

Chapter I Introduction

1.1 Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State

Government of India (GoI) enacted (1992) the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution to empower Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) as local self-governing institutions to ensure a more participative governing structure in the country. In the erstwhile composite State of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government enacted Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj (APPR) Act, 1994 repealing all the existing Acts, to establish a three-tier system viz., Gram Panchayat (GP), Mandal Praja Parishad (MPP) and Zilla Praja Parishad (ZPP) at Village, Mandal and District levels respectively.

Post-bifurcation of the composite State of Andhra Pradesh and formation of the State of Telangana in June 2014, the Government of Telangana enacted Telangana Panchayat Raj Act (TPR Act), 2018 effective from 18 April 2018.

1.1.1 Profile of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the State

The profile of PRIs in the State is given in **Table-1.1**.

Table-1.1: Profile of PRIs in the State

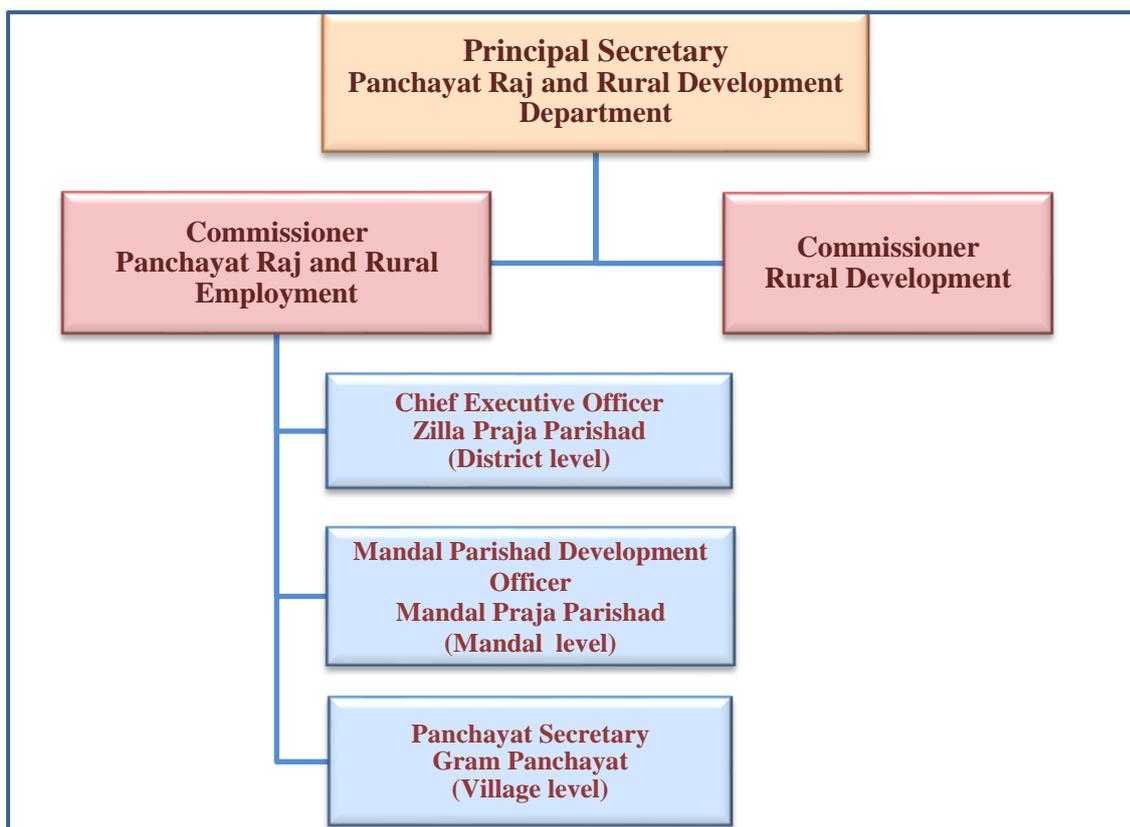
Indicator	Unit	State Statistics
Area	Sq.km	1,12,077
Mandal/Tehsils (Urban and Rural)	Number	594
Revenue Villages (Census 2011)	Number	10,434
Total Population (Census 2011)	Crore	3.50
Rural population	Crore	2.14
Rural sex ratio	Females per 1,000 Males	999
Density	Persons per Sq.km	312
Rural literacy rate	Percentage	57.30
Male literacy rate	Percentage	75.04
Female literacy rate	Percentage	57.99
Scheduled Caste Population	Percentage	15.45
Scheduled Tribe Population	Percentage	9.08
Zilla Praja Parishads (Rural Districts except Hyderabad)	Number	32
Mandal Praja Parishads (Rural Mandals)	Number	539
Gram Panchayats	Number	12,769

