In this chapter an attempt has been made to ascertain the views of councillors, responsible persons, civil servants, professionals like lawyers, doctors, college lecturers, etc. regarding the improvements they want to bring about in the administration of Jamkhandi municipality. A number of them have expressed different views over the problems faced by Jamkhandi municipality. Still then the expected awareness of civic problems is lacking in them. They were interested in their domestic affairs than in the problems of the city.

The role of leaders is very important in changing and bringing about improvements and also in reforming the municipal administration. The present ills in administration like corruption, insufficiency, intellectual arrogance, red-tapism etc. which are rampant at all levels and charges which are made against each other, will show that effective steps need to be taken to bring about an all-round improvement in municipal administration. Of the total 19 members who represent the various wards of Jamkhandi municipality, only 2 women were
prominent, both of them coming from better and well-to-do-families. The professionals and business backgrounds of the councillors are varied. The majority of the councillors represented agricultural families. Some of them were commission agents, shop owners, pleaders, landlords, etc., who claimed the highest representation. Medical practitioners were poorly represented. This may perhaps be due to their heavy schedule of duties and somewhat highbrow attitude which may have prevented them from readily mixing with poor and less educated councillors. At the same time, college lecturers and school teachers who are supposed to be the cream of society did not feel any need or urgency to help the common man in solving some of the burning problems of the city dwellers.

The councillors of Jamkhandi municipality lacked strong motivation to attend to public and civic problems. This was reflected in the unsatisfactory development of public relations. This problem had a number of facets such as infighting among councillors seen on a number of occasions. Councillors formed groups and cliques which carried them into different directions. Thus cooperation, coordination and harmony expected among the city dwellers and the councillors did not at all exist. The same is true with regard to the proper and healthy development of human relationship among the officers and employees of the
municipality and the councillors. The problem of human relations was seldom approached on proper lines. One executive officer had informally mentioned how some councillors tried to get into his office without any previous appointment and stayed on idly gossiping or pestering him for petty favours like sweeping of roads and cleaning of gutters, etc.

Just as elsewhere, here in Jamkhandi as well, people are busy enough with their daily bread earning activities. Therefore they are left with very little time to attend to their civic problems. Some councillors had informally told that in general the citizens of Jamkhandi town did not approach them with particular issues affecting them. Only a few citizens approached the councillors with more mundane requirements such as issue of ration cards, demanding extra sugar for marriages, etc. This kind of attitude of the citizens is also responsible for the main problems of the city remaining unsolved. In the following pages the views of the councillors and the elite citizens of Jamkhandi have been expressed regarding matters like the steps to be taken on the beautification of the city, cleanliness of the city, maintenance of roads and foot-paths and gutters, supply of electricity, working of public library, public park, drinking water supply, problems of slum dwellers, and their education, cooperation from the government and public,
and the role of legislators like MLAs, MPs, etc. to bring about an all-round improvement in the life of the city.

**Beautification of the City**

Right from the times immemorial when societies were not formed and man led a nomadic life, he had great inclination to remain as near as possible to the nature and this tendency is continued even after many many years after the formation of human settlements. People have always tried to re-incarnate the same beauty that they cherished while they were leading a nomadic life by planting trees around their settlements. Even after the process of planned construction of cities, the planners put more stress on planting of trees, laying of public gardens and creation of artificial water falls, etc. so that they could again enjoy the tranquil atmosphere that was available to them in the forests. With this basic idea, the planting of trees acquired immense importance in the beautification of towns and cities. Now coming to Jamkhandi township one can find that the present town is located in a place surrounded by hills, in a most beautiful area. The present scene, however, is very pathetic due to the total absence of greenery around this town. In the remote past when the original settlers of Jamkhandi decided to form a town on this location, their decision to do
The bus stand at Jamkhandi. Sometimes people find the usual bus services inadequate. A few passengers are seen sitting on top of the bus.
so was purely on account of natural beauty, thick forests, luxuriant vegetation and the presence of streams such as Bagar Zari which was flowing throughout the year. The other stream known as Minal stream formed a sort of natural border towards north near Jambagi village. Formerly, people of Jamkhandi used to go for evening walk up to Minal stream. The hills around the city of Jamkhandi were full of thick forests and were the abodes of leopards, jackals and wolves. These forests and hills provided cool atmosphere and therefore Jamkhandi in those days was considered as a sort of summer resort. When the Patwardhans established their rule over Jamkhandi, they took keen interest in the beautification of the town. They planted a large number of trees and also converted a large stretch of land into a lush green ground known as polo ground, wherein we can presently find the well-equipped SRA Club for indoor and outdoor games, such as polo, badminton, lawn tennis, billiards, etc. But it is a matter of concern that these facilities are almost in a neglected state of affairs. Playing of polo has become extinct. The billiard table is gathering dust. It is necessary that the responsible members of the society should come together to revive the club and restore its old grandeur. Formerly, during the reign of Patwardhans, the Lakkanageri tank, situated towards the west of Jamkhandi town, used to be like a heaven for enthusiastic swimmers who could be seen swarming the tank throughout the year.
The Lakkankeri tank. This was constructed by Ramachandra Rao Appasaheb Patwardhan in the 19th century. This was designed to serve as a boat club, rowing club or a swimming pool. The land around the tank could be converted into a garden. The construction then cost one lakh rupees when the wages of a worker was one paisa or 6/64th of a rupee a day.
The water of the tank was very clean and it was free from stagnancy. A natural stream, viz. Bargar Sari, used to flow into this tank from southern direction and flow out from northern direction. As such the Lakkanageri tank assumed resemblance with the famous "Dal" lake of Kashmir wherein the river Jhelum flows in and gets out naturally from the "Dal" lake. Now also Lakkanageri tank has the potential to regain the glamour of the good old days only if the elite citizens of Jamkhandi and the municipal authorities join hands and prepare a technically feasible plan to convert the Lakkanageri tank into a permanent and natural swimming pool. During the days of Fatewardhans on the hill top where the temple of Melagiri Lingappa is built, there used to be a gymnasium provided with gymnastic equipment, prevalent in those days. The youth of Jamkhandi used to visit the said gymnasium in the morning as well as in the evening for taking exercises in clean open areas which is a rare phenomenon among the present day youth. If positive efforts are made, the area around the hill top can be converted into a trekking spot which will attract young people from all over the country. The G.L.B.C. Inspection bungalow which has been constructed recently can definitely serve as a resort for the trekkers. Towards the south of Jamkhandi on Mudhol road there lies a vast stretch of water in a natural tank called
The dry tract of the Nagarzeri stream. The stream used to supply water to the Lakkankeri tank. Now the stream has dried and becomes active only during the rainy season.
Kattikere. This used to be a source of drinking water for Jamkhandi town formerly, and even today, one can find here the old water treatment plant. The municipal authorities may seek guidance from experts and revive the old water treatment plant and thereby use it as a supplementary source of drinking water for Jamkhandi town.

