

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

166. Introduction

The town of Sonapur is very old. It is referred to as Suvarnapura in early inscriptions dating back to the 9th Century A. D. But the present town of Balangir is hardly a century old. The old Balangir which was founded in the 16th Century A. D. by Balaram Deo is probably represented by the present Junhadiha (Old site) close to Balangir town to the north. The new Balangir is a planned town. It was established by the Court of Wards in 1871 and the capital of the ex-State was transferred from Patnagarh to the new township in 1872.

Prior to 1938, the Durbar of the then Patna State maintained a sanitation staff to look after conservancy and sanitation of the town. The main roads were electrified during the rule of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo (1910—1924).

In the Ex-State of Sonapur, municipalities were organised at Sonapur and Binka sometime before 1925. These municipalities were looking after health and sanitation of their areas and they were rich enough to maintain well equipped dispensaries. The town of Sonapur had been electrified by its Municipality before merger.

167. Balangir Municipality

In April 1938, a Municipal Committee consisting of 15 members was formed in Balangir under the Patna State Municipality Act. Balangir, according to this Act, was divided into five wards. Out of the 15 members, 10 were being nominated by the Durbar and the remaining 5 were being elected from the five wards. Franchise was first introduced in 1939 when the number of wards increased to 6. The Municipal Committee, after election of July 1939, consisted of 7 *ex officio* members and 2 non-official members nominated by the Durbar and 6 elected ward members. The area of the Municipality was 1,300 acres which extended to 1,400 acres in 1940. As the term of Office-bearers was fixed for a period of three years, elections for the second term were held in November 1942 when there were 7 elected ward members and 8 nominated members (6 officials, 2 non-officials). The Municipality maintained the street lights, and the streets which were not electrified were provided with kerosene lamps. There was no tap water system, but the Municipality looked after drinking water-supply and took measures for the control of epidemics.

The Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 came into force in Balangir Municipality on the 16th April 1951. The new Municipal Council, consisting of 11 representatives including one Scheduled Caste member, started functioning with effect from the 18th June 1951 and continued till the 23rd January 1957 after which they all resigned and the council was dissolved. The management of the Municipality was then taken over by the Government and in 1958 a fresh election took place and a council consisting of 12 Councillors was elected including one from the Scheduled Tribes.

The Municipal area now covers 6 square miles and contained population of 18,663 in 1961.

Financial Resources

The Municipality derives its income from different taxes and fees. It also receives grants from the State Government.

The annual income and expenditure of the Municipality are given in appendix II.

Special Achievements

The level of the town enables rain water to flow out through kutchha drains. 230 street light points have been provided in different parts of the town and the entire charges for electric consumption are paid from the municipal fund.

The Municipality maintains a park. It is receiving Government grants for the improvement of the park.

Conservancy is still carried out by manual labour, there being bullock-carts to carry away the night-soil. Night-soil is composted and brought to private gardens in a tractor for sale.

Public health is looked after by staff supplied by Government, their conveyance allowance being paid by the Municipality which also supplies medicines and disinfectants.

168. Sonepur Municipality

Organisation and Structure

The Sonepur Municipality was reconstituted in 1951. According to 1961 Census, the area of the Municipality is 3 square miles with a population of 7,108. The whole area is divided into 15 wards from which 18 Councillors are elected, three seats being reserved for the Scheduled Castes.

Financial Resources

The main source of income of the Municipality is the octroi duty. The Municipality charges an annual fee of Re. 1 per cycle and Rs. 4 per cart. The Municipality also receives Government grants from time to time.

The entire expenditure on electrification of the town is borne by the Municipality. The annual income and expenditure of the Municipality from 1955-56 to 1964-65 is given in Appendix I.

169. Patnagarh Notified Area Council

The Patnagarh Notified Area Council was constituted on the 6th January 1964. According to Notification No. 9136, dated the 11th September 1962 of Health and Local Self-Government, Patnagarh town and the area covered by the villages of Brahmipur, Tikapali, Nafrisagar, Kukurmunda and Rampur have been declared as Notified Area. The Notified Area Council has 8.0 square miles in area and was divided into 12 wards represented by 13 councillors. The population is 7,592 according to the census of 1961.

