

Chapter - 10

Local Self Government

In India, at local level to increase the participation of local persons, to fulfil this object, the local self government was established. Local self governance, is the most powerful instrument of Democratic Decentralisation of Powers in the government. In the year 1992, by 73rd 74th constitutional amendment act, they have been given the constitutional status.

Meaning :

The meaning of local self government, is connected with that level of governance where the governance is being conducted by those local institutions, which are being elected by the people, which have been given some powers and some duties to be done and serve the local people, while being controlled ultimately either by local or central governments. The very basis of local self government is like this, that the local people know and understand more about the local needs and problems both, and they can solve them easily.

According to the Dictionary of Britanica, local self government means “Instead of complete state, one internally restrict power of centre, which is authorised to take decision and execute them, in a small area”. The local self government is being called by different names in different countries. In India local self government, in France local prefect and in America as municipal government. Local self government has some drawbacks also. In this system, due to collapsed locality, the narrowness and selfish tendency were increased. Due to division of governance liabilities and duties for e.g. a large

number of office bearers, extra vacancy and so on, the local self government suffers from lack of efficiency and unwanted extra expenses take place.

It is necessary for the success of local self government, that people should have high moral character, honesty and sense of responsibility for implementing duties. People should not use the right to vote, on the basis of caste, religion but it should be used and vote should be casted on the basis of qualification and merits of the candidate. The secret of the success of local self government, lies in the co-ordination between the powers of central or regional powers of controlling the lower one and the independence of the local self institutions like Municipalities, Panchayats and Panchayat Samitis etc.

The system of Republic and Local Self Government in Ancient India:-

There had been a convention in ancient India, regarding Local Self Administration. The word “Panchayat”, denotes about the system that it is a group of five elected persons, by which a lot of uncountable country side people, were governed. The Panchayat Administration, gives indication towards the tendency of local self government. In various periods of history, even after the coming up and downfall of Monarchies and changes in social and economic setup, the influence of such (local self government institution) has been in force, till today, in one or the other forms.

Koutilya, in his famous book “Economics”, explained that for the achievement of local self

government, the powers of the state are to be decentralised, in the following format. In that format, the Janpad Administration was divided and named as 'village' collection (10 villages) Karvtick (2000 villagees) Dronamukh (400 villages) and local level (800 villages).

Koutilya developed the concept of local self government in this way that town level institutions were named as “Pur” and with one local officer namely 'Sthanik', and in villages “Gop” (Sarpanch) was named as Administrator, they should have co-ordination between the two. In the ancient period, the best example of local self government, was there in the regime of “choll rule”, in the South India. In the regime of choll rule, the villages were being administered by “Nadu Councils”.

In India, the construction of local self government are in two types, first is 'Urban Local Self government and the Second one is, rural Local Self government. Rural local self government is also known as “Panchayati Raj System” in India.

Development of Local Self Government in Rajasthan:-

Even before the modern reorganisation of Rajasthan, in some Riyasats of Rajasthan, as Bikaner (1929), Jaipur (1938), Sirohi (1943), Bharatpur (1944), and Karoli (1949), there were Panchayat Raj laws which were functioning and in execution.

Rajasthan had been utmost forward state, in the field of establishment of “Panchayat Raj” in joint Rajasthan. The ordinance of Panchayati Raj was executed in the year 1948. After the reorganisation of Rajasthan in 1949, under the chief Panchayat officer, a separate department of Panchayat was created. By Rajasthan Panchayat enactment of 1953, (which came into force on 01st January 1954), the reorganisation of Panchayat was made. In regard to Democratic Decentralisation, a three tier system, being recommended by Balwant Raj Roy Mehta, committee, Rajasthan Panchayat Samiti and Zila

Parishad, Act 1959 was introduced.

On 02nd October 1959, the former Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, inaugurated the modern three tier system of Panchayat Raj in the Nagour District and he indicated towards it to be a very big historical step in the field of local self government system. Like this Rajasthan got the opportunity of becoming first state in India, in which the modern three tier system of Panchayat Raj Administration was adopted so as to implement the idea of local self government. In Rajasthan, for the urban area and for its local administration, the Rajasthan Municipal Act 1959, was enacted.

In Rajasthan, for the purpose of improving the system of Panchayat Raj working pattern various committees have been constituted from time to time, for suggesting the new directions for more improvement. The important committee's names are as under:-

- A. Harish Chandra Mathur Committee 1963
- B. Sadik Ali Committee 1963
- C. Girdhari Lal Vyas Committee 1975
- D. Har Lal Singh Khara Committee 1990
- E. Arun Kumar Committee 1996
- F. Shiv Charan Mathur Commission Committee 2000
- G. Gulab Chand Kataria (Cabinet) Sub Committee 2004-05

The Rajasthan government has enacted Panchayat Raj Act 1994 and amending the Rajasthan Municipal Act 1959, in the year 1994, in pursuance of 73rd & 74th constitutional amendments. By which, more participation of women or females and the downtrodden classes of the society was ensured.

For the urban local self government at present, the Rajasthan Municipal Act, 2009 is in force.

The Rural Local Self Government :-

Rural local self government institutions work

on different levels. Their description is given below.

Gram Sabha :

The Gram Sabha, is an institution, which execute directly the concept of Direct Democracy in practice. The group of all adults citizens of the rural area is called as 'Gram Sabha'.

Every citizen of a Panchayat area, attaining the age of 18 years and whose name is entered in the voter list of the concern Panchayat Area, shall be a member 'Gram Sabha'. By the 73rd constitutional amendment, the 'Gram Sabha' (Village Sabha) has been given a constitutional status. In the Chapter 2 'A' of the Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act of 1994, the details of Gram Sabha, has been written. For every village Panchayat, there shall be a village assembly. The meetings of village assembly, will be presided over by Sarpanch deputy, in his absence and if both are not present, then the elected person by the present members of gram sabha. The Quorum for any meeting of village assembly is the 10% presence of the total strength.

There shall be two meetings of gram sabha every year. The first meeting shall be called in the first quarter of the financial year in which the discussion will be held on the important subjects:-

- A. The Accounting details of last year.
- B. The proposals for the working action plan for the current financial year.
- C. The last audited report and the answers, submitted in that regard.

The second meeting will be held in the last quarter of the financial year, in which discussion on the following points/ subjects shall be made:-

- A. The expenditure details of the year.
- B. There will be plan for physical and financial actions to be executed in the year.
- C. The amendment proposals in any proposed work will be presented in the first quarter meeting.

Budged and Tax proposed of Gram Panchayat

The meeting of Village Panchayat on Budget etc., can be held by these methods- on the request of 1/10 members of Village Panchayat, or if it is desired by Panchayat Samiti Zila Parishad or state government, to call the meeting as per direction, it shall be held within 15 days from the date of desire for calling the meeting.

The development officer, or any person nominated by him, of the concerns Panchayat Samiti shall take part in the meeting. The Panchayat Secretary will write the minutes of the meeting proceedings, and it will be read out by Panchayat Secretary in the end of the meeting and it will be signed and approved by the present members in the meeting of village Panchayat. According to this Act, the subjects on which discussion is held and a resolution is passed, it should be signed and approved by the majority members of the total present numbers in the meeting. The village Panchayat shall be responsible and answerable to the Village Sabha.

Gram Panchayat:-

On the basis of the enactment of state government, for every Panchayat Circle, consisting a village or a group of villages, there will be a Village Panchayat. The 'Village Panchayat' is also called the executive committee of 'Village Sabha'. Every 'Village Panchayat' will function as corporate body, which shall have perpetual succession and a general seal.

According to the Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act of 1994, it is necessary to have one Sarpanch and 9 Ward Panch, on every Panchayat, having the population upto three thousand, and on above every one thousand or its part, there shall be two ward panch. For example, if in any Panchayat, the population is 4600 person, then in this Panchayat, there shall be one Sarpanch and Thirteen Ward Panch. In every Panchayat one Sarpanch and for every ward of Village Panchayat, one Ward Panch

for each, shall be elected directly by the people. Only that person can contest the election of Sarpanch, who is having age of 21 years and is a registered voter of that Panchayat area.

The term of Village Panchayat is being kept for five years, as it is for Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishads. In Rajasthan, there had been 9900 Village Panchayats in the year 2016.