Source: Information furnished by Director, Panchayat Raj and Rural Employment and Telangana at a Glance 2022 prepared by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Telangana available at <https://ecostat.telangana.gov.in>

1.1.2 Organisational setup of PRIs

Organisational arrangements for the PRIs is given in **Chart-1.1**.

Chart-1.1



The Director, Panchayat Raj & Rural Employment (PR&RE) informed (January 2023) that elections to all the 32 ZPPs and 536 MPPs were last conducted in 2019. Out of 12,769 GPs, elections were last conducted in 2019 for 12,680 GPs. In the remaining 89 GPs, elections were not conducted either due to Court orders or non-availability of candidates.

The elected members of ZPP, MPP and GP are headed by Chairperson, President and Sarpanch respectively. They convene and preside over the meetings of Standing Committees and General Body.

1.2 Urban Local Bodies in the State

Government of India (GoI) enacted (1992) the 74th Amendment to the Constitution to empower Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to perform effectively as local self-governing institutions. Article 243W of the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 authorised the State Legislatures to enact laws to endow local bodies with powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-governance and make provisions for devolution of powers and responsibilities.

In the composite State of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government enacted Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations Act, 1994 to set up Municipal Corporations in the State. Provisions of Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) Act, 1955 including the provisions relating

to levy and collection of taxes or fees were extended to all other Municipal Corporations in the State. Municipalities were however, governed by the Andhra Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1965.

Subsequently, post-bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh, Government of Telangana enacted Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019¹ to consolidate and provide for the constitution of Municipalities (Municipal Councils and Municipal Corporations) other than the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, which continued to be covered under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (HMC) Act, 1955².

1.2.1 Profile of Urban Local Bodies in the State

The profile of ULBs in the State is given in **Table-1.2**.

Table-1.2: Profile of ULBs in the State

Indicator	Unit	State Statistics
Urban population	Crore	1.36
Male	Lakh	69.07
Female	Lakh	67.02
Urban sex ratio	Females per 1000 Males	970
Urban literacy rate	Percentage	81.09
Municipal Corporations	Number	13
Municipalities	Number	129
Urban Households	Lakh	31.35

Source: Telangana at a glance-2022

1.2.2 Organisational setup of Urban Local Bodies

Organisational arrangements for the ULBs are given in **Chart-1.2**.

Chart-1.2



¹ Prior to enactment of Telangana Municipalities Act, 2019, the Municipalities in the State of Telangana were covered under 'Andhra Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1965' and Municipal Corporations were covered under 'Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations Act, 1994' which were adopted by the State of Telangana as per Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014

² The Hyderabad Municipal Corporations Act, 1955 has been renamed as Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Act, 1955 (GHMC Act) in 2007

The Urban Local Bodies are under the administrative control of the Commissioner and Director of Municipal Administration (CDMA). The Municipalities and Corporations transact their business as per the provisions of the Acts concerned. Day-to-day administration of all the ULBs rests with the Commissioners concerned. There are 142 ULBs in the State of Telangana (GHMC and 141 ULBs³).

Out of 141 ULBs (12 Municipal Corporations and 129 Municipalities), elections were conducted to 12 Municipal Corporations in the years 2020 and 2021 and elections to 125 Municipalities were conducted in the years from 2018 to 2021. Elections were not conducted in three Municipalities⁴ due to non-extension of TM Act, 2019 to these Municipalities located in Scheduled Areas and in one Municipality at Zaheerabad due to pending Court cases. Besides these, elections for GHMC were conducted in December 2020.

³ Municipal Corporations:12 and Municipalities:129

⁴ Mandamarri, Manuguru and Palwancha