CHAPTER III

THE CORPORATION OF AGRA
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Here the Corporation term is used to denote Municipal Corporation. The Municipal Corporation are established in big cities having population of more than 5 lakhs. In Uttar Pradesh there are Municipal Corporations in Kanpur, Agra, Varanasi, Allahabad and Lucknow respectively. In Agra, the Municipal Board was established in 1916 under Local Self Government Act 1861. On 1st February 1960, Municipal Board was converted into a Corporation. The jurisdiction of the Corporation is increasing day by day along with the increase in population. Today the population of Agra is estimated as 6.39 lakhs with land area of 5755 hectares.

On 30th June 1973, after the expiry of elected Corporation, the functioning is being carried on by the Administrator. Since then there has been no
election. Prior to 13th September 1974, the function of development was also carried on by the Corporation, but after this date Agra Development Authority has been appointed separating developmental activities from that of the Corporation's activities.

The Corporation fulfills the different requirements of the inhabitants of Agra and also carries on different functions to provide different types of facilities to its public. This is the basic reason that most of its departments are associated with its income resources and some departments look after the demands and facilities of the public. The description of such departments is given below:

Section I:

1. Toll Tax Department: The real and estimated income and expenditure by this department during different financial years was reported to be as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial year</th>
<th>Income (in lakhs of Rupees)</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>77.19</td>
<td>5.93</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>85.77</td>
<td>8.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-76</td>
<td>135.00</td>
<td>9.00 (estimated)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With a view to increase the income through this source surprise checkings at different posts were made by the authorities from time to time. With a view to end the corruption and dissatisfaction amongst the workers posted at different posts, a method of rotation transfer of the employees after every three months was adopted. On the basis of the public complaints, departmental action was taken against employees, out of that one of the employees' services were terminated and 3 were suspended.

2. House Tax Department:

The basic function of this department is to collect house-tax, water-tax, meter-tax, sever-tax etc. During the different financial years the income and expenditure of the department was as under:

Table No. 3
Income and Expenditure on House-tax Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Income (Rupees in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Expenditure (Lakhs)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>55.37</td>
<td>4.26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>70.63</td>
<td>7.07</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-76</td>
<td>117.75</td>
<td>4.68 (Estimated)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With a view to increase the income, a gang of three employees with a tax-inspector was organized with a view to disconnect the water-connection of the defaulter's of the house and water-tax. Besides this the daily target of the tax-collecting inspectors was also fixed. Due to slackness in collection of the tax, departmental action was also taken against a tax inspector. With a view to have prompt payment of taxes, the top officials of different Government departments were contacted by the Corporation authorities. As a result, the prolonged payments from M.G.S. Deptt., Central Railways, Western Railways, State Electricity Board, S.N. Hospital, S.E. Air Force, Mental Hospital, Lauries Hotel and Agra College, Agra were realized.

3. **Transport Department**

During 1973-74, the income as a licences for Rikshaws, Tongas, Horse-cart, bullock cart, hand cart and Cycles was ₹3.15 lakhs of rupees whereas during 1974-75, it had increased to ₹3.94 lakhs. It is expected to be increased to ₹4.25 lakhs during
1975-76. For the registration purpose and for checking a gang of six employees was appointed under the supervision of an Inspector.

4. Health department:

On the basis of the population in the city of Agra, it was reported to increase the number of sanitary workers, but due to lack of financial resources it could not been done. This led to insanitation in various parts of the city. It appears from the comparative figures that a maximum amount is being invested by the health department of the corporation. The entire city is divided into wards. Each ward is under the supervision of a Chief Sanitary Inspector and one Sanitary Inspector. Besides this each ward is further divided into different sections. Each section is looked after by a sanitary supervisor and a sanitary Naik-havaldar. The number of sanitary supervisors and Naik havaldars varies from ward to ward on the basis of the area covered by each ward. The department is under the charge of Health Officer known as Nagar Swasthya Adhikari.
The description regarding the income and expenditure of the Health Department during the different financial years is as given below:

Table No. 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Year</th>
<th>Income (in lakhs of Rupees)</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>80.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>82.08</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-76</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>56.57 (estimated)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Record files of the Agra Municipal Corporation.

If we examine the above table, it is apparent that the income of the Health Department in various years is much less than that of the expenditure. In other words, we can say that income is almost negligible in comparison with that of expenditure.

The Health Department has problems of its own that can be taken into account. The costs for carrying over the waste are out-dated and are being pulled on
any how. So many implements are also not available
inspite of so many hinderances two sanitation weeks
were celebrated during 1974. During this period,
2505 chulans were made under sections 299/550 and section
257 of the Municipal Corporation Act. For cleaning the
drainage system, a temporary gang of 75 workers was
organized. On this work, an amount of Rs 64,450 was
spent. During 1974-75, 94 public latrines, 140 urinals
and 94 waste-venues were constructed in different parts
of the city. During this period 41 per cent of the
total income of the corporation was spent on health
department alone.

Inspite of all these activities, the authorities
of the Health Department accepted the fact that they could
not maintain the various parts of the city, neat and clean
as it ought to have been.

