

**1.5****Duties and responsibilities of District Panchayats**

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Rural Development (C.I) Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 176

Dated : 09.06.1997

Read :

1. G.O.Ms. No.100, Rural Development Department dated 13.04.95
2. G.O. (Ms) No. 226, Rural Development Department dated 15.10.96
3. G.O. (Ms) No. 232, Rural Development Department dated 16.10.96
4. G.O. (Ms) No. 15, Rural Development Department dated 17.01.97
5. G.O. (Ms) No. 175, Rural Development Department dated 09.06.97

**ORDER**

Election to the three tier Panchayat of Rural Local Bodies have been held, and elected representatives of the bodies are in position from October, 1996.

2. Sections 163,164,165 and 166 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act,1994 specify the functions, powers and duties etc., of District Panchayats.

3. The District Panchayat, as envisaged in section 163 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act.1994 has an advisory role and the Government direct that it should function as a forum for discussing the progress of various development schemes in the rural areas of the District, in a manner similar to the District Development Council.

4. The Government also direct that :

- (i) the staff of District Panchayats be treated as Government servants on deputation and be paid only from Government funds;
- (ii) the appointing authority for such officers shall have the power of disciplinary control over such officers; and
- (iii) the accounts of the District Panchayats be audited by the Local Fund Audit Department and that the accounts of the District Panchayats, pending further orders, be maintained in the same formats at the District Rural Development Agency. The Financial instructions applicable to District Rural Development Agency shall apply to the District Panchayats also.

5. The District Collector has been notified as the Inspector of Panchayats in respect of District Panchayats as reiterated in Letter No.46669/C1/96-2, Dated :30.01.97. The Collector shall exercise powers under section 202 of the Tamil Nadu Panchayats Act,1994.

(By order of the Governor)

**K.A. NAMBIAR**  
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT