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#### 19. Local Self Government in Tamil Nadu

1. Who is known as the Father of Indian Local Self Government?

### Lord Rippon

- 2. What are the characteristics of rural and urban government?
- Local government possesses a well defined jurisdiction. It has a definite territory like village or district. Its aim is to solve the peculiar problems present in that area.
- Local government is governed by the locally elected representatives. They are accountable to the local electorate. The elected representatives administer the local affair without undue interference from the central or state governments. At the village level, there is direct participation of all adult population in the Gram sabha.
- The primary concern of the local government is to promote the interests of the local people.
- Local government has its own budget and financial resources.
- Local government enjoys complete autonomy. It is free to manage its affairs according to the rules laid down by the central and state governments. It has a definite sphere of activity.

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- Local government enjoys the constitutional status and protection with compulsory existence and functioning.
- 3. When did constitution of India come into practice?

The constitution of India came into force on 26 January, 1950

4. When was Balwantrai Mehta Committee appointed?

In the year 1956.

5. When was panchayat raj inaugurated?

The Panchayat Raj was inaugurated on October 2nd, 1959 by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

6. Who was the chairman of Panchayat Raj system?

A committee on Panchayat Raj institution under the. chairmanship of Ashoka Mehta was appointed by the government in 1977

7. When was amendment bills introduced?

Amendment Bills were introduced and passed in the Lok sabha in 1989.

8. Which amendment gives grama sabha?

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The 73rd constitution amendment provides a 'Gramsabha' in each village of panchayats at village, intermediate and district levels.

- 9. What are the features of new system created by 73 and 74<sup>th</sup> amendment act?
  - 1. Direct election to all the rural and urban local bodies, with a uniform tenure of five years.
  - 2. Reservation of seats for the scheduled castes and
  - 3. Not less than one third reservation of seats for women.
  - 4. Similar reservation of the offices of chairpersons as said above.
  - 5. An Election Commission to conduct elections for the local bodies.
  - 6. A Finance Commission to ensure financial viability of these institutions. This commission is to be constituted once in five years to review the financial position of the local bodies.
  - 7. Provision for auditing the accounts of the local bodies;
  - 8. Provision for holding election compulsorily within a period of six months in the event of suppression of any local body, and

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- 9. The candidates can take part in the local bodies election as party candidates or as independents.
- 10. Where is the functions of urban government stated?
- 12<sup>th</sup> schedule
- 11. What are the characteristics of municipal corporations?
  - 1. A Municipal Corporation is established only be the statue passed by the state legislature.
  - 2. A Municipal Corporation is based on the separation of the deliberative and executive functions.
  - 3. The state government has powers to control, supervise and dismiss the council.

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- 4. Usually a municipal corporation is set up for thickly populated urban areas.
- 5. A municipal corporation functions within the specified peripheral jurisdiction.
- 12. What are the functions of corporation?

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- 1. Urban planning, including town planning.
- 2. Regulation of land, use and construction of buildings.
- 3. Planning for economic and social development.
- 4. Construction and maintanance of roads and bridges.
- 5. Water supply.
- 6. Public health and sanitation;
- 7. Fire services.
- 8. Urban forestry and protection of the environment..
- 9. Safeguarding the interests for weaker section of society, including the handicapped and mentally retarded.
- 10. Slum improvement.
- 11. Urban poverty alleviation.
- 12. Provision of urban facilities such as parks, gardens, play grounds.

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- 13. Promotion of educational and cultural aspects.
- 14. Maintenance of burial/cremation grounds.

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- 15. Cattle ponds, prevention of cruelty to animals.
- 16. Vital statistics, including registration of births and deaths.
- 17. Public amenities, including street-lighting, public convenience and busstops.
- 18. Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries.
- 13. What are the sources of income of municipal corporations?
  - 1. Property tax on lands and buildings.
  - 2. Taxes on vehicles and animals.
  - 3. Theatre tax.
  - 4. Tax on advertisements exhibited to people within the city.
  - 5. Tax on preference, trades and callings.
  - 6. Entertainment tax.
  - 7. Tax on consumption and sale of electricity.
  - 8. Betterment tax on the increase of land values.
  - 9. Tolls.

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14. What is corporation council?

The Coporation Council is the major part of the corporation. A corporation is divided into a number of wards depending on the population and the extent of the area. For each ward a representative will be elected on the basis of universal adult franchise. These representatives or members are known as counsillors.

15. How many members are there in Chennai corporations?

200

16. Who is mayor?

The Mayor is the political head of corporation. He is called the First Citizen and Father of the city. The mayor is directly elected by the people. His tenure is five years.

17. What are committee?

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The Committees of a Municipal Corporation play important role in looking into various activities of the council. They help for the efficient performance of the functions of 141 the corporation

18. List some committees?

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• Standing Committee,

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- Schools Committee,
- Hospitals Committee,
- Electricity supply and Transport Committee,
- City Improvement Committee,
- Health Committee,
- Taxation and Finance Committee,
- Water Works Committee and etc

### 19. Who is a commissioner?

The commissioner is the Chief Administrator of the corporation. His primary responsibility is to implement the policies made by the corporation council. The commissioner is mostly a member of the State Administrative Service. He is appointed by the state government.

20. How many municipalities are there in India?

More than 1500

21. What are the functions of municipalities?

The municipalities have the following obligatory functions:

1. Supply of pure water.

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- 2. Construction and maintenance of public streets.
- 3. Lightening and watering facilities in the streets.
- 4. Cleaning the public streets.
- 5. Regulation of dangerous trades and practices.
- 6. Maintenance of hospitals and schools.
- 7. Registration of births and deaths.
- 8. Removing obstructions and projections in public streets, bridges and other public places.
- 9. Naming streets and numbering the houses.
- 10. All matters relating to public health, sanitation prevention of dangerous diseases and regulation of places for disposing of the dead ones of various kinds.
- 11. Provision for fire-fighting services.

The discretionary functions of the municipalities are as follows:

1. Laying out of the town areas

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- 2. Construction and maintenance of public parks, gardens, libraries, rest houses, leper homes, orpanages, reserve homes for woman, etc.
- 3. Planting trees on roadsides
- 4. Survey conducting.
- 5. Housing for weaker sections
- 6. Promoting the welfare of the municipal area and
- 7. Providing transport facilities within the municipal area and organising cultural and other activities for the people.
- 22. What are the sources of Income for municipalities?
  - 1. Property tax.
  - 2. Profession tax.
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- 3. Octroi duties taxes on goods.
- 4. Animal and vehicle tax.
- 5. Entertainment tax.
- 6. Water and lighting tax.

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7. Grants and loans from the government.

### 23. What is municipal council?

Every municipality has a governing body. It is the law making body of the municipality. The Municipal council consists of councilors elected directly from various wards

- 24. What are the characteristics of townships?
  - 1. These are entirely planned.
  - 2. They maintain civic services and other facilities which are of higher quality than generally provided by the municipal bodies.
  - 3. These services and facilities have been financed by the industry.
  - 4. A township has a variety of employment and other opportunities to offer to the people. Hence a large number of people go to it.

#### 25. What are cantonment boards?

The cantonments are centrally administered areas. They are placed under the direct administrative control of the Ministry of Defence. The cantonment boards are constituted under the Cantonments Act, 1924. These are corporate bodies like the other local bodies. Cantonment is the place in a city where troops are stationed.

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Cantonment board is constituted for dealing with the local problems of the cantonment area.

26. Where is town are committee been created?

The town area committees have been created in Assam, Kerala, Madya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. Town Area committees are governed by separate acts passed by the state government.

- 27. What are the powers and functions of district panchayat?
  - 1. It examines and approves the budgets of the panchayat union.
  - 2. It issues directions to panchayat unions for efficient performance of their functions.
  - 3. It coordinates development plans prepared by the panchayat unions.
  - 4. It advises the state government on all matters relating to the development activities in the district.
  - 5. It distributes funds, allocated by the state government, to the panchayat unions in the District.
  - 6. It collects statistics relating to the activities of the local authorities in the district.

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- 7. It advises the state government on allocation of work to be made among the panchayat.
- 8. It regulates better relationship between the lower tiers.
- 9. It exercises such other powers as may be conferred by the state government.
- 28. What is standing committee?

The District panchayat functions through standing committees. These standing committees have been constituted for the following subjects.

- 1. Community development.
- 2. Agriculture, Cooperation, irrigation and animal husbandry.
- 3. Cottage, village and small scale industries.
- 4. Education and social welfare.
- 5. Finance and taxation.
- 6. Public health.
- 29. What is grama sabha?

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Gram sabha is the foundation of the Panchayat Raj. It is a general body. It has been recognised as a statutory and corporate body. It is composed of all the eligible voters of the village panchayat.

- 30. What are the functions of grama sabha?
  - 1. Grama Sabha reviews the progress of the works done by the panchayat.
  - 2. It draws plan for the development of the sabha area.
  - 3. It considers the annual statement of accounts and audit report of the panchayat.
  - 4. It considers the administrative report of the last year and the programme of work for the ensuing year.
  - 5. It approves the annual budget and development schemes of the village panchayat.

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