

Challenges and Strategies in **‘Strengthening the Municipal Associations’**

- Case of

Association of Municipality and
Development Authority (AMDA), India

presentation by

Dr. Noor Mohammad IAS

Chairman

Association of Municipality & Development Authority

Website: <http://www.amdaindia.org> Fax: +91 11 2649 1675

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Evolution of AMDA

- **Faster growth of urbanization after independence**
- **The Government of India enacted Delhi Development Act resulting in setting up of Delhi Development Authority in 1957**
- **Subsequently, by 1970s, the Government of India encouraged the provinces to set up Metropolitan /Urban Development Authorities throughout the country.**
 - **1970** **Calcutta (now Kolkata) Metropolitan Development Authority**
 - **1976** **Bombay (now Mumbai) Metropolitan Region Development Authority and Hyderabad Urban Development Authority**
 - **1977** **Madras (now Chennai) Metropolitan Development Authority**

Evolution of AMDA

Contd.

- **As per 1981 Census, of the 12 metropolitan cities in the country 10 has Metropolitan Development Authorities excepting two cities, namely, Nagpur and Pune**
- **Development Authorities were meant to work for development of the town**
- **Municipalities were confined to their traditional role of maintenance of urban basic services**
- **AMDA was born to assist Development Authorities and the ULBs to improve governance and meet their obligation of providing basic services**

