

Assessing the Impact of Panchayati Raj on Rural Development in Bihar: Identifying Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainability

Dr. Parvez Shahid Ali

Ph.D. Political Science, Ranchi University, Ranchi

Abstract:

The Panchayati Raj system is a method for the decentralization of Government that gives power to and encourages input from citizens at the grassroots level. Its original purpose in India was to foster rural growth and facilitate local democratic rule. In a state like Bihar, which is the third largest state in the term of the rural area after Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, the impact of the system on rural development remains unclear. So, there is a need to study in this region. To fulfill this problem, the aim of this study is to examine the impact of Panchayati Raj on rural development in Bihar by identifying its challenges and opportunities for sustainability. This study was based on the descriptive research approach because the research questions of this study were based on “What” and “How”, rather than “Why”. Additionally, the research design for this study was a quantitative research design, because the research data was in numerical format. To conduct this study secondary data collection technique was used, which means the data was collected from secondary sources. For this study, the data was collected from the report of the national institute of rural development & Panchayati Raj. From this report, the data of the past five years, regarding rural development and the various schemes started by the Government of India, was collected. For conducting the analysis of this data, a statistical tool called SPSS was used. This software is a statistical software that provides a platform to perform various numerical analyses with the help of a number of analytical tools. With the help of this software, the data was analysed with the help of analytical tools such as frequency analysis and correlation. The study found that there is a significant impact of the Panchayati Raj on rural development in Bihar state. The study also found that the various schemes of the Government such as “Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme” (MANREGS), and “Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana” (PMAY), are doing well in the field of rural development.

Keywords: Panchayati Raj, Decentralization, Rural Development, Local Democratic Rule, Sustainability.

1. Introduction

India's rural areas are governed by their own Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI). When citizens elect their own local governing bodies, they exercise local self-government. PRI was given the responsibility of rural development in the nation and given constitutional status as part of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 in order to strengthen democracy at the grass-roots level. PRI has been around for 30 years in its current iteration. A lot of work, however, is still needed to deepen decentralisation and fortify democracy at the local level. One of the driving forces behind Panchayati Raj is the desire to better provincial regions. Except for the states of Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Nagaland, and the Association

Domain of Delhi, Panchayati Raj has been established in the other Indian provinces. In India, Panchayati Raj is the only legitimate framework. The village Panchayat has been around for some time. In the pre-autonomy era, the panchayats were used to maintain the upper classes' hegemony over the rest of the town, but this stratification eventually broke down along economic and social lines. Congregations in the original India Town served as autonomous, self-governing institutions with clear and specific roles. Panchayat was established to promote communal wisdom in the rural region as a whole (Parveena & Dhanda, 2021).

Helping people in rural regions obtain access to basic necessities like food, housing, and clothes, and reducing poverty and unemployment, are all targets of rural development initiatives (S. Panda, 2013). For this to realize, the Government of India launched some developmental schemes such as “The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act” (MGNREGA), “Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana” (PMAY), “Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana” (PMGSY), “Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana” (SGRY), “Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas” (DWCRA), “Integrated Child Development Services” (ICDS), “Gramme Panchayat Development Plan” (GPDP) etc. All of these programmes aim to narrow the divide between the rural and urban populations, which would help to reduce imbalances and speed up the development process (Ramya (Tarh), 2017).

2. Objectives of the study

- To study the Impact of Panchayati Raj on Sustainable Rural Development in Bihar
- To evaluate the implementation of Panchayati Raj in Bihar and its effectiveness in promoting rural development.
- To examine the factors influencing the success or failure of Panchayati Raj initiatives in promoting rural development.

3. Literature Review

According to the findings of a study conducted by (Sharanappa, 2021), approximately 70% of India's population resides in rural areas. Gandhi argued that rural improvement was necessary before a country could be deemed developed. There is no doubt that what Mahatma Gandhi said is accurate. In 1961, the Panchayath Raj system was established to aid in rural development in the Indian state of Karnataka. Subsequently, the 73rd amendment to India's constitution granted autonomy to these Panchayath systems and established a three-tiered structure: the Grama Panchayath, the Taluka Panchayath, and the Zilla Panchayath. The primary motivation for the change was to empower local communities and distribute resources more evenly. Similar initiatives have been launched by the national government to improve rural areas under the Panchayath Raj system. Such programmes include the MGNEGA, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), and the PMAY. To this end, the current research sought to investigate the significance of PRI in the rural communities of Karnataka.

