



Changes in Jurisdictional Limits of Towns in Haryana: Legal and Administrative Aspects

KEYWORDS

Municipal towns, abolition, alteration of municipal limits, legal hassles, haphazard, urban growth, stakeholders.

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ABSTRACT *Statutory towns governed through the municipal acts of respective state governments in India are known as municipal towns. Haryana Municipal Act, 1973 has laid down a broad framework with regard to classification, constitution, functions and powers of municipal bodies. A close investigation of the Act reveals the over-riding powers of the state government with regard to constitution and abolition of a municipal body. With regard to alteration in the municipal limits too, the government tends to ignore the objections raised by the inhabitants of the affected area leading to legal hassles and inordinate delay in the expansion of municipal limits to contain haphazard urban growth on the periphery of towns in many instances. This paper is an attempt to analyse the legal and administrative aspects of changes in jurisdictional limits of towns in Haryana and conflict of interests of various stakeholders in the process of alteration of municipal limits.*

Introduction

In India, all those settlements which are towns by virtue of a statutory notification are known as municipal towns. They are governed through the municipal acts of respective state governments, except in the case of cantonment boards which are under the administrative control of Ministry of Defence at the national level. Before going into the legal and administrative aspects of changes in territorial jurisdiction of municipal towns in the state of Haryana, it is necessary to understand how these urban local government structures evolved in the country.

The origin of local self-government has very deep roots in ancient India, but the present form of urban local government owes its genesis to the British rule. The first such body called a Municipal Corporation was set up in the former Presidency town of Madras in 1688 and was followed by the establishment of similar corporations in Bombay and Calcutta in 1762. In their present form and structure, the municipal bodies owe their existence to *Lord Ripon's Resolution* on local self-government, adopted on 18 May, 1882. His Resolution on local self-government dealt with the constitution of local bodies, their functions, finances and powers and laid the foundation of local self-government in modern India. However, his successors ensured that the municipal bodies had limited powers and finances. It was only after the country gained independence that a new chapter in the history of local government began (Sachdeva, 2011).

The Constitution covers the local government bodies in the State List. The local government bodies are governed by the State Statutes or in the case of Union Territories by the Union Parliament. Entry 5 of the State list in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India gives legislative powers to the State with regard to municipal laws, establishments, constitution and powers of local governments. Except for recognizing local self-government as an essential part of the system of Government, the Constitution did not make any serious attempt to ensure stabilization of democratic municipal government through constitutional provisions till the enactment of *Seventy-Fourth Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA)* of 1992. The 74th Constitu-

tional Amendment Act (CAA) is a milestone in the history of urban governance. The aim of the 74th CAA is to ensure that the urban local bodies function efficiently as democratic units of self-governance with minimal interference from the state governments in elections, functions, powers and authority of the urban local bodies. The 74th CAA came into force on June 1, 1993. All the State Governments have either enacted new Municipal law or amended the existing laws to conform these to the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992. Having delineated the evolution and the important constitutional provisions with regard to the urban local bodies in the country, this paper is devoted to the composition of municipalities and examination of legal and administrative procedures involved in the creation and abolition of municipal bodies as well as alteration of municipal limits of towns in Haryana.

Study Area

Haryana emerged on political map of India when the Punjab-Reorganization Bill was passed by the Indian Parliament on September 10, 1966 bifurcating the bilingual state of Punjab and made provision for the setting up of the new state of Haryana. The state is located in the north-western part of the country and forms the western component of Great Northern Plains. The study area lies within the latitudinal extension of 27° 39' north to 30°55' north and the longitudinal extension of 74° 27' east to 77° 36' east. The total area of the state is 44,212 sq.km and as per the 2011 Census, the total population of the state stands at 2,53,53,081 persons. Haryana has 21 districts as per 2011 census (Fig.1). The capital of Haryana, Chandigarh is shared by the neighbouring state of Punjab. The National Capital of Delhi lies to the south-east of Haryana. The districts of Faridabad, Palwal, Gurgaon, Rewari, Bhiwani, Jhajjar, Rohtak, Jind, Sonapat, Panipat and Karnal fall into the National Capital Region (NCR) of India. 43 per cent of the total population of the state resides in the NCR area which is 31.37 per cent of total area of Haryana and the remaining 57 per cent of population of Haryana lives in rest of the non-NCR districts which is 69.63 per cent of the area of the State.

