

CHAPTER 42

LOCAL BODIES

42.1 Local bodies are institutions of the local self governance, which look after the administration of an area or small community such as villages, towns, or cities. The Local bodies in India are broadly classified into two categories. The local bodies constituted for local planning, development and administration in the rural areas are referred as Rural Local Bodies (Panchayats) and the local bodies, which are constituted for local planning, development and administration in the urban areas are referred as Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities).

42.2 Local Government is a State subject figuring as item 5 in List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Article 243 G of the Indian Constitution enshrines the basic principle for devolution of power to the Local Bodies. In the nation's journey towards becoming an economic power, local bodies play an important part in enabling infrastructure availability to the citizens.

42.3 The many roles that the local government is expected to play today include:

- A Regulator, namely the administration of various acts and regulations
- A Provider, that involves providing urban services efficiently and equitably by managing its accounts effectively and efficiently.
- An Agent that takes the schemes of higher levels government to the people. This includes promotion of popular participation
- A Welfare Agency, which provides active assistance to higher level governments in the equitable distribution and delivery
- An Agent of Development, who strives for improvement in the quality of life through the augmentation of infrastructure

Name of Chapter : 41, Local Bodies		
Sr. No.	No. of Table	Name of Tables
1	42.1	Income and Expenditure of Corporations
2	42.2	Number of Districts/DRDAs/Blocks/Villages in the Country
3	42.3	Number of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Elected representatives
4	42.4	Number Of Elected Representatives Of Panchayati Raj Institutions

References :

- **Income and Expenditure Statement and Annual Budgets of various Municipal Corporations.**
- **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**
- **Ministry of Rural Development**