

INDIA



KEY FACTS

POPULATION (2020 estimate):
1,381,763,000

AREA (2011 Census):
3,287,469 sq km

CAPITAL: New Delhi

CURRENCY: rupee (INR)

HEAD OF STATE:
President Ram Nath Kovind

HEAD OF GOVERNMENT:
Prime Minister Narendra Modi

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:
constitutional democratic republic

PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM:
bicameral

STATE STRUCTURE: federal

LANGUAGES:
Hindi and English (official); Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu (recognised)

NATIONAL ELECTIONS:
last: 2019, turnout: 67.1%; next: 2024

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT (2019):
14.3% (MPs); 11.1% (Rajya Sabha members)

LOCAL ELECTIONS:
vary from state to state

WOMEN COUNCILLORS (2017):
44.8%

LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS as a percentage of total government expenditure 2020/2021:
3.3%

SUMMARY

India is a federal republic with three spheres of government: national (union), state and local. The 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments give recognition and protection to local government and in addition each state has its own local government legislation. The Ministries for Housing and Urban Affairs, Panchayati Raj and Rural Development all have oversight responsibility for local government both at the national level and in each state. As of mid-2019, there were a total of 267,283 local government bodies of which 262,834 are rural and 4,449 urban. Urban local bodies include municipal corporations for cities, municipalities for larger towns and town panchayats for smaller towns. Both urban and local government are governed by state-level legislation, which determines local tax-raising powers. In 2017 44.8% of councillors were women and in 2020/2021 transfers to local government were 3.3% of total government expenditure.

1. NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

India is a federal republic with a bicameral parliament comprising a lower house, the Lok Sabha, and an upper house, the Rajya Sabha.^{19.1a} The president is the head of state and is elected for five years by an electoral college made up of members of both houses of parliament and the legislative assemblies of each state (vidhan sabhas). The president normally appoints the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha as prime minister. S/he also appoints other members of the executive, known as the Council of Ministers, on the advice of the prime minister. Members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected under the first-past-the-post system for up to five years. The Lok Sabha currently has 545 members; 543 are elected and two are appointed by the president to discretionary seats representing the Anglo-Indian community, if the community would otherwise be under-represented. Up to 238 of the possible 250 Rajya Sabha members are elected indirectly by the state legislatures with representation proportionate to their populations. In addition 12 members are nominated by the president for their specialist expertise. The Rajya Sabha members have a six-year tenure. Following the 2019 national election, 14% (78/542) of members of the Lok Sabha and 11.1% (25/224) of Rajya Sabha were women.^{19.1b} There are 29 states, each with the own assembly known as the vidhan sabha, and seven union territories which governed directly by the central government, except for Delhi and Puducherry which have their own legislative assemblies (vidhan sabhas). The states are organised along cultural and linguistic lines, reflecting the country's wide diversity. Each state has its own legislature; however the state governor, in whom executive power is vested, is appointed by the president for five years. State structures replicate those in the national government: the governor is aided and advised by council of ministers led by a chief minister, who is the leader of the vidhan sabha.

2. LEGAL BASIS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

2.1 Constitutional provisions

The 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments adopted in 1992 give recognition and protection to rural and urban local government respectively.^{19.2a}

2.2 Main legislative texts

Local government is a state function; see table 19.1b for an overview of key legislation by state/union territory. Powers, authority and responsibility for local bodies are devolved by the state under Articles 243g and 243w of the constitution. Each state has its own local government legislation, known as the state municipal/municipal corporation act for urban local government and the panchayati raj legislation for rural local government. In addition, states also have town planning acts and urban development acts which enable parastatal and para-municipal agencies to operate in close coordination with local bodies. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)^{19.2b} has taken up the development agenda through the Smart City Mission, the Swachh Bharat ('Clean India') Mission and-for housing- the National Urban Livelihood Mission and Pradhanmantri Awas Yojana (scheme). These urban sector missions have promoted a participatory approach, giving more flexibility to states and local governments to decide local priorities.

