

URBAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION: ROLE OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AND MAYOR

Pooranmal Meena

Research scholar, Department of Arts and Social Science, Shyam University Dausa, Rajasthan

Dr. Ajay Singh Rathore

Professor, Department of Arts and Social Science, Shyam University Dausa, Rajasthan

Abstract - When people start living together in a place, some problems arise as a result of that community life. These problems are related to the facilities of civic life. Such as - drinking water system, garbage removal, arrangement of drains for disposal of dirty water, lighting system, prevention of epidemics, health related facilities, roads etc. With the increase in population, the residential area expands, as a result other problems arise and they take a more severe form. For example, regulation of trade and commerce, control of dangerous and unhealthy enterprises, educational facilities, public health etc. With the progress of science and technology, the perception regarding the minimum facilities required for living also starts changing. Therefore, the functions of urban governance are continuously increasing. Existing facilities have to be enhanced. New facilities have to be arranged and continuous improvement has to be made in the process of execution of various works. In other words, it can be said that the responsibility of urban governance is to provide all those facilities which are necessary to make the physical, economic, social and cultural life of the people of a particular area better. Some of these works are of general nature and are related to communities living in other places in terms of both their prevalence and intensity. Therefore, the benefits arising from them cannot be provided exclusively to any one community. Therefore, these works have to be organised and executed at the regional or national level. It is directly related to the provincial or national government. The number of works of urban governance is not less. In fact, there has been a significant increase in the works of urban governance. Urban governance has taken upon itself the responsibility of many such works which either regulate the behaviour of the citizens or which serve the citizens. Such as the arrangement of mass transport, construction of buildings for the poor, arrangements for electricity, health centres, parks and sports fields.

1 INTRODUCTION

In fact, at present, urban governance has a more important place in the daily life of the people than provincial or central governance. It is noteworthy that in future, the possibility of continuous increase in the work of urban governance is constantly increasing. William A. Robson has rightly said: "Today, local authorities have a better opportunity to work than ever before. If the powers of the central government are increasing, then the work of local bodies is also continuously increasing."

1.1 Need for Urban Governance

The emergence of urban administration as a distinct component (unit) of governance is the result of interaction and reaction of many elements. For example, historical, ideological and administrative elements have contributed to its development. Historically, local governance is prior to urban governance. Man first developed governance of his neighbourhood such as village governance, city governance etc. Even after the emergence and development of national governance, local governance continued to exist as units of national governance. The reason was that the national governance took in its hands only those tasks which appeared to be of general nature and which were related to the interests of the people of the entire state. It left the tasks of local importance to be performed by urban governance, as had been happening earlier.

Lord Bryce has written: "With time, small communities spread. At some places, small communities merged with each other and at other places, they merged into the form of bigger communities. Thus, nations were formed. Other functions of the assembly were either taken over by the entire nation (such as defence) or were handed over to special authorities. Regular courts were established in the republics of ancient Greece and Italy. In most parts of Europe, judicial functions passed first to the feudal lords and finally, as happened in England and Scotland, to the king. Thus popular self-government was deprived of its political, military and judicial functions. But generally it retained the right to manage whatever land the community had and in some

countries it also managed the rural service of the church. Later, other matters related to local welfare also came into its hands.

1.2 Research Gaps

Here are some of the potential research gaps:

1. **Effectiveness of City Governance:** A study on the efficiency and effectiveness of Jaipur Municipal Corporation in providing public services and redressing citizen grievances.
2. **Leadership Role of Mayor:** An analysis of the leadership style of the Mayor and its impact on the functioning of Jaipur Municipal Corporation.
3. **Decentralisation and Empowerment:** A research on the extent of decentralisation and empowerment of wards and sectoral committees within Jaipur Municipal Corporation.
4. **Citizen Participation and Engagement:** A study on the mechanisms and levels of citizen participation in decision making processes within Jaipur Municipal Corporation.
5. **City Finance and Resource Management:** An analysis of financial management practices and resource allocation strategies adopted by Jaipur Municipal Corporation.
6. **Urban Planning and Development:** A research on the role of Jaipur Municipal Corporation in urban planning, development and provision of infrastructure.
7. **Service Delivery and Accountability:** An evaluation of the quality of services provided by Jaipur Municipal Corporation and the mechanisms for accountability and transparency.
8. **Technology Adoption and e-Governance:** A study on the adoption and implementation of technology and e-governance initiatives within Jaipur Municipal Corporation.
9. **Collaboration and Partnerships:** An analysis of partnerships and collaborations between Jaipur Municipal Corporation and other stakeholders, such as NGOs, private sector entities and community groups.
10. **Capacity Building and Human Resource Development:** A research on capacity building initiatives and human resource development programmes within Jaipur Municipal Corporation.