In (Parveena & Dhanda, 2021), Analysed empirically to find the role of panchayat raj on the rural development of Haryana state. The study employed a descriptive research approach and mark various factors like participation of women in PRIs, the role of women in panchayats, the PRI system in Haryana, the structure and Panchayati raj in India, the community development programme and history of panchayats in India.

The authors of (Hussain & Ahmed, 2018) set out to examine the Panchayati Raj system's role in rural development in Jammu and Kashmir and to highlight the challenges that the system faces today. The data used in this study was from secondary sources. Secondary sources such as journals, magazines, books,

articles, and websites for the J&K rural development department, the J&K Panchayati Raj, the J&K District Panchayats, the J&K Election Commission, research papers, and J&K newspapers are mined for information. The Panchayati Raj system and rural development have deep roots in Indian culture. The Panchayati Raj system is a driving force behind progress in rural areas. It's the first step in India's process of devolving power from the national government to local communities, and it's the only place where rural villagers can find the information and resources they need to become politically engaged, empowered, self-sufficient, and politically engaged. The Panchayati Raj system bridges urban and rural administration. The research by (Kumar & Muthulakshmi, 2018) aims to show how the MANREGS has contributed to inclusive development in rural Kerala's PRIs. Information from the Mahatma Gandhi NREGS Management Information System (MIS) was used for the research. This MIS is the first publicly accessible transaction-based, real-time system for any government work programme in the nation. The MANREGA is widely regarded as one of India's most efficient rural development programmes. PRIs play a critical role in the development and execution of the programme that has led to Local Economic Development and Inclusive Growth as mandated by the MNREGA Act. Better collaboration amongst individuals and a narrowing of the socio-economic divide was also noted as positive outcomes. This experience successfully built the decentralised framework of planning for the MNREGS, making Kerala State a national leader in decentralised planning.

According to (Singh, 2018), elected representatives in India's Panchayati raj institutions confront a number of obstacles that have a direct impact on the country's ability to achieve sustainable development. The 193 nations that make up the United Nations have come together to define a new set of global objectives for sustainable development, complete with targets and indicators. The global community is now focused on 17 objectives designed to promote long-term growth and prosperity. In India, the Panchayati Raj Institutions serve as the mechanism for implementing local self-governance towards these ends. All of the rural areas are represented in these institutions, which are run at the federal and state levels of government. Gramme Pradhans, or locally elected officials, work with the Gramme Panchayat's Secretary and other members to keep these communities running smoothly. While the Gramme Pradhans and the Panchayati Raj institution and other administrative organisations are doing a great deal at the grassroots level, their work is not without obstacles.

This research (Das, 2017) investigates the efforts of PRIs in the Hailakandi area of Assam to promote long-term sustainability. People's levels of contentment with the effectiveness of PRIs in alleviating poverty are investigated. After a long journey with growth and development methods and ways, it has become clear that a high "Gross National Product" (GNP) or "Human Development Index" (HDI) alone is not a goal of progress. The question of how to create sustainable development is of paramount importance. As a result, nations throughout the globe are adopting a broad variety of policies and plans to ensure economic growth and social progress can coexist with the requirements of the next generation. The United Nations (UN) Summit on Sustainable Development was held not too long ago. To reach the objective of sustainable development, 17 goals were established, each having 169 corresponding targets and 304 corresponding indicators. One of these aims was the eradication of poverty. Poverty is a major issue in the current Indian setting, especially in the state of Assam. From the very first day of Indian planning, eradicating poverty has been a top priority. With the SDGs in mind, this goal has taken on new significance. PRIs in India, and in Assam in particular, may play an important role in alleviating poverty and fostering long-term growth by guaranteeing citizen engagement. It was discovered that 43.71 percent

of rural residents were not happy with the PRIs' ability to alleviate poverty. Efforts to alleviate poverty and promote long-term prosperity, therefore, must focus particularly on rural regions.

Some other related studies related to this topic are listed in the following table 1.

