in the meetings of PRIs.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications thought that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties and responsibilities to the expectations of the local people.

The more of official respondents with higher education qualifications thought the representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of official respondents with higher education qualifications thought that representatives of PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the Haryana Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The more of official respondents with lower education qualifications agree that PRIs representatives while functioning remained under the influence of the political parties.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications found PRIs representatives judicious in handling the funds.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications agreed that the PRIs representatives played an important role in the development of the locality.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications were of the opinion that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications expressed that representation given to the women in PRIs was adequate.

The more of official respondents with higher education qualifications were of the opinion that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications thought women representatives contributed in the decision making as much as the male representatives in comparison to the officials with lower educational qualifications.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are thirteen ☑ and one ☒ thus it is found that more of official respondents with higher educational qualifications opined that PRIs representatives were empowered enough to work for the local development.
7.12 HYPOTHESIS V: THE CITIZENS FIND THAT THE PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS ARE EMPOWERED ENOUGH TO WORK FOR THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE CITIZENS ARE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS.

7.12.1 Sub Hypothesis 1: The citizens find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents were of the view that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents found that development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful.

☒ The majority of citizen respondents found that Gram Sabha meetings were held regularly in their village.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents found that PRIs representatives did not carry their duties to the satisfaction of local people.

☒ The majority of citizen respondents expressed that elected women leaders did not perform their duties.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents supported the view that post amendment PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

☒ The majority of the citizen respondents did not know about the awareness of the PRIs representatives regarding the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents found that the presence of women leaders made positive difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents supported the issue that representation given to SCs in the PRIs was adequate.

☑ The majority of citizen respondents expressed that representation given to women in PRI was adequate.

☒ The majority of citizen respondents expressed that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and four ☒ thus sub hypothesis got divided responses. Hence it is partially accepted.
7.12.2 Sub Hypothesis 2: The citizens find that they are actively participating in the activities related to PRIs.

- The majority of citizen respondents very rarely participated in the meetings of PRIs.
- The majority of citizen respondents discussed the PRIs matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.
- The majority of citizen respondents approached the representatives of PRIs whenever they had any problem or grievance related to local governance.
- The majority of citizen respondents were not involved in planning the local programmes.
- The majority of the citizen respondents did not take interest in the implementation of development projects and schemes in the village.
- The majority of citizen respondents strived to solve the problems of the people through PRIs.
- The majority of citizen respondents were not satisfied with the working of PRIs in their area.
- The majority of citizen respondents expressed that they participated in the elections of the PRIs regularly.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are four ☑️ and four ☐️ so the sub hypothesis got equally divided support. Hence it is partially accepted.

As both the sub hypotheses are partially accepted, thus the main hypothesis stands partially accepted.

However, the main hypothesis has been partially accepted. It would be pertinent to assess the impact of various variables on the hypothesis. Therefore, the impact of the variable of age, gender, educational qualification, average monthly income of the family and interest in rural politics have been analyzed subsequent paragraph

7.12.3 (a) Effects of Age Variable

Citizen respondents senior in age find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

- The more of citizen respondents younger in age found that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area as compared to the citizens senior in age.
The more of citizen respondents younger in age felt that the development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful to local people.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age found that Gram Sabha meetings held regularly in their village.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age were of the view that elected women leaders were performing their assigned duties in PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age were of the opinion that the representation given to SCs was adequate.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age found that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age expressed that presence of women leaders made difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age felt that post amendment-PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are five ☑ and six ☑ thus it is proved that instead of citizen respondents senior in age rather the citizens younger in age found that the PRIs were empowered enough to work for the local development.

Citizen respondents senior in age are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age regularly participated in the Gram Sabha meetings as compared to the citizens senior in age.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age participated in elections of PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age strived to solve the problem of people in comparison to the citizens senior in age.
The more of citizen respondents younger in age discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.

The more of citizen respondents senior in age regularly approached the representatives of the PRIs when they had any problem related to local governance.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age were involved in planning the local programmes as compared to the citizens senior in age.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age as compared to the citizens senior in age took interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.

The more of citizen respondents younger in age were satisfied with the working of PRIs in their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are two ☑️ and six ☐️ thus it is established that instead of citizen respondents senior in age rather the citizen respondents younger in age were actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.12.4 (b) Effects of Gender Variable

Male citizen respondents in comparison to female citizen respondents find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

The more of male citizen respondents found that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area as compared to the female citizen respondents.

The more of male citizen respondents felt that the development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful to local people.

The more of male citizen respondents find that the Gram Sabha meetings were held regularly in their village as against the female citizen respondents.

The more of male citizen respondents were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

The more of male citizen respondents found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 in comparison to the female citizen respondents.

The more of male citizen respondents found that the representation given to SCs was adequate.
The more of female citizen respondents found that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of male citizen respondents expressed that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of male citizen respondents felt that presence of women leaders made any difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

The more of female citizen respondents agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of male citizen respondents found that post amendment-PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ☑ and two ☒ thus it is proved that more of male citizen respondents in comparison to female Citizen respondents found that the PRIs were empowered enough to work for the local development.

Male citizen respondents in comparison to female citizen respondents expressed that the citizens are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents regularly participated in the Gram Sabha meetings as against the female citizens.

☑ The more of female citizen respondents participated in the elections of PRIs as compared to the male citizen respondents.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents strived to solve the problems of people through PRIs.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.

☑ The more of female citizen respondents regularly approached to representatives of the PRIs when they had any problem related to local governance.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents were of the opinion that they were involved in planning the local programmes.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents took interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.

☑ The more of male citizen respondents were satisfied with the working of PRIs in their area.
From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six  male and two  female respondents actively participated in the activities of the PRIs.

7.12.5 (c) Effects of Educational Qualification Variable

Citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications find that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area as compared to the citizen with lower educational qualifications.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications felt that the development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful to the local people.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with lower educational qualifications found that Gram Sabha meetings were held regularly in their village.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications were of the opinion that the representation given to SCs was adequate.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with lower educational qualifications found that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications felt that elected women leaders were performing their assigned duties.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications felt that presence of women leaders made difference to the conduct of meetings of PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with lower educational qualifications agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.
The more of citizen respondents with lower educational qualifications felt that the post amendment-PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are eight ☑ and three ☐ thus it is clear that the more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications found that PRIs were empowered enough to work for the local development.

Citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications find that citizens are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications regularly participated in the Gram Sabha meetings as against the citizens with lower educational qualifications.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with lower educational qualifications participated in the elections of PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications strived to solve the problems of people through PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications regularly approached to representatives of the PRIs when they had any problem/grievance related to local governance.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications were involved in planning the local programmes.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications took interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.

☑ The more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications were satisfied with the working of PRIs system in their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are seven ☑ and one ☐ thus it is proved that more of citizen respondents with higher educational qualifications actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.
7.12.6 (d) Effects of Category Variable

Citizen respondents who belonged to general category find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category found that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area as compared to the citizens who belonged to SC and BC categories.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category felt that the development programmes carried out by the PRIs were useful to local people.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories found that Gram Sabha meetings held regularly in their village.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

☑️ The more of citizens who belonged to general category found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories were of the opinion that the representation given to SCs was adequate.

= The citizen respondents irrespective of the category found that representation given to women in PRIs was adequate.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category felt that elected women leaders were not performing their assigned duties.

☑️ The more of citizens who belonged to general category felt that presence of women leaders made difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

☑️ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category felt that the post amendment-PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six ☑️ and one = and four ☐️ thus it is established that the more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category found that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.
General category citizen respondents in comparison to other categories expressed that they are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category regularly participated the Gram Sabha meetings as against the citizens who belonged to SC and BC categories.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories participated in the elections of PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category strived to solve the problems of people through PRIs.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category regularly approached to representatives of the PRIs when they had any problem/grievance related to the local governance.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general categories were involved in planning the local governance.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to general category took interest in the implementations of development projects and scheme in the village.

