

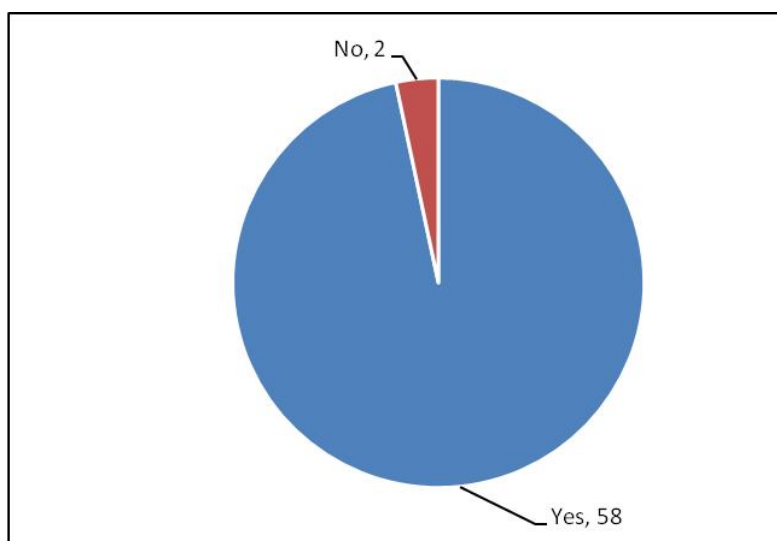
## Chapter IV

### RESULTS

#### Q.1 Are you Aware of the existing System of Panchayati Raj?

**Table 4.1 Showing Responses of Elected women regarding their awareness about Panchayat Raj System.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	58	02
Percentage	96.66	3.34



**Fig. 4.1 Showing Responses of Elected women regarding their awareness about Panchayat Raj System.**

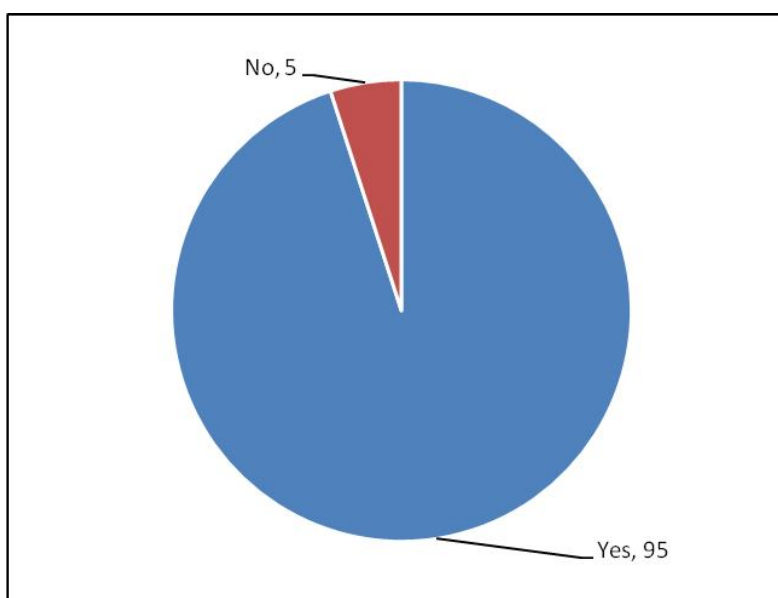
The above question No 1 and table No 4.1 shows the responses of elected women regarding their awareness about Panchayati Raj System. In this regard 96.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 3.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they may be well educated, having political background, belong to urban areas, and attended awareness camps on political issues. The inverse responses could be because that they may be

forced to held political position, given chance because of reservation, and political status may become a source of making money.

**Q.2 Are you satisfied with the 50% reservation for women in PRI in Himachal Pradesh?**

**Table 4.2 Showing responses of elected women with satisfaction with the 50 % reservation for women in PRI in Himachal Pradesh.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
Elected women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	<b>57</b>	<b>03</b>
Percentage	<b>95</b>	<b>5</b>



**Fig. 4.2 Showing responses of elected women with satisfaction with the 50% reservation for women in PRI in Himachal Pradesh.**

The above question No 2 and Table No 4.2 shows the responses of elected women regarding their satisfaction with the 50 % reservation for women in PRI in Himachal Pradesh. In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women elected women responded negatively. The Positive responses may be due to the fact that there may be no discrimination of women in the

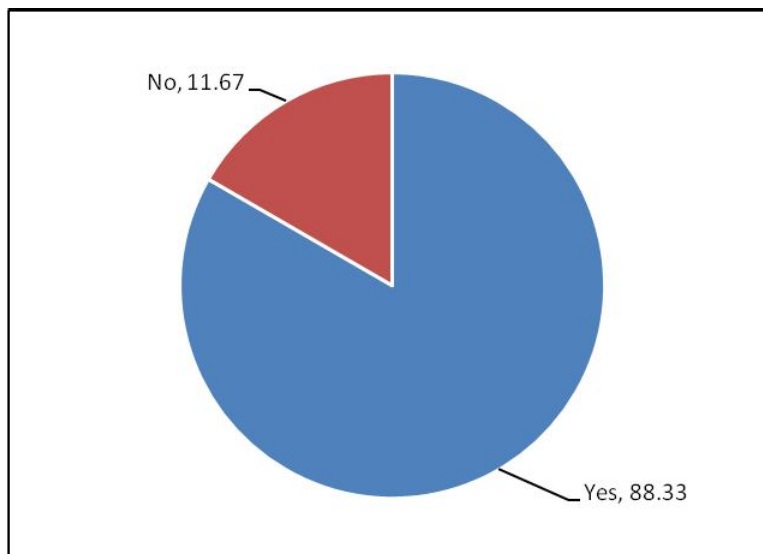
society, they belong to advance society, well efficient to survive with 50 % reservation.

The negative responses could be due to because that women are not treated equally as important component of the society, there are many social barriers which shows their discrimination in the society.

**Q.3 Are you satisfied with the electoral system under existing Panchayati Raj Act?**

**Table 4.3 Showing responses of Elected Women satisfaction with the electoral system under existing Panchayati Raj System.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	53	7
Percentage	88.33	11.67



**Fig. 4.3 Showing responses of Elected Women satisfaction with the electoral system under existing Panchayati Raj System.**

The above Question No.3 and Table No 4.5 shows the responses of elected women regarding their satisfaction with the electoral system under existing Panchayati Raj Act. In this regard 88.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 11.67

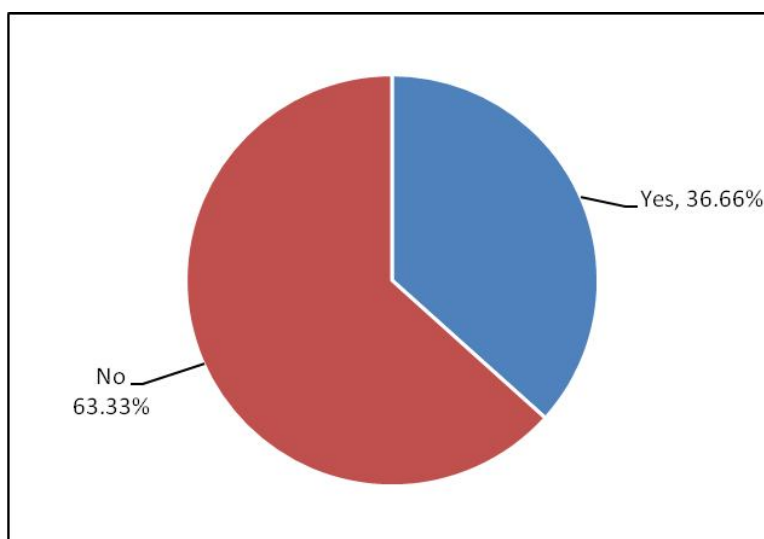
percent women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to that they are not facing problems to casting their votes, facilities provides by government, institutional arrangement are often hostile to grass roots women's participation.

And the negative responses could be due to because sometime name will not found in voter list, some time senior citizens faces problem to reach at the polling booth.

**Q.4 Do you think that male members dominate the women members in decision making?**

**Table 4.4 Showing responses of elected women regarding that the male members dominate the women members in decision making.**

Participants	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	22	38
Percentage	36.66	63.33



**Fig. 4.4 Showing responses of elected women regarding that *the male members dominate the women members in decision making.***

The above question No.4 and Table No 4.4 shows the responses of elected women regarding domination of male members in decision making.

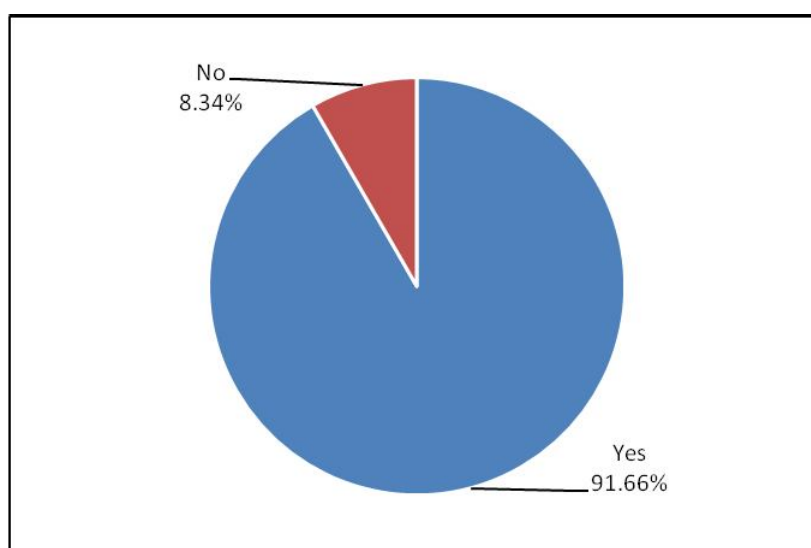
In this regard 36.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 63.33 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be they think women secondary, due to superiority complex, they are always right, whatever decision women are taking always based on emotional not mentally.

And the negative responses could be due to because that may be male are not dominating women's in decision making, they are getting equal opportunities like men, well educated.

**Q.5 Do you think that the reservation is helping women to improve their participation in Panchayati Raj?**

**Table 4.5 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the reservation is helping women to improve their participation in the Panchayati Raj.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	55	5
Percentage	91.66	8.34



**Fig 4.5 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the reservation is helping women to improve their participation in the Panchayati Raj.**

The above Question No.5 and Table No 4.5 shows the responses of elected women regarding the thinking that the reservation is helping women to improve their involvement in the Panchayati Raj.

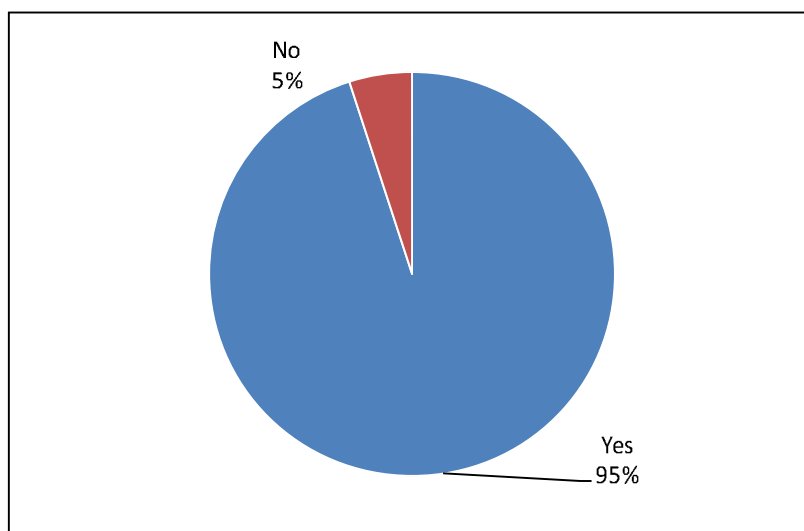
In this regard 91.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 8.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to 50% reservation of seats, awakening in female sex, caste and political part.

And negative responses could be due to participation of women was literate, percentage of illiterate women were negligible, less awareness, lack of political background.

**Q.6. Do you think that the participation of women in the PRIs is satisfactory?**

**Table 4.6 Showing Responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the participation of women in the PRIs is satisfactory.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Fig. 4.6 Showing Responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the participation of women in the PRIs is satisfactory.**

The above Question No.6 and Table No.4.6 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking women participation in the PRIs is satisfactory.

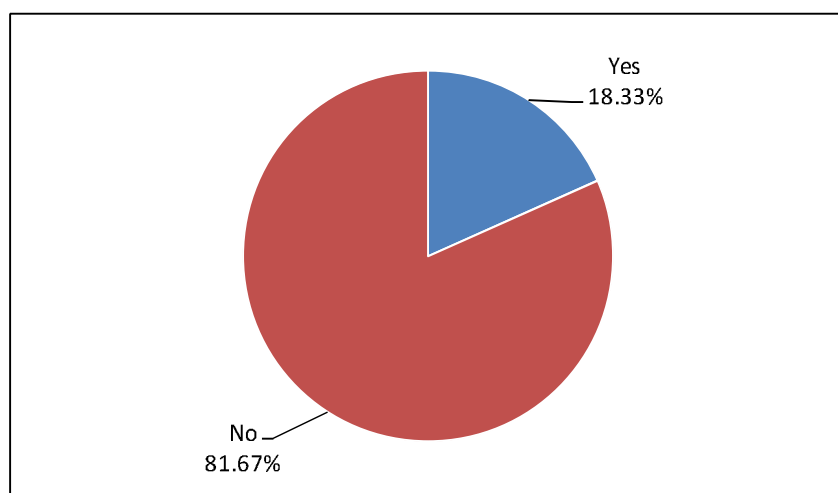
In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be due to women elected via reserved seats, they are getting equal chance like man, come from educated family, who were very much encouraged when compared to the ancient times and women members having powers to make decision hail invariably from cities and village sides.

And the negative responses may be due to the fact may be they have been victimized under different cultural set up governed by various political institution, the social and cultural set up which was patriarchal in nature, doesn't favour women's involvement in political domain.

**Q.7 Do you think that women are forced to cast their votes according to the male family members?**

**Table 4.7 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are forced to cast their votes according to the male family members.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	11	49
Percentage	18.33	81.67



**Fig.4.7 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are forced to cast their votes according to the male family members.**

The above Question No 7 and table No 4.7 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are forced to cast their votes according to the male family members.

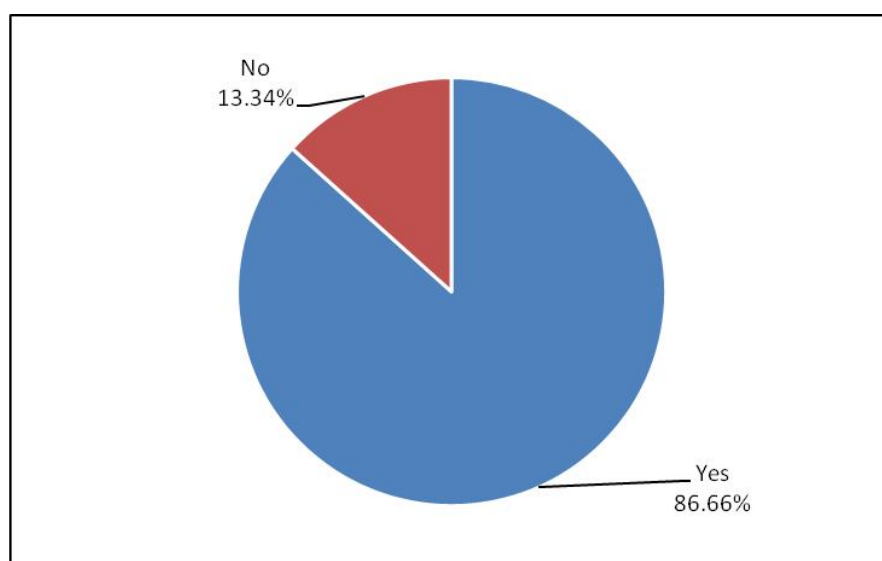
In this regard 18.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 81.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that thinks that their husbands are always right, no awareness related to the nominated person, possible only in patriarchal system, less role in decision making,

And the inverse answers could be because that may be they have get equal right, no social restrictions and bondation, free flow of communication.

**Q.8 Do you think that there should be an an eligibility criteria for PRIs candidates?**

**Table 4.8 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that there should be an eligibility criteria for PRIs candidates.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	52	8
Percentage	86.66	13.34



**Fig 4.8 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that there should be an eligibility criteria for PRIs candidates.**



The above table No 4.8 and fig. No 4.8 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that there should be an eligibility criteria for PRIs candidates

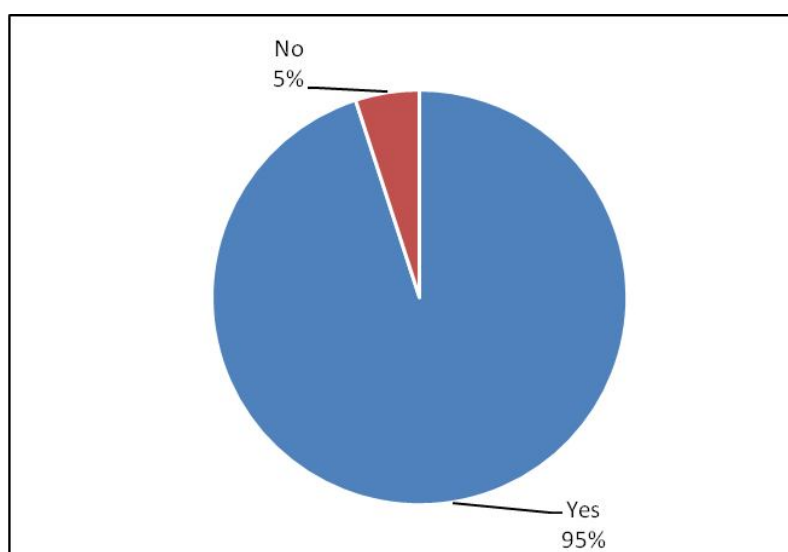
In this regard 86.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 13.34 percent of elected women responded negatively.

