

**AWARENESS OF WOMEN COUNCILLORS ABOUT URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO HARYANA MUNICIPALITIES**

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**Abstract**

The success of any municipalities depends upon the elected members (both male and female councillors). The elected municipal councilors are the base of the development of urban governance. The Centre and state government makes many plans, programmes, policies for the development and upliftment of the urban areas. It is the responsibility of the elected members of the municipalities that they are successfully implemented these programmes and policies at different level. Majority of the time male councilor are always play an active role in the functioning of municipalities. Even they are more aware about the urban development programmes. For the development of the urban governance the equal contribution of the elected women councilors is also required. Here an attempt has been made to study the awareness of women councilors about the urban development programmes and area development programmes. There active participation in the functioning of the urban development programmes is important in Haryana Municipalities.

The present study was conducted on a sample of 80 elected women councillors (including previous as well as currently working in urban local bodies) The primary data was collected three districts namely Panchkula Municipal Corporation, Sonapat Municipal Corporation, Gohana Municipal Council, Kharkhoda Municipal Council, and Jind Municipal Council, Julana Municipal Committee and Narwana Committee of Haryana. The main finding of the study was that the elected women councillors are well educated but less aware about the urban development programmes. And also, not actively

involved in the processes of the urban development programmes. On the behalf of these councillors' their male member of the enjoy their powers and position.

**Keywords:** Elected Women Councillor, Urban Development Programme, Municipalities

## INTRODUCTION

The role of women in the working population is increasing rapidly over the years. Women are respected and worshipped in all forms in India. Women symbolize wisdom, courage, prosperity and strength in the form of Saraswati, Durga, Laxmi and Shakti. Meera Bai had significant role and place in the history of India. Mrs. Indira Gandhi was elected as India's first women Prime Minister and provided positive leadership. The Indian constitution gave 33 percent reservation to women in local government. Through reservation women representation is possible in the policy and decision-making process.<sup>i</sup> One third (1/3) of the seats are reserved for women in rural and urban local bodies. The Government of India has been implemented various schemes and programmes to improving the position of women, by creating awareness them, generating employment, and improving income. In 2001 "Women Empowerment' policy was implemented to create awareness among women about their powers, rights, and issues.<sup>ii</sup> There has been considerable improvement in their social status by virtue of which, today women occupy many high positions and their natural zest for life and cheerful disposition illuminates many homes.<sup>iii</sup>

In political field the political leadership of women includes overall development in term of education, employment, legislative powers, decision-making power, health, awareness, and empowerment of women among others in the society. Women representation in politics is just one branch of this concept and can also be defined in different ways. Women representation is very important for the development of the women in the society. Women empowerment is seen as a beneficial factor for good women representation. Women empowerment can create stronger atmosphere,

environment, and culture of women's leadership and women leaders are able to take initiative, more advances and take more responsibility. Another benefit of women empowerment is that it enhances governmental performance. Women leaders who are more empowered are perceived by their subordinates as more innovative, influential upwards and inspirational.<sup>iv</sup>

For improving the political participation of women government gives 33 percent reservation to women. But women remain seriously unrepresented in decision-making positions.<sup>v</sup> Women leaders are still marginalized from the actual power. The emphasis on having more women leaders and representatives in political, economic and social fields has been increasing in both developed and developing countries. It also relates to the effective political participation of women in a leadership role. The potential of women in governance and society has always been neglected and their contributions in development have always also ignored. A number of reasons are responsible for women's low participation in governance. The most important are illiteracy, traditionalism, discrimination on the basis of gender, economic dependency, lack of family support and the unfavorable political structure. For increasing the political equality of women and their meaningful exercise of political power there is need to eliminate these reasons.<sup>vi</sup> But the challenge of gender equality, ineffective participation of women representatives and lack of awareness are very common in women