Table 1: Studies Related to Panchayati Raj and Rural Development

Author & Title	Aim	Methodology	Findings
(Kumari, 2018) “Panchayat and rural development: A case study of Kudhani block under Muzaffarpur district, Bihar”	The purpose of this research is to assess Panchayat's function and its influence on the progress of the studied region which was Muzaffarpur district of Bihar state.	Systematic research Design employing Primary and secondary data.	The study states that the restructured Panchayati Raj institutions now have more authority and access to more resources, allowing them to play a more significant role in driving social and economic progress. One may think of them as either an independent government or an arm of the state government. The socioeconomic situations of the rural tribal people in the study village have undergone a dramatic transformation as a result of the execution of rural development projects.
(Jha, 2021) “Democratic Decentralization and Socio-Political Inclusion of Marginalized Communities: A Study of Musahar Community in Madhubani District of Bihar, India”	This study attempts to explore the linkages between democratic decentralization and socio-political inclusion of the marginalised, by focussing on the Musahar community in the Bihar state of India.	Empirical research based on primary data.	According to the findings of the research, while decentralisation has improved social inclusion to some degree, the Musahar Community has a very low rate of participation in political processes.
(Sinha, 2022) “Factors Influencing Sustainable Agricultural Development in Bihar”	Using time series data, this research explores the variables that would influence the sustainable growth of agricultural value-addition in the state of Bihar	Descriptive research Using Primary data	According to the findings, there are substantial and unquestionable advantages to making use of a system of technical advances such as mechanisation, continually updated capital stocks, temporary yearly cropping, and permanent cropping practises. These advantages may be attributed to the fact that these innovations have been implemented. It is advised that farmers use agricultural practises such as crop rotation, multi-

	between the years 1990 and 2021.		cropping, and agroforestry in order to maintain agricultural sustainability since these farming methods seem to be both economically feasible and ecologically benign.
(Wasnik, 2019) “Panchayati Raj and Rural Development in India”	The focus of this study is on the Maharashtra state of India and the role that PRIs play in rural development. The study also examines the difficulties encountered by PRIs and provides solutions for enhancing their efficiency.	Descriptive research approach	This scenario forecasts rising expectations for and strain on government service delivery systems in the years ahead. However, governments and municipal authorities have few alternatives under the current systems and procedures of governance, thus it is necessary to redefine the processes and procedures of governance and investigate other possibilities.

4. Methodology

This research was done to determine how Panchayati Raj has impacted rural development in Bihar. The study's emphasis on "what" inquiries rather than "why" led researchers to employ the descriptive research approach for this study. The official report of the “National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj” served as the main source of data for this study's secondary data collection technique. The quantitative research design was chosen in this study because the data in these reports are presented numerically. The information for the past five years regarding rural development and the numerous governments of India-launched programmes was gathered from the report of the “National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj”. The effects of Panchayati Raj on rural development were investigated using data on employment, rural literacy, MANREGA, PMAY, and other plans of the Indian government. Following the completion of the data analysis, the data was divided and examined using the SPSS (Statistical Package of Social Sciences) programme. Frequency and correlation analysis were used with the aid of this programme to conduct the analysis and provide the results. For the purpose of more clearly describing the findings, these statistics are displayed as various graphs, charts, and tables.

5. Findings

The findings of this study are shown in this section.

Table 2: Employment Generated During Financial Year

Employment Generated During Financial Year				
Year	SCs	STs	Others	Total
2015-2016	231.23	15.21	530.42	776.86

2016-2017	232.05	17.72	780.42	1030.19
2017-2018	244.65	19.14	970.34	1234.13
2018-2019	222.16	20.23	1175.81	1418.2
2019-2020	187.26	19.24	1415.02	1621.52