The positive responses may be due to the fact that appropriate person will be elected, well educated person can executive government policy in proper way, and good representative and the inverse responses could be because that they may have far sightedness, elected on the basis's of experiences, awareness of particular society, and due to personal relationship.

**Q.9. Do you think that women are getting equality and freedom in PRIs?**

**Table 4.9 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting equality and freedom in PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Table 4.9 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting equality and freedom in PRIs.**

The above question No.9 and table No.4.9 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting equality and freedom in PRIs.

In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that the provision of 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment, not belonging to stereotype society,

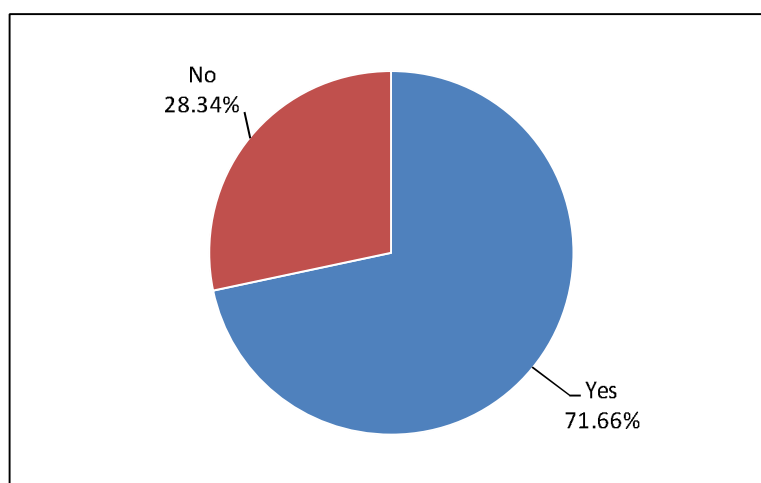
Not victimized by culture, free to communicate with world and legally or constitutionally everybody is entitled for all rights, not biasing on any factors like colour, racial factor, sex, language, religion, political or any opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

And negative responses could be due to because social set up in Himachal Pradesh also affects the women political participation PRIs, doesn't favour women's involvement in political domain, women are not encouraged by people for political participation, depriving women and making them powerless in most arenas of life.

**Q.10 Do you think that women know about 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment of Panchayati Raj Act?**

**Table 4.10 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are aware of the 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment of Panchayati Raj Act.**

Participants	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	43	17
Percentage	71.66	28.34



**Fig 4.10 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women know about 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment of Panchayati Raj Act.**

The above Question No. 10 and table No 4.10 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women know regarding 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment of Panchayati Raj Act.

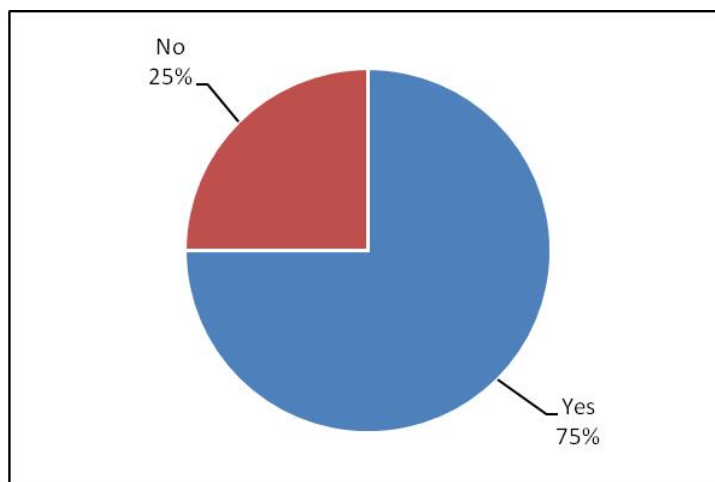
In this regard 71.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 28.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that In today scenario women are well educated and aware related to the 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment, well informed by the family and relatives, attended different awareness programmes related to the amendment.

And the negative responses could be because they may be elected women are illiterate or limited to the household stuffs only. Never attended any awareness programme related to PRI.

**Q.11 Do you think that women are aware of the various powers and responsibilities of Panchayati Raj?**

**Table 4.11 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are aware of the various powers and responsibilities of Panchayati Raj.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
Elected women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	<b>45</b>	<b>15</b>
Percentage	<b>75</b>	<b>25</b>



**Fig 4.11 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are aware of the various powers and responsibilities of Panchayati Raj.**

The above Question No.11 and Table No 4.11 represent the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are aware of the various powers and responsibilities of Panchayati Raj.

In this regard 75 percent of elected women responded positively and 25 percent of elected women responded negatively.

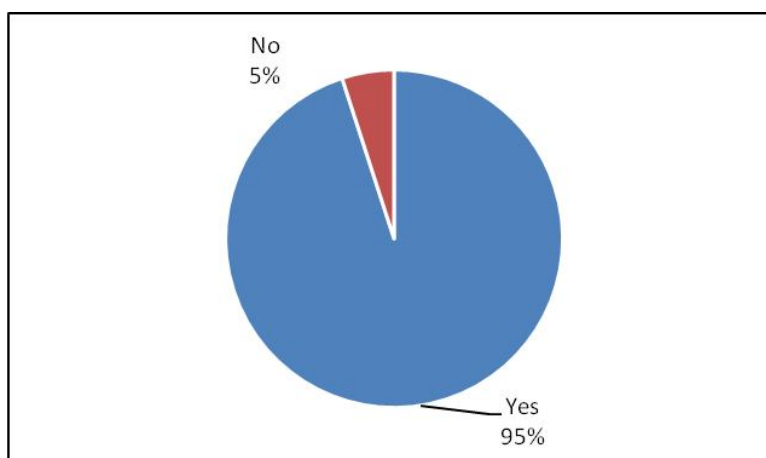
The positive responses may be due to the fact that participation in politics refers to voting right, sharing of power, membership of political parties, campaigning for election, holding party meetings, attending positions of party, election contesting, help in making decisions and help in making policies at all state governance levels.

And the inverse answers could be because of no education or below education standard of rural women which is a road block, no political knowledge among rural areas, inverse opinion of public about leadership capacity of women and intervention of husband in Panchayat functioning, lacking of training specifically for women representative and elected male Panchayat members dominance.

#### **Q.12 Do you think that women are getting empowerment through PRI?**

**Table 4.12 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting empowerment through PRI.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.12 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting empowerment through PRI.**

The above Question No.12 and Table No.12.1 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women are getting empowerment through PRI.

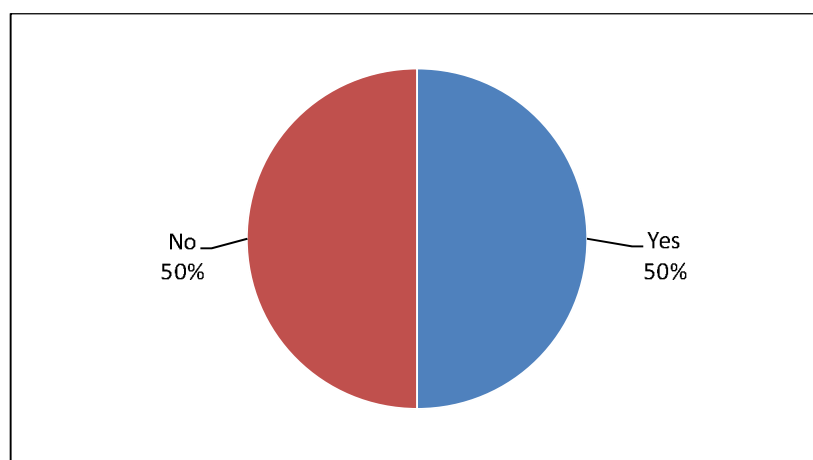
In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to fact that the 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act facilitated women participation and involvement in the PRIs, equal rights, it is an effort to guarantee larger women participation directly or indirectly in the process of election, it would be the nurturing place for raising women representatives for national level politics, women are involving actively in development of villages according to their capability involving labourers to policy makers.

And the negative responses may be due to the fact that intervention of politics in Panchayat functioning, men are proxies for women, spouse interfere in the operation of Panchayat, not having awareness regarding politics in the rural women, negative public opinion relating to leadership capacity of women, no or lesser standard of education in the rural women proves a road block.

**Q.13 Do you think that most of the elected women members are facing problems in disposing of official paper work especially financial matters?**

**Table 4.13 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that most of the elected women members are facing problems in disposing of official paper work especially financial matters.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
Elected women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
Percentage	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>



**Fig 4.13 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that most of the elected women members are facing problems in disposing of official paper work especially financial matters.**

The above Question No 13 and Table No. 4.13 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that most of the elected women members are encountering issues in disposing of official paper work especially financial matters.

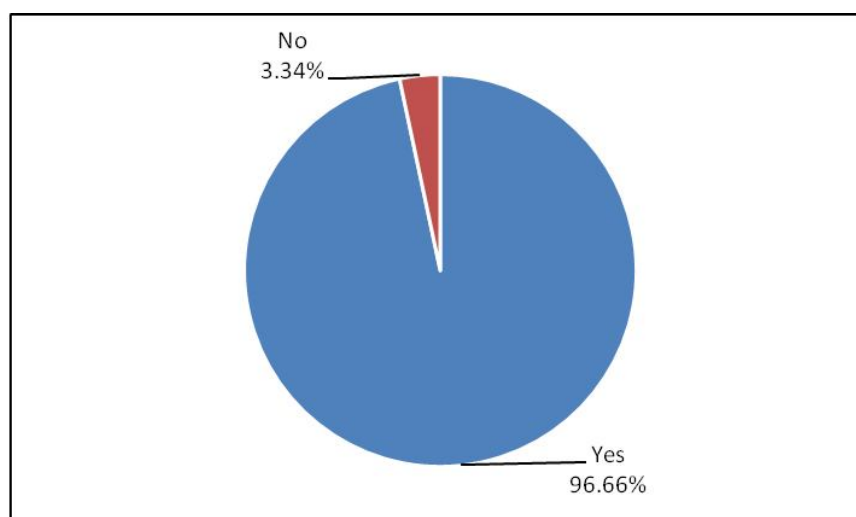
In this regard 50 percent of elected women responded positively and 50 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they have never participate this type of work, never get this type of opportunities, effect of environment, and lack of interest.

And the inverse answers could be because that may be they belonging to political background, sense of responsibility, cooperation from family side, proper communication with administration, self confidence.

**Q.14 Do you think that high literacy rate of women positively affect the empowerment of women in PRI?**

**Table 4.14 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that high literacy rate of women positively affect the empowerment of women in PRI.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	58	2
Percentage	96.66	3.34



**Fig 14.2 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that high literacy rate of women positively affect the empowerment of women in PRI.**

The Above Question No.14 and Table No.4.14 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that high literacy rate of women positively affect empowering women in PRI.

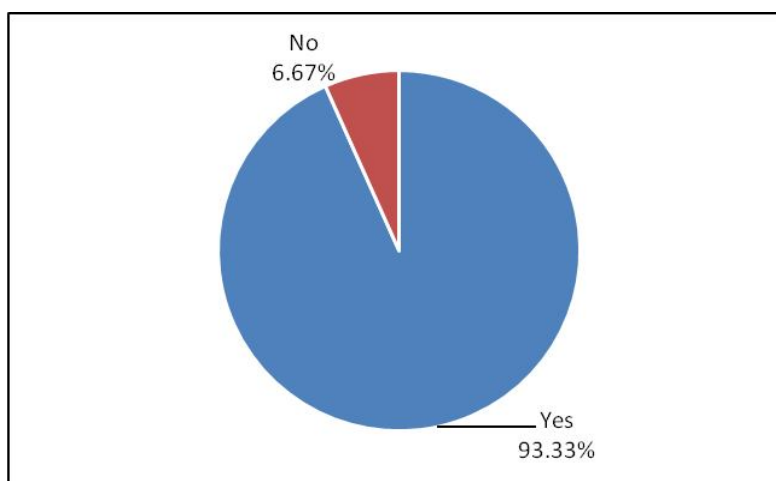
In this context 96.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 3.34 percent of elected women negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they know their right better, knowledge of government policies, proper implementation of policies, how to fight against the social inequalities, fight against injustice for weaker section, awareness regarding policy, right knowledge about awareness camps which was organized by government, and skills to participate and functions happily within and contribute to one's communities.

And the negative response may be due to the fact that women are mostly pressurized by the male domination may be educated or not, having no freedom is a deep rooted tradition at home and in community where decision are strictly controlled and maintained by male members.

**Q.15. Do you think that economic empowerment of women will improve their participation in PRIs?**

**Table 4.15 Showing responses of elected women regarding their awareness about Panchayati Raj System.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	6.67



**Fig 4.15 Showing responses of elected women regarding their awareness about Panchayati Raj System.**

The above Question No.15 and Table No.4.15 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that economic empowerment of women will Improve their participation in PRIs.

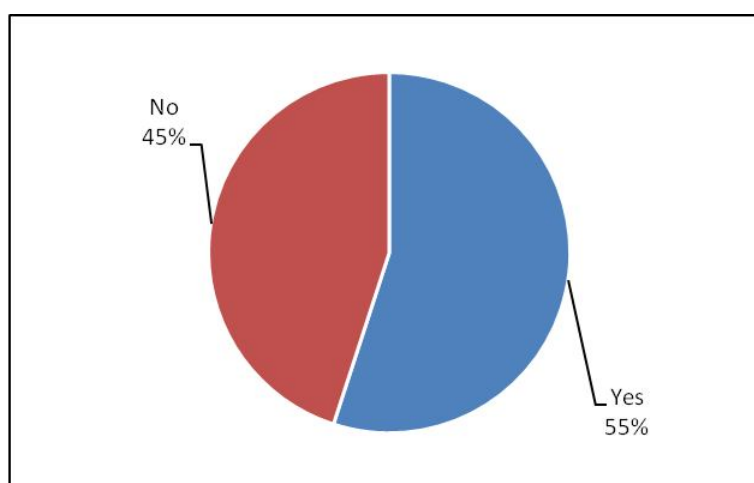
In this regard 93.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.66 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that They can make decisions indirectly or indirectly, empowering economically is the method to raise the less privileged sections from the vulnerabilities, economic independence and less dependence on male.

And the negative responses may be due to the fact that this women are generally not taking part in economic activities and remain dependent on male, they are not allowed to take part in social and economic activities and women could not occupy an equal role in decision making processes across the world.

**Q.16. Do you think that family's traditional beliefs restrict women's participation in PRIs?**

**Table 4.16 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that family's traditional beliefs restrict women's participation in PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	33	27
Percentage	55	45



**Fig 4.16 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that family's traditional beliefs restrict women's participation in PRIs.**

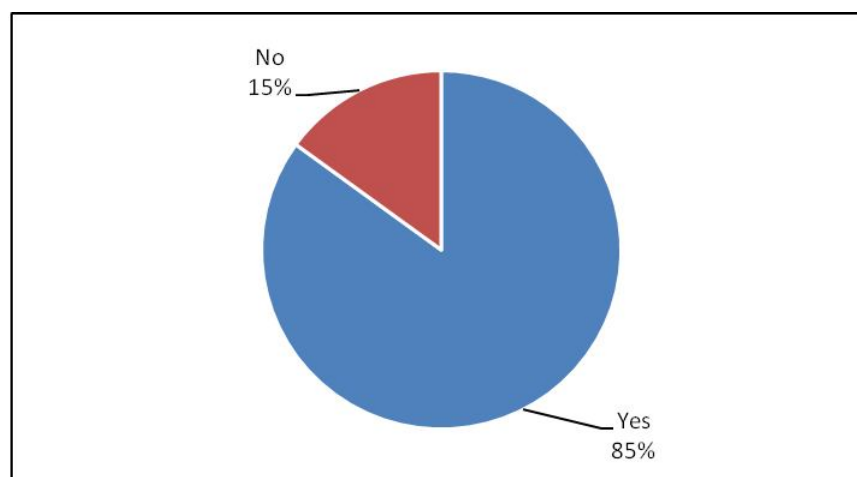


The above Question No 16 and Table No 4.16 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that family's traditional beliefs restrict women's participation in PRIs. In this regard 55 percent of elected women responded positively and 45 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that *cultural, social and religious factors have been given a constricted path to women, they are not allowed to participate in social and economic activities, they have been compelled to undertake household responsibilities, which keep them busy throughout their life cycle, women are not free to take decision even about their education, going outside of house, marriage, number of children and about economic matter and eventually lose their interest as their male family members do not give them freedom to express themselves. And the negative responses may be due to the fact that more attention should be given to the female education, female who are educated and trained can,t be misused, when they have political back round their male family member support them, various legal, social and economic measures were taken by the government of India to raise the status of women in India after Independence and women also began to participate in national and state politics.*

**Q.17. Did you attend the Gram Sabha meetings in your Panchayat regularly?**

**Table 4.17 Showing responses of elected women regarding to attending the Gram Sabha meetings in your Panchayat regularly.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	51	9
Percentage	85	15



**Fig 4.17 Showing responses of elected women regarding to attending the Gram Sabha meetings in your Panchayat regularly.**

The above question No. 17 and Table No 4.17 shows the responses of elected women regarding to attending the Gram Sabha meeting in your Panchayats regularly.

