



International Environmental
Law Research Centre

Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1888 (excerpts)

(Excerpts - water supply and sanitation provisions)

This document is available at ielrc.org/content/e8806.pdf

Note: This document is put online by the International Environmental Law Research Centre (IELRC) for information purposes. This document is not an official version of the text and as such is only provided as a source of information for interested readers. IELRC makes no claim as to the accuracy of the text reproduced which should under no circumstances be deemed to constitute the official version of the document.

MUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ACT

Section 140. [(1)] The following taxes shall be levied on buildings and lands in a) (i) the water tax of so many per centum of their rateable value, as the Standing Committee may consider necessary for providing water-supply;

(ii) an additional water tax which shall be called 'the water benefit tax' of so many per centum of their rateable value, as the Standing Committee may consider necessary for meeting the whole or part of the expenditure incurred or to be incurred on capital works for making and improving the facilities of water-supply and for maintaining and operating such works.

Section 141. [(1)] Subject to the provisions of section 169, the water tax shall be levied only in respect of premises—

(a) to which a private water-supply is furnished from or which are connected by means of communication-pipes with, any municipal water-works; or

(b) which are situated in a portion of [Greater Bombay] in which the Commissioner has given public notice that sufficient water is available from municipal water-works for furnishing a reasonable supply to all the premises in the said portion.

[(2) Subject to the provisions of section 169, the water benefit tax shall be levied in respect of all premises situated in Greater Bombay.]

Section 520A. Power of State Government to issue directions to Corporation in emergency arising out of scarcity of water.

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act or in any other law for the time being in force, if the State Government is of opinion that because of acute scarcity of water, it is necessary or expedient so to do, for securing the maintenance or equitable distribution of water supply available from any municipal water works or any other water works, for drinking and other domestic use of the inhabitants receiving such water supply it may, by order published in the Official Gazette, and in such other manner as the State Government thinks fit, direct the Corporation or any other person in charge of the water works to regulate or prohibit the supply of water, from any such municipal water works or any other water works to such undertakings or class of undertakings receiving such water supply, on such day or days, or during such times in any day or days, and during such period or periods, as may be specified in the order.

(2) Without prejudices to the generality of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), an order made thereunder may provide—

(a) that any undertaking, or any section thereof, shall not take water on any day or, days, or during the time, or times in any day or days, or during the period or periods, specified in the order;

(b) for the exemption of any undertakings or any sections thereof, from the provisions of the order, regard being had to the nature of the undertakings, suet as, undertakings engaged for the purposes of the defence of die country or undertakings engaged ia work which for technical reasons most be carried out continuously or cannot be interrupted ;

(c) for any incidental, consequential or supplementary matters (including provision for entry upon, and the inspection of, any premises) which the State Government thinks necessary or expedient to give effect to the purposes aforesaid.

Explanation. —In this section, " undertaking " means any undertaking by way of any industry, trade or business, or building construction,

(3) (a) If any person fails to comply with, or contravenes, any of (he provisions of any order made under this Motion, he shall be guilty of any offence and, without prejudice to any other penalties to which he may be liable under this Act or any other law for the time being in force, he shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine not exceeding rupees one thousand, or with both. .

(b) Where an offence under this section has been committed by a company, every person who, at the time the offence was committed, was in charge of, and was responsible, to the company for the conduct of the business of the company as, well as the company, shall be deemed to be guilty of the offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly:

Provided that, nothing contained in this sub-section shall render any such person liable to any punishment if he proves that the offence was committed without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such offence.

CHAPTER X
WATER SUPPLY.

Construction and Maintenance of Municipal Water-works.

Definitions.