2.3 Proposed legislative changes

No proposed legislative changes known.

2.4 National urban policy

MoHUA is mandated to formulate and administer various policy measures for holistic urban development, which are aimed at improving the quality of urban life by addressing issues related, inter alia, to urban infrastructure and efficient governance. One of the major features of the urban missions has been to build a review process into their design to ensure sustainability of the initiatives beyond the duration of individual projects.



Table 17.1a Distribution of councils and population

State/union territory	Urban local bodies	Zila parishad (district)	Panchayat samaiti (block)	Gram panchayat (village)	Total	Traditional bodies	Population (2011 Census)	Population (2019 estimate)	% rural (2011)
Andaman&Nicobar Islands	1	3	9	70	83	201	379,944	551,000	64.3
Andhra Pradesh	110	13	660	13,065	13,848	0	49,378,776	51,534,000	71.9
Arunachal Pradesh	19	23	177	1,785	2,004	0	1,382,611	1,313,000	77.3
Assam	99	26	191	2,199	2,515	512	31,169,272	32,449,000	85.9
Bihar	144	38	534	8,386	9,102	0	103,804,637	103,908,000	88.7
Chandigarh	1	0	0	20	21	0	1,054,686	1,780,000	2.75
Chhattisgarh	168	27	146	10,978	11,319	0	25,540,196	25,879,000	76.8
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	0	20	23	0	342,853	422,000	53.4
Daman and Diu	2	2	0	15	19	0	242,911	330,000	24.8
Delhi	5	0	0	0	5	0	16,753,235	21,285,000	2.5
Goa	14	2	0	191	207	0	1,457,723	1,977,000	37.8
Gujarat	172	33	248	14,292	14,745	0	60,383,628	62,825,000	57.4
Haryana	87	21	126	6,197	6,431	0	25,353,081	27,477,000	75.8
Himachal Pradesh	61	12	78	3,226	3,377	0	6,856,509	7,095,000	90.0
Jammu and Kashmir	98	22	306	4,482	4,908	0	12,548,926	12,419,000	72.8
Jharkhand	48	24	263	4,370	4,705	0	32,966,238	33,652,000	76.0
Karnataka	283	30	176	6,021	6,510	0	61,130,704	62,374,000	61.4
Kerala	94	14	152	941	1,201	0	33,387,677	35,677,000	52.3
Lakshadweep	0	1	0	10	11	0	64,429	81,000	21.9
Madhya Pradesh	391	51	313	22,819	23,574	0	72,597,565	77,875,000	72.4
Maharashtra	403	34	351	27,869	28,657	0	112,372,972	120,076,000	54.8
Manipur	27	6	0	161	194	3,707	2,721,756	2,592,000	80.0
Meghalaya	12	0	0	0	12	6,746	2,964,007	2,773,000	80.0
Mizoram	23	0	0	913	936	905	1,091,014	1,063,000	48.5
Nagaland	32	0	0	1,219	1,251	1,251	1,980,602	2,380,000	71.0
Odisha	114	30	314	6,798	7,256	0	41,947,358	42,479,000	83.3
Puducherry	5	0	10	98	113	0	1244,464	1,669,000	31.7
Punjab	173	22	147	13,260	13,602	0	27,704,236	29,112,000	62.5
Rajasthan	195	33	295	9,892	10,415	0	68,621,012	72,948,000	75.1
Sikkim	7	4	0	185	196	0	607,688	647,000	75.0
Tamil Nadu	666	31	385	12,523	13,605	0	72,138,958	69,396,000	51.6
Telangana	75	32	460	13,057	13,624	0	35,286,757	36,827,000	61.3
Tripur	20	8	35	591	654	628	3,671,032	3,826,000	73.8
Uttarakhand	100	13	95	7,762	7,970	0	10,116,752	10,632,000	69.5
Uttar Pradesh	666	75	822	58,791	60,354	0	199,581,477	218,088,000	77.2
West Bengal	132	22	342	3,340	3,836	1	91,347,736	93,550,000	68.1
TOTAL (29+7) 36	4,449	653	6,635	255,546	267,283	13,951	1,210,193,422	1,312,240,000	68.8