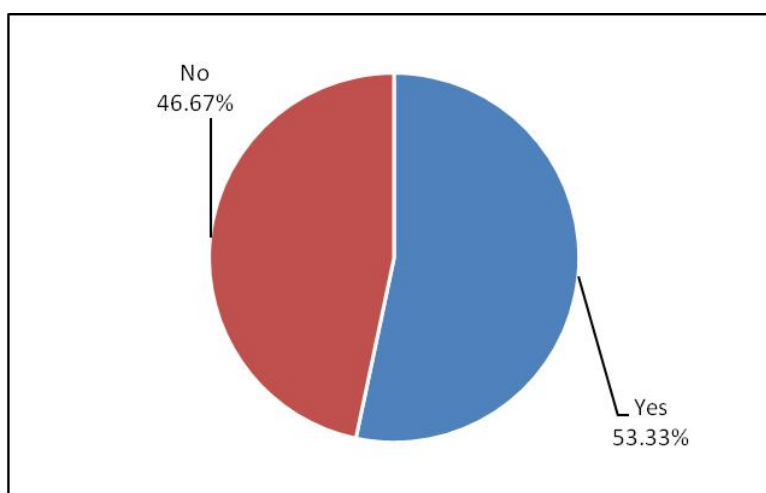
In this regard 85 percent of elected women responded positively and 15 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they play a pro active role for initiating proper action on the Gram Sabha resolution, family are supportive, like to contact with outside world, awareness regarding government policies, participation in various social activities, knowledge related to their rights and duties.

And the inverse responses are because of inequalities of socio economic categorized on class, sex, caste and gender, sometimes women representing is only a 'mask representation' and in practicality, these women representative willnot have any power. Freedom ranging from psychological to physical and representation in politics still remains questionable and may be due to mindset and culture of political elite.

**Q.18. Was your ward reserved before election?**

**Table 4.18 Showing responses of elected women regarding their ward reserved before election?**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	32	28
Percentage	53.33	46.67



**Fig 4.18 Showing responses of elected women regarding their ward reserved before election?**

The above Question No.18 and Table No.4.18 depicts responded of elected women regarding their ward reserved before election.

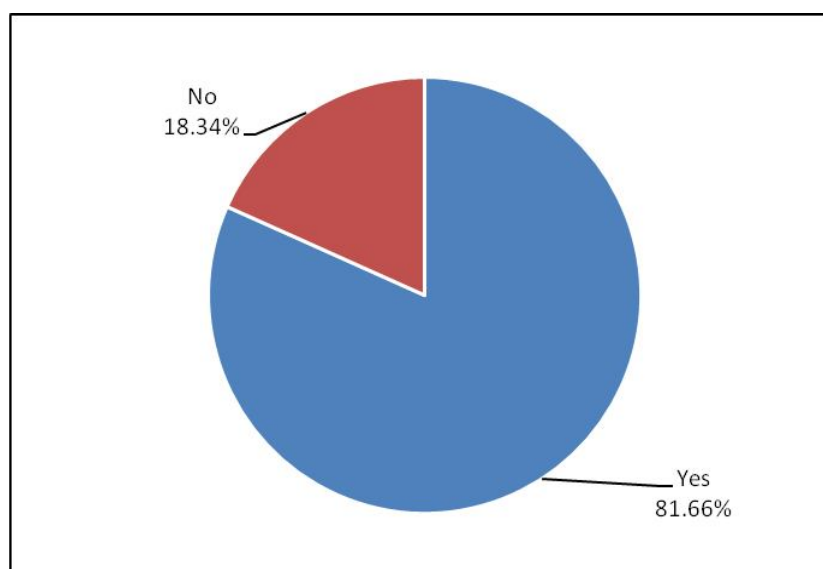
In this regard 53.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 46.67percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be because of reservation they got their seats in Panchayati Raj Institution.

And the inverse answers could be because that may be seats were not reserved in their ward and they were elected from general election.

**Q.19 Have you ever attended any training programme related to Panchayati Raj?**

**Table 4.19 Showing responses of elected women regarding their attending any training programme related to Panchayati Raj?**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	49	11
Percentage	81.66	18.34



**Fig 4.19 Showing responses of elected women regarding their attending any training programme related to Panchayati Raj?**

The above Question No.19 and Table No. 4.19 shows the responses of elected women regarding their attending any training programme related to Panchayati Raj.

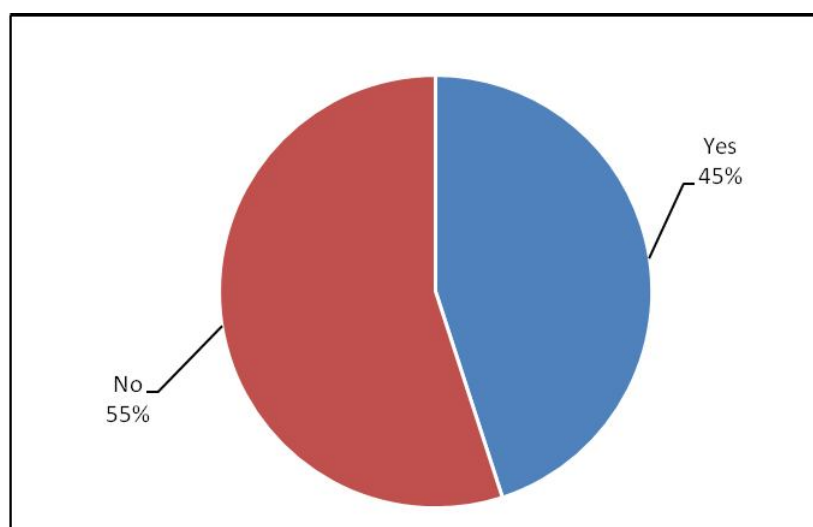
In this regard 81.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 18.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that The positive responses may be due to the fact that they want to aware related to different government programmers and policies, direct contact with people, interested, curiosity to know about the Panchayati Raj Institution, seeking life long career in this field.

And the inverse responses could be because that lack of political awareness, never get opportunities, never organized and may be busy schedule, family never gives permission to contact with outside world.

**Q.20 Did you attend Gram Sabha meeting of other Wards/Panchayat/Areas?**

**Table 4.20 Showing responses of elected women regarding their attending any Gram Sabha meeting of other Wards/Panchayats/Areas.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	27	33
Percentage	45	55



**Fig 4.20 Showing responses of elected women regarding their attending any Gram Sabha meeting of other Wards/Panchayats/Areas.**

The above Question No.20 and Table No 20.1 shows the responses of elected women regarding attending their Gram Sabha meetings in your Panchayats regularly.

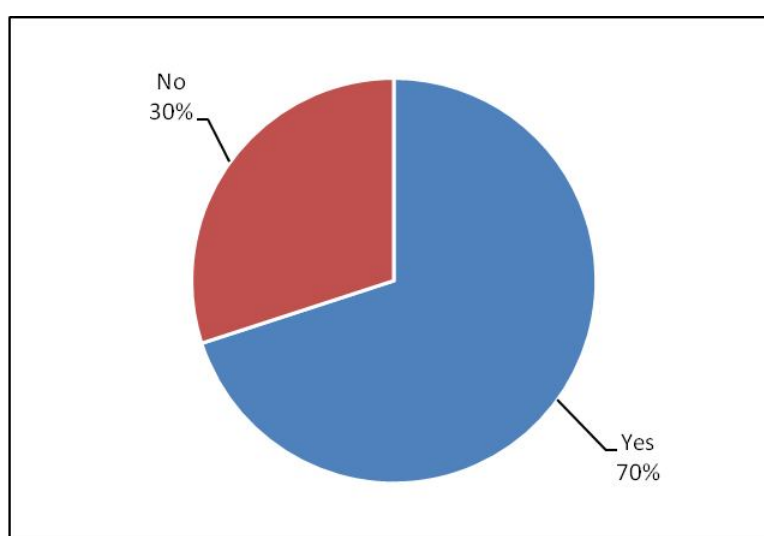
In this regard 45 percent of elected women responded positively and 55 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they are interested to join different types of Gram Sabha meeting, want to aware related to the society, interacting attitude, meetings with intellectual peoples. Knowing the problems related to grassroots level.

And the inverse answers could be because that they have never get chance, feeling hesitate, restrict to the family only, never organized, do not allow to talk with male members.

#### **Q.21 Have you ever been conducted a model Gram Sabha in your Ward?**

**Table 4.21 Showing responses of Elected Women regarding their conducting a Model Gram Sabha in your Ward.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
Elected women	Yes	No
	42	18
Percentage	70	30



**Fig 4.21 Showing responses of Elected Women regarding conducting any Model Gram Sabha in your Ward.**

The above Question No.21 and Table No 4.21 shows the responses of elected women regarding conducting a model Gram Sabha in your ward.

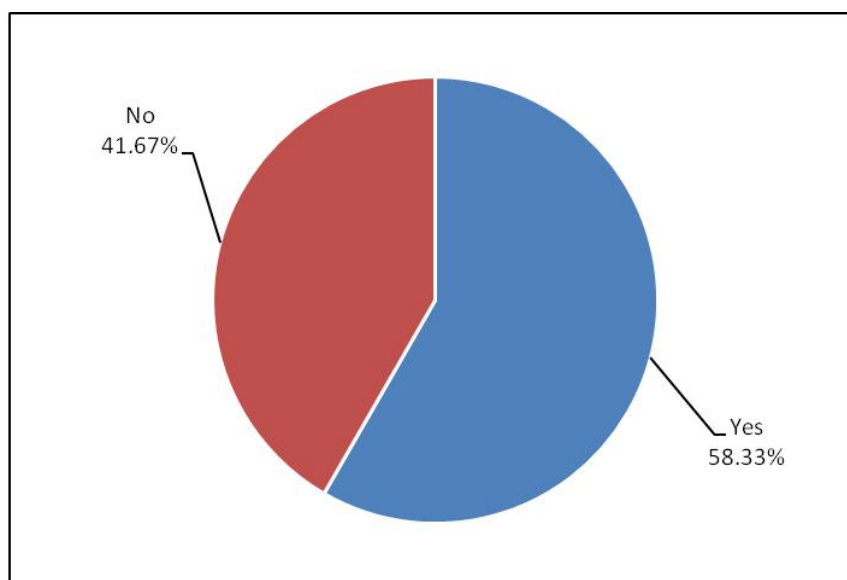
In this regard 70 percent of elected women responded positively and 30 percent of elected women negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that aware about different Panchayati Raj Institution functioning , work effectively in coordination with all other village based institution like village watershed committee, education committee, health committee, Samyukt Mahila Samiti, they used to guide people, encourage them to follow right path and may be relationships are developed by local bodies with people and discuss their problem.

The negative responses could be because they were not interested, never want to interact with the outside world, in politics, social acceptance for women is missing. Uneducated women got pressurized.

#### **Q.22 Did you play any role in solving the village conflict in the Gram Sabha?**

**Table 4.22 Showing responses of elected women regarding playing any role in solving village conflict in Gram Sabha.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	35	25
Percentage	58.33	41.67



**Fig 4.22 Showing responses of Elected women regarding their conducting a Model Gram Sabha in your Ward.**

The above Question No.22 and Table No 4.22 shows the responses of elected women regarding solving the village conflict in the Gram Sabha.

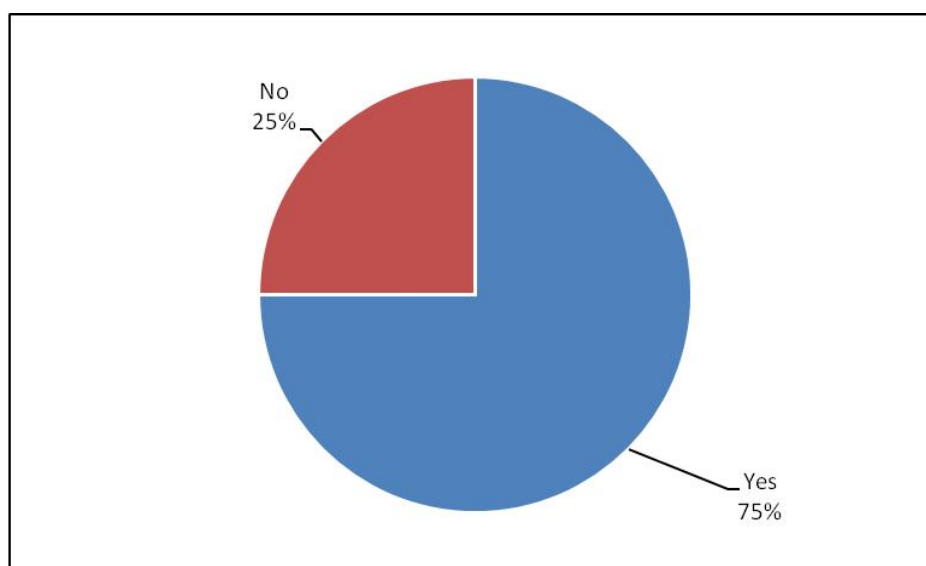
In this regard 58.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 41.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact Raise social issues, water problem, BPL benefits, tracing misuse of money, the undue favour done to a group of people.

And the negative responses could be because of the intervention of husband in Panchayats functioning, women lacking political awareness and male members dominance of Panchayats.

**Q.23 Do you raise your voice on various issues in the meeting of PRIs?**

**Table 4.23 Showing responses of elected women regarding raising their voice on various issues in the meeting of PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	45	15
Percentage	75	25



**Fig 4,23 Showing responses of elected women regarding raising their voice on various issues in the meeting of PRIs.**

The above Question No.23 and Table No23.1 shows the responses of elected women regarding raising their voice on various issues in the meeting of PRIs.

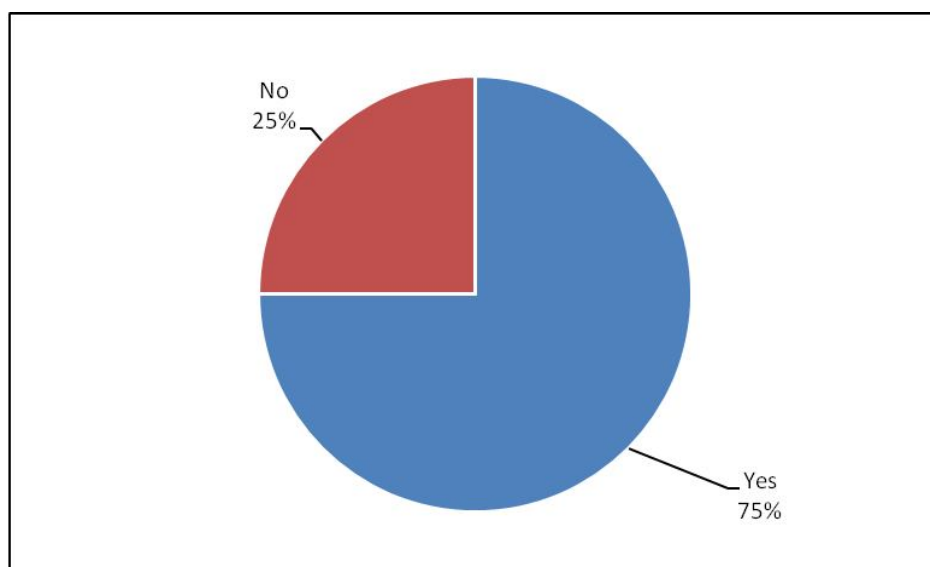
In this regard 75 percent of elected women responded positively and 25 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they were well aware regarding particular issue sense of responsibility concerned about fact.

An the negative response may be because they lack awareness and do not have any concern about political issues, lack of education an awareness.

**Q.24 Are you in a position to carry out your view point in meetings of PRIs?**

**Table 4.24 Showing responses of elected women regarding their position to carry out of your view point in meeting of PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	45	15
Percentage	75	25



**Fig. 4.24 Showing responses of elected women regarding their position to carry out of your view point in meeting of PRIs.**



The above Question No. 24 and table No 4.24 shows the responses of elected women regarding their position to carry out your view point in meetings of PRIs.

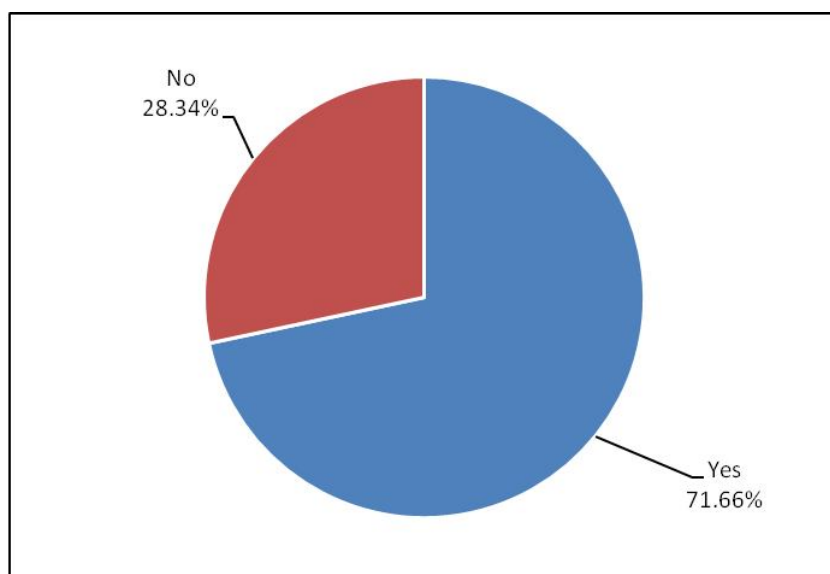
In this regard 75 percent of elected women responded positively and 25 percent women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that highly intellectual, knowledge related to the real situation of their Panchayats, belonging to the political background,

And the negative answers could be because of low education or lesser standard making women act as proxies for men, inverse opinion of public about capacity of leadership of women.

**Q.25 Are your husband and family members supportive while dealing in Panchayat work?**

**Table 4.25 Showing responses of elected women regarding their husband and family members supportive while dealing in Panchayat work.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	43	17
Percentage	71.66	28.34



**Fig. 4.25 Showing responses of elected women regarding their husband and family members supportive while dealing in Panchayat work.**

The above Question No. 25 and Table No. 4.25 shows the responses of elected women regarding their husband and family members supportive while dealing in Panchayat work.

