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Foreword

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) is an important component of local self government which enables inhabitants to enjoy democracy by ruling themselves and controlling their own affairs. An administrative body of this nature cannot pass or enforce laws that will affect a wider area. In India the system is followed traditionally. PRI provide foundational base for successful working of a wider government. Territory of a State is divided into small localities as it is difficult to control the entire area from a single centre of power particularly when stress is on all around development of the area being widespread and comprising diversified sections of population.

There has been a constant endeavor to upgrade and stabilize this tool of public administration both at national and State levels to meet changed requirements from time to time.

Consideration of local problems, solving these adequately and properly is possible through such administrative units which thus establish democracy in wider context and give it deeper roots. Local problems requiring use of higher technologies and higher quantum of funds are presented to the State and Central governments with a greater focus when routed through local self government.

In order to make these institutions more efficient and effective it is necessary that there is complete awareness about law, rules and regulations evolved by experts and approved of the competent authority.

I am glad to learn that Mr. Kanav Gupta, Advocate & Jay Kay Law Reporter Pvt. Ltd. has made a valuable contribution by compiling the said laws, rules and regulations in one volume titled "**Panchayati Raj Laws in Jammu and Kashmir**". Reference to this book is inevitable for planners, executors and those involved in monitoring of these Institutions. It can be equally helpful for research scholars also.

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