

Youth Participation in Gramsabha: Case Study on Bedadukka Gram Panchayat

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| S. No. | Chapter | TITLE | Page No. |
|---------------|----------------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | | List of Tables | |
| 2 | Chapter 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 3 | Chapter 2 | Need and Significance of the study | 3-4 |
| 4 | Chapter 3 | Research Methodology | 5-6 |
| 5 | Chapter 4 | Profile of the Area | 7-9 |
| 6 | Chapter 5 | Analysis and Interpretation | 10-16 |
| 7 | Chapter 6 | Findings, Suggestions and Conclusion | 17 |
| | | References | 21 |
| | | Annexure i. Annexure I ii. Annexure II | |

| SL NO | Table | Topic | Page No |
|-------|--------|---|---------|
| 1. | 4.3.1. | Basic Information about Bedadukka Gram Panchayat | 9 |
| 2. | 5.1. | Distribution of youth respondents by age | 10 |
| 3. | 5.2. | Participation of Youth in Gram Sabha | 11 |
| 4. | 5.3. | Special invitation for Gram Sabha | 11 |
| 5. | 5.4. | Awareness of youth about their participation of Gramsabha | 12 |
| 6. | 5.5. | Membership of Youth clubs | 12 |
| 7. | 5.6. | Participation of Youth in panchayat organised development Seminars/ Discussions | 13 |
| 8. | 5.7. | Visit to panchayat | 13 |
| 9. | 5.8. | Platform to share the socio-developmental issues of your area | 14 |
| 10. | 5.9. | Visit to Panchayat Youth coordination committee office | 14 |
| 11. | 5.10. | Participation in any social-political-cultural programmes Organized in village | 15 |
| 12. | 5.11. | Elected Representatives Opinion about Active Youth participation in Gram Sabha | 16 |

Introduction

People participation in local governance involves people assessing their own needs and participating in local level decision making. It is important for improving public resource management and reducing corruption, by making public servants and political leaders accountable to the people. For people participation to work, transparency of government information is needed, as well as the inclusion of members into decision-making from groups whose concerns are being addressed. Excluding the weak and powerless from decision-making is a cause of poverty because it denies them rights and creates unequal power relationships.

A major proportion of India's population is made up of its youth, who have a significant role to play in the unfolding of the country's democracy. Current trends, however, indicate that most of our youth are so involved with personal and professional pursuits that they have moved away from the collective developmental goal of the nation. Therefore, the potential of the youth in contributing to the progress of the overall community is gradually drying up.

The future of good governance rests on the shoulders of the youth. It is imperative that young people themselves actively take part in their own development and the development of their communities. The involvement of youth in the political process is an essential part of democracy. They are vibrant with hope, energetic with aspirations and radiant in spirit. India has the one of the highest number of young persons in the world. The youth will have a significant role to play in the development of the nation. True nation building it is crucial to involve the youth in the process of strengthening participatory democracy and development.

Voluntary action of the youth organisations and the institutional mechanism of the Gram Panchayats are the two factors will mutually reinforce each other to foster a higher pace of development in the villages. This step will also ensure youth participation in community development programmes, while helping the Youth organisations to establish themselves as a partner in the process of development. The partnership will also help in addressing the emerging needs of the community's youth. Partnership between the youth and Gram Panchayat has built and developed an effective interface with government agencies, ensuring that the Government demonstrates sensitivity to the special needs of the youth and their elected representatives.

Civil and political rights, including freedom of expression and access to information, which are at the basis of political participation, are human rights in themselves. People participation requires trust, belief and wholeness - trust in their co-participants, belief that participation can make a difference, and feeling socially included. To ensure strong participation of Youth in local governance, youth need to understand and want to exercise their right to participate in local political issues. They need to feel confident and know where and how to participate, while local institutions should be prepared to facilitate youth participation. Engaging youth in local governance improves accountability and the ability of local authorities to solve problems, creates more inclusive and interrelated communities, and increases the number and quality of initiatives made by communities. One way to increase awareness and to empower youth to have a voice is through increased access to technology and in particular social media.

