



LOK SATTA PARTY
Aware Citizen, Clean Politics

Leaders with a new vision are emerging



A vision for a new skyline is emerging



**MUMBAI
VISION**



1. PREFACE

This document is dedicated to the industrious citizens of Mumbai who have worked hard for over 300 years to make Mumbai the mega city it is today.

But all is not well in Mumbai today. Established parties have neglected Mumbai and it is now suffering due to lack of long term planning. Most solutions are short term, intended to create maximum gain for those in power. Before our eyes, the poor are getting poorer; there is no effective plan for housing, sanitation, education and health. The city that got uninterrupted power and water is facing shortages. Roads are perpetually potholed, public transportation is in a mess, badly planned infrastructure is cropping up everywhere, construction projects are

Why have things deteriorated?
✓ Corruption effecting all basic services
✓ Lack of integrated city planning
✓ Conventional politicians concerned with immediate gain, causing short term planning/mismanagement
✓ An overall absence of good leadership in the political system
✓ Multiple agencies working without adequate coordination / alignment
✓ Inadequate mechanisms for citizen participation in problem solving

left unfinished. The list is endless. We all need to urgently choose whether we will act or just remain mute spectators as Mumbai turns from bad to worse.

Various concerned Mumbaikars have in the past prepared well-researched and exhaustive papers on the vision for Mumbai. However being part of non-political bodies, their work was restricted to remain mere recommendations, mostly calling for better governance urgently and hoping that politicians would do something. But not much can be achieved if political will, political competence and political honesty are missing. Lok Satta aims to bring these qualities back in to politics. This vision marks the first serious attempt by a political party to address the gap of better governance by converting many of the long-standing legitimate recommendations into a political agenda.

Lok Satta's internal party democracy model provides opportunity to sincere and capable people to get elected to power. One of our main priorities is to bring local governance closer to citizens and to establish a mechanism for coordination of various government institutions. It is with these credentials that we present this draft vision for the attention of every Mumbaikar and Indian. We urge all stakeholders – citizens, NGOs, activists as well as other political players to contribute to develop this vision.

We humbly recognize that in addition to our efforts and persuasions to the state and union government, this vision can only be achieved with the help of the citizen of Mumbai. For this, we commit ourselves to make their voices heard, their concerns addressed and their pains our own so that together we can restore Mumbai to its rightful glory. We hope that each citizen will embrace this vision as their own.

Problems faced by Mumbai
✓ Roads – pot holed and in a mess
✓ Mumbai is dirty, suffers from poor waste management
✓ Growing shortage of Water & Power
✓ Failing public transportation system
✓ Incomplete / Unplanned construction projects
✓ No effective plan/delivery of housing, sanitation, education and health
✓ Increasingly a “difficult” city to live in

How is Lok Satta Party different?
✓ Background as a civil society movement founded in 1996
✓ Championed major reforms like RTI, Gram Panchayat Act, Local Courts Act, Mandatory disclosure of candidate criminal history and assets, Lokpal Bill and Nagar Raj Bill
✓ Party founded in 2006 and promoted by persons of impeccable credentials - Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan and Mr. Surendra Srivastava
✓ Dedicated to bring the best back in politics through a party constitution committed to internal party democracy. Candidate is elected by other party members, not by money or “high command” decisions
✓ Objective of overcoming politics of dynasty, divisiveness and goondaism by delivering good governance and local empowerment

2. Guiding Principles

Lok Satta Party believes that sustained and effective development is possible if we start thinking like a developed nation. Our city plan must be:

- **Inclusive** – must benefit all residents of Mumbai, irrespective of region, religion, language and caste
- **Think of Tomorrow** – address the future population growth trends and plan accordingly
- **Simple** – it should be easy to implement and understand by those concerned
- **Encompassing** – the role of all functions and machinery of governance must be considered while developing a plan, to avoid confusion and inconvenience. It must give a greater say to citizens.

3. Goals

- **Financial Growth:** Restore Mumbai’s historic GDP growth rates, which currently lags both that of Maharashtra and India
- **Infrastructure:** Upgrade Mumbai’s urban infrastructure so that citizens can lead a productive life with comfort and dignity. This includes access to housing, better transportation, road, electricity, water, sanitation and other civic amenities
- **Social Security:** Care for all our citizens with special attention to children, elderly, under privileged and the differently abled
- **Physical Security, Law and Order:** Invest in building a more cohesive, well trained, equipped and answerable machinery to keep the citizens of Mumbai safe
- **Improved quality of life:** Provide affordable access for all to libraries, museums and to promote avenues for all citizens to learn and excel in their area of interest. Ensure that every citizen has access to clean air, quiet zones, beaches and parks to relax and spend time with their near ones
- **Preserving our natural, cultural, historic assets etc:** Increase the realization that we are custodians of our heritage/resources on behalf of future generations and preserve / optimize usage of all resources accordingly
- **Mechanisms to deliver quality governance:** Build and maintain systems that ensure that power is delivered in the hands of capable people. Also maintain continued answerability of those in office through institutionalized mechanisms for increased citizen participation in governance. This can be done by:
 - **Foster Leadership:** Provide opportunity for grass-root leadership to take place and enable capable leadership to enter politics
 - **Tackle Corruption (Collusive and Extortionary)** which restrains even the best intentioned people from making a difference

Goals
1. Accelerate Financial Growth
2. Prioritise Urban Infrastructure development
3. Better Social Security implementation
4. Improve physical security and law and order by Police-Citizen partnership model, local courts
5. Increase focus on quality of life like parks, libraries etc. and guarantee clean air, water and beaches
6. Preserve natural, cultural and historical assets
7. Set mechanisms for good governance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve quality of political leadership ○ Tackle corruption

3.1 Financial Growth

Lok Satta firmly believes that the failure to manage commercial growth has been fuelling the need for political parties to pursue divisive agendas and the resultant deterioration in civic and governance infrastructure. Hence it is absolutely critical that an ambitious financial growth objective must be undertaken and concerted efforts be made to achieve it.

Lok Satta Party commits to provide the people the following:

- To ensure that the fast growing working population remains employable and they do not resort to a life of crime and goondaism, Lok Satta will set up and ensure proper functioning of soft skills training programs in every corporator ward. Training content and delivery of trainings will be closely monitored with participation from the corporate/industrial houses of Mumbai to ensure that employable skills are being provided to people. We will also involve colleges, housing society residents and schools in supporting these initiatives so that citizens are able to better appreciate each other's problems and the urgency for solutions. Community led initiatives for employment and placement of people will be encouraged.
- Mumbai's failing financial health**

 - Mumbai's GDP lags behind that of Maharashtra and India
 - In 2002, Mumbai's GDP was 2.7%, as opposed to India GDP of 5.6% and Maharashtra GDP of 4.2%
 - Only 1-3% of revenue generated by Mumbai is ploughed back
 - Mumbai is increasingly being left behind in the race of being a preferred destination for business
 - Forbes quality of survey life rated Mumbai at 163 out of 213 cities
 - EIU hardship ratings scored Mumbai at 124 out of 130 cities
 - A McKinsey Report (2003) for Bombay First commented that Mumbai is in "grave danger of collapsing completely"
- Lok Satta will encourage industries that provide highest revenues in smallest space. We will leverage the availability of high quality educated talent from institutions like IIT-B to attract companies in Financial services, media, engineering design & research, IT, fashion, Pharma & Bio-tech. Even while in opposition, Lok Satta will continue to push for legislative and administrative reforms that will make it easier for such industries to operate in Mumbai.
- Accelerating Mumbai's financial growth**

 - ✓ Set an ambitious financial growth objective
 - ✓ Job creation targets supported by soft skills training centers with industry support and NGOs to ensure employability of Mumbaikars
 - ✓ Push for greater share of Mumbai's revenues to be reinvested in the city's development
 - ✓ Encourage industries with highest revenue in smallest space like IT, financial services, fashion, entertainment, pharma, research etc
 - ✓ Develop business excellence zones like BKC on globally comparable standards
 - ✓ Promote non-polluting and environment friendly industries
- We will promote policies that encourage the growth of industries that are non-polluting and environment friendly

3.2 Infrastructure

Lok Satta will promote transparency and greater accountability in all functions of governance so that infrastructure projects are better executed and regularly monitored for upkeep and maintenance.

