



## A STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF PANCHAYAT GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KALADY GRAMPANCHAYAT IN KERALA

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### **Abstract**

India, the largest democratic country, is agrarian in character. Its 76 per cent population lives in villages and depends on agriculture for the development. The Mehta committee recommended the scheme of democratic decentralization. The scheme of democratic decentralization is the form of a three tier interconnected, interdependent democratic structure of rural local self-government at the village, block and district level. This idea was aimed at planning and implementation of rural development and welfare programmed based on decentralization evolution and democratization of power from the state level to the lower tiers in a democratic way. This system as a whole was termed as Panchayati Raj. Kerala, with appreciative development indicators comparable to developed countries, has been experimenting with decentralization and participatory local democracy, ultimately aimed at realization of the constitutional goal of establishing genuine "institutions of local self government" since the enactment of Kerala Panchayat Raj Act & the Kerala Municipality Act in the year 1994. At present, there are 1200 local governments in Kerala. Kerala's experience with local self-government has been distinct in three important ways. First, financial devolution is more important in Kerala than elsewhere. Secondly, the part played by local bodies in formulating and implementing Plans is greater in Kerala than elsewhere. Thirdly, the extent of people's participation in development planning is greater than elsewhere. The village panchayats are entrusted a wide range of activities for rural development and welfare of rural people. These panchayats at village level are meant for direct supervision and implementation of socio-economic development programmes like children and women development, adult education and other related programmes. The village panchayats are also managing water supply, schools etc. Panchayats need active involvement of rural people not only for managing their own affairs, but also for promoting development activities best suited to satisfy local needs. This research study was undertaken with a perspective to identify factors responsible for role performance of village panchayat leaders.

**Key Words :** Panchayat ,Governance ,Gramasabha ,Eco-friendly, Waste Management.

### **Introduction**

Kalady is a census town located in Angamaly east of the Periyar river, in the Ernakulam district of Kerala, India, not far from Cochin International Airport. It is notable as the birthplace of Shankara, commonly known as Adi Shankaracharya, and is a popular destination for Hindu pilgrims. Kalady came to prominence only after its rediscovery in the late 19th century by the then Shankaracharya of Sringeri and the subsequent consecration of an Adi Shankara temple in 1910. Kalady gramapanchayat has 17 wards which includes Kaipattoor, Kalady town, Maanikya mangalam south, Maanikyamangalam north, Marottichodu, Mattoor north, Mattoor South, Mattoor west, Mekkalady, Nettinam pilly, Panayali, Piraroor, Pothiyakkara, Tevar madam, Tottakam, Vattapparambu, Yordhanapuram. Panchayat is spending lot of money for developmental activities in different fields like fertilizer distribution to farmers, live stock rearing like goats, hens etc. cultivation of tapioca and other crops ,vegetables, biogas, house construction, laptop to SC students ,water tanks to Scheduled castes, water connection etc. Panchayat provides pension schemes for old age, widow, farmers, unmarried women and mentally retarded people.

### **1. Statement of Research problem and Research Gap**

For efficient working of panchayats, the problem faced by the village panchayat ward members in their role performance and other aspects must be located and necessary guidance for such identified problems must be sought, enabling them to advice better performance of the assigned roles and to obtain greater satisfaction. The present study revealed whether the elected village panchayat ward members have the potential performance for rural development works or not and how they are performing their role to a satisfactory extent. This will help in understanding of the efficiency of work carried out by the panchayats. Very little work has been done in this field and hence the outcome of the study would reveal the level of programmes of village panchayat leaders and the problem encountered by the village panchayats to assist weaker groups through carrying out the various activities of rural development.

### **11. Scope of the Study**

It was assumed that analysis of role performance of village panchayat leaders was likely to provide the information to ascertain their problems and factors associated with their aspects, which might be useful for further improvement in their



working system. The obtained knowledge would be of great value to the administrators of Panchayati Raj in particular and rural development in general.

