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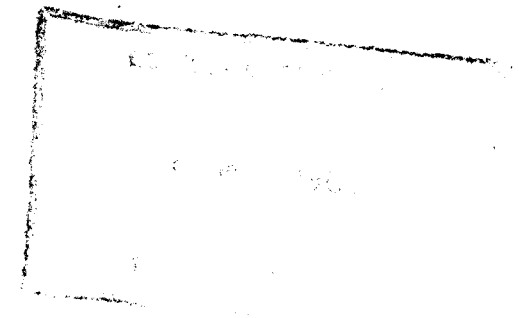


Maharashtra State

LIANDARA DISTRICT

(REVISED EDITION)

**BHANDARA DISTRICT
GAZETTEER**



MAHARASHTRA STATE GAZETTEERS



Government of Maharashtra

[Price : Rs. 21-75]

BHANDARA DISTRICT REVISED EDITION



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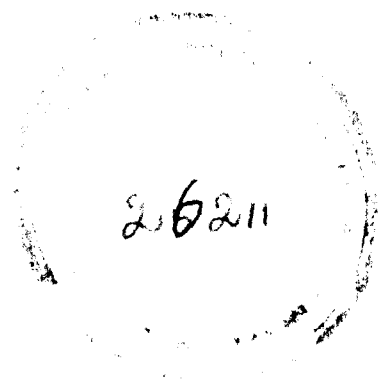
BOMBAY
GAZETTEERS DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
1979

GAZETTEER OF INDIA
MAHARASHTRA STATE GAZETTEERS
BHANDARA DISTRICT

M
V. S. R. S.

NO. 2

FIRST EDITION : 1908
SECOND EDITION (REVISED) : 1978



PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR AND SECRETARY GAZETTEERS
DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, BOMBAY AND
PRINTED IN INDIA BY THE MANAGER, GOVT. PRESS AND
BOOK DEPOT, NAGPUR.

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PREFACE

THE BHANDARA DISTRICT GAZETTEER was first published in 1908. It was edited by R. V. Russell. This revised edition of the Bhandara District Gazetteer has been prepared by the Gazetteers Department, Government of Maharashtra, under the guidance of an Editorial Board. The following are the present members of the Editorial Board :—

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My thanks are due to Shri K. K. Chaudhari, M.A., Joint Editor ; Dr. V. N. Gurav, M.A., Ph.D., Deputy Editor ; and Shri M. H. Ranade, B.A. and Shri S. K. Khilare, B.Com., LL.B., Research Officers for the valuable assistance rendered by them throughout the work. I am also thankful to Shri K. V. Yohannan, B.A., LL.B., Administrative Officer ; as also to Shri P. N. Narkhede, M.Com. ; Smt. M. S. Modikhane, M.A. ; Smt. N. S. Alwani, B.A. ; Shri N. R. Patil, M.Com. ; Shri K. Z. Raut, M.A. ; Shri D. J. Navadkar, M.A. ; and Shri V. B. Sangrulkar, B.A., Research Assistants for their assistance in the publication of this Volume. I am also thankful to the other members of the staff for their association in the preparation of this Volume.

I will be failing in my duty, if I do not express my thanks to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Editor, Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi, as also the editorial staff of the Unit for their effective role in planning and co-ordinating the work of preparation of the District

Gazetteers. The Unit scrutinised the draft of this Volume with great care and made several helpful suggestions with a view to improving the standard and quality of the publication. It may also be mentioned here that the Government of India pays a sum of Rs. 44,000 towards the compilation and Rs. 30,000 towards the printing cost of each of the district volumes which forms a portion of the expenditure incurred on the compilation and printing of the District Gazetteer. The typed manuscript of this Gazetteer was sent for printing on 15th February 1973 after approval of the Central Gazetteers Unit, Government of India.

Shri S. A. Sapre, Director, Government Printing, Stationery and Publications, Maharashtra State, Bombay and Shri L. J. Menesse, Manager, Government Press and Book Depot, Nagpur, as also the other technical and managerial staff in the Nagpur Press deserve my thanks for the printing work of this Volume.

Many are the officials and non-officials who helped by supplying information on various points without whose help the execution of this work would have been difficult. To them all my thanks are due.

BOMBAY:

15th August 1978.

B. G. KUNTE.

Executive Editor and Secretary.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

IN 1867 A GAZETTEER was published for the Central Provinces with the following remarks from Sir R. Temple, the then Chief Commissioner of the Provinces :—

"It has long seemed to the Chief Commissioner that a Gazetteer is needed for the Central Provinces. None will dispute that for the good management of districts local knowledge is necessary. The more detailed and intimate such knowledge is, the better. This remark, however general may be its application, is particularly applicable to provinces like these, where the areas are widespread; where the tribes and circumstances are diverse; where the component parts are separated from each other by mountain barriers or other physical obstacles; where information is often difficult of acquisition by reason of the remoteness of localities; and where the annals of the country, though to some extent existing, are for the most part inaccessible to the majority of our countrymen.

"When such knowledge is merely acquired by individuals, it is apt to be of a fugitive character, owing to those frequent changes which are inevitable in Indian administration. It constantly happens that when an officer has, by travelling about, and by communicating with the people, learnt very much regarding his district, he is obliged by ill-health, or by the requirements of the service, or by other reasons, to leave, and then he carries all his knowledge away with him, his successor having to study everything *ab initio*.

"Thus it becomes of importance that the multifarious facts of local interest and value should be recorded by all who have the means of knowing them; and that such record should be embodied in an abiding shape, permanent to, and within the reach of all, so that everyone who is concerned to ascertain these things may have ordinary resources of information ready to hand.

"Therefore it was in 1864 resolved to collect materials for a Gazetteer. With this view all officers serving in these Provinces were furnished with a sketch of the information required. In due course every officer transmitted the data for his district. Advantage was taken of the Settlement Department being in operation to obtain therefrom all the facts bearing on the subjects in question. Thus in the course of two years a mass of information in manuscript was accumulated.

"The work thus brought out, though probably as complete as it can be made at the present time, is yet avowedly imperfect, and is in some respects only preliminary. The information generally may from year to year be supplemented by further details, and on numerous points will doubtless be found susceptible of emendation. The Statistics especially will constantly be open to enlargement and rectification. Still a broad foundation for future superstructure has at least been raised."

The impression of that edition was soon exhausted and a revised edition under the title, *the Gazetteer of the Central Provinces of India* was prepared in 1870 by Mr. Charles Grant, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. In this revised edition, Charles Grant included among others an article on Bhandara district.

Subsequently the Government of Central Provinces compiled the Gazetteers for various districts in the beginning of this century. In this series Mr. R. V. Russell, I.C.S., compiled the first

Bhandara District Gazetteer in 1907. In his prelatory note to the volume Mr. Russell wrote:

"The extant Settlement Reports on the Bhandara District are those of Mr. A. J. Lawrence (1867) and of Mr. A. B. Napier (1867). Mr. A. J. Lawrence's Report contains some historical and other material, which has been reproduced in the Gazetteer. Mr. Napier's remarks on the agricultural castes and on trade and other subjects have been included, and the land and zamindari articles are based on his reports in the Settlement Annexures. The Chapter on Agriculture has been contributed by Mr. E. Danks, Deputy Commissioner of Bhandara, and that on General Administration by Mr. E. Danks and Mr. G. A. Khan, Assistant Commissioner. Mr. R. H. MacNair has furnished the description of a Bhandara village. The section on Geology has been contributed by Mr. P. N. Datta of the Geological Survey and that on Minerals is based on materials supplied by Mr. Datta, and on Mr. L. Leigh Fernor's Monograph on the Manganese Mining Industry. The notices of trees in the section on Botany were contributed by the late Mr. J. I. Hobday of the Forest Department and the remaining paragraphs are quoted from Mr. C. E. Low's *Gazetteer of the Belgaum District*, from which extracts have also been made elsewhere in this volume. For the interesting notices of wild animals and birds the writer is indebted to Mr. W. A. Tucker, Extra Assistant Commissioner. He must as usual acknowledge his obligations to Mr. Hira Lal, Assistant Gazetteer Superintendent. Mr. Danks has read the proof and offered several suggestions based on his knowledge of the District."

In Bombay Presidency as early as 1843 an attempt was made to arrange for the preparation of Statistical Accounts of the different districts. Government called on the Revenue Commissioners to obtain from all the Collectors as part of their next Annual Report, the fullest available information regarding their districts:—

"In obedience to these orders reports were received from the Collector of Ahmedabad, Broach, Kaira, Thana and Khandesh. Some of the reports contained much interesting information. These five northern reports were practically the only result of the Circular letter of 1843".*

The matter does not seem to have been pursued any further.

In October 1867, the Secretary of State for India desired the Bombay Government to take concrete steps for the compilation of a Gazetteer of the Presidency on the model of the Gazetteer prepared during that year for the Central Provinces. The Government of Bombay then requested some of its responsible officials to submit a scheme for carrying into effect the orders of Secretary of State, and in 1868, appointed the Bombay Gazetteer Committee to supervise and direct the preparation of the Gazetteer. After a few organisational experiments the responsibility was finally entrusted to Mr. James M. Campbell of the Bombay Civil Service, who commenced the compilation in 1874 and completed the series in 1884. The actual publication, however, of these volumes was spread over a period of 27 years between 1877 and 1904 in which year the last General Index Volume was published.

Though a Gazetteer literally means only a geographical index or a geographical dictionary the scope of this particular compilation was much wider. It included not only a description of the physical and natural features of a region but also a broad

**Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency*, Vol. I, Part I, History of Gujarat.

narrative of the social, political, economic and cultural life of the people living in that region. The purpose which the Gazetteer was intended to serve was made clear in the following remarks of Sir William Hunter, Director-General of Statistics to the Government of India, when his opinion was sought on a draft article on Dharwar District in 1871*. He said:—

"My own conception of the work is that, in return for a couple of days' reading, the Account should give a new Collector, a comprehensive, and at the same time a distinct idea of the district which he has been sent to administer. Mere reading can never supersede practical experience in the district administration. But a succinct and well-conceived district account is capable of antedating the acquisition of such personal experience by many months and of both facilitating and systematising a Collector's personal enquiries. . . . But in all cases a District Account besides dealing with local specialities should furnish a historical narration of its revenue and expenditure since it passed under the British rule, of the sums which we have taken from it in taxes, and of the amount which we have returned to it in the protection of property and person and the other charges of Civil Government."

The Gazetteer was thus intended to give a complete picture of the district to men who were entire strangers to India and its people but who as members of the ruling race carried on their shoulders the responsibility of conducting its administration.

The Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency had 27 Volumes, some split up into two or three parts making a total of 35 books including the General Index which was published in 1904. Some of the Volumes were of a general nature and were not confined to the limits of a particular district. For example Volume I dealt with History and was split up into two parts, one dealing with Gujarat and the other with Konkan, Deccan and Southern Maratha Country; Volume IX was devoted to the population of Gujarat and contained two parts, one describing Hindus and the other Musalmans and Parsis, but there was no corresponding Volume devoted to the population of Maharashtra or Karnatak; Volume XXV gave an account of the Botany of the area covered in the whole Presidency. The remaining volumes dealt with various districts of the Presidency and with what were then known as Native States attached to the Bombay Presidency. Some of the District Volumes had two or three parts, for example, those of Thana, Kanara, Poona and Bombay. On the other hand, there was only one combined volume for some districts as for example, Surat and Broach, and Kaira and Panch Mahals.

The scheme of the contents was more or less the same for all the District Volumes though the accounts of particular items varied considerably from district to district. Information was collected from Government offices and, in respect of social and religious practices, from responsible citizens. Eminent scholars, experts and administrators contributed articles on special subjects.

This Gazetteer compiled over many decades ago had long become scarce and entirely out of print. It contained authentic

**Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency*, Vol. I, Part I (History of Gujarat) p. vii.

and useful information on several aspects of life in a district and was considered to be of great value to the administrator, and scholar and the general reader. There was a general desire that there should be a new and revised edition of this monumental work. The then Government of Bombay, therefore, decided that the old Gazetteer should be revised and republished, and entrusted the work of revision to an Editorial Board specially created for that purpose in 1949. This new edition has been prepared by the Gazetteers Department under the direction of the Editorial Board. In view of the re-organization of States in 1956 and the coming into existence of the State of Maharashtra in 1960, areas for which no District Gazetteers had previously been compiled are taken up and new District Gazetteers are being compiled in accordance with the common pattern.

In the nature of things, after a lapse of over many decades after their publication, most of the statistical information contained in the old Gazetteer had become entirely out of date and had to be dropped altogether. In this edition an attempt has been made to give an idea of the latest developments whether in regard to the administrative structure or the economic set-up or in regard to social, religious and cultural trends. There are portions in the old Gazetteers bearing on archaeology and history which have the impress of profound scholarship and learning and their worth has not diminished by the mere passage of time. Even in their case, however, some restatement is occasionally necessary in view of later investigations and new archaeological discoveries by scholars, and an attempt has been made to incorporate in this edition, the results of such subsequent research. The revision of old Volumes has, in fact, meant an entire rewriting of most of the chapters and sections. In doing so, statistical and other information is obtained from the relevant Departments of Government, and articles on certain specialised subjects are obtained from competent scholars.

In this dynamic world, circumstances and facts of life change, and so do national requirements and social values. Such significant changes have taken place in India as in other countries during the last half-a-century and more so after the advent of Independence in 1947. The general scheme and contents of this revised series of the Gazetteers have been adapted to the needs of altered conditions. There is inevitable some shift in emphasis in the presentation and interpretation of certain phenomena. For example, the weighted importance given to caste and community in the old Gazetteer cannot obviously accord with the ideological concepts of a secular democracy, though much of that data may have considerable interest from the functional, sociological or cultural point of view. What is necessary is a change in perspective in presenting that account so that it could be viewed against the background of a broad nationalism and the synthesis of a larger social life. It is also necessary to abridge

and even to eliminate, elaborate details about customs and practices which no longer obtain on any extensive scale or which are too insignificant to need any elaboration. In the revised Gazetteer, therefore, only a general outline of the practices and customs of the main sections of the population has been given.

Every attempt has been made to incorporate as up-to-date information as possible. However in a monumental work like this, a time-lag between the date of collection of information and its publication is inevitable. It has, therefore, been decided to issue Statistical Supplementaries to the parent volumes from time to time. The Supplementaries will furnish tabulated statistics pertaining to the important subjects during the subsequent years.

An important addition to the District Volume in this edition is the Directory of Villages and Towns given at the end which contains, in a tabulated form, useful information about every village and town in the district. The district map given in this edition is also fairly large and up-to-date.

The revised Gazetteers are published in two series :—

1. *General Series*.—This comprises volumes on subjects which can best be treated for the State as a whole and not for the smaller area of a district. As at present planned, they will deal with Geography, Fauna, Maharashtra—Land and its People, History, Language and Literature, Botany, Public Administration and Places of Interest.

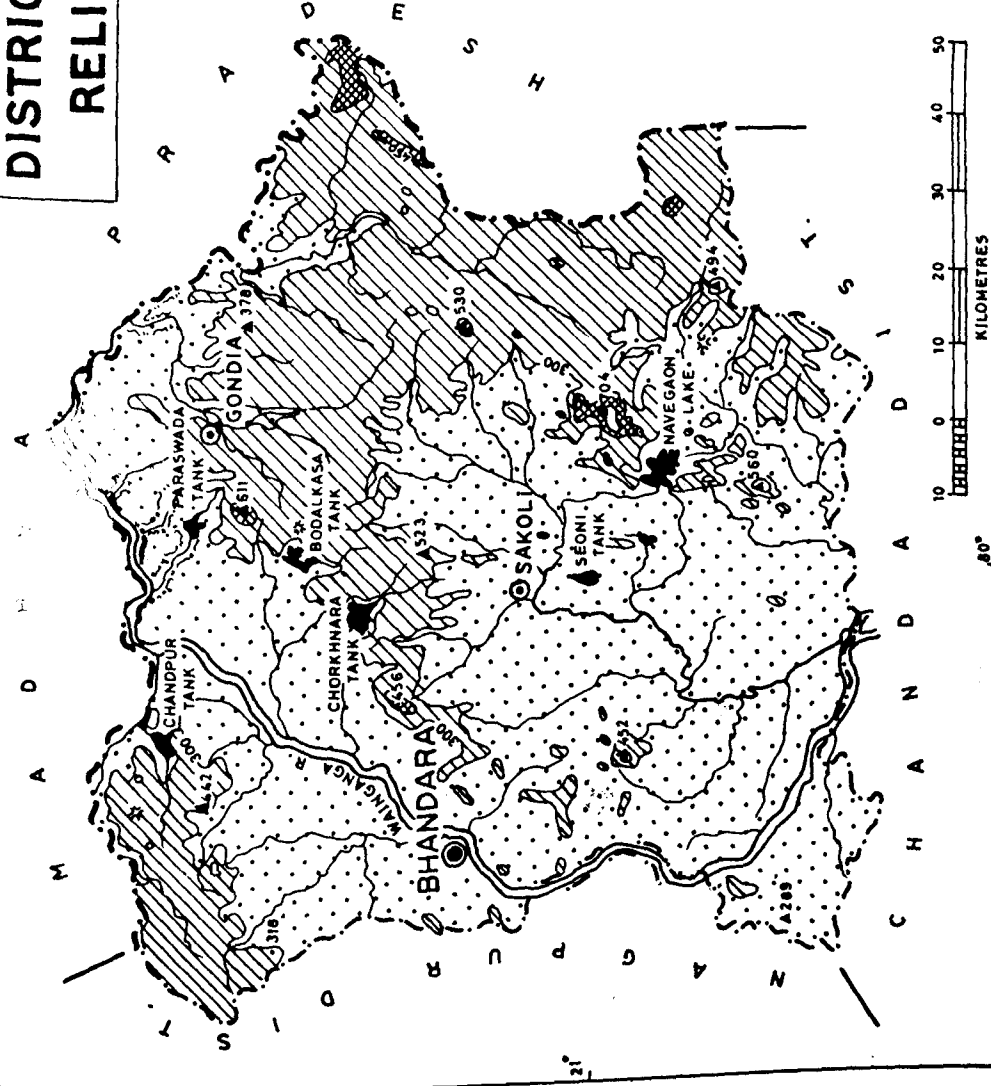
2. *District Series*.—This contains one Volume for every district of the Maharashtra State. The information given in all the Volumes will follow the same pattern, and the table of contents will more or less be the same for all the districts.

In the preparation of this Volume, this Department has received every assistance from the Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of India. A draft copy of this Volume was sent to the Gazetteers Unit and was returned with valuable suggestions which have been incorporated in the Volume.

BOMBAY :
15th August 1978.

B. G. KUNTE,
Executive Editor and Secretary.

DISTRICT BHANDARA RELIEF FEATURES



BHANDARA

CHAPTER 1 — GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY *

Situation.— THE DISTRICT OF BHANDARA IN THE NORTH-EASTERN EXTREME OF THE NAGPUR DIVISION OF MAHARASHTRA STATE lies between 20° 39' and 21° 38' north latitudes and 79° 27' and 80° 42' east longitudes.

Geographically, the district lies entirely within the Wainganga basin. Three major tributaries of the Wainganga—the Bagh, the Bawanthari and the Chulband drain the district. The district has considerable geological variety in its rock formations, that mostly belong to the archæan and the 'Dharwar' formations. The district is traversed west to east in the middle by the Nagpur-Calcutta (South-Eastern) broad gauge railway line and the Nagpur-Raipur National Highway.

As stated in the old Bhandara district gazetteer, published in 1908, Bhandara is a corruption of Bhanara a name by which the people still call the town. Bhanara is mentioned in an inscription at Ratanpur about 1100 A.D. The current derivation from *bhana*, a brass dish is based on the fact that the town has a large brass-working industry.

The district covers an area of 9280.0 km²; it had, according to the 1971 Census a population of 15,85,580. In terms of area and population, the district constitutes 2.99 percent and 3.15 percent of the State, respectively. This population of the district is distributed among 5 towns and 1,500 inhabited villages. The urban population constitutes nearly 11.38 percent of the total as against the State average of 31.16 per cent.

Administrative Evolution.—Initially, the area at present forming the western and southern parts of Bhandara, was part of the Nagpur territory of the Bhosle kingdom. The northern and eastern parts of the district were then grouped together with parts of the adjoining Balaghat district as Prant Wainganga, also under the rule of the Bhosles. The administrative headquarters of the Prant Wainganga was at Lanji, now in Balaghat. In A.D. 1818, the area was put under Regency administration. In 1821, a new territorial region was defined under the control of the Regent,

*The Section on Geography is contributed by Prof. B. Arunachalam, Department of Geography, University of Bombay, Bombay.

comprising the Lanji territory of Wainganga and the southern and eastern parts originally under the Nagpur territory. This new district, called Bhandara, had its administrative headquarters at Bhandara. In 1830, the Regency ended and the district was handed over to the Bhosles. In 1853, the district became British territory by lapse. In 1867, the Lanji and Hatta tracts were transferred from the Bhandara district to the newly formed district of Balaghat. In the same year, the headquarters of the southern tahsil was shifted from Sangadi to Sakoli.

In 1881, the district comprised only two tahsils, viz., Tirora in the north and Sakoli in the south. A third tahsil named as Bhandara, in the western parts of the district was constituted later. In 1914, the Tirora tahsil was renamed as Gondia, and the tahsil headquarters shifted to Gondia from Tirora.

With the States' Reorganisation in 1956, the district was transferred from Madhya Pradesh to the then Bombay State. It forms part of Maharashtra State since 1st May 1960.

Present Administrative Set-up : For administrative purposes, the district is at present divided into three tahsils. The area, number of inhabited villages and towns and the population as per 1971 Census are shown in the statement given below :—

Tahsil	Head-quarters	Area in km ²	Percentage of area	Number of villages	
				Occupied	Ruined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Gondia ..	Gondia ..	2,687.6	28.96	438	23
Bhandara ..	Bhandara ..	2,606.6	28.09	496	74
Sakoli ..	Sakoli ..	3,985.8	42.95	566	62
District Bhandara ..		9,280.0	100.00	1,500	159

Tahsil	Head-quarters	No. of Towns	Population		
			Total No.	Percentage	Density in km ²
(1)	(2)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Gondia ..	Gondia ..	2	6,23,464	39.32	232
Bhandara ..	Bhandara ..	3	5,02,973	31.72	193
Sakoli ..	Sakoli ..	..	4,59,143	28.96	115
District Bhandara ..		5	15,85,580	100.00	172

A-2669—1-B.

Boundaries.— Almost squarish in shape, the district is bounded by the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh in the north, the Rajnandgaon district of Madhya Pradesh in the east, Chandrapur district in the south and Nagpur district in the west. Starting from the tri-junction between Nagpur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra State and the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh, near the village Sitekasa in Bhandara tahsil, the State boundary can be traced running east following the course of the bed of the river Bawanthari downstream till its confluence with the Wainganga. Thereafter, the boundary continues towards east, now following the Wainganga upstream till the place where a left bank tributary, the Bagh, empties into it. At this confluence, the Wainganga turns sharply north, but the State boundary continues south-eastwards, along the Bagh nadi upstream till reaching the village Amgaon, whereafter the boundary turns to run east and north for about 3 km. till reaching a right bank tributary of the Bagh, also called by the same name (or can be called the Balaghat or lesser Bagh to distinguish it from the main Bhandara Bagh), to follow it upstream almost to its source to reach the tri-junction between Balaghat and Rajnandgaon districts of Madhya Pradesh and Bhandara. Then, the boundary turns south-west and runs through a hilly country at an average elevation of 400 m. for about fifty kilometres till once again reaching the main Bagh and following it for about 13 km., crossing the Great Eastern Highway (No. 6) from Nagpur to Raipur near the 149th km. stone from Nagpur. Once again, the boundary leaves the river and runs cross-countrywise, generally southwards, through a forest-clad plateau at a height of about 400 m. Near the village Kosabi Budruk in Sakoli tahsil, it turns east and runs for about 10 km., then turns south and runs for about 15 km. till reaching the hamlet Japkasa in the extreme south-east of Sakoli tahsil. Thereafter, the boundary turns west, once again to run through a forest-clad rolling plateau-country belonging to the Chichgarh and Rajoli Reserved Forest divisions, generally westwards till falling to the floor-levels of the Garhvi river-valley, crossing it, and again running westwards to descend into the valley of the Wainganga through a gently sloping country. The boundary reaches the Wainganga just south of the village Soni in Sakoli tahsil, and follows the river westwards till the village of Itan. Then, it runs for some distance west of the river through the Bedurtal Reserved Forest area, crosses the Nagpur-Nagbhir-Chandrapur road near the Pauni Road Railway Station, and once again turns north to join the Wainganga south of the village Gosi in Bhandara tahsil. It follows the river upstream till its confluence with a right bank tributary, the Kanhan river, near the village Tiddi. Thereafter, the boundary follows the Kanhan upstream for a short distance—about 10 km. till reaching the village Chicholi. Then it turns north and runs across a southwards sloping undulating country till reaching the Bawanthari river.

Physical Features.—The entire district of Bhandara falls within the drainage of the Wainganga river and one of its principal affluents, the Bagh. The whole country is rolling and open, at average elevations of 250 m. to 300 m., with higher elevations to the north-west and the east, the broad central depression being occupied by the Wainganga. Only in a few places, the country is broken by isolated ranges of low hills that rise to low heights above the adjoining floor-level of the country.

Ambagad Hills : The lowest and most northerly of these hill ranges is the Ambagad range. It is an extreme outlier of the Satpudas running with a WNW-ESE trend in the extreme north-west of the district area to the north and west of the Wainganga. It separates the valley of the Bawanthari river from that of the Wainganga. Rising about 200 m. above the general level of the valley floor through steep slopes and escarpments, the Ambagad range is well defined with an average breadth of about 3 km. and a length of about 30 km. It presents cliffy precipices on the southern side and attains the highest elevation of 534 m. in its mid-sections overlooking the Wainganga plains to the south. Close to this greatest height, at the end of a spur, crowning the ridge is the Ambagad fort, built by a Pathan governor of Seoni about 1700 A.D. The fort walls stand on the brink of a cliff-face that drops by a sheer hundred metres to lesser levels. The view from the fort southwards of the Wainganga plains is indeed panoramic and fascinating. The fort was for some time used as a prison by the Bhosle rulers.

The range extends as far as the Bawanthari river, and in its eastern parts presents steep and cliff-slopes to the north, overlooking the Bawanthari river. At its foot, in a fine amphitheatre-like depression lies the Chandpur tank, while at the crest is the ruined fort of Chandpur.

There is a wide gap, with a width of about 3 km. wide in the Ambagad range, just east of the spur of the Ambagad fort; it is drained by the Ambagad *nadi*, and is used by the Tumsar-Katangi road and railway.

In spite of its moderate elevation, the Ambagad range is remarkable for the beauty and ruggedness of its scenery. The range represents a residual remnant of a tongue of the Deccan trap basalts that overlie the archæan crystalline rock formations.

Ballahi range: About 10 km WSW., and 9 km south-west of Bhandara town, there lie two isolated hill ranges, each about 5 km long in a south-west-north-east direction and about 2 km wide; these hills together may be termed as the Ballahi range. These hills rising to about 400 m. above mean sea-level and 150 m. above the valley floor, overhang the Great Eastern Highway on either side and form prominent features of the landscape that can be seen for quite some distance along the road. These hills are underlain by sandstones, quartzites and granulites; the

rock boulders are used in the surrounding areas as excellent slabs for building purposes. The hills are practically bare of vegetation, barring poor scrubs and coarse grass that constitute rough pastures for cattle.

Pauni Hills : Just west of the Wainganga river, and the township of Pauni in the south-western extremes of the district are a clump of hills called the Gaidongri and Nishti hills rising to about 300 m. above sea-level, and barely 50 to 100 m. above the adjoining plains. The main hill mass, surrounded by a number of elongated dyke ridges running south-east-north-west as well as south-west-north-east that rise only slightly above the general floor level, is a residual erosional remnant of more resistant quartzites of the Sakoli series of Dharwar age standing up in relief over an archæan gneissic terrain. These hills abut along their southern edge, on a rolling country underlain by Vindhyan sandstones, and grits that are reddish in colour and dipping 10°.

Gaikhuri range : In the central parts of the district, running from the banks of the Wainganga, a few kilometres south of Bhandara town, with a south-west-north-east trend, almost right up to the township of Gondia is the Gaikhuri range. This is a cluster of elongated knolls set in a broken hill and undulating country that is fairly well-wooded. The whole region lies above 300 m., individual knolls forming peaks rising to greater heights: Rawanwai (459 m.) in Mahaka reserved forest; Jhanda (454 m.); Chandi (486 m.); Tatekasa (526 m.); Ladhari (460 m.); Sitatondi (428 m.); Khaira (611 m.) near Gondia; and Jamri (523 m.), etc.

The Gaikhuri range runs as a series of double ridges with a longitudinal depression in between, and progressively opening southwards: the two ridges coalesce in the north to form a continuous tangle of hill country. A few outliers of the main range dot the country north of the railway running east of Nagpur towards Gondia. This section of the range acts as a water-parting between the Wainganga and Bagh drainages.

The rock formations underlying the Gaikhuri range represent the Sakoli series of the Dharwar age that were laid as sediments in synclines within the archæan basement of gneisses and schists. They have been laid bare by a long period of circumdenudation, as a result of which the more resistant Sakoli beds stand up as a hill range in contrast to the adjoining low ground underlain by the softer gneisses and schists reduced to a lower level.

The predominant rocks of the region are muscovite-schists, chlorite-schists, phyllites and slates passing vertically and marginally into quartzites; the northern boundary of the main exposure is in most places a ridge of brecciated quartzites. The foliation strike in these rocks in general is north-east-south-west, but eastwards, along the eastern margin of the Gaikhuri range, the strike is north-south; the rocks here are folded in a synclinorium. The smaller outcrops of the rock beds on the archæan gneissic terrain

particularly in the south, are believed to be the tips of the Sakoli synclinorium. Faulting is quite commonly met with within the main exposure, and is oriented in two or three sets of fractures usually indicated by fault-breccias.

It is with the muscovite-chlorite-schists of the Gaikhuri range that are associated the kyanite-bearing and sillimanite bearing rocks of Bhandara district and these occasionally contain topaz and corundum as important accessories. Around Pohra and Girola in Sakoli tahsil, about 25 km. east of Bhandara along the Eastern Highway, there occur extensive beds of massive sillimanite—about a hundred metres thick—in a tourmaline rock that is exploited in a small way at present. Jaspilite bands occur in association with phyllites and so too occur haematite bearing rocks.

Darekasa hills: In the extreme eastern part of the district, around Darekasa, there occur a group of hills, forming a water parting between the Bhandara Bagh and Balaghat (Lesser) Bagh rivers. These hills are densely forested. The average elevation of these hills is somewhat greater than those of the hills further west. These hills are underlain by muscovite—biotite granites.

Nawegaon, Palasgaon and Pratapgad hills: The south-eastern parts of the district, in Sakoli tahsil, rise to the highest elevations within the district. These hills in the north and west are known as the Nawegaon, Palasgaon and Pratapgad hills. Underlain by the Sakoli schists and quartzites, these hills have a north strike and are skirted by the Gondia-Nagbhir railway. The individual ridges are hogback-like, the higher elevations close to the crest rising through sheer cliff-faces. These ridges are also underlain by the Sakoli schists and quartzites.

A number of high peaks are recorded: Chakalipat (530 m.); Dalli (460 m.); Palasgaon (613 m.); Jhanda Dongar (714 m.); Anjanjhari (534 m.); Ambajhari (688 m.); Umarjhari (591 m.); Pratapgad (544 m.) and others. These hills rise about 200 to 300 m. above the general level of the uplands. In general, higher elevations are associated with the northern, Nawegaon and Palasgaon hills. The Gond fort of Pratapgad, on a crestal plateau, overlooking the Pratapgad peak, is located at the southern end of a spur that runs southwards from the Nawegaon hills. The Nawegaon lake lies in a large natural depression that is developed in a breach in these hills.

Chichgarh hills: To the east of Pratapgad hills and south of Palasgaon hills lie the Chichgarh hills that virtually represent the scarp edge of a plateau still further east, with isolated knolls rising to relatively higher elevations. Mostly made of muscovite-granites and felsite rocks with veins of tourmaline and quartz and granite-pegmatites, the Chichgarh hills have a more regular and rounded appearance, with peaks at uniform summit levels. The Chichgarh plateau peneplaned to an erosional level at about 400 m. is dotted with many residual knolls.

Sangadi, Adyal and Purkabin hills: To the west of the Gondia-Nagbhir railway, on either side of the Chulband river valley, there are a number of detached hill ridges. The Sangadi hills running parallel to the railway, about 4 km. to its west rise only slightly above the general level of the country and represent the narrow bands of the more resistant Sakoli beds or rocks at the edge of the upturned syncline set in the gneissic terrain. Their general strike is north to south and they are rarely more than a kilometre wide.

Further west, on the opposite bank of the Chulband river, is the Purkabin hills rising to the maximum elevation of 449 m. This hill with a north-east-south-west elongation also appears to be an erosional remnant of the Sakoli rock beds.

Still further west, on the eastern banks of the Wainganga, just north of the village Adyal in Bhandara tahsil, there is a hillock about 4 km. long north-west-south-east and a kilometre wide rising a hundred metres above the valley floor.

In the extreme south, near the village Lakhandur, also occurs a hillock, which resembles the Sangadi hills.

Plain Country: The lowlands of Bhandara district lie mainly along the valleys of the rivers Wainganga, Bagh, Chulband and Bawanthari; the most extensive of them occur along the first two rivers. The other two river valleys have a rolling topography dotted with a number of residual hills. It is noteworthy that long periods of circumdenudation have resulted in the river valleys being carved out over the archaean gneisses and schists; while the Sausar rock beds west of the Wainganga and the Sakoli rock beds to the east and south stand up boldly in relief as resistant hill-masses. A veneer of river-borne alluvium covers the gneissic floor in the valleys, and attains a fair depth and recognisable dimension in the southern parts of the district along the Wainganga before it leaves the district.