[260A. In this chapter, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(a) 'communication pipe' means a pipe extending from a municipal water main up to and including the municipal stop-cock ;

(b) 'consumer' means any person who uses or is supplied with water from a municipal water-work or on whose application such water is supplied and includes any person liable to the corporation under the provisions of this Act for the payment of water tax or any sum for the water supplied from a municipal water work:

(c) 'consumer's pipe' means a pipe used in connection with the supply of water from any municipal water work and which is not the property of the corporation ;

(d) 'distributing pipe' means any pipe not subject to water pressure from a municipal water main ;

(e) 'fitting' includes a pipe, coupling, flange, branch, bend, stop, ferrule, stop tap, bib tap, spring tap, pillar tap, globe tap, ball cock, boiler, pump, meter, hydrant and any other apparatus or article used for the purpose of conveying or storing water supplied by the corporation ;

(f) 'municipal stop cock' means the stop cock which controls the supply of water from a municipal water main;

(g) 'supply pipe' means the pipe extending from a municipal stop cock up to the ball cock of the storage tank, if any, and any pipe subject to pressure from a municipal water main.]

General powers for supplying the city with water.

261. For the purpose of providing [Greater Bombay] with a supply of water proper and sufficient for public and private purposes, the Commissioner, when ying authorized by the corporation in this behalf, may-

(a) construct and maintain water-works, either within or without [Greater Bombay] and do any other necessary acts;

[(aa) construct and maintain tunnels and undertake other related works, as part of the municipal water works, below any land, in whomsoever such land may vest for carrying water;]

(b) purchase or take on lease any water-work or any water or right to store or to take and convey water, either' within or without [Greater Bombay];

(c) enter into an arrangement with any person for a supply of water.

Municipal water-works to be managed and kept in repair by the Commissioner.

262. The Commissioner shall manage all water-works belonging to the Corporation— all which water-works are in this Act referred to as "municipal water-work"— and maintain the same in good repair and efficient condition, and shall cause all such alterations and extensions to be from time to time made in the said water-works as shall be necessary or expedient for improving the said works,

Power of access to municipal water-works.

263. (1) The Commissioner, and any person appointed by [the [State] Government] under section 264 in this behalf, may, for the purpose of inspecting or repairing or executing any work in, upon or in connection with any municipal water-work, at all reasonable times—

(a) enter upon and pass through any land within or without the city, adjacent to or in the vicinity of such water-work, in whomsoever such land may vest;

(b) convey into and through any such land all necessary materials, tools and implements.

[(c) enter upon or pass through any land, whether vacant or built up, below which any tunnel for carrying water is dug, constructed or maintained, or any other land adjacent to or in the vicinity of such land or tunnel, and to inspect such tunnel with the necessary equipment and do such other acts as he deems necessary for such purposes.]

(2) In the exercise of any power conferred by this section, as little damage as can be, shall be done, and compensation for any damage which may be done in the exercise of any of the said power shall be paid by the Commissioner, or, if any person appointed under section 264 by [the [State] Government] has caused the damage, by [the [State] Government],

Inspection of municipal water-works by persons appointed by [State] Government.

264. Any person appointed by [the [State] Government] in this behalf shall at all reasonable times have liberty to enter upon and inspect any municipal water work.

Power of carrying water-mains and constructing tunnels etc.

[**265.** The Commissioner shall have the same powers and be subject to the same restrictions for carrying, renewing and repairing water-mains, pipes and ducts, and for construction and maintenance of tunnels below any land or undertaking other related works, within or without Greater Bombay, as he has and is subject to under the provisions hereinbefore contained in Chapter IX for carrying, constructing, maintaining, renewing and repairing drains and drainage works, including tunnels below any land and other related works, within Greater Bombay:

Provided that, the powers under this section in respect of digging, carrying, constructing maintaining and repairing of tunnel or any other related works shall be exercised by the Commissioner, with the previous approval of the State Government.]

Fire-hydrants to be provided.

266. The Commissioner shall cause fire-hydrants and all necessary works, machinery and assistance for supplying water in case of fire to be provided and maintained; and shall have painted or marked on the buildings and walls or in some other conspicuous manner, within the streets, words or marks near to such hydrants to denote the situation thereof, and shall cause a hydrant-key to be deposited at each place within [Greater Bombay] where a municipal fireengine is kept, and do such other things for the purpose aforesaid as he shall deem expedient.

Prohibition of building and other acts which would injure sources of water-supply.

