

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

HAVING regard to the fact that Gulbarga district constituted a part of the old Hyderabad State prior to the reorganisation of States in 1956, when it was integrated with the State of Mysore, it may not be out of place to trace here briefly the growth and development of Local Self-Government in Hyderabad State.

It was Sir Salar Jung I who first introduced municipal administration in the old Hyderabad State in 1869 A.D., when he was the Prime Minister of that State. A special committee consisting of six members, two of whom were representatives of the people and four of paigahs and other estates, was appointed to look after the local self-governing bodies. The executive head of the municipality was styled as Superintendent of Roads. He was also the President of the Municipal Committee. Disputes between the municipality and the public were settled by a few respectable persons appointed for the purpose and who were invested with the powers of a Small Cause Court to dispose of money suits to the tune of Rs. 20. The evolution of the municipal administration from small beginnings to one of accepted standards was governed by the exigencies of the situation. In conformity with the needs of the times, changes were made in the constitution of municipal committees. In 1894, the municipal committees in various places consisted of nine officials and five non-officials, all nominated by Government.

Beginnings of Local Bodies

In 1877, the Local Boards Regulation was promulgated authorising the levy of a local cess of one anna in the rupee of land revenue in all settled tracts. This regulation established Local Boards in the districts of the State with certain defined powers to administer the funds. The powers were described in the Regulation of 1899, a later amended Act and the Local Boards were permitted to prepare annual budgets, spend substantial sums from the previous year's balance and to supervise works through technical agencies. A Central Board was also set up to control and supervise the Local Boards. Some years later, this Central

Board was abolished and its functions devolved on the departments of Revenue, Education and Medicine, in so far as the funds allocated to the departments were concerned.

The District Board constituted under the regulation consisted of seven official members, the Talukdar as *ex-officio* president and seven non-official members nominated by Government. The Taluk Boards were subordinate to the District Board and consisted of four officials including the Tahsildar and four non-official members nominated by the Government on the recommendation of the District Board. The power of nomination to Taluk Boards was delegated to the Subedars who were in charge of revenue divisions.

Early Legislations

The Local Cess Act was enacted in 1900 and was subsequently amended in 1908, 1910 and 1940 to suit the changing conditions. The main object of the parent Act and its amendments was to lay a firm foundation of municipal administration in the towns. Although the constitution of Municipal and Town Committees was envisaged in the Local Cess Act of 1900, the committees did not come into existence till 1934. Instead, the Taluk and District Boards were functioning as municipal committees. In 1934, the State Government sanctioned the constitution of municipal committees with a non-official majority for all the district headquarters and other big towns, while rules for setting up town committees in smaller towns were also framed. The municipal committees so formed consisted of a president (senior revenue officer), twelve non-official members and three official members.

The outstanding feature of the Local Fund administration of the past was the combination of the district and town finances with the unavoidable result that the towns, specially the headquarters towns, were benefited from the funds collected in the villages. Even in 1913, it was observed that one of the causes of complaint at the time of the institution of Local Boards was that the Local Funds were mostly spent at the headquarters of the district resulting in the neglect of tahsils. Although the local cess was collected from the villages, only a very small amount was spent for the benefit of the villages. Even between 1921 and 1928, the position was no better. It was realised then that no improvements could be expected as long as the income from the cess collected from the raiyats continued to be utilised for expenditure in the towns. A preliminary step was taken in 1929 to separate the district and town budgets whereby it became impossible for the District Boards to spend any but the allotted contribution from the Local Funds on the towns. Thus, more money became available after 1930 for expenditure in villages.

In 1941-42, the following regulations were enforced for purposes of better administration of local self-governing bodies :

(1) The Hyderabad District Boards Act, (2) the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, (3) the Sanitary Powers Act, (4) the Hyderabad Village Panchayat Act and (5) the Local Authorities Loan Act. With the promulgation of these Acts, the administration of the Local Self-Government Department entered a new phase of development. The regulations provided for elections to local bodies on the basis of interests and also for nomination of members in the following proportion—(a) in the case of district boards, for every five elected, three nominated members, (b) in the case of municipal committees, for every two members elected, one nominated member. Provision was also made for the constitution of interim district boards and municipal committees consisting solely of nominated members till elections were held. The Acts passed in 1941-42 gave a wider scope to the local bodies for the levy of local taxes and for building up stable finances. Although the local bodies consisted of only nominated members, sufficient progress was made in the general administration of the local self-governing institutions and also in providing necessary amenities to the people.

Till the year 1946, the Local Self-Government Department was a branch of the Secretariat of the Revenue Department. With the expansion of the activities of the Local Self-Government Department, it was considered expedient to have a separate secretariat. Accordingly, a separate Local Self-Government Secretariat came into existence in 1946. After the police action in the year 1948, there was a persistent demand for the replacement of old Acts by progressive ones in consonance with the spirit of the times and the replacement of nominated local bodies by elected local bodies so that democratic units of administration might begin to function and cater for the needs of the public in a responsible and responsive manner. The necessity for the enactment of two new Acts was realised by the Government and the following Acts were enacted. They were (1) the Hyderabad Municipal Corporation Act of 1950 and (2) the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act of 1951. With the enforcement of these new Acts, elections were held to constitute afresh town municipalities.

Later
Measures

For the first time in the history of local self-governing institutions in the State, the system of adult suffrage was introduced in the elections held during 1952-53. Only in the case of District Boards, did the nominated element still remain. Immediately after the popular Ministry took charge, it was decided to replace the old Act by a progressive new Act. A new Act called the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act was passed in the year 1956.

There were four city municipalities and six town municipalities in the district which were constituted under the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act. Elections were held in the year

1960 and the re-constituted municipalities were functioning in this district since then. The four city municipalities were those of Gulbarga, Shorapur, Aland and Yadgir. The six town municipalities were Shahapur, Chittapur, Seram, Shahabad, Chincholi and Gurmatkal.

With the promulgation of the uniform Mysore Municipalities Act, 1964, from 1st April 1965, there are now one City Municipal Council at Gulbarga and nine town Municipal Councils at Yadgir, Aland, Shorapur, Shahapur, Chittapur, Seram, Shahabad, Chincholi and Gurmatkal. Gulbarga is the only town in the district that has a population of more than 50,000.

**City Municipality,
Gulbarga**

Gulbarga city is the district headquarters, where the Deputy Commissioner's Office and Divisional Offices are located. It is also the headquarters of the Divisional Commissioner, Gulbarga Division. The city is fairly big and the area of the municipality is over 10 square miles. The population of the city, as per the census of 1961 was 97,159. The municipality was first established in the year 1945. Prior to that, the civic affairs were being managed by the District Board. Elections were held in the year 1952 for the re-constitution of the municipal council.

Elections were last held in the month of April 1964. The city was divided into thirty-one wards. There were thirty-four members on the council. Three seats were reserved for members belonging to the Scheduled Castes. All the members are elected once in three years on the basis of adult franchise.

As a writ petition was filed with reference to one of the wards, the new body could not be constituted. As a result, the municipality was functioning under the supervision of an Administrator appointed by the Government (Assistant Commissioner, Gulbarga Revenue Sub-Division) since 6th of June 1964. The newly elected council assumed charge on 15th of June 1965 and is functioning since then.

A tank called the Bhosga tank, situated at a distance of six miles from the city, is the source of water supply to the place. The water from this tank is cleaned and chlorinated in the filter beds and distributed through pipes to the people of the city. There were, in March 1965, three hundred and eighteen public taps and three thousand six hundred and seventy private taps in the city. On an average, fifteen to eighteen gallons of protected water per head are being supplied to the people daily.

**New Water
Supply
Scheme**

In order to meet the needs of the growing population of Gulbarga City, the State Government decided to implement a comprehensive water supply scheme costing Rs. 90 lakhs. The

Chief Minister of Mysore laid the foundation stone for this new venture on 3rd October 1965. When completed in about four years, this scheme ensures copious supply of filtered water at 30 gallons per head for an eventual population of two lakhs. According to details of the scheme, improvements and additions to the existing works will be effected at a cost of Rs. 28.50 lakhs. In addition, water will be drawn from the Bennitora river to augment the existing supply at a cost of Rs. 36.50 lakhs. Improvements in the distribution system will be done at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs. The gravity method, which is working well will be continued to the maximum extent.

To prevent wastage by seepage and evaporation, the existing masonry conduit from the Bhosga tank will be replaced by a 30 inch diameter gravity main. It is also proposed to heighten the bund and weir of the Bhosga tank to take in more water. Both the purificatory plant and the service reservoir near the existing filter beds are proposed to be remodelled to meet the growing needs.

