

POLITICAL AWARENESS OF YOUNGSTERS IN TAMILNADU-AN ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT:

The present study was conducted in certain regions of Tamilnadu in order to analyse the political engagement and awareness among youngsters. The main aim of the research is to study the factors influencing political awareness among youngsters and the political awareness among youngsters due to the civil society organisations. In this regard, the study has made an attempt to examine the influence of politics and politicians in the involvement of youngsters in politics. Towards the end of the study, it is revealed that there is no significant difference in the political awareness among youngsters of Tamilnadu due to civil society organisations. This research paper will discuss in detail about the political awareness among youngsters in Tamilnadu and the role of civil society organisations towards politics. The survey which was conducted among youngsters also stated that the political awareness of youngsters is high but there exists some youngsters who are not much aware of the politics. This may be due to less regulation by the civil society organisations. The results reveal that the social media is much influencing political issues but at the same they are also corrupted to a greater extend. The political awareness among youngsters is very less, but however the political interest among youngsters is high. The youngsters in Tamilnadu criticise the Government for not maintaining law and order, political conflicts, poverty, unemployment and for various other defects. But, they don't actively participate in politics even after various measures taken by the civil society organisations. This may be due to their mindset about the politics which is created by the existing politicians. The

civil society organisations must cover the political awareness among youngsters with much greater care.

KEYWORDS: Politics, civil society organisations, youngsters, financial status, education.

INTRODUCTION:

Political engagement is a more focused on part of commitment and can be communicated through voting, participating in political exhibits and marking petitions for particular issues (Mahesh Chougule, 2015). The association of youth in governmental issues prompts urban commitment which is more extensive than political commitment since it can incorporate support of the group through contribution in wellbeing, training and philanthropy work (Johan Ostman, 2002). Periyar E.V. Ramasamy, a south-indian social reformer stated in the early times that youngsters could change the condition of the poor people and bring about their upliftment (Dirks 1976). But, youngsters are not even contributing a day for the welfare of the poor in present scenario. They speak much about politics, criticize the political actions and the leaders which they think would change the evil practices in the society and generally, their participation in active politics is very little in India. But, there are few who take part in politics to some extent, there are several groups of youngsters from secondary schools and tertiary institutions taking initiatives to participate in civic and political events (Shun-wing ng, 2014) all over the world. Over 50% of the variation between youth political interest was explained by variations in the presence of politics in the family and among one's friends (Vesa koskimaa, et.al, 2015). The knowledge and attitude developed in school are important predictors of engagement and moreover the magnitude of political participation also vary for boys and girls (Larue Allen and Heejun Bang, 2015). Thus, there is a need to provide refreshing training programmes for civic education teachers. Each and every youngster should consider the civic engagement to be the local and global civic responsibility. (Dr.LakshmiTand RajeshkumarS 2018) Moreover, attention is needed to the development of theory and measurement (Lonnie Sherrod, 2006). The development of civic values are demanded highly by the adults only, then it is their responsibility to take part in the politics for bringing about change in the society. The course of civic education is found to be missing its core, which implies the existence of training on civil rights (Qasem Althubetat, 2014). The best way to teach the political participation is through intellectual

education on applications of values and behaviours of democracy, teaching responsible leadership and values of justice (Sasikala.et.al, 2017).

In 2004, half of the Indian population was matured 30 years or more youthful; be like, just 35 out of 543 Lok Sabha individuals (6%) were matured and under 35. Nevertheless, the World Values Survey demonstrated that the extent of individuals matured (18– 24) who distinguished themselves as exceptionally or somewhat keen on governmental issues was around 50, an expansion of 15% since 1990 (Gupta Pranay, 2010). All major political gatherings have youth and understudy wings in India like Indian Youth Congress, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, and Democratic Youth Federation of India (Victor Dahl, 2012). Thus, the political awareness of youngsters is prevailing in some region of the country but the awareness is not up to the extend of active political participation of the youngsters. Moreover, the existing political parties create a mindset among the youngsters that politics is something that only well-experienced administrators would perform, it is the supreme power but it doesn't mean that youngsters are unfit to perform the political duties. (Trishala A , Lakshmi T and Rajeshkumar S 2018) Youngsters are not offered chances to substantiate themselves with the reason that they are not adequately experienced to take part effectively in the administration of the nation. All the major political gatherings appear to work under the imposing business model of old pioneers. Old individuals ought to understand that they should clear a path for more youthful individuals to take control of the exercises.

