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SERVICES AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF HOSNAGARA TOWN PANCHAYAT

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ABSTRACT

Municipal council or Town Panchayat is an institution of local government and constitution of the third tier that play an important role in local economic development; they have a sizeable proportion of overall public financial resources but are nevertheless subject to the scrutiny in terms of physical and financial performance. Finance acts as a life blood to each and every activity of the municipality and helps to increase economic development. Here the study is undertaken to know the financial resources of urban local government Hosanagara Town Panchayat. This help to understand the needs of finance in municipality and how they are going to effective use of those financial resources of the municipality.

KEYWORDS

financial resources, expenditure, services, deficit, surplus.

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INTRODUCTION

Indian Economy has witnessed rapid growth in recent years. Productivity of the cities and towns is one of the important determinants of national Economic growth, job creation and Social development. Provision of basic services in these towns and cities in just one of the fundamental necessities and therefore development of the urban and rural areas is vital for the progress of a nation.

The government of the centre has dismissed the planning commission and replaced it with NITI Aayog, a body of Strategic thinking. The closure of planning commission signifies that planning would no more be top-down but a bottoms-up approach. Therefore the role of local bodies becomes prominent in future. Municipal or urban local bodies (ULBs and Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI) are main providers of key services at the gross root level of the citizen. These local bodies directly deal with the local population and accordingly are best informed about the ground reality.

Local government is the system of electing representatives to be responsible for the administration of public services and facilities in a particular area. Types of local governments: 1. Rural local governments. 2. Urban Local governments.

Urban local governments imply the governance of an urban area by the people through their elected representatives. Urbanization is perceived as a determinant as well as a consequence of economic development over the past two decades. Many countries in Asia experimented rapid economic growth. This has led to rapid rise in their urban population. The local government institutions that are called municipalities and municipal corporations, an urban area is usually a compact and densely populated area. Municipal administration is necessary to provide basic civic facilities like water supply, drainage, garbage disposal, public health, primary education, construction and maintenance of road and sanitation.

Municipal governance in India has existed since the year 1687, with the formation of Madras Municipal Corporation and then Calcutta and Bombay Municipal corporations in 1726. In 1882 the then of Viceroy Indian Lord Ripon's resolution of local self-government laid the democratic forms of municipal governance in India. According to the 1991 census of India, there were 3255 urban local bodies (ULBs) in the country: classified into the four major categories of 1. Municipal Corporation 2. Municipality 3. Town area committee 4. Notified area committee.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the functions and evolution of local government.
2. To examine the financial resources of the town panchayati.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The present study is based on both primary and secondary data and has been collected from Hosanagara Town Panchayat and articles from journals and books. Besides, the various conclusions had drawn on the basis of data analysis and annual reports. And the primary data has been collected through discussion with chief accountant officer of the hosanagara municipality, representative of municipality and general public.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study has been undertaken in Hosanagara taluk. Hosanagara taluk is one among the seven taluks in Shivamogha district, Karnataka. Hosanagara is taluk headquarter and a panchayat town in shivamogha district. It is nested in western ghats of India. Hosanagara is located at a distance of 74 km from its district headquarters shivamogha and is situated 585 meters above sea level. The taluk is full of forested areas. Hosanagara Town Panchayat has been selected to study the financial resources of the municipality and it covers financial resources and rules of Karnataka state. It also covers 8 years analysis of income and expenditure of Hosanagara Town Panchayat from 2009-10 to 2016-17.

EVOLUTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Period (1974-1978): The fifth Five-year plan laid stress on employment, poverty alleviation (Garibi Hatao), and Justice. The plan also focused on self-reliance in agricultural production and defense. In 1978 the newly elected Morargi Desai government rejected the plan. The electricity supply Act was amended in 1975, which enabled the central government to power generation and transmission. The Indian national highway system was introduced and many roads were widened to accommodate the increasing traffic. Tourism also expanded. The twenty-point program was launched in 1975. It was followed from 1974-1979. The Minimum Needs Program (MNP) was introduced in the first year of the fifth Five-Year plan (1974-78). The objective of the program is to provide certain basic minimum needs and thereby improve the living standards of the people.

Period (1980-1985): The sixth Five-Year plan marked the beginning of the economic liberalization, price controls were eliminated and ration shops were closed. This led to an increase in food prices and an increase in the cost of living. This was the end of Nehruvian Socialism. The National bank of Agriculture and Rural Development was established for development of rural areas on 12th July 1982 by recommendation of the Shivaraman Committee. Family planning was also expanded in order to prevent overpopulation. In contrast to China's strict and binding one-child policy, Indian policy did not rely on the threat of force. More prosperous area of India adopted family planning more rapidly than less prosperous areas, which continued to have a high birth rate.

