

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

MANY a modern administrative institution of our times is a continuation of the arrangements in the past. The village headman of the *gauda* and the Village Accountant or the *shanubhoga* continued till the other day and were very old institutions. The texts on Hindu polity like *Manusmriti*, Kautaly's *Arthashastra*, *Shukarnitisara* and Kamandaka's *Nitishastra* did influence the administration in Mysore area as elsewhere. Ganga Durvineeta is likened to Manu, and Ganga Nitimarga is described as administering the land according to the principles of (Shukra's) *Neetisara* and so on. Under the Shatavahanas, there were *rajjukas* or supervisory officers for a group of villages. The word *rajjuka* literally means 'the holder of the rope'. And it is curious to learn that this title is represented by the modern Sheristedar, a corrupt form of the Persian word *Sar-i-rishtadar* meaning, he who holds the end of the rope. The Gangas ruled over a vast territory called Gangavadi—32,000 (Later 96,000). The Nandi plates of Madhava II suggest that the kingdom was divided into *nadus* or *Vishayas* and each *nadu* had under it a *kampana* with a number of villages in it. We come across names of *nadus* like Aridalle-70, Karenadu-70, Kuppenadu, Punnadu, Edenadu, Torenadu-500, Nugunadu etc. under the Gangas. The numbers in these units can be roughly taken as the number of villages in it. Each village had a *gramakuta*, *gramaka* or *gavunda* or *pergade*. Major provinces were also called a *nadu* at times, as in the case of Kongalnad-8,000 or Punnata-6,000.

Under the Cholas the empire was divided into a number of provinces called Mandalams, these were divided into *valanadus* or districts, these again into Nadus or taluks. Major parts of Mysore district were in the Mudigonda Chola Mandala and Gangaikonda Chola Valanad. Smaller units like Idainad (around Suttur), Kudugurunad (Gundlupet tq), Navilenad (Kollegal tq), Nugunad, Bayalnad, Padinad, Ennenad etc. in this district

regions are mentioned. The *nadus* were finally divided into villages variously called *uru*, *grama*, *pura*, *mangala* etc. The village Suttur is mentioned as in Idainad of Gangaikonda Chola Valanad which was in Mudigonda Chola Mandala (1015-16). Nandigonda was in Maisunadu (1021). Bettur in Nhgunadu (1057), Kelsur in Klduguruadu (12th C), Hedatale in Karenadu-70(11th c), Arikottara (Chamarajanagar) in Ennenadu (116), Rajarajapura (Talakad) in Vadakarainadu (11th c), Jananathapura (Tadimalingi) in Idainad (1043-44), Palyam in Tenkundanadu (1163), etc. But some north-eastern parts of the district like T. Narasipura tq. region were in Nigarili Chola Mandal as indicated in a later record which speaks Kulattur in Kaivaranadu of this Mandala or province. Administration was decentralised and local bodies or assemblies of villages and towns functioned well under the Cholas.

The Hoysalas continued the system they had inherited from the Cholas in this region including the names like Mudigonda Chola Mandalam and Gangaikonda Chola Valanadu, perhaps because they also held possessions in Tamilnadu, which were further enlarged in later centuries and they did not wish to displease the Tamil subjects in Tamilnadu and the Tamil bureaucracy and the intelligentsia at the *agraharas* (founded by the Cholas) in this region. Many of the Hoysala records in this region are also in Tamil. Thus one comes across references to Aluru in Gangaikonda Chola Valanadu of Mudigonda Chola Mandal in 1207 or Kudugurunadu, mentioned as under the same Valanadu and Mandala under Ballala II. But more *nadus* or administrative divisions are mentioned in Hoysala records due to their superior number of the records than those of the Chola times and more details regarding the officers and their functions. The Hoysalas did not allow freedom to feudatories as the Cholas did. In fact there were no feudatories in Mysore district region but only royal officers who were also commanders (*dandanayakas*) and offices were also conferred hereditarily. The Vijayanagara rulers did not appear to have varied the administrative systems that prevailed. But there was a multiplicity of administrative divisions such as *rajya*, *desha*, *nadu*, *seeme*, *valita*, *sthala* and *venthe* and at times they were confusing nomenclatures. Some areas are called Hoysaladesha as indicated. According to a record of 1467, Holemullur is described as in Hoysala Desha and Tagaduru Seeme. Malingi was in Hadinada Venthe in Hoysala Desha in 1514. In Kalavoor is described as in Hoysala Desha and Mulluru Sthala. A record of 1521 mentions Terakanambi as in Hoysala Nadu. It is not clear whether Nadu and Desha stood for the same division. *Sthala* appears to be a *hobli* of our times as can be seen from instance like 'Bayanadu Sthalada Hegganuru in 1505', 'Mysuru Sthalada Daliga grama' in 1499, 'Melapurada Sthalada Hanchi grama' in 1496. This surmise is further strengthened by the statement of a record of 1586 which names 12 villages in Tunga Sthala, eight from Ravunduru Sthala and 13 from Balasoge Sthala in 1586. *Seeme* and *nadu*

