



A STUDY ON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF KARUMATHUR PANCHAYAT IN MADURAI DISTRICT

Dr.A. MICHAEL RAJ., M.Com., M Phil., Ph.D.,* Prof.A.VELANGANNI JOSEPH,**

Dr.A.SIVAPANDI*, Mr. P.PANDIYARAJAN., ******

**Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Arul Anandar College (Autonomous), Karumathur, Madurai District.*

***Professor, Head & Chairperson, Department of Youth Welfare Studies, Madurai Kamaraj University,*

****Assistant Professor, Department of Master of Business Administration, Sourashtra College of Autonomous, Vilachery, Pasumalai Madurai,*

***** Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Sourashtra College of Autonomous, Vilachery, Pasumalai Madurai.*

INTRODUCTION

It is the oldest system of local government in the Indian subcontinent. The word “Panchayat” literally means “assembly” (*ayat*) of five (*panch*) wise and respected elders chosen and accepted by the local community. Traditionally, these assemblies settled disputes between individuals and villages. British established local self-government in 1869 when they made a District Local Fund in Bombay. This was a nominated body. In 1882, Lord Ripon established local self- government in India with the seating up of district local boards. District boards and councils were established in Maratheada and vidarbh.

The next important piece of legislation was the Bombay Village Panchayat Act 1920. Under this Act, the Panchayat was constituted into an elected body. Members were elected by adult male villagers and the Panchayat was entrusted with local functions, mainly of a civil nature. Panchayat was empowered to collect compulsory house taxes. The Bombay Village Panchayat Act 1920 empowered village Panchayats to take up various activities, including some social-economic functions and gave the power to heavy taxes and duties in order to increase their income.

After the reorganization of states in 1956, laws to introduce the Panchayat system in different states were gradually enacted. This process was almost complete in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Bombay.

The Bombay Village Panchayat Act was enacted in Producers for seeking legal redress through judicial courts are both long and enormously complicated, and also involve considerable expenses. It is because of this that several different and newer ways of setting disputes both quickly and inexpensively have come up.

One such method is Lok Adalat, established under **Lok Adalat Act, 1958**. Under the Act, a district village for the supervision and control of village Panchayat. These Mandals were, however, abolished in 1962. Apart from this enactment in various states, a direction is contained in the Constitution of India in **Article 40** which says that “The State shall take steps to organize village Panchayat and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government.

Under the new enactment, a Gram Sabha of adult residents in the village was constituted, and it was made obligatory on the Panchayat to hold meetings of the Gram Sabha within two months from the commencement of every financial year and to prepare an annual statement of accounts to be placed before such a meeting.

The administrative report, the proposed development programmes, adult report, compliance of adult objections and other such matters were also required to be placed before this meeting. Group Panchayat were established, but later they were abolished.

Village Panchayat are controlled and supervised by Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samitis and their officers. The state government also has direct control over Panchayat through the Collector of the district. District Village Panchayat officers work under Zilla Parishads to supervise and control the village Panchayats, and are appointed by the state governments. There is however, no proper machinery for the public to air their grievances and control malpractice in Zilla Parishads.

Gram Panchayat

Gram Panchayat consists of a village or a group of villages divided into smaller units called "Wards". Each ward selects or elects a representative who is known as the Panch or ward member. The members of the Gram Sabha elect the ward members through a direct election. The Sarpanch or the president of the Gram Panchayat is elected by the ward members as per the State Act.

Block Panchayat

Panchayat Samiti (also called Taluka Panchayats or Block Panchayats) is the intermediate level in Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Panchayat Samiti acts as the link between Gram Panchayat (Village) and District Panchayat (Zilla). These blocks do not hold elections for the Panchayat Samiti council seats.

District Panchayat

The District Panchayat also known as the District Council or Zilla Parishad is the third tier of the Panchayati Raj system. Like the Gram Panchayat, the District Panchayat is also an elected body. Chairpersons of Block Samitis also represent the District Panchayat. Like the Block Panchayat, the MP and MLA are also members of the district panchayat.

