# Strengthening Finances of Urban Local Bodies

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**Presentation for the Fourteenth Finance Commission** 

### TOR of the Fourteenth FC relating to ULB

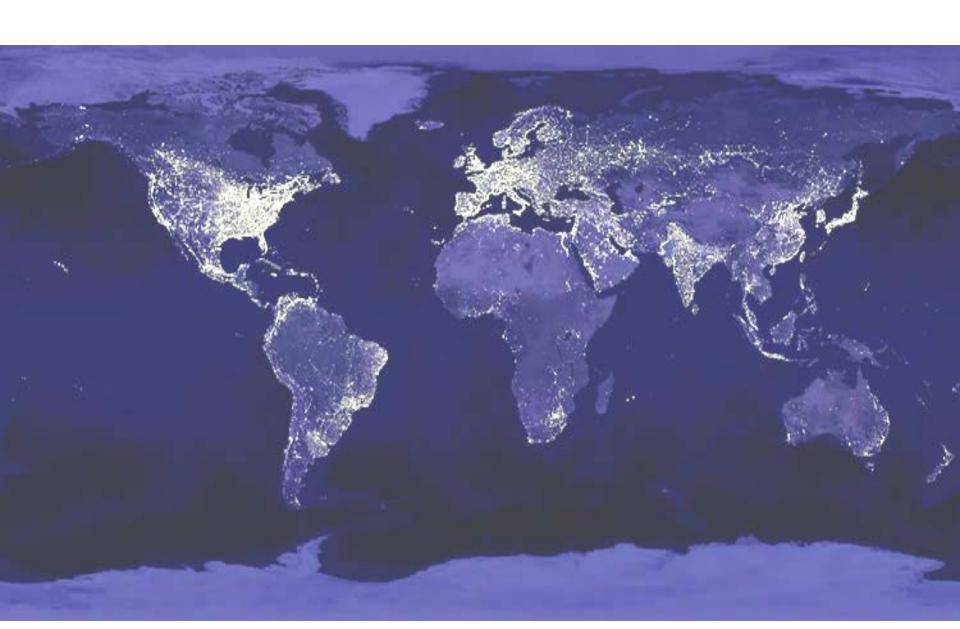
- the measures needed to augment the consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats and Municipalities in the State on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of the State
- the need for insulating the pricing of public utility services like drinking water, irrigation, power and public transport from policy fluctuations through statutory provisions
- The Commission may review.....; linking outlays to outputs and outcomes; ...... and make appropriate recommendations thereon

### **Outline**

- Need to focus on ULBs
- Status of ULB finances
  - Property tax
  - User charges
  - > Measures to improve municipal finances
- □ Information system for outcomes service levels in ULB
- Suggestions for the FFC

## Urbanising India

### Where are the cities of the world?



### Contribution of urban areas to GDP

- Globally, more people live in urban areas than in rural areas, and this is likely to be the case in India as well by 2030.
- Delhi with 25 million is the second largest urban agglomeration of the world. (UN, 2014)
- □ The urban sector contributed about two-thirds of GDP in 2009-10 and this share is likely to increase to 75 percent by 2031 (HPEC 2011).
- Successful sustainable urbanization requires adequate investment in infrastructure and significant capacity at local level to operate and maintain the infrastructure.

### India's Urbanisation: acceleration in 2011?

Table 1: Trends in Urbanisation in India (1961-2011)

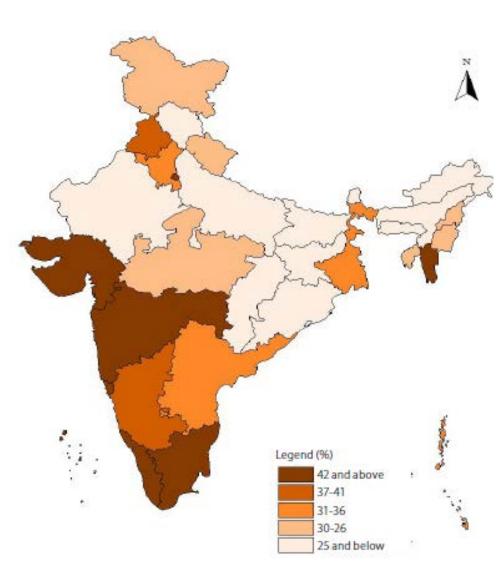
Census Year	Urban Population (in million)	Percentage Urban	Annual Exponential Urban Growth Rate (%)
1961	78.94	17.97	-
1971	109.11	19.91	3.23
1981	159.46	23.34	3.79
1991	217.18	25.72	3.09
2001	286.12	27.86	2.75
2011	377.10	31.16	2.76

Table 2: Urban-Rural Population Growth Differentials (1971-2011)

(13) 1 2011)			
Decade	Rural	Urban	Urban-Rural Growth Differentials (Annual Exponential
			Growth Rate, in %)
1971-81	1.76	3.79	2.03
1981-91	1.80	3.09	1.29
1991-2001	1.69	2.75	1.06
2001-2011	1.15	2.76	1.61

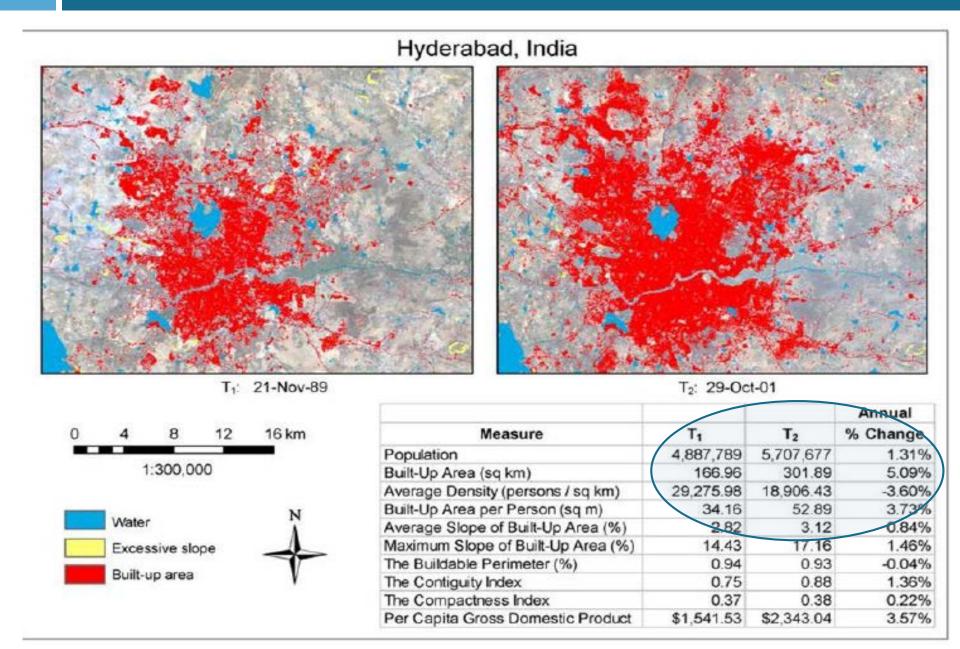
Source: Census of India, various years.

