

ROLE OF PANCHAYAT RAJ IN SWACHHATA ABHIYAN

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Abstract:

The origin of the Indian Panchayat Raj system is the administration system in rural areas and the cleanliness campaign implemented in rural and urban areas through this system. Even though the villages have been self-sufficient since ancient times, the real development is seen in the modern times. The state of Maharashtra has adopted the three-tier system of Panchayat Raj and has really started to build the India of Mahatma Gandhi's dream and has brought sanitation along with the development of rural and urban areas to make Swachh India. Drinking water and clean India campaign is being implemented in rural areas. This shows the plan implemented to get clean drinking water to the people of India. Due to Swachh Bharat Mission, the economic condition of the country has been strengthened. Increased access to sanitation has reduced cases of disease, infection and diarrhea. The increase in sanitation has also reduced the expenditure on health sector, sanitation and other public services.

Keywords: Panchayat Raj System, Rural Development, Sanitation.

Introduction:

India is an agricultural country. 70% of India's population lives in rural areas. Since ancient times, rural villages have seen their needs being fulfilled in the village itself. Panchayats existed in ancient India. Villages were self-sufficient till the Mughal era. Their affairs were run through the Panchayat. Balutedar system existed in villages. The specific system of rural local self-government bodies proposed is called Panchayat Raj. The Government of India decided to pursue a policy of democratic decentralization and set up a committee in 1954 to consider the establishment of the Panchayat Raj system. This committee has mentioned three levels in the Panchayat Raj system and has recommended decentralization as Zilla Parishad at the highest level, Panchayat Samiti at the taluk level and Gram Panchayat at the village level. The government endorsed the principle of democratic decentralization by

recommending broad powers to local Gram Panchayats at the village level. The government led by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, was favorable to decentralization from the beginning, and the recommendation of the Balwantrao Mehta Committee seems to have given further impetus to the issue.

Rajasthan was the first state to adopt democratic decentralization or Panchayat Raj system. Panchayat Raj system was launched in 01 May 1959, after which states like Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra etc. have adopted this Panchayat Raj system. The Panchayat Raj system has created interest in the local people to do the work of power because the work of solving the local problems in the villages is also done through this system. Through this Panchayat Raj system, the government is trying to involve the people in direct and indirect power. He has played an important role in keeping the Indian society united and fulfilling some of their important needs.

When the village is said to be there, related village problems arise. In ancient times, the problems that arose in the village were solved in the village itself. In ancient times, there was no education system in the village. But the security, cleanliness, self protection etc. of the village is seen. The task of Gram Raksha Dal created in that village is to protect us and our village from foreign invasion. It is from this that the history mentions that there were soldiers who worked in the ranks of Vatandar, Sardar, Sarjamshahi.

Cleanliness in the village / wadi / settlement is the primary duty of the people of the village but it seems to be neglected today. Due to this reason, along with the central government, the state government is also seen conducting cleanliness drive in urban areas as well as in rural areas. If the village is clean they are being

given an incentive reward. It is seen that the amount of the prize is helping to complete community schemes in rural areas. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is for rural and urban areas. It is necessary to get clean drinking water to the public by implementing Drinking Water and Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan. For this, the drinking water scheme is implemented at the district level through the District Rural Development System.

In the research essay presented, the researcher has tried to explain the origin of Panchayat Raj system, awareness about cleanliness, role in development in rural and urban sanitation campaign.

Origin of Panchayat Raj System:

70 percent of India's population lives in rural areas. So it appears that local administration was known to Indians for many centuries. It can be seen that with the advice of the prestigious panchamandi in the village, settlement of quarrels, resolving conflicts, making people follow the traditional traditions, making arrangements to tell the problems of the people to the royal court, how the environment of the village can be maintained harmoniously. In ancient times the village was the center of administration. Village dignitaries were very important in ancient administration. The decisions given by him were accepted by all the villages or settlements.

