

GRAMA PANCHAYAT, AWARENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF VARIOUS SCHEMES

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Panchayat raj institutions are backbone of the government. They play very prominent role in implementing the schemes that are introduced by government for the socio economic development of the people, but in contrary the purpose of them are not given importance. It may be due to lot of reasons. Primary motive of the elected representative of the Grama Panchayat are to see that every schemes that the government introduces for the socio economic development of the people should reach the under privileged section of the society but this purpose is not fulfilled by the elected representatives. The controlling body of the Grama Panchayat should monitor the functions of Grama Panchayat and people should elect dedicated and good candidate as their representative so that next five years all the developmental schemes that government provides can be fully implemented. Many schemes are not effectively implemented due to lot of reason; there is no good communication between public and members of gram Panchayat and Panchayat development officer. Some steps to be taken by higher authority for reducing the miscommunication. Many of the schemes should be provided for people through online so that many people can get lot more benefits from the schemes.

Key words: Grama Panchayat, central and state government schemes, awareness and effectiveness.

INTRODUCTION:

The village Panchayat is the basic local government unit in rural India. Though Panchayat have been in existence for a long period of time, the present system clearly marks off from the past in respect of powers, functions and financial resources. Panchayat have now a major role as instruments of rural reconstruction and development. They have been given wider powers and financial resources not only because they are institutions of political participation but institutions of social and economic development. Sometimes, it becomes the joint responsibility of the centre state and local governments to perform certain important functions. It becomes necessary to combine national conception with local execution for implementing certain programmes. Thus every Panchayat has its contribution not only to the development of the particular area under its jurisdiction but also to the whole nation. There is a growing need of making use of local interest, local knowledge and local participation for the administration of every nation. "There are some functions which can be best performed by local authorities only. Such functions need local attention and adaptation to circumstances. They cannot be

standardised on a state or national level".¹ Hence the consolidation and reorganisation of local bodies have been felt at all times. Scientific consolidation and reorganisation of local bodies calls for not only the provision of more efficient structure for them but also providing them with sufficient finance to discharge their duties efficiently.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 is a big step forward in this direction. Accordingly, more powers and functions have been assigned to Panchayat. The devolution of functions to Panchayat cannot be considered in isolation of finance required to perform these functions. Increasing functions imply increasing need for resource. The local government should have the freedom of selecting and implementing their own programmes, for which they should have the freedom to raise funds independently. "Upon adequate revenue provision depend the ability of local authorities to discharge any responsibilities; upon some sources of revenue being local, depends the prudence and independence of local authorities; upon predictability of revenue depends their ability to plan for the future; upon the equity of their local tax system, depends much popular support".

This study is based on primary information related to the Awareness and Effectiveness of the schemes introduced by government through Grama Panchayat. Government implement different schemes through grama Panchayat for the betterment of the people but many schemes are still not yet reached remote areas of rural India. Hence the study is made to collect the opinion of residents of Konaje Grama Panchayat.

OBJECTIVES

- To study the various government schemes available through Grama Panchayat.
- To evaluate the opinion of representatives of Panchayat regarding the implementation of various developmental schemes.
- To evaluate the opinion of residents of study area regarding the awareness and implementation of various developmental schemes.
- To suggest measures based on the findings of the study.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

S.P. Jain (1999) has emphasized the need for action plan for awareness generation about working of Gram Sabha. He stated: "It has been observed over the years that the performance of the Gram Sabha has suffered due to lack of awareness among the people about the concept and utility of the institution of Gram Sabha, and their own role in making it successful. Any effort directed towards strengthening this institution, therefore, requires a very serious action plan for awareness generation about various aspects of working of Gram Sabhas among the people". **D.C. Shah (2002)** depicted that Gujarat's experience to make its Panchayat Raj Institution self sufficient is not contrary to dismal performance elsewhere in the country. Total income of District Panchayats, through, increase once, this increase