Bhagat, (2011), Urbanisation in India, EPW, August 20, 2011



90 million added in Urban and Rural areas

## There is also rapid urban expansion that exacerbates the need for infrastructure investment



### State allocation for Urban Development

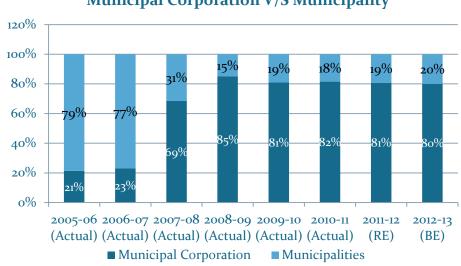
### **Gujarat UDD Budget: Highlights**

Budget Allocation in UDD (Rs in Millions)									
	2005-06 (Actual)	2006-07 (Actual)	2007-08 (Actual)	2008-09 (Actual)	2009-10 (Actual)	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (RE)	2012-13 (BE)	
UDD Budget	6,611	15,054	22,333	40,939	47,810	49,118	48,214	66,782	
Central Scheme/Programme (Fully/Partially)	270	5,876	5,993	8,620	8,008	8,900	5,477	7,059	
State Scheme/programme	694	1,181	2,076	6,782	13,593	13,532	9,164	21,666	
Formula Linked Grant (incl Octroi compensation)	4,193	5,183	11,514	22,275	23,387	23,411	24,191	25,077	
Others	1,454	2,814	2,750	3,263	2,822	3,275	9,381	12,980	





### Formula Linked Grant to ULBs: Municipal Corporation V/S Municipality

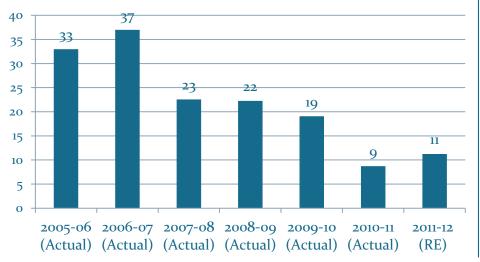


Source: State Budgets Documents, GoG

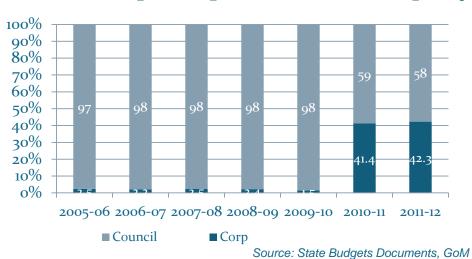
### Maharashtra UDD Budget: Highlights

Budget Allocation in UDD (Rs in Millions)								
	2005-06 (Actual)	2006-07 (Actual)	2007-08 (Actual)	2008-09 (Actual)	2009-10 (Actual)	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (RE)	2012-13 (BE)
UDD Budget	14,020	19,283	26,062	27,524	48,276	42,971	51,291	51,626
Central Scheme/Programme (Fully/Partially)	2,528	5,800	14,300	17,260	22,393	18,975	22,350	23,326
State Scheme/programme	6,868	6,351	5,886	4,139	16,680	20,243	23,179	20,380
Formula Linked Grant	4624	7132	5876	6125	9203	3753	5762	7,920

## Formula Linked Grant to ULBs % of Total UDD Budget



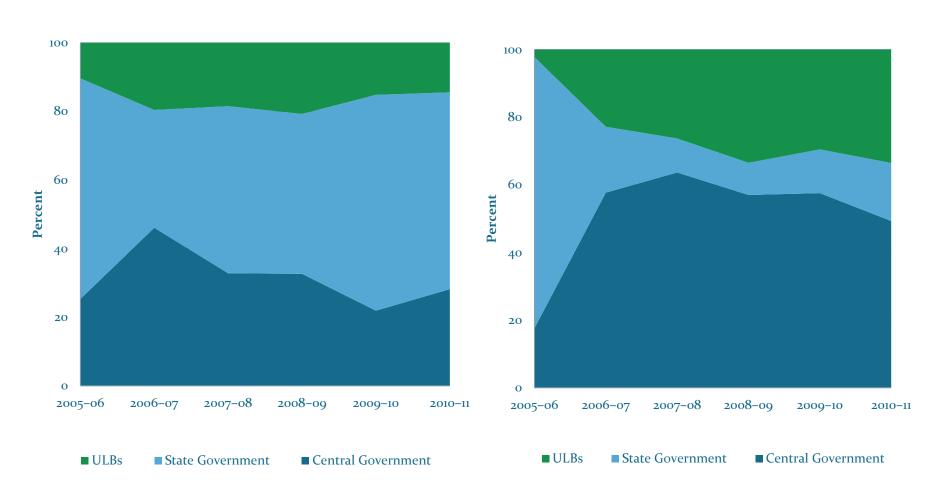
#### Formula Linked Grant to ULBs Municipal Corporation V/S Municipality



#### Sources of funds for Urban Water and Sanitation



#### Sources of Funds for UWS: Maharashtra



### Aspects of decentralisation

- Level of predictability in funding
- Level of autonomy for ULBs in the use of funds
- □ Reform and performance-linked funding
- □ Funds earmarked for the poor
- Disparities between Municipal corporations and smaller municipalities