☑ The more of citizen respondents who belonged to SC and BC categories were satisfied with the working of PRIs in their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are five ☑ and three ☐ thus it is found that the more of general category citizen respondents in comparison to other categories actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.12.7 (e) Effects of Average Monthly Income of the Family Variable

Citizen respondents with higher average monthly income of the family find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

☑ The more of citizen respondents in higher income group found that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area.

☑ The more of citizen respondents in higher income group felt that the development programmes carried out by PRIs were useful to local people.
The more of citizen respondents in lower income group found that Gram Sabha meetings were held regularly in their village.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group were of the opinion that the representation given to SCs was adequate.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group found that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group expressed that elected women leaders were performing their assigned duties.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group felt that presence of women leaders made difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group felt that post amendment-PRIs played broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are ten ☑️ and one ☐ thus it is proved that more of citizens with higher average monthly income of the family found that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

Citizen respondents in higher monthly average income group expressed that the citizens are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group participated in the Gram Sabha meetings as against the citizens in lower income group.

The more of citizen respondents in lower income group participated in the elections of PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group strived to solve the problems of people through PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents in lower income group discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members and others in the area.

310
The more of citizen respondents in higher income group regularly approached the Panchayati Raj representatives when they had any problem related to the local governance.

The more of citizens in higher income group were of the opinion that their expectations had been fulfilled by leaders of PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group took interest in the implementations of development projects and schemes in the village.

The more of citizen respondents in higher income group were satisfied with the working of PRIs in their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six ☑ and two ☐ thus it is proved that more of citizen respondents with higher average monthly income of the family were actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.12.8 (f) Effects of Interest in Rural Politics Variable

Citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics find that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics found that PRIs were working for the development of the rural area as against the citizens with medium or low interest in rural politics.

The more of citizen respondents with medium or low interest in rural politics felt that the development programmes carried out by PRI were useful to local people.

The more of citizen respondents with medium or low interest in rural politics found that Gram Sabha meetings held regularly in their village.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics were of the opinion that PRIs representatives were carrying out their duties to the satisfaction of the local people.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics found that representatives of the PRIs were aware of the main provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics were of the opinion that the representation given to SCs was adequate.
The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics found that representation given to women in the PRIs was adequate.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics felt that elected women leaders were performing their assigned duties.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics felt that presence of women leaders made difference in the conduct of PRIs meetings.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics agreed with the view that reservation of women in PRIs was a step towards women empowerment.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics felt that post amendment PRIs play broader role in the development of the rural area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are nine ☑ and two ☐ thus it is established that more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics found that the PRIs are empowered enough to work for the local development.

Citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics expressed that they are actively participating in the activities related to the PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics regularly participated in the meetings as against the citizens with medium or low interest in rural politics.

The more of citizen respondents with medium or low interest in rural politics participated in the elections of PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics strived to solve the problems of people through PRIs.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics as compared to citizens with high interest in rural politics discussed Panchayati Raj matters with friends, relatives, family members others in the area.

The more of citizen respondents with medium or low interest in rural politics regularly approached the representatives of the PRIs when they had any problem/grievance related to the local governance.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics were involved in planning the local programmes.
The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics took interest in the implementation of development projects and schemes in the village.

The more of citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics were satisfied with the working of PRIs system in their area.

From the above analysis it can be seen that there are six ☑ and two ☐ thus it is found that more of the citizen respondents with high interest in rural politics actively participated in the activities related to the PRIs.

7.13 ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

From the responses and the opinion held by the different sections of the society, the officials, the citizens and the representatives of the PRIs, the various issues relating to the people empowerment have emerged. The researcher has discussed by general issues in the discussion to follow and has separately discussed the issues/challenges emerging from the responses of the women respondents and the official respondents.

1. **Lack of Awareness:** Villagers and PRIs representatives are not aware of their rights and responsibilities. As a result the working becomes ineffective and the performances of PRIs suffer.

