

## C H A P T E R - VII.

### Attitudes and Aspirations.

#### Introduction :

7.1 It is only in democracy that citizens have a right to participate freely in political affairs and Governmental administration. Democracy, as it obtains, is feasible under the assumption that in a society there are always some people who are politically ambitious : if there were no people to seek public offices, democracy will certainly break down like a castle of sand. Hence, citizens are expected to be ambitious for both political and administrative offices.

7.2 This chapter is devised to learn the occupational preferences of students : direct questions regarding their political aspirations and means to realise them are put to them : their political loyalty is also examined. All this will undoubtedly reveal their political attitudes and aspirations.

#### Occupational Preferences.

7.3 There are multifarious openings available to people owing to the phenomenal advance in science, technology and industry, and to the welfare activities of the Government. All the same, I have not comprised all callings in the - questionnaire : only fourteen of them are offered to students to enable them to indicate their choice : artist, professor, school teacher, lawyer, businessman, journalist, engineer,



doctor, scientist, civil servant, politician, purohit ( priest ), officer in the Defence Services, and others.

Primary motive in pinpointing occupational preferences is to throw light on their ambition for administrative offices.

7.4 Table Nos. 100 and 101 give the distribution of the sample according to sex and faculty. Out of 761 males, 63.59% and of the 150 females, 71.33 % have positively indicated their occupational choice. It is indeed heartening that the majority of students have set their heart on a particular occupation : hence, it would not be inconsistent to say that they have the necessary understanding and knowledge of various callings, and, consequently, pursue their studies with the definite aspiration of taking to a particular profession. It is really a revelation that females are more definite about their occupational choice than males.

In the end, it may be observed that the number of non-reporters is distressingly sizable, therefore, cannot be ignored. It is surely unfortunate that they are undecided about what they should take to in future : it appears that they have joined college because they could not help. It may obviously be generalised that they are certainly not honest, diligent, intelligent, and ambitious students inspired by the sense of achieving some station in life. It is these "aimless clouds" which may be considered as trouble-mongers and, so, be held responsible for the problem of indiscipline in college.

7.5 A detailed composition of the tables shows the various



callings being indicated by the male and female reporters : their percentages are treated below in the descending order. Out of the 484 male and of the 107 female reporters the highest percentage of the males ( 20.45 ) and females ( 28.03 ) would like to be "professor". It is truly amazing that - professorial profession attracts the largest number of students in spite of myriad opportunities available, and the fact that professors are not adequately paid. These students, I should believe, are inspired by the noble and exalted character of this occupation; or it may be said that this is suggestive of their adolescent appreciation and regard. Females are obviously more hypnotised by this calling than males. There are 20.24 % of the male and 8.81 % of the female reporters who desire to be "officer in the Defence Services". It appears that the bright prospects and the patriotic sentiments have actuated these students to take up this profession. It is a matter of supreme importance and gratification that the sizable number of young and educated people like and love to guard the frontiers of our country : they deserve our affection and admiration. It goes without saying that females are not as much allured towards this calling as males : this is quite in harmony with our usual experience. However, it is veritably ~~laudable~~ laudable that at least few females wish to join the Defences Services, something utterly foreign to our way of life. It is unequivocally plain that these days females are seeking new pastures and competing confidently with males in every walk of life in spite of some inherent biological disadvantages : the days of woman for hearth and



man for field are bygone. It is the aspiration of 11.58 % of the male and 3.73 % of the female reporters to become "engineer". It is rather astounding that the percentages of the reporters are not substantially high considering the present craze for engineering. It is apparent that the percentage of the female reporters is much lower than that of the male reporters. All the same, it would be nothing but a blunder to underrate the lower percentage of the female reporters : in fact, their choice for engineering indeed merits our warm compliments and once more confirms the above conclusion that females do not lag behind males in any walk of life : after all, engineering essentially demands the virile vigour and qualities. It is explicit that 10.33 % of the male and 30.84 % of the female reporters aspire to be "doctor". Like the percentages of the prospective engineers, the percentages of the prospective doctors are not much high ( especially, the percentage of the male aspirants ). In view of this, it may confidently be stated that the majority of students are not at all attracted towards "doctor" and - "engineer"; rather, incredibly contrary to our observation. Clearly, the percentage of the female reporters is appreciably higher than that of the male reporters. It evidently means that females have more interest in medical profession than males : this may be treated as quite in keeping with their nature to nurse others. Business is reputed as both the Gokonda and the El Dorado : Businessman can mint money and wallow in wealth. The almighty dollar bewitchingly appeals to every man and invariably evokes his pecuniary interests but



all people do not become and are not businessmen : this is largely true of educated people : somehow, the goddess Laxmi and the goddess Saraswati do not go hand in hand : hence, it is no wonder that the percentage of the male reporters ( 9.91 ) desirous of embracing "business" is not high. It is apparent that females have ostracised business which does not seem to suit their temperament : it may casually be said that they do not mind spending money if mind earning it. The importance of the role of public administration in the modern state can hardly be over-emphasised : every state is enormously dependent upon its public officials. The Constitution of India guarantees equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters of employment : it provides for the Public Service Commissions and insures their independence too. In view of this, the percentages of those male ( 7.23 ) and female ( 2.80 ) reporters aspiring to join "civil service" should be considered. It is clear that civil service has no much of attraction for students. It may conveniently be generalised that conditions of service, etc. as regulated by Acts of the appropriate Legislatures in India have failed to net a big catch. Besides, it may be said that there are better and brighter opportunities available elsewhere. It is apparent that females are not as much enthralled by civil service as males : This is in harmony with our experience. There are 5.78 % of the male and 3.73 % of the female reporters who report that they would love to be "lawyer". It is crystal clear that only few students would patronise this profession. It obviously means that the legal profession is shorn of its past glory and grandeur : it seems



