



VILLAGE PANCHAYATS IN ANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT

Sri.B.Nagabhushana,

Lecturer in History

Govt.Degree College, BUKKAPATNAM.

ANANTAPUR (DIST). ,ANDHRA PRADESH

It is claimed that Gram Panchayat system of present days has descended from the ancient India. From the time of Satavahanas to the days of the Kakatiyas and Vijayanagar rulers, in this area at village level self-governing institutions flourished. Dynasties after dynasties changed but villages remained autonomous in many respects. Initially British did not show much interest in strengthening local bodies. But later they took number of measures to strengthen them. The first proactive development in this direction was the Education chess Act of 1863 and 1884 Local boards Act enable three tier systems in the District. As part of Madras Presidency, the Anantapur district also came under the influence of the British administration. Thomas Munro was a benevolent administrator; his famous Ryotwire system enabled the village peasantry to directly get the protection of the government. Anantapur district was formed in 1882 from Bellary district the Local Boards act of 1884 enabled to constitute District Boards, Taluk Boards and Union Boards formed a group of villages or a village. By 1893 there were 11 Union Panchayats in Anantapur District. From 1911 onwards system of election of was introduced in the district. But voting right was restricted. After independence some important steps taken to strengthen gram Panchayats. 1946 T. Prakasham then Chief Minister Madras presidency introduced Firka system. Later 1950 Madras legislature passed the village Panchyate act for strengthening local bodies. After formation of Andhra Pradesh state, government accepted most of the recommendations of Balwantroy Mehatha committee recommendations on 9th December 1958 by a separate legislation. So as to reorganize the existing panchyati raj institutions, T.D.P. Government passed a bill called AP Mandal Prajaparishad, Zilla Prajaparishad and Zilla Pranalika Abhibrudhi Madals bill 1986. In this new set of up the position, constitution, powers and functions of village Panchiyati intact as that of existed in old system. 1994 A P government made the new act on lines of the constitution (73rd Amendment) act called A.P. Panchyati Raj act 1994. Which replaced the erstwhile system the new act favors for the constitution of Gram Sabha every village. Gram Panchayati executive wing of gram sabha.

It is claimed that the village panchayat system of today has descended from the ancient India. The main problem is there is no direct connection with the system of local self-government existed in ancient and medieval times. But much of the inspiration comes from the local-self-governments that existed in the past. It is now considering that the system of local self governments existed in the villages from the time of Satavahans to the days of the Kakatiyas, Vijayanagar in this area. At village level self-governing institutions flourished. Dynasties after dynasties changed but villages remained autonomous in many respects. Local self governments existed in the area in some form or other until the advent of British. Initial days of British rule they

did not pay much attention for strengthening of local self governments. Later, the British took a number of measures to develop local self governments in rural areas. Proactive measures of the British particularly during the later part of 19th century and in the 20th century became fore runners of to-days Panchayati Raj system. Initially local self government institutions were under heavy influence of the government, however they gradually became popular institutions.¹

The first legislative enactment regarding to local self government was the Education Chess Act of 1863 passed by the Madras Legislature. Consequently similar acts were passed. 1884 the Local Boards Act introduced a three tier systems of District Boards, Taluk Boards and village unions. The Royal Decentralisation commission of 1919 also endorsed this three tier system. The commission also emphasized the importance of strengthening of village panchayats.

Union Pachayats in Anantapur District

Anantapur district has a great history spanning over many centuries in local self government. We have discussed in earlier chapters how in the pre-vijayanagar days local village assemblies called urs, transacted all public business² Sabhas exercised judicial functions, collected taxes and redressed public grievances.³ It is seen above the local self governments under the rule of the different dynasties in the district performed various functions such at collection of taxes payable to the government, acquisition and disposal of lands levying of taxes for local purposes, remission of taxes, the control of temples and endowments, administration of justice and conformation of titles on deserving personalities.⁴

As part of Madras presidency, the Anantapur district also comes under the influence of the British system of local self government ⁵. Now system of administration was introduced in the ceded districts by establishing law and order in early 19th century. Thomas Munro was a benevolent administrator. His Ryotwari system enabled the village peasantry to directly get the protection of the government.⁶

