

Reform Measures in Municipal Administration – A Study of Jharkhand

1. State of Jharkhand

The State of Jharkhand came into existence in 2000 by bifurcation of the State of Bihar through Bihar Reorganisation Act, 2000. As regards municipalities, the State Government (Notification No.1105B/ 2001-2755 dated 14-11-2000) adapted Bihar Municipal Act, 1922 as Jharkhand Municipal Act, 2000. The Municipal Corporation of Ranchi was governed by Ranchi Municipal Corporation Act, 2001.

2. Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992

The Constitution of India was amended through 74th Amendment Act during 1992 providing for, among others,

- Constitutional status to municipalities
- Three types of municipalities
- Municipalities as institutions of self-governance
- Municipalities mandated to prepare plans for economic development and social justice
- Uniformity in structure and composition of municipalities
- Reservation in seats for weaker section of community and women
- An exclusive list of functions and responsibilities
- State Finance Commission and State Election Commission
- District Planning Committees and Metropolitan Planning Committees

3. Unified Municipal Law

As a measure of urban reform, Government of India (GoI) suggested the State Governments to consider adoption of a unified law governing various municipal bodies like Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Nagar Panchayats. The GoI also has brought out model law.

4. JNNURM

Govt. of India, during 2005-06 have launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), the largest Central Government initiative in the urban sector after Independence with an estimated cost of Rs.50,000 crores to be executed over a period of 7 years. The goals of the mission were *(i) improvement in the existing services in a financially sustainable manner, and (ii) ensuring improvement in urban governance and service delivery*. In terms of goal No.2, a reform agenda has been contemplated and they were in the form of seven (7) mandatory reforms at the level of States, six (6) mandatory reforms at the level of ULBs and parastatal agencies and 10 (ten) optional reforms common to States and ULBs.

5. XIII Finance Commission

The XIII Finance Commission while recommending grants to local bodies suggested that they should be in the form of *(i) general basic grant* on the criteria of population, area, and others; and *(ii) general performance grant* on fulfilling nine (9) reform measures. It was also recommended that the local bodies would be eligible for performance grant only on fulfilment of the reform measures.

6. XIV Finance Commission

The XVI Finance Commission continued the concept of performance grant; and recommended that the local bodies would access the performance grant only on fulfilment of reform measures. However, the reform measures have been reduced to four (4) only.

7. Jharkhand Municipal Act, 2011

The State Legislature of Bihar enacted Jharkhand Municipal Act, 2011. The Act complied the provisions of Constitution 74th Amendment, suggestions made by Government of India (model law), reform agenda contemplated through various urban related projects initiated by Central Government and XIII and IV Finance Commissions. The Act came into force on 9th February, 2012 and was published in Jharkhand Gazette No.63.

With coming into force of the Act;

- Jharkhand Municipal Act, 2000 was repealed
- Ranchi Municipal Corporation Act, 2001 was repealed
- Operation of Ranchi Regional Development Authority set up under the Jharkhand Regional Development Authority Act, 2001 ceased within the limits of Ranchi Municipal Corporation
- Operations of Mineral Area Development Authority set up under Jharkhand Mineral Development Authority Act, 1986 ceased and vested with Dhanbad Municipal Corporation
- Operations of Hazirabagh Mines Board set up under the Hazirabagh Mines Board Act, 1936 ceased and vested with Hazirabagh Municipality.

8. Reforms contemplated in the Act

Various reforms have been contemplated in the Municipal Act and let us see them in the context of conception, application and service.

8.1 State Election Commission [Section 17 (2)]

The superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral rolls, reservation of seats to various categories, rotation of seats and the conduct of election to the councillors under the Act and relevant rules vests with the State Election Commission. The State Election Commission has been constituted in compliance with Art. 243 K and 243 ZA of Constitution of India inserted through 74th Amendment.

The provision relating to the State Election Commissioner is similar to the Election Commission constituted by Union Government under Art. 324. The Election Commission is responsible to superintend, direct and control the preparation of electoral rolls, elections to Parliament, Legislatures of States and the offices of President and Vice president of India.

