



## A STUDY OF MAHATMA GANDHI DISPUTE FREE VILLAGE CAMPAIGN

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### ABSTRACT:

The Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village Campaign has been accepted as an integral part of people's lives in the state of Maharashtra. This campaign is needed for the development of human society and for the social stability and sustainability of the conflicts and problems in the village. Although an alternative system of "Lok Adalat" and alternative Dispute Resolution {ADR} is available to resolve. These issues become a Campaign to resolve these disputes at village level need to be undertaken. In any democratic republic country, people-oriented activities were considered as a sign of complete development and prosperity of that Nation. This campaign is needed everywhere as it can only achieve the goal of realizing the prestigious definition of democracy.

**Keywords :** Lok Adalat, Democracy, Dispute, Administration

### Theoretical background:

Maharashtra is considered as one of the most progressive state in India. According to the 2011 census India stand second in the list of populated nation with the population of 1,21,01,93,422 and the population of Maharashtra state are 11,23,72,972. People of all cast, creed and religion engage in different trades and occupations residing in Maharashtra. Apart from the locals, migrants and refugees who reside here follow their old rituals, traditions, festivals and ideologies. It reflects multiculturalism at its best because of huge population there is a great extent of disputes and prosecution.

Today there are plenty of civil and criminal cases pending in the court. In order to minimize the extra burden of the courts, the speedy disposal of justice the honorable Supreme Court and central government has made an alternative arrangement by the formation of "Lok Adalat" {people's court} in 1980. Four hundred and fifty fast track courts were formulated in 1992 by the central Government.

At village level disputes arises on petty issues, suddenly these disputes take volatile tum and encompasses the people in a large number. Sometimes these civil disputes and the question of law and order arise at such places. It increases the stress upon the administration and legal system.

Although an alternative system of "Lok Adalat" and alternative Dispute Resolution {ADR} is available to resolve. These issues becomes a Campaign to resolve these disputes at village level need to be undertaken. People's participation at large scale shall prove beneficial. In this regard a study group under the chairmanship of Deputy Secretary to Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra was formed.

In the 13<sup>th</sup> century the state of Maharashtra saw the rise of saints. The rich tradition of saint's such as saint Namdeo, saint Dnyanadeo, saint Tukaram, saint Gadgebaba and Rashtasant Tukdoji Maharaj has given a spiritual vitality to the people of the state. The rich tradition formulated by these saints for last seven hundred years is fruitful in creating a mass

Campaign for Dispute Free Villages.

Thus in order to eliminate Disputes from villages, and try to resolve the disputes a study group was formed so that a Campaign can be undertaken. The state government has decided to give monetary award to the best five Dispute free Grampanchyats in the state of Maharashtra.

At village level petty issues resulted into big conflicts. Under the grip of these conflicts, a person has to suffer heavy financial losses as well as family disintegration stress and tension. Thus in order to make Dispute Free Village in society, if at all dispute arises, then such disputes can be resolved by peoples participation along with administration's efforts Hence Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village Campaign has been started.

### **Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village**

#### **Campaign:**

#### **Objectives:**

To initiate various activities at village level so that dispute cannot be aroused .

- To resolve the registered disputes and newly aroused disputes .
- To arrange a system where disputes at the villages should be resolved with maximum peoples participation .
- To arouse the feeling of religious kinship, security and maintain sociopolitical atmosphere in fact.
- To bring transparency in the working of police and to reform their image in the masses .
- To ban and eradicate illegal occupations with the help of people .
- To minimize corruption .
- To create mass awareness regarding superstitious rituals and ill traditions.

#### **Revenue Disputes:**

Ownership rights of agricultural land, right to heir, disputes arising due to boundaries of such lands, different laws regarding land, public

power, farm ways etc.

#### **Criminal Disputes:**

Cognizable and non-cognizable criminal suits regarding physical assets and frauds, crimes which can be resolved legally with client's co-operation.

#### **Other Disputes:**

Apart from civil revenue and criminal conflicts, the disputes arising in co-operative labour and industrial unit.