These research gaps provide opportunities for in-depth analysis and exploration, yielding valuable insights to improve urban governance and administration in Jaipur and beyond.

2 RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

Hypotheses are formulated to obtain factual and justified research findings. The present research work is also based on some such hypotheses which are as follows -

- Municipal corporations like Jaipur Municipal Corporation play a vital role in delivering essential services such as sanitation, water supply, road maintenance and development of urban infrastructure.
- The Mayor, as the elected head of the Municipal Corporation, plays a vital role in policy formulation and implementation.
- Municipal corporations are responsible for local governance, representing the interests of citizens at the grassroots level.

3 FUNCTIONS OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

The Twelfth Schedule of the Constitution lists the subjects for which municipal corporations are responsible. Corporations may be entrusted with the functions and implementation of schemes relating to the matters listed in the Twelfth Schedule.

- Regulation of land use and building construction.
- Urban planning including town planning.
- Planning for economic and social development.
- Water supply for domestic, industrial and commercial purposes.
- Public health, sanitary protection and solid waste management.
- Fire services.
- Promotion of urban forestry, environmental protection and ecological aspects.
- Protecting the interests of the weaker sections of the society including the handicapped and the mentally challenged.
- Slum improvement and upgradation.

- Repair of street lights.
- Urban poverty alleviation.
- Provision of urban amenities and facilities such as parks, gardens, playgrounds.
- Promotion of cultural, educational and aesthetic aspects.
- Cemeteries and burial grounds; cremation, cremation grounds and electric crematoriums.
- Animal husbandry centres; prevention of cruelty to animals.
- Vital statistics including registration of births and deaths.
- Public amenities including street lighting, parking spaces, bus stops and public conveniences.
- Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries.

The British administration first established the Municipal Corporation in Madras in 1688. It was later created in Bombay and Calcutta in 1726. Municipal Corporation is known by different names in different states like Nagar Nigam in some northern states of India, Mahanagar Palika in Goa and Maharashtra, Mahanagar Seva Sadan in Gujarat, Pauro Nigam in Assam and West Bengal, Pur Parishad in Tripura, Nagar Sabha in Kerala and Managaratchi in Tamil Nadu.

4 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational structure of a Municipal Corporation consists of the following major organs:

4.1. Mayor

The Mayor is the highest official of the Municipal Corporation. The Mayor plays a very important role in the conduct of the administrative and political functions of the Municipal Corporation. The Mayor is elected by the councillors of the Municipal Corporation, and acts as the chief representative of the entire Municipal Corporation. The tenure of the Mayor is usually five years, although this period may depend on the policies of the State Government and the rules of the Municipal Corporation.

The main function of the Mayor is to give direction to the policies and plans of the Municipal Corporation and to ensure that the activities and services of the Municipal Corporation are in accordance with the needs and expectations of the citizens. He presides over the meetings of the Municipal Corporation and participates in important decisions. Apart from this, the Mayor coordinates with various departments of the Municipal Corporation and monitors their functioning.

5 ANALYTICAL STUDY OF THE ROLE OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AND MAYOR IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

India is undergoing rapid urbanisation, resulting in increasing population density and development challenges in urban areas. In this context, the role of municipal corporations and mayors becomes extremely important. A municipal corporation, also called a municipal corporation, is an autonomous body for the administration and management of urban areas. The body manages various civic amenities and services, such as water supply, sanitation, health, education, transport, and infrastructure development.

Rapid urbanisation in India has increased the complexities of urban administration and management, necessitating well-organised and efficient institutions for urban development. Municipal corporations (MCs) and mayors (MCs) are important pillars of urban governance, responsible for ensuring basic services and amenities in urban areas. The Municipal Corporation, as an autonomous governing body, manages various urban services and amenities, such as water supply, sanitation, roads, lighting, health services, and education. The Mayor, who is the elected head of the Municipal Corporation, leads the administrative and developmental work of the city and monitors the functioning of the Municipal Corporation.

Table No. 5.1 Distribution of Respondents by Gender

S.No.	Gender	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Male	700	70
2	Female	300	30
	total	1000	100

This table shows the number and percentage distribution of respondents according to male and female: It means there are total 1000 respondents in this table (700 male + 300 female). The number of males is more than females so the percentage shows 70% males and 30% females.