The Notified Area Council has under its management 8 big tanks and one Middle English School and provides street light points and maintains 6 miles of road. It derives its income from various taxes and grants. An idea can be formed as to its financial position from the statement of annual receipts and expenditure for the two years 1964-65 and 1965-66 as given in Appendix III.

170. Titilagarh Notified Area Council

The Titilagarh Notified Area Council was constituted on 17th November 1951 with 9 members. According to 1961 census the area of the Notified Area Council is 5 square miles and the population is 9,927. The entire area of the Notified Area Council has been divided into 9 wards.

The chairman (Subdivisional Officer *ex-officio*), the Executive Officer and the Councilors function under the Municipal Act, 1950.

Financial Resources

The Notified Area Council levies taxes at the following rates per annum:—

- (1) Holding tax at 5 per cent of the annual value of the holding
- (2) Latrine tax at 3 per cent of the annual value
- (3) Lighting tax at 2 per cent of the annual value
- (4) Mutation fee at Re. 1 per mutation
- (5) Cycle tax at Rs. 2 per annum
- (6) Rickshaw tax at Rs. 4 per annum
- (7) Cart tax at Rs. 3 per annum

The annual income and expenditure of the Notified Area Council under different heads from 1961-62 to 1965-66 are given in appendix V.

Special Achievements

The Notified Area Council maintains 4 tanks for the purpose of water-supply to the town. During the year 1965-66 a grant of Rs. 1,95,245 has been sanctioned by Government for pipe water-supply.

Electrification

Till August 1966, 101 bulb points and 10 double fluorescent lamps have been provided by the Notified Area Council for lighting the streets of the town.

Maintenances of Roads

The Notified Area Council is maintaining about 14 miles of road. During the year 1965-66 a new road has been constructed and most of the existing roads have been metalled.

171. Kantabanji Notified Area Council

The Notified Area Council of Kantabanji was constituted on the 17th November 1965 covering 3 square miles and containing a population of 8,863 according to 1961 Census. It maintains nearly 5 miles of road for which an expenditure of Rs. 3,750 has been incurred in 1965-66. Rs. 1,790 has been spent in 1965-66 for the construction of wells. The annual income and expenditure of the Notified Area Council is given in Appendix IV.

172. Grama Panchayats

There are 152 Grama Panchayats functioning in the district. The number has increased to 214 according to reorganisation of Grama Panchayats consequent to passing of Orissa Grama Panchayat Act, 1964 (vide Appendix VI). The extra Grama Panchayats are not functioning at present. The Grama Panchayats are responsible for the execution of development works in their respective areas. All the public properties like tanks, markets, ghats, ferries, cattle pounds, etc., have been transferred to Grama Panchayats. Adalati Panchayats have been constituted in this district. They are empowered to try criminal cases and civil suits up to a limit of Rs. 25. During the year 1964-65, 50 civil suits and 38 criminal cases were disposed of by the Adalati Panchayats

Financial Resources

In order to augment their resources the Grama Panchayats are imposing Panchayat tax, vehicle tax, market tax and licence fees on trades. Many of them derive income from pisciculture, cattle pounds, etc. Some Grama Panchayats also realise cattle registration and carriage registration fees. Secretaries and sanitation staff are maintained by Government grants. Grama Panchayats also receive grants out of sale proceeds of kendu leaves. The main items of expenditure of the Grama Panchayats concern development works.

173. Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis

With the enactment of the Orissa Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act, 1959 (Orissa Act 7 of 1959), the Zilla Parishads and the Panchayat Samitis came into existence with effect from the 1st April 1961. It has given complete shape to the Panchayati Raj administration in three tiers, the Zilla Parishad at district level, the Panchayat Samiti at Block level and the Panchayat at village level.

