

HAVERI ZILLA PANCHAYATH ELECTIONS: AN ANALYSIS OF THE FACTORS OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

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Introduction

Chapter five deals with the Haveri Zilla Panchayath Elections: An Analysis of the factors of women participation in panchayath raj institutions. The analysis starts with the brief profile of Haveri district. The Haveri district was formed in the year 2001 by dividing the earlier Dharwad district into Dharwad, Haveri and Gadag districts. The Haveri district is located between north latitudes 14° 17' 02" to 15° 15' 01" and east longitudes 75° 00' 35" to 75° 04' 23" falling in the survey of India Toposheet Nos-48M/4, 48 M/8, 48M/12, 48N/1, 48N/2, 48N/5, 48N/6, 48N/7, 48N/9, 48N/10, 48N/11, 48N/13, 48N/14, and 48N/15.

Haveri is a district in the state of Karnataka, India with the potential to become a tourist hub. As of 2001, it had a population of 1,439,116 of which 20.78% were urban residents. Haveri District is exactly in the centre of Karnataka with equidistant from Bidar in the far north to Kollegal in the far south. The district consists of seven taluks namely Hanagal, Shiggaon, Savanur, Haveri, Byadagi, Hirekerur, and Ranebennur. It is bounded by Dharwad district on the north, by Gadag district in the northeast, by Bellary district on the east, by Davangere district on the south, by Shimoga district in the southwest and by Uttar Kannada on the west and northwest. Before it was made into its own district, it was part of Dharwad District. Haveri is 335 km from Bangalore.

Haveri is the administrative and political headquarters of the district, whereas Ranebennur in the south is a business hub. The important towns and villages in Haveri District are:

- Haveri: The district's administrative, culture and political headquarters, it also famous for its cattle markets, oil mills and cotton markets. Haveri is also known for "Haveri Nyaya". a typical method of settling the disputes.
- Haunsabhavi: Famous Place for Education (Mruthyunjaya vidya peeta).

- Hangal: Taluk head quarter. Place of the beautiful Tarkeshwar temple.
- Akki-Alur: City in Hanagal Taluk. Rice bowl of Haveri District. Famous for its lake and gardens.
- Kumar Pattanam: Place of Birla industries on the bank of the river Tungabhadra.
- Byadgi: Famous for Byadgi chilli.
- Bankapura: Notified as Bankapur Conservation Reserve offering a safe haven for peacocks.
- Ranebennur: Important trade centre in central Karnataka.
- Kaginele: Kaginele Kanaka Guru Peetha, a religious Math (institution) dedicated to sage Kanakadasa is present here.
- Rattihalli : City in Hirekerur taluk. Place for beautiful kadambeshwar temple.

5.2 Administrative Setup in Haveri District

The district is divided into seven taluks having a total geographical area of 4848 sq. kms. The district is also divided into two sub divisions with taluks Shiggaon, Hangal, Savanur coming under Savanur subdivision and taluks Haveri, Hirekerur, Byadagi and Ranibennur coming under Haveri subdivision.

5.3 Land use pattern in Haveri District

The district has 474.54 sq.km of forest, which constitutes 9.79% of the total geographical area of the district. The fallow land in the district is around 33779 ha. Net area sown during the year 2003-04 was around 349250 ha., out of which, 92987 ha. of land was sown more than once. 1.5 Crops.

The main crops grown in the district are jowar, maize, cotton, chilly, paddy, ragi, pulses, groundnut, horse gram, sugarcane and sunflower., 1.6 Irrigation Out of 442237 ha., of cultivated land during 2003-04, 51002 ha. which was under irrigation. Out of the 51002 ha., which was under irrigation, 2136 ha., was irrigated by canals, 10579 ha. was irrigated by tanks, 205 ha., was irrigated by dug wells, 23995 ha., was irrigated by tube/bore wells.

5.4 Industries in Haveri District

The sugar factory at Sangur in Haveri taluk and Grasim industry located at Kumarapattanam in Ranebennur taluk are the important industries in the district. 2.0 Rainfall and Climate. The district enjoys sub tropical climate with temperatures ranging in between 180 and 400 C. The rainfall varies in the district from over 903 mm in west (Hangal) to less than 592 mm in east (Ranebennur). October is the wettest month with normal monthly rainfall in all hydrometeorological stations is recorded in excess of 100mm. During the year 2005, the annual rain fall in all the taluks was normal except at Hirekerur taluk where it received deficit rainfall and Shiggaon taluk which received excess rain fall.

5.5 Haveri District Population 2011

In 2011, Haveri had population of 1,597,668 of which male and female were 819,128 and 778,540 respectively. In 2001 census, Haveri had a population of 1,439,116 of which males were 740,469 and remaining 698,647 were females. Haveri District population constituted 2.62 percent of total Maharashtra population. In 2001 census, this figure for Haveri District was at 2.72 percent of Maharashtra population.

According to the [2011 census](#) Haveri district has a [population](#) of 1,598,506, roughly equal to the nation of [Guinea-Bissau](#) or the US state of [Idaho](#). This gives it a ranking of 312th in India (out of a total of [640](#)). The district has a population density of 331 inhabitants per square kilometre (860 /sq mi). Its [population growth rate](#) over the decade 2001-2011 was 11.08%.^[2] Haveri has a [sex ratio](#) of 951 [females](#) for every 1000 males,^[2] and a [literacy rate](#) of 77.6%.

5.6 Haveri District Population Growth Rate

There was change of 11.02 percent in the population compared to population as per 2001. In the previous census of India 2001, Haveri District recorded increase of 13.39 percent to its population compared to 1991.

5.7 Haveri District Density 2011

The initial provisional data released by census India 2011, shows that density of Haveri district for 2011 is 331 people per sq. km. In 2001, Haveri district density was at 298 people per sq. km. Haveri district administers 4,823 square kilometers of areas.

5.8 Haveri Literacy Rate 2011

Average literacy rate of Haveri in 2011 were 77.40 compared to 67.79 of 2001. If things are looked out at gender wise, male and female literacy were 84.00 and 70.46 respectively. For 2001 census, same figures stood at 77.61 and 57.37 in Haveri District. Total literate in Haveri District were 1,085,443 of which male and female were 603,793 and 481,650 respectively. In 2001, Haveri District had 837,509 in its district.

5.9 Haveri Sex Ratio 2011

With regards to Sex Ratio in Haveri, it stood at 950 per 1000 male compared to 2001 census figure of 944. The average national sex ratio in India is 940 as per latest reports of Census 2011 Directorate. In 2011 census, child sex ratio is 946 girls per 1000 boys compared to figure of 957 girls per 1000 boys of 2001 census data.

5.10 Haveri Child Populations 2011

In census enumeration, data regarding child under 0-6 age were also collected for all districts including Haveri. There were total 195,317 children under age of 0-6 against 203,712 of 2001 census. Of total 195,317 male and female were 100,369 and 94,948 respectively. Child Sex Ratio as per census 2011 was 946 compared to 957 of census 2001. In 2011, Children under 0-6 formed 12.23 percent of Haveri District compared to 14.16 percent of 2001. There was net change of -1.93 percent in this compared to previous census of India. Population trends in Haveri district are presented in Table- 5.1.

Table -5.1

Population Trends in Haveri District

Description	2011	2001
Actual Population	1,597,668	1,439,116
Male	819,128	740,469
Female	778,540	698,647
Population Growth	11.02%	13.39%
Area Sq. Km	4,823	4,823
Density/km ²	331	298
Proportion to Karnataka Population	2.62%	2.72%
Sex Ratio (Per 1000)	950	944
Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Age)	946	957
Average Literacy	77.40	67.79
Male Literacy	84.00	77.61
Female Literacy	70.46	57.37
Total Child Population (0-6 Age)	195,317	203,712
Male Population (0-6 Age)	100,369	104,119
Female Population (0-6 Age)	94,948	99,593
Literates	1,085,443	837,509
Male Literates	603,793	493,856
Female Literates	481,650	343,653
Child Proportion (0-6 Age)	12.23%	14.16%
Boys Proportion (0-6 Age)	12.25%	14.06%
Girls Proportion (0-6 Age)	12.20%	14.26%