There is no underground drainage in the city ; it is served by surface drains. The municipal authorities sanctioned a sum of Rs. 50,000 for undertaking survey work in connection with the laying of underground drains. The survey work has been completed and an estimate for Rs. 48 lakhs has been prepared and submitted to Government for sanction. The municipality has requested the Government for sanctioning this amount as a loan to it. It has taken up a land acquisition and development scheme costing about Rs. 30 lakhs. The Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs in this connection.

The municipality is not running any milk supply centre or educational institutions in the city. It is running a library. It also maintains three parks, one near the Municipal Office, the second near the Municipal Library and the third located near the filter beds. It is running a child welfare centre and also a rest house.

There were ten sanitary inspectors working in the municipality, in October 1965. They are attending to the vaccination work also. The municipal authorities maintain the register of births and deaths and submit weekly returns to the Registrar-General of Births and Deaths, Bangalore.

As Gulbarga city has been the district headquarters and also the headquarters of the Divisional Commissioner, the population of the city has considerably increased and with the growth of the population, slums have cropped up in the city area. To solve the problem of slums to some extent at least, the municipality decided

to take advantage of the Government of India scheme for the clearing of slums in cities. Gazipura slum area in the city was selected to be tackled first as this locality is very thickly populated and is lacking in proper sanitary facilities. During the year 1959, a sum of Rs. 1,15,010 was sanctioned in this connection. But due to the increase in the cost of materials, the estimated cost had to be revised to Rs. 1,64,300.

In the year 1964-65, there were one thousand and fifteen electric street lights in the city and out of them, forty were mercury vapour lights. Tube lights have been fitted on the main roads.

Improvement of Roads

The total mileage of roads under the jurisdiction of the municipality is thirty-five out of which, four miles are of cement concrete, six and a half miles are asphalted and the rest are metalled. Most of the metalled roads need re-metalling or they have to be asphalted in view of the fast increasing heavy traffic. During the year 1963-64, the municipal council sanctioned estimates for the construction of cement concrete roads in several localities of the city for a length of about two miles. Recently, the municipal council resolved to take up road repair works and laying of new roads at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,75,341, from out of the budget allotment for the year 1964-65. The council has also sanctioned an estimate amounting to Rs. 2,24,060 for other works relating to the municipality, the amount to be met from out of the balances at the disposal of the municipality.

The various Government grants received are being utilised for the development works in the city. The municipality has also sanctioned amounts from out of its funds with a view to providing fifty per cent matching contribution in this regard.

The sources of income of the municipality are the property tax, the profession tax, tolls, octroi fees, vehicle and animal taxes, market tolls, fee on sale of animals, slaughter house fees, licence fees, building permit fees, entertainment taxes, rents from municipal buildings and lands, and income from cattle pounds.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are furnished below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs.	Rs.
1961—62	10,12,451	11,29,489
1962—63	12,13,937	11,79,695
1963—64	13,88,060	12,44,816
1964—65	16,26,390	13,23,841

**Development
Plans**

With an idea to improving the city of Gulbarga, according to modern notions of civic welfare, the Municipal Council has on hand, a comprehensive three-year development plan which when completed would give a new look to the historic city. This scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 1.10 crores. The broad features of the development plan envisage the drying up of the Jagat Tank at a total cost of Rs. 7 lakhs as the tank bed has proved a nuisance to the inhabitants. It is proposed to construct a central bus stand, an exhibition ground, and a stadium on the dried up tank bed. The city is full of congested lanes, which are quite unfit for present day traffic. The Municipality is seriously thinking of improving these lanes at an expenditure of Rs. 4.5 lakhs. In recent years, the town has grown by leaps and bounds and the sprawling nature of its expansion calls for urgent improvement methods. It has been decided to extend the municipal limits as suggested by the Town Planning expert. To alleviate the acute housing shortage, the Municipality has embarked upon a rapid scheme of housing. For this purpose, it has acquired 300 acres of land on the Seram road at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs. According to the development plan, 200 single room and 200 double-room tenements are to be built at this site at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs before 1969. The floating population of the city is fast increasing. The paucity of rest houses is acutely felt. Under a new scheme, it is proposed to build a modern travellers' lodge at a cost of Rs. 2 lakhs. It is also proposed to construct a central vegetable market, and zonal markets in various places in the town. The absence of a modern swimming pool has also been felt. The new plan envisages a new swimming pool, children's parks, and other amenities. Ultimately all roads in the town are to be asphalted with suitable traffic circles for the convenience of the public. Traffic islands near the tank bund, Brahmapur, Tir Andaz Talkies, Gunj Circle, Chargalli and Humnabad base will be broadened. A sum of Rs. 7,85,000 is provided for more public conveniences, cattle troughs, dhobi ghats and cattle fodder markets. There is also a proposal to divert the rain-water and sewerage water to a distance of 20 miles outside the city at a cost of Rs. 6 lakhs.