Fiscal decentralisation(state to local): a cause for concern									
	Ma	harasht	ra	Gujarat					
Dimension of decentralisation	Central Govt. funds	State Govt. funds	Total Urban Dev Funds	Central Govt. funds	State Govt. funds	Total Urban Dev Funds			
Predictability % share of formula based funds	11.4	23.6	16.4	8.5	31.3	20.5			
Local Autonomy % share of partially tied funds	62.8	81.26	56.02	73.9	89.5	81.5			
Reforms Linked % share of reform linked funds	82.5	10.3	60.1	93.0	12.4	<b>42.</b> 1			
Earmarking for the poor % share of funds earmarked for the poor	22.8	7.5	18	23.8	11.5	16.1			

81.28

18.72

73.4

26.6

83.1

16.9

60.0

40.0

35.4

64.6

**Horizontal Equity** 

% share of Municipalities

83

17

% share of MCs

## Municipal Finance

### Do we know enough about the ULB finances?

- No systematic information on ULB finances exists in India. Most available studies are "one-off", based on a "sample" of ULBs, often with a bias for larger cities.
- What we do know is that the share of "own revenue" is declining and dependence on "grants" (tied and untied) is rising, thus undermining one of the basic tenets of decentralisation
- Expenditure needs of ULBs are generally based on financial norms (based on Zacharia 1964 norms adjusted for inflation)
- No information on "outcome" of this expenditure in terms "service levels"

### Gujarat and Maharashtra: Issues in assessing Municipal Finance

- □ ULBs are required by law to have a balanced budget but in practice, they overestimate revenues and underspend on essential services
- Many ULBs follow unified or single budget formats in which segregation of revenue and capital expenditure is difficult
- □ The BPMC Act provides for separate budgets or ring fencing some part of budget but this is not practiced in Maharashtra
- Inconsistent municipal budgeting and accounting structure
- □ Difficult to assess the debt repayment capacity

### **Increasing dependency of ULBs**

Table 6: The Finances of Municipalities, All States

Finances	2002-			2007-08		
	Amount	Per	Amount	Per	CAGR %	
	Rs. crore	Capita	Rs. crore	Capita		
		Rs		Rs		
Revenue Income						
Own tax revenue	8,838.13	311	15,277.72	492	11.57	
Own non-tax revenue	4,441.84	156	8,243.66	265	13.16	
Total own revenue	13,279.97	466	23,521.38	757	12.11	
					00.40	
Assignment and devolution	3,657.06	128	9,171.11	295	20.19	
Grants-in-aid	2,259.76	79	5,676.25	183	20.23	
Others	1,137.52	40	2,818.32	91	19.90	
Transfers from the Central Government	308.86	11	2,372.97	76	50.35	
Finance Commission Transfers	276.53	10	869.02	28	25.74	
Total revenue income	20,919.69	733	44,429.05	1430	16.26	
Evpondituro						
Expenditure Revenue expenditure	15,691.46	550	28,431.45	915	12.62	
Capital expenditure	5,938.28	208	18,594.08	598	25.64	
Total expenditure	21,629.74	758	47,025.53	1,513	16.80	
Total experiatore	21,023.74	750	47,025.55	1,515	10.00	
Gross domestic product (GDP) (India)45	22,61,415	21,415	43,20,892	37,969	13.83	
Own tax as % of GDP	0.39	-	0.35	-		
Own revenue as a % of GDP	0.59		0.54			
Municipal expenditure as % of GDP	0.96		1.09			

Note: Gross Domestic Product at factor cost (current prices).

Source: TFC data.

### **Gujarat ULBs : Dependency on Grants**

#### Own Source revenue (Tax income) to total revenue

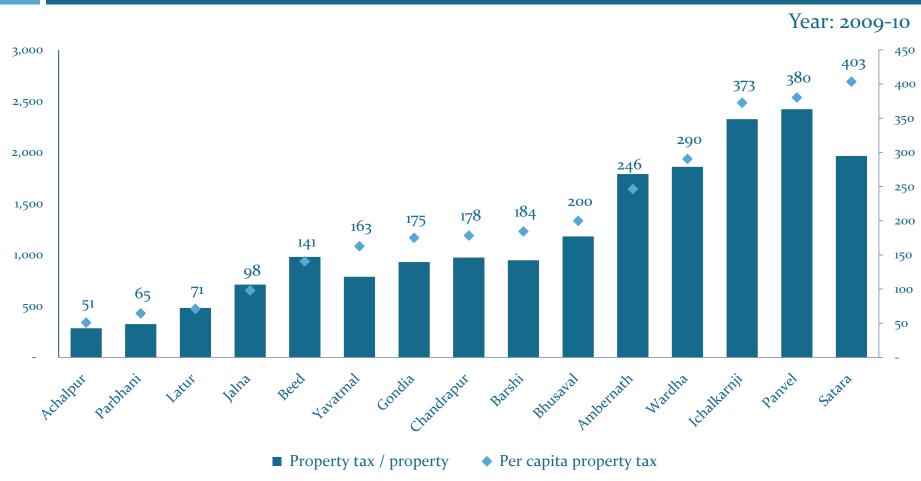
Class	Average	Median	< 20%	20 – 30%	30 – 40%	40 – 50%	50 – 60%	> 60%
A (18)	36%	34%	2	6	3	3	3	1
B (33)	43%	31%	5	10	8	5	0	5
C (45)	26%	22%	17	11	4	4	2	1
D (63)	42%	29%	15	15	10	4	6	9
Total (159)	37%	28%	39	42	25	16	11	16

- ULBs generate only about one-third of their income from own sources
- □ The primary reasons for low dependence on taxes:
  - 1. Low tax rate
  - 2. Low collection efficiency

## Median values of taxes/per property levied by Municipalities(not all ULBs levy all these taxes)

ULB class	Property tax	Special water tax	General water tax	Drainage tax	Special safai tax	General safai tax	Light tax
A	668	600	600	200	100	91	100
В	523	600	600	225	100	96	68
C	453	600	150	225	60	60	53
D	332	600	75	175	60	60	50

### Maharashtra: Property tax - is there potential for more?



- ULBs have adopted different property tax rates, infrequent revision of property tax
- Non -coverage of properties under the property tax net
- Low demand and poor collection efficiency of the property tax by the ULBs