to have ceased to be the land of promise and prospects : consequently, it is not desired and admired by many students. The probable factor that has forfeited the attraction of people for this occupation may mainly be the decrease in litigations owing to the recent legislations : people do have commercial approach to professions. As expected, the percentage of the prospective female lawyers is lower than that of the prospective male lawyers. All the same, the female aspirants deserve our admiration for their choice to make the bar colourful so that the severity of the cold logic of law may not be felt to large extent. It may be placed on record that 3.71 % of the male reporters only have expressed their longing to become "politician". Obviously, only the least number of the male reporters have the intention to take to politics as profession; and females are not at all victimized by the prospects of this occupation : this may be attributed to their aversion for politics. Howsoever small percentage of the male reporters is attracted towards politics as profession it is really deplorable and despicable. It can clearly and convincingly be observed that some politicians seem to have transformed politics into lucrative profession; otherwise, these males would not have dreamt of prostituting it for - yielding gains; they are cock-sure to earn their bread by hugging it; therefore, it is no wonder that they die to follow politicians in their footsteps. If politics is milked lucratively by self-seekers, Indian democracy will unfailingly and finally give way to oligarchy. However, on the whole, it may confidently be said that politics as profession does not attract



markedly large number of students. This is undoubtedly corroborated by the finding - politics does not attract Indian students - of the study of the determinants on occupational choices among college students conducted in 1962-63 by Mr. V.P. Bhargava, a psychologist of the Ballant Rajput College, Agra, under the supervision of Dr. Irwin Mahler, a Fulbright visiting professor. There are 3.51 % of the male and 5.60 % of the female reporters who wish to be "school teacher". It is a matter of revelation that a large number of students have explicitly turned their back on this profession which has hardly any fascination for them : it certainly does not assure them money and popular regard : it has, on the contrary, become an epithet of disparagement. In the light of this the prospective teachers deserve our congratulations. It is noticeable that the percentage of the prospective female teachers is higher than that of the prospective male teachers : it may be attributed to their liking and be stated that it just suits their - temperament and talents. In the context of the ratings for "professor" and "school teacher" it is striking that the percentages of the female reporters are consistently higher than those of the male reporters. It plainly means that teaching profession is being gradually taken over by females : this does not contradict our usual observation. It is the desire of 3.30 % of the male and 13.08 % of the female reporters to become "artist". It is worth noting that the occupation of artist has failed in its appeal to the majority of students. In fact, fine arts are another media of expression : they demand the highest qualities of mind and imagination : they delight



the peoples all over the world and at all times. It is seen that the percentage of the female reporters is higher than that of the male reporters : it may be considered as symbolic of their inherent propensity towards things artistic and - aesthetic. The increasing and incredible advance of science in all branches has ushered in unthinkable and unimaginable changes in our life : its miraculous and wondrous attainments have indeed brought about paradise on earth but if used unsparingly and irresponsibly it will positively extirpate the human race from our planet. In this context, the percentages of the male ( 1.85 ) and female ( 0.93 ) reporters desirous of becoming "scientist" are ridiculous. The lower percentage of the female reporters is demonstrative of their least interest in the career of scientist. Press has become the most important feature of modern civilisation : it is the most widely disseminated single agent of instruction in the modern world : it is indeed the sheet anchor of democracy : it provides a forum for discussion, and for the clarification of public opinion necessary in a democracy. In the light of this, the percentages of the male ( 1.03 ) and female ( 0.93 ) reporters wishing to be "journalist" are certainly discouraging : career of journalist does not have any fascination for students : hence, the prospective journalists do deserve our compliments.

In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that the majority of the male and female reporters seem to have preferred those occupations - professor, officer in the Defence Services, engineer, and doctor - which have money-



earning capacity and the prestige. The order of preference revealed is : professor, officer in the Defence Services, engineer, doctor, businessman, civil servant, lawyer, - politician, school teacher, artist, scientist, journalist, and purohit ( priest ). This order of preference almost corresponds to that ~~of~~ revealed in the study conducted by Mr. Bhargava. Further, students somehow have no attraction whatsoever for the career of purohit : on the whole, they rather appear to be quite materialistic in their outlook on life. Surprisingly, business does not receive high rating; while civil service is moderately favoured. Lawyer's, politician's, school teacher's, and artist's callings are not much liked by students; and the professions of scientist and journalist are not sufficiently understood by them.

7.6 A facultywise treatment of the sample shows the male and female reporters indicating the various occupations presented. Their percentages are considered below separately and in the descending order. Table No. 100 reveals that the highest percentage of the male reporters ( 84.20 ) hails from the Law Faculty. It is clear beyond doubt that males of this faculty are "guided missiles" doing their studies with definite aspirations. It is apparent that the Arts Faculty has the considerably high percentage of the male reporters ( 69.06 ). This at once and once for all rebuts the general impression that the Arts students do not have any aim in their life : they are not career-minded. Convincingly, males of this faculty are sufficiently service-conscious. It is obvious



that the percentage of the male reporters ( 68.58 ) of the Commerce Faculty is slightly less than that of the male reporters from the Arts Faculty. It plainly means that the male reporters of both the faculties are equally choosy about jobs. There are 64.70 % of the male reporters who belong to the Agriculture Faculty. It is evidently demonstrative of the fact that the majority of males of this faculty have positive purpose in prosecuting their education. This is veritably revealing and praiseworthy in view of the fact that they are First Year students. It may be generalised that the occupational choice of college students is crystallised in the First Year itself. The Post-graduate classes have 57.90 % of the male reporters. It is amusing to note that males doing their post-graduate studies are not as much decided in their choice of occupations as males of the Law, Arts, Commerce, and Agriculture Faculties. It can be seen that the lowest percentage of the male reporters ( 53.76 ) is from the Science Faculty. This is rather unbelievable as it is diametrically opposed to our usual experience. All the same, it may definitely be commented that males of this faculty are not as much career-minded as their counter parts from other faculties.