Source: Population Census 2011^{19.3a}, Population Projections 2011-2016^{19.3b} and Consolidated list of panchayat and urban local bodies, July 2019^{19.3d},

To cite two examples the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) is linked to promotion of reforms in urban planning, execution and governance for better service delivery; while the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is an initiative to ensure affordable housing for all.

3. STRUCTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

3.1 Local government within the state

In 1989 the national government took steps to enhance the role of rural local governments through direct funding. The aim was to create units responsible for economic development at the local level, and to create jobs directly. Local government is divided between rural authorities (panchayats) and urban authorities (municipalities), and as of mid-2019 there were a total of 267,283 local government bodies across the country (see table 19.1a).

3.2 Ministerial oversight

Whilst local development is a state competence, the central government has the important role to guide, motivate support, engage and handhold the states to promote local governments and development. The MoHUA and the Ministry of Panchayati Raj^{19.3c} (MoPR), responsible for urban and rural local government respectively, are guided by constitutional provisions and are responsible for developing nationwide policy for each sector. In each state there are ministers responsible for both urban and rural local government who must oversee the administration of the relevant state-level legislation. In extraordinary circumstances, the minister or state government may dissolve local government bodies, and govern them directly for up to six months. The ministries are involved in the preparation of model acts, laws, by-laws, manuals, guidelines, checklists and capacity-building programmes for a range of functions.

3.3 Council types

The local government system consists of both urban and rural councils.

3.3.1 Urban councils: The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act provides for three types of municipalities depending on size and area, namely: nagar panchayat for an area in transition from rural to urban; municipal council for smaller urban areas; and municipal corporation for larger urban areas. Urban local bodies include municipal corporations for cities, municipalities for larger towns and town panchayats for smaller towns.

In line with their respective state-level municipal acts, these 4,449 urban local bodies have a range of standing committees which include finance, education, water supply and sanitation. The standing committees are deliberative bodies only and decision-making powers remain with the full council. Councils have the discretion to establish a wide range of other committees. Powers of the mayors and executive committees are determined by the respective state municipal acts. Each municipal body is assisted by a commissioner or chief executive officer, who coordinates the activities of all municipal employees.

3.3.2 Panchayati system in rural areas:

The 73th Constitutional Amendment Act provides for three types of rural council – known as panchayati raj institutions (PRIs). There are three types: 653 are zila parishad at the district level, 6,635 are panchayat samaiti at the block level, and 255,546 are gram panchayat at the village level. In 23 states there are three tiers in the panchayati system, in Goa there are two tiers, and in Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland there is a single tier. States with populations of less than two million are not required to adopt the three-tiered system. The tiers are not strictly hierarchically organised; rather there is a division of duties between them. There is a limited coordination role for higher levels of the panchayati authorities (see annex 19a). State law establishes which committees is mandatory; these consequently may vary from state to state; however, all have executive committees. The zila parishads are required to have general, finance and audit, planning, social justice, education, health, agriculture and industrial committees. The gram panchayats have production, social justice and amenities committees. Most states provide the panchayats with little discretion to establish other committees.

4. ELECTIONS

4.1 Recent local elections

These vary from state to state.^{19.4a}

4.2 Voting system

All councillors are directly elected by the first-past-the-post system. In accordance with the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, one-third of all seats are reserved for women, and this is being extended to 50% in some states. There are further reserved places for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, determined by their proportional representation within the local population. The places reserved for scheduled castes and tribes must also adhere to the one-third allocation to women.

Election processes are defined in state municipal law. These structures are consultative and also play a role in monitoring the delivery of services.