The low lands of the district on the whole lie between 200 m. and 300 m. levels.

Drainage: The entire district falls within the Wainganga drainage. The major rivers of the district are the Wainganga and its tributaries, viz., Bagh, Bawanthari and Chulband. The Kanhan, just before its confluence with the Wainganga and the Garhvi in its upper reaches flow through the district for short distances.

Rivers.—Wainganga: The source streams of the Wainganga rise in the Chhindwara and Sconi plateaus of Madhya Pradesh; the river flows south through the Balaghat district before entering Bhandara district at its northern extreme. It initially flows west along the northern boundary, then turns south-west and gradually southwards through the Bhandara tahsil. Before leaving the district to enter Chandrapur, the river runs south-east. Thus, the Wainganga drains mainly the western parts of the district.

It is the main stream of the district having an overall length of about 200 km. within the district. The bed of the river is generally broad and sandy, interspersed with occasional rock barriers and boulders. Between the confluence of the Bagh with it and the Bawanthari downstream, in the northern parts of the district, the bed is not too wide—about 100 metres. Downstream of the Bawanthari confluence, the river widens to almost a kilometre off Bhandara and to almost two kilometres close to the southern limits of the district. However, just downstream of the confluence of the Kanhan with the main stream near the village Tiddi, the course of the river gets suddenly constricted, where it cuts through a ridge belonging to the Gaikhuri range.

In the hot weather, the river dwindles to trickles and shallow pools, but during the rains, especially in August and September, the swollen river with its rapidly flooding water is a fascinating sight to watch. During the rainy season, the river is navigable for light canoes.

The river through most of its flow in the district is considerably overloaded with silt, sands and alluvium, and as a result the channel is braided with numerous islands of sands in between. The channel of the river swings by graceful meanders, now left, now right, resulting in steep eroded banks on the outer side and shallow shelving and depositional inner banks. During the hot weather, the flow of the channel is confined to the eroded outer bank. Over most of its course, the river has developed high banks, 15 to 20 m. high; on the inner, less high banks, with alluvial flats, gullying is quite prominent and liability to flooding is also greater; as a consequence, villages avoid the inner banks and stick to the higher outer banks.

The river is normally fordable during the dry weather at a number of places; where the river is deeper, ferries too operate to connect villages on opposite banks. The river is crossed by the railway over a bridge on the Nagpur-Raipur section, just east of Tumsar Road R. S. Two seasonal pontoon bridges, one off Bhandara and another off Pauni, submersible during the floods, and a third bridge near Madagi, close to Tumsar Road R. S. are the only road links across the river.

Bagh: Of the principal affluents of the river Wainganga, the Bagh is the most important. It joins the Wainganga on its left bank as the latter enters the district near the village Birsola. The Bagh rises in the Chichgarh plateau, just west of the Chichgarh village and flows north through a well-wooded granitic territory, its course being controlled by the joint planes in the bed rock. The overall length of the river is about 166 km, and the river for a considerable distance, except in its upper reaches forms the State boundary. Most of its tributaries are on the right bank, outside the district, but of them the Balaghat Bagh, rising in the hills of Khairagarh, and joining the main Bagh east of the market village Sarkartola, and the Kuadhas *nadi* rising in the Darekasa

hills and tumbling over a fall, 46 m. high west of Darekasa village have a part of their courses within the district area. On the left bank, the tributaries are of lesser importance; of these, the Sathahini *nadi* rises in Chichewada hills and flows past Deori, and the Pangoli river rises in the Tumsar hills (not to be confused with Tumsar town in Bhandara tahsil) of Gondia and having its confluence with the main stream north of the large market village, Kamtha. The main river downstream of the confluence with the Pangoli, is perennial but floods only during the monsoon season. Except in its lower reaches, the Bagh flows in a narrow rocky bed with pools of stagnant water in between. An irrigation project over this river near the village Sirpur is well underway and irrigate about 24,000 hectares of cultivable lands in Gondia tahsil.

The Bagh is crossed by the Great Eastern Highway at Sirpur. The narrow gauge railway connecting Balaghat with Gondia on the main line crosses it over a bridge, just before its confluence with the Wainganga near the village Birsola.

Bawanthari: The Bawanthari river rises in the Kurai plateau of Seoni district (Madhya Pradesh), flows south, enters the district at the north-western limit of the boundary, and runs east forming the northern boundary for a distance of 48 km. before falling into the Wainganga. Though small and seasonal in its upper course, the river after entering this district, is fed by numerous hill torrents and is perennial. It drains the north-western parts of the district around Ambagad and Chandpur. The river has low banks and hence, in floods, overflows the banks. Quicksands occur in many parts of the river bed.

The river is crossed by the Tumsar-Tirodi railway over a bridge, north of Dongri *budrukhi* village, and over two temporary submersible bridges by the roads leading from Tumsar to Katangi and Warseoni in Madhya Pradesh.

The Bodalkasa *nadi* and the Tonda *nadi* draining the northern slopes of the Ambagad range are its seasonal tributaries within the district.

Ambagad: The Ambagad *nadi* rises in the foothills to the north of the Ambagad range, flows south through a wide breach in the Ambagad hills to join the Wainganga on its right bank east of Tumsar. The gap through which the river flows appears to be too wide to have been carved out by the river; probably, in the past, the Bawanthari used to follow this valley into the Wainganga.

The valley of this river is used by the Tumsar-Tirodi railway and road to gain an easy access from the Wainganga valley to the Bawanthari valley.

Sur: The Sur *nadi* draining the Ramtek tank in Nagpur district at its southern end enters the district as a narrow channel near the village Khamari in Bhandara tahsil to flow eastward.

with a perennial channel. The Gaimukh *nadi* draining southwards the southern slopes of the Ambagad range is its main tributary; the Gaimukh joins it near the village Rohana close to the Bhandara-Tumsar road bridge on it. After the confluence, the river turns sharply south at a distance of 6 km. from the Wainganga in the alluvium of the main valley to follow a course subparallel to the Wainganga for about 13 km. before emptying into it to the north-east of Bhandara town.

Bodalkasa: The Bodalkasa *nadi* drains the overflow of the Bodalkasa tank westwards to join the Wainganga on its left bank just downstream of the confluence of the Ambagad *nadi*. Just before its confluence with the main stream, it is met by an affluent, the Chorkhamara *nadi* draining the overflow of the Chorkhamara tank.

Kanhan: The Kanhan, an important right bank tributary of the Wainganga rising in the Chhindwara plateau and flowing through the northern parts of Nagpur district has only a small stretch of its course in this district before it flows into the Wainganga about 10 km. south of Bhandara town. It forms the boundary between Nagpur and Bhandara for about 10 km. before its confluence. Its banks in the district are high and deeply eroded.

Chulband: The source streams of the Chulband *nadi* rise in the Salegaon Dalli and Palasgaon hill complex and drain the amphitheatre-like basin on the southern slopes of the Gaikhuri range; the Chulband flows generally southwards with a subparallel valley to that of the Wainganga to its east and joins it at the southern limits of the district near the village Soni. The river has an overall length of 114 km. which is entirely within the district. It also drains the overflow of the Nawegaon and Seoni tanks. In its upper section through the hills the river bed narrows and widens on and off, depending upon the resistance of the rocks over which it flows; thus, east of Sakoli, the bed is wider than immediately downstream, but the valley opens widely.

The river is crossed by the Great Eastern Highway near Sawangi over a bridge and by the Gondia-Nagbhir railway near Gond Umri.

Garhvi: The Garhvi *nadi*, also known as the Itiadoh *nadi*, rises in the granitic plateau of Chichgarh in the south-eastern part of Sakoli tahsil and flows west in a deep and narrow valley. As it flows past the village Palasgaon, the valley opens out, but about 15 km. downstream, it cuts through a quartzite spur of the Nawegaon hills in a deep gorge; the panorama from the Pratapgad fort eastwards as the river rushes out from the gorge is a pleasant sight to watch. The river continues further south, opening out into a wide valley with shallow banks to enter into the Chandrapur district before joining the Wainganga. The river has a flow of 60 km. through this district.

The irrigation project, named the Itiadoh project, is under construction, where the river comes out of the gorge; it is expected to irrigate nearly 20,000 hectares of land in the southern parts of Sakoli tahsil.

Springs: There are very few perennial springs in the district because of the schistose and gneissic rocks that underlie most of the area. The Gaimukh spring at the foot of the basaltic precipice of the Ambagad hills on its southern side, the Daldali spring north of Darekasa in the extreme east, and the Tatekasa and Umarjhari springs in the upper Chulband valley are the most prominent of the few springs that occur in the district.

Tanks.—The district of Bhandara is often called the 'lake district' of Maharashtra, which is well justified by the fact that there are as many as 580 large and 13,758 small and medium sized tanks, scattered all over the district. This gives an average of eight tanks for every inhabited village in Bhandara district. These tanks are mainly distributed in the Wainganga, Bagh, Chulband and Garhvi valleys and the foothill slopes that overlook them. However, there are fewer tanks to the west of the Wainganga in the Bhandara tahsil.

The tanks are of two types: those in the hills, particularly of the Gaikhuri range, Nawegaon and Palasgaon hills that are fairly large, occupying depressions in amphitheatre-like basins which collect the run-off from all the hills that surround them. Here, the tank is 'an irregular expanse of water; its banks are formed by rugged hills, covered with low forests that fringe the water, where the wild beasts repair to drink; its dykes, mainly shaped out of spurs from the hills are thrown athwart the hollows, a part only being formed by masonry; its sluices often consist of chasms or fissures in the rocks, and its surface as the monsoon approaches is lashed into swaying and crested waves'. These large tanks have been constructed by members of the Kohli caste and built as they were without any sophisticated technical and engineering knowledge, form an enduring monument to the native ability and industry of these enterprising cultivators.

The catchment areas of these tanks range from 1 to 40 km².

The tanks of the second type are much larger in number and are generally of a much smaller size. These are generally constructed at the foothill slope or on the general slope of the valley side by putting an earthen embankment, a few metres high at its lower end. Such tanks, dotted all over the archæan gneissic terrain collect the vicissitudes of rainfall in broad, shallow expanses of tank depressions; they are mostly seasonal in nature. Seepage at the tank bed and evaporation on the surface from these tanks are relatively high, and they fail in their water-supply during the hot weather or years of low rainfall, when their water-supply is direly needed. However, these tanks constitute an important and vital source of irrigation within Bhandara. Besides irrigation, these tanks are extensively used for fresh water fisheries.

These tanks generally have very small catchment areas: they have, as a rule, no sluices but possess a crude waste weir, if any. In most cases, the water is let out by cutting a channel through the embankment when necessary and closing up the breach soon after.

Nawegaon Tank: The largest and best known of the tanks in the district, the Nawegaon tank is situated in a picturesque basin surrounded by seven knolls locally known as the 'seven sisters' or the "*sat bahini*". Numerous hill torrents draining the slopes of these hillocks feed the tank during the rains. The shape of the tank is very irregular, the water expanse running into long and narrow stretches skirting the base of the hills.

The tank lies east of the village Nawegaon on the Gondia-Nagbhir railway and is about 65 km. south of Gondia. It has a circumference of 27 km. and a water surface of about 20 km². The average depth of the tank is about 12 m. increasing in places to 30 m. The catchment area is about 90 km². The tank is perennial, though it shrinks during the hot weather.

The tank is said to have been built by Kolu Patil Kohli at the beginning of 18th century at a cost of sixty-four thousand rupees. The short length of the embankment of this large tank shows how well the site has been selected. There are two embankments on the western side, one 700 m. long and ten metres high and the other 100 m. long and 13 metres high. They are earthen embankments with a loose pitching. It has a waste weir, 87 m. long and there is a steady flow all the year round through the main irrigation channel, which is never completely closed. With its main channel irrigating the land of four villages and another small one irrigating that of one village, this tank irrigates about 1,000 hectares of farmland, mostly of rice and of sugarcane.

A small island known as the Maldongri rising to 300 m. above mean sea-level lies in the centre of the tank. It is said that this island used to offer protection to the rich farmers of the nearby villages during the Pendhari invasions.

About eight kilometres west of this tank, on the opposite side of the railway, is a perennial tank called the Gangejhari tank.

Seoni Tank: The Seoni tank lies on the eastern slopes of the Chulband valley about 10 km. south of Sakoli village. The tank is said to have been built by Dadu Patel Kohli and is probably later in age than the Nawegaon tank. Its circumference is about 10 km., and its water-spread area is 8 km². The lake is surrounded by well-wooded hills on three sides, and on the fourth, by an embankment 190 m. long. The average depth of the tank is 10 m. In summer, the tank shrinks in size considerably. It irrigates the land of three villages: Seoni Bandh, Sangadi and Sasra.

About 12 km. south of the Seoni tank lies the Silli Hurki tank, feeding the irrigation channels of the villages Dighori *budruk* and Pondgaon.

Khairbanda Tank: The Khairbanda (or Khalbanda) tank, about 14 km. in circumference is located at the northern extremity of the Gaikhuri range north of the Gondia-Bhandara railway in between two hills in what formerly formed part of *Warad Zamindari*. It is 5 km. due north of the Gangajhari railway station. It has two embankments one in the west and another in the north-west. The Khairbanda left and right bank canals irrigate considerable areas in the villages lying immediately to the west and north of this tank, in the western part of Gondia tahsil.

Bodalkasa Tank: The Bodalkasa tank, lies about 10 km. south-south-west of the Gaikhuri range in a breach on a north-east to south-west running spur. This perennial tank of an extremely irregular shape like the letter 'G' has a circumference of 30 km. It has a small embankment, 500 m. long and 8 m. high. The overflow empties into the Bodalkasa *nadi* and finally into the Wainganga. The Bodalkasa left and right bank canals irrigate the lands of a number of villages south of the Bhandara-Gondia railway in the south-western parts of Gondia tahsil.

Chorkhamara Tank: The Chorkhamara tank lies 10 km. south-west of the Bodalkasa tank on the steep western flanks of the same spur of the Gaikhuri range. It has a circumference of 22 km. and an embankment 1,200 m. long and 12 m. high on the north-western side. It has two canals, the right and left bank canals, the latter one having an important tributary known as the Kondhelohara distributary; the three of them together irrigate areas lying within a radius of 12 km. on the south-west, west and north-west of the tank. The overflow enters the Wainganga through the Chorkhamara *nadi*.

Chandpur Tank: The Chandpur tank lies at the eastern edge of the Ambagad range on its northern slope, overlooking the Bawanthari river near the village Chandpur. It has a circumference of 18 km. and a surface area of 12 km². It has an embankment to its northern and a smaller one to the east. The tank construction was completed in 1908.

General Scenery.—From the foregoing review of the salient physical traits of the Bhandara district, a general reader will be able to visualise and appreciate the physical setting of the district. The topography of the district reveals an east to west orientation of the Wainganga valley in the northern parts of the district, steadily opening out into a broad valley southwards in the west-central parts of the district, separated from its tributary valley basins by intervening hill ranges that also act as water-partings between the lesser streams of the district. The highest elevation of the district mainly lie in the south-eastern tracts that form an undulating plateau dotted with residual smoothly rounded hills.

The characteristics of scenery and human life are in close harmony with the topographical and geomorphological variations which are themselves the concomitant result of age-long differential erosion and weathering on rocks of varying geological strength. Surface drift deposits, laid down by the Wainganga

and the different residual weathering end-products give rise to a variety of textures and colours in soils that add colour to the changing landscape. The richness of the gondite rocks in the north-western part of the district—essentially in the Bawanthari valley—in manganese ore deposits has made surface quarrying for the ore an important economic activity, bringing in its wake a cultural land-scape dominated by quarrying and often wasteful exploitation.

Geologically the district essentially belongs to the archaens and Dharwar sediments preserved in the synclinal depressions of the former and highly metamorphosed. Rare and sporadic occurrences of the Vindhya in parts of the district and the basic traps at the higher elevations of the Ambagad range are the only geological horizons outcropping in the district. The Dharwars belong to two suites; the more highly metamorphosed rocks of the Sausar series occur in the north-west, mainly in the Bawanthari valley and consist of calc-granulites, marbles, manganese bearing gondites, tourmaline-garnet-biotite schists, gneisses and quartzites; the other, covering a larger part of the district in the south and east, belongs to the Sakoli series comprising predominantly argillaceous and siliceous rocks with a high proportion of chlorites, but lacking in lime rocks. Intrusions in it are mostly quartzose veins. The former rocks in the district have generally a NNE-SSW strike and are often intruded by granites that reveal excellent curvilinear sheet joints and weather into a tor country.

The boundary between the two belts has been drawn more or less in a north-east-south-west direction, not far from the town of Tirora and two km. north-west of Bhandara, the Sakoli series being to its south-east and the Sausar series to its north-west. The foliation strike in the Sakoli series around Sakoli is NE-SW, tending to become further eastwards north-south, the rocks here being folded in a synclinorium. The smaller outcrops of the Sakoli beds in the southern parts occurring as outliers in the Chulband valley are tips of the synclinoria.

Soils.—The soils of the district are highly varied, arising out of the tropical sub-humid weathering of crystalline metamorphic and igneous rocks. They are essentially residual, though along the southern extremes of the Wainganga valley, downstream of Pauni, alluvial soils predominate.

Kali or black regur soils derived from the weathering of basalts are generally rare in the district. *Kanhar* or very rich alluvial soils occur widely; these soils crumble readily and are easy to work. They are clay loams in texture, very deep, sticky and retentive of moisture; they bear double crops. *Morand* soils are coarser in texture and occur farther away from the rivers, in relatively higher ground in comparison to the *Kanhar* soils. They generally have an admixture of sands or lime or both. The *Kanhar* and *morand* soils are chiefly found in the plains of the Wainganga, south of Bhandara and in the lower Chulband valley.

The *khardi* soils are dark in colour with a considerable admixture of lime; they are generally gravelly and shallow. They are poor soils. The *sihar*, is a reddish yellow soil derived from crystalline rocks as a result of oxidation under tropical humid conditions and cracks very little in the hot weather. It degrades into the *khardi*.

Most of the cultivable soils of the district belong to the *morand* and *sihar* types, both of which are light and slightly acidic. The *sihar* are the best rice soils of the district while the *morand* soils are devoted to *rabi* crops like wheat and linseed and *kharij* jowar. Poor lateritic *bardi* soils are found in foothills and sloping areas. Along the immediate banks of rivers, black *kachhar* soils, reddish and sandy *marhani* soils, and sandy *retari* soils are found; these soils are mostly immature. The *marhani* soils are devoted to garden crops.

Forest clad ridges, and valleysides, cultivated valley floors interspersed with numerous tanks, hamlets perched on higher levels, and roads, cart-tracks, and footpaths form the prominent aspects of the general landscape in this district. The landscape becomes more pleasing to the eye soon after the rains. The flooded rivers rushing with powerful torrents, the overflowing tanks, the densely wooded hill ranges presenting a lovely carpet of green and the lowland soils divided into tiny plots wherein the young rice plants sway to and fro as the gentle breeze plays on it, and the villages set in between the rice fields, surrounded by groves and garden crops and breaking the monotony of the cultivated green all these together present a pleasing romantic view.

Geographical Regions.—The area of the district can be broadly divided into geographic regions as under, each having its distinctive traits :—

- (i) the Bawanthari valley; (ii) the Ambagad range; (iii) the Wainganga valley; (iv) the Gaikhuri range; (v) the Chulband valley; (vi) the Nawegaon, Pratapgad and Palasgaon hills; (vii) the Chichgad plateau; and (viii) the Bagh valley.

Bawanthari valley : The Bawanthari valley in the northern parts of the Bhandara tahsil adjoins the right bank of the eastward flowing Bawanthari river. Separated from the rest of the district by the Ambagad range, the valley is less than ten kilometres wide and 40 km. long. Underlain by the rock formations of the Sausar series, quick changes in rock types and hence in topographical scenery are quite frequent. The topography is of a rolling type, dotted with residual knolls and in general slopes northwards towards the river, with steeper gradients at the foothills. Seasonal streams and gullies swelling in rains cut into the terrain leading to a badland topography in many parts. The land is generally covered with fairly dense jungles with scattered thickets of bamboos. Cultivation is mainly restricted to clearings in the jungles and the lower slopes adjoining the Bawanthari. There are practically no tanks in this region, except in the eastern part,

where the Ambagad range reaches close to the river. The Chandpur tank and a few non-perennial tanks in this region are bunded to supply water for irrigating the fields. The soils are on the whole poor *khardi* and *retari*.

The cultural landscape of the valley is dominated by manganese quarrying in the outcrops of gondite rocks in the foothills. Present quarrying is mainly confined to the villages along the Tumsar-Tirodi railway: bed ore containing at least 40 per cent mineral is quarried at Dongri *budrukhi*, Yedarbuchi, Sitasaongi and Chikala. Low grade detrital ore containing 20 per cent to 40 per cent mineral is quarried at a number of places: Mangarli and Mandekasa in the west, Londejhari, Aswalpani, Alesur and Karli in the foothills. More than a lakh tons of manganese is mined every year.

Villages are few and far between. They are mostly small, at best hamlets in forest clearings. They are not compactly built: mostly they are clusters of houses and thatched hutments and workers' camps. Larger villages like Ashti and Lobhi reflecting agricultural security are all found in the east adjoining areas of tank irrigation.

Ambagad hills: The Ambagad hill range is narrow—about 30 km. long and 3 km. broad. Capped by basaltic precipices, overlying the Sausar series of rocks, the hill range has crestral mesas at levels of 500 m., flanked by overhanging cliffs in many places that drop through a hundred metres to lower structural benches. The range is breached by a wide gap, drained southwards by a small stream, the Ambagad *nadi*, southwards; the river is underfit to this large and wide valley. On the northern flank at the extreme east of the spur, is the large Chandpur tank. There are a few small circular tank depressions on the hill crest and in the southern foothills that have, however, little water in them. The southern foothills have developed coarse sandy piedmont slopes that are subject to gully action. The soils are coarse and gravelly in most parts.

The land use essentially consists of mixed deciduous reserved forests that are fairly dense. Cultivation is confined to forest clearings adjoining tank depressions; each clearing has a small hamlet. At the lower end of the piedmont slope, commanding the entry into the converging gullies are the larger agricultural villages. The only large villages are the market village of Paunara that lies on the gap and has a forest range office; and Chandpur, commanding the tank irrigated area along the Chandpur right and left bank canals. Chandpur has the ruins of an old *gauli fort*.

The Ambagad fort on the hill-top, looking south into the Wainganga valley, is a place of archaeological interest. At *Gaimukhi*, further west at the foothills, there is a perennial spring at the base of the basalts and a cave temple. An annual fair is held here at the time of *Mahashivaratri*.

Wainganga Valley: The Wainganga valley forms a central depression in the district occupying nearly a third of its area lying mainly in the Gondia and Bhandara tahsils. The valley has an east to west orientation in the northern part of the Gondia tahsil with an average width, of about 10 km. Downstream in Bhandara tahsil, the valley has a north to south orientation, and broadens to a maximum of about 28 km. north of Bhandara town. South of Bhandara, the valley becomes narrow due to the convergence of hill spurs on either bank, transverse to the valley; further downstream, before the river leaves the district, once again the valley widens out, though not to the same extent as upstream.

In the east to west oriented northern stretch in Gondia tahsil, the land slopes to the north with a gentle gradient of 2 to 3 metres to a kilometre: the valley floor is formed over an archæan-crystalline terrain and is covered by riverine alluvium. Here and there, isolated, rounded knolls of Sausar series of rocks with a general SW-NE strike, outcrop as it happens north-west of Gondia, and rise about a hundred metres above the general level. The immediate banks of the seasonal streams draining into the Wainganga are deeply incised. The entire area is studded with a large number of small non-perennial and perennial tanks, the largest of them being the Khairbanda tank. Most of these tanks are bunded on their northern, lower end of the slope.

In its south oriented section, which mainly belongs to the Bhandara tahsil, the valley lies between the Ambagad and Gaikhuri ranges with a NE-SW orientation. Eastwards of the Ambagad range one can recognise the foothill piedmont slope of coarse soils, about 6 km. wide and covered extensively by natural vegetation cover, possessing a shallow water table, a large number of small tanks that are mostly perennial and wells at the lower limits of this slope. This slope is skirted by the Bhandara-Tumsar metal road and adjoins the Wainganga valley floor, about 6 to 10 km. wide, almost flat lying or gently sloping and covered by fine silty *morand* and *kanhar* soils. East of the valley, there is a wider but not too steep a foothill slope at the foot of the Gaikhuri range. This slope, once again is characterised by a large number of small, perennial tanks, and is traversed by a number of left and right bank irrigation canals bringing water from the larger tanks of the Gaikhuri range. This slope is fairly well-wooded. It is interesting to note that the valley floor of the Wainganga has practically no tanks because of the very gentle slopes of the terrain and little scope to bunding and storage in the alluvium. In contrast, the foothill slopes underlain by gneisses outcropping on the surface, offer a greater scope for surface storage in depressions.

Downstream of the confluence of the Kanhan with the main river, and the narrow constricted valley near Tiddi, in the Pauni lowlands, the valley is again flat lying with occasional heights

projecting above the floor level around Adyal. Here again, the non-perennial tanks are more in number close to the hills. The finest silty and clayey loams of the district occur in these lowlands.

Nearly three-fifths of the land area of the Wainganga valley is under plough and an eighth under permanent pastures. The gross cropped area in the valley is more than the net sown area by about a third—a significant variation from what is found elsewhere in the State and this may be mainly attributed to the significant role played by tank irrigation and to a lesser extent by wells. The agricultural practices and pattern of the valley are also striking in contrast to those found in other parts of the State. In the Bhandara tahsil, *rabi* crops predominate, according for nearly two-fifths of the gross cropped area. *Kharif* cropping is widespread all over the valley. Rice and *tur* are the *kharif* crops; *rabi jowar*, linseed and gram, the *rabi* crops. Rice is grown both as a rainfed and as an irrigated crop in the *kharif* season. Sown in June after the first rains and transplanted in August, the crop is harvested in October-November; the main varieties are *Goramatia*, *Sugandhi*, *Luchai*, *Chinoor* and *Benison*. Wheat is important only in the Bhandara tahsil where it is sown in October-November and harvested in February-March. Pulses, mainly *lakh*, *udid*, gram and *tur* account for a fifth of the area sown. Jowar is less important, being mostly grown in the *rabi* season. Linseed is the main oilseed crop of the valley in Gondia tahsil, grown in ricelands after the main harvest, mainly to improve the fertility of the soil. The *rabi* season cropping attracts a significant amount of immigration of agricultural labour from the nearby Sakoli tahsil.

The villages of the Wainganga valley are compact, nucleated settlements, of medium to large size, their size depending upon the security of the water-supply from the tank. In general, the village is situated on relatively high ground; its location is much influenced by the possibilities of constructing a tank nearby for irrigation and domestic uses. The embankment of the tank is planted with mangoes and other useful trees. Within the village site, tamarinds are usually found; *pipal* trees generally with the deity 'Mahadeo' installed under their shades are also quite common. The village lanes are often flanked by custard apple trees. The better class of agricultural landowners and tenants live in tiled houses; these have large yards walled in; they often have a well and a number of building structures within the yard, inclusive of a grain store usually containing bamboo receptacles.

Outside the village, the most notable feature is the tank. On this tank, the prosperity of the village depends, and a glance at its size and condition gives one a correct impression of the prosperity of the village. The best lands of the village generally lie immediately below the tank, commanding the water flow from

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the tank. The poorest lands are at the farthest end of the tank canals and at higher levels on the flanks. All the riceland is bunded and forms a regular pattern. The tank beds during the dry season are occupied by quick yielding crops, especially vegetables to make use of the best silts of the tank bed.

The well-to-do farmers of the villages of the Wainganga valley are mostly Ponwars and Kunbis. The Ponwars to the Wainganga valley are what the Kunbis are to the Berar plains. Gonds and Mahars, generally form the agricultural labour class and occupy the inferior landholdings.

Most villages have two more hamlets or *tolas*; individual *tolas* are often occupied by individual castes or groups of people with a segregation of communities like the Gonds, Ponwars, Kunbis, Kohlis, Koshtis and others. In some cases, the hamlets are a creation of convenience, lying in the midst of the fields cultivated by the people of the hamlet closelyby. Each hamlet lies at the head of a tank and commands a limited area of land under irrigation from that tank. The largest of the villages often commanding nodal positions in communications, are market villages having weekly or bi-weekly markets. Villages generally avoid the immediate banks of the Wainganga due to liability to flooding.

Rice and flour milling, *poha* mills, *bidi* making, brassware manufacture, handloom cloth weaving and lac works are fairly developed as cottage industries, in most of the villages and add considerably to the income of the villagers. Ekodi and Bapewada are known for handloom 'kosha' cloth; Pauni, Bhandara, Adyal and Andhalgaon are known for handloom saris and dhotis.

Gaikhuri Range: The Gaikhuri range extends almost from the Wainganga with a direction south-west to north-east trend and consists of a main range rising to elevations between 500 to 600 m., with a number of elongated outridges on its eastern outflanks, with a similar trend. The whole range is an outcrop of the Sausar series. The western flank of the main range has steep escarpments. The human interest in the region centres round the three large perennial tanks—the Chorkhamara, Bodalkasa, and the Khairbanda—occupying bunded depressions on the western flanks, and a large number of small depressions on the eastern dip slope.

The Gaikhuri range is well-wooded with tropical mixed moist deciduous forests in which the dominant species are teak, *saj*, *bija*, *hilda*, *tinsa shisham*, *mhowa*, *rohan*, *khair*, etc. 'Katang' bamboos are found mainly along the nullahs.

Villages at best are tiny forest hamlets and many are uninhabited; the population consists of Gonds, Mahars and Gaolis dependent on forest gathering, grazing, and *jhuming*. Collection of tendu leaves for bidi manufacture, mhowa flowers and fruits, *palas* for propagation of lac, *kadai*, *kulha*, *dhavda* for gum, *khair* for *kath*, firewood, fodder and thatching grass, the rearing tassar silk cocoons on forest trees are the main activities of the people.

Chulband Valley: The narrow Chulband valley, lying between the Gaikhuri range in the west and the Nawegaon-Palasgaon-Pratapgad hills in the east and opening out southwards belongs almost entirely to the Sakoli tahsil. It is practically the epitome of the tank country of Bhandara district with thousands of small and large tanks, fairly perennial, dotting the floor of the valley and supporting extensive rice cultivation. Most of these tanks were built by the Kohlis. The river itself is dry most of the year and not much useful. But, the tanks irrigate large areas in foothill slopes and the valley-sides; rice fields are bunded and flooded with water drawn through canals from tanks. In the past, sugarcane cultivation used to be important but has of late declined.

Villages are medium to large sized, with a large number of caste and non-caste hamlets. Bidi making, rice milling and tasar silk weaving are wide-spread rural occupations of the valley. The Gonds form bulk of the population.

The Gondia-Nagbhir railway traverses the country north to south and follows the Chulband river after crossing it near Gond Umri. The Nagpur-Raipur Highway runs through it east-west in the upper reaches, the tahsil head-quarters Sakoli being on it. A new road with a bridge over the Chulband is being built from Sakoli to Lakhandur in the lower valley.

A soapstone quarry is worked at Kaneri and stone cups and jars are made of it. Lac bangles are made at Lakhani on the Highway, 10 km. west of Sakoli. The Gonds in the villages around Gond Umri and Chikhli make soft matting out of *sukhwasa* grasses.

Nawegaon, Palasgaon, Pratapgad hills: These hills, underlain by quartzites and schists on the western side and by granites and gneisses on the eastern, rise to elevations which are the highest within the district; peaks like Nishani and Ambajhari record more than 600 m. of elevation. The hills are covered by dense mixed jungles and are practically uninhabited except for shifting forest hamlets. Human interest, as in the Gaikhuri range, lies in economic produce associated with its large tanks, particularly the Nawegaon tank, and the collection of forest products.

The disused Pratapgad fort with the tomb of Khwaja Usman Barauni, and the Mahadeo temple which is a centre of annual fair, is perhaps the only spot of interest in these hills.

The Chichgarh Plateau: This region lies in the south-eastern parts of the district and rises through fairly well-wooded scarp slopes from the Garhvi valley to its west. The plateau, mostly granitic in character, is an undulating and rolling topography, with numerous isolated rounded residual knolls standing up boldly in relief as erosional remnants. The soils on the whole are poor and gravelly.

Even the plateau top is covered by fairly dense mixed forests and permanent pastures with a few small nucleated Gond villages situated on stream sides and tank bunds; individual villages have practically no satellite hamlets. On the plateau farming is less important than forest and pastoral pursuits. With the completion of the Itiadoh project, the Garhvi valley would considerably improve agricultural production.

Bagh Valley: The Bagh valley occupies the eastern parts of the district to the east of the Gaikhuri and Palasgaon ranges. The upper reaches of the valley in the Sakoli tahsil is a jungle-clad hill and plateau country with few tribal villages, well nucleated and sited around tanks. Farming is in patches in forest cleared areas. The Nagpur-Raipur National Highway traverses west to east through this region; away from the highway, communications predominantly consist of village roads and foot paths.

After the Bagh enters the Gondia tahsil, the valley opens out in an open country studded with tanks. The soils are fairly productive; rice and *jowar* in *kharif*, and linseed and pulses in the *rabi* season, with the aid of tank irrigation, are the essential crops.

Villages are compact and squarish, with a number of subsidiary hamlets. Larger ones Amgaon and Kamtha are either nodal market centres or former *malguzari* villages. As elsewhere in the plains, rice and flour milling, *bidi*-making and lac works are important rural subsidiary occupations.