In respect of females, it is explicit from table No. 101 that the percentages of the female reporters from the Arts, Science, and Agriculture faculties are higher than those of the male reporters from these faculties. It follows from this that females from these faculties are decided in their occupational choice than males. A female from the Agriculture Faculty is a reporter : she is choosy about her



occupational choice. It is strikingly intriguing that the percentage of the male reporters from the Science Faculty is lowest; as against this, the percentage of the female reporters ( 77.42 ) from this faculty is highest except the percentage for the Agriculture Faculty but the percentage for the Agriculture Faculty should not be taken into account since there is only one female in the faculty. It is the indisputable indication, though appears incredible, that females of the Science Faculty are more decided in their occupational choice than males from this faculty, and females from other faculties. It is unequivocal that the Arts Faculty has the considerably high percentage of the female reporters ( 70.63 ); further, there is not much of difference between the percentages of the male and female reporters from this faculty. Thus, the majority of males and females from the Arts Faculty do have occupational choice, a thing which sounds contrary to our general impression. The percentage of the female reporters from the Commerce Faculty is sufficiently high ( 66.00 ) : however, it is lower than the percentage of the male reporters from this faculty : it means females of this faculty are not as much determined in their occupational choice as males. It is surprising that the percentage of the female reporters ( 50.00 ) from the Post-graduate classes is lowest. It obviously means that females of this faculty are not as much decided in regard to their choice of occupations as females of other faculties. Further, their percentage is lower than that of the male reporters from this faculty; it is inferable that they are not as much positive in their occupational choice as



males. In conclusion, it may confidently be said that it is a matter of gratification and jubilation that the majority of females from every faculty have definite occupational choice : they are certainly determined to make use of their education in a definite manner.

A glance at the tables discloses further that few students of the Arts, Commerce, and Law faculties would like to be engineer, doctor, and scientist. This should not be treated as inconsistent for the simple reason that they are asked to freely indicate their occupational choice : besides, when they wish to be engineer, etc. they do so because these jobs bring in money and prestige.

In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that the majority of students from every faculty have definite occupational choice. It unambiguously means that they pursue their studies with an eye on a particular career : they are choosy about their station in life. It follows from all this that faculty does not markedly influence the decision of students in regard to their occupational choice.

7.7 Table Nos. 102 and 103 give the distribution of the sample according to place of origin and caste. Out of 439 rural students, 57.86 % and of the 472 urban students, 71.41 % have explicitly indicated their occupational choice. It may be recorded with pride that the majority of urban and rural students have undoubtedly made up their mind regarding occupational choice. However, it is clearly seen that there is a wide gap between the two percentages indicating thereby a



greater degree of indecision comparatively on the part of rural students vis-a-vis urban students. This may squarely be ascribed to their environment in general and to their family back-ground in particular. In view of this, the rural students who have unequivocally indicated their occupational choice deserve our hearty congratulations.

7.8 A detailed break-up of the tables shows the various callings being indicated by the rural and urban reporters : their percentages are treated below in the descending order. Out of the 254 rural reporters, 25.19 % and of the 337 urban reporters, 19.28 % would like to be "professor". This immediately and convincingly conveys that professorial profession is highly prized by both rural and urban students. All the same, it is clear that it finds more clientele in rural areas than in urban places. There are 20.47 % of the rural and 16.31 % of the urban reporters who aspire to be "officer in the Defence Services". It is quite encouraging and enlightening that both rural and urban students desire to guard our frontiers. However, it may be noted that it is in consonance with our experience that rural areas are larger and traditional suppliers of army men than urban places. <sup>The</sup> Profession of "doctor" attracts 12.59 % of the rural and 15.13 % of the urban reporters. The craze for medical line is in evidence in both rural and urban areas; evidently, it is more noticeable among urban places than among rural areas. It is the desire of 7.87 % of the rural and 12.46 % of the urban reporters to become "engineer". It is apparent that urban students have more fascination for engineering than rural students. There



are 6.29 % of the rural and 4.74 % of the urban reporters who state that they would be "lawyers". It is clearly seen that legal profession entices more rural students than urban students. It is unambiguous that 5.90 % of the rural and 6.82 % of the urban reporters would join "civil service". It goes without saying that civil service has failed to attract large number of both rural and urban students : all the same, it may be mentioned that it is more favoured by urban students than by rural students. There are 5.90 % of the rural and 9.79 % of the urban reporters who would enter "business". It is not contrary to our experience that urban students are more attracted to business than rural students. What is remarkable to note in this connexion is the awareness on the part of some educated rural students to take to business which is essentially monopolized by urban people. It is the clear aspiration of 5.11 % of the rural and 1.48 % of the urban reporters to become "politician". Apparently, this profession gets cool response from both rural and urban students. However, it may be placed on record that the urge to become politician is comparatively more apparent among rural students than among urban students. It is, therefore, inferable that rural students are more political-minded than their counterparts from urban places. There are 3.93 % of the rural and 5.93 % of the urban reporters who wish to be "artist". It appears that urban students have more artistic aptitudes than rural students. Job of "school teacher" interests 3.93 % of the rural and 3.85 % of the urban reporters. It is clear as daylight that this profession is not liked much by both rural and



urban students. It is the desire of 1.57 % of the rural and 0.59 % of the urban reporters to become "journalist". It is certainly not wrong to say that journalism is not properly understood by both rural and urban students. Only 1.18 % of the rural and 2.07 % of the urban reporters aspire to be "scientist". It is really unfortunate that the position of scientist is not adequately appreciated by both rural and urban students. In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that the majority of the rural and urban reporters have pinpointed those professions - professor, officer in the Defence Services, doctor, and engineer - which bring in money and prestige. Further, it is worth noting that rural and urban students do not like to be "purchit".