4.3 Elected representatives

Whilst specifics vary from state to state, broadly, in the urban sector, all municipalities with a population over 300,000 are required to establish ward committees chaired by the local ward councillor. Municipal corporations, as stipulated in the state municipal acts, work within a committee system in which councillors report to council with recommendations. Mayors are elected directly or indirectly, depending on the state. Councillors are elected for a five-year term of office; mayors for either one or five years. The position of mayor/chairperson may also be assigned through reservation to scheduled tribes and castes, women and minorities on a rotating basis.

4.4 Women's representation

In 2017, 44.8% of councillors were estimated to be women, up from 37.1% in 2013. By law a minimum of one-third of seats across all types of local government bodies must be reserved for women, and in many states this has now been raised to 50%. Six months prior to local elections, one-third/half of wards are earmarked for women representatives, on a rotation basis. See tables 19.1c and 19.1d.

5. SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

5.1 Legal requirement

The 73rd and 74th amendments to the constitution have led to wider participation and citizen awareness at the local level. Citizens' charters are also used to streamline participation.

5.2 Implementation

Community structures are in existence at grassroots level. For example, they were created under local employment schemes, as part of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission, in the form of women's self-help groups. Resident welfare associations are also playing an important role in the management of basic services in their local areas, especially within urban bodies.

5.3 ICT use in citizen engagement

No information available.



Table 19.1b Key legislation by state and union territory

State/Union Territory	Key legislation	State	Key legislation
STATES		Odisha	Panchayati Act 1994
Andhra Pradesh	Panchayat Raj Act 1994	Punjab	Municipal Corporation Act 2003
	Municipalities Act 1965		Panchayati Act 1994
Arunachal Pradesh	Central Laws Act 1993	Rajasthan	Local Government Act 2013
	Balipara/Tirap/Sadiya Frontier Tract Jhum Land Regulation 1947		Municipal Corporation Act 1976
Assam	Panchayati Act 1994	Sikkim	Panchayati Act 1994
	Municipal Act 1956		Municipalities Act 2009
Bihar	Panchayati Act 2006	Tamil Nadu	Panchayati Act 1994
	Urban Planning & Development Act 2012		Sikkim Municipalities (Amendment) Act 1993
Chhattisgarh	Panchayati Act 1993	Telangana	Panchayati Act 1994
Goa	Panchayati Act 1994		Tiruppur Municipal Act 2008
	Panaji City Corporation Act 2002		Urban Local Bodies Act 1998
Gujarat	Panchayati Act 1993	Tripura	See Andhra Pradesh legislation
	Municipalities Act 1963		Panchayati Act 1993
Haryana	Panchayati Act 1994	Uttar Pradesh	Municipal Act 1994
	Municipal Corporation Act 1994		Panchayati Act 1947
Himachal Pradesh	Panchayati Act 1994	Uttarakhand	District Planning Committee Act 1999
	Municipalities Act 1994		Development Council Act 2006
Jammu and Kashmir	Panchayati Act 1989	West Bengal	Panchayat Laws Act 2007
	Municipal Corporation Act 2000		District Planning Committee Act 2007
Jharkhand	Panchayati Act 2001	Kolkata Municipal Corporation Act 1980	Panchayati Act 1973
Karnataka	Panchayati Act 1993		Municipal Act 1993
	Municipalities Act 1976		
Kerala	Panchayati Act 1994	UNION TERRITORIES	
	Decentralisation of Powers Act 2000	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Panchayats Regulation 1994
Madhya Pradesh	Panchayati Act 1993	Chandigarh	Covered by Punjab acts
	Swayatta Sahakarita Adhinyam Act 1999	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Panchayati Regulation Act 2012
Maharashtra	Dadra and Nagar Haveli Panchayat Rules 2014		
Manipur	Town and Country Planning Act 1984		
Meghalaya	Municipal Act 1973	Daman and Diu	Panchayats Regulation 2012
Mizoram	Municipalities Act 2007		Delhi
Nagaland	Urban and Regional Development Act 1990	Lakshadweep	Panchayats Regulation 1994
	Village and Area Councils Act 1978		Puducherry
	Municipal Act 2001		

