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## Political Preferences, Voting Patterns, Affiliations, and Views of Women Workers in Tamil Nadu's Construction Sector - An Assessment

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### Abstract

*India's informal sector faces issues like irregular work schedules, wage theft, and sexual harassment, particularly among women in construction. Rapid industrialization and urbanization accelerate women's migration, resulting in inadequate remuneration and health hazards. Women's empowerment and the fight against poverty depend heavily on education and empowerment. This research looks at women's political knowledge and engagement in the Vellore District of Tamil Nadu. It focuses on issues related to money and career, political preferences, voting behavior, and perspectives from the construction sector. The major driver of India's economy, the informal sector employs 46.5 crore people, yet it suffers difficulties like isolation, substandard housing, low wages, hard labor, and a lack of occupational health care. Examining 60 Tamil Nadu families' election participation, the study highlights the ethical, legal, and democratic ramifications of gender discrimination in Indian society by showing that demanding behaviors frequently result in less demanding ones. The study explores women's political engagement in the construction industry in Vellore District, focusing on voting, running for office, and organizing activities, influenced by internet campaign news. All parties are welcome to join research organizations, however workers of the government and semi-government are not allowed to join political parties. Tamil Nadu encourages gender equality, yet there are barriers for women in the areas of work, education, and empowerment. This research article aims to analyze the political awareness and participation of women construction workers in Vellore District, Tamil Nadu, focusing on issues like political preferences, voting patterns, and construction sector opinions, using secondary sources and statistical data. According to this point of view, the current situation is both critically important and relevant in terms of both the economy and society.*

**Keywords:** Informal Sector, Construction, Women Workers, Women Empowerment, Industrialization, Urbanization, Indian Economy, Political Parties, Political Preferences and Voting Behavior

## INTRODUCTION

The Indian economy is predominantly characterized by informal sector labor employment, with 46.5 crore workers, including 24.6 crore in agriculture, 4.4 crore in manufacturing, and 4.4 crore in manufacturing and service. This informal sector differs from the formal sector in terms of technology, economies of scale, and labor-intensive processes. It contributes significantly to the economy and absorbs a large portion of unemployed individuals. Policymakers must monitor the sector's size and structure to develop appropriate policies to address these issues. The construction industry, the largest economic activity in India, faces challenges such as hard physical labor, low wages, poor living conditions, isolation, and a lack of occupational health services. Women workers are at higher risk of developing health disorders and diseases, with limited research in countries like India. India's informal laborers, who contribute significantly to the country's GDP,

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face challenges such as a lack of social security, poor living conditions, and homelessness. The construction sector faces homelessness, impoverishment, and harassment. In these circumstances, there is a need to examine the political awareness and participation of women construction workers in Vellore District, Tamil Nadu. The Vellore District, as an important socio-political hub, must address issues like political preferences, voting patterns, affiliations, and construction sector opinions. From a theoretical standpoint, women laborers in Tamil Nadu.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The informal sector in India has issues such as unstable work, wage theft, and sexual harassment, with women accounting for 70% of non-agricultural jobs. Women's migration is accelerated by rapid industrialization and urbanization, while technological improvements modify infrastructure. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has called for reforms in construction, addressing hard work, poor pay, and health concerns. Women construction workers in Tamil Nadu's Vellore District suffer challenges such as poor pay, health concerns, sexual assault, exploitation, and rights denial. They also lack proper housing, medical care, education, and childcare. Numerous tasks are performed by 12.3% of women construction workers in Tamil Nadu's Vellore District, while males do excavating, construction, plastering, among others concreting, and leveling duties. Women must be empowered, and they frequently pursue informal mason training classes. Women spend their earnings on household requirements, avoiding harmful habits such as drinking and smoking. During unemployment, more over half of male construction workers take out loans, while women pay 98 percent of their wages to family support. Women construction workers in Tamil Nadu's Vellore District endure wage, advancement, and harassment discrimination, earning just one-third of the district's income, resulting in poverty and seasonal labor shortages.

The research emphasizes financial and professional difficulties. The purpose of this study is to examine the political awareness and involvement of women construction workers in the Vellore District of Tamil Nadu. As a major socio-political hub, the Vellore District must handle issues like as political preferences, voting patterns, affiliations, and construction sector viewpoints. Women laborers in Tamil Nadu employ both primary and secondary sources, according to theory. It emphasizes the significance of these concerns in politics, economics, and society.