- **Housing:** Increase the availability of land by integrating Mumbai Port Trust, Defense, Mazagaon docks, BARC lands and also recycling existing lands. Targets will be set to fast track low income social housing, including the option of massive rental housing schemes
- **Transportation:** Lok Satta will press for legislation to develop an integrated public transportation system so that commuters can travel smoothly across buses, trains and monorails, each of which will be conveniently interconnected with covered walk-ways, subways and feeder transportation like buses, taxis and auto rickshaws. Evaluate the feasibility of water travel. Ensure that the overdue review of the auto rickshaw and taxi services is undertaken. Also ensure that transportation is available for longer working hours and at night time.
- **Roads:** Set up a coordination mechanism across multiple agencies responsible for maintenance of roads. Strongly enforce the blacklisting rules against contractors who fail to make roads as per the required quality and engineering standards. Encourage local governance mechanisms for raising timely complaints and monitor timely repair of damaged roads. Set up controls to ensure that construction of new roads and flyovers are in accordance to an integrated city development plan to avoid random and shoddy work.
- **Power &Water:** Complete a comprehensive assessment of Mumbai’s power and water requirements. Set transmission loss reduction target on concerned agencies and undertake repair/replacement work to tackle transmission losses. Strengthen audits of services provided and make these reports public. For the longer term, an integrated city development will be prepared to meet the needs of safe and sufficient supply of power and water to Mumbai on sustained basis. Immediate steps will be taken to improve rainwater harvesting which is a major opportunity in a rain surplus city like Mumbai.
- **Sanitation:** Lok Satta Party will identify the need for more mobile / fixed toilets through Corporator and Ward Area Sabha Representatives. Local awareness will be created on the importance of cleanliness. Lok Satta will work closely with the BMC to ensure that public toilets are sufficient as well as adequately maintained.

Improving Mumbai’s infrastructure
<p>Build accountability through Project Management Contracts: Assign agencies with international project management experience to monitor and review infrastructure development and maintenance contracts exceeding 0.5% of total annual city budget</p> <p>Audits of infrastructure development and maintenance work: to be done by independent agencies and reported publically every year</p> <p>Implement recommendations of Nagar Raj Bill and JNNURM</p> <p>Key infrastructure requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Housing: Increase land availability, Fast track low income social housing including massive rental housing schemes ✓ Transportation: Push for an Integrated Public Transportation system (buses, local, metro etc), complete auto-rickshaw and taxi service review and implement recommendations ✓ Roads: Enforce blacklisting of contractors, new roads as per an integrated city development plan, strengthen citizen participation in audit and escalation of road construction and repair work related issues ✓ Power &Water: Set transmission loss reduction targets on concerned agencies, develop rainwater harvesting capability ✓ Sanitation: More mobile and fixed toilets, increased local and BMC coordination for timely deposit and collection of waste, tracking leakages and route changes. Independent quality audits of pre-treatment of waste before being dumped into sea or land. Regular audit and repair of drainage systems ✓ Other Civic Amenities: Follow the general principle of using citizen participation to escalate the most pressing civic issues and increase coordination between stakeholders, continue the monitoring and maintenance through periodic citizen drives and audits

Garbage and waste management controls will be closely monitored. Corporators and Ward Area Sabha Representatives with in their areas will form coordination group with residents / housing societies to ensure that waste is collected and segregated properly and kept in pre-designated areas on time. Similar coordination with BMC will be undertaken that the collection is done on time and that there are no leakages or route changes that lead to over accumulation of garbage in any area.