Source: compiled by CLGF

Table 19.1c Women councillors by state 2017

State/union territory	Urban local bodies			Panchayati raj Institutions (rural)			Total councillors			
	total councillors	female councillors	%	total councillors	female councillors	%	total councillors	female councillors	%	
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	na	10	na	858	302	35.2	na	312	na	
Andhra Pradesh	na	1,591	na	156,050	78,025	50.0	na	79,616	na	
Arunachal Pradesh	na	na	na	9,383	3,658	39.0	na	3,658	na	
Assam	na	na	na	26,820	13,410	50.0	na	13,410	na	
Bihar	na	1,685	na	127,391	57,887	45.4	na	59,572	na	
Chandigarh	na	11	na	na	na	na	na	11	na	
Chhattisgarh	na	1,128	na	170,285	93,287	54.8	na	94,415	na	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	na	5	na	136	47	34.6	na	52	na	
Daman and Diu	na	13	na	172	92	53.5	na	105	na	
Delhi	na	138	na	na	na	na	na	138	na	
Goa	na	79	na	1,564	516	33.0	na	595	na	
Gujarat	na	2,664	na	144,016	71,988	50.0	na	74,652	na	
Haryana	na	676	na	70,035	29,499	42.1	na	30,175	na	
Himachal Pradesh	na	na	na	28,723	14,398	50.1	na	14,398	na	
Jammu and Kashmir	na	na	na	33,847	11,169	33.0	na	11,169	na	
Jharkhand	na	547	na	60,782	30,757	50.6	na	31,304	na	
Karnataka	na	3,006	na	104,967	50,892	48.5	na	53,898	na	
Kerala	na	1,766	na	18,372	9,630	52.4	na	11,396	na	
Lakshadweep	na	na	na	110	41	37.3	na	41	na	
Madhya Pradesh	na	3,344	na	392,981	196,490	50.0	na	199,834	na	
Maharashtra	na	5,306	na	240,122	121,490	50.6	na	126,796	na	
Manipur	na	149	na	1,723	868	50.4	na	1,017	na	
Meghalaya	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		na	
Mizoram	na	6	na	3,502	828	23.6	na	834	na	
Nagaland	na	na	na	na	na	na	na		na	
Odisha	na	na	na	107,487	53,551	49.8	na	53,551	na	
Puducherry	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	
Punjab	na	1,219	na	97,180	32,393	33.3	na	33,612	na	
Rajasthan	na	1,552	na	124,854	70,527	56.5	na	72,079	na	
Sikkim	na		na	1,096	548	50.0	na	548	na	
Tamil Nadu (2016)	na	1,527	na	119,399	39,975	33.5	na	41,502	na	
Telangana	na	926	na	103,468	51,735	50.0	na	52,661	na	
Tripura	na	158	na	6,646	3,006	45.2	na	3,164	na	
Uttarakhand	na	456	na	826,458	272,733	33.0	na	273,189	na	
Uttar Pradesh	na	4,895	na	64,606	35,957	55.7	na	40,852	na	
West Bengal	na	1,006	na	59,402	30,157	50.8	na	31,163	na	
TOTAL (29+7)	36	na	33,863	na	3,101,577	1,455,280	48.8	na	1,487,616	na

na= not available Source: Ministry of Statistics (2016): Women & Men in India - 2016, Participation in Decision-making Implementation^{19,4b}