Summary.—In its geographic setting, the district offers a marked contrast to the rest of the State. The rocks underlying the district are quite dissimilar to those which underlie most of Deccan Maharashtra, and the mineral wealth of the district is principally due to the outcrops of the Dharwars. More than a quarter of the district area is under mixed deciduous monsoon forests that provide a stable base for forest and pastoral pursuits of the forest communities; forest based rural activities bear ample testimony to this fact. The net sown area in the district is nearly half the total area but gross cropped area is much larger, thanks to the significant area under *rabi* crops and the large areas under command of tank irrigation. Two-fifths of the gross cropped area is under irrigation, the largest percentage recorded for any district in the State. The cropping pattern, much superior to what is found elsewhere in the State, is dominated by rice; linseed and pulses occupy a significant second position. Nearly three-fifths of the cropped area is under rice, revealing that rice is the king crop of the district. Yields too are fairly high, though they can be further enhanced. The whole economy of the district, deriving its income from multiple sources such as mining, farming, forest products, etc., is stable, and accounts for the greater prosperity of the countryside than elsewhere in the State and the general absence of scarcity conditions.

Though the National highway and the main railway traverse the district west to east, inter-linking the river valley basins, the real problem of the district is the inadequacy of food and reliable internal communication lines. With the further development of irrigation projects on the Bagh and the Itiadoh, and a better co-ordinated road network, during the plan period, the district has a bright future.

GEOLOGY *

Introduction.—The varied lithology, intricate structure and important mineral deposits of this district have drawn the attention of several prominent geologists since 1906. The relief is characterised by the presence of lenticular narrow ridges trending in NNW-SSE direction with occasional spurs rising to the heights of 2310' (Janda *dongar*) about 9 km north-east of Dewalgaon railway station, and 1996' (Karra hills) about 8 km south-west of Gondia surrounded by the gently undulating country with occasional hillocks among the plains.

The stratigraphic sequence based on available information on the geology of the area is as follows:—

Alluvium	.. Soil, kankar, laterite	Recent.
Kanthis	.. Conglomerate, arkose dark brownish, grey sandstone.	Lr. Gondw. ns.
Vindhyan	.. Greyish white to yellowish grey sandstone and shale.	Proterozoic.
Cuddapahs	.. Sandstones, shales grits and arkose in the upper part. Alternate bands of quartzites and conglomerates in the lower parts.	Proterozoic.
Dongargarh	.. Rhyolites, andesites, granites and sandstones system.	} Archeans.
Sakoli series	.. Crushed albitite, microcline quartzites Phyllites and slate Hematite-sericite quartzite Garnetiferous phyllites and chlorite muscovite schists; jaspilites, epidote-chlorite-schists.	
Sausar series	.. Amphibolite and garnet amphibolite (Sitapur stage). .. Crystalline dolomitic-limestone dolomite diopside calciphyre; chlorite-tremolite-actinolite schists (Bichua stage). .. Microcline-muscovite-quartzite (Chorbaoli stage)	
Older granites	.. Granite and granite-gneiss	

The oldest rocks are the crystalline complex consisting of granite, granite-gneiss, followed by the mica schists and hornblende.

* The section on Geology is contributed by Shri S. S. Ghodke, Geologist (Sr) of the Geological Survey of India, Maharashtra Circle, Pune.

deschists, quartzites, crystalline limestones, calc-granulites and calciphyres of Sausar series and is exposed in the northern part of the district. They are usually arranged in parallel bands and are very often continuous for many miles. It is possible to trace a passage along the strike from calc-granulite, through banded calciphyres into marble. It is among the gneisses, schists and quartzites that the manganese ore deposits and the associated manganese silicate rocks are enclosed in the form of elongated lenticular bands conformable in strike and dip to the surrounding rocks. Near Bhamsar hill manganese ores occur in unusual schistose quartzite containing lazurite, rutile, ilmenite. Another quartzite is of green colour and contains chrome-vanadium-muscovite.

The southern half of Bhandara is covered with members of the Sakoli formations arranged in a triangular pattern which has also been designated as Bhandara triangle (Bhattacharya, 1953). The various members of formations comprising of phyllites, slates, chlorite schists and sericitic quartzites and sillimanite-kyanite bearing schists are exposed in parallel bands like Sausars to the north. The country separating the Sausar and Sakoli belts is largely covered with alluvium in which small exposure of the Sausars occur; and the mutual relationship of these two important formations of the Dharwar group of rocks is not yet known with certainty. The inferred boundary between the two units has been drawn more or less in a northeast-southwest direction, not far from the town of Tirora in Bhandara tahsil and a mile or two northwest of Bhandara town the Sakolis lying to the southwest and the more metamorphosed Sausars to the northwest. The rocks of the two groups appear to show a difference in chemical composition, characterised chiefly by a scarcity of lime bearing rocks among the Sakolis; lithologically the Sakoli groups are more predominantly argillaceous and siliceous than the Sausars, which include such rocks as calc-granulite, marbles, manganese rocks and manganese ores. At the same time, micaceous schists, gneiss and quartzites are very prominent in the Sausars series. The mineralogical difference as summarised by Sir L. Ferrior (1936), is that the rocks of the Sausar group commonly contain feldspar and biotite but not chlorite whereas those of Sakoli group contain invariably chlorite, rarely biotite and with no feldspars. Amongst the rock types, the quartzites are at places highly ferruginous and at other places chloritic; others comparatively pure and massive; red and yellow phyllites and slates sometimes with knots of sericite and crystals of magnetite and garnets can be observed frequently. The chlorite-muscovite schists constitute the predominating unit in the Sakoli group of rocks. Somewhat higher grade of metamorphism as shown by the schists of Sakoli group can be summarised due to the proximity of the tourmaline bearing granite, tourmaline being always abundant in the schists. Kyanite and sillimanite bearing rocks of Bhandara are

associated with chlorite-muscovite schists, the parent material of which seems to have been clay-perhaps the result of the surface decomposition of an ancient basalt (E. Pascoe, 1950).

A new system of rocks called Dongargarh system of post-Sakoli but pre-Cuddapah age has been suggested by Sarkar (1952). This system occupies a belt of about 88 km. width stretching in a NNE direction for more than 128 km. between the Sakoli synclinorium on the west and the Chhatisgarh-Cuddapah basin on the east. The main rock types of this system are rhyolite and andesite, Dongargarh granites and sandstones.

Unconformably overlying the archaean are present: the Cuddapahs consisting mainly of sandstones, shales, grits in the upper part with alternate bands of quartzites and conglomerates in the lower part. The unconformity is represented by a conglomerate bed which is seen near Ghasirola ($20^{\circ} 56' : 80^{\circ} 25'$) and Gotanpar ($20^{\circ} 53' : 80^{\circ} 29'$). The sandstones and shales form a lower synclinal basin at Mehsuli ($20^{\circ} 58' : 80^{\circ} 18'$) (P. N. Phadtare 1964) and sandstones and shales of Vindhyan age have been reported by Sahasrabudhe (1958-59) from Dhanori ($20^{\circ} 45' : 79^{\circ} 41'$) and Rewani ($20^{\circ} 46' : 79^{\circ} 41'$). Bhattacharya (1935) reported an occurrence of conglomerate of Vindhyan age at 2 km. west of Dhanori. Small outcrops of sandstones referable to the Vindhyan age are noticed resting unconformably on the archaean matasediments in the Wainganga river section north of Kodurli ($20^{\circ} 54' : 79^{\circ} 46'$) Gajbhiye (1962-63).

Beds of Gondwana sediments referred to as Kamthi series comprising conglomerates, arkose and sandstones and lying unconformably over the archaean have been noticed from Wainganga and Chulband river section and near Chapral ($20^{\circ} 42' : 79^{\circ} 54'$) and Soni ($20^{\circ} 41' : 79^{\circ} 55'$).

The major parts of the Bhandara district are covered with alluvium which consists of Kankar soil and laterites.

Structure.—Repeated folding and faulting has complicated the structure of the rocks in the area. The Sausar series of rocks generally strikes NNE-SSW with occasional variation, some of this being due to the granitic intrusion. Synclinal folds can be made out in places and isoclinal folding has affected the area in which two large manganese mines exist. The structure is in places marked by copious and intricate intrusion of granites, pegmatites and vein quartz.

The Sakoli series of rocks exposed in this district as a large triangular out crop strike in a direction of NE-SW and are more or less parallel to Sausar formation. The SSE dips of the southern margin of Sausar group rocks, and the NNW dips of Sakoli group rocks suggest the possibility of the presence of a synclinorium with a belt of disturbance along the axis. The less metamorphosed rocks of south belonging to the higher horizons have

been thrust on the older and more metamorphosed rocks to the north (E. Pascoe, 1950). But Sarkar (1964) from critical consideration of the stratigraphy, tectonics and metamorphism in the Sausar and Sakolis concluded that Sausars and Sakolis were deposited in separate basins under different conditions over a basement older than 1400 m.y. and had a different tectonic history, (ii) and that the Sausar may be stratigraphically younger than the Sakolis. Bhattacharya (1935) calls attention to the triangular arrangement ("Bhandara Triangle") which affects many aspects of the rocks of this triangular outcrop. This is seen in the lines of quartz veins, the foliation and disposal of intrusion. The foliation strike in this series around Sakoli is NE-SW but, further to the east, in the eastern margin of the Gaikhuri range it is NW, the rocks being here folded in a synclinorium. The smaller outcrops of Sakoli beds are thought to be the tips of synclinorium. Faulting is common in the main exposures and is oriented in two or three sets of fractures which are usually indicated by fault breccias.

The Dongargarh system of rocks occupying the area between the Sakoli synclinorium in the west and the Chhatisgarh-Cuddapah basin in the east had been subjected to one major phase of orogenic movements causing generation of first phase of folds, post-Andesites in age, with the axes approximately NNE-SSW, and contemporaneously or at a later stage culmination and depression of these fold axes approximately along WNW-ESE have produced complex types of normal and inverted canoe folds. A number of diagonal faults, block faults, and normal faults have been traced. Along certain zones in the area, the rocks are sheared. The principal shear zone along which the rocks are tightly folded extends SSW-NNE for about 22 km.

The younger rocks overlying the archaean unconformably generally exhibit the presence of current bedding, ripple marks, cross bedding in the grits and sandstone, etc.

Economic Geology.—Of the varied mineral deposits of the district that have been taken up for exploitation by private mining concerns, the following economic minerals are important.

Manganese: The manganese ore belt of Bhandara district is principally made up of intensely deformed and metamorphosed rocks of the Precambrian Sausar series. The most important manganese deposits are associated with a series of rocks known as "Gondites" which are looked upon as metamorphosed manganeseiferous sediments of Dharwar age. Of all the occurrences of manganese deposits in Bhandara district, three manganese belts namely, (i) the Dongri-Buzurg, (ii) The Sitasaongi and (iii) The Chikla are most important and have been taken up for mining.

The Dongri-Buzurg deposit generally strikes NNE-SSW over a length of 600' and dips 50° — 70° south. The maximum thickness of the ore body is 86' in the central part and the average thickness is 28'. The Sitasaongi deposit comprises four ore bodies, the

southernmost are body having a maximum length of 1,650'. The thickness of the ore body varies from 40' to 140'. The Chikla belt to the north of the Sitasaongi deposits occurs in two limbs of a tightly folded syncline plunging 20° to 25° to the east. The length of the ore body is 2,500', having the average thickness of 8'.

The ore bodies are generally confined to the quartzites and quartz-muscovite-schists and are often well bedded parallel to the strike of the enclosing rocks, sometimes occurring as lenticular intercalations in the schists. The gondite forms the narrow conformable basal bed below the ore body of the abovementioned three belts.

The total measured and indicated reserves of 100' dip extension of all the three belts is put to 45,00,000 long tonnes. The estimates are for an average grade of ore containing 30 to 40 per cent of manganese.

Chromite: Next to Manganese chromite is occurring near Pauni (20° 57' : 79° 39'). The chromite occurs as several small bands associated with dunite and serpentinite surrounded by the country rock granite (Sahasrabuddhe 1959). The chromite zone is about 3,000' wide near Wainganga river and is traceable over a distance of about 6,000' in WSW direction from the river; ore body varies from 6" to 10' in width; the average content of Cr₂O₃ is 41.88 per cent (Sinha and Shrivastava, 1957). The reserves are estimated to be about ½ million tons of low grade ore (Sahasrabuddhe, 1959).

Kyanite-Sillimanite: The Sakoli series of rocks in Bhandara district also carry important deposits of kyanite-sillimanite associated with chlorite muscovite schists. Of these deposits, massive sillimanite deposits at Pohra occurring in a broad band of about 45 m. wide and extending over a length of 365 m. and the Dahegaon kyanite-sillimanite deposits extending over a length of nearly 4.5 km. in southerly direction up to Pipalgaon village are most important.

Besides the above two important deposits, there are also four or five belts of kyanite-sillimanite bearing rocks. At Girola the belt has a maximum thickness of 122'. Kyanite and sillimanite are also reported from Pardi, Mogra, Dighori, Garkhabhonga, and Miregaon villages.

Corundum: Corundum deposit has been reported at the foot hill of a small hillock at Pohra. Another tiny knoll has also been recorded about 1 km. north of the abovesaid hillock.

Gold: Occurrence of gold as placer deposits has been reported around Kokha village (21° 12' : 79° 48') and other localities in Bhandara district.

Radio active minerals: The occurrence of uranium oxide from granophyres, 5 km. NW of Parsori (21° 12' : 79° 48') traceable over a distance of about 1 km. has been reported by P. N. Phad-

tare (1963). The rock is highly fractured and encrustations of bright yellow colour uranium oxide are found along the fracture joints trending N 15° W dipping 70° E.

Iron Ore: The banded hematite-quartzites and the interbedded purple ferruginous phyllites have given rise to high grade lateritic hematite ore in small pockets towards east of Maselli. Small development of hematites has been noticed along the foliation of phyllites near Gogibherh (20° 46' : 70° 33'), and Pahugaon (20° 47' : 79° 31') (Sahasrabuddhe, 1959).

Besides the above mentioned minerals, other mineral deposits of lesser economic significance include the green mica near Mohalgaon (21° 01' 30" : 80° 02' 30") (Chatterjee, 1932), talc and soapstone in Sakoli tahsil and west of Kausi (P. Nag. 1960), and antimony and lead near Pauni (Sinha, 1950), etc.

CLIMATE AND SEASONS*

The climate of this district is characterised by a hot summer, well distributed rainfall during the south-west monsoon season and generally dry weather during the rest of the year. The cold season is from December to February. This is followed by the hot season from March to about the middle of June. The south-west monsoon season is from about mid-June to early October. October and November form the post-monsoon season.

Rainfall.—Records of rainfall in the district are available for a good network of ten rain gauge stations for periods ranging from 17 to 94 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in tables 1 and 2. The average annual rainfall in the district is 1,470.6 mm (57.89"). The rainfall generally increases from the west towards the east. It varies from 1312.9 mm (51.69") at Chandpur near the western border of the district to 1578.5 mm (62.15") at Gondia near the north-eastern border of the district. The south-west monsoon arrives over the district by about the second week of June. The rainfall during the period from June to September constitutes about 90 percent of the annual normal rainfall. July and August are the months with heavy rainfall, July being the rainiest month. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is small. In the fifty year period, 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall amounting to 145 percent of the normal occurred in 1919, while 1920 was the year with the lowest annual rainfall which was 49 percent of the normal. The annual rainfall was less than 80 percent of the normal in 8 years and none of them were consecutive. Considering the annual rainfall at the individual stations it is found that the annual rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 2 or 3 consecutive years at 4 out of the 10 stations and occurred once only at 3 out of the four stations. However, at Bhandara two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred

* The section on 'Climate' is contributed by the Meteorological Department of the Government of India, Pune.

twice. Six consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred during 1920 to 1925 at Bodalkasa. It will be seen from table 2 that the annual rainfall in the district was between 1,200 and 1,700 mm (47.24" and 66.93") in 31 years out of 50.

On an average, there are 63 rainy days (*i.e.*, days with rainfall of 2.5 mm—10 cents or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 59 at Gundho to 68 at Sakoli.

The heaviest rainfall recorded in 24 hours at any station in the district was 395.2 mm (15.56") at Pangree on 1937, July 25.

Temperature.—There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Gondia. The records of this observatory may be taken as representative of the meteorological conditions in the district in general. The cold season commences in the district towards the end of November when both day and night temperatures begin to decrease rapidly. December and January are the coldest parts of the year with the mean daily maximum temperature at about 27.7° C (81.9° F) and the mean daily minimum at about 13.1° C (55.6° F). During cold waves which affect the district in association with the passage of western disturbances across north India, the minimum temperature may go down to 7° C (44.6° F). From about the beginning of March both day and night temperatures rise rapidly. May is the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 42.1° C (107.8° F) and the mean daily minimum at 28.9° C (84.0° F). In the summer season the heat is intense and on many days the temperature may go above 41° C (105.8° F). Thunder showers on some days during the afternoons bring welcome relief. With the onset of the south-west monsoon by about the middle of June both day and night temperature drop down appreciably and the weather becomes pleasant. With the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the first week of October, day temperatures increase slightly and a secondary maximum in day temperatures is reached in October. But night temperatures decrease steadily after the withdrawal of the monsoon. After October day temperatures also decrease progressively.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Gondia was 46.1° C (115.0° F) on 1954, May 26. The lowest minimum temperature was 6.0° C (44.1° F) on January 3, 1951 and February 12, 1950.

Humidity.—Except during the monsoon season when humidities are high, the air is generally dry during the year. The summer season is the driest part of the year when relative humidities go down to 20 per cent or less in the afternoons.

Cloudiness.—Skies are mostly heavily clouded to overcast during the south-west monsoon season. In the post-monsoon months cloudiness tends to decrease. During the rest of the year the skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Winds.—Winds are generally light to moderate with some increase in wind force during the latter part of the summer and monsoon months. During the monsoon season the winds blow mostly from directions between south-west and north-west. In the period October to February, the winds are mainly northerly to north-easterly in the mornings and north-easterly to easterly in the afternoons. By March, winds from directions between south-west and north-west begin to blow and with the advance of the season they become predominant.

Special weather phenomena.—Depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon months, in their westward movement across the central parts of the country affect the district and its neighbourhood causing widespread heavy rain and strong winds. Storms and depressions from the Bay of Bengal in the post-monsoon season also occasionally affect the weather over the district. Thunderstorms occur in the summer and south-west monsoon seasons. Duststorms occur occasionally during the summer season.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and special weather phenomena for Gondia.

TABLE

NORMALS AND EXTREMES

Station	No. of years of data	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Bhandara ..	50 a	11.9	34.8	17.0	17.3	15.5	215.1	413.3	387.9
	b	1.1	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.8	9.2	17.7	15.8
Sakoli ..	50 a	13.7	31.0	17.3	16.3	14.7	229.9	524.5	424.7
	b	1.0	2.1	1.6	1.3	1.5	9.2	18.9	17.0
Tirora ..	50 a	13.2	27.7	14.2	12.2	12.7	204.7	458.5	411.0
	b	1.0	2.0	1.4	1.0	1.2	9.0	17.8	16.2
Gondia ..	36 a	18.0	30.7	16.0	16.0	13.7	219.2	503.9	443.5
	b	1.5	2.2	1.6	1.3	1.3	8.9	18.3	16.6
Khyrbund ..	45 a	16.0	28.7	11.9	13.2	6.9	217.2	484.9	422.4
	b	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	8.7	17.9	16.6
Chandpur ..	45 a	11.9	27.9	11.9	14.7	14.2	204.0	418.9	353.8
	b	0.8	2.0	1.2	1.2	1.1	8.8	16.9	15.1
Bodalkasa ..	37 a	15.2	23.1	13.7	11.4	8.1	204.2	494.8	359.9
	b	1.1	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.9	8.3	17.2	14.9
Chorkhamara ..	24 a	13.2	25.4	12.7	17.0	7.4	196.6	532.4	388.1
	b	1.0	2.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	9.0	18.1	18.5
Pangree ..	24 a	14.0	27.2	13.7	12.7	3.3	197.6	567.9	420.1
	b	1.3	2.2	1.6	1.0	0.5	8.9	18.6	15.2
Gomdho ..	17 a	10.2	25.7	10.9	11.2	4.3	200.4	591.1	389.6
	b	10.8	2.1	1.2	0.7	0.5	7.9	17.4	14.4
Bhandara ..	a	13.7	28.2	13.9	14.2	10.1	208.9	499.0	400.1
(District),	b	1.1	2.1	1.4	1.1	1.1	8.8	17.9	15.7

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days

** Years given

No. 1

OF RAINFALL

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as per cent of normal and year**	Lowest annual rainfall as per cent of normal and year**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	Amount (mm)	Date
207.3	44.5	15.5	8.1	1,388.2	154 (1933)	50 (1902)	307.3	1888, Aug. 6.
10.3	2.6	0.9	0.5	64.8				
225.8	51.8	14.7	7.9	1,572.3	142 (1945)	46 (1902)	383.5	1908, June 2.
11.1	2.8	1.0	0.5	68.0				
200.1	52.1	14.2	8.6	1,429.2	161 (1919)	49 (1920)	253.0	1906, Aug. 29.
10.1	2.5	0.8	0.6	63.6				
222.3	66.5	22.9	5.8	1,578.5	181 (1919)	42 (1920)	346.7	1918, June 18.
11.0	3.1	1.1	0.4	67.3				
208.0	43.2	15.7	7.1	1,475.2	152 (1919)	58 (1920)	307.9	1914, Aug. 25.
10.2	2.4	0.9	0.5	63.6				
187.5	47.2	12.5	8.4	1,312.9	161 (1933)	46 (1950)	311.1	1937, July 25.
10.0	2.4	0.9	0.6	61.1				
183.4	48.5	12.7	4.3	1,379.3	180 (1947)	33 (1920)	375.9	1947, Aug. 31.
9.9	2.8	0.8	0.3	60.4				
210.3	51.1	7.4	4.6	1,466.2	147 (1937)	38 (1929)	252.2	1940, July 10.
10.1	2.7	0.5	0.4	62.4				
228.1	51.6	14.0	5.1	1,555.3	157 (1937)	62 (1950)	395.2	1937, July 25.
10.8	3.0	1.0	0.3	64.4				
230.1	59.9	10.2	5.8	1,549.4	155 (1937)	61 (1941)	333.3	1937, July 25.
9.7	3.1	0.7	0.3	58.8				
210.3	51.6	14.0	6.6	1,470.6	145 (1919)	49 (1920)		
10.3	2.7	0.9	0.4	63.5				

with rain of 2.5 mm or more). *Based on all available data up to 1959.
in brackets.

TABLE No. 2

FREQUENCY OF ANNUAL RAINFALL (DATA 1901—1950)

Range in mm (1)	No. of years (2)	Range in mm (3)	No. of years (4)
701—800	2	1,401—1,500	5
801—900	0	1,501—1,600	8
901—1,000	2	1,601—1,700	4
1,001—1,100	2	1,701—1,800	4
1,101—1,200	4	1,801—1,900	1
1,201—1,300	5	1,901—2,000	1
1,301—1,400	9	2,001—2,100	1
		2,101—2,200	2

TABLE No. 3
NORMALS OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY IN CONDIA

Month (1)	Mean Daily maximum Temperature C. (2)	Mean Daily minimum Temperature C. (3)	Highest maximum ever recorded		Lowest minimum ever recorded		Relative Humidity	
			C. (4)	Date (5)	C. (6)	Date (7)	0830 Percent (8)	1730* Percent (9)
January	27.6	13.3	32.0	1961 Jan. 27	6.7	1951 Jan. 3	68	39
February	31.1	15.4	37.2	1951 Feb. 27	6.7	1950 Feb. 12	57	27
March	35.2	19.6	41.7	1953 Mar. 27	11.7	1952 Mar. 18	44	20
April	39.0	24.6	44.6	1961 Apr. 23	18.3	1960 Apr. 12	39	20
May	42.1	28.9	46.1	1954 May 26	22.2	1951 May 4	37	20
June	38.1	27.4	45.6	1953 June 6	20.6	1959 June 5	63	47
July	30.5	24.3	37.2	1958 July 7	21.3	1958 July 16	86	77
August	29.9	24.1	34.4	1957 Aug. 17	18.3	1953 Aug. 5	86	79
September	30.8	23.9	34.4	1951 Sep. 25	20.6	1952 Sept. 11	83	74
October	31.0	21.2	35.3	1957 Oct. 12	13.3	1952 Oct. 30	77	59
November	29.3	15.2	33.9	1957 Nov. 6	8.9	1950 Nov. 26	67	42
December	27.9	12.9	32.9	1960 Dec. 18	7.2	1955 Dec. 27	68	40
Annual	32.7	20.9	..	..	..	..	65	45

*Hours, L.S.T.

TABLE No. 4
MEAN WIND SPEED IN KM/HR. IN GONDIA

January (1)	February (2)	March (3)	April (4)	May (5)	June (6)	July (7)	August (8)	September (9)	October (10)	November (11)	December (12)	Annual (13)
2.9	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.6	7.0	6.1	5.3	4.2	3.0	2.3	2.0	4.2

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TABLE No. 5
SPECIAL WEATHER PHENOMENA IN GONDIA

Mean No. of days with	January (2)	February (3)	March (4)	April (5)	May (6)	June (7)	July (8)	August (9)	September (10)	October (11)	November (12)	December (13)	Annual (14)
Thunder	0.6	0.7	3.2	3.3	1.6	5.4	5.3	6.5	6.1	2.4	0.2	0.2	35.5
Hail	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Dust-Storm	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	3.9
Squall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Fog	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.9

FORESTS

Bhandara district has a total area of 9,383.6 sq. km. out of which 45.81 per cent is forest area. Out of the total forest area in the district, 31.24 per cent is under reserved forests, 50.41 per cent under protected forests and the remaining 18.35 per cent is unclassified forest area. Of the forest areas in the district 81.65 per cent is under the management of the Forest Department and 18.35 per cent under the Revenue Department.

Forest areas in charge of the Forest Department (Bhandara and Gondia Divisions) and Revenue Department are given in hectares in the following statement:—

Division	Reserved Forests	Protected Forests	Unclassified Forests	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhandara	91,839.20	78,626.73	..	1,70,465.93
Gondia	42,495.69	1,38,089.44	..	18,585.13
Revenue Department	..	..	78,886.62	78,886.62
Total	1,34,334.89	2,16,716.17	78,886.62	4,29,937.68

The forest area is generally flat or undulating broken by isolated hillocks and ranges of low hills. Slopes are generally steep and are eroded by numerous nullahs. There are four main ranges or groups of hills in the forest tract, viz. (i) Ambagad range, an outlier of the Satpudas to the north-west of the district, (ii) the Gaikhuri range in the middle; (iii) Pratapgad range to the south, and (iv) a group of hills near Pauni in the extreme south-west corner of the district.

The forests exist in all the three tahsils, viz., Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli in the district. They fall in the broad type "Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests" and consist of sub-types: (1) teak forests and (2) mixed forests. The proportion of teak forests is very small and teak occurs in mixture with its associates.

The most valuable species found in the forests is teak. It has a reputation for the decorative veneer in large sizes and as important constructional timber. The other commercially important associates of teak are Sag, Halda, Tinsa, Shisham, Mhowa, Rohan, Khair, Dikamali, Garari, etc.

The mixed forests and the teak forests are the important species found in the district. The mixed forests include: (i) superior quality mixed forests, (ii) medium quality mixed forests, and (iii) poor quality mixed forests.

The mixed forests extend over 90 per cent of the total reserved forest area and practically over the entire protected forest area. The main species found are *Garari* (*Cleistanthus collinus*, Benth.), *Sag* (*Terminalia tomentosa* Spreng.), *Dhaora* (*Anogeisus latifolia*, Wall.), *Lendia* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*, Roxb.), *Aonla* (*Embica officinalis*, Geert.), *Tendu* (*Diospyros peregrina*, Roxb.), *Mahua* (*Bassia latifolia*, Roxb.), *Achar* (*Buckanania lauren.* Spreng.), *Moyen* (*Lannea grandis*, Engl.), *Rohan* (*Soymeda febrifuga*, Aluss.), *Bija* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*, Roxb.), *Bhirra* (*Chloroxylon sweitenia*, D.C.), *Salai* (*Boswellia serrata*, Roxb.), *Mokha* (*Schrebera sweitenioides*, Roxb.), *Dhaman* (*Grewia tiliacolia*, Vahl), *Semal* (*Salmaal malabaricum*, Schott), *Haldu* (*Adina cordifolia*, Hook), *Tiveas* (*Ougenia Oojenenbis*, Benth), *Chichea* (*Albizia odoratissima*, Benth), and *Sewan* (*Gmelina arborea*, Linn).

The Teak Forests cover only about 5 per cent of the forest area of the district. Fairly extensive patches of teak are found in the Tirora range of Bhandara division and Pratapgad and Rajoli ranges of Gondia division. Small patches of teak forests are also found in Tumsar, Bhandara and Pauni ranges of Bhandara division. Among other species growing with teak *Garari* is also found though in low proportion.

Based on the National Forest Policy, the forests have been classified into the following classes: (i) protected forests, (ii) tree forests, (iii) minor forests, (iv) pasture forests, and (v) miscellaneous forests.

Bamboos.—The entire forests are divided into 15 bamboo felling series from reserved forests and 26 from protected (*fazal*) forests. Each felling series is divided into three annual working units called coups as laid down in the Working Plan. A felling cycle of three years is adopted. Felling of bamboos is not allowed between 1st July and 30th September. A clump having less than 10 culms is not worked. Culms more than 2 years old are permitted to be felled. Care is taken to reserve mature culms equal to double the number of culms of the current season in a clump. Digging of rhizomes is prohibited. Felling series are exploited partly by the consumers on rated passes and parts of the areas are assigned to the Ballarpur Paper and Straw Board Mills.

Tendu Leaves and Lac.—These are important minor forest products in the division. The entire forests are divided into 207 tendu and 101 lac units and are sold annually by public auctions.

Grass and Grazing.—Grazing area per cow unit is fixed at three acres in the three categories of forests and two acres per cow unit in the minor forests. Regulated grazing as per grazing settlement, is permitted all over the forest areas. Grass is sold by auction or is allowed to be cut and removed on sale by rated passes from the areas closed to grazing, such as grass birs, closed coupes, plantation areas, etc.

The other commercially important associates found in the forests are: (1) *Tendu* leaves, useful in *bidi* industries, (2) *Mhowa* flowers and fruits, (3) *Palas* for propagation of lac,

(4) *Kadar* or *Rulha* and *Dhaora* for gum, (5) *Khair* for manufacture of *kathi*, etc. There are a number of species which are useful as fuel and for making charcoal which has a ready market at Nagpur. Bamboo which is valuable in paper industry and also for constructional purposes is found in large numbers in the hilly tracts. *Katang* bamboos are found along *nullahs* on a limited scale. Tassar silk cocoons are reared on forest trees especially on *Ain* and are sent to Bhandara for making indigenous silk. Fodder and thatching grass are also available in large quantities.

Forest produce is transported in bullock carts to several forest depots. From these depots the produce is carried by bullock carts and trucks to Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia, Arjuni-Morgaon, Deulgaon, and Deori markets. A large share of the produce is also transported to Raipur in Madhya Pradesh and to coastal areas of Gujarat by trucks and rail. Bamboos are also taken by rail to Ballarpur and Sirpur Paper Mills. The important centres of collecting produce for market are: Tumsar, Bhandara, Tirora, Pauni, Sakoli, Arjuni-Morgaon, Deulgaon, Gondia, and Deori.

WILD ANIMALS

Physiography of the forest clad lands is mildly uneven in the district. Well clad forests occurring almost all over the district offer adequate cover for protection for wild life and foliage as a principal feed. Plain tracts contain to certain extent open type of forests of a low quality and is poor in fauna. With the recession of the biotic influences from the plains to the forested area, the hills and dales are observed to have preserved variety of wild animals.

Black Monkey.—The black monkey (*Simnopithecus entellus*; *M. Wanar*) has considerably increased in number and is commonly met with all over. They are frequently seen in big herds exceeding 50 in number.

Red Monkey.—The red monkey (*Macacus rhesus*) is not of common occurrence and is only occasionally found around Nagzira in the sanctuary area and in the Pratapgad hills.

Tiger.—The tiger (*Felis tigris*, *M. Wagh*) is the most majestic animal of the forests and prefers well-wooded stands richly stocked with wild herbivorous animals, such as *Sambhars*, *Chitals*, deer and pigs. Their number has recently considerably reduced and may not exceed 15 in the entire district. Cases of cattle lifting by tigers are common in the interior of the forests. There are reports of tigers turning into man-eaters.

Panther.—Two varieties of panthers, viz., the pard (*Felis pardus*, *M. Bibtya* or *son-chita*) and the panther (*Felis panthera*, *M. Bibtya* or *Bibat*) are common in the district. Pard is the smaller of the two and preys on small deer, village dogs and calves. It normally frequents the habitations in the forest

areas. Panther is fairly heavily built and at times indulges in killing bigger animals both wild and domestic. The skin of both the varieties is richly marked with hollow black rings on a pale yellow background. It is exceedingly attractive and is much sought after by the sportsmen. There are no reports of panthers turning into man-eaters.

Jungle Cat.—Jungle cat (*Felis Chaus*, *M. Ran Manjar*): It is fairly common all over the forest tracts. Varieties amongst them that are met with are ring tailed cat, golden cat and civet cat.

Hyaena.—Hyaena (*Hyaena struatum*, *M. Taras*): This animal, exclusively a scavenger in habit is found all over the tract.

Jackal and Fox.—Jackal (*Canis aureus*, *M. Kolha*) and Fox (*Vulpes bengalensis* *M. Kolha*) are found all over the district. These animals, however, frequent the lands under tillage and are reported to damage crops.

Wild Dog.—Wild dogs (Red dogs; *M. Ran Kutra*): These belong to the genus *Canis* and are reported to frequent forests around Landezari, Nagzira sanctuary and Khoba and Gothangaon blocks. They roam in packs and are very destructive to herbivorous game, particularly *Sambhar* and *Chital*. These animals fling around the *Sambhar* or *Chital* and detach biteful of flesh from the horrified living *Sambhar* or *Chital* which finds no way to escape the clutches of these wild dogs.

