Local Government acquires significance in the whole of the world along with economic reforms. More than eighty countries in the world attach much importance to local governance as political demands have increased for effective and efficient delivery of services. Objectives for strengthening of local governments are of different types and they vary from country to country. In India local bodies got paramount importance after the enactment of the 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution of India. The core objectives are: changing the mode of activities from the supply driven to the demand driven, making people participate in the process of governance and development, deepening of democracy and achieving economic development and social justice. Before going into the details of the new dispensation, the basics of the concept have to be explained.

The term “Local Government” means management of the local affairs by the people of the locality. It is based on the principle that the local problems and needs can be looked after by the people of the locality better than by the Central or State Governments. Though the Local Government enjoys autonomy of operations, it is subject to legal restrictions imposed by the higher level governments. Often the functions performed by the Local Governments are inter-linked with the functions of Central or State Governments.
Features of the Local Government

The Local Government has certain key features: The Local Government’s jurisdiction is limited to a specific area. It has a definite territory; it is concerned with the problems and solutions relating to that specified area; the Local Government is primarily concerned with the promotion of the interests of the local people; the Local Government is governed by the locally elected representatives; the Local Government provides for its own finance and frames its own budget.

Role of the Local Government

When the people begin to live together in a locality certain problems arise from communal living. The Local Government, with its knowledge of the locality, plays a vital role in finding solutions to these problems. The roles played by the Local Government are as follows:

The Local Government provides an extensive range of services like public health, sanitation, garbage disposal, water supply, prevention of epidemics, lighting, formation of roads etc., to the people; it reduces the burden on the Central and State Governments by providing services to the local people; it serves as an effective check on the authoritarian tendencies of the Central and State Governments because of the devolution of authority to the Local Government; the Local Government develops the spirit of liberty among the people as it provides them opportunities to govern themselves; the Local Government serves as a training ground for democracy as it trains the politicians in the art of governance.

The Local Governments in India can be broadly classified into Rural Local Governments and Urban Local Governments.
Rural Local Governments in India

The village was a basic unit of the Rural Local Governments in India in ancient and medieval times. During the British regime, the importance of the Rural Local Governments was not taken into account. The Royal Commission on Decentralization (1909) recommended the re-introduction of the Rural Local Governments at the village level. However, an attempt to popularize the Rural Local Governments was made only after independence.

On 2nd October 1952, the Government of India introduced the Community Development Programme in fifty-six selected blocks. But, the programme could not be implemented properly. In order to implement the programme more effectively, the National Planning Commission appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Balwantrai Mehta. The Committee submitted its Report in the year 1957. The Committee pointed out the reasons for the lack of proper implementation of the Community Development Programme and recommended a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj comprising of the following:

1. Village Panchayat at the village level,
2. Panchayat Samiti at the block level, and,
3. Zilla Parishad at the district level.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act has provided constitutional status to the rural local governments. This Act has provided a three-tier system known as the Panchayati Raj System, consisting of Village Panchayat at the village level, Taluk Panchayat at the intermediary level and District Panchayat at the district level. At
present, this system plays an effective role in the implementation of development programmes in rural areas.

**Urban Local Governments**

**Nature and Scope of Urban Local Government**

Municipal government and administration is no longer a simple affair. It has become quite complicated and complex with the phenomenal increase in the process of urbanization and consequent spurt in the emergence of the urban problems and the increase in their functions. In the post-independence period it was envisaged that in the new set up local bodies as instrument of national policy would be used more and more and there would be steady increase their functions. In the first Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission’s thinking was that the general direction of policy should be to encourage self governing bodies and to assist them in assuming responsibilities for as large a portion of the administrative and social functions as possible. Accordingly the local governments are called upon not only to provide for civic services and facilities like water supply, sewerage, transport, health and sanitation, recreation etc. but also to carry out the programmes of national development. Their responsibilities have consequently increased manifold for providing better conditions of living, ameliorating the lot of the urban poor etc. and to ensure adequate infrastructure and suitable administrative and managerial structure to cope with the urban problems of unprecedented nature and magnitude. The scope of local governments has thus become very wide and includes numbers areas in its sphere of study. The following areas can be easily discerned which constitute the subject matter of its study.
(i) Urbanization and Urban Problems: - The process of urbanization in India is going on at an accelerated pace due to industrialization, migration from rural areas and the natural increase in population due to population explosion with the result that the urban population which constituted 50 million at the time of independence had reached 350 millions by the end of last century. The growth of urbanization on such an unprecedented scale has confronted urban governments with gigantic urban problems such as unplanned and haphazard growth of towns and cities, unbearable strain on urban governments for provision of civil amenities, traffic congestion, growth of slums, shortage of houses, scourge of urban poverty, menace of pollution, lack of employment opportunities etc.

