

CONCLUSIONS.

C H A P T E R - V I I I

C O N C L U S I O N S

In the preceding chapters general background, discussion of two concepts namely, political awareness and political participation and an analysis of political awareness among workers and their political participation are dealt with.

For the study of political awareness and political participation among the workers from two spinning mills, namely, 1) Yeshwant Sahakari Soot Girani Niyamit, Solapur, 2) Solapur Vinkar Sahakari Soot Girani Niyamit, Solapur were selected. The workers from the mills constituted more or less a cohesive group. A questionnaire was prepared for the study. The workers were selected by a random sample method for administering a questionnaire. As the workers were approached for this purpose during their leisure on the campus of the mill. The researcher found it quite convenient to converse with them. When the workers were told in detail about the purpose of the study they willingly prepared to co-operate in this endeavour. This made the work easier. This can be cited as one of the indicators of their awareness and participation.

The two mills are located at the outskirts of Solapur city. Most of the workers reside in this city. Only about 10 % of workers came daily to the working place from nearby villages. It means that the bulk of the workers are urbanities. This has reflected into the level of their political awareness and political participation.

The city of Solapur is a cosmopolitan one. There is sizable population belonging to different religion, such as Hindu, Muslim, Jain etc. A number of languages are spoken in the city such as Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, Urdu. This is a city of having a middle size of population. As its area is comparatively small the city has become compact one. Various types of industrial activities are undertaken in this city. Solapur city is favourably located at the boundaries of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka States. It is well connected with important cities by rail and by road. This place is culturally fairly developed and educational facilities available here are quite good. All these factors must have influenced political awareness and political participation of workers under study favourably.

Against this background and in the light of discussion of the concept of political awareness and political participation the responses were analysed. The questionnaire included 34 questions for eliciting information about political awareness of the workers. Similarly 14 questions were related to political participation of the workers.

For ascertaining the levels of political awareness certain categories are formulated, which are presented in the table given below:

Grades of Political Awareness

S.N.	Categories	Grade
1	Less than 50 %	Not satisfactory.
2	51 % to 60 %	Satisfactory.
3	61 % to 70 %	Very Satisfactory.
4	71 % to 80 %	Good
5	81% and above	Very good

The questions pertaining to political awareness grouped under two categories namely cognitive and evaluative questions. The cognitive questions mainly dealt with primary information about listening to radio news, watching TV news, knowledge about trade unions, knowledge about right to franchise, knowledge about political leaders, knowledge about office bearers at political and governmental levels, knowledge about political parties displaying of photographs of political leaders in homes, knowledge

about political system in India etc. On the part of the workers the level of political awareness was ascertained by taking into account the responses of the workers. The grades are formulated (See table given above).

The evaluative questions were related to knowledge about working of trade union, knowledge about problems of national integration, knowledge about corruption in India, knowledge about current political issues etc., On the part of the workers. Again similar procedure was followed for finding out political awareness on the basis of evaluative questions.

Reading of News Papers : -

About 81 % of the respondents read news papers daily. Therefore their political awareness in this respect can be described as very good.

Listening to Radio News : -

About 81% of the respondents are listening to radio news, regularly. Therefore their political awareness in this case is very good.

Viewing T.V. News : -

About 74 % of the respondents watch TV news. They could get the knowledge about political matters. Thus to this extent the political awareness is termed as good.

Knowledge about Trade Union : -

About 86 % of the respondents are having knowledge about trade unions. In this respect the political awareness is very good.

Knowledge about Right to Franchise : -

All the respondents knew that they have right of franchise and their names are in the voters' list. They also knew that their adult members of their family go for casting their votes. Therefore, in this respect their political awareness is excellent.

Knowledge about Political Leaders : -

(Central, State, local and International Level)

About 81 % of the respondents had knowledge about leaders operating at local, state, national and international levels. Therefore, their awareness on this count can be termed as very good.

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Knowledge about Office bearers at Political and Government Level: -

About 84 % of the respondents could mention the name of mayor of Solapur Municipal Corporation and Chief Minister of Maharashtra correctly. Hence the political awareness in this respect can be termed as very satisfactory.

Knowledge about Political Parties : -

About 81 % of the respondents had the knowledge of political parties working on the local, state and central planes. Therefore in this respect their political awareness can be termed as very good.

Display of Photographs of Political Leaders in Homes : -

Only 10 % of the respondents displayed photographs of the national leaders in their homes. It shows that they are indifferent so far as displaying photographs of leaders in their homes. The political awareness on this count<sup>is</sup> unsatisfactory.

Knowledge about Political system in India : -

About 76 % of the respondents know the political system of India and the nature of the Indian constitution. Therefore their political awareness can be termed as good.

The conclusions can be summarised with the help of the table given below : -

Grades of Political Awareness (Cognitive)

S.No.	Awareness	Per cent*	Grade
1	Reading news papers	81	Very good
2	Listening to Radio News	81	Very good
3	Viewing T.V. News	74	Good
4	Knowledge about Trade Union	86	Very good
5	Knowledge about right to Franchise	100	Very good
6	Knowledge about political leaders	81	Very good
7	Knowledge about office bearers at political and government	84	Very Good
8	Knowledge about political parties	81	Very good.
9	Display of photographs of political leaders in homes	10	Not satisfactory
10	Knowledge about political system	76	Good

\*Percentages given here are average percentages about the items covered by the category of questions, pertaining to the respondents from both the mills together.