267. (1) Except with the sanction of the corporation and, in the case of the, Vihar water-works, of [the [State] Government], or, for the purposes of section acts which 262, under the authority of the Commissioner, no person shall—

(a) erect any building for any purpose whatever within the limits of the water-shed of any lake or reservoir from which a supply of water is derived from any municipal water-work;

(b) extend, alter or apply to any purpose different to that to which the same has been heretofore applied, any building already existing within the said limits;

(c) carry on, within the said limits, any operation of manufacture, trade or agriculture in any manner, or do any act whatsoever, whereby injury may arise to any such lake or reservoir or to any portion thereof, or whereby the water of any such lake, tank or reservoir may be fouled or rendered less wholesome.

(2) The limits of the water-shed of the Vehar lake shall, for the purposes of this section be deemed to be the limits denned in a plan marked " B " authenticated by the signatures of the Governor and Members of Council, and deposited in the office of the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Buildings etc., not to be erected over municipal water-main without permission.

268. (1) Without the written permission of the Commissioner no building, wall or other structure shall be newly erected, and no street or railway shall be constructed, over any municipal water-main.

(2) [If any building, wall or other structure be so erected, or any street or railway be so constructed, the Commissioner may, with the approval of the standing committee, cause the same to be removed or otherwise dealt with as to him shall appear fit, and the expenses thereby incurred shall be paid by the person offending.

Public Gratuitous Water-supply

Vesting of public drinking fountains, etc., in the corporation.

269. (1) All existing public drinking fountains, tanks, reservoirs, cisterns, pumps, public wells, ducts and works for the supply of water for the gratuitous use of the inhabitants of the city shall vest in the corporation and be under the control of the etc., in the Commissioner.

(2) The Commissioner may maintain the said works and provide them with water, and, when authorised by the corporation in this behalf, may construct any other such works for supplying water for the gratuitous use of the inhabitants of the city:

(3) Provided that water carried away by any of the inhabitants from any such work shall be taken only for his [personal or domestic use and not for the purpose of business or sale], and shall not, except with the written permission of the Commissioner, be carried away in a cask, cart, pakhal or masak.

(4) The Commissioner may temporarily, and with the approval of the corporation permanently, close any of the said works, either entirely or partially.

(5) In case any such work is permanently closed, either entirely or partially, by the Commissioner, the site thereof, or of the portion thereof which is so closed, and the materials of the same may be disposed of as the property of the corporation :

Provided that if any such work, which is permanently closed, either entirely or partially, was a gift to the public by some private person, the said site and materials or the proceeds of the sale thereof shall, unless by reason of their value being insignificant or for other sufficient reason the corporation think fit to otherwise direct, be applied to or towards some local work of public utility bearing the name of such

person, or to or towards any such local work which shall be approved by the corporation and by the heirs or other representatives, if any, of the said person.

Public drinking, fountains, etc., may be set apart for particular purposes.

270. (1) The Commissioner may assign and set apart each of the said works and the water therein for use by the public for such purpose only as he shall think fit, and shall cause to be indicated, by a notice affixed on a conspicuous spot on or near each such work, the purpose for which the same is, so assigned and set apart, set apart.

(2) No person shall make use of any such work or of any water therein for any purposes purpose other than the purpose for which the same has been so assigned or set apart.

Private Water-supply

Premises not to be occupied without Commissioner's certificate in respect of adequate water- supply.

[**270A.** No person shall occupy or permit to be occupied, or use or permit to be used, any premises or part thereof constructed or reconstructed after the date of the coming into force of the Bombay Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1953, until he has obtained a certificate from the Commissioner to the effect that there is provided within, or within a reasonable distance of the premises, a supply of pure water to the persons intending to occupy or use such premises respect of or, where the premises are situated within any portion of Greater Bombay in which a public notice has been given by the Commissioner under section 141, until he has obtained a certificate from the Commissioner to the effect that a supply of pure water has been provided for the premises from a municipal water work.]

Application for private water-supply from whom to be received.