Function of village panchayat

It makes arrangement for pure drinking water and undertakes disinfection drives of the wells, tanks, etc.

It makes sanitary arrangement in the village.

It also makes efforts for improving the health of the people.

The providing primary education to the children.

It makes arrangements for street lighting.

It works for the promotion of agriculture, good seeds and scientific methods of agriculture.

Sources of income

- It gets 10% of the total revenue collected from the village.
- It imposes House tax.
- It sets profit from the sale of fertilizers.
- It imposes tax on animals, profession etc.
- Drainage fee.
- The Panchayats issue various types of license & get a fee for the same.
- It takes money by selling the slain of dead animals.

Objectives of Present Study

1. To analyze the change and growth in the pattern of revenue and expenditure of Karumathur Panchayat Union from 2009 – 2010 to 2018 – 2019

2. To evaluate whether the performance (revenue and expenditure) changes according to the demand of the situation.
3. To find out the problems of local finance with special reference to this union.

METHODOLOGY

An attempt was made to collect material concerning revenue, expenditure, physical achievement and other relevant details for the period from 2009 – 2010 to 2018 – 2019. The data were collected from the department register of the Panchayat union. Discussions were held with concerned block development officer and other officials. The materials regarding revenue, expenditure and other relevant particulars were collected from the records of the concerned union.

SAMPLING DESIGN

This study has been carried out with the help of secondary data only. Besides the sources of materials outlined above, various acts, Reports of several commissions and committees, relevant books and journal articles were also taken into account. Thus the study is based on secondary data.

PERIOD OF STUDY

The study covers the period from 2009 – 2010 to 2018 – 2019. The collected data were analyzed in terms of tablets are trend analysis.

TOOLS OF ANALYSIS

The following statistical tools have been used to analyse the collected data to enable a meaningful interpretation of the results obtained.

The researcher had analysed the collected data with the basic objectives of the study in mind. Some of the tools involved in the study include.

1. Linear Trend model
2. The semi-log model

A Linear trend line ($Y = a + bX$) has been fitted for each component of revenue and expenditure of Karumathur Panchayat.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

REVENUE

The total income produced by a given source a property to yield a large annual revenue. The gross income returned by an investment. The yield of source of income (such as taxes) collects and receives the treasury for public use.

REVENUE OF PUNCHAYAT

HOUSE TAX

House tax is the tax on the annual value of house. In most of the states it contributes house tax around 50% of the total revenue.

Table 2.1
HOUSE TAX

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	7418	-4.5	20.25	-33381
2010-11	8784	-3.5	12.25	-30744
2011-12	9536	-2.5	6.25	-23840
2012-13	10761	-1.5	2.25	-16141.5
2013-14	177056	-0.5	0.25	-10672.5
2014-15	21111	0.5	0.25	10555.5
2015-16	21850	1.5	2.25	32775
2016-17	21956	2.5	6.25	54877.5
2017-18	23230	3.5	12.25	81305
2018-19	28550	4.5	20.25	128475
Total	174544		82.5	198475

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + bx$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{174544}{10} = 17454.4$$

$$b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{193229}{82.5} = 2342.16$$

From Table 3.1 it can be inferred that the house tax has been increasing throughout the year except in the year 2012-2013. Within ten year the House tax has increased 4 items. The percentage increase was higher in the year 2013-2014.

The linear trend line has been fitted for the above Data, the straight line trend is represented by the equation $Y = a + bx$

The value of 'b' in the equation is Rs.2342.16.

PROFESSIONAL TAX

Professional Tax is the tax on the economic Professional of the individual Here tax is levied depend upon his income family honour, reputation, condition and nature of the profession and general standing in the Social esteem.

