



Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai

MUMBAI

The premier
metropolis of India
and one of the
world's most
Smart Cities

MAHIM
MATUNGA
WORLI
PAREL
BYCULLA
FORT
COLABA

MUMBAI A Cluster of Seven Islands



Girgaum Road in 19th century.
Today's Jagannath Shankarsheth Marg



Apollo Bunder (1819)
Today's Gateway of India



Head Office of M.C.G.M. (1893)
Victoria Terminus (right) - Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus

History of MUMBAI



Until the 17th century, the city of Bombay comprised an archipelago of seven small islands in the Arabian Sea. The first settlers were aboriginal Koli fishermen, whose hamlets developed along the coasts. Their patron goddess was Mumbadevi after whom the city has now been renamed Mumbai. A number of Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim dynasties ruled the greater Bombay region but it was only after the landing of Vasco da Gama of Portugal at Calicut in 1498 that Bombay's true development began. The Portuguese acquired the seven sparsely populated islands from the Sultans of Gujarat in 1534 in return for military assistance. They established their capital at Bassein in the north, but controlled the islands for more than a century while converting to Christianity thousands of people in and around Bombay.

In 1661, the King of Portugal gifted the islands to King Charles II of England when he married the Portuguese princess, Catherine of Braganza. Charles II leased the islands to the East India Company and suddenly all the naval powers, including the Dutch and French, coveted the Bombay islands, which held infinite promise for development into a port of trading center. The Company strongly fortified the islands against possible foreign attack and in time, the British built a number of causeways to connect the seven islands and a series of reclamations were carried out to eventually weld them together into one land mass. The fortifications were demolished in the late 1860s and an array of Gothic buildings were constructed on the land that was thus opened up. The Municipal Corporation was formally established in 1872 and the Bombay Port Trust a year later.

The development of Bombay as the nation's center of finance, trade and industrial activity continued through the following decades until 1947 when India gained Independence from British rule. Over the last 60 years, Bombay-Mumbai has continued to expand upwards in the form of highrise buildings, and in a northward direction to accommodate its swiftly growing population, which is attracted to the "City of Gold" in large numbers by the prospects of enterprise and employment. This vast area is now known as Brihanmumbai Metropolitan Region.



Municipal Corporation of GREATER MUMBAI

Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai
MUMBAI CITY

The MCGM was formed in the year 1873 as Mumbai's civic body. It is one of the oldest local self governing bodies in India. It embodies the principle of democracy of 'governance of the people', by the people and for the people'. Through the multifarious civic and recreational services that it provides, the MCGM has always been committed to improve the quality of life of the Mumbaites.

VARIOUS SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MCGM

WATER SUPPLY - The MCGM supplies 3750 Million Liters of Water per day to the City of Mumbai. The Water Supply Projects department is engaged in planning, designing, construction, installation & commissioning of plants to enhance the water supply, whereas the Hydraulic Engineering department manages water supply by the management and maintenance of the existing water supply network of around 1400 km long pipelines, 2.5 lakh water connections and billing for the same.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT - The civic government manages the collection, processing and disposal of about 8500 Metric Tonnes of Solid Waste.

SEWERAGE OPERATIONS - MCGM collects, processes and disposes over 1800 Million Liters of effluent per day through its complex network of sewers, treatment plants and outfalls. It maintains a vast network of 1653 km of sewer lines, 50 pumping stations and 7 waste water treatment facilities.

STORM WATER DRAINS - MCGM maintains a network of drains to carry away rain water from throughout the City out to the sea and prevent flooding. Mumbai City & Suburbs receive average rainfall of 2000 mm out of which major rainfall generally occurs in the month of June - July - August. The City has 340 km of major drains and 450 km of minor drains.

EDUCATION - The MCGM provides primary and secondary education to thousands of students. The Education Department runs 1252 schools through which it provides primary education to about 509,955 students and also provides grant in aid to 49 secondary schools that educate 55,576 students.

CITY ROADS - MCGM maintains about 1941 km of road network. Out of the total network, 341 km are concrete roads, while the remaining are asphalt roads. The department looks after the maintenance of old roads as well as the construction of new roads.

PUBLIC HEALTH - Taking measures to prevent and check spread of various diseases, to establish and maintain public health hospitals and dispensaries and to carry out other measures necessary for public health relief is an obligatory duty of the MCGM. The Corporation provides high quality medical services to the citizens through its 4 major hospitals with medical colleges, 5 speciality hospitals, 16 peripheral hospitals, 27 maternity care centers, 183 health post and 168 dispensaries.

GARDENS & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES - Providing recreational facilities to the public is a discretionary duty of MCGM. The Corporation has developed and maintains total number of 710 Public Gardens / Play Grounds and Recreational Grounds alongwith one centrally located Zoo. As a part of its strategic planning, it has initiated the process of upgrading the Zoo facilities to international standards. Process has been initiated to develop Theme Parks /Gardens by involving landscape designs and plans.

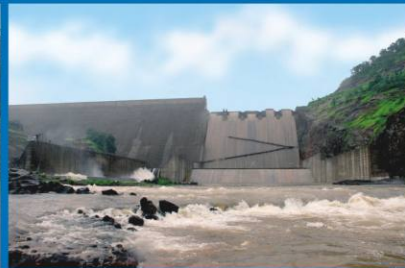


Water Supply Management

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MUMBAI CITY

Water Supply System :

- Middle Vaitarana Dam Project completed. Additional 455 million litres water per day for Greater Mumbai.
- Estimated cost for Rs. 4594 crores in progress for construction and planning of four water tunnels.
- Rehabilitation and reconnection of 80 years old and 91 k.m. in length water pipelines of Tansa at the cost of Rs. 1321 crores.
- 24 x 7 Water Supply Scheme for 13 lakhs citizens in eastern suburbs commissioned.
- Appointment of 'Sewa Upalabdhakar' for improvement in water supply to Greater Mumbai as well as management of 24 x 7 Water Supply.
- Survey of Water Supply network to be completed in 5 years through G.I.S. maps.
- Information about water bills to consumers through SMS and Email facilities.
- Now additional facility of 'NEFT/ Cyber C.F.C./Kiosk/Mobile Apps and Net Banking initiated for payment of water bills.



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Smart City Initiative by MCGM



Community Participation Initiative **ALM** for Apartments & **SMPA** for Slum Area



Segregation at source



House to house collection



Dry waste collection & vehicle



Composting



Palletization



Bio-gas



Closer & extraction of methane gas at gorai



Beach cleaning



Debris on call



VTS & RFID
Vehicle & Bin Tracking System



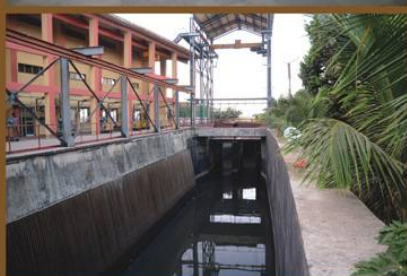
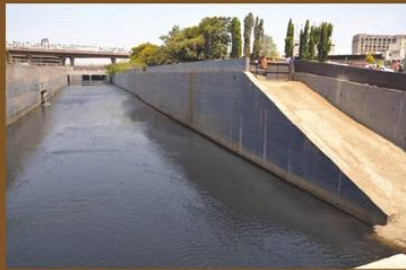
Mechanical sweeping



Biomedical waste collection



Storm Water Drainage



Storm Water Drainage :

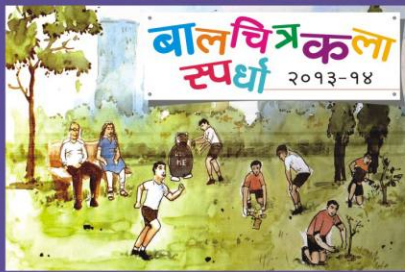
- Work on 34.5 k.m. out of 37.25 k.m. i.e. 95 per cent work under BRIMSTOWAD project - I completed. While work on 52.10 k.m. out of 73.68 k.m. i.e. 75 per cent completed.
- Under BRIMSTOWAD project 17 works out of 58 works have been completed till date. 37 in progress. Provision of Rs. 466.25 crores for this in budget for the year 2014 - 15.
- Provision of Rs. 640.28 crores in budget for the year 2014 - 15 for works other than BRIMSTOWAD project.
- Strengthening of British era 30 k.m. arch drains in the city.
- 55 potential flooding places reduced by 15 due to completed works of storm water drainage.
- Out of 8 pumping stations, 2 stations at Haji Ali and Irla commissioned from May 2011. Storm water pumping stations at Lovegrove and Cleveland Bunder to be commissioned soon. Ground Breaking of Britannia Outfall and Gajdharband pumping stations.
- Proposal for appointment of Catchment Area Engineers for total 122 catchment areas in Mumbai City and suburbs on experimental basis for the first time.
- Provision of Rs. 207.35 crores for maintenance of storm water drainage.
- New works suggested for controlling potential flood situation to be undertaken under Revised Master Plan.

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Education Services

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Special Features of Educational Services :

