



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Arts

ANALYSIS OF LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT IN URBAN AREAS

KEY WORDS: Local Self Government, Urban Government, Finance.

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ABSTRACT

The concept of local self-government is known to Indian since ancient times. During the Vedic age, there existed village assemblies known as 'Sabha' and 'Samiti'. Gradually cities and Towns came into prominence. They also enjoyed greater level of autonomy in administration as witnessed during the Maurya and Gupta period. The system of local self government in its modern sense was revived during the British period. In a democratic country power is decentralized and shared at different levels. A part from the Central and State Government, the administration at the local level is handled by the local government in urban as well as rural areas. The local Self-Government ensures effective people's participation and ensures overall development. The Urban local bodies include Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayat. This paper objectives to study the history of establishment of local self government in urban areas and to study the financing of LSG in urban area. The paper based on secondary source of information.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of local self government emerges from Human basic urge for liberty the power to make decisions and to up lift the society as per the needs of the respective communities local self governments are those bodies that look after the administration of an area or a small community such as a village a town or a city local self government operates at the lowest level of society. The local self government is the management of local affairs by such local bodies who have been elected by the local people. these local bodies provide service to the local community as well as acts as an instrument of democratic self government the jurisdiction of a local government is limited to a specific area, a village or a city and its function relate to the provision of civic amenities to the population living within that area the local government both in urban and rural areas has thus to shoulder main folded complex responsibilities the central and state government area conscious of the short coming from which local government suffered in the past. They have therefore been trying to understand them by instituting several enquires and studies. A central council of local self government was established in 1954 to consider and recommend broad lines of policy and draw up a common programme of action to promote local self government thought out India. The council setup a committee on augmentation of financial resources of urban local bodies in 1965.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Mishra sweta (2002) "Empowerment of women in urban local bodies : An Assessment" The presented his view in article related that the 74th amendment has made it possible for the common men to become part of the planning and execution process of development in relation to their local need. It has empowered so the local bodies and women as a whole. According to the author the empowerment of women and weaker section would lead to good governance and greater transparency in Indian polity.
2. Nandi Durgesh, (2002) women's participation in urban local self governance : Empowerment and capacity Building " This Article paper in emphasized that constitutional guarantees alone do not ensure effective participation and political equality to gain entry in to political institution and functioning of the state women and women groups have to make special effort. This would lead to situation where women are able to reverse the existing situation. The study emphasized that women's movement is a power full of empowerment. The

movement must provide a support system for women who enter in politics and structures that perpetuate the women's subordinate status.

4. RESEARCH GAP:

There are number of research paper related vision of local self government in urban areas. But there is no particulars study related to urban government and finance and selection and present study focuses on the attempt.

5. OBJECTIVES

1. To study the history of establishment of local self government in urban areas.
2. To study the financing of LSG in urban area.

6. METHODOLOGY

The present study it's depended on secondary source of formation gathered from the local self government and finance. Journals, news papers, and relevant websites articles, etc.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Throughout the primeval period in India, we have substantiation that the Indus Valley Civilization was a highly sophisticated and a well-structured urban culture. Fairservis (1971: 300) writes on the city of Mohenjo-Daro "The centralization represented is of formidable kind, and if our population estimate of some 40,000 souls living together at Mohenjo-Daro has any validity, an administration of authority and strength 'must have been established to keep matters in hand.'" Considering the patterns of lying down of infrastructure and their maintenance one can safely assume that for this city, there must have been a sufficiently efficient municipal management. In the previous chapter while dealing with the evolution of local government in India we have seen how the local institutions evolved in the country through the passage of time and reached

THE MUGHAL PERIOD:

During the Mughal era responsibility of administering a city was entrusted on the "Kotowal" Abul Fazal in his Ain-I-Akbari serialized many as eight functions of a Kotowal. These are

- i) To detect thieves,
- ii) To regulate prices and check weights and measures,
- iii) To keep watch at night and patrol the city,
- iv) To keep up registers of houses and watch the movement of strangers etc,
- v) To employ spies from among the vagabonds,

- vi) To prepare and inventory of and take charge of the property of deceased or missing persons who left no heirs,
- vii) To prevent the slaughter of oxen, buffaloes, horses or camels and
- viii) To prevent burning of women against their will and circumcision below the age of twelve.