7.9 A castewise break-down of the tables shows the rural and urban reporters from every caste indicating the various occupations offered. A gaze at the tables assuredly conveys that the majority of rural and urban students from every caste have indubitably indicated their occupational choice. It clearly means that all castes from both rural and urban places are career-minded : they have set their heart on a particular profession : positively, they have chosen a station in life : naturally, occupations are universally sought and pursued by all rural and urban castes. It is, further, seen that the percentages of the urban reporters from every caste are almost consistently higher than those of the rural reporters from every caste. This may be considered as suggestive of the more decisiveness of urban students than that of rural students : this is the irrefutable evidence of what an urban



environment and family background can do. What a revelation ! that the percentages of the rural ( 56.32 ) and urban (70.93) reporters from Brahmins and others are not highest; on the other hand, the highest percentages of the rural ( 100.00 ) and urban ( 100.00 ) reporters are from Neo-Buddhists and Gujars, etc., and Christians respectively. Incidentally, it may be noted that though a Neo-Buddhist student from rural areas is a case of non-response he is essentially career-minded as he has clearly indicated his occupational choice. It is - discernible that the lowest percentages of the reporters are from rural Lingayats ( 44.82 ) and urban Backward and Scheduled Castes ( 50.00 ). The percentages of the rural and urban reporters from Muslims ( 66.67 and 91.66 ), Intermediate Hindus ( 66.66 and 56.00 ), Christians ( rural - 66.00 ), Backward and Scheduled Castes ( rural - 59.52 ), Jains ( 59.37 and 76.46 ), Marathas ( 56.21 and 75.51 ), Gujars, etc. ( urban - 70.00 ), and Lingayats ( urban - 75.00 ) are considerably high respectively. It follows from all this that caste does not markedly influence the decision of students. When studied closely the tables, further, disclose that all rural and urban castes would take to almost all occupations without inhibitions : it is a matter of pride and pleasure that professions have ceased to be hereditary and are no longer the privileged preserves of particular caste. All castes obviously compete freely and fearlessly. This at once reveals that they have come to develop diverse interests. This is especially and largely true of both rural and urban Brahmins and others, and Marathas. In the end, one is irresistibly led to generalise



that caste does not influence the occupational choice of both rural and urban students.

#### Political Ambitions.

7.10 The sovereignty of the people is the basis and the watchword of democracy : the people are the ultimate source of power : they have a share in the direction of the state : their will, be it wise or otherwise, does prevail. In view of this, it is imperative that the people are politically ambitious first; otherwise, democracy will eventually and certainly vanish. In this context, it is envisaged to learn whether students are politically ambitious. In order that their political aspirations be properly struck and investigated, I have asked them whether they would like to be member of : Parliament, Assembly, Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat, Municipality, other; minister in : Union Ministry, State Ministry, other; president of : Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Municipality, other; and Sarpanch : Gram Panchayat. Moreover, their efforts at the realisation of their political desires are also spotlighted. All this will undoubtedly disclose their both political ambitions and involvement in politics.

7.11 Table Nos. 104 and 105 give the distribution of the sample according to sex and faculty. Out of 761 males, 57.42 % and of the 150 females, 35.33 % have indubitably stated that they have political aspirations. It is clear as crystal that more than half of the total students ( 53.79 % ) are politically ambitious. It is indeed deplorable and disastrous that students, instead of dedicating themselves religiously to -



their studies, cherish and nourish political dreams. It is clearly and convincingly inferable that they are irresistibly enamoured with and lured by the aureole of publicity, popularity, and power that invariably accompanies politics : they are maddened by its glory and grandeur : therefore, they have indulgently set their heart on it. Further, it appears that values in their life have undergone drastic change : politics has unfortunately come to occupy the whole of their life. All this will certainly produce nothing but an army of politicians i.e. power-seekers which will, in its turn, deteriorate and ultimately destroy our democratic life. Hence, the first and foremost need of the hour is to see that they do not engage, in thought or action, in any activity that is detrimental to their studies which must be puritanically completed. It is evident that the percentage of the female aspirants is lower than that of the male aspirants : this at once shows that females are not as much enchanted and enticed by political life and, consequently, are not as much politically ambitious as males. All the same, it may be placed on record that the percentage of the female aspirants is appreciably high and, therefore, praiseworthy considering our way of life : it could be said that females are competing with males in every walk of life. It is worth while to note here that the percentages of the male ( 48.88 ) and female ( 26.00 ) aspirants who have indirectly revealed their political ambitions ( Ref. 6.29 ) are lower than those of the male and female reporters who have openly stated above that they are politically ambitious. It may, therefore, be generalised that the considerable number of



students are politically ambitious.

7.12 A detailed break-up of the tables pinpoints the specific ambitions of the male and female aspirants : their percentages are treated below in the descending order. Out of the 437 male aspirants and of the 53 female aspirants the highest percentage of the males ( 54.68 ) and females (54.72) aspires to be "minister". In our country ministers reign and rule : they enjoy both position and powers : in short, they are the Government : consequently, of all the political offices ministership is highly and supremely prized and desired by the largest number of the aspirants. It is revealing that males and females are almost unanimous in their regard for "minister". A break-down of the "minister" plainly discloses that out of the 239 future male ministers, 64.43 % and 35.56 %; and of the 29 future female ministers, 68.96 % and 31.03 % would like to be "Union Minister" and "State Minister" respectively. It is obvious that aspirants value Union Ministership more than State Ministership : this may be because Union Ministry has become a centre of attraction as it constitutes the Union Government and has wider powers and jurisdiction vis-a-vis the State Government : moreover, low aim is crime ! It is interesting to observe from the percentages that females attach more importance to Union Ministership than males.