Table 19.1d Women councillors and mayors 2013-2018

Election	2013		2016		2017		2018	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total councillors	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total female councillors	na	37.1	na	na	na	44.8	na	na
Total Male councillors	na	62.9	na	na	na	na	na	na
Total rural councillors	na	100.0	na	100.0	na	100.0	na	100.0
Rural councillors	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female rural councillors	na	na	1,341,773	46.0	1,455,280	48.6	na	44.3
Male rural councillors	na	na	1,575,562	62.9	1,646,297	51.4	na	na
Total rural councillors	na	100.0	2,917,335	100.0	3,101,577	100.0	na	100.0
Urban councillors	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female urban councillors	na	na	na	na	33,863	na	na	na
Male urban councillors	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Total urban councillors	na	100.0	na	100.0	na	100.0	na	100.0

Source: MoHUA and MoPR communication with CLGF

6. ORGANISED LOCAL GOVERNMENT

6.1 National local government association

There is currently no active national local government association, though previously the All-India Council of Mayors represented the municipal corporations, and Nagar Palik Pramukh Sangthen (central organisation of municipalities) represented the other urban municipalities.

6.2 Other associations of local government

There are some state-level organisations of elected representatives and elected women's representatives; and some city managers' associations. There are however other institutions active in local government, such as the Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities (AMDA) and the Institute of Town Planners of India (ITPI) which has local chapters.

7. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The central government ministries are in constant dialogue with relevant state-level ministries and with local government representatives. Local government representatives also seek meetings with officials and ministers in the relevant ministries on an ad-hoc basis.

8. MONITORING SYSTEMS

Local governments are subject to audit, which is carried out by their state government. Monitoring may include: auditing processes; ministerial oversight (eg of budgets); scrutiny by independent regulatory bodies; council committees, Whose members may include opposition party representatives; and parliamentary review bodies. Third-party audit/assessment has been introduced on urban local projects.

Social audit is also being applied by several local governments to promote community awareness and transparency.

9. FINANCE, STAFFING AND RESOURCES

Whilst data on locally raised revenue was not available, local government transfers was budgeted to be 3.3% of total government expenditure in 2020/21, up from 3.1% in 2019/20. See table 19.2b.

9.1 Locally raised revenue

Most urban infrastructure projects undertaken by municipal local governments depend predominantly on funds from state governments and other agencies. However, in order to raise resources from the markets/financial institutions for investment in infrastructure, the central government has allowed the issue of tax-free municipal bonds and has set up a national fund, the Pooled Finance Development Fund. This fund provides credit enhancement grants, through pooled financing bonds issued on behalf of identified urban local governments, which enable them to access market borrowing for investment in urban infrastructure projects. Nevertheless, estimates from the XIII Central Finance Commission ("XIII CFC") report indicate that less than half of municipal expenditure is financed through own sources. Councils are empowered to levy house and land taxes and to borrow a limited amount of money. Other sources of revenue include special projects and fundraising through events.

9.2 Transfers

The government's XIV Central Finance Commission ("XIV CFC") allocated a sum of INR2.87 lakh crore (2.87 trillion) to be given as grants to gram panchayat and municipalities.

This is an increase of 228% over the previous five-year period, and equates to an average assistance of over INR80 lakh (8 million) per gram panchayat and over INR210m crore per urban local body. The XIV CFC recommended grants in two parts – a basic grant, and a performance grant for duly constituted gram panchayats and municipalities. In the case of gram panchayats, 90% of the grant is the basic grant and 10% is the performance grant. In the case of municipalities, the division between basic and performance grant is 80% to 20%. The government of India subsequently constituted the XV Central Finance Commission in 2017 to suggest formulae for the sharing of central taxes and fees over the period 2020-25. Under Article 243 of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, state governments have a similar duty to consult their state finance commission every five years to review the financial position of their panchayats and urban local governments and to make recommendations for the subsequent five-year period.