appear to be identical, as can be seen from statements like Hadinadu Seemeya Modehalli sthala (1535) or Ummathuru Rajyada Hosavada sthalada Kaliyugavadi grama (1522).

Nadaprabhu who was also a military officer, managed the affairs of a *nadu*. Some *nadus* or group of *nadus* were also ruled by hereditary feudatories, as already noted, and in Vijayanagar times such arrangement was called conferring of *nayakatana*. A *sthala* had an *adhikari*, who is later called *parupatyagara*, as is clear from a record from Gundlupet taluk (Gu 114). Mysore rulers inherited the same traditions and used the same nomenclatures.

After the advent of the Mughals in the south, impact of their rule was evidenced in administration. In the growing kingdom of Mysore in about the year 1701, Chikkadevaraja, it is stated, distributed the business of the Central Government in 18 *kacheris* or departments which later became known as 'Athara Kacheri'. According to C. Hayavadana Rao "The idea of eighteen departments (Athara Kacheri) may have been borrowed from Mughul administrative practice and procedure but the details as worked out by Chikkadevaraja Wodeyar, were essentially indigenous to local requirements". The Central administrative set-up initiated by Chikkadevaraja was so far reaching in effected that later under the Commissioner's rule (1831-81), the Central Secretariat continued to be called 'athara kacheri'. But the same prince started calling the *nadus* as *gadis*, modern taluks.

When Haider assumed charge of the empire a thorough revamping of the administration was effected. There were five provinces (*asofis*) and of these Sira had only five taluks and Shrirangapattana province had 102 taluks. Each province had an Asof to administer it. Tipu appointed two controlling officers over these provinces, one called the Asof and the other a Faujdar. The first was at the head of the revenue and the other was the military commandant, who occasionally superintended the duties of the local police. There were 37 *asofis* or divisions in Tipu's realm (see Chapter II). After the fall of Shrirangapattana the office of Asof was abolished but that of the Faujdar continued and he came to have revenue powers also.

Under Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, the State had six Faujdaris, and Mysore district was in the Faujdari of Patna Ashtagrama with 25 taluks. In 1834 (after the take over by the British in 1831), these Faujdaris were reconstituted into four divisions and Mysore was in the Ashtagram Division. European Superintendent replaced the Faujdar. The Superintendent was to conduct the revenue, magisterial and certain judicial duties and to supervise all civil government offices. The judicial and police functions of the Amildars were restricted and defined. The Bengal Regulation XX of 1817 were made applicable to the police. In civil disputes, the powers of

the Amildars and panchayats were defined. Cubbon (1834-61) introduced several changes in administration. The Superintendents of divisions were invested with very large powers. The Amildars who were in charge of taluks functioned under the direct control of the Superintendent but were allowed to communicate directly with the Commissioner. Cubbon also caused the establishment of several departments to work independently of the Secretariat subject to the control of the Commissioner. Another important change was that the Dewan's office was amalgamated with that of the Commissioner. An officer with the designation of the Huzur Head Sheristedar was placed in charge of the Revenue Department.