There are 32.72 % of the male and 37.74 % of the female aspirants who are ambitious to become "member". It goes without saying that next to ministership students have fascination for membership. It appears that they desire to go through



"proper channel" and, therefore, do not indulge in lofty political ambitions to begin with. It is apparent that females are more attracted towards membership than males. A composition of the "member" distinctly displays the male and female aspirants opting for the membership of a particular body. Out of the 143 future male members, 35.66 % and of the 20 future female members, 15.00 % have preferred to be "Member of Parliament"; while 30.77 % of the future male members and 15.00 % of the future female members have expressed their desire to become "Member of Assembly". It is clearly seen that the largest number of the future male members value the membership of Parliament and Assembly more than that of Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat and Municipality : this is especially true of the membership of Parliament. It undoubtedly means that the aspirants ( males ) aspire to be members of the higher and powerful political bodies. It is observable that females have comparatively and considerably less interest in the membership of both Parliament and Assembly. Zilla Parishad allures 18.18 % of the future male members and 30.00 % of the future female members; while 9.79 % of the future male members and 25.00 % of the future female members are attracted towards Municipality. It is explicit that the percentages of the future male and female members of Zilla Parishad are substantially higher than those of the future male and female members of Municipality. This indubitably discloses the popularity of Zilla Parishad among students, rather surprising and interesting considering the "seniority" of Municipality. Zilla Parishad seems to be preferred because of



its comparatively wider powers and of the brighter prospects of political ascent. It is both striking and mystifying that the percentages of the future female members of Zilla Parishad and Municipality are considerably higher than those of the future male members from these respective bodies. There are 4.89 % of the future male members and 10.00 % of the future female members who wish to be "Member of Gram Panchayat" as against this only 0.70 % of the future male members and 5.00 % of the future female members opt for the "Membership of Taluka Panchayat Samiti". It is evident from the above percentages that Gram Panchayat is comparatively more popular among students than Taluka Panchayat Samiti. It is worth mentioning in this connexion that the percentages of the future male and female members of Taluka Panchayat Samiti are lowest. It obviously means that the importance of Taluka Panchayat Samiti in the set-up of Panchayati Raj is not adequately understood and, therefore, appreciated by students. It is notable and intriguing that the percentages of the future female members of Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat are considerably higher than those of the future male members from these respective bodies.

It is the express desire of 7.78 % of the male and 7.54% of the female aspirants to become "president". It unequivocally follows from this that students have moderate interest in becoming "president"; consequently and evidently, they do not have as much fascination for "presidentship" as for "ministership" and "membership". The meagre percentages of the future presidents may be treated as symptomatic of the fact that -



students do not want to harness their talents for the affairs of local bodies which have limited field of activity and, therefore, limited powers. It is apparent that males and females are almost unanimous in their esteem for "president". A break-up of the "president" shows the male and female aspirants choosing the presidentship of a particular body. Out of the 34 future male presidents and of the 4 future female presidents the highest percentage of the males ( 61.76 ) and females ( 75.00 ) aspires to be "President of Zilla Parishad". This unambiguously means that Zilla Parishad is more popular among students than Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat, and Municipality. This may be attributed to the comparatively better and brighter position of President of Zilla Parishad. It is interesting to note that females are more ambitious to become President of Zilla Parishad than males. There are 29.41 % of the future male presidents and 25.00 % of the future female presidents who choose to be "President of Municipality". It is unequivocally seen that males have more interest in becoming President of Municipality than females. It is reported by 8.82 % of the future male presidents only that they would like to be "President of Taluka Panchayat Samiti". It is convincingly inferable that Taluka Panchayat Samiti is not as much popular among males as Municipality : besides, females have totally ostracised Taluka Panchayat Samiti. A glance at the composition of both "member" and "president" clearly reveals that the percentages of the future male and female presidents of Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, and Municipality are markedly higher than those of the future male and female



members from these bodies. It plainly means that the "headship" of local bodies attracts more aspirants than their "membership": it may pertinently be said in this context that students favour those political offices that have more powers and reputation.

It is explicit that 3.66 % of the male aspirants only desire to become "Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat". It goes without saying that the percentage of the future male Sarpanchs is notably meagre; and surprisingly, it is lower than the percentages of the future male and female members of Gram Panchayat. It is observable that females do not aspire to be Sarpanch. In spite of all this what is noteworthy in this respect is that Sarpanchship should interest college students though few males ! In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that political offices that have wider powers and brighter prospects are mainly and supremely desired and prized.

7.13 Facultywise percentages of the male and female aspirants are separately treated : they are considered below in the descending order. Table No. 104 conveys that the highest percentage of the male aspirants ( 64.74 ) is from the Arts Faculty. It goes without saying that males of this faculty are politically more ambitious than males of other faculties. There are 63.15 % of the male aspirants who belong to the Law Faculty. It is evidently discernible that there is a slight difference between the percentages of the male aspirants of the Arts and Law faculties. It is not preposterous, there-



fore, to generalise that males of these faculties are politically more ambitious than males of the rest of the faculties. This, I should believe, corroborates the general impression that males of these faculties are seen in corridors of power. It is worth noting that the percentage of the male aspirants ( 61.53 ) of the Commerce Faculty is considerably high. It may casually be remarked that males of this faculty are not only interested in commerce but also in politics. The Agriculture Faculty has 52.93 % of the male aspirants. It is revealing and irrefragably inferable from this percentage that a large number of the First Year students ( males ) do have political ambitions : it readily follows from this that class does not influence the political aspirations of students. It is indisputably explicit that 52.64 % of the male aspirants are claimed by the Post-graduate classes. It may obviously be generalised that those prosecuting higher studies are not as much politically ambitious as males of the Arts, Law, - Commerce, and Agriculture Faculties : they seem to be comparatively conscientious and responsible students. It is notably remarkable that the percentage of the male aspirants ( 47.44 ) of the Science Faculty is lowest. This is unambiguously demonstrative of their comparatively moderate interest in politics : further and clearly, they are not as much politically ambitious as males of other faculties. It may be observed in conclusion that more than half of males of every faculty, except that of the Science faculty, are politically ambitious : it, naturally, follows from this that faculty does not markedly govern the political aspirations of males.