Bear.—The Indian sloth bear (*Ursus vel melursus ursinus*; *M. Aswal*): It is of rare occurrence in these forests, though it is certainly a surviving member of the wild fauna in the district. The beast with its stubborn combativeness certainly scares the man on the forest roads.

Badger.—The badger or ratel (*Mellivora indica*; *M. Bijju*) is occasionally found in the forests particularly in the dark hours.

Wild Pig.—The wild pig (*Sus Scrofa fel cristatus*; *M. Ran Dukkar*): It is common all over the forests and particularly around the settlements in the vicinity of the forests. They cause considerable damage to crops of the forest villagers and raw bamboo shoots. Due to its destructive nature it is declared as vermin. The population of these species is also getting thinner and herds of over twenty are of rare occurrence.

Hare.—The common Indian hare (*Lepus ruficandants*, *M. Sasa*), is of very common occurrence all over the forests and bushes, surrounding lands under tillage. It feeds on succulent roots, tender bamboos and their rhizomes and semul bulbs, causing considerable damage to these species in forest floor and nurseries as well.

Porcupine.—The Indian porcupine (*Hystrix indica*; *M. Sayal*): has brightly coloured spines; it is occasionally found in this tract. It feeds on roots and bulbs and is also reported to be scavenging in habit.

Mongoose.—Mongoose (*M. Mungus*): These are represented in the forest of the district by two varieties, *viz.*, *herpestes palidus* vel *circus* and *herpestes jerdemi*.

Bison.—Indian bison (*Bos vel gavaeus gaurus*; *M. Gava*): It is a magnificent animal and has a very selective habitat amongst the luxuriant flora of Gaikhuri hills, Pratapgad hills and Nagzira game sanctuary. These animals cause extensive damage to young plantations and reproduction of forest species. A few herds are allowed to be shot on special big game licence with a view to minimise the destruction of the forest plantations.

Sambhar.—The *sambhar* (*Rusa aristotelis*; *M. Sambhar*) is restricted to main hill ranges, *viz.*, Ambagad, Gaikhuri and Pratapgad. It is a huge animal much sought after by the sportsmen and poachers for its majestic horns, velvety soft hide when tanned and the flesh. Its number is on the decline in these forests.

Chital.—The *chital* or the Indian spotted deer (*Axis maculatus*; *M. Chital*) is one of the most attractively coloured deer and is abundantly found in the forests all over the district. During hot summer they cluster around perennial tanks in large numbers. Their number however has been declining in the forests kept open for *shikar*. With a view to preserving this beautiful deer and other fauna, a game sanctuary at Nagzira has been recently developed.

Barking Deer.—The barking deer (*cervulus muntjac*; *M. Baiker*) is abundantly found in the forests of the district.

Mouse Deer.—The mouse deer or spotted Indian chevrotain species belongs to the family *Tragulidae*. It is one of the smallest hoofed animals standing only 0.3 metre tall at the shoulders and measuring about 0.65 metres in length. It is occasionally found in the forests sheltered by Gaikhuri hills and Nagzira game sanctuary.

Blue Bull.—The blue bull (*Portax pictus vel borselephas trago-camelu*; *M. Nilgai*) is commonly met within the open forests all over the district.

Black Buck.—The black buck (*Antelope bezoartica*; *M. Kalvit*) used to be common in the plain forests of the district. Its number has considerably dwindled and a few animals are reported to be seen in the plain forests in the southern part of the district.

Chinkara.—Chinkara (*Gazella bennettii*; *M. Chinkara*) is of rare occurrence in the outskirts of the plain forests particularly surrounding lands under tillage.

Four Horned Antelope.—The four horned antelope (*M. Charsingha*) is rarely met in the forests of this tract.

Other Animals, Snakes, etc.—The grey squirrel (*M. Kharadi, Sal*). It is very common all over the district. At times flying squirrels are met with during the dark hours in the forests. Lizards of various kinds, including *ghorpad* also frequent the forest

floor. Snakes like cobra (*Naja Naja Oxiana*), krait, vipers (*Vipera lebetina*) and pythons (*Rithou molurus*) are occasionally found.

BIRDS

The birds of the district include a number of gaily plumaged varieties such as golden orioles, the blue roller, the king fisher, wood peckers and little green fly catcher. The green foliage shelters the aviary of rainbow colours gleefully mingled to present a variety of entertainment to the lucky onlookers. These include the birds like peacock, the national bird of the country, game birds such as jungle fowl, spur fowl, painted and rock sand grouses, grey partridge, green pigeon, jungle quail and variety of doves.

The district has innumerable tanks and perennial pools of water which shelter a variety of migratory ducks in cold weather, teal and pelicans, cranes and herons in their vicinity.

SNAKES*

The Satpuda range of mountains divide the district in the east from Chhattisgarh, the same range cuts it off in the north from Balaghat and the river sheds form deep forests in the south that adjoins the Chandrapur district. Three distinct plateaus divide the district into three natural zones: the Gaimukh, Ambagarh in the north, Gaikhuri and Salekasa in the centre and east and Pratapgad region in the south.

The rich natural setting has been responsible for a rich fauna in the area. The large number of tanks and 8,695 wells have established fresh water fishery an important occupation. The fisherman community is found everywhere and worship a God called *Samudradeo*. In fact all over the district this community has some *bhagats* who are supposed to cure snake-bite cases either by a herb or by chanting of a *mantra*. Every village has a Hanuman temple. The village border has a *Guthiyadevi* and the field border a *Sevayadeva*. The Gonds have *Dhuladeva* in all houses in building beams and the priests are either *Joshi*, *Garpagari*, *Bhemak* or *Bhagat*. At all these places of worship many a victim of snake-bite are taken to be cured. Near Amgaon is a Siddha hill which is made up of huge round stone boulders with crevices. Snakes, particularly cobras and the coral snake are said to be plenty in the area. At Padampur on the Nath hill is a statue of a *Siddha* with a five hooded cobra on his head. In the village of Padampur are remnants of old sculpture. Some pieces near the village Post Office show carvings of *Mahadeo* and *Ras-krida* and the image of Lord Ganesh with a *Naga-bana* round his belly.

All these indicate that apart from natural fauna, the local people knew the snakes in olden times and sculptured them on statues. Cases of snake-bite are common in the district. Many of

*The section on Snakes is contributed by Dr. P. J. Deoras, Bombay.

these may be due to the bite of even non-poisonous snakes or snakes giving a sub-lethal dose of venom. These can be cured by psychological treatment. In case of a bite by a poisonous snake which has injected a lethal dose of venom only a specific anti-venin can save the victim. However, ignorance of the types of snakes whether poisonous or non-poisonous, causes panic and may bring about the death of a victim. It was noticed that the green chameleon locally known as *Hatti-salla* was supposed to be very poisonous: whereas in reality no death occurs due to the bite of this serpent. Exposed to this large natural fauna from times immemorial, people have coined various local names of various kinds of snakes. Some such names are—*Chokha* (cobra), *Dandekar* (Krait), *Chithi* (Python), *Dhulnagin* (Echis), *Satranjya* (Banded Krait), *Tan Sarp* (Pit viper), *Chawrya mahadol* (Russels viper), *Dhondya* (Natrix piscator), *Dongar yellya* (Dryophis), *Dhaman* (Rat Snake), *Shendrya* (Coral snake), *Gopya* (Eryx), and *Raktya* (Echis).

The district thus has a good snake fauna. The following is a description of the main types of snakes that are found in the district.

Non-Poisonous Snakes.—*Typhlops braminus*: This blind snake looks like an oversized earthworm. The difference lies in the fact that the earthworm has round rings all over the body while this snake has imbricate scales. The head is not distinct from the body and the colour is gray. It is frequently found inside houses and bath-rooms and often mixed with soil. It tries to burrow and feeds on decaying matter and worms. Locally people call it *Andha Sarp* or *Kadu*.

Uropeltis Melanogaster: This snake with a blunt tail, a tapering mouth and thicker than human thumb, grows to ten inches and is found in hilly regions only. It is deep brown with yellow spots at the side and a rough tail which ends in a rhomboid area. The tail is used for digging the soil from which the snake picks up worms and other matter to be used as food.

Lycodon Aulicus: This *Kardya Sarp* is found almost everywhere in the district. It is grey with patches of white and thin black lines on the body and grows to about two feet. It has nocturnal habits and one could see it in the night time in gardens feeding on frogs, lizards, geckos and skinks. It lays eggs in summer and they are often mistaken for lizards.

Oligodon Venustus: This is the common wolf snake locally known as *Gargar*. It is grey with paired blackish spots having a whitish border. It is mistaken for a krait snake, but in the case of the latter anal scales are double and the dorsal scales hexagonal. It is a harmless egg laying snake growing to about two feet and feeding on small rodents, lizards, birds and insects. It may be found in house-gardens during night time.

Boiga Triagonata: This is a brown snake with dark inverted V-shaped yellow-black bordered marks along the vertebral ridge

and yellowish brown stripe from the eyes to the end of the jaw. It grows to three feet and is eight inches in circumference. Many a time this snake tries to raise its head over a coil. From the side the stripes near the eye and neck give it the appearance of a snake imitating a cobra. It has no hood or any marking on the upper side like a cobra. The snake though vicious is not poisonous. It is called *Manjer sarp*.

Macropisthodon Plumbicolor: This *gavtya* snake is grass green on the upper side with deep black chevron shaped marks on the nape and cross stripes across the body. There is another such mark on the head. It grows to two and a half feet, and is common in the hilly regions where it is mistaken for the green pit viper. It is a very gentle snake, but when cornered it pulls its neck and body and tries to strike in desperation. It is non-poisonous and feeding mainly on frogs and small birds.

Natrix Piscator: This is the common *Dizad* or *Dhondya* found all over the district. Olive brown in colour, this snake has checker-board black marks all over the body, especially more in the hind region. It grows to four feet and is very agile, preferring areas of mud and water. It feeds on frogs and fishes and is often found in paddy fields, submerged for a number of minutes, before it rises to breathe fresh air. It lays more than 100 eggs at a time during April and these hatch in June-July. It hibernates during colder months of the year.

Natrix Stolata: *Naneti* or *Sitakilat* is the local name of this snake in this district. It grows to three feet in length and about six inches in circumference. The colour is olive green with reticulated irregular cross bars dorsally and two buff coloured longitudinal stripes running along the body. The head of this snake has black bordered shields and the mouth a cream coloured region extending up to the eyes. It is a very docile snake seen more frequently during rains and feeding on frogs and insects.

Dryophis Nasutus: The green whip snake, or *Saraptoli* or *Dongar yellya* is very common in and near vegetation. It is parrot green with joint black and white oblique lines on the dorsal side and a yellow as well as blue line running at the sides. The snake is seen on tall trees or on grass. It hangs with its head suspended from twigs. Its food consists mainly of birds, lizards, and insects. It lays eggs in April. The bite of this snake is not lethal, though it may cause some pain.

Coluber Ventromaculatus: Locally known as *Nagin*, this rare snake is grey with black cross-bars or spots restricted to scale borders. Ventrally yellow with a black strips or black bar below the eye, it is two and a half feet in length and very vicious. When disturbed it erects the head, flattens the area behind the neck and strikes. It feeds on lizards, frogs and birds.

Ptyas Mucosus: This very common rat-snake, locally called *Dhaman* is camel yellow with black-edged scales, especially in the hind region. The length goes up to 10 feet and it is capable of

jumping up a tree and tying a knot by its tail as well as giving a foul smell when touched. It also makes a guttural sound like the shrill noise of a kite. Normally, keeping out of human reach, it is vicious when disturbed. It lays a number of eggs in muddy areas.

Python Molurus: This is *Chitti* or *Ajgar* snake of the local people, which grows to 18 feet and weighs about 20 kilos. It is chocolate brown in colour with grey variegated patterns on the upper surface and a grey lancet mark on a pink head. It is very lethargic and found in areas of water accumulation and rocks. It hisses loudly and hurls its body over the victim to strangle it to death. Even a goat or a pig could thus be killed. It is the biggest snake of the district and bites viciously by its lancet pointed teeth. Though non-poisonous, it causes deep wounds not only by its teeth but by its pointed horn-like projections situated near the anal region. It lays eggs which are 3 times the size of fowl eggs.

Eryx Conicus: This *Durkya Ghonas* or *Mandhol* snake is very common. The variegated grey white patterns on its chocolate body often confuse it with a python, but it has a very blunt tail, which is often mistaken to be the other mouth end. It feeds on frogs, lizards and small mammals. There is another variety, *Eryx Johnii* which is plain black in colour and is found in loose black soil. The former is seen in sandy soil and is more aggressive. Both are harmless and lay eggs during April.

Poisonous Snakes.—*Callophis Melanurus*: This snake locally known as *Shendrya* or *Raat* is seen in the hilly regions. It is a thin snake not growing to more than two feet, light purplish brown in colour with black stripes, edged white and white continuous lines on the body. The head and neck bear black and yellow spots. The ventral surface is red. It is poisonous and the venom is neurotoxic. It is not very commonly found.

Naja Naja: The common cobra is called *Nag* or *Chokha* in the district. This very common poisonous snake has a distinct hood with bionoculate or no marks on the upper side and three faint black lines and two black spots on the lower side of the head. The maximum length seen is six feet. The king cobra supposed to be found in the deep forests is olive green with black cross stripes all over the body and grows to considerable length while feeding on other snakes only. The common cobra is either black when it is called *Domi* or brown when it is known as *Gehuwa*. Just before rains this snake gets a yellowish colour which when exposed to sunlight turns brown again. This is due to loss of pigment during hibernation. Cobra snake is worshipped on the *Nagpanchami* day. There are images of coiled cobra under *Pipal* tree meant for worship indicating the veneration for this snake. Many a time, this snake may come near houses to feed on rats and frogs in the vicinity. People do not kill this snake and it is believed that it guards wealth. It lays 60 to 70 eggs in April and these hatch by the end of June. The small young

cobras are as poisonous from the first day of their life as the older ones. The poison of this snake is neurotoxic and the only cure is a specific antivenin.

Bungarus Caceruleus: Locally known as *Dandekar*, this steel blue black snake with white cross bars is found in crevices even in houses. The dorsal scales are hexagonal and the anal scales are double. It is a very timid snake, but very poisonous. Only six milligrams of its venom are fatal to an average sized human being. It feeds on other snakes and lays eggs during the month of April.

Bungarus Fasciatus: This banded krait snake is locally known as *Sabranjya*. It is four feet long with an abruptly blunt tail and has yellow and black thick-stripes all over the body. It has a black mark on the neck and medium black spots on the head. The snake is known to feed on other snakes and consequently local people welcome this snake in their farms. The venom is neurotoxic and only a specific antivenin can save the victim.

Vipera Russellii: This russels viper locally known as *Ghunnus* or *Chavarya Mahadol* is common in all wooded areas. It is brown with three rows of elliptical markings on the body and a triangular head with tiny scales. It is known to hiss very loudly and continuously. It feeds on small mammals and bites very viciously, when disturbed, with its big completely canalised fangs. The venom is vasotoxic and gives swelling and intensive pain. The snake lays about 90 young ones within three days during the month of June.

Echis Carinatus: Locally known as *Dhul-nagin* this small snake, 18 inches long moves side ways and makes noise by rubbing the scales on the body. It is deep brown with variegated pink and white designs and a grey arrow head mark between the eyes. It feeds on small animals and insects and strikes by jumping about a few feet from the ground. The venom is not only vasotoxic but also neurotoxic. Oozing from the wound, pain, blackness of the site and bleeding from gums is seen in case of this snake bite. Specific antivenin is the only cure for its bite.

Trimeresurus Granineus: This pit viper is tree green in colour, having a triangular head and a pit near the nose. It is locally known as *Tan Sarp* or *Haranag*. It is found in forests abounding with bamboo plantations. It grows to three feet in length, a foot in circumference and feeds on birds, lizards and small mammals. Its poison is vasotoxic and the victim of its bite can only be cured by a specific antivenin.

FISH AND FISHERIES

Water Resources.—The district traversed by the river Wain-ganga and its tributaries, viz., Bagh, Chulband, Panjoli and Bawantvari, has a total length of nearly 500 kilometres of fluvial waters. The reservoirs, tanks and ponds have a total water-

spread area of about 28,000 hectares, comprising nearly 14,000 units of water resources of variable sizes. Of these, 3,200 units with the water-spread area of about 6,000 hectares are under the jurisdiction of Zilla Parishad and 92 units with a water-spread area of about 8,000 hectares are under the jurisdiction of the State Government. Out of the remaining units, nearly 300 tanks, admeasuring about 6,320 hectares are brought under pisciculture, mostly by the owners, whereas the rest of the tanks and ponds are mainly used for irrigation of paddy fields by the owners, several of which have also been incidentally used for fish culture.

Besides, six large irrigation reservoirs enlisted in statement "A" and 50 small irrigation tanks each admeasuring approximately 40 hectares and above enlisted in statement "B" are under construction; these water resources are the future potentials for undertaking fisheries development in the district.

STATEMENT A

Name of the Project (1)	Water-spread area	
	Minimum (2)	Maximum (3)
Bagh Project		4,365 acres (1,746 hectares)
Itjadah Project	5,000 acres (2,000 hectares)	1,80,000 acres (72,600 hectares)
Sorna Project	15 mft	507.4 acres (203 hectares)
Tanga Project	5.69 mft	100.6 acres (40.24 hectares)
Nagibana Project	76.00 acres (30.4 hectares)	366.00 acres (146.4 hectares)
Bagheda Project	86.27 acres (34.5 hectares)	386.00 acres (154.4 hectares)

STATEMENT B

LIST OF TANKS EACH WITH WATER-SPREAD AREA OF 40 HECTARES AND ABOVE

	Hectares
1. Ekodi tank	102.3
2. Lawari tank	64.4
3. Tadgaon tank	87.2
4. Gangajhari tank	112.0
5. Zilmili tank	55.0
6. Khamari tank	50.0

STATEMENT B—*contd.*

				Hectares
7. Bhaupur tank	..	..	..	46.7
8. Kati tank	..	..	..	40.4
9. Jamshora tank	..	..	..	55.3
10. Yelkazari tank	..	..	..	55.3
11. Tedha tank	..	..	..	41.4
12. Kokha tank	..	..	..	50.9
13. Margaon tank	..	..	..	43.6
14. Dahegaon tank	..	..	..	56.0
15. Mahulji tank	..	..	..	51.8
16. Mendha tank	..	..	..	40.0
17. Koka tank	..	..	..	51.3
18. Kosamtondi tank	..	..	..	46.3
19. Neemgaon tank	..	..	..	53.6
20. Dhahetakdi tank	..	..	..	67.9
21. Soundad tank	..	..	..	69.9
22. Pathari tank	..	..	..	41.7
23. Sitepar tank	..	..	..	47.3
24. Chandori tank	..	..	..	51.6
25. Sangadi tank	..	..	..	47.2
26. Rajoli tank	..	..	..	44.8
27. Koshibaki tank	..	..	..	48.8
28. Salegaon tank	..	..	..	51.2
29. Khamari tank	..	..	..	50.8
30. Zari tank	..	..	..	76.4
31. Pimpalgaon tank	..	..	..	100.0
32. Sawarbandh tank	..	..	..	72.0
33. Amgaon tank	..	..	..	40.4
34. Pangdi tank	..	..	..	233.9
35. Dighori tank	..	..	..	53.3
36. Parsodi tank	..	..	..	68.0
37. Nawegaon bandh	..	..	..	1,035.2
38. Seonibandh tank	..	..	..	483.2
39. Chandpur tank	..	..	..	736.0
40. Chorkhamara tank	..	..	..	496.6

STATEMENT B—*concl.*

	Hectares
41. Khairbandh tank	411.2
42. Risala tank	139.3
43. Khandala tank	69.8
44. Bodalkasa tank	563.2
45. Walmazari tank	92.2
46. Chandori tank	51.6
47. Rawanwadi tank	230.4
48. Salegaon tank	51.2
49. Rajoli tank	44.8
50. Tukum Narayan tank	56.6

Fish.—The major catch from the riverine resources comprises local fishes, viz., Tambir (*Labeo fimbriatus*), Wadis (*Puntius tor*), Kolshi (*Puntius kolus*), Shivda (*Wallago attu*), Wagur (*Clarius magur*), Bodth (*Bagarius bagarius*), and Tamboo (*Anguilla bengalensis*). Prawn fishery, mainly of *Macrobrachium malcolmsonii*, constitutes an important fishery in the district. The total riverine fish catch of the district is nearly 100 metric tonnes per annum, of which prawn catches amount to nearly 10 metric tonnes.

The important species of fishes found in the district are mentioned below:

Scientific Name	Local Name
1. CARPS	
FAMILY CYPRINIDAE	
<i>Oxygaster clupeoides</i> (Bl.)	Chela
<i>Rasbora daniconius</i> (Ham.)	Kanheri
<i>Danio devario</i> (Ham.)	Dhutric
<i>Puntius ticto</i> (Ham.)	Karwari
<i>Puntius kolus</i> (Sykes)	Kolashi
<i>Puntius sarana</i> (Ham.)	Poshti
<i>Osteobrama vigorsii</i> (Sykes)	Koli
<i>Tor tor</i> (Ham.)	Waris
<i>Cirrhinus reba</i> (Ham.)	Reba
<i>Labeo calbasu</i> (Ham.)	Kanoshi, kanes
<i>Labeo fimbriatus</i> (Bl.)	Tambir
<i>Labeo bata</i> (Ham.)	Nawari
<i>Labeo boggut</i> (Sykes)	Gohria
<i>Catla catla</i> (Ham.)	Catla
<i>Cirrhina mrigala</i> (Ham.)	Mrigal
2. KNIFE FISHES	
FAMILY NOTOPTERIDAE	
<i>Notopterus notopterus</i> (Pallas)	Bhadar
<i>Notopterus chitala</i> (Ham.)	Chital
3. LOACHES	
FAMILY COBITIDAE	
<i>Lepidocephalichthys guntea</i> (Day)	Gurgutchi
<i>Noemacheilus botia</i> (Ham.)	Teli

Scientific Name	Local Name
4. CATFISHES	
FAMILY SHLURIDAE	
<i>Wallago attu</i> (Schw.)	Shirida
<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (Bl.)	Gungara
FAMILY CLARIIDAE	
<i>Clarias magur</i> (Day)	Wagur
FAMILY BAGRIDAE	
<i>Mystus</i> sp. (Ham.)	Muggut
<i>Mystus seenghala</i> (Syl.)	Singla
<i>Mystus vittatus</i> (Bl.)	Kethra
FAMILY SISORIDAE	
<i>Bagarius bagarius</i> (Ham.)	Bodli
5. EELS	
FAMILY ANGUILLIDAE	
<i>Anguilla bengalensis</i> (Gray and Harlow)	Tambo
6. GARFISHES	
FAMILY BELONIDAE	
<i>Xenentodon cancila</i> (Ham.)	Chacha
7. GRAY-MULLETS	
FAMILY MUGILIDAE	
<i>Rhinomugil corsula</i> (Ham.)	Warderi
8. SNAKE HEADED FISHES OR MURRELS	
FAMILY OPHICHTHALIDAE	
<i>Channa striatus</i> (Bl.)	Murrel
<i>Channa marulius</i> (Ham.)	Phal
<i>Channa gachua</i> (Ham.)	Dhok
<i>Channa punctatus</i> (Bl.)	Botri
9. PERCHES	
FAMILY NANDIDAE	
<i>Nandus nandus</i> (Ham.)	Dukkar
10. GLASS FISHES	
FAMILY AMBASSIDAE	
<i>Ambassis ranga</i> (Ham.)	Zanjadi
<i>Ambassis nama</i> (Ham.)	Chadni
11. GOBIES	
FAMILY GOBIDAE	
<i>Glossogobius giuris</i> (Ham.)	Chastra
12. SPINY EELS	
FAMILY MASTOCEMBELIDAE	
<i>Mastocembelus pancalus</i> (Ham.)	Vam.
<i>Mastocembelus armatus</i> (Lac.)	Wair

Craft and Gear:

Craft: The common craft that is used by most of the fishermen is a small boat known as a dug out canoe for catching fish in small tanks and rivers. Bigger boats of clinker type are also used for catching fish, in large tanks and reservoirs.

Gear: Common fishing gears, which are mainly used by the fishermen, are cast nets, drag nets and gill nets. Besides, there are other gears such as hand net, traps of bamboo strips, long lines and rods and lines.

Drag net: It is locally known as "Zorli". As the name suggests, the net is dragged in water and the fishes are caught. It is fabricated from cotton twine, having length of 5 to 10 metres, height of about 2.5 metres and mesh size varying from 1 cm. to 15 cm., depending on the size of the fish to be caught. In view of the durability of the synthetic twine, fishermen are now using nylon twine for the preparation of this type of net.

Cast Net: This net is locally known as "Bhowar jal". It is fabricated from cotton twine. When cast, it spreads circularly, and sinks because of the sinkers attached at the periphery. There are pouches, provided at the periphery, in which the fishes are caught. Sinkers are made of iron or porcelain on earthen beads.

Gill Net: It is locally known as "Atki Jal", and is used for catching fish in tanks and reservoirs. Gill nets are now being fabricated from the nylon twine of different counts and mesh size, depending on the size of the fish to be caught. Number of pieces, each ranging from 15 to 35 metres in length and 3 to 6 metres in breadth are joined together to make one gill net; this gear is mostly operated after sunset and hauled up early in the morning. This net is provided with a foot-rope bearing sinkers, and head rope bearing floats. Floats used are either made from synthetic material or wood of local trees, viz., Tejmal, Dhendhur, Dudhi, Rui and Deo Nali.

Methods for Prawn Fishing.—Baiting Prawns: Mixture of rice bran and oilcake is made into a dough; balls made out of this dough are put at several places in the river during the night time and these places are marked by floats. Prawns are attracted towards the bait for food and are caught next day by cast net, early in the morning.

Prawn Fishing with use of Lights: This method is carried out in the night hours. Petromax lamps are used for this purpose. Prawns come to shallower water for feeding. One fisherman slowly moves in water holding petromax and whenever prawns are sighted, other fishermen immediately put a basket on the sighted prawns. Prawns caught under the basket are then removed through a small opening at the top.

'Zaggi' Fishing for Prawns : Fishermen pile up 2-3 cart loads of twigs and bushes in deeper parts of the river and leave them undisturbed for one or two months. Alongwith this a rectangular trap of bamboo strips is immersed for giving shelter to prawns. After one or two months, the area is encircled by means of a cloth to which stones are fastened to the lower margin, so as to become an enclosure preventing the escape of prawns from underneath. The cloth above level of water-surface is folded and folds are held by the fishermen sitting in 'dougies' or small conoes. A small meshed net is held around by small strikes to prevent prawns jumping out of water. After setting this arrangement, 2-3 fishermen remove the twigs and bushes. Then the trap is lifted to remove prawns. Remaining prawns and fishes are caught by cast net. The whole operation lasts for 4-5 hours and about 8 to 10 fishermen are engaged in this operation.

CHAPTER 2—HISTORY*

ANCIENT PERIOD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN CARRIED ON AT KUNDINPUR in the Amravati district and Pavnar in the Wardha district, but their detailed reports have not yet been published. From short accounts of these excavations that have appeared in the press, we get some idea of the earliest habitations in Vidarbha. They are of the chalcolithic period. It appears, however, that the Wainganga region was occupied in the Early stone Age; though stratigraphic evidence is still lacking, tools of trap rock such as cleavers, scrapers and hand-axes have been found in the Wainganga valley. From there the palaeolithic culture seems to have spread to other parts of Vidarbha. Such stone age implements as the perforated hammer stones have been found at Kundinpur.

The earliest period known from excavations at Kundinpur and Pavnar is the Chalcolithic or Early Bronze Age. It is evidenced by refined microliths in association with orange coloured pottery, painted with red or black bands. The characteristic features of this period as brought to light in the excavations in Vidarbha and other parts of Maharashtra such as Nasik, Nevasa and other places may be described as follows¹:—

"The earliest habitations of the people of this period must have been in the river valleys. The thick forests which must have covered them were first cut down with their stone and copper tools. The elevated sites on the banks of the rivers were chosen for settlements. The huts were small, measuring about 10 ft. by 9 ft. and were either rectangular or round. They were constructed with wooden posts, the walls being of mud and the roof of bamboo matting, dry leaves, etc., covered with a layer of mud. The houses were furnished with large and small storage jars, bowls (*vatis*) and vessels (*lotas*) with long spouts. Their red surface was painted in black with geometric designs or figures of animals. They wore garments of cotton and probably also of silk. For their ornaments they used beads of semi-precious stones, crystal, terracotta and rarely of copper and even of gold. Silver was unknown. Bangles were made of copper, burnt clay or bones, rarely of ivory.

*The section on Ancient Period is contributed by Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. V. V. Mirashi, M. A., D. Litt., Nagpur.

The sections on Mediaeval Period onwards are contributed by Dr. B. G. Kunte, M.A., Ph.D. (Economics), Ph.D. (History), Executive Editor and Secretary.

¹Summarised from H. D. Sankalia's *Indian Archaeology Today*, p. 88 f.

For weapons they used products of chalcedony blade industry, flat copper axes and slings with round balls of various sizes. Their tools were made of dolerite and copper. They pounded their grains with plano-convex rubber stones. Besides, they ate beef, mutton, pork, venison and river fish. Hunting and animal grazing formed their main occupations.

They buried their dead within the house floor or outside. The children were buried in wide-mouthed jars. The adults were buried full length in a large jar; if the latter was found to be short, another pot was used for covering the knees. Sometimes the body lying in an extended position was covered by no less than five pots. The dead were provided with bowls, spouted vessels and necklaces of copper and carnelian. Economically these people were in a pastoral-cum-hunting-cum-agricultural stage and lived in small villages on river-banks. They still used stone for various purposes, the use of copper being rare. This kind of life continued until it was changed by a fresh influx of people with knowledge of iron, agriculture and town-planning, in about the fourth century A. D.

Who these people were is not definitely known, but one plausible conjecture is that they belonged to some of the Aryan tribes. This theory, however, needs confirmation by stronger evidence."

The above gleanings are from excavations at such places as Nasik, Jorwe, Kundinpur and Paynar. The duration of this early Bronze Age is surmised by archaeologists to be from 1500-1000 B. C. to 500 B. C.

In Nagpur, Bhandara, and Chandrapur districts of Vidarbha we have vestiges of the megalithic culture in the form of dolmens and other sepulchral monuments. In the Bhandara district they are noticed at Pimpalgaon, Tilota, Khairi and Brahmi. Some of these were opened first by Pearson and then by Hislop, but their detailed reports are not available. They are yet to be excavated and studied scientifically. Hislop described them as follows:—

"They are found chiefly as barrows surrounded by a circle of stones and as stone boxes which when complete are styled kistavens, and when open on one side, cromlechs. The kistavens, if not previously disturbed, have been found to contain stone coffins and urns."

"These monuments, though every one of them is some kind of a tomb, are not primary burials. Almost all are secondary burials, that is, the bodies after death were left exposed to beasts and weather and it was only later that the remains that were left were collected together and were buried in a pot (called urn) or a chest-like stone (rectangular cist), but if above ground and in the shape of a table with one huge capstone covering the three or more up-right stones it was called "a dolmen" or "dolmenoid cist", or a legged oblong vessel with a separate lid and lags (called sarcophagus) along with most important possessions of the dead—iron weapons and tools, shell ornaments, semi-

precious beads, pots of various shape and even horse-bits and occasionally coins. . . . The fact that pits were prepared for secondary burials and then enclosed by large slabs of stones and the whole finally surrounded by a circle of stones implies a fairly well established and prosperous social organisation."

As for the identity of these megalith builders, Haimendorf suggested that they were a people of mediterranean stock who probably came to the west coast by sea, entered south India in about 500 B. C. and spread northwards subduing the earlier neolithic and microlithic people who were in a semi-nomadic, food-gathering stage of culture. Further, since the distribution of south Indian megaliths was almost coterminous with that of the Dravidian languages, it is this people who should have introduced the Dravidian language (or languages) in the region. And it is their kings—the Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas—to whom the Ashokan edicts were addressed. Thus the earliest Tamil should go back to about 500 B.C.²

These speculations, though interesting, have not yet been accepted by scholars; for the chalcolithic people were not ignorant of the practice of burying the dead in pits or pots and could boast of a settled life in which, besides polished stones, axes, spouted and other pots played an important part and the people had some idea of life after death. Credit must, however, be given to these megalithic people for introducing iron and perhaps irrigation also.

We shall next see what light is thrown on this period by literary sources. According to literary tradition, when the Aryans penetrated to the Deccan, the whole region was covered by a thick jungle, which extended southward from central India. Agastya was the first Aryan who crossed the Vindhya and fixed his residence on the bank of the Godavari. This memorable event is corroborated by the mythological story which represents Vindhya as bending before his guru Agastya when the latter approached him. The sage asked the mountain to remain in that position until he returned from the south, which he never did. Agastya was followed by several other sages who established their hermitages in the different regions of the south. The cluster of hermitages on the bank of the Godavari was called *Janasthan* to distinguish it from the surrounding forest country. The region to the south of the Godavari was inhabited by the aborigines, who are called *Rakshasas* in the *Ramayana*. The sages living in the *Janasthan* were constantly harassed by these *Rakshasas*. "These shapeless and ill-looking monsters testify to their abominable character by various cruel and terrific displays. They implicate the hermits in impure practices and perform great outrages. Changing their shapes and hiding in thickets adjoining

¹Loc. cit.

²Muir's *Original Sanskrit Texts*, Vol. V.

the hermitages, these frightful beings delight in terrifying the devotees; they cast away their sacrificial ladles and vessels; they pollute cooked oblations and utterly defile the offerings with blood. These faithless creatures inject frightful sounds into the ears of the faithful and austere hermits. At the time of the sacrifices they snatch away the jars, the flowers and the sacred grass of these sober-minded men."