### **Gujarat Property tax: Collection Efficiency**

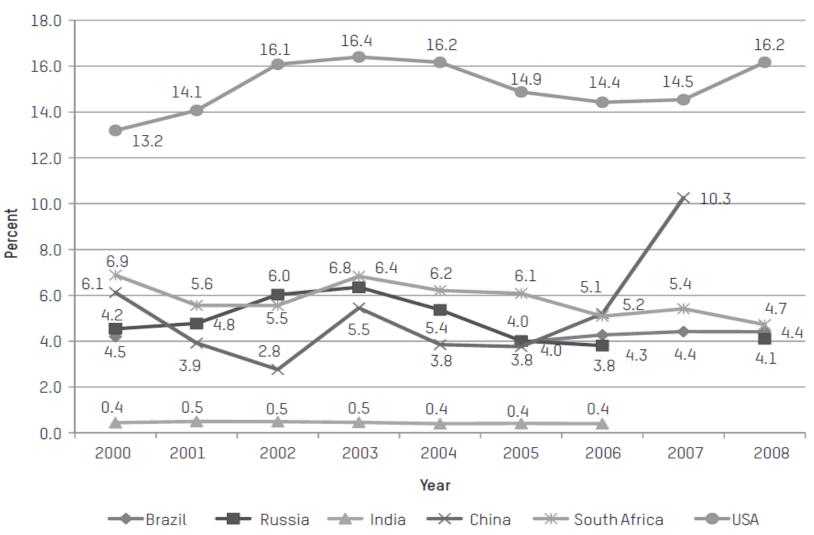
- UIDSSMT and MMSVY -Reforms target mandate that ULBs collect 90% of the demand raised
  - only 31 cities meet the reform target.
  - □ 46 cities collect less than 55% of the demand raised
  - □ Critical in class D cities, more than half collect less than 60%

		Number of ULBs according to Collection Efficiency of Property tax							
Class	Median	< 40%	40 – 55%	55 – 70%	70 – 85%	> 85%			
A (18)	65%	0	5	5	4	4			
B (33)	76%	0	5	4	13	7			
C (45)	71%	4	6	11	16	8			
D (63)	58%	13	13	19	6	12			
Total (159)	68%	17	29	39	39	31			

### Property Tax: an underutilised resource

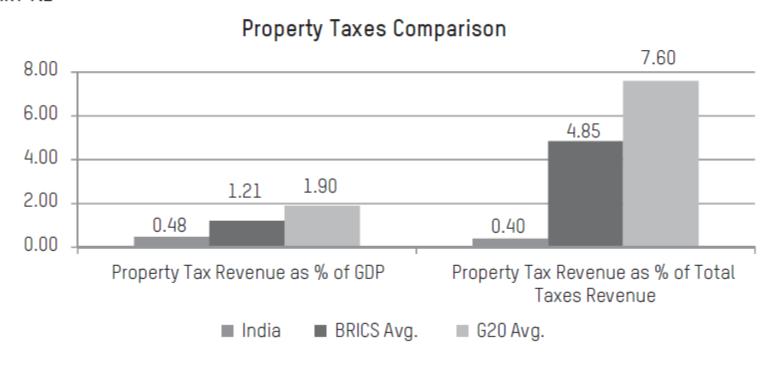
CHART 3.2

#### Trends in Share of Property Taxes in Total Taxes for BRICS and USA



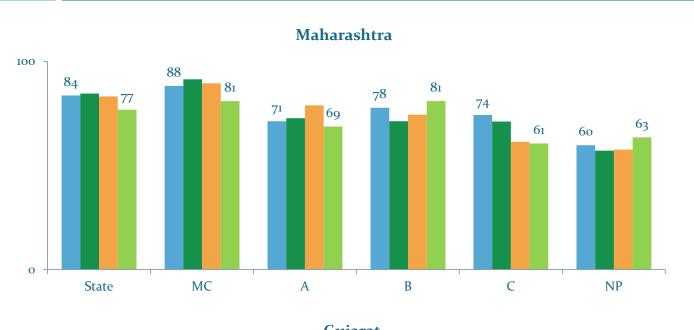
## **Property Tax Comparison**





## User charges/taxes

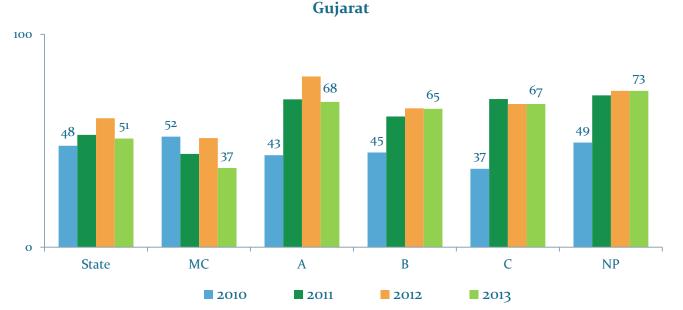
### Cost recovery in Water in ULBs



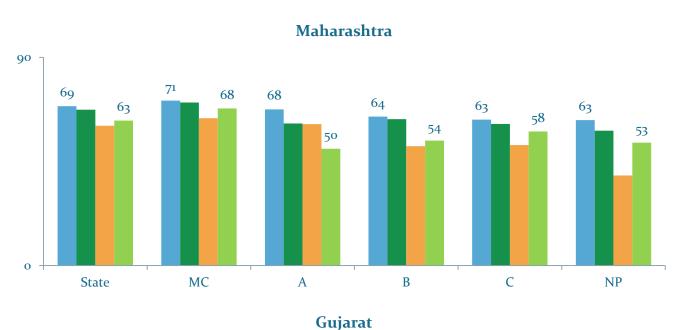
ULBs in both the states do not fully recover O&M costs (billed demand/ O&M expenditure) of provision of water services

Maharashtra is better in cost recovery of water

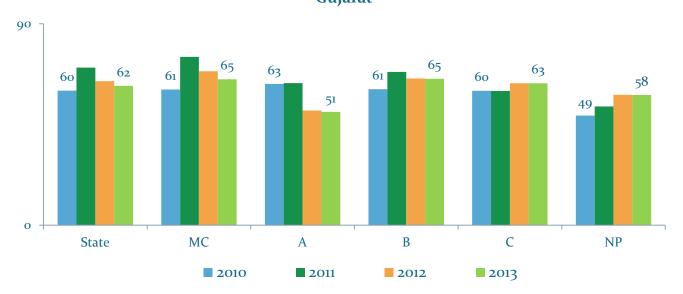
No major change in trend despite conditions imposed by centre (JnNURM) and State



### **Collection Efficiency of User charges (Water)**



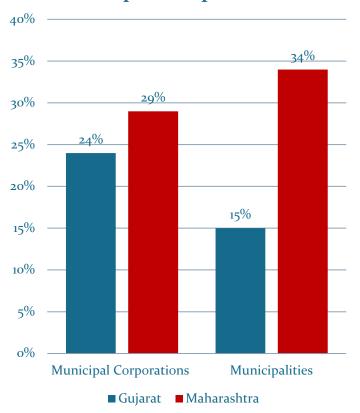
Actual Cost recovery is further lowered as ULBs fail to collect all the demand raised.