#### **Scope of the Campaign:**

This Campaign has to be implemented in all the Grampanchyats of state. Grampanchyat will remain at the center stage and the people living within its area come within its purview.

#### **Nature of Disputes:**

The nature of the Campaign is to stop the disputes and implement prohibitory action, to resolve the existing as well as newly aroused disputes, Under the Mahatma Gandhi Dispute Free Village Campaign; the disputes within following four categories can be resolved.

- 1)Civil
- 2)Revenue
- 3)Criminal
- 4)Other Disputes

The criminal disputes which cannot be resolved through the committee shall be forwarded to courts and police station.

#### **Committee at Village Level:**

It is mandatory to form a dispute free committee at all Grampanchyats in the state. The selection of the said committee will be as under:

#### **Construction of the committee:**

Representative

Elected by Gramsabha Grampanchyat  
Sarpanch Deputy sarpanch chairman

- 1)Representative of Sant Gadgebaba  
member
- 2)Gram Swachata Abhiyan  
member
- 3)Representative of Nirmal Gram  
member

- 4) Yojna Committee  
member
- 5) Representative of Rural Water  
member
- 6) Supply and Cleanliness  
member
- 7) Representative of Gram  
member
- 8) Shikshan Committee I 0) Retired Judge  
member

#### **Committee's work:**

- 1) To create awareness and prohibitory implementations so that disputes should not be aroused, and to keep religious socio-political atmosphere intact and try to eradicate worst rituals in the village.
- 2) Prohibitory implementation should be made clear before the Gramsabha.
- 3) Try to seek peoples participation and resolve the registered disputes newly aroused disputes.
- 4) It shall take assistance from the police, administration and legal advisor.
- 5) Committee shall act as a mediator in resolving the disputes.

#### **Resolving the Registered Disputes:**

- 1) Collection of information regarding disputes. The committee will collect the information of registered civil, revenue, criminal and other disputes up to 30<sup>th</sup> September villagers will be asked to share information regarding the disputes. It will collect information from police station, Tehsil office and courts.
- 2) Classification of disputes from collected information.
  - A) Disputes should be classified into civil, revenue, criminal and other category.
  - B) Criminal disputes should be classified into cognizable and non. cognizable. If needed bit Amaldars assistance will be sought.
  - C) Cognizable criminal Disputes should be classified as follows
    - 1) Dispute which can be resolved. Crimes included in act 320 of criminal

procedure code 1973 should be included.

2) Disputes which are unresolvable Crimes which are not included in act 320 of criminal procedure code 1973 be included here.

3) Registration of disputes/crimes as per classification

After the classification of disputes into civil, revenue, cognizable, noncognizable, criminal, cognizable but resolvable criminal disputes which are recorded into 2(A) record book, but cannot be suitably resolved as per the law will not be taken into consideration by the committee.

4) Resolving disputes:

The civil, revenue, non-cognizable criminal offences and resolvable cognizable disputes should be settled by the committee.

#### **Work style for resolving the disputes:**

- 1) Committee should call both the parties and after taking into consideration their views, it should try to resolve the dispute. If needed assistance should be sought from the concern government department. In case of criminal disputes assistance should be sought from the concern chief of the police station and bit Amaldar.
- 2) To sort out the disputes amicably, assistance should be sought from Maharashtra legal aid commission, district legal aid center and taluka legal aid center.
- 3) If needed, assistance should also be sought from free legal aid advisory committee and expert legal advisor.
- 4) Dispute should be resolved without creating the clashes between both the parties.
- 5) After sorting out the disputes, both the parties should asked to sign the agreement before the chairman and controller of the committee and controller should also sign at the end of agreement.
- 6) After the settlement of the cases pending in civil, revenue and other courts, the clients

personally or through his lawyer should sign the agreement before the empowered authority and get the orders of the said agreement at hand. After receiving the true copy of the order of settlement from the courts, it should be presumed that the disputes has been sorted out and noted down in the record book.