We learn from the *Ramayana* that Rama, accompanied by his brother Lakshmana and wife Sita, met Agastya near the Godavari. The hermitage of the sage is, by tradition, located at Akola in Ahmadnagar district, but from the *Uttararamacharita* of Bhavabhuti it appears to have been situated on the Murala (modern Mula), which was then probably a direct tributary of the Godavari. Agastya presented Rama with a bow and two quivers and advised him to settle down at a place called Panchavati from the five great Banyan trees which grew there. Even now there are some caves near Panchavati on the Godavari, which go by the name of *Sita-gumpha* or Sita's cave, and which have in a large niche in the back wall the images of Rama, Lakshmana and Sita. Here Rama is said to have lived for some time and killed many *Rakshasas* who were harassing the sages. From here Sita was abducted by the demon king Ravana, which ultimately led to the invasion of Lanka by Rama with the help of the monkey hosts.

Janasthana and Panchavati were situated on the fringe of the great forest called Dandakaranya, the story of which is narrated in the *Uttarakanda* of the *Ramayana*. We are told that a large country was founded north of the Godavari by Vidarbha, the son of Rishabhadeva. His capital was Kundinapura in the Amravati district. Agastya married a princess of this country, Lopamudra by name. Agastya is the seer of some hymns of the *Rigveda*. His wife Lopamudra is mentioned in *Rigveda* I, 179, 4. The *Ramayana* states that Danda or Dandaka, the son of Ikshvaku and grandson of Manu, ruled over the country between the Vindhya and Shaivala mountains with his capital at Madhumanta. He led a voluptuous life and once upon a time he violated the daughter of the sage Bhargava. The sage then cursed the king that his whole kingdom would be devastated by a terrible dust-storm. The whole country between the Vindhya and Shaivala mountains, extending over a thousand *yojanas*, was consequently turned into a great forest, which since then came to be known as Dandakaranya. It was in this forest that the Shudra ascetic Shambuka was practising penance. According to the notions of those days, this was an irreligious act and so Rama beheaded him and revived the life of a Brahmana boy, who had died prematurely. The place where Shambuka was beheaded is still shown on the hill of Ramtek, about 28 miles from Nagpur.¹ In the *Uttararamacharita*, Bhavabhuti tells us that the Dandaka forest extended southward from this place up to *Janasthana* on the Godavari.

¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 19.

The central part of the Deccan was divided into several countries known by different names. The region on the north of the Godavari, now included in the Aurangabad district was known by the name of Mulaka. This country together with its capital Pratishthana (modern Paithan) is mentioned in Pali literature. Pratishthana later became the capital of the Satavahanas. It is mentioned in some ancient inscriptions such as those at Pitalkhora and also by Ptolemy and the *Periplus of the Erythrean Sea*. As it lay on the trade route from Tagara in the south to Ujjayani in the north and Shurparaka (Sopara in the Thana district) in the west, it was a flourishing city. To the north of Mulaka lay the country of Rishika, now called Khandesh. Along the southern bank of the Godavari extended the Country of Ashmaka (Pali, Assaka), which comprised the modern Ahmadnagar and Bid districts. Later, this region came to be included in the country of Kuntala, which extended far to the south. It comprised what is known as the Southern Maratha Country as well as Northern Karnataka. In an inscriptional passage the upper valley of the Krishna is said to be included in the Kuntala country.¹ In the *Udayasundarikatha* of Sodhdhala (11th century A.D.) Pratishthana on the Godavari is said to be the capital of the Kuntala country. In early times Kuntala was probably included in the larger country called Maharashtra. The Aihole inscription (7th cen. A.D.) speaks of three Maharashtras, which probably included Vidarbha, Western Maharashtra and Kuntala. In later times Kuntala came to denote the predominantly Kanarese country now included in the Mysore State. It is described as a seven and half lakh province. The Early Chalukyas of Badami and the Later Chalukyas of Kalyani were known as Kuntaleshvaras or lords of Kuntala. In early times, however, the districts of Kolhapur, Satara, Sholapur, Ahmadnagar and Bid, which are now Marathi-speaking were included in Kuntala. As we shall see later, the Early Rashtrakutas, who were ruling over this territory, were known as Kuntaleshvaras (Lords of Kuntala).

Later we find that all this country was included in the Empire of Ashoka. An inscription issued by the *Dharmamahamatra* of Ashoka has been found at Devtek in the Chandrapur district. It was issued in the fourteenth regnal year of Ashoka and interdicts the capture and killing of animals.² Again, the fifth and thirteenth rock-edicts of Ashoka mention the Rashtrika-Petenikas and the Bhoja-Petenikas. According to many scholars, the Petenikas were inhabitants of Pratishthana in the Aurangabad district. The Rashtrikas ruled as Maharathis and the Bhojas held Vidarbha. It seems that the full set of fourteen rock edicts of Ashoka was engraved at Sopara (ancient Shurparaka, the capital of Konkan) in the Thana District. One of these edicts was found several years ago and recently a fragment of Edict X has been discovered in its vicinity.

¹p. Ind., Vol. XII, p. 153.

²Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 126 f.

According to the Buddhist Chronicles *Dipavamsa* and *Mahavamsa* of Ceylon, the third Buddhist Council was held at Pataliputra under the presidentship of Moggaliputta Tissa in the seventeenth regnal year of Ashoka. After the Council was over, Tissa sent missionaries to different countries for the preaching of Buddhism. Of these Dharmarakshita was sent to Aparanta (Konkan) and Mahadharmarakshita to Maharashtra. From the *Mahavamsa* we learn that Mahadharmarakshita propagated Buddhism in Maharashtra by narrating to the people the story of the Narada-Kassapa *Jataka*. As a result of this, eighty-four thousand were converted to Buddhism and thirteen thousand became monks. There is much exaggeration in this account, but there is no doubt that Buddhism was first introduced in Maharashtra in the reign of Ashoka. This led to the excavation of caves in the different parts of Maharashtra. Some of these were excavated at Bhaja, Pitalkhora, Ajanta and other places. Pitalkhora and Ajanta lay on the trade-routes to Ujjayini in the north and Shurparaka in the west and so attained great prosperity.¹ Recently in the excavations carried out by the Nagpur University and the Archaeological Department of the Central Government at Pauni in this district the remains of the pre-Ashokan period such as pottery and punch-marked coins have been brought to notice. There was a large *stupa* near the tank Balasamudra outside the city wall on which the modern temple of Jagannatha now stands. It was enlarged in the Shunga age and was decorated with a railing and gateways. Pauni seems to have been an important centre of Buddhism which lay on the high road from the north to the south.

After the overthrow of the Maurya dynasty in *circa* 184 B.C. the imperial throne in Pataliputra was occupied by *Senapati* Pushyamitra, the founder of the Shunga dynasty. His son Agnimitra was appointed Viceroy of Malwa and ruled from Vidisha, modern Besnagar, a small village near Bhilsa. Vidarbha, which had seceded from the Maurya Empire during the reign of one of the weak successors of Ashoka, was then ruled by Yajnasena. He imprisoned his cousin Madhavasena, who was a rival claimant for the throne. The sister of Madhavasena escaped to Malwa and got admission to the royal harem as a hand-maid to the queen Dharini under the name of Malavika. Agnimitra, who had espoused the cause of Madhavasena and had sent an army against the king of Vidarbha, fell in love with Malavika and married her. The Malava army defeated the king of Vidarbha and released Madhavasena. Agnimitra then divided the country of Vidarbha between the two cousins, each ruling on one side of the Varada (modern Wardha). The story of Malavika forms the plot of the Sanskrit play *Malavikagnimitra* of Kalidasa.

Kalidasa does not state to what royal family Yajnasena and Madhavasena belonged and these names do not occur anywhere else. Still, it is possible to conjecture that they may have been

¹ *Ancient India* (Arch. Deptt.), No. 15, p. 66 f.

feudatories of the Satavahanas, who rose to power in the Deccan soon after the death of Ashoka. From the Hathigumpha inscription at Udayagiri near Bhuvaneshvara we learn that Kharavela, the king of Kalinga, who was a contemporary of Pushyamitra, sent an army to the western region, not minding Satakarni. The latter evidently belonged to the Satavahana dynasty as the name occurs often in that family. Kharavela's army is said to have penetrated to the river Kanhabenna and struck terror in the hearts of the people of Rishika. The Kanhabenna is evidently the river Kanhan, which flows about 10 miles from Nagpur and not the river Krishna as supposed by some scholars; for the latter flows not west but south-west of Udayagiri.¹ Kharavela's army thus invaded Vidarbha. He knew that as the ruler of Vidarbha was a feudatory of king Satakarni, the latter would rush to his aid. When Vidarbha was thus invaded, the people of Rishika (Khandesh), which bordered Vidarbha on the west, were naturally terror-stricken. No actual engagement seems, however, to have taken place and the army returned to Kalinga perhaps at the approach of the Satavahana forces.

Satakarni belonged to the Satavahana family. This family derived its name from king Satavahana, who rose to power soon after the death of Ashoka and had his capital at Pratisthana. It received support from the local rulers called Maharathis, with whom it formed matrimonial alliances. This family is called Andhra in the *Puranas*; but that it originally hailed from Western Maharashtra is indicated by its earliest inscriptions which are found in the caves at Naneghat near Junnar and at Nasik. Its earliest coins issued by its founder Satavahana have been found at Aurangabad and in Vidarbha. In later times it extended its rule to Andhra as shown by its later inscriptions and coins found in that region. The *Puranas* call it Andhra evidently because it was ruling in that country when the *Purana* account was compiled in the early centuries of the Christian era.

Though Satavahana was the founder of the family, he is not mentioned in the *Puranas*. The first king of the Andhra (*i.e.*, Satavahana) dynasty mentioned in the *Puranas* is Simuka (Shrimukha), who is also known from a relieve statue in a cave at Naneghat. We do not know the extent of his kingdom, but it must have comprised at least the Pune, Nasik, Ahmadnagar and Aurangabad districts. When he ended his rule, his son Satakarni was a minor and so his brother Krishna ascended the throne. He has left an inscription in the cave which he got excavated for the Buddhist monks at Nasik. His *Mahamatra*, who is described as a Shramana of Nasik, is said to have caused it to be excavated. Krishna is described in this record as belonging to the Satavahana family. This indicates that he was not a son of Satavahana but a grandson or some lower descendant.

The next ruler of the family was Satakarni I, who also is known from the dynastic list in the *Puranas* and also from a relieve figure

¹ Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. II, p. 45 f.

now mutilated in the aforementioned cave at Naneghat. He seems to have extended his rule over the whole of the Deccan and even carried his arms north of the Narmada. King Kharavela of Kalinga, who was his contemporary, sent an army to the west not minding Satakarni, who is probably this very ruler. When the army reached Kanhabenna, which as shown above, is probably identical with the Kanhan flowing near Nagpur, it struck terror in the hearts of the people of Rishika (Khandesh). There was no clash of arms on this occasion, but two years later, Kharavela probably penetrated further west as he claims to have received submission from the Rishikas and the Bhojakas, who were probably ruling in the Deccan as feudatories of the Satavahanas.¹

Satakarni performed the *Rajasuya* and *Ashvamedha* sacrifices (the latter rare), which probably commemorated his important victories or supremacy in the Deccan and had political significance. He performed also several other *Shrauta* sacrifices such as *Agnyadhya*, *Aptoryama*, *Dasharatra*, *Trayodasharatra*, *Angirasa*, *satiratra*, *Shataratra*, *Garamayana*, etc., all of which were marked by munificent gifts of horses, elephants and *Karshapanas*. They are recorded in a large but now sadly mutilated inscription in a cave at Naneghat.

Satakarni left behind two sons, Vedishri and Shaktishri, who are mentioned in the aforementioned Naneghat inscription. It was believed for a long time that this record was incised during the minority of the former prince when his mother Naganika was acting as a regent; but this view is now shown to be erroneous. The inscription describes her as one who fasted during a whole month, who, even in her house, lived like an ascetic, who led a self-restrained life and was well acquainted with initiatory ceremonies, vows and offerings. She had evidently lost all interest in worldly life and was devoting herself to religious practices. Such a lady is hardly likely to busy herself with the governing of an extensive kingdom like that of the Satavahanas. As a matter of fact, the inscription describes Vedishri as a very brave king, who was a unique warrior on the earth and was the lord of Dakshinapatha.²

Vedishri was followed by a number of princes who are named in the *Puranas*, but about whom they furnish little information except their reign-periods, which also vary in different *Puranas* and even in the manuscripts of the same *Puranas*. But one name among them is noteworthy. It is that of king Hala, the reputed author of the *Gathasaptashati*, a unique collection of seven hundred Prakrit verses descriptive of the social, religious and economic life of the period. Hala flourished in the first century A. D.³

Some years after Hala's reign Maharashtra was conquered by the Shaka Kshatrapas. Nahapana, a Shaka Kshatrapa probably appointed by the contemporary Kushana Emperor, was ruling

over Konkan, Pune, Nasik and some other districts of Maharashtra as well as some portion of Central India as far north as Ajmer. Several inscriptions of his son-in-law Ushavadata (Sanskrit, Rishabhadata) have been incised in the Pandulena caves near Nasik. Ushavadata was the son of Dinika and had married Dakshamitra, the daughter of Nahapana. These records in the Nasik caves describe the charities and conquests of Ushavadata, who was evidently governing Northern Maharashtra and Konkan on behalf of his father-in-law. We learn from them that Ushavadata gave away three hundred thousand cows, constructed *ghats* at the river Barnasa, gifted sixteen villages to gods and Brahmanas, fed a hundred thousand Brahmanas every year, got eight Brahmanas of Prabhasa or Somnath Patan married at his expense, constructed rest-houses, made gardens and tanks at Bharukachchha (Broach), Dashapura (Mandaser), Govardhana (near Nasik) and Shorparaga (Sopara in the Thana district), provided ferry-boats at the rivers Iba, Parada, Damana, Tapi, Karabena and Dahanuka and founded some benefactions in the village Nanangola for Brahmanas residing in Pinditakavada, Govardhana, Shorparaga and Ramatirtha. The same inscription further tells us that he marched to the north at the command of Nahapana and rescued the Utramabhadras, who had been attacked by the Malavas (Malavas) and then proceeded to the *tirtha* Pushkara near Ajmer, and there bathed and gave three hundred cows and a village in charity. He got a cave excavated in the Trirashmi hill near Nasik and assigned it to the Buddhist monks. He invested large sums of *Karshapanas* with the trade-guilds at Govardhana and assigned the yearly interest on them for the maintenance and well-being of the monks living in the cave excavated by him.¹ In another inscription in the cave-temple at Karla he is said to have assigned the village of Karajika for the maintenance of the Bhikshus living in the cave at Valuraka (Karla).² Another inscription at Nasik records the gifts made by his wife Dakshamitra. In an inscription at Junnar Ayama, the *Amatya* of Nahapana, has recorded his gifts of a *mandapa* and a cistern evidently for the benefit of the monks living there. These inscriptions range in dates from the year 41 to 46, which are usually referred to the *Shaka* era. Nahapana, therefore, flourished in the first quarter of the second century A.D.

Vidarbha also was under the rule of another *Mahakshatrapa* named Rupiamina, whose pillar inscription was recently discovered at Pavni in the Bhandara district.³ It records the erection of a *Chhaya-stambha* or sculptured pillar at the place. The Satavahanas had, therefore, to leave Western Maharashtra and Vidarbha in this period. They seem to have repaired to their capital Pratishthana where they continued to abide, waiting for favourable opportunity to oust the Shaka invaders.

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XX, p. 79.

²Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 139f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. I, p. 88f.

Ep. Ind., Vol. VIII, p. 82 f.

²*Ibid.*, Vol. VII, p. 57 f.

³Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. IV, p. 109 f.

Later, Gautamiputra Satakarni retrieved the fortunes of his family. He made a daring dash into Vidarbha and occupied Benakata or the Wainganga district. Thereafter, he invaded Western Maharashtra and defeated Nahapana somewhere in the Nasik district. This is shown by his inscription in one of the Nasik caves wherein he is called Benakataka-svami or the lord of Benakata (Wainganga district). He next extended his rule to a large part of the peninsula, as his chargers are said to have drunk the water of the three oceans. The following provinces are specifically mentioned as comprised in his dominion: Rishika (Khandesh), Ashmaka (Ahmadnagar and Bid districts), Akara and Avanti (Eastern and Western Malva), Suratha (Kathiawad), and Aparanta (Konkan). That his empire extended much further is shown by the description that the mountains Setagiri (Nagarjunakonda), Shristana (in the Karnul district) and Mahendra (between the Godavari and the Krishna) were situated in his kingdom.

After defeating Nahapana, Gautamiputra called back his silver coins and restruck them. The hoard discovered at Jogaltembhi in the Nasik district contained more than 10,000 silver coins so restruck. He himself issued a large number of potin coins with the figure of an elephant with uplifted trunk on the obverse and the Ujjain symbol on the reverse¹. In the hoard of potin coins found at Tarhala in the Akola district of Vidarbha, out of nearly 1,200 coins as many as 575 were of Gautamiputra.

Gautamiputra Satakarni was succeeded by his son Vasishthiputra Pulumavi, who also ruled over a large kingdom, but seems to have lost some northern provinces such as Akaravanti (Malva), and Surashtra (Kathiawad) to the Kshatrapas. He is mentioned by Ptolemy as ruling at Pratishthana. He was succeeded by his brother Vasishthiputra Satakarni, who married a daughter of the Shaka Kshatrapa Rudradaman I. Among his successors the most noteworthy was Yajñashri Satakarni, whose inscriptions and coins have been found over a large area. They show that he ruled over a large kingdom extending from Konkan in the west to Andhradesha in the east. He issued among other types the ship-type lead coins indicative of his rule over the maritime province of the Coromandel coast.²

Within fifty years after Yajñashri Satakarni the rule of the Satavahanas came to an end. The Satavahanas were liberal patrons of learning and religion. As stated above, the early kings of the family performed *Vedic* sacrifices and lavished gifts on the Brahmanas, Krishna, Gautamiputra Satakarni, Pulumavi and Yajñashri Satakarni excavated caves and donated villages to provide for the maintenance, clothing and medicine of the Buddhist monks. Buddhism was in a flourishing condition in Maharashtra. Several caves were excavated for the worship and residence of the Buddhist monks at Bhaja, Kondane, Karhad, Bedsa,

¹Mirashi, *Indologi, Studies in*, Vol. III, p. 38 f.
²*Ibid.*, Vol. III, p. 17 f.

Karla, Nasik, Junnar and Ajanta during the rule of the Satavahanas. The oldest of them is a small *vihara* excavated at Bhaja. It has no pillars in the hall: the principal ornaments are the *Dagoba*, the *Chaitya*-arch and the rail-pattern. There are stone beds in the cells, but no shrine or image of the Buddha. Many of the caves were excavated by private individuals. An inscription in Cave IV at Pitalkhora, for instance, states that it was excavated by Krishna, the son of Samasa of Dhenukakata¹. Dhenukakata is mentioned in some other cave inscriptions also and is probably identical with Dahanu in the Thana district. The caves such as those at Pitalkhora which were excavated in the Satavahana period were decorated with various kinds of sculptures such as those of elephants, *Yakshas*, *devapalas*, Gaja-Lakshmi, etc. The earliest caves at Ajanta also belong to the Satavahana period. Two of them, *viz.*, caves IX and X being *Chaityas* and two other—Caves XII and XIII—*Viharas*. The *Chaitya* caves contain beautiful paintings.

The Satavahanas extended liberal patronage to Prakrit literature. According to a tradition recorded by Rajashekhara, a Satavahana king had forbidden the use of Sanskrit in his harem. As stated before, the *Gathasaptashati* or *Sattasai*, an anthology of 700 Prakrit verses, is, by tradition, ascribed to Hala of this family. Another Prakrit work of this age was the *Brihatkatha* of Gunadhya. It was written in the Paishachi Prakrit. The original Prakrit work is not extant now, but two Sanskrit versions of it *viz.*, the *Kathasaritsagara* of Somadeva and the *Brihatkathamamjari* of Kshemendra, are well known. Gunadhya was a native of Supratishtha, which, from some references in the grants of the Vakatikas, appears to have been situated in the Hinganghat tahsil of the Wardha district of Vidarbha. It may be identical with the modern village Pothra situated on a small river of the same name which joins the Wardha².

During the age of the Satavahanas their capital Pratishthana attained a high level of prosperity. It was at centre of the trade-routes from Tagara (modern Ter in the Osmanabad district) in the south to Ujjayini in the north and to Nasik, Kalyan and Shurparaka (modern Sopara in the Thana district) in the west. The *Periplus of the Erythrean Sea* mentions both tagara and Pratishthana as important trading centres in the south. From them various kinds of merchandise were taken to Barygaza (Broach). From Pratishthana a great quantity of onyx stone and from Tagara a plentiful supply of fine linen cloth and all kinds of muslins and mallow-coloured stuffs and several kinds of merchandise were carried by wagons to ports on the western coast. From Rome, on the other hand, excellent wine in large amphoras was imported. Pieces of these amphoras have been noticed in the excavations at Pavnar in the Wardha district in the strata of the Satavahana period.

¹*Ancient India*, No. 15, p. 69 f.

²Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 77 f.

About A. D. 250 the Satavahanas were supplanted by the Abhiras in Western Maharashtra and by the Vakatakas in Vidarbha. The founder of the Abhira dynasty was *Rajan* Ishvarasena, the son of Shivadatta, who has left an inscription in Cave IX at Nasik. It records the investment of hundreds of *Karshapanas* in certain guilds at Nasik for providing medicines for the sick among the Buddhist monks residing in the *viharas* at Trirashmi (the Pandu-lena hill near Nasik).

Ishvarasena started an era commencing in A. D. 250, which later became known as the Kalachuri-Chedi era. The earlier dates of this era come from Western Maharashtra, Gujarat, Central India and Vidarbha. Judging by the expansion of this era, Ishvarasena and his descendants seem to have ruled over a large territory comprising Gujarat, Konkan and Western Maharashtra. He was followed by nine other kings, whose names, unfortunately, do not occur in the *Puranas*. They only state that they ruled for 167 years. From a casket inscription discovered during excavations at Devni Mori in Gujarat, we know the name of one of these kings as Rudrasena.¹ His family name *Kathika* also has become known from the same source. Rudrasena was ruling in the year 127 of the Abhira era, corresponding to A. D. 376-77. Some feudatories of the Abhiras have become known from their copper-plate grants recently discovered. They give the following genealogy:—

Maharaja Svamidasa (Year 67)

Maharaja Bhulunda (Year 107)

Maharaja Rhudradasa (Year 117).

These dates have to be referred to the Abhira era and correspond to A. D. 316-17, 356-57 and 366-67, respectively. These princes who were evidently feudatories of the contemporary Abhira kings were ruling from Valkha, which is probably identical with Vaghli, a small village, 6 miles north by east of Chalisgaon in Khandesh. Most of the places mentioned in these copper-plate grants can be identified in the vicinity of Vaghli².

Another feudatory family also ruling from some unknown place in Khandesh gives a long genealogy of eleven princes mentioned in an inscription in Cave XVII at Ajanta. The founder's name has been mutilated, but he seems to have ruled in *circa* A. D. 275-300 evidently as a feudatory of the Abhiras. The last of these princes, whose name also has been lost, submitted to the Vakataka Emperor Harishena, whose name is mentioned in the aforementioned Ajanta Cave inscription. He was probably ruling in *circa* A. D. 475-500³.

The Abhiras were later supplanted by their feudatories, the Traikutakas in *circa* A. D. 415. This royal family took its name from the mountain Trikuta, which borders the Nasik district on

the west. The names of three Traikutaka kings, *viz.*, Indradatta, Dahrasena and Vyaghrasena, have become known from their inscriptions and coins found in the Nasik district and Gujarat. Dahrasena performed an *Ashvamedha* and was, therefore, an independent king. A copper-plate grant discovered at Pardi in the Surat district records the donation, by Dahrasena, of the village Kaniyas-Tadakasarika in the Antar-Mandali *vishaya* to a Brahmana residing at Kapura. This *vishaya* evidently comprised the territory on both the banks of the river Mindhola. The donated village is probably identical with Tarsari in the Vyara sub-division of the Surat district. Kapura still retains its ancient name and is situated three miles from Vyara. Dahrasena was succeeded by his son Vyaghrasena, who had to acknowledge the supremacy of the Vakataka king Harishena. His copper-plate grant dated in the year 241 (A. D. 490) of the Abhira era was discovered at Surat and records the donation of the village Purohitapallika (modern Pal, two miles west of Surat). The coins of both these kings have been found in Gujarat and Maharashtra. They have the head of the king on the obverse and the *Chaitya* or hill with the sun to the left and the respective legend round the edge inside a circle of dots on the reverse⁴.

After the downfall of the Satavahanas, the Vakatakas rose to power in Vidarbha. This dynasty was founded by a Brahmana named Vindhyashakti I, who is mentioned in the *Puranas* as well as in an inscription in cave XVI at Ajanta. His son Pravarasena I, called Pravira in the *Puranas*, ousted Shishuka, the daughter's son of the Naga king of Vidisha, who was ruling at Purika at the foot of the Rikshavat (Satpuda) mountain. Pravarasena ruled over an extensive part of the Deccan. He performed several *Vedic* sacrifices including four *Ashvamedhas* and assumed the title of *Samrat*. According to the *Puranas* he ruled from the aforementioned city of Purika. He had four sons among whom his extensive empire was divided after his death. Two of them are known from inscriptions. The eldest was Gautamiputra, who predeceased him. His son Rudrasena I, held the northern part of Vidarbha and ruled from Nandivardhana near Ramtek in the Nagpur district. He had the powerful support of the king Bhavanaga of the Bharashiva family, who ruled from Padmavati in the former Gwalior State and who was his maternal grandfather. Rudrasena I, was a fervent devotee of Mahabhairava. He had, therefore, no regard for the *ahimsa* precepts of Ashoka. He got some portion of the aforementioned Deotek inscription of Ashoka's *Dharmamahamatra* chiselled off and had his own record incised in its place⁵. The latter proclaims the construction of his *dharmasthana* (temple) at Chikamburi (modern Chikmara near Deotek).

Rudrasena I, was followed by his son Prithivishena I, who ruled for a long time and brought peace and prosperity to his people. During his reign this branch of the Vakatakas became

¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. IV, p. 120 f.

²C. I. I., Vol. IV, p. 58f.

³C. I. I., Vol. V, p. 120f.

⁴C. I. I., Vol. IV, p. clxxix f.

⁵Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 130 f.

matrimonially connected with the illustrious Gupta family of North India. Chandragupta II—Vikramaditya gave his daughter Prabhavatigupta in marriage to Prithivishena's son Rudrasena II, probably after securing the Vakataka king's aid in his war with the Western Kshatrapas of Malva and Kathiawad. Rudrasena II died soon after accession, leaving behind two sons Divakarasena and Damodarsena *alias* Pravarasena II. As neither of them had come of age, Prabhavatigupta ruled as regent for the elder son Divakarasena for at least thirteen years. She seems to have been helped in the administration of the kingdom by the military and civil officers deputed by her father Chandragupta II. One of them was probably the great Sanskrit poet Kalidasa, who, while residing at the Vakataka capital Nandivardhana, must have often visited Ramagiri (modern Ramtek), which lay only three miles away. The theme of his excellent lyric *Meghaduta* seems to have suggested itself to him at this place¹.

Prabhavatigupta has left us two copper-plate grants. The earlier of these, though discovered in distant Pune, originally belonged to the Wardha district of Vidarbha. It was issued from the then Vakataka capital Nandivardhana and records the dowager queen's grant of the village Danguna (modern Hinganghat) to a Brahmana after offering it to the feet of the Bhagawat (*i.e.*, the god Ramachandra) on *Kartika shukla dvadashi*, evidently after observing a fast on the previous day of *Prabhodhini Ekadashi*. Some of the boundary villages mentioned in the grant can still be traced in the vicinity of Hinganghat. They are described as situated in the *ahara* (territorial division) of Supratishtha. The latter, which is also known as the original place of residence of the Prakrit poet Gunadhya, seems to have comprised roughly the territory now included in the Hinganghat tahsil².

Divakarasena also seems to have died when quite young. He was succeeded by his brother Damodarasena, who, on accession, assumed the name Pravarasena of his illustrious ancestor. He had a long reign of more than thirty-two years and was known for his learning and liberality. More than a dozen grants made by him have come to light. One of them made at the instance of his mother Prabhavatigupta in the thirteenth regnal year is specially noteworthy. The plates recording the grant were issued from the feet of Ramagirisvamin (*i.e.*, the god Ramachandra) on the hill Ramagiri, modern Ramtek), and registers the grant which the queen-mother had made as on the previous occasion after observing a fast on the *Prabhodhini Ekadashi*³.

Pravarasena II, founded a new city, which he named Pravara-pura and where he shifted his capital some time after his eleventh regnal year. He built there a magnificent temple of Ramachandra evidently at the instance of his mother, who was a devout worshipper of that god. Some of the sculptures used to

decorate the temple have recently been discovered at Pavnar on the bank of the Dham, six miles from Wardha and have led to the identification of Pravara-pura with Pavnar⁴ in the Wardha district.¹

Three copper-plate inscriptions record his grants of land in the Bhandara district. The earliest of them discovered at Sivani, records the gift of the village Brahmapuraka situated in the Bennakapara-bhoga (*i.e.*, the Wainganga division) in the eighteenth regnal year. Brahmapuraka and the adjoining village Karanjaviraka are identical with Bahmani and Karanja situated within 6 to 8 miles from Amgaon in the Bhandara district. The boundary villages Kollapuraka, Pavarajjavataka and Vatapuraka are now known by the names of Kulpa, Parasvada and Vadgaon in the vicinity of Bamhani². Another copper-plate inscription of Pravarasena II, was founded at Tirodi in the adjoining district of Balaghat. It records the grant of the village Kosambakhanda situated in the *apara-patta* (western division) of Bennakata (or the Wainganga district). The donated village is identical with modern Kosamba, which lies only about 6 miles north-east of Tirodi³. Another set of plates discovered in September 1967 at Pavni in the Bhandara district records the grant which Pravarasena made in the thirty-second year of his reign. It is so far the last known grant of that Vakataka king.

Pravarasena is the reputed author of the *Setubandha*, a Prakrit *kavya* in glorification of Ramachandra. According to a tradition recorded by a commentator of this work, it was composed by Kalidasa, who ascribed it to Pravarasena by the order of Vikramaditya (*i.e.*, Chandragupta II). Pravarasena is also known as the author of some Prakrit *gathas*, which were later incorporated in the *Gathasaptashati*⁴.

Pravarasena II, was succeeded by his son Narendrasena, during whose reign Vidarbha was invaded by the Nala king Bhavadatavarman. The latter penetrated as far as the Nagpur district and even occupied Nandivardhana, the erstwhile capital of the Vakatakas. The Riddhapur plates record the grant which Bhavadatta had made while on a pilgrimage to Prayaga. The plates were issued later from Nandivardhana, which was evidently his capital at the time. In this emergency the Vakatakas had to shift their capital again. They moved it to Padmapura near Amgaon in the Bhandara district. A fragmentary copper-plate inscription which was proposed to be issued from Padmapura, has been discovered in the village Mohalla in the adjoining Durg district of Madhya Pradesh. This Padmapura is probably identical with the birth-place of the great Sanskrit playwright Bhavabhuti, who flourished there in a later age⁵.

¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. II, p. 272 f.

²C. I. I., Vol. V, p. 38 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. V, p. 48 f.

⁴Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 94 f.

⁵*Ibid.*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 22 f.

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¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I, p. 12 f.

²C. I. I., Vol. V, p. 6 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. V, p. 33 f.

The Nalas could not retain their hold over Vidarbha for a long time. They were ousted by Narendrasena's son Prithivishena II, who carried the war into the enemy's territory, burnt and devastated their capital Pushkari, which was situated in the Bastar district. Prithivishena II, taking advantage of the decline of Gupta power, carried his arms north of the Narmada. Inscriptions of his feudatory Vyaghradeva have been found in the former Ajaygad and Jaso States in Central India¹.

This elder branch of the Vakataka family came to an end in circa A. D. 490. The territory under its rule was thereafter included in the dominion of the other or Vatsagulma branch, to which we may now turn.

The Vatsagulma branch was founded by Sarvasena, a younger son of Pravarasena I. Its capital was at Vatsagulma, modern Basim (Washim) in the Akola district of Vidarbha. This branch also produced some brave and learned princes. Sarvasena, the founder of this branch, is well-known as the author of the Prakrit *kavya* *Harivijaya*, which has, for its theme, the bringing down of the *Parijata* tree from heaven. This *kavya* has received unstinted praise from several eminent rhetoricians like Anandavardhana².

Sarvasena was followed by Vindhyasena, called Vindhyashakti II, in the Basim plates, which were issued in the 37th regnal year. The plates record the grant of a village situated in the northern *marga* (sub-division) of Nandikata (modern Nanded, the headquarters of the district of that name in the Marathvada division).

Vindhyasena pursued a vigorous policy and defeated the lord of Kuntala, who probably belonged to the Early Rashtrakuta dynasty of Manapura as shown below. Like his father and grand-father, he assumed the title of *Dharmamaharaja*. His Basim plates record the earliest known grant of the Vakatakas. The genealogical portion of this grant is written in Sanskrit and the formal portion in Prakrit. This shows how the classical language was gradually asserting itself under the patronage of the Vakatakas. All the earlier inscriptions of the Satavahanas are in Prakrit while all the later grants of the Vakatakas are in Sanskrit.

Vindhyasena was followed by his son Pravarasena II, about whom little is known. The Ajanta inscription says that he became exalted by his excellent, powerful and liberal rule. He seems to have had a short reign; for when he died, his son was only eight years old. The name of this boy prince has been lost in the Ajanta inscription. He was followed by his son Devasena, whose fragmentary copper-plate inscription is now deposited in the India Office, London³. Another record of his reign inscribed on stone, was recently discovered near Basim. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 380 (A. D. 458-59) and records the excavation of a tank named Sudarshana by Svamilladeva, a servant of Devasena⁴.

¹C. I. I., Vol. V, p. 89 f.

²Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 114 f.

³C. I. I., Vol. V, p. 101 f.

⁴Dr. Mirashi *Felicitation Volume*, p. 372 f.

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Devasena was succeeded in A. D. 475 by his son Harishena. He carried his arms in all directions. A mutilated verse in the inscription in cave XVI at Ajanta states that he conquered Avanti (Malva) in the north, Kosala (Chhattisgarh), Kalinga and Andhra in the east, Lata (Central and Southern Gujarat) and Trikota (Nasik district) in the west and Kuntala (Southern Maratha Country) in the south¹. He thus became the undisputed suzerain of the entire country from Malva in the north to Kuntala in the south and from the Arabian Sea in the west to the Bay of Bengal in the east.

Harishena is the last known Vakataka ruler. As we have seen, he had an extensive empire in the Deccan. The causes that led to the sudden disintegration of that great empire have not been recorded in history, but the last chapter of the *Dashakumara-charita* of Dandin, who flourished only about 125 years after the fall of the Vakatakas, seems to have preserved a living tradition about the last period of Vakataka rule. It seems that Harishena's son, though intelligent and accomplished in all arts, neglected the study of the science of politics (*Dandaniti*). He gave himself up to the enjoyment of pleasures and indulged in all sorts of vices, neglecting the affairs of the State. His subjects imitated him and led a vicious and dissolute life. Finding this a suitable opportunity, the crafty ruler of the neighbouring Ashmaka country, sent his minister's son to the court of Vidarbha. The latter ingratiated himself with the king and egged him on in his dissolute life. He also decimated his force by various means. Ultimately, when the country was thoroughly disorganised, the ruler of Ashmaka instigated the ruler of Vanavasi (North Kanara district), to invade Vidarbha. The king of Vidarbha called all feudatories to his aid and decided to give battle to the enemy on the bank of the Varada (Wardha). But while he was fighting with the forces of the invader, he was treacherously attacked in the rear by some of his own feudatories and was killed on the battle-field. Thus ended the Vakataka kingdom after a glorious rule of two hundred and fifty years.

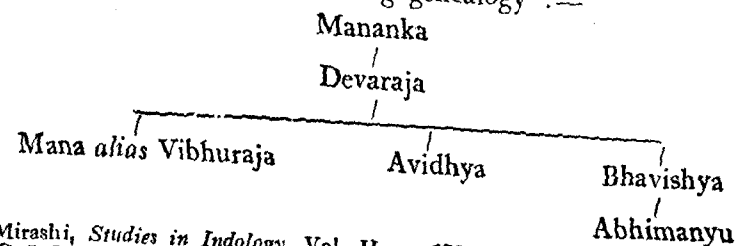
The Vakatakas were patrons of art and literature. In their age the *Vaidarbhi riti* came to be regarded as the best style of poetry and several excellent poetical works were then produced in Vidarbha. Kalidasa also adopted the same *riti* for his works. His *Meghaduta* was composed in Vidarbha as shown above. The Vakataka prince Divakarasena is credited with the composition of some Sanskrit verses, one of which is cited in the *Saduktikarn-amrita* of Shridharadasa. Some Prakrit *kavyas* were also produced in this period, two of which, viz., the *Harivijaya* of Sarvasena and the *Setubandha* of Pravarasena have been mentioned above. Three of the caves of Ajanta, viz., the two *Vihara* caves XVI and XVII and the *Chaitya* cave XIX were excavated and decorated in this period. Cave XVI was excavated by Varahadeva, a minister of the Vakataka king Harishena, and cave XVII by a

¹C. I. I., Vol. V, p. xxxii f.

feudatory of the same, who was ruling in Khandesh. Caves XVI and XVII still contain several paintings in good condition. The artists seem to have done their work with a definite plan. The paintings in cave XVI mostly describe the incidents in the last life of the Buddha, while those in cave XVII generally describe the events in his past lives. Cave XIX is one of the four *Chaitya* caves at Ajanta. It is regarded as 'one of the perfect specimens of the Buddhist art in India'. Some more caves of the Vakataka age still exist near the village Gulvada, about 11 miles west of Ajanta. They are known as the Ghatotkacha caves and were excavated, like cave XVI, by Varahadeva, the minister of the Vakataka king Harishena. Several temples of Hindu gods and goddesses were also built in the Vakataka age. The ruins of a magnificent temple of Rama have been brought to view at Pavnar¹. Another was on the Ramagiri (Ramtek) hill. The others are known from references in copper-plate grants.

The feudatory family which got caves XVII and XIX excavated and decorated with sculptures and paintings was ruling from some unknown place in Khandesh. As stated before, the founder of the family, whose name is unfortunately lost in the Ajanta inscription, probably flourished in circa A. D. 275—300. He was evidently a feudatory of the Abhiras. His successors, of whom ten are mentioned in the Ajanta inscription, seem to have continued to acknowledge the supremacy of the Abhiras till their downfall. Thereafter, they transferred their allegiance to the Vakatakas. The eighth *uchchhvasa* of the *Dashakumaracharita*, which reflects the last period of Vakataka rule, states that the king of Rishika (Khandesh) was a feudatory of the king of Vidarbha². After the fall of the Vakatakas, this family seems to have been overthrown by the Kalachuri king Krishnaraja.

According to the *Puranas*, the Vakataka king Pravarasena I, had four sons, all of whom ruled as kings. As stated before, the eldest of them was Gautamiputra, whose son Rudrasena I, established himself at Nandivardhana near Nagpur. The second son was Sarvasena, who ruled from Vatsagulma (Washim in the Akola district). Where the remaining two sons were ruling is not known; but one of them may have been ruling over southern Maharashtra. He seems to have been overthrown by Mananka, the founder of the Early Rashtrakuta family. The history of this family has been unfolded during the last few years. From three copper-plate grants which have been discovered in southern Maharashtra, we get the following genealogy³:—



¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. II, p. 272 f.

²C. I. I., Vol. V, p. xxxii f.

³Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (First ed.), p. 178 f.

Mananka, the progenitor of the family, flourished in circa A. D. 350. He founded Manapura, which he made his capital. He is described in one of the grants as the illustrious ruler of the Kuntala country. As stated before, Kuntala was the name of the upper Krishna valley in ancient times. The place mentioned in some of the grants can be identified in the Satara and Sholapur districts. Their capital Manapura is probably identical with Man, the chief town of the Man taluka of the Satara district.

These Rashtrakutas of Manapura sometimes came into conflict with the Vakatakas of the Vatsagulma branch. The Pandarangapalli plates of Avidheya state that Mananka harassed the rulers of Ashmaka and Vidarbha. On the other hand, an inscription in cave XVI at Ajanta states that the Vakataka king Vindhyaasena (i.e., Vindhyaashakti II) defeated the king of Kuntala, who evidently belonged to this Rashtrakuta family.

From certain passages in the *Kuntaleshvaradautya*, a Sanskrit work ascribed to Kalidasa, which have been cited in the *Kavyamimamsa* of Rajashekhara, the *Shringaraprakasha* and the *Sarasvatikanthabharana* of Bhoja and the *Auchityavichararcha* of Kshemendra, we learn that the famous Gupta king Chandragupta II—Vikramaditya sent Kalidasa as an ambassador to the court of the king of Kuntala. Kalidasa was at first not well received there, but he gradually gained the Kuntalesha's favour and stayed at the royal court for some time. When he returned, he reported to Vikramaditya that the lord of Kuntala was spending his time in enjoyment, throwing the responsibility of governing the kingdom on him (i.e., on Vikramaditya). This Kuntalesha was probably identical with Devaraja, the son of Mananka¹. Through the influence of Chandragupta II, the two royal families of the south, viz., the Vakatakas and the Early Rashtrakutas were reconciled with each other. Later, Harishena, the last known Vakataka ruler, raided Kuntala and exacted a tribute from its king. It is noteworthy that in the eighth *uchchhvasa* of the *Dashakumaracharita* the king of Kuntala is described as a feudatory of the king of Vidarbha.

After the downfall of the Vakatakas in the beginning of the sixth century A. D., Vidarbha was occupied for some time by the Vishnukundin king Madhavavarman I. This is shown by the Vishnukundin coins found at Pavnar and some other places in Vidarbha. Madhavavarman was a very powerful king. He married a Vakataka princess who was probably a daughter or some near relative of the last known Vakataka Emperor Harishena. He took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the downfall of the Vakatakas and extended his kingdom far and wide. He performed several *Vedic* sacrifices including eleven *Ashvamedhas*. That he had brought even Western Maharashtra under his rule is shown by his copper-plate grant discovered at Khanapur in the Satara district. His grandson Madhavavarman II, describes

¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 1 f.

himself as the lord of Trikuta and Malaya. So he may have ruled in Western Maharashtra for some time¹.

The Vishnukundins were, however, soon ousted from Maharashtra and Vidarbha by the Kalachuri king Krishnaraja, who rose to power about A. D. 550. He ruled from Mahishmati, modern Maheshvara in the former Indore State. His coins have been found over a very wide territory extending from Rajputana in the north to Maharashtra in the south and from Konkan in the west to Vidarbha in the east. They resemble the silver coins of the Guptas and the Traikutakas, which were struck to the Graeco-Bactrian standard of the *hemidrachma*. But while the Kshatrapa and Traikutaka coins have the symbols of the *chaitya* (or a hill), the sun and the moon, these coins of Krishnaraja, have like some western issues of Skandagupta, the figure of a couchant bull, facing right in the centre of the reverse side. They have the legend *Parama-Maheshvara-mata-pitri-pad-amdhyata-Shri-Krishnaraja* (meaning that the coin is of the illustrious Krishnaraja, who is a devout worshipper of Maheshvara and who meditates on the feet of his mother and father). The coins were known as *Krishnaraja-rupakas* and have been mentioned in the Anjaneri plates dated in the year 461 of the Abhira era (corresponding to A. D. 710-11). They were, therefore, in circulation for at least 150 years after the time of Krishnaraja. These coins have been found at Dhamori in the Amravati district of Vidarbha. That Vidarbha was included in the Empire of Krishnaraja is also shown by the Nagardhan plates of his feudatory Svamiraja, dated in the year 322 (A. D. 573) of the Abhira era. The plates were issued from Nandivardhana, which seems to have retained its importance even after the downfall of the Vakatakas. Svamiraja, who issued the plates, probably belonged to the Rashtrakuta family².

Krishnaraja was succeeded by his son Shankaragana, whose copper-plate grant was discovered at Abhona in the Nasik district. It is dated in the Abhira year 347, corresponding to A. D. 597. It records the gift of some *nivartanas* of land in the village Vallisika situated in the *vishaya* (district) of Bhogavardhana (modern Bhokardhan in the Aurangabad district). Vallisika is modern Valsa, 7 miles north of Bhokardhan. The donee was a Brahmana residing at Kallivana (modern Kalwan, the chief town of a taluka of the same name in the Nasik district). Some other inscriptions of Shankaragana have been discovered in Gujarat. One of his copper-plate inscriptions was issued from his camp at Ujjain. This grant shows that Shankaragana was, like his father, ruling over an extensive kingdom, extending from Malwa in the north to at least the Nasik and Aurangabad districts in the south.

Shankaragana was succeeded by his son Buddharaja, who was involved in a struggle with the Chalukya King Mangalesha on the the southern frontier of his kingdom soon after his accession. He

received a crushing defeat, but his adversary could not follow up his victory owing to internal dissensions. Buddharaja, therefore, continued to hold his kingdom intact. Two grants of this king have come to light so far and both of them were issued after his defeat by Mangalesha. He was, however, overthrown later by Pulakeshin II, as will be shown below.

All the Early Kalachuris were fervent devotees of Shiva. That they belonged to the *Pashupata* sect of *Shaivism* is shown by the description of Krishnaraja as devoted to Pashupati from his very birth. Anantamahayi, the queen of Buddharaja, is specially mentioned as a follower of the *Pashupata* sect. The magnificent rock-cut temple of Shiva, now known as Elephanta, belongs to their age. It was probably carved under their patronage, though definite proof of this is lacking¹.

The Chalukyas of Badami rose to power in the first half of the sixth century A.D. The Badami stone inscription of Pulakeshin I, who is the first independent king of the dynasty, is dated in the year A.D. 543. He performed the *Ashvamedha* and several other *Shrauta* sacrifices². He was succeeded by his son Kirtivarman I, who made some conquests in south India and is described as 'the night of destruction to the Nalas (of the Bastar district), the Mauryas of Konkan and the Kadambas (of Vanavasi in north Kanara)'.³

When Kirtivarman died, his son Pulakeshin II, was a minor. So his younger brother Mangalesha succeeded him. He defeated Buddharaja, the Kalachuri King, who was ruling in north Maharashtra, Konkan, Gujarat and Malwa, and also Svamiraja of the Chalukya family, who was governing the Revati-dvipa (modern Redi in the Ratnagiri district). The Aihole inscription⁴ describes his fight with Buddharaja as follows: "In the temple in the form of the battle-field, Mangalesha married the lady in the form of the royal fortune of the Kalachuris, dispelling the darkness in the form of the enemy's elephants by means of hundreds of blazing torches which were the swords of his warriors". The description shows that Buddharaja was completely routed and fled away, leaving his whole treasure behind, which was captured by Mangalesha. The latter could not, however, follow up this victory; for just then Svamiraja of the Chalukya family, a redoubtable warrior who had attained victory in eighteen battles and was ruling over Revati-dvipa, rose in rebellion. Mangalesha had, therefore, to abandon his original plan of making an expedition of conquest in north India and rushed to Konkan to chastise the rebellious feudatory. In the fight that ensued he killed Svamiraja and made a grant of a village in south Konkan to the god in the temple of Mahakuta. So Buddharaja continued to rule of some years even after his disastrous defeat by Mangalesha.

Mangalesha's reign ended in disaster and he lost his life in a civil war with his nephew Pulakeshin II. Just about that time the

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. X, I, p. 312 f.

²*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 611 f.

¹*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. cxlvii f.

²*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXVII, p. 4 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. VI, p. 1 f.

Chalukya kingdom was invaded from the north by one Govinda who probably belonged to the aforementioned Rashtrakuta family ruling in southern Maharashtra. Pulakeshin adopted conciliatory measures in dealing with him as he was a powerful foe. His descendants do not, however, appear to have held Maharashtra for a long time, for Pulakeshin soon annexed both southern and northern Maharashtra and extended the northern limit of his empire to the Narmada. That he ousted the Rashtrakutas from southern Maharashtra is shown by the Satara plates of his brother Vishnuvardhana, which record the grant of a village on the southern bank of the Bhima. Pulakeshin also defeated the Kalachuri King Buddharaja and annexed his kingdom. He is said to have thereby become the lord of three Maharashtras, including Vidarbha. The Rashtrakutas of Vidarbha, who were previously feudatories of the Kalachuris, transferred their allegiance to the Chalukyas of Badami and like the latter, began to date their records in the *Shaka* era. Two grants of this feudatory Rashtrakuta family have been found in Vidarbha — one, dated *Shaka* 615, was found near Akola¹ and the other, dated *Shaka* 631, was discovered at Multai² in the Betul district previously included in Vidarbha. They give the following genealogy :—

Durgaraja
/
Govindaraja
/
Svamikaraja
/
Nannaraja *alias* Yuddhasura

Nannaraja was ruling from Padmanagara, which was probably identical with the aforementioned Padmapura in the Bhandara district, once a capital of the Vakatakas.

Pulakeshin obtained a resounding victory over Harsha, the lord paramount of north India. Thereafter, he assumed the title of *Parameshvara* (Emperor). He defeated the rulers of several countries such as Aparanta (Konkan), Kosala (Chhattisgarh), Kalinga (Orissa), Pishtapura (Pithapuram) and Kanchi (Conjeverum). He made the Cholas, the Keralas and the Pandyas his allies. He thus became the undisputed lord of south India.

The capital of Pulakeshin in the beginning of his reign was Badami in the Bijapur district. When his empire extended to the Narmada, he must have felt the need of a more central place for his capital. The Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang calls him the lord of Maharashtra. This shows that he must have visited him somewhere in Maharashtra. Several identifications of his capital have been proposed by scholars, but the most likely view seems to be that of Fleet and Burgess, who identified it with Nasik. The pilgrim says that in the east of this country (*i.e.*, Maharashtra)

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXIX, p. 109 f.
²*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XVIII, p. 230 f.

was a mountain range with ridges one above another in succession, tiers of peaks and sheer summits. Here was a monastery, the base of which was in a dark defile, and its lofty halls and deep chambers were quarried in the cliff and rested on the peak; its tier of halls and storeyed terraces had the cliff on their back and faced the ravine¹. This description seems to suit the caves at Ajanta and as this monastery lay to the east of the capital, the latter appears to be Nasik rather than any other place in Maharashtra. Hiuen Tsang has left a graphic picture of Maharashtra and its people. "The soil is rich and fertile. The climate is hot; the disposition of the people is honest and simple; they are tall of stature and of a stern vindictive character. To their benefactors they are grateful; to their enemies, relentless. If they are insulted, they will risk their lives to avenge themselves. If they are asked to help one in distress, they will forget themselves in their haste to render assistance. If they are going to seek revenge they first give their enemies a warning; then each being armed they attack each other with spears; If a general loses battle, they do not inflict punishment, but present him women's clothes, and so he is driven to seek death for himself Each time they are about to engage in conflict, they intoxicate themselves with wine and then one man with a lance in hand, will meet ten thousand and challenge them to a fight. Moreover, they inebriate many hundred heads of elephants, which, rushing forward in mass, trample every thing down so that no enemy can stand before them. The king, in consequence of possessing such men and elephants, treats his neighbours with contempt. He is of the Kshatriya caste and his name is Pulakeshin."²

After the overthrow of the Kalachuris, Pulakeshin II, divided their extensive kingdom among his relatives and trusted chiefs. Southern Gujarat extending from the Kim in the north to the Damanganga in the south was placed in charge of a Sendraka chief. The Sendrakas ruled over this territory and also in Khandesh for three generations. The founder of the family was Bhanushakti *alias* Nikumbha. His son was Adityashakti and the latter's son was Allashakti. Only four grants of this family have been discovered so far. Three of them were made by Allashakti. The earliest of them is dated in the year 404 of the Abhira era (A. D. 653) and registers the donation of some land in the village Pippalikheta (modern Pimpalner), about 9 miles west of Kasare in the Dhulia district. This grant shows that Allashakti was ruling in Khandesh also³. Another grant of Allashakti was found at Bagumra in Gujarat and is dated in the year 406 of the Abhira era. It records the grant of the village Balisa (modern Wanasa in the Bardoli taluka of the Surat district). After the issue of this grant the Sendrakas were ousted from southern Gujarat and

¹Watters, *On Yuan Chwang*, Vol. II, p. 239.

²S. Beal, *Buddhist Records of the Western World* (pub. by Susil Gupta), Vol. IV, p. 448 f.

³*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 110 f.

their rule was confined to Khandesh. The last known grant of the Sendrakas found at Mundakhede in Khandesh was made by Alashakti's son Jayashakti and is dated in the *Shaka* year 602 (A.D. 680)¹.

Pulkeshin's own grant dated in the *Shaka* year 552 (A.D. 630) was found at Lohaner in the Baglan taluka of the Nasik district. It records Pulkeshin's donation of the village Goviyanaka to a Brahmana residing at Lohanagara (Lohaner)².

Pulakeshin II, was killed in battle at Badami in *circa* A.D. 642 by the Pallava King Narasimhavarman, who conquered Vatapi and assumed the title of Vatapikonda (the Conqueror of Vatapi).

Pulakeshin II, was succeeded by his son Vikramaditya after a long continued struggle. He appointed his younger brother Dharashraya-Jayasimha to govern south Gujarat, north Konkan and the Nasik district. Jayasimha's Nasik plates are dated in the Abhira year 436 (A.D. 685) and record his grant of the village Dhondhaka on the occasion of the *Vishuva* (or vernal equinox). Dhondhaka is identical with Dhondegaon, 12 miles north by west of Nasik. The plates contain an interesting reference to Jayasimha's victory over Vajjada (or Vajrata) in the country between the Mahi and the Narmada³. It seems that some king named Vajrata invaded the country of the Gurjaras, who were feudatories of the Early Chalukyas. The Gurjara King sought the help of his suzerain Vikramaditya I. The latter ordered Jayasimha to proceed to the north for the rescue of the Gurjara feudatory. He won a decisive victory, which is placed on par with Pulakeshin's brilliant victory over Harsha and is mentioned as one of the most glorious achievements of the Western Chalukyas in many records of their political successors, the Rashtrakutas. This Vajrata was probably identical with Shiladitya III, the King of Valabhi in Kathiawad⁴. Vikramaditya then appointed Jayasimha to govern south Gujarat, ousting the Sendrakas who were previously ruling there. Jayasimha appointed his son Shryashraya Shiladitya to rule in southern Gujarat as *Yuvaraja*. Two inscriptions of Shryashraya, dated in the years 421 and 443 of the Abhira era (corresponding to A.D. 671 and 693, respectively) have been found recording his grants of land in south Gujarat. That he was ruling on behalf of his father is indicated not only by his title *Yuvaraja* mentioned in them but also by the seal of the latter grant which bears the legend Dharashraya⁵.

Jayasimha's younger son Mangalarasa, who assumed the *biruda* Janashraya, is known to have made some land grants. He ruled from Mangalapuri, which was founded by him. It has not yet been identified. After the death of his elder brother he was appointed to govern south Gujarat. He placed his younger brother Avanijanashraya-Pulakeshin in charge of the territory.

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXIX, p. 116 f.

²Khare, *Sources of the Mediaeval History of the Deccan (Marathi)* Vol. I, p. 1 f.

³*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 127 f.

⁴*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 1x f.

⁵*Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 127.

During the reign of Vikramaditya II, a later descendant of Pulakeshin II, Gujarat was invaded by a formidable force of the Tajikas or Arabs. The Navsari plates of Avanijanashraya-Pulakeshin give a graphic description of the battle. The Arabs had already defeated the Saindhavas, the Chavotakas, the Surashtras, the Mauryas and the Gurjaras and were attempting to penetrate to the Dakshinapatha (Deccan), but Avanijanashraya inflicted a crushing defeat on them in *circa* A.D. 789. The Chalukya Emperor then honoured Avanijanashraya with several titles, one of which was *Anivartaka-nivartayitri* (the Repeller of the unrepellable)¹.

From two land-grants recently discovered at Anjaneri, a village near Trimbak in the Nasik district, we have come to know of a feudatory family which ruled over northern Konkan and the Nasik district in the seventh and eighth centuries A. D.² This family claimed descent from Harishchandra, the famous legendary king of the solar race. Svamichandra, who rose to power in the reign of Vikramaditya I, was the founder of this family and flourished in *circa* A. D. 660. Three generations of this family are known from the two sets of the Anjaneri plates: Svamichandra, his son Simhavarman and the latter's son Bhogashakti *alias* Prithivichandra, who made the grants. One of the grants is dated in the Abhira year 461 (A. D. 710-11). It records the grant of eight villages and certain rights, dues and taxes in favour of the god Narayana, who was named Bhogeshvara evidently after king Bhogashakti, and was installed in the temple at Jayapura, modern Jarvar Budrukh near Anjaneri. Bhogashakti is said to have brought by his valour the whole territory of his dominion under his sway. This was probably at the time of Vinayaditya's death (A. D. 696), when owing to the captivity of his son Vijayaditya there was anarchy in the kingdom. The second set of Anjaneri plates tells us that Bhogashakti granted certain rights, privileges and exemptions to the merchants of Samagripattana when he resettled the town and the neighbouring villages some time after their devastation. Bhogashakti's successor was probably overthrown by the Rashtrakuta king Dantidurga, who, from his Ellora plates, is known to have occupied the Nasik district some time before A. D. 715.

Kirtivarman II, the last of the Early Chalukyas, was defeated by Dantidurga some time before A. D. 754, when he issued his Samangad plates. Kirtivarman continued to rule for a few years more, but he had lost the paramount position in the Deccan.

The Early Chalukyas were devotees of Vishnu, but during their time Buddhism continued to flourish as before in Maharashtra. Caves I to V and XXI to XXVIII at Ajanta were excavated in the seventh century A. D. Again, *viharas* were also excavated at Aurangabad and Ellora in this period, those at the latter place being triple-storeyed and of elaborate design. No Brahmanical

¹*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. 138 f.

²*Ibid.*, Vol. IV p. 1xci f.

structural temples of that age have survived, but there are some Brahmanical cave-temples at Ellora such as the *Dashavatara* cave, the *Ravana-ki-khai* and the *Dumar lena*, which belong to this period. These caves are noteworthy for their exquisitely modelled figures.

The Rashtrakutas, who succeeded the Early Chalukyas in the Deccan, originally hailed from Lattalura (modern Latur in the Osmanabad district). When they rose to power, they were probably residing in the Aurangabad district, where their earlier records have been found. Dantidurga was the real founder of the Rashtrakuta imperial power. His Ellora cave inscription mentions five ancestors beginning with Dantivarman, but we know nothing about them. These earlier members of the family were probably feudatories of the Early Chalukyas. Dantidurga made extensive conquests. The Ellora cave inscription records his victories over the rulers of Kanchi, Kalinga, Shrishaila, Malava, Tanka and Lata, but they do not all seem to have resulted in the acquisition of new territory. Though there is much exaggeration in the description of his conquests, there is no doubt that he ruled over Karnataka, Konkan, Maharashtra, Vidarbha and Gujarat.

A copper-plate inscription of Dantidurga was discovered at Ellora in the Aurangabad district¹. It was issued by him while residing at Elapura (modern Ellora) on Monday, the thirteenth *tithi* of the bright fortnight of *Ashvina* and records the grant of the village Pippalala in the territorial division of Chandanpuri-eighty-four. Chandanapuri still retains its ancient name and is situated on the Girna, three miles to the south-east of Malegaon, while Pippalala is modern Pipral, 12 miles to the south-east of Chandanapuri. The editor of the grant read its date as 663 and referring it to the *Shaka* era, took it as equivalent to A. D. 741. But the details of the date do not work out regularly and from the symbols used to denote the year, it appears more likely that the correct year is 463, which must be referred to the Abhira era. It then becomes equivalent to A. D. 715.

Dantidurga was succeeded by his uncle Krisna I, who completed the conquests commenced by Dantidurga and shattered the power of the Early Chalukyas completely. One of his inscriptions was discovered at Bhandak in the Chandrapur district of Vidarbha. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 694 (A. D. 772) and records the grant of the village Nagana to a temple of the Sun in Udumbaramanti (modern Rani Amravati in the Yeotmal district).

Krishna I, was not only a great conqueror but also a great builder. He caused the great Shiva temple at Ellora to be carved out of solid rock. It is a replica in rock of a structural temple. It is carved out of a scarp more than 100 ft. high and covers an area of 300 ft. by 175 ft. The excavations consist of—(1) the main

temple, (2) the nandi-shrine, (3) the gateway and (4) the cloister surrounding the courtyard. The magnitude of this excavation combined with the grandeur of conception and the high quality of its rich plastic embellishment render this cave-temple an unrivalled gem of Indian architecture. The temple was originally named Krishneshvara after the Rashtrakuta king Krishna I, but is now known as Kailasa. It is described in a copper-plate grant in the following words: When the gods moving in their aerial cars saw it, they were struck with wonder, and constantly thought much over the matter and exclaimed, "This temple of Shiva is self-existent; for such beauty is not to be found in a work of art". Even the architect who constructed it was struck with wonder. "Wonderful": said he "I do not know how I could construct it". It is one of the noblest monuments of India.

In Vidarbha also the Rashtrakutas built several magnificent temples. Those at Markandi in the Chandrapur district, where the Vainganga takes a northern bend, are specially noteworthy. One of them, which is by far the best is dedicated to Shiva. Cunningham described it as follows¹: "The general style of the Markandi temple is like that of Khajuraho temples, with three rows of figures all round two feet and three inches in height. In each of these rows there are 45 human figures, making 135 in the lower part of the temple. Higher up than these there is a row of geese and a row of human figures. The whole surface of the temple is in fact literally covered with statues and ornaments. Altogether I counted 409 figures and there are about as many lions and elephants forming divisions between human figures. About one half of the panels are given to Shiva and Parvati in various forms. There are also many subordinate female figures, some dancing, some playing musical instruments and one holding a mirror, while putting antimony to her eye-lids."

Krishna I, was succeeded by his son Govinda II, in *circa* A. D. 773. Soon after his accession Govinda II abandoned himself to a life of pleasure. He left the administration to his younger brother Dhruva. The latter took advantage of the opportunity and began to secure all power for himself. He also made land-grants in his own names though Govinda II was then the *de jure* king. The plates discovered at Pimpri (Jalgaon district) dated in the *Shaka* year 697 (A. D. 775), record the grant of the village Lilagrama made by Dhruva on the occasion of a solar eclipse in *Kartika*. Lilagrama was situated in the *vishaya* (district) of Vatanagarika. It is identical with Nilagavhan. Vatanagarika has been identified with Vani in the Nasik district. Govinda II, was then on the throne as is shown by the Dhulia plates dated in the *Shaka* year 701 (A. D. 779), which record the grant of a village in the Nasikya *vishaya*. Soon after this grant was made, Govinda was deposed by Dhruva in *circa* A. D. 780. A copper-plate grant of the latter, dated in *Shaka* 715 was discovered at Daulatabad in the Aurangabad district. It records the

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXV, p. 25 f.

¹Cunningham, *A. S. R.*, Vol. IX, p. 145 f.

donation of a village made by his feudatory Shankaragana with his consent. Dhruva is called *Kalivallabha* (favourite of warriors) therein.

Dhruva died soon after this grant was made and was succeeded by his son Govinda III. Soon after his accession he made a copper-plate grant discovered at Paithan. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 716 (A. D. 794) and records the king's gift of the village Limbasarika situated in the Pratishthana-bhukti. The village has not yet been identified.

The Rashtrakuta family produced several great conquerors who boldly invaded north and south India and achieved memorable victories. Dhruva was the first among them. He defeated both the Gurjara-Pratihara king Vatsaraja and the Pala king Dharmapala, who were contending for supremacy in north India, and pressed as far as the doab. Since then the two rivers Ganga and Yamuna began to appear on the Rashtrakuta banner.

Govinda III proved to be a still greater conqueror. After obtaining an easy victory over the Ganga king Muttarasa, he led his victorious arms to central and north India. He first defeated the Gurjara-Pratihara king Nagabhata and his ally Chandragupta in central India and then routed Dharmapala of Bengal, who had espoused the cause of Chakrayudha of Kanauj. He next marched victoriously until his horses drank and his elephants plunged into the spring waters of the Himalayas. He then returned to the Narmada and marching along the bank of the river, he conquered Malava, Kosala, Vanga, Dahala and Odra countries. He next spent the rainy season at Shribhavana (modern Sarbhon in Gujarat) where his son Amoghavarsha I, was born. Thereafter Govinda marched to the bank of the Tungabhadra. Using Alampura (or Helapur) on the bank of the river as his base, he led victorious campaigns against the Keralas, the Cholas, the Pandyas and the Pallavas. Even the king of Lanka submitted to him, sending two statues—one of himself and the other of his minister to his camp at Helapura¹.

Several copper-plate grants of Govinda III have been found in Western Maharashtra, Marathwada and Vidarbha divisions. It is not possible to describe them all, but a few may be noticed here. A set of plates discovered at Vani in the Dindori taluka of the Nasik district was issued by Govinda III and is dated in the *Shaka* year 730 (A. D. 808). It records the grant of Ambakagrama in the Vatanagara *vishaya* of the Nasika-desh to the Brahmana Damodara-bhatta, an inhabitant of Vengi². Another set of plates discovered at Dharur in the Bid district is dated in the *Shaka* year 728 (A. D. 806) and records the grant of the village Anahe (modern Anegaon) in the *vishaya* of Dharaura (modern Dharur)³. Four more grants of Govinda have

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXXII, p. 157 f.

²*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XI, p. 157 f.

³*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 285 f.

been found in Vidarbha. The earliest of them is dated in the *Shaka* year 722 and records his donation of the village Anjanavanti (modern Anjanvati in the Amravati district of Vidarbha). Its boundary villages Gohasodva, Sallaimala, Kure and Vatapura are now represented by Gahva, Salora-Amla, Kurha and Vadur, respectively. Veyaghana and Talevataka where the donees of the grant resided are identical with Waigaon and Talegaon in the vicinity of Anjanvati. Three more grants dated in the *Shaka* years 725, 729 and 734 have been found at Sirso in the Murtizapur taluka of the Akola district. They record Govinda's donations of the villages Jharika (modern Jhari in the Kelapur taluka of the Yeotmal district), Sisavai (identical with Sirso) and Lohara (in the Murtizapur taluka) respectively. Their boundary villages also can be identified in their vicinity. Most of Govinda's grants were issued from Mayurakhandi, which was evidently his capital. It has not been identified satisfactorily so far.

Govinda III was succeeded by his son Amoghavarsha I, who was a man of peaceful disposition, but whose reign was full of troubles. He had first to fight with the Eastern Chalukyas of Vengi, then the Gangas of Gangavati, and also his relatives in Gujarat. He transferred his capital to Manyakheta (modern Malkhed). A copper-plate grant made by him and dated in the *Shaka* year 742 was recently discovered at Javkheda in the Shahada taluka of the Dhulia district. It records the king's donation of the village Vayipadraka in the territorial division of Prakashaya on the occasion of the *Dakshinayana sankranti*. Vayipadraka cannot be identified, but Prakashaya is probably identical with Prakashe in the Dhulia district. Javkheda is 15 miles north-east of Prakashe.

Amoghavarsha loved and encouraged science and literature and treated all religions with equal reverence. He is the author of the *Kavirajamarga*, the oldest work on poetics in the Kanarese language. He patronised Jinasena, the author of the Kanarese work *Adipurana*. Amoghavarsha voluntarily retired from public administration in order to engage himself in religious pursuits. On one occasion he offered a finger of his hand to the goddess Mahalakshmi of Kolhapur to ward off a public calamity. Such instances are rare in the history of any country.