In Village Panchayats, the reserved places for scheduled caste & tribes, and backward classes shall be according to the rules, based on Rotation basis. For females class wise reservation shall be as per rules, available in the concern act.

The standing committee is an instrument for providing help in the functions of Panchayat. In Rajasthan, for the Village Panchayat, the standing committees are made for some specific subjects like, Administration, Establishment, Finance, Taxation, Development, and Production Programmes, Education & Social Service, along with Social Justice. These standing committees are formed in such a manner that every member of Panchayat may get a place, in one committee atleast.

Any Panchayat may have meeting as many times as required for the execution of its functions. But it is essential to call the meeting once in 15 days, at the fixed place. For conducting the meetings of Panchayat, it has been decided that the Quorum shall be deemed to be present, if the one third members, out of the total members, are present in the meeting. The meetings of Panchayat shall be presided by Sarpanch, in his absence by deputy Sarpanch and in the situation of non presence of the above two, any member of Panchayat, who is elected for this work, will preside over the meetings of Panchayat. All decisions are taken by Panchayat, in the meeting on the strength of majority votes, of the total present members. The Sarpanch or deputy Sarpanch while presiding the meeting has veto vote, and it can be used when the votes casted by the members are equal. The Sarpanch or deputy Sarpanch of gram Panchayat, can be removed by the no confidence

motion, only after two years from the date of their joining the post. This no confidence motion should be passed by the $\frac{3}{4}$ members out of the present members in meeting.

Functions of Gram Panchayat :-

In the 1st schedule of Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act 1994, the functions of Village Panchayat have been decided, which are as under in short:-

1. Common work :- Village Panchayat shall prepare yearly plan and yearly budget, for its development. Similarly, helping at the time of Natural disaster, to remove unauthorised encroachment on the public property and to prepare statistics of the village for so many purposes.

2. Administrative work :- Village Panchayat will perform the following administrative functions mainly:-

To mark numbering the premises, work of census, to plan about the agriculture production improvement programmes, to prepare description for the execution of development plan for village, to evolve an efficient system, for the correct use of the funds, being allocated by the Central Government, for some specified works, to control over the land of community, Barn and Pasture (for animals free movement), to collect the information about population statistics, and about birth, death, marriages, registration figures, to protect and maintain the record of Village Panchayat.

3. Other work :- The main other functions of Village Panchayat are as under:-

Including Agriculture and Gardening expansion, and their development, Animal Husbandry and Milk Dairy, small irrigation, khadi and village cottage industries, drinking water, roads, rural electrification, poverty elimination programme, primary and old persons educating informally and library, cultural activities, like market fairs, village sanitary, public health and public welfare, women and child development,

welfare of weaker section of the society, public distribution system, the maintenance of community's property, inns, puddles, parking, slaughter houses, public parks, playing grounds, and regulation of wine shops etc.

Panchayat Samiti :-

The middle step of the Panchayat Raj system, is known as 'Panchayat Samiti'. The period of working span is for 5 years, alike the other organs of Panchayat Raj system. At present in Rajasthan there are 295 Panchayat Samiti. According to Rajasthan Panchayat Raj Act 1994, the state government can declare any local area of a district, as a block, for which there shall be a Panchayat Samiti. Each Panchayat Samiti will be a corporate body, which will have a perpetual succession and a general stamp.

In every Panchayat Samiti there shall be the following members:-

1. The elected members from the regional Election Areas.
2. All MLAs, representing the area of concern Panchayat Samiti.
3. All Sarpanch of Village Panchayats, of that particular Panchayat Samiti.

According to the Act, that if in any Panchayat Samiti area is having the population upto one lakh, shall bear the 15 constituents, and having more than this Quantum of population in that area, on every 15,000 population, two constituents shall be increased. In the election of Panchayat Samitis, the seats have been reserved as per rules, for schedule castes, tribes, backward class and women and all such reserve seats shall be allocated on the basis of rotation, every time as per rule. The duty of conducting the election of Panchayat Raj Institutions, have been given to State Election Commission. In the structure of Panchayat Samiti, normally, it has Pradhan, deputy Pradhan, Block Development Officer, Public Relation Officer and other civil servants, for performing the main

functions of Panchayat Samiti. For each territorial constituency, one representative is elected by the votes of the concern area of Panchayat Samiti. All such elected members from the territorial constituencies elect Pradhan and deputy Pradhan, out of themselves.