A. Rural System in Ancient India :

In rural areas, a group of five persons is called Panch. These five people used to take all the decisions in the village. The remains found there also show that the process of democratic decentralization was going on in Harappa and Mohenjodando in the Indus river valley. In ancient times, village administration was the smallest organization and the head of this organization was called Mukhiya. The head of the panchayat i.e. Mukhiya used to do all the work after considering the advice of the senior. In this Panch Mandali is seen doing the work of settlement of disputes arising in the village, security of the village, distribution of agriculture etc.

Even in the Gupta period, similar to the Mauryan period, there is a description of the

system of rural administration. The highest official of the village was the village chief. Panchayat was there to help them. It is seen that exchange of ideas regarding village administration and village interest is done in this panchayat.

B. Panchayat Raj system in medieval period

During the medieval period, every village had a sabha which served the functions of that village. Mukhiyas, Chowkidars were working in rural areas. The Mukhiya of ancient times became the Patil in this medieval period. Patil used to take care of the entire administration of the village. He had the right to take all decisions in the village. During the Mughal period there was no interference in the administration of villages. During this period, the administration of rural and urban areas seems to be different. During the period of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the local administration system was functioning. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj used to choose the provincial head himself. The ancient rural local system appears to have continued intact till the 18th century.

C.Panchayat Raj system during British period:

The Panchayat Raj system of the present time has some similarities with the British system. etc. In 1870 Lord Mayo first proposed decentralization of power. In the said proposal, along with the development of self-governance, work was done to strengthen the local institutions. Lord Mayo had tried to subsidize government functions like education, health, roads etc. by devolving them to provincial heads. Lord Ripon tried to fulfill the will of the people through local institutions followed by Lord Curzon's attempt to centralize power in the late 19th century. In 1939 when the Second World War broke out, Mahatma Gandhi explained his thoughts about the Panchayat Raj system. They say that the idea of Gram Swarajya is complete Swarajya in which no one will depend on his neighbor to fulfill his needs. In every village basic needs like food, clothing and shelter will be met in the village itself. Animal husbandry, recreational facilities and playground will be provided in the village. A panchayat would be elected to govern the

village and men and women had the right to elect them. From January 26, 1950, the constitution of independent India came into effect. Panchayat Raj system was given place in the guiding principles of this constitution. Panchayat Raj system has been observed in rural areas since ancient times.

Importance of cleanliness in Panchayat Raj:

The Government of India has launched a comprehensive rural sanitation programme. After 01 April 2012, the entire cleanliness campaign was named Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan by the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. On 24 September 2014, the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan was restructured as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan with the approval of the Union Cabinet. The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan was a total cleanliness campaign launched by the Government of India. Villages that have achieved this status have received financial rewards and recognition under the Nirmal Gram Puraskar programme. In March 2014, UNICEF India and the Indian Institute of Technology developed the idea after organizing the Total Sanitation Conference initiated by the Government of India in 1999.

Swachh Bharat or Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is a national level campaign of the Government of India involving 4041 statutory cities to clean roads, streets and infrastructure in the country. The campaign was launched on 02 October 2014 at Rajghat, New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself cleaned the road with a broom. The campaign is India's largest ever cleanliness drive and involved over 3 million government employees and students of schools and colleges across India. As fast as our cities are developing, rural areas are more backward. Although the government has made a lot of efforts to make the rural areas full of comforts, the full benefits of those schemes are not seen in those areas. The reason for this is the animosity between the political people at the village level. At the rural level, local officials are seen to be involved in grudges against each other. That is why the Clean India Mission of the government does not seem to have gone as far as it should have.

As rural cleanliness is very important, school teachers, school students and Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayats will also be associated with this campaign so that it reaches every person in the village, creating awareness about cleanliness among the people at the earliest. Today we see open defecation in rural areas. Garbage is dumped in the open. Cows are washed in river or canal, water from the village drain is released into the river, so the river water becomes polluted. The polluted water of the factory has been discharged into the river Ganga. Also, due to increasing urbanization, the number of slums near the city is increasing rapidly. The amount of polythene bag seems to increase due to the presence of shops, hotels, other reasons in the city. Today, this plastic is having an adverse effect on the human body. It has become necessary to create awareness among people about cleanliness. Today, as urbanization is increasing, it has become necessary to keep the city clean. It is not only useful for the government to implement the campaign, but it has become necessary for the people to voluntarily participate in the said cleanliness campaign. For this it is necessary to keep the village / city clean by organizing various programs under schools, colleges, gram panchayats.