271. (1) [Supply pipes] for conveying to any premises a private supply of water from [a municipal water work] shall not [be connected with such water work] except on the written application or with the written assent of the owner of from whom the premises, or of the person primarily liable for the payment of property-taxes on to be the said premises:

[Provided that, in respect of any premises, where the owner or person primarily liable for the payment of property-taxes fails or refuses to make such application. or to give his assent within a reasonable period, the supply pipes for conveying to such premises such water-supply may be connected with such water work on the written application of the occupier of such premises made to the Commissioner, after holding necessary inquiry and on payment of the cost of connecting the supply -pipes and subject to such other conditions (including those for payment of water taxes and water charges) as the Commissioner may deem fit to impose.]

Commissioner may in certain cases require owners to obtain private water supply.

(2) But if it shall appear to the Commissioner that any premises situate within any portion of [Greater Bombay] in which a public notice has been given by the Commissioner under clause (b) of section 141, are without a supply of pure water, adequate to the requirements of the persons usually occupying or employed upon owners to the said premises, the Commissioner shall, by written notice, require the owner of obtain the said premises or the person primarily liable for the payment of

property-taxes thereon, to obtain a supply adequate as aforesaid from a municipal water work and to provide supply and distributing pipes, cisterns and fittings and do all such works as may in the opinion of the Commissioner be necessary for that purpose.]

Making and renewing connection with municipal water works.

'[272. (1) No connection with any municipal water work shall be made or and renewed—

(a) except by a municipal officer or servant empowered in that behalf by the Commissioner; and

(b) until the certificate specified, in sub-section (4) has been given.

[(2) In every case where a new connection with a municipal water work is made or an existing connection requires renewal, all necessary communication pipes and fittings [thereon], shall be supplied, by the Commissioner, and the work of laying and applying such communication-pipes and fittings shall be executed by municipal agency under the Commissioner's orders; and the cost of all such materials and work shall be charged to the municipal fund.]

(3) [Every such communication-pipe and fittings thereon shall vest] in Corporation and be maintained at the charge of the municipal fund as a municipal water work.

[(4) All supply and distributing pipes and cisterns and fittings not being, the property of the Corporation shall be laid and applied under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a Municipal Officer appointed by the Commissioner in that behalf; who shall give and sign a certificate, free of charge, when such supply or distributing pipes, cisterns and all necessary fittings have been laid, applied and executed in a satisfactory manner and when proper and sufficient arrangements have been made for draining off waste water,]

'[(5) Where any supply or distributing-pipe, cistern or such fitting is laid, applied, added to or altered, or any connection is made in contravention of this section the Commissioner may, with the previous approval of the standing committee, remove such supply or distributing pipe, cistern, fitting or connection, or additions or alternations thereto, and make good such pipe, cistern fitting or connection ; and the owner and occupier of the premises in which or for supply to which such supply or distributing pipe, cistern or fitting has been laid, applied, added to or altered or such connection has been made, shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the expenses incurred by the Commissioner in so doing.]

Commissioner may take charge of private connections.

[273. The Commissioner may by agreement with a consumer, take charge on behalf of the corporation of all or any of the consumer's pipes and fittings ;

Provided that if any such pipes or fittings are communication-pipes or fittings only not vesting in the Corporation, the Commissioner may, if he thinks fit, take charge of the same without such agreement;

Any consumers pipes and fittings, of which the .Commissioner takes charge under this section, shall thereafter vest in, and be maintained at the expense of the Corporation as a municipal water work.]

Power of Commissioner to alter position of connections.

[273A. The Commissioner may, if at any time he deems it expedient to alter position of an existing connection with any municipal water work, or of any to alter

consumer's pipe or fitting thereof, and after giving to the owner of such connection, pipe or fittings not less than four days previous notice of his intension so to do, cause the said connection, pipe or fitting to be moved to such other position as he thinks fit and relaid and applied, or others to be laid and applied in lieu thereof. in such position as he may direct,; and in every such case all such work shall be carried out at the expenses of the municipal fund and such new connection, pipe and fittings shall thereafter vest in the Corporation and be maintained at the charge of the municipal fund as a municipal water work.]]