These members are also having the rights to remove Pradhan or deputy Pradhan, on the basis of passing no confidence motion, by the $\frac{3}{4}$ majority votes of the total present members.

As per the Act, every Panchayat Samiti will hold meeting once, in a month, for the fulfilments of its duties. For the purpose of Quorum, it has been decided in the Act, that there should be atleast $\frac{1}{3}$ members should be present, out of the total members. All the decisions, approvals of the proposals etc, shall be taken by the majority vote, of the total present members in the meeting. All the proceedings of every meeting shall be written in the proceedings register or copy.

Functions of Panchayat Samiti:-

In the second schedule of the Act, the main functions of Panchayat Samiti, have been narrated, which are as under:-

1. To prepare yearly plan and budget for Panchayat Samiti and to discuss and approve, the yearly projects or plans of the Subordinate Panchayats.
2. The Agricultural work, including the extension of Agriculture.
3. Land reform and soil conservation.
4. Micro irrigation and drinking water.
5. Poverty eradication.
6. Animal rearing, dairy and fisheries.
7. Rural housing
8. Education, including primary education
9. Roads, markets and fairs
10. Health, women and welfare of weaker classes.

11. Statistics disaster-aid, co-operative and library work etc.

Zila Parishad :-

The rural local self government, means the highest unit of Panchayati Raj System, is Zila Parishad or District Council. In every district, there shall be one Zila Parishad. The tenure of its members is 5 years. The Zila Parishad plays a very important role of a supervising authority regarding the execution of the plans and projects of the Rural development and progress. Zila Parishad plays the role of co-jointer chain between the state government on the one hand, and Panchayat Samiti and Village Panchayat on the other. Zila Parishad shall organise the meeting once, between the 3 months period and the Quorum shall be deemed to be present, if 1/3 members of the total number of Zila Parishad. The proceedings of every meeting shall be recorded and written, in the proceeding register, under the supervision of an executive officer.

The Zila Parishad (District Council) is organised by the following four types of members:-

- A. Direct elected members from regional areas .
- B. MLAs and MLs from Zila Parishad.
- C. Registered MLCs from Zila Parishad.
- D. All the Pradhans of Panchayat Samitis, of the area of that concern Zila Parishad.

The members mentioned in the above category of (B) (C) and (D), shall be allowed to cast vote in regard to the proposal of removal of Zila Pramukh or deputy Zila Pramukh but in other matters, they will be able to cast votes.

In any district, upto the four lakh population, there shall be 17 constituencies and if the population exceeds the limit, then for each 1 lakh population or any past population, two constituencies shall be increased. For these constituencies, the reservation, for schedule caste, tribes, other backward class and women, shall be on the basis of rotation as per rules.

The voters of concerned Zila Parishad, elect the representative from the each constituency. Afterwards, all the elected representatives (members) elect Zila Pramukh and deputy Zila Pramukh, out of themselves. They also have the rights to remove Zila Pramukh or Deputy Zila Pramukh, by bringing the no confidence motion, having the support of $\frac{3}{4}$ members majority. For the functioning of Zila Parishad, there is pre executive officer, one Junior Engineer, one Accounts Officer and other officials, so as to enable Zila Parishad to performs the functions more efficiently and effectively.

The election of the members of Zila Parishad shall be conducted by state election commission. Every Zila Parishad shall constitute the five (5) standing committees for the different group of subjects, given in the Act, if it is needed, for other subjects, additional committees can also be formed. The state government can constitute a five members committee, for each Zila Parishad, which will supervise the working, planning and execution of functions.

Functions of Zila Parishad :-

These are the following important functions as narrated in the third schedule of the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Act.

1. As a general work, Zila Parishad has to prepare the plan of economic developments social justice and plans for further.
2. To include subjects Agriculture Production, and to encourage, use of developed methods and instruments. To organise Agriculture Fairs and to provide training to Farmers.
3. Micro irrigation projects and underground water resources conservation also upto 2500 acre and to encourage the farming of vegetables and fruits in the shape of gardening.
4. The publication of the statistics of the functions of Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samities, and proper use and co-ordination

with other information.