ULBs in both states collect only about 60% of the demand raised

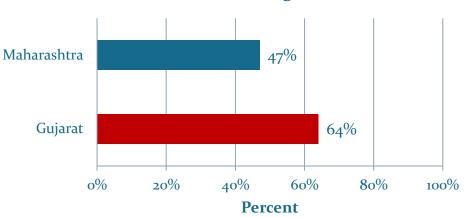
#### Can ULBs sustain infrastructure?

### Actual O&M Expenditure as % of Required Expenditure



Note: Actual O&M expenditures are compared with HPEC norms

### Recovery of O&M Costs through local taxes and charges



Obsession about computing the need for investment in urban infrastructure (HPEC, McKinsey, etc)

Even when major investments in urban infrastructure (funded by Central and State) are made, ULBs are nether able to recover the O&M expenses through local charges and taxes for services

## Linking outlays to outcomes

### Linking outlays to outputs and outcomes

- The Commission may review.....; linking outlays to outputs and outcomes; ...... and make appropriate recommendations thereon
- In an earlier study it was observed that, "the study would have been more complete if the outcomes in terms of finances of the cities could be related to the levels of service delivery. Unfortunately, none of the ULBs have a systematic record on the levels of services provided. In the absence of data on the levels of services for each ULB, we cannot use the physical norms to assess the conditions but have to rely entirely on financial norms."

### Monitoring outcomes in ULBs

- It is possible to implement monitoring of outcomes for key services – water supply, Sanitation, Solid Wastes
  - ✓ Framework of Service Level Benchmarks (SLB) developed by Ministry of Urban Development has been in use since 2009
  - ✓ CEPT University has operationalised this framework with online system and which collects annual information for 400+ cities in Gujarat and Maharashtra
  - ✓ Both states have institutionalised the system of annual monitoring of SLBs with help of CEPT University and partners
  - Ministry of Urban Development has suggested to state governments to adopt this framework



**Annual Service delivery** 

profile for 419

Cities in 2 States

covering 32

Key indicators and 88 local action indicators

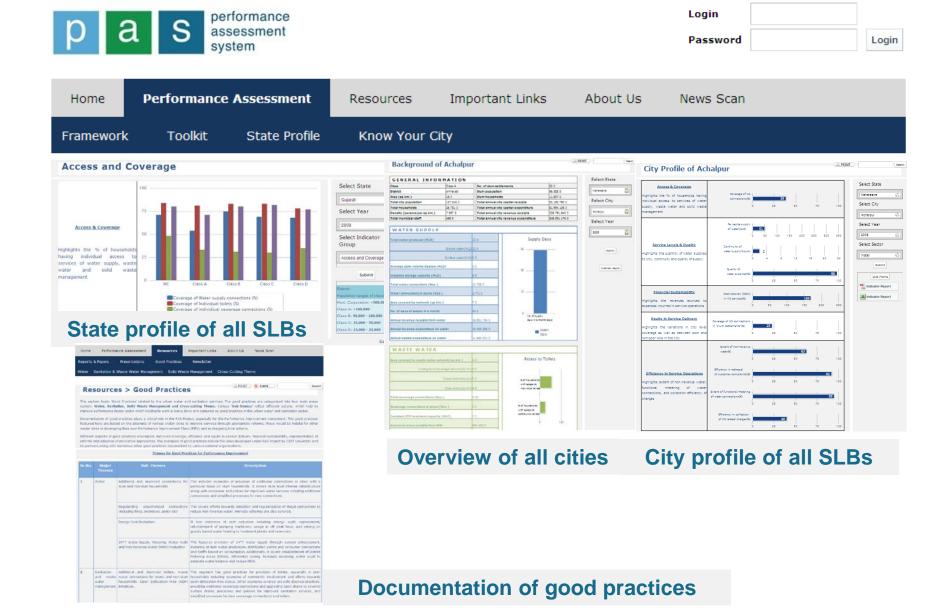
www.pas.org.in

Sectors: Water supply, Waste Water, Solid waste Management & Storm Water

Focus on Measurement, Monitoring & Improvement



## **Online Monitoring**



## On-line data entry module



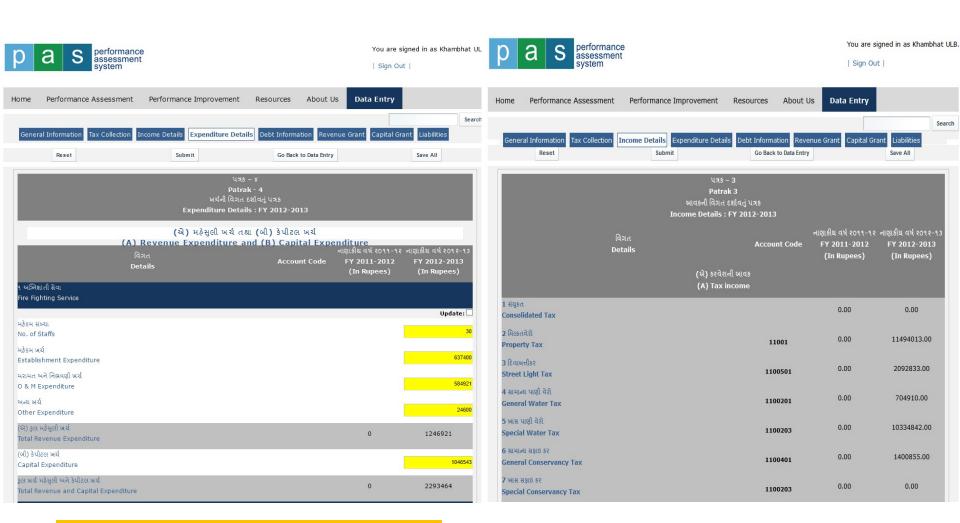
You are signed in as Amod ULB.

