CHAPTER-I

Introduction

Local government is an important component of every system of government irrespective of its political form of governance. It is recognized and created under law for the management of local affairs by the concerned governments in a given geographic boundary. Local government is a realization of Decentralization concept like other levels of government. Local government embraces the principle of sharing power, among the totality of its residents. It also embodies authority in relation to local residents but unlike other levels of government, its authority is jurisdictional in content. The jurisdiction of local government is limited to a delimited area and its functions largely relate to the provision of civic amenities.
to the population within its jurisdiction. It is subordinate to the state or provincial government, which exercises control and supervision over it. Under certain circumstance, the state government can suspend or dissolve a local government.

The term 'Local Government' or Local Self Government', means the government of elected local bodies which are endowed with power, discretion and responsibility to be exercised and discharged by them without control over their decisions by any other authority. Their actions are, however, subjected to the supervision of the national and state government.¹

In the words of Professor M. Venkatarangaiya, by local self government "the administration of a locality, a village, a town, a city, or any other area smaller than the state by a body representing the local inhabitants, possessing fairly large
amount of autonomy, raising a part at least of its revenue through local taxation and spending the proceeds on service which are regarded as local and as distinct from state and central services". In the words of G.D.H. Cole, the expression, local government signifies a government, representative of local inhabitants, more or less autonomous in character, instituted under state legislation, in a village, a district, a city or in urban areas to administer local service as distinguished from state and central services.

As an urban local body, "A municipal corporation is defined as a body politic and corporate, established by public law, or sovereign power, evidenced by a charter, with defined limits and a population, primarily to regulate the local affairs of the territory and secondarily to share in the civil government of the state in the
particular locality" 4 Charles, S. Rhyme, remarks that the essential and distinguishing characteristic of the municipal corporation is its, duality of purposes, namely, (1) to assist in the government of the state as an agent or arm of the state, and (2) to regulate and administer the local affairs of the area incorporated for the benefit of the community".5 thus, the municipal corporation refers to a unit of government which acts as an agent of the state and serves the local community.

According to William A. Robson, Local Self Government may be said to involve the conception of a territorial, non sovereign community possessing the legal right and the necessary organization to regulate its own affairs. This in turn presupposes the existence of local authority with power to act independently of external control as well as the participation of the local community in the administration of its own affairs.6
There are also differences between the two terms: (1) Local Government and (2) Local Self Government. Local Government means the power to determine and execute measures within a definite area but over the whole state. However, the term Local self Government means that the local institutions should be endowed with the freedom "to decide and act at its will in a given jurisdiction." G.M. Harris observes that the term 'Local Government' may signify (1) the government of all parts of a country by means of local agents appointed by and responsible only to the central government, and (2) the government of local bodies are subjected to the supremacy of the state government, and are endowed, in some respects, with power which they can exercise without control over their decisions by the higher authorities. He maintains that although the first is a local
government of a kind, it is the part of a centralized system and therefore, may be called "Local State Government", whereas the second one is called in many countries as "Local Self Government".9

The local government derives its power and authority, no doubt, from the central government in a unitary state and from provincial government in a federal state and is subordinate to it. Though it is subordinate to the authority that creates it, the local government has certain amount of independence of action within the limits that are set for it. Within a framework of its autonomy, it exercises authority in the field of local taxation in order to raise the required money for rendering the local services like supply of water, sanitation and other public amenities. Thus, the local government refers to the operations of corporations, municipalities, district boards,
panchayats, and such other bodies entrusted with the execution of functions relating to and concerning the residents of a given area or locality. This being the importance of the study of decentralized governing institutions, any study in the direction of working of Municipal corporation can not be done without understanding its geographical location and the texture of politics in that region. Hence the study "The working of Belgaum municipal corporation 1986-1996.

Objectives:

The objectives of this study involves the following three fold understanding:

a) To understand and examine the developmental needs Belgaum through the working of municipal corporations.
b) To measure the sensitivity of working of this corporation in particular given to its linguistic and geo physical environment.

c) To understand how this micro system is functioning in tandem and tweedum with the macro system or state given to the political sensitivity of this border district.

**Methodology**

Much research in political science involves analyzing just one or two variables at a time. The techniques used for this research are known as Univariate (one variable) and Bivariate (two variables) statistics. However, there are many types in a research project when it is necessary to analyze more than two variables at once. The procedures used in these situations are known as multivariate analysis.
Multivariate statistical analysis is often used to determine and explain how groups of variables are related, and ultimately to develop theories of causation that can be traced to those relationships (Bernard 2000; Eber 1975) Cluster and factor multivariate analysis procedures are based on the results of this type of relationship testing.