Description	Rural	Urban
Population (%)	77.75 %	22.25 %
Total Population	1,242,167	355,501
Male Population	638,450	180,678
Female Population	603,717	174,823
Sex Ratio	946	968
Child Sex Ratio (0-6)	953	921
Child Population (0-6)	152,010	43,307
Male Child(0-6)	77,825	22,544
Female Child(0-6)	74,185	20,763
Child Percentage (0-6)	12.24 %	12.18 %
Male Child Percentage	12.19 %	12.48 %
Female Child Percentage	12.29 %	11.88 %
Literates	825,101	260,342
Male Literates	465,603	138,190
Female Literates	359,498	122,152
Average Literacy	75.69 %	83.39 %
Male Literacy	83.05 %	87.39 %
Female Literacy	67.89 %	79.29 %

Source: District at a Glance, Haveri District.

5.11 Haveri District Urban Population 2011

Out of the total Haveri population for 2011 census, 22.25 percent lives in urban regions of district. In total 355,501 people lives in urban areas of which males are 180,678 and females are 174,823. Sex Ratio in urban region of Haveri district is 968 as per 2011 census data. Similarly child sex ratio in Haveri district was 921 in 2011 census. Child population (0-6) in urban region was 43,307 of which males and females were 22,544 and 20,763. This child population figure of Haveri district is 12.48 % of total urban population. Average literacy rate in Haveri district as per census 2011 is 83.39 % of which males and females are 87.39 % and 79.29 % literates respectively. In actual number 260,342 people are literate in urban region of which males and females are 138,190 and 122,152 respectively.

5.12 Haveri District Rural Population 2011

As per 2011 census, 77.75 % population of Haveri districts lives in rural areas of villages. The total Haveri district population living in rural areas is 1,242,167 of which males and females are 638,450 and 603,717 respectively. In rural areas of Haveri district, sex ratio is 946 females per 1000 males. If child sex ratio data of Haveri district is considered, figure is 953 girls per 1000 boys. Child population in the age 0-6 is 152,010 in rural areas of which males were 77,825 and females were 74,185. The child population comprises 12.19 % of total rural population of Haveri district. Literacy rate in rural areas of Haveri district is 75.69 % as per census data 2011. Gender wise, male and female literacy stood at 83.05 and 67.89 percent respectively. In total, 825,101 people were literate of which males and females were 465,603 and 359,498 respectively. All details regarding Haveri District have been processed by us after receiving from Govt. of India. We are not responsible for errors to population census details of Haveri District.

The present Haveri district came into existence on 24-8-1997 upon the bifurcation of the Diistrict of Dharwad. The District has a historical significance and finds references in the ancient Epic Mahabharat. Though the origin of the name is not known with certainty, some local historians opine that in the olden days the place used to be haunted by a lot of snakes (Haavu in kannada the local language) Hence it came to be addressed as Haavu (snake)Eri(came from)In the past ,Haveri was ruled by a number of illustrious rules of Karnataka, district has a number of historical sites & religious shrines. Culturally, Haveri is well known for folklore, drama, fairs& festivals. The district has a rich cultural history .It is also well known for religious movements spread through the Bhakti cult. The cult was propagated by the Dasas like Kanakadasa, Sharifsab was born here. The popular Kannada TRIPLET poet called "Sarvajna" borned here. The temperature in Haveri district is generally pleasant and healthy. The district is backward in its socio-economic composition of population

Table- 5.2**Profile of Haveri district Area wise population**

Sl. No.	Taluk Rural& Urban	Area (sq.Kms)	As per 2001 P0pulation Census		Total
			Male	Female	
1	Byadgi	436	65765	62179	127944
2	Hangal	773	118161	42589	230750
3	Haveri	799	130230	122117	252347
4	Hirekerur	806	108829	103629	212458
5	Ranebennur	907	157019	147971	304990
6	Savanur	539	74353	69532	143885
7	Shiggaon	588	86112	80630	166742
	Total	4848	740469	698647	1439116

Source: District at a Glance, Haveri District.