Gram sabha is space for young people to reach out and engage their fellow youth in carrying out positive change in society. Young people have tremendous creativity and energy that can be tapped to promote development and help ensure that they achieve their fullest potential. The question that emerges, however, is whether the youth is substantially involved in strengthening the nation's democracy, and more importantly actively participating in the decision making process of the country. The response is not very optimistic as a large proportion of the youth remain unaware of the various facets of democracy. In a drive to meet their academic and career objectives and personal commitments, youngsters are moving away from the socio-political debate of the 'community development'. Furthermore, unemployment, poverty, illiteracy are tremendous challenges in integrating youth from the low socio-economic strata. Moreover, rural youth groups are left out of the process of democracy. It is, therefore, imperative to provide increasing opportunities enable them to develop their personalities as well as to make them economically productive and socially useful. It is equally important to motivate them to develop their perspective about the democracy and to actively engage themselves with its functioning.

2. Need and Significance of the study

The decentralized system was instituted to advance greater grass root participation in the planning and the implementation of policies at the spheres of local governments. It is believed that government performs most effectively and efficiently when citizens participate meaningfully in its policy formulations, implementation and evaluation. The Youth who form more than half of our country's population are marginalized or not interested in terms of participation in the local level governance in this country. Young People are not actively involved in the formulation and implementation of decisions related to them.

According to a survey conducted by the United Nation (UN) in August 2012, a majority of 13,000 respondents expressing their voices from 186 countries highlighted that the main challenges for youth were limited opportunities for effective participation in decision-making processes.

The President of India in his speech at Festival on Democracy, Kerala Legislative Assembly in August 2018, Emphasized “The next stage of the Kerala model should be to ensure greater opportunities for the youth of Kerala in their home state itself. Of course, they are more than welcome to work anywhere in the country, but the gap in the incubation of entrepreneurial and business capacities in Kerala itself needs to be addressed by all stakeholders. I am confident that the discussions over the next two days will focus on this aspect as well”.

Kerala in the voyage of decentralization through its second people’s plan campaign and aftermath of experiencing the most devastating floods it is the time for focusing on the youth participation in the planning process. Youth has the potential to steer the affairs of the country and so conscious effort must be laid to attract them in local governance. In addition, State population has a youthful structure and therefore involving them will give a clearer picture of societal needs.

Youth is defined as the stage of life between 18 to 39 years of age (Approach Paper, Kerala State Planning Board,2017) Youth Participation will generate greater trust between youth and institutions in the country and build their capacity at the same time.

The Panchayati Raj was visualised as a potent institution to promote people-centric development as well as to establish democracy at the grassroots level. Unfortunately, the programmes and policies governing the institution have rendered the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as mere implementing agencies rather than institutions of self-governance.

The level of active participation of youth among the rural mass has been quite low in PRIs, There is a need to nurture the role of rural youth in the democratic process of the country. For progress at the grassroots, it is crucial that the rural youth are informed enough and have the opportunity to voice their opinion and participate in village-level decision making for a better future for themselves and their communities. Gramsabha play an important role in empowering youth to ensure their active participation in sustaining local development. Youth participation is highly encouraged and is one of the most effective tools to maintain a superior participatory local governance system.

This study was conducted in Bedadukka Gram Panchayat and seeks to explore the evidence of youth participation in Gramasabha that may help them become youth friendly. Purpose of this study is to explore the status of the youth participation in Gram sabha of Bedadukka Gram Panchayat. It is important to note that the purpose of the study was not to extrapolate our findings to the population of Kerala at large, or to assess, or compare which one is implementing more initiative to youth participation in Gramsabha. This study highlights relevant points that may allow for a better understanding of how youth participation in Gramasabha happening in Bedadukka Gram panchayat.