Objectives

The basic objective of the present paper is to understand the legal and administrative procedures involved in the creation and abolition of municipal bodies as well as alteration of municipal limits of towns in Haryana.

Data Sources and Methodology

The present study is based on secondary sources. Data with regard to legal and administrative aspects of changes in jurisdictional limits of towns was obtained from the Department of Urban Local Bodies, Haryana, Chandigarh. The information regarding the legal framework of the municipal bodies in the state was obtained from the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973. The data, thus, collected was used to analyse qualitatively the role played by various stakeholders in the process of change in the jurisdictional limits of towns in the state.

Analysis and Discussion

In Haryana, the state government has created an administrative hierarchy for the urban local bodies. The main functionaries/authorities from the state to the local level include the Minister-in-charge of Local Self Government and the Director of Local Bodies at the state level, the Deputy Commissioner at the district level and the Chairperson and Executive Officer at the municipal/local level (Aijaz, 2007).

In every state, two different types of Acts are generally in use - one for the municipal corporations and a common Act for the municipal committees and municipal councils. In Haryana, the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973 has laid down a broad framework with regard to the classification, constitution, functions and powers of municipal bodies. This Act has been amended several times since its enactment in 1973. In accordance to the provisions of section 2A of the Act, there are three classes of municipalities as specified below:-

- (i) "Municipal Committee" for a transitional area with population not exceeding fifty thousand;
- (ii) "Municipal Council" for a smaller urban area with population exceeding fifty thousand but not exceeding three lacs and
- (iii) "Municipal Corporation" for a larger urban area with population exceeding three lacs, to be governed by a separate Act.

As on 25-11-2013, there are 78 municipalities in the state of Haryana out of which 9 are municipal corporations, 14 are municipal councils and 55 are municipal committees (see Appendix1). There are three aspects of municipal jurisdiction - constitution of municipalities, alteration in municipal limits and abolition of municipalities. While there are elaborate guidelines for inclusion or withdrawal of areas from the municipal limits of a town, the same is, however, not true for the constitution and abolition of a municipal committee.

Constitution of Municipality

Under Section 2 of the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, the state government is required to issue a notification as and when it proposes to constitute a new municipal committee for any settlement or place. The government is also required to specify the class to which the municipality shall belong to. Section 3 of the Act provides the procedure for constituting a municipality. The suitability of a settlement for constituting a municipality for its administration is judged on the basis of factors such as its total population, density of population therein, revenue generation capa-

bilities, non-agricultural activities, economic and religious importance and potential for tourism, etc. which the state government may deem fit for the purpose. Such a proposal is sent by the Deputy Commissioner to the Department of Urban Local Bodies at the state headquarters and from there it goes to the Cabinet for final approval.

On approval, a preliminary notification is issued to this effect. The copies of the preliminary notification are pasted in conspicuous places of the settlement besides the office of the Deputy Commissioner to invite objections from the inhabitants of the area within six weeks from the date of the notification. The inhabitants, if they have any objection(s) to the constitution of municipality, are required to file objection(s) in writing to the Deputy Commissioner who forwards them to the Government. After the expiry of the time limit and consideration of the objection(s), the state government issues the final notification to constitute the municipality.

Abolition of Municipality

Section 8 of the Haryana Municipal Act, has laid down a detailed procedure for abolition of a municipality similar to the one prescribed for the constitution of a municipality. Thereafter, all rules, bye-laws, orders, directions and powers issued, made or conferred under this Act, cease to apply to the said municipality and the balance of the municipal fund and all other property at the time of the issue of the notification vested in the committee vests in the State Government and the liabilities of the committee get transferred to the State Government.

It, thus, seems that a municipality can be constituted or abolished only after following a set of detailed procedure without leaving anything to the whim of the state government. In reality, however, the process of inviting objections from the inhabitants of the affected area is merely a part of the formality required under the procedure. Otherwise, given the wide spread illiteracy, ignorance and lack of civil society movement, the writ of overpowered state works. In fact, under Section 10 of the Municipal Act, where power to withdraw any municipal area altogether from the operation of the Act are defined, provides blanket power to the state government denying the right to the inhabitants of that area to raise objections.

Alteration of Limits of Municipality

Elaborate guidelines with respect to the alteration of limits of a municipality are laid down under Section 4 of the Municipal Act which are given below:

Firstly, the municipal committee of a town has to obtain a 'no objection certificate' from the *panchayats* of the adjoining villages that are to be annexed. The officials of the municipality survey the area to be merged and a detailed map of the town showing existing and proposed municipal limits is prepared. An estimate of likely income and expenditure from the areas proposed to be included within the municipal limits is also made. Thereafter, a draft notification is prepared to be put up before the house of the municipal council/municipal committee for its unanimous approval. The draft notification is then sent to the Deputy Commissioner at the district headquarters to forward it to the Director, Department of Urban Local Bodies at the state headquarters.

The Director ensures that the proposal for alteration in municipal limits is complete in all respects and then sends it to the Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of

Haryana, Department of Urban Local Bodies.

From there, it goes to the Chief Minister's office for final consent and approval of the Cabinet.

On approval, the draft notification is forwarded to the Controller, Printing and Stationery for publication in the Haryana Government Gazette. The government, under sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, further directs the Administrator of the municipality to paste copies of the preliminary notification at various conspicuous places in areas proposed to be included or excluded from the municipal limits. A proclamation to this effect is also done by beat of drums in the said locality for the information of all concerned. A report to this effect is also entered in the daily accounts (*Rozanamcha*) of the *Patwaris* of the concerned area. The basic objective is to invite objections, if any. Any inhabitant residing within the municipal limits or locality notified in the preliminary notification may, should he object to the alteration proposed, submit his objection in writing through the Deputy Commissioner to the Commissioner, Department of Urban Local Bodies within six weeks from the date of the notification. After such a period is over, the state government considers objections, if any.

This is followed by the final notification by the government on inclusion of area within the municipal limits.

When any local area is included in a municipality under sub-section (3) of the Act, the state government may, by

notification, direct that all rules, notifications, bye-laws, orders which are in force in a municipality will apply to the included area.

Section 6 of the Municipal Act has similar guidelines for exclusion of an area in a municipality.

The 9 corporations in Haryana that are governed by the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 too have similar guidelines with respect to alterations in the territorial limits stated under Section 3 of the Act.

Thus, it seems that alteration of limits of any municipality is done only after following a detailed procedure and nothing has been left to the whim of the state government. There are at least sixteen steps involved in the whole process (Fig. 2). However, as in the case of constitution and abolition of municipality, the government may not consider the objections raised by the inhabitants of the concerned area and issue final notification for change in municipal limits. This leads to filing of cases in the court of law by the aggrieved party in some instances causing great delay in the procedure which is already lengthy and tedious.

At the most, the entire procedure for the alteration of jurisdictional limits of a town should take six months to complete but usually inordinate delay occurs. Table 1 shows the time lag between the date of publication of preliminary and final notification in a few select cases.

TABLE: 1
Haryana: Time Lag between Publication of Preliminary and Final Notification of Territorial Changes of Towns.

Sr. No.	Name of Municipal Town	Date of Publication of Notification		Time Lag
		Preliminary Notification	Final Notification	
1.	Bahadurgarh	29/09/88	30/09/97	9 years
2.	Jind	06/05/91	20/11/98	7.5 years
3.	Safindon	15/05/91	21/05/93	2 years
4.	Pehowa	16/05/91	24/11/92	1.5 years
5.	Panipat	21/05/91	29/11/96	4.5 years
6.	Tohana	07/04/93	18/10/95	2.5 years
7.	Kaithal	04/07/93	31/12/97	4 years 5 months
8.	Sirsa	03/05/95	16/01/97	1 year 8 months
9.	Hansi	03/05/95	29/06/98	3 years
10.	Sonepat	26/06/07	21/10/08	1 year 4 months
11.	Kalanaur	08/08/07	19/12/08	1 year 4 months
12.	Farrukhnagar	01/06/11	18/11/12	1 year 5 months

Source: Department of Urban Local Bodies, Haryana.

Table 1 reveals that in these towns the extension of municipal limits took a couple of years. This variation in time lag was in-

quired into and on the basis of information collected from the Department of Urban local Bodies and the municipalities in the state, the following facts came into light.

To discuss some of these cases in some detail, for instance, Kaithal Municipal Committee sent a draft notification on 26.03.1993 to the government for extension of municipal limits stating several financial gains such as imposition of stamp duty, development charges, and octroi and lease money from the village common land if six revenue estates are fully merged into the municipal area. The government issued a preliminary notification on 04.07.1993 for the merger of six revenue villages of Patti Afghan, Patti Devigarh Gadar, Patti Gadar, Patti Choudhry, Patti Dogran and Patti Khot.

The *Panchayats* of Patti Afghan, Patti Chaudhry, Patti Devigarh Gadar and Patti Khot raised objections against

the preliminary notification on the ground that several development works had been undertaken by the respective *panchayats* in the villages under their jurisdictions. The Deputy Commissioner, in his letter dated 09.10.1995, urged the government to brush aside the objections raised by the village *panchayats*. He stated that the *panchayats* are not in a position to provide basic civic amenities to the people comparable with those provided by the municipal committee and the members of these *panchayats* have their own vested interests in maintaining status quo. Moreover, as Kaithal town is the district headquarter of newly carved out Kaithal district, therefore, there is a need to extend the limits of Kaithal town so as to accommodate new activities, to regulate growth in its periphery and to improve the standard of living of the people residing in peripheral areas.

Not satisfied with the stand taken by the Deputy Commis-

sioner of Kaithal town, the residents of villages Patti Afghan and Patti Devigarh Gadar requested the then Chief Minister of Haryana, Ch. Bansi Lal to intervene. The Chief Minister ordered the Deputy Commissioner to re-examine the case. The Deputy Commissioner, maintaining his earlier stand requested again to the Director, Department of Urban Local Bodies to increase the municipal limits of Kaithal. Still, the Chief Minister insisted on the exclusion of villages Patti Afghan and Patti Devigarh Gadar. The government issued a fresh notification on 22nd January 1997 notifying a partial merger of Patti Afghan and Patti Devigarh Gadar villages.

The residents of Arjun Nagar, a part of Patti Afghan village that was proposed to be merged into the municipal limits of Kaithal town objected to the partial merger. Instead, the residents of Arjun Nagar wanted the merger of the entire village of Patti Afghan so that the village common land vests in the municipality and the income generated from it is utilised for provision of basic civic amenities to Arjun Nagar which so far had been deprived of them for being outside the municipal limits. The government, however, ignored the objections raised by Arjun Nagar residents and issued the final notification on 31st December 1997 whereby Patti Afghan, Patti Devigarh Gadar, Patti Khot were merged partly and Patti Choudhary, Patti Kaisath Seth and Patti Dogran were merged fully within the municipal limits of Kaithal town. Thus the expansion of municipal limits got delayed and it took more than four years for the entire procedure to get completed

The extension of municipal limits of Bahadurgarh town reveals the conflict between villagers and municipal body. The preliminary notification for extension of municipal limits of Bahadurgarh in which it was proposed to merge the three revenue villages of Parnala, Sankhol and Hassanpur fully within the administrative limits was issued on 29th September 1988. The residents of these villages objected this merger on the ground that village *panchayats* had enough funds for the development of villages. The government brushed aside the objections and merged the three revenue villages of Sankhol, Parnala and Hassanpur vide final notification dated 12th July 1993. Thereafter, the residents of Parnala and Sankhol villages filed a Civil Writ Petition in the High Court (C.W.P. No. 15056/95) against the government decision. The Hon'ble High Court restrained the government from including the aforementioned villages within the municipal limits of Bahadurgarh. The government in compliance with the court orders issued a preliminary notification on 25th September 1996 for exclusion of village settlements of Parnala and Sankhol from the municipal limits. Rest of the land of these villages, on which industries had come up, continued to remain within municipal limits.

The government had established industrial estate on the land acquired from Parnalavillage so as to attract industries from Delhi Municipal Corporation area. Subsequently, six hundred factories had come up out of which 240 factories were exempted from octroi. Similarly, in Sankhol village, several industries including Surya Roshni Ltd. And S.P.L. Ltd had come up. These industrial units filed objections against the revised preliminary notification alongwith Bahadurgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industry stating that not only the *abadi* area but also the entire *mouzas* of Parnala and Sankhol villages be excluded. In fact, municipal committee was earning 66 lacs per annum through taxes on industries located in these villages but not taking adequate care of basic civic amenities and facilities like

drinking water, street lights, sanitation, drainage, health services, roads and sewerage pertaining to these villages. Notwithstanding all this, the government issued a final notification on 30th September, 1997 for extension of municipal limits of Bahadurgarh. Thereafter, M/S Surya Roshni Ltd approached the Punjab and Haryana High Court (C.W.P. No. 4093/98) to redress the grievances but lost the case eventually and the municipal limits of Bahadurgarh underwent expansion after nine long years.

