ZILA PARISHAD-STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS

PG Dept. of Public Administration
Post Graduate Govt. college for Girls Sector-11 Chandigarh
INTRODUCTION

• Zila Parishad is at the apex of the three tier structure of Panchayati Raj system in India.
• It is a rural local body constituted at district level
• Look after the administration and development of rural areas of the district
• It coordinates the working and functions of gram panchayat and panchayat samiti
• it was called as Mohakama Parishad in Assam, District Development council in Tamil Nadu, Zila Praja Parishad in Andhra pradesh but in most of the states as Zila Parishad
COMPOSITION

- It consists of:
  i. Directly elected members from demarcated constituencies;
  ii. All chairmen of Panchayat Samitis (ex-officio);
  iii. MPs And MLAs
  iv. Member of Rajya Sabha and Member of Legislative Council (if any)

- Direct elected member differ from Zila parishad to Zila Parishad. In Punjab it varies from 10-25. In Haryana it is 10-30.
RESERVATION OF SEATS

• Women – not less than 1/3 seats but in Punjab state it is 50% as per Amendment Bill June, 2017

• SC/ST- According the proportion to their population

• BC- 1 seat against 20% population
Chairman and Vice-chairman

- Every Zila Parishad is headed by chairman and vice. 
  
  Chairman
  
  Elected indirectly from amongst its direct elected members
  
  Can be removed through no confidence motion
  
  Can resign any time
Functions of the Chairman

- To call the meeting and presides over
- To keep the record of the Zila Parishad
- To enter into correspondence on behalf of Zila Parishad.
- To order preparation of all statement and report
- Responsible for financial and executive administration of Zila Parishad
Meetings

• Zila Parishad meets once in three months

• Special meeting can be convened when requested in writing by 1/3 of its member

• Chairman has to call such a special meeting within 15 days of receipt of such a request
TENURE

• The tenure of Zila Parishad is 5 years
• The state government has power to dissolve it earlier also
• It may be dissolved on any of the following grounds:
  - abuse of power;
  - incompetence or
  - non-compliance with the instructions given by the state govt.
STANDING COMMITTEES

- Zila Parishad functions through number of standing committees
- Members of the committees are elected from amongst the members of Zila Parishad
- In Punjab state various committees are organised-
  - General Management Committee
  - Finance Audit and Planning committee
  - Social Justice Committee
  - Education and Health Committee
  - Agriculture and Industry Committee
- Each Committee consists of not more than five Members, including chairman
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

- Agriculture promotion
- Irrigation, ground water resources and watershed development
- Horticulture includes development of rural park and gardens
- Rural electrification
- Distribution of essential commodities
- Soil conservation measures and land reclamation and land development works
- Marketing including regulated markets and marketing yard
- Campaigning for tree planting and plantation and maintenance of trees
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

- Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- Fisheries
- Household and Small Scale industries including food processing
- Construction and maintenance of roads
- Health and Hygiene
- Rural Housing
- Help in promoting educational activities in its area
- Social welfare and welfare of weaker section of the societies
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

- Poverty alleviation programmes
- Social Reform Activities

Some other pertinent functions are:

- publication of statistical and other information relating to Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad
- periodical supervision and evaluation of project and programme
- implement the programmes as per the directives of state government
- to render advisory services to their Panchayat Samiti
THANKS