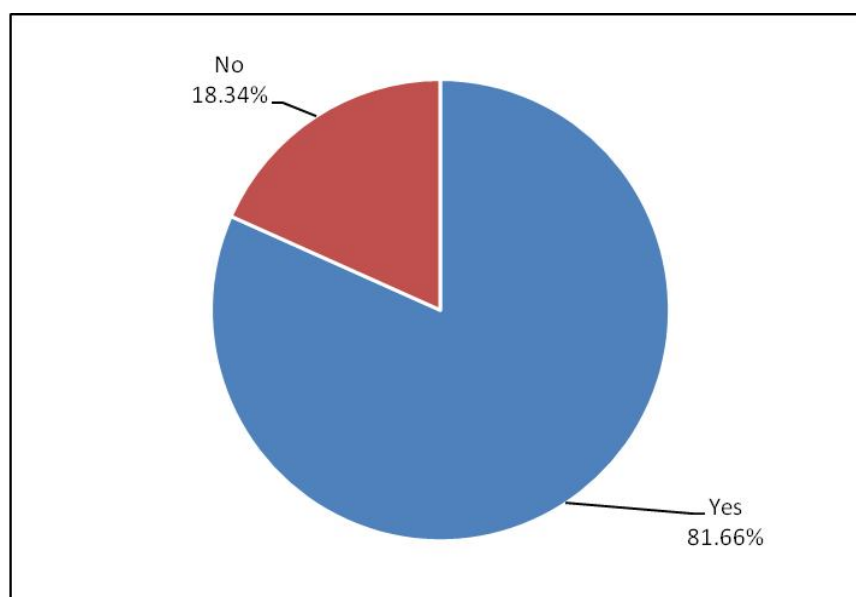
In this regard 71.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 28.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they belong to well educated family, hail from families of high political influence and background and have got liberty to contact with outer world and may be they belong to the elite.

And the negative responses may be because high caste women are the honour of the households, they always think women secondary, women are not encouraged by men to enter in politics and women are mostly pressurized by the male domination.

**Q.26 Do you get sufficient time in discharging your duties as a member of PRI?**

**Table 4.26 Showing responses of elected women regarding getting sufficient time in discharging their duties as a member of PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	49	11
Percentage	81.66	18.34



**Fig 4.26 Showing responses of elected women regarding getting sufficient time in discharging their duties as a member of PRIs.**

The above Question No. 26 and table No.4.26 shows the responses of elected women getting sufficient time in discharging their duties as a member of PRIs.

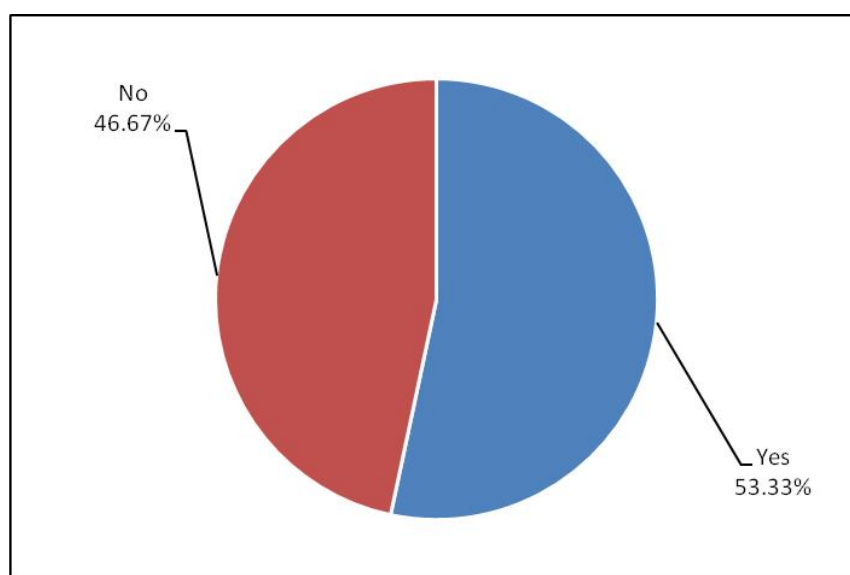
In this regard 81.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 18.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be because they don't live in nuclear family, they are not married, less number of children, good manager, may not be member of N.G.O.

And the inverse answers could be because of family's extra responsibility, financially not in a good situation, restricted environment of the family.

**Q.27 Did you face any problem in contesting the election?**

**Table 4.27 Showing responses of elected women regarding facing any problem in contesting the election.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	32	46.67
Percentage	53.33	46.67



**Fig 4.27 Showing responses of elected women regarding facing any problem in contesting the election.**

The above Question No.27 and Table No.4.27 shows the responses of elected women regarding facing any problem in contesting the election.

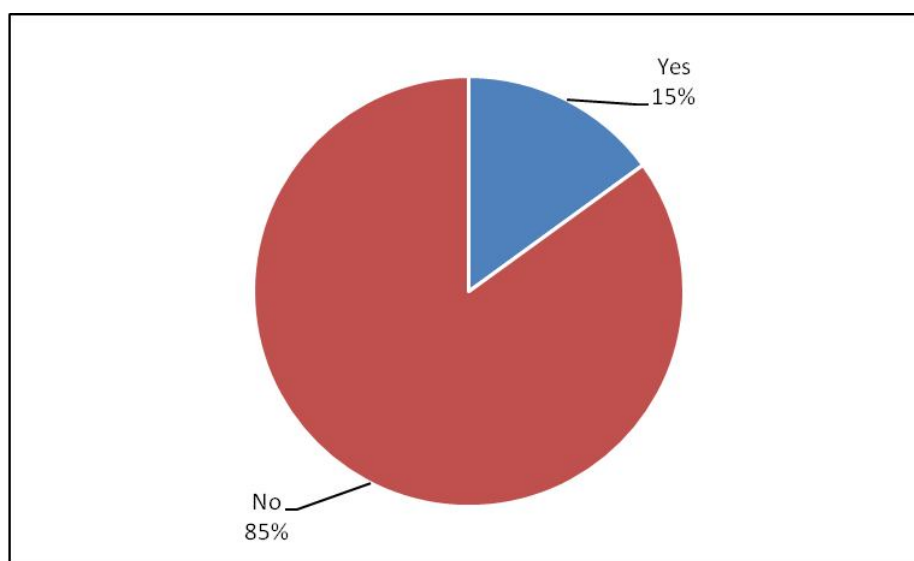
In this regard 53.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 46.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that family agitation, no knowledge about electoral system, not getting opportunities, no interest, fear.

And the inverse answers could be because of that supportive family and society, boost up by 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment, political background, belonging to urban ares, good financial condition.

#### **Q.28 Earlier did you get elected to PRIs?**

**Table 4.28 Showing responses of elected women earlier they get elected to PRI.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	9	51
Percentage	15	85



**Fig 4.28 Showing responses of elected women earlier they get elected to PRI.**

The above Question No.28 and Table No.4.28 shows the responses of elected women regarding earlier they get elected to PRI.

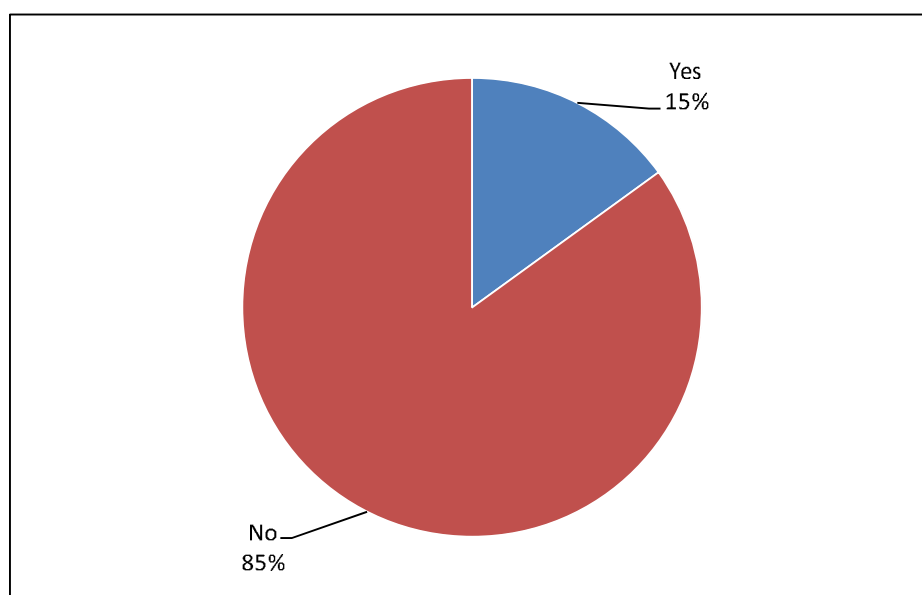
In this regard 15 percent of elected women responded positively and 85 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that reserved seat, preference got due to her husband as they hail from a family with a political background.

And the inverse response could be because of suppression and deprivation of women at grassroots level and the women appear almost not concerned regarding their rights and part in political issues.

**Q.29 Is any member of your family is active in politics?**

**Table 4.29 Showing responses of elected women regarding their any member of their family is active in politics.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	9	51
Percentage	15	85



**Fig 4.29 Showing responses of elected women regarding their any member of their family is active in politics.**

The above question No. 29 and Table No 4.29 shows the responses of elected women regarding any family member of their family is active in politics.

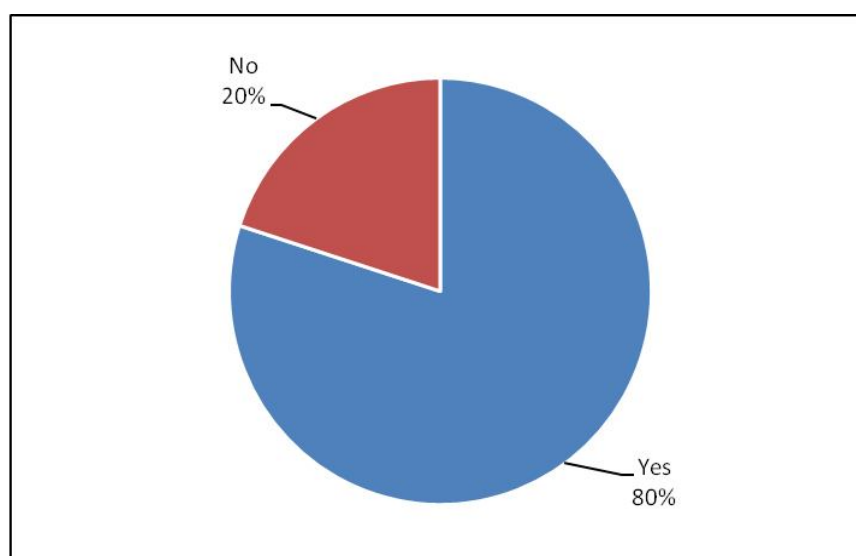
In this regard 15 percent of elected women responded positively and 85 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that their participation in politics is to enhance their power, heredity, seeking carrier in politics.

And the inverse answers could be because that their political participation is confronted due to socials, cultural, economic dependency.

**Q.30 Do you think that rural development schemes can be implemented effectively by the participation of women in PRIs?**

**Table 4.30 Showing responses of elected women regarding thinking that rural development schemes can be implemented effectively by the participation of women in PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	48	12
Percentage	80	20



**Fig 4.30 Showing responses of elected women regarding thinking that rural development schemes can be implemented effectively by the participation of women in PRIs.**

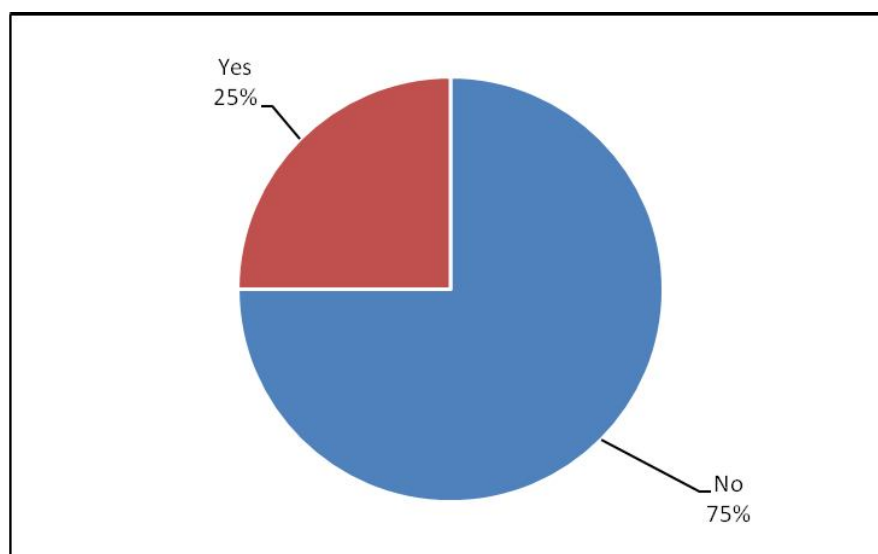
The above Question No 30 and Table No 4.30 shows the responses of elected women regarding thinking that rural development scheme can be implemented effectively by the participation of women in PRIs. In this regard 80 percent of elected women responded positively and 20 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that due to well education, awareness regarding schemes and policies of government, ground level knowledge.

And the inverse response could be because that they were restricted to the family only, over burdened, number of children.

**Q.31 Do you want to opt political as a career?**

**Table 4.31 Showing responses of elected women regard whether they want to opt politics as career.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	15	45
Percentage	25	75



**Fig 4.31 Showing responses of elected women regard whether they want to opt politics as career.**

Table above Question No. 31 and Table 4.31 shows the responses of elected women regard whether they want to opt politics as career.

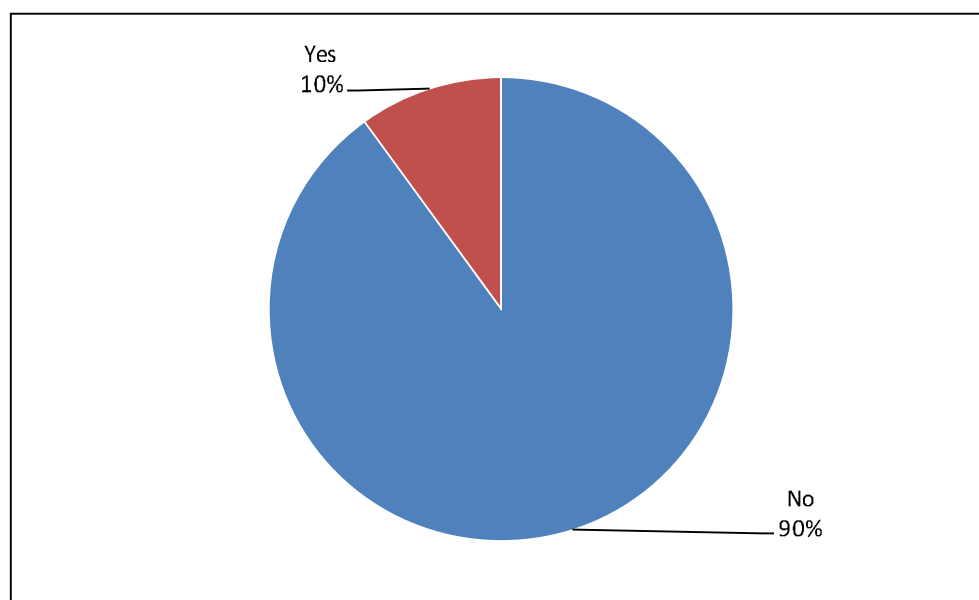
In this regard 25 percent of elected women responded positively and 75 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they have well understanding of the system, service of mankind, for social change, passion for politics, political background.

And the wrong answers could be due that politics is a dirty game, family restriction, hesitation, family responsibility, lack of knowledge, politics is still a man's game.

**Q.32 Did you take part in any political activity before becoming the members of PRIs?**

**Table 4.32 Showing responses of elected women regarding their taking part in any political activity before becoming the members of PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	6	54
Percentage	10	90



**Fig 32.2 Showing responses of elected women regarding their taking part in any political activity before becoming the members of PRIs.**



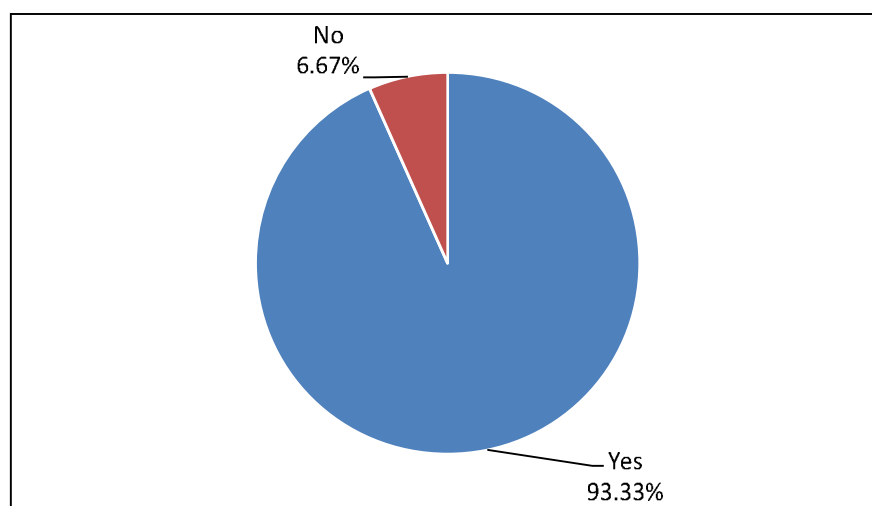
The above Question No 32 and table no 4.32 shows the responses of elected women their taking part any political activity before becoming the member of PRI. In this regard 10 percent of elected women responded positively and 90 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that their political participation on behalf of their male family member to increase their power, seat were reserved, flexibility in system.

And the inverse answers could be because that rarely, the political parties and male representatives are not supportive and would not the women representatives to stay back in politics and therefore would not want them to be empowered them because of fear, hesitation.

**Q.33 Do you think that participation and representation of women in PRI has empowered them socially, economically and politically?**

**Table 4.33 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that participation and representation of women in PRI has empowered them socially, economically and politically.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	6.67



**Fig 4.33 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that participation and representation of women in PRI has empowered them socially, economically and politically.**

The above Question No 33 and table no 4.33 shows the responses the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that participation and representation of women in PRI has empowered them socially, economically and politically.