(II) Structure of Urban Governments: - The local affairs of cities/towns are to be administered by local institutions of various forms such as Nagar Panchayats, Municipal Committees, Municipal Corporations and Cantonment Boards, each urban area to be assigned the form of local government it deserves by virtue of the criteria laid down in terms of its population, territorial dimensions and revenue resources, depending on the size of their population and the financial viability as provided in the Constitution (74* amendment) Act, 1992.

(III) Municipal Legislation: - Local government being a state subject, is created by the concerned state legislature, which enacts appropriate laws determining its status and providing for the constitution of the elected councils, co-option and nomination of members procedure of election, term of the council, election and removal of officer bearers, their powers and functions, finances, state control etc. The various Acts
are also amended form time to time in the light of the changing needs of the urban governments.

(iv) Municipal Personnel Management: The urban governments with their enlarged responsibilities and complicated financial, technical and administrative problems require efficient and well qualified personnel to man various positions. They can be attracted to municipal services only when they are selected on merit, given salaries, avenues of promotion and other conditions of service comparable to those available to their counterparts in other government departments. The provincialisation of municipal services in various states has no doubt, improved matters to a great extent but it would be desirable to merge the state cadres of municipal services in the corresponding state cadres. This would not only give a psychological boost to the local bodies personnel but the homogeneity between the state government and local government source will also raise the level of local performance.

(v) Municipal Finance Administration: Municipal governments in order to be viable, require finances commensurate with their responsibilities and obligations but unfortunately they suffer from acute paucity of funds. The urban governments have not shown much aptitude for efficient financial management and control; there is wastage, there are leakages of revenues, there is extensive under-assessment, several sources of income have not been tapped, inability has been shown to impose new taxes or increase the existing ones. The denial of sharing of revenues by the central and state governments with the urban governments to which they are entitled, rigid stipulation for raising of loans and inadequacy of grants by the central/state governments are other factors responsible for poor finance of urban local bodies. In order
to put urban governments on sound footing, budgetary processes require to be streamlined by training budget officers, introduction of a good system of continuous internal and external audit, for which the central and state governments are expected to provide necessary help and guidance to the urban local bodies. The State Finance Commissions provided in the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 will ensure the financial viability of the urban local bodies on their recommendation being accepted by the state government.

(vi) **State Control Over Urban Governments**:- The state governments exercise supervision and control over urban governments to ensure minimum standard of services and proper performance of their functions through legislative, administrative and financial control. The urban governments are subject to judicial control also for their acts of omission and commission. But instead of providing guidance, advice and support to the urban governments in the discharge of their functions in an effective and efficient manner, the state government’s control over them is of negative, regulatory and restrictive nature, the worst kind of which is supersession which meets out punishment not only to the elected councillors but also to the whole lot of citizens by depriving them of the elected institution of local government. Urban centres contribute immensely to national prosperity. The central and state governments should, therefore, act as their friends and beneficiaries and not as their powerful rivals or disinterested spectators.

With the enactment of the 74th Nagarpalika Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 a uniform structure of municipal bodies has been ensured throughout the country. According to Article 243-Q of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992, there shall be constituted in ever
State a Nagar Panchayat for a transitional area, that is to say, an area in transition from a rural area to an urban area, a Municipal Council for a smaller urban area and a municipal corporation for a larger urban area in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

**Statement of the Problem**

Local government at the grassroot level plays a vital role in inculcating political training and political awareness among the elected representatives and people as well. The Councillors, elected directly by the people, are expected to fulfil various civic needs such as drinking water supply, roads, street lights, solid waste management etc. To fulfil such civic needs the Councillors should possess necessary qualities to study the people of the Ward concerned. The researcher has analysed whether the Councillor’s performance is based on their educational qualification or political affiliation and help whether these the Councillor to function effectively in his Ward and in the Council? Whether the Councillor’s effective functioning and delivery of services to the Ward people largely depends upon his religion or caste?; whether cordial relations with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Commissioner and other officials determine the effective role of the Councillor; how the various sections of the people such as businessmen, social activists, local politicians, women’s group, youth leaders of the locality help enhance the role and activities of the Councillor.