8.2 Ward Committees, Ward Sabhas and Area Sabhas (Sections 34 to 45)

This reform has been conceived in Constitution 74th Amendment as a measure of community participation. The Constitution contemplated (Art.243 S) Wards Committees consisting of one or more wards within the territorial area of a municipality having a population of three lakhs or more. The States have created Wards Committees for a group of wards instead of for one ward. That too, Wards Committees have been created in bigger towns having more than 3 lakhs population. This arrangement did not serve the purpose of people's participation at grass-root level (ward level). The Wards Committee has become another tier of administration in the city – Council at the city level and Wards Committee at a lower level of 5-10 wards, instead of real decentralised system.

One of the State Level Mandatory Reforms under JNNURM was 'Enactment of Community Participation Law'. It was also contemplated under JNNURM that the States/Cities do not access central assistance, unless the States implement the reform. Therefore States which desired to access JNNURM funds have enacted community participation law.

As a measure of compliance to Constitutional requirement (Art.243 S) as well as a major reform contemplated under JNNURM, the Legislature of Jharkhand has incorporated the community participation law in the Act. This provision enables people participation in municipal matters at the grass root level.

8.3 State Chamber of Municipal Councils (Section 50 -51)

The Act provides that the municipalities in the State may form into an association to be called State Chamber of Municipal Councils. This could be done after obtaining approval from State Government. The basic objective of the Chamber is to advise the Government as well as municipalities on the improvement of municipal administration and other functions prescribed by State Government. The State Government has to issue rules regulating the constitution, aims and objectives of the Chamber, the management and finances of the Chamber and also other relevant matters.

The Chamber of Municipal Chairpersons at State level exists in many States. These chambers are established informally and in some States, they have been registered under Societies Registration Act. These chambers belong mostly for Chairpersons, and there is a remote chance to make recommendations to State Government for improvement of municipal administration. No doubt, chambers in some States are active, but they do not have any statutory support. But in Jharkhand, the Chamber has been given a statutory support and it is the Chamber for Municipal Councils and not for Chairpersons. Further, the Chamber has been empowered to advise the State Government in respect of matters relating to municipal administration.

8.4 Disclosure of information to general public (Section 52-54)

The enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005 by Indian Parliament is a historic event in the annals of democracy in India. Information is power and the citizens of India have a right to access information held by or under the control of public authorities. It has become the duty of all public authorities to provide information sought by citizens. The Act prescribed mandatory disclosure of certain information to citizens. Municipalities are important local government institutions as well as public authorities and they are also bound to provide information sought by citizens as any other public authority.

As a basic obligation, the municipality, under section 4 of RTI Act, provides information *suo motu* to the public through various means of communication; including internet, notice boards, news papers, public announcements, media broadcasts, etc. Keeping the role of Municipality as a public authority and the information generally sought by residents, the following items are identified for proactive disclosure under RTI Act:

- Organisational chart of Municipality
- Basic particulars/statistics of Municipality
- Composition of Council and Committees
- Statement of officers, who grant permissions, permits and concessions
- Statement of officers responsible for delivery of services
- Particulars of fees and user charges for various services
- Details of subsidy programmes and criteria for identifying beneficiaries
- Annual budget

- Details of annual accounts/financial statements
- Particulars of Master Plan and Development Plans
- Minutes of meetings of Council
- Fees for copies of records/ disclosure of information

Even though the RTI Act mandated the mandatory disclosure of information by public offices (including municipalities), the JNNURM suggested *Enactment of Public Disclosure Law* as a mandatory reform at State level to access JNNURM funds. To comply with JNNURM reform, some States have made Public Disclosure Law.

The Legislature of Jharkhand included the Public Disclosure provision in the Municipal Act itself. The information to be compulsorily published by the Municipality is listed in Section 52 (2). They are similar to the list referred in the above para. Under Section 53, the Ward Committee has also been ordered to prepare a quarterly report on financial transactions and make it available for public scrutiny. Section 54 provides the manner of disclosure. The information has to be disclosed through newspapers (English and Hindi), internet, website, radio, local cable and TV channels.

8.5 Municipal Establishment Audit Commission (Section 61)

The State Government may constitute a Municipal Establishment Audit Commission to review the establishment of municipalities in the State once in ten years. The Commission consists a Chairperson and 4 members. Its main function is to carry out necessary studies and fix norms and standards of manpower for different tasks performed at various levels in the municipality. Other details for functioning of the Commission will be regulated through rules issued by Government.