In respect of females, it is apparent from table No. 105 that the percentages of the female aspirants of every faculty are substantially lower than those of the male aspirants from every faculty. It is deducible from this that females of every faculty are not politically as much ambitious as males from every faculty : in this connexion, it may safely be said that females of every faculty have comparatively moderate interest in politics. A female from the Agriculture Faculty reports that she has no political aspirations. She seems to be faithful and scrupulous student. It is noticeable that the highest percentage of the female aspirants (40.00) is from the Commerce faculty. It plainly means that females of this faculty are politically more ambitious than females of other faculties : it appears that commerce is conducive to politics. Next to this faculty, the Arts faculty has 36.70 % of the female aspirants; while 32.26 % of the female aspirants come from the Science faculty. It is undoubtedly obvious that the sizable number of females of both the Arts and Science Faculties have political aspirations. All the same, it is clearly seen that females of the Arts faculty are politically more ambitious than females of the Science Faculty. It is discernible that 25.00 % of the female aspirants are claimed by the Post-graduate classes. This may be treated as suggestive of the fact that those prosecuting higher studies are not totally devoid of political aspirations. In the end, it may be observed that the considerably high percentage of females of every faculty has political ambitions; hence, faculty should not be considered as responsible for the indulgence in -



political aspirations.

7.14 Table Nos. 106 and 107 give the distribution of the sample according to caste and place of origin. Out of 439 rural students, 62.87 % and of the 472 urban students, 45.34 % have unequivocally stated that they have political aspirations. A wide difference between the two percentages is indisputably demonstrative of the fact that rural students are politically far more ambitious than urban students. This may be because rural students have more interest in politics than urban students. Moreover, it may be observed in this connexion that urban places appear to have ceased to be the hub of political activities; and the centre of politics seems to have moved towards rural areas.

7.15 A detailed break-up of the tables shows the rural and urban aspirants specifically indicating their political aspirations : their percentages are treated below in the descending order. Out of the 276 rural aspirants, 54.71 % and of the 214 urban aspirants, 54.67 % have indubitably expressed their desire to become "minister". It is apparent that ministership has captivated the highest percentage of the rural and urban aspirants : this at once and positively reveals its top popularity among both rural and urban students. Obviously, they are almost unanimous in their regard for "minister". A break-down of the "minister" plainly discloses that out of the 151 future rural ministers, 54.97 % and 45.03 %; and of the 117 future urban ministers, 77.78 % and 22.22 % would like to be "Union Minister" and "State Minister" respectively. -



Explicitly, the rural and urban aspirants value Union Ministership more than State Ministership. Moreover, it is seen that urban students attach more importance to Union Ministership than rural students.

There are 30.43 % of the rural and 36.92 % of the urban aspirants who are ambitious to become "member". It is notable that next to ministership rural and urban students are attracted towards membership. Positively, urban students have more regard for membership than rural students. A composition of the "member" unmistakably shows the rural and urban aspirants choosing the membership of a particular body. Out of the 84 future rural members, 34.51 % and of the 79 future urban members, 22.79 % intend to be "Member of Assembly"; while 32.13 % of the future rural members and 34.18 % of the future urban members like to be "Member of Parliament". It is noticeable that the largest number of the future rural and urban members have more regard and attraction for the membership of Parliament and Assembly than that of Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat, and Municipality. It is important to note in this context that the largest number of the future rural members love to be "Member of Assembly"; while the highest percentage of the future urban members desires to be "Member of Parliament". It is deducible that the rural and urban aspirants wish to be members of the higher and powerful political bodies. Further, it is observable from the break-up of the "minister" and "member" that the urban aspirants have comparatively loftier aspirations than the



rural aspirants. Zilla Parishad interests 22.61 % of the future rural members and 16.46 % of the future urban members. It may be placed on record that the percentages of the future rural and urban members of Zilla Parishad are considerably higher than those of the future rural and urban members of Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat. This explicitly means that Zilla Parishad is more popular among both rural and urban students than Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat. It is, further, noteworthy in this connexion that the sizable percentage of the future urban members has evinced interest in the membership of Zilla Parishad : it is plain that Zilla Parishad is not the exclusive preserve of rural students alone. It is the express aspiration of 7.14 % of the future rural members and 3.80 % of the future urban members to become "Member of Gram Panchayat". It is unmistakably noticeable that the percentage of the future rural members of Gram Panchayat is substantially higher than those of the future rural members of Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Municipality : moreover, the percentage of the future urban members of Gram Panchayat is higher than that of the future urban members of Taluka Panchayat Samiti. It apparently means that Gram Panchayat is more popular among rural students than Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Municipality; and it is held in higher esteem in urban places than Taluka Panchayat Samiti. It is quite natural to generalise that rural students have more interest in the membership of Gram Panchayat than urban students but what merits attention is the fact that few urban students have fascination for the membership of Gram Panchayat : Municipality attracts 2.38 % of the



future rural members and 21.52 % of the future urban members. It evidently means that urban students have far more interest in the membership of Municipality than rural students but what is notable in this respect is that few rural students have attraction for the membership of Municipality ! It is distinctly seen that the lowest percentage of the future rural ( 1.19 ) and urban ( 1.27 ) members belongs to Taluka Panchayat Samiti. This is the unquestionable proof that Taluka Panchayat Samiti is not popular among both rural and urban students. However, it is worth mentioning that only one future urban member wishes to be member of this body.

It is manifest that 8.69 % of the rural and 6.54 % of the urban aspirants want to be "president". It goes without saying that rural and urban students have moderate interest in becoming "president": as a result of this, they do not have as much attraction for "presidentship" as for "ministership" and "membership". Plainly, rural students are more attracted towards "president" than urban students. A break-up of the "president" shows the rural and urban aspirants opting for the presidentship of a particular body. Out of the 24 future rural presidents, 70.83 and of the 14 future urban presidents, 50.00 % desire to be "President of Zilla Parishad". It is obviously inferable that Zilla Parishad is more popular among both rural and urban students than Taluka Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat, and Municipality. It is undoubtedly explicit that rural students are more ambitious to become President of Zilla Parishad than urban students : all the same, the percentage of the future urban presidents should not be ignored.



There are 16.60 % of the future rural presidents and 50.00 % of the future urban presidents who aspire to be "President of Municipality". It is obvious to note that urban students have more interest in becoming President of Municipality than rural students. However, what is note worthy here is that rural students have interest in becoming President of Municipality. It is stated by 12.50 % of the future rural presidents only that they would like to be "President of Taluka Panchayat Samiti". It may be generalised that Taluka Panchayat Samiti is not as much popular among rural students as Municipality : moreover, urban students are totally indifferent towards it. A glimpse at the break-down of both "member" and "president" evidently shows that the percentages of the future rural and urban presidents of Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, and Municipality are considerably higher than those of the future rural and urban members of these bodies. It manifestly means that the "headship" of local bodies allures more rural and urban aspirants than their "membership" : this is more true of the rural aspirants.