It deals with the active and effective participation and awareness of women representatives in the functioning of urban local bodies, women member's attendance in the meetings, raise issues in the meetings, knowledge about their powers and functions, women member's performance in the meetings, innovation, taking initiatives, support of the family, problem identification, problem solving related to the issues of women, dealing with the bureaucracy, dealing with the function of urban local bodies, gains from new position and political aspirations of the members. The focus of the study is to check the awareness of elected women representatives about the urban development programme participation in the women-headed MCs and wards and also check the development in their ward.<sup>vii</sup> The effectiveness of women's leadership and effective participation of women representatives is studied through the opinion of the elected women members

**Table No 1.1 Statistic of Urban Haryana**

Sr. No	Urban Haryana	Population
1.	Urban Population	8,842,103
2.	Urban Male Population	4,720,728
3.	Urban Female Population	4,121,375
4.	Urban Sex Ratio	873
5.	Urban Growth Rate (2011)	34.88%

*Source:* Statistical Abstract of Haryana (2021-2022)

### **Government Urban schemes in the Urban Areas in Haryana**

The Haryana State government also makes and implements some urban plans and programmes for the development of the urban areas and for the development of the urban women. Here are some urban plans and programmes:

- Integrated housing and slum development programme (IHSDP)
- Integrated low-cost sanitation scheme (ILCS)
- Jawaharlal Nehru national urban renewal mission (JNNURM)
- Night shelters & labour sheds <sup>viii</sup>
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural and Urban) Housing for All
- Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY)
- Rajiv Gandhi Shahri Bhagidari Yojna (RGSBY)
- Rajiv Gandhi urban development mission, Haryana (RGUDMH)
- Shifting of milk dairies out of MCs limits
- Urban infrastructure development in satellite towns (UIDSST)
- Urban infrastructure development scheme for small & medium town (UIDSSMT)

### **The Role of Women Representatives in Urban Governance**

Empowerment has different dimensions-political, social and economic. Empowerment gives women the capacity to influence decision-making processes, planning, implementation, and evaluation by integrating them into the political system. This implies political participation, which includes the right to vote, contest, campaign, party

membership and representation in political offices at all levels and effectively influences decisions thereby leading to political leadership and political empowerment. One of the important indicators of political participation for women would be her share of representation in the local bodies. In the context of rapid urbanization, the role of urban local government becomes important in the proper management of the urban areas. Only by getting into the seats of power can women bring about changes quickly and effectively in the society where mobilization and exposure and modernity have been Report on Urban Local Bodies confined only to a small elite and where there is a need for political modernization and political development. The roles of urban local bodies become all the more important in this context. Reservation is one instrument of political empowerment which guarantees representation. The passing of the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment can be considered as the greatest event for women's empowerment as one third of the seats and reserved for women in local bodies.<sup>ix</sup>

The role of women in urban governance is one of the most important questions for consideration in the movement for their political and all other (social, economic, cultural, administrative etc.) empowerment. Women constituting nearly half of the population of the country, but their participation in urban governance, affairs and in decision making are very low, they have a lack of awareness, do not participate effectively and active in the urban governance. Without the effective participation of women, a nation cannot achieve the socio-economic and political development. Reservation for women in urban local government is only increasing the number of elected women in the electorate, but it has not improved their active participation in the urban governance. Powers and functions of women representatives are used by their counterparts and other family members. It is the need of the hour that women representatives in urban local bodies develop their capacities to play their meaningful and rightful roles in the development of the urban governance and their process.

### **IMPACT OF WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES**

The process of decentralization has provided representation, but representation does not necessarily lead to participation. Women still face a number of challenges for their engagement in political spaces such as inadequate education, lack of financial

independence, the burden of production and reproductive roles and opposition stemming from entrenched patriarchal views. At present, about one million women have entered into the local political institutions. Reservation of seats in urban local bodies is the big reason for increasing the number of women in politics. And those women belong to the influential political family and classes are more likely to enter into local politics on the choice of their husbands and their family. It can be found and has been observed that the husbands of the elected women members have more and significant influence on their running of the functions of the urban local bodies and of the wards. Few women representatives are working effectively and use their powers and functions of self. Otherwise, most of the women represent in urban local bodies do not perform their responsibilities effectively. They represent as proxy candidates as like in Panchayats. The government gives training to the elected women representatives to understand the working and procedure of the urban governance.<sup>x</sup>