Another noteworthy king of this Rashtrakuta family was Indra III, the great-grandson of Amoghavarsha I. Like his illustrious ancestors, Dhruva and Govinda III, Indra also led a victorious campaign in north India. He followed the route of Bhopal, Jhanshi and Kalpi in the course of his invasion of Kanauj, the imperial capital of north India for more than three hundred years. At Kalpi his army was encamped in the courtyard of the temple of Kalapriyanatha, well-known to Sanskritists as the place where all plays of Bhavabhuti were staged¹. His horses crossed the Yamuna at Kalpi and then marched on Kanauj, which he completely devastated. The Gurjara-Pratihara king Mahipala

¹Mi

es in Indology, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 37 f.

fled to Mahoba to seek the help of his Chandella feudatory Harsha. Indra III's northern campaign was a memorable event unparalleled for its brilliance in the history of the Rashtrakutas.

Recently some grants of Indra III made on the occasion of his coronation have been discovered in the Marathwada division. One of them was found at Jambgaon in the Gangapur taluka of the Aurangabad district. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 835 (A.D. 914) and records the donation of the village Khairondi near Pratishthana (modern Kharvandi near Paithan). The boundary villages can be identified in its vicinity¹. Two more grants made at the same time have been found at Bagumra in Gujarat. All these were composed by Trivikramabhatta, who, as shown below, was a native of Vidarbha. Two more grants of Indra III made in the following year (*Shaka* 836) have been recently found at Vajirkheda in the Malegaon taluka of the Nasik district. They record the king's donations of some villages to Jain monasteries in the Nasik district. They were composed by Rajashekhara, who may be identical with the famous author of the *Kavyamimamsa* and other works².

Indra III was succeeded by his son Amoghavarsha II, but he died within a year. His younger brother Govinda IV came to the throne thereafter. He was known for his liberality and rightly had the *biruda* *Suvarnavarsha* (the gold-rainer). On the occasion of his coronation he donated eight hundred villages, four lakhs of gold coins and thirty-two lakhs of *drammas* (silver coins) to temples and bestowed on the Brahmanas six hundred *agraharas* and three lakhs of gold coins. Recently another copper-plate grant, dated in the *Shaka* year 851 (A. D. 929) has been discovered at the village Andura in the Akola district of Vidarbha³. It records the donation of Elauri (modern Erali) near the railway station Nandura on the Central Railway. It was situated in the Vadaner—300 Division. Vadaner still retains its ancient name and lies about 9 miles west of Nandura. The boundary villages Nimbagrama and Dantigramma are now known as Nimgaon and Dadgaon in the vicinity of Erali.

The Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta and the Kalachuris of Tripuri were matrimonially connected and their relations were generally cordial. But in the reign of Govinda IV they became strained. The Kalachuri king Yuvarajadeva I espoused the cause of his son-in-law Baddiga—Amoghavarsha III, the uncle of Govinda IV, and sent a large army to invade the Rashtrakuta dominion. When the army reached the Payoshni (modern Purna), a pitched battle was fought near Achalapura between the Rashtrakuta and Kalachuri forces, in which the latter became victorious. This event is commemorated in the Sanskrit play *Viddhashalabhanjika* of Rajashekhara, which was staged at Tripuri in jubilation at this victory⁴.

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXXVI, p. 223 f.

²*Nagpur University Journal*, Vol. CVII, p. 117 f.

³*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXXVI, p. lxxix f.

⁴*C. I. I.*, Vol. IV, p. lxxix f.

The Rashtrakuta feudatories who rose in rebellion against Govinda IV, deposed him and placed his uncle Baddiga-Amoghavarsha III on the throne. The latter was a man of quiet nature and spiritual temperament, who left the administration of the kingdom to his ambitious and able son Krishna III. Like some of his ancestors, Krishna also led an expedition in north India and captured the forts of Kalanjara and Chitrakuta. He succeeded his father in A. D. 939. He then led an expedition against the Cholas and defeated them in a sanguinary battle at Takkola in the Arcot district. He next carried his victorious arms to Rameshvara, where he built two temples. Hearing of his victories, the kings of Kerala, Pandya and Ceylon submitted to him. He also placed his own nominee on the throne of Vengi. He thus became the lord paramount of south India.

Several stone and copper-plate inscriptions of the reign of Krishna III have been found in the different parts of the Deccan. One of them may be noticed here. The Deoli plates dated *Shaka* 862 (A. D. 940) register the donation of the village Talapurushaka in the *vishaya* (district) of Nagapura-Nandivardhana. This expression denotes Nandivardhana near Nagpur. This is the earliest mention of Nagpur. Among the boundaries of the donated villages is mentioned the river Kanhana, modern Kanhan, which flows 10 miles from Nagpur¹.

After the downfall of the Vakatakas there was no imperial power ruling in Vidarbha. The centre of political power shifted successively to Mahishmati, Badami, and Manyakheta. Men of learning who could not get royal patronage in Vidarbha had to seek it elsewhere. Bhavabhuti, who ranks next only to Kalidasa in Sanskrit literature, was a native of Vidarbha. In the prologue of his play *Mahaviracharita* he tells us that his ancestors were known as Udumbara. They probably hailed from a place of that name which may be identified with Umarkhed in the Yeotmal district. There is a tradition still current at the place which corroborates this identification. The ancestors of Bhavabhuti later moved to Padmapura in Vidarbha as stated by him in his play *Mahaviracharita*. This place was once a capital of the Vakatakas and is probably identical with Padampur near Amgaon in the Bhandara district². With the downfall of the Vakatakas that place lost its importance. In the beginning of the eighth century when Bhavabhuti flourished there was no great king ruling in Vidarbha. Bhavabhuti had, therefore, to go to Padmavati, now called Padam Pawaya in north India and had to get his plays staged at the fair of Kalapriyanatha (the Sun-god at Kalpi)³. Later, he obtained royal patronage at the court of Yashovarman of Kanauj. Rajashekhara, another great son of Vidarbha, was probably a native of Vatsagulma (modern Washim in the Akola district), which he has glorified in the *Kavyamimamsa* as the pleasure-resort of the god of love. He and his

¹Mirashi, *Studies in Indology*, Vol. II, p. 253 f.

²*Ibid.*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 22 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. I (Second ed.), p. 37 f.

ancestors Akalajalada, Tarala and Surananda had to leave their home country of Vidarbha and to seek patronage at the court of the Kalachuris of Tripuri. Rajashekhara's early plays, viz., the *Balaramayana*, the *Balabharata* and the *Karpuramanjari*, were put on the boards in Kanauj under the patronage of the Gurjara-Pratiharas. Later, when the glory of the Gurjara-Pratiharas declined as a result of the raid of the Rashtrakuta king Indra III, Rajashekhara returned to the south. He seems to have enjoyed for some time the patronage of Indra III; for the two sets of the Vajirkheda plates dated in the *Shaka* year 836 were drafted by him¹. Later, he moved to Tripuri, where his last play *Viddha-shalabhanjika* was staged as stated before. Another great poet of Vidarbha who had to go abroad in search of royal patronage, was Trivikramabhatta, the author of the *Nalachampu* in which he has given a graphic description of several towns, holy places and rivers of Vidarbha. He flourished at the court of the Rashtrakuta king, Indra III and is known to have drafted the two sets of the Bagumra plates and also the Jamgaon plates of that king.²

During the Rashtrakuta period a feudatory family established itself in the northern and southern Konkan as also in the southern Maratha country comprising the districts of Kolhapur, Miraj and Satara. They bore the title of *Tagara-puradhisvara*, which indicates that they originally hailed from Tagara (modern Ter in the Osmanabad district). All the branches of this family traced their descent from the mythical Vidyadhara prince Jimutavahana, who offered to sacrifice himself to rescue a Naga from the clutches of Garuda. The Shilaharas of south Konkan rose to power as feudatories of the Rashtrakutas. Sanaphulla, the founder of this family, is said to have had the favour of Krishnaraja, who is evidently the first Rashtrakuta king of that name. His capital was probably at Chandrapura, modern Chandor on the left bank of the river Paroda, south of Goa. His successor Dhammiyara is said to have founded Balipattana (modern Kharepatan in the Ratnagiri district), which he made his capital. This family ruled in south Konkan from circa A. D. 765 to A. D. 1020. These Shilaharas remained loyal to their suzerains who were the Rashtrakutas and give their genealogy in their grants even after their overthrow by the Later Chalukya king Tailapa. Rattaraja, the last known king of this branch of the Shilaharas, made a grant to his teacher Atreya, the disciple of the Shaiva Acharya Ambhojashambhu, who belonged to the Karkaroni branch of the Mattamayura clan of Shaivism. Mattamayura, the original seat of the clan, is probably identical with Kadwaha in central India.

Rattaraja is the last known king of this branch. He declared his independence during the reign of the Later Chalukya king Vikramaditya when the imperial power became weak. But Jayasimha, the younger brother of Vikramaditya V, invaded south

¹ Nagpur University Journal, Vol. XVII, p. 117 f.
² Ep. Ind., Vol. IX pp. 24 f.; Vol. XXXVI, p. 223 f.
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Konkan, overthrew the reigning king and appropriated his possessions as stated in his Miraj plates, dated in A. D. 1024.

North Konkan was conquered by the Rashtrakuta king Dantidurga some time in the second quarter of the eighth century A. D. Kapardin I, the first known Shilahara king of north Konkan, was placed in charge of the country by the Rashtrakuta king Govinda III. Since then north Konkan came to be known as Kapardidvipa or Kavadi-dvipa. The capital of this branch was Puri, now known as Rajapuri in the Kolaba district. This branch also produced several kings who built magnificent temples like the one at Ambarnath and gave liberal patronage to Sanskrit learning. They continued to hold north Konkan till A. D. 1266. The last king Someshvara was defeated by the Yadava king Mahadeva on land and he betook himself to the sea. He was pursued by him and was drowned in a naval engagement that followed. His kingdom was thereafter annexed by the Yadavas.

The third branch of the Shilaharas ruled over the Southern Maratha Country comprising the districts of Satara, Kolhapur and Belgaon. Their family deity was the goddess Mahalakshmi, whose boon they claim to have secured in their copper-plate grants. Their capital was probably Kolhapur, though some of their grants mention Valavada and the hill fort of Pranalaka as places of royal residence. This branch rose to power late in the Rashtrakuta period and so, unlike the kings of the other two branches, they do not give the genealogy of the Rashtrakutas even in their early grants. Later, they acknowledged the supremacy of the Later Chalukyas for some time. This branch continued to hold the Southern Maratha Country from circa A. D. 940 to A. D. 1215.

In the *Vikramankadevacharita* Bilhana gives a graphic description of the Vidyadhara (i.e., Shilahara) princess Chandralekha. She was probably a daughter of the Shilahara prince ruling from Karahata (modern Karhad), for the *svayamvara* of the princess is said to have taken place at Karahata. She chose the powerful Chalukya king Vikramaditya VI as her husband in that *svayamvara*. In the *Rajatarangini*, Kalhana describes how when Harsha, the contemporary king of Kashmir, saw a portrait of Chandala (i.e., Chandralekha), the beautiful wife of the Karahata king Parmandi, he became smitten with love and vowed that he would obtain Chandala by overthrowing Parmandi. Kalhana holds the king to ridicule for his foolishness.¹

The last known king of this branch was Bhoja II, the greatest ruler of this line. On account of his great valour he was known as Vira-Bhoja. He assumed the imperial titles *Rajadhiraja Parameshvara*, *Parama-bhattaraka* and *Pashchima-Chakravarti*. This could not, however, be tolerated by the Yadavas, who were then establishing their supremacy in the Deccan. Singhana, the mighty Yadava king of Devagiri, invaded the Shilahara kingdom

¹ *Rajatarangini*, Vol. VII, vv. 1119 f.

and laid siege to the fort of Pranala (Panhala). He soon reduced it and taking Bhoja captive, he threw him into prison on the same fort. Thereafter we begin to get the inscriptions of the Governor who was appointed by the Yadavas to administer the country.

Like the Shilaharas of the other two branches, the Shilaharas of Kolhapur also extended their patronage to learned men. One of these was Somadeva, the author of the *Shabdarnavachandrika*, a work of Jainendra Vyakarana¹.

The Rashtrakuta power became weak after the death of Krishna III. Within six years his large empire crumbled like a house of cards. Taila II, who was the founder of the Later Chalukya dynasty, who was a *Mahasamanta* of the Rashtrakutas, suddenly came into prominence. He defeated and killed in battle Karka II, the last Rashtrakuta king, and captured his capital Manyakheta. He had to fight against the Cholas, the Pandyas and the Paramaras. The Paramara king Vakpati-Munja planned to invade the Chalukya dominion, but his wise minister Rudraditya advised him not to cross the Godavari which was the boundary between the Chalukya and Paramara dominions. Munja did not heed his advice and was taken prisoner by Tailapa. He was placed in a prison, where he was waited upon by Tailapa's sister Mrinaladevi. He fell in love with her and foolishly disclosed to her the plan of escape. She communicated it to Tailapa, who is said to have made him beg from door to door and then executed him.

Among the successors of Taila II, the most famous is Vikramaditya VI, the founder of the Chalukya—Vikrama *Samvat*. He ascended the throne in A. D. 1075. He had to fight against the Cholas, the Chalukyas of Gujarat and the Hoysalas and signally defeated them. Two inscriptions of his reign have been found² in Vidarbha. One of them entitled Sitabaldi pillar inscription seems to have originally belonged to the Vindhyaasena hill at Bhandak in the Chandrapur district. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 1008 (A. D. 1087) and registers the grant of some *nivartanas* of land for the grazing of cattle made by a feudatory called Dhadibhandaka. The other inscription was discovered at Dongargaon in the Yeotmal district³. It throws interesting light on the history of the Paramara dynasty. It shows that Jagaddeva the youngest son of the Paramara king Udayaditya, the brother of Bhoja, left Malva and sought service under Vikramaditya VI, who welcomed him and placed him in charge of some portion of western Vidarbha. The Dongargaon inscription is dated in the *Shaka* year 1034 (A. D. 1112). Another inscription of this Jagaddeva has come to notice at Jalna in the adjoining Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh. It records several victories of Jagad-

¹*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. X, p. 76, n.

²*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. III, p. 304 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. XXVI, p. 177 f.

⁴*Ibid.*, Vol. XXXII, p. 54 f.

deva in Andhra, Dorasamudra and near the Arbuda mountain, and registers the construction of the temple of Nimbaditya by his minister Lolarka.

Vikramaditya's reign is renowned on account of some learned men who flourished at his court. Bilhana, who was patronised by him, wrote the *Vikramankadevacharita*, which is the poetic biography of Vikramaditya. Another great writer who flourished at his Court was Vijnaneshvara, the author of the well-known *Mitakshara*, a commentary on the *Yajnavalkya-smṛiti*.

Though western Vidarbha was thus occupied by the Later Chalukyas, the Paramaras of Dhar raided and occupied some portion of Eastern Vidarbha. A large stone inscription now deposited in the Nagpur Museum, which originally seems to have belonged to Bhandak in the Chandrapur district, traces the genealogy of the Paramara prince Naravarman from Vairisimha. It is dated in the Vikrama year 1161 corresponding to A. D. 1104-05. and records the grant of two villages to a temple which was probably situated in Bhandak; for some of the places mentioned in it can be identified in its vicinity. Thus Mokhalipataka is probably Mokhar, 50 miles west of Bhandak and Vyapura, the *Mandala* in which it was situated, may be identical with Vurgaon, 30 miles from Mokhar. The Paramaras continued to hold Eastern Vidarbha until their king Bhoja ruling from Chahanda (modern Chanda) was defeated by Kholesvara, a general of the Yadava king Singhana¹.

The Later Chalukya king Vikramaditya VI was succeeded by his son Someshvara III, who became known as *Sarvajna-Chakravarti* on account of his extensive knowledge. He composed the encyclopaedic work *Manasollasa* or *Abhilashitarthachintamani*. An inscription of his reign has been discovered at Latur in the Osmanabad district. It records the construction of the temple of the god Papavinashana at Lattalur (modern Latur). It is dated in the *Shaka* year 1049 (A. D. 1123), which falls in the reign of Someshvara III.

Taila III, the last known Chalukya King, was overthrown by the Kalachuri Bijjala, who was his Commander-in-Chief, in A.D. 1156. The Kalachuri usurpation lasted for more than two decades. An inscription of this period dated in the *Shaka* year 1086 (A.D. 1164) was discovered at Savargaon in the Tuljapur tahsil of the Osmanabad district. It records the gift of some money for the construction of the temple of the goddess Amba at Savargaon. Maradadeva, who bears the title of *Mahamandaleshvara*, was probably a feudatory of the Kalachuri Bijjala as the date falls in the latter's reign (A.D. 1156—1168), though the inscription makes no mention of his name.

In the last quarter of the twelfth century A.D. the Yadavas of Devagiri came into prominence. They had previously been ruling over Seunadesha (Khandesh) as feudatories of the Chalukyas of

¹*S. M. H. D.*, Vol. I, p. 74.

Kalyani. The founder of this family was Dridhaprahara the son of Subahu. His capital is named as Shrinagara in the *Vrata-khanda*, while from an early inscription it appears to have been Chandradityapura, which has been identified with modern Chandor in the Nasik district. His son and successor was Seunachandra I, from whom the country ruled came to be known as Seunadesha. It corresponds to modern Khandesh. It comprised the country from Nasik to Devagiri.

From a stone inscription found at Vaghli, six miles from Chalisgaon, we learn that a Maurya family hailing from Valabhi (modern Vala in Kathiawad) settled in Khandesh, where it ruled for several generations. Govindaraja, a later prince of this family, built a temple at Vaghli, to which he made several donations for the learned men and their pupils, who resorted to the *Sattr* attached to the temple. Govindaraja, whose inscription at Vaghli is dated in *Shaka* 991 (A.D. 1069) was a feudatory of the Yadava King Seunachandra II.

Bhillama II, one of the Early Yadava Kings, assisted Tailapa of the Later Chalukya family in his war with Munja. Seunachandra II, a later member of this family, is said to have saved Vikramaditya VI from a coalition of his enemies and placed him on the throne of Kalyani. Bhillama V of this family made a bid for paramount power in the Deccan. He led victorious expeditions against the Hoysalas, the Paramaras and the Chalukyas and made himself master of the whole country north of the Krishna. He then founded the city of Devagiri (modern Daulatabad) and made it his capital. Thereafter, the Yadavas ruled from that city.

From a stone inscription¹ found at Anjaneri near Nasik it appears that there was a minor branch of the Yadava family ruling at Anjaneri. Seunadeva of this branch made some grants to a Jain temple. Seunadeva calls himself *Mahasamanta* and evidently ruled over a small district of which Anjaneri was the chief city.

Bhillama V's son Jaitugi or Jaitrapala killed Rudradeva of the Kakatiya dynasty on the field of battle and released his nephew whom he had put into prison. Under Jaitugi's son Singhana the power of the family greatly increased. We get considerable information about his victories from the stone inscriptions of his General Kholeshvara at Ambe Jogai in the Bid district. Kholeshvara was a native of Vidarbha and was residing at Ambe where he has left his inscriptions. Some more details are furnished by a later copper-plate grant of Ramachandra's minister found at Purushottampuri in the Bid district².

Singhana achieved several victories. He defeated the Hoysala King Vira-Ballala, the Kakatiya King Ganapati and the lord of Bhambhagiri, modern Bhamer in the Pimpalner taluka of the Dhulia district. He confined Bhoja II of the Shilahara family

¹*Ind. Ant.*, Vol. XII, p. 126 f.

²*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXV, p. 199 f.

on the hill of Pranala (modern Panhala). Most of these victories were won by his Brahmana general Kholeshvara. The latter vanquished Arjunavarmadeva, King of Malwa, and even pressed as far as Varanasi, where he put the ruler Rajyapala to flight. Kholeshvara constructed several temples in Vidarbha including that of Sharangadhara (Vishnu) at Achalpura and also established *agraharas* on the bank of the Payoshni (Purna) and Varada (Wardha). The former *agrahara* still exists under the name of Kholapur in the Amravati district.

Singhana was succeeded by his grandson Krishna, who obtained victories over the Kings of Gurjara, Malava, Chola and Kosala. The Gurjara King was Vishaladeva and the Malava King was Jaitugideva. The contemporary Chola King was Rajendra III (A.D. 1246—1279). The Kosala King was apparently the contemporary ruler of Ratanpur in Chhattisgarh, who was probably the successor of Jajalladeva defeated by Singhana, but no records of his reign have so far been discovered. An inscription of the reign of Krishna has been found in the temple of Khandeshvara in the Amravati district. It is dated in the *Shaka* year 1177 (A.D. 1254-55), and records the donations of some *gadyanas* for the offerings of flowers in the temple of Khandeshvara³.

Krishna was succeeded by his brother Mahadeva. From the recently discovered Kalegaon plates we know the exact date of his coronation as the 29th August A.D. 1261². The most notable event of his reign was the annexation of the North Konkan after defeating Someshvara of the Shilahara dynasty. Mahadeva left the throne to his son Amana, but the latter was soon deposed by Krishna's son Ramachandra, who captured the impregnable fort by means of *coup de'tat*. Ramchandra won several victories as mentioned in the Purushottampuri plates dated in the *Shaka* year 1232 (A.D. 1310). He is said to have defeated with ease the ruler of Dahala (i.e., the Chedi country) subjugated the ruler of Bhandagara (Bhandara) and dethroned the King of Vajrakara. He is further credited with a victory over the Muhammedans, whom he drove out of Varanasi. He built there a golden temple of Sharangapani (Vishnu). His minister Purushottama received from him the grant of four villages, of which he formed an *agrahara* and donated it to several Brahmanas on the holy day of *Kapilashashthi* in the *Shaka* year 1232. The *agrahara* was named Purushottampura after the donor. It is still extant under its original name on the southern bank of the Godavari, about 40 miles due west from Parbhani. The villages together with their boundaries can still be identified in the vicinity of Purushottampuri³.

A fragmentary stone inscription of the time of Ramachandra is built into the front wall of the temple of Lakshmana on the hill of Ramtek in the Nagpur district¹. In the first half it gives the

¹*Ep. Ind.*, Vol. XXVII, p. 9 f.

²*Ibid.*, Vol. XXXII, p. 31 f.

³*Ibid.*, Vol. XXV, p. 199 f.

genealogy of Ramchandra and in the second half it describes the temples, wells and *tirthas* on and in the vicinity of the hill which it calls Ramagiri. The object of the inscription seems to have been to record the repairs to the temple of Lakshmana done by Raghava, a minister of Ramachandra.

In A.D. 1294 Ala-uddin Khilji invaded the kingdom of Ramachandra and suddenly appeared before the gates of Devagiri. Ramachandra was taken unaware and could not hold out long. He had to pay a heavy ransom to the Muslim conqueror. He continued, however, to rule till A.D. 1310 at least; for the aforementioned Purushottampuri plates are dated in that year. He was succeeded by his son Shankaragana some time in A.D. 1311. He discontinued sending the stipulated tribute to Delhi. He was then defeated and slain by Malik Kafur. Some time thereafter, Harapaladeva, the son-in-law of Ramachandra, raised an insurrection and drove away the Muhammedans, but his success was short-lived. The Hindu Kingdom of Devagiri thus came to an end in A.D. 1318.

Like their illustrious predecessors, the Yadavas also extended liberal patronage to art and literature. During their rule a peculiar style of architecture called *Hemadpanti* after Hemadri or Hemadpant, a minister of Mahadeva and Ramachandra, came into vogue. The temples built in this style are found in all the districts of Maharashtra. Several learned scholars flourished at the Yadava Court. Of these Hemadri was the foremost. During the reign of Mahadeva he held the post of *Shrikaranadhipa* or the Head of the Secretariat. He was appointed Minister and Head of the Elephant Force by Ramachandra. He was as brave as he was learned. He conquered and annexed to the Yadava Kingdom the eastern part of Vidarbha called Jhadi-mandala which included the Bhandara district. Hemadri is well-known as the author of the *Chaturvarga-chintamani*, comprising five parts, viz., (1) *Vratakhanda*, (2) *Danakhanda*, (3) *Tirthakhanda*, (4) *Mokshakhanda*, and (5) *Pariseshakhanda*. Of these, the third and the fourth *Khandas* have not come to light. Hemadri's work is held in great esteem and has been drawn upon by later writers of *Dharmashastra*. He is the author of the commentary on Shaunaka's *Pranavakalpa*, in which he follows Katyayana. His *Ayurvedarasayana*, a commentary on Vaghbata's *Ashtangahridaya* and *Kaivalyadipika*, gloss on Bopadeva's *Muktaphala* are well known.

Hemadri extended liberal patronage to learned men. Among them the most famous was Bopadeva. He was a native of Vedapada (modern Bedod) on the bank of the Wardha in the Adilabad district. Bopadeva is said to have composed ten works on grammar, nine on medicine, one for the determination of *tithis*, three on poetics and an equal number for the education of the *Bhagavata* doctrine. Only eight of these are now extant. The *Mugdhabodha*, his work on Sanskrit grammar, is very popular in Bengal.

Marathi literature also flourished in the age of the Yadavas. Chakradhara, who propagated the *Mahanubhava* sect in that age, used Marathi as the medium of his religious teachings. Following his example, several of his followers composed literary works in Marathi. They are counted among the first works in that language. Mukundaraja, the author of the *Vedanta* works *Vivekasindhu* and *Paramamrita*, and Jnanadeva, the celebrated author of the *Bhavarthadipika*, a commentary on the *Bhagavad-gita*, are the most illustrious writers of that age.

MEDIAEVAL PERIOD

The Gondi interlude.—The defeat of the Yadavas of Devagiri at the hands of Ala-uddin Khilji marks a turning point in the history of Vidarbha and Maharashtra. It was also an event of extraordinary historical significance, firstly, because the immense wealth Ala-uddin carried from Devagiri enabled him to achieve his political designs at Delhi and secondly, because it facilitated the penetration of Islam deep into the south. After this defeat the Yadava power collapsed fast when its last ruler Harpaldev was defeated and killed in 1318 A.D. by Qutbuddin Mubarak Shah. Vidarbha and Maharashtra finally passed into the hands of the Muslim rulers and Devagiri became the seat of Islamic culture. It may be noted that from the fall of the Yadavas till the entry of the Moghals in Gondwana of which Bhandara district formed a part, the Gond *Rajas* were more or less free from any political domination. The territory known as Gondwana roughly includes the area bounded by the line running from Jabalpur to Telangana, north to south and from west to east by the line joining the Satapuda hills and the Chhatisgad region. The principal Gondi Kingdoms in the Gondwana area had their seats at Gadha, Mandla, Devgad, Chandrapur and Khedla on the northern slopes of the Satapuda. Besides these, there were petty Gond *naiks* in the Melghat styling themselves as *Rajas*. Of these kingdoms Gadha of which Bhandara district formed a part is noted in history because of its brave Rani Durgavati, the wife of Dalpat Shah and the daughter of the Rajput Chandel King of Mahaba. The ruling Moghal emperor Akbar at that time appointed Khvaja Abdul Majid as the governor of Karra conferring upon him the title of Asaf Khan. He contemplated the invasion of the kingdom of Gadha but was stoutly opposed by Rani Durgavati with her brave Gond troops. Her valour, however, failed to stem the advance of the Moghals and she was defeated twice by the well-equipped and the strong Moghal army. To escape the disgrace she would have been put to if taken captive the Rani killed herself in the glorious Rajput tradition. The Moghal invasion of the kingdom of Gadha was a wanton act of the imperial policy of aggression and aggrandisement. The fall of Gadha and the heroic death of the Rani have been graphically described in *Tarikh-i-Alfi*. In the battle the young son of Rani Durgavati, Bir Narayan had

¹ Also see *Ak barnama* of Shaikh Illahdad, Faizi Sirhindi in Elliot Vol. VI, pp. 117—122.

sustained injuries. He was carried to the hill fort of Chausagad built by Sangramshah. The fort was besieged by the pursuing Moghal army of Asafkhan. Bir Narayan resisted stubbornly to the Moghal onslaught but fell fighting with all his troops. The kingdom of Gadha was offered to Chandra Shah, the uncle of Bir Narayan and the brother of Dalpatshah on condition of his serving the Moghals as their vassal. Chandra Shah was followed by Madhukarshah, Premshah and Hirdeshah in this order. During the reign of Shah Jahan, Hirdeshah, the ruler of Gadha was attacked by Raja Pahadsingh Bundela, a Moghal *mansabdar* of 1,000 horse under orders of the emperor. Hirdeshah in vain tried to defend the capital but had to flee to Mandla which he now made his capital. Pahadsingh was granted Gadha and Chausagad in *Jahagir* by the emperor. The subsequent history of the Gadha-Mandla Kingdom as it was now called is full of internecine wars among the successors of Hirdeshah who invited alternately Aurangzeb and the Marathas to fight out their wars and to put down the rival party. It was during the time of the Gond ruler Maharaj Shah that Raghuji Bhosle attacked the kingdom of Gadha-Mandla and forced him to pay tribute. The Gond rulers of Gadha-Mandla thus lost their independence and were reduced to the status of vassals.

It was at this time that a new Gond kingdom came to be established at Devagad situated in the dense forests and hilly areas of Central India. The whole territory of the Gond kingdom of Devagad formed part of the kingdom of Gadha-Mandla and the Gond rulers of Devagad are directly related with the history of Bhandara district. The fate of this kingdom was closely related to that of the kingdom of Gadha-Mandla which had now lost its independent status and this kingdom too was destined to go the same way. Originally the Devagad house hailed from Haraya or Harayagad, but later on it was shifted to Devagad about 24 miles from Haraya under its aspiring founder Jatba¹. As stated earlier, the rulers of Devagad were the feudatories of Gadha but when Gadha passed under the suzerainty of the Moghals, the feudatory kingdom of Devagad also became a part of the Moghal territory. The Moghal governors of the province, however, allowed the Devagad rulers to carry out the *de facto* rule of their territory on payment of an yearly tribute. Jatba, the ruler of Devagad, who now became a vassal of the Moghals under Emperor Akbar is reported by *Ain-i-Akbari* as possessing two thousand cavalry, fifty thousand foot soldiers and a 100 elephants. Jatba extended his kingdom to the west and towards the south and included in his territory the districts of Betul, Chhindwada and Nagpur and portions of Seoni, Bhandara and Balaghat districts.

Jatba was succeeded by his son Kokashah in about 1600 A.D. He had a very long but not a peaceful reign. His failure to pay

¹According to a local Gondi tradition recorded by Craddock in the old edition of Nagpur Gazetteer, Devagad was originally a Gavli Kingdom conquered later by Sarabashah, a Gond King of Gadha. Jatba was the eighth descendant from

the annual tribute to the imperial treasury irritated the reigning Moghal emperor Shah Jahan who ordered his general Khan Dauran to invade the Devagad territory. Khan Dauran marching through Berar, advanced up to Nagpur and laid siege to the fort of Nagpur in 1637 A. D. Kokashah marched from Devagad to Nagpur and purchased peace by paying a lakh and fifty thousand rupees and 175 elephants as tribute to the emperor. The unfortunate kingdom of Devagad was twice attacked during the reign of Shah Jahan by the Moghals firstly in 1648 A. D. by Shah Navaz Khan of which not much is known and secondly by Aurangzeb during his viceroyalty of the Deccan under specific orders of Shah Jahan in 1655. The ruling prince of Devagad was Kesari Singh who had succeeded his father Kokashah in 1640 after presenting a tribute of four lakhs of rupees to the emperor. Under Kesari Singh, the tribute fell in arrears and repeated demands for it had no effect. Shah Jahan, therefore, in 1655 A. D. ordered Aurangzeb, the viceroy of the Deccan, to invade the territory as the Devagad *Raja* was said to possess 200 elephants. Aurangzeb replied that he had ascertained by deputing an officer to Devagad that the *Raja* was really very poor and had only 14 elephants. Aurangzeb, therefore, requested for orders whether Devagad should be annexed or only the tribute should be collected. Shah Jahan ordered Devagad to be conquered and annexed. On 12th October 1655 the expedition started in two divisions one under Mirza Khan, the Deputy Governor of Berar, by way of Ellichpur and the other under Hadidad Khan, the Deputy Governor of Telangana, by way of Nagpur with orders to converge upon Devagad. Kesari Singh was crushed between the two forces and submitted. He waited upon Aurangzeb on 8th January 1656 and promised to pay five lakhs in cash and kind in the course of the year on account of his tribute, present and past and to cede certain *paraganas*, the revenue of which would be set apart for the payment of the tribute in future¹.

In 1667 Diler Khan invaded the kingdom of Devagad and imposed a contribution of 15 lakhs on the *Raja*², while raising the annual tribute to two lakhs. He was, however, sent to Deccan when he had realised about half the current years tribute and an officer was left in the Gond kingdom to collect the balance. As a result of these Moghal exactions the peasantry had fled away and the land turned desolate from the residence of the invaders. Bhandara district, like the other parts of the Devagad kingdom, must have been subjected to severe hardships as a result of these Moghal invasions which were taking place at intervals at the

¹It may be noted that Kesari Singh with a good body of armed retainers accompanied Aurangzeb to the siege of Golconda and rendered good service, praying only for some remission of his piled up arrears of tribute in return.

²The name of the *Raja* given in *Alamgirnama* is Kuk Singh. Hewas however a different person from the Kokashah Gond, who was reigning in Devagad in 1637 and who had been succeeded by his son Kesari Singh in 1640. Kuk Singh came to the Moghal camp and humbly waited on Diler Khan agreeing to pay three lakhs as fine and deliver 18 lakhs within a fixed period out of which six lakhs were to be paid in two months. He further promised to pay his annual tribute regularly without delay.

lure of the so-called fabulous wealth of the Gondi kingdoms¹. The Devagad *Raja* as before failed to pay his tribute and in August 1669 Diler Khan again invaded the kingdom of Devagad. The Moghal forces overran the territory of the kingdom. The *Raja* fled but was captured after an arduous chase. The invaders, wishing to annex the occupied territory and bring it under the direct rule of the imperial government, posted garrison at different places including Nagpur, Katanjhar, Devagad (renamed Islamgad), etc. A *qazi*, *mufti*, *sadr*, *mir adil*, clerks of the Chabutra of justice and other officers of a regular province of the empire were ordered to be sent to Devagad from the Deccan. As for the land revenue, Aurangzeb ordered that first the ravages of war should be healed, cultivation restored and the peasants conciliated and then the old assessment of the Gond times enforced. The campaign had been a severe one; large numbers of horses had perished of hardship. The emperor promoted the Chief Officers and presented 200 horses to this force².