Moreover effective delivery of civic services and enlightening of the democratic culture at the local level largely depend upon the statutory structure and organization of the institutions along with the back up of powers, functionaries and finance. Therefore the study
examines the evolution, organization and working of the various departments and how far they strengthen the successful functioning of the Municipal Corporation.

Review of Literature

Research in Public Administration is a neglected field and this is especially true of research in administration of urban areas, in spite of several Municipal Corporations functioning in this country. A number of historical, descriptive and biographical studies, Government reports, institutional research, seminars and conferences and a number of other studies have been attempted to discuss the various aspects of Municipal Administration.

Hugh Tinker’s “Foundations of Local Self-Government in India, Pakistan and Burma” (1954) is a historical study based on several thousand letters, reports, returns, minutes of proceedings etc. His work focuses on an extensive review of Municipal Administration ever since the foundations of modern Local Government in India during the period 1687 to 1880 to the emergence of the National Government in India in 1947. His main conclusion is that the comparative lack of success of local authorities in India “has been due partly to failures in British and Indian leadership, and partly to certain other adverse factors such as poverty, political ferment, social flux and economic chaos which were both fortuitous and yet inescapable.”

Another important work is R. Argal’s “Municipal Government in India”, which was a D.Litt. thesis of Allahabad University. His study is based on the materials collected by him personally from 1946 to 1950 from State Secretariats and Municipal offices. He had consulted “the vast
amount of materials that was lying in the Government reports, circulars, notifications, proceedings of the Legislative Councils and Assemblies and in the judicial decisions,”

On the basis of his study he suggests certain remedies like provision for a Municipal Inspectorate. He, however, claims that he is “aware of the general feeling that Municipal Administration is a byword for maladministration.”

There are a number of books which are essentially descriptive and refer to the functioning of Municipal Government in India. A book entitled “Urbs Indis-A Plan For Municipal Reform” (1947) by H.D. Shourie of the “Civil Service in Punjab” contains reflections on the subject of Municipal Administration. In a booklet, “A Study of Local Self-Government in Urban India” (1958), P.K. Matto of the Military Lands and Cantonments Service in Punjab makes some very interesting observations on Local Government. For example he argues that there is no need for having Rural Panchayats unless “it be for the purpose of small scale litigation.” He also criticizes “the present-day tendency to study the problems of Rural and Urban Local Self-Government Institutions together.” He pleads for reform of Local Bodies, which have inherited a weak and insufficient administrative set up.

R.L. Khanna, Deputy Director, Local Government, Punjab, in his book, “Municipal Government and Administration in India” (1967), discusses the structure of Municipal Government and the organization of Municipal Authorities. One of his interesting contributions is in respect of defects and deficiencies in the Municipal Service in India. R.K.Bhardwaj, a Member of the Metropolitan Council, Delhi, in his book, “The Municipal Administration in India-A Sociological Analysis of Rural and Urban India,” discusses the problems regarding the relationship
between the Union Government and Local Bodies and also what he calls “the State Governments’ patronage on financial matters.”


In the book “Financing Urban Development in India” (1986), the Editor K.S.R.N. Sharma has compiled the lectures delivered by eminent scholars on Municipal Administration. According to the book “Assessment Code for Valuation of Properties in the Municipal Corporations” (1977), efforts are made to bring about uniformity in assessment procedure on the basis of the existing Municipal Legislations, Government Orders, Manuals, Byelaws, Rules, Standing Orders etc.

contains a careful selection of articles from the quarterly journal, “Nagarlok”, during the first 10 years of its existence (1969-78) and covers various themes on Municipal and urban affairs in India, such as the system of Municipal Organization, Administrative Processes, State Local Relations and Municipal Finances. An important biographical study on Municipal work is “Making of the Leader Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel” by A.R.G.Tiwari, which is exclusively devoted to Patel’s role in Ahmedabad Municipality during 1917-22. This study was undertaken by Dr. Tiwari, Head of the Post Graduate Department of History, Sardar Patel University. His study is based on the Municipal records of Ahmedabad made available to the author by the Mayor of the Corporation.

