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**EVALUATION OF WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN WEST BENGAL
PANCHAYAT WITH SPECIAL FOCUS TO PURULIA DISTRICT**

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ABSTRACT

The learning about the roles, responsibilities, and various development programmes is the first step in the empowerment process. Women have been members of panchayati raj institutions for more than ten years, which has given them the chance to learn about the panchayati raj system and its workings. Women's involvement in panchayati raj can be a crucial factor in making it a successful tool for women's emancipation. Women can be empowered by getting involved in outdoor socioeconomic and political activities. Individual or institutional decision-making incorporates a variety of elements, including logical thought, access to knowledge and information, available options, active engagement in activities, and many others. The process of empowerment heavily depends on one's perspective of oneself. Although awareness, participation, and decision-making are closely related, perception is a highly individualized quality that is challenging to quantify. In this article, evaluation of women participation in West Bengal panchayat with special focus to Purulia district has been discussed.

Keywords: Women, Participation, West Bengal, Panchayat, Purulia.