ABSTRACT

The pattern of urbanization in India is characterized by continual concentration of population and activities in large cities; this is manifested in a high percentage of urban population being concentrated in the large cities. Growth of metropolitan cities has created serious challenges and imposing greater demands for municipal government, majority of urban services spill over various municipal boundaries. Metropolitan governance today can be seen as a composite function of overlapping institutions, neither a centralist model with instruction and execution, nor the federal model with subsidiary delegation of functions is adequate in forming lasting solutions. Metropolitan governance therefore falls quite naturally into the debate on describing and understanding the functionality of polycentric development. The major issues of metropolitan governance are, fragmentation and jurisdictional conflicts, inappropriate decentralised scheme, issues of spatial planning, metropolitan service delivery, issues of transparency & accountability and institutional constraints etc.

This research attempts to bridge the gap between Bangalore Metropolitan Center and Metropolitan Region in the context of metropolitan governance framework, delivery of services and spatial planning. The service delivery model of water supply was framed using various water utility indicators to know the service delivery index, operational efficiency index and performance index within the Bangalore Metropolitan Region. The research finding concludes that Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board stands good in position while comparing to other Water Boards (local bodies).

The governing of city requires ideal growth and compact development. In Bangalore case urban sprawl played a major role for shaping the city structure. The study conducted by the London School of Economics for city integration with governance comparing with Mumbai and Bangalore has poor governance due to more sprawls. Integration of service delivery model and spatial planning indicator analysis shows that urban form directly impact on governance, the managing or governing metropolitan cities like Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata etc, it requires strategic spatial plan focusing on effective and efficient delivery of service to the citizens.

The research study recommends that to establish Unified Metropolitan Planning Authority to plan preparation, implementation and to provide effective and efficient service delivery to the citizens. Water supply should be provided to one agency within
the Bangalore Metropolitan Region to work under Unified Metropolitan Planning Authority or could be merged to Urban Local Bodies arm. In Ahmadabad and Kolkata, cities (Urban Local Bodies) themselves provide water supply to citizens. The decentralised planning is good for enhanced service delivery and spatial planning within the Bangalore Metropolitan Region. The research findings suggest that instead of one strong Corporation and ten very smaller municipalities, the diversity of operations and governing the city or town vary. Clearly, no one system of metropolitan governance is likely to work equally well for all urban local bodies. Bangalore Metropolitan Region Governance (BMRG) Bill, 2010, will supersede all the Acts, Laws and Policies within the BMR. This study suggested governance model for integrating Bangalore Metropolitan Center and Metropolitan Region.