Secondly, the same tank can be used to establish a well-equipped rowing club which will not only fetch revenue but will also add glamour to the natural hill tracts around the tank. The inspection bungalow presently being constructed by the forest department on the top of the hillock near the present tank, will attract a large number of tourists from all over the country. The forest department is also preparing a plant nursery and a public garden which will add further beauty to the hill tracts around Kattikere tank.

Towards the east of Mudhol road there are ranges of hills. The municipal authorities in collaboration with the forest department can develop this area into a social forestry and in course of time can convert the area into a bird's sanctuary which again will attract tourists and renowned bird watchers from every nook and corner of the country. In a corner of the place on the north-east of Jamkhandi town a water pumping station
The Melgeri Lingappa temple and the gymnasium. In the olden days this was a favourite place of exercise for young people. Now the gymnasium is virtually abandoned.
was established by the former rulers of Jamkhandi to pump
the water from the river Krishna to the Melagiri Lingappa
reservoir. On the western hillock near Jamkhandi town, the
distance between these two points is about 15 kms. It was
really a praiseworthy work on the part of former rulers that
they had accomplished this feat when technology was not much
advanced. The then pumping machinery was powered by diesel
engines and was working in an efficient manner. When the
state merged into the Indian Union, the state water supply
board took over the management of this water works. This board
committed a major mistake by totally dismantling the old
arrangement and opting for electrically powered pumping
machinery. This decision has proved the lack of foresight on
the part of the concerned governmental authorities. It has now
become a routine affair for the residents of Jamkhandi to go
without water on frequent occasions on account of load shedding
and failure of supply of electricity. It would have been more
prudent and proper to continue the use of the old diesel powered
machinery along with the electrical powered machinery. In that
situation, in the event of failure of any one of the machinery,
the other could have been pressed into service to supply water
to Jamkhandi town. Now also, it is not too late to revive the
old diesel powered machinery at Sanal water works where the
basic infrastructure still exists. Since the Samal water works is not far away from the city of Jamkhandi, it can be converted into a picnic spot by taking advantage of the existing water works set up and the presence of river Krishna nearby. The municipal authorities can also set up a rowing club near Samal water works and thereby not only attract enthusiasts but also collect revenue as well in the process.

Towards the north of Jamkhandi town, there lies a minor stream away about 4 kms. If the municipal authorities chalk out a plan with guidance from experts, they can take over the area for the purpose of town development and also for the purpose of town extensions. This will ease the congested situation that presently prevails in Jamkhandi town. If the municipal authorities provide sites on easy terms and conditions then some spirited entrepreneurs may come forward and acquire lands between Nimal stream and Jamkhandi town for the purpose of establishing some agro-based industries such as oil-extracting plants, decorticating plants, poultry farms, bee keeping, dairy products, etc. In addition to the agro-based industries, other small-scale and village industries can also be developed in the same region.

Roads and Gutters

The existing roads and gutters were constructed about
one hundred years ago. It is now high time for the municipal authorities to reconstruct the entire existing gutter system. Cement required for this purpose is readily available with the municipal stores. At best, the municipality will have to pay only the charges for the masonry work. The municipal roads and bylanes are the worst victims of encroachments. It is necessary that such encroachments are removed with a firm hand without fear or favour. Along with the municipal authorities it is also the moral responsibility of the law abiding citizens to form a forum to stop encroachments on roads and bylanes by certain vested interests who are in a position to exercise authority, money, and muscle power. A single example of such encroachment is the present vegetable market. The present work of widening and laying of foot-paths undertaken by the authorities for the stretch of roads between A.G. Desai circle and Ashok Stambha really deserves praise. The municipal authorities should maintain the same tempo and spirit to extend the work to the remaining stretch of the road leading up to Uma Rameshwar temple and from Urban Co-operative Bank to Mudhol Naka. The municipal authorities may thereafter undertake similar work in respect of other roads and bylanes. After stopping totally the encroachments, the municipal authorities should undertake the work of planting of trees on both the sides of road with the help of the forest department. The existing roads have been
In very bad shape. For a good number of years, the authorities have not undertaken any work either of asphaltaling or strengthening of roads. If this work is undertaken with all seriousness, the citizens of Jamkhandi will feel very much relieved because it will facilitate easy movement of vehicles. Maintenance is also important and hence the municipal authorities cannot ignore the same in respect of roads, buildings, public parks and other properties belonging to them. As far as roads are concerned, it is necessary that they are swept clean and sprinkled with water before sunrise by using fire fighting tenders. This practice will ensure the serviceability of the fire tender and its related machinery as well. From sanitation point of view it is very much essential that public conveniences maintained by the municipality are kept clean and in a disinfected way at regular intervals. After the gruelling schedule of the day every person develops mental fatigue and to get relief, the person hopefully looks forward for a relaxing trip to public parks and children's parks. Therefore it is also the responsibility of the municipality to ensure that as many public parks and children's parks are provided and maintained well with very high standards. As far as Jamkhandi town is concerned it seems the municipal authorities are not paying adequate attention to this subject. A cursory glance at the public park near A.G.Desai circle and the children's park near
S.R.A. Club will prove this point. Jamkhandi municipal authorities should chalk out a plan to convert a patch of area of 10 metre width enclosing Lakhanageri tank into a public park with adequate number of benches so that the aged people who cannot undertake long walks can relax there in the early hours of the day as well as in the evenings. At present the whole area is forcibly occupied by huts and also by workshops (motor garages, etc.).