Waste is required to be pre-treated before being released into the sea. Due audits to ensure that waste treatment plants are working will be strongly enforced. This will also provide the people of Mumbai cleaner air and sea beaches.

Regular cleaning and timely audits of drainage systems will be undertaken through the help of Corporator and Ward Area Sabhas. Prioritisation of drainage network expansion in regularly affected areas will be undertaken. All new projects will be designed to conform to basic rules of integrated urban planning for foreseeable future.

- **Other Civic Amenities:** Lok Satta understands that proper civic amenities are not missing due to the lack of rules or funds, but rather due to the lack of good monitoring and coordination between BMC, other agencies and citizens. Lok Satta is committed to follow the principles of increased interaction and coordination between stakeholders to ensure that the most important civic issues remain on priority for BMC and that they are addressed through necessary focus, administrative or legislative actions. A key tool for this set up will be the implementation of “Nagar Raj Bill” covered later in this document as well as recommendations of the JNNURM, Second Administration Reforms Commission (ARC) and in true spirit of 74th Constitutional Amendment.

3.2 Social Security

As Mumbai continues to grow at breakneck speed, it is the duty of the state to ensure that special attention is paid to the social security of the citizens.

- Locality representatives or Area Sabha Representatives (ASRs) will work with social groups to ensure that government schools and hospitals are properly run. Staff attendance will be monitored and regular inspections will be done to ensure required supplies are available. Notice Boards declaring the record of attendance of staff, availability of supplies and persons to contact will be prominently displayed in the localities.
- Mechanisms will be established to raise the awareness of citizen rights to avail social security services, for e.g. vaccination, primary health services, employment and Public Distribution programs
- Lok Satta Party will support the expansion of Aadhaar ID (UID) registration drives and will work towards a 100% registration of all citizens in the areas under its governance
- Public Distribution Schemes will be monitored to ensure for proper functioning by Area Sabha Representatives
- Old age homes and orphanages will be maintained / set up as per requirements and monitored for ensuring proper care is being provided. Where required, citizen awareness and engagement will be used

Improving Mumbai's Social Security

- ✓ Notice boards to declare staff attendance, contact numbers and availability of supplies in every ward for government schools, primary health care centers etc.
- ✓ Raise citizen awareness about social security entitlements
- ✓ Expand Aadhaar enrolments in ward to reach 100% citizens
- ✓ Citizen participation and closer monitoring of maintenance of old age homes and orphanages

so that we, as a society collectively take care of fellow under-privileged citizens and help them lead lives of dignity and hope

3.4 Physical Security, Law & Order

3.4.1 Security

Security continues to be a state subject. However there are various measures possible even within a city's jurisdiction to improve security.

- Citizen community policing committees (comprising of housing societies, slum associations/representatives and trader associations) will be formed under Corporator and Ward Area Sabha Representatives to identify new residents and people working in the area and share information with police periodically
- New residents in Mumbai who do not have any local referral will be required to provide additional information that will be shared with local police by Citizen Coordination Committees
- Promote cooperation and mutual understanding between communities and police force to develop a consultative method of addressing local policing requirements
- Ensure that existing CCTV cameras in public areas function properly and archives of recordings are maintained as per rules. Ensure that more requirements of CCTVs are delivered promptly
- Engage with concerned authorities to ensure that security forces are adequately staffed, trained and motivated to perform their duties

Improving Mumbai's Physical Security

- ✓ Promote cooperation between communities and police force to develop consultative approach to handle policing necessities
- ✓ Form community policing committees under Ward Area Sabha Representatives
- ✓ Stringent implementation of new resident registration process with local police
- ✓ Ensure CCTV availability and proper functioning and archival of information

3.4.2 Law & Order

Ensuring that the laws are updated and duly enforced is one of the most important functions of state. Any failure