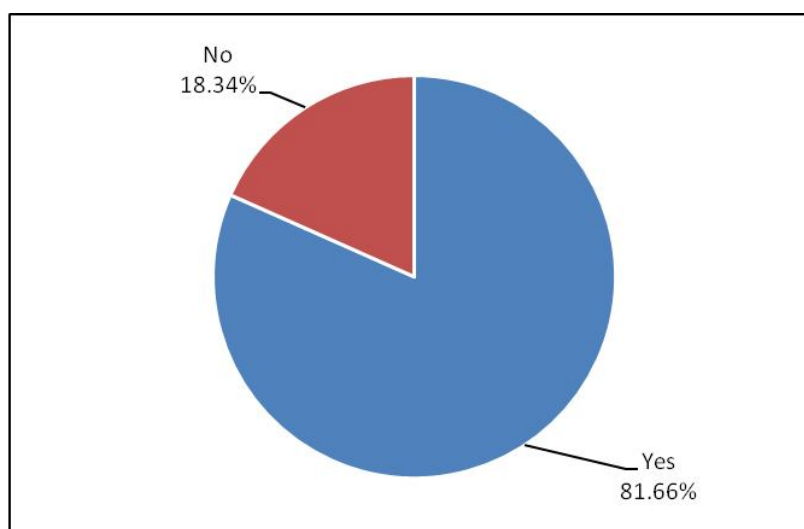
In this regard 93.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be because women's role in policy and decision making, interaction with outside world, Economically and socially in better position, their participation in political areas will reinforce the protection of their rights,

The negative responses may be because that exploitation, discriminating attitudes, puppet representation, limited to the household stuffs only and socio economic inequalities on the basis of class, gender and caste,

**Q.34. Do you think that empowerment of women has really taken place in your society after the implementation of 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act?**

**Table 4.34 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that empowerment of women has really taken place in your society after the implementation of 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act?**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	49	11
Percentage	81.66	18.34



**Fig 4.34 Showing responses of elected women regarding their thinking that empowerment of women has really taken place in your society after the implementation of 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act?**

The above Question No 34 and Table No 4.34 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women empowerment has really taken care in your society after the 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional amendment act being implemented.

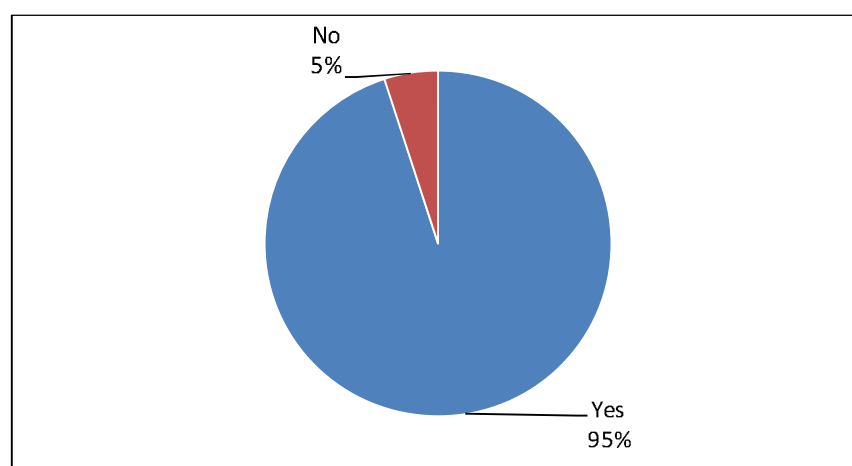
In this regard 81.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 18.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be their participation increased in PRIs by this amendment, less discrimination with women, direct contract with society, playing role in decision making and local representation may be reinforced by synonymous women's participation and ratio.

And the wrong answers could be because that the stereotype society don't give them chance, they stay dominated by males and face several disparities in terms of social, cultural and economic whether they are educated or not, women have little chance of being a part of political activities, improper implementation of Amendment and may be they want more reservation.

**Q.35 Do you think that political empowerment of women is the base for their empowerment in other spheres?**

**Table 4. 35 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that political empowerment of women is the base for their empowerment in other sphere.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.35 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that political empowerment of women is the base for their empowerment in other sphere.**

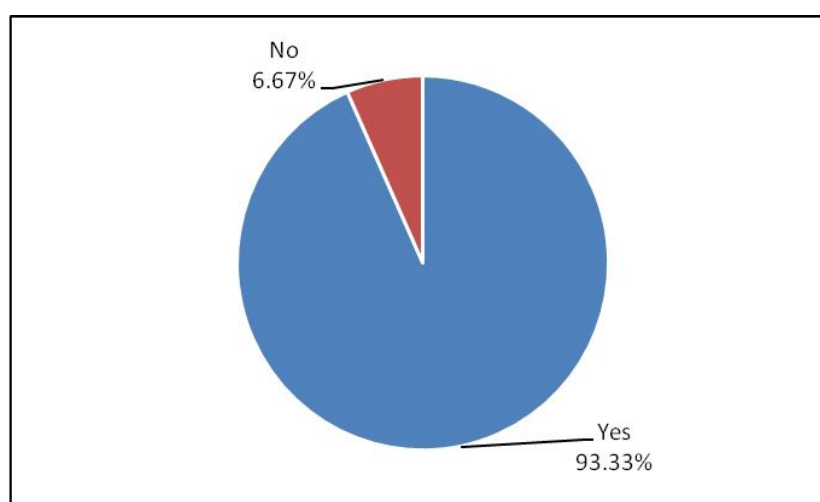
The above Question No 35 and Table No 4.35 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that political women empowerment is the base for their empowerment in other sphere. In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be because awareness regarding government policies, participation in various social activities, knowledge related to their rights and duties, meeting with intellectual peoples, political top notch preferably fill the reserved seats for women by their female family members in the assemblies.

And the negative responses may be due to the fact that may be sometimes, male political leaders are not supportive to them, males don't want them to be empowered and hence they don't let women be in politics, generally female political workers have been ignored and neglected, only money matters not the work.

**Q.36 Do you think that women's entry in PRIs have changed the nature of rural power structure?**

**Table 4.36 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's entry in PRIs have changed the nature of rural power structure.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	7



**Fig 4.36 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's entry in PRIs have changed the nature of rural power structure.**

The above Question No 36 and Table No 4.36 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's entry in PRIs have changed the nature of rural power structure.

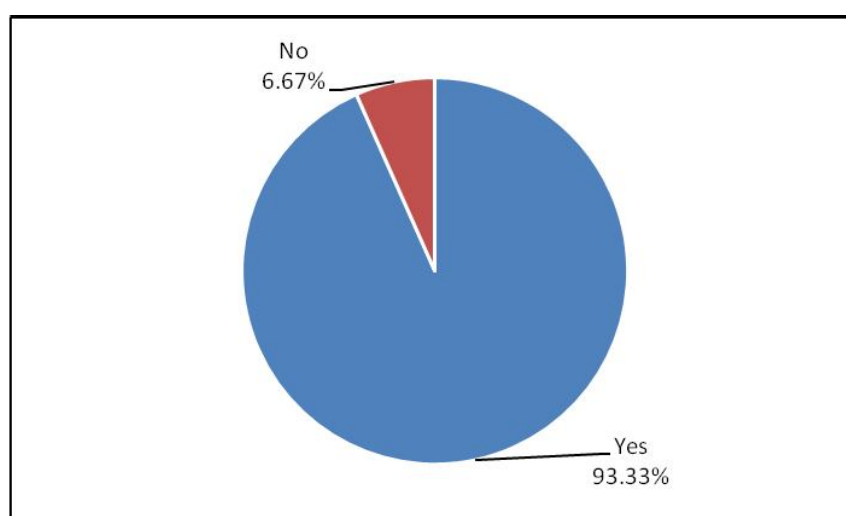
In this regard 93.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be because women remain sincere related to their work, which would be the growing place for raising women politicians for the national forum, they may be organize different types of N.G.O for the welfare of the society, they organize different commit ties for the awareness of women.

And the inverse answers could be because that focus will be limited to the women's only, they are deprived and have no power in most areas of life. In developing countries, the political participation ratio of women is not in consonance with their frequencies.

**Q.37 Do you think that education is the basic requirement for women empowerment in PRIs?**

**Table 37.1 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that literacy is the basic requirement for women empowerment in PRIs**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	7



**Fig 4.37 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that literacy is the basic requirement for women empowerment in PRIs**

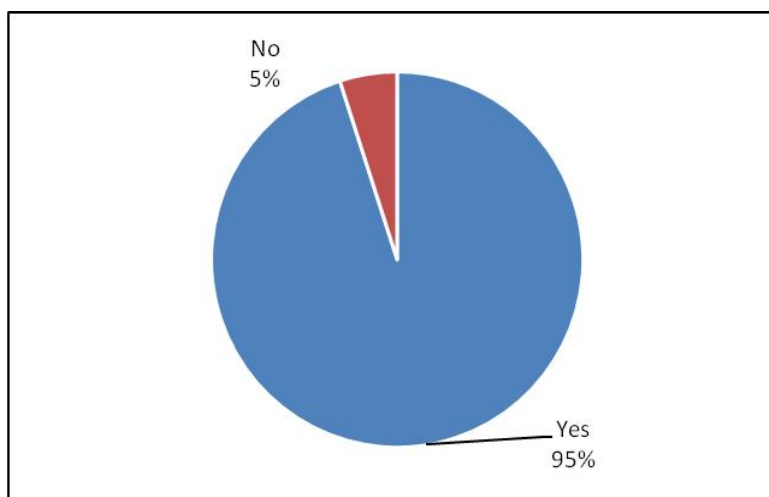
The above question No 37 and Table No 4.37 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that literacy is the basic requirement for women empowerment in PRIs. In this regard 93.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that literacy is the one of the most imperative measure for empowering women, educated women never pressurized by male, educated women given equal opportunities in social, economic and political sphere and their representatives should be evaluated for good governance and participatory.

And the negative responses could be because at grassroots level itself women are usually suppressed and deprived and they remain least bothered regarding their role and rights in political boundaries, and occasionally are biased due to their gender.

**Q.38 Do you think that reservation for women in PRIs has increased their involvement in democratic process?**

**Table 4.38 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation for women in PRIs has increased their involvement in democratic process.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.38 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation for women in PRIs has increased their involvement in democratic process.**

The above Question and table No 4.38 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation for fairer sex in PRIs has increased their involvement in democratic process. In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be because women participate is based on reservation, avoiding general elections. Reservation aims to create space for women in local bodies.

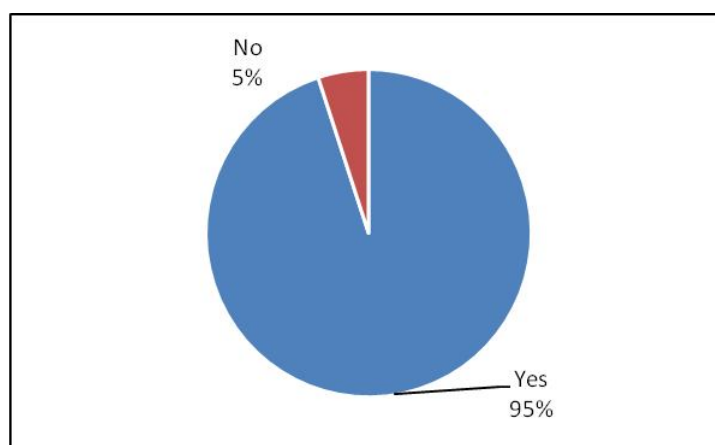
Most of women contesting elections based on reservation must work towards getting a general seat also.

And the inverse answers could be because that usually women are used by political parties to only procure assembly seats, and nominated female hails from the political family who is not aware of know how of political issues. This makes them weaker, few women also go missing in the sessions while their male family members execute on their behalf.

**Q.39 In the view of women's reservation in PRIs, do you think that it is necessary to reserve seats for women in State Assemblies and Parliament also?**

**Table 4.39 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their view of women's reservation in PRIs do they think that it is necessary to reserve seats for women in State Assemblies and Parliament.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	3
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.39 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their view of women's reservation in PRIs do they think that it is necessary to reserve seats for women in State Assemblies and Parliament.**

The above Question No 39 and Table No 4.39 shows the responses of elected women regarding their view of women's reservation in PRIs do they think that it is mandatory for women's seat reservation in State Assemblies and Parliament.. In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that because of the majority of women elected via reserved seats in PRIs, without reservation they can't get chance in State Assemblies and Parliament also.

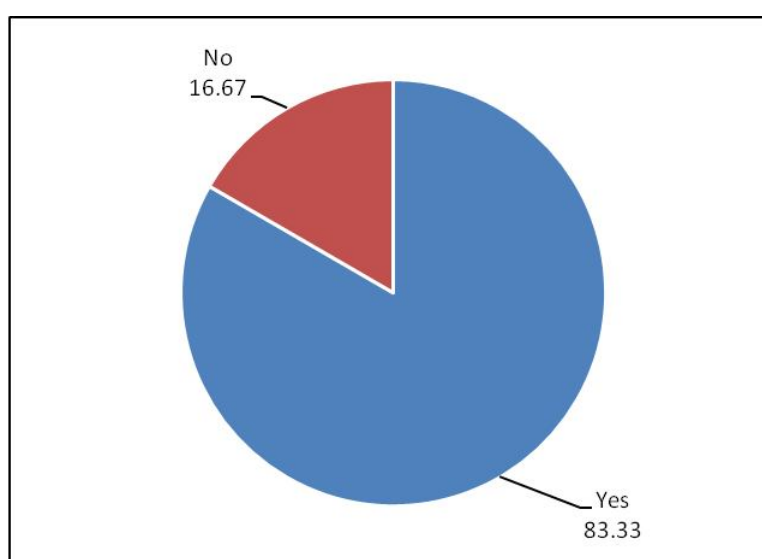
Women taking part in politics willingly are limited.

And the wrong answers could be because they are enough empower and may be they don't want reservation in State Assemblies and Parliament also.

**Q.40 Does reservation help potential women to enter into the mainstream of politics?**

**Table 4.40 Showing the responses of elected women regarding reservation help potential women to enter into the mainstream of politics.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	50	10
Percentage	83.33	16.67



**Fig 4.40 Showing the responses of elected women regarding reservation help potential women to enter into the mainstream of politics.**



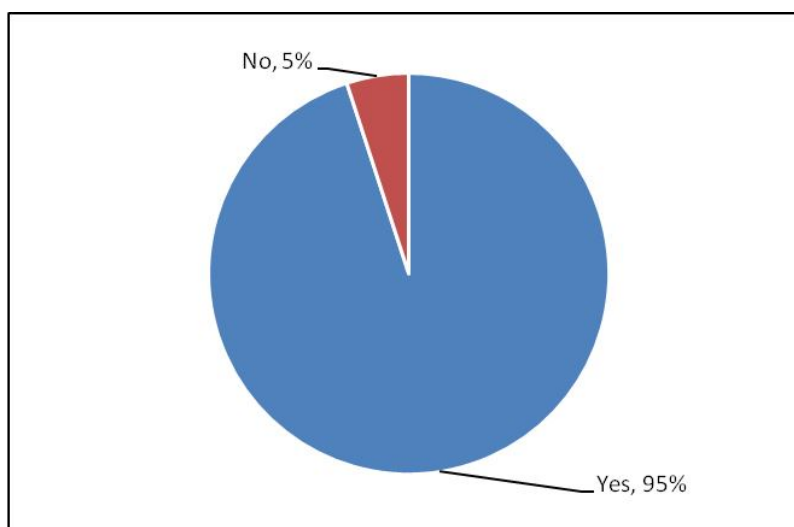
The above Question No 40 and Table No 4.40 Shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation help potential women to enter into the mainstream of politics. In this regard 83.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 16.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be reservation opens doors to the less privileged segments of the community due to reservation, they walk in to claim their rights in political space.

And the wrong answers could be because of their situation by virtue of birth like poverty, no education, disease ridden and hence have remained as the victims of violence and could be reservation of women representation arose because of patriarchal culture in the area.

**Q.41. Do you think that social outlook towards women has changed after their participation in PRIs?**

**Table 4.41 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that social outlook towards women has changed after their participation in PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	03
Percentage	95	5



**Fig. 4.41 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that social outlook towards women has changed after their participation in PRIs.**

The above Question No.41 and Table No 4.41 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that social outlook towards women has changed after their participation in PRIs.

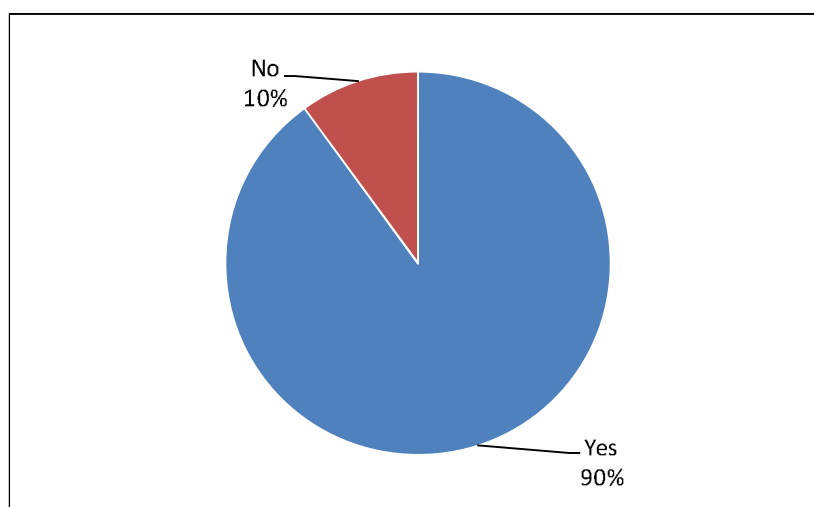
In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be they are from affluent, upper middle class and middle class, have educated background and have susceptibility to remain nominal heads with no real bargaining power.