Provisions as to cisterns and other fittings, etc. to be used for connections with water works.

[274. (1) The Commissioner may, whenever it shall appear to him to be necessary, by written notice require the owner of any premises furnished with a private water supply from any municipal water work to provide such premises within a reasonable period which shall be prescribed in the said notice, with cisterns and fittings of such size, material, quality and description and placed in such position and with such safe and easy means of access, as he thinks fit.]

[(1A) The Commissioner may also in the like manner require the owner of any premises to provide such safe and easy means of access as he thinks fit to any existing cistern which on an examination under section 278 is found to be not easily accessible.]

(2) The Commissioner shall also from time to time prescribe the size, material, quality, description and position of the [pipes and fittings] to be employed for the [purpose] of any connection with or of any communication from any municipal water-work, and no such connection or communication shall be made by any person otherwise than as so prescribed.

[(3) The Commissioner shall likewise prescribe the size, material, quality and description of the [pipes, cisterns and fittings] to be employed for the purpose of replacing any [pipes, cisterns and fittings] found on an examination under section 278 to be so defective that they cannot be effectively repaired,]

Provision for keeping cisterns locked.

[274A. (1) The Commissioner may, by written notice, require the owner of any premises furnished with a, cistern or in respect of which the Commissioner has required a cistern to be furnished to provide such cistern with a lock and key such pattern, material and quality as the Commissioner shall in such notice prescribe, and may in like manner require any lock or key found to be defective on an inspection under section 278 to be replaced.

(2) Every cistern so provided with a lock shall be kept permanently locked and the key shall then be delivered to the Commissioner.]

Communication-pipes, etc., to be kept in efficient repair by owner or occupier of premises.

275. [(1)] It shall be incumbent on the owner or occupier of any premises to which a private water-supply is furnished from any municipal water-work, [to keep in a thoroughly clean condition and to maintain and keep in efficient repair every supply and distributing pipe] conveying water from the said waterwork to such premises and every meter for measuring water, not being a municipal meter and [every cistern and

fitting] in or connected with any such pipe, so as effectually to prevent the water from running to waste.

[(2) When an occupier of any premises is served with a notice under subsection (2) of section 278, he may, after giving to the person to whom he is responsible for the payment of his rent [three] days notice in writing, himself have the repairs executed and in such event he shall be entitled to deduct from any rent due [or to become due] by him to such person the actual expenses incurred by him in complying with the notice served under sub-section (2) of section 278 : provided that nothing in this section shall affect the liabilities of parties under leases executed before the 1st day of April 1918.].

Provision of meters when water is supplied by measurement.

276. (1) Where water is supplied by measurement, the Commissioner may either provide a meter and charge the consumer for the same such rent as shall from time to time be prescribed in this behalf by the standing committee, or may permit the consumer to provide a meter of his own of such size, material and description as the Commissioner shall approve for this purpose:

[Provided that if such consumer is an occupier of any premises, he shall not be provided with a meter or permitted to provide himself with a meter of his own, unless he complies with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Commissioner.]

(2) The Commissioner shall at all times keep all meters and other instruments for measuring water, let by him for hire to any person, in proper order for correctly registering the supply of water, and in default of his so doing such person shall not be liable to pay rent for the same during such time as such default continues.

Register of meter to be evidence.

277. Where water is supplied by measurement, the register of the meter or other instrument for measuring water shall be prima facie evidence of the quantity consumed.

Inspection

Commissioner, etc., may inspect premises in order to examine meter, communication-pipes, etc.

278. (1) The Commissioner may make an inspection of any premises to which a private water-supply is furnished by the corporation in order—

- (a) to remove, test, examine and replace any meter for measuring water; or
- [(b) to examine any supply or distributing pipe, cistern, lock of filling: or]
- (c) to see if there be any waste or misuse of water.

[(2) The Commissioner may by written notice, require the owner or occupier of the premises to remedy any defect which shall be found to exist in or to clean, any such meter, not being a municipal meter let to him for hire, or any such supply or distributing pipe, cistern, lock or fitting.]

