

Wednesday,  
18th July, 1883

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Council of the Governor General of India,

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

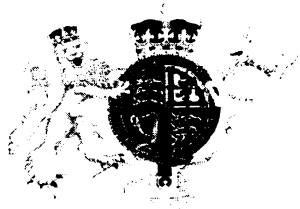
Vol. XXII

Jan.-Dec., 1883

**ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF**  
**THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA**  
**ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING**  
**LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

**1883**

**VOLUME XXII**



**PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL .**

**CALCUTTA**

**Gazettes & Debates Section  
Parliament Library Building  
Room No. FB-025  
Block 'G'**

**PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING INDIA  
1884**

*Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Governor General of India, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 & 25 Vic., cap. 67.*

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 18th July, 1883.

P R E S E N T :

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.

Major the Hon'ble E. Baring, R.A., C.S.I., C.I.E.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble T. O. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BIKRÁMA SINGH'S ESTATES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to confirm and give effect to an award made by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General regarding certain matters in dispute between Sardár Bikráma Singh and the Kapúrthhala State be taken into consideration.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to Local Self-government in British Burma. He said :—

“The Government of India has for some time had under consideration the question of amending the law relating to municipalities in British Burma, so

as to bring it more completely into harmony with those principles of local self-government which have been recently laid down by the Government of India, and generally adopted in other provinces. The Bill which I am now asking for leave to introduce has been prepared for the purpose of making such amendments in the existing Municipal Act for British Burma (Act VII of 1874) as are needed for the purpose of giving effect to this object. We have found it convenient to repeal this Act, and opportunity has been taken to introduce various improvements in matters of minor detail, such as arrangement, drafting, and so forth, which the experience of the last eight or nine years has suggested.

“ I do not propose to trouble the Council with any detailed account of the Bill, the provisions of which are fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It will be sufficient to refer very shortly to one or two of the more important alterations which it will make in the law.

“ In the first place, the Local Government is empowered by the Bill to include, within the limits of a municipality, not merely a town, but also any tract of country adjoining a town. This provision is not suited to the circumstances of the larger seaport towns, but it will enable a small town to be made the nucleus of some kind of organization for the neighbouring rural district. Where the provision is applied, it will be necessary to supplement the municipal fund from rural sources, and also to give such additional powers to the municipal authorities as will be requisite to enable them to deal with rural questions. Provisions having these objects in view have accordingly been introduced into the Bill.

“ Then, as to the constitution of the municipal authority. Under the existing law, the municipal committee may be either elected or appointed. As a matter of fact, I believe the members of municipal committees are at present appointed in every place except Rangoon and Moulmein, where the elective system has been recently introduced. Under the Bill, at least three-fourths of the municipal board, as the authority is to be hereafter called, must be elected, except in places where the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that no suitable system of election can be devised. The chairman of a municipal board will be elected, except in places which the Local Government excludes by notification from the operation of this rule.

“ The Bill does not reproduce the provision of the existing law which requires a municipality to maintain out of its funds an establishment of police. Police charges will now be borne by the Government, and a considerable amount of money will thus be set free for the purposes of general improvement.

“ Under the existing Act, the Chief Commissioner has absolute power to cancel, suspend or limit any of the acts, proceedings or rules of any municipi-

pal committee. For this power the Bill proposes to substitute a carefully modified system of control similar to that established by the Local Self-government Bills recently introduced for other provinces. Again, under the existing law, the Chief Commissioner has full discretionary power to determine by rule the limits within which the local authorities are to be empowered to execute public works. This discretion is limited by the Bill, which provides that the four largest municipalities may undertake, of their own authority, works for which the estimates do not exceed Rs. 20,000, and that other municipalities may in like manner undertake works for which the estimates do not exceed Rs. 10,000."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India*, and in the *British Burma Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

#### EMIGRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the Emigration of Natives of India.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 25th July, 1883.

SIMLA;  
The 20th July, 1883. }

D. FITZPATRICK,  
*Secretary to the Government of India,*  
*Legislative Department.*