Graph No. 5.1 Distribution of Respondents according to Gender

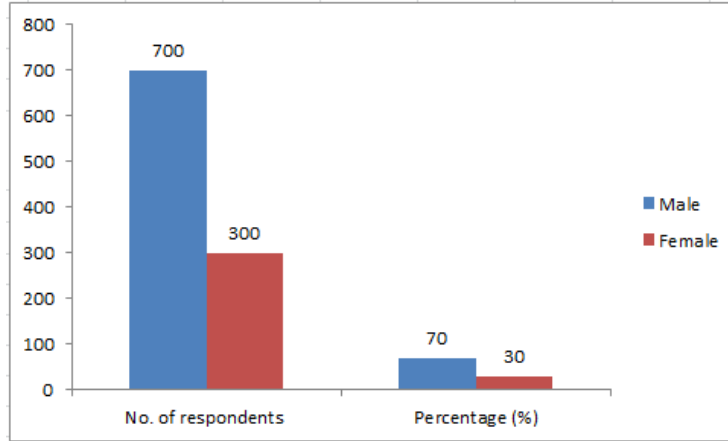


Table No. 5.2 Distribution of respondents by age

S.No.	Age	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	18-20	100	10
2	20-25	180	18
3	30-40	400	40
4	40-45	320	32
	total	1000	100

This table shows the distribution of number and percentage of respondents by age. The youngest age group (18-20 years) has 100 respondents, which is 10% of the total respondents. Next, the age group of 20-25 years has 180 respondents (18%), which increases numerically. With the increase in age, the age group of 30-40 years has the highest number of respondents, which is 40% of the total respondents, and the group of 40-45 years has 320 respondents (32%). Thus, this table shows the percentage distribution of respondents by age, which is distributed in different age groups.

Graph No. 5.2 Distribution of Respondents by Age

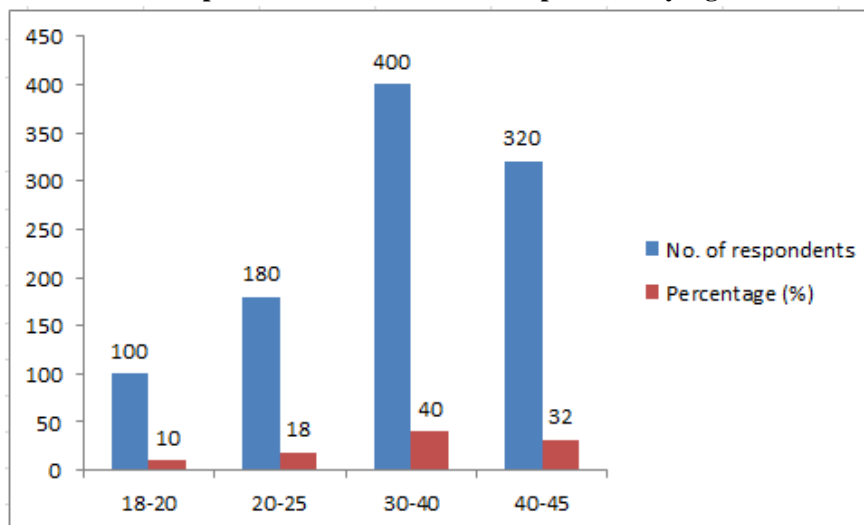


Table No. 5.3 Distribution of respondents by level of education

S.No.	Education	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Upper Primary	100	10
2	Secondary	200	20
3	Higher Secondary	500	50
4	Graduate	200	20
	Total	1000	100

This table shows the distribution of number and percentage of respondents according to level of education. The respondents with the lowest level of education have higher primary education with 100 respondents, which is 10% of the total respondents. The number of respondents having secondary education is 200 (20%). The number of respondents having higher secondary education is 500, which is 50% of the total respondents. The number of respondents having graduation level education is 200 (20%).