**Water Works**

It is a well-established fact that civilizations have come up only in the vicinity of rivers where there is abundance of water. Therefore it goes without saying that unless municipal authorities find out ways and means for effective water management, they will fail in maintaining properly their properties and assets such as roads, schools, hospitals, markets, children's parks and public parks, etc. Of late, it has become a routine affair for the citizens of Jamkhandi to face scarcity of water during summer days. In the absence of availability of water the maintenance of the above-mentioned properties and assets gets totally neglected. Therefore, the municipal authorities should try to get water resources of their own and should not depend heavily on urban water supply and sewage board of the state
The Ninal stream. This is about 4 kms. north of the Jamkhandi town. This was a favourite spot at which people in the olden days used to take morning and evening walks.
government which at present has undertaken the sole responsibility of supplying water to the Jamkhandi town. The municipality can use the water from the Lakkanageri and Kattikeri tanks for maintenance and cleanliness of public gardens, parks, public conveniences, etc. Fortunately, in Jamkhandi there are several wells constructed by the former rulers which provide drinking water even to-day. The municipal authorities can chalk out a plan to pump the water from these wells to a centralised overhead tank constructed by the municipality and utilise the water for several public purposes. During the summer days water from this centralised overhead tank can be supplied to the Karnataka Water Supply and Sewage Board for distribution among the citizens and thus their hardship caused by scarcity of water may be minimised. This type of service will bring credit to the municipality and people pay the taxes regularly and voluntarily. It is the opinion of some people who were interviewed, that private persons owning bore-wells or other wells who would like to supply water to the public at least during summer days should be exempted from paying electricity charges to be incurred by them on the supply of water to the people of Jamkhandi. If the existing water resources are properly utilised the city of Jamkhandi will be permanently freed from the trauma of water scarcity.
It was also suggested by some people that if the height of the Chikkapadasalgi barrage be raised by at least another 10 to 15 feet, the capacity of the reservoir will go up and water in the reservoir may not get exhausted before the monsoon sets in. Some persons were of the view that the city of Jamkhandi enjoys a balanced climate and it is surrounded on three sides by hills. They also added that the citizens of Jamkhandi were fortunate in having good water facilities for drinking purposes as a result of which there have been no cases of any epidemics. The water from the river Krishna is pumped into the pump house at Sanal, a place which is 6 miles away from Jamkhandi, and the water treatment plant established at the main point of distribution atop a hill (Melagiri Lingappa hillock) prevents all kinds of contamination. Naturally the people of Jamkhandi get purified water for drinking purposes. Hence it was the opinion of the majority of the people of the town that they are very much proud of their previous rulers who had provided them with very good and efficient water treatment plant. Moreover, Jamkhandi town is free from industrial pollution.

Fire Services

Accidents due to fire are the major hazards that create
multiple problems for man and society. Fire which cooks food for humans and provides energy for industries also brings about total destruction of men, materials and property, if handled wrongly or carelessly. Therefore, effective maintenance of fire fighting machinery becomes very important aspect of municipal administration. It is necessary that the municipality should possess adequate equipment to fight solid fires, liquid fires and electrical fires. A large number of persons who were interviewed were not aware of the importance of the fire services because at Jamkhandi town the number of fire accidents and the consequent loss of property has been quite minimum and negligible. As far as Jamkhandi municipality is concerned, there is no proper provision to fight liquid fires which may spread due to oils and petroleum products. Fire under such circumstances can be extinguished only by applying oxygen starvation tactics by applying special chemical liquids which form a tight layer around the burning liquids and keep out supply of oxygen and thereby bring the fire under control. The mere use of water in the event of liquid fire will only complicate the fire fighting procedure. The fires caused by electrical short circuits can be extinguished by cutting off the supply of electricity and by using dry powders. This type of provision is totally absent in the fire fighting machinery which is available.
with Jamkhandi municipality. There is, at present, only one fire fighting vehicle which is partially operative, and there is no fire fighting party consisting of trained personnel in lower cadre. At present only one man in the Jamkhandi municipality has got the minimum training from the Fire Service College at Nagpur. The fire service vehicle is not in a working condition for the last many days as the tyres and tubes of the vehicle are unserviceable and not replaced by new ones. Even if the vehicles were to be in a working condition measures must be taken to attend to the repairs and replacement of parts immediately.

But the municipal authorities in fact, on grounds of financial difficulties, are not taking necessary steps in the matter.

Moreover, for a developing city like Jamkhandi, only one fire fighting vehicle is not enough to meet the growing requirements of the city. Therefore, at least two such vehicles should be provided to the municipality. Jamkhandi municipality has many times written to the government (Directorate of Fire Services) requesting to supply such vehicles but the government has turned a deaf ear to the requirements of the municipality. Government has given an understanding that on the basis of the availability of finance the requirements of the Jamkhandi municipality would be attended to on a priority basis. There is no separate fire station equipped with fire fighting gadgets and separate telephone for quick communication.
The lanes and by-lanes in Jamkhandi are so narrow that even a small vehicle cannot have access to the interior areas. Therefore, it is necessary that small trollies mounted with pressure pumps should form part of the fire fighting accessories. At present, a separate Directorate of Fire Services has been created by the state government. This agency, that is, the fire fighting unit, depends upon the municipality for sheds for keeping the fire fighting vehicles, an office and a room for fire picket party. This fire fighting unit should be provided with asbestos clothes, oxygen equipped cylinders and other modern gadgets developed by other western countries. The municipality should also provide entertainment facilities such as indoor games and provision for a reading room wherein newspapers, monthly news magazines, and T.Vs should be provided so that during their shift the fire picket party may be confined willingly around the fire tenders to enable them to swing into action immediately in any eventuality. Jamkhandi municipality had a fire extinguishing truck which functioned well for four decades. This provision had been made when the population of Jamkhandi was less than 25,000. Now the population of Jamkhandi has risen to more than double excluding the floating population. Further in the past this fire extinguisher was serving within the municipal limits only but after the formation of State Fire
Service this fire extinguishing van is to go to round about villages in emergency cases. Hence it is necessary to state that one fire extinguishing van is not sufficient and two more vans are necessary to combat fire in this town and also round about villages. The Jamkhandi municipality and the government of Karnataka may note this suggestion and may take necessary steps in this direction.

Financial Problems

A majority of the members of the society, municipal councillors and professionals like doctors, lawyers and others are of the opinion that the unsatisfactory functioning of the municipality is because of its too much dependence for finance on state government and uncertainty of getting it. Before the abolition of octroi the municipalities had better source of getting regular income. Besides, they enjoyed a lot of financial autonomy. The city was kept clean. Roads were properly cleaned well in time and the sweepers used to sweep the roads in the early hours of the morning. Jamkhandi town is now extending—towards the east and more so towards the west. The town limits have reached upto Hanmur village boundary in the west. Now it is only a question of time as to when Hanmur village will be a part of Jamkhandi municipality. With the increase in the population
and in the town limits the functions and responsibilities of Jamkhandi municipality have simultaneously increased. In order to shoulder such responsibility the municipality needs more funds whereas at present it is always facing financial difficulties. It has come to the notice of some of the councillors that funds are more readily available for development and improvement of the town when the government runs the municipality through its administrator, rather than when there is an elected council. At present, the main source of income of Jamkhandi municipality comes from house and property tax and compensation amount in lieu of abolition of octroi. It must be stated that there is not much increase in the government grant year after year. Unless there is proportionate increase in the collection of taxes and government grants, there cannot be any improvement within the town. In this connection it may be stated that the public demands amenities and facilities from the municipality and if they are convinced that the municipality is not only collecting taxes but also providing some of the civic amenities, then they will be more liberal and reasonable in paying their dues. Government which desires that the municipality should have clean administration and should be more attentive to public interests and welfare, they should for this purpose release grants on time and ought
to watch improvement and development of the town within the stipulated period. The municipal council and staff of Jamkhandi municipality ought to discharge their duties not as duties as such but as a privilege and an opportunity to serve the public. Such common thinking among the public, the government and the municipal authorities should avoid any problem for the latter and enable them to maintain clean atmosphere and establish public works. So necessary steps need to be taken to acquire land for construction of such parks. At present, there are three small plots in the middle of Jamkhandi town – one near Nenasinkal Basar, (chilly market) near Banashankari School, one near Sakri Bhavi Maidan (Bakse Maidan) near "Gram Chavdi" (Village Office) on Mudhol road, and the third Hokkal Bhavi Maidan which is known as Hutatma Sabade Maidan. In these open spaces the municipality is to start small parks. Similarly in developing areas towards east and west the municipality may impose certain conditions on the plot owners to reserve certain areas for public purposes like the construction of public parks, school buildings and community halls, etc. This they can successfully do by withholding permission for construction of buildings and/or by acquiring the areas for the purpose.

Jamkhandi city has a very old master plan. In certain parts of the town buildings are being constructed according to this master plan. By and large the master plan as such has not been
implemented at all. It is now time to prepare a new master plan for the orderly development of the city on modern lines. To do so, the construction of new buildings or repairs to the old buildings should be permitted only if they fulfil the requirements of the new master plan. In the implementation of the new master plan if certain big buildings come in the way they should be demolished without any hesitation. In some of the bylanes and narrow streets it goes very difficult to implement the master plan because if the small houses are demolished to widen the roads, the house owners will not have a house to dwell in. Such problems should be studied carefully and alternative arrangements should be made for those who lose their houses while implementing such a master plan. The Jamkhandi municipality needs huge amount of money to implement this plan. At present, on its own, it seems too difficult for this body to undertake steps to implement the master plan, unless the state government comes forward with special financial assistance to help the municipality. Though the municipality is called as a local self-government institution, it does not have the powers of the government, which has the inherent power to raise money to meet its demands of expenditure. The local self-government has no such powers and it has to depend upon the government for grant and also to raise loans. More often than not government is reluctant to stand as a guarantee to the
local self-governments, and when it stands a guarantor it takes decades together before approving loans for the local self-government institutions. For instance, it may be recalled that the investment for the underground drainage scheme in Jamkhandi was less than ₹10 lakhs in 1950's and early 1960's. In 1970's this rose to more than ₹28 lakhs. The reason is that the government of Karnataka did not stand surety for the municipality in 1950's. Government's delay also caused so much rise in the cost for the successful implementation of the underground drainage plan. In 1970's the government stood as a surety for the loan of ₹28 lakhs raised by the municipality. This way of less careful attention on the part of the government places the municipalities in financial trouble. Jamkhandi municipality is still labouring hard to pay off its loan and interest to the Life Insurance Corporation of India, for the successful implementation of underground drainage scheme. This repayment of loan, as a matter of fact, comes in the way of improvement and further development of Jamkhandi town. Though not an industrial area Jamkhandi town is fast developing. The future planners should take into account the problem of growth of population of the town in times to come. The municipality ought to prepare all its developmental plans and activities right from now. This would avoid emergency problems.
Moreover as far as the income of the municipality is concerned the outstanding payments to be made by the residents are quite negligible for which the municipal employees deserve all the due credit for mercilessly collecting the taxes.