Gulbarga city, with a population now exceeding one lakh, has been developing pretty fast in the last few years, calling for its controlled and planned development in the coming years. For this purpose, a Town Planning Office, headed by an Assistant Director of Town Planning was established in Gulbarga city in January 1962. Its jurisdiction extends over the three districts of Gulbarga, Raichur and Bidar.

This office has undertaken the work of preparation of a Master Plan for Gulbarga city, as a Centrally sponsored scheme, and it was expected to be completed by the end of March 1966. A sum of Rs. 1,08,000 had been expended in this connection.

**Town
Municipality,
Shahabad**

The Shahabad Town Municipality was first constituted in 1952 with 20 members as councillors as per notification dated the 2nd December 1952 of the Government of Hyderabad. This town was in a jagir taluk then. Elections were held for the reconstitution of the municipal council in the year 1960. The council consisted of fifteen members including its president and vice-president in October 1965.

The Station area of Shahabad town has been also included in the municipal limits. The area occupied by the Associated Cement Company and the revenue land situated in between the Associated Cement Company and the Town Municipality has been excluded from the municipal limits as per the terms of an agreement entered into by the municipality with the Associated Cement Company on 30th October 1956. The area of the town is two square miles approximately and the population of the town, according to the census of 1961, was 20,416. The entire town has been divided into thirty divisions. Two seats on the Council have been reserved for members belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

An agreement was entered into in 1956 by the municipality with the Associated Cement Company to supply 1,50,000 gallons of protected water per day to Shahabad town and the area surrounding the railway station and also electricity to the street lights and other private connections in the town. The municipal council was paying Rs. 10,000 towards water supply charges and Rs. 1,000 towards the electricity charges annually to the company.

The Kagna river, situated about a mile from Shahabad town, is the source of water supply to the town. The river water is purified by the authorities of the Associated Cement Company and supplied to the municipality. The municipal authorities arrange for the distribution of the protected water to the people of the town through taps. There were twenty-one public taps and two hundred and sixty-seven private connections in the town in October 1965. There is a reservoir near the municipal offices with a capacity of 75,000 gallons. It is filled twice daily so as to enable the municipality to supply water to the people in the town. Water is being supplied for five hours daily, three hours in the morning and two hours in the evening.

The municipality is contemplating to extend the limits of the town by laying new extensions. A park is being maintained just opposite to the municipal offices. A free-reading room for the benefit of the reading public is also being run.

Electricity was first supplied to the town on 1st July 1959. There were 256 electric street lights in the town in October 1965. The Associated Cement Company was supplying electricity to the

town through their thermal power station attached to the factory. The number of private connections was 290. There were also 29 petromax lights. The Mysore State Electricity Board began supplying electricity to the town with effect from 4th September 1964.

The Daroga (assistant sanitary inspector) maintains the births and deaths register. He submits monthly reports to the municipal authorities who send them on to the Director of Statistics. The vaccination work in the town is done by the four vaccinators who belong to the Health Services Department. The municipality has appointed four scavengers. The town enjoys a dry and healthy climate and is free from epidemic diseases.

There is no underground drainage in the town; only open surface drains have been provided.

The total length of roads maintained by the municipality is six and a half miles, of which one and a half miles are concreted and the rest are metalled.

The municipality is not running any educational institutions, nor does it maintain any medical institutions in the town.