The whole Madras presidency was divided into a number of circles and formed a local Funds and Board for each of circle. The Bellary district was divided into three circles, of which Anantapur was then a part. Anantapur, Gooty, Tadpatri. Alur and Adoni Taluks constituted first circles. Hindupur Madakasira and Penukonda constituted second, and Hospet, Bellary and Rayadurg formed the third. Kadiri was a part of the Madanapalli circle in Cuddapah district with the formation of Anantapur district in 1882 the three local fund circles were reshuffled into two circles.⁷ Repeating the Act IV of 1871, the Local boards Act of 1884 passed. It enabled the constitution of a District board at district level, a taluk board at Taluk level and a union board for a group of villages or a village. This system of hierarchy came to force. In 1885 the Anantapur district board formed. Before 1886 the talus boards were formed in Anantapur district. In 1886 nine union boards were formed in Anantapur district⁸ newly formed union boards were Tadipatri, Uravakonda, Gooty, Kalyandurg, Hindupur, Penukonda, Dharmavaram and Madakasira. In 1887 pamidi, in 1889 Yadiki were constituted as unions.⁹ Amarapuram was constituted into a union in 1914¹⁰ Guntakal and Thimmana cherla were merged and reconstitutions as single union in 1916. Singanamala, Konakondla and Vellanur in 1918, Beluguppa in 1919 were constituted into unions. By 1919 there were 18 unions in Anantapur district.¹¹

In 1900 the local boards Act XIV made to give independent status to local boards. The government's interference was minimized to cases of emergency or maladministration. The Local

boards became autonomous. The Inspector of Local boards was appointed to supervise its work. The local boards Act of 1920 was made which came into force in Anantapur district in 1922.¹²

Organization of union panchayats in Anantapur District:

In Madras presidency there were 54,000 villages and the fact that only 400 union panchayats were formed which clearly indicate that the problem had not been addressed properly¹³. The 1884 Act Clearly advocated the revival of the 'sabha' system which trained the people in the art of self government in ancient Indian villages. The government initiated the forming of large number of union panchayats. But their progress was not as expected and after certain stages it was completely halted. In 1915 it was decided to form village panchayats in certain areas with only limited powers and limited authority in matters of taxation¹⁴

The Government asked the district authorities to organize unions in the villages having a population of more than 3000 and informed panchayats in selected villages with a population of 3000 and less¹⁵. This scheme did not give fruitful result. The 1920 village panchayat act gave opportunity to inhabitants of all villages to have a panchayat constituted in the village exercising statutory powers in all matters based on various restrictions on officials and the local boards¹⁶ The union panchayats progressed gradually¹⁷

In Anantapur district union boards started to function since October 1886. Initially nine unions and were formed. As per 1885 rules the electorate of the union panchayats consisted of residents in the village above 25 years of age who paid house tax of five rupees or land revenue of the rupees¹⁸. In Anantapur district by 1889 the total number of unions rose to eleven. The union panchayat consisted of the village headman, who was an ex-officio member and minimum five members¹⁹. The other members of the union panchayat were either wholly nominated by government or partly nominated and partly elected by the tax payers of union panchayat. The Chairman of union panchayat could be elected by the panchayats wherever authorized or nominated by the government.²⁰

In Anantapur district there were eleven unions by 1893 with a total strength of 107 member, 46 ex-officio, 8 other officials and 53 non officials. Their core duty was to maintain the roads, and to attend the sanitation work of the village under their control²¹ The Madras government introduced 'ward system' in 1899 but it did not function well due to the indifferent attitude of the members²² seven hamlets were excluded from Dharmavaram, Bukkapatnam and Madakasira unions due to their distance from the center.²³ Union boards members were not satisfactorily attended its meetings. In the year 1903 it was found from the records that once a month union meetings were not conducted. The strength of Kalyandurg union was minimized from 12 to 10 in 1906. Annual reports of local boards between 1906 to 1910 shows that most of the union panchayats were not working satisfactorily. From 1911 onwards system of election was introduced into the unions. The strength of Pamidi union was reduced from 12 to 10 the strength of Penukonda union was risen from 15 to 17. Guntakal and Thimmanacherla unions were merged and constituted into single union. Amarapuram was constituted as union with 11 members. Hindupur and Gooty panchayats were permitted to appoint their chairmen by elections.

