Research Paper Social Science

Role Perception of Tribal Women in Decision Making Process

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ABSTRACT

Gender role perceptions are socially constructed standards. The expectations of gender related tasks and power distribution roles may differ within a culture and across cultures. Here this paper based on primary data and collected information from Chitradurga District of Karnataka State. The study focused on Role perception of Tribal Women in decision making process.

KEYWORDS Gender, Role Perception, Tribal Women, Decision making

Introduction:

Gender role perceptions are socially constructed standards. The expectations of gender related tasks and power distribution roles may differ within a culture and across cultures. Social role approach, the predominant approach to understand gender role beliefs, attributes the sources of these beliefs to the different social roles performed by men and women (Eagly & Wood, 1991). The term Gender and Development (GAD) first introduced in 1970,s decade. It was in the context of the failure of the first decade of development 1961 to 1970 that the relationship between gender and development began to be examined. Ester Boserup's, 1970in his work "Women's Role in Economic Development" reported that by dismissing or underestimating women's economic contribution many development projects rather than improving the lives of third world women had deprived them of economic opportunities and status. Gender and Development (GAD) represents the socialist feminist approach. Socialist feminists scrutinize the intersection of household and public structures to discover why women are systematically discriminated.

The role of perceptions in the informational base of the conceptual structure is also discussed, disputing the identification of well-being with the fulfillment of perceived interests, but making room for the causal influence of perceptions on ideas of propriety and legitimacy of different institutional arrangements and through that on the respective well-beings of men and women (Amartya.Sen:1987). The perception biases unfavourable to women, both in terms of reflecting well-being in perceived interests and recording productive contributions adequately, will also vary from one society to another. The 'perceived interest response' and the 'perceived contribution response' can be tremendously more effective in some societies than in others (Sen:1984). Hence here paper has been made an attempt to study the role perception of tribal women in decision making process with special reference to Chitradurga district of Karnataka.

Objectives:

To study the Role perception of Tribal Women in decision making process:

Database and methods:

Here this paper based on primary data and collected information from Chitradurga District of Karnataka State. Selected respondents are 300 Tribal Women, elected members of PRIs. The study observed the Role perception of Tribal Women in decision making process.

Data Analysis:

Difference in their role compare to others:

Here is an attempt has been made to find out how women respondents role is different from the others. Paper collected huge information regarding their women role is different than the others in development process and what is their perception concerned to their roles in panchayat related matters table shows the variety of views by the respondents. In table N0.1 shows the difference in their role compare to others.

Table No.1: Difference in their role compare to others

Sl.No.	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Definitely its different all the way	49	16
2	Not like that to serve the society	110	37
3	We can show our existence in politics	23	8
4	Don't know	2	0.33
5	Role model to others	57	19
6	No response	11	3.67
7	Very different from other	48	16
	Total	300	100

Source: Field Survey

Above table No. 1 explains the difference in their role than others. Out of 300 respondents, 16%(49) respondents opined that Definitely its different all the way, 37%(110) respondents think that Not like that to serve the society, 8%(23) respondents have felt that We can show our existence in politics, 0.33%(2) respondents have don't know about this, 19%(57) respondents think that they are role model to others, 3.67%(11) respondents they don't have don't have any response to this, 16%(48) respondents think that its different from other. This data reveals that majority of the respondents they don't felt that they are not different from other but it is great opportunity work for welfare of people and they are role model to others. Rest of the respondents they thought that they are different from other members in panchayats.

The main factors in participation of women

Here in this paper an attempt has been made to find out the main factors in participation of women. Below table No.2 shows the detailed analysis of this.

Table No.2: The main factors in participation of women

Sl.No.	factors	Frequency	Percentage
1	Family background	98	33
2	Education	29	10
3	Socialization	5	2
4	Political interest	27	9
5	Training	51	17
6	Husband's support	4	1
7	Money	19	6
8	Gender	1	0
9	others	66	22
	Total	300	100

Source: Field Survey

Above table 2, shows the main factors in participation of women as perceived by the respondents. Out of 300 respondents, 33% (98) respondents have preferred the factor that family background is important, 10%(29) respondents have stressed that main factor to participation in politics is education, 2%(5) respondents have told that socialization factor, 9%(27) respondents have told that their interest in politics, 17%(51) respondents have responded that main factor is training, 1%(4) respondents have told that husband's support is main factor, 6% (19) respondents were felt that money is important factor, 0%(1) respondents think that gender is factor to participate in politics, 22%(66) respondents were think that other factors are important to participate in the political field. The data reveals that the as per the respondents perception family background and also other factor influence them to participate in the politics.