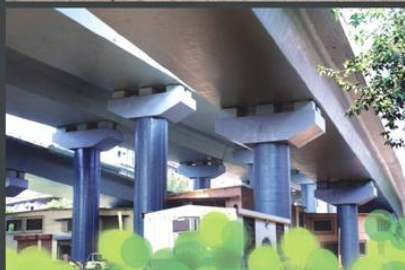
- Semi English medium classes in 427 schools and English medium classes in 111 schools started in MCGM Schools.
- Clean and attractive school buildings.
- Modern Education through computer and audio-visual media.
- To create science interest in students through Vigyan Kutuhal Bhavan.
- All round development of students through the medium of Music, Art and Physical Education.
- Balanced food to all students.
- Education by virtual class to 480 schools which includes 360 primary and 120 secondary schools.
- 'School excellence programme' project was introduced for std. 1st to 5th for Marathi and Urdu medium school to raise the BMC School standard, in academic year 2010 - 2011. This project recently run in 222 BMC School which includes 126 Marathi and 96 Urdu medium schools.
- To develop the reading interest / habit in students and to get acquainted with the knowledge in different fields, with the co-operation of 'Room to Read India' institute, developed 260 libraries, in BMC Schools. 40 more libraries will start in future by 'Room to Read India'.
- In remembrance of Shri. Balasaheb Thackeray Jayanti, Education dept. conducted 'Bal Chitrakala Competition' which was organised by Respected Mayor for std. 1st to 10th BMC and Pvt. School students. This Drawing Competition was held on 18th Jan. 2015 through all 24 wards, in 35 grounds, gardens in 3 groups. Altogether 44758 students participated in this 3 group.
- The brightest student, Mohamad Ali Bashi Sayyed at Pant Nagar Mun. English School got selected for ken-ken international championship which is a maths based competition. He performed the best & secured the position as National Champion. He got a chance to represent the country in New York, USA.
- In academic year 2014 - 15, 17 Guide girl students received state award and 5 girl students received 'President' award.
- To develop scientific temperament and research attitude among the students, on pilot basis, Mini Science Centre was started in Colaba Secondary Schools. Education dept. and C.S.R. Cell with the help of J.S.W. (Jindal Mansion) through C.S.R. stem learning pvt. ltd. will introduce Mini Science Centre (Lab) in BMC 24 Secondary Schools.

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Roads and Bridges

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Featured provisions to maintain roads in Mumbai in good condition :

- For the first time plan for three-years up to year 2015-16 for roads in Mumbai is ready, accordingly improvement of 1239 k.m. of roads is proposed in next 3 years, expected cost for which is around Rs. 7774 crores.
- Proposed Goregaon-Mulund East-West connecting four lane road.
- Process of detailed project report for proposed coastal road begins.

Bridges :

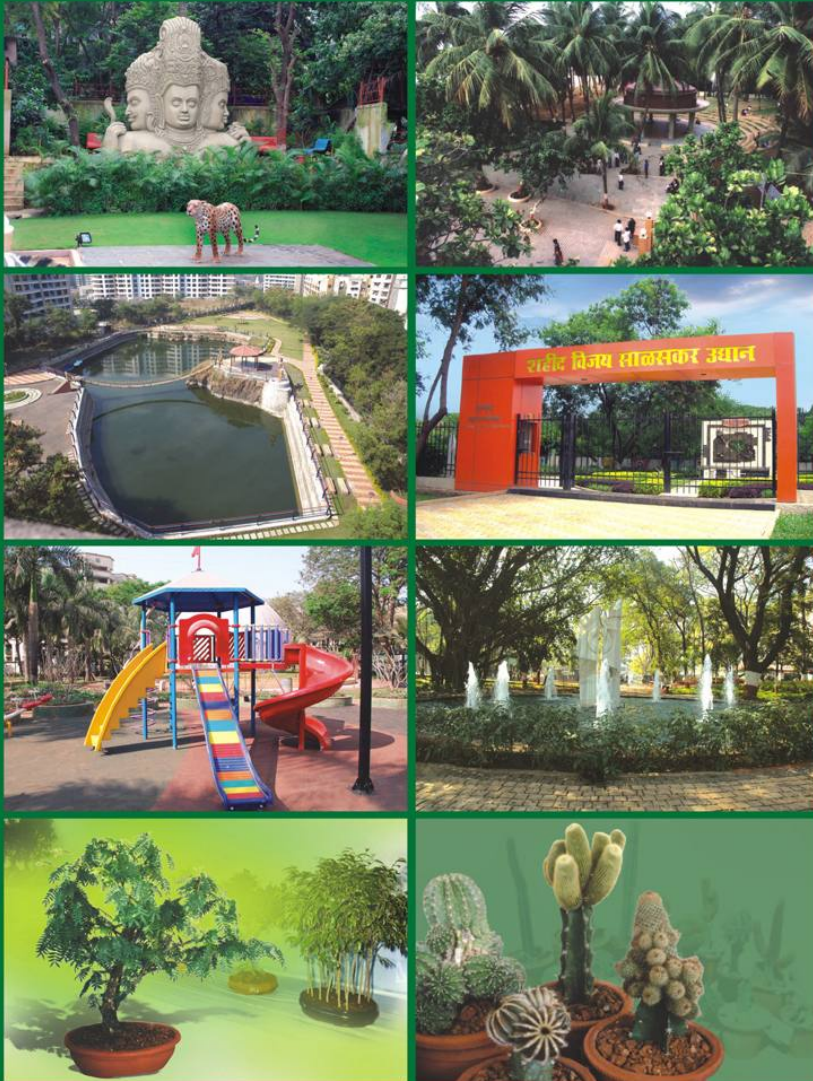
- Programme for resurfacing of 17 bridges has been undertaken.
- Jogeshwari North-South Flyover to be commissioned shortly.

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Gardens and Recreational Grounds

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Planned programmes for Gardens, Recreational and Sports Grounds :

- For the first time independent garden cell has been created for undertaking development and beautification of Gardens / Sports Grounds / Recreational Grounds.
- Bonsai Garden.
- Cactus Garden.
- Rose Garden.
- 'Amslers Greed' Garden.
- Tree planting at various hills.
- Conception and construction of gardens on salty lands.
- Beautification of Lake Gardens.