Under Bowring (1862-70) the administration of Mysore, was organised on lines resembling that of the British Indian Provinces. In 1862, the State was divided into eight districts and each district was headed by a Superintendent. The number of Divisions now was three instead of four. In 1869, the office of the Chief Commissioner Mysore was created and the Superintendents of the Division came to be styled Commissioner and Deputy Superintendents of the Division came to be styled Deputy Commissioners. The Assistant Superintendents were relieved of judicial work and Judicial Assistants were appointed for each district. In 1874-75 the Amildars were relieved of many judicial responsibilities and Munsiffs were appointed. In 1879 when the Commission was once again re-organised in view of the future Rendition, and the posts of Commissioners of Divisions were abolished. At the districts there were Deputy Commissioners and under them there were Assistant Commissioners. Under the Assistant Commissioners were the Amildars. Hence the present administrative set-up dates back to 1879, since when there has been little change in the pattern.

As in 1874 the then Mysore district consisted of eleven taluks viz., Chamarajanagar, Gundlupet, Heggadadevanakote, Maddur, Malavalli, Mandya, Mysore, Nanjangud, Periyapatna, Talkad and Yedatore. Yelandur was a Jahagir since 1807 and when in 1954 under the Inam Abolition Act the Jahagir status was withdrawn and Yelandur was made a taluk. Until 1865 Periyapatna was a taluk headquarters and later Hunsur became the headquarters of the Periyapatna taluk. In 1882 the taluk was renamed as Hunsur taluk, and Periyapatna was made a sub-taluk in the year 1931 and subsequently it was made a full-fledged taluk. Heggadadevankote taluk was formed with its headquarters at Saragur in 1864. In the year 1886 the headquarters was shifted to Heggadadevankote from Saragur. During 1868 T. Narasipura was a hobli and Talkad was the taluk centre. Later in 1882 the name of the taluk was changed to Tirumakudlu Narasipura and it became the taluk headquarters. When, the already existing taluk centre Yedatore came to be submerged in 1934 due to K.R. Sagar Dam construction, Krishnaraja Nagar (K.R. Nagar) a place on the right bank became the new taluk centre. When in the year 1939 Mandya District was formed the sub-divisions of French Rocks (Pandavapura) and Mandya were

transferred from the Mysore district. After the Reorganisation of States, Kollegal taluk was transferred from Coimbatore district in Tamilnadu to the new Mysore district. Thus after integration Mysore district had eleven taluks viz., Mysore, Nanjangud, Yelandur, T. Narasipura, Heggadadevan-kote, Chamarajanagar, Gundlupet, Hunsur, Periyapatna, K.R. Nagar and Kollegal. In the beginning there were only two sub-divisions at Mysore and Nanjangud. But in February 1973 Hunsur Sub-Division was formed. The present administrative system is organised on the modern uniform lines as elsewhere. The district is headed by a Deputy Commissioner the Sub-Division under an Assistant Commissioner and at the taluk level is the Tahsildar. Mysore is also the headquarters of the Revenue Division headed by a Divisional Commissioner.

Divisional Commissioner

The Divisional Commissioner (earlier called as Faujdar) was called Superintendent in 1861. Later in 1869 when the office of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore was created the Superintendents of the division came to be styled Commissioners. After 1956, the post of the Commissioner was redesignated as Divisional Commissioner. The Divisional Commissioner is the highest executive authority in the Division to organise and supervise the administrative machinery for implementing the policies of the Government. He is directly responsible for the administration of revenue and maintenance of law and order. He is the inspecting authority of all departments directly under his charge, to ensure that work is being carried out in accordance with the law and standing orders of the Government. He exercises administrative control over police force, only with regard to the maintenance of law and order of the Division.