### **Objectives of the Article**

The overall objective of this article is to analyze the political awareness and participation of women construction workers in Vellore District, Tamil Nadu. The Vellore District, as an important socio-political hub, must address issues like political preferences, voting patterns, affiliations, and construction sector opinions. From a theoretical standpoint, women labor in Tamil Nadu. To do this, researchers use a macroeconomic theoretical framework, both primary and secondary sources of data, and statistical analysis that is pertinent to the topic at present.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This is descriptive and diagnostic study based on both primary and secondary sources of information and statistical data pertaining to the theme of the research article. The research areas include Vellore, Anaicut, Pernambut, Gudiyatham, Katpadi, and K.V.Kuppam, which are all core areas in the Vellore District. The sample size for the study was estimated based on the total number of households in the study area. Finally, the sample size was determined to be 60. This paper explores political awareness and participation of women construction workers in Vellore District, Tamil Nadu. The Vellore District, as an important socio-political hub, must address issues like political preferences, voting patterns, affiliations, and construction sector opinions, from a theoretical standpoint, women laborers in Tamil Nadu. The study interviewed 60 women construction workers in Vellore district to understand their views on political preferences, voting patterns, affiliations, and construction sector opinions on government. A systematic interview schedule was used to interview women construction workers in the Tamil Nadu district of Vellore. Women were questioned in the local language because the majority of them are illiterate and have only completed higher secondary school. Face-to-face interviews and secondary sources, including books, newspapers, websites, journals, and resource people, were used to collect data

from respondents on construction sites. The acquired information was master-tabled in order to create sub-tables relevant to the study's subject, while keeping the article's purpose in mind in order to perform analysis and data interpretation for the study. Major findings and outcomes are arrived at based on the analysis, and conclusions and suggestions for the research are presented based on the results.

### Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Age is a factor that influences socioeconomic situations. A family with multiple children and elderly relatives would suffer severely as a result of their restricted capacity to earn a living. A family with more wage earners, on the other hand, will be in a better financial position. Table – 1, displays the demographic and socioeconomic profile features of the respondents.

**Table: 1 Demographic, Socio – Economic Profile of the Respondents**

Age wise distribution of the respondents		
Age (in Years)	Frequency	Percent
Bellow 25	21	35.00
25-45	16	26.67
45-65	13	21.66
Above 65	10	16.67
Total	60	100.00
Education Status		
Education Level	Frequency	Percent
Up to Higher secondary	26	43.33
Graduate	34	56.67
Total	60	100.00
Monthly Income (in Rs.)		
Income Category	Frequency	Percent
Up to 5000	27	45.00
Rs. 5001 - 8000	16	26.67
Rs.8001 -11000	11	18.33
Above 11000	06	10.00
Total	60	100.00
Marital Status		
Particulars	Frequency	Percent
Married	39	65.00
UnMarried	21	35.00
Total	60	100.00
Housing Status		
Particulars	Frequency	Percent
Pucca Houses	18	30.00
Semi – Pucca Houses	22	36.67
Katcha Houses	09	15.00
Others	11	18.33
Total	60	100.00
Reasons given by the respondents for undertaking construction in the research area		
Particulars	Frequency	Percent
Widow/husband abandoned; no other jobs	11	18.33
Driven by living conditions, family dynamics, and poverty	21	35.00
Numerous family members employed in the construction sector and associated fields in the study area	13	21.67
Husband died to care for the family's sons and daughters, and parents died to care for the younger ones.	10	16.66
Independent choices, self-determination and aspirations	05	8.33
Total	60	100.00

Source: Primary Data.

According to the data in Table -1, the age distribution of the respondents in the study area was as follows: 16 respondents were in the 25–45 age group, 21 respondents were under 25 age group, whereas, 13 respondents were in the 45–65 age group, and the remaining 10 respondents were over 65. Regarding monthly income, 27 respondents make up to Rs. 5000 per month, 16 respondents earn between Rs. 5001 and Rs. 8000, and 11 respondents earn between Rs. 8001 and Rs. 11000, and the remaining 6 earn beyond Rs. 11000 per month. The

household is categorized into single, married, and others based on marital status, with 65% being single and 35 % married, affecting work and income. Education is crucial for social awareness and societal growth, but many people lack financial support and understanding. Vellore District in Tamil Nadu has a low literacy rate compared to other districts. 56.67% of respondents completed other education, while the remaining 43.33% were qualified postgraduate students. Whereas, 26 respondents had completed higher secondary education and 34 of them completed graduates. Table -1, reveals respondents' living conditions by region, including Katcha, Semi-Pucca, Pucca, and other types of housing. Out of 60 respondents, 15% live in Katcha houses, 36.67% in Semi-Pucca houses, 30.00% in Pucca houses, and 18.33% in other housing types. Respondent households are predominantly wage workers in construction and related industries, earning daily and weekly earnings. Many workers, including plasterers, tile installers, and building demolishers, face erratic revenue and financial difficulties, including economic recession, poverty, and inequality, affecting their daily and weekly earnings.