| Sign Out |

**Data Entry** Home Performance Assessment Resources About Us Site Map Search PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (PAS) PROJECT Amod Equity Related Information Reliability General Information Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Solid Waste Management WATER SUPPLY: FY 2012-2013

#### 1. COVERAGE OF WATER SUPPLY CONNECTIONS Water Service Coverage - Number of Connections Item Unit 2011-2012 2012-2013 1.1 Domestic Connections (Metered Functional) Number NA 1.2 Domestic Connections (Metered Non-Functional) Number NA NΑ 1.3 Domestic Connections (Unmetered) Number 3200 3001 Domestic connections (Total) Number 3200 3001 1.4 Bulk supply Apartments (Metered Functional) Number NA NΑ 1.5 Bulk supply Apartments (Metered Non-Functional) Number NΑ NΑ 1.6 Bulk supply Apartments (Unmetered) Number NΑ NΑ Bulk supply Apartments (Total) 0 Number 0 1.7 Bulk supply Layouts/Societies (Metered Functional) Number NΑ 1.8 Bulk supply Layouts/Societies (Metered Non-Functional) Number NA

### Online Module for Municipal Finance - Gujarat

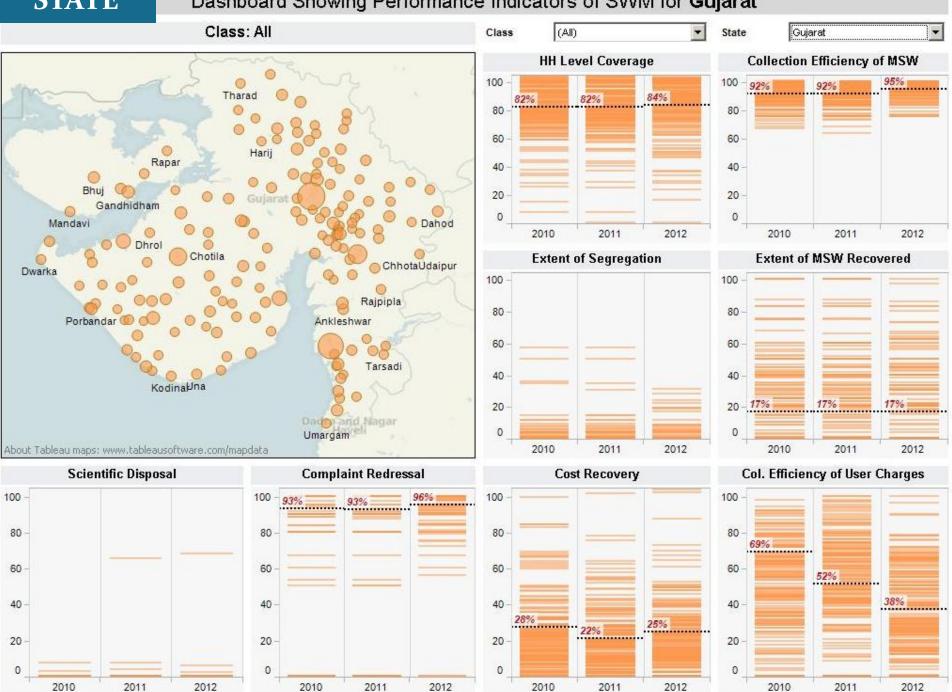


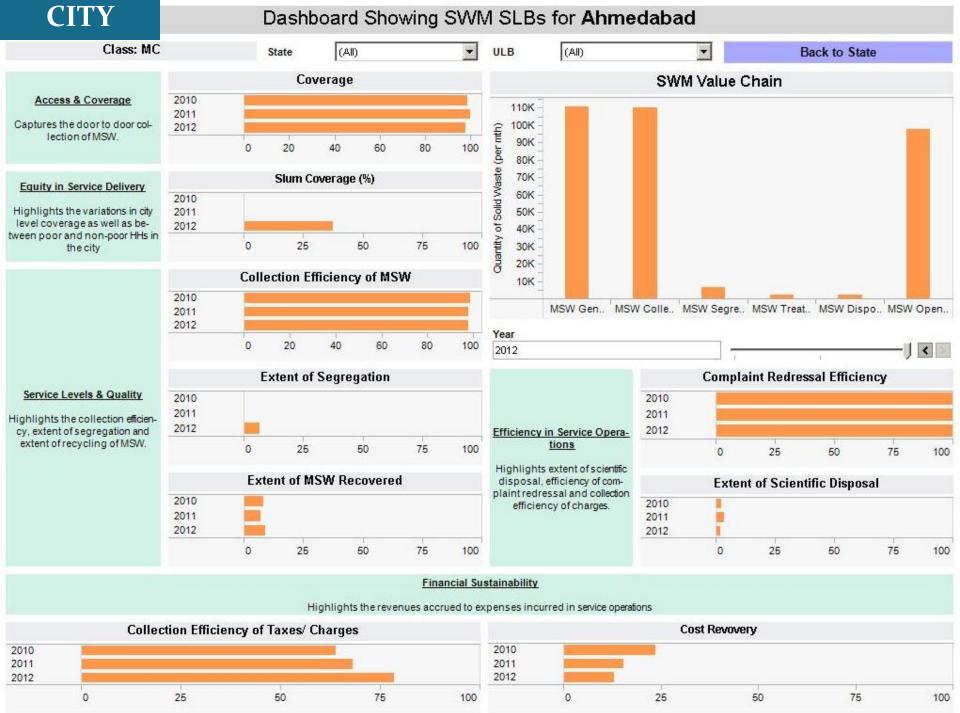
Format Showing Revenue/Capital Expenditure of ULB