In 1916 Government issued a special order for constitution of major panchayats the unions with a population of not less than 8000 and all other unions were to be called minor panchayats²⁵ on the basis of wards all seats in the major unions would be open to election²⁶

Government decided qualification for a voter. He had to be registered in the tax payers register of the union as the owner or occupier of a house. Voter should be the resident of the union for a period of 120 days in an average in the present financial year and should have cleared all taxes to the union. Government officials were not eligible to contest in the elections as candidate. An insolvent and a dismissed government servants were also not eligible to contest Yellenur, Singanamala and Konakondla in 1918 and Beluguppa in 1919 became unions.²⁷ In 1919 there were 9 major union panchayats and 9 minor unions. In 1920 the maximum strength of the major union boards were 15 and minor union boards were seven.

Thus, the local Boards Act of 1884 introduced a three tier system village unions' taluk boards and District Boards. This three tier system endorsed the Royal Decentralization Commission of 1919. Further the commission emphasized the importance of village panchayats. As per the recommendations of the Royal Commission the village Panchayats Act was passed in 1920²⁸ later some other changes were brought.

Post-Independent Developments :

After Indian independence some important steps on the rejuvenation of local self-governments were started in the Madras State. In 1946 T. Prakasam launched the Firka Development Scheme who became the Chief Minister of Madras State when the constitutional government was restored in the same year. The elected government was suspended during the Second World War. For intensive rural development, a revenue administrative unit of approximately group of 30 villages was considered as Firka. The scheme first introduced in 34 areas or Firkas.

In 1950 it was extended to 50 more Firkas. In 1952 it was further extended to 24 more Firkas. At district level District Collector, at the provincial level the Director General of Rural Welfare headed the scheme. In implementation of development schemes at Firka level Development Committees played an advisory role.

The Firka development scheme mainly focused on development of village infrastructure facilities like improvement of sanitation, communication, providing drinking water facilities, improvement of agriculture, development Khadi and other related village industries, establishment of co-operative societies, and adult education.

In 1950 the Madras legislature passed the village panchayats act for widening the functions of local government bodies. According to this act the villages with the population of 500 and above had a panchayat. The president of the village panchayat was directly elected. The secret ballot method was newly introduced. Government introduced reservation for scheduled castes²⁹

In 1853 the new state of Andhra was formed from Madras province on 1 November, 1956 Andhra Pradesh came into existence with the merger of two regions of Andhra and Telangana. The 1950 village panchayats Act Classified Panchayats as two categories ie., class one and class two panchayats with a population of not less than 5000 and annual income of not less than 10,000 were considered as class one panchayats and rest of the panchayats considered as class II panchayats. In 1956 the number of class I and class II panchayats were 193 and 3687 respectively.

Constitution drafting committee gave constitutional validity to panchayat Raj system by incorporated as Article 40 of the constitution. It says that the village panchayats should be enables

to function as units of 'self-government'. Article 40 further says at democratic decentralization through the panchayati raj systems is necessary at grass root level.³⁰

Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Samithies and Zilla Parishads Act of 1959.

Andhra Pradesh Government accepted most of the recommendations of Balwantray Mehtha Committee with many of these recommendations a bill introduced in Andhra Pradesh Assembly on 9 December, 1958. Village Panchayat Presidents were made co-officio members of the panchayath samithi. If a panchayat Sarpanch declines such membership he would ceased to be as president.³¹

As per the new Act at village level panchayat is the basic unit of panchayati Raj. Each village will have a panchayat or 2 or more small villages can form a panchayat. The panchayat governs the affairs of village.

Gram Sabha :

Gram Sabha is a general body. All residents of the village and who have attained the age of 18 are members of Gram Sabha. State Government by notification constitutes a gram Sabha. It conducts two general body meetings every year for the discharge of the duties assigned to gram Sabha.

Organisation :

Soon after Gram Sabha's formation elects from its members an executive Committee called the 'Gram Panchayat'. The members of gram panchayat may be 5 to 9 or 31. The head of the village Panchayat is known as 'Sarpanch'. Seats were reserved for scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and women. The term of the members is five years. The Gram Panchayat meets usually once in a month. Village Sarpach presides the meetings. There is a secretary appointed by government for a panchayat or a group of panchayats.