3. Research Methodology

Title: Youth Participation in Gramsabha: Case study on Bedadukka Gram Panchayat

3.1. Meaning and Definition of terms used in the title

Youth Participation: Youth participation is actively involving young people in decision-making processes. The concept is related to ideas of citizenship, personal development, and involvement in society.

As a practice, youth participation involves young people in activities, organisations, government and community structures, and engages them on social issues. It is about meaningful opportunities for young people, valuing their contributions and empowering them to help shape our world.

Gramsabha: Gram Sabha means a body consisting of all persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls for the Panchayat at the village level. The term is defined in the Constitution of India under Article 243(b).

3.2. Objectives of the study

1. To understand the status of youth participation in Gramsabha
2. To understand communication between elected representatives and youth

3.3. Methodology

This study is exploratory in design and descriptive in nature and it will help to understand the facts in a better way. Information gathered through both primary and secondary data. Primary data collected through interviews with Gram Panchayat President, Vice president, Gram Panchayat Secretary. Selected functionaries and other Panchayat staffs are included in the primary data; formal, non-formal discussions are also included.

The secondary data collected through the review of Gramsabha attendance register minutes book panchayat plan reports, project outlines, proposals by panchayat, books, newspapers, souvenir etc. The collection of data was done during August 2018 and September 2018.

3.4. Sample plan

For this study, Bedadukka Gram Panchayat in Kasargode District of Kerala state was selected. Library and youth club members within the age group of 18-39 (According to state planning board approach paper). Youth and elected representatives were selected as respondents by using purposive sampling method.

3.5. Sample Size

60 Youths, 10 elected representatives were selected purposively for this study, it was managed to visit youth in two wards and elected representatives of other wards.

3.6. Tools for Data Collection

Researcher used separate semi- structured interview schedules for the youths, elected representatives and officials respectively for the collection of data. Secondary data was collected from the review of panchayat reports, project outlines, and the Gramasabha minutes book.

3.7. Limitations of the study

Due to paucity of time, out of the 17 wards, the researcher could cover only 2 wards. This number does not seem to be an adequate representative of the population in the panchayat.

4. Profile of the Area

4.1. Gram Panchayats in Kerala

Panchayats act as rural units, and are responsible for overseeing financial and administrative duties, and local institutions. They are led by the president; vice president; standing committee chairs for finance, welfare, development, and health and education; and ward members representing each ward. Kerala gram panchayats and their elected leaders have a number of sector-wise functions that were devolved to them as part of decentralisation. Gram panchayats the most local level of LSG governance have a proposed division of sectorally themed working groups including poverty reduction, health, development of women and children, development of SC, education, culture, sports and youth. These working groups rely on coordination between individuals from four sectors of the community: elected panchayat members, government-appointed officials, expert practitioners and local volunteers. Together they are able to tackle local issues from a range of perspectives, which may enable more multidimensional solutions. There are several sources of funding for the panchayats to implement their programmes. The panchayat draws from its own funds, including revenue from taxes or loans from financial institutions; Central Plan Funds from the Government of India; Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) funds for implementing particular development programmes; and Kerala State Plan funds. Kerala's state government allocates at least one third of its Development Plan Funds to LSGs.

4.2. Kasaragod District

Kasaragod is the 26th-most-populous city / town in the state of Kerala, India. Kasaragod is the northern most district of the State and was formed on the 24th May, 1984 taking Kasaragod and Hosdurg Taluks from the then Kannur District as per G. O.(Ms.) No. 520/84/ RD dated 19-5- 1984. Kasaragod is one of the districts of the Indian state of Kerala. Kasaragod District was organised as a separate district on 24 May 1985. It is the northernmost district of Kerala and is named after Kasaragod Town which is the administrative headquarters of the district. To its south lies Kannur District and to the north the South Kannada district of Karnataka state. All along its east it is walled by the Western Ghats while along the west the Arabian Sea borders it. The district, covering an area of around 1992 km², has a population (2011 census) of 1307375. Kasaragod district has Arabian Sea to the west and Western Ghats to the east.