The Divisional Commissioner is the head of the Revenue administration. He is also the Chief Co-ordinating authority for all Departments at the Divisional level. As the head of the division he will consider recommendations made regarding the Revenue administration by the Deputy Commissioners. When natural calamities like floods and droughts occur, the Divisional Commissioner has to be vigilant and bestow his attention in organising relief measures. He has to be vigilant in effecting remedial measures whenever there is rise in prices and scarcity of foodgrains and other essential consumer goods. With the formation of the Zilla Parishads with effect from 1st April 1987 the development functions of the Divisional Commissioner have been transferred to the Zilla Parishad which is headed by a Chief Secretary, who acts as a Liaison between the government and the Council. (Also see Chapter XIV). The Divisional Commissioner is vested with various statutory functions and powers. The statutory powers can be conferred specifically by provision in the Karnataka Land Revenue Act 1964 and by provision in the rules or by delegation of the powers of the State Government to the Divisional Commissioner. He is the prescribed authority under Section 104 of the Karnataka Land Reforms Act.

He is the main channel through whom the Deputy Commissioner has to send all proposals pertaining to revenue matters, Municipal administration etc. to the State Government. Being the head of the divisional administration, he is responsible for distributing and reappropriating budget to the revenue offices, Community Development Blocks, Zilla parishads and to some extent to the Municipalities also. The Divisional Commissioner is the appellate authority above the Deputy Commissioner in matters of revenue administration, both in regard to revenue laws and disciplinary proceedings relating to the revenue staff. In a nutshell, it may be said that his functions are supervisory, controlling, co-ordinating, appellate and revisional.

Deputy Commissioner

Deputy Superintendents for the districts were appointed in 1862 when districts were created in the days of Commissioner's rule. In 1869, when the Commissioner was designated as the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Superintendents at the district came to be styled Deputy Commissioners. The district being the principal administrative unit below the State level, the Deputy Commissioner plays a pivotal role particularly after 1956. It is a unit of administration not only for the Revenue Department but also for almost all the Departments of Government. As the study team on District Administration rightly states that "The District is the most convenient geographical unit where the total apparatus of public administration can be concentrated and when it comes into direct contact with the people. Most Departments of the State Government outside the Secretariat, have external services which are located in the district. The sum total of the Central Government, together constitute the administrative machinery in the district". The Deputy Commissioner is the custodian of State property in the district.

Revenue functions.—The assessment of land revenue is generally of three kinds viz., (1) agricultural assessment (2) non-agricultural assessment and (3) miscellaneous. The power of collecting and accounting of all such revenues vests with the Deputy Commissioner who has to see that the revenue due to the Government is recovered regularly without much coercion and that all such collections are properly credited and accounted for. The Deputy Commissioner has been invested with wide powers under the Land Revenue Act and Rules. In addition to the duties relating to land revenue, the Deputy Commissioner is responsible for collection of fees and taxes under various other enactments like stamps and registration, water rate in respect of irrigation etc. The Deputy Commissioner exercises various powers under several Acts and rules, such as the Land Reforms Act, Land Acquisition Act, Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, Irrigation Act, Excise Act, Public Health Act, Essential Commodities Act, etc., and rules thereunder, the Old Age Pension Rules, Freedom Fighters Welfare Rules, Government Servants Welfare Fund Rules and so on.

While disposing of revenue disputes, he would exercise quasi-judicial functions. He is also empowered to survey and settle boundary disputes relating to lands. The Deputy Commissioner is the custodian of all Muzrai Institutions in the district and he is also concerned with the Small Savings Scheme. Recently he has been invested with powers to inspect all Government offices, except judicial and police offices, in the district.

Judicial Powers.—The Deputy Commissioner being the District Magistrate, is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. But consequent to the separation of the judiciary from the executive, the District Magistrate would not deal with dispensation of justice in the trial process. As he is also the head of all Executive Magistrates in the district, he has extensive powers under the Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code, Karnataka Police Act, etc for the maintenance of law and order. The Deputy Commissioner in his capacity as the District Magistrate directly controls the Police force at times of protecting public peace. He has also supervisory powers over the administration of Jails and Lock-ups in the district. He is empowered to maintain law and order through the police and by regulatory and penal actions; he has special powers to make use of preventive detention or get persons bound in the interest of public safety. Being the head of the executive machinery in the district, he issues licences and permits under the Indian Arms Act, Indian Explosives Act, etc. with powers to supervise the general administration of these Acts. He is also authorised to issue licences under the Cinematograph Act and exercises powers vested with regard to the Prevention of Untouchability Act and the like. He should also look after proper implementation of various instructions of the Government, given from time to time under the Foreigner's Act, in respect of issuing visas, passports, etc.