Factor analysis is one of a family of statistical techniques for summarizing interrelationships among a set of variable measurements, identifying underlying structure in a dataset, and reducing the number of variables with which the research must work. The techniques all artificial constructs generated by the statistical program that are based on measures of inter correlations; they represent what is common among the original variables (Babbie 2001; Chattel 1978;
Lance and Vandenberg 2002). Bernard (2000) called these underlying constructs supere variables because they are made up of more than one initial variable. The initial variables that make up the factors do soon the basis of the strength of their similarity correlation with the factor. The variables include in the factor, in turn, help the researcher find meaning in and subjectively explain the composition of each factor.

A factor is nothing more than a variable that is a composite of other variables. By examining the commonality of the initial variables and the strength of their factor correlations (called factor loadings), factor analysis helps make it possible to explain portions of the variance in a dependent variable. An arbitrary number of important variable (importance is determined by the size of the factor loadings) are determined to make up the composite factor. Interpretation of the
factor is a subjective determination of the researcher. The cutoff point in the number of variables loading on a factor is also at the discretion of the researcher. Traditionally, only variables with correlation values of 60 or greater are always include, with loadings of from 30 to 59 are considered as possible contributors. According to Benard, however, some researchers use 50 as the cutoff pint in factor loadings, with values from 30 to 49 considered as possibly worth including.

Many researchers feel that the subjective interpretation of factors is one of the greatest advantages of factor analysis. Subjective interpretation makes it possible to interject an aspect of reality to the process; it is an attempt to decipher meaning from simple numerical description. However, Babbie (2001) saw this subjectivity as the root cause of several
disadvantages of the technique, including the following:

- The factors themselves are generated mathematically, with no meaningful assistance loadings of the individual variables.

- Factor analysis does not provide a means for disproving a hypothesis; therefore, it is more a qualitative analysis technique than a scientific. Positivist research approach.

- No matter what data the researcher includes in the analysis matrix, factor analysis will generate a factor solution. The algorithm ignores the form and content of the initial variables. Therefore, the factor result may be nonsense.

Factor analysis processes data that are in a standard matrix format; that is the rows are
individual cases (subjects) each column is the score for each subject on the specific variable. The data may be of any level of measurement; nominal, ordinal, interval, or ratio, and may be discrete or continuous. If however, the data are measured in many different ways for example, if some in dollars, Yen, and euros; some as demographic characteristics; and some as attitude scales, etc., it is a good idea to standardize the data into similar units so that meaningful comparisons can be made between the distributions (Godard and Kirby 1976). The most frequently used standardization involves converting to standardized (Z) scores. Z scores have a mean of Zero (0) and a standard deviation of one (1). There are some problems with standardization, however, Chief among these problems is that with Z score standardization all variables are given equal weight, whereas in reality, some variables are inherently more important than others in a
particular application. In such cases, weights should be assigned to the more important variable. However, the factor analysis algorithm does not allow for assigning weights. Therefore, the problem of when to use standardization is left to the researcher (Alendefer and Blashfield 1984); Kaufman and Rousseeuw 1990). The decision should be made on a case by case basis, and researchers must know that the solution after standardization may be different than the solution without standardization.

Factor analysis requires that the data meet a few simple assumptions: a normal distribution, a large sample size (an n of at least 300, although some researchers reduce this to a minimum of 150 cases), at least nominal level (or standardized) data, a linear relationship, and outliers screened and omitted. When and how to use factor analysis,
together with its two main approaches, is discussed below.

Factor analysis is used in two major applications. One, exploratory factor analysis (EFA), identifies relationships among variable. The relationships are not always obvious in the data, but show up as a pattern of correlations with artificial factors. The purpose of EFA is to summarize, group, and explain the data. The research interprets the meaning of the factor according to its correlated items. The second chief application for factor analysis is called confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). CFA is the newer of the two uses, but is rapidly gaining acceptance by researches.

The purpose of the CFA model is to test hypotheses, about either the number of underlying factors or the variables or items that load on any
single factor or component. Having made the assertion in advance which items belong to which factor, the researcher can test his assertion (Hypothesis) is relatively simple, Kim and Mueller pint out that in practice, the distinction is not always this clear; some of both models is found in many studies. Hence, in this study, CFA model is chosen as the method to analyze the data in a simple manner so as to lost the hypotheses drawn and to examine as to how the factors such as the location, the demands, the policies of the government and attitude of the elected representatives have affected the working of the Belgaum Municipal Corporation.

**Hypotheses**

Hypothesis is usually considered as the principal instrument in research. Its main function is to suggest new experiments and observation. In
fact, many experiments are carried out with the deliberate object of testing hypotheses.