Improving Mumbai's law and order

- ✓ Any act of public disorder, misuse of power and destruction of state / private property to be treated equally, irrespective of the cause or reason for violating the law
- ✓ Committed to promote a culture where laws can be "respected" rather than "feared". Will follow an all encompassing approach through citizen engagement, police, administrative and legislative actions
- ✓ Strongly support anti-corruption measures, including the formation of a Lok Adhikari at city level as envisaged in Lokpal bill
- ✓ Support implementation and smooth functioning of local courts to increase public confidence in justice delivery mechanisms

in this basic responsibility results in chaos, anarchy and goondaism. Lok Satta believes in being firm against any acts of public disorder, destruction of state/private property or acts which inconvenience citizens. No matter how legitimate the cause or reason, basic respect for law cannot be disregarded.

That said, Lok Satta understands that a society is most progressive when laws are "respected" rather than "feared". While enforcement will be developed to be a

pivotal tool to maintain law and order, Lok Satta will also undertake massive drives to engage with citizens through Ward Area Sabha Representatives to increase the awareness of following rules and the resultant impact which will benefit all citizens.

Lok Satta is a strong supporter of anti-corruption laws including the early passing of the Lokpal Bill. Our national president has been a special invitee by the standing committee of the parliament responsible for drafting the Lokpal Bill. Lok Satta commits itself to prompt implementation of the act, especially the formation of a Lok Adhikari to monitor city level corruption. Especial focus will be given to ensure corruption in policing functions is dealt with on priority.

Lok Satta has also been a strong supporter of decentralizing justice dispensation through Local Court Bill and the passing of Gram Nyayalay Act, 2008. We have played a significant role in pressing for judicial reforms at a national level including making recommendations for the National Judicial Commission. We will work towards the timely implementation of the police & judicial reforms requirements in Mumbai. Chief of them will be to ensure Fast track courts for localized and speedier dispensation of justice.

So all in all, maintenance of law and order will also be driven through legislative, administrative and civic actions. At one end, we will drive for greater empowerment and staffing of the security and judicial functions, ably supported by good laws. On the other end, we will increase citizen participation to understand the need for specific laws and the importance to follow them.

3.5 Improved quality of life

The civic management of Mumbai is obliged to create an environment that maximizes the productivity of the citizens and provides maximum avenues for performance.

Accordingly, Lok Satta is committed to the following agenda:

- Creation and maintenance of public parks in every ward
- Provide affordable access for all to libraries and museums
- Promote avenues for all citizens to learn and excel in their area of interest
- Ensure that every citizen has access to clean air, quiet zones and beaches to relax and spend time with family and friends

3.6 Preserving our natural, cultural, historic assets etc

Lok Satta Party is committed to increase the realization that we are custodians of our resources and heritage on behalf of future generations and preserve / optimize usage of all resources accordingly

- | Preserving Mumbai's heritage, culture and nature | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a comprehensive review in identifying heritage structures, timely audits and ensuring their proper maintenance • Desilting and cleaning of inland waterways • Preservation and safe zones for the city's mangroves, flora and fauna • Enforcement of clean air policy by implementing clean fuels, public transportation reforms • Encourage and organize mega events around the city's major festivals. This will be done in marked out areas so that the overall city life is not disrupted and the extra pressure on police force is reduced which also costs tax-payer money. Cultural arts and performances will be encouraged in these events. Efforts will be made to build stronger sense of unity and cooperation by these events. Lessons from successful and multi-cultural cities like Singapore and London will be learnt and implemented • Reduce noise, air and water pollution through target setting on agencies and periodic audits reported publically | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprehensive review to identify and maintain heritage structures; evaluate their conversion to museums ✓ De-silting of inland waterways and develop them in to public spaces ✓ Preservation of the city's mangroves, flora and fauna. Improving Sanjay Gandhi National Park as well as Mumbai's aquarium to world class levels ✓ Public transportation reforms to reduce air pollution and waste pre-treatment controls to provide the city cleaner air and beaches ✓ Develop Mumbai's cultural events and festivals like Ganeshotsav, Janmashtami, Eid, Diwali, Christmas into mega-events in pre-designated areas to develop them as tourist attractions |

3.7 Mechanisms to deliver sustained quality governance

These tasks associated with our vision of a renewed Mumbai can only be implemented if a framework is put in place to ensure good quality governance, which requires both capable people to govern and an environment that allows them to operate honestly with minimal intervention of vested interests aiming to misuse their powers.