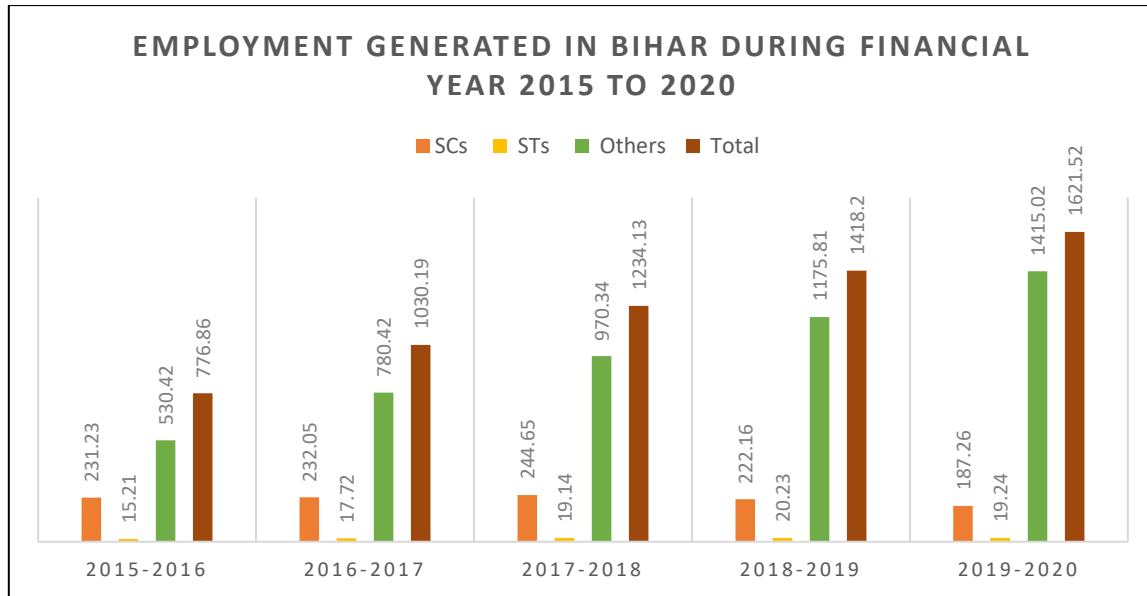


Figure 1: Employment Generated in Bihar during Financial Year 2015 to 2020

The above Figure 1 shows employment in Bihar from the financial year 2015 to 2020. In 2015-2016, 231,23% of persons were employed in the Sc category, 15.21% in the ST category, and 530.42% in the other category. therefore, the total number of people employed in 2015-2016 is 776.86%. In 2016-2017, 232.05 % of persons were employed in the SC category, while 17.72 % were employed in the ST category and 780.42 % were employed in the other category. Consequently, the total employment rate for 2016-2017 is 1030.1%. In 2017–2018, the employment rates were 244.65% for the Sc group, 19.14% for the ST group, and 970.34% for all other groups. Therefore, the total number of employed people in 2016-2017 is 1,234.13%. In 2018-2019, 222.16% were employed in the SC category, 20.23 % were employed in the ST category, and 1175.81% were employed in other categories. Thus, the total employment rate for 2018-2019 is 1418.2%. In 2019-2020, 187.26% of people were employed under the SC category, 19.24% under the ST category, and 1415.02% under the other category. Hence, the total employment rate for 2019-2020 is 1621.52 percent. As a result, more people were employed in the year 2019-2020, and also more people are employed in another category.

Table 3: MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) and PMAY-Completed Houses in Bihar

Year	MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day)	Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar
2015-2016	167	163942
2016-2017	168	415443

2017-2018	168	248530
2018-2019	174	0
2019-2020	194	641

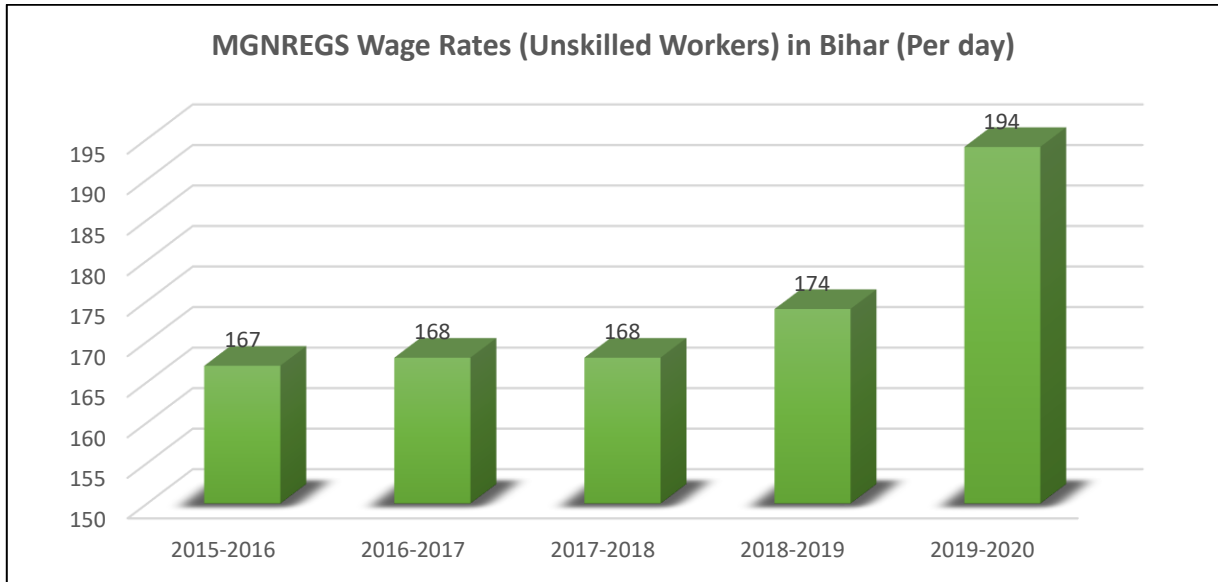


Figure 2: MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day)