Social media is the network which is governed by the youngsters. Youngsters play an important role in spreading the news which is highly sensational. The best example for this could be the Syrian issue, very few politicians and news channels covered the issue but each and every Facebook profile of youngsters and newsfeed were filled with the memes and news about the issue. But, the spreading of news do not change the scenario or do not create any impact in the society. There must be active participation of youngsters in solving every social issues, only then there is a chance of creating a change in the society. In this context, this paper attempts to analyze the factors that are influencing political awareness of youngsters and role of civil society organisations in creating political awareness among the youngsters.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

This paper used both primary and secondary information collected from general public through random sampling. research paper is in the non-doctrinal method. The questions relating to the engagement of youngsters in social media, their use of fundamental rights in political actions, and their engagement in politics were taken into account. The survey is limited to 300 samples because of the time constraint. The primary sources of information are taken from the books and the secondary sources of information are taken from the articles of journals, working papers, thesis, and presentation papers.

RESULTS:

In this study, out of 300 respondents, 74% of the respondents were between the age of 18 and 30, 18% of the respondents were below the age of 18 and 8% of the respondents were between the age of 30-50. Thus, the respondents are moreover of the same age group and they are the young generation. Majority of the respondents (74%) were male and the rest were female (26%). The gender determination was important in this study in order to find out whether the awareness of youngsters towards politics varies with gender.

A question related to gender biasness in political awareness revealed the opinion of the respondents that gender is not the factor influencing political awareness among youngsters (32%), gender influencing the political awareness among youngsters (29%) and 39% of the respondents stated that the gender may be the factor influencing the political awareness among youngsters, hence gender may be one of the factors influencing the political awareness among youngsters in Tamilnadu. The other factors which could influence the political awareness among youngsters were location, financial status and social media. About 61% of the respondents state that location is one of the factor influencing the political awareness among youngsters and 59% of the respondents state that location is not the factor which influences the political awareness among youngsters. Also, 53% of the respondents state that financial status is one of the factor influencing political awareness among youngsters, 13% of the respondents state that financial status is not the factor influencing political awareness among youngsters and 34% of the respondents state that financial status may be one of the factor influencing political awareness among youngsters. 75% of the respondents state that social media is influencing the political engagement of youngsters and 25% of the respondents state that social media is not influencing the political engagement of youngsters.

And also, 52% of the respondents state that memes created in social media show the youngsters' opposition for any social issues, 44% of the respondents state that memes created in social media do not show the youngsters' opposition for any social issues and 4% of the respondents state that not all memes created in social media show the youngsters' opposition for any social issues, this shows that the youngsters of Tamilnadu believe that they show their opposition for social issues by creating memes on social media.

The news channels play a major role in publishing the information to people, but the youngsters strongly disagree with the activities of news channels, 19% of the respondents state that the news channels cover all the political issues, 44% of the respondents state that the news channels are also corrupted, 13% of the respondents state that the news channels don't cover the issues of certain political parties, and 24% of the respondents state that news channels focus on entertainment purposes only. But however, the youngsters watch the news channels, 35% of the respondents state that they mostly view puthiyathalaimurai news channel, 31% of the respondents state that they mostly view news 7 channel, 12% of the respondents state that they mostly view Thanthi news channel, and the 22% state that they view other news channels. Thus, they youngsters though they oppose the activities of news channels, they watch them to some extent, and moreover they show their opposition to social issues by creating memes. But, not all the youngsters involve in these activities, there are some who actively participate in politics.