**Slum Dwellers**

A large number of persons are unanimous in their opinion regarding the slum dwellers in that alternative arrangements have to be made to settle them permanently. Slums are a disgrace to every modern community. There are a few slum areas within the limits of Jambhandi municipality. It is quite incumbent upon the municipality to improve the lot of these slum dwellers by utilising the funds earmarked for this purpose. There are a few slum areas within the limits of the municipality. One is situated on Madhol bypass road and is known as Indira colony of Shikkalagars. Though buildings, roads etc. are provided to this area, the community by nature being uncultured, has converted this colony into a slum area. The municipality is aware of the fact that the slum dwellers are not making proper use of the facilities provided to them. Improvement of this colony takes a long way. Proper educational facilities though provided by the government, the Shikkalagars do not send all their children to schools. Only a few among them are doing so. Many do not have any idea of the fact that the government is
reserving certain posts (jobs) for their community. Only a few people among them are taking advantage of all such facilities. Much is still to be done to bring such people in the mainstream of our national life. Another slum area is situated near Chhattusingh temple on Bijapur bypass road. This area can be developed by allotting plots and providing for construction of buildings here as well as where the down trodden people are residing. Slaughter house is also situated in this part of the area. The whole area is totally unfit for human dwelling where insanitary conditions are found throughout the year. With whatever little amount provided to the municipality, it has done something but it is ultimately for the government to sanction money liberally to change the face of such slums. Another slum area is situated on the slope of the hill to the east of water treatment plant on the Melagiri Lingappa temple. This area is clean and can easily be converted into a beautiful colony. Another slum area is also on the slope of the same hill towards north. This is inhabited mostly by professional criminals and culprits who have been driven out of the town.

Dog Menace and Pig Menace

There are certainly stray dogs in the city but we cannot say they are a menace or nuisance to the public. But the same
cannot be said about the pigs which are certainly a nuisance not only to the citizenry of Jamkhandi but also to the agriculturists in the vicinity of the town. Pigs are owned by different persons belonging to "Golla" community. They mark their pigs with certain symbols. Pigs do not run away easily and are found in their usual place of dirt and dustbins. These pigs roam about in the town and scatter the garbage collected by the municipal servants and also their own excreta on the streets. This certainly causes nuisance to the public. Hence pigs are a menace. The owners of these pigs being very poor cannot afford to maintain pig pens. In these circumstances, the government and the municipality should think of providing open areas with fences for them to prevent pigs from roaming around the city and causing a lot of nuisance. The pig excreta is an excellent manure and if pig pens are provided the owners will be benefited by selling it and in due course of time the "Golla" community as a whole may see days of prosperity. Hence the above suggestion.

Stray Cattle

It is also necessary to note that stray cattle also wander about in busy streets as the pigs do. Except the cattle left as "Gooli" or "Kapila" which are dedicated to God, the other cattle belong to owners. These stray cattle and pigs hinder
movement of vehicles and passersby in the busy hours of market and office hours. If these are prohibited by the competent authorities of either government and/or municipality, the public will be saved from unnecessary nuisance.

Library

There is one library in a beautiful building facing the Government F.E. High School. It is a solid building. Part of it is let out to a private person. The floor area which is used for library purposes is too small to accommodate the readers. Also there is no scope to keep the books on racks. In the past, the majority of the books in this library were in Marathi. In addition, a good number of valuable books on mathematics, literature, history and geography, philosophy and astronomy etc. were also in stock. People were having a great fascination to read such great books. During freedom struggle this library enabled the public to know the latest developments around the world. After the reorganisation of states in 1956 and consequent on the merger of Jamkhandi into Karnataka state, a large number of Kannada books were added. However, the latest publications are not found in sufficient numbers. As the library is taken over by the Karnataka State Department of Public Libraries, the municipality has nothing to do with its administration now. As a discretionary duty the municipality
ought to have catered to the interest of the reading public. Now that the government is controlling the library, it is hoped that it may add some more floors to the existing building to accommodate the increasing number of readers. It is also hoped that government will release more money to buy recent books to bring the library up to date.

Though the administration of libraries is taken over by the government, yet there is no legal bar on municipalities to establish their own independent libraries and information centres. If a proper plan is chalked out, the municipality can establish a subscription library and information centre in its own premises and can utilise the services of some retired persons who are fully conversant with the administration of libraries. Such action, besides providing reading facilities to the citizens will also be a reasonable source of revenue by which at least part of the establishment expenses of this library will be met. In this information centre leading national and local newspapers can be provided. Further the flash news of national importance can also be displayed on the boards outside the main municipal building. Even a television set can be installed in the same room at least for watching news telecasts. A public address system can also be utilised in this information centre for playing songs pertaining to national integration and other patriotic songs.
Municipal Administration

Jankhandi municipality is fortunate in having a very good administrative machinery which always has proved effective and efficient. All over India municipal administration has failed to come up to expectations because of its weak administrative system. Just as other municipalities are carrying out the essential services like conservancy, maintenance of cleanliness of roads and streets and lighting, controlling some regulatory services which range from licensing of vehicles and sanctioning of building plans and providing clean drinking water facilities, the Jankhandi municipality also is attending to the above mentioned duties. The effectiveness of municipal administration depends to a great extent on the performance of its employees. The performance of the employees to a great extent is conditioned by factors like personnel policies and practices and a wide range of environmental factors. There has been a constant demand from the people of Jankhandi for better performance of duties on the part of the municipal employees. It has also been the opinion of some of the citizens of the city that the principal weakness of its administration is that a majority of the elected functionaries themselves are not acting as responsible persons for the entire administrative set up. This has resulted into undemocratic practices. The government in order to meet the expectations and for a variety of other reasons, has been setting
Mr. T. M. Deshpande, a senior advocate and leader of the town. He has served for a long time as a member and president of the local municipality.
up specialised organisations to undertake specialised functions. This act, on several occasions, has reduced the powers of the municipal institutions and thereby has reduced their capacity for effectiveness. Governments have only paid lip sympathy to municipal institutions as "nurseries of democracy". Urban problems like rise in the population, growth of slums, inadequacy of housing, increase in urban unemployment and danger of pollution, increasing crime within the limits of the cities will have to be effectively tackled more by the municipalities than the governmental institutions. The efficiency of any municipality is decided on the basis of the following yardstick.