The awareness and participation are related to influence, interaction and information sharing. at the local level of governance refers to the involvement of elected representatives specially women representatives and involvement of people of diverse background, pursuing particular or common objectives for the urban governance. Women representatives participate in the functioning and activities of urban local bodies. While the people of society have a belief that decision-making is a male privilege. This thinking can be changed with the active participation of women representatives. The urban government provides powers and active participation of the women representatives in municipalities. Power and participation both are interrelated with each other and also different. Power is the person's ability to influence the outcome of another. This affects the nature of the participation in several different ways.<sup>xi</sup>

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The following are the objectives of the study

- To study the awareness of the elected women councilor about the municipalities
- To study the awareness of the elected women councillors about the urban development programmes
- To study the awareness of the elected women councillors about the local issues and problems of the people

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

The present study was conducted on a sample of 80 elected women councillors (including previous as well as currently working in urban local bodies) The primary data was collected three districts namely Panchkula Municipal Corporation, Sonapat Municipal Corporation, Gohana Municipal Council, Kharkhoda Municipal Council, and Jind Municipal Council, Julana Municipal Committee and Narwana Committee of Haryana. The main finding of the study was that the elected women councillors are well educated but less aware about the urban development programmes. On the behalf of these councillors’ their male member of the enjoy their powers and position.

**Table1.2 Details of the Total Sample of Present Study**

<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Numbers</b>
<b>Women Representatives</b>	80 (Including Present as well as Previous)

**Table 1.3 Details of the Size of the Selected MCs (Municipal Corporation, Council, and Committee)**

<b>District</b>	<b>Sub Divisions</b>	<b>Tehsil</b>	<b>Sub Tehsil</b>	<b>Block</b>
<b>Panchkula</b> (558,890)	Panchkula	Panchkula	Barwala	Barwala
	Kalka	Kalka	Morni Raipur Rani	Pinjore Morni Raipur Rani
<b>Sonepat</b> (1480,080)	Sonepat	Sonepat	Khanpur Kalan	Ganour, Gohana,
	Gohana	Gohana	Rai	Rai, Murthal, Anbat
	Ganaur	Ganaur		Mudlana, Kathura,
	Kharkhoda	Kharkhoda		Kharkhoda
<b>Jind</b> (1332,042)	Jind	Jind	Alewa	Jind, Safido,
	Julana	Julana	Pillu Khera	Narwana, Julana,
	Safido	Safido	Uchana	Pillu Khera,
	Narwana	Narwana		Uchana

*Source:* Secondary Data

**Table1.4 Details of the Size of the Selected MCs (Municipal Corporation, Council, Committee) of Selected Districts**

District	Total Number Municipal Corporation	Total Number Municipal Council	Total Number Municipal Committee
Panchkula	Panchkula	-	-
Sonepat	Sonepat	Sonepat, Gohana	Ganaour, Kharkhoda
Jind	-	Jind, Narwana	Safido, Julana,

*Source:* Secondary Data

**Table 1.5 Total Municipalities (With Ward) in the State of Haryana**

Sr. No	Name of Municipalities	Total Wards	Filled Up	Vacant	SC Ward	Nominated Members		
						Filled Up	Vacant	Total
<b>Municipal Corporations</b>								
1	Faridabad	40	40	-	4	-	3	3
2	Gurgaon	35	-	35	6	-	3	3
3	Panipat	24	24	-	4	2	1	3
4	Sonepat	22	-	22	8	-	3	3
5	Panchkula	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
6	Ambala	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
7	Yammuna Nagar	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
8	Karnal	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
9	Hissar	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
10	Rohtak	20	20	-	3	3	-	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Municipal Councils</b>								
1	Thanesar	31	31	-	5	3	-	3
2	Kaithal	31	31	-	5	3	-	3
3	Bahadurgarh	31	31	-	5	3	-	3
4	Rewari	31	31	-	6	3	-	3
5	Palwal	31	31	-	8	3	-	3
6	Bhiwani	31	31	-	6	1	2	3
7	Sirsa	31	31	-	7	-	3	3
8	Jind	31	31	-	5	3	-	3
9	Hansi	27	27	-	5	3	-	3