The direct involvement of youngsters in politics is their role as a member of political parties, 94% of the respondents do not belong to any political parties and 6% of the respondents belong to the political parties, this revealed that the youngsters mostly do not actively be the members of political parties. The main reason for asking the involvement of youngsters in politics is due to the existing political conflicts, the reason for such political conflicts in the mindset of youngsters revealed that 50% of the respondents state that caste is the reason for the political conflicts, 19% of the respondents state that age is the reason for the political conflicts, 13% of the respondents state that religion is the reason for the political conflicts and 18% of the respondents state that other issues are the reason for the political conflicts. And moreover, 51% of the respondents state that they do not discuss much about politics to their family and friends, 21% of the respondents state that their discussion about politics to family and friends is very low, 21% of the respondents state that their discussion about politics to family and friends is high and 7% of the respondents state that they never discuss about politics with their family and

friends, thus the youngsters don't even discuss about politics in larger scale. When the reason for their non-participation was questioned, 42% of the respondents state that politics is the game of uneducated people, 25% of the respondents state that fulfilment of personal goals is the reason for the less interest of youngsters in politics, 21% of the respondents state that politics is risky and 12% of the respondents state that politics is not preferred by youngsters due to patriotism, this reveals that most of the youngsters feel that only uneducated people join in politics. And moreover, 42% of the respondents state that they are not much interested in politics, 29% of the respondents state their interest in politics is very low, 21% of the respondents state that their interest in politics is high and 8% of the respondents state that they are not interested in politics. This shows that most of the youngsters are not much interested in politics. They merely criticise the Government for its defects but they are not in a position to join the politics due to the negative impression on the politics created by the existing politicians.

DISCUSSION:

Political soundness and advancement of law based qualities are to be the greater advantage of the country and the part of youth support in this procedure is basic. Non-Governmental organizations, work pioneers, religious associations, religious pioneers and other common society agents play a basic and different arrangement of parts in societal advancement. Over the most recent two decades these parts have moved as the outside condition for common society has changed. As of late, a restored center around the basic commitment of common society to a strong worldwide framework nearby government and business has emerged. While it gives an abnormal state guide of present and future outer conditions in which partners cooperate to explain societal difficulties, it additionally gives an arrangement of devices to empower pioneers to "penetrate down" and recognize and address the inquiries of most significance and importance to their nearby setting, group or association. It does this by featuring key concerns, patterns, situations and suggestions and by introducing toward the finish of each segment an arrangement of testing questions that will enable pioneers to adjust the material to nearby concerns and conditions.

Over the globe there are cases of common society displaying an enthusiastic voice in advancing the standards of reasonable and even handed financial advancement, sexual orientation uniformity and human rights. In numerous nations, be that as it may, the group faces consistently fixing limitations. Regardless of whether by means of strict media oversight or

oppressive administrative obstacles for CSOs, governments in various nations are confining the space for common society – especially in the field of propelling human rights or law based standards. Ventures to smother or check common society flexibilities incorporate restricting access to national and remote subsidizing, raising hindrances to versatile correspondences, and applying difficult, self-assertive or inadequately administered enrollment forms. Past advances taken by particular national governments, worldwide common society pioneers have recognized a more broad decrease in financing accessible for promotion, rights-based exercises, or "causes that test business as usual". While a considerable lot of these measures may not constitute plain acts, for example, bans, common society pioneers say the ramifications of these all the more unobtrusively controlled confinements stretch out past particular exercises to ruin the improvement of majority rule administration, responsibility and dependability over the long haul. There are suggestions too for the readiness of the private segment to participate in social obligation programs, specifically in association with common society associations, in districts where there is a hazard this could be seen as a danger to the state.

The results show that the political awareness of youngsters is high but there exists some youngsters who are not much aware of the politics. This may be due to less regulation by the civil society organisations. The results reveal that the social media is much influencing political issues but at the same they are also corrupted to a greater extend.

CONCLUSION:

The political awareness among youngsters is very less, but however the political interest among youngsters is high. The youngsters in Tamilnadu criticise the Government for not maintaining law and order, political conflicts, poverty, unemployment and for various other defects. But, they don't actively participate in politics even after various measures taken by the civil society organisations. This may be due to their mindset about the politics which is created by the existing politicians. The civil society organisations must cover the political awareness among youngsters with much greater care. Thus, this research paper reveals that there is no significant difference in the awareness among youngsters in Tamilnadu due to the civil society organisations, as the involvement of youngsters in Politics is very less and that could be improved only with co-operation of these civil society organisations.

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