1. The efficiency of its employees can be determined on the basis of the collection of rates and taxes. (The amount collected, the arrears outstanding at the end of the year and the amount written off every year throw light on the efficiency of municipal administration).

2. Secondly, the extent to which the municipal expenditure is evenly distributed throughout the year. In general the amount should be evenly spent instead of spending it hurriedly, in the last three months of the year. In such circumstances the quality and efficiency of the municipal work is likely to be affected adversely.
Mrs. Nayanatai Gajananrao Phadke. She has been a well known social worker. She is devoted to the upliftment of the women folk and runs an institution to train women to be self-reliant.
3. Thirdly, the study of some municipal cases often throws light on the purity and efficiency of municipal work. The quickness or delay caused in the disposal of the particular case handled by the municipality is also another yardstick to judge the efficiency of the municipal administration.

4. Fourthly, municipalities give annual grants to educational, cultural, social and medical institutions in the city. While paying grants to such institutions, municipalities are to follow some well-established principles or guidelines.

As far as Jamkhandi municipality is concerned no case of discrimination with regard to sanctioning grants to various institutions came to light during the study under review.

5. Fifthly, the service conditions of the municipal employees are also very important, with special reference to their scales of pay, promotional opportunities, old age pension etc.

The above five criteria will help us in getting an idea as to how the municipality has been functioning.

It may be noted that the amounts written off (as not recoverable) and the amounts of taxes etc. remaining as arrears
Mr. Rachappa Ambali. He has been popularly called Jamkhandi Chacha (uncle). He has seen life at close quarters in the old princely state. He is a former member and president of the town municipal council of Jamkhandi. He is a sports enthusiast.
are almost nil. The employees of the municipality therefore deserve all the due credit in this respect. Along with the municipal employees the citizens of Jamkhandi also deserve due credit for being prompt in clearing off the dues in time. The municipal staff serves tax notices and warrants promptly to the defaulters and vigorous efforts are made to minimise the large arrears resulting in increased tax collection. The elected members of the municipality did not plead on behalf of the landlords or others for giving relief to them in respect of taxes due from them. The municipal president and members appealed to the citizens of Jamkhandi for promptly paying the municipal rates and taxes. During the period 1970-71 to 1986-87 the collection of rates and taxes was satisfactory and the percentage varied from 55% to 75%. The percentage of outstanding arrears was minimised to a considerable extent.

State Municipal Relations

A majority of the persons interviewed did not have much knowledge about the way in which the state government controls the administration of the municipality. However, a number of them have expressed the view that if the municipality misuses the funds allotted to it, the government should immediately take over the management and should punish the defaulters. The way in which the government controls the administration of
Mr. Dilip Shinde, a social worker and goldsmith of the town. Mr. Shinde has a fund of knowledge about the princely state.
Mr. Shashikant Shankarrao Lad, an advocate and a member of the local municipality.
the municipalities is very interesting. At present, the Directorate of Municipal Administration would perform the housekeeping functions and strengthen the financial, legal and administrative organization of municipalities. The municipalities throughout the state are attending to a large number of functions which are having a direct bearing upon the health, education, sanitation, social welfare, urban housing, etc. Therefore it is the bounden duty of the state government to supervise and also control the functions. In times of grave health problems like the spread of epidemics the state government may instruct the municipalities to undertake effective steps immediately. Constitutionally municipal affairs as a state subject falls within the jurisdiction of the state government. Therefore the state governments have the powers to determine the structure, functions and financial resources of the municipalities and this is done by the respective state governments. Invested with so much of powers, the state governments have the ability to make or mar the fate of municipalities. The government officers of the revenue department like Assistant Commissioners are exercising controlling and supervisory authority. They are in a position to inspect and take action on defaulters; they can annul the decisions; they can remove the members and can supersede the administrative machinery. The municipalities were financially supported from time to time through the grant in aid system by
Mr. Purushottam Shankar Rao Iele. Mr. Iele is an ex-officer of the Indian air force. Presently working in the office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. His forefathers were officers of the Jamkhandi state. He has a detailed knowledge of several problems of the old Jamkhandi town.
to ensure that the funds granted by the government are utilised in the best possible manner and the purpose for which they are granted. Therefore the state supervision and control over local bodies becomes inevitable for betterment of civic life and see that funds allotted are properly utilised. Government is also empowered to inspect and supervise the proceedings, documents or reports of the municipality.

It is a noteworthy feature that there was no single occasion wherein Jamkhandi municipality was dissolved or superseded during the study under review for any reason of incompetency, default or abuse of powers.

Presently several civic functions such as supply of water, electricity and maintenance of health and sanitation are allocated to different departments of state, such as, Supply Urban Water and Sewage Board, Karnataka Electricity Board, Health and Family Planning Department etc. which are autonomous bodies functioning within the jurisdictional limits of the municipality. But neither they are answerable to the municipality nor the municipalities have any control over their functioning. As a result, the municipalities find it extremely difficult to provide the civic services to the public in an efficient manner, as per the programmes chalked out by municipal bodies.
Therefore, it is necessary that municipalities are vested with powers to coordinate the functions of the above said state departments, so that the departments concerned are made answerable to the municipal authorities for implementation of civic programmes formulated by the municipalities within their jurisdictional limits.

Audit Control

Of all other controls over the municipal bodies financial control over the Jamkhandi municipality was exercised through the Karnataka Local Fund Audit Act 1931 which provided for the establishment of an independent audit section in the municipality. At the end of each financial year the accounts were to be submitted to the municipal council and forwarded to the Divisional Commissioner. As far as audit reports of the Jamkhandi municipality are concerned there is not a single instance of misuse of funds or excess payments made to anybody or firm during the study under review.