And the wrong answers could be because they lack liberty, which is a deep rooted tradition, at homes and in society where the decision are strictly controlled by male members.

**Q.42 Do you think that reservation of seats for women in PRIs has improved their quality of participation?**

**Table 4.42 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation of seats for women in PRIs has improved their quality of participation.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	54	6
Percentage	90	10



**Fig 4.42 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that reservation of seats for women in PRIs has improved their quality of participation.**

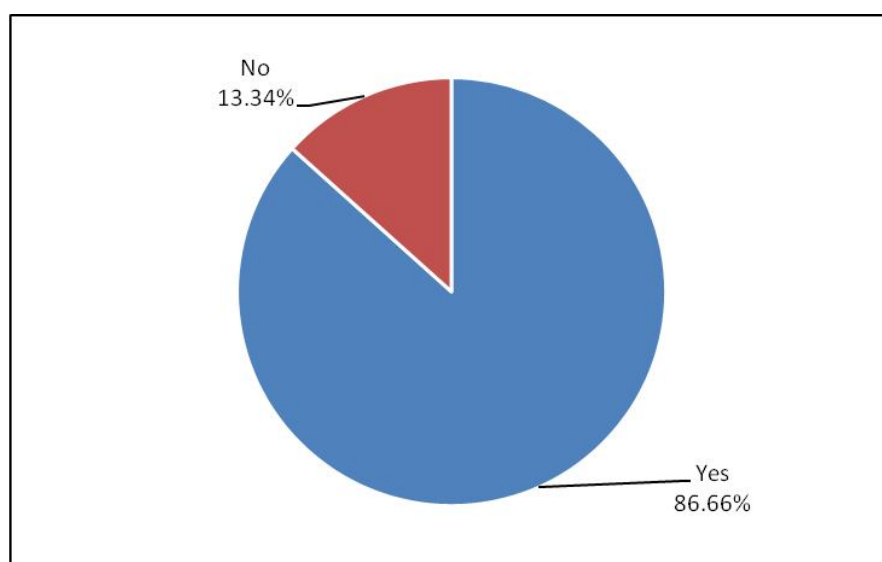
The above Question 42 and Table No 4.42 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women seat reservation in PRIs has improved their quality of involvement. In this regard 90 percent of elected women responded positively and 10 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be proportional representation of women in political affairs, increased political participation and making of decision bodies will enhance changes and creates more opportunities for them which may witness women representation.

And the negative responses could be due to the confronting social, cultural and economic dependency, which is a constraint for political involvement.

**Q.43 After becoming member of PRIs do you think that women are getting more respect in the society?**

**Table 4.43** Showing the responses of elected women regarding their after becoming member of PRIs do they think that women are getting more respect in the society.

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	52	8
Percentage	86.66	13.34



**Fig 4.43** Showing the responses of elected women regarding their after becoming member of PRIs do they think that women are getting more respect in the society.

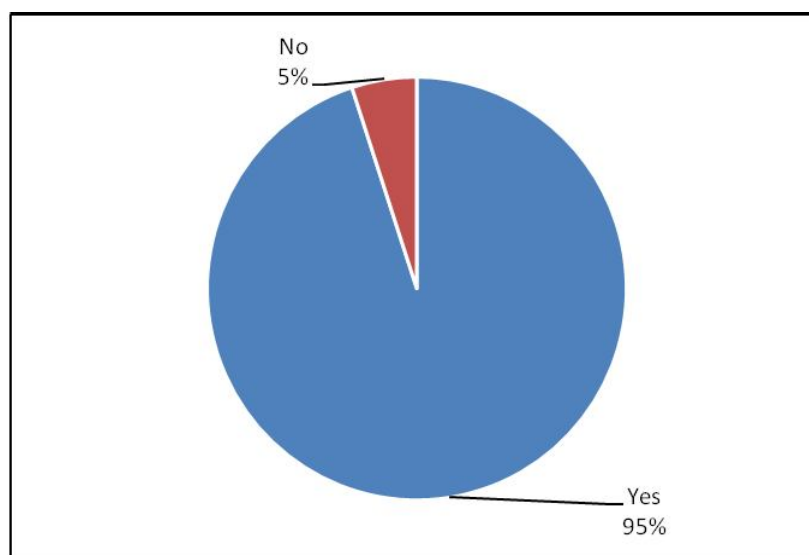
The above Question No 43 and Table No 4.43 Shows the responses of elected women regarding their after becoming member of PRIs do they think that women are getting more respect in the society..In this regard 86.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 13.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be to open choices for women in political fields, they are economically or socially in better position, more close to the people, getting more respect after elected and may be making decisions, directly or indirectly.

And the wrong choices could be because women are generally not encourage for political participation, which lets them be neglected, confronts socio cultural and religious constraints and discriminatory regulations.

**Q.44 Do the women members of Panchayati Raj involve themselves in the working of PRIs?**

**Table 4.44 Showing the responses of elected women regarding the women members of Panchayati Raj involve themselves in the working of PRIs.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	03
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.44 Showing the responses of elected women regarding the women members of Panchayati Raj involve themselves in the working of PRIs.**

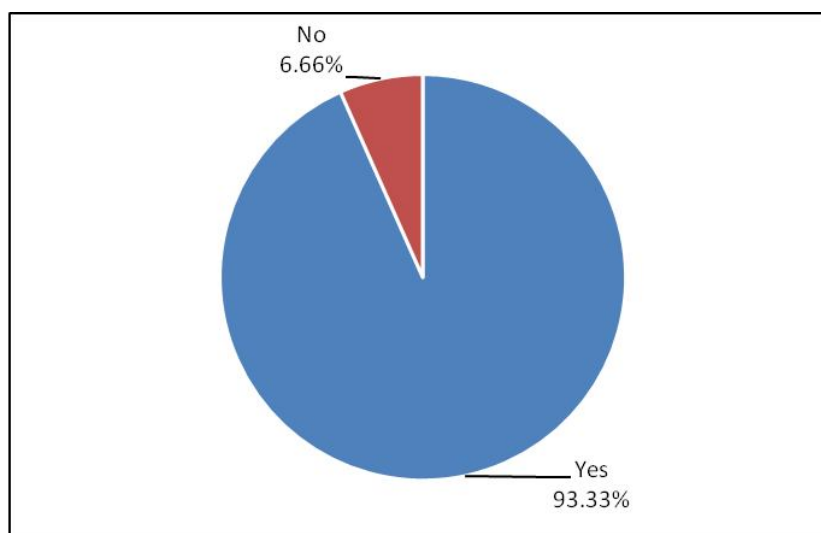
The above Question No 44 and Table No 4.44 shows the responses of elected women regarding the women members of Panchayati Raj involve themselves in the working of PRIs..In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be they are well read and are provided equal chances in all spheres like social, economic and politics and their representation must be evaluate to ensure participatory democracy and good governance.

And the wrong choices could be because that may be usually as their participation in politics is on behalf of their male family member to increase power and are termed as ‘mask representations’ and may be women face deprivation and have no power in majority of the sections in life.

**Q.45 Do you feel that economic independence is essential to encourage women’s participation and their involvement at the grass-root level?**

**Table 4.45 Showing the responses of elected women regarding they feel that economic independence is essential to encourage women’s participation and their involvement at the grass root level.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	6.66



**Fig 4.45 Showing the responses of elected women regarding they feel that economic independence is essential to encourage women’s participation and their involvement at the grass root level.**

The above question No 45 and Table No 4.45 shows the responses of elected women regarding they feel that economic independence is essential to encourage women's participation and their involvement at the grass root level..In this regard 93.34 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be because that women empowered economically only participate in making decisions inside and outside of the family.

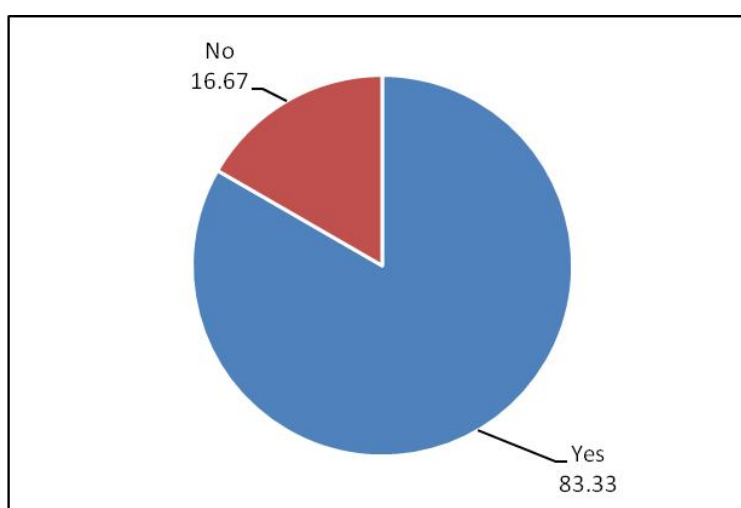
Economic empowerment is the method to help raise the less previlged communities from the vulnerabilities, their contribution value to be recognized and dignity respected. Women's economic empowerment enhaces their entry to economic sources and chances including vocations, monetary aids, property and other productive assets.

And the wrong choice could be because they enough economic empowered.

**Q.46 Do you think that women member raise their voice on various issues in the meeting concerning?**

**Table 4.46 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women raise their voice on various issues in the meeting concerning.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	50	10
Percentage	83.33	16.67



**Fig 4.46 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women raise their voice on various issues in the meeting concerning.**

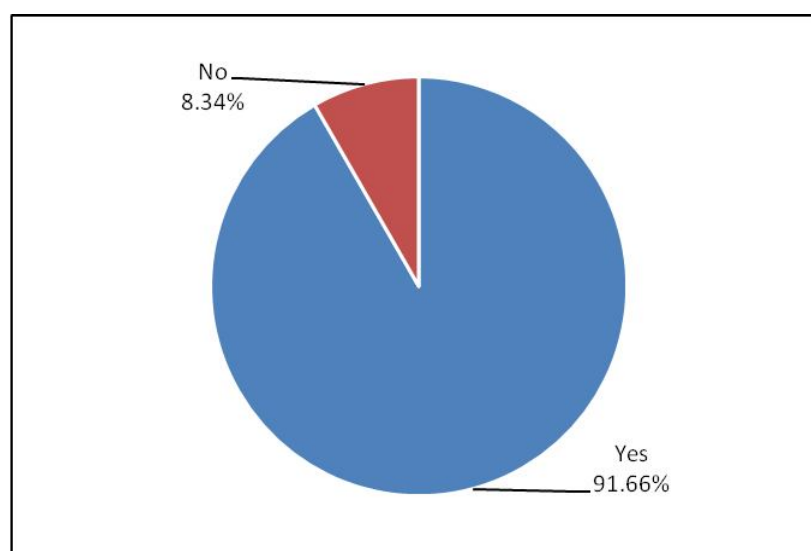
The above Question No 46 and Table 4.46 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women raise their voice on various issues in the meeting concerning. In this regard 83.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 16.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that related to land reforms, eradication of poverty, housing in villages, potable water, good roads and building, child and women development, weaker sections development, scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.

And inverse responses could be because they hesitate, mask representation, proxies of women.

**Q.47 Do you think that those Panchayats are working effectively which are headed by women Pradhan?**

**Table 4.47 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that those Panchayats are working effectively which are headed by women Pradhan.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	55	5
Percentage	91.66	8.34



**Fig 4.47 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that those Panchayats are working effectively which are headed by women Pradhan.**

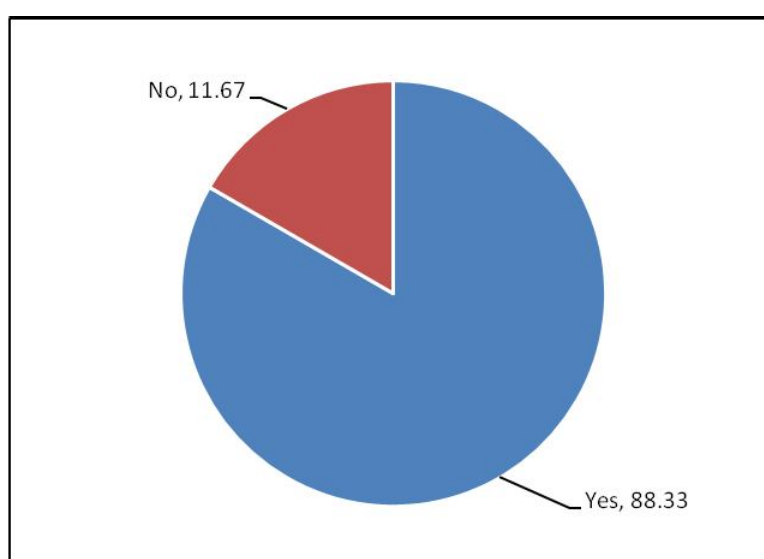
The above Question No 47 and Table No 4.47 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that those Panchayats are working effectively which are headed by women Pradhan. In this regard 91.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 8.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that creation of a feminist consciousness, great ruler, decision maker, good leader. The 73rd constitutional Amendment Act 1992 is a breakthrough in giving women opportunities to come forward in Panchayati Raj Institution.

And the inverse responses could be because of facing dependency socially, culturally and economically which limits their participation in politics.

**Q.48. Do you think that you are satisfied with your contribution in encouraging women to participate in Gram Sabha meeting?**

**Table 4.48 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that they are satisfied with their contribution in encouraging women to participate in Gram Sabha meeting.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	53	7
Percentage	88.33	16.67



**Fig 4.48 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that they are satisfied with their contribution in encouraging women to participate in Gram Sabha meeting.**



The above question No 48 and Table No 4.48 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that they are satisfied with their contribution in encouraging women to participate in Gram Sabha meeting. In this regard 88.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 11.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that raising consciousness of women, acquiring new skill regarding Panchayati Raj, and upgrading knowledge base.

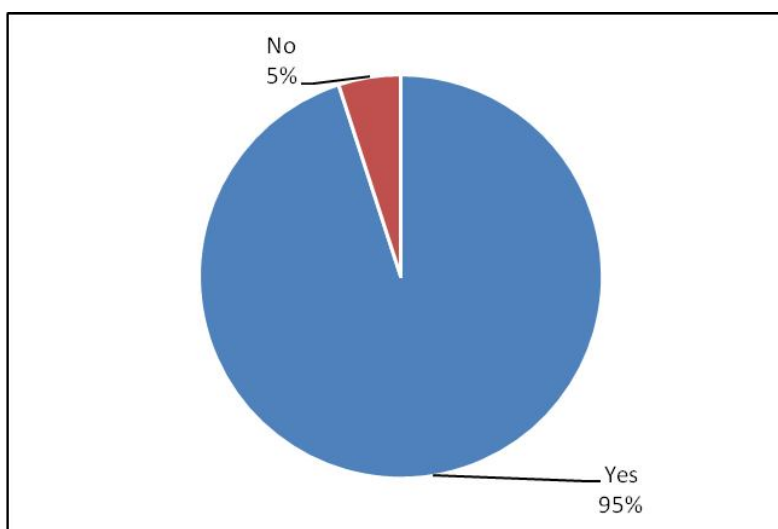
Women must be first awakened to awaken people. If the women moves, then the family, village and the nation also moves.

And inverse answers could be because of less role in decision making, limited to the household stuffs only, may be due to confronting social, cultural and economic Independence.

**Q.49 Do you think that women's political participation can be increased by providing good education to them?**

**Table 4.49 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's political participation can be increased by providing good education to them.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	03
Percentage	95	5



**Fig 4.49 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's political participation can be increased by providing good education to them.**

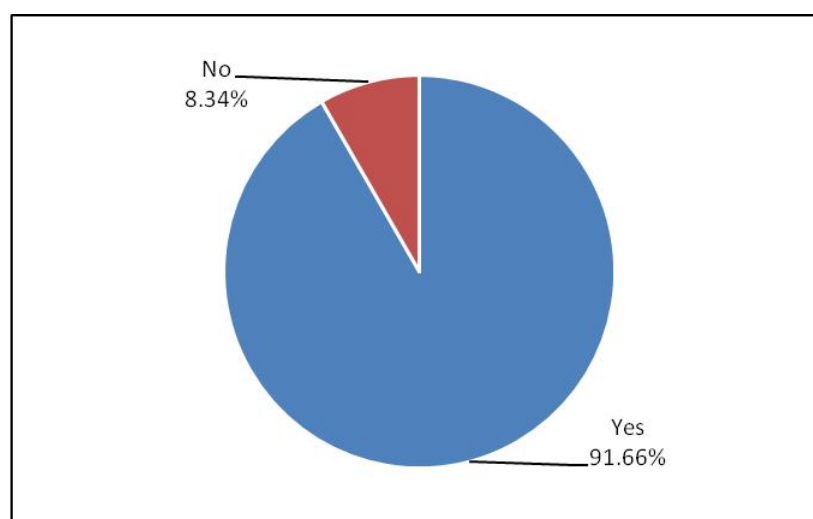
The above Question No 49 and Table No 4.49 Shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's political participation can be increased by providing good education to them..In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they can concerned with local affairs, Awareness regarding their rights, feeling free to express their self, political consciousness, playing role in decision making. To combat gender inequalities in politics.

And the inverse answers could be because they needed political background, need of money, less role in decision making. Shall be discriminated on the bases of sex, women are not encouraged by people for political participation.