The Deputy Commissioner was the Deputy Development Commissioner till recently i.e. the starting of the Zillaparishads. Now District Rural Development Society ceases to exist as the entire activities came to be merged with the Zillaparishad. Under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and Rules, he has been vested with special powers of procurement of food grains and proper management of food and civil supplies. He is also the District Registrar, in which capacity, he has to supervise the working of various sub-registry offices. The Deputy Commissioner is the head of several bodies in his capacities as (1) Chairman, Regional Transport Authority, (2) Chairman, Family Welfare Action Committee, (3) Chairman, District Library Authority etc.

The Deputy Commissioner is assisted by a Headquarters Assistant who also functions as the Additional District Magistrate. The Deputy Commissioner is also assisted by a Food Assistant and a Food and Civil Supplies Assistant. There is a group-B officer designated as Office

Assistant for supervising the subordinate staff of the office and a District Planning Officer to assist in Planning matters.

There are eight sections in the establishment of the Deputy Commissioner. In the Revenue Section, there is one Headquarters Assistant, one Office Assistant, one Stenographer, four Sheristedars, one Rent Control Inspector and other subordinate staff. In the NSS organisation, there are one Assistant Director, three Development Officers for each sub-division. The Registration section has one Headquarters Assistant to the District Registrar and other staff. The Food section has one Food Assistant, one Food Tahsildar, one Account Superintendent and other staff. In the Planning section there is one District Planning Officer, one Assistant Director of Planning, one Assistant Statistical Officer and other necessary staff. In the section of Social Welfare for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there are one District Officer, two Office Superintendents and other staff. The section of Backward classes and Minorities has one Office Superintendent, one Development Inspector, one Backward Classes Inspector and other staff. The Section of Social Welfare comprises of one Assistant Director of Social Welfare, one Social Welfare Officer, one Office Superintendent, two Social Nutrition Programme Inspectors and other group C and D officials.

Special Deputy Commissioner

The post of the Special Deputy Commissioner (Development) for Mysore district was originally created to mainly look after the developmental projects and schemes of the Government. But, with the starting of the Zilla Parishad, all the development functions have been transferred to the Parishad. But the revenue functions of the Special Deputy Commissioner who assist the Deputy Commissioner remain unchanged. He will deal with various matters relating to Land and Land Revenue including recovery of all Government dues, Land Acquisition, Stamps and Registration, Societies Registration Act (1960), Registration of Firms under Indian Partnership Act (1932), Religious and Charitable Institutions and Endowments, Census of Agricultural Holdings, matters relating to Forests, Rent Control, Land Reforms, Irrigation etc. He will also exercise special powers invested in him with regard to Land Improvement Loans Act (1963), Agriculturists Loans Act (1963), and Non-Agricultural Loans Act (1958). He will deal with other matters relating to the Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings, abolition of Inam tenures, Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) and Vacant Lands in Urban areas (Prohibition of Alienation Act 1975). The office of the Special Deputy Commissioner comprises of one Gazetted Manager, two Accounts Superintendents and other necessary staff.

Assistant Commissioner

The Revenue Sub-division is under the charge of an Assistant Commissioner, who is responsible to the Deputy Commissioner. The

Assistant Commissioner is the immediate superior authority over the Tahsildars and Chief Officers of Town Municipal Councils. He should exercise effective supervision over the whole office establishment, systematise and co-ordinate the office administration and guard against delay in official procedure. He supervises both Revenue and Development works. The Assistant Commissioner in charge of the sub-division has been vested with powers of the Deputy Commissioner under many sections of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act (1964) and also other State laws. He is the first appellate authority respect of revenue matters and he is also the authority at the lowest level, at which powers of revision under Section 56 of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act (1964) are vested. The Assistant Commissioner is the Land Acquisition Officer and Betterment Levy Officer. He is the Chairman of the Tribunals constituted under Karnataka Land Reforms Act (1961), for the taluks in his sub-division. In respect of development, he is the immediate official superior to the Block Development Officer. But with effect from 1st April 1987 due to the starting of the Zilla Parishads, the Assistant Commissioner's developmental powers ceases. He is also the Returning Officer for one or more of the Assembly constituencies in his sub-division.