Obviously, 5.43 % of the rural and 0.47 % of the urban aspirants like to be "Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat". It is interesting that the percentages of the future rural and urban Sarpanchs are lower than those of the future rural and urban members of Gram Panchayat. It is quite natural that rural students have more interest in Sarpanchship than urban students : all the same, it is amusing that urban students desire to become Sarpanch. In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that the majority of the rural and urban aspirants



desire to embrace those political offices that have wider powers and brighter prospects. Desire of some urban aspirants to become "Member" and "President" of Zilla Parishad, Taluka Panchayat Samiti, and Gram Panchayat; and of some rural aspirants to become "Member" and "President" of Municipality should not be treated as incongruous because it is observable that some city-dwellers have still interest in rural areas and some rural people have of late developed interest in urban places.

7.16 A castewise treatment of the sample distinctly displays the percentages of the rural and urban aspirants of every caste. It may be mentioned at the outset that Neo-Buddhists are not politically ambitious ! It is unmistakably noticeable that the percentages of the rural aspirants from every caste, except Gujars etc. are higher than those of the urban aspirants from every caste. It automatically follows from this that the rural aspirants of every caste are politically more ambitious than the urban aspirants from every caste. It is a matter of education that the percentages of the minority castes from both rural and urban places are considerable high : Brahmmins and others 53.50 ( rural ) and 39.90 ( urban ), Jains 65.62 ( rural ) and 55.88 ( Urban), Gujars etc. 28.57 ( rural ) and 30.00 ( urban ), Lingayats 62.06 ( rural ) and 58.33 ( urban ), Intermediate Hindus 56.66 ( rural ) and 56.00 ( urban ), Backward and Scheduled Castes 69.05 ( rural ) and 50.00 ( urban ), Muslims 53.33 ( rural ) and 33.33 ( urban), and rural Christians cent per cent. It is interesting to note that the percentages of Jain, Lingayat, and Intermediate Hindu



aspirants from Urban places, and those of Backward and Scheduled Castes and Christian aspirants from rural places are notably higher than the percentages of Marathas from both rural ( 67.16 ) and urban ( 50.31 ) places respectively. Further, it may be recorded that the percentages of Brahmins and others aspirants from rural and urban areas are lower than the percentages of Maratha aspirants from both rural and urban areas. It naturally follows from this that Marathas are politically more ambitious than Brahmins and others. It may be pointed out that Gujars etc. are comparatively moderate in their political aspirations; hence, it may be inferred that they are not as much politically ambitious as other castes from rural and urban areas. In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that all castes : major and minor have - political aspirations : the majority of rural and urban students of every caste are politically ambitious : therefore, it may be concluded that caste does not markedly influence the political aspirations of students.

#### Means to Political Career.

7.17 After pinpointing the exact number of the male and female political aspirants it would be a matter of enlightenment to know whether they make efforts to realise their political goals : wishes never become horses unless they are backed up by endeavours. This would indicate whether they are only ambitious or genuinely interested in actualizing their political designs : moreover, examination of the means to political career would indirectly reveal their involvement



in politics. I have offered five means to students : social work, party work, welfare of caste, currying favour of party leaders, and other.

7.18 Table No. 108 gives the distribution of the sample according to sex. A glance at the table unambiguously reveals that all the male ( 57.42 % ) and female ( 35.33 % ) aspirants strive to materialise their political objectives. It unmistakably means that these aspirants are neither sluggish nor given to reverie but are essentially and strenuously perseverant in realising their political ambitions. This is incontrovertibly ruinous because they engage themselves actively in converting their political dreams into fact instead of devoting faithfully and conscientiously to studies.

7.19 A detailed composition of the table shows the aspirants specifically indicating their efforts to realise their political aspirations. Out of the 437 male aspirants, 78.02 % and of the 53 female aspirants, 60.38 % report that they do "social work". It is clear as day that social work has dynamically appealed to the largest number of both male and female aspirants : plainly, it is valued more than any other "means". It is irrefutably inferable that these students are confident that social work will unfailingly and positively enable them to actualize their political goals. It appears that social work is no longer corrective against social evils and ills but a spring-board to "jump" into politics : a passport to enter political career ! The unholy alliance of social work and politics will certainly usher in unfair and undemocratic



practices in our society. Evidently, the male aspirants take to social work more than the female aspirants : it apparently means that males believe in the "miracles" of social work more than females. There are 24.71 % of the male and 11.32 % of the female aspirants who categorically state that they resort to "party work". In a party democracy party work occupies zenithal position : all party workers engage themselves with it as it brightens their prospects as well as that of a party at the polls. Nevertheless, association of these aspirants with party work is unfortunate and undemocratic : this would vitiate educational life and finally desecrate democracy : besides, what is despicable is that parties barefacedly and wantonly suffer them to do party work. It is explicitly seen that the male aspirants take more interest in party work than the female aspirants. It is asserted by 10.30 % of the male aspirants and 3.77 % of the female aspirants that they "curry favour of party leaders". In a party politics some leaders are always "boss" who constitute "the High Command" of a party : lessers at all times strive to seek their patronage only to rise politically. In the light of this, it is revealing to note that these aspirants are keen on materialising their political longings by primarily basking in the smiles of big leaders. It is manifest that the male aspirants struggle more to be in the good books of party leaders than the female aspirants. It is confessed by 2.29 % of the male aspirants and 7.55 % of the female aspirants that they resort to the "welfare of their caste". It may be observed that these aspirants ulteriorly take interest in the -



amelioration of their caste : they like to exploit the caste-patriotism with a view to actualize their political designs. It is indeed shocking and abominable that even college students should make use of their caste to their advantage at the cost of healthy democratic practices. This is a shining illustration of how casteism has reached even the younger generation. It is worthwhile to mention that the female aspirants are more engaged in the betterment of their caste than the male aspirants. It may plainly be inferred that females are more caste-ist in their political behaviour than males. It is striking and intriguing that 11.21 % of the male and 30.19 % of the female aspirants have not specified their efforts. In the overall context, it may be observed in the end that the majority of the male and female aspirants resort to social work and party work : moreover, it may be generalised that all the male and female aspirants are undoubtedly involved in politics.

