

# Power, Structure, and Agency in Village Panchayat

A Study on Forced Resignation  
and No-Confidence Motion against Dalit Sarpanch in Gujarat

**Working Paper**



**Human Development and Research Centre (HDRC)**

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# Forward

Human Development and Research Centre (HDRC) is one amongst the right-based research organization in India, especially in Gujarat it focuses on the development concerns of the marginal section and the socially excluded communities. Over the last forty years, HDRC has carried out several studies understanding different aspects of human development and strengthen the struggle for social justice, against human rights violation marginalized social groups such as Dalits, Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Religious Minorities, Women and Children in Indian society. HDRC exists to promote and strengthen the people's organizations and movements of the marginalized, discriminated, excluded communities to achieve social justice and dignity within the human rights framework and democratic mechanisms of the Indian Constitution.

This working paper, "Power, Structure and Agency in Village Panchayat is a Study on Forced Resignation and NCM against Dalit Sarpanch in Gujarat. It based on HDRC research which focus on conceptual issues and theories related to power, structure and agency. In the context of the village panchayat. 73rd amendment gives an opportunity to deprived groups in the decision-making process at local level governance. As a result, the researchers have analysed different types of discrimination that lead to no-confidence motion. The paper also highlights atrocities against Dalits in Panchayats. The researcher opinion that force resignation and NCM leads to discrimination, which is measurable through explorative method. At the end of the paper, we find caste-based discrimination in panchayat. Elite agency does not allow Dalits to function at local level. It also seeks to help enrich and enhance thinking about policies to alleviate no-confidence motion.

This Working paper deals with conceptual and methodological issues in the field local self-governance study. We hope that it will be helpful to academicians, students, activists, civil society organisations and policy makers.

At last this working paper does not giving final conclusion but it explores to understand micro-sociological dynamics processes of the selected villages in the study area.

**Alice Morris**

Director





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