The case of Jind municipal committee reveals another story. In this case, the committee failed to provide complete details of areas to be merged in municipal limits to the Department of Urban Local Bodies. Despite repeated reminders from the department, the municipal committee took a very long time to furnish the complete details. Even after the preliminary notification was issued on 6th May, 1991, the committee did not send any copy of the objections it received from the residents of the areas proposed to be merged within the municipal limits to the Department of Urban Local Bodies till 1997. The exact reason for this inaction on the part of the municipal committee Jind could not be ascertained, whether, this happened under pressure from some corners or was it a sheer inefficiency on the part of the committee. Finally, the municipal committee informed the Department of Urban Local Bodies that it had not received any written objections from the residents of areas to be merged into the municipal limits. Thereafter, the final notification for revision of territorial limits of Jind was issued on 20th November, 1998.

In case of Dabwali town, the Govt. of Haryana issued a final notification for extension of municipal limits on 13th April, 1987. According to the notification No. 5036/HA24/73/94(3) (87) dated 13.04.1987, Shergarh and Dabwali villages were to be included in municipal committee of Dabwali. Quite interestingly, sarpanch of Dabwali village, one of the two villages to be merged within the jurisdictional limits did not hand over the charge of village common land to the municipality. Instead, he filed a petition in the High Court (C.W.P. No. 5656/87) versus the state of Haryana and got a stay order on the decision. The government succeeded in defending its stand effectively in the Court. Subsequently, the Hon'ble High Court vide its orders dated 30.09.1996 dismissed the C.W.P. No.5656 of 1987 titled *Hari Singh & Others V/S State of Haryana* and held valid the Government of Haryana notification dated 13.04.1987 for extension of municipal limits of Dabwali town. Hence, it took as many as thirteen years for the municipality to take charge over the land of Dabwali village. The charge was taken over on 02.06.1999 and that is how the extension of jurisdictional limits of the town got delayed due to vested interests of a few individuals.

A similar case is that of Pehowa, a class III town whose municipal limits were proposed to be extended through preliminary notification issued on 16.05.1991, wherein a milk plant, i.e. Haryana Milk Food Limited was to be merged. A final notification to this effect was issued on 24.11.1992 by the government. Subsequently, Haryana Milk Food Limited filed a civil writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court (C.W.P. No. 2242/1993) against the Government of Haryana. The petitioner raised the following objections to the extension of municipal limits:

- a) Areas included in the extended limits were incoherent, adhoc, arbitrarily picked up and had been unjustifiably

- included,
- b) There was no habitation within the periphery of two kilometres of the milk plant,
 - c) Municipal Committee was not providing bare minimum civic amenities even within the municipal limits so they couldn't be expected to discharge their obligations to provide the required facilities to the scattered and scanty population living in the areas proposed to be merged within the municipal limits,
 - d) The milk plant discharged industrial effluents of about 5 lakh litres every day and the municipal committee would not be able to effectively discharge the effluents,
 - e) The municipal committee had submitted a report to the Deputy Commissioner that no objections were received. This, the petitioner contended, was in violation of the provisions of the Haryana Municipal Act 1994, as no copy of the preliminary notification was made available to the residents of the area proposed to be included in the extended municipal limits and
 - f) the municipal committee should refund the octroi.

The case dragged for many years in the court. Finally, it was disposed off by the Hon'ble High Court on 01.04.2013 for having been rendered infructuous in view of abolition of octroi in 1999 by the government. The court upheld the decision of the government to extend municipal limits of Pehowa town.