Generally, to attend to this nature of work, State Government appoints adhoc committee specifying the terms of reference and time-frame. Based on the report, Government takes suitable decision. But in this case, the Legislature has made a provision in the Act for constitution of Establishment Audit Commission at certain designated intervals.

8.6 Municipal Ombudsman (Section 63-69)

Ombudsman is an official appointed by Government to receive and investigate complaints made by individuals against abuses or capricious acts of public officials. On such complaints, he investigates, reports to higher officials, and helps settle complaints.

Ombudsman was borrowed from Swedish, where it means "representative". In early 1800s, Sweden became the first country to appoint an independent official known as *ombudsman* to investigate complaints against government officials and agencies. Since then, other countries (such as Finland, Denmark, and New Zealand), as well as some U.S. states, have appointed similar officials. The word *ombudsman* was first used in English in the late 1950s; and by 1960s, it was also being used to refer to a person who reviews complaints against an organization (such as a school or hospital) or to someone who enforces standards of journalistic ethics at a newspaper. In India also, office of Ombudsman is introduced in various sectors including banking and insurance etc.

In the municipal sector, it was first proposed by XIII Finance Commission. The XIII FC in its report (award period 2010-2015) introduced General Performance Grant for Municipal Bodies. It was also mandated that Performance Grant can be accessed by Municipalities if the States and Municipalities fulfil certain conditions. One of the conditions was that the State must put in place a system of independent Local Body Ombudsman to look into complaints of corruption and maladministration against officials and elected members of local bodies. It was also mentioned therein that certification from State would be sufficient as a compliance of condition.

The States have already in place institutions with different names to look into complaints of corruption and maladministration. They referred such institutions to the FC and received the performance grant. However, some States have introduced office of Ombudsman in the Municipal Act.

In Jharkhand, the institution of Municipal Ombudsman has been incorporated in the Municipal Act itself. The State Government would appoint one or more Municipal Ombudsmen. The method of appointment, the age limit, the tenure and method of removal

etc. are detailed in Section 63. The powers of Ombudsman are listed in Section 64 and they are similar as referred above. The qualification for appointment as Ombudsman, the remuneration and support details have been provided in Section 66. A provision to review the orders issued by Ombudsman has also been made under Section 67 and it has been given to the High Court of the State. All other details of functioning of Ombudsman are governed through rules to be issued by Government (Section 69).

8.7 State Finance Commission (Section 97)

The Jharkhand Municipal Act (Section 97) provided that the State Government, after considering the recommendations of State Finance Commission determine

- Devolution of net proceeds of taxes, duties, tolls, and fees to the municipalities,
- Assignment of taxes, duties, tolls and fees to the municipalities,
- Sanction of grants-in-aid to the municipalities from the Consolidated Fund of the State Government, and
- Other measures required to improve the financial position of the municipalities.

This provision is made in compliance of Art.243 I read with Art.243 Y of the Constitution (inserted by 74th Amendment) of India which mandates constitution of Finance Commission at State level.

This provision is similar to the Finance Commission constituted by Union Government under Art. 280 of the Constitution. The Union Government constitutes Finance Commission once in five year and the Commission consists a Chairman and four members. The Commission recommends

- Distribution between the Union and States of the net proceeds of taxes
- Principles governing the release of grants-in-aid to the States
- Measures to augment consolidated funds of the State Governments to supplement resources of panchayats and municipalities, and
- Any other matter referred to it by the President.

8.8 Jharkhand Urban Development Fund (Section 98)

The Municipal Act provides [Section 98 (4)] that the State Government may constitute an Authority to institute Jharkhand Urban Development Fund to finance urban development projects in the State. The constitution of the Authority will be as per the rules prescribed by Government.

Some States like Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh have established Urban Finance & Infrastructure Development Corporations to institute a Fund and to finance urban development projects in the States. The Corporations are established as government companies or registered societies. Instead of such arrangement, Jharkhand desired to constitute the Authority on the basis of rules prescribed by Government.

8.9 Accrual based accounting system (Section 112 and 113)

The Municipality has to prepare and maintain accounts by way of accrual based double entry accounting system (Section 112) and the State Government has to prepare and maintain a Manual to be called Municipal Accounting Manual containing details of all financial matters and procedures relating thereto (Section 113).