The Administrative Reforms Commission appointed a number of study teams to study various aspects of Local Government including Municipal Administration. In the Report of the Study Team on District Administration (1967), a chapter is devoted to urban Local Bodies. The Study Team observes that the terms of reference of the Rural-Urban Relationship Committee were comprehensive and they covered “all important aspects of Urban Local Government”. The Study Team comments that “There does not appear to be much point in our covering the same ground as the Committee has. Consequently, we have confined ourselves to one important aspect only, namely, the relationship of Urban Local Bodies and Panchayati Raj in the context of the development needs of the District.”

The study of two cities, namely, Agra and Poona, conducted by Donald B. Rosenthal is perhaps the first comprehensive field investigation on city politics. But the scope of this study is not confined merely to community power structure and decision-making aspects.
Since the decision-making power of the elected council in city politics is limited, Rosenthal has widened the scope of his study by including the role of administrative personnel and the state legislature in so far as they influence the decisions of the Municipal Councils.

A study on the city politics of Lucknow has been made by Rodreick Church.\textsuperscript{21} The work covers the various ramifications of municipal politics along with community power structure and decision-making. The study of Indore by Rodney Jones presents a structural model, which covers various features of city politics.\textsuperscript{22} It also suggests a solution to the unity of analysis problem. The urban political sub system goes beyond the local municipal institutions and the unit of analysis is “town outward”. To clarify this model, Rodney Jones considers it useful to distinguish three levels of analysis of urban politics, the city as an actor in state politics, the politics of the city as a whole and the politics of urban sub-systems. The study of Indore urban politics is a departure from the studies conducted by Rosenthal and Church. The framework of the study is broad compared to that of the other two studies. The work of Jones is the first attempt at a detailed analysis of the politics of an Indian city.

The study of Jodhpur city by S.K. Lai has combined three approaches for the identification of the elite.\textsuperscript{23} They are positional, reputational and participating. By adopting a simultaneous use of the three approaches one is equipped to assess the validity of each approach in comparison with the others.

Professor Ali Ashrafs work entitled “Government and Politics of Big Cities” is a comparative study of Kanpur, Calcutta and Ahmedabad.\textsuperscript{24}
The comparative work enumerates different facts of urban politics like factions in civic government, profile of municipal Councillors, Municipal Administration and performance of Municipal Government with regard to development problems. Ajay Mehra’s study, “The politics of Urban Development” a study of Old Delhi (1991) which mainly concentrates on the process of redeveloping Shajahanabad and examines the interface between society and politics involved in plans for urban renewal.\textsuperscript{25} Rana Tahseen’s work “Urban Politics and Administration” (1989) provides an indepth analysis of the key social and political forces, the inter-party and intra-party conflicts as well as the latent opportunism of the political parties that have played so conspicuous a role in the articulation of Allahabad city politics.\textsuperscript{26}

In his recent study “Public Health and Urban Development—A Case of Surat Plague”,\textsuperscript{27} Ghanshyam Shah has praised the services of S.R. Rao, the Municipal Commissioner of Surat, who has indeed done exceptional work in changing the image of Surat City which was earlier affected by plague due to the callousness of the local citizens and the workers of the Public Health Department of the Surat Municipal Corporation. The performance of S.R. Rao is exceptional because most of the bureaucrats holding similar or corresponding positions have not involved themselves so completely in their respective jobs. The major lesson that Surat teaches is that a job, however difficult, can be done if one is determined to carry it out with sincerity and that there is scope for remedial measures even within the existing system.

Philip Oldenburg’s “Big City Government in India-Councilor, Administrator and Citizen in Delhi” is a revised edition of the author’s Ph.D. dissertation completed during 1974 for the Department of Political
Science of the University of Chicago, U.S. The author has systematically described and analyzed the way urban administration in Old Delhi works, particularly at the Municipal ward level, within a system of decentralized administration. However, Oldenburg’s findings are limited to his survey of one ward only and, therefore, its usefulness is naturally limited.

