

Status of Reforms in West Bengal : Mission Cities

	Sl. No.	Reform Agenda	Target Date	Status	Remarks
STATE LEVEL REFORMS	1	74th Constitution Amendment Act. (transfer 12 sch. Function)	-	Implemented	All the functions listed in 12th Schedule have been transferred to ULB, through the century-old integrated Fire Services Directorate remains integrated.
		74th Constitution Amendment Act. (constitution of DPC)	-	Implemented	West Bengal District Planning Committee Act, 1994 has constituted the DPCS every where in place.
		74th Constitution Amendment Act. (constitution of MPC)	-	Implemented	West Bengal Metropolitan Planning Committee Act, 1994 is in place. The vibrant Kolkata Metropolitan Planning Committee is a pioneer.
	2	Transfer- City Planning Function	-	Implemented	Mandatory provision has been made in the West Bengal Municipal Act for preparation of Draft Development Plans and Annual Development Plans involving participation from citizens. ULBs are preparing DDPs for 5 years and on that basis ADP is being prepared each year
		Transfer - Water Supply & Sanitation	-	Implemented	Large projects, trans-municipal schemes with high investment requirement are designed and implemented by State / parastatal bodies like KMDA, PHE Dept., KMW&SA etc. Eventually assets created under these projects are handed over to the concerned ULBs for O&M. Most of the ULBs manage the water supply schemes, directly. In West Bengal, public transport is a State subject for ages.
	Transfer - Public transport				
	3	Reform of Rent Control Laws balancing the interest of landlords and tenants	Year 2 (2006-07)	Implemented	Based on the Model rent control legislation circulated by the Govt of India, the State Govt. has enacted the W.B. Premises Tenancy Act 1997 revising the earlier Act of 1956 after taking into account the views of the tenants' association and house owners' association.
	4	Rationalization of Stamp Duty to bring it down to no more than 5% within next seven years	Year 7 (2011-12)	Under implementation	Stamp duty has been revised from 8% to 6% with effect from August 2006 in case of the properties situated in Municipalities and Notified Areas. In case of properties situated in Kolkata and Howrah MC areas the additional surcharge of 2% has since been dispensed with. Therefore, in these two cities also, Stamp Duty has been now fixed at 6%.
	5	Repeal of Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act	Year 7 (2011-12)	Under examination of the expert committee	An Expert Committee was set up to examine the scope of repeal of ULCRA. Their report has been submitted. A three member committee has recently been formed to review the steps for implementation. Report of the expert committee is under examination of a three members committee headed by CEO, KMDA to suggest further action for implementation.
	6	Enactment of Community Participation Law to institutionalize citizen participation and introduction of the concept of Area Sabha in urban areas	Year 4 (2008-09)	Implemented	Provision of Ward Committees and Borough Committees already exist in the relevant legislation. Necessary amendment to the West Bengal Municipal Act has been made in 2008 to incorporate the provisions related to constitution of Area Sabhas. Necessary rules for functioning of Area Sabhas have also been made.
7	Enactment of Public Disclosure Law to ensure preparation of medium term fiscal plan of ULBs/ Parastatals and release of quarterly performance information to all stakeholders.	Year 4 (2008-09)	Implemented	Necessary amendment to the West Bengal Municipal Act has been made in 2008 to incorporate the provision related to community participation in municipal areas.	

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ULB LEVEL REFORMS	1	E-Governance set up	Year 3 (2007-08)	Partly implemented	In Kolkata Municipal Corporation, e-governance has been achieved. In the adjacent ULBS within KMA, out of the 15 modules under integrated e-governance taken up by KUSP, the Birth & Death Module has been started in 28 KMA ULBS within Kolkata Mission city. This is to be initiated in the rest 12 KMA ULBs shortly. Similarly trade license module has also been started. Rest of the modules to be started by this year with integration of FAS and Central Data Monitoring Centre. Individual. E-governance in citizen services is functional in most of the ULBs For AUA, a DPR has been prepared which is being reviewed as per the comments made by Ministry of Urban Development.
	2	Shift to Accrual Based Double Entry Accounting (full migration)	Year 2 (2006-07) for KMA	Implemented	Double Entry Accounting System has already been implemented in all the ULBs in KMA (except Dankuni which has recently become a municipality) and all the ULBs have switched over to DEAS.
			Year 3 (2007-08) for AUA	Partially implemented	In AUA the process of implementation is complete in 4 ULBs whereas substantial progress has been made in the remaining 1 ULB.
	3	Property Tax (85% coverage)	Year 7 (2011-12)	In process	Most of the ULBs, in both the mission cities, have desired level of coverage of properties.
		Property Tax (90% collection efficiency)	Year 7 (2011-12)	In process	Achieved in 50% ULBs against the targets set in the corresponding financial year. Most of the ULBs are lagging behind the targets due to huge arrear in collection from large defaulters including Govt. establishments and sick industries. Revised demand of both arrear and current property tax segregating and separate earmarking of service charge for Central Government, State Government establishment and litigated properties is being prepared.
	4	100% cost recovery (Water Supply)	Year 7 (2011-12)	In process	Achieved in a few ULBs and being monitored against phase-wise interim targets in other ULBs.
		100% cost recovery (SWM)	Year 7 (2011-12)	In process	Being monitored against phase-wise interim targets.
	5	Internal earmarking of funds for services to urban poor	-	Implemented	State Government Order vide No. 1249/MA/C/10/3S-61/07 dated 26.10.07 has been issued in this regard. The same has also been incorporated to in the financial plan of the DDPS of each of the ULBs. ULBs have already earmarked 25% for this purpose in the respective municipal budget. Regular monitoring is being done so that the same is utilized for providing basic services for the urban poor. A new section has been inserted (70A) in the West Bengal Municipal Act of 1993 regarding the constitution of non-lapsable BSUP Fund.