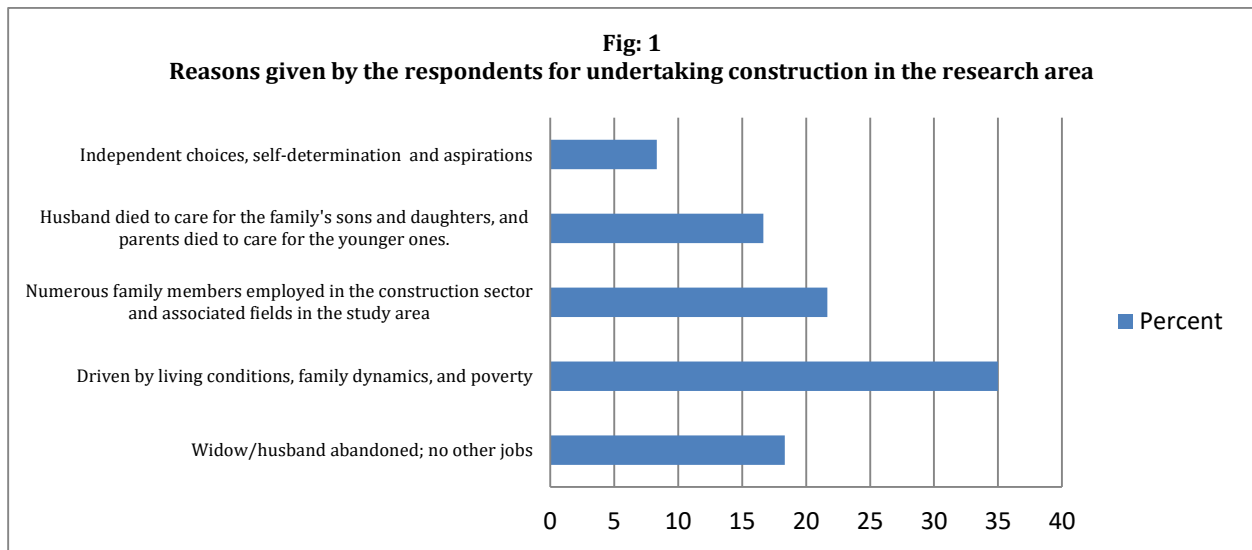


Table -1, reveals that 35 percent of respondents in the study area entered the construction industry due to poverty, family dynamics, and living conditions. 16.66% were forced into the industry due to the death of their husband and parents. 18.33 percent were not seeking another job, while 21.67 percent had family members working in the industry. 8.33 percent chose to enter for free will, self-determination, and aspirations.

### **Political Empowerment of the Respondents**

Indian society is dominated by men, with women construction workers occupying significant political roles. Discrimination based on gender is ethically, legally, and democratically wrong. Gender equality necessitates women use all political tools at their disposal. Political engagement influences public policy and leaders' actions, which are impacted by criteria such as caste, gender, religion, money, education, and occupation. Local party leaders in India, notably in Tamil Nadu, participate at four levels: uninterested, spectator activities, and periphery voters.

The study looks at five degrees of political participation among Indian voters like Apathetic, Peripherals, Spectators, Auxiliaries, and Politics. Approximately 40% of voters are observers and auxiliary groups, with 16% having a significant interest in politics. Political participation is important for women in the construction sector because it allows them to adopt citizenship beyond customary obligations. Women's rights movements seek to abolish gender-based structures and to provide individuals voting rights and political post-reservations. In Tamil Nadu and India, nationalist, social, and women's movements urge vigorous political engagement, with seasonality dominating activity between elections. This research focuses at electoral participation, including voting behavior and non-voting activities, in 60 Tamil Nadu families. It attempts to assess respondents' political knowledge and engagement, indicating that difficult actions frequently lead to less demanding ones such as campaigning. The analysis is based on the replies of respondents.

### The Political Knowledge and Engagement in Politics of Respondents

First and foremost, it is vital to comprehend the respondents' level of political interest. They felt compelled to exhibit their interest in political issues. The respondents' level of political interest was estimated based on their replies. Table-2, details the respondent's political interests in the research area.

**Table -2 Respondents' Interest in Politics**

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondent's interest in Politics			
		Yes	No	No Response	Total
1	Vellore	03 (37.50)	01 (12.50)	04 (50.00)	08 (100)
2	Anaicut	05 (45.45)	02 (18.18)	04 (36.37)	11 (100)
3	Pernambut	04 (50.00)	03 (37.50)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	06 (46.16)	03 (23.07)	04 (30.77)	13 (100)
5	Katpadi	03 (20.00)	05 (33.33)	07 (46.67)	15 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	02 (40.00)	01 (20.00)	02 (40.00)	05 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>23 (38.33)</b>	<b>15 (25.00)</b>	<b>22 (36.67)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

**Source: Computed from primary data**

The vast majority of responders (38.33%) expressed an interest in politics. The majority of people only participate in politics during election seasons, and even fewer do so on a regular basis. Of the respondents in the research region, 36.67 percent of the respondent households did not answer, while just 25 percent of the sample study respondents were interested in politics. The study discovered that interest in politics declines with age, probably due to a lack of overlap between proclaimed and actual policy. Younger people are more engaged in politics, and they are guided by practice rather than dogma. Female respondents were less interested than guys.

