

PREFACE

The modern municipal government in urban units is essentially a creation and legacy of British rule. It was imported in India by Britishers from their own land. However, it is said that the origin of local self-government had very deep roots in ancient India. On the basis of historical records, excavations and archaeological investigations, it is believed that some form of local self-government did exist in the remote past. Madras was the first city to have a local government established under a charter, dated December 30, 1687 which came into existence on September 29, 1688. After independence the Govt. of India under its constitution made urban local government a state subject. For many years the State Governments across country did not accord the local governments their status. With implementation of 74th Constitutional Amendment the Local Governments were given their constitutional rights & status.

In the spirit of 74th Constitutional Amendment the state of Bihar took many steps to implement the system of democratic governance in Urban Local Bodies. The enactment has changed the scenario and injected a new life in these grass root urban institutions. These institutions have been made more democratic and their representative character broadened by way of providing representation to the weaker sections of the society and women

Bihar is spread over an area of 94,163 square kilometers with a population of 8,28,78,796, the state constitutes 8.07 percent of the total population of the country. As per 2001 Census Bihar has total 122 Urban Local Bodies (7 Nagar Nigam, 42 Nagar Palika Parishad and 73 Nagar Panchayat). The Decennial growth of urban population in 1991 to 2001 is 20.31 percent which is less than the population of 1981 to 1991 which was 30.39 percent. The literacy rate of urban area is 60.30 percent. The capital city, Patna is the largest urban centre in the state. During the past 100 years (1901-2001), the population of the city has increased approximately 10 times, it was 134785 in 1901 and now it has raised up to 1432209 according to census 2001.

At present total numbers of Urban Local Bodies have increased from 122 to 138 in the state (16 ULBs have been created between 2007-08 to 2008-09).

This handbook covers statistical analyses of all Urban Local Bodies of the State of Bihar. The information has been collected, analyzed and consolidated in the form of this handbook, which would serve as a reference book for the policy makers, Urban Local Bodies, other stakeholders and citizens in general. The handbook aims to provide a general statistical overview of the urban local bodies of Bihar. We hope that the readers would find this handbook useful.

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