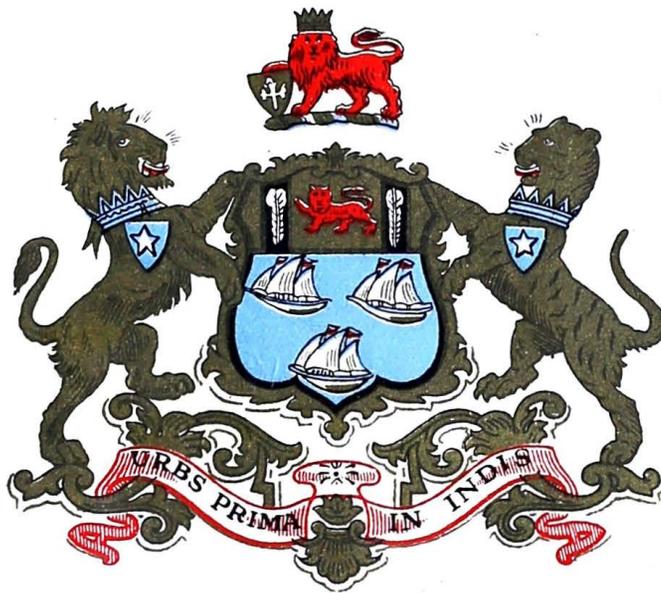


ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
FOR
GREATER BOMBAY
(SUBURBS)
FOR THE YEAR
1951-52

BOMBAY
MUNICIPAL PRINTING PRESS

1952

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(Suburbs)

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**REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION
REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR GREATER BOMBAY
FOR THE YEAR 1951-52, (SUBURBS).**

53.* The Municipal administration of the merged suburban area continued to be carried on under the immediate charge of an Assistant Municipal Commissioner subject to the control of the Municipal Commissioner, aided by Senior Assistant Officers of the various Municipal departments. Shri S. M. Y. Shastry, M.A. B.L., held the office of the Assistant Municipal Commissioner throughout the year.

54. The rates of taxation on buildings for the year were General Tax $14\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. (including $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Fire Tax) and 3 per cent. Halalkhore Tax. The General Tax at 10 per cent. was levied on properties in certain villages and properties in certain villages having rateable values of Rs. 75 and under were exempted from the Tax as required by Bombay Act XXX of 1951 (An Act to amend the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act). The tax on vehicles and animals continued to be the same as in the previous year. The rates charged for the supply of water by measurement also continued to be the same as in the previous year. These rates varied from As. 12 to Rs. 2 per 1,000 gallons. The Opening Balance as on 31st March 1951 was estimated at Rs. 6.90 lacs, which however improved to Rs. 12.00 lacs at the end of the year under report. Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1952 were estimated at Rs. 92.21 lacs and Rs. 84.00 lacs, respectively. The actual income, however, amounted to Rs. 88.99 lacs and expenditure to Rs. 83.61 lacs. The Surplus Cash Balance on 31st March 1952 amounted to Rs. 17.81 lacs including the statutory minimum of Rs. 1 lac.

Finances.

The total loan liabilities at the end of the year stood at Rs. 57.66 lacs.

Expenditure on Loan Works was estimated at Rs. 35.95 lacs. In the Revised Estimates it was estimated at Rs. 42.13 lacs. The actual expenditure however, aggregated to Rs. 12.28 lacs which was less than the Budget and the Revised Estimates by 66 and 71 per cent., respectively.

55. At the close of the year the total number of properties on the Assessment Register was 29,448 as against 25,175 in the previous year, showing an increase of 4,273. The rateable value of all the properties was Rs. 2,91.19 lacs as against Rs. 1,67.09 lacs for the previous year. This gave a rate of Rs. 57.08 per head of population. The net total demand in respect of Property and Wheel taxes for the year was Rs. 72.52 lacs plus the arrears of Rs. 25.01 lacs from the previous year while the amount collected during the year was Rs. 61.29 lacs. The taxes outstanding on 31st March 1952 amounted to Rs. 36.26 lacs, i.e., 29.73 per cent. of the net demand. The reason for such a heavy outstanding at the end of the year is that the legislation regarding taxation on properties in the merged villages specified in list "I" was passed only in September 1951. The complaints in these cases were investigated after that date only and bills for the two half years for these properties were issued at the end of January 1952. It is hoped that necessary steps will be taken for the collection of Taxes in time.