seems to be substantial only at current prices. If we account for the price rise, we find that the total income of District Panchayats of late is stagnating. What, however, is worth noticing is the fact that, of total income District Panchayats about 70 per cent to 95 per cent accrued from grants. **Dhaka and Dhaka (2004)** dealt with a case study of SC women in Haryana; study showed that many of them are not aware of their role and responsibilities in PRIs. Nor the social inhibitions and disabilities allow them to assert themselves. It is so primarily because most of them are illiterate, lack leadership quality, forced to observe purdah and their husbands or fathers-in-law represent them in Panchayat meetings and take over functions expected of elected women members. **Manjusha Sharma (2005)** emphasized Karnataka experiences indicate that women in the younger generation show an interest in the PRIs. The majority of them are married but the significance attached to marital status seems to be declining. The participation of female members in youth associations, mahila mandal, cooperative societies, etc. was low compared to male counterparts. The women members particularly preferred family planning and health to education. **G.R. Jayanandam & Panjala Narasaiah (2014)** depicted that since states have been given option to formulate conformity Acts under the main Act, state governments led by regional parties have done better than the other states. This Act has thrown challenge to age old caste system, power structure and domination of „haves over the have-nots“. As expected empowered women and oppressed classes have been humiliated, harassed and prevented from enjoying their rights conferred on them by the 73rd Amendment of the Constitution Act. **Poonam Chauhan & Gulnar Sharma (2015)** revealed that the grass root organization of cooperatives have been advocating policy reforms and projects that improve women's social mobility, provides platform for social interactions and improve their active participation in community matters. These initiatives have ripple effect benefiting society and future generations. **Kumari and Alam (2016)** noted that the Rural Development Department is implementing a number of programmes/schemes in the rural areas of the State. The main goal of these programmes is to reduce poverty, increase the assets among the families belonging to the lowest income category, reduce involuntary unemployment & under employment to negligible levels, improve access of the poor to social services and infrastructure development of rural areas **Patrick (2016)** opined that Grama Panchayats are performing better compared to their performance three decades earlier but they are still not meeting expected standards. Dramatic improvement in generating own income, particularly in collecting potential building and professional tax has to be initiated. Steps are also necessary for generating own assets and thereby collecting more non-tax revenue. The beneficiary contributions, other voluntary donations and contributions from other local bodies are not being properly tapped. The plight of the GPs is that they are performing with certain tools and controlled by many procedures and formalities. Instead they must operate within a specific framework to generate and collect more revenue so that they can design and implement more innovative and fruitful projects that are beneficial to their local communities.

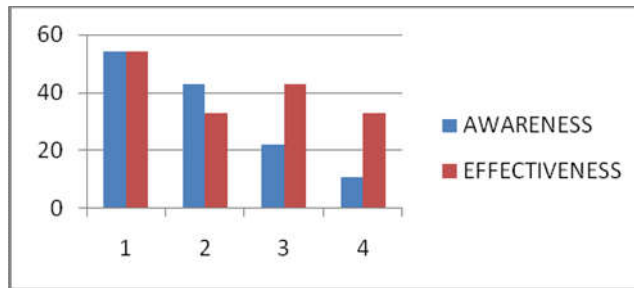
METHODOLOGY

This data is collected through the primary and secondary source of information, where primary data is collected through the questionnaires. Questionnaires were distributed among 163 representative members of Konaje Grama Panchayat and secondary source of information is collected through various books, journals, magazines, publications, newspapers and internet.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Following data were collected from representative members of Konaje grama Panchayat. It is presented in the form of graph and the analysis and interpretations are given below:

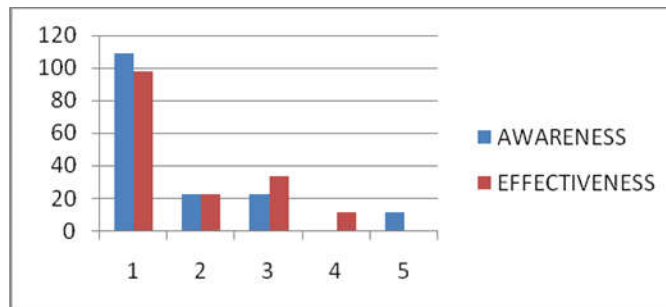
1. Ratings on awareness and effectiveness of Indira Awaas yojana



Source: Primary data

Analysis: the above graph reveals the awareness and effectiveness of INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA. Out of 163 respondents 54 of them are not aware of this scheme.43 of them have rated for 2, 22 of them are rated 3, 11 have rated for 4 and 33 of them feel that they are fully aware. But no one of them feel that it is effective and 33 respondents feel that it somewhat effective ,43 of them feel it as average, 33 of them feel that it below average and 54 of them feel that its ineffective. From the above analysis it is clear that many are not aware and feel INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA is ineffective.

