CITY CORPORATION PREPARED BY, Mr. Thomas G.M. Associate Professor, Pompei College, Aikala DK

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### Introduction:

- Part IX of the constitution from art. 243 P to243 ZG contains the Urban local governments.
- This was included in the constitution through the 74<sup>th</sup> constitutional amendment.
- Schedule **XII** deals with the jurisdiction of the Urban local government.
- The Karnataka Municipal Corporation Act of 1976 was amended in 1993 so as to include many provisions as per the constitution.

# City Corporation:

- Urban local governments are classified into –
- a. City Corporation,
- Municipalities I. Town Municipalities & II.
  City Municipalities,
- c. Cantonment Board.
- To create a city corporation it must have a population of more than 5 lakhs.
- In Karnataka we have city corporations like Bangalore, Hubli-Dharwad, Mysore, Mangalore, Belgaum, Gulbarga.



## Organization:

- The members of City corporation are called as Councilors or Corporators.
- The members are elected from the **wards**.
- Their total number should not exceed 100 and not less than 30.
- The total number of elected members is decided by the state government from time to time depending upon the population.



## Organization .....

- 5 members are nominated by the state government who are residents of that area and having experience in municipal administration or health matters or town planning or education or social service. The nominated members do not have any right to vote in the sessions of the corporation.
- The members of legislative assembly and the members of Parliament elected within the area of the corporation.
- The members of Rajya Sabha and Vidhana Parishad who have enrolled themselves as the voters in that corporation area.



### **Election**:

- The members are elected directly by the people of the wards.
- Seats are reserved as follows 15% for SCs, 3% for the STs, 1/3 for the Seats Backward classes and 1/3 for the women.
- The term of each corporators is 5 years.
- The term of the corporators may be extended but not beyond one year through an order of the state government.

# The Mayor and Deputy Mayor:

- They are elected from among the general council for a period of one year.
- The Mayor is the first citizen of the city holding the position of honour and prestige.
- He presides over the council meetings and exercises administrative control over the secretariat of the General Council.
- The Deputy Mayor discharges the duties of Mayor during his absence which may be due to death incapacity or resignation.

# Standing Committees:

- As per Karnataka Municipal Corporation Act there are 4 standing committees, viz
- a. The committee for Taxation, Finance & Appeals.
- b. The committee for public health, education and social justice.
- c. The committee for town planning & improvement, &
- d. The committee for Accounts.
- The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are the ex-officio chairmen of the standing committees.
- The members of the above standing committees are elected every year for a term of one year & each standing committee has 7 members and elects one as the chairman

## The Commissioner:

- The corporation commissioner is appointed by the state government for a period of 3 years and all executive powers rests with the commissioner.
- He is generally an IAS officer
- He may be removed from office on grounds of inefficiency or negligence by the state government.
- He can be removed by a resolution of city corporation by a 2/3 majority.

### Finance:

- Following are the sources of revenue for the corporation. –
- a. Generated through tax on property, water business, profession and advertisements.
- b. Money collected from rent on corporation property like vegetable markets, mutton stalls, etc.
- c. Collection of the amount through fees and penalties imposed by the corporation,
- d. State government grants, etc.

## Powers and functions:

- The powers and functions of the Corporation are broadly divided into –
- a. Compulsory functions,
- b. Optional functions
- Apart from the above functions the Corporations performs general functions like, preparation of the budget, management of administration, etc.

# a. Compulsory Functions:

- The Corporations performs the following compulsory functions –
- I. Construction of public roads and streets
- 2. Providing safe drinking water,
- 3. Naming of roads and streets,
- 4. Providing electricity to public roads, streets and markets,
- 5. Construction and maintenance of public markets,
- 6. Prevention of diseases through effective public health programmes

# Compulsory functions .....

- 7. Prevention of adulteration food products milk and pharmaceuticals,
- 8. Construction of public parks, gardens, playgrounds and recreation grounds,
- 9. Maintenance of birth and death records.
- establishment and maintenance of primary schools
- 11. Construction and maintenance of burial grounds,
- 12. protection and maintenance of public property and public monuments,
- 13. Maintenance of relief works and any other matter entrusted to it by the government.

# b. Optional Functions:

- These functions are optional and carried on if there is adequate finance.
- I. Establishment of associations for the welfare of orphans and the destitute,
- 2. Establishment of efficient transport system,
- 3. Construction and maintenance of swimming pools, bathing Ghats, child welfare centers,
- 4. Conducting surveys of land and buildings

# Optional functions .....

- 5. Providing relief during natural calamities,
- 6. Construction of houses for the poor and homeless and improving slums,
- 7. Maintaining veterinary hospitals
- 8. Supporting environment conservation programme.