As noted in the above table – 5.2, Haveri has 7 taluks & an area of 4848 sq.kms & constitutes 2.53 percent of the state’s total geographical area. Decentralization of administration has led to the division of the district into 2 revenue sub-divisions, HAVERI and SAVANUR.

Table- 5.3**Administrative Structure and Number of Panchayat Raj Institutions**

Sl. No	Sub-Revenue	Taluks
1	Haveri	Haveri, Byadgi, Hirekerur, Ranebennur
2	Savanur	Savanur, Shiggaon, Hangal
3	Zilla panchayat	Haveri
4	Number of Taluk panchayats	07
5	Number of Gram panchayats	208

Source: District at a Glance, Haveri District.

According to the 2001 census, there were 698 villages & 7 uninhabited ones in the district. Decentralization has been successfully implemented in the district where the gram, taluk & district level bodies have been working towards the goal of development with people’s participation. PRIs help the women to improve their political empowerment level. In my survey 70% of the women members of GPs and TPs said that to achieve equality in politics, women should make an entry into politics and the problems of women can best be solved only by women. Men cannot understand the women’s problems.

5.13 Panchayat Raj Institutions Activities About Women Empowerment:

Empowerment in general and self-employment in particular is intimately connected with women's empowerment. It was attempted to know what measures the PRIs had taken to implement employment schemes, especially swaranjayanti gram swarozgar yojana .It was played a positive role in organizing SHGs by calling meetings, helped in opening account in a bank, providing seed money, bank linkages etc. Many vocational training has been taken place to improve the conditions of the women. Training in skills like free computer education, tailoring garments, knitting, bakery sweets, food for anganavadies, health care, agriculture training, preparation of earth worm compost (Erehulu manure) small scale industrial training etc. Awareness camp for rural women has been taken place to improve the conditions of the women as well as the youths. The details of awareness of self-employment schemes are presented in Table- 5.4.

Table- 5.4
Awareness of Self-employment Schemes

schemes	Panchayat Raj Members			Self Help group members			Total		
	No	%	Total	No	%	Total	No	%	Total
SGSY	42	68	62	68	63	108	110	65	170
Indira Awaz Yojana	43	69	62	50	46	108	93	55	170
Ambedkar Yojana	40	64	62	60	55	108	100	59	170
Ashraya Yojana	39	63	62	60	55	108	100	59	170
PMRY	42	68	62	30	28	108	72	42	170
Navagram Yojana	62	100	62	108	100	108	100	59	170
Kooligagi Kalu	62	100	62	108	100	108	100	59	170
Stree Shakti	60	96	62	100	95	108	160	90	170

Source: District At a Glance, Haveri District.

Data presented in table shows that an overwhelming majority of both PRI members and SHG members were aware of schemes meant for women and empowerment. It could be clearly stated that a majority of the rural women, under the investigation, had some idea of schemes meant for their upliftment.

One of the basic responsibilities of panchayats is to promote Self-Help Groups, which have come to stay in rural areas as the main women's organizations for empowerment. It should be noted that women's empowerment depends upon the extent to which basic infrastructure such as schools, public health, anganawadies and water and sanitation are provided to rural women. In my survey I have come to know that all are functioning well as per people's expectations. PRIs office bearers supervise and check duties, attendance of school teacher's public health and anganawadi staff. There were overhead tanks and water stands, but water is not regularly stored due to load shedding.

In any modern democratic political system, elections occupy a central place. Election is the contrivance through which a modern state creates amongst its citizens, a sense of involvement and participation in public affairs. It is through popular election that the authority of a government gets legitimacy. An effective electoral system is therefore, regarded as the bed rock of a representative government.

Among the various ways of political participation, electoral participation either by voting or contesting is regarded as an important means of participation. Through the participation in electoral process many issues of public interest gets highlighted. The campaign processes, public meetings of candidates, publish of manifestoes; all these are important aspects of political participation which are regarded as an essential tenet of democratic practices. Political participation not only serves to democratic ideology related to 'of the people by the people and for the people' but also regarded as added resources to participatory processes.

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