10	Narnaul	25	25	-	4	3	-	3
11	Fatehabad	25	25	-	5	3	-	3
12	Gohana	23	23	-	4	3	-	3
13	Tohana	23	23	-	7	3	-	3
14	Narwana	23	23	-	4	3	-	3
15	Charkhi Dadri	21	21	-	3	3	-	3
16	Mandi Dabwali	21	21	-	6	-	3	3
17	Hodal	21	21	-	5	3	-	3
18	Sohna	21	21	-	5	3	-	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>46</b>		<b>54</b>
<b>Municipal Committee</b>								
1	Shahabad	19	19	-	3	2	-	2
2	Jhajjar	19	19	-	3	2	-	2
3	Barwala	19	19	-	8	2	-	2
4	Pehowa	17	17	-	2	2	-	2
5	Cheeka	17	17	-	4	2	-	2
6	Gharaunda	17	17	-	3	2	-	2
7	Samalkha	17	17	-	2	2	-	2
8	Gannaur	17	17	-	3	2	-	2
9	Dharuhera	17	17	-	3	2	-	2
10	Ratia	17	17	-	5	2	-	2
11	Safidon	17	17	-	3	2	-	2
12	Ellenabad	17	17	-	4	-	2	2
13	Naraingarh	15	15	-	4	2	-	2
14	Ladwa	15	15	-	3	2	-	2
15	Taraori	15	15	-	4	2	-	2
16	Assandh	15	15	-	3	2	-	2
17	Meham	15	15	-	3	2	-	2
18	Kalanaur	15	15	-	6	2	-	2
19	Sampla	15	15	-	3	2	-	2
20	Kharkhoda	15	15	-	4	2	-	2
21	Mohindergarh	15	15	-	3	2	-	2
22	Ferozpur Zirkha	15	15	-	2	-	2	2
23	Bhuna	15	15	-	5	2	-	2
24	Raina	15	15	-	4	-	2	2
25	Kalanwali	15	15	-	4	-	2	2
26	Punhana	15	15	-	1	-	2	2
27	Barara	15	-	15	5	-	2	2
28	Pundri	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
29	Rajound	13	13	-	3	2	-	2
30	Nilokheri	13	13	-	3	2	-	2
31	Indri	13	13	-	3	2	-	2
32	Nissing	13	13	-	4	2	-	2

33	Beri	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
34	Haily Mandi	13	13	-	3	1	1	2
35	Pattaudi	13	13	-	3	2	-	2
36	Farukh Nagar	13	13	-	4	2	-	2
37	Hathin	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
38	Bawal	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
39	Kanina	13	-	13	2	2	-	2
40	Nangal Chaudhary	13	13	-	1	2	-	2
41	Nuh	13	13	-	2	-	2	2
42	Tauru	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
43	Siwani	13	13	-	4	2	-	2
44	Bawani Khera	13	13	-	4	2	-	2
45	Loharu	13	-	13	4	2	-	2
46	Narnaund	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
47	Uklana	13	13	-	4	2	-	2
48	Uchana	13	13	-	2	2	-	2
49	Radaur	13	-	13	3	-	2	2
50	Kalayati	11	11	-	3	2	-	2
51	Atteli Mandi	11	11	-	1	2	-	2
52	Julana	13	-	13	4	2	-	2
53	Jakhal Mandi	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>106</b>
	<b>M. Corporations</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>			<b>30</b>
	<b>M. Councils</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>95</b>			<b>54</b>
	<b>M. Committee</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>166</b>			<b>106</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1475</b>	<b>1351</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>301</b>			<b>190</b>

Source: Secondary Source<sup>xii</sup>

The collected data was processed by coding, classification and tabulation. The processed data were analyzed using statistical techniques like percentage, and chi square along with graphical representation through pie-charts.