### The Respondents' Involvement in Politics

Voting is simply one facet of active political engagement; others include engaging in election campaigns, campaigning for office, hosting political events, and so on. The respondents were asked several questions regarding all of these aspects of political engagement.

### Type of Political Engagement

Political engagement encompasses a wide range of actions in which individuals form and express their ideas about the world and how it is governed, as well as attempt to influence and shape choices that impact their lives. Table -3 details the respondents' political activities in the research area.

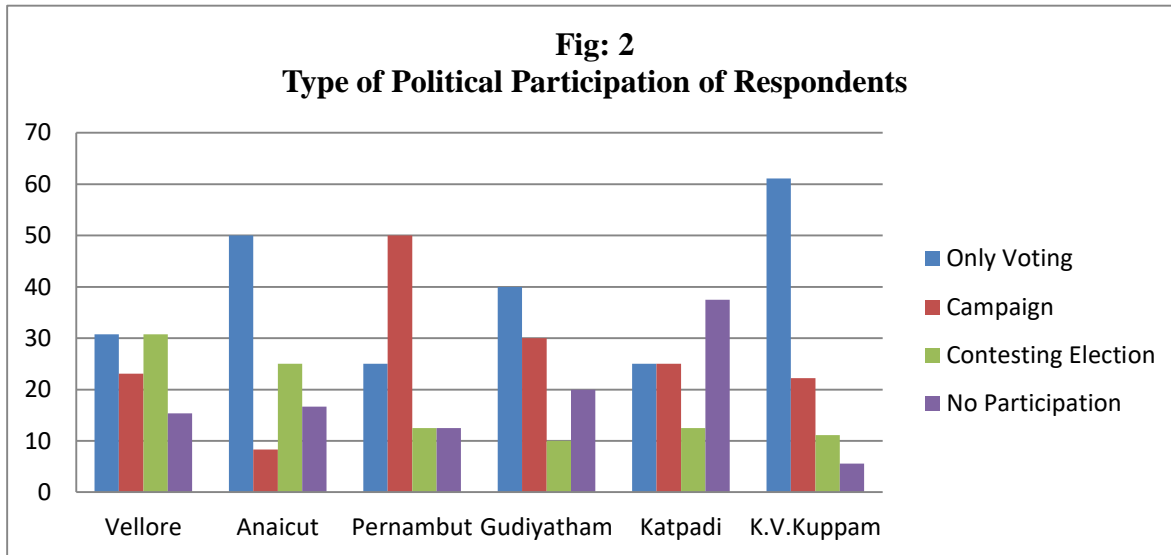
**Table -3 Type of Political Participation of Respondents**

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Type of Political Participation of Respondents				
		Only Voting	Campaign	Contesting Election	No Participation	Total
1	Vellore	04 (30.77)	03 (23.08)	04 (30.77)	02 (15.38)	13 (100)
2	Anaicut	06 (50.00)	01 (8.33)	03 (25.00)	02 (16.67)	12 (100)
3	Pernambut	02 (25.00)	04 (50.00)	01 (12.50)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	04 (40.00)	03 (30.00)	01 (10.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
5	Katpadi	02 (25.00)	02 (25.00)	01 (12.50)	03 (37.50)	08 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	03 (61.11)	02 (22.22)	03 (11.11)	01 (5.56)	09 (100)

Total	21 (35.00)	15 (25.00)	13 (21.67)	11 (18.33)	60.00 (100)
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Source: Computed from primary data.

Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.



Initially, the women construction workers in the study region were asked to describe the kind of tasks they carried out. Only 35% of the 60 respondents in the study region voted in elections, while 25% participated in campaign activities. One-eighth of those questioned sought public office. Comparable results for Pernambut and K.V. Kumarappam indicated that more than 86.11 percent of voters only cast ballots, while Gudiyatham and Katpadi had 40 percent and 25 percent of voters campaigning, respectively, and Vellore had just 30.77 percent of people contesting.

### Voting

When it comes to elections, the first decision a person must make is whether or not to use his or her right to vote. Voting is the only meaningful political action for a large number of individuals. Voting may provide some people a feeling of accomplishment because it helps them to feel like active participants in the political system, and that their contribution is important. Many people value voting so highly that they would never contemplate missing the polls. Some people are not very enthusiastic about voting. A few minor things might swing their decision either way. Many people vote just to imitate their friends, family, and other relatives, who also exercise their right to vote. Once again, some people consider that going to voting stations is a waste of time. Table - 4, contains information on how each respondent voted in the most recent elections.