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	6	Provision of basic services to urban poor	Year 7 (2011-12)	In process	All the ULBs in Kolkata Mission cities except KMC have already been covered under Kolkata Urban Services for the Poor Programme supported by DFID, Govt. of UK. ULBs including KMC have also taken initiative to cover other Central and State Government sponsored schemes under NSAP, BSUP and various other similar programmes. From the household survey and socio-economic survey conducted time to time, the areas which lack sufficient provision for basic services, have been identified and steps are being taken to provide those areas with such services from both central and state government grants. Govt. of West Bengal has issued a memorandum No. 112/MA/O/C-4/1A-2/2010 providing long term lease to the urban poor staying for more than 20 yrs over vested land over a land of max 2 cottahs to ensure Security of land tenure similar to rural areas.
OPTIONAL REFORMS	1	Introduction of Property Title Certification System in ULBs.	Year 7 (2011-12)	Under Examination	-
	2	Revision of by-laws to streamline the approval process for construction of buildings, development of sites etc.	Year 2 (2006-07)	Achieved	Amendment made in this regard and provision incorporated in the West Bengal Municipal (Building) Rule 2007.
	3	Revision of by-laws to make rain water harvesting mandatory	Year 2 (2006-07)	Achieved	Amendment made in this regard and provision incorporated in the West Bengal Municipal (Building) Rule 2007.
	4	Earmarking at least 25% developed land in all housing projects (both public and private agencies) for EWS/LIG category	Year 7 (2011-12)	Under Process	For the housing sector, necessary earmarking has already been done for the public and joint sector and Assisted Sector projects. Policy for earmarking in case of housing projects by private projects is under consideration.
	5	Simplification of legal and procedural frameworks for conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes	Year 1 (2005-06)	Achieved	Necessary provisions have been made in the West Bengal Land Reforms Act.1953.
	6	Introduction of Computerized process of Registration of land and property	Year 2 (2006-07)	Implemented	-
	7	Revision of by-laws for reuse of recycled waste water	Year 2 (2006-07)	Achieved	Amendment made in this regard and provision incorporated in the West Bengal Municipal (Building) Rule 2007.
	8	Administrative Reforms i.e. reduction in establishment by bringing out voluntary retirement schemes, non filling up of the posts falling vacant due to retirement etc., and achieving specified milestones in this regard.	Year 5 (2009-10)	Implemented	Staff norm of the ULBs have been notified and ULB wise staff pattern is being finalized taking into consideration the present need of service delivery. Necessary recruitment rule has been framed and followed. Various civic services like street lighting, tax collection, collection of domestic waste have been outsourced in a few ULBs.
	9	Structural Reforms -	Year 7 (2011-12)	Implemented	MED & DLB strengthened; strengthening of District Urban Development Agency (DUDA) has been done. In each district, post of District

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	<p>a) Institutional strengthening of ULBs and support agencies</p> <p>b) Citizens' charter</p> <p>c) E-governance</p> <p>d) Best Practices Awards</p>			<p>Municipal Development Officer has been created. West Bengal Municipal Executive Officer Cadre has been constituted. Necessary recruitment rules have been framed and under examination of Public Service Commission.</p> <p>Proposal for creation of new posts in ULBs like Urban Planner, I.T. Coordinator, Accounts & Finance Coordinator, Community Organiser and Town Project Officer is under active consideration as per notified Staff norm, 2010.</p> <p>Under KUSP initiative all the ULBs in the Kolkata & Asansol Mission cities have published their citizens' charters developed through a participatory process</p> <p>The Change Management Unit, under KUSP support, has completed implementation of 9 modules of e-governance programme across the 40 ULBs of Kolkata Mission City. KMC, under capacity building programme supported by DFID, has already launched e-governance. Steps have been taken to initiate e-gov in 5 Asansol Mission City towns and 26 towns under UIDSSMT.</p> <p>CMU, under KUSP support, is already conducting various competitions across ULBs, on various themes related to improved municipal services, governance and environmental aesthetics.</p> <p>The Innovative/Challenge Fund component of KUSP Programme has been conferred - the India Urban Space National Award for second place for the year 2009-10, in the category of Comprehensive Community Development & Urban Livelihood Strategies, given out by Ministry of Urban Development, Govt. of India & Indian Urban Space Foundation.</p>
10	Encouraging Private Public Partnership		Implemented	PPP policy adopted by GoWB. Several PPP proposals implemented.