4.3. Bedadukka Gram Panchayat

According to Census 2011 information the location code or village code of Bedadukka village is 627114. Bedadukka village is located in Kasaragod Taluk of Kasaragod district in Kerala, India. It is situated 27km away from Kasaragod, which is both district & sub-district headquarter of Bedadukka village. As per 2009 stats, Bedadukka is the gram panchayat of Bedadukka village. The total geographical area of village is 3624 hectares. Bedadukka has a total population of 13,476 peoples. There are about 2,985 houses in Bedadukka village. Kasaragod is nearest town to Bedadukka which is approximately 27km away. Bedadukka is an upper midland Gram Panchayat in Kasaragod Taluk of Kasaragod district lying with an east to west slope. It is a typical upper midland Gram Panchayat in the Northern Kerala. It has the Chandragiri River along the southern boundary and the Payaswini River along the northern boundary.

4.3.1. Basic Information about Bedadukka Gram Panchayat

| | |
|---|--|
| Block Panchayat | Karadukka |
| Taluk | Kasaragod |
| District | Kasaragod |
| Villages | Bedadukka, Kundamkuzhy, Perladukkam |
| Block Panchayat Divisions | Bedadukka, Kundamkuzhy, Perladukkam |
| District Panchayat Divisions | Bedadukka, Periya, Chengala |
| Assembly Constituency | Udma |
| Parliament Constituency | Kasaragod |
| Area | 85.49 sq/km |
| Wards | 17 |
| Boundaries | |
| North | Payaswani River |
| South | Vavadukkam River |
| East | Kuttikkol Gram panchayat |
| West | Karichery River |
| Population (2011 census) | 27,868 |
| Men | 13,281 |
| Women | 14,587 |
| Literacy Rate | 90% |
| Anganwadies | 38 |
| Government Schools (LP/UP) | 7 |
| Aided Schools (LP/UP) | 1 |
| Government High Schools | 3 |
| Government Higher Secondary School | 1 |
| M.G.L.C. | 3 |
| Colleges | 2 |
| Hospitals | 5 |
| Family Welfare Kendra | 8 |
| Youth clubs (Affiliated) | 40 |
| Libraries (Affiliated) | 53 |

5. Analysis and Interpretation

In this chapter, the captured data through both qualitative and quantitative methodology and the data presented, analysed, described and interpreted in a systematic manner as the next step of the research process. The data presentation and analysis process aimed to present data in a comprehensible and interpretable form in order to identify trends and relations in accordance with the research aims.

Table 5.1.
Distribution of youth respondents by age

| Sl.NO. | Age Group | Frequency | Percentage |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | 18-28 | 28 | 47 |
| 2. | 28-39 | 32 | 53 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

Table 4.1 gives the data about the distribution of respondents by age. Among the total 60 respondents 28 samples that are 47 per cent belong to the age category of 18-28 and the remaining 32 samples that are 53 per cent of the total respondents belong to the age category of 28-39.

Table 5.2.

Participation of Youth in Gram Sabha

| Sl.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Yes | 21 | 35 |
| 2. | No | 39 | 65 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

This table is discussing about who are having participation experience in Gram sabha. From the total respondents 21 samples that are 35% is participating in the Gram Sabha and the balance 39 samples that are 65 % remarked that they are not participating in Gram Sabha.

Table 5.3.

Special invitation for Gram Sabha

| Sl.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Yes | 14 | 23.3 |
| 2. | No | 46 | 76.7 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

There are various propogandas for informing the beneficiaries about the Gram Sabhas. Information about Gram Sabha and invitation is getting through ward members, Youth coordination committee members and Socio-political workers. From the above table it is clear that 46 respondents are being not directly invited by the ward members and the remaining 14 respondents were getting special invitation for participating Gram Sabha.

Table 5.4.

