

FUNCTIONS OF THE CORPORATION.

The functions of the Corporation are defined as obligatory, some as discretionary and the rest as may be assigned to it by the State Government under the Corporation Act, 2000. The Corporation, with a Mayor and his Councillors will transact business in meetings and its decisions termed as resolutions for implementation. Its important constituents are the four Standing Committees with defined areas of concern. The Corporation operates through the Commissioner appointed by the State Government as its chief executive and other staff subordinate to him. The decisions of the Corporation and their implementation, however, are subject to state control. The functions of the Corporation headed by Mayor, amongst others, also include;

Obligatory Functions

1. **The Construction, maintenance and clearing of drains, drainage works and of public latrines, urinals and similar conveniences;**
2. **The Construction and maintenance of works and means for providing of water supply for public and private purposes;**
3. **The scavenging, removal & disposal of fifth, rubbish and other obnoxious/polluted matters.**
4. **The reclamation of unhealthy localities, the removal of noxious vegetation and generally the abatement of all nuisances;**
5. **The regulation of places for the disposal of the dead and the provision and maintenance of places for the said purpose;**
6. **The Construction and maintenance of Cattle Pond;**
7. **Measures for preventing and checking the spread of dangerous diseases;**
8. **The Construction and maintenance of Municipal markets and the regulation thereof;**
9. **The regulation and abatement of offensive or dangerous trades or practices;**
10. **The securing or removal of dangerous buildings and places;**
11. **The construction, maintenance, alternation and improvements of public streets, bridges, culverts, cause ways and the like;**
12. **The lighting, watering and cleaning of public streets and other public places;**
13. **The removal of obstructions/projections in or upon streets, bridges and other public places;**
14. **The naming and numbering of streets and premises;**
15. **The maintenance of municipal offices;**
16. **The laying out of maintenance of public parks, gardens or recreation grounds;**
17. **The maintenance of monuments and memorials vested in a local authority in the municipal area immediately before the commencement of this Act or which may be vested in the Corporation after such commencement;**
18. **The maintenance and development of the value of all properties vested in or entrusted to the management of the Corporation;**
19. **The fulfilment of any other obligation imposed by or under this Act or any other law for the time being in force;**
20. **Planting and care of trees on road sides etc.**
21. **Survey of buildings and lands;**

Functions entrusted by the Government:

- 1. The preparation of plans for economic development and social justice;**
- 2. The performance of function and implementation of schemes which may be entrusted to it including the functions in respect of the following matter namely :**
 - i. Urban planning including town planning;**
 - ii. Regulation of land use and construction of buildings;**
 - iii. Planning for social and economic development;**
 - iv. Roads and Bridges ;**
 - v. Water supply for domestic, industrial and commercial purposes;**
 - vi. Public health, sanitation, conservancy and solid waste management**
 - vii. Fire services;**
 - viii. Urban forestry, protection of the environment and promotion of ecological aspects;**
 - ix. Safeguarding the interest of the weaker sections of the society; including the handicapped and mentally retarded;**
 - x. Slum improvement and up-gradation;**
 - xi. Urban poverty alleviation;**
 - xii. Provision for urban amenities and facilities such as parks, gardens and play grounds;**
 - xiii. Promotion of cultural, educational and aesthetic aspects;**
 - xiv. Burials & burial grounds, cremations & crematoriums grounds and electric crematoriums;**
 - xv. Cattle ponds, prevention of cruelty to animals;**
 - xvi. Vital statistics including registration of births & deaths;**
 - xvii. Public amenities including street lighting parking lots, bus stops and public conveniences;**
 - xviii. Regulation of slaughter houses and tanneries;**