5. To encourage the rural electrification and survey of new connections and supply.
6. Soil conservation for social forestry, to drop barren land and afforestation
7. Arrangement of veterinary hospitals, efforts to check diseases and dairy development, poultry farm, pigeries and fisheries.
8. To identify the traditional experts artists for domestic and cottage industries. To organise the training programmes for crafts man and supply of raw material needed by them.
9. Construction and maintenance of rural roads bridges office buildings and identification of connecting roads.
10. To establish primary health centres and their maintenance, to organise the programmes of vaccination, and family welfare programmes for mother and the infant's health.
11. Providing aid and developing education facilities, scholarships, backs for SC, ST, OBC children.
12. To execute the programme of poverty remoral effectively and to organise successfully the programmes regarding social reforms activities.
13. To establish upper primary schools, adult education and to provide the facilities of library.

Urban Local Self Government:-

The Urban Local Self Government has been given the status of constitutional institution by the 74th constitutional amendment, made by the Act of the 1992, and implemented w.e.f. June 1993. The state of Rajasthan also followed, the 74th Indian Constitutional Amendment and to execute the feelings and characteristics, the Act which was already in force. In 1994 it was Amended in regard to, so many sections of the Rajatshan Municipal Act

of 1959 and it was modified accordingly. At present, the Institutions of Urban Local Self Government are being regulated and controlled by the Rajasthan Municipal Act of 2009. At present, in Rajasthan there 7 city corporations, 34 Municipal Councils and 146 Municipalities. As per the Act, as amended from time to time, the Institutions of Urban Local Self Government are functioning, which are as under:-

Municipal Corporation :-

City corporation is the highest Urban unit of local self government. In Rajasthan, as per 74th constitutional amendment expectations, In every expanded urban area (which carries the population more than 5 lakhs) the city corporation is constituted. At present, in Rajasthan, at all 7 Divisional Head Quarters, city corporations have been constituted. The names of the places of Divisional Head Quarters are as under-

Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Ajmer, Bikaner, Udaipur and Bharatpur. From the organizational point of view, Jaipur is the biggest corporation. City corporation is a corporate body, which has a universal succession. It carries a general stamp and it can file the suit in the name of the corporation. It also has the time tenure of 5 years.

In the internal organization of city corporation there are council, mayor, deputy mayor, chief executive officer, corporation commissioner, and other officials and some committees of various subjects, for performing the basic duties. The state government, divides the area in various constituencies, on the basis of population. Such territorial constituencies are called as 'wards'. Among all the members of wards, the seats are kept reserved for schedule caste, tribes, women and other backward classes, on the basis of population as per rules based on the rotation system. From each ward, one member is elected by Direct Voting System by the people, all the adult voters are authorised to cast

their votes. After the 74th Amendment in the constitution, in Rajasthan, the elections for city corporations have been held for five (5) times.

Mayor and Deputy Mayor :-

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of city corporation are called as Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively. The members of the corporation elect any member as the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, out of themselves. There are provisions for reservation to the post of Mayor or Deputy Mayor. Mayor is the first citizen of the city and his tenure is five years. These posts can become vacant, due to death, resignation, or removal by the no confidence motion, under such circumstances, the members of the corporation again elect the Mayor or Deputy Mayor, out of themselves, for the remaining tenure. The Mayor presides over the meeting of corporation. Mayor may call any information or report from the Chief Executive Officer. In the absence of Mayor, the Deputy Mayor performs all functions.

The State Government appoints one Chief Executive Officer and one commissioner to provide help in the execution of functions of the corporation. The Chief Executive Officer can participate in the meetings of the council and its various committees also. The preparation of the documents, Record, and Budget, is being done under his supervision. He is responsible for the execution and application of the policies, approved laws and rules, made by the council. All the officials and officers perform their work, under his control, with an objective to provide help in working to the corporation, in the concern Act, it has been provided to have different committees on various subjects.

1. The Executive Committee, which shall be organised, by the following persons:-

(A) Mayor (B) Deputy Mayor (C) The opposition leader in the council (D) 7 members, being elected by the council, which will include two women members also.