Graph No. 5.3 Distribution of Respondents according to Level of Education

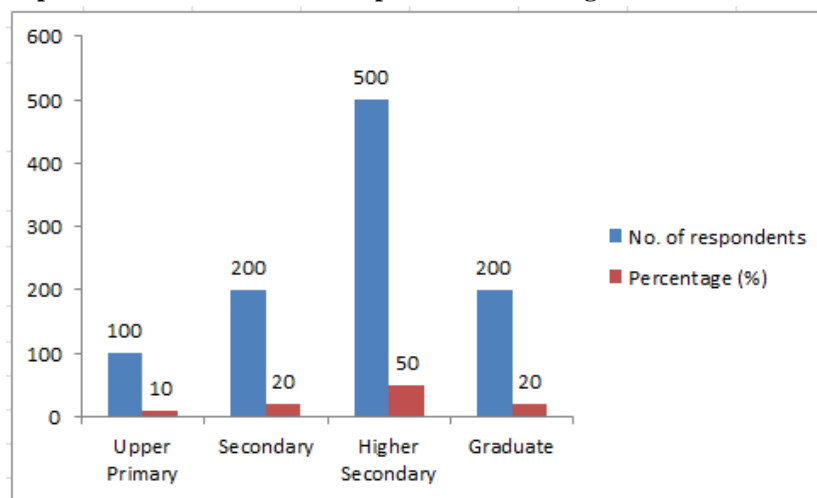


Table No. 5.4 Is Jaipur Municipal Corporation responsible for providing basic civic amenities such as water supply, sanitation and waste management within the city?

S.No.	Description	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	800	80
2	No.	200	20
	Total	1000	100

This table shows that there are 800 (80%) respondents who said yes, which means they get basic amenities like education, water supply, sanitation, and waste management from Jaipur Municipal Corporation. On the other hand, 200 (20%) respondents said no, which means these amenities are not provided to them by the Municipal Corporation. In this way, this table provides information about the education level among the citizens of the city and the responsibility of the Municipal Corporation.

Graph No. 5.4 Is Jaipur Municipal Corporation responsible for providing basic civic amenities like water supply, sanitation, and waste management within the city?

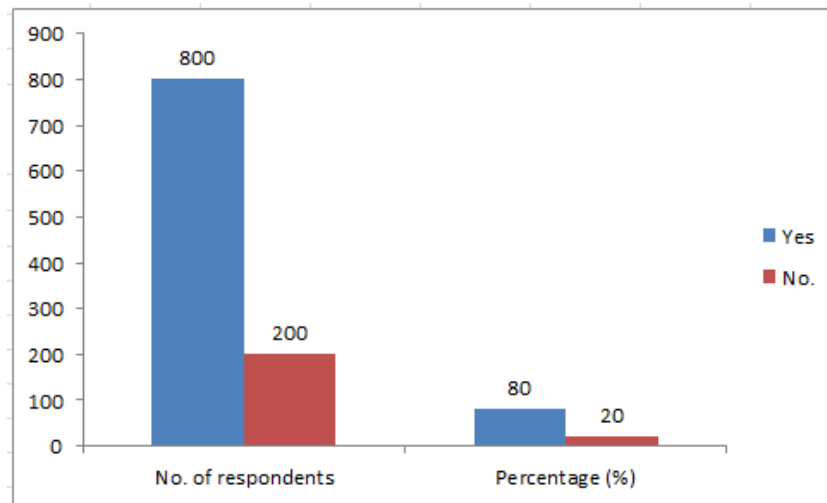


Table No. 5.5 Does the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation play an important role in the policy-making and decision-making processes related to urban development?

S.No.	Description	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	700	70
2	No.	300	30
	Total	1000	100

This table shows that the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation plays an important role in policy making and decision making related to urban development. There are 700 (70%) respondents who said yes, which means they know that the Mayor plays an important role in making policies and plans for urban development and taking decisions. He also guides political decisions for urban development and promotes society's participation in urban construction. On the other hand, 300 (30%) respondents said no, which means they do not have complete knowledge about this.

Graph No. 5.5 Does the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation play an important role in policy making and decision making processes related to urban development?

