

"Education through self-help is our motto" - Karmveer

Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's Dr. Patangrao Kadam Mahavidyalaya, Ramanandnagar (Burli)

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Department of Economics

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Report of 'Field visit to local governance'

As a part of syllabus a group of students with Dr. Smt. P. B. Patil, Dr. A. S. Kamble and Mr. S. R. Kundle visited to the Gram Panchayat Punadi, Tal. Palus, Dist. Sangli at Thursday 22nd February, 2024 for the gain insights into the local governance structure and understand the budgetary processes involved. The primary goal of the visit was to provide students with a practical understanding of how Gram Panchayats manage their finances and allocate resources to address local needs. In this visit government appointed officer (Gramsevak) was presented Gram Panchayat's budget, showcasing revenue sources, expenditure categories and allocation priorities. A notable portion of the budget was allocated to essential services like healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. The primary sources of revenue were identified as local taxes, government grants, and contributions from various state and central schemes. He also discussed challenges faced in revenue collection and strategies employed with us.

Expenditure was categorized into different sectors, with a focus on grassroots development. The allocation for education included funds for school infrastructure, teacher salaries and educational programs, reflecting a commitment to enhancing local education. The Gram Panchayat emphasized the importance of community involvement in decision-making processes, especially during budget planning. Residents had opportunities to voice their opinions during Gram Sabha meetings, influencing budget priorities that align with community needs.

Challenges such as limited funds, infrastructure gaps and bureaucratic procedures were acknowledged by the Gram Panchayat. Opportunities for improvement were identified, including exploring collaborations with local NGOs and leveraging technology for more transparent financial management.

Outcomes of the visit:

- 1. The field visit to Gram Panchayat Punadi provided students with valuable insights into the functioning of local governance and the intricacies of budgetary processes.
- 2. Students has been encourage through witnessing the commitment of the Gram Panchayat towards community development.
- 3. A deeper understanding among students regarding the significance of grassroots governance in driving positive change.

Beneficiaries = 26





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