The Chief Executive Officer shall be ex officio chairman of the executive committee. Apart from this, there are other few committees also in the council, as finance committee, health and sanitation committee, building and construction works committee, Rules and by laws committee, Dirty colonies improvement committee, mitigation of crime committee and compromise committee etc. apart from this, if there is a need to form other committees on some more subjects, such committees may also be organised.

The Functions of Municipal Corporations :-

The city corporation, mainly, does the main functions of three types i.e. necessary, optimal and special. Necessary functions, management of pure drinking water, public electrification work, the construction of roads and toilets. The construction and maintenance of public roads, sewerage, toilets and sanitation.

To keep the record of birth and death in the corporation's area, the regulation and arrangement of cremation, to manage primary education, to destroy old and dangerous buildings, to control and stop the dangerous business, to supervise and maintain the property of the corporation, the regulation and controlling of all eatable places, like hotels, restaurants and public resorts, and to publish the yearly reports of the various organs of the corporation etc.

Optimal works are such kind of work are included, and performed, subject to the availability or means and sources. Such functions can be described as under:-

Public parks, maintenance and construction of public libraries, cultural stages, the arenas, to organise fairs and exhibitions, the plantation and maintenance of shady trees. To help poor and inefficient people, to organise the musical concert on the public places etc.

'Special functions', are related to hazardous and emergency situation, like- Famine relief and to

save the people from epidemic and to control the spread of such disease in other areas.

The city corporation earns the income, by levying some different kinds of local taxes, so that the duties can be performed efficiently and perfectly. Taxes like- property tax, tax on animals, profession tax, entertainment tax, land and building tax, tax on the rental income etc. are applicable. These taxes are levied by a legal process, provided in the concerned Act. The income from other sources, like fees on transfer of property, is additional source of income. Along with these sources of income, the government also provides financial help in the form of 'grant'.

Municipal Council :-

Municipal Council, is the second stage, in the form of Urban Local Self Government. The state government can sanction and establish, the Municipal Council in any smaller urban area, having the population from one lakh to 5 lakh. The municipal council is a legal body constituted under the law. It has a particular seal and also has perpetual succession. The Municipal Council can purchase or sell any property in its name. They are liable to undergo legal liabilities and suits of civil or compensation can be filed against it. And it can also file suit in the courts against any culprit or defaulter or criminal. At present, in Rajasthan, there are 34 Municipal Councils, the names of the places are as under:-

Kishangarh, Beawar, Alwar, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur, Banswara, Churu, Dholpur, Shri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jhalore, Jhalawar, Junjuna, Nagour, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Karoli, Sirohi, Tonk, Barmer, Baran, Bundi, Pratapgarh, Dosa, Makrana, Gangapur City, Hindon City, Bhiwadi, Balotra and Sujangarh.

In municipality, there is an elected council or executive. The territory of the municipality is being divided in various constituencies on the basis of

population, which is known as 'ward'. The elected persons from the ward is known as 'councillor'. The determination of the total numbers of wards, are being decided from time to time, through notifications. The councillors are directly elected through casting, adult's votes, by the persons living in that constituency. The members of Parliament and Legislature i.e. (M.P. and M.L.A.'s) are also honourable members of the council. The system of reservation for the post of councillors, is the same, as like city corporation. Municipal council, constitutes some committees for the better performance of its duties, which are of standing and temporary nature.

Chairman and Vice Chairman :-

The President and Vice President of Municipality is called as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

They are elected by the councillors of Municipality from themselves. Their term is five years. In the events of one's death, or resigning or passing of no confidence motion, the elected councillors can again elect Chairman or Vice Chairman (President or Vice President) for the remaining part of the tenure. The President presides over the meetings of the council and control the officer and officials, appointed for execution of the already decided policies.

