

CHAPTER – XXV

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Matters pertaining to Local Government

226. (1) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, Local Government shall be a subject devolved on the Regions in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

(2) There shall be a system of Local Government consisting of regularly elected local authorities for the entirety of each Region..

(3) (a) The provisions of existing written law relating to the constitution, finance and functions of, and elections to, local authorities shall apply to the respective local authorities functioning in each Region at the commencement of the Constitution.

(b) A Regional Council may, in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, provide by Statute for the constitution, finance and functions of, and elections to, local authorities in the Region for which that Regional Council is established and a Regional Council may confer additional powers on such local authorities but shall not reduce the powers conferred on the respective local authorities by existing written law.

(c) Parliament may by law provide for -

- (i) a common nomenclature to be used in all the Regions for the different categories of local authorities,
- (ii) uniform criteria to be applied in all the Regions for converting a local authority of one category established for any area to a local authority of another category, and
- (iii) uniform criteria to be applied in all the Regions for the re-demarcation of the limits of any local authority area.

(d) In re-demarcating the limits of any local authority area in accordance with the criteria provided for by law, a Regional Administration shall act upon the recommendations of a committee appointed by the Chief Minister of the Region for the purpose, and such committee shall make recommendations after ascertaining the views of the relevant local authority, the Regional Administration and the public

(4) Every Statute made by a Regional Council of a Region relating to elections to local authorities in that Region, under paragraph (3) of this Article, shall as far as practicable, provide for the adequate representation of women, persons under thirty five years of age and the major communities ordinarily resident in the local authority area for which a local authority is established

(5) A Regional Administration may delegate to a local authority within the Region, the execution of any work connected with the implementation of a Statute made by the Regional Council of that Region.