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Health and Medical Services

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Dispensaries :

- 13 New dispensaries are commissioned to provide Health Care Services to slum localities in year 2014 - 15.

Maternity Homes :

- Upgradation of Maternity Homes to enhance quality Health Care Services and to improve utilization of maternal and child health care.

Tuberculosis control :

- Installation of GeneXpert (Molecular Technology) to diagnose MDR TB within two hours.
- Nikshay - web based recording and reporting system to track and monitor TB patients information through out the life cycle of the patients.
- Nikshay Mobile Application to enable private sector to notify TB patients.
- Nikshay Plus Application for private sector - to register as TB Care Provider, TB Patient Registration, Issue and validate e-Diagnostic Vouchers, E-Drug Vouchers and E-payment to Labs and Pharmacist for their services.

Dialysis Services :

- In year 2014 - 15, 67 Dialysis beds at reasonable rate were commissioned under Public-Private Partnership, 100 more beds will be commissioned in near future.

Suburban Hospitals :

- Fourth Medical College of Mumbai Municipal Corporation will be commissioned at Dr. Cooper Hospital in year 2015 - 16.
- 106 additional beds commissioned in 2013 - 14 at Bharatratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Centenary Hospital (Kandivali), Dr. Cooper Hospital (Vileparle) and Hinduhrday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Trauma Center (Jogeshwari).
- Plan to add 500 beds for middle class in coming 3 years.

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Social

Welfare Programmes



Women empowerment :

- Special provision of Rs. 15 crores in budget for the year 2014-15 for the first time for innovative schemes of capital work for women.
- Organising women through more than 5000 Self Help Women Savings Groups.
- Various professional training programmes to more than 10000 women for self-employment.
- Empowerment of women through loan and 35% subsidy for business to Savings Groups.
- Guarantee of employment to young women on completion of training.
- Distribution of various machines to women for self-employment.
- Independent shops at Parle (E) and Kandivali (W) for items produced by Women Saving Groups under project.

For Senior Citizens :

- Innovative programmes for Senior Citizens.

For Homeless Children :

- Night Shelter Project for homeless children.

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M.C.G.M. 24 x 7

MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION
OF GREATER MUMBAI
**EVERY STEP
TOWARDS A
SMART
MUMBAI CITY**



Free Download
'MCGM 24 X 7'
from
Google Play Store
For All
Android Phones.



Rich Architectural Heritage of Mumbai



Mumbai, a city recognized worldwide by its diverse cultural variety of people living in perfect harmony. Made of seven islands, this city puts forth an architectural heritage with a string of huge architectural marvels. Even if history of Mumbai dates back merely 700 years, Mumbai has defined milestones in architectural heritages for the whole of India. As the city rests on a very low height from sea level, considering the development that has happened in the city with this architectural heritage of Mumbai will leave us awestruck. So we have highlighted chosen few of these architectural marvels of Mumbai which dedicates it to all Mumbaikars.

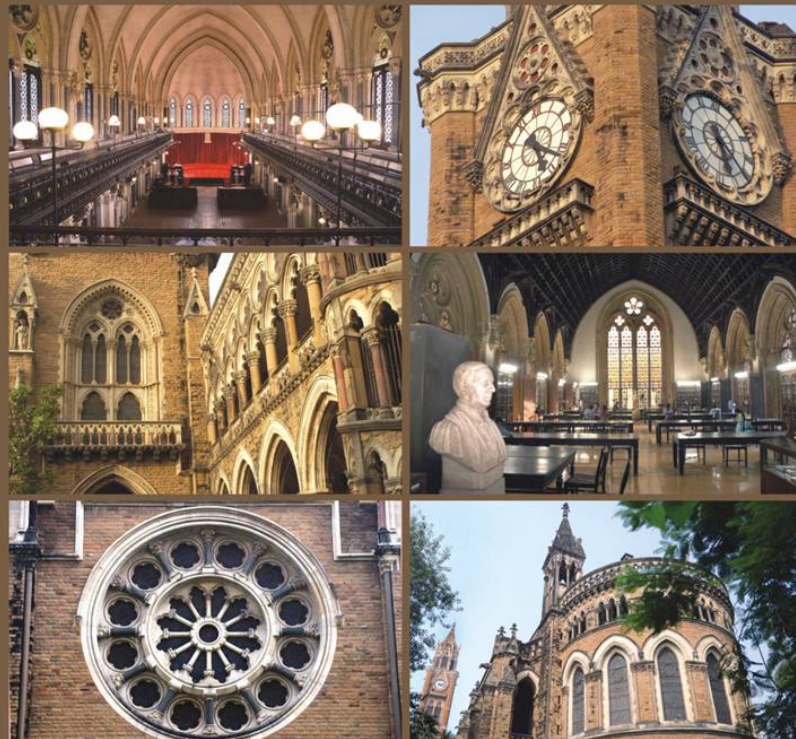
The work of laying the foundation and joining the seven islands had begun in full swing. Famous architects got dedicated to designing eye pleasing buildings to add to the heritage of Mumbai. By the use of artistic, simple and attractive carvings in stone they created structures reflecting the era of Modern culture. Gothic and Indo-Islamic styles of architecture were the inspirations for these designs. Carved stonework, smooth and polished floors, brass door handles and latches, iron grills, stained glass, granite pillars and round domes were some of the features used extensively in the design of the structures. After the completion of this blueprint, the real construction work began.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (previously Victoria Terminus), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai Head Office, Rajabai Tower & Convocation Hall of Mumbai University, Taj Mahal Hotel, General Post Office, Gateway of India, Mahatma Jotiba Phule Market (Crawford Market), Asiatic Society of Mumbai, Sir Cowasji Jehangir Public Hall, Bombay High Court, Old Secretariat - City Civil Session Court, Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Museum (Prince of Wales Museum), Mayor Bungalow, Police Headquarter, Wilson College, Saint Xavier's College, Elphinstone College, Sir J.J. School of Art, Churchgate Western Railway Headquarter (Old), David Sassoon Library, Anjuman-E-Islam High School, Flora Fountain, Seth Karsetji Manokji (Khada Parsi) Statue, Majestic House, Mount Mary Church, Haji Ali Dargah, Fire Temple, Sewree Fort etc.

These artistic 'Architectural Heritages' from the first half of the 20th century still remain Monumental and awe-inspiring in the minds of Mumbaikars.



Rich Architectural Heritage of Mumbai



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Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai Head Office

When the construction of this building began, as per plan, Frederick William Stevens a reputed architect designed the project plan and the design of the building, while the construction was completed under the supervision of Raosaheb Sitaram Khanderao. The building was erected on a space granted by the reigning government's Civil construction department and was about 6600.65 square metres in size. The cost of construction was about Rs. 11,19,969/- . Construction began on 25th April 1889 and completed on 31st July 1893.

The building was designed by Gothic style and is an exemplary display of the harmonious combination of Western and Eastern design. The triangular intersection created by Horneby road and Crookshank road (means today's D.N. Road & Mahapalika Marg) is the address of the building. The building is characterized by its 235 feet tall front tower and having Mayor, Municipal Commissioner, Officers & Committee offices. It also boasts of a conference hall about 68 feet long, 32 feet wide and 38 feet high. Today 227 members of the Corporation sit in this hall. On the north face of the hall you will see a huge window made of artistically designed glass bordered by throne style carved stone corners. The door on the south face opens into a corridor for the members. This corridor leads to the south facing terrace of the building via glass doors. The hall holds two audience galleries and 3 glass chandeliers each having 13 electric bulbs which remind us of the prestigious past. There are 13 statues of eminent personnels in the hall.

More than a century old structure, portrays an attractive combination of Western and Eastern culture. The committee who designed this mind whelming structure are really worthy of applaud. Because of their future sighted vision, this building, standing strong today even after 121 years, houses the work for providing the 1.2 crore citizens of Mumbai city all necessary and high standard civic facilities. Contractor Vyanku Balaji deserves a special mention who completed this project with complete honesty and well below the estimated costs.

Rajabai Tower & Convocation Hall, University of Mumbai

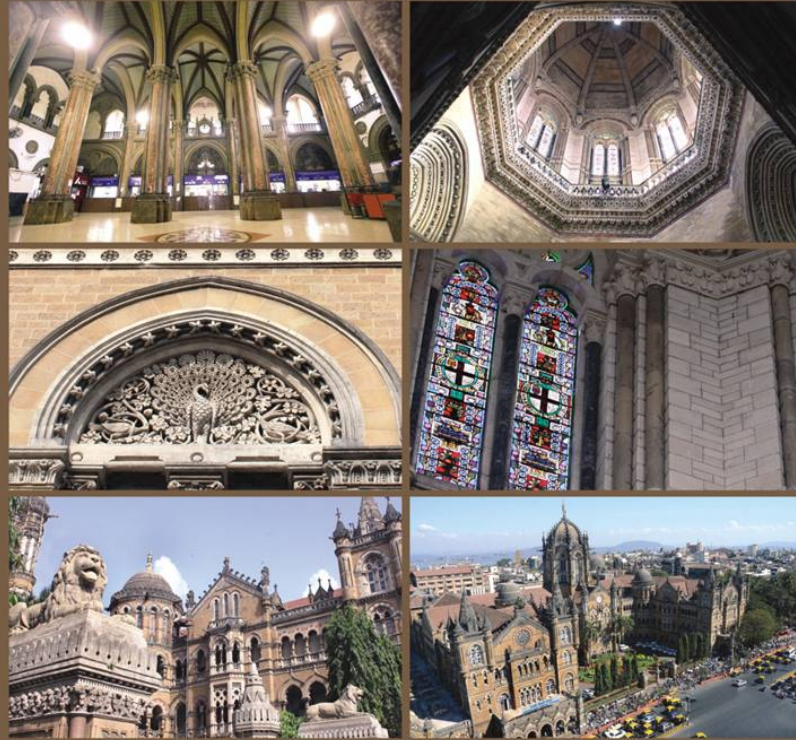
Rajabai Tower, University of Mumbai : The Mumbai University is undoubtedly one of the finest examples of Victorian Neo Gothic architecture in Mumbai. It is also an integral part of one of the finest urban ensembles of Victorian buildings in the world. The Rajabai Tower, with its imposing skyline, dominates the skyline of the Fort area, thus further strengthening its classification for reasons of scenic value.

The Mumbai University, designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, is an example of a public project in the city funded by local philanthropists, in this case, the "Cotton King" of Bombay, Premchund Roychund who made a generous contribution of Rupees 4 lakhs towards its construction. As a gesture of acknowledgment, the lofty Rajabai Tower, an awesome structure that rose to a height of 260 feet, was named after his mother. The Library structure adjoining the Rajabai Tower has among the finest ensembles of stained glass in the country while the splendid cross vaulted roof of the Reading Room with its polished timber members, is among the most spectacular architectural interiors in the city.

Convocation Hall University of Mumbai : Designed by the British architect Sir Gilbert Scott, the Convocation Hall was built with a handsome donation from Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney, with the stained glass panels crafted by the firm of Heaton, Butler & Byne, London. The wheel window in stained glass housed in the University building is among the largest in the world. The building was restored as part of the 150th year celebrations of Mumbai University in 2006.



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Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Victoria Terminus)

On 16th April 1853 at 3.35 pm, a train departed from Boribandar (today's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus) to Thane, which marked the beginning of Railways in the whole of Asia. Next came the decision to replace the wooden shed at Boribandar station with a huge building to function as the terminal station and the office for 'Great Indian Peninsular Railway (G.I.P)'. After this, as per the plans drawn by Architect F.W. Stevens, construction for this new building began in 1878 and completed in May 1888. It is clear that he has used Gothic style of architecture in his design. During this period about 16 lakh 35 thousand rupees were spent on the construction of the offices while 10 lakh 40 thousand rupees were spent on station. Meanwhile in the year 1887, a few months before completion, Queen Victoria inaugurated this building on occasion of the State Anniversary and christened the building as 'Victoria Terminus'.

Even if the structure is inspired by Gothic-Italian styles, the use of Indian architecture is marked. Some features of the building include carved stones, polished floors, brass latches and locks, iron grills, painted glasses, granite pillars and the central dome. The main octagonal dome is the prime feature of the building. This was the first incident where an octagonal dome was used in Gothic architecture. A 16 feet 6 inch high statue which symbolizes Progress stands on this dome. The statue holds a torch in one hand and a wheel in the other. Every corner and hallway of the building has been decorated using mounted lion statues, ancient gods, small statues of the Railway Board of Directors and painting of flowers. The visible pointed spikes and small fort style towers represents traditional Indian architecture. Today Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus is the largest Railway Terminus building in India with a visible grandeur.

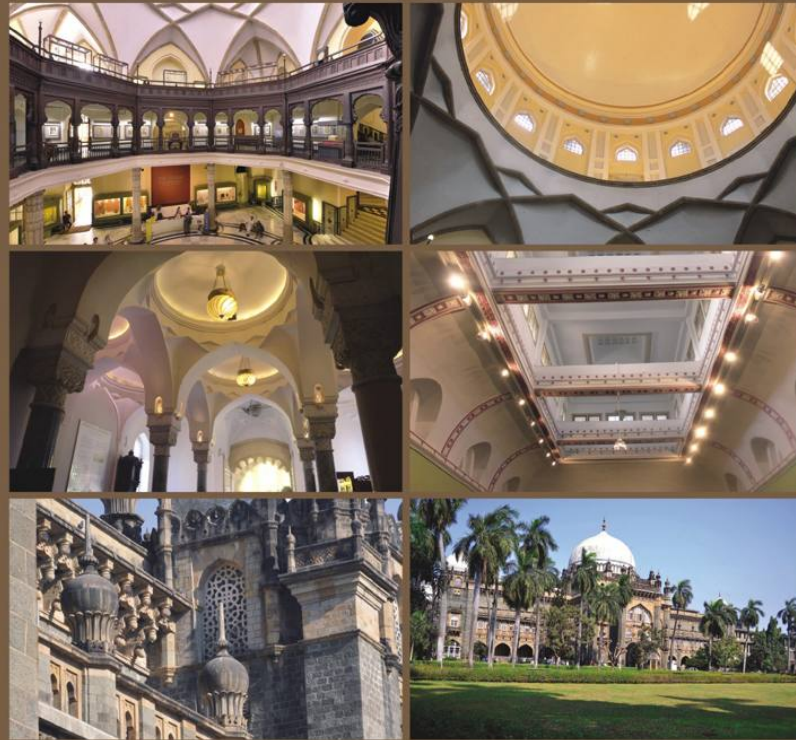
General Post Office (GPO)

This Building was completed in the year 1913. The architectural style is Indo-Saracenic. The structure was brought to use for the first time by Government advisor John Begg and his descendant Mr. George Whittet. In the later period it is in our knowledge that Mr. George Whittet laid the foundation and design of Ballard estate, Gateway of India and many other famous structures with great expertise. Even though Gothic and Indo-Saracenic style of architecture were used to design at different time lines in Mumbai, all the structures share a certain similarity. Artistic beautification and structural enhancement of the visual appearance is common to both styles of architecture. The novel thing about the structure is the use of coloured rocks available in and around Mumbai to construct them.

