



# REVIEW OF RESEARCH

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## THE ROLE OF VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES IN PUNE DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

*The main objective of the Panchayat Raj system is to achieve democratic decentralization in rural areas, increase public participation in decision-making at the local level, and make development decisions based on local needs. In Maharashtra, this system is three-tiered and operates at the Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad levels. The amendment provides for a three tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions, village, intermediary and district. However, in States where the population is less than 20 lakh, the Intermediary level may not be constituted. There is reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population in the area. One third of the seats are reserved for women. The tenure of is 5 years. The Eleventh Schedule lists the various activities that can be transferred to the Panchayati Raj Institution. At the village panchayat level in India refers to a policy that mandates that 15% of the panchayat's total budget should be allocated for schemes and programs targeting the betterment of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). This is a constitutional provision aimed at ensuring that these communities, who face social and economic disadvantages, receive a proportionate share of the panchayat's resources.*



**KEYWORDS:** Panchayat, 73rd Amendment, OBC, Scheduled caste, system.

### INTRODUCTION :

In Maharashtra, Gram Panchayats are governed by section 5 of the Bombay Gram Panchayat Act, 1958. There is 27,951 Gram Panchayats in Maharashtra. In conformity with the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis Act, 1961 (ZP/PS Act) and the Maharashtra Village Panchayats Act, 1958 (VP Act) were amended in 1994. A three-tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) comprising Zilla Parishads (ZPs) at the district level, Panchayat Samitis (PSSs) at the block level and Gram Panchayats (GPs) at the village level were established in the State. As per 2011 Census, the total population of the State stood at 11.24 crore of which 55 per cent was from rural areas. There were 44,096 villages in Maharashtra as of March 2015.

### PROVISIONS OF THE 73RD AMENDMENT

The amendment provides for a three tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions, village, intermediary and district. However, in States where the population is less than 20 lakh, the Intermediary level may not be constituted. There is reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population in the area. One third of the seats are reserved for women. The tenure of is 5 years. The Eleventh Schedule lists the various activities that can be

transferred to the Panchayati Raj Institution. There is no clear cut delineation of function at different levels. The State legislatures are to endow the Panchayats with powers and authority to function as institutions of local government including devolution of power and responsibility at appropriate level. The State legislatures may authorize the Panchayats to levy, collect and appropriate certain taxes. It could also assign some of the taxes collected by the State to the Panchayati Raj Institution. The State may also provide for making grants-in aid and the constitution of funds. Panchayats raj has been playing very important role in the rural development in Maharashtra. Panchayats raj system is a three tier system with elected local bodies at the village, Taluka, and District level .It ensures greater participation of people and more effective implementation of rural development program. Village panchayats is the last unit in the Panchayats Raj system .Every Village panchayats has to perform the various functions for development of village panchayats .The functions are Construction of the street, sanitation, prevention measures to remove and to prevent the spread of an epidemic disease, registration of birth, death and marriage, regulations of market and fair, establishing and maintaining of primary schools, supply of drinking water etc. for the development of village. For this, Village panchayat has to depend on huge financial resources.

**The concept of 15% expenditure on Backward Classes:** At the village panchayat level in India refers to a policy that mandates that 15% of the panchayat's total budget should be allocated for schemes and programs targeting the betterment of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). This is a constitutional provision aimed at ensuring that these communities, who face social and economic disadvantages, receive a proportionate share of the panchayat's resources.

**Purpose of Expenditure:** The allocated 15% funds are used for a variety of developmental programs, at village level including:

- **Education:** Scholarships, infrastructure development in schools, and teacher training to improve educational access and quality for SC/ST children.
- **Health:** Infrastructure development in health centers, health awareness campaigns, and providing access to healthcare services.
- **Agriculture and Rural Development:** Schemes for improving agricultural practices, providing irrigation facilities, and promoting income-generating activities.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Construction of roads, bridges, and other infrastructure that facilitates access and connectivity in SC/ST areas.
- **Social Welfare:** Schemes to address poverty, unemployment, and other social issues faced by SC/ST communities.

### Objectives Of The Study:

The main objective of this research is to review the current income and expenditure of the Panchayat Raj system in villages of Pune district as well as 15% expenditure on Backward Classes wages. The researchers have studied it by giving some specific objectives related to the Panchayat Raj system.

1. To find out the role of at village panchayat in development of Backward class in study area.
2. To find out the **status** of 15% expenditure on Backward Classes at village level in study area.
3. To study the economic aspects of Village Panchayat Raj during the study period.

### LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

#### 1. Geographical Scope:

The study is geographically limited to Indapur and Baramati Tehsil in Maharashtra. Therefore, the findings and conclusions may not be directly applicable to other regions with different socio-economic, climatic, and agricultural conditions.

## 2. Sample Size and Data Availability:

Due to time and resource constraints, the sample size for data collection may be limited, which might affect the generalizability of the findings.