Lok Satta Party firmly believes that the delivery of the above vision is not possible without creating this mechanism. It therefore is firmly committed to make the following one of its main objectives:

- **Fostering Leadership:** Provide opportunity for grass-root leadership to take place and enable capable leadership to enter politics
- **Tackling Corruption (Collusive and Extortory)** which restrains even the best intentioned people from making a difference

3.7.1 Fostering Leadership

It is vital to nurture grass-root level leadership to let the governance mechanism know the needs of the people and to monitor and engage with them when there is a need to improve.

Hence the most important of all our recommendations is the implementation of the Nagar Raj Bill, which promises greater accountability to the citizens of Mumbai by the creation of closer units of local governance in the form of Ward Area Sabha(s).

Key proposals of Nagar Raj Bill include:

- Formation of Ward Area Sabha(s) comprising of local voters in geographical area of one polling booth (about 1200-1700 citizen)
- Election of Area Sabha Representatives (ASR) from each of the Area Sabhas in a ward (about 35-40 Ward Area Sabha(s) in each ward)
- Formation of a Ward Committee in each Corporator's ward (Total 227 ward committees in Mumbai) comprising of all the ASRs and 4-10 nominated members from NGOs, CBOs etc. with the Corporator as the Chairperson of the Ward Committee.

- Empowering the local elected representatives with Funds, Functions and Functionaries.

Fostering Leadership
<p>Leaders need to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Empowered ✓ Accountable ✓ Given power based on merit, not by dynasty or other considerations. They need internal party democracy to be identified and developed
<p>How can leadership be fostered:</p> <p>Leadership without ownership is not possible. Currently there is an actual and publically perceived confusion between ownership of deliverables between govt agencies; Corporator, MP and MLAs that is hurting true leadership growth. This can be corrected by empowering leaders with the right balance of Funds, Functions and Functionaries</p>
<p>Funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase revenue reinvestments into Mumbai. Only 1-3% of Mumbai's revenues re-invested presently ✓ Funds should be allocated at the ward level so that Corporator is clearly answerable for proper use of funds ✓ Reallocate MP & MLA funds proportionately to ward level
<p>Functions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Work areas of different agencies to be clearly defined and coordinated by a central individual / body at city level, as done by an empowered Mayor in other mega-cities like Tokyo, London, New York etc. ✓ All agencies to operate as per an integrated city development plan with clear functional roles and responsibilities as well as mechanisms for coordination ✓ Answerability of the functional head to the citizens of Mumbai
<p>Functionaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Current functionary (Corporator) responsible for around 66,000 people adversely impacting governance ✓ Set Up Ward Area Sabha Representatives under a Corporator at a ratio of one male and one female for every 1,500 people ✓ Citizens to have right to recall these functionaries (ASRs) in case of non-performance