Another case pertaining to Thanesar, a Class II town reveals the tussle between municipal authorities on the one hand and the village *panchayats* on the other hand. The municipal committee of Thanesar as per final notification 25/11/82-2C dated 01.10.1984 merged the two villages of Pipli and Bahri within the municipal limits. The villagers were upset with the merger. In 1999, they approached the then Chief Minister Sh. Om Prakash Chautala with a request to intervene in the matter. They alleged that during the last fifteen years, the municipal committee had failed to carry out any development work. Subsequently, the Chief Minister on 13.12.1999 announced that both villages be excluded from the municipal limits. Therefore, as per final notification No. 18/1/2003-3(A) dated 24.04.2003, the municipal limits were revised and Pipli and Bahri villages were excluded from the municipal limits and their *gram panchayats* reconstituted. However, on 02.06.2004, Thanesar municipality passed a resolution that the two villages of Bahri and Pipli again be merged. The municipal committee stated that since the state government is planning to project Kurukshetra on the world map of tourism, Pipli village with its GeetaDwar had become the face of the holy city and Bahri village too had an important site adjoining the mosque of Sheikh Chillli, another important historical place. The committee in its resolution further stated that the village *gram panchayats* did not have adequate source of income to maintain these historical sites. Moreover, there were some residents of these villages who were defaulters of house tax, etc. and were, therefore, opposed to the merger. The resolution further pointed out that unauthorised colonies had come up in these villages and it was necessary to contain the haphazard urbanisation taking place in these villages.

The villagers then decided to challenge the resolution passed by the municipal committee and filed a case (C.W.P. No. 5551/94) in the Hon'ble High Court but lost the case in 2005. Subsequently, Haryana Urban Development

Authority developed residential sectors on the land acquired from these villages. Later on, these HUDA sectors – 2, 3,4,5,7,8,10 and 30 were included within the municipal limits. Following the successful merger of these villages into the municipal limits, Thanesar municipality decided to merge the villages of Ratgal and Sunderpur in 2007. The residents of Ratgal village approached the Congress M.P. of the area, Sh. Naveen Jindal to voice their protest against the merger. On the other end of the spectrum were the residents of the unauthorised colonies which had come up in these villages who were in favour of merger. The residents of these unauthorised colonies wrote a protest letter dated 24.12.2008 to the Urban Development Minister, Smt. Savitri Jindal, but the villagers were successful in having their say. Finally, in 2009, the municipality of Thanesar agreed not to merge these villages.

Conclusions

A preview of the cases reveals that the procedure for the alteration/revision of municipal limits is lengthy and tedious especially if it involves merger of adjoining villages. The rural folk often resist annexation on the grounds that they would have to pay municipal taxes and be constrained by city building regulations in making new constructions. Having received the much needed constitutional status following 73rd Constitutional Amendment, *gram panchayats* have now become a force to reckon with. This has resulted in increased awareness among the rural folk who want to retain their own distinct identity and, therefore, resist efforts of the municipalities to annexe their villages. Members of the *gram panchayats* oppose annexation for they stand to lose not only financial independence but also their political power following the merger of villages into the municipal area of a town as *panchayats* cease to exist. The villagers sometime try to enlist political support of local M.L.A. or M.P. so as to exert political pressure on the government against the merger of their village in municipal limits.

At times, the command over (possession of) land resources become a bone of contention between the rural areas, on one hand, and urban bodies, on other hand. In many instances, the villagers do not want to part with village common lands which are a major source of revenue. On the other hand, municipality keeps its eye on such land and would prefer to include only such lands, leaving the village settlement. Inclusion of settlement under municipal limits means financial burden on the municipality as it has to spend on the provision of civic amenities in these areas. To remove this anomaly, the state government in its memo No. 8/114/88-2CII/3C-1 dated 10.05.1994 directed all the Deputy Commissioners in the state that in future while recommending cases for extension of municipal limits, they should consider the desirability of including the total area of a revenue village and not a part of it. This is because the village settlement left outside the municipal limits leads to legal disputes with the villagers thus causing delay and financial loss to the government through litigation.

Industrialists too oppose the move of the municipal committees to include their industries within municipal boundary through extension of municipal limits for they have to pay municipal taxes.

Residents of the illegal colonies, which come up outside the municipal limits, desire merger on the other hand. The merger results in provision of civic amenities by the mu-

municipal committees, which these colonies initially lack. Even the colonizers who have purchased agricultural land on relatively low rates on the urban periphery prefer extension of municipal limits as this helps in shooting up land prices in areas coming under municipal limits.