Opinion regarding the rotation system in taluk panchayat and zilla panchayat

In political system there is rotation system in all the levels of panchayats, they have some sort of advantages and disadvantages. Here the collected information regarding this; opinions by the respondents were depicted in given table no 3.

No. 3: Opinion regarding the rotation system in Taluk Panchayat and Zilla Panchayat President/Vice President (Post)

Sl. No.	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	We enjoy the power	74	24.67
2	Equal opportunity	79	26.33
3	One must get respect	2	0.67
4	One should hand over the power	17	5.67
5	Don't know	12	4
6	Political opportunities	50	16.67
7	Benefit for the women	31	10.33
8	All will enjoy the power in this system	14	4.67
9	Some people get benefitted but others not	16	5.33
10	Ideal system	5	1.67
	Total	300	100

Source: Field Survey

Above table no 3 data examines the opinion regarding the rotation system in Taluk panchayat and zilla panchayat. 24.67%(74) respondents think that this system their opinion is they can enjoy power, 26.33%(79) respondents felt that by this system they get equal opportunity in the field, 0.67%(2) respondents think that this system they will get respect, 5.67%(17) respondents felt that in this system they one should hand over the power,4%(12) respondents felt that don't have any idea regarding this, 16.67%(50) respondents think that the system is provided political opportunities to the women respondents, 10.33%(31) respondents felt this system is befitted to them, 4.67%(14) respondents think that in this system all will get and enjoy power, 5.33%(16) respondents are think that by this system some are benefitted and others not, and 1.67%(5) respondents opined that it's a ideal system. The whole data which analysed here is majority of the respondents have good opinion regarding rotation system though it has some limitations respondents wanted to get the benefit from this system.

The level of participation in panchayat meeting

The interest in participation women in politics mainly shows their participation of panchayat meetings. The study made an attempt to know the level of participation in meetings of panchayats the purpose was to find out to what extent women member participated effectively and freely in the deliberations of the meetings. The responses to these queries are tabular form as depicted in table No 4. This computation has been done after interviewing 300 elected women members.

Table No 4: The level of participation in panchayat meeting

Sl.No.	level Participation	Frequency	Percentage
1	Silent spectator	119	40
2	Actively take part in decisions	59	20
3	Give opinion	57	19
4	Talk only when asked	31	10
5	Take sides	34	11
	Total	300	100

Source: Field Survey

Above Table No 4. shows the level of participation in panchayat meeting. Out o 300 women respondents 40%(119) respondents level of participation in as silent spectator, 20%(59) respondents level of participation is in actively take part in decisions, 19%(57) respondents level of participation is give opinion, 10%(31) respondents response to this is talk only when they asked and 11%(34) respondents level of participation is as take sides. The whole data reveals that women members are not aware of what exactly being transacted in these meetings. A strange thing to be observed in this context is that most women members have low education and do not come from highly cultured family. Therefore even their participation in deliberation in the meetings such participation nominal not at all effective.

Important decision with whom they consult

Here researcher wanted to know the how the respondents while taking any important decision to whom they consult or taking independent decision in the panchayat related activities. The table No. 5 shows different opinion about consultancy.

Table No 5: consult with whom

Sl.No.	Consult with	Frequency	Percentage
1	Male colleagues	23	8
2	Other own panchayat member	150	50

3	Family members	02	0.67
4	Political Party	57	19
5	Own	68	23.33
	Total	300	100

Source: Field Survey

Above table no 5 shows that the data regarding the important decision with whom they consult. 8% (23) respondents have taken consultation with male colleagues, 50% (150) respondents have consulted with other own panchayat member, 0.67% (02) respondents have got consultation from family members, 19% (57) respondents have received consultation from political party and 23.33%(68) respondents have consult with themselves. Here whole data reveals that the majority of respondents were received consultation from other panchayat member and rest of the respondents was received consultation from family members, political party and colleagues.

Conclusion:

Here in this paper in the conclusion we can say the political participation by the Tribal women increased their role in the society development and decision making capacity still there is differences in their role played as compared to other women.

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