**15% expenditure on Backward Classes:** Bombay Village Panchayats Act 1958 article 153 (A), Government GR, Village Development Division No-VPM-2676/2396/23, Dated on 30/September/1976 and Govt GR, No-VPM-2680/5628/CR 614/23(B) dated on 29/April 1980 under these two circulars article no. 45(6) as per the amendment shows that for the fulfillment of duties of village panchayats it must be spend 15% amount for the inclusive growth and development of the Backward class people at village level.

### Content of Expenditure on Backward class people:-

1. Play Group for children
2. Provide School Dress for hostel student
3. Educational trip for hostel Girls and Boys student
4. Scholarship for Merit student
5. Distribute educational equipment to the student
6. Arrange special classes for student
7. Economical support for Backward Class
8. Economical provision for new construction or reconstruction of house
9. Help to small scale industries occupation (weaving machine, electric motor, etc.)
10. Help to Biogas plant
11. Electric connection
12. Rehabilitations of Psoriasis patient
13. Economical support to inter caste married couple
14. Provide funds for water supply Facilities
15. Give funds for Streetlights facilities, sanitary, internal road facilities etc.
16. Provide funds for gardens, sport grounds, library facilities at village level.

Table no.1 and graph no.1 describe the status of expenditure on Backward Class people of selected village panchayats in Indapur taluka. In Indapur taluka total expenditure of selected village panchayats on backward class people is Rs. 3199577. Out of this total expenditure maximum Rs. 1273678 (38.80%) and minimum Rs. 391762 (12.24%) is spent in the year 2014-15 and 2012-13 respectively.

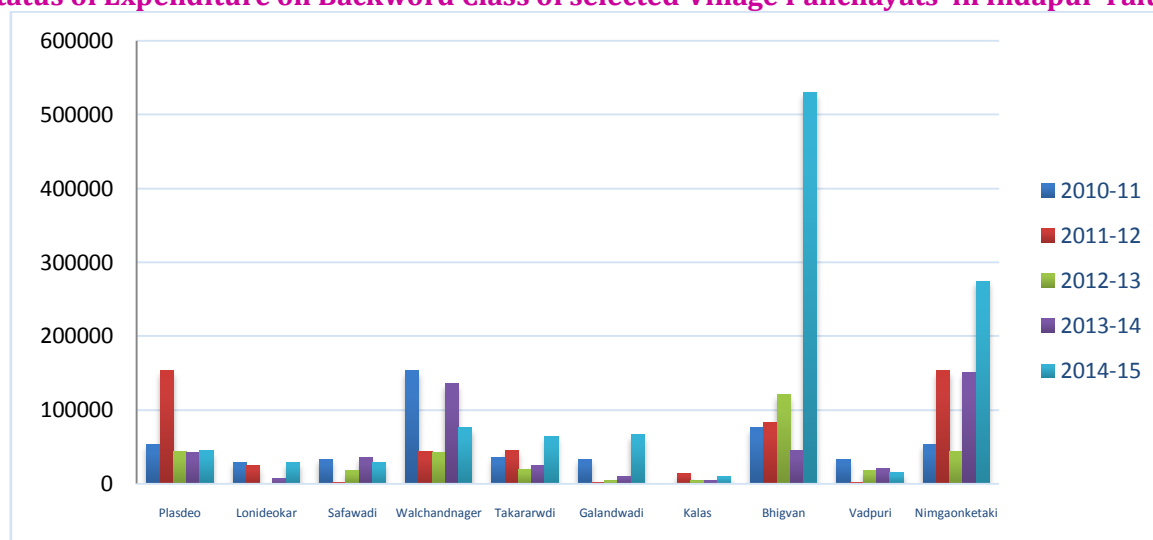
**Table No. 1**  
**Backward Class 15% of Selected Village Panchayats of Indapur Taluka**

Village	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total	CGR
Plasdeo	53445	152834	43256	42215	44496	336246	-15.2
Lonideokar	28315	24571	28553	6940	29437	117816	-11.2
Safawadi	33315	2400	17637	35400	28620	117372	26.97
Walchandnager	152834	43256	42215	135410	75650	449365	-2.62
Takararwadi	35600	45123	18976	25000	64250	188949	6.08
Galandwadi	38500	2800	4500	12450	66125	124375	29.35
Kalas	15423	14366	4000	4170	10450	48409	-18.3
Bhigvan	75760	82788	120874	45500	530250	855172	39
Vadpuri	32540	4200	18650	20950	15000	91340	0.58
Nimgaonketaki	52485	57482	44250	151175	274400	579792	53.34
Total	505277	497708	391762	531152	1273678	3199577	21.1

Source: - Data Based on Field Survey

However out of total expenditure in the study period maximum expenditure Rs. 579792 (18.12%) and minimum Rs. 48409 (1.51%) are spend in Nimgaonketaki and Kalas Village Panchayats s respectively. Table also clarifies the condition of CGR in expenditure on backward class people in the study area. There is maximum 53.34% and minimum -18.2% CGR is found in Nimgaonketaki and Kalas Village panchayats s respectively.