2. **Lack of will to Decentralize and share the power:** There are half hearted attempts made at the State level to part with their own powers or share it with the local governments in real earnest.

3. **Personal Nature of Village Politics:** The votes in Panchayats are generally cast in favour of or against personalities. The villagers while exercising their vote do not take into consideration policies, programmes or ideological concepts. Once a particular leader is elected to the Panchayat, the villagers who have elected him feel their duties have ended and that the leader will now act for them. Those members of the community who have opposed him and supported other leader loose interest in the functioning of PRIs.

4. **Absence of proper Pressure Groups:** In the absence of organized Pressure and Interest groups, the local poor are not able to exploit natural resources, invest in infrastructural development for income generation, technological extension, accessibility and adaptability of delivery systems.

5. **Lack of common venue and convenient time for PRIs meetings:** Absence of a well recognized common venue for PRIs meetings has also been
responsible for scanty presence in the PRIs meetings. Further, these meetings are often convened when the PRIs representatives are not free and more often these meetings are scheduled for the evenings when women representatives fail to attend these meetings.

6. **Vested interests best served:** One of the main issues for PRIs is that although the structure of Panchayati Raj has been ostensibly designed for community involvement but in practice it has provided protection to vested interests, thereby accentuating the socio-economic disparities and discontent in rural masses.

7. **Gram Sabha a defunct body:** Any authority or power needs a countervailing force to ensure that it is not being misused and that it remains accountable. Such a force lends credibility to power. A political process and a system which loses proper support, cannot exercise power for long time. Gram Sabha, so to say, is the base level of the PRIs but over it has lost popular support. Thereby making this important body defunct.

8. **Decentralization cry:** Decentralization has become a far cry. The governments both at union and state level keep shouting that every effort of their is a step towards decentralization of powers especially in the sphere of local governance but so much faith the masses especially at the local level has lost in the process of decentralization that to them it seems a far cry.

9. **Apathy of PRIs representatives towards their responsibilities:** PRIs representatives do not take interest in enhancing their awareness about the policies, structure, rules, provision of acts and more so about their duties and responsibilities, which resultantly make them sluggish and these bodies incapable.

10. **Adhocism in development planning:** The process of planning for rural development has suffered from lack of continuity and stability. The goals of planning were not spelt out in terms of enrichment of human life. It was rather broken up into material targets, which when achieved and were not evaluated in the context of Human Development Index.

11. **Attendance and participation in PRI meetings:** Attendance in PRIs meetings is generally very thin. Most of times, the quorum is incomplete and many a times the meetings are adjourned for want of quorum. The members of Gram Sabha as well as elected representatives of village Panchayat really do
not give foremost of ensuring their full participation in the meetings. This would result in resolving village level issues and successful enforcement of various village welfare schemes.

12. **Timing of elections**: The elections of the Panchayats are not held in time. Mostly the government in power deliberately causes this delay so as to suit their political designs. But the effects are far reaching. The delay not only diminishes the enthusiasm of the local leaders but also undemocratically allows certain vested segments to remain in power and to draw maximum benefits for their nears and dears at the cost of local people.

13. **Inadequate support from the supporting agencies**: The PRIs and their representatives often do not get the support from the supporting agencies particularly from the government agencies. As a result these institutions always have the dismal feeling of being ignored. Even the media, the NGOs do not show much keenness in supporting their causes.

14. **Limited interest and vision**: One of the serious issues which confronts the representatives of these institutions is their limited interest in the local affairs. Each representative is concerned with how he/she is likely to be benefited. The policy making is based on short term goals and ends and the vision for the times to come is practically absent.

15. **Lack of people participation**: It has been observed that people’s participation, which is an essential ingredient of empowerment, has been found missing. The citizen most of the time did not attend the meetings of the Gram Sabha and they did not participate in planning and implementation of the rural development schemes/programmes. From the responses it has been found that citizen often complain but hardly suggest or come to the support of PRIs in removing various bottlenecks.

16. **Indifferent attitude of the people towards PRIs**: Because of irregularities of the members in the meetings of Gram Sabha and the over shadowing of village pardhan and also due to too much of bureaucratic attitude of the officials of the PRIs, the common man has lost interest in these institutions as a result these bodies have lost the democratic sheen.