Balangir Zilla Parishad comprises 20 Panchayat Samitis. The Zilla Parishad had got 23 non-official members including 20 Chairmen of the Panchayat Samitis, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Zilla Parishad, the Chairman of the District Co-operative Bank. Under the original Act, the Members of Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament having their constituencies partly or wholly in the district were also members of Zilla Parishad but with the amendment of the Act in 1961 (Act XXIV of 1961), they are no longer members although they are entitled to notice for Zilla Parishad meetings and to have the right to participate in the discussions even though they do not have the right to vote in the meetings. 11 District Level Officers are also members of the Zilla Parishad.

The Zilla Parishad meets once in three months. The general meeting of the Parishad take place in the months of January, April, July and October. Special meetings are also convened according to special need and urgency.

Out of 20 Panchayat Samitis in the district 6 are in Balangir Subdivision, 6 in Sonepur Subdivision, 5 in Titilagarh Subdivision and 3 in Patnagarh Subdivision.

The statement below will show the particulars of Panchayat Samitis in different Subdivisions and their headquarters. Further particulars about individual Panchayat Samitis are given below:

Name of Subdivision	Name of Panchayat Samitis	Name of Panchayat Samitis headquarters
Balangir Subdivision ..	1. Balangir Block I	Balangir
	2. Balangir Block II	Puintala
	3. Loisinga	Loisinga
	4. Agalpur	Dudka
	5. Deogan	Deogan
	6. Tentulkhunti	Gudvela

Name of Subdivision	Name of Panchayat Samitis	Name of Panchayat Samiti headquarters
Sonepur Subdivision ..	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sonepur 2. Birmaharajpur 3. Binka 4. Ulunda 5. Dungripali 6. Tarbha 	<p>Sonepur Birmaharajpur Binka Ulunda Dungripali Tarbha</p>
Titilagarh Subdivision ..	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Titilagarh 2. Muribahal 3. Turekela 4. Saintala 5. Bangomunda 	<p>Titilagarh Muribahal Turekela Saintala Bangomunda</p>
Patnagarh Subdivision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patnagrah 2. Khaprakhol 3. Belpara 	<p>Patnagarh Khaprakhol Belpara</p>

APPENDIX I

Sonepur Municipality

Statement showing annual receipts and expenditure

Year	Receipts		Expenditure	
		Rs.		Rs.
1955-56	..	41,022		39,499
1956-57	..	44,503		32,294
1957-58	..	37,032		56,346
1958-59	..	40,959		61,478
1959-60	..	72,120		56,677
1960-61	..	63,839		58,737
1961-62	..	61,365		47,762
1962-63	..	64,793		51,333
1963-64	..	70,169		84,535
1964-65	..	51,594		76,524

APPENDIX II

Balangir Municipality

Statement showing annual receipts and expenditure

Year	Receipts	Expenditure	Total Expenditure on roads only
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1952-53	38,953	18,180	..
1953-54	57,268	59,691	..
1954-55	76,644	67,006	..
1955-56	85,608	58,197	..
1956-57	1,06,056	58,035	..
1957-58	1,48,723	1,20,232	..
1958-59	1,13,962	92,323	..
1959-60	2,01,787	1,42,541	29,840
1960-61	2,67,445	1,66,200	40,594
1961-62	2,69,763	1,35,196	36,362
1962-63	1,84,979	2,04,851	..
1963-64	1,81,758	1,72,899	..
1964-65	1,72,731	1,81,766	..

APPENDIX III

Patnagarh Notified Area Council—Statement showing annual receipts and expenditure

Receipts	1964-65	1965-66	Expenditure	1964-65	1965-66
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
Arrear of Panchayat Tax.	1,202	122	Office Establishment	15,544	22,502
Kine House	3 8	393	Contingencies	5,784	5,626
Cycle Tax	1,705	..	Stationery and printing.	637	389
Weekly Market	1,954	1,940	Allowance	388	559
Cattle Market	7,304	13,269	Fair and Festival	525	278
Government grants	4,261	21,080	Furniture	993	..
Carts and Carriage tax	..	1,214	Repair	503	1,578
			Travelling advance	362	1,244
			Allowance.		
Miscellaneous	6,839	5,056			
Other tax	..	89	Help to the poor students Development work.	265	1,500
Total	..	23,643	43,163	25,001	33,666