The income and expenditure figures of the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1963-64 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1961-62	Rs. 74,333	Rs. 58,292
1962-63	Rs. 69,374	Rs. 67,749
1963-64	Rs. 89,759	Rs. 1,00,712

Prior to the integration of jagirs in the old Hyderabad State, the Town Committee of Aland was under the administrative control of an officer known as Duam Talukdar. The Municipal Committee was a nominated body. There were no elected public representatives. In the year 1950, the jagirs were merged with the Khalsa areas of the State thus putting an end to the jagirdari system. As a result of this, the municipal committee which was a Town Committee came under the administrative control of the Tahsildar. The Town Committee consisted of only nominated members. Elections to this committee were held for the first time in the year 1953 under the provisions of the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, 1951, and the Town Committee was elevated to the status of a city municipality. The first elected municipal council consisted of twenty-four members, of whom seventeen were elected members and seven were nominated. Out of the seven nominated members, three were official members and the other four were non-official members. Out of the seventeen

**Aland
Town
Municipality**

elected members two members belonged to the Scheduled Castes. Elections were conducted to the municipality in accordance with the provisions of the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956. Under the Mysore Municipalities Act, 1964, the Municipal council was designated again as a town municipality. In October 1965, the municipal council consisted of seventeen members. One seat was reserved on the council for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes from out of the general seats. The town has been divided into seven wards.

The municipality has made arrangements for the supply of protected water to the people of the area. There were seventeen public taps and three hundred and seventy-one private connections in the town in October 1965.

There is no underground drainage in the town. Surface drains have been constructed to the extent of three miles.

The municipality is not maintaining any educational or medical institutions in the town. There is only one recreation park within the municipal limits. No new colonies have been formed except the Thyagaraja Colony where the offices and quarters for the officials of the Block Development scheme are located.

The municipality has provided electric street lights in most of the streets and lanes. There were two hundred and sixty-one street lights in the town in October, 1965. The municipality hopes to provide electric lights in the other localities of the town also within a short period.

The sanitary inspector maintains the register of births and deaths in the town. He also attends to the vaccination work in the area. The municipality had employed eight men sweepers, twelve women sweepers, and four scavengers in October 1965. The town has been free from communicable diseases.

The number of buildings in the town was 3,260, in October 1965.

The total road mileage within the municipal jurisdiction was three miles and the entire length was metalled.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1961-62	Rs. 60,728	Rs. 55,893
1962-63	Rs. 80,623	Rs. 1,35,596
1963-64	Rs. 1,19,355	Rs. 1,20,786
1964-65	Rs. 1,18,184	Rs. 1,17,509

The financial condition of the municipality has not been very sound. Efforts are afoot to improve its financial position by enhancing the rates and taxes and finding other sources of revenue.

The first municipal council was established in Shahapur town in the year 1354 Fasli by Government Order dated 6th Amardad 1354 Fasli (11th June 1945). The municipal council was then attached to the Tahsil Office. There were nine members on the council. All were being nominated by the Government. The Tahsildar was the chairman of the municipal council.

**Shahapur
Town
Municipality**

In the year 1954, the municipality was separated from the Tahsildar's Office, and elections were held to the municipal council. The council consisted of 18 members, of whom six were nominated members. The president was elected from among the elected members. One seat on the council was reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes. Elections were conducted to the municipal council again in the year 1960. This was the first election after the reorganisation of States. The council consists of fifteen members. One seat is reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

The municipality has not yet undertaken any town planning schemes. Wells constitute the source of water supply to the people. The municipality has prepared a scheme for the supply of protected water and it is under the consideration of Government. There is no underground drainage in the town; only open surface drains have been provided. The municipality had provided twenty-five petromax lights and forty-two lanterns for purposes of lighting the town. The Mysore State Electricity Board has been supplying electricity to the place from December 1964.

The municipality is not maintaining any educational institutions, nor is it running any medical institutions in the town. But, it is maintaining a fine park called the Rashtrapati Park for the recreation of the public. There is also a play-ground for children. A radio has been installed in the park for the entertainment of the public. The municipality is also maintaining one reading room for the use of the public.

The Daroga (assistant sanitary inspector) maintains the register of births and deaths in the town and looks after the sanitary arrangements. The municipality has employed six men labourers, ten women labourers, three scavengers, and two malis for the Rashtrapati Park. The town has been free from epidemic diseases.

The municipality has been levying octroi duty in the area with effect from 15th of November 1965.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1961-62	Rs. 49,733	Rs. 40,668
1962-63	Rs. 44,755	Rs. 75,632
1963-64	Rs. 69,251	Rs. 64,289
1964-65	Rs. 69,962	Rs. 61,869

**Shorapur
Town
Municipality**

Shorapur is the headquarters of Shorapur taluk and is situated on a high undulating table land, surrounded by hills. The total municipal area is about three square miles and comprises Shorapur, Rangampet and Timapur. In the summer, during the day time the climate is dry and hot, but the nights are pleasant. During the remaining months, it is moderate. On the whole, the place is healthy.