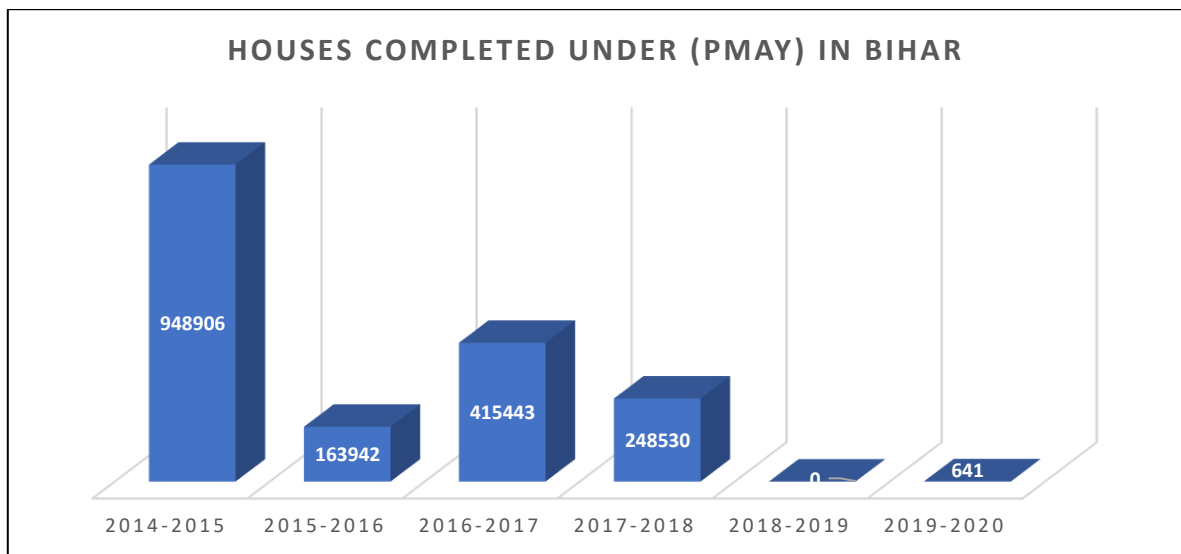


Figure 3: Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar

Figure 2, and 3 shows the MGNREGS (“Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme”) wage rates (per day) and the rate of houses completed under the “Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana” (PMAY) programme in Bihar. In 2015-2016, the wage rate for unskilled workers was 167%, and 163942 houses were constructed under the PMAY programme in Bihar. In 2016-2017, the unskilled worker wage rate (per day) is 168% and 415443 houses have been built under PMAY. In 2017-2018, the wage rate (per day) for unskilled workers is 168%, and 2,485,330 houses are completed under PMAY. In 2018-2019 the wage rate (per day) for unskilled workers in 174%, and zero houses are completed under PMAY. Bihar's wage rate (per day) for unskilled laborers is 194% in 2019-2020, and 641 houses are completed under

PMAY in 2019-2020. As a result, wage rates are higher and more houses are completed through the PMAY programme in the 2019–2020 year.

Table 4: Rural literacy rates in Bihar

Rural literacy rates in Bihar	
Year	literacy rates
2015-2016	51.9
2016-2017	54
2017-2018	56.2
2018-2019	58.5
2019-2020	60.3