Table -4 Respondents' Voting in Last Elections

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondents' Voting in Last Elections			
		Yes	No	No Response	Total
1	Vellore	07 (50.00)	02 (14.28)	05 (35.72)	14 (100)
2	Anaicut	04 (50.00)	03 (37.50)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
3	Pernambut	06 (54.54)	03 (27.28)	02 (18.18)	11 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	02 (33.33)	03 (50.00)	01 (16.67)	06 (100)
5	Katpadi	03 (25.00)	05 (41.67)	04 (33.33)	12 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	06 (66.67)	02 (22.22)	01 (11.11)	09 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>28 (46.67)</b>	<b>18 (30.00)</b>	<b>14 (23.33)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

Source: Computed from primary data.

Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.

According to statistics in table-4, the majority of respondents voted in the most recent elections. Table-4 demonstrates that the respondents were excited about voting. Approximately 30% of respondents in the study region did not vote. Respondents' explanations for not voting included their busy schedules from other employment and a lack of interest in voting. Participants in the study were asked to recall the following as the predominant thing that was going through their thoughts when they cast their ballot: caste, religion, party, or candidate. Table -5, lists the particular factors used to decide vote. Table -5, details the replies that persuaded people to support their favorite candidate.

Table -5 Respondents' Inspiring the Voters to Vote for a Favourite Candidate

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondents' Inspiring the Voters to Vote for a Favourite Candidate			
		Yes	No	No Response	Total
1	Vellore	03 (25.00)	04 (33.33)	05 (41.67)	12 (100)
2	Anaicut	05 (35.72)	03 (21.42)	06 (42.86)	14 (100)
3	Pernambut	05 (50.00)	02 (20.00)	03 (30.00)	10 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	06 (60.00)	02 (20.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
5	Katpadi	04 (44.44)	02 (22.22)	03 (33.34)	09 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	02 (40.00)	02 (40.00)	01 (20.00)	05 (100)
Total		25 (41.67)	15 (25.00)	20 (33.33)	60.00 (100)

Source: Computed from primary data.

Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.

As a consequence, the data shows that those involved in political campaigns did more than merely encourage people to vote; they also encouraged them to support a certain candidate. **Preference for Political News**

Political reporting is to provide people with the knowledge they need to make their own opinions and participate in community, local, and national issues that impact them. The internet is by far the second-most significant source of campaign news among broadband users, trailing only television and far ahead of newspapers, radio, and magazines. The details of the respondent's interest in knowing the political news in the study area are given in table-6.

Table -6 Respondents' Interest in Political News

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondents' Interest in Political News				Total
		High	Moderate	According to situation	No Interest	
1	Vellore	04 (26.67)	02 (13.33)	05 (33.33)	04 (26.67)	15 (100)
2	Anaicut	03 (30.00)	02 (20.00)	03 (20.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
3	Pernambut	03 (37.50)	02 (25.00)	02 (25.00)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	01 (10.00)	04 (40.00)	02 (20.00)	03 (30.00)	10 (100)
5	Katpadi	02 (22.22)	01 (11.11)	02 (22.23)	04 (44.44)	09 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	04 (50.00)	02 (25.00)	01 (12.50)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
Total		17 (28.33)	13 (21.67)	15 (25.00)	15 (25.00)	60.00 (100)

Source: Computed from primary data.

Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.

They were asked three questions concerning political news: first, did they find it fascinating; second, where did they acquire their news; and third, did they discuss politics with others. Table -6, contains information on the replies to the question on political news interest. It discovered that 28.33 percent of the 60 respondent households in the study region had a high level of interest in political news, while only 21.67 percent of the respondents in the study area had a moderate level of interest in this form of news. Only 25% of respondents in the research area stated that they had no interest in political news at all, while the remaining 25% stated that they were interested in political news depending on the subjects and conditions. Respondents in the Vellore block of Tamil Nadu's Vellore district revealed a somewhat greater level of interest in political news in the research area.

### **Membership position of the respondents in the Political Parties of Tamil Nadu**

The party leader is frequently the most senior member of a wider party leadership in both democratic and non-democratic countries. A party executive would often contain administrative posts such as a party secretary and a party chair, which may or may not be the same person as the party leader. Political parties are parties that arrange elections for political posts. Members of a political party run in elections under a same banner. A political party, in a restricted sense, is just a group of candidates who seek for office under a party designation. The details of membership status of the respondents in various political parties are presented in table-7.