2. Awareness and effectiveness of Jawahar Samridhi Yojana

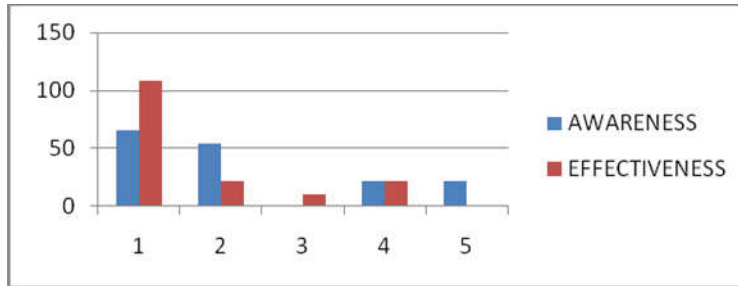


Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 110 have rated 1,10 have voted for 2,10 have voted for 3,5 have voted for 5, whereas 45 have said it as ineffective, 10 have rated it as below average, 15 have

accepted it as average, 5 have rated for above average and no one have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear many of them are not aware of JAWAHAR SAMRIDHI YOJANA and feel ineffective.

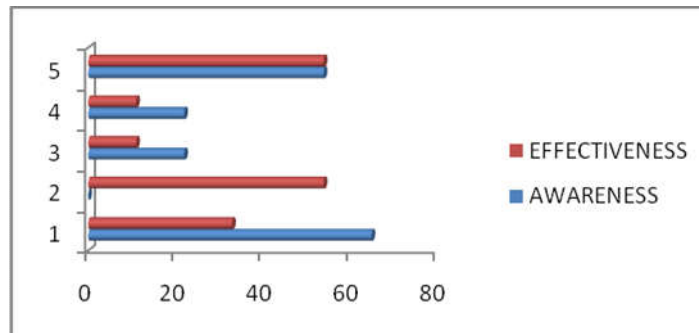
3. Awareness and effectiveness of Pradhana Mantri Gramodaya Yojana.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 30 are unaware, 25 are somewhat aware, 10 are having few knowledge about it, 10 are fully aware of this scheme, whereas 50 have said it as ineffective, 10 have rated it as below average, 5 have accepted it as average, 10 have rated for above average and no one have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that PRADHANA MANTRI GRAMODAYA YOJANA is still unaware for majority of the people and feels it as ineffective.

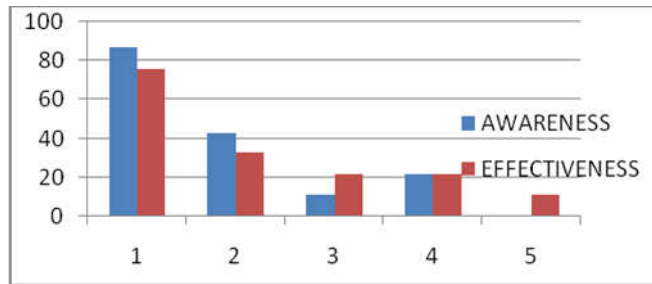
4. Awareness and effectiveness of Swasta Grama Yojana.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 65 are unaware, 54 are fully aware of this scheme, whereas 33 have said it as ineffective, 54 have rated it as below average, 11 have accepted it as average, 11 have rated for above average and 54 have said it as effective. From above analysis it is clear that SWASTA GRAMA YOJANA is not fully aware for people and not fully effective.

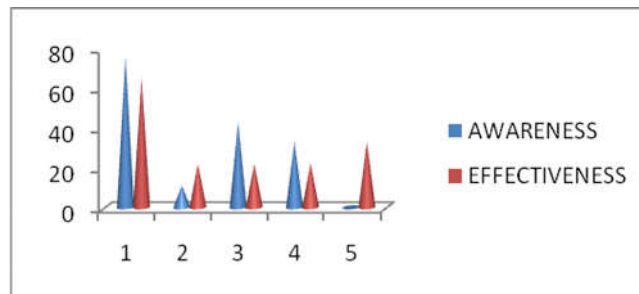
5. Awareness and effectiveness of Swarna Jayanthi Gram Swarozgar Yojana.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 87 are unaware, 43 are having very less knowledge about it, 11 of them have moderate information about the scheme and 22 of them feel it as bit aware, whereas 76 have said it as ineffective, 33 have rated it as below average, 22 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 11 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority are unaware and feel SWARNA JAYANTHI GRAMA SWAROZGAR YOJANA as ineffective.

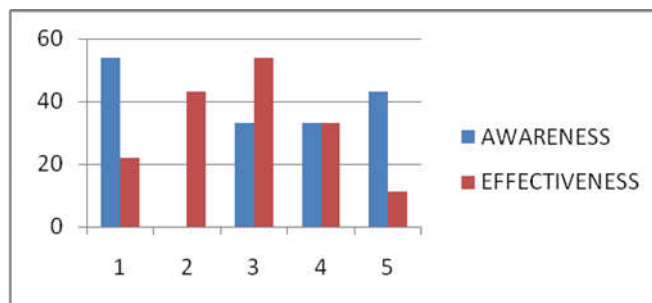
6. Awareness and effectiveness of Swavalambana



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 76 are unaware 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 43 of them are moderate aware of the scheme and 33 of them feel it as bit aware, whereas 65 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 22 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 33 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of them are still not aware of SWAVALAMBANA scheme and feel ineffective.

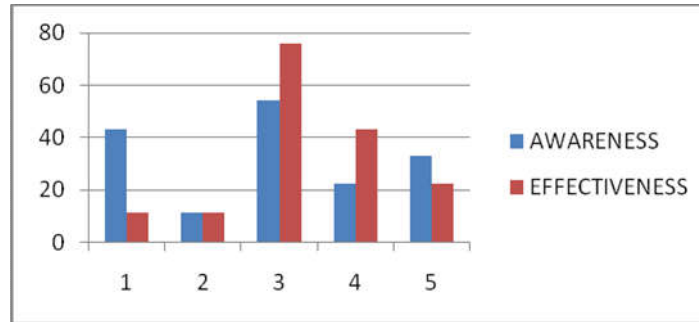
7. Awareness and effectiveness of Borewell and Handpump schemes



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 54 are unaware, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme and 33 of them feel it as bit aware, 43 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 22 have said it as ineffective, 43 have rated it as below average, 54 have accepted it as average, 33 have rated for above average and 11 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of them are aware of the bore well and feel it as effective.

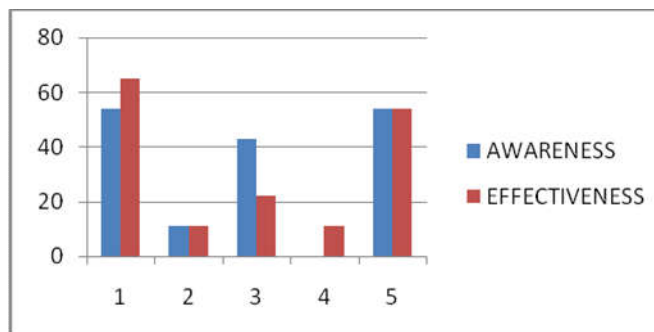
8. Awareness and effectiveness of mini water supply schemes.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 43 are unaware 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 54 of them are moderate aware of the scheme and 22 of them feel it as bit aware, 33 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 11 have said it as ineffective, 11 have rated it as below average, 76 have accepted it as average, 43 have rated for above average and 22 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware of MINI WATER SUPPLY SCHEME and fell it as moderate effective.

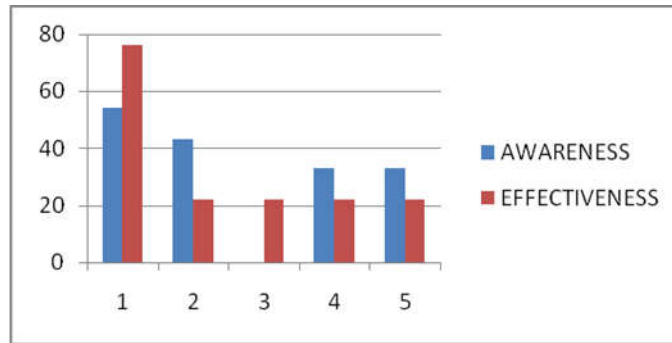
9. Awareness and effectiveness of Nirmal Grama Yojana



Source: Primary data

From the above graph it is clear 54 are unaware ,11 are having very less knowledge about it, 43 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. none of them feel it as bit aware,54 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 65 have said it as ineffective, 11 have rated it as below average, 22 have accepted it as average, 11 have rated for above average and 54 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware of NIRMAL GRAMA YOJANA and fell it as moderate effective.

