



URBAN GOVERNANCE DIALOGUE

Transforming Urban Governance

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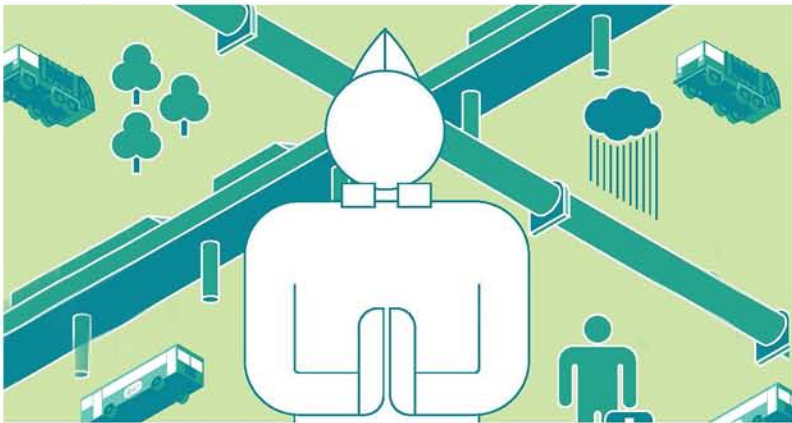
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Urban Governance Index - Empowered Elected Representatives



The first theme looks at how empowered the city elected representatives and legislative structure is. Keeping the principle of subsidiarity in mind, the theme looks at empowerment of Mayor, Councillors, Council and the deliberative structure.

We need to empower the Mayor as a true head of the city government and not just a nominal head. The Mayor being the head of city government should be responsible for development, planning, economic activities and service delivery in the city. To fulfil the responsibilities, the Mayor should be adequately empowered to take decisions.

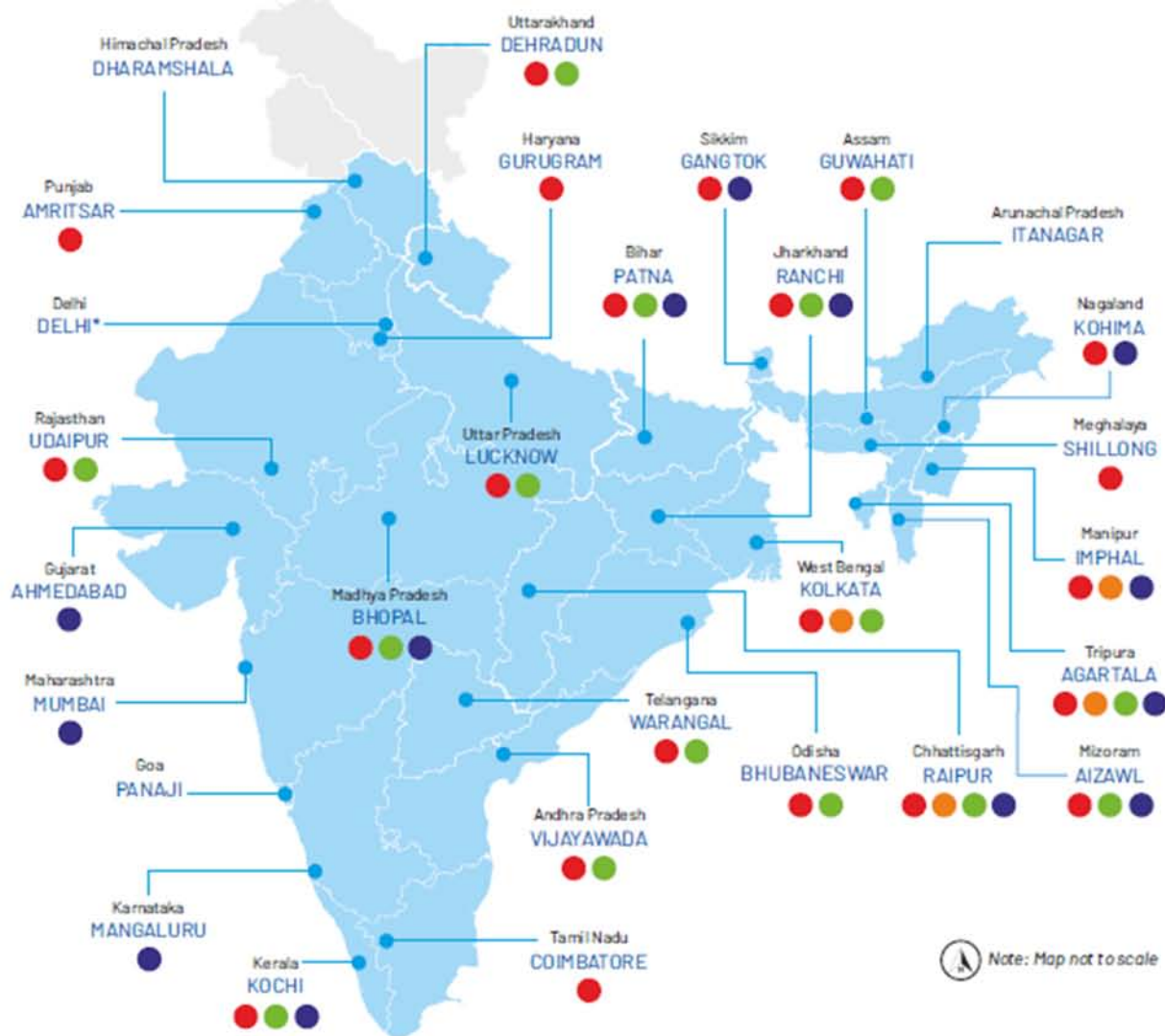
It is important to give the Mayor a term which is coterminous with that of the city government to be able to implement projects, to ensure effective implementation, the Mayor should hold executive authority over commissioner through actionable annual confidential report (ACR) and appointment and termination of the commissioner. Similarly, to be able to deliber-