Education

In ancient times education facilities were confined to the upper caste people who normally sent their children to the renowned teachers who then were sages. These teachers had

* Earlier called Mysore.
their own landed properties which they converted into temples of learning wherein education in the faculties of religion, social sciences, philosophy, astronomy, craftsmanship and warfare was imparted. This position continued till the advent of Britishers. In the year 1818 Britishers defeated Marathas who were under the leadership of the Peshwas and were successful in sending them to Brahamavart near Kanpur to isolate them from their subjects to make sure that uprising of any sort did not arise in future. Therefore in 1835 the Britishers started establishing English medium schools with the only intention of training the Indians to undertake the job of clerks. In the year 1844 Henry Hardinge, the then Governor General of British India, made a rule that only those Indians who had acquired a basic learning in English would be taken up in government service in British India. This situation compelled many Indians to learn English. As a result, the old system of Indian education slowly vanished. People all over India were convinced that there was no alternative but to learn English. Therefore in the year 1856 the then Chief of Jamkhandi Shrimant Appasaheb Patwardhan established a Department of Education headed by a School Superintendent for the princely state of Jamkhandi. This department started English medium schools along with Kannada, Marathi and Hindi medium schools in the same year. However, there was no positive response from the public.
of Jamkhandi state. Therefore, the Chief of Jamkhandi issued a proclamation on 1st February 1865, the brief text of which is as given below:

"It is being notified to all that the state has established schools and libraries with an intention to impart education in different subjects to children so that they may acquire knowledge and capacity to become good citizens. It is noted with regret that the people have totally ignored this facility and have been wasting time. As a result, they remain illiterate. ... Probably the people under the state service were under the impression that their children will be given government jobs whether they have the requisite qualification or capacity. This is totally a wrong impression which we wish to eradicate through this proclamation. Presently the persons under the state services who wish to get jobs for their children have to fulfil the following conditions.

1. The children should have the basic knowledge of English.

2. He has to obtain a good character certificate from the authorised officer of the state services.

3. He has to pass in the examination for the recruitment in civil, police, and revenue services."
4. He has to appear before the interview board and establish his capacity for the job.

5. The candidates fulfilling the above conditions will be given the job after the retirement or death of their parents.

In the year 1868 the Anglo-Vernacular School was established. The then Chief of Jamkhandi instituted several scholarships and prizes for the meritorious students. He also started free boarding facilities for meritorious and poor students. In the beginning there were in all 20 students but the number gradually increased and by 1887 there were 120 students on the roll. In the year 1888 the Anglo-Vernacular School was converted into a full-fledged high school to impart education up to matriculation. In the same year four students were sent up at Bombay to appear for matriculation examination. All the four got through the examination. Since then till the days of independence this high school produced several important luminaries in various walks of life. However, it is very regrettable that in the post-independence period the standard of education has been on the decline qualitatively even though the number of

students has increased by several thousands. Formerly the teaching staff comprised of persons having a very high sense of dedication, integrity and immense love and affection towards their students and the subjects they taught. They were the teachers who did not differ in whatever they thought and whatever they practised in their day to day life. Thus they set their own examples before their students. So the students also tried to practise the morality that was set before them by their teachers. In the year 1917, an Education Committee was established by the then Chief of Jamkhandi consisting of 7 eminent persons in the field of education. The committee submitted its report containing important recommendations such as:

1. Composition of teaching staff consisting of

   a. Head master
   b. Four graduate assistant teachers
   c. Two Inter Arts teachers
   d. Two P.Y. passed teachers
   e. Seven Matriculation teachers
   f. One drawing teacher
   g. One physical education teacher
   h. One music teacher
   i. One clerk.
Teachers
Totally 20 / for a maximum of 500 students in 14 classes.

2. Hostel facilities are to be provided for the students coming from distant places.

3. Free boarding facility for the poor and deserving students.

4. Medical examination was compulsory for every student after a gap of 6 months.

5. Every student to undergo compulsory daily physical exercise.


7. Ban on private tuitions by the teachers.

8. Appointment of an educational officer to head the education department.

9. The expenses of the secondary education should be borne by the state fund. The expenses towards the free boarding should be borne by the States Charity Fund.

10. Deployment of teachers in other departments should be banned.
Formation of educational advisory committee comprising of educational officer, head master of the high school and 3 other teachers.

Besides these, the committee also gave several other proposals, regarding pay scales of teachers, starting of fellowships and scholarships for meritorious students. The committee also recommended for the starting of classes for adult education for women and modernising the gymnasium facilities for the students.

All the recommendations of the educational committee were accepted by the then Chief of Jamkhandi and were strictly implemented.

This state of affairs continued till the merger of the state into the Indian Union and the system worked so well that it won laurels from one and all.

Sports Activities

The rulers of Jamkhandi were very much fond of indoor and outdoor games. Therefore they provided this high school with a large playground in the rear for playing football, hockey
and cricket. The ground in front of the school was utilised for sports like tennikoit, basket ball and volley ball. There was a well-equipped gymnasium hall and by the side of this hall provision was made for playing single bar, and double bar, Roman rings, trapeze, high jump, long jump, pole-vault, sloping planks, ladder halting, horse halting beam, "Malakhamba", etc. The physical education teachers used to take keen interest in personally supervising sports activities. In the evening hours the grounds around the high school and the gymnasium hall used to be fully engaged by boys and girls. Sometimes even the rulers used to personally visit the high school in the evening to ensure that the students take full benefit of sports facilities. As a result, even the teaching staff were seen engaged in indoor and outdoor games along with the students.