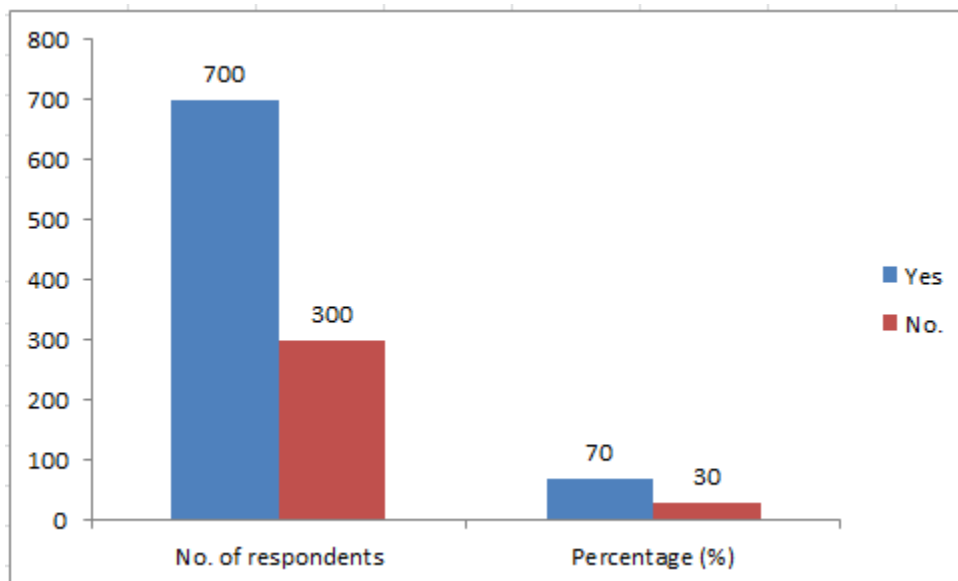


Table No 5.44 Municipal corporations like Jaipur Municipal Corporation play a vital role in delivering essential services like sanitation, water supply, road maintenance and development of urban infrastructure?

S.No.	Description	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	650	65
2	No.	350	35
	Total	1000	100

Municipal corporations like Jaipur Municipal Corporation play a vital role in delivering essential services such as sanitation, water supply, road maintenance and urban infrastructure development. In a survey, (650) 65% of the respondents felt that Jaipur Municipal Corporation provides these services effectively, while (350) 35% of the respondents felt that the Municipal Corporation is not successful in this role. It is evident from this survey that public opinion on the functioning of the Municipal Corporation and delivery of services is mixed.

Graph No. 5.44 Does the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation facilitate partnerships between the public and private sectors to attract investments and stimulate economic growth within the city?

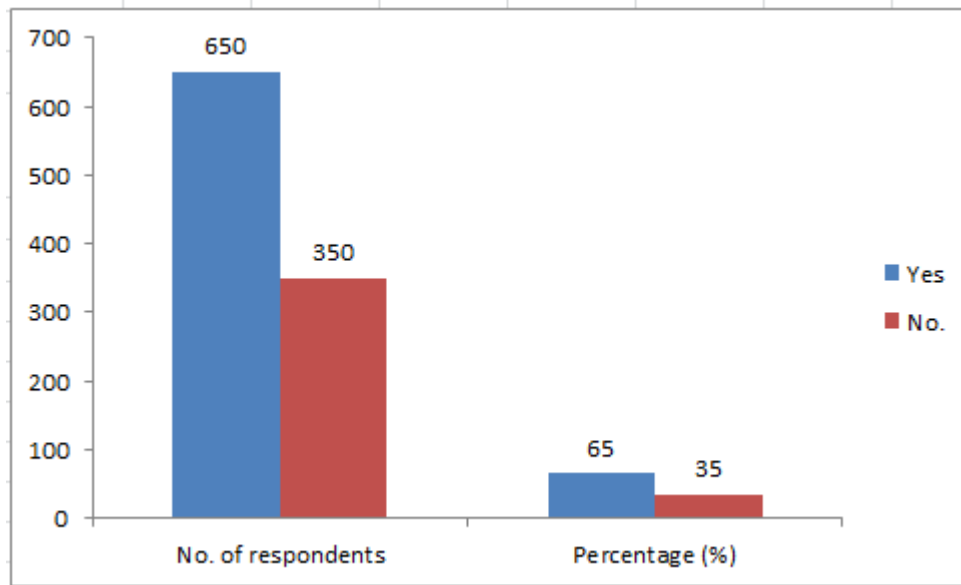


Table No. 5.45 Mayor, as the elected head of the municipal corporation, plays a vital role in policy formulation and implementation?

S.No.	Description	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	750	75
2	No.	250	25
	Total	1000	100

The Mayor, as the elected head of the Municipal Corporation, plays an important role in policy formulation and implementation. In a survey, (750) 75% of the respondents agreed that the Mayor makes a significant contribution to policy formulation and its effective implementation, while (250) 25% of the respondents disagreed. These figures clearly indicate that the majority of the public considers the role of the Mayor to be important in ensuring effective implementation of the policies and programmes of the Municipal Corporation.

Graph No. 5.45 The Mayor, as the elected head of the Municipal Corporation, plays an important role in policy formulation and implementation?