Awareness of youth about their role of participation in Gramsabha

| Sl.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Yes | 15 | 25 |
| 2. | No | 45 | 75 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

Awareness creates questions in minds of youth and from the total respondents 15 of them that are 25 % is aware about the importance of participation in Gramsabha and the balance 45 samples which constitute 75% of the respondents were not aware about the role and importance of participation in Gramsabha.

Table 5.5.

Membership of Youth clubs

| Sl.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Yes | 45 | 75 |
| 2. | No | 15 | 25 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

Youth clubs is the space of the youth at the grass root level and Youth welfare board, Youth coordination committee and panchayat youth coordinator facilitating the youth organisations are the part of its holistic approach towards community development. Above table describes the membership of respondents in youth clubs three -fourth of the total respondents that are 45 samples have membership in youth clubs and the one - fourth that are 15 samples don't have.

Table 5.6.

Participation of Youth in panchayat organised

Seminars/ Discussions/workshop

| SI.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1. | Yes | 22 | 36.67 |
| 2. | No | 38 | 63.33 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

Gram panchayat has been organised seminars, discussions and workshops. These are reputed programmes in the village. The participation according to the above table is that 36.67 % of the respondents that is 22 in number are participating in the seminars and discussions. Remaining 63.33% that is 38 of the samples are not participating in the programmes.

Table 5.7.

Visit to panchayat

| SI.NO. | Purpose | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Invitee | 9 | 15 |
| 2 | Beneficiary | 20 | 33.33 |
| 3 | Along with somebody | 31 | 51.67 |
| Total | | 60 | 100 |

Above table is discussing about the visits of Youth to Gram Panchayat for various purposes. 9 of the total respondents (15%) visit panchayat as a special invitee. 20 samples that is 33.33 % is visiting panchayats as beneficiary and the remaining 31 samples (51.67 %) are visiting panchayats along with somebody.

Table 5.8.

Platform to share the socio-developmental issues of your area

| SI.NO. | Organisation | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Youth club and library | 25 | 41.67 |
| 2 | Social Media | 21 | 35 |
| 3 | Self Help Group | 14 | 23.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100 |

According to the respondents 25 of them that are 41.67 % considered Youth club and library as a platform to share the socio-developmental issues of the area, 35 % that is 21 of the samples remarked that they are comfortable with using social media platforms (Whatsapp, Facebook and Twitter) for discussing the socio-developmental issues, These platforms gives a special freedom for their personal and socio-political views. 23.3 % of the samples that is 14 of them are considering Self Help Group as a space.

Table 5.9.

Visit to Panchayat Youth coordination committee office

| SI.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Yes | 37 | 61.67 |
| 2 | No | 23 | 38.33 |
| | Total | 60 | 100 |

Table indicates that 37 respondents (61.67%) from the total are visiting in the Youth Coordination Committee (YCC) head office called Youth Centre situated in Panchayat library building “Samskarika Nilayam” and the remaining 23 respondents (38.33 %) are not visiting the Youth centre. With support of the panchayath committee Youth

Coordination Committee is conducting various programmes like free PSC coaching, exhibitions, carrier guidance and personality development programme in Youth Centre. From the respondents who are visited the youth centre most of them are responsible persons of various youth organisations.

Table 5.10.

Participation in any social-political-cultural programmes organized in village

| SI.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Yes | 53 | 88.33 |
| 2 | No | 7 | 11.67 |
| | Total | 60 | 100 |

Table is discussing about the participation of youth in socio-political-cultural programmes organized in their village. Majority (88.33%) of the respondents are participating in the socio-cultural programmes like annual day celebration of youth club, library and self help groups. Keralotsavam is another chance for youth to come together and participating in different programmes. Programmes like Ultsavam, Theyyam, Uroos and Perunnal in spiritual centers also create a secular space among the youth in these villages. A minority from the respondents that is 11.67% is not participating in any of the programmes organized in the village they are attending on these programmes as an audience or invitee. Political youth organisations play an important role in active participation of youth in village level. Support of Self Help Groups, Political parties and the involvement of Youth coordination committee in these programmes are influencing the family participation together in a platform.