Physical education teachers used to narrate at least one story every day about the physically strong men described in Indian mythology and history and also described some personalities in European history. By listening to such stories the students were naturally inclined to achieve high standards in physical culture. There used to be an annual athletic meet wherein events like 50 mile cycling and 50 miles Marathon race were also included. Further the high school administration made it a routine to invite and honour great sportsmen of national and inter-
national repute, like Professor Eknath Murthy, a great yoga teacher and disciple of Indian Sandow, Rama Murthy. The teams and athletic contingents of this high school visited Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara, Miraj and Baroda and won more than 25 Challenge Cups in various events during the period 1919-1931. Among the number of causative factors responsible for the declining standard of education at P.B.High School, Jamkhandi, are the total neglect of the importance of the 3R's and the wrong basis of education. The modern student appearing for the S.S.L.C. examination need not go in for writing full answers in the answer books; he is required only to tick the right answers. This kind of setting of objective type of question papers has been totally responsible for killing the desire to learn good language, both their mothertongue and also English. Students and teachers together have been convinced that without having the basic knowledge of any language they will get through the examination. This factor is greatly responsible for the decline in the standards. The teachers in the high school usually complain that at the primary schools the students should have been taught the language in a proper way. So this way, every one is shirking his responsibility and blames others for the decline in the standards of education.
The government should take precautionary measures to stop this kind of setting of objective type of question papers. Moreover the objective type of question papers have enabled the dull students to resort to copying at the examination. There are a large number of instances in the State of Karnataka, wherein, mass copying and other mal-practices are reported time and again. It is disheartening to note that those indulging in mal-practices are not punished properly. They should be severely punished with fine and/or imprisonment etc. and also debarred from entering government service. So out of fear this bad tendency may come to an end.

Another "R", i.e., Arithmetic, is totally a neglected subject in the State of Karnataka. S.S.L.C. Board is giving importance only to Algebra and is allowing the students to use the calculators. This has reduced the memory power of the students. Arithmetic has been so much neglected that the student is unable to remember even the basic elements in Mathematics which is a very sad state of affairs indeed.

Another factor for the decline in the standard of education is the absence of healthy relationship and healthy understanding between the teacher and the taught.
One more factor associated with the decline in educational standards is that in spite of completing the education/ flying colours, the student does not get employment. Therefore this kind of teaching if allowed to develop in the minds of students, it turns them to become goondas in their future life. Moreover students will observe how racketeers in modern days who do not have much calibre, have become rich overnight. If by doing the illegal deeds one becomes rich and will attain status in society, students are naturally inclined towards such attitudes.

The neglect of sports activities is also responsible for the declining standards. There was a time when students used to become great sportsmen but now a days/student has hardly any interest in sports. Sports activities should have made the students good citizens. Government grants for purchase of sports goods are too small and too inadequate. The government is not allowing the schools to raise the tuition fees (sports fees) from the students and is also not giving liberal grants to purchase sports materials which is a very sad state of affairs.

**The Role of Legislators**

The legislators elected from this area lack foresight with regard to the developmental activities and also
about the irrigation projects. It was a very erroneous decision of the Karnataka legislators to outright refuse the offer of Government of Maharashtra to release the extra water from the Koyna dam which the Government of Maharashtra wanted to divert to Karnataka in return for partial contribution towards the construction of the Koyna dam for a sum of 8.2/- crores. As a result, the excess water from the Koyna dam now stands discharged to Arabian Sea. Consequently there is a pathetic scene every year to see the bed of river Krishna totally going dry due to the same reason. The Jamkhandi town and the villages around face total shortage of water for 3 months during summer. Jamkhandi municipality has to press into service their entire energy and resources with the help of Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Sewage Board to meet this famine like situation faced by the citizens of Jamkhandi. Now also it is not too late to retrieve the favourable position. The legislators can play a great role in this aspect, if they put forward this problem before the National Water Commission and find a solution for release of excess water from the Koyna dam towards Karnataka in return for compensation in terms of cash or kind.

Before the merger of state into the Indian Union the then Maharaja had deposited a sum of 8.4/- crores for laying the new railway line from Kudchi to Raichur via Jamkhandi.
Till today no legislator has ever taken any interest in pressing the Union Government to go in for the new line. If this new railway line is laid, it will totally change the face of this area as it will be soon converted into an industrial area. The legislators look fore-sight about the growth of this area.

Leadership

The laying down of railway line will help the growth and development of industries like cement, textiles, spinning mills etc.

The area around Jamkhandi, Bambatti and Rakkavi is having a large number of weavers. These professional weavers should be enabled to reach bigger markets to sell their products by establishing railway lines. There is a large number of such weavers at Jamkhandi. The sarees manufactured by them are having a good market throughout Karnataka and Maharashtra. This industry will better flourish by the establishment of railway line. In addition, the agro-based industries like decortication, oil extracting, rope making etc. will be also benefited to a great extent. Silk worm rearing should be made popular among agriculturists. Since agriculture is a seasonal occupation agriculturists have ample work to attend during off
seasons also. They should therefore take up occupations like poultry, silk worm rearing, sheep breeding etc. Major portion of land in Jamkhandi taluk is being irrigated, people should get more facilities for the proper use of latest methods of agriculture. Hence the need of the hour is the starting of a college of agriculture to provide technical know-how of the latest developments in the concerned fields of activity. But the State Government however, found it more convenient to establish such a college at Bijapur. However, Government can, to help the farmers of Jamkhandi, start an extension centre of this college at Jamkhandi.

Legislators are the persons who have a wide range of social and political contacts and can persuade the competent people to start ventures in the field of education, industry, agriculture etc. Before independence and even after that industries such as cotton textile (Ambika textile mill), soaps and detergents, pulp and paper, match sticks and jaggery producing units were functioning in a full-fledged manner, in and around Jamkhandi. After independence it appears that on account of changed political, legal and financial conditions, these industries were not able to sustain themselves in the changed circumstances. At that time the legislators should have put in efforts to revive and utilise the industrial potential
of this area. It is a matter of regret that no initiative was taken by the legislators and hence no trace of those industries is found today. Even now there is adequate potential the and scope in Jamkhandi for starting afresh above said industries create and / opportunities for employment and economic growth of the this area with a view to enhancing the revenue of municipality.

It is only hoped that the political leaders of this area will provide the necessary impetus to the industrial and economic growth of this area in the not too distant a future. The economic growth of this area in turn is sure to augment the financial resources of the Jamkhandi municipality and thereby help it to take up many more projects for providing better and modern civic amenities to the people of Jamkhandi.
The majestic idol of Lord Venkateshwara. The shrine is situated at Kalhalli, 8 kms. away from Jamkhandi. There is a great festival during the Navaratri, in the month of October. Devotees, from Jamkhandi and around, of all castes and communities come to worship at the temple.