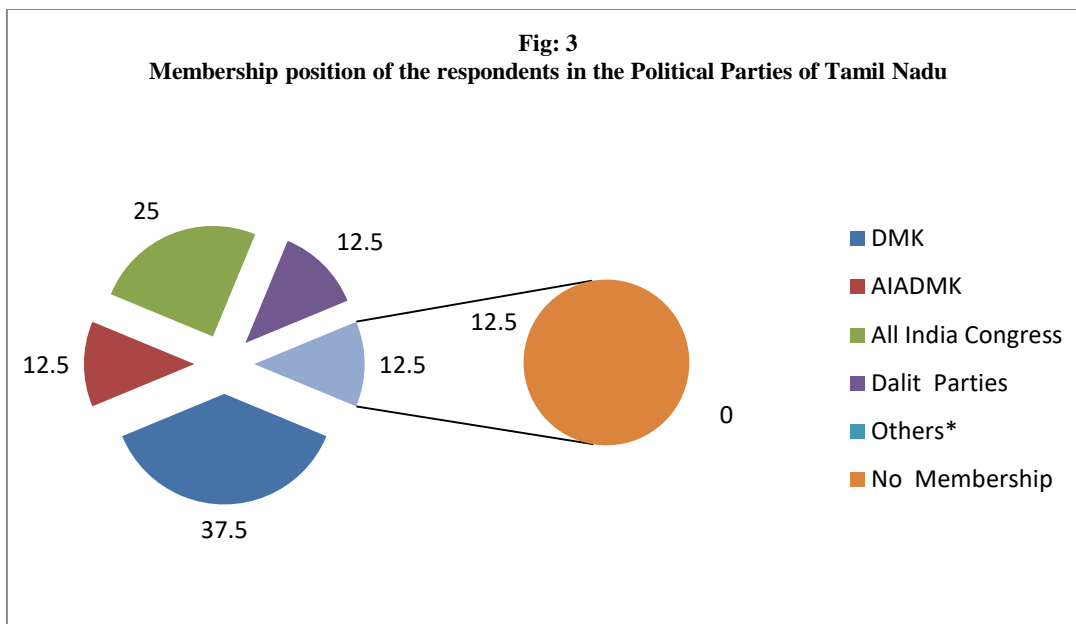
**Table – 7Membership position of the respondents in the Political Parties of Tamil Nadu**

S.No	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Membership in Political Parties						Total
		DMK	AIADMK	All India Congress	Dalit Parties	Others*	No Membership	
1	Vellore	03 (37.50)	01 (12.50)	02 (25.00)	01 (12.50)	00 (00.00)	01 (12.50)	08 (100)
2	Anaicut	02 (22.22)	03 (33.34)	02 (22.22)	01 (11.11)	00 (00.00)	01 (11.11)	09 (100)
3	Pernambut	06 (60.00)	01 (10.00)	01 (10.00)	01 (10.00)	00 (00.00)	01 (10.00)	10 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	03 (23.07)	01 (7.67)	01 (7.67)	02 (15.38)	02 (15.38)	04 (30.76)	13 (100)
5	Katpadi	05 (41.67)	02 (16.66)	01 (8.34)	01 (8.33)	02 (16.67)	01 (8.33)	12 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	01 (12.50)	01 (12.50)	02 (25.00)	00 (00.00)	02 (25.00)	02 (25.00)	08 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>20 (33.33)</b>	<b>09 (15.00)</b>	<b>08 (13.33)</b>	<b>06 (10.00)</b>	<b>06 (10.00)</b>	<b>10 (10.00)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

Source: Computed from primary data.

Note:\* -Others includes MDMK, PMK, BJP, Left Parties, etc.,





**Value in the Parenthesis Shows the Percentage to the Total**

The table-7, gives the details of the membership position of the respondents in various political parties in the study area. Out of the total of 60 respondents, around 33.33 per cent of the respondents in the study area are holding membership status in DMK, 15.00 per cent of them were engaged membership position in AIADMK, 10 percent of the respondents in the study area occupied membership position in various Dalit Political Parties such as Viduthalai Siruthaigal Katchi, Puratchi Bharatham, BSP, Puthiya Thamizhagam and India Kudiyarasu Katchi in the study area, 13 percent of the respondents were holding membership position in All India Congress and other local political parties respectively, 10 percent of them were holding membership status in others including Bharathiya Janatha Party, and the remaining 10 percent of the respondents in the study area were stated that they don't have any membership positions in any political parties.

**Preference of Party and Leaders**

Political engagement happens at numerous levels and forms during talks with lawmakers, planners, policymakers, and subject matter experts. As previously said, voting is the most obvious way to accomplish this, and it is employed by the majority of the population. However, party identification might be viewed as an indication of political involvement. Membership is open to all parties participating in the research field, with varied degrees of liberality. All that is necessary for membership in this sort of organization is a small annual fee and a written vow to maintain the party's values. Political party participation is now prohibited for workers of the government and semi-governmental enterprises under existing regulations. Table-8, contains information about the respondents' favorite politician.