A city municipal committee was first established on the 19th of November 1953 under the provisions of the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, 1951. This committee consisted of twenty-four members including the president. Seventeen members were elected and seven were nominated. Out of these seven nominated members, three were *ex-officio* members and four were non-official members. The three *ex-officio* members were the local Government Medical Officer, the Head Master of the Government High School and the Tahsildar of the taluk.

Elections were held to reconstitute the municipal council in the year 1960. Under the Mysore Municipalities Act, 1964, the municipal council was redesignated as a town municipality. The municipal council consists of 17 members. One seat on the council has been reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The population of the town according to 1961 census, was 17,282. The total number of buildings in the town was 5,200 in October 1965.

The town gets its water supply from step wells. The upper portion of Shorapur town lacks good 'sweet' water wells. In summer, most of these wells dry up and the people are put to great hardship to get their water supply. However, the people of Rangampet and Timapur localities have a better facility and they get their supply of drinking water from the 'sweet' water wells around and mostly from the draw wells. There were twenty-six public and four private 'sweet' water wells and thirty-nine brackish water wells in Shorapur town in October 1965. All the drinking

water wells are being disinfected with bleaching powder and lime regularly.

With a view to providing protected water supply to the people, the municipality has worked out a scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,60,000. The scheme is being executed by the Public Works Department and it is expected to be completed early.

There were three hundred and two electric street lights in the place in October 1965. In addition to these lights, the municipality has provided forty-eight petromax lights in the area.

There is one sanitary inspector for the whole area. It is proposed to have one more sanitary inspector to be in charge of the lower region of the area. The sanitary inspector maintains the register of births and deaths. He also attends to the vaccination work in the town and looks after the general sanitation in the area. The conservancy staff of the municipality consisted of seven men labourers, seventeen women labourers and five scavengers. The sanitary condition of the place is satisfactory. The town has been free from epidemic diseases.

There is no underground drainage system in the area. Open surface drains have been provided.

The total length of the roads within the municipal limits was four miles, of which two miles consisted of asphalted roads and the other two of metalled roads.

The municipality is maintaining a Dak Bungalow for the convenience of visitors.

The work of construction of a building called "Gandhi Bhavan" was taken up in Shorapur by a committee consisting of some members of the public, called the Gandhi Bhavan Trust Committee, with the help of public contributions and Government grants. But the work could not be further proceeded with and the committee decided to hand over the building unconditionally to the municipality. With the approval of Government, the municipality took charge of the building with a view to completing it from out of the municipal funds and to house the municipal offices therein. An estimate for Rs. 10,000 for the construction of the building has been submitted for sanction of Government. After obtaining the Government sanction in the matter the municipality expects to complete the construction of the building shortly and shift the municipal offices to the same.

**Gandhi
Bhavan**

The municipality is not maintaining any educational institutions, nor is it running any medical institutions.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1961-62	Rs. 80,308	Rs. 89,307
1962-63	Rs. 88,333	Rs. 85,124
1963-64	Rs. 114,223	Rs. 98,328
1964-65	Rs. 178,925	Rs. 134,898

**Yadgir
Town
Municipality**

Before the integration of the jagirs with the old Hyderabad State, the municipality of Yadgir, then known as the Town Committee of Yadgir, was under the administrative control of an officer known as Duam Talukdar. Then, this municipal committee was only a nominated body. There were no elected representatives in the committee. In the year 1950, this committee came under the administrative control of the Tahsildar. Elections to the committee were held for the first time in the year 1952 under the provisions of the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, 1951, and the Town Committee was elevated to the status of a city municipality. Elections to the municipal council were again held in 1960. Under the Mysore Municipalities Act, 1964, the municipal council was redesignated as a town municipality. The municipal council consists of 17 members. One seat on the council is reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

The municipality has made arrangements to supply protected water from the wells in the town, through pipes, to the people. There were eighty-eight public taps and nine hundred and nine private connections in the town in December 1965.

There is no underground drainage. Surface open drains have been provided in the various localities.

The municipality is not maintaining any medical or educational institutions. It is maintaining a recreation park in the town, and a dak bungalow for the convenience of the visitors.

The municipality has also provided electric street lights in the town.