#### **Review of literature:**

As there is not enough research conducted on this topic, the availability of literature is limited. Therefore the ancient judiciary system and the work of social workers, reformers in Maharashtra literature of distinguish saints in Maharashtra, the report of Maharashtra Govt. along with the departmental publishing Magazines, Newspapers etc. have been looked into as a review of literature. Research is to collect available data and analyzing it. The importance of subject depends upon the research conducted on it. Research on any subject is beneficial not only to a person but also to society. Following things came to fore while studying the reference books and literature on this subjects.

In vaidic days king was the chief justice. In a complicated matter, the king used to seek the advice from his council. The council in difficult matter used to transfer it to an intellectual bramhin. Pity crimes were being solved by the "Gramyavadin" officer in a village. (Dixit V.C 20011) In the old and middle ages through the absolute power rest with Chandragupta Maurya, even then he would follow religion and ethics Chankya say's "the king who execute the administration with religion, ethics and justice he is the father of entire earth" it means king is not supposed to rule by his whims. The functioning of judiciary system in chandragupta's time was excellent. There were different types of courts during his time. The smallest court in a state was Gramsanstha. The

bigger court was in "Sangrahan" followed by 'Droimukh' and 'Janpada' the supreme court was at Patliputra. The chief justice was the emperor of Chandragupta. (Dixit V.C.2007) In post independence days Mahatma Gandhi called upon his fellow countrymen to come to village otherwise a real 'Swaraj' would not be possible to achieve. A person has to be at center point if the rural India is to develop enough food, cloths, shelter, education and health. It is with the nature and not against it that can solve the entire problems on the earth.

The great social reformer and saint Tukdoji Maharaj In his epic "Gramgita" has called upon good fellows to unite and follow the principles of "Gramgita" to bring into effect "Gramswaraj". (Gramgita)

It was Mahatma Gandhi who formulated the concept of Panchyat Raj.

He had a deep intimacy with village life. He was of the view that the life based on truth and non-violence can lead in villages only. If the socio-economic and political strength centered around the village, peoples labour would not go in vain and they will be able to fulfill their own needs.(Khaparde S, 2007) .

After commencement of drive, approximately 99% Grampanchyats took part in it. Dispute free committee's have been setup in these Grampanchyats and they have started working. In Maharashtra, the dispute free committees have resolved 21674 disputes up to November at village level and it can be considered a great success. (Lokrajya, Jan. 2008)

The local committees are taking initiatives in resolving disputes in villages. Going a step further the committee has successfully resolved a marriage dispute between husband and wife in Mhada Tahsil. At diwali village in Mhada Tahsil a dispute aroused between a couple named Shobha Shridhar Jagtap. After an year of marriage their dispute was taken to court. The matter was further moved to Lokadalat. When

there was hardly any hope of reunion, the dispute free committee took initiative and resolves the dispute amicably. Wife Shobha came before the committee and pledge to live with her in-laws willingly. Thus the committee successfully resolved the dispute and brought the couple together. (Lokrajya, Jan. 2008)

Research Methodology:

**Formulation of problem:**

Dispute in rural life create problem in making social life. If it is not solved immediately. In such condition disputes can be solved by people's participation using amicable solution. So first of all in Maharashtra in India started Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free Campaign. It tries to solve fetus killing, women empowerment, marriages, performs programmes related to villagers intellectual, educational, Social, and economical progress.

**Concept:**

To study present problem some concepts have been used.

**Mahatma Gandhi:**

Mahatma Gandhi had been known father of the nation and a great man who used truth, and love in freedom.

**Dispute free village:**

If the Village disputes are resolved then those village are called dispute free villages.

**Campaign:**

Regular efforts to fulfill its objectives or programme are called a Campaign.

**Village:**

Village means farmers or peoples belonging to farm lives in group.

Their cultural and social similarity is informal and primary. Its population density is low and their main occupation is farming or agriculture.

**Gramsabha:**

On village level Gramsabha IS the topmost procedures to make decision.

**People participation:**

People's direct and indirect participation means

people participation.

**Women Empowerment:**

Empowering women's to form self help group, participation III decision making, honour etc.

**Research Design:**

Nature of present research design is descriptive and diagnostic.

Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free village Campaign affect villagers personal, family, social, economical etc. There is a diagnostic design because Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free Village Campaign which tells a real knowledge of vilfager's problems

Area:

To study, a district had been selected as a study area. War a

districts Eight Tahsi s which had received Mahatma Gandhi Disp free Village prize for the year 2007-08 It had been included ia e-sttrdy. They are ashti, Karanja, Aarvi, Hinganghat, sarnudrapur, Deoli, selu and wardha.

Universe:

District Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free village Campaign given prize for the period between is August 2007 to 14 August 2008 to total villages. These 56 village people had been chosen as a study world for research.

**Sampling Method:**

A special method has been selected on the concerning part or area which had been used for research work.

When researcher knows a definite total number of person in that area them researcher chooses probability sampling method.

In a present study systematic sampling of probability sampling had been used for research after it a regular period sampling method had been used. (Bhandararkar P. L. 1987)

**Major Finding:**

1) After studying a Dispute free Campaign the researcher found that respondent participated

are of 38 to 47 age group which were middle aged persons.

- 2) In Dispute free Campaign committee maximum respondents were male.
- 3) Maximum Committee members were farmers.
- 4) Maximum respondent's annual income was 25001- 50000 Rs.
- 5) Maximum respondents were members of Dispute free council.
- 6) Maximum respondent are aware that they should have a plan which saves their time and money. Because their complaints are in a village which can be judged without wasting any money.
- 7) Villagers receive most of the information about Dispute free Campaign from police station.
- 8) People know that in the village law workshop, caste and religions friendship programme, programme about superstitions, prohibiting programme has been arranged.
- 9) Maximum villagers was on the opinion that guidance programme, enlightenment programmes, birthdays, festivals had been arranged regularly. Workshop, road-show, free fare etc. Programme had been planned sometimes. This was an opinion of maximum villagers. Weekly Bhagwat gita rituals were performed.
- 10) In Some village family dispute create disturbances in peaceful atmosphere of the village it creates problem in family development. Citizen's main occupation in India is farming. There are most of the dispute related to farm and religion. To make friendly relation religion people need this plan, in-order to maintain peaceful atmosphere like superstitions, female feticide, public property damage, encroachment and criminal tendency etc can be controlled by the Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free Campaign.
- 11) Maximum village problems were related to farming, so talathis role is important, he is a

member of Dispute free Campaign. This was an opinion of maximum respondents in many villages. People knows that which people should be a member of this plan for example retired judge, police, reporter, soldier which are rarely found in a village. Villagers are aware of family, farm penal crime, wine prohibition. female foeticide, caste religious friendship, superstitions and agricultural violence many programmes related to it had been arranged young leadership, self-employment, women empowerment, rituals, plantation, protection of forest, combined marriage, students inspiration but there was not much work done it.

12) Maximum respondent were of the opinion that to aware people, vrukasha dindi can be used. To some extent road show, cultural programme, weekly bhagwat, festivals, dindi, palakhi had been used. by dispute free committee to awaken people on different problems. Schools had arranged different programme to awaken people. It shows that Dispute free Campaign was successful to perform different programmes.

13) Maximum respondent said that Dispute free village committee had given training of self employment to young man and women. They also said that training of village protection force and political strongness had not been covered in it.

14) Family and farming disputes were solved completely but touchability, castism, illegal occupation, superstitions sexual harassment, theft, assault, loan cases cattle grazing; children's disputes had not been solved.

15) Maximum respondent said that Dispute free village committee fully contributes in village progress.

16) Most villagers celebrates Diwali, Vijayadashami, Pola, Holi, Raksha bandhan, Durga festival and Ganpati festivals, Kojagiri, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Jayanti, Mohram, Hanuman Jayanti, these programme celebrated by people



collectively. Id.E.Milad, Ramjan Id, mahavir Jayanti, Christmas.

17) Pola and Holi, in these two festivals disputes were maximum compare to other festivals.

18) Committees give lesson to both parties by collecting them. It make's agreement in them, and discuss subject in Gramsabha.

19) Rural political parties create problems in Rural Development Campaign. This was an opinion of maximum respondent.