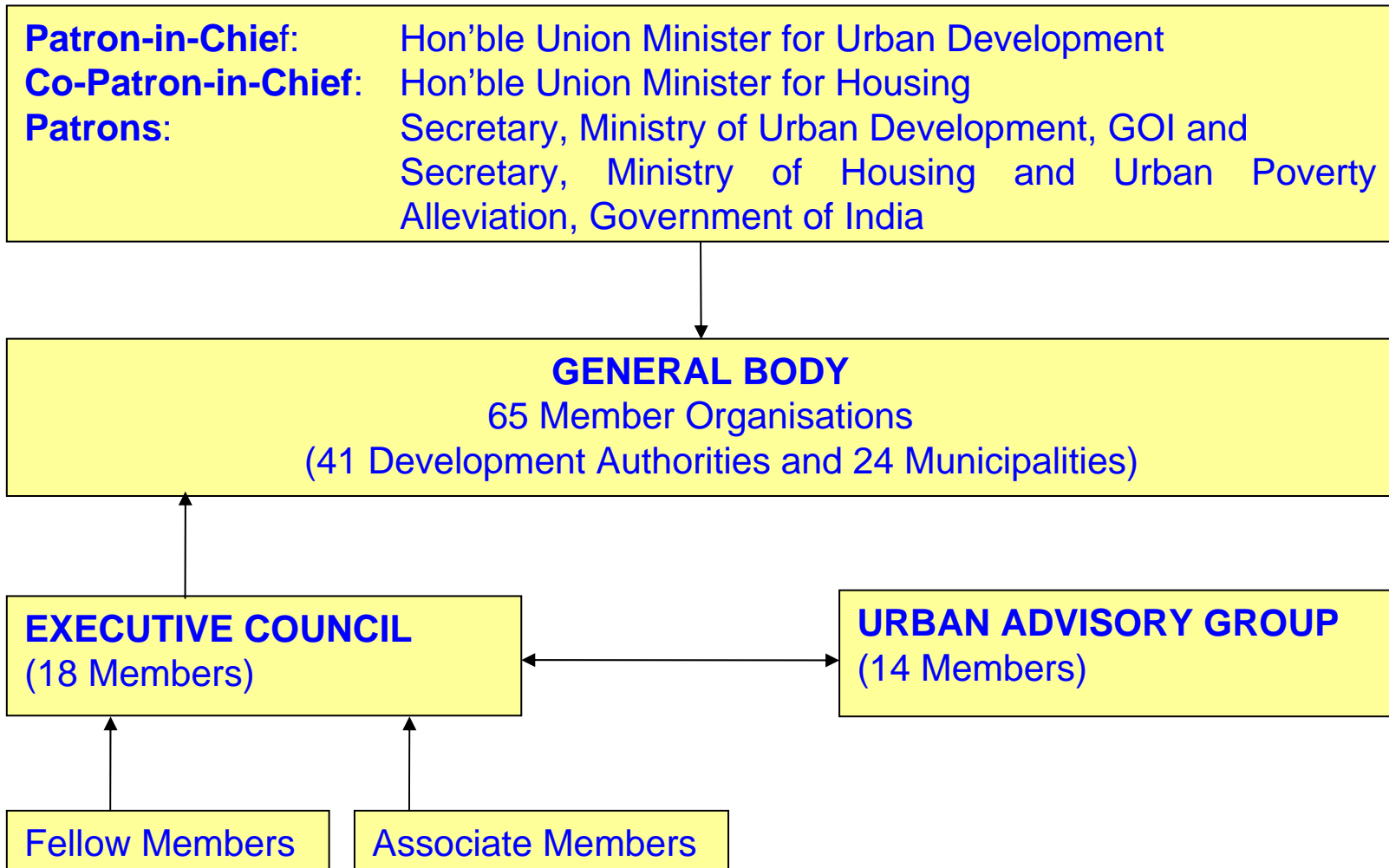
Profile of AMDA

- **'Association of Metropolitan Development Authorities (AMDA)', AMDA was established in January 1983 to function as a focal point for exchange of ideas on urban planning and development**
- **Consequent to the 74th Constitution Amendment Act, 1992, in 2006 it was changed as 'Association of Municipalities and Development Authorities'**
- **At present, AMDA has both the Municipalities and the Development Authorities as its members**
- **Represents 65 Municipalities and Development authorities of India**

Aim and Objectives of AMDA

- To discuss matters of mutual interest to members
- To facilitate coordination amongst members for evolving common practices, norms and standards
- To facilitate exchange of information on various aspects relating to urban development
- To disseminate knowledge on urban planning and development through seminars, conferences, workshops, newsletters and other publications
- To carry out research on urban governance related matters
- To provide consultancy services to member organizations of the Association and to other bodies
- To help members in their capacity building efforts
- To run research project to evolve suitable strategies for inclusive development