9.3 Local authority staff

Local government staff are not recruited by a central body. In some states there is a commission for recruitment; in others staff are recruited directly by the local authorities. The body responsible for recruitment is also responsible for disciplinary and dismissal matters. A number of officers are required by law in the different types of local councils, including a municipal commissioner in the municipal corporations and an executive officer, health officer and sanitary inspector in the municipalities. The head of the paid service is normally referred to as the chief executive officer. The staffing structure of first-tier councils differs from state to state, but generally the municipal commissioner is the head of the administrative service at municipal corporations, assisted by deputy municipal commissioners and other officers. The health officer is responsible for area health services. The staffing structures of second-tier councils (municipalities) also differ from state to state, but generally the executive officer is the head of the administrative service, assisted by deputy executive officers and other officers. The health officer is responsible for health services in their municipal area. Maharashtra and West Bengal have state-level cadres. There is an increasing focus on developing a municipal cadre system to enable the systematic deployment of staff at different levels of seniority. For example, the government of Madhya Pradesh has developed five different staff grades, which streamlines the appointment of the requisite numbers of staff to carry out interdisciplinary tasks related to urban management. A similar approach is under consideration in several other states.

Table 19.2b Local body transfers as a percentage of total government expenditure 2014–2020

	2014-15 Actual INR crore	2015-16 Actual INR crore	2016-17 Actual INR crore	2017-18 actual INR crore	2018-19 budget INR crore	2019-20 budget INR crore	2020-21 budget INR crore
Total government expenditure	1,663,673	1,790,783	1,975,194	2,141,973	2,457,235	2,786,349	3,042,230
Total local government transfers	22,494	29,988	48,868	56,288	64,939	87,352	99,925
Local government transfers as a percentage of total government expenditure	1.4%	1.7%	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%	3.1%	3.3%

Source: Calculated by CLGF from the XIV CFC report Annex 6.1^{19.9a} Union Budget 2019-20^{17.9b} and 2015-18 budgets^{19.9c}

Following the governance principle of reduction in fiscal deficit, the city governments of India are also resorting to PPPs (Public Private Partnerships) and outsourcing, leading to substantial reduction in their revenue expenditure and savings along with defacto resource mobilisation. The cities of Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Pune have revenue surplus running into millions of rupees. For example Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) to deliver its Sabarmati Riverfront Development and Bus Rapid Transport System (BRTS) projects, which are significantly reducing staffing costs.

10. DISTRIBUTION OF SERVICE DELIVERY RESPONSIBILITY

10.1 Overview of local government service delivery responsibility

Service delivery varies from state to state, but Annex 19a gives an overview. Local government responsibilities typically include a range of core services and infrastructure provision, including: water, sanitation, solid waste management, roads and public conveniences, poverty alleviation, slum improvement and economic development. Local governments are principally responsible for delivering services to a cross-section of citizens with the involvement of a number of partner organisations, including vehicles SPVs. The Government of India under its 100 Smart Cities Mission has created SPVs to expedite project planning and implementation whilst keeping local governments in the centre as key decision-makers. Various state agencies are responsible for poverty alleviation, but their lack of accountability to local government reduces their effectiveness in addressing local priorities. However, these functions are gradually being transferred to local governments.

10.2 ICT use in service delivery

The Smart Cities Mission^{19.10a} is a national programme investing in up to 100 cities across the country to develop best practice in ‘smart’ urban infrastructure. The Smart Cities programme is independently run with a dedicated chief executive officer working alongside each city mayor and commissioner.

10.3 The role of local government in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Government of India has launched the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI), which completed its mapping process of the 17 SDGs against ministerial responsibility in August 2017, including assigning numerous responsibilities to the Urban Development and Panchayat Raj ministries.^{19.10b} India Habitat III National Report of MoHUA identifies specific goals and targets to promote sustainable development in line with the UN SDGs. The MoHUA has developed a set of liveability standards in cities with the goal of generating a liveability index against which cities can be benchmarked. The relevant document prescribes 79 indicators which have been mapped against their respective SDGs.