**Q.50 Do you think that bureaucracy encourage the women participation at the grass root level?**

**Table 4.50 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that bureaucracy encourage the women participation at the grass root level.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	55	5
Percentage	91.66	8.34



**Fig 4.50 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that bureaucracy encourage the women participation at the grass root level.**

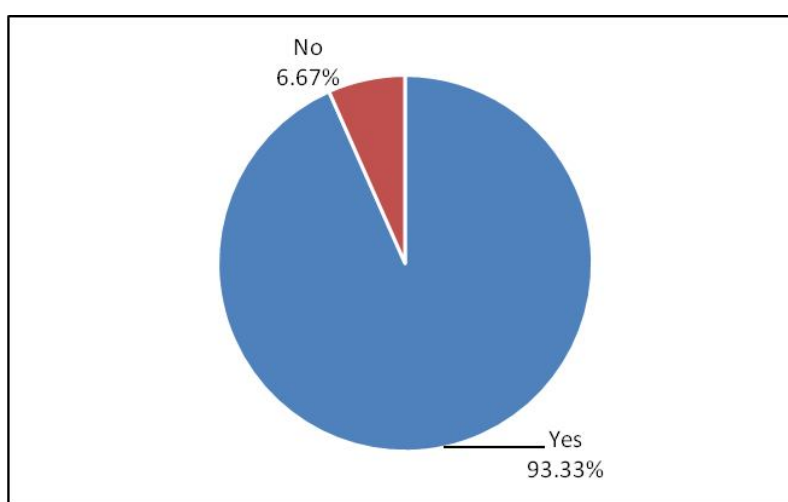
The above Question No 50 and Table No 4.50 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that bureaucracy encourage the women participation at the grass root level. In this regard 91.66 percent of elected women responded positively and 8.34 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that Organize training to aware regarding different programmes of government, to boost up their moral, maintain good communication and coordination regarding their work, to arrange finance, to aware the women regarding 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment, to aware regarding office work. Understanding bureaucratic structure, public distribution system.

And the wrong answers could be because that communication gap, arrogant behaviour of bureaucrats, irresponsible bureaucracy, over burdened bureaucracy

**Q.51 Do you think that state women leader convinces and motivates the rural women to participate in politics?**

**Table 4.51 Showing the responses of elected women responses of elected women regarding their thinking that State women leader convinces and motivates the rural women to participate in politics.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	56	4
Percentage	93.33	6.67



**Fig 4.51 Showing the responses of elected women responses of elected women regarding their thinking that State women leader convinces and motivates the rural women to participate in politics.**

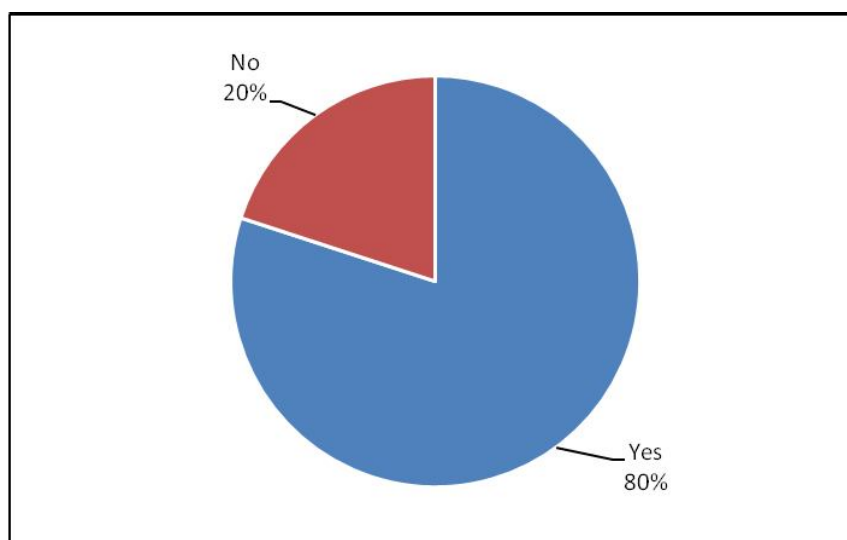
The above Question No 51 and Table No. 4.51 shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that State women leader convinces and motivates the rural women to participate in politics. In this regard 93.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 6.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that political interest of women state leader, Inspired the rural women by giving them own example, ambitious for the development of the women.

And the wrong choices could be because of the fear of competition, want to suppressed them, exploitation.

**Q.52 Do you think that women's participation can be increased by changing the social outlook of the society?**

**Table 4.52 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's participation can be increased by changing the social outlook of the society.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	48	12
Percentage	80	20



**Fig 4.52 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that women's participation can be increased by changing the social outlook of the society.**

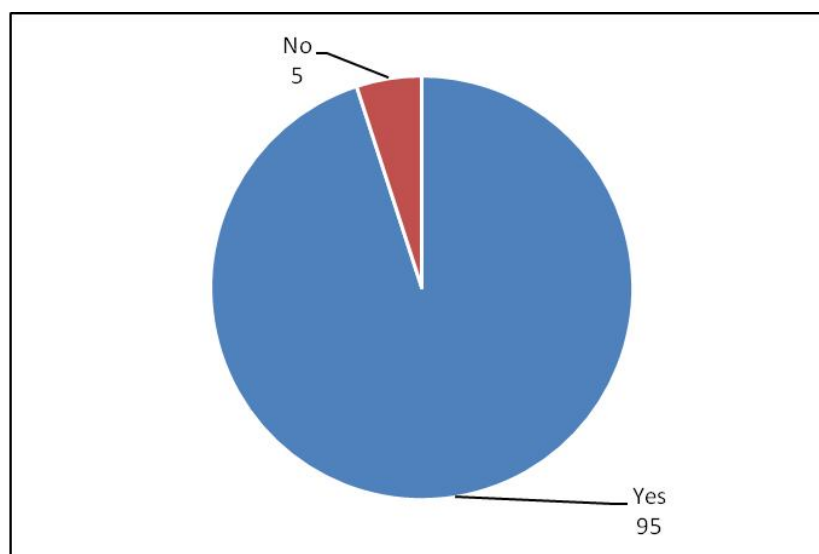
The above Question No 52 and Table No 4.52 Shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that participation of women can be increased by changing the social outlook of the society. In this regard 80 percent of elected women responded positively and 20 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they know the importance of women empowerment by education, an educated person can end the rigidity of society, educated person are aware about 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment, no discrimination with male and female.

And the wrong answers could be because they belongs to more rigid society, they do not want their competitor, they do not want to loose superiority over women.

**Q.53 Do you think that the education can play a pivotal role in changing the social outlook specially male outlook?**

**Table 4.53 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the education can play a pivotal role in changing the social outlook specially male outlook.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	57	03
Percentage	95	5



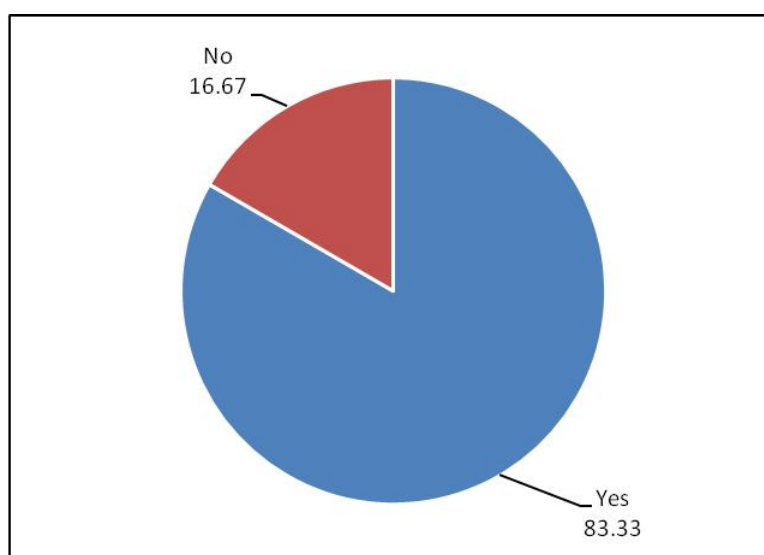
**Fig 4.53 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that the education can play a pivotal role in changing the social outlook specially male outlook.**

The above Question No 53 and Table No 4.53 depicts the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that literacy has a significant part in modifying the social outlook specially male outlook. In this regard 95 percent of elected women responded positively and 5 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that educated women never were under pressure, educated and trained women cannot be misused, freely express their opinion. Education in better administration at PRI can't be change or denied. And the inverse choices could be because that belonging to backward society, poverty and discriminating attitude.

**Q.54 Do you think that male accept the reservation for the women?**

**Table 4.54 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that male accept the reservation for women?**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	50	10
Percentage	83.33	16.67



**Fig 4.54 Showing the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that male accept the reservation for women?**

The above Question No 54 and Table No 4.54 Shows the responses of elected women regarding their thinking that male accept the reservation for women.

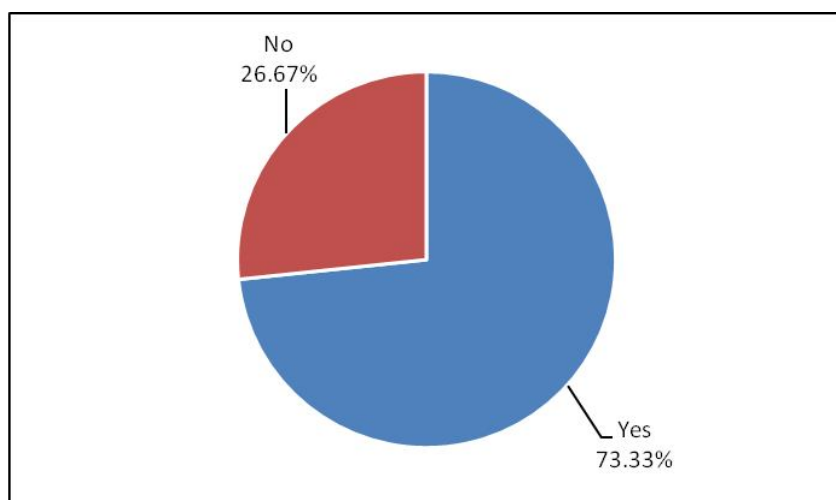
In this regard 83.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 16.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that they are supporter of social chance, there is no future of women in politics without reservation, without reservation they never get chance to participate in politics.

And the wrong choices were because of discrimination with male, abolition of their rights.

**Q.55 Are you aware of the New Panchayati Raj Act 1994 of Himachal Pradesh?**

**Table 4.55 Showing the responses of elected women regarding they are aware of the New Panchayati Raj Act 1994 of Himachal Pradesh.**

Respondents	Types of Responses	
	Yes	No
Elected women	44	16
Percentage	73.33	26.67



**Fig 4.55 Showing the responses of elected women regarding they are aware of the New Panchayati Raj Act 1994 of Himachal Pradesh.**

The above Question No 55 and Table No 55.1 Shows the responses of elected women regarding they are aware of the New Panchayati Raj Act 1994 of Himachal Pradesh.

In this regard 73.33 percent of elected women responded positively and 26.67 percent of elected women responded negatively. The positive responses may be due to the fact that may be they have attended awareness camp, belong to advance society, curiosity to know about Panchayati Raj Institution.

And the inverse responses were because of family responsibilities, no space discouraging environment of the society, education and economic backwardness.

#### **4.1 SOCIO ECONOMIC BACK ROUND OF PARTICIPANTS**

Socio economic status has a significant role to determine the rural leadership. Most of the Indian population habitats in villages, So studying rural masses bears a significant role in the democratic system of India. The different traditions, customs, culture decide the social behavior of people. In the same way economic condition and level development are also playing significant role in molding the attitudes of population.

Accordingly to socio-economic study elements are indispensable to understand the types of leadership at the grass root level. In this survey, effort was done to understand the socio-economic standing of the Panchayati Raj Institution's rural leadership.

The study has confined to the headship of Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and village Panchayat. It is an effort understand socio –economic status of the leadership in rural areas, because it's only leaders who have the capability to influence people to co-operate towards "Common end". (K. C. Vidya. Op. Cit. K. 97)

##### **4.1.2 Caste**

The high caste stratification is found in the Indian society. Rajni Kathari also defined caste stratification, In which the practice of marrying with a specific social group.

In some extent the caste effect has weakened due to the effect of Industrialization and urbanization in the urban areas. In industrial areas, the caste complex is lost to a certain extent, but accept its hardness once they return.

The caste effect is legible in rural area. The role of caste is important in Panchayati Raj institution level. It is an observation that persons belonging to "dominant caste" are elected to the village level.



In Himachal Pradesh, caste plays crucial role in the hill State's polity. Caste still remains a significant characteristic for voting pattern in all election types including Panchayat elections. (Rajani Kathari; 1973 , p. 8)

**Table 4.56 : Caste Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Respondents	General		SC		ST		OBC		Other	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>60</b>	21	35	38	63.33	-	-	1	1.67	-	-

It is seen from table No. 4.56 that 60 participants completed the questionnaire. Of which, 21 respondents (35%) were from general category. 38 participants were of schedule caste constituting 63.33 percent of the entire population. 1 participant belonged to Other Backward Class (OBC) making upto 1.67 percent of the sample.

The above analysis shows the Schedule Caste dominance is greater at all levels of PRIs. table No 4.56 points out that the General category (Rajput) was greater at all three levels. Schedule Caste came next due to seats reservation in the PRIs.

According to census of 2011 Himachal Pradesh state has a head count of 68,56,509 in which 17,29,252 (25.22%) are Scheduled caste and 9,27,452 (13.52%) are belongs to the other backward classes. The rest of the population belong to upper caste 50.72 % or other communities 4.83% further breakup of caste demography shows that among the 50.72 percent upper castes, there are 32.72 percent are Rajputs and 18% are Brahmins. (Census of India - 2011)

#### **4.1.2 Education**

Education has a major part in progress of any individual progress of a nation by transforming the attitudes and Inculcating democratic values. Education has now become most important need in the field of politics.<sup>8</sup>

Indian constitutions does not specify any educational qualification on for Parliament , legislative assembly and PRIs at any level. But In 21<sup>st</sup> century with increasing literacy, most individuals have begun realizing the significance of education in every sphere of life. The key to structure a successful individual in life and form a useful citizen to the country in future is Education.<sup>9</sup>

In the present Era importance of education cannot be neglected. Education cuts downs life challenges which may pop up. Regarding to rural women education is much more facilitating.

Because they are elected members of PRIs, it makes them understand the official work of PRIs. Educated women cannot befooled by the male member regarding rules and regulation of Panchayati Raj Institutions. Usually it is observed in the villages an educated person is always respected. According the current survey, an effort was put up to assess the educational background of the participants.

**Table 4.57 Education qualification of the Respondents**

Respondents No.	Primary		Upper Primary		High School		Higher Secondary		Graduate		Post Graduate	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
60	18	30	9	15	6	10	15	25	7	11.66	5	8.34

Most of the Indian people still lives in villages and so the education in villages is an significant indicator in the study of rural leadership. The table 4.57 clearly shows the picture of rural education in rural leadership. Out of 60 respondents there were only 18 respondents who were simply having primary educational level making the percentage of these participants to 30%. .Mean while, 9 respondents who were having upper primary level qualification that accounted to 15 percent of the total population. Mean while, 6 respondents who were having high school level qualification. Which constitute 10 percent of the sample. Altogether, 15 respondents were having higher secondary level qualification. The percent of such respondents were 25 percent. 7 respondents were with the graduation qualification. Which constitute 11.66 percent. 5 respondents were with the Post Graduation level qualification. Which constitute 8.34 percent of the sample.

The analysis of the table 4.57 shows that primary educational group of the community form a great chunk of rural leadership.

The Higher Secondary education is the other secondary level qualification of the respondents. It is found that this involvement and participation was with dissemination of education.

**Table 4.58 : Genderwise Literacy distribution in Himachal Pradesh (1951 to 2011)**

Year	Total	Male	Female
<b>1951</b>	4.8	7.5	2.0
<b>1961</b>	17.1	27.2	6.2
<b>1971</b>	31.96	43.19	20.23
<b>1981</b>	42.48	53.19	31.46
<b>1991</b>	63.86	75.36	52.13
<b>2001</b>	76.48	85.35	67.42
<b>2011</b>	82.80	89.53	75.93

**Source: Census of India- 1951,1961,1971,1981,1991,2001&2011**

#### **4.1.3 Income**

Income always considered as social status measure and influence indicator in the society. However Income does not form a primary basis of influences yet surely a major base, but it is found that a definitively direct relationship exists between leadership and income. Lewis.O stated that “The basic criterion for leadership is wealth. Though factual figures projects leaders found in all segments of socio-economic strata, they always hail from the upper level and there is a big co relation between wealth and leadership.(Thomas:27)

Family income is generally considered a primary determinant in electoral process of the state politics. Income determines family states in a community which in turn also effect their political involvement and participation.. (Oscar Lewis : 19-58)

**Table 4.59 : Income Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Respondents No.	Below 15,000/ Annum		Below 25,000/ Annum		Below 40,000/ Annum		Below 60,000/ Annum	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>60</b>	29	48.33	10	16.67	10	16.67	11	18.33

Table No. 4.59 manifest among 60 participants, a total of 29 respondents were people whose annual income lesser than 15,000/Annum, from all sources. The percentage of these respondents were 48.33. Another 10 respondents were people with annual income lesser than 25,000 per Annum., from all sources . The percentage accounted to 16.67 percent. Whereas there were 10 respondents whose annual income were up to below 40,000/ Annum respectively. The percentage of such respondents were 16.67 percent. Participants who had an annual income greater than 60000 / Annum made upto only 11.

Intrepretation of table No.4.59 depicts that there remained no direct relationship between PRIs leadership and economic status in rural leadership. But still, the study manifest that a greater number of participants belonged to lower strata of the rural community. The economic stratum below 15,000/Annum dominated the PRIs leadership scenario.