Functions of Municipal Council :-

The Municipal Council also executes the same functions, as designed for city corporation, of all the three categories i.e. compulsory, voluntary and special functions. By the 74th constitutional amendment, in the schedule 12th of the constitution, the works determined for the Municipal Council have been listed in this schedule, which are as follows:-

1. Town planning
2. Regulation of land
3. Planning for social and economic development
4. Roads and bridges

5. Providing of water for residential and commercial, domestic industries
6. Public health and Sanitation
7. Fire extinguishing services to be provided
8. Urban forestry and protection of environment
9. Slum development
10. Protection of interest of weak, mentally and physically disabled persons.
11. Poverty removal.
12. Development of public parks and play grounds
13. The development, maintenance and construction of electrified cremation centres and cremation land.
14. Registration of birth and death
15. Electrification of roads
16. Construction of vehicle parking and bus stand.
17. Regulation of mines
18. Regulation of slaughter houses

Municipality :-

In the whole country, for the formation and organising the local self government, the population has been the main basis for the nature of local body i.e. Municipality, or Municipal Council or City Corporation etc. In Rajasthan also, on the basis of population local body administration has been set up. For the transitional small areas, having the population less than one lakh, the Municipality has been established. The village area, which is on the way to become urban or city area, has been called as 'Transitional Areas'. For the transitional small areas, in 74th constitutional amendment, it has been provided that in such areas, there shall be 'Town Panchayat'. But the government of Rajasthan decided that instead of 'Town Panchayat' there shall be Municipal Boards (IInd & IVth category) of various categories. At present, their strength of the above categories are respectively is 13, 58 and 75. Likewise, in Rajasthan total 146 Municipal Boards

have been established.

The area of Municipality, in the form of Territorial Election Area, is being divided in various 'wards', on the basis of population. The number of wards, in different municipalities, is being decided by the state government, through issuing of notifications, as and when it is required. The member of Municipality Board, is being elected directly by the Secret Ballot System applied to adult voters. Any person, whose name is registered in the voter list of the concerned Municipal Area, having the age of 21 years, may contest the election of councillor.

The reservation of the wards, for the scheduled caste, tribble and women, have been decided on the basis of the proportion of the population, by rotation as per rules. The determination of reserved wards is decided by lottery system, before election. The women and persons belonging to reserve class, can also contest for any general seat. For the implementation of the duties of municipality, the meeting shall be called at least for one day in two months.

Chairman and Vice Chairman :-

The members of Municipal Board elect out of themselves, one President and one Vice President. The Municipal Board, prepares the policy of local self body's working and functions, in the leadership of President. The implementation of the policies is done by the officer i.e. the executive officers and with the help of other officials working under him. The term, powers, and functions of President and Vice President of the Municipal Board, are more or less. Same, with that of municipal Council. In the Municipal Boards, the reservation for the post of President shall be decided by the government through the formula of rotation as per rules, from time to time.

In Rajasthan is all the Municipal Boards, there are various committees on various subjects, for the

purpose of better performance, and result oriented implementation of the policies. Some of them are as Finance, Health and Sanitary, Building and construction, Rules & sub rules, Improvement of dirty colonies, the elimination of crimes and settlement committees. The Municipal Board can by its discretion may constitute more committees on other subjects also.

Functions of Municipality :-

It is worth mentioning here, that the of the functions and powers of city corporation have been written in the previous pages, that kind of all compulsory, voluntary and special category functions, shall be implemented & performed by the Municipal Boards also. According to the 74th constitutional amendment, the functions to be done by the city corporation and Municipal Boards, which have been listed in 12th schedule of the constitution, has also been described in previous pages, the same is applicable to Municipal Boards also.

Cantonment Board :-

The word 'cantonment' is generally used for the residential place of soldiers. In the old time, the civilians also started living in the residential area of soldiers, so the government of India, enacted a separate act, for solving the problems of such mixed colonies, For the organisation of local body, the Act was enacted in 1924, in the name of cantonment Board Act. This Act desired to establish cantonment Boards in such areas, which will function as like the Municipal Board or council or corporation. The cantonment Boards are directly administrated and controlled by the defence department of Indian Government. At present in Rajasthan at one place in Ajmer, i.e. in Nasirabad cantonment Board has been established. At present in India, all the cantonment Boards shall function under a new law, implemented from September 2006.