TABLE 2.2
PROFESSIONAL TAX

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	75342	-4.5	20.25	-339030
2010-11	79465	-3.5	12.25	-278127.5
2011-12	86537	-2.5	6.25	-216342.5
2012-13	98932	-1.5	2.25	-148398
2013-14	147620	-0.5	0.25	-73810
2014-15	131312	0.5	0.25	65656
2015-16	137963	1.5	2.25	206944.5
2016-17	150348	2.5	6.25	375857.5
2017-18	158310	3.5	12.25	554085
2018-19	151200	4.5	20.25	680400
Total	1217029		82.5	827226

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum Y}{N} + \frac{1217029}{10} = 121702.9$$

$$b = \frac{\sum XY}{\sum X^2} = \frac{827226}{82.5} = 10026.98$$

$$Y = 121702.9 + 10026.98X$$

The above table gives a picture that the revenue from professional tax is on the increase. But recently (i.e) 2005-06 it showed a decrease. It is also clear that till 2000-2001, the increase was very small. A sudden increase in professional tax occurred in 2004-2005.

The 'b' value of the straight-line trend is Rs.10026. This shows that the annual average growth rate of professional tax is Rs.10026.98.

STATE FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES

State financial subsidy is the financial assistance given by the state Government for the functioning of the village Panchayat. The village Panchayat can utilize the money according to their own discretion.

TABLE 2.3
STATE FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	157811	-4.5	20.25	-710149.5
2010-11	143251	-3.5	12.25	-51378.5
2011-12	162463	-2.5	6.25	-406157.5
2012-13	175238	-1.5	2.25	-26852

2013-14	190434	-0.5	0.25	-95217
2014-15	161436	0.5	0.25	80718
2015-16	237598	1.5	2.25	356397
2016-17	239543	2.5	6.25	598857.5
2017-18	162130	3.5	12.25	567455
2018-19	371192	4.5	20.25	1670364
Total	2001088		82.5	1298037

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{2001088}{10} = 200108.8$$

$$b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{1298037}{82.5} = 15733.78$$

$$Y = 200108.8 + 15733.78X$$

From the table it can be inferred that the financial subsidy given by the state government to had been increasing and decreasing considerably over the years. However the financial subsidy has reached the highest level in the year 2018-19 (i.e) Rs.371192. But the state Government was financing the local bodies regularly.

The linear trend line fitted for the above shows that the average annual increase of the state financial subsidy was Rs. 15733.78. This amount contributes a significant portion in the village Panchayat.

EXPENDITURE

The act of spending money the amount of money that is spent. Expenditure refers to payments made or liabilities incurred in exchange for goods and services. The term expenditure usually refers to capital expenditure which is usually a one- time cost and is incurred to receive along time benefit, such as the purchase of a fixed asset .

EXPENDITURE OF PANCHAYAT

EXPENDITURE TOWARDS SALARY

Salary contributes a significant portion in the Expenditure of the Government. The salary bill includes the reward for the work done by all the employees. For any institution salary contribution was an important constraint for development.

TABLE 2.4
EXPENDITURE TOWARDS SALARY

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	41513	-4.5	20.25	-186808.5
2010-11	44312	-3.5	12.25	-155092
2011-12	47635	-2.5	6.25	-119087.5
2012-13	51432	-1.5	2.25	-77148
2013-14	59525	-0.5	0.25	-29762.5
2014-15	78290	0.5	0.25	39145
2015-16	88495	1.5	2.25	132742.5

2016-17	90100	2.5	6.25	225250
2017-18	91000	3.5	12.25	318500
2018-19	92850	4.5	20.25	417823
Total	685152		82.5	565562

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{685152}{10} = 68515.2 \quad b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{565562}{82.5} = 6885.3$$

$$Y = 68515.2 + 6885.3X$$

The major Expenditure of the Panchayat was paying salary. The above table shows that the expenditure on salary was increasing over years within ten years from 2009 – 2010 to 2018-2019 the salary bill has increased to Rs. 92850 in the year 2018 – 2019.