**Issues relating to actual participation of Women**

The participation of women leaders is very limited due to several intrinsic and extrinsic reasons and circumstances. Most of the women representatives particularly
women panches are discouraged to play a significant role in the policy formulation and decision making hence proxy leadership take place. It is often seen that husbands or other family members influence the women representatives in the process of decision making. The male relatives of women play active role in the activities of local bodies. It has been often observed that due to conservative values of the rural society, younger women representatives are not encouraged to move out of the houses freely in the village community. If some women defy such take the initiatives, they have to face the wrath of the society. The child caring, attending to household duties and family commitments comes in the way of younger women representatives to attend and participate in the meetings. On the other hand, women representatives having less family responsibilities are in a better position to participate freely in the meetings of the PRIs. Some of the related issues are:

1. Women representatives in the PRIs have less awareness regarding the legislations relating to the empowerment of women through PRIs and their role and responsibilities as representatives.
2. Women representatives of PRIs need to be more confident.
3. The relationships of women representatives with other male representatives need to be more cordial.
4. There is lack of knowledge about financial matters among women representatives of PRIs.

Issues relating to Officials

Cordial relation between the elected and the official functionaries is *sine quo non* for the effective functioning of the PRIs. The bureaucracy however often endeavours to dominate the local elected leadership. Such provisions reflect problems between the district Panchayat leadership and administrative leadership. In the absence of a clear cut demarcation of powers, functions and responsibilities, recurring confrontation can be witnessed between the functionaries of PRIs particularly between the heads and the executive officers of the these bodies.

**7.14 PEOPLE’S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS: RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

1. **Capacity Building:** The study indicates the limited knowledge and awareness about the Act, its implications, roles functions and responsibilities. The representatives of PRIs particularly those belonging to scheduled castes and women were found to be not aware about their powers and the extent to which
they can exercise these powers. Initiatives for capacity building by government and non-government organizations are required at regular intervals. Capacity building is the process that enables individuals to increase their response to the challenges they face. Therefore, as a first step the elected representatives need to be equipped with certain minimum knowledge about the processes and procedures.

2. **Transfer of resources to the local government:** For the effective functioning of the PRIs, the process of decentralization needs to be realistic. Keeping in view the strengthening of the sub-national governments at the local level, the Eleventh Finance Commission has recommended the transfers of funds for the provision and maintenance of core civic services (Panchayati Raj).

3. **Increasing Awareness:** The University and College students, youth associations, Mahila Mandals, NSS volunteers, National Literacy Mission Workers, election officers, teachers, media persons, and other like-minded groups of people should come forward for providing pre-election education and awareness to the common masses. They need to be educated about the need of electing capable like-minded beings especially when PRIs are being given more responsibilities and powers to contribute towards rural development.

4. **Encouraging people participation:** The people’s participation even being basic and philosophy behind setting up PRIs at grass root level as said earlier needs to be given due priority and movement. It is therefore earnestly desired that we all academicians and scholars of different disciplines, administrators, NGOs, engaged in rural development need to find ways and means to associate all concerned sections of population in decision making on the field concerning to identification and mobilization of resources, programme planning, implementation etc.

5. **Need based training module:** NGOs and administrators should prepare need-based training modules for effective skill development, knowledge building and attitude formation of the elected PRIs leader which can help them to perform their roles effectively and systematically. Properly designed and executed field training will be highly useful in demonstrating and enabling the local leaders to learn the intricacies and dimensions of making the PRIs successful.
6. **Check practice of misappropriation of funds:** To check the practice of manipulation of funds, besides the officials machinery village level vigilance committees may be constituted with the involvement of NGOs, rural youth and elderly educated community. These committees should keep themselves aloof from the petty politics and narrow considerations. If some flaw is noticed it should be brought to the notice of the concerned authorities.

