

Minutes of the Meeting – Working of Ward Committee

Date: Wednesday, 23rd December 2020

Time: 3.00pm to 3.45 pm

Venue: Kochi Municipal Corporation, Ernakulam South

Attendees: Mr. P.S Shine, ex councillor (2015-20), ward 49 (Vyttila)

Nandana L S, DRP student, CEPT University

Discussion:

1. Working of ward Committees:

- He talked about how is the ward committee working, who are the members and how is each meeting call for order?
- He also explained how development projects of a division is prioritised according to the allotted budget in a segment from the meeting held by ward committees.
- Meeting minutes of every meeting held by the ward committee is recorded with the planning cell.

2. Budget Allocation:

- He explained the flow of the decision-making process and the fund allocation to each budget.
- How the draft proposals are made and how it is approved and prioritised by the ward committee and then scrutinised by the council to allocate the funds.
- He also highlighted that the funds are not specifically allotted to the divisions but to the overall improvement of each designated segments.
- Mr Shine also explained how emergency budget are allocated at times of a natural disaster or some other emergency where only mayor needs to do an anticipatory sanctioning.

3. Working Groups:

- The discussion also expanded to the election held for the standing committee and how each councillor is a part of one of the 8 standing committees listed in the municipality act 1994.
- Under every standing committee there are specific working groups, there are standing committees which does not have working groups like tax appeal.
- How the draft proposals are initially prepared by these working groups and send to the ward committee for discussion and then reverted to the standing committee and council for finalisation.