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POLITICAL AWARENESS - EVALUATIVE

Working of Trade Union : -

About 80 % have answered the question whether the working of trade union is satisfactory or not. Therefore, on this count their political awareness is very good.

Knowledge about problems of national integration : -

About 78 % of the respondents have sufficient knowledge about problems of national integration. Therefore on this count their political awareness is termed as good.

Knowledge about corruption in India : -

About 82 % of the respondents are aware of rampant corruption in India. Hence the political awareness in this case can be termed as very good.

Knowledge about current political issues : -

About half of the respondents have sufficient knowledge about the current political issues. Therefore, on this count their political awareness is described as satisfactory.

The above conclusions can be summarised with the help of the table given below : -

Grades of Political Awareness(Evaluative)

Sr. No.	Awareness	Per Cent	Grade
1	Knowledge of working of Trade Union	80	Good
2	Knowledge about problems of national integration	78	Good
3	Knowledge about corruption in India	82	Very good
4	Knowledge about current political issues	51	Satisfactory

In the light of above analysis it may be concluded that on the whole political awareness of the respondents found to be good.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

The procedure employed for gauging political awareness is followed almost in toto for finding out the levels of political participation barring one departure.

This change is related to the grades formulated

for gauging political participation. The basis of this gauge is different from that of political awareness. In case of political awareness almost every adult individual is expected to know something about political event, issues and developments, therefore, for gauging their political awareness certain categories can be formulated. In case of political participation of individuals every individual adult citizen is not expected to participate actively in the political process except voting. Therefore, for ascertaining a level of political participation the categories and percentages used for ascertaining a level of political awareness cannot be used in toto. Because of this for finding out the categories expected percentages are lowered down. The political participation could be classified as below :-

Grades of Political Participation

Sr. No.	Percentage	Grade
1	less than 5 %	Unsatisfactory
2	6 % to 10 %	Satisfactory
3	11% to 15 %	Very Satisfactory
4	16% to 20 %	Good
5	21 % and above	Very good

The activities denoting the nature of political participation were classified in three levels.

1. Participation - elementary level.
2. Participation - Middle level.
3. Participation - advanced level.

With the help of the grading table the activities falling under these categories were studied in the light of the relevant responses.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION : ELEMANTARY LEVEL : -

Membership of the Trade Union : -

All the respondents are the members of one and sole trade union. This kind of participation is cent per cent. Therefore, in this case participation described as excellent.

Attending Political Meetings : -

About 36 % of the respondents used to attend political meetings. On this count their political participation can be termed as very good.

Casting Vote : -

About 89 % of the respondents cast their votes in the last general election. Therefore, in this case the political participation can be termed as excellent.

The conclusions can be summarised with the help of the table given below : -

Sr. No.	Kind of participation	Per Cent	Grade
1.	Membership of the Trade Union	100	Very good
2.	Attending political meetings	36	Very good
3.	Casting vote	89	Very Good

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: MIDDLE LEVEL : -

Membership of Political Party : -

About 18 % of the respondents are members of one or other political party. Therefore on this count their political participation can be termed as good.

Paying subscription to a political party : -

About 18 % of the respondents are paying subscription to a political party regularly. Therefore in this case their political participation may be described as good.

Collecting donations for the political party : -

About 20 % respondents collected donations for the political parties. Therefore in this case their political participation said as good.

Canvassing for a political party : -

About 35 % of the respondents are involved in canvassing in favour of political party. In this case their political participation can be called as very good. It is quite encouraging.

Delivering speeches and writing articles on political matters : -

About 5 % of the respondents delivered speeches and about 2 % respondents are wrote articles on political matters. On this count the political participation can be termed as unsatisfactory. This level of political participation is very low. It is quite natural on the part of the workers as they are not groomed for undertaking these activities.

The above conclusions can be summarised with the help of the table given below:-

Political Participation : Middle Level

Sr. No.	Kind of Participation	Per cent	Grade
1.	Membership of the political party	18	Good
2.	Paying subscription to a political party	18	Good
3.	Collecting donations for the political party	20	Good
4.	Canvassing of political party	35	Very good
5.	Delivering speeches on political matters	5	Unsatisfactory
6.	Writing articles on political matters	2	Unsatisfactory

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION : ADVANCE LEVEL

Contesting election for Directorship, union representative and in general elections : -

About 4 % of the respondents took active part in contesting elections. Therefore their political participation on this count is termed as unsatisfactory.

Canvassing for a candidate : -

About 32 % of the respondents participated in canvassing for a candidate during the general elections. Therefore in this case their political participation can be termed as very good.

The above conclusions can be summarised with the help of the table given below : -

Political Participation : Advance Level

Sr. No.	Kind of Participation	Per cent	Grade
1	Contesting election for directorship, union representative and in general election	4	Unsatisfactory
2	Canvassing for a candidate	32	Very good

The level of participation of the workers in various activities can be termed as satisfactory. In the activities such as delivering speeches and writing articles their level of participation is low. This is quite

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natural in case of workers whose educational qualifications are not quite adequate for undertaking these activities.

The level of political awareness : -

It is quite encouraging that the general level of political awareness and that of political participation were found to be satisfactory. This may be because of general favourable atmosphere in and around the city and the various means of enriching level of participation and means of political participation are available to the workers concerned.

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