(Fazal, cf Jarett 1949: 43-44). Majumdar et al (2004) observes that Kotowal's main business was to preserve peace and public security in the urban areas. However, no definite record is available to have an idea as to how the Koiowal managed these affairs, the pattern of office he was allowed to maintain, and the assistance he received. In fact the type of urban administration that ran under the Mughal had neither any public backing nor any legal status. It was an administration imposed from above and not in the true sense of the term a local administration run by local representatives. During the later part of Mughal rule the urban administration had collapsed. In the words of Majumdar et al, "During the turmoil that followed in the wake of dissolution of the Mughal Empire, these self governing organisations almost entirely disappeared from towns and greatly decayed in villages."

1. BETWEEN 1688 AND 1882:

The British were never interested in revitalizing the urban administration in India. However, in the year 1688, they for the first time introduced a municipal corporation in the city of Madras by a Charter granted in 1687. While modeling this institution, the practice prevailing in Great Britain at that time was followed. The dominant rationale for constituting the municipality was to collect taxes and also to accommodate the political aspirations of the increasing group of well-informed and well-read Indians "The Municipal Corporation was set up because the East India Company believed that the people would willingly pay five shillings for public good, being taxed by themselves, than six pence raised by our despotic power". The municipalities were given very few functions. Financial resources were thoroughly inadequate. There was too much official monitoring exercised by the district collector. In the Municipal Corporation was converted to a Mayor's Court empowering it with the judicial powers and thus it became a judicial body than an administrative entity. It was only in 1793 that the municipal' administration in India was given the statutory rank when the Charter Act 1793 was passed.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACTS - 1919 & 1935:

The conclusion of World War I was a curtain raiser to the fight for freedom for India. There were pervasive demands for Indian constitutional reforms. Morley-Minto Reforms did not convince the people of India and their dissatisfaction was sustained. Considering this, and also in recognition of their dedicated services to Great Britain during the hostilities, Mr. Edwin Montague, the Secretary of State for India made an pronouncement in the House of Commons that "the policy of His Majesty's Government, with which the Government of India are in complete accord is that of the increasing association of Indians in every« branch of the administration and the gradual development of self governing institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible government in India This corroborates the piece of information that the British Government had progressively felt it essential to obtain encouragement and support from the Indians The Municipal local bodies were endowed with greater powers and functions in the realms of education, health, sanitation, public works, agriculture etc. The scope of Government meddling in the municipal local bodies has been reduced and they became responsible to an enlarged body of voters. Quite a few fresh Acts were ratified in different provinces or the existing acts were modified. Enormous fervor prevailed among the people of India and many towering leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Purushottam Das Tandon got into the municipal

Councils . The Act of 1935 although was notable for the constitutional history of India yet, it had nothing new to say in the context of local self- government or for that matter the urban local government.

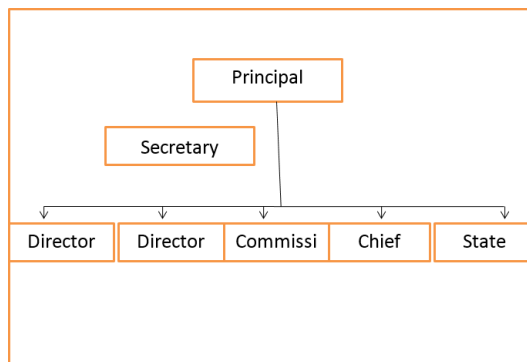
INDEPENDENCE AND AFTER:

After Independence the Constitution of India was structured on federal guidelines. Indian Constitution has split government functions in three lists; Central, State and Concurrent. Local bodies are sheltered in the State list and governed by State Statutes or in the Union Territories by the Union Parliament. The Constitution of India, which came into force in 1950, has made meticulous provisions for making certain the democratic operation of the Parliament and the State Legislatures. But apart from a circumlocutory reference to the Municipalities, in item-5 of the State list of subjects for the enactment of laws on urban administration, there was no reference in the Constitution of India about urban local bodies. There are two kinds of statutory provisions creating a municipal authority, like the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act (1888), the City of Nagpur Corporation Act (1948) and the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act (1857), or it may authorize the state government concerned to establish a Municipal Corporation (Municipality Municipal Authority, Municipal Council or Municipal Board) such as the Bombay Provincial Municipal Corporation Act (1949), Gujarat Municipalities Act (1964).

2. The seventy third and seventy fourth amendments of Constitution of India, gave constitutional status to the Local Self Government Institutions (LSGIs). The Constitutional amendments established a system of uniform structure, regular election, regular flow of funds, etc. After the enactment of 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments, the State Legislature passed the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 (KPR Act) and the Kerala Municipality Act, 1994 (KM Act) to enable the LSGIs to work as a third tier of Government devolved upon the Panchayats and Municipalities the responsibilities, institutions and schemes relating to matters enlisted in the schedules of the Acts with effect from October 1995.

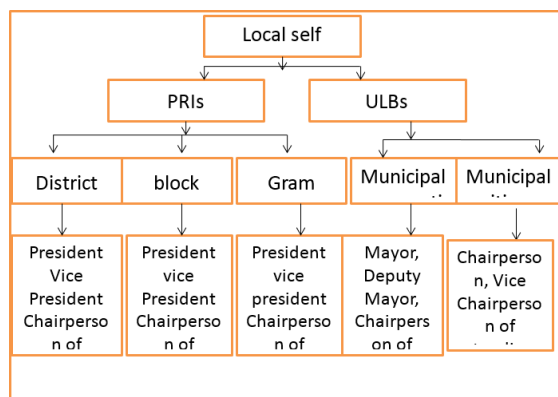
The Government in the Local Self Government Department (LSGD) is empowered to issue general guidelines to the LSGIs in accordance with the National and State policies in matters such as finance, maintenance of accounts, office management, formulation of schemes, selection of sites and beneficiaries, proper functioning of Gram Sabah, welfare programmes and environmental regulations and the LSGIs have to comply with such directions. Government also conducts periodical performance audit in respect of the administration of the LSGIs.

DEPICTS THE EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE IN THE LSGD TO EXECUTE THE ABOVE FUNCTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT.



The administrative control of the Grama Panchayats, Block Panchayat and the Municipalities is vested with the Director of Panchayats, Commissioner of Rural Development and the Director of Urban Affairs respectively. The District Panchayats and the Municipal Corporations are under the direct control of the Government. The State Performance Auditor audits the performance of the LSGs as per Kerala Panchayat Raj Rules,

THE STRUCTURE AND FINANCES OF LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS



The members of each tier of the Panchayats elect the President, Vice President and Chairpersons of the Standing Committees. Similarly, Councilors of the Municipality/Municipal Corporation elect the Chairperson/Mayor, Vice Chairperson/Deputy Mayor and Chairpersons of the Standing Committees. The President/Chairperson/Mayor is the Executive Head of the LSGs. Each LSGI has a Secretary and he is the Executive Officer. While the Secretaries of LSGs and employees of PRIs are Government servants, the employees of ULBs are Municipal staff.

SUGGESTION:

1. Integrate spatial planning at all governmental levels: National, state and cities.
2. The integrated financial planning of sustainable urban infrastructures
3. Urban development projects should be changed transports which can finance restricted and public transport.
4. Improve the urban sectors and slum areas.
5. Cities at different stages in their urban development.

CONCLUSION

Local government means the administration of the affairs of a locality in urban and rural areas by the people their elected representatives the urban local government operates in towns and cities through municipal corporation , municipal committees cantonment boards town and notified area committees and financial systems in urban areas the study the significance or importance of urban local governments in India has consider by increased in the post independent and local self government history of urban and municipal financial in LSG in India and state.

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