Ordinarily, when one talks about hypothesis, one simply means a mere assumption or some supposition to be proved or disproved. But for a researcher hypotheses is a formal question that he/she intends to resolve. Thus a hypothesis may be defined as a proposition or a set of propositions set forth as an explanation for the occurrence of some specified group of phenomena either asserted merely as a provisional conjecture to guide some investigation or accepted as highly probable in the light of established facts. Quite often a research hypothesis is a predictive statement, capable of being tested by scientific methods, that relates an independent variable to some dependent variable. Thus, the hypotheses drawn below or designed to direct the research undertaken. Hence the two hypotheses.
1. That the working of Belgaum Corporation is sensitive to its politico-linguistic milieu and
2. That the working of Belgaum Corporation indicates its understanding of developmental needs of Belgaum and the sensitivity of being a border district. Hence its successful working.

Review of Literature,

It the age of globalization important for any researcher to survey all available literature concerning the problem at hand. He/She must necessarily survey and examine the literature available before a definite research problem is chosen and research design designed. This means that the researcher must be well conversant with relevant theories in the field, reports and records
as also all other relevant literature. He/she must devote sufficient time in reviewing of research already undertaken on related problems. This is done to find out what data and other materials, if any, are available for operational purposes. Knowing what data are available often serves to narrow the problem itself as well as the technique that might be used. This would also help a researcher to know if there are certain gaps in the theories, or whether the existing theories are applicable to the problem under study are consistent or inconsistent with each other, or whether the findings of the different studies do not follow a pattern consistent with the theoretical expectations and so on all this will enable a researcher to take new studies in the field for furtherance of knowledge i.e., he can move up starting from the existing premise. Studies on related problems are useful for indicating the type of difficulties that may be encountered in the
present study as also the possible analytical shortcomings. At times such studies may also suggest useful and even new lines of approach to the present problem. Hence the importance of review of literature. The following some of the chosen books for this review.

Bose, Ashish. 1970. Urbanization in India: An Inventory of Source Material is a book that throws light on the introductory part of urbanization in India. As the itself suggests it is source material to gain an insight in to the world of urbanization in a developing country like India.

Bulsara, J. F. 1964. Problems of Rapid Urbanization in India. Deals with the problems faced by urbanization including the increasing slum dwelling, problems of Hygiene and a host of civic, health, and managerial problems.
Burgess, E. W. (ed.) 1926. The Urban Community. Chicago: is a book that gives a clear perception about the problems faced by urban communities in developed countries.

Das, Biswaroop. 1993. Socio Economic Study of Slums in Surat city Surat: Centre for Social Studies. This book throws light on the much-needed study of slums exposing the realities of their socio-economic status. The limitation of this study is its restriction of the study area. However it a very important study.

Desia, A. R. and S.D. Pillai (eds.) 1970. Slums and Urbanization. This is similar to the study of Surat, as discussed above. This book throws light on the slum dwelling in Bombay and its effects on urbanization. This is more of a sociological study but it is useful for those who study any aspects of urbanization.
D'souza, Alfred (ed.) 1978. The Indian City: Poverty, Ecology and Urban Development, is a book deals with the major concerned of modern India that includes the economic disparity and ecological degradation. The book brings to light the contradiction between development and the socio ecological problems.


Diddee, J. and Vimala Rangaswamy. 1993. Urbanisation: Trends, Perspectives and Challenges. This book examines the core of urbanization explaining the trends perspectives and challenges. This is use full for any one who is seriously
involved in search which holistically assumes importance to futuristic studies in urbanization.

Fox, Richard G. (ed.) 1970. Urban India: Society, Space and Image. The book deals with the nature of urban India and shrinking space in the urban areas. It attempts to highlight the new trends in the society and kind of image that these major cities in India are aiming at. King, Anthony D. 1976. Colonial Urban Development: Culture, Social Power and Environment, this is a book which deals with the trends in urban development in relation to its colonial past it is a treatise on culture, social power and environment there are also many other books which deal with urbanization in India and urban studies in general. Many articles, research papers specially in EPW Economic and Political Weekly journal Asian studies and Indian Labor journal etc., are worthy of review. However what is apparent none of these through any
light on working of any municipal corporation in particular or tries to characterize any municipal corporation or its working hence the importance of this literature survey and the study.