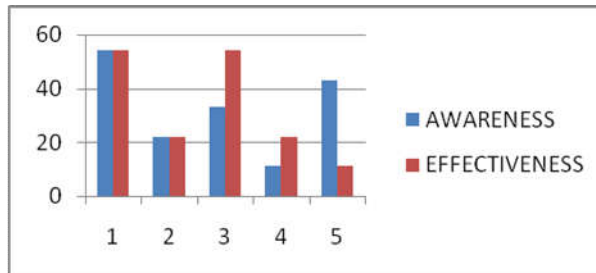
10. **Awareness and effectiveness of Soura Belaku**



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 54 are unaware, 43 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them feel it as bit aware, 33 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 76 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 22 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 22 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware SOURA BELAKU and fell it as moderate effective.

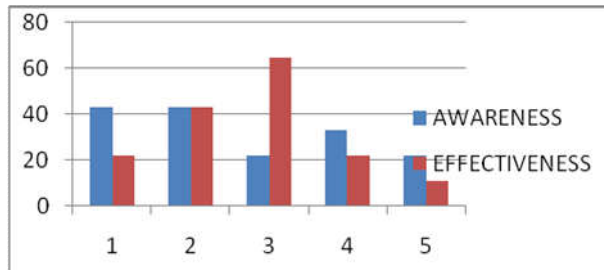
11. **Awareness and effectiveness of Pradhana Mantri Grama Sadak Yojana.**



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 54 are unaware, 22 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderately aware of the scheme. 11 of them feel it as bit aware, 43 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 54 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 54 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 11 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware of PRADHANA MANTRI GRAMA SADAK YOJANA and fell it as ineffective.

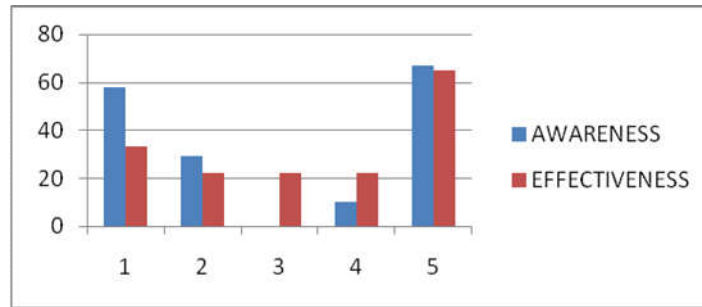
12. **Awareness and effectiveness of Rural Infrastructure Development scheme.**



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 43 are unaware ,43 are having very less knowledge about it, 22 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. 33 of them feel it as bit aware,22 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 22 have said it as ineffective, 43 have rated it as below average, 65 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 11 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware of RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME and fell it as moderate effective.

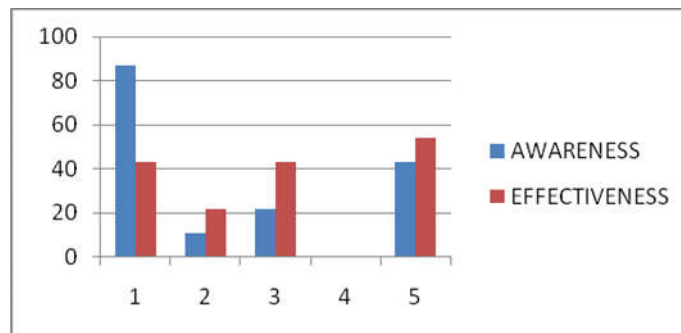
13. Awareness and effectiveness of Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 58 are unaware, 29 are having very less knowledge about it, 10 of them feel it as bit aware, 67 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 33 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 22 have accepted it as average, 22 have rated for above average and 65 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware of INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION and felt it as effective.

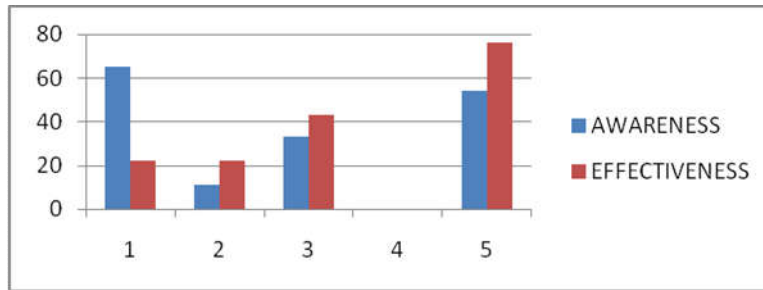
14. Awareness and effectiveness of Destitute Widow Pension



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 87 are unaware 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 22 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. none of them feel it as bit aware,43 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 43 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 43 have accepted it as average, none have rated for above average and 55 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware DESTITUTE WIDOW PENSION and felt it as moderate effective.

