

Revision Notes

Class 6 Social Science - Civics

Chapter 07 – Urban administration

An urban administration is much different from rural administration. The reason being, a city is much bigger in terms of size and therefore, every administrative operation differs from that of the rural city. From the electricity, water, lamp posts and every other setting, there are different forms of administration and governing bodies. CBSE Class 6 Political Science Chapter 7 provides an elaborate discussion on the chain of departments and workers associated with urban administration in India.

Municipal Corporation and Urban Administration

- 1) **Garbage, street lights, water supply, cleaning and maintenance of the urban streets, markets** are taken care of by the Municipal Department. They ensure that the surrounding area is clean and sanitized and diseases are not breaking out in the city.
- 2) Municipal Corporation also **runs and maintains infrastructures** like schools, dispensaries and hospitals.
- 3) They also take **initiatives like making a garden** for people living in the city and keeping it clean.
- 4) In a big city, they are known as Municipal Corporation and in the small towns, they are known as **Municipal Council**.

The Ward Councillor and Administrative Staff

- 1) The building or establishment of new hospitals or parks involves the decision of the ward councillor.
- 2) A city is divided into numerous wards. **Each ward has different councillors** who look after the requirements of people living in that ward.

- 3) Ward councillors get elected and after that, **they often get together to reach a certain decision** that will directly or indirectly affect the city. They debate on the issue and make decisions that will benefit the people of the city.
- 4) If the people of a certain ward are facing any kind of problem then they are allowed to get in contact with their respective councillors. Also, in certain matters, **the councillor decides along with the councillor's committees.**
- 5) The decisions taken by such committees are then implemented by the administrative staff and the commissioner.
- 6) The **administrative staff are appointed** whereas the **Councillors are elected.**
- 7) **The budget for the maintenance of the ward is decided when the Councillors meet and formulate plans that cater to the needs of the people in the ward.** All the issues and demands of the wards are addressed by the councillor in front of the entire council.
- 8) **Different departments handle the different needs of the ward.** For instance, there is a water department, a garbage collection department, a department for cleanliness and maintenance of the roads, a department to maintain gardens. Some departments look after the garbage lying all over the street and ensure that they are not attracting flies, dogs, rats, and other biological carriers which are capable of affecting the health of the people living in the ward.

Impact of Municipal Corporation on Daily Life

- 1) Municipal Corporation **looks after everything that promotes the daily life of people** living in a particular ward of a city.
- 2) **Broken street lights, construction of hospitals, new roads, parks, educational institutions, markets everything is looked after** by the Municipal Corporation of that particular place.
- 3) Further, **they also look after the proper drainage system.** For instance, if there is an area in the ward that does not have a well-maintained drainage system leading to the increasing number of health problems and attracting

various kinds of diseases then the authorities of the Municipality take necessary measures against it.

- 4) **The garbage that comes out of every family living in the ward is collected by the people working in the municipal corporation early in the morning.** The corporation ensures the collection of garbage to keep the wards clean and promote a better living standard.
- 5) Municipal corporations also take every possible step to prevent the outbreak of any disease so that people can continue with their stress-free daily lives.
- 6) The elected members of the committee of a municipal corporation are the **ward councillors who make plans and decide to address the problem of each ward effectively.**

Ward Issues and Protests

- 1) **The roads in the ward are often not well maintained.** Further, the **garbage that lays in the streets is not being collected by the Municipal Corporation.** Hence, there was a lack of disposal of garbage. This led to the increasing number of flies, mosquitoes in the garbage. Rats and dogs create a nuisance with the garbage in the area, attracting numerous diseases and an unhealthy environment.
- 2) Most importantly, the drinking water used by the people of the ward is supplied from time to time by the water department of the Municipal Corporation. Similarly, there is also a separate department for the maintenance of the electricity supply. So, if there is any kind of problem faced by the people in the ward with regards to electricity and water, **they reach out to the concerned department either by themselves with a relevant letter or they seek help from the councillor of the ward.**
- 3) Gangabai, after noticing the increasing number of problems in her area, thought of and planned a protest against the ward Councillor. It is the general public along with ward councillors and ward engineers whose voices can get works in a ward done by the Municipal Corporation.

A Community-Level Protest

- 1) If there is any issue concerning the health and the wellbeing of the people living in the society then the **community of the ward can protest or submit a petition by addressing all the issues to the ward councillor**. The ward councillor then takes care of it.
- 2) After the issues of the ward have reached the attention of the ward councillor, **it is then taken care of by both the ward engineer and the ward councillor**.
- 3) In the next step, a **petition is forwarded to the office of the Municipal Corporation**.
- 4) Then the particular ward community, with the help of their ward councillors, begin protests against the Municipal Corporation.
- 5) Lastly, **the Municipal Corporation solves the issues** with the right measures and strategic planning.

