

P R E F A C E

The study of Local Self Government in India has acquired a greater significance in the post independence era, because of the new objectives like democratic socialism, decentralization, development planning and welfare state.

Municipal government is commonly recognized as the integral part of the local self government and constitutes the bed rock of self government. It is considered as the nursery of leadership and a laboratory for democratic experimentization at the grass root level. It plays a vital role by providing opportunity to the people to actively participate and associate themselves with the development activities. Hence close study of municipal government is highly desirable. With this in mind this study tries to asses the growth and evolution of Bijapur Municipality.

It is a case study of the Bijapur Municipality from the year 1854 to 1954. In 1854 the municipality was established and in 1954 it celebrated its centenary. These hundred years marks an important phase in the history of Bijapur Municipality. Hence this study is confined to the period of hundred years i.e. from 1854 to 1954.

The approach of the study as far as methodology is concerned, is both a historical approach and an aggregate

analysis of the existing data. It is a survey of facts and figures based on two main sources -

1. Published Library Material.
2. Unpublished Material from the Municipal Records of Bijapur.

The published material includes the administrative Annual Reports of Bijapur Municipality. The business proceedings of meetings of the General Body and of Committees, wherever found useful are also examined, general books on the topics and the newspapers have been also referred to.

The unpublished material used is from the records maintained by the Municipality such as Birth and Death Registers, House Tax Assessment Registers, House Tax Revision Registers, House Tax Demand Registers, Receipt Books, P.W.D. Records, Municipal School Board Records, Municipal Hospital Records, Market Demand Registers, Inspection Notes, Budgets, Audit Notes, etc.

Notes were made tabulated and computed and used in this work. All tables and statements are prepared on the basis of collected material from the published and unpublished material. Correspondence of municipality with government on specific matters have also been used, the audit notes have also been made use of.

The work has been divided into seven chapters.

The First Chapter contains introduction to the study. In this chapter an attempt is made to take a historical survey of the Bijapur to understand the past history of this city from pre-historic times till the establishment of Bijapur Municipality (1854).

In the Second Chapter various phases of development of local self government in India during British period is narrated in the beginning. It is in this background that the establishment and various phases of growth of municipal development in Bijapur from 1854 to 1954 is examined.

The Third Chapter deals with the municipal administration. Service condition of the municipal employees, municipal efficiency in administration have been dealt in detail in this chapter, which presents the total picture of the municipal administration.

Chapter Four assesses the municipal income and expenditure during the period 1854 - 1954.

Chapter Five attempts to highlight the Bijapur Municipality's efforts in performing the function of education.

Sixth Chapter is devoted to public health and sanitation.

The last chapter deals with the conclusion and suggestions.

In the style of presentation the references are given at the end of each chapter. A brief bibliography is attached at the end.

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