Period (1985-1990): The seventh Five-Year plan was led by the Congress party with Rajiv Gandhi as the prime minister. The plan laid stress on improving the productivity level of industries by upgrading of technology. The main objectives of the seventh five-year plan were to establish growth in areas of increasing economic productivity, Production of food grains and generating employment through "Social Justice". As an outcome of the sixth-year plan, there had been steady growth in agriculture, controls on the rates of inflation and favorable balance of payment, which had provided a strong base for the seventh plan to build on the need for further economic growth under the seventh Five-year plan. India strove to bring about a self-sustained economy in the country with valuable contributions from voluntary agencies and general populace. The eighth plan could not take off in 1990 due to the fast changing political situation at the center and the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 were treated as Annual plans. The eighth plan was finally formulated for the period 1992-1997.

Period 1992-1997: 1989-91 was a period of economic instability in India and hence no five-year plan was implemented. Between 1990 and 92 there were only annual plans. In 1991, India faced a crisis in foreign exchange (forex) reserves, left with reserves of only about US \$1 billion. Thus under pressure the country took the risk of reforming the socialist economy. P.V. Narasimha Rao was the tenth Prime Minister of the republic of India and head of congress party and led one of the most important administrations in India's modern history overseeing a major economic transformation and several incidents affecting national security. At the time, Dr. Manmohan Singh (Later prime minister of India) launched India's free market reforms that brought the nearly bankrupt nation back from the edge. It was the beginning of liberalization privatization and globalization in India.

Modernization of industries was a major highlight of the eighth plan. Under this plan the gradual opening of the Indian economy was undertaken to correct the burgeoning deficit and foreign debt. Meanwhile India becomes a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 1st January 1995. The major objectives included controlling population growth, poverty reduction, employment generation, strengthening in infrastructure, institutional building, tourism management, human resource development, involvement of panchayatrajs, NagaraPalika, NGOs, decentralisation and people's participation.

Period (1997-2002): The ninth five-year plan came after 50 years of Indian independence. Atal Bihari Vajapeyee was the Prime Minister of India during the ninth five-year plan. The ninth five-year plan tired primarily to use the latent and unexplored economic potential of the country to promote economic social growth. It offered strong support to the social spheres of the country in an effort to achieve the complete eradication of poverty. The satisfactory implementation of the eighth five-year also ensured the state's ability to proceed on the path of faster development. New implementation measures in the form of special Action Plan (SAPs) were evolved during the ninth five-year plan to fulfill target with in stipulated time with adequate resources. The SAPs covered the areas of social infrastructure, agriculture and information technology and water polity.

FUNCTIONS

Municipal bodies are performing the traditional civic functions of municipalities. However, the 74th constitution amendment laid down several provisions that would allow these municipalities to go beyond the mere provisions of civic amenities. Now they are expected to play a crucial role in the formulation of plans for local development and implementation of development projects and programs, including those specially designed for urban poverty alleviation. These include:

1. Urban planning including town and regulations of land, use and construction of buildings: Typically the above two functions fall under the purview of the development authority of the city. Ex: Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Bangalore Development Authority (BDA). However, the responsibilities are shared with multiple authorities.
2. Planning for Economic and Social Development: The development of this function is fairly wide, open ended and to extent untidy. Social and economic development programs require sound integrated planning which requires resources and expertise which most of the ULBs.
3. Roads and Bridges: The function of typically shared multiple bodies, city development authorities, municipalities and the public work departments (PWDs)
4. Water Supply for domestic, industries and economical purposes: This function that is most appropriated by ULBs. The current state of urban water supply is quite dismal with billing and collection of only 20% of supplied water and operation and maintenance cost recovery.
5. Public health, Sanitation, Conservancy and solid waste management: Public health, contrary to its significance for social and economic development of the country is not supported by a consistent institutional stature and policy frame work (the last two national health policies were made in 1983 and 2002) at the centre or state level. Solid waste management comprises various steps: collection, segregation, transportation, disposal and recycling.
6. Slum improvement and up gradation: Typically falls under the purview of the housing board and the city development authority. However, similar to the social and economic development function.
7. Urban poverty alleviation: Such a broad mandate with the level of coordination and extent of intervention required again bring to question whether ULBs are the appropriate level of government to discharge this responsibility.
8. Safeguarding the interests of weaker section of society, including the handicapped and mentally retarded.
9. Promotion of cultural education.
10. Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries.