**Table 4.60 : Per Capita Income in Himachal Pradesh:**

Year	Average Annual economic growth rate	Per Capita income (At current prices)
2004-05	-	5.
2005-06	8.4	33348
2006-07	9.1	36949
2007-08	8.5	43966
2008-09	7.4	49903
2009-10	8.1	58402
2010-11	8.8	68297
2011-12	7.6	76109
2012-13	6.2	85792
2013-14	6.2	95582
2014-15	6.5	104943

**Source:** Labour Bureau Govt. of India, Ministry of Commerce & Industrial Govt. of India.

#### 4.1.4 Number of Children

The political participation also affects by number of children to a great extent. There need a lots of time as people grooming and settlement of children and is considered responsibilities of matters in Indian society. Women always worried for their offspring appropriate development and growth. As children increase, the responsibilities of women towards family increases and have less time to participate in activities related to politics. (Rameshwari Pantya, 2008:171)

In the world of Marcia Lee only less number of women hold public office and a significant factor that affects women's political behavior is children. They give more time for their children and less time for their political carrier. In short most of the men interested in politics Go ahead early and it becomes difficult for women to cope. (Marcia Manning Lee, 1976 : 304)

**Table 4.61 : Classification of respondents on the basis of number of children**

Respondent's No.	One		Two		Three		Four		Five	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
60	4	6.66	31	51.66	16	26.66	7	11.66	2	3.36

Table 4.61 reveals that out of 60 respondents, 4 respondent were having one child, which constitute 6.66 percent of the total sample, 31 respondents were having two children, which constitute 51.66 percent. Whereas 16 and 7 respondents were having three and four children respectively. The percentage of such respondents were 26.66 and 11.66 of the sample. And 2 respondents were having five children, they constitute 3.36 percent of the total sample.

Table 4.61 manifest that a great number of participants had two children. Whereas family planning programmes are popular in these days, along with illiteracy and unawareness about the consequences of overpopulation still exist among the people of Himachal Pradesh. It has been found that educated people were thinking about the benefits of small families.

#### 4.1.5 Types of Family

The family aptly termed of social Virtues. Family is called a mini-society posed as a transmission on belt – between the individuals and society. Family plays the

important role for growing children seek the habits, attitudes, values and beliefs of the social group. Agriculture is the Primary sources of live hood for about 58 % of the Indian population.

The number of children and size of the family affect a lot in every one's life. In India two types of family are found viz, the joint family and nuclear family. In a joint family entails heavier responsibilities and burden towards feeding, clothing, education, housing Accommodation entertainment, where as in nuclear family can help to create conditions in which happiness families can grow and parent can be able to give their children the care. (S. S. Chahar, 2005 : 402-403)

The types of family also affected the women's participation in political arenas. Generally there is a differences between Nuclear and joint family. Joint family is related with conventional agriculture community, wherein as nuclear family is more progress of a mobiles, Industrialization society and permit being flexible and self expressive within its members.

**Table 4.62 : Family structure of the Respondents:**

Respondents No.	Nuclear Family		Joint Family	
	No.	%	No.	%
60	32	53.33	28	46.66

Table 4.62 shows that 60 respondents were fill up the questionnaire, out of which 32 respondents were living in nuclear family system, which constitutes 53.33 percent of the total population. Whereas, 28 respondents belonged to joint families.The percentages of such participants were 46.66 of the total sample.

From table 4.62 it is evident that, the greater number would live in nuclear families and least number live in joint families. It was observed that in a sample where all the respondents come from agriculture households.

## 4.2 FINDINGS

- Most elected women members are getting support of their husbands and also getting benefits of their political status and relation.
- While attending Panchayat s meeting majority of women neither spoke or never cast their votes.

- Wide information gap was noticed in the area of awareness about PRIs.
- They marked their failure mainly to lack of awareness, own indifference and non cooperation of family.
- Women who are participating in Panchayati Raj Institution are more younger in age and education than before.
- Majority of women are participating in Panchayati Raj Institution than before.
- The women participating in Panchayati Raj Institution are now more able and skilled than before.
- The 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 is a milestone to help women a change express themselves in Panchayati Raj Institution.
- Usually elected women members are playing the role of dummy representative.
- Most of the times, the male members of female elected members appear in the sessions on their behalf to operate.
- A women by nature is an honest person and perfect in balancing the family and budget. This quality could useful to employed in managing in financial house of Panchayati.
- In general women members entered into politics not at their own will but with the opinion of their husbands, family members and neighbours and sometimes caste members's
- Most of the elected women, greatest fear is that their community men would spread malicious rumour s about them if they worked late or interacted with other men in the community.
- Indian society is not very open for women. They face challenges both at the political and social level.
- It is also found that there is male's interference in the daily activities of women while functioning at Panchayati Raj Institution.
- The researcher found that Prime hindrances faced by women are illiteracy, unawareness, lack of exposure, hesitation, double work burden at home and field and economic independence on their male counterparts.

### **4.3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EFFICIENT PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PANCHAYATI RAJ SYSTEM**

- Political awareness in villages is negligible among women. The state government and local administration must consider it is a duty to bring in awareness among women and to educate women regarding political issues.
- Provision of special training and refresher courses must be provided to women representatives should be conducted periodically. They gain confidence and create political awareness and power.
- State Government must provide special facilities for women members and make them more powerful comparative to their male counterpart and enlighten them about their powers. It helps them to work efficiently and effectively.
- The election and working of Panchayats are interfered by political parties which constructs hostile environment for the women contestants and women representatives. The government should take a strict action in such an intervention of political parties and election should be conducted free and fair.
- After every ten years term, the reserved seats must be rotated, which will facilitate the women contestants to root themselves in Panchayats.
- Provision must be made to honor the women members for their commendable job and also give monetary rewards.
- It is the need to generate awareness among the rural masses about the new system. The rights and responsibilities of women must be made fully conscious under the new system.
- The State Government should organize seminars, training camps to bring awareness regarding the utility of local self government so that the participation of women can be increased.
- Training should be based at bringing about hidden qualities, generating self confidence, self pride, development of self communication skill and effective convincing power for public interaction, forming opinion and articulating the same rising issue.



- Provision must be made for education qualification of candidates must be fixed to atleast some minimum who are contesting elections.
- Although Government had provided many constitutional or legal provision for women, but after that we should change our mindset regarding women participation in politics.
- There should be proper coordination between bureaucrats and nominated women member.
- The Centre women or State women political leaders should go in public and inspire the rural women for political participation.
- There should be exchange programme for Panchayats women representative with in the country.
- There should be made to involve rural women in Gram Sabha meetings.
- There should be enhance knowledge in school and college students on the stress of women in politics at grassroots, state and national level.
- Election commission should make mandatory to the political parties to provide representation to the women in the interval organizational set up of the party.
- Men and women both should change their attitude and feeling towards women, that are made for household chores and children rearing . transformation is needed for a feeling of equal partnership of women and men.
- It has been seen that no or low standard of education in women has become a road block. In order to ensure maximum participation of women in the Panchayati Raj Institution, stress should be laid on increasing their rate of literacy. This will help the women in understanding the political system.
- The Mahila Mandals can motivate women to contest elections. To get a sense of economic Independence and self confidence, participation in the Mahila Mandals and the SHGs should be ensured.
- The society and family member's behavior should be encouraging and supportive, the only women members can participate effectively.
- The step should be taken to ward off proxy participation of male members related to elected women representatives in the Panchayat meetings.

- There should be a check on male members interference of elected women in their functioning.
- Separate electorate must be given to women depending on their population ratio, where in they can contest election and cast their votes.
- The mindset and culture of the political affluent must be changed relating to women.

Strengthening the local government must be the top agenda item of the government. For successful local government system, fair election should be undertaken on regular intervals.

- The need of the hour is to make every women motivate to speak out for their demands and rights at an individual level. Their confidence can be developed if women are given motivation and awareness. They should come forward and strive for their rights and political space.
- Women empowerment must be stressed by religious leaders in their addresses.
- Economic activities must be handled by women, specifically in all adult family. Empowering them economically will pave them to political empowerment.
- Setting up of women Panchayats where women are needed to tackle women related issues will give them a feeling of encouragement and recognition to tackle their issues.
- Seminars, workshops, and walks must be arranged for claiming their rights by NGOs to begin advocacy and women campaigning.
- The current study demonstrated the need to give education to the women who are elected as they were only educated till primary. Opportunities should be provided to highly educated women by fixing minimum education level to the women to be elected.
- Nowadays women do participate in politics, though they are having still less in numbers when they have to take any decision they still rely upon men.
- As a researcher I found it more interesting to make analysis on my area because I have knowledge about every aspect and every phase of area good and dark side as

well. Because I was well aware about geographical, economical, social and political scenario of that particular area. So I made analysis through my personal experience and as far as my knowledge is concerned.

- Attitude and Biased perceptive of society towards women is a major hurdle in taking part in Panchayati Raj Institution and women empowerment.

#### **4.4 CONCLUSION**

**As per objective one**, to understand actual social economic background of elected women members in Zila Parishads, Panchayati Samitis and Gram Panchayats of District Sirmour and District Solan (H.P).

Most of the women are literate including Primary (30%), Upper Primary (15%), High School (10%), Higher Secondary (25%), Graduate (11.66%), Post Graduate (8.34). Because most of the women are found less educated. Therefore it is a necessity to provide more literacy to the women who are elected.

It is found in the study that family Annual Income including below 15,000/Annum (48.33), 25,000/Annum (16.67), below 40,000 (16.67), below 60,000 above, (18.33). Most of the families are less economically strong. So therefore there is a need to provide more economic source and enhance skill development course for them.

According to this study 51.66% elected women in the sample have two children 6.66% female have one child, 26.66% female have three children, 11.66% women have four children and 3.36% women have five children. Most of the female are over burdened with the number of children. This may have adverse impact in performing their duties as an elected members of the Panchayati Raj Institution.

This study found that 46.66% women habitat in joint families and 53.33% women are living in a nuclear families. Belong to nuclear families, so they can devote much time to fulfil their duties as an elected members.

**As per objective two**, to evaluate the impacts of seat reservation for empowering women on society. The women are elected including 35% elected women in the sample are elected from general category, 63.33 percent of elected women are elected from schedule caste and 1.67 percent of elected women are elected from OBC (Other Backward Class). Majority of the women in Panchayati Raj Institution are elected

from Scheduled Caste. They are getting benefit of reservation and may not be elected on the basis of their ability.

According to the study 91.67 % women think that the reservation is helping women to improve their participation in PRI and 8.33 percent women think that reservation is not helping women to improve their participation. Majority of the women believe that reservation is helping them in their empowerment by providing them opportunities.

**As per objective three,** To evaluate the perception of elected women members in Panchayati Raj Institution in Solan and Sirmour District. Women are perceiving that their participation in society can be improve by providing them reservation. Majority of the women perceive that they were selected due to their social status of their husband and they are not able to be elected on the bases of their ability.

Most of the women perceived that their performance in the social field is distrusting because of number of their own children.

Most of the women perceived that their social status will improve after being elected as a member of PRI. It is also found that 86.67 % women responded by stating their standing improved once they become a PRIs member.

**As per the objective fourth,** To know the extend of contribution of women members of Gram Panchayats in performing their statutory role.

Women's representation in PRIs in Himachal Pradesh year :1995-2000. The women Panchayat Pradhan were elected 32.92 %, BDC women members were elected 33.59%, BDC women chairpersons were elected 31.91%, ZP women members 33.33%, and women ZP chairpersons were elected 33.39. Politics in Panchayati Raj Institution has always dominated by the male leaving less space for women.

Representation of women in PRIs in Himachal Pradesh state in year : 2000 to 2005. The women Panchayat Pradhan were elected 36.78%. BDC women members were elected 33.89%. BDC women chairpersons 36.00%, ZP women members were 34.66% and ZP women members were 33.33%. The women participation were slightly increased in the year 2000 rather than in 1995.

Women's representation in PRIs in Himachal Pradesh year: 2005-2010. The women Panchayat Pradhan were elected 34.28%. BDC women members were elected

34.54%, BDC women chairpersons were elected 45.33%, ZP women members were elected 33.86% and ZP women chairpersons 58.33. The little bit better condition of women participation has been noted in the year 2005.

Women's representation in PRIs in Himachal Pradesh Year: 2010-2015. The women Panchayat Pradhan were elected 50.53%, BDC women members were elected 51.30%, BDC women chairperson were elected 54.54%, ZP women members were elected 51.00% and ZP chairpersons were elected 50.00%. The Data shows the better condition of women participation has been noted in the year 2010.

Women's representation in PRIs in in Himachal Pradesh: 2015 to till Date. The women Panchayat Pradhan were elected 50.55%, BDC women members were elected 51.52 , BDC women chairpersons were elected 53.84%, ZP women members were elected 50.8 and ZP women chairperson were elected 50.00%. With the passage of time, especially after the spread of education the participation of women in Panchayati Raj has been increased in the state. Constitution ensures massive participation of women in politics giving certain rights to women. Expecting more involvement of women the reservation for the women from general category has been increased.

**As per the objective fifth,** To evaluate the various issues and hindrances being faced by women representatives while participating in the Panchayati Raj Institutions functioning.

The 50% of the elected women members are facing problems in depositing of official paper work during working in PRIs. The elected women are illiterate not skilled and have less knowledge of technology.

In the study found that 81.66% women responded that they are facing problem in contesting the election. May belonging to rural areas, may be illiterate, may belong to joint family, male dominance.

**As per the objective sixth,** To study the various constitutional provision in regard to reservation in PRI in H.P. The Himachal Pradesh Panchayati Act, 1968 was validated on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1970 and established two tier Panchayati Raj system in the State. The 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> constitutional Amendment Acts (1993) was a drastic step in the history of women's participation in politics in India. These acts have provided 33

percent reservation of seats for women's in Panchayati Raj Institution. After the accordance of the 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> constitutional Amendment Act, Himachal Pradesh government has also passed this Act in 1994 and enacted in December 1995 in the state. According to 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment 1/3 of the total number of the seats should be reserved for women.

In the eleventh schedule (inserted by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment). The list contains 29 items and women development was also included.

On 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 50 percent reservation in the Panchayati Raj Institutions for women in the rural and urban local bodies in Himachal Pradesh was also implemented, which was a momentous step for the political empowerment of women in this hill state.

The GOI declared 1999-2000 as Gram Sabha Year.

As PRIs got established in our nation, a women gets an opportunities to prove her worth as a good administrator, decision maker or a good leader. The 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 is a milestone in this regard. It provides women a chance to come forward. This Act is proving to be a big success particularly by providing opportunities to women to come out of their houses and participate in administrative and political level. Growing participation of marginalized section in general and women in particular, is transforming our democratic set up from representative democracy to participatory democracy. With the implementation of this Act the dominance of upper caste, patriarchy are substantially declined, hence the shackles of caste is subsiding. Domestic violence has declined due to women Pradhan and Sarpanch. Violence is taken up pro-actively by women members. Grievances of victims are shared to women members.

It must be remembered that empowering women is a process which is slow yet self perpetuating. Providing women with opportunities and support system such as reservation & other Affirmative action.

Political participation of women in any state or nation largely depends upon the fact of the level of their liberation of minds from certain taboos and stereotypes. It can only be observed through the level of education they are getting to be changed. Our education system is required to be made more approachable and inclusive where equal education should be promised to all without any gender or caste based discrimination.

In Himachal Pradesh social taboos, cultural set up affects the political Participation of women. In the state women are not getting adequate representation in the Panchayati Raj Institution, Municipalities, Vidhan Sabha, Rajya Sabha and Parliament as per the sex ratio of the state. Change can only be ensured through policy making process in both Houses. If more women are elected to the decision making institution of the country it would be proved a paradigm for future growth and development. The barriers like orthodoxy, stereotyping, and other direct or indirect hindrances on the path of women progress could be abolished if a country or state has a proper representation in the policy making process and involvement in the higher posts of administrative level.

Himachal Pradesh social set up also affects the political participation of women. The social and cultural, which is patriarchal in nature, doesn't favor women's involvement in the political domain. But with the passage of time change can be observed in certain level but we must not forget the hard fact that only women from upper social class have enjoyed their freedom to choose their profession or even personal life. Girls are still treated with same taboos and still considered them *Praya Dhan* (wealth of others). When a girl is born to a family one thing is put in their mind that girls should be just confined to house hold set up moreover they are permitted to become a teacher, a doctor but not to involve in political activities because they think politics is a dirty game is played by dirty people. So girls are taking less participation in politics try to find her career in another fields. Women in Himachal as well as in India are not treated as equally to men. They are legally or constitutionally equal. But there are many social taboos which still discriminate against men. The first chief minister of Himachal Pradesh Dr. Y.S Parmar has discussed the problems of women in special reference to polygamy and polyandry system of marriage.

Politics is a set to gain power and wealth. The patriarchymind set up never feel complacent the shift of power in the hands of women. Almost all political parties have men in power to systemise the party. This system of politics by men is justified by saying women have less sense to take quick decisions and considered women as passive. Due to Less literacy and less political awareness women seems less interested in politics.

Women in my study areas have been confronting social, cultural and economic dependency, which limits their political participation. In these areas women are

mostly pressurized by the male domination. The women representation remained reserved because of the male dominating culture in the region. Always they are using custom and traditions as a tool, due to that woman have been sidelined from most decision - making process. The lack of liberty is a tradition that is rooted in their homes and the society where male members maintain strict control over decision making. Women have compelled to undertake household responsibilities, which keep women busy throughout their life cycle. They are not free to take decision even about their education, marriage, going outside of house, number of children, and about economic matters, so how they can take part in politics.

One of the respondent said, “Male don’t want us allow women to be politics.

Women should need to be empowered to minimize their dependency, exploitation, discrimination attitudes, and biased law.

If we will see the data in 1952, women constituted 4.4 percent of Lok Sabha members and now, after 60 years, the percent is around 11.2. The above reason for not giving tickets to women candidates at the national and state level is based on the perception that they lack the ‘win –ability’ fact.

Reservation helps women enter in different political institution of the society where they can lead the developmental process in different angles. The dream of gender equality is entirely dependent on the fact of the proportion of women participation in decision making in administrative or legislative level. In patriarchal society it is tough to get involved in wide levels of decision making process and the situation becomes even more critical if women are uneducated. It is paramount to accept the Enhancement in the participation of women in development and ameliorating gender equality is the result of women reservation. The awareness programmes started by government as well as N.G.Os and other social help groups lead to change the mindset of the society about women. In Himachal Pradesh positive amelioration has been observed and the participatory moves are visible but a long path of women liberation is yet to be covered.



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