Discretionary Functions

- 1. The furtherance of education including cultural and physical education;**
- 2. The establishment and maintenance of and aid to libraries, museums, art galleries, botanical or zoological collections;**
- 3. The establishment and maintenance of and aid to stadia gymnasia, akharas and places for sports and games;**
- 4. The Civic reception to persons of distinction;**
- 5. The providing of music or other entertainments in public places or places of public resort and the establishment of theatres and cinemas;**
- 6. The organisation and management of fairs and exhibitions;**
- 7. The construction and maintenance of rest houses, poor houses, infirmaries, children homes, house for deaf and dum and for disabled and handicapped children, shelter for destitute and disabled persons, asylums for persons of unsound mind;**
- 8. The building or purchased and maintenance of dwelling houses for Corporation officers and other Corporation employees;**
- 9. Any measures for the welfare of the Corporation officers and**

- other Corporation to such officers and employees or any class of them for construction of houses and purchase of vehicles;
10. The organization or management of chemical or bacteriological laboratories for the examination or analysis of water, food and drugs for the detection of diseases or research connected with the public health or medical relief;
 11. The provision of the relief to destitute and disabled persons;
 12. Public vaccination and inoculation;
 13. The organization, construction, maintenance and management of swimming pools, public wash houses, bathing places and other institutions designed for the improvement of public health;
 14. The organization and management of farms and dairies within or outside the municipal area for the supply, distribution and processing of milk and milk products for the benefit of the residents of the municipal area.
 15. The organization and management of cottage industries, handicraft centres and sales emporium;
 16. The construction and maintenance of warehouses and godowns;
 17. The construction and maintenance of garbage, sheds and stands for vehicles and cattle beires;
 18. The provision for unfiltered water supply;
 19. The Improvement of the municipal area in accordance with improvement schemes approved by the Corporation;
 20. The provision of housing accommodation for the inhabitants of any area or for any class of inhabitants;
 21. The establishment and maintenance of hospitals, dispensaries and maternity and child welfare centres and the carrying out of other measures necessary for public medical relief;
 22. Any measure not hereinbefore specially mentioned likely to promote public safety, health, convenience or general welfare.

However, presently only the following functions are being undertaken by the Corporation in view of non-transfer of various Line Departments to SMC through the enactment of Municipal Corporation Act-2000 by the Government :-

- The Construction, maintenance and cleaning of drains and drainage works, (except certain pockets, being looked after by UEED) and of public latrines, urinals and similar conveniences.
- The Construction and maintenance of works.
- The Scavenging, removal and disposal of filth rubbish and other obnoxious or polluted matters.
- The reclamation of unhealthy of unhealthily localities, the removal of noxious vegetation and generally the abatement of all nuisances.
- The regulation of places for the disposal of dead and the provision and maintenance of place for said purpose.
- The Construction and maintenance of Cattle ponds.
- The lighting and cleaning of public streets and other places.
- Regulation of the trade and offensive or dangerous trades or practices.
- The construction, maintenance of municipal markets and the regulation thereof;
- Birth & Death registration and certification.

- The securing or removal of dangerous buildings and places.
- Regulation of land and construction of buildings.
- The removal or obstruction and projections in or upon streets, bridges and other public places.
- The naming and numbering of streets and premises.
- The maintenance of municipal offices;
- The maintenance and development of the value of all property vested in or existed with the management of the Corporation.
- Planting and care of trees on roadside etc.
- Survey of building and lands.

In respect of these

⇒ Corporation is providing better sanitation and trying its best to arrive at the public expectations as at present a fleet of about 100 vehicles is deployed for disposal of 300 to 400 tones of garbage and refuse generated per day in the city, collection and disposal of liquid waste and lifting of stray animals daily to maintain sanitation. But the existing staff of 2108 Safia Karamcharies as against required 4032 is not sufficient to cater the requirements, which obviously affects the overall performance of the Corporation. Accordingly, the Corporation explored possibility of privatizing the sanitation by introducing sanitation clubs and at present 150 such sanitation clubs are functional.