Magisterial Powers.—Being the head of the General Administration of the sub-division, the Assistant Commissioner also discharges several magisterial powers. He has been designated as the Sub-divisional Magistrate. He investigates cases on his own initiative and also cases referred to him by the Deputy and the Divisional Commissioners. At the taluk level, he is the presiding authority of several committees. He is also a member of several committees at the district level. The Assistant Commissioner is generally assisted by a Manager (Sheristedar), four First Division Assistants, four Second Division Assistants and other necessary staff.

Tahsildar

The Tahsildar (formerly known as 'Amildar') is incharge of the taluk. The Tahsildar is responsible to the Assistant Commissioner of his sub-division and through him to the Deputy Commissioner. He has also to execute the orders passed by them. He is generally regarded as the representative of the Government at the taluk level. He has to accept mutations, hear and pass orders in disputed cases, test the Record of Rights and crops in respect of the village sites. The Tahsildar has to pay special attention to the removal of encroachments. He has to initiate action on breaches of Land Reforms Act and to inspect works for which Land Improvement Loans have been sanctioned or are to be sanctioned. Collection of land revenue and other Government dues such as recovery of *tagai* loans, irrigation charges, *pot-hissa* measurement fees and the like are the responsibilities of the Tahsildar. The Tahsildar has to discharge duties and responsibilities vested in him under the Land Revenue Act, Land Reforms Act and such other Acts and Rules relating to the administration of the

taluk. He being the taluk head, has to supervise the procurement of food grains and its proper distribution through the fair price shops. Further, the Tahsildar has to effect levy of paddy and other food grains, and has to personally supervise the Government stocks of food grains held by different mill owners, taluk agricultural produce co-operative marketing societies and such other agencies. He has been vested with several powers as per the orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act and Rules made thereunder. The Tahsildar has been authorised to sanction Old Age Pensions. He is the Taluk Magistrate in which capacity he exercises certain magisterial powers for the maintenance of Law and Order in his territorial jurisdiction. As the Assistant Electoral Registration Officer, he is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the electoral rolls. He heads the election machinery at the taluk level as the Assistant Returning Officer. The Tahsildar is assisted by taluk Sheristedars (Deputy Tahsildars), Revenue Inspectors, Special Revenue Inspectors, Record Keepers and other staff. There had been Special Tahsildars for the purpose of effecting Land Reforms, Twenty Point Economic Programme etc.

Block Development Officer

Every taluk is identified as one Community Development Block, headed by a Block Development Officer who also functions at the taluk level. He has to look after the developmental activities of the taluk. He was the Chief Executive Officer of the Taluk Development Boards. All the programmes for the block have to be planned and various activities of development have to be coordinated by him. With effect from 1-4-1987 the revenue functions of the Block Development Officer ceases as he has to work under the purview of the Zilla Parishad. He is assisted by one Manager, and other necessary staff. He is the Secretary of the Taluk Panchayat Samiti.

Revenue Inspector

The taluks are further divided into hoblies or revenue circles. The Revenue Inspector is in charge of the administration of the hobli. The eleven taluks of this district have been further sub-divided into 49 hoblies or Revenue circles, each under the charge of a Revenue Inspector.

In the administration of revenue matters, he is directly responsible to the Tahsildar of the taluk. He has to attend to works like recovery of land revenue, betterment levy, water rates and other Government dues, loans and advances, procurement and distribution of food grains etc. He is the main field official who will be instrumental in the actual execution of the orders of the Government in respect of revenue matters. The Revenue Inspector has to supervise the work of the Village Accountants in charge of the villages and also has to inspect the boundary marks, Government lands and encroachments thereon. Building up the records of land grants, land acquisitions and such other revenue matters, Old Age Pension etc, are other functions of the Revenue Inspector. Besides, he attends to such other various works as entrusted to him by the Tahsildar from time to time.

