

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

Orissa is spread over an area of 1,55,0707 square kilometers with a population of 36,706,920 the state constitutes 3.57 percent of the total population of the country. At present Orissa has total 103 Urban Local Bodies (3 Nagar Nigam, 37 Nagar Palika Parishad and 63 Nagar Panchayat). The Decennial growth of urban population in 1991 to 2001 is 29.78. The literacy rate of State is 63.61 percent. The capital city, Bhubaneswar is the largest urban centre in the state. During the past 50 years (1951-2001), the population of the city has increased approximately 40 times, It was 16512 in 1951 and now it has raised upto 658220 according to census 2001.

This handbook covers statistical analyses of all Urban Local Bodies of the State of Orissa. 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 Orissa. We hope that the readers would find this handbook useful.

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