Institutional Structure of AMDA

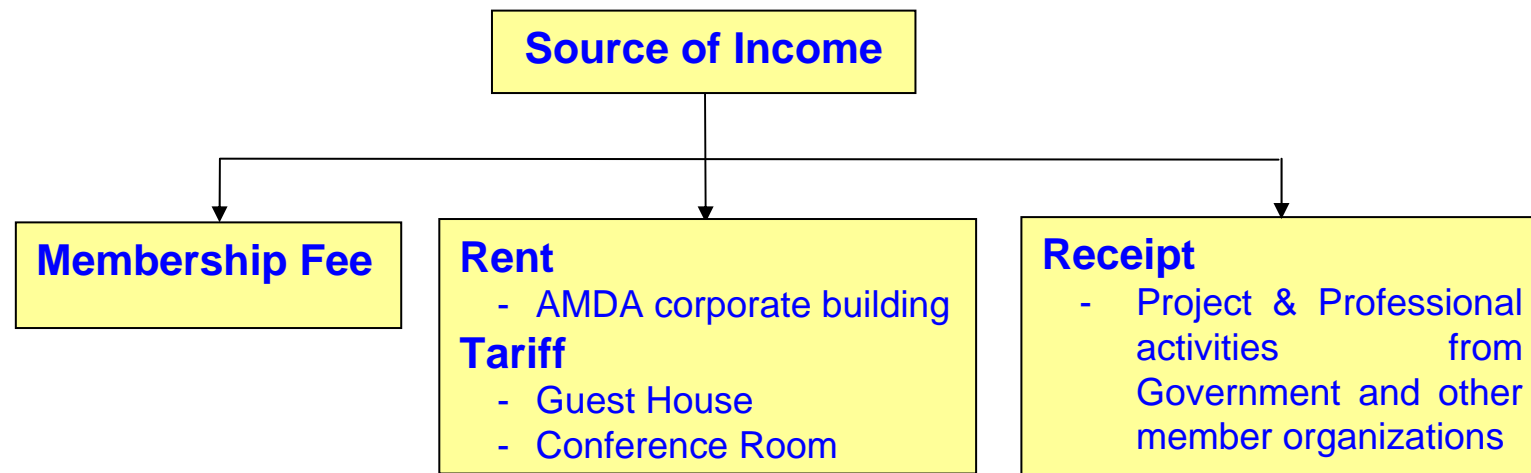


Activities of AMDA

- **Information Exchange and Dissemination** - develop a database and disseminate through publications and newsletters
- **Research and Studies** - conduct research and in-depth appraisal of programmes and projects relating to planning and development
- **Capacity Building** – organize participatory training programmes for professional development
- **Advocacy** - arrange workshops, seminars, conferences and brainstorming sessions for reforms and advocacy in the sphere of urban good governance
- **Building partnerships and networks** - build partnerships with academic/research institutions, NGOs as well with the central, state and local government institutions and international agencies

Financial Resources of AMDA

- **Operational Budget** – Voluntary contributions from Government and other member organizations for its professional activities
- **Regular Budget** – (a) the assessed contributions of its membership fee and (b) rents and tariff.



- **Creation of Corpus Fund** – Idea of building up a Corpus Fund with contributions from interested institutions has already been approved by AMDA General Body but could not be acted upon.

Achievements of AMDA

- **AMDA has engaged itself in a number of research projects some are:**
 - Inclusive Urban Planning – Reservation of Land and FSI for Housing and Amenities to the Urban Poor – Innovative Methods of Providing Land and Housing to the Urban Poor
 - Toolkit for contract Management in Basic Services
 - The Municipal Ward as the Basic Urban Planned Development Area
 - The Municipal Ward as the Basic Platform for the Integrated and the Participatory Planned Development of the urban Settlement
 - The Future of Metropolitan Planning Committee
 - Traffic and Transportation Study for Kanpur and Patna Cities

Achievements of AMDA

Contd.

- Alternative Modes of Assembly and Development of Land in the NCT of Delhi
- Projection of Employment Structure in Greater NOIDA Industrial Area
- Urban Development in Punjab – Present Scenario and Future Perspective
- Revision of Building By-laws in Haryana
- Optimisation of Project-mix for Self-Sustaining Financing Mechanism for Infrastructure Development in Mega City, Bangalore
- An Appraisal Study of Delhi Resettlement Colonies etc.

Challenges for AMDA

- **Capacity Building of ULBs in view of massive Urban population growth. AMDA lacks the manpower required for executing these tasks.**
- **A massive capacity building exercise of AMDA itself is a must particularly for attaining a harmonious and sustainable development as it adds to the size and complexity of the task.**
- **Limited coverage – only 65 members**
- **Limited resources**
- **To evolve innovative strategies to meet location specific issues – pilot studies – due to lack of resources.**

Challenges for AMDA

Contd.

- **Inadequate municipal laws to enable the ULBs to discharge their new responsibilities**
- **Need to build effective legislative support for the preparation of 3-tier Development plans through participatory process**
- **Need to effectively engage and organize sharing of success stories in the field of urban development to shorten their learning curve**
- **Enabling these association/bodies to hire experts by providing resources or through support by national/international institutions**
- **Free exchange of expertise among the associations/ bodies like CITYNET to work as the store house of useful knowledge**

Strategies

- **Increasing coverage by taking more ULBs as members.**
- **Establish capacity building centres in the Chennai and Kolkata while strengthening its Delhi main branch.**
- **Facilitate sharing of the success stories and a treasure house of critical data**
- **Building partnerships and networks, and Information Exchange and Dissemination**
- **Propagate innovative strategies based on past experiences suited to the local environment**
- **Develop a series of pilot projects to evolve innovative strategies to meet the locality specific challenges.**
- **Develop the Urban Advisory Group to help the expert deficit ULBs**

- **Build a forum for advocacy of progressive urban development and management issues and policies through the process of regional planning based on the rural-urban continuum.**
- **Introduce manifest qualitative improvements in providing urban services and improving urban governance**
- **To develop AMDA as a national capacity building hub on urban issues and later cover the South Asian region**
- **Single window solution to the ULBs and government level stakeholders**
- **Mediator between ULBs and Government stakeholders/International agencies**
- **Provide guidance and handholding to ULBs to develop projects and innovative ways of financing.**

THANK YOU

