

ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER
FOR
GREATER BOMBAY

(SUBURBS.)

FOR THE YEAR
1950-51.

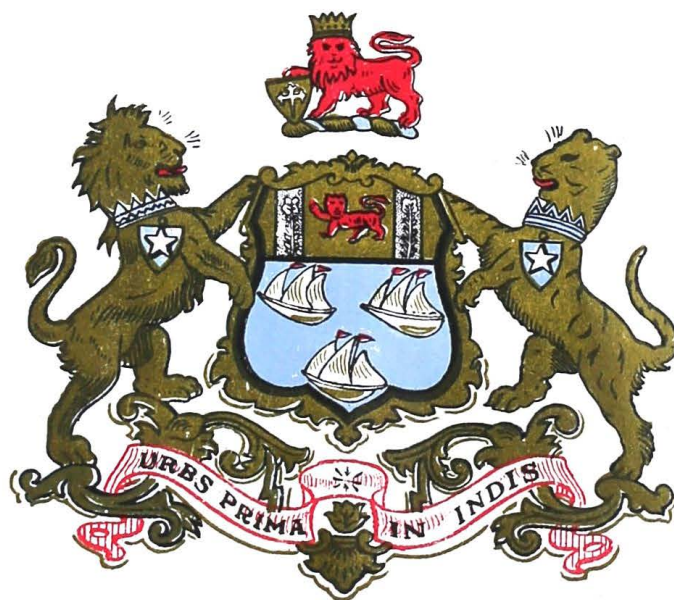
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**REVIEW OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER FOR GREATER BOMBAY FOR
THE YEAR 1950-51. (SUBURBS)**

*53. Under Bombay Municipal (Extension of Limits) Act, 1950 (Bombay Act VII of 1950) which came into force from 15th April 1950, the limits of the Bombay Municipal Corporation were extended upto Jogeshwari on the B.B. & C.I. Railway side and upto Bhandup on the G. I. P. Railway side *i.e.* over an area of about 68 square miles. The Municipal administration of the merged suburban area was placed under the immediate charge of an Assistant Municipal Commissioner aided by Senior Assistant Officers of the various Municipal departments.

54. The total assests and liabilities under Revenue Account of the different merged bodies in the suburbs as on 14th April 1950, amounted to Rs. 40.06 lacs and those under Capital Account amounted to Rs. 16.40 lacs. The rates of taxation which were in force before the merger were continued during the year. The Opening Balance as on 14th April 1950 was estimated at Rs. 15.44 lacs. Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 1951 were estimated at Rs. 71.84 lacs and Rs. 72.38 lacs, respectively. The actual income however amounted to Rs. 61.17 and expenditure to Rs. 43.56. There was thus a Surplus of Rs. 17.61 lacs. with the addition of the Opening Balance the Surplus Cash Balance amounted to Rs. 33.04 lacs out of which grants amounting to Rs. 19.14 lacs were renewed for expenditure and certain amounts were advanced for purchase of Plant and Machinery. The Closing Balance thus amounted to Rs. 12.01 lacs on 31st March 1951.

The total loan liabilities at the end of the year stood at Rs. 32.66 lacs.

Expenditure on Loan Works was estimated at Rs. 28.48 lacs. In the Revised Estimates (8 months' basis) it was estimated at Rs. 41.78 lacs. The actual expenditure, however, aggregated to Rs. 5.50 lacs which was less than the Budget and the Revised Estimates by 80 and 82 per cent., respectively. It has been pointed out that as detailed plans and estimates could not be prepared for approval of the Works Committee and the Corporation and a very short period was left at the disposal of the departments much progress could not be made. It is hope that departmental action will be expedited in future so as to carry out the loan works according to the programme.

55. At the close of the year the total number of properties on the Assessment Register was 25,113 as against 21,569 in the previous year, showing an increase of 3,544 which was partly due to the fact that properties exempted from payment of taxes were not included in the Assessment Register. The rateable value of all the properties was Rs. 1,67.09 lacs against Rs. 1,57.79 lacs for the previous year. This gave a rate of Rs. 32.12 per head of population. The net total demand in respect of Property and Wheel taxes for the the year was Rs. 45.78 lacs *plus* the arrears of Rs. 7.34 lacs from th previous year while the amount collected during the year was Rs. 30.47 lacs. The taxes outstanding on 31st March 1951 amounted to Rs. 22.65 lacs, *i.e.*, nearly 42.64 percent. The reasons for such a heavy outstanding at the end of the year have not been given in the Report. It is hoped that necessary steps will be taken for the collection of the taxes in time.

56. During the year a total length of 28 miles of functioning sewer was maintained at a cost of about Rs. 9,000. A sewerage Scheme for the whole of the Suburban area is being worked out by the departments on a regional basis. As an immediate measure, however, it is proposed to lay sewers in Bandra and Santa Cruz areas at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.26 lacs. 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 total mileage of roads maintained at a cost of Rs. 0.58 lac in the subrbn area was 122. During the year the work of renewal of about 53,578 square yards of road surfaces was entrusted to Messrs. Recondo Ltd., while some re-surfacing work was carried out departmentally.

Street lighting was carried out both by electric and incandescent oil lamps numbering 3,796 and the cost amounted to Rs. 1.32 lacs.

Town Planning Schemes for Bandra, Santa Cruz and Ghatkopar were under preparation.

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

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 Mains while the latter was supplied water principally from the 24" Tulsi Pipe Line. Total quantity of water supplied during the year to the suburbs was about 2,200 million gallons out of which 55 million gallons were supplied through 148 public stand pipes. Three new wells were completed during the year bringing the number of wells to 95 maintained by the Municipality.