REVENUES

The revenue base of Urban Local Bodies can be categorized into two main types: External sources and Internal sources.

1. EXTERNAL SOURCES: GRANT –IN-AID, PLAN GRANTS AND SHARED TAXES

General purpose: specific purpose; grants in lieu of taxes Animal and Vehicle taxes compensation, Toll compensation (octroi compensation), property tax compensation, per capita grant.

Road Grants School Building Grants, Master Plan Grants, Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozagar Yojana (SJSRY), National Slum Development Scheme (NSDP), Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS), Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), etc.

Entertainment Tax: Motor vehicle tax; land revenue; stamp duties; professional tax; ect. Surcharge on stamp duty, professional tax, motor vehicle tax, entry tax.

2. INTERNAL [OWN] SOURCES: TAX REVENUE, NON-TAX REVENUE

User charges and fees, sale and hire charges.

Property taxes: taxes on vehicles, animals, boats, etc.

Tax on trade and callings and professions; theater tax, tax on advertisement, octroi.

Rents from municipal assets; income from municipal undertaking; income from municipal investment; etc. water charges and water supply donations, trade licensing fee, building permit fee, development charges, Mutation fee, magisterial fines, market fee, and slaughter house fee, encroachment fee, parking fee, sale and hire charges: of Rubbish, of forms, staff quarters Rent, shop rents.

SURPLUS AND DEFICIT ACCOUNT OF HOSNAGARA TOWN PANCHAYAT

TABLE 1

YEAR	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-2017
TOTAL INCOME	1742.29	514.09	393.22	760.43	396.97	358.97	680.33	324.75
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1299.42	518.72	505.28	811.30	271.73	305.33	535.77	425.35
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	442.87	-4.63	-112.06	-50.87	125.24	53.64	144.56	-100.60

Source: Office of the Hosnagara Town Panchayath

FINDINGS

1. The incomes of the town panchayat are general fund, water supply fund and enterprise fund respectively. Under these are classified tax revenue, assigned revenues and compensation, rental income from municipal properties, fee, user charges, sale and hire charges, revenue grants, contributions and subsidies, interest dividend earned, other income.
2. The expenditure of the town panchayath are human resources expenses, general expenses, operations and maintenance, interest and finance charges, programme expenses, grants, provisions and write off.
3. During the year 2009-10 the town panchayat has collected surplus fund.
4. During 2010-11 the town panchayat has incurred deficit fund.
5. During the year 2011-12 the town panchayat has incurred more deficit fund.
6. During the year 2012-13 the town panchayat has incurred deficit fund.
7. During the year 2013-14 the town panchayat has collected more surplus fund.
8. During the year 2014-15 the town panchayat has collected more surplus fund.
9. During the year 2015-16 the town panchayat has collected more surplus fund.
10. During the year 2016-17 the town panchayat has incurred more deficit fund.
11. It is found that the town panchayt has lack of sufficient financial resources due to the poor recovery of the resources.
12. The town panchayat has incurred deficit in some years because the people may delay to pay the taxes to the particular services.
13. Most of the people in town panchayati are not satisfied with the services provided by the town panchayat because they make delay in providing the services.

SUGGESTIONS

1. The town panchayat should take necessary step to increase the financial resources of town panchayat.
2. The town panchayat should provide better civic amenities to the residents.
3. The town panchayat should use all its statutory power to impose taxes charges, fees and finance, grants and contributions, other income etc.
4. Some years the town panchayati has incurred huge deficits because of the staff negligence. So they need to put efforts to collect the revenue from the public.
5. The government should sanction sufficient fund to the town panchayat at the right time for the growth of financial resources.
6. The town panchayat need to elect the educated representative because they are aware about the resources and they use the resource effectively.

CONCLUSION

In the present era, finance place a major role. It acts as backbone of the every activity. The main objective of the every town panchayat is to, give the best services to the development of the economy and the public, and best use of financial resources. The effective utilization of financial resources of the town panchayat helps for the better development of the economy to make success in the economy. The financial resources of the town panchayat in the hosanagara consists of revenue from own sources and revenue from external source. Revenue from external sources, revenue from own sources comprises of tax and non-tax revenue, while as revenue from the state government. Here the hosanagara town panchayat runs in a no profit and no loss situation and some time in huge losses so, to overcome these problems the municipality have to take remedial measure to improve the financial resources of hosanagara municipality

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