The Govt. of India way back in 2004 forwarded National Municipal Accounts Manual (NMAM) to State Governments and suggested the States to develop state-specific account manuals. The NMAM followed accrual based double entry accounting model on the suggestions of Finance Commissions and emerging urban reforms across the country. The XIII and XIV Finance Commissions also suggest that municipal accounts are made on the lines suggested in NMAM and accounts on NMAM model have been made mandatory to access performance grant for municipalities. The Jharkhand Municipal Act incorporated these provisions in the Act.

8.10 Municipal Accounts Committee (Section 124)

The Municipal Council constitutes Municipal Accounts Committee and its term is one year. The number of members in the Committee stands between three and fifteen and one of the members will be elected as Chairperson of the Committee. The functions of the Committee include:

- Examine the accounts of the municipality including annual accounts
- Examine and scrutiny of audit report of accounts
- Submit reports to Standing Committee
- Such other functions as may be prescribed.

The State Government will issue rules governing the constitution of the committee, manner of transaction of business and other details. This Committee resembles Public Accounts Committee (of State Assembly) and the functions relate to examination of accounts and audit reports of municipality.

8.11 Municipal Bonds and Credit Rating (Section 146 and 147)

Section 146 (1) provides that the municipality may issue tax-free municipal bonds to finance urban infrastructure projects. For the purpose of raising the funds through Municipal Bonds, the municipality may arrange credit rating from Credit Rating Agency [Section 147 (1)].

No doubt the current municipal finances could not provide sufficient funds to take up major infrastructure projects in the municipality. The municipalities are short of funds even for normal maintenance costs. It is therefore necessary that municipalities have to look for alternate sources, one among them is municipal bonds. Generally, no municipality in the country is opting for municipal bonds. Yet, the Legislature of Jharkhand made a provision in the Act enabling the municipalities to issue municipal bonds and go for credit rating. It is really a bold attempt.

8.12 Jharkhand Property Tax Board (Section 153)

Section 153 provides constitution of Jharkhand Property Tax Board by the State Government. The Board consists a Chairperson and two members. The Board also will have a Secretary. The main functions of the Board include:

- Enumerate all properties in the municipalities and develop a data base
- Review property tax system and suggest suitable basis for valuation of properties
- Design transparent procedure for valuation of properties including periodic revision
- Undertake valuation of properties in the municipalities
- Recommend modalities for dispute resolution of taxation

- Publish annual work plan in the Gazette
- Undertake training of officers and employees of municipalities on taxation
- Render advice on valuation of properties to municipalities.

A provision is also made for issue of rules by State Government and regulations by the Board. An annual report has to be made by the Board and it would be placed before the Legislature of the State.

As a condition to access Performance Grant, the XIII Finance Commission, among others, has mooted that the State would put in place a state level Property Tax Board, which will assist municipalities for assessing property tax transparently and independently. It was also said that passage of relevant legislation and work plan by the Board is sufficient for release of performance grant. Many State Governments amended the Municipal Acts and made a provision for establishment of State Property Tax Board. The Legislature of Jharkhand has incorporated the provision in the Municipal Act.

8.13 Private Sector Participation Agreement (Sections 192 -194)

Section 192 provides that the municipality may promote undertaking of infrastructure projects through public-private partnership (PPP) in financing, construction, operation and maintenance; and consider taking up such project through PPP agreement or an institution or a government agency or through joint partnership.

Section 193 refers various PPP agreements like BOT, lease contract, management contract, service contract etc. Section 194 provides that the municipality may undertake the functions assigned to it on its own or through any other agency through PPP agreement.

In States like Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, separate legislations have been made for undertaking projects on PPP model. Municipal projects are also governed under these legislations. But in Jharkhand, a provision has been made in the Municipal Act itself for undertaking infrastructure projects under PPP mode. Like issue of Municipal Bonds, undertaking projects on PPP mode also is a bold attempt.

8.14 Entrusting Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of water works and billing and collecting of charges to private agency (Section 217)

The municipality may entrust the work relating to O&M of water works and billing and collecting of water charges to a private agency. This can be done with the approval of Standing Committee.

While Section 192 and 193 govern capital projects of infrastructure nature, Section 217 covers maintenance of water supply including billing and collection of water charges.

