



Empowering Women PRIs Leaders

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The **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** has launched the **Sashakt Panchayat-Netri Abhiyan** and **Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayats (MWFGP)** to advance **gender-sensitive governance** at the grassroots level.

- **Sashakt Panchayat-Netri Abhiyan:** It is a nationwide **capacity-building** initiative aimed at strengthening the leadership skills of **Women Elected Representatives (WERs)** of **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)**.
 - **Objective:** Strengthening leadership, decision-making, and **active participation of WERs** in rural governance.
- **MWFGP:** It aims to establish at least **one Model Women-Friendly Gram Panchayat in each district**, serving as a beacon for gender-sensitive and **girl-friendly governance practices**.
- **Addressing Gender Violence:** A comprehensive **“Primer on Law Addressing Gender Based Violence and Harmful Practices”** for panchayat elected representatives was also introduced.
- Over **1.4 million women** elected in PRIs, with states like **Bihar (50%)** witnessing higher representation **beyond quotas (not less than 33%)**.
- The ministry also stressed eliminating **“Mukhiya Pati”** or **“Sarpanch Pati”** culture, ensuring WERs independently exercise authority.

Read More: [Issue of Pradhan Pati in Panchayats](#)

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