APPENDIX IV

Kantabanji Notified Area Council

Statement showing annual receipts and expenditure

Year		Receipts	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1961-62	..	46,732	47,263
1962-63	..	72,330	53,939
1963-64	..	76,697	62,613
1964-65	..	42,204	70,377
1965-66	..	82,668	58,336

APPENDIX V

Titilagarh Notified Area Council

Statement showing annual receipts and expenditure

Year		Receipts	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1961-62	..	75,436	68,748
1962-63	..	84,059	72,286
1963-64	..	58,864	62,724
1964-65	..	82,361	99,965
1965-66	..	3,85,468	1,31,371

APPENDIX VI
The list of Grama Panchayats in the Balangir District

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
BALANGIR SUBDIVISION		
1	Kudasingha	.. 5,216
2	Sadaipali	.. 4,772
3	Manhira	.. 3,321
4	Sibtala	.. 3,482
5	Jhankarpali	.. 3,274
6	Chandanbhati	.. 5,663
7	Sakma	.. 4,279
8	Khujenpali	.. 4,185
9	Barapudgia	.. 3,396
10	Chudapali	.. 4,105
11	Bidighat	.. 4,487
12	Bhundimuhan	.. 3,651
13	Chhatamakhana	.. 3,820
14	Bilaisarda	.. 3,620
15	Pipirda	.. 3,007
16	Sauntpur	.. 3,550
17	Malmunda	.. 4,317
18	Puintala	.. 4,490
19	Chhatapipal	.. 3,971
20	Bhaler	.. 5,135
21	Daspur	.. 3,320

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
22	Talgaj	3,847
23	Mahimunda	5,365
24	Bairasar	5,606
25	Bubel	5,058
26	Jamgan	5,989
27	Deogan	4,779
28	Bandhapara	4,638
29	Kuthurla	3,918
30	Mahalai	3,222
31	Jarasingha	5,952
32	Badbandh	4,792
33	Sarasbahal	5,520
34	Uparjhar	3,808
35	Dhandamal	3,487
36	Ramachandrapur	3,427
37	Arjunpur	4,111
38	Gaurgoth	3,282
39	Loisinga	5,687
40	Jogisarda	3,596
41	Kusang	5,693
42	Sargad	4,649
43	Badimunda	4,517
44	Burda	5,375

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
45	Rengali	3,280
46	Badibahal	3,615
47	Dungripali	4,006
48	Kusmel	4,876
49	Kandajuri	5,678
50	Tushra	5,900
51	Samra	5,798
52	Rusuda	4,089
53	Tentelkhunti	5,251
54	Gudvela	3,876
55	Ghuna	2,738
56	Jamut	3,325
57	Patuapali	5,391
58	Salebhata	5,201
59	Bharsuja	5,618
60	Agalpur	5,009
61	Badtika	5,015
62	Dudka	3,560
63	Nagaon	5,146
64	Bendra	3,820
65	Budula	5,016
66	Roth	4,844

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
PATNAGARH SUBDIVISION		
1	Lendumundi	5,453
2	Bonaimunda	3,725
3	Pandamunda	5,175
4	Jogimunda	5,432
5	Gangasagar	4,672
6	Tendapadar	5,555
7	Bhainsa	5,446
8	Barpadar	4,975
9	Larambha	5,770
10	Tamia	5,002
11	Ghasian	5,670
12	Sunamudi	4,083
13	Solbandh	5,225
14	Khaprakhol	5,240
15	Bhanpur	4,205
16	Telenpali	5,478
17	Luhasingha	3,590
18	Lathor	5,917
19	Bagmunda	3,152
20	Tankapani	5,010
21	Dameipali	3,398
22	Dhandamunda	4,903