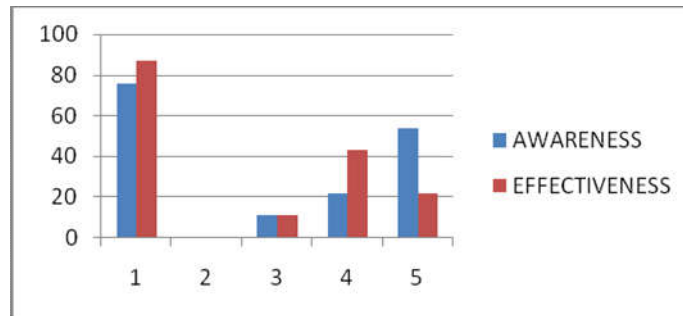
15. Awareness and effectiveness of Physically Handicapped Pension



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 65 are unaware, 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. none of them feel it as bit aware, 54 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 22 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 43 have accepted it as average, none have rated for above average and 76 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware PHYSIALLY HANDICAPPED PENSION and felt it as effective

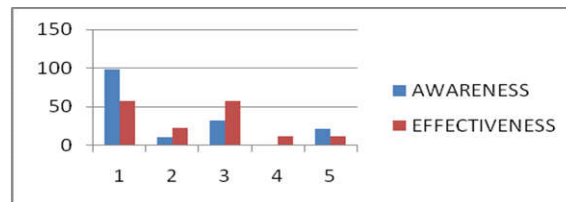
16. awareness and effectiveness of Sandya Suraksha Yojana



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 76 are unaware, 11 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. 11 of them feel it as bit aware, 22 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 87 have said it as ineffective, none have rated it as below average, 11 have accepted it as average, 43 have rated for above average and 22 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is aware SANDYA SURAKSHA YOJANA and fell it as moderate effective.

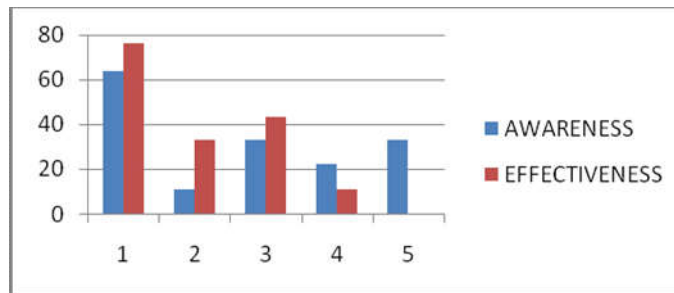
17. Awareness and effectiveness of Anthya Samskara Assistance scheme.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear that 98 are unaware, 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. None of them feel it as bit aware, 22 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 58 have said it as ineffective, 23 have rated it as below average, 58 have accepted it as average, 12 have rated for above average and 12 have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is not aware ANTHYA SAMSKARA ASSISTENCE SCHEME and felt it was not effective.

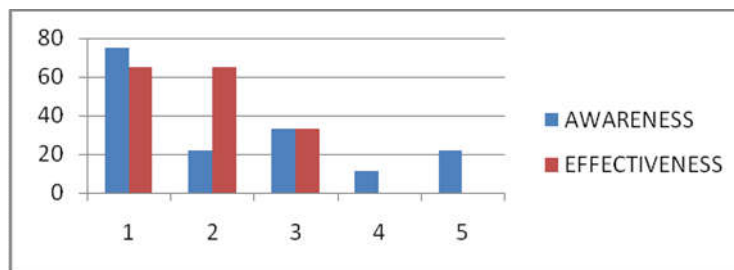
18. Awareness and effectiveness of Aam Admi Bima Yojana



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 64 are unaware, 11 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. 22 of them feel it as bit aware, 33 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 76 have said it as ineffective, 33 have rated it as below average, 43 have accepted it as average, 11 have rated for above average and none have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is not aware ANTHYA AAM ADMI BIMA YOJANA and felt it was not effective.