Nad Kacheries

In order to decentralise revenue administration and ease the pressure on the taluk offices whose powers and functions have increased enormously, Nad Kacheries or hobli level offices have been opened on an experimental basis in one hobli of each taluk in the district of Mysore, from the 15th August 1986 and each office is headed by one Deputy Tahsildar and the necessary staff. Out of the 21 revenue functions of the Tahsildar, nine have been delegated to this office at present. These Nad Kacheries are functioning in all the taluks of Mysore selected in one of the revenue circles. There are Nad Kacheries now at Hullahalli, Jayapura, Bannuru, Hanuru, Agara, Bilikere, Saligrama, Sargur, Bettadapura, Santhamaralli and Terakanambi in the district (from 15-8-1986) excepting at Hullahalli (1-11-1987).

Village Officers

The hereditary village officers who were functioning in the several areas of the district during 1947 were the remnants of the old bara-Baluthi system. (see also Chapter XIV). According to this system every village was a separate community or republic, the *gauda* or patel being the Judge and Magistrate; the Shanubhoga the registrar; the *talari* or the *toti* being severally the watchmen of the village and of the crops; the *nirganti* the distributor of water of the streams or tanks in just proportion to the several fields etc. The *totis* were required to act as guides to Government officers and travellers of any importance and in the absence of *talari*, they had to perform the duties of that official too in addition to their own work. In all disputes about boundaries of fields, the evidence of the *toti* was looked to as most essential. The *talari* can be described as Scout of the village. He was responsible for tracing robbers and thieves, watching the movements of suspicious strangers and was in fact, the Police peon of the Magistrate Patel. In villages where there were no *talaris*, these duties were performed by the *totis*.

With the abolition of the hereditary Shanubogas as per the provisions of the 1970 rules, the village administration is entrusted to the Village Accountant. He is the lowest revenue functionary working at the village level. The Village Accountant is the last link in the administrative chain, being the custodian of village revenue records and collector of revenues. He had been functioning as the Secretary of smaller village panchayats till 1987. He represents the powers of the former Shanubhoga or Karnam. The Grama Sahayak assists him in survey work and serving as a messenger taking the place of the *toti* or *talari*.

Administrative Training Institute

The Administrative Training Institute, Mysore, formerly called the Orientation and Study Centre was started by the Government of India in 1959, to train District and Block Level Officers and non-officials who were

working for the Community Development Programmes. In the year 1967, this Centre was transferred to State Government when it was renamed as the Administrative Training Institute. It is headed by a Director and assisted by two Joint Directors and eight Deputy Directors. The Institute is under the administrative control of the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms from the year 1976. There is a Managing Committee headed by the Chief Secretary and six members drawn from different administrative departments. The Institute provides institutional training to the directly recruited group A and B probationers to the State Civil Service, orientation training to officers promoted to the higher posts under the State Government and Refresher and orientation courses to in-service personnel of different departments. The IAS/IPS/IFS Probationers allotted to Karnataka State have to undergo a four-week Orientation Course at the Institute.

District Training Institute

The District Training Institute was started at Mysore in 1975, under the name District Education Institute. Later in March 1977 the nomenclature of the Institute was changed to District Training Institute. The main objective of the institute was to impart training for ministerial staff and junior executives, also called group C and group D officials. It also provided job-oriented training to the newly recruited and also to the existing First and Second Division Assistants of all Departments of the State Government and also to provide general course, *ad hoc* short duration refresher courses, etc. Initially this Institute was providing training for all the group C and D officials within the Revenue division. The scope of the institute was extended by including Dakshina Kannada and Kodagu districts to its fold.

Earlier the Institute was headed by a Principal and was assisted by one Gazetted Instructor. In May 1977 the post of the Gazetted Instructor was redesignated as Vice-Principal who in turn was assisted by Revenue Instructors, Survey Instructors, Panchayat Instructors and the other necessary staff. Recently from June 1987 all the tutorial Instructors are just called 'Instructors'. The District Training Institute is now functioning under the control of the Administrative Training Institute, Mysore.