The Chief officer of Military, becomes the President of Cantonment Board. The organisation of

Board, consist of nominated and elected members both. The Vice President is elected from the non Military elected representatives. The term of the elected members of such Board, is five years, and the term of nominated member, continues, till he continues in chair for the term period. The nature of functions of constituent Board, are just like the Municipal councils & Boards. In the local area to perform the work of light management providing, sanitary and health oriented works are also to be done in the concerned area. The Board, for the implementation of its functions depends on the grant in aid of central government and also generate income, by imposing some local taxes, in their areas.

Efforts of Local-Self Government Rajasthan :-

1. In the situation of removal of any member of local body, due to any reason, belonging to scheduled caste, tribble, women class, the person belonging to the same category of reservation, shall be elected the President of the local body.
2. There is a restriction for contesting election by such person who has been convicted for years or any person against whom the cognition has been taken by the court or charges have been made against him.
3. With the object to increase the participation of local people in village development and to strengthen, the village community feelings, the “ward assembly” has been established, as the Primary unit of Local Self Government.
4. Any person, who wants to contest election, and having more than two children, then he will be deemed as disqualified and would not be able to contest the election.
5. The Rajasthan village development state services, has been started, and the selected persons in such services will be given the Duty of Implementing the planning of Panchayati Raj Development Process.
6. The basic qualification for any person,

intending to participate in Panchayati Raj Election, have been decided, which are as under:-

- a. The members of Zila Parishad & Panchayat Samiti- 10th class passed.
 - b. Members Sarpanch of the Panchayat of the scheduled areas- 5th class passed.
 - c. Sarpanch of other Panchayats- 8th class passed
7. Any person contesting the election of Panchayat should have a toilet in his house, in full working order.
 8. Similarly, the qualifications for the Municipal Body, council and corporation have been decided along with the condition of existing toilet in working order, in his residence.

Important Points

1. In our country, there was a good format of Republican Government (Local Self Government) in the period of Choll Rule.
2. By the 73rd & 74th constitutional amendment, the rural local self government and the urban local self government, received the constitutional status and uniformity respectively.
3. The 'Gram Sabha' in the legislature of 'Gram Panchayat'. All the proposals for the development programmes in the area of Panchayat are being prepared by this unit.
4. In the three tier system of Panchayat Raj Institutions, with the intention to establish proper co-ordination, the Pradhan has been made the officio member of Zila Parishad and the Sarpanch is member of Panchayat Samiti.
5. In Rajasthan, the three tier system of Panchayat Raj is in force, in which there is a Village Panchayat at village level, Panchayat Samiti at Block level and Zila Parishad at the District

level.

6. The election, of Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local self bodies, is being held within the decided term of 5 years.
7. In Rajasthan, there are 9000 village Panchayats, 295 Panchayat Samities, 33 Zila Parishads, 146 Municipalities, 34 Municipal Boards, and 7 city corporations along with one cantonment Board.

Objective Type Questions

1. By which constitutional amendment, the Urban local self government received the effective and powerful position?
 - (a) 44th Constitutional Amendment
 - (b) 74th Constitutional Amendment
 - (c) 42nd Constitutional Amendment
 - (d) 73rd Constitutional Amendment
2. How is Gram Sabha formed ?
 - (a) By the registered members of the voter list of the concern area of Village Panchayat.
 - (b) By all people living in the area of Village Panchayat.
 - (c) By Panch, Sarpanch and Up Sarpanch.
 - (d) By the registered voters of the Panchayat Samiti area.
3. Which is not the institution of Urban Local Self Body?
 - (a) Municipality
 - (b) Village Panchayat
 - (c) Municipal Council
 - (d) City Corporation

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. Which state, of the Union of India, executed the three tier system of Panchayat Raj at the first time?
2. By whom is Sarpanch elected ?
By whom is Sarpanch elected ?

3. From which institution is Pradhan related?
4. In which cities of Rajasthan city corporations have been formed?

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Describe the functions of Village Panchayat.
2. Which members form Zila Parishad?
3. Write short note on 'Cantonment Board'.
4. Describe the duties of Mayor.

Essay Type Questions

1. How is the Panchayat Samiti formed ? Describe functions which are implemented by it.
2. Describe the works and formation of Municipal Council.
3. "The Progress of villages is not possible without Panchayati Raj". Give your opinion.

Answers to Objective Type Questions

- 1 (B) 2 (A) 3 (B)