The GPO building is a confluence of utility, ease and excellent design. Some parts of the building have a basement with 3 storeyed construction above it. Since we can walk freely inside the post office. Here we have a huge circular hall at the centre surrounded by various departments of the workplace. The hall stretches to the full height of the building and is kept open at the centre, and the main dome of the building rests on top of this hall. The design of this dome is similar to the Gol Gumbat of Bijapur and structural enhancement of the visual appearance is common to both styles of architecture. The novel thing about the structure is the use of coloured rocks available in and around Mumbai to construct them.



Rich Architectural Heritage of Mumbai



Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Museum (Prince of Wales Museum)

The museum was built to a competition-winning design entry in 1908 by the architect George Wittet, who is also credited with the design of monumental structures like the Institute of Science, Cowasji Jehangir Hall and the Gateway of India, all in close proximity to the Museum. Wittet came to India in 1904 to assist John Begg, Consulting Architect to the Government of Bombay Presidency and the architecture of the Museum reflects his early influences derived from the architecture of Begg's General Post Office Building. The Bombay Gazetteer records that according to Act III of 1907.

Heavily influenced by the medieval Islamic tombs of Bijapur, the architecture of the Prince of Wales museum characterises the Islamic revivalist style of the early 20th century and reflects Wittet's early forays into the Indo Saracenic genre. The foundation stone for the structure was laid by the Prince of Wales on his visit to Mumbai in 1905 and the building was constructed in 1914. During World War I, the building served as a military hospital and was finally inaugurated by Lady Lloyd, the Governor's wife in 1922.



Town Hall (Asiatic Library)

The construction of Town Hall (Asiatic Library) begun in 1821 and completed by 1833. It is among the oldest monumental structures of Mumbai. With an imposing façade of pedimented porticos surmounting a row of Doric columns, this Hellenic Neo-Classicism is representative of the early phase of British colonialism. In an attempt to impress upon the local populace, with the might and grandeur of European architecture, Mumbai was bestowed with a Town Hall. It is designed by Col. Cooper of the Bombay Engineers who was assisted by Captain Charles Waddington.

The structure was built at a cost of 60,000 pounds, met largely by the East India Company and sited at the Bombay Green, in the vicinity of Bombay Castle. The total length of the building stretched to 200 feet, with a Doric portico and a central pedimented entablature. The Town Hall has always been the fountainhead of Mumbai's cultural thought.

In the north portion of the Town Hall, we can see sculptures made by renowned architects. Aesthetic beauty of statues increases as the Sun rays directly come on statues through the top gallery. We can also see an equatorial statue of historical warrior John Malcolm by Sir Francis Chantry and statue of Mumbai's generous donor and an educationalist Sir Jagannath Shankarsheth made by Mathew Nobel in the centre of the curvatic (curved) staircases.

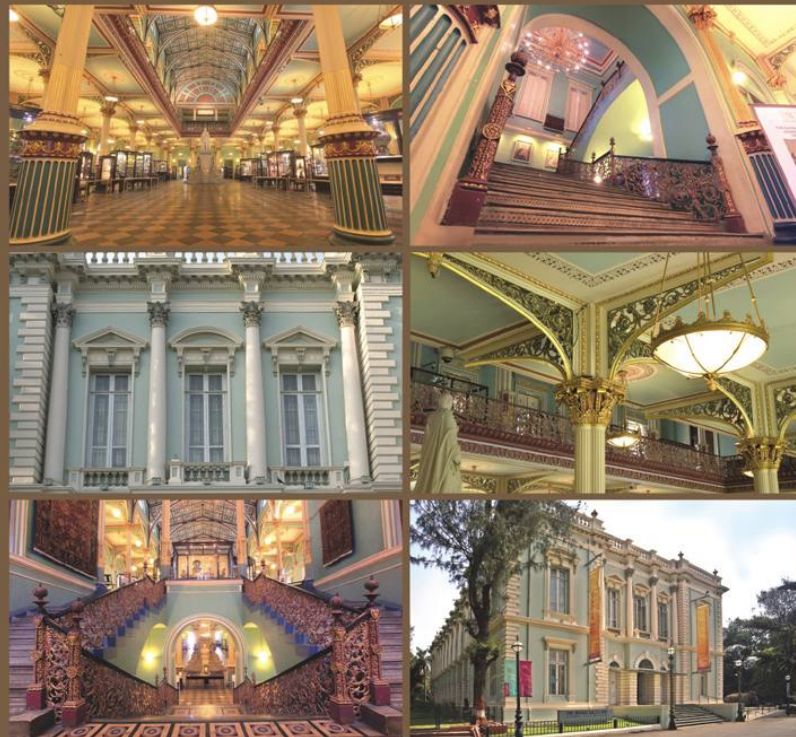
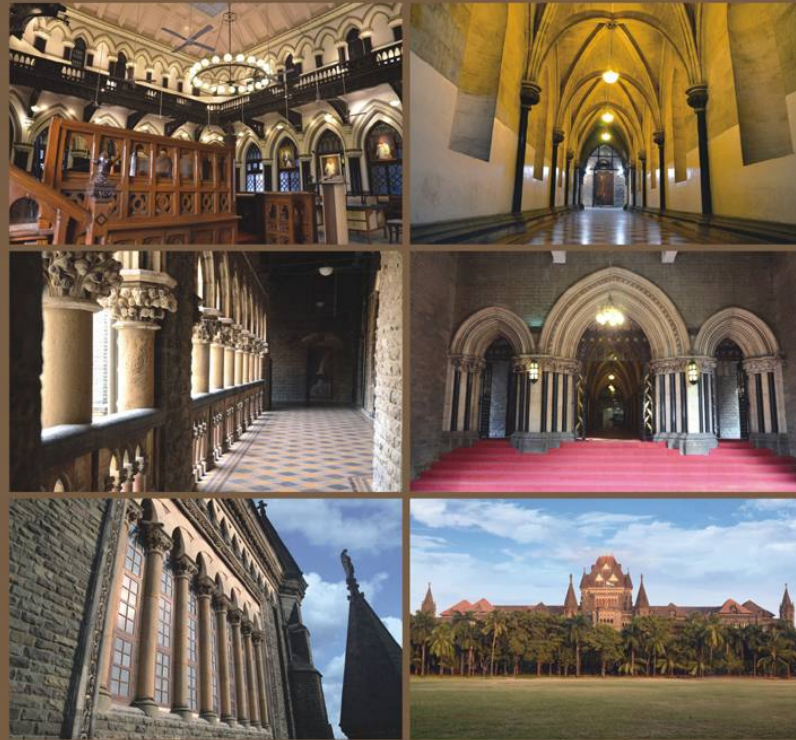
The Town Hall has played significant role in the social, cultural and educational development of the city. It had also housed the Mumbai University offices before the Mumbai University complex was constructed.