The following questions were taken to study the awareness of elected women councilor regarding the awareness, the nature of participation, take initiatives and problem solving etc.

**Table 1.6 Awareness about the Power and Functions**

Indicators/	No of Respondents	Total	Chi-	p-value
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Variables		Yes	To large Extent	To some extent	Not aware		Square	
Education	Illiterate/ Read and Write Only	0	0	7	4	11	29.687	.0001**
		0.0%	0.0%	63.6%	36.4%	100.0%		
	Middle/Metric /10+2	13	1	24	13	51		
		25.5%	2.0%	47.1%	25.5%	100.0%		
	Graduate/Post Graduate/ Diploma	14	2	2	0	18		
		77.8%	11.1%	11.1%	0.0%	100.0%		
Income	<=30000	10	0	18	8	36	4.39	.222
		27.8%	0.0%	50.0%	22.2%	100.0%		
	>30000	17	3	15	9	44		
		38.6%	6.8%	34.1%	20.5%	100.0%		
Total		27	3	33	17	80		
		33.8%	3.8%	41.3%	21.3%	100.0%		

*Source:* Primary Data

The study highlights the awareness level of the elected women councilors about their powers and functions. The majority of respondents i.e., 41.3 percent were aware to some extent about their powers and functions. Only 38.6 percent of women councilors were fully aware about their power and functions. On the other hand, 21.3 percent of women councilors were not aware about their power and functions.

**Table 1.7 Awareness about the Working of Urban Local Bodies**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondent				Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Yes	To large Extent	To some extent	Not aware			
Education	Illiterate/ Read and Write Only	0	3	1	7	11	43.847	.0001**
		0.0%	27.3%	9.1%	63.6%	100.0%		
	Middle/Metric	12	1	18	20	51		

	/10+2	23.5%	2.0%	35.3%	39.2%	100.0%		
	Graduate/Post Graduate/Diploma	15	0	3	0	18		
		83.3%	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	100.0%		
Income	<=30000	9	3	11	13	36	3.27	.352
		25.0%	8.3%	30.6%	36.1%	100.0%		
	>30000	18	1	11	14	44		
		40.9%	2.3%	25.0%	31.8%	100.0%		
Total		27	4	22	27	80		
		33.8%	5.0%	27.5%	33.8%	100.0%		

The study revealed that majority of women councilors 33.8 percent were aware about the whole working procedure of the urban local bodies and 33.8 percent of women councilors were not aware about the working and the whole procedure of the urban local bodies. Only 27.5percent women councilors were aware to some extent about the working of urban local bodies.

**Table 1.8 Awareness about the sources of grants**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondents				Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Yes	To large Extent	To some extent	Not aware			
Education	Illiterate/ Read and Write Only	0	0	1	10	11	37.984	.0001*
		0.0%	0.0%	9.1%	90.9%	100.0%		
	Middle/Metric / 10+2	11	3	15	22	51		
		21.6%	5.9%	29.4%	43.1%	100.0%		
	Graduate/Post Graduate/Diploma	15	0	3	0	18		
		83.3%	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	100.0%		
Income	<=30000	9	1	9	17	36	2.194	.533
		25.0%	2.8%	25.0%	47.2%	100.0%		
	>30000	17	2	10	15	44		
		38.6%	4.5%	22.7%	34.1%	100.0%		

<b>Total</b>	26	3	19	32	80		
	32.5%	3.8%	23.8%	40.0%	100.0%		

The study revealed that majority of the women councilors i.e. 40 percent were not aware about the sources of the grants. 32.5 percent of women councilors were aware about the sources of grants for the urban areas. 23.8 percent of women councilors were to some extent aware about the sources of grants for the development of the urban areas.