The senior sanitary inspector maintains the register of births and deaths. He is also responsible for vaccination work and maintenance of proper sanitation in the town.

The income and expenditure figures of the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs.	Rs.
1961-62	2,59,495	2,27,388
1962-63	2,45,230	2,53,826
1963-64	2,55,913	2,76,146
1964-65	2,87,739	2,37,286

The Gurmatkal municipality was first constituted in 1954. Then, there were eighteen members on the council. Elections were held in the year 1961 for the council.

**Gurmatkal
Town
Municipality**

The municipal council was again reconstituted in the month of August 1964 and the reconstituted body has been functioning since then. There were fifteen members on the municipal council including the president and vice-president.

The municipality was taking steps to acquire four survey numbers in the town with a view to extending the limits of the town.

There is no underground drainage in the town.

The municipality is not maintaining any medical institutions nor is it running any educational institutions in the area. It has constructed four public latrines in the town. It has also formed a road from the town to the bus stand nearby.

The Daroga maintains the register of births and deaths and exercises supervision over sanitary arrangements.

The municipality has worked out a scheme for getting supply of protected water and it is under the consideration of Government. The place is being supplied with electricity since December 1964. There were one hundred and ninety street electric lights in the area in January 1966.

Government have directed the municipality to take action to levy new taxes and also to enhance the existing rates permissible under the Municipal Act with a view to improving its financial position.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs.	Rs.
1961-62	37,549	24,538
1962-63	28,609	26,366
1963-64	29,378	38,233
1964-65	37,610	28,162

**Chincholi
Town
Municipality**

Prior to the year 1953, the Town Committee of Chincholi was under the administrative control of the Tahsildar. In that year, elections were held to the committee and the Town Committee was elevated to the status of a Town Municipality. There were eleven members on the council when the same was reconstituted after the elections in 1960. Again, elections were held in 1964 to the council and this reconstituted council consists of 13 members. One seat has been reserved for a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The town was divided into twelve wards.

The Municipality has arranged for the supply of protected water to the people and daily about 12 gallons of water per head are being supplied to the people. The Government have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 75,000 to the municipality for effecting certain improvements to the water supply works.

There is no underground drainage in the town. The municipality has provided open surface drains.

The Daroga attends to vaccination work. He also maintains the births and deaths register. The municipality had employed six men labourers and five women labourers and two scavengers on the conservancy staff in October 1965.

The income and expenditure figures of the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are furnished below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs.	Rs.
1961-62	23,924	21,580
1962-63	34,914	36,132
1963-64	34,207	26,957
1964-65	41,515	37,560

Seram town is on the Wadi-Hyderabad railway line. It is also connected to Gulbarga by road. The municipal area of Seram comprises Seram old town area, Seram station area, Bazar line and the Gunj area, the latter three areas constituting the new extensions. The area of the town municipality is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. The population of the town, as per the 1961 Census, was 8,477. There were 2,104 houses in the town in October 1965.

The Town Committee of Seram was under the administrative control of the Tahsildar prior to 1953. In that year, elections were held to the Committee and the Town Committee was elevated to the status of a Town Municipality as per the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, 1951. There were seventeen members on the Committee; of these, twelve were elected members and five were nominated members. Again, out of these five nominated members, two were non-official members and the rest were officials.

The Town Municipal Committee was reconstituted on 10th March 1961 under the Hyderabad District Municipalities Act, 1956. There were then on the Committee fifteen members, all of them being elected members. Thirteen were general seats while two were reserved seats.

Elections to the Municipal Committee were held on 7th of November 1963 and the Committee was reconstituted with effect from 26th of December 1963. The strength of the Committee was fifteen as of old. Elections were again held to the Committee in 1964 and the same was reconstituted. This reconstituted body has been administering the civic affairs of the town since then.

The new Mysore Municipalities Act came into force with effect from 1st April 1965. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the council has abolished all its four sub-committees and has constituted one standing committee consisting of seven members, to assist it in the various developmental works associated with civic affairs.

The municipality has provided protected water supply to the town. But the quantity of water supplied was found to be inadequate. Hence, in 1955 the Government of Hyderabad sanctioned a scheme at an estimated cost of rupees two lakhs to improve the water supply. This scheme was revised again in 1958 and the estimate was fixed at rupees three lakhs and later it was further revised to Rs. 2.22 lakhs. The Government have sanctioned the estimate. They have also granted a loan of Rs. 10,000 to the municipality in this regard. The works have been started and are progressing. There were ten public water taps in the town in April 1965. The number of private connections was two hundred

and ninety-six. The municipality proposes to increase this number to four hundred when the water works are completed. The place is being supplied with electricity since August 1964. There were one hundred and twenty-two street electric lights in the town in April 1965.