Ward Problems

- 1) There are different kinds of problems or issues that may arise in a ward. These may **be problems regarding cleanliness, lack of infrastructure, lack of water supply** or any other matter.
- 2) Such problems **are addressed by the people of the ward to the councillor and then the Municipal Corporation is made to fix it**.
- 3) For instance, If there is a dangerous electric wire placed all over a certain area in a corporation ward then it has significant chances to give birth to accidents. It is, therefore, essential to inform the Ward Councillor and resolve the problem at the earliest.
- 4) Also, if the people of the ward are having difficulties in using the roads or if it lacks maintenance, then it is an issue that requires the attention of the Municipal Corporation and hence should be addressed on time.
- 5) Again, water is the major requirement for the survival of any living being. This is why there is a need for an adequate amount of water for the survival of every person in the ward. If there is a lack of water supply and the area requires a new

pumping station, then both the problems are the responsibility of the Municipal Corporation.

- 6) Hence, Municipal Corporations are the ones who can provide a solution to these problems faced by people in a ward.**

Important Questions and Answers:

1. How does the Municipal Corporation affect urban life?

Ans: Municipal Corporation affects urban life in numerous ways, an account of which is listed below—

- I. For instance, without the supply of drinking water and electricity, urban life will not exist. Without water, we cannot survive and this need is judiciously taken care of by the municipal corporation.
- II. They are the ones responsible for the drainage system, regular cleaning of roads and streets, collection and disposal of garbage.
- III. They also look after the construction, maintenance and repairing of parks, schools, hospitals and roads. Lastly, the municipal corporation is also in control of the installation, repair and maintenance of the street lights.

2. What did Gangabai do to address the issues in her locality?

Ans: After understanding the need for immediate maintenance for her locality, she took the following measures to address those issues—

- I. Firstly, Gangabai gathered a large group of women.
- II. She also sought the support of the ward councillor and the sanitation engineer.
- III. With all of them, she marched to the Municipal Corporation to protest against the lack of maintenance that the locality was suffering from.

- IV. She carefully addressed the issues of poorly maintained streets, the uncollected garbage leading to the increase in flies, mosquitoes and rats to the commissioner.
- V. She protested along with others to get the work done.
- VI. The locality was becoming increasingly unhealthy and was greatly affecting the lives of people. So, in simple words, to solve all these problems, Gangabai went to the Commissioner.

3. Why is it essential for the municipal corporation to provide the same facilities to all the sections of society?

Ans: It is highly essential for the Municipal Corporation to provide equal facilities to all because of the following reasons—

- I. The people residing in slums or other such localities lack basic amenities like water, shelter, food, etc. But they are also a part of our society and the citizens of our country.
- II. The poor people work day and night collecting garbage, cleaning, repairing the roads to maintain our city. Hence they too deserve the facilities that other sections of the people get without any form of hindrance.
- III. Also, it is the duty of the Municipal Corporation to ensure the safety, sanitation, health, education, rehabilitation and other necessities of everyone in the urban society because only the betterment of facilities and increase in opportunities for ‘everyone’ will create a huge impact on urban society.
- IV. Besides that, the Indian Constitution has stressed on equality and justice for all. And the municipal corporation is bound to follow these ideals.

4. What are the tasks of the ward councillors?

Ans: A city is divided into numerous wards. **Each ward has different councillors** who look after the requirements of people living in that ward. There are numerous tasks and responsibilities of the ward councillor, some of which are listed below.

- I. Meeting the other ward councillors and making important decisions like planning the budget of the individual wards.
- II. Investing money based on budget requirements.
- III. Putting the demands of their ward before the entire council so that accordingly decisions are taken and the budget is planned.
- IV. In other words, it could be anything that is closely associated with the requirements of the people in the ward.

5. What is the recycling of waste and how can it be recycled?

Ans: Recycling can be described as follows—

- I. The method through which waste products or trash is collected and processed in a manner to turn them into new products is referred to as recycling.
- II. It is a process that helps in the betterment of both the community and the environment.
- III. It also gives numerous employment opportunities and creates awareness about the environment.
- IV. It is done in order to reuse the bad effects of waste.
- V. Waste can be recycled in numerous ways. There are three ways of recycling namely
 - a) **Primary recycling:** This is accomplished without bringing any change to the current state of waste material. For example – Donating unused toys to NGOs so that children can play (reuse) them.
 - b) **Secondary recycling:** - In this type, waste material is reused in some other way than it was originally supposed to do. For example, plastic bottles can be used as pots to hold plants.
 - c) **Tertiary recycling:** In this case, the waste materials undergo chemical changes to be reused. This process is professionally carried out in industries.

VI. In this manner, there are different methods of recycling. Most importantly, it is an important step towards the environment.