#### Political Loyalty.

7.20 In a party politics defections are not uncommon : the disgruntled leaders generally divorce their party on this or that account : they are usually followed by their admirers. In view of this, a reply to the question : in case the leader you like leaves the party, would you also leave it ? would reveal the political loyalty and thereby maturity of students.

7.21 Table No. 109 gives the distribution of the sample according to sex and faculty. Out of 761 males, 72.40 % and of the 150 females, 72.00 % have categorically stated that they have no intention to leave the party even if their leader





were to leave it. This unambiguously and unmistakably means that the overwhelming majority of the reporters are devoutly faithful to party : they certainly realise its wider importance : they undoubtedly keep it above their leader : they have obviously no fascination for personality cult nor do they suffer from sheep-mentality : hence, it may confidently be generalised that they are politically mature and responsible. It is beyond all question that males and females are equally politically mature and responsible.

7.22 A facultywise consideration of the sample indisputably shows that the largest number of students of every faculty have no intention to leave the party even if their leader were to leave it. It automatically follows from this that the overwhelming majority of students of every faculty are faithfully loyal to the party and, therefore, could be treated as politically mature and responsible. A close examination of the sample plainly displays that the highest percentage of the male reporters ( 94.75 ) unwilling to leave the party is from the Post-graduate classes. It convincingly means that males of this faculty are more true to the party and, therefore, - politically more mature than males of other faculties. It is the decision of 84.20 % of the male reporters of the Law - Faculty not to desert the party. How conspicuous it is that the largest number of the prospective lawyers owe allegiance to the party and disclose their political maturity eventually. It may be placed on record that the considerably high percentage of the male reporters ( 74.09 ) of the Arts Faculty is reluctant to quit the party. This definitely discovers their



unshakable faith in the party - a symbol of their political maturity. It is notably noticeable that there is no marked difference between the percentages of the male reporters of the Science ( 71.15 ) and Agriculture ( 70.78 ) faculties. These reporters are loath to leave the party : hence it is deducible that they are almost equally devoted to the party and, therefore, could be treated as politically mature. It is manifestly seen that the lowest percentage of the male reporters ( 64.78 ) disinclined to desert the party is from the Commerce Faculty : of course, males of this faculty are not as much faithful to the party and, therefore, politically mature as males of other faculties.

In respect of females, it is evidently seen that a female from the Agriculture Faculty intends to desert the party : she may be treated as politically immature and irresponsible. Obviously, all females of the Commerce Faculty are opposed to quit the party. It apparently means that they are more loyal to the party and, therefore, politically more mature than females of other faculties. It is explicit that there is no notable disparity between the percentages of the female reporters of the Post-graduate classes ( 75.00 ) and of the Science Faculty ( 74.19 ). These reporters are unwilling to divorce the party : hence it may be said that they are almost equally faithful to the party and, therefore, could be treated as politically mature. It is interesting to note that the lowest percentage of the female reporters ( 67.88 ) disinclined to leave the party is from the Arts faculty : it is apparent that females of this faculty are not as much devoted



to the party and, therefore, politically mature as females of other faculties. In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that faculty does not markedly influence the political loyalty and maturity of students.

7.23 Table No. 110 gives the distribution of the sample according to caste and place of origin. Out of 439 rural students, 74.49 % and of the 472 urban students, 70.35 % have unequivocally reported that they have no desire to desert the party even if their leader were to quit it. A gap between the two percentages incontestably reveals that rural students are more devoted to the party and, therefore, politically more mature than urban students : this is indeed interesting and intriguing taking into account the comparatively better background of city dwellers.

7.24 A castewise treatment of the sample convincingly conveys that the largest number of both rural and urban students of every caste have no intention to quit the party even if their leader were to leave it. It is naturally inferable from this that the overwhelming majority of both rural and urban students of every caste are loyally true to the party and, therefore, could be considered as politically mature and responsible. A close view of the sample distinctly discloses that the percentages of the rural reporters of every caste, unwilling to leave the party, are almost consistently higher than those of the urban reporters from every caste reluctant to desert the party. It plainly means that rural students from every caste are politically more loyal and mature than urban students of



every caste. It is indeed revealing that the percentages of the minority castes, disinclined to quit the party, from both rural and urban places are considerably high : Brahmins and others 77.44 ( rural ) and 70.93 ( urban ), Jains 62.50 ( rural ) and 73.52 ( urban ), Gujars etc. 71.43 ( rural ) and 80.00 ( urban ), Lingayats 68.96 ( rural ) and 58.33 ( urban ), Intermediate Hindus 69.99 ( rural ) and 60.00 ( urban ), Backward and Scheduled Castes 80.95 ( rural ) and 100.00 ( urban ), Neo-Buddhists 100.00 ( rural ), Muslims 100.00 ( rural ) and 66.66 ( urban ), and Christians 80.00 ( rural ) and 66.66 ( urban ). It is instructive to note that the percentages of Brahmins and others, Backward Scheduled Castes, Muslims, and Christians from rural areas and those of Jains, Gujars etc., Backward and Scheduled Castes from urban places are higher than the percentages of Marathas from both rural ( 73.13 ) and urban ( 70.91 ) places respectively. It is obvious that rural Brahmins and others are politically more loyal and mature than rural Marathas; urban Marathas and Brahmins and others are almost equally politically loyal and mature. In the over-all context, it may be observed in the end that caste does not markedly influence the political loyalty and maturity of both rural and urban students of every caste.

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