James MacKintosh founded the 'Literary Society of Bombay' in 1804. Later it was re-named as the (Royal) Asiatic Society of Bombay in 1829. The library boasts of a vast collection of rare books, manuscripts and historical records, as well as a priceless collection of statues and oil portraits.

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High Court

Built in the same Victorian Neo Gothic genre as the Mumbai University Building, Old Secretariat and Central Telegraph Office facing the Oval Maidan, this imposing structure has made an indelible stamp on the city's architecture. Constructed in 1878 under the supervision of Colonel J A Fuller of the Royal Engineers, this edifice is the second largest public structure in the city and dominates its skyline with its towering turrets and spires. The structure has great historic significance, housing among the oldest functioning court rooms, with the famous words by Bal Gangadhar Tilak demanding "Purna Swaraj" being inscribed on one of its walls.

Employing grey Kurla basalt for its construction and softer white Porbunder limestone in its carvings, the structure is embellished with some beautiful sculptural motifs along its verandas. The western corridors used exclusively by the judiciary, boast of some of the finest Minton tile floors. The interior fittings of this magnificent Victorian structure were designed by John Adams and include some elaborate Neo Gothic cabinets and tables, decorated with pointed arches, gargoyles and animal motifs. The most notable features in the architectural details of the structure are the towering statues of Justice and Mercy perched atop the two towers at a height of nearly 150 feet and the many carvings representing a host of animals and birds, one which even has a fox wearing a lawyer's bands and a blind folded monkey holding up a pair of tilted scales of justice.

Dr. Bhaui Daji Lad Museum

The Dr. Bhaui Daji Lad Museum is the oldest museum in Mumbai. It showcases the industrial arts and life in 19th century in Mumbai, earlier Bombay. The early collection consisted of replicas of the objects sent for the Great Exhibition of 1851 at London. Initially housed in the Town Barracks, the collection was opened to the public in 1857. (The year 2007 marked the 150th anniversary of this special event.)

Sir George Birdwood, was the first curator of the museum. In 1858 public funds were raised for the construction and the foundation stone of the Museum building was laid on 19th November 1862. Museum building was designed by William Tracey, a British engineer from the Public Works Department. On his death, the project was taken over by architects Scott and McClelland who made changes to the original plans. The Museum is built in Italian Renaissance Revival style and the facade of the Museum is Palladian. The Museum interiors are an example of high Victorian design. The stone used for construction is Porbunder. It took 10 years for a grand Palladian building to be completed and it was opened to visitors on 2nd May 1872 as the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The Museum was renamed Dr. Bhaui Daji Lad Museum in 1975 in honour of the man whose vision and dedication ensured its establishment. In February 2003, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation and the Indian National Trust for art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) joined hands to restore & revitalize the museum. The building and the surrounding gardens have been completely restored bringing back the original colours and grandeur of the monument. 23.4 karat gold gilding has been used for the first time in the city in a heritage building, reviving a lost art. Polish to the beautiful wooden cases, state of the art lighting, conservation of old sculptures has added to the thorough beauty. This highest quality restoration work was conferred with UNESCO 2005 Asia - Pacific Award of Excellence in Conservation.