All the street vendors should provide waste storage facilities such as food waste, disposal plates, cups, cans, wrappers, coconut shells, leftover food, vegetables and fruits etc. Keep suitable containers or bins. You are responsible for your own waste and you should deposit it in a storage depot or container or vehicle designated by the local authority. Nowadays garbage van facility has been started in every street and area of the city, it goes door to door and collects garbage from there. Along with this, toilet mobile vans are provided at major venues.

Awareness about cleanliness:

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was organized under the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development. Under this campaign, teachers and students should maintain cleanliness in their school. Along with this, various activities have been implemented. Every day during the

school class children should be guided on various topics of cleanliness and hygiene and good health. Classrooms, laboratories, libraries should always be kept clean. Cleaning of toilets and drinking water areas, cleaning of kitchens and storerooms, maintenance and cleaning of playgrounds, school gardens. Essays, debates, painting, competitions on cleanliness should be organized. Keeping garbage bins in school, cleaning campaign once in eight days should be carried out. All students should be inculcated in the habit of keeping clean clothes. Students should be asked to remove the garbage, dirt near their house. Wet and dry waste should be separated. For waste management in rural areas, rural people should be told how to make compost from waste and what are the benefits of compost made from this waste. So that people can use this type of compost in their fields. It is necessary to pay attention to how the village will remain clean by participating in the village level cleanliness drive, village elders, Sarpanch, Police Patil, Gram Panchayat members. At the same time, the Panchayat Samiti located in the talukas, villages in their talukas Cleanliness campaign is carried out in the village. So that it helps to keep the village always clean. Zilla Parishad also spends some of its funds on cleanliness. In this, construction of village toilets. For construction of sanitation house from the government Rs. 12000/- fund is provided. Through the District Health Officer in the Zilla Parishad, various hygiene related activities are implemented throughout the year. It is necessary to make a slogan of cleanliness in rural areas, to emphasize on cleanliness of the locality. The people of the rural areas should be able to take advantage of the various schemes of the government along with the urban people. In the Gram Panchayat elections, only a person from a family that has constructed a sanitation house can stand for election, it is required to submit a certificate of construction of a sanitation house from the gram sevak. So it can be seen that sanitation houses have been constructed in villages. Village level funds are distributed in the form of grants to poor, below poverty line people for construction of sanitation houses. Various schemes are drawn

up by the Ministry of Rural Development. The certificate of toilet construction is mandatory for the election in urban or rural areas. It is necessary to keep your village, taluka, district, state and country clean. If we want to realize the India of Mahatma Gandhi's dream, it is necessary to make a clean India first. Today, we see that the importance of cleanliness is being emphasized from all levels, so the Panchayat Raj system plays an important role in cleanliness. Measures are taken to control the waste of factories through Zilla Parishad. Measures are taken to control sewage and household waste found in large quantities on the streets. Construction of toilets in public places through panchayat raj system. Solid waste management is also seen as an important task.

Conclusion:

Although India's population and population density have increased, it is necessary to make our country a clean India created by the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi by adopting various schemes through the government. As Indian cities are rich in culture and history, many tourists visit India every year. But due to unsanitary open defecation and lack of toilets, tourists have to face various problems. Unsanitary conditions are the cause of many infections and diseases. Health conditions may burden the health officer. The Indian government's plan to make India open defecation free by 2030 is called Swachh Bharat Mission. Due to this mission, the economic status of the country has increased. Increased access to sanitation has reduced cases of disease, infection and diarrhea. While sanitation has increased, expenditure on health, sanitation and other public services has also come down.

Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad are the main components of Panchayat Raj system which take the initiative in implementing the schemes of this government. Overall, due to the Panchayat Raj system in India, rural and true democracy has started to take root. In a democratic country like India, the role of Panchayat Raj system is important and it has helped democracy to grow and survive.

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