**Table 1.9 Awareness about role of Municipal Councilors**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondents				Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Yes	To large Extent	To some extent	Not aware			
<b>Education</b>	<b>Illiterate/ Read and Write Only</b>	0	0	4	7	11	30.804	.0001**
		0.0%	0.0%	36.4%	63.6%	100.0%		
	<b>Middle/Metric / 10+2</b>	12	3	16	20	51		
		23.5%	5.9%	31.4%	39.2%	100.0%		
	<b>Graduate/Post Graduate/ Diploma</b>	15	0	3	0	18		
		83.3%	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	100.0%		
<b>Income</b>	<b>&lt;=30000</b>	9	1	13	13	36	2.992	.393
		25.0%	2.8%	36.1%	36.1%	100.0%		
	<b>&gt;30000</b>	18	2	10	14	44		
		40.9%	4.5%	22.7%	31.8%	100.0%		
<b>Total</b>		27	3	23	27	80		
		33.8%	3.8%	28.8%	33.8%	100.0%		

The above reveals that 33.8 percent of women councilors were aware about their role as Councilor. 28.8 percent of women councilors were to some extent aware about the role of municipal councilors. And 33.8 percent of women councilors were not aware about the role of the municipal councilors.

**Table 1.10 Awareness about the Urban Development Programmes**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondents				Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Yes	To large	To some	Not aware			

		Extent	exten	e				
<b>Education</b>	<b>Illiterate/Read and Write Only</b>	0	0	4	7	11	28.314	<b>.0001**</b>
		0.0%	0.0%	36.4%	63.6%	100.0%		
	<b>Middle/Metric / 10+2</b>	10	4	16	21	51		
		19.6%	7.8%	31.4%	41.2%	100.0%		
	<b>Graduate/Post Graduate/ Diploma</b>	13	2	3	0	18		
72.2%		11.1%	16.7%	0.0%	100.0%			
<b>Income</b>	<b>&lt;=30000</b>	9	1	12	14	36	3.027	.387
		25.0%	2.8%	33.3%	38.9%	100.0%		
	<b>&gt;30000</b>	14	5	11	14	44		
		31.8%	11.4%	25.0%	31.8%	100.0%		
<b>Total</b>		23	6	23	28	80		
		28.8%	7.5%	28.8%	35.0%	100.0%		

The study revealed that the majority of i.e., 35 percent of the women councilors were not aware about the urban development programmes run by the urban government. On the other hand, 28.8 percent of the women councilors were too aware about the developmental programmes and plans for the urban areas and 28.8 percent of women councilors were to some extent aware about the urban development programmes run by the government for the development of the urban areas.

**Table 1.11 Involving Local People in Development Programmes/ Plans**

<b>Indicators/ Variables</b>		<b>No of respondents</b>					<b>Total</b>	<b>Chi-Square</b>	<b>p-value</b>
		<b>Regul arly</b>	<b>Someti mes</b>	<b>Occasio nally</b>	<b>Rar ely</b>	<b>Neve r</b>			
<b>Educatio n</b>	<b>Illiterate/Read and Write Only</b>	1	0	1	6	3	11	33.322	<b>.0001**</b>
		9.1%	0.0%	9.1%	54.5%	27.3%	100.0%		
	<b>Middle/Metric/10+2</b>	17	7	1	3	23	51		
		33.3%	13.7%	2.0%	5.9%	45.1%	100.0%		
	<b>Graduate/Post Graduate/</b>	13	1	0	3	1	18		
72.2%		5.6%	0.0%	16.7%	5.6%	100.0%			

		<b>Diploma</b>							
<b>Income</b>	<b>&lt;=30000</b>	11	3	1	7	14	36	2.71	.607
		30.6%	8.3%	2.8%	19.4%	38.9%	100.0%		
	<b>&gt;30000</b>	20	5	1	5	13	44		
		45.5%	11.4%	2.3%	11.4%	29.5%	100.0%		
<b>Total</b>		31	8	2	12	27	80		
		38.8%	10.0%	2.5%	15.0%	33.8%	100.0%		

As per the above table majority of 38.8 percent of the women councilors were regularly consulted the local people while making the urban development programs in their area. 10 percent of the women councilors were sometimes, 15 percent of the women councilors were rarely involved the local people while making the urban development programmes for the area or ward. And 33.8 percent of the women councilors were never involved the local people while making the urban development programmes for the areas.