There is no underground drainage in the town. The Government sanctioned Rs. 4,000 in 1961-62, Rs. 10,000 in 1963-64 and Rs. 6,000 in 1964-65 for town development works. The municipality also contributed an equal amount for the purpose.

The conservancy staff of the municipality consisted of one daroga, two dalayats, seven men labourers, ten women labourers and three scavengers in April 1965. The daroga is maintaining the register of births and deaths in the town. He also attends to the vaccination work. The place has been free from epidemics.

The municipality is maintaining two parks in the town. There is also a municipal dak bungalow in the place.

Every effort was being made by the municipality to improve its financial position. It decided to levy octroi duty and expected to derive an annual income of nearly Rs. 40,268 thereby. The municipality also intended to revise the rates of licence fees, land rent and permit fees.

The income and expenditure figures relating to the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are given below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
1961-62	62,290	58,288
1962-63	54,437	61,805
1963-64	70,868	60,580
1964-65	1,00,152	60,464

**Chittapur
Town
Municipality**

The Chittapur Municipality, which was a Town Committee was elevated to the status of a Town Municipality as per the provisions of the Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committees Act, 1951. Elections were held to the municipal council in 1960 and the council was reconstituted. The Mysore Municipalities Act, 1964, came into force with effect from 1st April 1965. There are fifteen members on the council including the president and vice-president. Two seats on the council are reserved for members belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

The town was supplied with electricity in 1958. The State Government sanctioned a loan of Rs. 7,61,587 to the municipality for implementing a water supply scheme in the town.

The income and expenditure figures of the municipality for the years 1961-62 to 1964-65 are furnished below :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>
1961-62	29,342	28,244
1962-63	30,440	37,359
1963-64	50,897	39,779
1964-65	47,873	55,081

The municipality has planned to levy octroi duty in the town. It is expected that the financial position of the municipality would improve considerably after octroi is levied. During 1964-65, the Government sanctioned Rs. 6,000 to the municipality for carrying out town improvement works.

After the enactment of the Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards Act of 1959, action was taken to have the taluk development boards and village panchayats constituted as laid down in the Act. This Act constituted a progressive step in the direction of democratic decentralisation of the administrative set-up. The new enactment aimed at the panchayats and taluk boards becoming primary functionaries for all forms of development in rural areas. The Act provided that 25 per cent of the total land revenue and the entire local cess should be assigned to the taluk boards and 35 per cent of the land revenue should be assigned to the panchayats with a view to enabling them to carry on the duties entrusted to them. In addition to this, the taluk board has powers to levy a duty on transfer of immovable properties in the shape of an additional stamp duty and a tax on animals brought for sale, to grant licences for certain trades and the like on payment of prescribed fees. There were ten taluk boards and five hundred and sixteen village panchayats in the district as on 1st October 1965. In order to scrutinise and approve the budgets of the taluk boards and co-ordinate the work of all these boards in the district, a District Development Council at the district level was constituted consisting of the Deputy Commissioner, Members of Parliament and State Legislature, presidents of all taluk boards in the district, certain Government officers, a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes and a lady member. The Deputy Commissioner is the Chairman of this Council.

Panchayat Raj

Members of the Taluk Development Boards are elected directly on adult franchise.

The Taluk Boards, under the provisions made, have taken up specific works such as the construction of school buildings, drinking water wells, conversion of step-wells into draw-wells, construction of veterinary hospitals, establishment of Ayurvedic and Local Fund dispensaries and setting up of State-pattern health units, running of high schools and construction of approach roads, culverts and road drains.

Panchayat Raj Training Centre, Gulbarga.—With a view to imparting training to the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the village panchayats, members of the taluk boards and others in the three districts of Gulbarga, Bidar and Bijapur, in matters relating to panchayat administration, a Panchayat Raj Training Centre was established in Gulbarga with effect from 8th August 1962. This Centre, situated about half a mile from the railway station in the outskirts of Gulbarga city, is one of eight such centres established in the State. The Bharat Sevak Samaj of the Karnataka region has taken over the responsibility of running the institution with Government aid.