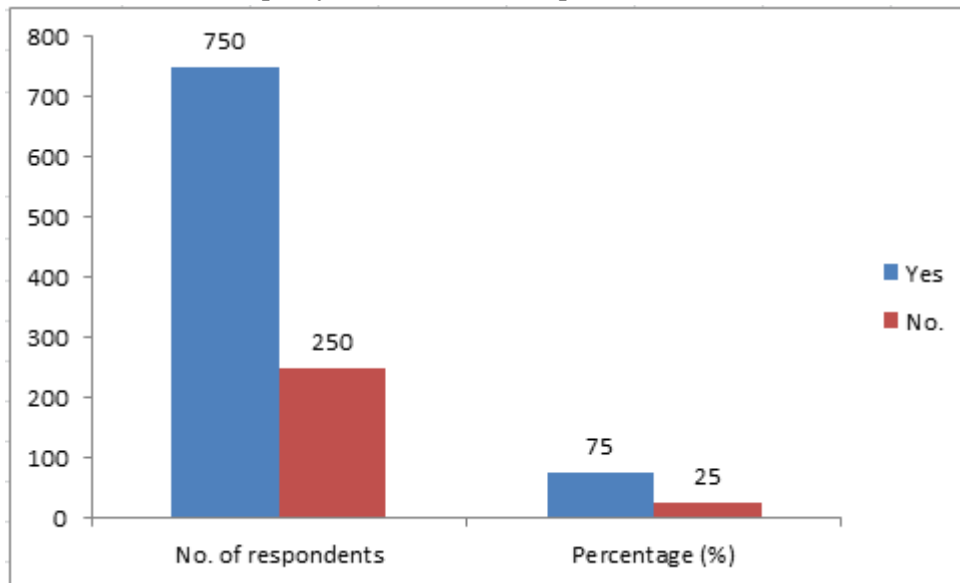
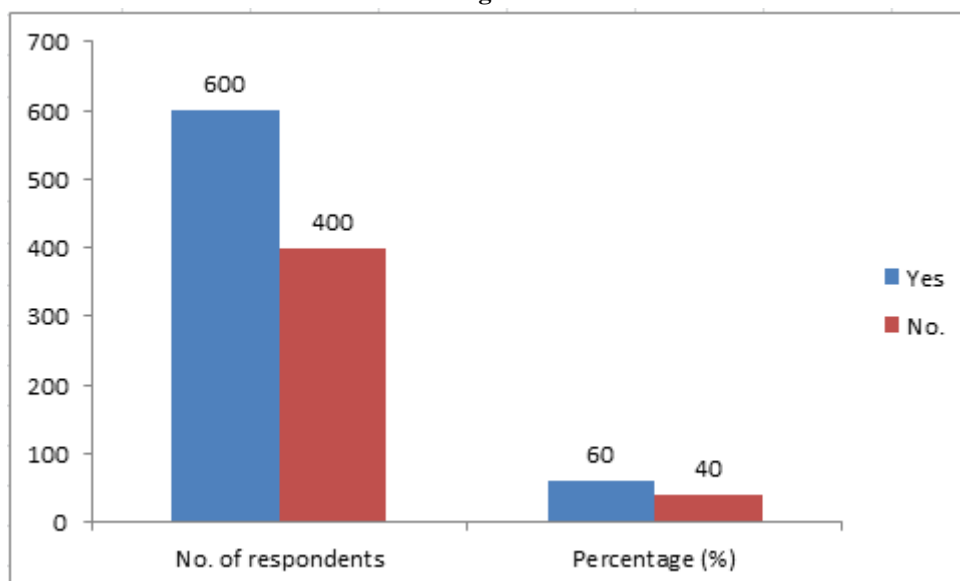


Table No. 5.46 Municipal corporations are responsible for local governance, which represent the interests of citizens at the grassroots level?

S.No.	Description	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	600	60
2	No.	400	40
	Total	1000	100

Municipal corporations are responsible for local governance, representing the interests of citizens at the grassroots level. According to a survey, (600) 60% of the respondents felt that municipal corporations effectively represent the interests of citizens through local governance, while (400) 40% of the respondents disagreed. This data shows that while most consider the role of municipal corporations important, a significant minority is sceptical about it. This makes it clear that people have mixed opinions on municipal services and their effectiveness.

Graph No. 5.46 Municipal corporations are responsible for local governance, representing the interests of citizens at the grassroots level?



The study is expected to demonstrate that effective governance by the Jaipur Municipal Corporation and proactive leadership by the Mayor can lead to improved urban infrastructure, enhanced service delivery and better quality of life for residents, particularly marginalised groups. It is anticipated that the findings will

highlight the important role of local governance structures in advancing sustainable urban development and addressing socio-economic challenges at the city level.

6. CONCLUSION AND FINDINGS

According to the study, it is concluded that the findings of the study “Urban Local Government and Administration: Role of Municipal Corporation and Mayor (An Analytical Study with Special Reference to Jaipur Municipal Corporation)” have revealed that the role of Municipal Corporation and Mayor is very important in urban development and administration. This study has done an in-depth analysis of the organizational structure, functioning, and developmental plans of local government in the context of Jaipur Municipal Corporation. Jaipur Municipal Corporation has taken many important steps in the field of city infrastructure, sanitation, health services, and public welfare, which have proved helpful in improving the living standards of the city residents. The findings of this study highlight the importance of the administrative efficiency of the Municipal Corporation, the leadership of the Mayor, and the efforts made towards urban development-

- The table shows that there are 800 (80%) respondents who said yes, i.e. they get basic facilities like education, water supply, sanitation, and waste management from Jaipur Municipal Corporation. On the other hand, 200 (20%) respondents said no, which means that these facilities are not provided to them by the Municipal Corporation. Thus, this table provides information about the education level and responsibility of the Municipal Corporation among the citizens of the city.
- This table shows that the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation has an important role in policy making and decision making related to urban development. There are 700 (70%) respondents who said yes, which means they know that the Mayor plays an important role in making and deciding policies and plans for urban development. He also guides political decisions for urban development and promotes society's participation in urban construction. On the other hand, 300 (30%) respondents said no, which means they do not have complete knowledge about it.
- This table shows whether Jaipur Municipal Corporation is involved in the maintenance of public parks, gardens and recreation areas or not. In this, 650 respondents (65%) have said yes, which indicates that most people believe that Jaipur Municipal Corporation plays an active role in the maintenance of these areas. At the same time, 350 respondents (35%) have said no, which shows that a minority group feels that the Municipal Corporation is not involved in this work. This table clearly presents the perception of citizens about the role of the Municipal Corporation.
- This table shows whether the Mayor of Jaipur Municipal Corporation acts as a representative of the city in various official functions and events or not. In this, 630 respondents (63%) have said yes, which makes it clear that most people believe that the Mayor represents the city of Jaipur in official functions and events. At the same time, 370 respondents (37%) have said no, which shows that some people feel that the Mayor is not active in this role.
- This table shows whether Jaipur Municipal Corporation is responsible for regulating and monitoring construction activities within the city to ensure compliance with building codes and regulations. 560 respondents (56%) said yes, indicating that most people believe that the Municipal Corporation carries out this responsibility. On the other hand, 440 respondents (44%) said no.

6.1 Limitations of the Research Study

The limitations of a research study are an important part that helps to clarify the validity and reliability of the study. The possible limitations in the context of ‘Urban Local Government and Administration: Role of Municipal Corporation and Mayor (An Analytical Study with Special Reference to Jaipur Municipal Corporation)’ could be the following:

- **Geographical limitation:** The study focuses specifically on Jaipur Municipal Corporation. Hence, its findings and recommendations may not be directly applicable to other cities and municipal corporations.
- **Availability of data:** The figures and data used in the study are subject to availability. If adequate and accurate data is not available, it may affect the findings.

- **Limitations of survey and interview:** The respondents of the survey and interview conducted for the study may be limited in number, which may affect the generalizability of the findings. The selection of respondents should also be unbiased.
- **Time limit:** The study has been conducted during a specific time period. The role of the Municipal Corporation and the administrative processes may change over time, which may affect the relevance of the findings.
- **Personal bias:** Personal attitudes and biases of the researcher or respondents may influence the findings. To minimise this, it is essential to follow an unbiased and scientific approach.
- **Legislative and policy changes:** Legislative and policy changes in local government and administrative processes may occur during or after the study, which may affect the relevance of the findings.
- **Economic and social factors:** Jaipur's economic and social conditions may be different than other municipal corporations, which may limit the generalizability of the findings.
- **Lack of comparative study:** If a comparative study has not been done with other municipal corporations, it may be difficult to understand the generality of the findings of Jaipur Municipal Corporation.

Keeping these limitations in mind, the researcher should be careful while interpreting the findings and presenting recommendations and suggesting avenues for further research.

