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Urban Administration

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ An overview of the local self government of towns and cities
- ▶ Understanding the systems of Municipal Councils and Corporations

Objectives

- ▶ To understand the need for Municipal Councils and Corporations for administration of towns and cities
- ▶ To learn about their structure, their functions and how they are funded
- ▶ To know the details of the needs of citizens living in urban areas
- ▶ To appreciate the way the needs of urban areas are met by the Municipalities

■ Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Pictures
- ▶ Blackboard
- ▶ Internet

■ Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Explain the needs of an urban population—residents, workers, and floating population
- ▶ Explain the significance of the living conditions—housing, civic amenities, shops, roads, transport, etc.
- ▶ Encourage projects: Ask groups of students to take up a colony each—find out the kind of population there, and their needs, and how they are met

■ Background and Reading

- ▶ Read the lesson aloud and explain, sharing the aids, etc., stopping to examine and explain the data in the pictures and maps.
- ▶ Particularly focus on people's participation in the process of urban administration.

City Administration

- ▶ Towns with population of 20,000—Municipality or Municipal Council

- ▶ Cities with over 20,000–Municipal Corporations
- ▶ Transition from rural to urban–Nagar Panchayats

Structure

- ▶ Mayor heads Municipal Corporation–assisted by Deputy Mayor
- ▶ Chairman heads Municipalities, assisted by Vice Chairman
- ▶ Municipal Commissioner–appointed by the State government–prepares annual budget; departments assisting him for carrying out the administrative work.
- ▶ Ward Councillor–City divided into wards–from which one member is elected–total 50-100 members–seats reserved for SC/ST/women
- ▶ Committees–for different activities such as water supply, health, cleanliness, etc.

Functions

- ▶ Look after people’s welfare by providing:
- ▶ Sanitation facilities; water purification and supply; garbage clearance and waste management; maintenance of roads and street lights; running libraries, planting trees, maintaining parks and stations; providing public utilities and transport; health services including immunisation programmes; maintain fire brigade; taking steps to prevent pollution; registering births and deaths; running schools; constructing houses for the poor and needy.

Sources of Income

- ▶ Property tax; Octroi Duty on goods coming into city; Toll tax on vehicles coming into city; Taxes on business or occupation; on public lighting and hygiene facilities; on water, vehicle and education; Rent on buildings owned by Municipal Corporation; fees for issuing birth and death certificates; grants from government and charges for sale of land and entertainment tax.

Complaints

- ▶ People can file complaints with Councillor for work not done or badly done–or protest.
- ▶ Non-Governmental Organisations [NGOs] often take up such public matters.

Assessment Corner

Oral Assignment

- Ask for answers at random from the students. Confirm right answers.
Let the students write down the answers if they like.

Written Assignment

- The teacher has two options–(i) Either do these exercises orally first and then ask the students to write them down. OR (ii) Ask students to write the answers on their own. Then teacher can announce the correct answers and ask partners to cross check them.

In either case, the answers can be written as homework and teacher can check in class.

Think Tank

- G. **HOTS questions:** Discuss the questions in class and let students write the answers to F and G as homework. Teacher should assess individual work.