Lok Satta Party’s Vision for Empowering Mumbai’s Local Governance Structure

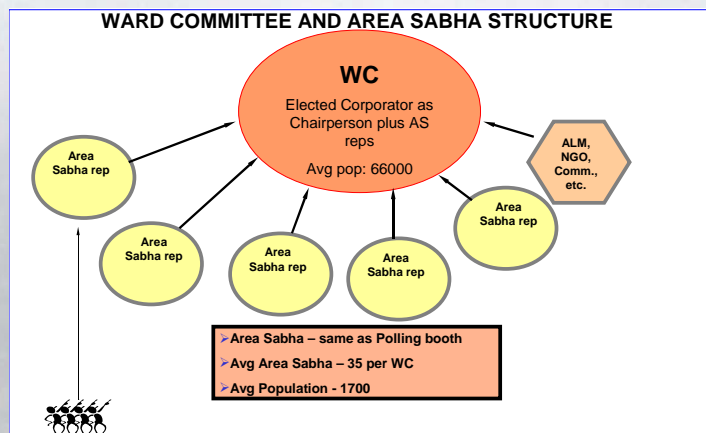
- **Funds:** There is need to correct the way the funds are allocated to Mumbai and further how the funds are distributed between BMC, MP, MLAs and Corporator wards.
 - Currently only 1-3% of Mumbai’s revenues are ploughed back in to the city (McKinsey Study, 2003). A fixed minimum proportion of these revenues must be earmarked for re-investment in key areas like physical infrastructure, transportation, housing, education and security.
 - Secondly, as little as Rs. 500 crores are directly allocated for ward maintenance and development out of a total BMC outlay of over Rs. 25,000 crores. This method of allocation must change to a per capita allocation per citizen so that expenditures at a ward level are directly accounted and the designated representatives can be held accountable for their proper spending.
 - Some constituency development funds are also allocated to MPs and MLAs. LSP will press for a proportionate reallocation of these funds at a ward level

- **Functions:** The roles and duties of various agencies must be clear. Today there are various agencies within Mumbai responsible for various tasks. The problems are increased because some of these agencies end up reporting to the Chief Minister or at state level or at union level. Problems are further compounded by different agencies having different jurisdictions. There is need to create a coordination mechanism at a city level to speed up decision taking and monitoring capabilities. Accordingly, Lok Satta proposes the need for a directly elected empowered Mayor (also recommended by Second Administration Reforms Commission) and Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC) as per 74th Constitutional Amendment) to coordinate the functions of the various agencies operating in the city in a manner to make them answerable to the Mumbaikar. This is the standard model of governance followed by the leading cities of the world including Tokyo, London, New York, San Francisco as well as some of the better-run cities in India like Coimbatore etc. It is time for Mumbai to also adopt a similar model.

- **Functionaries:** Today the closest directly elected people’s representative is the Ward Corporator who is responsible for around 66,000 people. There is no further mechanism guaranteed under present system for this person to engage with his ward. It is not humanly possible to be in proximity to understand the issues of all residents by this one person, which in turn impacts the quality of local governance. Lok Satta is committed to the formation of a layer under the Corporator called Ward “Area Sabha Representatives” (ASRs)

Ward Area Sabha Representative

- The State Election Commission further divides a Corporator’s area at a Polling booth level for its purposes
- It is proposed to assign a polling booth equivalent jurisdiction called Area Sabhas, each to be headed by one male and one female Ward Area Sabha Representative (ASR)
- Each ASR will represent around 1,700 people each



- So a “Ward Committee” with roughly around 30-35 ASRs (Male) and another 30-35 ASRs (Female) will be formed under each Corporator. The ASRs will be responsible to work with the housing societies, trade associations, slum societies etc. to understand the issues of local governance and civic importance and to take them up with BMC and other agencies for proper execution
- They will operate in the form of various functional committees to overlook specific tasks of governance like sanitation, primary healthcare, education, civic infrastructure, community policing etc.
- They will provide ground level requirements in setting the agenda for the Corporator in matters of legislation and financial outlay
- Citizens will have the right to recall an ASR in case of non-performance

There is an important need for grass-root leaders who can over time be nurtured to become leaders at a national level. Lok Satta believes that ASRs will develop a crucial layer of grass-root leadership and will eventually improve overall supply of leadership in politics.

3.7.2 Tackling Corruption

The most sincere and capable person is bound to fail if those who promote corruption and corrupt practices go undetected and unpunished or worse, even get rewarded and promoted. India faces such a situation in its governance system today. Hence all of the above goals run the risk of failure without a parallel attack on containing corruption.

While fostering leadership can ensure capable people assume responsibilities, tackling corruption is required to ensure that they stay motivated and in the system to actually deliver results.