When the move of the state government to extend municipal limits of a town by annexing the adjoining revenue villages gets subjudice, the procedure which is already cumbersome and tedious gets further delayed. Although, the increased political awareness of the villagers has made the entire process more democratic, the delay results in the lack of correspondence between the administrative boundaries of urban areas and their geographical limits. By the time the pending proposal of the municipality gets final approval from the government, newly built up areas outside the proposed city limits come up. This is especially true of the fast growing towns and cities. Hence, one of the basic purposes of extending municipal limits, that is, to control haphazard growth on the periphery of towns gets lost in between.

Notes

¹ Originally it was Punjab Municipal Act, 1911 under which municipalities in Haryana were governed till 1973. This was suitably amended to incorporate local conditions as Haryana Municipal Act, 1973.

² The proposal of the municipal committee for extension of municipal limits of a town is not accepted by the Department of Urban Local Bodies unless and until it has a detailed land use map of the town showing old and proposed M.C. Limits along with details of the likely income and expenditure from the area to be merged.

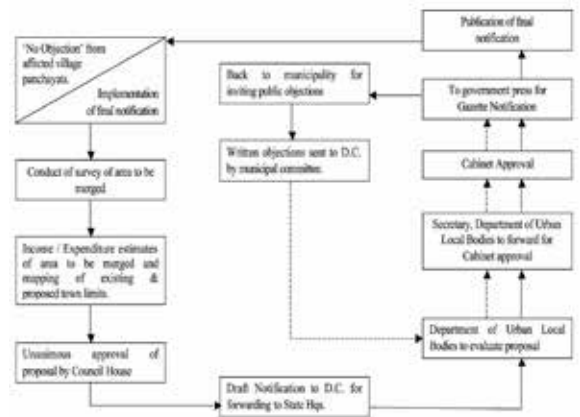


Fig. 2.1 : Flow Chart Showing Steps Involved in Expansion of Municipal Limits in Haryana

Appendix 1: List of Municipalities in the State of Haryana (as on 25-11-2013)

Sr. No.	Division Name	Sr. No.	District Name	Sr. No.	Municipal Corporation	Sr. No.	Municipal Councils	Sr. No.	Municipal Committees
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Ambala	1	Panchkula	1	Panchkula				
		2	Ambala	2	Ambala			1	Naraingarh
		3	Yamuna Nagar	3	Yamuna Nagar				
		4	Kurukshetra			1	Thanesar	2	Shahabad
								3	Ladwa
								4	Pehowa
		5	Kaithal			2	Kaithal	5	Pundri
								6	Cheeka
								7	Kalayath
								8	Rajaound
2	Rohtak	6	Karnal	4	Karnal			9	Taraori
								10	Nilokheri
								11	Gharaunda
								12	Assandh
								13	Indri
								14	Nissing
		7	Panipat	5	Panipat			15	Samalkha
		8	Rohtak	6	Rohtak			16	Meham
								17	Kalanaur
								18	Sampla
		9	Sonipat			3	Sonipat	19	Gohana
								20	Gannaur
								21	Kharkhoda
		10	Jhajjar			4	Bahadurgarh	22	Jhajjar
								23	Beri
3	Gurgaon	11	Faridabad	7	Faridabad				
		12	Gurgaon	8	Gurgaon			24	Sohna
								25	Haileymandi

							26	Pataudi	
							27	Farrukh Nagar	
		13	Palwal			5	Palwal	28	Hodal
								29	Hathin
		14	Rewari			6	Rewari	30	Bawal
								31	Dharuhera
		15	Mohindergarh			7	Narnaul	32	Mohindergarh
								33	Kanina
								34	Ateli Mandi
								35	Nangal Choudhary
		16	Mewat					36	Nuh
								37	Ferozepur Jhirka
								38	Tauru
								39	Punhana
4	Hisar	17	Bhiwani			8	Bhiwani	40	Charkhi Dadri
								41	Siwani
								42	Bawani Khara
								43	Loharu
		18	Hisar	9	Hisar			44	Barwala
						9	Hansi	45	Narnaund
								46	Uklana
		19	Fatehabad			10	Fatehabad	47	Ratia
								48	Bhuna
						11	Tohana		
		20	Sirsa			12	Sirsa	49	Rania
								50	Kalanwali
								51	Ellenabad
								52	Mandi Dabwali
		21	Jind			13	Jind	53	Safidon
						14	Narwana	54	Uchana
								55	Julana

Total Municipal Corporations : 09
Total Municipal Councils : 14
Total Municipal Committees : 55
Total : 78

Source: Department of Urban Local Bodies, Haryana.

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