All the seven Parks and Gardens in the Suburbs were looked after by the Water Works Department. The Madhu Park at Khar has been completely relaid and the work of renovating the Ishwarlal Park at Vile-Parle was taken in hand during the year.

59. Licences and permits issued during the year (six months) numbered 3,481 as against 2,480 during the previous year, the fees realised therefrom being Rs. 36,503-3-0 as against Rs. 31,150-4-0 in the previous year. Fees amounting to Rs. 136-12-0 were received for the permits for exhibiting advertisements. Charges for parking cars, etc., at Juhu Foreshore collected during the year amounted to Rs. 12,000. The fees realised from the issue of licences to Hawkers and Squatters amounted to Rs. 4,253-5-0 as against Rs. 12,185-3-0 in the previous year. The decrease was due to the non-payment of fees by squatters at Juhu. A number of reserved areas have been proposed for the approval of the Commissioner of Police.

60. Prior to the merger several villages and part 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. During the year 68 complaints were received out of which 64 were disposed of leaving 4 complaints pending at the close of the year. While 892 prosecutions were instituted during the year. The number of cases pending at the end of the year was 148. The total amount of fines realised was Rs. 0.25 lac, while a sum of Rs. 0.6 lac was received by way of Registration fees, etc. The total expenditure incurred in administering the Act was Rs. 0.18 lac. The grant-in-aid sanctioned by the Government for the year 1949-50 in respect of the administration of the Act in the suburban area was Rs. 6,174-4-9.

61. During the year there were 15 Municipal Markets, 5 Municipal Slaughter Houses and 3 Private Markets out of which 2 were proposed to be licensed and one at Bhandup was proposed to be closed down. 7 areas were selected for future markets to meet the growing demand for marketing facilities in the suburbs. During the year the licensing of stalls and outside meatshops was introduced for the first time in the suburbs. 149 applications were received for outside meat shops (including 48 shops already functioning prior to the merger) out of which 45 were approved 68 rejected and 36 were under consideration.

The total receipts of the Department during the year amounted to Rs. 2.94 lacs as against the estimated income of Rs. 2.78 lacs. The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 0.72 lacs.

During the year, unwholesome articles of food such as meat, fish, vegetables, etc., weighing 5,595 lbs. were destroyed. It would appear that examination of articles of food carried on was not very extensive and thorough. More attention needs to be paid to this duty in the interest of public health in the suburbs so as to prevent outbreaks of epidemics such as Cholera, etc.

62. At the time of the merger there were in the merged area 98 Municipal schools with 21,614 pupils on the roll and 535 ordinary teachers and 3 special teachers. At the close of the year the number of ordinary teachers rose to 636. There were 29 Municipal School buildings. Out of the 8 school buildings under construction at the time of the merger 4 were completed and 4 were still under construction.

During the year 6 Marathi schools, 1 Gujarati School, 1 Hindi Class and 1 Urdu Class were opened while 1 private Hindi School was taken over and 5 Boys' and Girls' Schools were amalgamated. Administration of the Municipal Schools in the merged area was brought in line with the City Schools.

Scholarships to the tune of Rs. 990 were awarded to Harijan and Backward Class pupils and Freeships on the lines of the City Schools were introduced in the Suburban Schools also.

The Municipal Grant-in-Aid Code was made applicable to the Suburban Private Primary Schools which were paid a grant of Rs. 1,25,000.

63. The merged Suburbs have an area of 41,901 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 8,335 which was more by 1,015 than that during the previous year (7320). The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 3,625 as against 3,915 in the previous year. Deaths among infants under one year of age numbered 1,076 which exceeded by 112 the number in the preceding year,

the infant mortality rate for the year thus being 129.09 per 1,000 live births. According to the Census of 1951, the death rate per thousand living persons worked out to 7.2 for the suburbs but like the birth rate the same could not be said to be accurate for want of proper registration of deaths, as all the cemeteries in the suburbs being private there was no Municipal control over them. The trustees of cemeteries were asked to register the cemeteries and the system followed in the City in regard to death registration, etc., is gradually being adopted in the Suburbs.

Small-pox caused 80 deaths ; Enteric fever 19 deaths ; Cholera 4 deaths ; Diphtheria 3 ceaths and Malaria 86 deaths. High incidence of Malaria and of deaths caused by it were mainly due to the existence of large number of cesspools, insanitary milch-cattle stables, etc., and the consequent mosquito nuisance. Anti-malarial measures were carried out wherever mosquito nuisance predominated. It is hoped that campaign against malaria will be intensified 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.

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 unauthorized insanitary structures to begin with.

Private cemeteries in the suburbs number about 50 while there is one belonging to the Municipality. It is therefore desirable that steps should be taken to take over the private cemeteries and provide Municipal Cemeteries where necessary.

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 21 beds were maintained during the year.

The total number of new in-door patients admitted in the Hospitals was 4,909 and the total attendance of out-door patients was 32,031.

In all there were 6 Municipal Dispensaries in the merged area. The total number of new outdoor patients treated in these dispensaries during the year was 98,984 and the total number of out-patient attendance was 2,27,759. The cases treated by the Mobile Hospital Unit numbered 25,298. Early steps require to be taken to provide medical aid on a larger scale at least by opening a few more Municipal dispensaries.

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., and Shri P. R. Nayak, 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, 26th March 1952.

NATHALAL D. PARIKH,
Chairman,
Standing Committee.

PART II.

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