**Table 1.12 Problems discussed by the Local People**

<b>Indicators/ Variables</b>		<b>No of Respondents</b>					<b>Total</b>	<b>Chi-Square</b>	<b>p-value</b>
		<b>Very Frequently</b>	<b>Frequently</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Never</b>			
<b>Education</b>	<b>Illiterate/ Read and Write Only</b>	1	3	1	3	3	11	21.203	.007**
		9.1%	27.3%	9.1%	27.3%	27.3%	100.0%		
	<b>Middle/Metric/10+2</b>	11	8	7	9	16	51		
		21.6%	15.7%	13.7%	17.6%	31.4%	100.0%		
	<b>Graduate/ Post Graduate/ Diploma</b>	12	0	2	4	0	18		
		66.7%	0.0%	11.1%	22.2%	0.0%	100.0%		
<b>Income</b>	<b>&lt;=30000</b>	8	5	4	8	11	36	2.86	.582
		22.2%	13.9%	11.1%	22.2%	30.6%	100.0%		
	<b>&gt;30000</b>	16	6	6	8	8	44		
		36.4%	13.6%	13.6%	18.2%	18.2%	100.0%		
<b>Total</b>		24	11	10	16	19	80		
		30.0%	13.8%	12.5%	20.0%	23.8%	100.0%		

				%	8%	0%		
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The study revealed that 23.8 percent of the women councilors were viewed never, 20 percent of women councilors were viewed rarely, and 12.5 percent of women councilors were viewed occasionally local people of the areas approach them with their problems. While according to 30 percent of women councilors and 13.8 percent of women councilors were viewed frequently and very frequently local people always contact them with their problems.

**Table 1.13 Approached by Male Members for their Problems**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondents					Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Very Frequently	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never			
Education	Illiterate/Read and Write Only	1	0	0	3	7	11	16.058	.042*
		9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	27.3%	63.6%	100.0%		
	Middle/Metric/10+2	5	1	3	15	27	51		
		9.8%	2.0%	5.9%	29.4%	52.9%	100.0%		
	Graduate/Post Graduate/Diploma	7	2	1	5	3	18		
		38.9%	11.1%	5.6%	27.8%	16.7%	100.0%		
Income	<=30000	5	1	1	10	19	36	1.661	.798
		13.9%	2.8%	2.8%	27.8%	52.8%	100.0%		
	>30000	8	2	3	13	18	44		
		18.2%	4.5%	6.8%	29.5%	40.9%	100.0%		
Total		13	3	4	23	37	80		
		16.3%	3.8%	5.0%	28.8%	46.3%	100.0%		

The present study revealed that 46.3 percent of the women councilors have said that male members of the area never approached them with their problems. 28.8 percent of the women councilors have been rare, 3.8 percent of women councilors were sometimes and 5 percent of the women councilors were occasionally. Only 16.3 percent of women



councilors were felt that male members of the area were always approached them with their problems.

**Table 1.14 Redressed the Grievances**

Indicators/ Variables		No of Respondents					Total	Chi-Square	p-value
		Always	Sometimes	Occasionally	Rarely	Never			
Education	Illiterate/ Read and Write Only	1	3	1	3	3	11	19.407	.013*
		9.1%	27.3%	9.1%	27.3%	27.3%	100.0%		
	Middle/Metric/ 10+2	9	11	4	11	16	51		
		17.6%	21.6%	7.8%	21.6%	31.4%	100.0%		
	Graduate/ Post Graduate/ Diploma	11	2	0	5	0	18		
		61.1%	11.1%	0.0%	27.8%	0.0%	100.0%		
Income	<=30000	8	5	4	8	11	36	5.442	.245
		22.2%	13.9%	11.1%	22.2%	30.6%	100.0%		
	>30000	13	11	1	11	8	44		
		29.5%	25.0%	2.3%	25.0%	18.2%	100.0%		
<b>Total</b>		21	16	5	19	19	80		
		26.3%	20.0%	6.3%	23.8%	23.8%	100.0%		

The study revealed that 26.3 percent of the women councilors were viewed they were approached by the local people regarding their problems and they also redress the grievances of the people. And 20 percent of the women councilors were viewed frequently, 23.8 percent of the women councilors were viewed rarely. Only 23.8 percent of the women councilors were viewed that local people of their areas have never approached them with their problems.

**Table 1.15 Dependence on Male Family Members**

Indicators/ Variables	No of Respondents				Total	Chi-Square	p-value
	Always	Sometimes	Whenever needed	Never			

<b>Educatio n</b>	<b>Illiterate/ Read and Write Only</b>	11	0	0	0	11	42.697	<b>.0001 **</b>
		100.0 %	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0 %		
	<b>Middle/Metri c/ 10+2</b>	37	9	5	0	51		
		72.5%	17.6%	9.8%	0.0%	100.0 %		
	<b>Graduate/Po st Graduate/ Diploma</b>	1	4	10	3	18		
		5.6%	22.2%	55.6%	16.7%	100.0 %		
<b>Income</b>	<b>&lt;=30000</b>	26	4	5	1	36	3.34	.342
		72.2%	11.1%	13.9%	2.8%	100.0 %		
	<b>&gt;30000</b>	23	9	10	2	44		
		52.3%	20.5%	22.7%	4.5%	100.0 %		
<b>Total</b>		49	13	15	3	80		
		61.3%	16.3%	18.8%	3.8%	100.0 %		

The study revealed that majority of 61.3 percent of the women councilors were always depend upon their family members, their male members (their husbands and their sons) to solve the problems of the people and in decision-making. 16.3 percent of the women councilors were in some matter or sometime depend upon their family members. And 18.8 percent women councilors say that they are depend upon their family members or their husbands to solve the problems of the people and in decision-making whenever needed. Only 3.8 percent of the women councilors were never depended upon their husband to solve the problem of the people.

#### **FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

- Gender plays an important role in electing the leaders of urban local bodies.
- Women Councilors were broadly aware, but not fully aware about their powers, functions, role, responsibilities and urban development programmes.
- Women have no consideration in politics, leadership and decision making in Haryana Municipalities
- Elected women representatives were not interested in politics and political activities except some.

- The elected women councilors were not able to solve the problems of the citizens effectively.
- Male members of the ward/ area rarely approach them with their problems.
- Women representatives do not stay in constant touch with local people to get their problem solved.
- Women representatives were not able to effectively redress the grievances of the people who approached them with their problems.
- Elected women representatives do not take interest in area's problems before and after becoming the representatives of MCs.
- Most of the actual work of municipalities was not carried by women councilors rather it is done by their husbands and the male family members.

#### **SUGGESTION OF THE STUDY**

- Women councilors are focused on the awareness about their powers, functions, role and responsibilities.
- They also aware about the ongoing various urban development programmes. They also clear about the objectives, goals and concepts of the urban development programmes.
- Proactive and efficient women councilors lead to more satisfaction among citizens, but very few women councilors were found efficient. The majority of the women representatives do not actively participate in the functioning of urban local bodies.
- The elected women councilors do not depend upon their male family members of the family. They will take the help of their male members to understand the procedures of the municipalities
- They understand their potential and take the decisions and initiatives related to the urban development

## CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

Urban governance provides reservation of seats for women to take effective participation in the politics and also improve the political empowerment of women. But women are not taking advantage of giving opportunities and do not use their rights properly. They do not take initiatives relating to the development of their wards or relating to the working of municipalities. Therefore, there is a need to take more steps for improving the effective participation of women representatives in urban local bodies and one of the measures is a system of effective training and continues monitoring. The government should also make review committees to evaluate the performance of women representatives from time to time. The review committee should guide and make recommendations to improve the work performance of the women representatives. All the representatives who are not performing their functions, should get warnings and some strict action should be taken against them. However, as a long-term measure, besides training and publicity the citizens too need education to be more active in the civic affairs so that better leaders are generated and the civic bodies could lift their standards.

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