In this edition of the Urban Governance Dialogue E-newsletter, we bring to you thematic insights from Praja's Urban Governance Index (UGI) launched in Dec 2020. The index is associated with Praja's initiative towards transforming urban governance in the country. This index is based on the Principle of Subsidiarity, which states that, what individuals can accomplish on their own initiative and efforts, should not be taken away from them by a higher authority. Structurally, the index is divided into 4 Themes, 13 sub-themes and 42 indicators.

-ate on issues and take decisions, the Mayor should be the chairperson of apex committee and hold authority to appoint chairperson of various committees (subject/standing committee).

To know the status of empowerment of Mayor across different States in detail [click here](#).



*South Delhi Municipal Corporation

Empowered Mayor and Empowered Councillor	Yes
Is the post of Mayor co-terminus with the term of City Government?	●
Does the Mayor hold independent authority to appoint chairperson of Standing/Subject committees?	●
Is Mayor the chairperson of apex committee such as Mayor in Council (MIC)/Steering committee?	●
Do the councillors receive monthly fixed salary?	●

Data Insights:

- Seven states, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra do not have term of mayor coterminous with the city government.
- Only Mayor from Kerala have the authority to prepare Annual Confidential Report (ACR) but without any action, appointment or termination.
- In states except Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Tripura and West Bengal, Mayor does not have authority to appoint chairperson of Standing/Subject Committees.
- In 15 States Mayor is not the chairperson of apex committee.

The states need to make changes in the respective state municipal acts and implement the reforms to empower the Mayor. Empowering leadership at the city level will be a step towards empowered grassroots democracy leading to quality of life for citizens.

We would like to know your insights based on the information. Feel free to reach us at urbandialogue@praja.org

Praja released the first Urban Governance Index 2020 in Dec 2020. The index is divided into four themes which are then divided into thirteen sub-themes and further divided into a series of total 42 indicators. The video discusses the sub-themes under Theme 1 - Empowered City Elected Representatives and Legislative Structure.



Kind Regards,

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