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4. Name of Topic: Collaboration between Local Governments and Corporate Sector: A Study with Special Reference to Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in India
5. Keywords: Local governments, corporate social responsibility, Poverty alleviation, poverty estimates, below poverty line

### **FINDINGS OF THESIS**

The key findings of the thesis may be summarized as under:

The major issues in poverty alleviation are that there is no realistic and accurate assessment of poverty, there is poor planning and inefficient distribution mechanism, governance issues and government is in the business of business. With respect to efficient functioning of local governments, main challenges are lack of political consciousness to demand empowerment, governance issues with the local governments, inability to generate revenues on their own by the local governments and lack of connect with contemporary development. The shortcomings of CSR as a tool for social development are multiple projects with limited impact and duration, more focus on compliance, no direct engagement with the beneficiaries, lack of a regulatory or supervisory body, lack of mechanism for effective and deeper assessment of CSR projects.

Multi-dimension approach for alleviation of poverty may be followed by identification of resource requirements in a better manner, ensuring universal access for certain fundamental amenities, concentrating on cluster development, building a national consciousness for empowerment of local governments, training of local government functionaries to be well versed with the relevant concepts and technologies, creating avenues for generation of revenue for local governments, financial support to local governments by banks and financial institutions based on guarantees given by the state governments, direct engagement of corporate sector with local governments, setting up of CSR Regulatory Authority of India, undertaking legislative amendments in CSR framework, sector wise consolidation of isolated CSR projects, ensuring long term and deeper engagement in CSR projects, reducing the regional disparity in implementation of CSR projects and public-private-partnership in social infrastructure projects through CSR.