Functions :

The Panchayat act prescribes a member of obligatory and discretionary functions. The gram panchayats passes resolutions for good governance of the village and powers assigned to them:

1. Gram Panchayats provide protected water to villages. Gram Panchayats Construct, repair and maintain the public wells and maintain the old tanks for better supply of water.
2. Village panchayats maintain primary schools.
3. Gram panchayats regulate local markets and fares.
4. Gram panchayats maintain marriages, births and deaths registered.
5. Gram panchayats take preventive measures to check the spread of epidemic diseases by maintaining better sanitation.
6. They provide medical relief through primary health centers and special medical camps.
7. Gram panchayat maintain and construct new roads.
8. Maintains maternity wards and Anganwadi centers for women and child welfare.
9. Gram panchayats maintain avenue plantation.
10. They help farmers by providing information regarding new methods in agriculture and spreading awareness regarding government's loans and liquidation of old debts etc.
11. Gram panchayats extend relief measures at the time of natural calamities such as floods, famines etc.

In every village panchayat there is separate body called Nyaya panchayat to perform judicial functions at village level. It consists of five members. It deals petty cases like thefts, assaults and trespasses etc. Nyaya panchayat has no power to send a person to jail. Normally for civil and criminal cases it imposes fine up to Rs.100. It has no jurisdiction on public servants cases.

So as to improve the functioning of panchayati Raj system the panchayati Samithis and Zilla Parishads Act of 1959 had been amended number of times between 1959 and 1966. In December, 1963 a new Gram Panchayats Act was passed (Gram Panchayat Act of 1964). The Act intended to integrate the structure and functioning of village panchayats in Telangana and Andhra regions and tried to effective operation of the three tier panchayati Raj system introduced on the recommendations of Balwanth Roy Mehatha Committee recommendations. 1968 Jalagam Vengala Rao Committee made some major recommendations in Panchayati Raj system. Village level it recommended for reduction of importance of sarpanch enhancing the representation of SC, ST and Women in the standing Committees mandatory. 1971 C. Narasimham Committee recommended that the members of legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament should be kept away from Panchayati Raj system panchayati Sarpanch should be elected directly.

In 1975 Andhra Pradesh Government amended the Gram Panchayats Act and enhance the strength of the Panchayat from 5 to 7 and the maximum from 17 to 19 members³² The Samithi president and Sarpanch would be elected directly by people. Further the voting age limit for citizens in the gram panchayat elections has been reduced from 21 to 18 years.

Mandal System in A.P. 1986 :

In 1986 July 29 TDP Government passed a bill called Andhra Pradesh Mandal Praja Parishad, Zilla Praja Parishads and Zilla Pranalika Abhivruddi Mandals Bill, 1986. The new act aimed to reorganise the existing panchayati Raj institutions. It also revised the existing Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads Act of 1959, and constituted 1104 Mandals in Place of the 33 panchayat Samithis. Government's intention was to bring the panchayati Raj administration closer to the public. Both Balwant Roy Mehatha and Ashok Mehatha emphasized this dimension of local government in their reports.³³

The Andhra Pradesh government constituted Mandal Praja Parishad institutions on 15th January 1987. 330 panchayathi Samithis were reorganized into 1104 mandal praja parishads.

In the newly formed Mandal set up the position, constitution, powers and functions of village panchayats is intact as that of panchayats existed in the old panchayati Raj system.

Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Ac of 1994 :

Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 was enacted in the state by replacing the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh Gram Panchayats Act 1964, A.P. Mandal Praja Parishads, Zilla Praja Parishads and Zilla Abhivrudhi Sameekshas Mandal Act, 1986. Andhra Pradesh government made the new Act on lines of the constitution (73rd Amendment) Act. The new act covers all the three tiers of the panchayati Raj system in the state.³⁴

The Salient features of the new act are as follows:

Gram Sabha :

The new act also favors for the constitution of Gram Sabha for every village. In fact, Gram Sabha is a body which consists of all voters of a village panchayat Sabha usually required to meet

at least twice in a year. Sarpanch presides all meetings of the Gram Sabha and in his absence the Gram Sabha and in his absence Upa-Sarpanch Prisides over the meetings. The Gram Sabha discusses various issues regarding grampanchayat in its meetings.

- (a) Gram Sabha discusses on audit reports annual statements of accounts.
- (b) Gram Sabha can review the reports on the administration of the preceding year.
- (c) Gram Sabha Considers new programmes uncovered programmes and development works for the year.
- (d) It has power to enhance the existing taxes and levy fresh taxes.
- (e) It can review the beneficiaries from development schemes and it can select new schemes.
- (f) It can act on the matters related to urgent in nature.