**Table -8 Respondents' Favourite Politician**

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondents' Favourite Politician					Total
		M.K.Stalin (DMK)	Edappadi K. Palaniswami (ADMK)	Vijayakanth (DMDK)	K.S.Alagiri (Congress)	Others*	
1	Vellore	04 (33.33)	02 (16.67)	03 (25.00)	2 (16.67)	01 (8.33)	12 (100)
2	Anaicut	02 (20.00)	04 (40.00)	01 (10.00)	01 (10.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
3	Pernambut	02	02	01	01	2	08

		(25.00)	(25.00)	(12.50)	(12.50)	(25.00)	(100)
4	Gudiyatham	03 (27.27)	04 (36.37)	01 (9.09)	02 (18.18)	01 (9.09)	11 (100)
5	Katpadi	03 (33.34)	01 (11.11)	01 (11.11)	02 (22.22)	02 (22.22)	09 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	04 (40.00)	02 (20.00)	02 (20.00)	01 (10.00)	01 (10.00)	10 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>18 (30.00)</b>	<b>15 (25.00)</b>	<b>09 (15.00)</b>	<b>09 (15.00)</b>	<b>09 (15.00)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

*Note: \* - Others includes Thirumavalavan, Krishnaswamy, Vaiko, Ramadoss, Mutharasan, Ramakrishnan and Pon.Radhakrishnan, and no favourite Politician.*

***Value in the parenthesis shows the Percentage to the Total.***

The respondents were asked to select their favorite politician from a list of well-known political figures in the state of Tamil Nadu within the study area, based on their level of interest and involvement. They were also asked to choose the party that dealt with the concerns of female construction workers. When asked which politician they preferred, the majority of respondents, 30 percent, selected M.K. Stalin overall, followed by Edapadi Palanisami (25 percent), Vijayakanth (15 percent), and K.S. Alagiri (15 percent). Only a very small percentage of respondents supported the other political leaders: Thirumavalavan (Viduthalai Siruthaigal), Krishnaswamy (Puthiya Tamizhagam), Vaiko (MDMK), Ramadoss (PMK), Mutharasan (CPI), Ramakrishnan (CPM), Pon. Radhakrishnan (BJP), Se. Ku. Tamilarasan (India Kudiyarasu Katchi), Poovai Moorthy (Puratchi Bharatham), and Amstrong (BSP). When one visits this research area, it is evident that one unique aspect of the area is that, according to the interviewees, approximately 15 percent of them claimed outright that they knew of other politicians.

**Views Concerning Governance**

An attempt was made to ascertain the respondents' level of understanding of the politics and complexities involved in governing. Table-9, displays the specifics of respondents' opinions toward the government in the study area. The majority of respondents were unable to discuss the policies, programs, development plans, welfare measures, and initiatives started by the Indian federal and state governments because they lacked an understanding of the complexities of governance. They still held certain opinions, though, regarding how the government operated as a whole. Since the average person depends heavily on government services and is directly impacted by them on a daily basis, public opinion holds significant weight in democracies.

**Table -9 Respondents' Opinion towards the Government**

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Respondents' Opinion Towards Government in the study area					
		Good	Satisfactory	Someway Satisfactory	Bad/Worst	No idea	Total
1	Vellore	03 (33.34)	02 (22.22)	01 (11.11)	01 (11.11)	02 (22.22)	09 (100)
2	Anaicut	04 (40.00)	01 (10.00)	02 (20.00)	02 (20.00)	01 (10.00)	10 (100)
3	Pernambut	04 (36.37)	01 (9.09)	03 (27.27)	02 (18.18)	01 (9.09)	11 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	04 (40.00)	02 (20.00)	01 (10.00)	01 (10.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
5	Katpadi	03 (27.27)	03 (27.27)	02 (18.18)	02 (18.18)	01 (9.09)	11 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	02 (22.23)	02 (22.22)	01 (11.11)	02 (22.22)	02 (22.22)	09 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>20 (33.33)</b>	<b>11 (18.33)</b>	<b>10 (16.67)</b>	<b>09 (15.00)</b>	<b>10 (16.67)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

*Source: Computed from primary data.*

*Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.*

The public's response and support is crucial to the stability and longevity of any government, which is why feedback on the current administration's operations was gathered from respondents. When asked how they felt about the way the government operated, 18.33 percent said it was somewhat satisfactory and 15 percent said it was bad, respectively, because of the high level of corruption in the administration and the slow rate of progress in the studied region. 33.33 percent of respondents said they thought the government operated well. Nonetheless, a significant portion of respondents, 16.67 percent, did not provide their view due to ignorance.

### Public Opinion's Influence on Government Tasks and Responsibilities

Citizens are encouraged to establish opinions on a variety of subjects, including as election choices, constitutional changes, and local taxation, as part of the democratic process. Outside entities such as media, interest groups, or government officials frequently influence these beliefs. Public opinion is a powerful force in modern democracy, providing boundaries for policymakers to work within. While it has little impact on government policy, it does affect public desires and helps to avoid controversial decisions. Politicians frequently employ public opinion polling to make policies more appealing to voters. The latent features of public opinion, which represent future reactions, are more significant at the local level.