Problem to be investigated

In the age of globalization the government is overburdened with multifarious activities and functions. Moreover, a governmental machinery functioning at a remote place cannot obviously find time and the requisite knowledge of all the different areas. They can be understood and appreciated better, and attended to efficiently by an organization which is constituted in the locality or area itself. This constitutes the basic need for effective decentralization. Decentralization or distribution of governmental powers and responsibility to the different units of the government is of paramount importance in a
democratic set up. As Laski points out, we cannot realize the full benefit of democratic government unless we begin by the admission that all problems in their incidence require decision at the place, and by the persons, where and by whom the incidence is most deeply felt. Local problems need variety, whereas the central government aims at uniformity. "The local bodies are the outcome of natural groupings and associations which should be cherished and given a full scope in any scheme of genuinely national self government. Besides, local governments is itself the best school of political training for the mass living in the villages who cannot take part in the provincial or the central government except through their representatives, and it is also to be cherished a school of social service and a most efficient factor of social progress.
In modern times local institutions are outposts of democracy. It is here that the programme of national development is put to action, and people learn participation in public affairs. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru rightly remarked, Local administration is the foundation of our democracy. A democracy at the top cannot be a success until the foundation on which the superstructure rests, is strong. It is no use starting such a superimposed democracy without proper base.

According to De-Tocqueville, Local institutions constitute the strength of free nations. A nation may establish a system of free nations. A nation may establish a system of free government but without municipal institutions, it cannot have spirit of liberty.
development but local government also has its share to contribute. Indeed, national government is not likely to succeed without a genuine partnership between the two".

Local problems are numerous and are of local character. Local governments can solve local problems in an efficient and speedy manner. Besides, it may become economical to manage local problems at the local level. It enhances the importance of local government also. Further local government serve as agencies for the town citizenry to participate in decision making and in implementing them. It provides an outlet for competent and public spirited persons of locality to render social service to the community. From can take up responsibilities for state and national levels. Local government, thus ensures a regular flow of talent to higher levels.
The purpose served by local government is valuable on account of its service for the common welfare of the community. Former president of India, Dr. S.Radhakrishnan said: "the local bodies must have the sole objective of promoting the well being of the people." One writer has listed the major objectives of the local government as under:

1. The municipal government fulfils all the domestic needs of a civilized community.

2. It also creates among the citizens personal interest in their common affairs and throws the field open for their constructive and creative activities.

3. It serves as an expression of political consciousness and as a means of political education and renders the citizens fit for their civic duties and responsibilities by enabling them to participate in public affairs.
4. It generates in the people an aesthetic sense that makes them beautify and adorn the land they inhabit.

5. It provides the best opportunity to men and women to bring their local knowledge and enthusiasm to bear on the solution of their own peculiar problems.

Under these circumstance it becomes evident that the study of municipal corporation in the post welfarist period is an important area for an academic to work on since, in the era of globalization much of the civic services are planned to be privatized. Hence the problem to be investigated is very clearly to understand and dissect the working of municipal corporations especially in Belgaum region and to measure its success/failure and its limitations in the post welfarist scenario.
Proposed Research Design

A good design is often characterized by adjectives like flexible, appropriate, efficient, economical and so on. Generally, the design which minimizes bias and maximizes the reliability of the data collected and analyzed is considered a good design. The design which gives the smallest experimental error is supposed to be the best design in many investigations. Similarly, a design, which yields maximal information and provides an opportunity for considering many different aspects of a problem is considered most appropriate and efficient design in respect of many research problems. Thus, the question of good design is related to the purpose or objective of the research problem and also with the nature of the problem to be studied. A design may be quite suitable in one case, but may be found wanting in one respect or
the other in the context of some other research problem. One single design cannot serve the purpose of all types of research problems. "A research design is the arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy in procedure." In fact, the research design is the conceptual structure within which research is conducted; it constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. As such the design includes an outline of what the researcher will do from writing the hypothesis/es and its operational implications to the final analysis of data. Keeping in view the above stated design requirements the thesis is divided into five chapters.

Chapter-I Introduction; this covers methodology, Hypotheses, problem to be investigated review of literature etc.,
Chapter-II  Growth of Urban Governments in India; A brief historical survey. This Chapter covers the details of the growth of urban governments in India in a descriptive manner.

Chapter-III  Concept of Decentralization and Municipal Corporation: A Study. This deals with the theoretical aspects of decentralization and decentralized governance.

Chapter-IV  Working of Belgaum corporation; A Survey. This is more of an empirical study aimed at investigating into the actual day to day functioning of the Belgaum corporation. This is the core chapter of this study.

Chapter - V  conclusion. This presents summary and inference of the study.
Thus, this study of working of Belgaum Municipal Corporation is an unique one and will throw light on the future of research in the areas of decentralized governance.

Footnotes:

1 Vishnoo Bhagwan, Municipal Government and Politics in Haryanna, S. Chand and Company, New Delhi, 1974, P.2

2 Harris, G.M., Comparative Local Government, Hutchinson's University Library, London, 1948, P.9

6 Encyclopedia of Social Science, Vol XX, P. 574.
11 Bulsara, J. F. 1964. Problems of Rapid
Urbanization in India. Bombay: Popular Prakashan.