Lok Satta Party is committed to contain and counter all forms of corruption and spells out specific action points against the two prominent forms of corruption:

1. **Extortory:** Govt representatives demand bribes for providing the rightful service due to citizens. A failure to comply invites harassment in the form of abuse, delays or prolonged procedures and costs. Even businesses or vendors can be victims of extortory corruption. Examples include bribes that citizens have to pay starting from registering a person’s birth to marriage and death certificates as also bribes that are demanded during police verification for passports

Lok Satta’s agenda on tackling Corruption

Two types of corruption are impacting governance quality:

- ✓ **Extortory:** govt officials demand bribes for providing the rightful service due to the citizen. Examples include bribes for registering a person’s birth, marriage or death certificates as also bribes demanded during police verification for passports
- ✓ **Collusive:** A willful collusion between govt representatives and vested interests to give away the nations money or assets in return for less than fair value. Examples include Adarsh, 3G, mining and Commonwealth scams

Steps to counter corruption:

- ✓ Press for a prompt installation of a Lok Adhikari at Mumbai level as per Lokpal Bill’s passing in parliament
- ✓ Commission independent annual audit reports on BMC’s expenditure and variations to planned expenditure along with causes. Making such reports public to support RTI activism as a counter check
- ✓ Monitor audit recommendations and making government accountable to people in case of repeated audit comments
- ✓ Implementation of Project Management Contractors (PMCs) to monitor delivery of projects by suppliers. These PMCs will be answerable to the government and people for ensuring delivery of projects are as per specifications for all projects above a certain proportion of the city’s annual budget
- ✓ Specific steps to counter **extortory corruption:**
 - Implement Citizen Charters clearly specifying timelines within which services must be delivered to citizens
 - Complaint logging and redressal mechanism by the formation of Call Center help lines and answerability of the local government in addressing the complaints in a time bound manner
 - Invest in automation and citizen service facilitation centers like the eSeva kendras implemented in states like AP

2. **Collusive:** A willful collusion between govt representatives and vested interests to give away the nation's money or assets in return for less than fair value. There is a real loss to the Indian citizen in the form of less value being received for the same price. Examples include Adarsh, 3G, mining and Commonwealth scams

Steps to counter corruption:

- ✓ Press for a prompt installation of a Lok Adhikari at Mumbai level as per Lokpal Bill's passing in parliament
- ✓ Implement independent annual audit reports on BMC's expenditure and variations to planned expenditure along with causes. Make these reports public to support RTI activism as a counter check
- ✓ Monitor audit recommendations and making government accountable to people in case of repeated audit comments
- ✓ Implementation of Project Management Contractors (PMCs) to monitor delivery of projects by suppliers. These PMCs will be answerable to the government and people for ensuring delivery of projects are as per specifications for all projects above a certain proportion of the city's annual budget
- ✓ Specific steps to counter **extortionary corruption**:
 - Implement Citizen Charters clearly specifying timelines within which services must be delivered to citizens
 - Complaint logging and redressal mechanism by the formation of Call Center helplines and answerability of the local government in addressing the complaints in a time bound manner
 - Invest in automation and citizen service facilitation centers like the eSevakendras implemented in states like AP

4. Concluding Remarks

While the task of rebuilding Mumbai is a long and painful one, the effort can be quickened by citizen participation to demand for proper services and force government to develop and implement overdue reforms. An aware and alert citizenry will ensure that the government is responsible and careful in completing its commitment to citizens. Lok Satta will undertake all efforts to increase citizen awareness and participation by implementing the Ward Area Sabha Representative concept.

No nation in this world can govern itself without the presence of political parties. We all need to ensure that political parties ably address the needs and aspirations of the people. It will be our continued effort to stay true to the principles of inner party democracy so that Mumbaikars can have a credible alternative to vote for in every election.

The dream of a Mumbai that makes every Mumbaikar and Indian proud is achievable. We urge citizens to join us in fulfilling this dream.



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