

STUDENT STUDY PROJECT IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Submitted by

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## Political empowerment of women at grassroots level: A study

Democratic system especially at grassroots level Leadership plays an important role in moulding the social, political and economic life of village communities. In fact, leadership is a universal phenomenon. Since, man is a social being and interacts in a group situation, he needs constant guidance and direction. These aspects are generally taken care of by the leaders. In a broad perspective, leader is a person who leads the people from ignorance to awakening and from backwardness to development. The problem of leadership being a psycho-social phenomenon, is always there-be it a primitive - traditional or modern - industrial society. However, the increase in importance of dynamic leaders and the emergence of new patterns of leadership has resulted in ubiquitous characteristics of modern political systems. In fact, healthy growth, stability, and probity of any body-politics In this generally felt largely depends upon the nature of leadership it has. The phenomenon of leadership is permeating in almost every aspect of our day-to-day life. It has been constantly experienced and there is a wild cry for more and better leaders. However, being rooted in the social environment the nature of the leadership is ever changing. Since the nature of leadership is dynamic, it is closely associated with changes in the social setting. Thus, the study of leadership with all its ramifications calls for greater attention.

The pace of change in the entire Indian political systems has increased since Independence. The introduction of the universal adult franchise, the steps taken for universal education, the national adult education programme, and the implementation of community development programme through National Extension Service, land reforms, democratic decentralization, and other programmes of rural reconstruction, have created new awakening among the masses. The new forces of socio-economic change unleashed by the implementation of several programmes of planned social change in rural areas gave a blow to the traditional, social structure and thereby generated new values and visions. This necessitated a change to L.

the replacement of old order based on ascriptive social structure by the new secular leadership tempered with democratic urges.

In this context, it is generally felt that the success of these efforts and the achievements vis-à-vis the goals and aspirations envisaged in the basic Preamble of the Constitution mainly depends upon the leadership'.

Further, with attainment of Independence, India also inherited numerous socio-economic problems. Nearly four-fifths of the population of the country lives in the countryside and most of the problems were related to the rural society; most significant among these were the

problems of acute poverty, mass illiteracy. Insufficient and backward agriculture and lack of techno-industrial growth, presence of innumerable social

#### IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY:

The intention behind the study of the implementation of reservation

to women in Panchayat Raj is mainly to assess the development of women leadership at the Mandal level. No doubt now women is dare enough to participate in all activities even though the opportunities and their participation are limited. Particularly in rural area the tradition retained by men and the nature of service attitude of women still exists.

#### METHODOLOGY:

In India particularly in the Panchayat Raj system as per the 73rd Amendment specific reservation was made by the Central as well as the State Governments. The present study intended to study the emerging women leadership patterns in Sangem Mandal in Warangal district with special reference to Panchayat Raj leaders. It tries to analyse the socio- economic profile of the sample leaders.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

In order to understand the nature and meaning of the women leadership and to study the perceptions, motivations and attitudes of the women leaders, the present study proceeds with the following objectives:

- 1.To review the existing literature on the Status of women inPanchayat Raj in general and Politics in particular.
2. To analyse the opinions of Leaders on various aspects like socio-Economic, Political and Administrative issues and problems ofwomen in general and Panchayat Raj in particular.
3. To assess and compare the level of control of the women in Panchayat Raj Institutions.
4. To study the encouragement and the assistance given by the government to increase the status of women in Panchayat Raj.
5. How for Women leaders exercised their rights.

## RESEARCH DESIGN:

The study is exploratory in nature and proceeds, as has been mentioned above, with certain hypotheses. It purports to blend the macro-micro approaches in the process of analysis. It would be micro to the extent of study of motivational factors of the women leaders. The study intends to highlight the motivational factors of women leaders to substantiation of the broader perspective of the participation of the women in politics, a case study of women leaders in Warangal district of Telangana, has been chosen.



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