Format showing income details of ULB

#### **STATE**

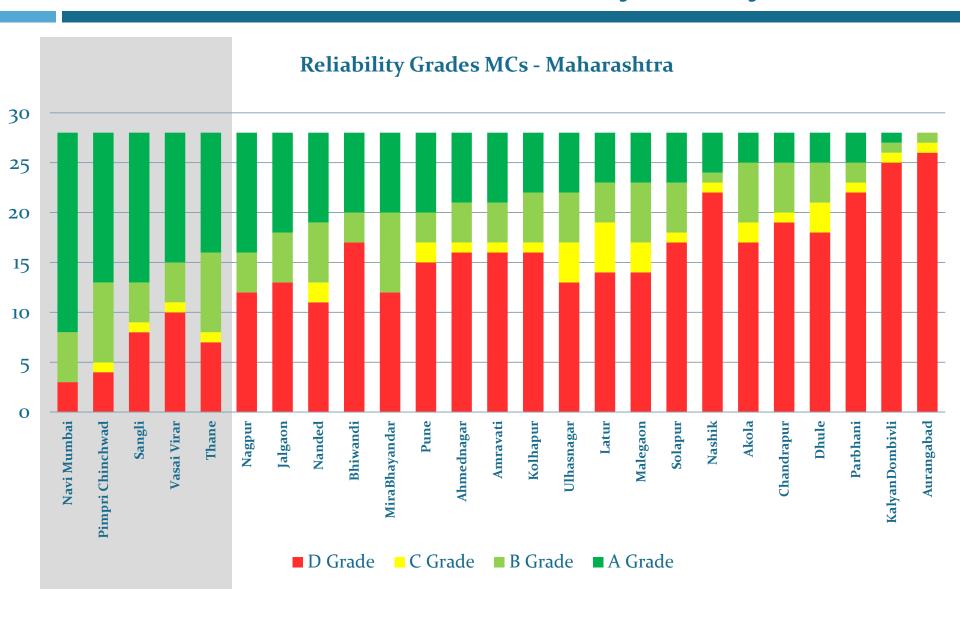
#### Dashboard Showing Performance Indicators of SWM for Gujarat





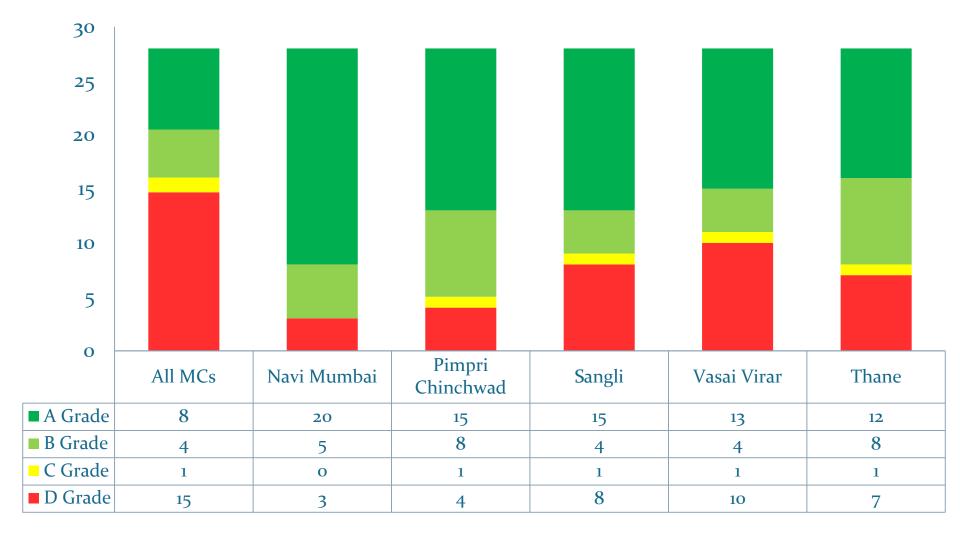
#### Dashboard for SWM Drilldown indicators for Ahmedabad <u>Details</u> **Financial Sustainability** Class: MC Gujarat ULB (All) Back to State Back to City State Cost vs Revenue per HH 2010 2011 2012 3600 123 124 127 Gujarat 3200 Ahmedabad 2800 ø 2400 Jamnagar 2000 0 Vadodara Rajkot 1600 1,428 1200 1,056 Bhavnagar 800 Junagadh 400 0 Surat 100 400 500 0 400 100 200 300 400 500 0 200 300 100 200 300 Revenue 🦻 Revenue 9 Revenue & About Tableau maps: www.tableausoftware.com/mapdata **Billed Arrears to Total Billed Demand** Recruited to Sanctioned Staff in SWM Total Staff per 1000 HHs Unit Cost of SWM Services (Rs/ton) 8K 2000 40 100 6K 80 1500 30 60 4K 1000 20 867 42.8 40 36.4 35.3 2,067 1,905 1,671 500 10 20 0 0 2011 2012 2010 2011 2012 2010 2011 2012 2010 2011 2012 2010

# Maharashtra Data Reliability Analysis



## Data Reliability Analysis - MCs

#### Reliability Grades - All MCs, PCMC, NMMC, Sangli MC, Thane MC, Vasai Virar M



### ERP Solution developed internally by NMMC

Birth & Death Certificates

Integrated Financial Accounting & Reporting

Interactive Citizen Portal for Local Bodies

Automated Building Plan Permissions

Property / Water Management

Grievance Management

GIS Integrated systems



e-Tendering & Procurement

Office Establishment/
Administration

Personnel Information
Systems

Asset Life Cycle Management Document Management Systems

**Licenses & Permits** 

Management Info.
System

Workflow Driven

Single Sign-on

Role-based Access

Complete Audit Trail

Source: Rao G V (2013), "presentation on NMMC e-Governance system", MOUD workshop, Khajuraho.

### Systems and Processes - Navi Mumbai

#### **Water Supply**

#### <u>Production, Treatment and</u> Distribution

- Bulk flow meters installed at all points to measure water.
   production and distribution
- Water produced and distributed monitored through SCADA system (Hourly reports generated).
- Water quality tests conducted daily at own laboratory.

#### **Consumption**

- Monthly meter readings through
  - Automatic meter reader
  - Manual recording
- Computerized records for water connections, consumption and billing.
- Multiple mechanism to register complaints – written, telephonic, online, etc.

#### **Wastewater Management**

#### **Collection and Conveyance**

- 80.1% coverage of wastewater network.
- Multiple mechanism to register complaints available written, telephonic, online, etc.

#### **Treatment**

- 7 STPs for treatment of wastewater generated (C-tech technology).
- Bulk flow meters installed at inlets and outlets of STPs
- STPs operated through SCADA system.

#### **Disposal**

• Treated waste water disposed into Thane creek.

#### **Solid Waste Management**

# Collection, transportation and Segregation

- Waste collection trucks weighed at the weighing bridge.
- Computerised records are maintained on the daily basis.
- Wet and dry waste is segregated through mechanical segregators and sent for processing.

#### **Processing**

- 17500 MT/ Month goes to processing plant approved by SPCB
  - Bio gas plant
  - Compost processing
  - RDF
  - Eco bricks

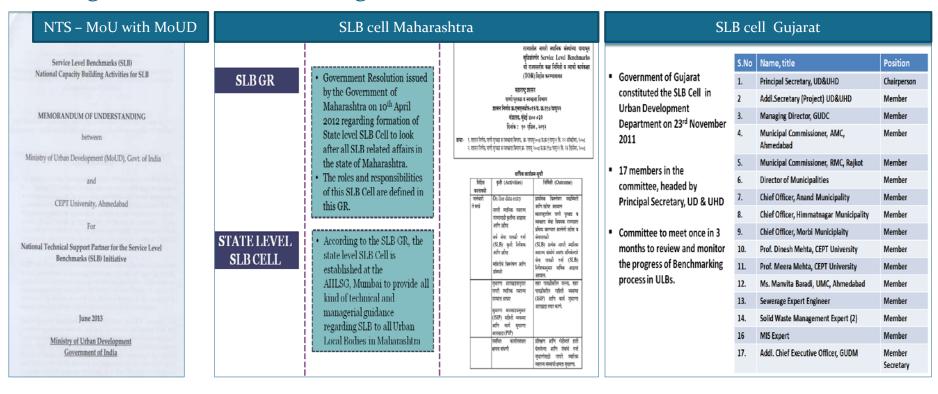
#### **Disposal**

• 4500 MT/ Month goes to dumping site.

### Mainstreaming outcome monitoring – Gujarat and Maharashtra

□ The CEPT Performance Assessment System (PAS) has been mainstreamed in both states through a special State Cell for SLB assessment

The government resolutions provide terms of reference, time table for regular activities and budget stream of the State Cells



### **TFC Condition 8: Standards for service delivery**

- Service Level Benchmarking as one of the nine conditionalities for allocation of performance based grants to ULBs, which amount to appr. Rs.8000 crores over 2010-15. This was instrumental in adopting outcome monitoring framework
- □ The TFC stated that, "State governments must put in place *standards for delivery of essential services* provided by the local bodies for four services viz., water supply, sewerage, solid waste management, and storm water drains on lines of handbook for SLB by MoUD)\*
- This has provided a beginning of a mindset shift from "infrastructure investments" to "service delivery outcome".

### States with SLB Gazette information

States	No of cities in SLB Gazette information		
	2011	2012	2013
Andhra Pradesh	124		*
Bihar	42		
Chhattisgarh	43	43	43
Gujarat	164	167	166
Haryana		71	74
Himachal Pradesh	48	26	
Jharkhand		38	
Karnataka	52	52	
Kerala	65	65	65
Madhya Pradesh	110	110	
Maharashtra	247	252	252
Meghalaya		6	
Mizoram		4**	4**
Odisha	103	40	
Punjab			132
Rajasthan	184		*
Tripura	1	1	
Uttar Pradesh	205	207	207
West Bengal	87	125	127
<b>Total cities / Total States</b>	1475 / 14	1207 / 15	1070 / 11







<sup>\*</sup> Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan – Submitted average service levels and only sample city information

<sup>\*\*</sup> Mizoram State - Gazetted average service level of 4 ULBs

# Throwing the baby with bath water?

- Despite the compliance of this condition by a large number of ULBs, a working group report of NIUA suggests discontinuance of this based on a sample of TWO ULBs!!
  - > "The data of the two ULBs in respect of the above are contained in the two tables to show the irrelevance of "Benchmark" as one of the nine conditions as also of the limited value of this information for any purpose"
  - > "The use of decimal point in recording the extent of metering or of nonrevenue water shows the lack of understanding by the State how current levels or the targets are to be recorded."
  - > Such conditions, the Working Group holds the position, need not be considered by the 14th Finance Commission.

We completely disagree with such a recommendation, based on a flimsy footing and poor understanding of the links between outlays and outcomes

# Suggestions to FFC

### Suggestions for the consideration of the FFC

- Promote state level system for regular collection and analysis of municipal finance information
- Operationalizing systems for outcome / service delivery monitoring (like Service Level Benchmarks) on a regular basis
- Define clear role of state government and urban local bodies in setting up and mainstreaming these systems

### Systems for regular collection/analysis of municipal finance

- Municipal Finance Information has been paid less attention (unlike the accounting reforms!!)
- Rather than ad-hoc, one-time data collection generally undertaken for SFC/FC, there is a need for systematic information on municipal finance
- Government of Gujarat is now collecting municipal finance data along with service level data on a regular basis through an online system. These online modules and analysis framework can be adapted for use in other states as well
- The Twelfth FC did make a recommendation for 'data improvements', but dues to the lack of an incentive and clarity, implementation has been weak
- Can FFC provide incentive(s) to make this "mandatory"? And provide grants to support implementation?

### Systems for monitoring of outcomes/ service delivery

- A system of performance measurement with standard indicators for key municipal services is needed. The CEPT University's PAS Program has adapted GOI's SLB framework by adding for equity and onsite sanitation systems. Regular assessment of performance is needed by all ULBs, to enable comparative assessment and benchmarking, and trend analysis.
- Governments of Gujarat and Maharashtra are now collecting annual service performance data (SLB+) through an online system. MOUD, GOI has asked CEPT University to provide demand-based support to other states. Chhatisgarh, MP and Goa have requested this support so far.
- ULBs need to include monitoring of service delivery as a part of their internal systems – linking with their e-governance and MIS. This can begin with a few ULBs. This will help improve data reliability
- Can FFC provide incentive(s) to make it "mandatory" state and local governments to set up online systems for monitoring of outcomes and service delivery? And provide grants to support implementation?

## State government and ULB roles

- Both state governments and ULBs have a critical role to play in setting up systems for monitoring of a) municipal finance, and b) outcomes or service delivery performance
- State governments need to support setting up online monitoring systems, provide capacity building support to ULBs and provide a platform for comparative assessment, and use the information to make better investment decisions
- ULBs need to improve internal systems of monitoring to ensure high reliability of KPIs, and use this in internal monitoring and decision making
- How does one incentivize both state and local governments to play their role effectively?

# Thank You

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