



BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Compilation of the questions asked and speeches delivered by Hon. Shri B. G. Tilak (1895 to 1897) and Hon. Shri G. K. Gokhale (1899 to 1901), Members of the then Bombay Legislative Council.

THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 1895



MR. D. A. KHARE



MR. B. G. TILAK



MR. ALLABAKSH KHAN



MR. BALA SAHEB KURUNDWADKAR



MR. PHEROZE SHAH MEHTA



MR. C. H. SETALVAD



MR. J. U. YAJNIK

PREFACE

The Maharashtra Legislative Council completed 50 years in 1987 and its Golden Jubilee was celebrated between the period December 1987 and December 1988. The celebrations consisted mainly of symposiums and discussions on Parliamentary procedures and systems at Bombay, Aurangabad, Nagour and Pune. It may be recalled that Legislative Councils came into being in accordance of the provisions of the Indian Council Act, 1861 and hence its origin, dates back to 125 years. Among the prominent legislators were Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, who was nick-named by the Britishers as the "Father of Indian Unrest," was a member of the Council between 1895 and 1897 and Bharat Sevak Gopal Krishna Gokhale, who was regarded as the leader of the liberal faction was a member of the Council between 1899 and 1901. In those days Bombay Legislative Council was held in old Secretariat which was called as civil Secretariat, the photograph of which is on the cover page.

The Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee had decided to install the busts of both these personalities near the main entrance of the new Vidhan Bhavan. The Committee also decided to bring out a book containing speeches and interpellations by them during this period. The Bust of Gokhale has already been installed in the new Vidhan Bhavan and, am happy to note that the bust of Lokmanya Tilak is being installed today and a book is being released to mark the unique occasion.

The period when both these leaders were members of the Bombay Legislative Council was the golden period of the British rulers and the dawn of an Independent India was a farfetched dream. However, this book will give the reader a glimpse of the consistent efforts made by Lokmanya Tilak, who led the ginger group of the Congress party and Gokhale,

who represented the liberal faction of members to ventilate the grievances of the general public. Although the people in that era had not perceived parliamentary democracy, both these leaders had visions and dreams that ultimately parliamentary democracy would have firm roots in our country and would flourish after the advent of Independence. I am sure, that the perception and visions of Lokmanya Tilak and Gokhale, would serve as a beaconlight to the members of the Legislature even after a century.

Bombay 7th March 1991. (J. S. TILAK)

Chairman,

Maharashtra Legislative Council.



Hon'ble B. G. TILAK

COMPILATION OF QUESTIONS ASKED AND SPEECHES DELIVERED BY Hon. Shri B. G. TILAK (1895 to 1897)

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