6.2 Suggestions

- **Augmenting Financial Resources:** To overcome financial constraints, Jaipur Municipal Corporation should explore diverse revenue streams, including public-private partnerships, grants and loans from national and international agencies. Implementing efficient tax collection mechanisms and rationalizing expenditure can also contribute to financial sustainability.
- **Strengthening Public Participation:** Encouraging greater citizen participation in decision-making processes can lead to more inclusive and effective governance. Establishing regular forums for public consultation and leveraging digital platforms for citizen engagement can enhance transparency and accountability.
- **Capacity Building:** Investing in training and development of municipal staff can improve administrative efficiency and service delivery. Capacity building programmes should focus on modern urban management practices, technological advancements and innovative governance models.
- **Leveraging Technology:** Adopting smart city technologies can streamline urban management and improve service delivery. Implementing integrated digital platforms for monitoring and managing urban services can increase operational efficiency and provide real-time data for informed decision making.
- **Promote sustainable development:** Prioritizing environmentally sustainable practices in urban planning and development is important. Initiatives such as green infrastructure projects, adoption of renewable energy, and comprehensive waste management systems can contribute to a more sustainable urban environment.
- **Collaboration with stakeholders:** Strengthening collaboration with state government agencies, private sector partners, and civil society organizations can enhance a municipal corporation's capacity to address complex urban challenges. Collaborative efforts can bring additional resources, expertise, and innovative solutions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Alketa, A. S., State and Government in Ancient India, Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi, 1958.
2. Atal, Yogesh, Local Communities and National Politics, National Publishing House, Delhi, 1971.
3. Agarwal, R. C., Development of Indian Constitution and National Movement, S. Chand and Company Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 1994.
4. Arora, Ramesh, and Chaturvedi, Geeta, State Administration in India, R.V.S.A. Publishers, Jaipur, 2009.
5. Ali, Ashraf, Government and Politics of Big Cities in India Experience, Delhi Concept, 1977.
6. Eldelfer, H. F., Local Government in Developing Countries, McGraw Hills Book, Co., New York, 1964.
7. Jaipur Municipal Corporation Act 1959 Finance, Short Notes, 1994.

8. Ojha, Justice M Rama, Legal and Constitutional History of India, Universal Law Publishing, 2005.
9. Kautilya the Co, History of India, C. Jamnadas and Co. Educational and Law Publishers, Bombay, 2002.
10. Qureshi, M. A., Indian Administration Pre and Post, Independence, V. R. Publishing, Corporation, Delhi, 1985.
11. Kashyap, Subhash C., Reform, Problem, Prospects and Perspective, Radha Publishing, New Delhi, 2004.
12. Khichad, Narendra and Katiyar Surendra, Urban Administration, Malik and Company, Jaipur, 2011.
13. Khanna, Rattan Lal, Municipal Government and Administration in India, Mahindra Capital Publishers, Delhi, 1967.
14. Goyal, S. L. and Daliwal, S. S., Urban Development and Management, Deep and Deep, New Delhi, 2001.
15. Gaurav, Prashant, Early Medieval India, Rajkamal Prakashan, New Delhi, 2009.
16. Chopra, J. K., Local Self Government and Municipal Administration, Commonwealth, New Delhi, 2004.
17. Chopra, Sharada, Dynamics of Municipal Administration, Abhijit Publications, Delhi, 2005.
18. Chopra, Sharada, State Control over Municipal Corporation in India, Abhijit Publications, Delhi, 2005.
19. Chandra, Vipin, Bharat Ka Swatantrata Sangharsh, Hindi Medium Implementation Directorate, University of Delhi, 1999.
20. Chandra, Satish, Medieval India from Sultanate to Mughal period (1206-1526), Jawahar Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi, 2000.
21. Chandra, Satish, Medieval India from Sultanate to Mughal period, Part Two (1526-1761), Jawahar Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi, 2001.
22. Joshi, R. P. and Bhardwaj, Dr. Aruna, Local Administration in India, Sheel Sons, Jaipur, 2004.
23. Jha, Dwijendra Narayan and Shrimali, Krishna Mohan, History of India, Hindi Medium Implementation, Directorate, University of Delhi, 1981.
24. Jha, C., Indian Local Self Government, Novelty, Patna, 1953.
25. Tiwari, Satish, Urban Development, Anmol Publications Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 2000.
26. Dutta, Abhijit, (ed.) Municipal Executive in India, IIPA, 1985.
27. Dutta, Abhijit, (ed.) Municipal and Urban India, pp. 1980.
28. Dutta, Prabhat Kumar, The Centralisation Participation and Governance, Collaps Publications, Calcutta, 2006.
29. Daliwal, S. S., Good Government in Local Self Government, Deep & Deep Publications, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
30. Deshpande, Nirmala, Participation of Women in Political System, Kurukshetra, 1987.
31. Nayak, P. R., in Chapter Improving City Government in Local Government, Chaturvedi, T. N. and Dutta 11 P. A., New Delhi, 1984.
32. Narayan, Laxmi, Municipal Administration in India, Agra, 1971.
33. Narasimha, C. V., Public Relations Municipal Administration, Sharada Publications, Hyderabad, 1978.
34. Nehru, Jawaharlal, An Autobiography, Allied, Bombay, 1971.
35. Patt, James E., Local Government and Administration, Principles and Problems, American Book, New York, 1954.