### III Objectives of the Study

1. To identify the indicators of Good Governance through people's perceptions.
2. To analyse the opinion and views of people regarding the service delivery of Panchayat ward member.
3. To evaluate the contempt of society regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of services.
4. To suggest ways and means for improving the role performance of the village panchayat ward member.

### IV Research Methodology

The methodology used for the study is descriptive in nature and is based on primary data collected through questionnaire. The data was collected from 100 residents of ward number 7 of Kalady Gramapanchayat. The data was collected during the month of January 2018.

### V Hypothesis

The Null Hypothesis stated for the study is

1. There is no significant relationship between Gender and Attendance in Gramasabha.
2. There is no association between Gender and satisfaction on the performance of activities by the ward member.

### VI Data analysis

The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 16.0) was used for data analysis. For doing data analysis correlation, One way Anova and Factor analysis is used.

#### 1 Testing Hypothesis

##### Hypothesis NO 1

**There is no significant relationship between Gender and Attendance in Gramasabha**

**Table no 1.1, Distribution of Respondents on the basis of the attending Gramasabha meetings-Cross tab**

Attending Gramasabha	Yes	No	Total
Gender of Respondents	Male	Female	
	55	9	63
	31	5	36
	86	14	100

source ; compiled from field study

**Table no 1.2,  
 One way Anova**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.000	1	.000	.001	.981
Within Groups	23.040	98	.235		
Total	23.040	99			

source; compiled from field study

In this table P values given by level of significance are 0.981 which is greater than 0.05, the assumed level of significance. Therefore null hypothesis is accepted ie, there is no association between Gender of respondents and attendance in Gramasabha meetings.

#### Hypothesis No 2

2. **There is no association between Gender and satisfaction on the performance of activities by the ward member.**

**Table no 2.1**

**Distribution of Respondents on the basis of the satisfaction of performance of activities by ward member- Cross tab**

		satisfaction of performance			Total
		strongly disagree	agree	strongly agree	
Gender of Respondents	male	3	14	47	64
	female	1	6	29	36
	Total	4	20	76	100

As per Table 2.1 The 76 percent of the respondents are strongly agree, 20 percent agree and 4 percent strongly disagree towards the satisfaction of performance of activities by the ward member.

**Table no 2.2,One way ANOVA**

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.156	2	.078	.330	.720
Within Groups	22.884	97	.236		
Total	23.040	99			

[source ; compiled from field study]

In this table P values given by level of significance are 0.720 which is greater than 0.05, the assumed level of significance. Therefore null hypothesis is accepted ie, there is no association between Gender of respondents and response on satisfaction towards performance of ward member.

### 3. Correlations

**Table no 3.1**

Correlation between Gender of respondents and eco friendly programmes			
		Gender of Respondents	Eco friendly programmes
Gender of Respondents	Pearson Correlation	1	-.209*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.037
	N	100	100
Eco friendly programmes	Pearson Correlation	-.209*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.037	
	N	100	100

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

The results indicate that the correlation between Gender of respondents and Eco-friendly programmes -.029. The p value for the correlation coefficient is .037, which is less than 0.05 the assumed level of significance. This implies that the correlation coefficient between the Gender and ecofriendly programmes is negative, high and statistically significant.

**Table no 3.2**

<b>Correlations Correlation between Marital status of respondents and Member's attitude towards Performance</b>			
		Marital status	Members attitude towards complaints
Marital status	Pearson Correlation	1	.210*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.036
	N	100	100
Members attitude towards complaints	Pearson Correlation	.210*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.036	
	N	100	100
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

The results indicate that the correlation between Marital status of respondents and Ward members attitude towards complaints is .210. The p value for the correlation coefficient is .036, which is less than 0.05 the assumed level of significance. This implies that the correlation coefficient between the Marital status of respondents and ward members attitude towards complaints is positive, high and statistically significant.