8.15 Entrustment of management and handling of solid wastes and billing and collection of charges to private agency (Section 252)

The municipality may levy charge for the purpose of management and handling of municipal solid wastes; and for creating infrastructure for collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of such waste. Secondly, the municipality may entrust the development of infrastructure; and billing and collection of charges therefor to a private agency. This would be done with the approval of Standing Committee.

While Section 217 relates to maintenance of water supply, Section 252 relates to management of solid waste. Both are maintenance related activities and differ with Sections 192 and 193 which govern capital projects of infrastructure nature.

8.16 State Municipal Regulatory Commission (Sections 262-268 and 271-289)

State Government constitutes Jharkhand Municipal Regulatory Commission and the Commission consists a Chairperson and not more than 3 members. The functions of the Commission include:

- Determine rate of water charges for the municipalities
- Determine rate of sewerage charges for the municipalities
- Determine the principles for fixing charges for solid waste management for municipalities
- Determine principles for fixing charges for any other service
- Set standard for provision of various services
- Suggest avenues of participation of private sector

- Ensure fair deal to residents
- Promote competition, efficiency and economy in provision of services among municipalities
- Also determine rates of user charges (Section 273).

State Government may also entrust the following functions:

- Aid and advise State Government to formulate policy at State level on any matter concerning provision of services by municipalities
- Collect, record and publish data base of municipal services in the State
- Adjudicate disputes between municipal authorities and providers of municipal services in the State
- Coordinate with environmental regulatory agencies and evolve policies and procedures for appropriate environmental regulation of municipal services.

Any person aggrieved by the decision or order of the State Regulatory Commission may file an appeal in the High Court and the appeal has to be preferred within sixty days (Section 272).

The State Regulatory Commission has to prepare an annual budget showing estimated receipts and expenditure; and forward the budget to the State Government (Section 274).

The Regulatory Commission has to maintain proper accounts and registers; and prepare an annual accounts statement in a form determined by State Government in consultation with Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). The accounts will be audited by the CAG at such intervals as may be determined by him. The accounts of the Regulatory Commission and the report of the CAG thereon would be placed before the State Legislature (Section 275).

The State Regulatory Commission has to prepare every year an annual report giving the summary of its activities during the previous year and copy of report has to be forwarded to State Government and the State Government would lay the report before the State Legislature (Section 277).

The State Government may make rules to provide for salary, allowances and other terms and conditions of the services of chairperson and members; the form and manner of oath taking, the manner of preparation of budget, the manner of preparation of accounts, the manner of preparation of annual report and any other relevant matter (Section 288).

Similarly, the Regulatory Commission may make regulations relating to powers and duties of Secretary to Commission, salary and allowances and conditions of service of Secretary and other officers and employees of Commission, terms and conditions of appointment of consultants, manner in which user charges are determined and any other relevant matter (Section 289).

Regulatory Commissions were constituted in certain States for regulating power tariff of electricity authorities. However, in Jharkhand, the Municipal Regulatory Commission regulates the tariff and other related issues of various services provided by municipalities in the State.

8.17 Jharkhand State Municipal Advisory Committee (Section 269 – 270)

State Government constitutes Municipal Advisory Committee. The Committee consists not more than 21 members representing the interests of commerce, industry, transport, agriculture, labour, consumers of municipal services, municipalities, non-governmental organizations, academic and research bodies in the municipal sector. It is a broad-based committee.

The functions of the committee basically are to advise the State Regulatory Commission (referred above) on:

- Major questions of policy
- Matters relating to quality, continuity and extent of services provided by municipalities
- Protection of consumers of municipal services, and
- Improvement of overall standards of performance, efficiency and economy in the provision of services by the municipalities.

8.18 Benchmarking of service levels by Municipalities (Section 328)

The municipality has to notify every year the standards to be achieved in relation to services relating to water supply, sewerage, sanitation, solid waste management etc. as prescribed by State Government. The notification has to be made before the year starts and the standards have to be notified for the year. Secondly, the notification has to be made in the State Gazette and the standards have to aim at achieving the benchmarks prescribed by Government of India. The municipality has to review periodically the status of delivery of the services.