Table 5.11.

Elected Representatives Opinion about Active Youth participation in Gram Sabha

| SI.NO. | Response | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Yes | 3 | 30 |
| 2 | No | 7 | 70 |
| | Total | 10 | 100 |

This table is discussing about the participation of youth in Gram Sabha, 30 % of the elected representatives remarked youth from their ward are actively participating in the Gram Sabha. Most of the youths are know about the Gramsabha date and time through ward member, Kudumbashree, Notice, youth club, Youth coordination committee and social media but they are not interest to attend. But 70 % of the elected representatives commented that their youth are not participating in Gram Sabhas.

Findings and Suggestions

This chapter consists of major findings and suggestions drawn from the whole study. The summary of the important findings and meaningful conclusion drawn on the basis of the quantitative as well as qualitative analysis have presented in this chapter. Following findings are based on the objectives, to understand the nature and Participation of youth in Gramsabha and identify the approach to youth may function in Bedadukka Gram Panchayat, to understand the nature and participation of youth in planning and monitoring of youth and community development programmes in Bedadukka Gram Panchayat. And finally to identify the challenges remain in their youth participation, planning, implementation and monitoring and suggest the way forward. This study observed the existing youth development initiatives in the Panchayat and identified the progress and challenges.

Findings

- There is less awareness among the youth of selected wards of Bedadukka Gram panchayat about the importance of participation of youth in Gramsabha.
- Youth membership in youth organisation is comparatively high but these members not voluntarily come to the Gramsabha. It shows the communication gap between the youth clubs and panchayat. Youth Coordination committee have crucial role to solve this communication gap.
- Active participation of youth in socio-political – cultural programmes is notable in this area, but that interest is not reflecting on the participation of youth in Gramsabha. Socio – political-cultural spaces should be used for awareness generation about the youth participation in Gram sabha.
- Most of youths and youth organisations are comfort with using social media for knowledge sharing and planned campaigns.
- Activities of Self Help Groups improve the active of youth participation in community development.
- Co-ordination between the Gram Panchayat and Youth Coordination Committee is reflecting in the activities of Youth organisations especially in the field of sports.

- Youth Coordination committee initiatives create a stable and creative space for the youth to gather and deliver their view and ideas in the community.
- Ward members have a involvement in the youth club executive committees of their wards
- As part of the Youth friendly local governance, Bedadukka Gram Panchayat has taken some initiatives for the social, cultural and sports development. This has mainly constituted for the increased participation of youth in Youth coordination committee and cultural spaces like Keralotsavam, football league, and volley league of the Panchayat.

Suggestions

- Integrating youth voices in issues facing their local communities and promote their participation in their local government. Building youth capacity and enhancing their leadership, communication and management skills.
- Formal knowledge about local government process is very less in youth organisations. Panchayat can conduct workshop on this subject. Youth coordination committee have crucial role in this.
- Annual Panchayath Development seminar and discussion is one of the reputed programme in panchayat, Days of this seminar should be increase and conduct special session for youth.
- Formation of Youth coordination committee in Ward level helps to increase youth participation.
- Internship programmes are the chance to knowing different administrative activities and functioning of institutions. District collector internship programmes and various other institutional internship programmes are improving the knowledge level of youth. Introducing internship programme in Panchayat Raj Institutions helps to create students-society attention, professionalism in political activities, participatory planning and leadership quality among the youth. It also creates a relation with these institutions.

- Literacy campaign and movement is notable in peoples planning campaign, this is the time of social media literacy campaign in kerala. People awareness is very less in cyber laws and healthy usage of social media, it include a political education also.
- Youth welfare board announcing youth icon awards, Local self Government department should use these youth icons as the ambassadors for Gramsabha empowerment.
- Formulate Panchayati Raj Volunteer clubs in education institutions and these volunteers should be maintaining a progress card which is helpful for their extra curriculum activities. It will help to improve the status of child friendly local governance concept volunteerism among the youth.