⇒ Corporation also undertakes the development of civil works under various schemes and programmes in the Srinagar City that includes construction/up gradation/maintenance of lanes, by-lanes, surface and lateral drains, public latrines, urinals, culverts, community halls etc. and also undertakes creation of municipal assets and complexes to generate revenue of the Corporation.

⇒ Corporation facilitates installation of sodium vapor and high mast lights as a part of street lighting in interior streets/lanes and important places.

⇒ The Drainage Divisions (already transferred to the Corporation) also serves by providing the drainage facilities to the Srinagar City under different schemes of the Drainage Circle.

⇒ Keeping in view the grievances of the public through press and other sources, the Corporation simplified the process of registering, processing and issuance of the building permissions while, during the last two years the tendencies of illegal construction/encroachments on state land have been curbed to a large extent by undertaking various demolition operations. Accordingly, for the first time the department of Public Health Engineering, PDD have been asked not to give any water connection/electric connection before completion certificate from the Corporation is issued to achieve a balanced and a cohesive growth and development of the Srinagar City.

⇒ Corporation is in the process of introducing Double Entry Accounting System.

⇒ Corporation is likely to impose property tax and user charges in Srinagar City in a phased manner for recovery of operation and management cost of the services being provided to the citizens

⇒ Corporation has taken measures to computerize its working system at operational level to enable to monitor day-to-day activities for facility of

citizens. In the first phase Birth & Death Registration and Certification will be computerized. The parallel computerized setup will help functionaries at lower level to do the routine office work with accuracy and speed for the services of the people.

⇒ The Corporation has already taken in hand several projects for rehabilitation of urban poor under the BSUP scheme of JnNURM, Government of India.

⇒ Other City Development programmes under the JnNURM scheme would be taken up by the Corporation in due course of time as per the City Development Project already approved for Srinagar City by the Government of India.

⇒ The Corporation is already on the job to develop the sanitation & Solid Waste Management to improve its standards in the City of Srinagar and, the landfill site for disposal of waste is being developed. Besides, several such other projects are in the pipeline under various central and external schemes that will enable the Corporation to redress all the grievances being addressed by the citizens.

Corporation has, in the pipeline, the administrative & technology reforms, including service delivery Mechanism to improve the organization and its working and build sound foundation for e-Governance. This would help in improving management efficiency, effectiveness in quality services and sustainability

FINANCIAL

On the recommendations of the Commissioner, the Corporation may from time to time during the year:-

- Increase the amount of any budget grant under any head;
- Make an additional budget grant for the purpose of meeting any special or unforeseen requirement arising during the said year;
- Transfer the amount or portion of the amount of the budget grant under any head to the account of budget grant under any other head; or
- Reduce the amount of the budget grant under any head.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Appointment of the Commissioner as the Chief executive and his senior staff lies with government. He will aid and advise the Corporation and implement the decisions taken.

POWERS OF THE CORPORATION.

Under the Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 the Corporation has the powers to widen its operational area and strengthen its financial base, amongst others, like:

- It is empowered to impose certain taxes, duties and fees hitherto not available. New taxation areas include rate-able value on land and buildings, surcharge on water tax, part of stamp duty levied on transfer of landed estates, professional tax, drainage/sewerage charges, and development tax on incremental land value etc.

- The Corporation can float scrip and, as a part assurance to the subscribers, maintain a Sinking Fund to meet demands on this account. The prescribed authority will appoint independent professionals to audit and certify the Corporation Accounts.
- The Corporation will conduct surveys to establish felt needs and propose schemes for improvement in areas as land development, water supply, sewerage/drainage etc.
- The Corporation may undertake planning for adequate green cover so much as a tree of the prescribed class will not be cut without permission and the Corporation can ask any private estate owner to plant trees in connection with broader environmental concerns.
- The Corporation can take appropriate steps for urban forestry and environment, slum improvement, selective water supply, regulation of municipal markets, maintenance of selected monuments and memorials, preservation of environment for good health and activities as may be assigned to it by the State government under the Corporation Act.