Power to cut off private water-supply or to turn off water.

279. (1) The Commissioner may * * * * * cut off the connection between any municipal water-work and any premises to which a private water supply is furnished by the corporation or turn off the water from such premises in any of the following cases, namely:—

(a) in default of payment of any instalment of water tax or of any sum due for water [or hire of meter] [or expenses of any work done under or by virtue of the provisions of sections 272, 276 or 287A] within fifteen days after a [notice of demand] for such tax or sum has been duly [served];

[(b) if the owner of the premises neglects, within the period prescribed in this behalf in any notice given under sub-section (2) or (1A) of section 274 or under section 274A, to comply with any requisition made to him by the Commissioner regarding the provision of any cistern, fitting, lock or key or any means of access to such cistern;

(c) if the owner or occupier of the premises fails, within the period prescribed in this behalf in any notice given under sub-section (2) of section 278, to comply with the terms of such notice or fails to use articles of the kind prescribed under, sub-section (3) of section 274;]

(d) if after receipt of a written notice from the Commissioner requiring him to refrain from so doing the owner or occupier of the premises continues—

(i) to use the water, or to permit the same to be used, in contravention of, any by - law made under this Act or of any condition prescribed under subsection (2) of section 169;

(ii) when payment for the water is made not by measurement to permit any person not residing on premises in respect of which water-tax is paid to carry away from such owner's or occupiers premises water derived from the municipal water work;

[(e) if the owner or occupier of the premises wilfully or negligently injures or damages any meter, pipe, cistern or fitting or lock thereof in such premises;]

[(f) if the owner or occupier of the premises fails to comply with any requisition made on him by the Commissioner under sub-section (2) of section 287B, to furnish the name of the licensed plumber:]

[Provided that—

[(i) in any case under sub-clause (a) the Commissioner shall not take action unless not less than fifteen days previously a copy of the notice of demand in respect of the tax or sum has been affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises,]

[(ii) in cases under sub-clauses (a), (b), [(d) and (f)] the Commissioner shall not take action without the sanction of the standing committee,]

[(iii) in cases under sub-clauses (c) and (e) the Commissioner shall not take action unless written notice of not less than twenty-four hours has been given to the owner or occupier of the premises.]

[(iv) in any case falling under sub-clause (b), the Commissioner shall not take action unless not less than fifteen days previously a copy of the notice under subsection (1) or sub-section (1) of section 274 or under section 274A, as the case may be, has been affixed to a conspicuous part of the premises,]

(2) The expense of cutting off the connection or of turning off the water in any such case as aforesaid shall be paid by the owner or occupier of the premises.

Conditions as to use of water not to contravened.

280. No person to whom water is supplied by measurement or on payment of a fixed periodical sum shall contravene any condition prescribed under subsection (2) of section 169 for the use of such water, or permit any such condition to be contravened.

Powers of Commissioner to carry private mains through land belonging to other persons.

[1280A. The Commissioner shall have the same powers and be subject to the same restrictions for carrying, renewing and repairing private water mains, pipes and ducts as he has and is subject to under the provisions hereinbefore contained for carrying, renewing and repairing private drains.]

Water-pipes, etc., not to be placed where water will be polluted.

281. No water-pipes shall be laid in a drain or on the surface of an open channel or house-gully or within twenty feet of a cesspool, or in any position where the pipe is likely to be injured or the water therein polluted; and no well or tank, and except with the consent of the Commissioner, no cistern shall be constructed within twenty feet of a [privy, water-closet or] cesspool.

Prohibition of fraudulent and unauthorised use of water.

282. (1) No person shall fraudulently dispose of any water supplied to him by the corporation.

(2) No person to whom a private supply of water is furnished by the corporation shall, except when the water supplied is charged for by measurement, permit any person who does not reside on premises in respect of which water-tax is paid to carry away water from the premises to which it is supplied.