Inspite of all these hurdles, the reformation is
possible, provided, the employees of the corporation
are conscious of their duties on one hand and the public
opinion is formulated to throw the waste at a definite
place, so that the drainage system may not be affected.
To check adulteration is another task of the Corporation. For this purpose, an anti-adulteration gang was organized on 1st April 1974 under the charge of a Chief Sanitary Inspector, two sanitary inspectors and six other employees of the health department. Prior to this, the checking was assigned ward-wise to the Ward's Chief Sanitary Inspector. During a period of two years i.e. from 1973 to 1975, samples of milk, pulses, flour, tobacco, ice and bottles was taken from different shops within the jurisdiction of the Corporation. The description of the sample taken during two subsequent years is as given below:

Table No. 10

Samples Taken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial year</th>
<th>T. No. of samples taken</th>
<th>No. of defective samples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-74</td>
<td>1216</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-75</td>
<td>1368</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Besides this, a campaign was also launched with
the co-operation of the public to check food-adulteration. Under it, 1497 samples were taken out of that 355 samples were found to be defective. The public was also appealed through the media of local-newspapers, hand-bills and loudspeakers announcements, not to use open defective fruits and sweets.

**Medical Aid:**

The Corporation runs 7 Allopathic, 2 Ayurvedic, 1 Unani and 1 Homeopathic dispensaries in different parts of the city. Besides this, 2 Maternal and Child Welfare Centres are also run. For infection diseases, there is a provision of 15 beds in I.D. Hospital located at Shah Ganj. During 1973-75, the total number of patients attended in different dispensaries was 5,62,699. It means that on an average 7070 patients per day were given medical treatment during 1973-75 by the different dispensaries of the corporation. With a view to check small pox, there is provision for vaccination in each dispensary and ward respectively.

**Family Planning:**

There is one Bureau of family Planning related to
the corporation. The grant in aid for the bureau is received from the Central Government through the media of State government. A sum of Rs 2.4 lakhs was spent during the financial year of 1974-75, and the following achievements were made:

Table No. 11

Achievements of Family Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Male Sterilization</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Female Sterilization</td>
<td>481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Total Sterilization</td>
<td>591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Loops</td>
<td>644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Preventive checks</td>
<td>2164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electricity Department:

During 1974-75, 285 new pole lights were installed in different localities. In total there are 9016 street-lights in the city. During the current year it has been re-solved that in backward areas, Maglas and Warjian localities, the street lights shall be installed. It indicates that the street-lights in such areas have not yet been provided and they are being in darkness.
Education Department:

In August 1972, all primary and junior high schools were transferred to Basic Education Board. At present, one High School for girls and two Intermediate Colleges (each for boys and girls respectively) are run by the corporation. It was reported that the various results of the institutions were very satisfactory (70.00 percent and 75% in High School and Intermediate Examinations respectively).

Agra Development Department:

On 13th Sept 1974, development department was established. Under the new developmental area, an area upto 8 kilometers is included in all the sides beyond the present jurisdiction of Agra. The President of this new development department is the Commissioner of Agra whereas the Administrator is the Vice-President and the rest of the members include the different top-authorities of the state Government.

Various activities were organized by the department during 1973-75. During this period, Jaipur Housing construction plan, Ashok Nagar Housing construction
plan, Bharatpur Housing construction plan and Church-gate housing plan were completed. Master Plans were also prepared with a view to cover developmental activities.

**Activities relating to Tourism:**

With a view to meet the problem of tourists - accommodation, a Hotel complex has been developed on Fatehabad Road near The Taj. For the recreation of the tourists, an air-conditioned cultural house is constructed by the Corporation in the area having a seating capacity of 1100 persons. The Corporation is also thinking to remove the transport companies from the Jamuna River bank with a view to develop River Front for Tourists attraction. At present the area is over-crowded with transport companies, suffocation, unsanitation, over-traffic, etc. Whenever the foreigners visit Taj, they also witness the slumness of this area as well. The roads of the river bank are also disordered. There is no street light on this road due to that so many accidents occur frequently.

**Slum Clearance Plan:**

It has been reported by the Public Relation Officer, Municipal Corporation, Agra, when asked for the slum
clearance plan, by the researcher, that it has a significance place in the plans, approved by the State Government. Its main purpose is to provide neat and clean houses to the Harijans and backward classes living in slum areas.

Under this plan 156 houses have been constructed in Ashok Nagar and Teela Hanihar. This work is likely to be completed by the end of the year 1975. For weaker section of the population 116 houses are in the process of construction out of which 66 houses have been completed. The rest of the construction is likely to be completed by the end of the financial year 1975-76. These houses shall be given to those persons whose monthly income is less than Rs 300/-.

For the purpose of environmental improvement in slum areas, a grant of Rs 15 lakh has been received from the State Government during 1974-75. Through this grant the improvement work shall be carried over in the following slum areas (Busties):

1. Nagla Chidda
2. Basai
3. Nagla Harmukha
4. Basti Taj Ganj
5. Nagla Faqir Chand
6. Bagh Janak Ram
7. Idgah Katghar

A provision to construct 10 public laterines, 7 bath-rooms, 15480 sq. meters drainage, 2777 sq. meters sewer line, 4115 water line and street lights is being made. It is expected that this work shall be completed by the end of the financial year 1975-76.

The above description of the Municipal Corporation of Agra is given on the basis of the information provided by the various departmental incharges, Public Relation Officer, City Executive Engineer. Beyond this some files were also provided by the different departments for collecting relevent figures.