The levers trend analysis shows that the 'b' value was Rs.6885.3. This shows that the average annual growth rate of the salary bill was Rs.6885.3, which was relatively.

ELECTRICITY

The electricity bill also from a considerable position for the total expenditure in includes the electricity bill for the office and the maintenance of street light was the basic obligation of the village Panchayat so the Panchayat cannot refuse from this duty.

TABLE 2.5
ELECTRICITY

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	57215	-4.5	20.25	-257467.5
2010-11	61253	-3.5	12.25	-214385.5
2011-12	68547	-2.5	6.25	-171367.5
2012-13	72115	-1.5	2.25	-108172.5
2013-14	86438	-0.5	0.25	-43219
2014-15	94125	0.5	0.25	47062.5
2015-16	90010	1.5	2.25	135015
2016-17	100679	2.5	6.25	251697.5
2017-18	183182	3.5	12.25	641137
2018-19	280350	4.5	20.25	1261575
Total	1093914		82.5	1541875

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{1093914}{10} = 109391.4 \quad b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{1541875}{82.5} = 18689.4$$

$$Y = 109391.4 + 18689.2X$$

From the above table it was clear that the expenditure on electricity was increasing over a period of time except for the year 2015. After the year 2016 the electricity bill shows a steep increase and has reached Rs.280350 in the year 2018 – 2019. This may be due to the increase in the street light facilities through 001 the village.

The linear trend analysis for the above data shows that average annual growth rate of the expenditure on Electricity was Rs.18689.4v.

DRINKING WATER FACILITY

The most important and basic obligation the village Panchayat was the providing Drinking water facilities. In the current text where the monsoon has failed the role of Panchayat become more important with since the ground water level also decreases. The Panchayat has to take active role in arranging drinking water facility.

TABLE 2.6
DRINKING WATER FACILITY

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	40513	-4.5	20.25	-182308.5
2010-11	42374	-3.5	12.25	-148304
2011-12	45624	-2.5	6.25	-114060
2012-13	47128	-1.5	2.25	-70692
2013-14	52814	-0.5	0.25	-26407
2014-15	59436	0.5	0.25	-29718
2015-16	62117	1.5	2.25	93175.5
2016-17	73242	2.5	6.25	183105
2017-18	75112	3.5	12.25	262842
2018-19	79655	4.5	20.25	358447.5
Total	578015		82.5	385516.5

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{578015}{10} = 57801.5$$

$$b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum X^2} = \frac{385516.2}{82.5} = 4672.9$$

$$Y = 57801.5 + 4672.9X$$

The above table shows that the expenditure on drinking water facility has been increasing throughout ten years but the percentage increase is not that much high. In the year 2009-10 IT was Rs.40513. In the year 2018 - 2019 has reached only Rs. 79655.

The trend line for the above data shows that the average annual growth rate was Rs.4672.9

SANITARY FACILITIES

Sanitary facilities are vital for the well being of the human beings, because it directly affects the health of the people. So the government had to spent more amounts on this aspect. Only when the people have good physical health they can work well. So, sanitary facility is the basic and important obligation of the government.

TABLE 2.7
SANITARY FACILITIES

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	4953	-4.5	20.25	-22288.5
2010-11	5312	-3.5	12.25	-18592
2011-12	6583	-2.5	6.25	-16457.5
2012-13	9277	-1.5	2.25	-13915.5
2013-14	16374	-0.5	0.25	-8187
2014-15	20121	0.5	0.25	10060.5
2015-16	40120	1.5	2.25	60180
2016-17	24460	2.5	6.25	61150
2017-18	15890	3.5	12.25	55615
2018-19	18410	4.5	20.25	82845
Total	161500		82.5	190410

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} = \frac{161500}{10} = 16150$$

$$b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{190410}{82.5} = 2380$$

$$Y = 16150 + 2380X$$

The above table shows that the expenditure for sanitary facilities has been increasing till the year 2015-16. But from there it shows an decreasing trend. As population increases the expenditure on sanitary facilities must also increase not unfortunately there is no increase.