Professor Hoshiar Singh’s research work “State Supervision Over Municipal Administration: A Case Study of Rajasthan a Ph.D. thesis” highlights the significant issue areas pertaining to legislative, administrative, financial and judicial control over urban local bodies by the State Government in Rajasthan. In relation to state-local body relationship he concludes that what is required is an understanding and readjustment of jurisdiction among the national, state and local Governments in terms of collaborative decentralization which, in turn, could strengthen the forces of integration in national life.

Mrs. Om Purie Srivastava, in her book “Municipal Government and Administration in India,” a Ph.D. thesis, has attempted to examine and evaluate the State Government’s control over Municipal Corporations in Uttar Pradesh and points out the irritants in the state-local body relations. Her conclusion is that the existing system of control is in a majority cases negative in its approach. In South India studies on urban government and politics are not many. T. Kalyani’s study of “Madras Municipal Corporation,” an unpublished thesis (1977) and K. Murali Manohar Rao’s book “Study of Warangal Municipality” (1978) are detailed studies of the respective municipal bodies on the basis of structure and functions. They also throw some light on the question of state control over urban local bodies. Prof. T. Appa Rao, in

“The Indian Journal of Public Administration has brought out a special volume (July-September 1968) on “Urbanization and Urban Development.”\textsuperscript{34} It has included a number of papers which are concerned with urban Government. Various studies attempted on Municipal Administration have not analyzed in detail the organization and working of Municipal Administration from the point of view of Municipal leaders. Therefore, it was decided to take up a research study titled “Organization and Working of Coimbatore Municipal Corporation”.

**Objectives of the study**

The important objectives of the present study are:

1. To trace the evolution of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation.

2. To study the functional structure of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation.

3. To analyse the role perception and performance of the Municipal Corporation Councillors.

**Hypotheses**

1. If the Municipal Councillors happen to be educated experienced and have the support of political parties, people, local leaders from various walks of life such as businessmen,
social activists, women etc., they can participate in the proceedings of the Council effectively and make useful contribution for taking constructive and worthy decisions which further the services of the local body and deliver qualitative service to the people.

2. The Councillors of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation don’t have complete or full awareness of various central and state sponsored schemes for the welfare of the people of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation area.

**Methodology**

The evolution of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation is chronologically described by the researcher by adopting the historical method. The structure and various functions of the functionaries of the Corporation are analysed through the structural analysis method in a vivid manner. To analyse the role perception and responsibilities of the Corporation Councillors and their performance the empirical method of analysis is used. Simple statistical tools are used to understand the correlation between perception and performance of the elected representatives of the Corporation Council.

**Study Population**

The study was carried out with all the entire Corporation Councillors, i.e., 72 Councillors and functionaries such as Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation.
Sources of Data

The data for this study were collected from primary and secondary sources. The primary data were collected through a pre tested Interview Schedule administered to the Councillors and the Mayor of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation. The Coimbatore Municipal Corporation Council constitutes the study unit. The structured questions in the Interview Schedule were designed in such a way that the perception, role, and responsibilities of the Councillors could be studied from the view of the Municipal Councillors. The secondary data were collected from Annual Reports of the Corporation, books and articles on municipal administration, the District Gazetteer of Coimbatore, and the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Amendment Act, 1994 etc.

Sampling Design

The Coimbatore Municipal Corporation Council constituted the study unit. The interview schedule was furnished to the Mayor and the Councillors of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation for the collection of primary data.

Analysis of Data

The primary data have been classified and analysed through simple statistical devices. The secondary data have been used for descriptive analysis.

$X^2$ (Chi-Square) Test

The researcher applied $X^2$ (Chi-square) test, a statistical tool which is widely adopted in research in social sciences to ascertain the
association of two different variables, viz., awareness of the Councillors about various centrally sponsored schemes and how far they were successful in getting the benefits from them and making them available to the people of the wards they represent as Councillors.

The \( x^2 \) calculations have been done, taking into consideration the positive and negative answers of the Councillors to various questions put to them in this regard. For this purpose the average of the total positive and that of the doubtful replies, i.e., “to some extent” and the average of the total negative replies have been taken as the unit in respect of awareness.