Conclusion

One of the most important element that enable youth to represent their interests and perform their roles and aspirations in policy-making and in creating anticipated change. It is their right to participate and contribute to decision-making related to their lives. Youth participation has its own returns in terms of its positive impact on good governance, sustainable development, expansion of human capital and preparing young people for the future and enhancing their confidence and their responsibilities as agents for change. The challenges facing youth participation are summarized in poor awareness and conviction of youth ability and contribution, scarcity of resources and the difficulties and obstacles to social change in general. In spite of the obstacles ahead, youth still have opportunities to participate and contribute to community development, drawing on lessons learned and best practices in neighboring panchayats. To advance community awareness towards the concept of youth participation and its importance, benefits and significance, and also building awareness around youth duties, responsibilities and rights towards the Gramsabha, and their roles in sustainable community development. It is also important not to ignore role of youth institutions in this regard. Capacity building initiatives should be directed to youth and their institutions in order to promote their abilities and benefit from successful experiences in Kerala. Youth participation should not remain a slogan but translated into reality. This guarantees the involvement of a large segment of society in determining the course of desired development in Kerala and in engaging in all structures and frameworks. The role of panchayats, as local governments closer to the people, is critical, as they can have firsthand knowledge of issues. This support from Youth Coordination Committee allows the Gram panchayat to offer more comprehensive and effective provision of services to youth, particularly in relation to youth participation. In Bedadukka, Youth Coordination Committee working as a key for strives the youth towards the development. Moreover, this study reveals the involvement of Gram panchayat and ward members for bringing the youth to the social, Economic, cultural and political platforms of the panchayat and to attach them towards the civic responsibilities.

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ANNEXURE I

Youth Participation in Gramsabha: Case Study of Two Wards in Bedadukka Grama Panchayath

Interview Schedule for Youth

- 1. Name**
- 2. Age**
- 3. Education**
- 4. Ward**
- 5. Do you know about Gramsabha?**
- 6. Are you participated in Grama Sabha?**
- 7. Did you receive any special invitation for Gramasabha?**
- 8. Are you a member of any youth organisation?**
- 9. Do you know your ward boundaries?**
- 10. Did you talked with your ward member? When you got the opportunity?**
- 11. Does your panchayat organize any kind of Youth development programmes?**
- 12. Do you have any space to share the socio-development and issues of your area? If yes, where?**
- 13. Do you visit your panchayat?**
- 14. Do you go to panchayat for any kind of service?**
- 15. Do you visit panchayat library? Do you find it as a child-friendly?**

- 16. Does panchayat will organize any programmes in your schools/ colleges?**
- 17. Do you participate in any voluntary activities for panchayat?**
- 18. Do you participate in any socio-political programmes organized in your village?**
- 19. Do you have opportunities to participate with family members?**
- 20. Do you coordinate any socio-cultural – political programmes?**
- 21. Do you receive any appreciation/ recognition / help or any other thing from panchayat?**
- 22. Do you use social media?**
- 23. Do you used to involve social media in connection with the development of your place?**

ANNEXURE II

Youth Participation in Gramsabha: Case Study of Two Wards in Bedadukka Grama Panchayath

Interview Schedule for Elected Representatives

- 1. Name of the Ward member?**
- 2. Ward?**
- 3. Youth participation in your ward level programmes?**
- 4. Youth participation in Gramsabha?**
- 5. Is there any atmosphere to share the subjects related to youth issues in Gramasabha?**
- 6. Do your children participate in any kind of this Gramasabha?**
- 7. Do you use any special technique for making attention of youth in community development discussions?**
- 8. What are the roles you have in any club, Library, Kudumbashree, Self help group or any other group?**
- 9. Do you visit youth organisations in a regular interval?**
- 10. Do you have account in social media?**
- 11. Do you member in how many social media platforms?**