20) Political parties do not create problems in school development, drinking water, village beautifulness etc. But they create problems in village road, drained water pipe, graveyard.

21) Committee aware people of controlling treatment plan by road-show. The policies framed by the government to prohibit illegal trades in the villages it has brought down illegal trades in villages.

22) Prohibition of illegal occupation related decision taken in Gramsabha by Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free village Campaign.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

1) Educational percentage in village was average. In Dispute free Campaign educated class peoples participation was large.

3) Workshops, caste-religion friendship programe, superstition evacuation progrmme and de-addiction related programme had arranged by committee.

4) Guidance programme, enlightenment programmes, Jayanti, festival, road show, vruksha dindi were organized regularly by committee.

5) Different programme were organized on family violence, crime, prohibition of alcohol, female feticide, caste religions, superstitions and agricultural sector.

6) To aware people Vruksha dindi programme was organized. Dispute free village committee arranged road-show, cultural programmes, Bhagwat saptah and programme on festival to

aware people about different problems. Accordingly Dispute free committee was successful to perform programme.

7) Village Campaign committee gives training to young men and women on self employment but they have not given training to village protection force, women empowerment in politics and panchayat Raj for villagers.

8) Many villages had 21 to 24 disputes related to family dispute, cattle grazing dispute, etc. The committee registered judged disputes and solved by Dispute free committee. It means village disputes are solved in a village by saving time.

9) The village dispute free committee information and various programmes which are organized by the committee. If the information to the members are more the villager's participation in the programme is at large.

10) The policies framed by the government to prohibit illegal trades in the villeges it has brought down illegal trades in villages.

11) Women's active participation in the dispute free village is responsible □ to resolve disputes in the village.

12) After the establishment of dispute free committee the village development got momentum than earlier.

13) Committee had a separate account in bank said by maximum answer given.

14) It is concluded that, considering the two variables that is Education level and changes needed in the Dispute free committee, the villagers have suggested the changes needed in the committee as per their educational level.

#### **Instructions:**

Villagers face problems due to their illiterateness and economical problems. Objective of government plan is good but it had not been carefully implemented. To implement plan process needs a proper training of committee members. Some changes have to make in government plan. They have to notice it carefully while its implementation is going on. It is

expected that everyone should get a proper benefit of it.

Villagers contribution in Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free village Campaign. In-order to Study this subject researcher had chosen villages in Wardha district, which received prizes of Dispute free village. While researcher studies about village accordingly instructions can be given to government, justice procedure, Grampanchayat and Dispute free village committee, which is given below.

**For Government:**

- 1) Government has go to given found to Dispute free committee to implement Mahatma Gandhi Dispute free village Campaign forcefully.
- 2) To aware different programme Dispute free committee uses road show by District police. They have to call skillful person to implement Dispute free Campaign for guidance.
- 3) Dispute free village committee should have a trained social worker. Then be will use different social work method to solve problem. Community development, women empowerment etc.
- 4) The prize amount should have a separate account in bank.
- 5) It government appointed person are unavailable in village then Dispute free committee should invited them as invitees on the Day of Judgment.

**For Gram Panchayat:**

- 1) Grampanchayat should give Dispute free committee separate office an village level Grampanchayat administration should give

different office material like table, chair, sound system etc.

2 Grampanchayat should give a programme to expend on workshop, rood show, training and other festival in a village.

3 Grampanchayt has to give remuneration to village protection force for dress and other material.

4) In every meeting of Dispute free committee Grampanchayat member, Gramsevak has to co-operate them.

**For Dispute free committee:**

- 1) In a committee one should not select relative, political party people etc as a member.
- 2) Women should have been given an equal membership while selecting Dispute free committee member.
- 3 To give a justice through dispute free committee, panch committee has to include women on same level.
- 4) While giving justice and friendship making, collect more evidence.
- 5) In a family dispute and dowry system harassed women has to be given to village educated female or women to advocate present harassed women's side.
- 6) Dispute fee committee has to take more and more awareness programme.
- 7) Dispute free committee has to create caste religious friendship by giving training to village protection force which given them a sensitivity of responsibility.