In these perspectives, the report emphasizes that, while women are considered as economic assets in Indian culture, they still confront obstacles in areas such as empowerment, job, and education. Despite this, they have a unique position in the construction firms. The Indian Constitution offers equal chances for all society divisions, including women workers in the construction industry. They are, nonetheless, subjected to prejudice and underrepresentation in the media. Empowerment and education are critical for societal progress, since empowered women are their country's strength. Education is critical for increasing family status and decreasing inequality. Tamil Nadu is a pioneer in women's development programs, with a high literacy rate of 73.40%. Women in the construction sector profit from early education, which promotes gender equality and workplace diversity. Leadership development programs assist young girls in becoming responsible leaders.

Women construction workers may be empowered via healthcare and education to bridge the literacy gap, make autonomous decisions, and offer resources for self-sufficiency, allowing them to support themselves and their families freely. Women, who make up half of India's workforce, are critical to the country's progress. They confront challenges in their construction firm notwithstanding constitutional guarantees. Access to education can assist individuals in transitioning from low-wage, high-labor lives to skilled professions, boosting their social, economic, and individual engagement. Education is critical for poverty eradication, employment development, and political involvement. The details of Public opinion's influence on government tasks and responsibilities are presented in table – 10,

**Table -10 Public opinion's influence on government tasks and responsibilities**

S. No.	Women Concentrated areas in Vellore District	Public opinion's influence on Government tasks and responsibilities			
		Well and Satisfied	Not satisfied	Neutral and No Idea	Total
1	Vellore	08 (61.54)	04 (30.77)	01 (7.69)	13 (100)
2	Anaicut	04 (33.33)	05 (41.67)	03 (25.00)	12 (100)
3	Pernambut	06 (60.00)	02 (20.00)	02 (20.00)	10 (100)
4	Gudiyatham	04 (36.36)	03 (27.27)	04 (36.37)	11 (100)
5	Katpadi	02 (40.00)	02 (40.00)	01 (20.00)	05 (100)
6	K.V.Kuppam	06 (66.67)	01 (11.11)	02 (22.22)	09 (100)
<b>Total</b>		<b>30 (50.00)</b>	<b>17 (28.33)</b>	<b>13 (21.67)</b>	<b>60.00 (100)</b>

Source: Computed from primary data.

Note: Value in the parenthesis shows the percentage to the total.

The details of public opinion's influence on government tasks and responsibilities are presented in Table -10. The data shown in Table 10 reflects that, out of the total of 60 sample respondents in the study area, 50 percent of them stated that government tasks and responsibilities are well and satisfied, while 28.33 percent of the respondents reported that government tasks and responsibilities are not satisfied, and the remaining 21.67 percent of the respondents pointed out that government tasks and responsibilities are neutral and have no idea. Based on the above-stated facts, it can be concluded that one-half of the respondents (50 percent) clearly stated that government tasks and responsibilities are not satisfied, neutral, and have no idea.

## **CONCLUSION**

In Indian society, men predominate, yet women hold important governmental positions. Gender discrimination is unacceptable from an ethical, legal, and democratic standpoint. Leaders' behavior and public policy are influenced by political engagement. Local party leaders in Tamil Nadu engage in four types of voting: spectator activities, aloofness, and peripheral support. Women's rights movements seek to grant voting rights and remove gender-based institutions. This study evaluates 60 Tamil Nadu families' election engagement and finds that challenging behaviors frequently result in less demanding ones. The informal sector, which employs 46.5 crore people, is the primary engine of the Indian economy. This sector employs a significant portion of the unemployed and contributes significantly to the economy. Issues facing the construction industry include isolation, poor housing conditions, low income, physical labor that is strenuous, and a lack of occupational health services. Policymakers must monitor the size and makeup of the sector in order to develop appropriate policies. It is essential to look at the political awareness and participation of women working in construction in Tamil Nadu's Vellore District.

A range of topics pertaining to active political participation were posed to the respondents, such as voting, running for office, holding political events, and hosting elections. People who are politically engaged voice their opinions about the world and how it is run, and they work to sway decisions that have an impact on their own life. For many people, casting a ballot is an important choice that allows them to actively participate in politics and feel like they've accomplished something. But excitement varies, and some individuals could vote just to follow in the footsteps of their friends and relatives, while others might think voting is a time waster.

People are given the ability to express opinions and take part in local, state, and federal matters through political reporting. Among broadband users, the internet ranks as the second most important source of campaign news. In both democratic and non-democratic nations, the party leader is the most senior member of the leadership team. Chair and secretary are among the administrative positions that make up a party executive. Elections for political office are organized by political parties, and candidates run under their common flag. Political participation can take many different forms, such as party affiliation and voting. All parties are welcome to join research groups, albeit there are differing levels of liberality. Nonetheless, current laws forbid employees of the government and semi-government from joining political parties. Policy choices are influenced by public opinion, yet women in India confront obstacles to employment, education, and empowerment. In the construction profession, there is underrepresentation despite equal opportunity. Tamil Nadu is a leader in women's development, encouraging leadership and gender equality.

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