7. **Genuine and well equipped machinery to handle citizens complaints:** There is a need to set up grievance cells at all levels of PRIs. A democratic reorientation of the officials attitude towards the citizens has become essential both for the prevention and redressal of the citizen’s complaints. Though it is a very difficult task, yet it should be done earnestly.

8. **Need of empowering the people especially the disadvantaged sections of the society:** There should not be mere participation but poor should be empowered. The indicator of genuine participation is the extent to which the poorer groups have participation in decision making and control over resource management.

**Suggestions for cordial relations between officials and PRIs representatives**

1. The officials and the elected representatives should be acquainted with the provisions regarding their functions, e.g., non officials should take interest and participate both in making as well as its implementation. The officials should be responsible to translate the policy into realities. The officials should be encouraged to give impartial advice fearlessly. Such advice should be based on legal provisions, rules, regulations and experience.

2. There should be clarity about the division of powers and functions between the officials and the elected representatives. The chances of misunderstanding and differences are likely to arise when such clarity does not exist.

3. If there are any disputes or difference at any stage, the same may be removed earnestly at the behest of higher level officials or public representatives.

4. Bureaucrats and non officials should not only be acquainted with their powers and responsibilities, but also limitations and difficulties of each other. Mutual understanding and respect is useful for maintaining good relations between them. They should not consider each other as competitor but as collaborator and facilitator.
5. Public representatives should be aware of the fact that they can seek advice on all matters of Panchayati Raj from the government officials. The officials on the other hand understand that elected representatives have the right to disagree with their advice.

6. Officials as well as public representatives both should rise above their personal interest i.e. public welfare.

7. Short term training camps should be organized where officials and public representatives both should be explained the importance of maintaining cordial relations between them.

Thus the officials and people’s representatives are like the two wheels of strong democratic set up. The elected representatives can get full cooperation provided they have faith in officials. The success of PRIs definitely depends on harmonious relations between the two. In case differences are settled between them in mutual faith and goodwill, we can expect transparent and strong democracy in Panchayati Raj.

Suggestions for effective participation of women representatives in the PRIs

1. There is a need to involve women representatives in the planning and execution of various development and welfare programs of the government to provide them opportunity for practical learning of the process of development planning and program implementation at local level.

2. There is need on the part of governmental agencies and feminist organisations to mobilize and encourage women representatives to come forward and participate in the institutions of governance at the local level.

3. There is a need to infuse self confidence in the women leaders by imparting regular and frequent training in the various dimensions of the PRIs.

4. Women representatives need to be made more knowledgeable and aware about the persuasive and pressure techniques to overcome the counter pressures from male representatives and PRIs officials.

5. Male representatives should respect women leaders as their equal partners in the corridors of power and provide them a helping hand in local governance thereby promoting functional relationship between them.

6. Societal attitude towards the women in society needs to be changed. There is an earnest and urgent need to build opinion in the society that women are not
meant to be confined within the four walls rather should be accepted as the leaders on equal footing on the governance front.

7. Workshops may be conducted in the rural areas, citing examples and stories of successful women leaders at the local level who have worked exceptionally well for the benefit of the community. Such efforts will encourage the women folk to take up to the local leadership.

8. Self employment opportunities need to be created to facilitated women representatives to gain more economic independence as well as to have first hand experience of financial and economic matters. It will be a positive step towards women empowerment.

9. It has been observed that a large section of women contest Panchayat elections because their husband/family want them to do so. While very few contest elections of their own. The actual participation of women leaders will emerge when the larger sections of women will contest the elections of their own.

10. Society also needs to be gender sensitized to help women representatives in PRIs to provide effective leadership.

The success of the developmental tasks depends to a great extent upon the harmonious relationships between the citizens and the administration. Rural body should not function as machinery but in a humane and purposeful way. The representatives of the PRIs should have sense of dedication and responsibility. They should be alert and responsive to the aspirations of the citizens. Citizens on the other hand should also provide meaningful cooperation to the local bodies. Such an arrangement will usher in People’s Empowerment through PRIs.

In the end, the researcher has to submit that this effort is just an individual endeavour. There might be many other questions and areas related to the theme which can be further explored by the future researchers.