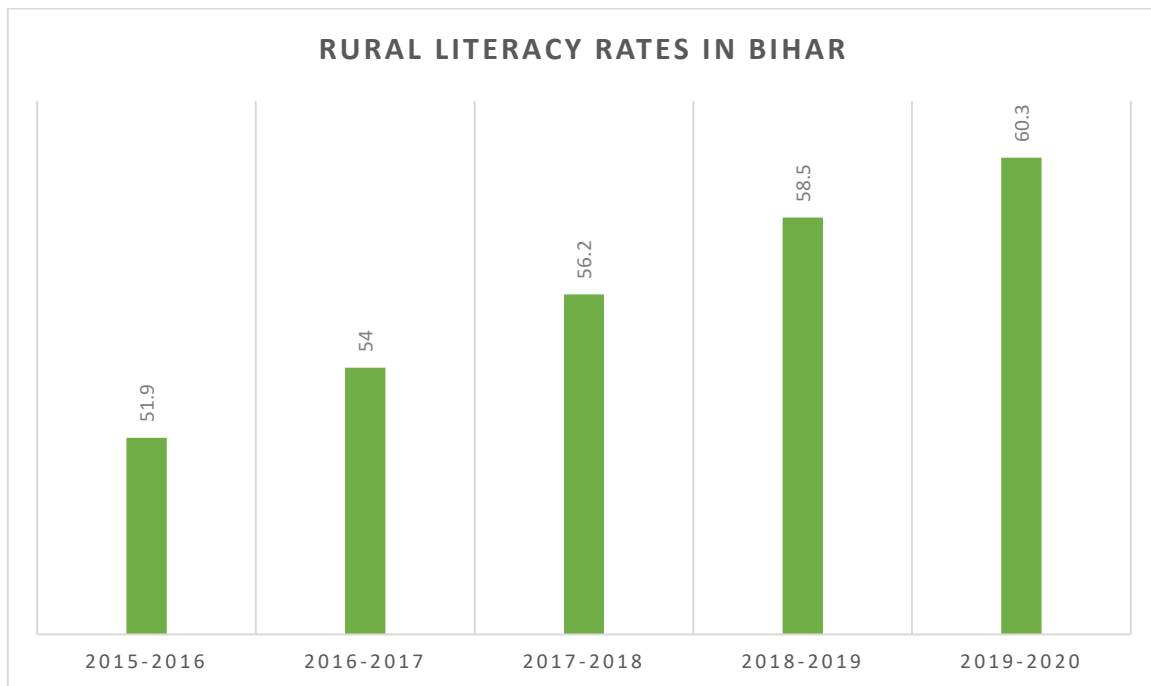


Figure 4: Rural literacy rates in Bihar

Figure 4 shows the rural literacy rates in Bihar. In 2015-2016 literacy rate is 51.9%. In the year 2016-2017 literacy rate is 54%. In 2017-2018 literacy rate is 56.2%. In 2018-2019 literacy rate is 58.5%. In 2019-2020 literacy rate is 60%. As a result, the literacy rate in the year 2019-2020 is high compared to that of previous years in Bihar.

Table 5: Development of Panchayati Raj during 2015-2020

Development of Panchayati Raj			
Year	GPDP	FFC	PS+SS
2015-2016	8391	2269.18	6.0
2016-2017	8391	3554.23	12.3
2017-2018	10066	4096.8	13.1

2018-2019	4008	4729.38	11.2
2019-2020	6042	6368.25	13.9

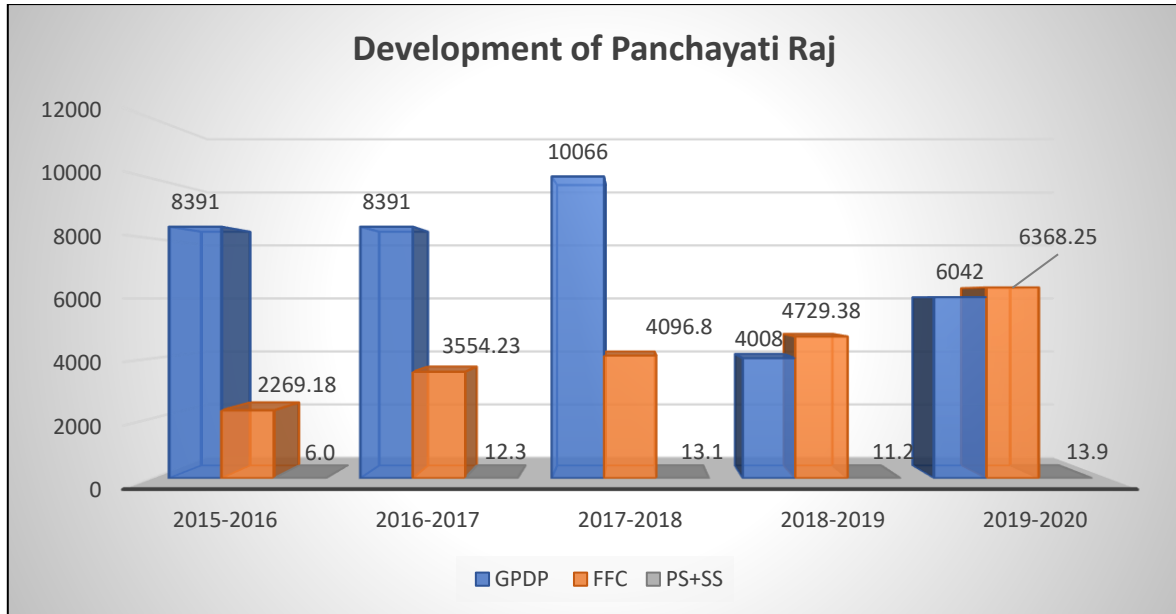


Figure 5: Development of Panchayati Raj

Figure 5 shows the development of Panchayati Raj during 2015-2020 in terms of GPDP (Gram Panchayat Development Plan), FFC (Fourteen Finance Commission), and shows the Principal Status (PS) and Subsidiary Status (SS) labour force Participation Rate for persons Aged 15 Years. In 2015-2016, 8391 Plans Plus are under GPDP. The total funds are 2269.18, allocated under FFC. The participation rate of 15-year-olds in the labour force is 6.0%. In 2016-2017, 8391 Plans Plus are covered by the GPDP, while 3554.23 total funds are covered by the FFC. The participation rate of 15-year-olds in the labour force is 12.3%. In 2017-2018, there are 10066 Plans Plus under GPDP, 4096.23 total funds under FFC, and the labour force participation rate for 15-year-olds is 13.1%. In the financial year 2018-2019, 4008 Plans Plus are under GPDP, whereas FFC 4729.38 has entire funds under FFC and according to Usual Principal Status (PS) and Usual Principal & Subsidiary Status (PS+SS). The participation rate of 15-year-olds in the labour force is 11.2%. In 2019-2020, 6042 Plans Plus shall be covered by the GPDP, while 6368.25 total funds will be covered by the FFC. The participation rate of 15-year-olds in the labour force is 13.9%. Thus, there are more GPDP plus plans in 2017–2018, more FFC funding in 2018–2019, and a higher labour force participation rate in 2019–2020.

Table 6: Correlations

Correlations		Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar	MGNRE GS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day)	Employment Generated in SCs	Employment Generated in STs	Employment Generated in Others	Rural literacy rates	GDP	FFC	PS+SS
Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar	Pearson Correlation	1								
	Sig. (2-tailed)									
MGNRE GS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day)	Pearson Correlation	-.658	1							
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.228								
Employment Generated in SCs	Pearson Correlation	.658	-.963**	1						
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.228	.008							
Employment Generated in STs	Pearson Correlation	-.397	.437	-.281	1					
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.508	.462	.647						
Employment Generated in Others	Pearson Correlation	-.639	.838	-.718	.855	1				
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.246	.076	.172	.065					
Rural literacy rates	Pearson Correlation	-.674	.815	-.694	.870	.997**	1			
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.212	.093	.193	.055	.000				

GPDP	Pearson Correlation	.752	-.518	.613	-.499	-.593	-.621	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.143	.371	.272	.392	.292	.264			
FFC	Pearson Correlation	-.575	.890*	-.774	.790	.987**	.973*	-.529	1	
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.310	.043	.124	.112	.002	.005	.360		
PS+SS	Pearson Correlation	-.002	.507	-.325	.802	.765	.736	-.090	.793	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.997	.384	.594	.102	.132	.156	.886	.110	
** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).										
* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).										

1. MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day)

The Pearson correlation value is -.658 which shows a negative correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar and provides a significant 2-tailed value is 0.228.

2. Employment Generated in SCs

The Pearson correlation value is 0.658 which indicates the positive correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar and the significant 2-tailed level is 0.228. It also shows the positive correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value of -.963** and a significant two-tailed value is .008.

3. Employment Generated in STs

It shows the correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar have a Pearson correlation value is -.397 and a significant 2-tailed level is 0.508. It also shows the correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value of 0.437 and a significant two-tailed value is 0.462 and shows the correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation of -.281 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.647.