56. A detailed survey for District No. I comprising of Bandra, Khar, Santa Cruz, and Kurla and for District No. II comprising of Vile Parle, Andheri, Versova and Jogeshwari covering an aggregate area of 13,180 acres was carried out. A scheme for laying sewers estimated to cost over Rs. 79 lacs has already been formulated. All the 4 pumping stations in the Suburbs were operating during the year. Early execution of the proposed sewerage scheme is necessary in the interest of health and sanitation of the suburban areas and it is hoped that the scheme will, therefore, be accelerated by adopting all possible measures.

57. The 122.51 miles of roads were maintained at a cost of Rs. .75 lac in the suburban area. During the year the work of renewal of about 96,339 square yards of road surfaces was entrusted to Messrs. Recondo, Ltd., while the work of re-surfacing 35,281 square yards of road area was carried out departmentally at a cost of Rs. 1.20 lacs.

Street lighting was carried out both by electric and incandescent oil lamps numbering 3,320 and the cost amounted to Rs. 1.36 lacs.

The suburban area merged in Greater Bombay Corporation has 24 Town Planning Schemes of which 20 have been completed and the rest are in different stages of finalization.

58. For water supply purposes the merged area was divided into two divisions, viz., East Division and West Division, the former being supplied water from the 48" > 32" and 24" Vehar Main while the latter was supplied water principally from the 24" Tulsi Pipe Line. Total quantity of water supplied during the year to

* Paragraphs 1 to 52 of Review of the Standing Committee relate to the Administration Report of the City of Bombay.

the suburbs was about 2,300 million gallons out of which 50 million gallons were supplied through public stand pipes.

Seven Parks and Gardens in the Suburbs were looked after by the Water Works Department.

59. Licences and permits issued during the year numbered 4,350 as against 3,498 during the previous year, the fees realised therefrom being Rs. 93,181 as against Rs. 36,503 in the previous year. Fees amounting to Rs. 22,697-1-0 were received for permits for exhibiting advertisements. Charges for parking cars, etc., at the Juhu Foreshore collected during the year amounted to Rs. 14,150-12-0. The fees realised from the issue of licences to Hawkers and Squatters amounted to Rs. 23,220-4-0 as against Rs. 4,253-5-0 in the previous year.

60. Prior to the merger several villages and parts of the suburban area were not governed by the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, but after the merger, the Act was applied to the whole of the merged area and nearly 1,608 establishments were registered during the year. During the year 119 complaints were received out of which 106 were disposed of leaving 13 complaints pending at the close of the year. While 355 prosecutions were instituted during the year, the number of cases pending at the end of the year was 49. The total amount of fines realised was Rs. 8,085, while a sum of Rs. 2,399 was received by way of Registration fees, etc. The total expenditure incurred in administering the Act was Rs. 38,776-13-6. The grant-in-aid sanctioned by the Government for the year 1950-51 in respect of the administration of the Act in the suburban area was Rs. 24,968 as against Rs. 6,174-4-9 in the preceding year.

The Corporation sanctioned the levy of the Theatre Tax in Greater Bombay in January 1951. The estimated income from the 14 Cinema Theatres and other entertainments in the Suburbs was Rs. 1 lac but the Association of Suburban Cinema Exhibitors represented their case on the ground that the City rates should not be applied to the Suburbs as the standard was not as high as in the City. The Municipal Commissioner did not agree to the change in the rates of tax but granted a rebate of 20 per cent. provided the Tax was paid in advance before the 5th of every month. The realisation under this head during the year was Rs. 21,789-5-0 and about Rs. 66,200 were in deposit.

61. During the year there were 17 Markets in the Suburbs out of which 15 were Municipal Markets. There were also 5 Municipal Slaughter Houses and 2 Private Markets which were proposed to be licensed. A five year plan was prepared for further expansion and development of marketing facilities in the Suburbs and also to expand and develop the existing markets. With a view to improving the slaughter and the sanitary conditions in general it was considered desirable to centralize slaughter of animals for H and K Wards at the Bandra Slaughter House and for L, M and N Wards at the Kurla Slaughter House. The same set of regulations as at Bandra Slaughter House were made applicable to the Kurla Slaughter House from 1st June 1951.

The total receipts of the Departments during the year amounted to Rs. 4.59 lacs as against Rs. 2.94 lacs realised in the previous year. The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 0.94 lac.

During the year under report, unwholesome articles of food such as meat, fish, vegetables, etc., weighing 28,426 lbs. were destroyed as against 5,595 for the preceding year. Out of the 20 prosecutions launched during the year, 15 resulted in convictions, 2 in acquittals and 3 were pending. Total fines inflicted amounted to Rs. 415.