Composition of village Panchayati:

A Gram Panchayat is an executive wing of Gram Sabha A Grampanchayat may consists of 5 to 21 elected members including its sarpanch, upa Sarpanch. The Gram Panchayat members are elected by all the registered voters of a Gram Panchayat through secret ballot system from wards. It meets once in every month. The term of office of members elected at ordinary election is five years.³⁵

TABLE

Strength of Gram Panchayatis

G.P. Population	Members as per population
Up to 300 Population	5
300 to 500	7
500 to 1500	9
1,500 to 3,000	10
3,000 to 5,000	11
5,000 to 10,000	13
10,000 to 15,000	15
15,000 and above	19 to 21

Source: A.P. Panchayati Raj Act 1994.

As per the new Panchayathi Rah Act, a Gram Panchayati should be constituted to every village. According to section 143 of the act a special officer makes arrangements for election of members, sarpanch and upa sarpanch. As per the provisions of the Act, the administration of the village shall vest in the Gram Panchayat.

Reservation:

Mandal Praja Parishad and Zilla Praja Parishad Act of 1986 provides 20% seats for BCs 9% for women, 15 percent for women SCs and 6% for STs³⁶

The new Panchayati Raj act provides reservations to persons belonging to SCs / STs in proportion to their population on rotation basis in every gram panchayat. In Gram Panchayat one

third of the total seats are reserved for persons belonging to backward classes on rotation basis. Not less than one third of the total number of seats (including the number seats reserved for women belonging to SC, ST and BC's) are reserved for women on rotation basis.

Election :

Registered voters of the Gram Panchayat elect the Sarpanch and Continues in office for a period of five years unless remove from office. The elected members of the Gram Panchayat Elect the Upa Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat. As in the case of ward members, the principle of reservation for the office of Sarpanch of Gram panchayat has been provided in the act.

Mandal Praja Parishad and Zilla Praja Parishad Act of 1986 had provided for direct election to the offices of Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, President Mandal Praja Parishad and Chairman Zilla Praja Parishad.

Disqualification:

On Specific grounds the Act made some rules for disqualification of members as follows:

- (a) A Criminal Court sentenced a person for offences may be removed from his office or disqualify for election as a member for a period of five years from the date of conviction.
- (b) After one year from the date of commencement of this act, a person who has more than two children is disqualified to become members in the panchayathi Raj institutions.

In addition to the powers mentioned in the XI Schedule of the constitution (73rd amend) Act, the new panchayat Raj act gave wide powers to Gram Panchayat. The act mansions 39 different kinds of functions. The act mentions for setting up of functional committees of Gram Panchayats on various subjects like education, family planning, water supply, sanitation public heath, agricultural and communications. Government is expecting to strengthen these committees for effectively implementing the welfare programmes at the grass roots level.³⁷

Powers and Functions of the Sarpanch :

- (a) The sarpanch presides over the regular meetings of the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat.
- (b) Sarpanch takes necessary steps to implement the resolutions of Gram Sabha.
- (c) Sarpanch has wide powers to verify all records of gram Panchayat.
- (d) Sarpanch can observe the election of upa Sarpanch.
- (e) Sarpanch has administration control over the panchayat secretary and staff.
- (f) Sarpanch is considered as first citizen at panchayat level and he presided over the all kinds of meetings at Gram Panchayat level.

Personnel :

Panchayati Secretary is a full time employee of the gram panchayat. Other staff number is dependent on the size of the gram panchayat. In major panchayat he is considered as executive officer. Secretary assists the gram panchayat Sarpanch in implementing the resolutions of Gram Sabha Central and State governments are directly allocating funds to gram panchayat for effective implementation of various welfare schemes. In this circumstances secretary role assumes much significance for extending administrative assistance to Gram Sarpanch He has to co-ordinate welfare, developmental activities. He has to attend other duties assigned by the district administrations. The government benevolent decision to establish Gram Sachivalayam is a laudable step in strengthening local bodies. Secretary regularly attends Grama Sachivalayam

for resolving public grievances. The System ensures presence of government in every gram panchayat.

Functions of Gram Panchayati :

A.P.P.R. Act 1994 Provides specific functions to Gram Panchayats. The important functions include mandatory and obligatory functions such as providing protected water for drinking, registration of births and deaths, controlling the spread of epidemic diseases, primary education, maintenance of cremation and burial grounds, sanitation, maintenance of Roads and streets, construction and maintenance of buildings, agriculture development planting trees, construction of rest houses. Libraries, Public markets, Slaughter houses lighting of public streets etc. The new act allocated 29 functions to gram panchayats which is eleventh schedule of the constitution.

Power of Taxation:

The power of taxation was given to only Gram Panchayats in the three tier panchayati Raj set up. Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act 1994 has given two types of taxation powers to the Gram Panchayat ³⁸

House tax, Kolagram or tax on weight, duty on transfer of property, advertisement tax, special tax on houses related with construction and maintenance. Gram Panchayat may levy some optional taxes like land chess, vehicle tax, tax on land for non agricultural purpose, taxes on communal lands which are under its control, tax on public buildings, carts, surcharge on minerals mining in gram panchayat limits. Lions share comes from house tax to gram panchayats. Government has issued certain guide lines for assessment and collection of house tax. Gram pachayats have power to collect house tax either on capital value or on the annual rental value of the property³⁹ Further Gram Panchayats derive income from shopping complexes, entertainment tax, professional tax, and surcharge on stamp duty.

References;

1. G. Rami Reddy and B.A.V. Sharma, State Government and Politics, sterling publisher, New Delhi, 1979, pp.
2. Noboru Karisma : South Indian History and Society O up 1984 p 12
3. S.K. Ayangar : Hindu Administrative Institutions in South India, Madras, 1930 p. 20
4. N. Venkataramanayya : Studies in the history of the third Dynasty of Vijayanagara, Madras 1935 p 174
5. I. Bradshaw: Spr. Thomas Munro (Rule of India Services) 1893.
6. B.Misra: Local Bodies and Rural Development P.202.
7. Ibid P.588
8. The Madras presidency Manual of administration 1885 P.54
9. Ibid P.588
10. Ibid GO No.120 dated 19.1.1914
11. Administration Report of Local Boards 1919
12. The Local boards Act XIV of 1920 section 10
13. Bh.Sivasankaranarayana : The Anantapur District Gazette op.cit pp 594-95
14. Ibid Page 11
15. Ibid Page 12-13
16. Ibid Page 15-19
17. K.K.Pillay : History of Local self-government in Madras Presidency 1850-1919 op.cit p. 123
18. Ibid, P.82
19. The Local boards Act of 1884, Section 11 119
20. Ibid Section 123
21. Proceedings of the Madras government
22. Annual Report of the Administration of Local boards in Anantapur 1899-1900
23. Ibid., G.O.No.984, dated 25.8.1902
24. Ibid., dated 5.9.1910 G.O.No.1095
25. Ibid., G.O.No.12142 dated 7.9.1916
26. Gooty, Uravakonda, Penukonda, Bukkapatnam, Tadipatri, Hindupur and Kadiri became major panchayats.
27. Bh.Sivasankaranarayana: The Anantapur District Gazetteer op.cit p.592
28. Ibid. P.27-28.

- 29 M. Venkatarangaiah and G. Rami Reddy, Panchayati Raj in Andhra Pradesh, P.69.
- 30 Ibid., p.9
- 31 A.P. Panchayati Samithi and Zillaparishads Act 1959.
- 32 Ibid., P.6
- 33 G.Ram Reddy, Patterns of Panchayatio Raj in India (Delhi), the MacMillan Company of India, 1977 p.26
- 34 C.P.Vithal, the New Panchayati Raj Act in Andhra Pradesh : An Analysis, Kurushetra, April, 1995, p. 67
- 35 Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act 1994 Section – 7
- 36 Mandal Parka Parishad and Zilla Proja Parishad Act of 1986
- 37 Ibid P.68
- 38 Op. Bohra, Decentralisation and Devolution of Powers and Functions to Panchayatis, Journal of Rural Development (JOU) Vol. 19, No.2, pp. 52-53.
- 39 D. Ravinder and Ch. Balaramudu, Governance of Panchayatis in Andhra Pradesh : the need for Revita Lisation; Kalpaz publications, New Delhi, p. 125.