4. Employment Generated in Others

It illustrates the correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar have a Pearson correlation value is -.639 and a significant 2-tailed level is 0.246. It also shows the negative correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value of 0.838. It shows a positive correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation of -.718 and a Significant 2-tailed value is 0.172 and shows a correlation with Employment Generated in STs with a Pearson correlation of 0.855 and a Significant 2-tailed value is 0.065

5. Rural Literacy Rates

It shows the relationship with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar have a Pearson correlation value is -.674 and a significant 2-tailed level is 0.212. It also shows the correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value of 0.815 and a significant two-

tailed value is 0.093 and shows the correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation -0.694 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.193 , and shows correlation Employment Generated in STs with Pearson correlation 0.870 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.055 and shows the correlation with Employment Generated in Others with Pearson correlation value is 0.997^{**} and no significant 2-tailed value.

6. GPDP (Gram Panchayat Development Plan)

It specifies the correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar having a Pearson correlation value is 0.752 and a significant 2-tailed level is 0 . It also shows a positive correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value is -0.518 and a significant two-tailed value is 0.371 and shows a negative correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation of 0.613 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.272 and shows positive correlation Employment Generated in STs with Pearson correlation -0.499 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.392 and shows the negative correlation with Employment Generated in Others with Pearson correlation value is -0.593 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.292 and also shows a negative correlation with Rural literacy rates have Pearson correlation value -0.621 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.264 .

7. FFC (Fourteenth Finance Commission)

The Pearson correlation value is -0.575 which indicates the negative correlation with Houses Completed under (PMAY) in Bihar and the significant 2-tailed level is 0.310 . It also shows the correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per day with a Pearson correlation value of 0.890 and a significant two-tailed value is 0.043 and shows the positive correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation of -0.774 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.124 and shows correlation Employment Generated in STs with Pearson correlation 0.790 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.112 and shows the correlation with Employment Generated in Others have Pearson correlation value is 0.987^{**} and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.002 , and also shows a correlation with Rural literacy rates have a Pearson correlation value 0.973^{**} and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.005 . And also shows a correlation with GPDP having a Pearson correlation value is -0.529 and a Significant 2-tailed value is 0.360

8. PS+SS (Principal Status + and Subsidiary Status)

It indicates the correlation with Houses Completed Under (PMAY) in Bihar is shown by the Pearson correlation value of -0.002 , and the significant 2-tailed level is 0.997 . Additionally, it shows the correlation with MGNREGS Wage Rates (Unskilled Workers) in Bihar (Per Day) with a Pearson correlation value of 0.507 and a significant two-tailed value of 0.384 , as well as the correlation with Employment Generated in SCs with a Pearson correlation of -0.325 and a significant two-tailed value of 0.594 , and shows correlation Employment Generated in STs with Pearson correlation 0.802 and Significant 2-tailed value is 0.102 . Additionally, it shows a correlation with the GPDP, which has a Pearson correlation value of -0.090 and a significant two-tailed value of 0.886 , as well as the FFC, which has a Pearson correlation value of 0.793 and a significant two-tailed value of 0.110 .

6. Conclusion

The Panchayati Raj is a democratic institution that mostly operates in South Asia India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The institutions of Panchayati Raj, which are crucial to true democracy, are part of the third tier of India's decentralised government. These institutions are modelled after Mahatma Gandhi's 'Gramme Swaraj' ideal, 'Power for People,' and mottages, which are similar to the Dutch country towns of old. In India, government funding for rural development predominated over popular backing.

Designing and implementing rural development programmes requires a sufficient institutional structure. This need has been met by the PRI, a holistic view of development that encompasses all facets of human existence.

The study found that the Panchayati Raj played an important role in the field of rural development in Bihar state. The government of India provides for the housing and employment needs of the rural population of the state of Bihar through a number of programmes like MANGERAS and PMAY. Additionally, by guaranteeing their employment, the Panchayati Raj is focusing on the advancement of Bihar's SCs and STs with the aid of these programmes. The Gramme Panchayat Development Plan and the 14th Finance Commission also assist the Panchayati Raj in the development of rural areas.

7. Recommendations

The following are the recommendations for the Panchayati Raj on the rural development of Bihar state:

- To better comprehend rural development concerns, Panchayati Raj institutions should have access to more robust capacity-building programmes.
- Encourage inclusive and transparent community-driven planning and decision-making.
- Dedicate sufficient cash and resources to building essential infrastructure including roads, schools, hospitals, and water and sewage treatment plants.
- To boost economic growth and job prospects, rural youngsters should be encouraged to acquire new skills and try their hands at entrepreneurship.
- Greener and more resilient rural economies can be achieved through implementing sustainable agricultural practises, water conservation, and renewable energy programmes.

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