**Graph No.1**  
**Status of Expenditure on Backword Class of selected Village Panchayats in Indapur Taluka**



According to the Government GR selected village panchayats s play pivotal role for the inclusive growth and development at village level. Above table clarifies the status of expenditure on backward class people in the selected village panchayats s. Statuses of Compound Annual Growth rate shows that in the maximum village panchayats fulfill their responsibilities and duets towards the villagers.

**Table No:-2**  
**Expenditure on Backward Class 15% of Selected Village Panchayats of Baramati Taluka**

Village	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total	CGR
Dorlewadi	23650	24600	35600	30535	66125	180510	25.51
Malad	24800	2650	95866	7000	65300	195616	33.74
Sangavi	75760	82788	120874	56660	156310	492392	11.29
Nirawagaj	40000	45850	62300	59215	48750	256115	6.73
Katewadi	3990	56000	240000	6090	279198	585278	93.55
Malegaon	60566	217454	89056	68770	263690	699536	19.61
Gunawadi	35600	45123	18976	22560	35621	157880	-6.69
Zargadwadi	14500	23567	32561	56000	34562	161190	29.73
Pimpli	177550	148909	56825	106530	55986	545800	-23.2
Nimbodi	33256	44560	61300	58152	46750	244018	9.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>489672</b>	<b>691501</b>	<b>813358</b>	<b>471512</b>	<b>1052292</b>	<b>3518335</b>	<b>12.15</b>

Source: - Data Based on Field Survey

Table no. 5.18 and graph no. 5.16 clarifies the expenditure on Backward Class people of selected village panchayats s in Baramati taluka. In the Baramati taluka total expenditure on backward class people of selected village panchayats s is Rs. 3518335. Out of this total expenditure maximum Rs. 1052292 (29.90%) and minimum Rs. 489672 (13.91%) expenditure is spent in the year 2014-15 and

2010-11 respectively. However out of total expenditure in the study period maximum expenditure is Rs. 699536 (19.88%) and minimum Rs. 157880 (4.48%) is spent in Malegaon (B) and Gunawadi Village Panchayats .

**Graph No. :-2**  
**Status of Expenditure on Bacword Class of selected village panchayats in Baramati Taluka**

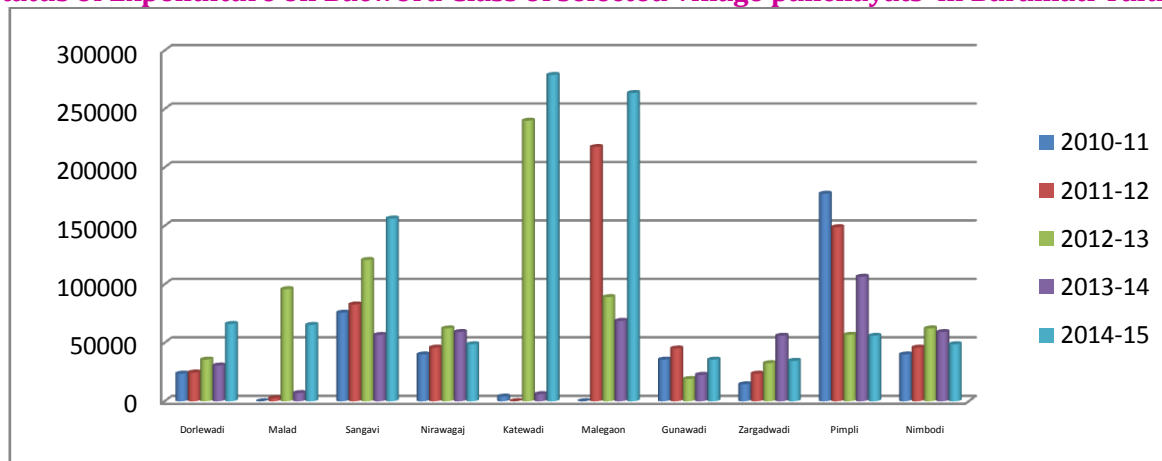


Table no.2 also shows the condition of CGR in expenditure on backward class peoples in the study area. The maximum 93.55% and minimum -23.2% CGR is found in Katewadi and Pimpili Village panchayats respectively.

### CONCLUSIONS:

1. It is observed that the Compound annual growth rate of expenditure on backward class people is 93.55% and -23.2% is in Katewadi and Pimpili village panchayats in the selected village panchayats.
2. In the selected village panchayats of Indapur taluka the expenditure on backward class people has reduced on the other hand in the sample village panchayats of Baramati taluka the funds spent on development of backward class peoples has increased up to 15%.

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