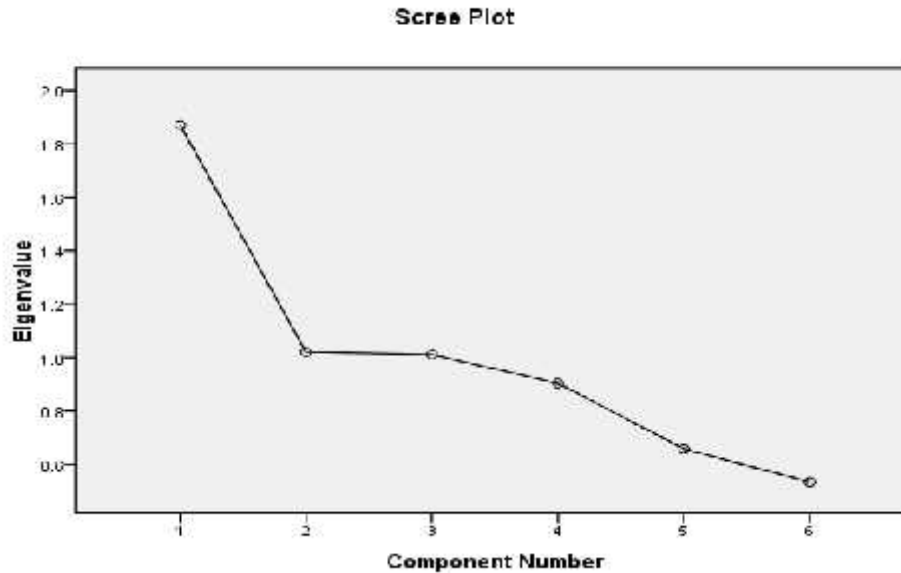
**4. Factor analysis on effectiveness of performance by ward member**  
**Table no 4.1**

<b>KMO and Bartlett's Test</b>		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.650
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	46.890
	df	15
	Sig.	.000

The KMO measures the strength of relationship among the variables. It measures the sampling adequacy which should be closer than 0.5 for a satisfactory factor analysis to proceed. Looking at the table below the KMO measure is 0.650, which is acceptable and therefore we can proceed factor analysis.

**Table no 4.2**

<b>Total Variance Explained</b>						
<b>Component</b>	<b>Initial Eigenvalues</b>			<b>Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings</b>		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	1.872	31.194	31.194	1.872	31.194	31.194
2	1.020	17.008	48.202	1.020	17.008	48.202
3	1.011	16.851	65.053	1.011	16.851	65.053
4	.904	15.071	80.125			
5	.658	10.974	91.099			
6	.534	8.901	100.000			
<b>Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.</b>						



**Table no 4.3**

<b>Component Matrix<sup>a</sup></b>			
	<b>Component</b>		
	1	2	3
Waste Management	-.550	-.374	-.240
Cleaning drainage	-.032	.006	.955
drinking water	-.046	.912	-.140
drainage leaking in rainy season	.620	-.191	-.127
Streetlight in ward	.744	-.104	-.068
road tarring	.793	.041	.028
Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.			
a. 3 components extracted.			

There are Three factors resulting from the analysis and rotated component matrix using 0.7 as a cut off point for factor loading for naming the factors. In this way we will get 3 factors. Factor 1 will comprise variables like streetlight in wards and road tarring, Factor 2 comprises drinking water Factor 3 comprises cleaning drainage .A variable which appear in one factor does not appear in other.

**Findings of the study**

- a. Majority of respondents are happy with the performance of the ward member and respondents are of opinion that the members’ attitude is good.
- b. Most of the respondents are attending Gramasabha meetings regularly.
- c. The member is organizing lot of eco-friendly programmes in the ward and the panchayat has made arrangements for waste management.
- d. All complaints will be settled by the ward member within a short span of time.



## Conclusion

The study was conducted in ward 7 of kalady Gramapanchayat and the people residing in that area are satisfied with the performance of the ward member. Common issues faced by state of kerala is experienced by the members of this locality where the solutions are not easy like cleaning of drainage ,streetlights, construction of roads etc. it is high time for the panchayat authorities to realize the need of people and provide them good governance system.

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