Benchmarking is well recognized, as an important mechanism for introducing accountability in service delivery. Sustained benchmarking can help municipalities in identifying performance gaps and effecting improvements in better services to citizens. Recognizing its importance, the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Government of India (GoI) way back in 2001 developed a handbook on service levels in urban water supply and sanitation sector. It seeks to identify minimum set of standard parameters for water and sanitation sectors; and set guidelines as how to operationalise the framework in a phased manner. Certain indicators were prescribed for (i) water supply, (ii) sewerage, (iii) solid waste management and (iv) storm water drainage.

The 13th FC noted the dilution of standards in the municipal services; and included the Service Level Benchmarking (SLB) as one of the nine mandatory conditions to be complied to access the general performance grant recommended by it to the municipalities. The bench marks related to 4 sectors.

The 14th FC reiterated the need for service delivery improvements and recommended notification of SLBs to access performance grant to the municipalities. To access performance grant, the municipalities have to publish the service level benchmarks relating to basic urban services each year and make it publically available. The service level benchmarks of the Ministry of Urban Development have to be used for this purpose.

The Jharkhand Municipal Act incorporated these conditions in the Act itself and made the municipalities to notify service level bench marks for various services.

8.19 District Planning Committee (Section 383)

The State Government has to constitute District Planning Committee at the district level to consolidate the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district and to prepare a development plan for the district as a whole. The Committee consists members representing the panchayats as well as municipalities in the district.

The Committee while preparing the draft development plan shall have regard to the matters of common interest between the panchayats and municipalities including spatial planning, sharing of water and other physical and natural resources, integrated development of infrastructure and environmental conservation and the extent of available financial and other resources. The Committee should also consult other institutions and organisations as the State Government specify.

This provision is made in compliance with Art.243 ZD of the Constitution which has been inserted through the 74th Amendment.

8.20 Metropolitan Planning Committee(Section 384)

The Government may constitute a Metropolitan Planning Committee in a metropolitan area to prepare a draft development plan for such area as a whole.

The Metropolitan Planning Committee shall consists the members from the elected members of the municipalities and the panchayats in the metropolitan area (through election), and senior officers of government departments (nominated by government) . The Minister in charge of urban development is the Chairperson of the Committee and there would be a Secretary to the Committee.

The Committee prepares a draft development plan for the metropolitan area as a whole and perform such other functions relating to planning and co-ordination for the metropolitan area as may be assigned to it by the State Government from time to time.

While preparing the draft development plan, the Committee shall, have regard to the plans prepared by the municipalities and the panchayats in the metropolitan area in matters of common interest between the municipalities and panchayats including the co-ordinated spatial planning of the area, sharing of water and other physical and natural resources, the integrated development of infrastructure and environmental conservation; the overall objectives and priorities set out by the Central and the State Government; the extent and the nature of investments likely to be made in the metropolitan area by agencies of the Central and State Governments and other available financial and other resources. The Committee has to consult such institutions and organizations as the State Government may specify. The regulations relating to the meetings of the Metropolitan Planning Committee will be governed by the rules prescribed by Government.

This provision is made in compliance with Art.243 ZE of the Constitution which has been inserted through the 74th Amendment.

9. Rules and Regulations

Chapter 46 of the Act deals with subordinate legislation, ie., rules and regulations. Under Section 590, the State Government has to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act subject to previous publication and every rule made by the Government has to be laid before the State Legislature. The rules have to be notified in Official Gazette.

Section 592 provides that the municipality may make regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the Act. However, before making regulations, the municipality has to publish draft of the regulations for public inspection; and the regulations have to be approved by State Government before they are published in the Official Gazette.

The Act also provides that the Jharkhand Property Tax Board which has been constituted under Section 153 has to make regulations for carrying out the purposes of the Act [Sec 153 (5)].

The Act also provides that the State Municipal Regulatory Commission constituted under Section 263 has to make regulations (Section 289) to carry out the purposes of the Act, and in particular

- Powers and duties of Secretary of the Board
- Salary and allowances of Secretary and other employees of the Board
- Terms and conditions of appointment of consultants
- Manner in which user charges are determined.

In this connection, it is to be noted that the rules and regulations have to be made in consistent with the provisions of the Act.

10. Way forward

Now that the Legislature of Jharkhand has made a comprehensive Municipal Act covering the traditional responsibilities and emerging reforms (legislative part of governance), it is time that the Government, the Municipalities and other institutions created/constituted by the Act have to make rules and regulations (subordinate legislation) to carry out various provisions of the Act.