(3) No person, who does not reside on premises in respect of which water-tax is paid, shall carry away water from any premises to which a private supply is furnished by the corporation, unless, in any case in which such supply is charged for by measurement, he does so with the permission of the person to whom such supply is furnished.

Prohibition of fraud in respect of meters.

283. (1) No person shall fraudulently—

(a) alter the index to any meter or prevent any meter from duly registering the quantity of water supplied.

(b) abstract or use water before it has been registered by a meter set up for the purpose of measuring the same.

(2) The existence of artificial means under the control of the consumer; or causing any such alteration, prevention, abstraction or use shall be evidence that the consumer has fraudulently effected the same.

General provisions

Prohibition of willful or neglectful acts relating to water works.

284. No person shall wilfully or negligently—

(a) injure or suffer to be injured any meter belonging to the corporation or any neglectful of the fitting of any such meter;

(b) break, injure or open any lock, cock, valve, pipe, work, [engine, cistern or fitting] appertaining to any municipal water-work;

(c) flush or draw off the water from any such water-work, thereby causing such water to be wasted.

(d) do any act [or suffer any act to be done] whereby the water in or derived from any municipal water-work shall be wasted;

(e) obstruct, divert or in any way injure or alter any water-main or duct;

[(f) except with the permission of the Commissioner, open, break, injure or tamper with any lock furnished under section 274A.]

Compensation to be payable by offenders against section 283 or 284.

285. Compensation shall be paid by the offender for any damage which the corporation sustains by reason of any contravention of section 283 or section 284.

What persons to be liable for offences under certain provisions of this Chapter.

[**286.** If it shall be shown that an offence against some provision of this Chapter or against some bye-law made under this Act at the time in force relating to water supply has occurred on any premises to which a private supply of water is furnished by the Corporation, the owner, the person primarily liable for the payment of water tax and the occupier of the said premises shall be jointly and severally liable for the same.

When materials and works may be supplied and done under this Chapter for any person by the Commissioner.

[**287.** On the written request of any person who is required under of the provisions of this Chapter to supply any materials, fittings, cistern or lock and key or to do any work, the Commissioner may, on such person's behalf, supply the necessary materials, fittings, cistern or lock and key, as the case may be, or cause the necessary work to be done; but he shall not do so in any case to which the provisions of section 493 or 495 will not apply, unless a deposit is first of all made by the said person of a sum which will, in the opinion of the Commissioner, suffice to cover the cost of the said material, fitting, cistern, lock and key or work.

Commissioner may execute works under this chapter without allowing option to persons concerned of executing the same.

[**287A.** (1) The Commissioner may, if he thinks fit, cause any work described in this Chapter to be executed [or any cistern to be supplied with a lock and key] by municipal or other agency wider his own orders, without first of all giving this Chapter person by whom the same would otherwise have to be executed [or supplied] without option of doing [or supplying] the same.

(2) The expenses of any work so [done [or of supplying such lock and key] shall be paid by the person aforesaid, unless the corporation shall, by a general or special order or resolution, sanction, as they are hereby empowered to sanction, the execution of such work [or the supply of such lock and key], at the charge of the municipal fund.]

Works under Chapter X to be done by licensed plumber.

[**287B.** (1) No person other than a licensed plumber shall execute any work described in this Chapter, [(other than the provision of a lock and key)] and no person shall permit any such work to be executed except by a licensed plumber.

(2) Every person who employs a licensed plumber to execute any such work shall when so required, furnish to the Commissioner the name of such plumber.

[(3) Where any person causes or permits any pipe, cistern or fitting or other work necessary for conveying a private supply of water from a municipal water-work into

any premises to be laid, applied or executed in contravention of sub-section (1), he shall, in addition to being liable to the penalty prescribed for such contravention, not be entitled to an independent or branch connection, until the defects, if any, in such pipe, cistern, fitting or work are removed to the satisfaction of the Commissioner.]

Power to supply water without [Greater Bombay].

288. The Commissioner may supply water from a municipal water-work to any local authority or person without [Greater Bombay] on such terms as to payment and as to the period and conditions of supply as shall be, either generally or specially, approved by the corporation.