The average of the positive and the negative replies of the Councillors in respect of their getting the benefits from the schemes have been taken into consideration for easy calculation as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of the Councillors about the centrally sponsored schemes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting the benefits from the schemes and making them available to the people</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>73</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let us take the hypotheses that the awareness of the Councillors about the central sponsored schemes and getting the benefits from them are not associated.

\[
\text{Expectation of } (AB) = \frac{[(A)(B)]}{N} = \frac{(76 \times 72)}{144} = 138
\]
The table of expected frequency is

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>144</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Degrees of freedom = \((r-1)(c-1) = (2-1)(2-1) = 1 \times 1 = 1\)

**Applying** \(x^2\) **test**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>((O-E)^2)</th>
<th>((O-E)^2/E)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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\[\text{Bo-E}^2/E = 5.4\]

The table value of \(x^2\) for one degree of freedom at 5% level of significance is 3.84, which is less than the calculated value 5.4. So the hypotheses stands cancelled. It is concluded that there is association between awareness of the Councillors about the centrally sponsored schemes and getting the benefits from them and making them available to the people.

The researcher applied \(x^2\) (chi-square) test to ascertain whether there is any association between the awareness of the Councillors about various state sponsored schemes and getting the benefits from such schemes and making them available to the people of the wards they represent as Councillors.
The calculations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of the Councillors about the centrally sponsored schemes</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting the benefits from the schemes and making them available to the people of the wards represented</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>94</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let us take the hypotheses that awareness of the state sponsored schemes and getting the benefits of them and making them available to the people of the wards represented by them as Councillors are not associated.

Expectation of AB = [(A)(B)]/N = 94x72/144 = 47.

The Table of Expected Frequency is

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<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Degrees of freedom = (r-1) (c-1) = (2-1)(2-1) = 1x1 = 1

Applying $\chi^2$ test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>(O-E)$^2$</th>
<th>(O-E)$^2$/E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I(O-E)$^2$/E</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table value of $x^2$ for 1 degree of freedom at 5% level of significance is 3.84, which is greater than the calculated value 3.06. So the hypotheses holds good. It is concluded that there is no association between the awareness of the Councillors about the state sponsored schemes and getting benefits from them and making them available to the people of the wards they represent as Councillors.

The present researcher applied $x^2$ (chi-square) test to ascertain the association between the educational qualification of the Councillors and their awareness of various statutory laws such as. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act 1994 and the 18 functional items allocated to urban local bodies.

The calculations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational qualifications of the Councillors</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of the Constitutional Amendment etc.</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>186</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let us assume that the hypotheses that the educational qualification of the Councillors and their awareness about the above three statutory laws are not associated.

Expectation of $(AB) = \frac{[(A)(B)]}{N}$

$$\frac{(186 \times 72)}{288} = 46.5$$
The table of expected frequency

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>139.5</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>102.0</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Degrees of freedom = (r-1) (c-1) = (2-1)(2-1) = 1x1 = 1

Applying $\chi^2$ test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>O</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>(O-E)$^2$</th>
<th>(O-E)$^2$/E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>132.25</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128</td>
<td>139.5</td>
<td>132.25</td>
<td>0.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>132.25</td>
<td>5.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>132.25</td>
<td>1.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I(O-E)$^2$/E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table value of $\chi^2$ for 1 degree of freedom at 5% level of significance is 3.84 which is less than the calculated value 10.71. So the hypotheses stands rejected.

It is concluded that there is good association between the educational qualification of the Councillors and their awareness of the basic features of the 74th Constitutional Amendment, the Tamil Nadu Municipalities Amendment Act, 1994 and the functional items allocated to the urban local bodies.

Chapterization

The thesis is prepared with six chapters. The first chapter is the introduction, explaining the meaning of local government, presenting
the review of literature, the statement of the problem, the objectives of
the study, the methodology, the sources of data, etc. In the second
chapter the background or setting of the study is explained and it
presents the profile, area and jurisdiction of the city, geography of the
city, climate, legendary background, historical background etc. The third
chapter describes the evolution and developmental process of
municipalities with special reference to the Coimbatore Municipal
Corporation. In the fourth chapter an attempt has been made to explain
the organizational framework of Municipalities in India in general and
Coimbatore in particular. In the fifth chapter the working of the
Coimbatore Municipal Corporation has been analysed from the point of
view of the Councillors. The sixth and final chapter presents the
summary and conclusions.

Notes and References


2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.


6. Ibid.


13. op. cit.