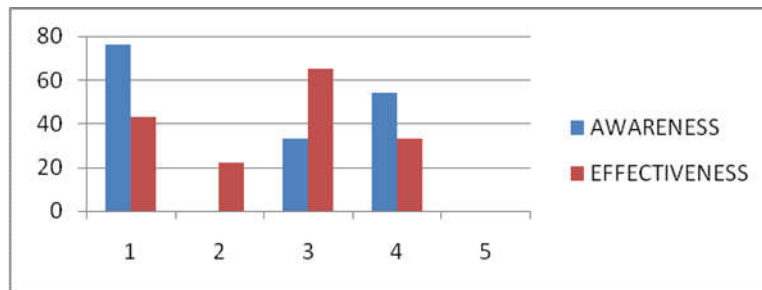
19. Awareness and effectiveness of Annapurna scheme



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 75 are unaware, 22 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. 11 of them feel it as bit aware, 22 are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 65 have said it as ineffective, 33 have rated it as below average, 33 have accepted it as average, none have rated for above average and none have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is not aware ANNAPURNA and felt it was not effective.

20. Awareness and effectiveness of Pradhana Mantri Krushi Sinchan Yojana.



Source: Primary data

Analysis: From the above graph it is clear 76 are unaware, 00 are having very less knowledge about it, 33 of them are moderate aware of the scheme. 54 of them feel it as bit aware, none are fully aware of the scheme, whereas 43 have said it as ineffective, 22 have rated it as below average, 65 have accepted it as average, 33 have rated for above average and none have said it as effective. From the above analysis it is clear that majority of the public is not aware of PRADHANA MANTRI KRUSHI SINCHAN YOJANA and felt it was not effective.

SUGGESTIONS

- Representatives of ward or Grama Panchayat should take an initiative inform the general public about the meetings which is going to be held through sending a letter or through messaging.
- Representatives of Grama Panchayat should visit the area at least twice in the month so that they will come to know the problems of the village people.
- Gram Panchayat should take initiative to improve the life style of citizen, physically challenged people by providing benefits to them.
- Transparency level of implementing development program should be much more better
- Grama Panchayat should help the people by giving the more information about the government schemes and implementing those schemes and should provide benefits of government schemes to the general public
- Grama Panchayat should take initiative in solving the social problem like construction of road, water problem etc
- Since general public regular in paying all the taxes to the Grama Panchayat and this income should be properly utilised by Grama Panchayat in solving the village problem
- Grama Panchayat should take some special initiatives in women empowerment program. which will the help the beneficiary such program
- Grama Panchayat should communicate with the general public so that Grama Panchayat should aware about the problems of generally public

- Whatever decision taken in Grama Panchayat meeting it should be published through messages or through post so that general public will come to the decision which is taken in the meeting.
- There is biased political interference in Panchayat activities it is to be controlled
- Public feel that they not aware of the schemes and feel that the members elected from the ward should communicate them regarding the schemes of Grama Panchayat.
- Members are only active in some schemes which will give publicity for them and public feel that the same interest should be shown for other scheme also.
- Members not regular in visiting the houses
- Its opinion of members that people should attend the regularly for the Grama Sabha, where problems and information regarding the schemes are being provided for the public.
- There should a good response from Grama Panchayat for the people who want information regarding the schemes.
- The Panchayat should provide still more importance for the schemes related to social security of the people, such as pension schemes and assistance schemes.
- The communication should be given for the people regarding the meetings of Grama Panchayat should be proper. So that people may get lot more benefits of the schemes of government.
- Politics should not be mixed in work of Grama Panchayat so that a particular category of people will always be neglected.
- There is biased political interference in Panchayat activities it is to be controlled

CONCLUSION

Grama Panchayat are the back bone of the country development and government provide lot of schemes for the peoples through Grama Panchayat for the benefit of the people of the underprivileged section of society. The funds available for the Grama Panchayat are very less and those funds are used for the purpose of development, but in case of schemes that are provides by different departments of the government through Grama Panchayat should be given very much importance. People should elect dedicated and hardworking members as the members of Grama Panchayat. Those schemes related to the water supply and sanitation was implemented properly and they should be regularly maintained for the future. Many schemes are not effectively implemented due to lot of reason; there is no good communication between public and members of gram Panchayat and Panchayat development officer. Some steps to be taken by higher authority for reducing the miscommunication. Many of the schemes should be provided for people through online so that many people can get lot more benefits from the schemes.

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