REFERENCES AND USEFUL WEBSITES

- 19.1a Government of India www.india.gov.in
- 19.1b Women in national parliaments. Inter-Parliamentary Union www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm
- 19.2 Constitution of India <http://indiacode.nic.in/coiweb/welcome.html>
- 19.2b Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs www.moud.gov.in
- 19.3a Population 2011 Census <http://censusindia.gov.in>
- 19.3c Ministry of Panchayati Raj www.panchayat.gov.in

- 19.3d Consolidated list of panchayat and urban local bodies <http://lgdirectory.gov.in/rptConsolidateforPanchayat.do>
- 19.4a Election Commission of India <http://eci.nic.in>
- 19.4b Participation in decision-making http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/reports_and_publication/statistical_publication/social_statistics/WM16Chapter5.pdf
- 19.5 No reference for this section
- 19.6 No reference for this section
- 19.7 No reference for this section
- 19.8 No reference for this section
- 19.9a XIV Central Finance Commission report <https://fincomindia.nic.in>
- 19.9b Union Budget 2019-20 www.indiabudget.gov.in/budgetglance.php
- 19.9c Union Budgets 2014-18 www.indiabudget.gov.in/previous_union_budget.php
- 19.10a Smart Cities Mission <http://smartcities.gov.in>
- 19.10b India’s Commitment to the SDGs <https://niti.gov.in/sdgs/indias-commitment-sdgs>
- 19.11a World Population Prospects 2019 https://population.un.org/wpp/Publications/Files/WPP2019_DataBooklet.pdf
- 19.11b UN statistics surface area <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/dyb2006/Table03.pdf>
- 19.11c Commonwealth Local Government knowledge hub www.clgf.org.uk/resource-centre/knowledge-hub
- 19.11d Subnational governments around the world - local finance, UCLG-OECD www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/profile-India.pdf
- 19.11e UNDP HDR India country profile <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/IND>



Annex 19a Summary of service provision in different spheres of government in India

Services	Delivering authority						Remarks
	Central government	State	Urban local bodies	Zila parishad (district)	Panchayat samaiti (block)	Gram panchayat (village)	
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION							
Police	■	■					Police are normally a state-level function, except in Delhi where policing remains a central government function. Local authorities may appoint traffic police.
Fire protection		■					
Civil protection	■	■					
Criminal justice	■	■					
Civil status register		■					
Statistical office	■						
Electoral register		■					
EDUCATION							
Pre-school (kindergarten and nursery)		■	■	■	■		Local governments and communities also provide these services on a case- by-case basis.
Primary		■					
Secondary		■					
Vocational and technical		■					
Higher education	■	■					
Adult education		■	■				
SOCIAL WELFARE							
Family welfare services		■					Local governments may establish and run nursing homes.
Welfare homes		■	■	■	■		
Social security	■	■					
PUBLIC HEALTH							
Primary care		■	■				
Hospitals		■					
Health protection		■	■				
HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING							
Housing		■					Local governments also provide housing to low- income residents.
Town planning		■					
Regional planning		■					
TRANSPORT							
Roads	■	■	■	■			
Transport	■	■	■				
Urban roads		■					
Urban rail	■						
Ports	■	■					
Airports	■	■					
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SANITATION							
Water and sanitation		■	■	■	■	■	
Refuse collection and disposal			■	■			
Cemeteries and crematoria			■	■			
Slaughterhouses			■	■			
Environmental protection			■	■			
Consumer protection		■					
CULTURE, LEISURE AND SPORTS							
Theatres and concerts	■	■	■	■			
Museums and libraries	■	■	■	■			
Parks and open spaces		■	■	■	■		
Sports and leisure facilities		■	■	■	■		
Religious facilities		■	■				
UTILITIES							
Gas services		■					
District heating		■					
Water supply	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Electricity		■					
ECONOMIC							
Agriculture, forests and fisheries		■					
Local economic development/promotion		■					
Trade and industry		■					
Tourism	■	■					

■ sole responsibility service ■ joint responsibility service ■ discretionary service