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
23	Maharpadar ..	4,367
24	Ghumsar ..	3,528
25	Padiabahal ..	3,403
26	Belpara ..	5,818
27	Mandal ..	5,588
28	Kapani ..	5,878
29	Sarmuhan ..	5,960
30	Kanut ..	5,700
31	Ghagurli ..	5,802
32	Dhumabhata ..	5,746
33	Gambhari ..	5,652
34	Bahabal ..	5,697
35	Bagudar ..	4,707
36	Sulekela ..	5,889
SONEPUR SUBDIVISION		
1	Tarbha ..	5,843
2	Badbhaira ..	5,751
3	Kamsara ..	3,853
4	Singhari ..	4,084
5	Menda ..	5,841
6	Sibtala ..	3,478
7	Pua ..	3,304
8	Charbhata ..	4,461

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
9	Deulpadar	3,588
10	Sargaj	5,532
11	Dubula	4,836
12	Ullunda	5,332
13	Kotsamalai	4,709
14	Panchmahala	4,659
15	Mohada	3,621
16	Jaloi	4,168
17	Bisipara	3,959
18	Rakasa	4,633
19	Kalapathar	4,221
20	Patrapali	2,324
21	Chadeipunkh	5,531
22	Kalapathar	5,075
23	Bisimunda	5,252
24	Mayurdan	4,436
25	Narayanpur	5,217
26	Lachhipur	5,615
27	Rengali	5,899
28	Khari	5,030
29	Binka	5,033
30	Sankara	4,135
31	Baunsuni	3,614

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
32	Saledi	4,049
33	Mahada	5,443
34	Bankigirdi	4,882
35	Singhijuba	4,911
36	Silati	5,522
37	Sindurpur	5,157
38	Ufula	4,458
39	Hilung	4,566
40	Sublaya	5,006
41	Jatesingh	3,742
42	Pitamahul	5,034
43	Khandabata	4,920
44	Bahalpadar	4,880
45	Mursundi	5,261
46	Kenjeriapali	4,890
47	Bagbar	3,670
48	Rampur	5,619
49	Gajbandh	5,130
50	Behermal	5,855
51	Dungripali	5,935
52	Mayabarah	5,387
53	Sukha	5,464
54	Ichhapur	4,380
55	Cherupali	5,130
56	Digsira	5,564

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
TITILAGARH SUBDIVISION		
1	Turekela ..	5,179
2	Chatuanka ..	5,858
3	Mahulpati ..	3,827
4	Dholmandal ..	2,822
5	Mahakhand ..	4,860
6	Kuibahal ..	5,759
7	Dhamandanga ..	5,884
8	Khagasa ..	5,166
9	Ghunesh ..	3,696
10	Jagua ..	5,653
11	Kholan ..	4,247
12	Marlad ..	5,613
13	Adabahal ..	1,787
14	Bijepur ..	5,944
15	Luthurbandh ..	5,565
16	Maingan ..	4,668
17	Parasara ..	4,687
18	Kursud ..	5,109
19	Kuskela ..	5,252
20	Naren ..	4,686
21	Sagadagiata ..	3,920
22	Bandupala ..	5,522

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
23	Kumbhari ..	4,355
24	Ghumsar ..	5,706
25	Dungripali ..	5,645
26	Siskel ..	5,576
27	Gandpatrapali ..	5,148
28	Tirapara ..	4,859
29	Bhadra ..	5,618
30	Jurabandh ..	2,381
31	Karamtala ..	3,804
32	Saintala ..	5,862
33	Budhabahal ..	6,172
34	Bangomunda ..	5,929
35	Belpada ..	5,413
36	Chulifunka ..	5,256
37	Chadutara ..	4,692
38	Mundpadar ..	4,961
39	Dedgan ..	5,262
40	Kapilabhata ..	5,293
41	Jharial ..	5,276
42	Sindhekela ..	4,915
43	Bhalumunda ..	4,806
44	Jamkhunta ..	4,234
45	Alanda ..	5,448

Serial No.	Name of the Grama Panchayats	Population
1	2	3
46	Muribahal ..	5,896
47	Inchhaparu ..	5,502
48	Gudighat ..	5,271
49	Badasaimara ..	5,529
50	Patrapali ..	5,841
51	Kaldi ..	5,659
52	Tentelkhunti ..	5,340
53	Bankel ..	4,984
54	Lebda ..	5,781
55	Malisira ..	4,531
56	Goimunda ..	5,871