62. There were in the merged area 101 Municipal Schools with two regular classes with a strength of 25,409 pupils on the roll and 715 teachers of whom 539 were trained and 176 untrained. Two new schools were opened during the year. There were 63 one session schools and 40 two sessions schools. There were 31 schools housed in Municipal School buildings, 68 in rented ones and 4 in rent free buildings. Three new school buildings were built at Vile Parle and Santa Cruz.

63. The merged Suburbs have an area of 43,398.40 acres and a population of 5,10,151, the mean density of population roughly being 12.175 per acre.

The number of live births recorded during the year was 14,407 which was more by 6,072 than that during the previous year (8,335). The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 5,207 as against 3,625 in the previous year. Deaths among infants under one year of age numbered 1,567 which exceeded by 491 the number in the preceding year; the infant mortality rate for the year thus being 108.8 per 1,000 live births for the year under report as against 129.09 for the previous year.

Small-pox caused 66 deaths, Enteric fever 48 deaths, Diphtheria 12 deaths, and Malaria 14 deaths. High incidence of Malaria and of deaths caused by it were mainly due to the existence of a large number of cesspools in non-drained areas, insanitary milch-cattle stables, etc. and the consequent mosquito nuisance. Anti-malarial measures such as D. D. T. spraying were carried out wherever mosquito nuisance predominated. It is hoped that the campaign against Malaria will be intensified still further so as to check the spread of malaria.

As the establishment of milch-cattle stables is disallowed in the City, hundreds of such stables have sprung up in the suburbs over which there is no sanitary control. The location of such stables near or in the midst of residential areas exposes the residents to nuisance from smell and breeding of house flies. A systematic inspection of stables was undertaken during the year to bring the stables under control and to improve them. Arrangements have been made for the systematic removal of dung and stable refuse through contract agency.

There are a number of slum areas in the suburbs which are overcrowded and consist of several unauthorised structures erected without proper planning and proper sanitary accommodation. In the interest of sanitation and health of these areas it is necessary that early steps should be taken to improve them by removal of the unauthorised insanitary structures to begin with.

There was no Municipal cemetery in the merged area. The private cemeteries in the suburbs are reported to number about 97.

Medical Relief.—The two Municipal Hospitals one at Bandra and the other at Kurla, together having 66 beds including 19 maternity beds and four Municipal Maternity Homes having a total accommodation of 29 beds, were maintained during the year.

The total number of new in-door patients admitted in the Hospitals was 4,880.

In all there were 6 Municipal Dispensaries in the merged area. The total number of new out-door patients treated in these dispensaries during the year was 1,15,410 and the total number of out-patient attendance was 2,60,764. The cases treated by the Mobile Hospital Unit numbered 8,887 and the total attendance was 27,585. Early steps require to be taken to provide medical aid on a larger scale at least by opening a few more Municipal dispensaries.

Collection, Removal and Disposal of Refuse.—The total length of roads to be swept during the year was 169 miles, that is 20 miles in excess of that during the last year. The excess was due to additional roads taken over from certain villages. In all 87 miles of house drains and 50 storm water drains in 16 wards were cleaned. The total refuse removed during the year was 29,298 tons as against 16,000 tons during the preceding year. The total number of basket privies in the Suburbs was 13,055 and a total quantity of about 43,21,015 gallons of nightsoil and cesspool contents of about 2,36,20,884 gallons was removed in 12 bullock carts, 19 trailers, 10 moto-carts and 31 lorries.

Dog Licensing and Dog Destruction.—1,338 licences were issued during the year for pet dogs. 2,570 stray and ownerless dogs were caught and destroyed during the year.

Rat-destruction.—Number of rats caught during the year was 7,328 while that of dead rats collected was 110.

Food Sanitation.—1,332 food samples obtained from grocers' shops, milk shops, dairies, etc., were examined chemically, out of which 432 samples were found adulterated. In all 428 prosecutions were launched and a sum of Rs. 25,452 was realized by way of fines.

64. In conclusion, the Standing Committee desire to record their appreciation of the very valuable services rendered by Shri B. K. Patel, I.C.S., whose high administrative abilities and financial acumen were of great help to the Committee. The Committee also place on record their appreciation of the services rendered by the other Municipal Staff.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE,
BOMBAY, 18th March 1953.

N. C. PUPALA
Chairman,
STANDING COMMITTEE.

PART II.

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(Suburbs).

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