The linear trend analysis shows that the value of 'b' is 2308. This shows that the average annual growth rate of expenditure on sanitary facilities was Rs.2308.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Since most of the buildings belonging to the village Panchayat are very old. So government was spending more amount on the Building maintenance the amount spent on Building maintenance was an obstacle for the development for the Panchayat union.

TABLE 2.8
BUILDING MAINTENANCE

(in lakhs)

Year	Y	X	X ²	XY
2009-10	3918	-4.5	20.25	-17631
2010-11	4315	-3.5	12.25	-15102.5
2011-12	5410	-2.5	6.25	-13545
2012-13	6312	-1.5	2.25	-9468
2013-14	7250	-0.5	0.25	-3625
2014-15	850	0.5	0.25	425
2015-16	29324	1.5	2.25	43986

2016-17	24112	2.5	6.25	60280
2017-18	25718	3.5	12.25	90013
2018-19	22265	4.5	20.25	100192.5
Total	129482		82.5	235525

Source: Karumathur Village Panchayat

$$Y = a + b x$$

$$a = \frac{\sum y}{N} + \frac{129482}{10} = 12948.2$$

$$b = \frac{\sum xy}{\sum x^2} = \frac{235525}{82.5} = 2854.8$$

$$Y = 12948.2 + 2854.8X$$

The above table show that has been increasing and deceasing in year 2014-15 has decreased to Rs.850. Analyzing the trend we can find that only a small portion of the amount has been allotted for the maintenance of Buildings after the year 2015 there is no considerable decrease in the maintenance charges.

The linear trend analysis shows that the average annual increase of Building maintenance was Rs.2854.8.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

In the above analysis the financial performance of the Karumathur Panchayat were analyzed. There are various sources of revenue but the researcher has selected only House tax, Professional tax, and state financial subsidies.

On the Expenditure side the researcher has selected Expenditure on Salary, Electricity, Drinking water facilities, Sanitary facilities and Building maintenance.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Based on the above analysis the researcher was able to observe the following detects.

1. The income from house tax was increasing but not increasing in a higher late. The Panchayat was not able to mortify more funds from this Revenue. Considering the increase in the Salary, income of the people. House tax must contribute more towards the Panchayat revenue.
2. The income from professional tax is increasing. The trend of increase was high the Panchayat was able to mortify more funds from professional tax. This tax was contributing a significant portion.
3. The revenue from State Financial Subsidy was showing an oscillating trend. This shows that the state government was not showing greater interest in the welfare of the Karumathur Panchayat. Also this oscillating trend was due to the political rivalry.
4. On expenditure side the salary bill was increasing in higher proportion. It has doubled within ten years but the Panchayat has to provide salary in order to maintain the standard of living of the workers.
5. The electricity bill was also increasing. The government has to provide the street light facilities. So year by year the expenditure on the Electricity was increasing and the tendency was that IT will still increase.
6. The expenditure on drinking water facility. The expenditure on drinking water was not increasing as expected. Due to the failure of monsoon and decrease of the under water level the Panchayat must spent more amount in providing water.

7. The expenditure for sanitary facilities was not increasing in relation with the growing trend of the village. Once the population increases the Sanitary. Facilities must also increase rapidly but unfortunately the Panchayat was not ready to spend more money on sanitary facilities.
8. Building maintenance was an important component of expenditure of Karumathur Panchayat. The expenditure was not high. This shows that the Buildings constructed by the Panchayat was in good condition and the quality was also good.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded from the above analysis that the Panchayat has more source for increasing its income but unfortunately it was not taking efforts to increase that. Also the contribution of state towards the development of the Panchayat was minimum.

On expenditure side the Panchayat has to spent more amount on drinking water and sanitary facilities but it was not doing it.

The revenue and expenditure was increasing. The development activity of the Panchayat was commendable.

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