Early next year Diler Khan received urgent orders to settle the business of Devagad quickly on some satisfactory basis. Diler Khan thereupon prevailed upon the *Raja* to embrace Islam with his entire family and then restored to him his kingdom. The *Raja* took the name of Islam Yar on conversion. Devagad was ordered to be designated in future as Islamgad. It may be noted that this *Raja* was a different person from Bakht Buland, who was made *Raja* of Devagad in March 1686. The *Raja* of Devagad, however, continued to be refractory and failed to pay his tribute upon which at the end of the year (1670) Khan Zaman rapidly moved in the Devagad Kingdom and warned its ruler to be more loyal or suffer punishment. No details of the history of Devagad are available for the next 15 years. When in about 1686 the ruling *Raja* of Devagad, Bakhat Shah, was so hard pressed by other claimants to the throne that in desperation he fled the kingdom and appealed to Aurangzeb for help. Aurangzeb agreed on condition of Bakhat Shah accepting Islam as the price of imperial support against his rivals and promising to serve in the emperor's war with Marathas³. Aurangzeb baptised the *Raja* as Bakht Buland or Lucky. The *Raja* lived long enough to extend the area, power and prosperity of his kingdom very largely and to give the greatest trouble to Aurangzeb in the last years of his reign. Bakht Buland with the military assistance offered to him by Aurangzeb regained his lost kingdom. He proved to be a very capable ruler and extended his kingdom reaching up to

¹It may be noted that the kingdom of Chanda whose rulers were on inimical terms with the rulers of Devagad and who had in 1655 betrayed the Devagad Kingdom by supplying false information to the emperor about its wealth, was subjected to similar exactions by the Moghal general Diler Khan.

²*Akhbarat*, dated 4th and 5th September 1669, in the *History of Aurangzib* by Sir J. N. Sarkar, Vol. V, pp. 404-05.

³The helpless Bakhat became a Musalman with the understanding that he would dine with Muslims but would continue to take brides from among the Gonds. Aurangzeb accepted this compromise. The descendants of Bakhat continued to have marital relations with the Raj Gonds. They however performed their marriage ceremony according to the Hindu rites followed by those of the Islamic.

the borders of Berar from north and east. His kingdom included the present districts of Chhindvada and Baitul and some portions of Nagpur, Seoni, Bhandara and Balaghat. Sangashi and Pratapgarh were acquired for him by Raj Khan, a Pathan adventurer whom Bakht Buland had made governor of Dongartal in Seoni. In 1691 the emperor deposed Bakht Buland and the throne of Devagad was given to Dindar, another Muslim Gond in the imperial camp. At that time Bakht Buland was successively put in charge of the imperial paymaster (1693) and the provost of the camp on a daily allowance of two rupees (1694). On 25th August 1695 he had an audience with the emperor and he recovered his freedom by giving security of his future conduct. He thereupon served in the emperor's army in the Deccan till April 1696. During his stay in the Deccan, his son Muhammad Ali arriving from Devagad waited upon the emperor on 23rd March 1696.

At this time trouble broke out in Devagad. Dindar became defiant and a Moghal force was sent under Sadruddin accompanied by Raja Kishan Singh of Chanda. The combined army captured Devagad and put Dindar to flight (March 1696). The new aspirant to the throne of Devagad was Kan Singh, the son of Kishan Singh, who secured the throne by embracing the religion of Islam (under the name of Raja Neknam) and promising to pay up Dindar's arrears of tribute and an additional sum of Rs. 17 lakhs as present. He waited upon the emperor in November 1700. Bakht Buland who was watching these events now lost all hopes of being restored to the kingdom and decided to secure by force that which he was not able to obtain by conciliation. The circumstances were also opportune to him as both Chanda and Devagad had changed their rulers in the same year (1696) and the nobility at Devagad was not going to look kindly to the fact that a junior prince from the rival house of Chanda was occupying the throne of Devagad. Bakht Buland, therefore, slipped away from the imperial camp and reached Devagad, where he raised the standard of rebellion. The emperor in impotent anger ordered his name to be changed from Bakht Buland (Lucky) to Nagun Bakht (Luck less)¹.

The activities of Bakht Buland spread over a wide area especially in Berar. Firoz Jung was ordered to move from Berar and punish the rebel. Bakht Buland was defeated by a detachment under Hamid Khan Bahadur who captured Devagad. *Raja* Bir Singh of Chanda was ordered to proceed to Devagad and re-establish his younger brother Neknam there. The defeated Bakht Buland leaving his capital moved into Malva and attacked Abdul Hadi, a vassal of *Raja* Navendra Shah of Gadha, who had dispossessed his monarch and restored the *Raja* to his ancestral

¹K. K. ii-461; *Akhbarat* in the *History of Aurangzib*, Vol. V, p. 409.

throne. The Moghals, however, pressed on. They forced Sadat Khan Afghan, a supporter of Bakht Buland to submit. About 3,700 troops of Bakht Buland came over to the Moghal service. In the meanwhile Bakht Buland had not remained inactive. He requested Chhatra Sal to recruit musketeers for him and sent his envoys to Rajaram inviting him to Devagad to create diversion in Aurangzeb's rear which, however, Rajaram declined. In March 1701 Bakht Buland in concert with the Marathas attacked Ali Mardan Khan, the governor of Berar, but the joint forces were defeated. Though Bakht Buland was wounded he fought another sharp battle with the pursuing Moghals at Daryapur. There were similar risings of Bakht Buland's Muslim allies in 1703 and 1704. In spite of the setbacks suffered by Bakht Buland, he was never subdued by the imperial forces of Aurangzeb. Neither the degenerate successors of Aurangzeb could do it. On Aurangzeb's death, Bakht Buland extended his kingdom by annexing Khedla and by adding the district of Seoni ceded to him by Narendra Shah as the price of his aid against the latter's cousins who had called the Marathas in. Bakht Buland could thus be regarded as the most distinguished ruler of the Devagad house. During Bakht Buland's reign the rich lands to the south of Devagad, between the Wainganga and Kanhan rivers were steadily developed. Hindu and Muhammedan cultivators were encouraged to settle in them on equal terms with Gonds until this region became most prosperous. "Industrious settlers from all quarters were invited to Gondavana, many towns and villages were founded and agriculture, manufactures and even commerce made a considerable advance. Bhandara was not at this time a valuable appanage. There were some fertile lands in the alluvial tracts of the Wainganga and Bagh rivers and the town of Pauni was even then celebrated for the excellence of its cotton fabrics. But the centre and east of the district were covered by dense forest and tenanted only by wild animals and forest tribes. The large and valuable *Zamindari* of Kamtha was first granted in the middle of the eighteenth century on a payment of Rs. 60 annually¹."

Bakht Buland was succeeded by his son Chand Sultan, who removed his capital to Nagpur and considerably extended his dominions to the east of Wainganga annexing Paunar in Berar which was an important military station. It remained under him for more than twenty years. Chand Sultan died in 1738. He was succeeded by Wali Shah, the illegitimate son of Bakht Buland, who seized the throne by putting to death Bahadur Shah, the legitimate heir. Chand Sultan's widow Ratan Kuvar called in Raghuji Bhosle from Berar to the support of her teenaged sons Burhan Shah and Akbar Shah. Raghuji regarded this as a welcome opportunity and promptly moving from Bham, his head-quarter defeated and put to death the usurper. He then moved

¹Eyre Chatterton, *Story of Gondwana*, p. 46.

to Devagad where he installed Burhan Shah on his ancestral throne. Raghuji subsequently retired to Berar receiving as the price of his assistance two lakhs of rupees in cash and one third of the kingdom of Devagad including several *paraganas* on the Wainganga. In 1743 dissensions broke out between the two brothers Akbar and Burhan which resulted again into Raghuji's intervention when the latter asked for Raghuji's help. On this occasion, Raghuji fully exploited the family dispute to his own advantage, established himself at Nagpur and reduced the Gond king to the positions of a puppet and thus became the *de facto* ruler of the Devagad Kingdom¹. Only Muhammad Khan, son of Raj Khan, who had acquired Sangashi and Pratapgarh for Bakht Buland, held out at Sangashi for three years in the cause of his former sovereign. And Raghuji struck, it is said, with his fidelity, offered him the post of *Divan* of Seoni if he would give up Sangashi to which he agreed. Bhandara was included in the Kingdom of the Nagpur Bhosle as the district of *prant* Wain-ganga². Among the ruins of Devagad fort at present Jatba's tomb and some foundations of buildings are the only remains.

It is necessary here to make a brief reference to the Gond house of Chandrapur or Chanda because like that of Devagad it was destined to fall a prey to its powerful neighbour Raghuji Bhosle, and also because if the possessions of the Devagad *Rajas* embraced the north of the district from Ambagarh to Tirora, the Lanji hills and the low lands of Hatta and Kamtha were held by the Gadha-Mandla Gond dynasty and Pauni and Navegaon by the Chanda Kings. As a matter of fact, the *Zamindar* of Chinchgarh held a *sanad* or grant from a king of Chanda and the *Zamindar* of Turmapuri formerly had a patent from Ram Shah, a Raja of Mandla, dated in 1732 A. D. and conferring the estate on his ancestor on *Mokasa* tenure in return for an annual payment of Rs. 100³.

The Gond rulers of Chanda originally hailed from Shirpur on the west bank of Wardha. The kingdom is said to have been founded by Bhima Ballal Singh. From Shirpur they shifted their capital to the present Ballarshah or Ballalpur and finally to Chandrapur or Chanda. Eighteen kings succeeded Bhim Ballal Singh and the house ruled for well over 850 years from 870 A. D.

In the quarrel between two brothers Akbar and Burhan, the former sought the help of the Nizam and the latter of Raghuji Bhosle. Akbar was poisoned while in the Nizam's camp and it is said that this poisoning was brought about by Raghuji. Burhan Shah ceded half of the territory in possession of Akbar Shah to Raghuji. He also agreed to accept one fourth of the revenue of his kingdom and subsequently by agreeing to accept a fixed sum handed over his entire possessions to Raghuji. It was thus that most of the territory of the Devagad Kingdom passed on to Raghuji.

²The details of the conquest of the Gond Kingdoms of Gadha-Mandla, Devagad and Chanda and their annexation by Raghuji are given under Raghuji's exploits in the pages that follow.

³Sir Richard Temple's *Report on the Zamindaris*, p. 34.

to 1751 A.D.¹ when it was finally annexed by Raghuji. Of the 19 kings who ruled over Chandrapur the historicity of three kings, *viz.*, Nilkanth Shah, Ram Shah and Babji Ballal Shah is beyond doubt. Ram Shah (1672—1735) and Nilkanth Shah (1735—1751) were contemporaries of Raghuji Bhosle I, whereas *Ain-i-Akbari* records that when the list of the territories of Akbar was compiled a Gond prince Babji by name was ruling at Chanda. This is obviously Babji Ballal Shah whose rule on the evidence of *Ain-i-Akbari* extended from 1570 A. D. to 1595 A. D. It may, however, be noted that the kingdom of Chanda does not seem to have been very much affected by the political happenings in the Deccan after the fall of Yadavas to the Muslim invaders from the north. Before the annexation of Gondavana by the Moghals, Adil Khan (1457—1503), the ruler of Khandesh is said to have forced the *Rajas* of Gondavana and Gadha-Mandla to acknowledge his supremacy. After the break up of the Bahamani kingdom under whose suzerainty Gondavana passed after the fall of Yadavas², the Gond rulers including those of Chanda might have been first the feudatories of the Imadshahi Kingdom of Berar and later of the kings of Ahmadnagar when Berar was annexed by the latter, so that the Gond kingdom of Chanda appears to have enjoyed independence barely for a century or so.

It was during the reign of Krishna Shah that the Gond house of Chanda recognised the independence of the Devagad rulers by a treaty. The ruler of Devagad, Jatba, though a feudatory of Akbar, was extremely powerful and must have ceased to pay allegiance to the weak Chanda Gond house now forcing it to recognise its independence. It was probably this same Krishna Shah, who helped Khan Dauran in his attack on Nagpur fort which was held by Koka Shah of Devagad. It was during the reign of Bir Shah that Chanda was attacked by Diler Khan on the failure of its ruler to pay the stipulated tribute. Bir Shah unable to face the Moghals offered five lakhs of rupees to Diler Khan agreeing to pay heavy fine to the Emperor³. As Bir Shah died issueless, his widow adopted a boy from the royal Gond family of Chandankheda. This boy was the famous saintly Ram Shah who assumed power in 1691. It was during the reign of Ram Shah that the kingdom of Chanda was invaded by Kanhoji Bhosle, the

1. Bhim Ballal Singh.
2. Kharja Ballal Singh.
3. Hir Singh.
4. Andia Ballal Singh.
5. Talwar Singh.
6. Kesar Singh.
7. Dinkar Singh.
8. Ram Singh.
9. Surja Ballal Singh *alias* Sher Shah.
10. Khandkya Ballal Shah.

11. Hir Shah.
12. Bhumra and Lokaba joint rule.
13. Kon-lya Shah.
14. Babji Ballal Shah.
15. Dhundya Ram Shah.
16. Krishna Shah.
17. Bir Shah.
18. Ram Shah.
19. Nilkanth Shah.

¹It was in 1422 A. D. that Ahmad Shah Bahamani subjugated the Gonds a little over 100 years after the fall of the Yadavas.

²It may be noted that the daughter of Bir Shah was married to Durg Shah a prince of Devagad. On learning that she was insulted by her husband Bir Shah marched on Devagad and killed his son-in-law.

son of Parasoji Bhosle¹. His invasion of Chanda was not very successful as he was defeated by Ram Shah in a skirmish that took place near Rambag outside the fort of Chanda. Kanhoji was also not successful in his campaign against the Gond Kingdom of Devagad. In 1727 Kanhoji incurred the displeasure of Shahu and the latter appointed Raghuji, the nephew of Kanhoji to succeed as *Sena-saheb-subha*. Along with, *sanads* were issued granting him the right to collect *Mokasa* and *Chauth* from *Paragana* Ritpur of *Sarkar* Goval, *Prant* Warhad, Devagad and Chanda of *Prant* Gondawana, *Prant* Multapi, *Prant* above the Ghats, *Prant* Chhatisgad, *Prant* Bastar, *Prant* Maksudabad, Patna and Allahabad. In 1730 Raghuji invaded Chanda but left the territory unmolested being impressed by the saintly character of Ram Shah. Ram Shah died in 1735 and was succeeded by his son Nilkanth Shah, the last ruler of the Gond Kingdom of Chanda. When Raghuji Bhosle was busy with his Bengal expeditions Raghunath Singh, the *Diwan* of the Gond King of Devagad with the help of Nilkanth Shah tried to overthrow Raghuji's suzerainty. In 1748 when Raghuji got some respite from his Bengal expeditions he invaded Devagad and killed Raghunath Singh. He then proceeded against Nilkanth Shah and defeated him. Nilkanth Shah was forced to surrender two thirds revenues of his kingdom to Raghuji Bhosle. Raghuji occupied the city of Chandrapur with the fort leaving Ballalpur to Nilkanth Shah. In 1751 Nilkanth Shah took possession of the fort of Chanda by force driving the *Diwan* of Raghuji, Shivajipant Talkute. Raghuji lost no time in invading Chandrapur. He defeated Nilkanth Shah and imprisoned him permanently in the fort of Chanda. Thus ended the Gond house of Chanda or Chandrapur.

Administration under the Gonds.—The administration obtaining in the tract known as Gondavana that included the present district of Bhandara during the Gondi period was semi-feudal. The country was ruled by *Raja* Gonds and was distributed among a number of subordinate local chiefs known as *Rajas*, *Rais* and *Thakurs*. These chiefs though they exercised considerable power within their jurisdiction, recognised the authority of the *Maharaja* of Devagad. Abdul Fazl's account of the Gadha-Katanga Gondi Kingdom states that a number of *Paraganas* were held by the *Rajas* which obviously means that such *paraganas* in his days retained the traces of Gondi administration.

The system of administration by subordinate chiefs existed in the Gondavana till the Marathas overran it. It continued to be so in the areas of Gondavana which remained unaffected by either

¹Parasoji Bhosle during the regency of Rajaram distinguished himself by his ravaging activities in Berar and Gondawana. Rajaram conferred upon him the title of *sena-saheb-subha* and the country of Berar and Gondawana was given to his charge. Later when Tarabai disputed the claim of Shahu as the *Chhatrapati* of the Maratha State and declared him to be an impostor, Parasoji convinced the Maratha nobility of the royal descent of Shahu by dining with him in the same dish which gesture enabled Shahu tremendously in bringing the Maratha noblemen to his side. Shahu granted a *sanad* to Parasoji for *Prant* Ritpur and *Sarkar* Gawel, of *Prant* Berar, *Prant* Devagad, Chanda, Gondawana and Anagondi.

the Moghal or Maratha influence and such areas retained their semi-feudal characteristics peculiar to the Gonds. Those areas were divided into a number of chiefships, each having the headman of the clan who collected the entire revenue and rendered military service to the government by supplying a stipulated number of troops, wherever called upon to do so. In some such areas there existed greater chiefs and smaller chiefs prior to their conquest by the Bhosles.

In what follows are given details of Gondi administration in the Devagad area above the ghats on the presumption that what existed there was most probably obtaining in the Devagad area below the ghats, i.e., the Nagpur-Bhandara area in the pre-Bhosle period.

The local chiefs known as Thakurs took cognisance of petty crimes and offences in their area and levied fine and confiscated property of the offenders. They were also responsible for protecting the travellers passing through their territory and were to see that no harm befell them within their area of jurisdiction. They could not inflict capital punishment or mutilation or imprisonment beyond a certain period without reference to the government. Petty offences were decided according to customary rule whereas offences of a high order were judged according to the laws of the caste. It will thus be seen that the position of the Thakur within his own area was very strong. He was the head of the local minor clan as also the captain of the local levies and made contributions in cash and kind according to his means and provided a quota of troops to the Raja. The Thakurs held the major portion of the chief's territory, the actual domain of the Maharaja being comparatively small with the surrounding area being under the local chiefs known as the Rais or Rajas. These Rais or Rajas were in complete subjugation to the Maharaja according to his military strength. They attended him with levies of local troops. They, however, had a free hand in internal matters. They were little more than feudal superiors of a number of petty chiefs, who contributed to them military service. The Rajas like other feudatories possessed a territorial domain in which they exercised direct authority. It may be pointed out that though the Gondi administration followed this pattern generally in the territory known as Gondavana, it was subject to minor local variations and modifications.

The Gondi administration was, however, devoid of any hereditary offices like the *Deshmukh* and the *Deshpande* so commonly found elsewhere in Maharashtra, the only exception being the registrar or accountant called *heshur* or sometimes called *gumasta*.

The land revenue administration of the Nagpur-Bhandara territories was carried on by officers known as *Deshmukhs*, *Deshpandes*, *Hudars*, *Muharirs* and *Warhadpandes*. The Marathas after their occupation of Gondavana removed the *Deshmukhs* and the *Deshpandes*, redesignated *Hudars* as *Kamavisdar*-general manager and *Muharir* or accountant as *Phadnavis*, the last having a corresponding office under the Gonds, viz., that of *Priti*. The

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office of the *Warhadpande* who had his deputies all over the territory to keep the account of actual cultivation, occupancy and rents of lands was, however, retained by them. The presence of these officers indicates a centralised administration as was commonly found in Berar and it could well be conjectured that it was the remnant of the previous *Khalsa* or centralised system and was continued by the Gonds when they conquered the territory of Gondavana. The existence in some parts of Gondavana especially in the Gondi Kingdoms of Devagad and Chanda of the offices of the *Deshmukh* and the *Deshpande* was thus not indigenous to Gondavana as these offices were conspicuous by their absence in those parts of Gondavana above the ghats, the real home of the Devagad *Maharajas*.

MARATHA PERIOD

Bhosles of Nagpur.—The Bhosles of Nagpur belonged to the same illustrious Kshatriya clan to which the *Chhatrapati's* house belonged. The ancestors of the Bhosles hailed from Hingani-Beradi in the present Pune district and hence the Bhosles of Nagpur are often called Hinganikar Bhosle. The two brothers Mudhoji and Rupaji of the Bhosle family of Hingani-Beradi were contemporaries of Shahaji, the father of *Chhatrapati* Shivaji and one of the ancestors of the Bhosles of Nagpur who rehabilitated the village of Beradi was probably the contemporary of Maloji, the grandfather of *Chhatrapati* Shivaji. There is, however, no independent historical evidence to establish a common ancestry between the two families in the few generations preceding *Chhatrapati* Shivaji.

It is, however, of interest to note that one Sabaji Bhosle according to Malhar Ramrav Chitnis and one Shahaji Bhosle according to Grant Duff performed the obsequies after the death of Shivaji as his son Sambhaji was then in confinement in the fort of Panhala. Though there is no uniformity regarding the name of the person who performed the obsequies of *Chhatrapati* Shivaji, the name Sabaji Bhosle, the ancestor of the famous Raghuji Bhosle performing the obsequies, indicates that there was a close blood relationship between the Bhosles of Nagpur and the Bhosle house to which *Chhatrapati* Shivaji belonged. There is ample material and circumstantial evidence to suggest this bond of close blood relationship between the two families if not a common ancestry for both. For example, at the time of the Shahu *Chhatrapati's* home-coming when Tarabai and her partisans purposely cast doubt about Shahu being the grandson of Shivaji and called him an impostor, it was Parasoji Bhosle of the Nagpur house who dined with Shahu and dispelled any doubt about his pure ancestry. Similarly, it was during the last days of Shahu, that he contemplated to adopt a person from the Bhosle house of Nagpur to succeed him as he had no son. These facts do indicate the possibility of a common ancestor of all Bhosles of Satara and Nagpur though as said earlier there is no positive evidence to establish the existence of such a relationship.

The two Bhosle brothers Rupaji and Mudhoji referred to earlier were noted roving soldiers. Rupaji, it seems, was staying at Bham where he held a *jagir* and also with him were Parasoji and Sabaji, the sons of Mudhoji. They served in the army of *Chhatrapati* Shivaji. Parasoji seems to have secured distinction by his inroads into the territories of Berar and Gondawana from where he exacted tribute during the reign of Shivaji. After the death of Sambhaji, during the Moghal-Maratha conflict, Parasoji rendered invaluable help to Rajaram who had succeeded to the throne of *Chhatrapati*. For this he was rewarded by Rajaram by presenting him robes of honour, *jaripatka* and the title of *Sena-saheb-subha*. In addition, the territories of Gondawana, Devagad, Chanda and Berar from which he had exacted tribute were given to his charge under a grant made in 1699 A.D.

In 1707 after the death of Aurangzeb when Shahu was released by Muhammad Azam, Parasoji Bhosle was the first of the Maratha nobles to join him in west Khandesh. In appreciation of the services rendered by Parasoji to Shahu, the latter conferred upon him the title of *sena-saheb-subha* and issued a *sanad* granting him and his successors in perpetuity *mokasa* of the following places:—

- (1) *Prant* Ritapur and *sarkar* Gavel, *Prant* Berar, *Prant* Devagad, Chanda and Gondawana.
- (2) Mahalwise details of Anagondi, Berar, etc.:—

<i>Sarkar</i>	<i>Mahals</i> ¹
Gavel	46
Narnala	37
Mahur	19
Khedlale	21
Pavnar	5
Kalamb	19
Total	147

Parasoji collected tributes from Berar, but in 1709 on his return from Satara he died at Khed.

Parasoji was succeeded by his son Kanhoji, who was granted his hereditary title of *Sena-saheb-subha* by *Chhatrapati* Shahu. Kanhoji firmly established the Maratha power in Berar and Gondavana and made Bham his headquarters. In the early months of 1715 Kanhoji alongwith Khanderav Dabhade entered Malva and burnt and plundered Ujjain and the regions round about, but both suffered a crushing defeat on 10th May at the hands of Jayasingh. Again in the struggle between the Sayyad brothers and the Nizam, Shahu who supported the former, sent Bajirav and Kanhoji Bhosle against the Nizam. In 1724, in the battle of Sakharkhedla when Kanhoji offered to help Mubarez Khan against the Nizam, the former impudently refused it. The relations between *Chhatrapati* Shahu and Kanhoji Bhosle, how-

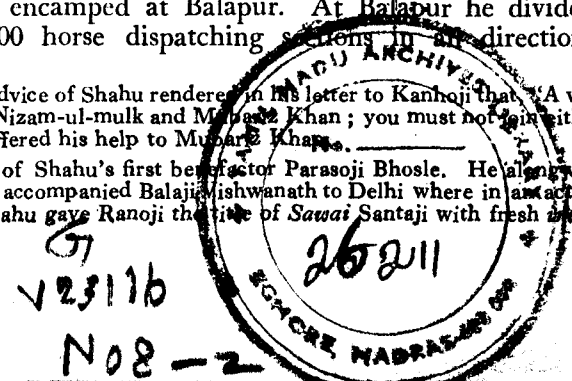
¹For the grant of these 147 *Mahals* from the six *Sarkars* there is, however, no documentary evidence.

ever, were not very cordial¹. There was also some estrangement between Kanhoji and Raghuji, his nephew, when Kanhoji had a son, Rayaji and Raghuji naturally went over to Shahu. A closer bond was established between *Chhatrapati* Shahu and Raghuji Bhosle when the latter received in marriage, the sister of Sagunabai, the wife of Shahu. It was now that Raghuji Bhosle in concert with Ranoji Bhosle of Amravati² demanded from Kanhoji their share of hereditary rights in Bhosle principality. Shahu first instructed Balaji Vishvanath, his *Peshva* to bring about an understanding between them and later he himself tried to conciliate them. Both Raghuji and Ranoji were asked to serve under Kanhoji which they refused to do though subsequently we find Kanhoji alongwith Fatehsingh Bhosle accompanying Bajirav and Raghuji Bhosle on their Karnatak expedition during 1725—1727. Kanhoji's relations with the *Peshva* were also not very cordial as among others he was one of the principal noblemen of Shahu who opposed Bajirav's claim to *Peshwaship* and he naturally became jealous of Bajirav with the growing power of the latter in the Maratha government. Kanhoji had constantly failed to submit accounts of his *jahagir* to Shahu and when called upon to explain his failure to make his revenue payments he could neither pay the dues nor explain the accounts. As the relations between the *Chhatrapati* and Kanhoji worsened, Kanhoji left Satara without taking Shahu's permission on 23rd August 1725 and in spite of being pursued by Yamaji Shivdev, succeeded in joining the Nizam. As Shahu remonstrated with the Nizam, the latter refused to give quarters to Kanhoji. An understanding subsequently brought about between Shahu and Kanhoji by Yesaji Siddheshwar, however, proved to be shortlived. All attempts at rapprochement having thus failed Shahu dispatched Raghuji against Kanhoji giving him Devur in *jahagir* and the title of *Sena-saheb-subha*. Raghuji was also given the *sanads* for Berar and Gondavana and the right to extend the levy of *chauthai* to Chhatisgad, Patna, Allahabad and Makasudabad. Raghuji was explicitly asked not to repeat Kanhoji's insolence and to pay the tribute regularly. Shahu appointed Anant Bhat Chitale in charge of the audits of Raghuji's *jahagir*.

Raghuji setting out to meet Kanhoji entered Berar via Aurangabad. He was obstructed near Jalna by Samsher Bahaddar Santaji Alore but a clash between the two was averted by the timely meditation between Dinkar Vinayak and Shivaji Vinayak from Raghuji's camp and Yeshvant Pilaji a relation of theirs from Santaji's camp. Raghuji advanced further and crossing the Lakhanvada ghats encamped at Balapur. At Balapur he divided his army of 30,000 horse dispatching sections in all directions

¹It was against the advice of Shahu rendered in his letter to Kanhoji that "A war is impending between Nizam-ul-mulk and Mubarez Khan; you must not join either party." that Kanhoji offered his help to Mubarez Khan.

²Ranoji was the son of Shahu's first benefactor Parasoji Bhosle. He alongwith his brother Santaji had accompanied Balaji Vishwanath to Delhi where in an action Santaji was killed. Shahu gave Ranoji the title of *Sawai* Santaji with fresh *dhams* and rewards.



collecting *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* in Berar in the name of Shahu. Raghuji defeated Shujayat Khan of Akola, the deputy of the *Nawab* of Ellichpur in the neighbourhood of Ellichpur and subjugated his territory. Having thus established himself firmly over a greater part of Berar, he proceeded towards Bham, the headquarters of his uncle Kanhoji. Kanhoji had prepared himself for adequate defence by fortifying Bham which Raghuji now besieged. Raghuji was now joined by his uncle Ranoji. In the meanwhile Kanhoji was negotiating with the Nizam. One of his lieutenants Tukoji Gujar was killed in an action. Finding himself in a difficult situation Kanhoji escaped from Bham. He was pursued by Raghuji and Ranoji, overtaken near Mandar where he was defeated and taken prisoner. Raghuji took him to Shahu, who imprisoned him in the fort of Satara where he spent the remaining part of his life as a prisoner.

It may here be noted that when these events were taking place, the relations between the Marathas and the Nizam were strained. The Nizam was overcome at Palkhed by the Marathas and he accepted defeat agreeing to Maratha claims of *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* to the six *subhas* of the Deccan. After the battle of Palkhed Bajirav and his brother Chimaji Appa planned an invasion of Malva in 1728, Chimaji taking the western route through Baglan and Khandesh and Bajirav taking the eastern route through Ahmadnagar, Berar, Chanda, Bhandara and Devgad. Chimaji won a decisive victory over Giridhar Bahadur, the Governor of Malva, on 29th November 1728 at Anjhera thus extending the Maratha sphere of influence in Central India. The plans for the ultimate acquisition of Malva were thus laid.

At the time Shahu conferred the title of *Sena-saheb-subha* on Raghuji, he gave a bond to the *Chhatrapati* which stated :

- (1) That he would maintain a body of 5,000 horse for the service of the State;
- (2) pay an annual sum of Rs. 9 lakhs;
- (3) pay half of the tribute, prizes, property and other contributions excluding the *ghasdama*;
- (4) raise 10,000 horse when required, and accompany the *Peshva* or proceed to any place he might be ordered¹;

The document is of importance in the context of determining the future relationship between the *Chhatrapati* and Raghuji and that between the *Peshva* and Raghuji. Raghuji had now consolidated his position at Bham in Berar and had gained valuable experience of political intrigue and diplomacy in his quarrel with his uncle Kanhoji. He was sufficiently politically mature to realise that if he wanted to fulfil his territorial ambitions, he would have to throw in his lot with *Chhatrapati* Shahu and carve out an independent sphere for himself in the north rather than in the Deccan where the possibilities of confrontation with the

¹ A History of the Marathas, Grant Duff, Vol. I, p. 424.

Peshva were many. Raghuji, in his earlier career, before finally coming over to *Chhatrapati* Shahu had served under both his uncles Ranoji and Kanhoji. As he did not fare well with his uncle Kanhoji, he entered the services of Chand Sultan of Devagad. For some time he was also with the *nawab* of Ellichpur¹. Under Shahu he was sent to Karnatak with Fatehsing Bhosle and in this expedition he distinguished himself as a capable soldier. It was only when Shahu was convinced of Raghuji's capabilities that he sent him against the recalcitrant Kanhoji. His success earned him the title of *sena-saheb-subha* as stated earlier. In his subsequent career Raghuji first engaged himself in subjugating the Gond kingdoms of Devagad, Gadha-Mandla, Chanda and Chhatisgad, which were torn apart by internal dissensions and internecine wars. It was then that for a brief period, he was sent to Karnatak on an independent expedition by Shahu during 1739-40. The last phase of his life was taken up by the Bengal wars leading to the extension of Maratha influence in that sector of India and to the acquisition of Orissa. It was during these expeditions against Bengal that Raghuji came in clash with the *Peshva* Balaji Bajirav who did not uphold Raghuji's claim in the eastern sector of the Indian Subcontinent. It is necessary to take a review of these activities of Raghuji in general and assess them in so far as they affect the history of the Bhandara district in particular.

It has already been stated that Raghuji, after he quarrelled with his uncle Kanhoji, entered the services of Chand Sultan of Devagad. After the death of Chand Sultan in about 1738 his illegitimate son Wali Shah killed Mir Bahadar, the elder son of Chand Sultan, whereupon the widow of Chand Sultan, Rani Ratan Kuar, asked for Raghuji's help. Raghuji agreed and leaving Bham, his headquarters proceeded to Patansavangi where he defeated Wali Shah's generals. He then stayed at Keljhar for some time and marched towards the Bhandara district. He conquered Pauni, south of Bhandara on the banks of Wainganga, after a stiff battle with the *thanedar* of that place. He appointed his own officer Tulojirampant to command the place. Raghuji then proceeded towards the fort of Bhanore or modern Bhandara and besieged the fort². On receipt of this news Wali Shah sent his *Diwan* Raghunathsingh with a large force to relieve the pressure on the besieged garrison of the fort. Raghuji decided to work a stratagem with a view to entrap the advancing forces of Raghunathsingh. Raghuji's besieging army was camping at Shirasghat near Bhandara on the banks of the river Wainganga. Raghuji split his army into two divisions, stationing one at Sonbardi and the other at Giroli. He briefed his general

¹ It would thus appear that Raghuji was a free soldier in the early part of his career shifting his loyalty from his uncle to the weak Gond *Rajas*. This was rather a time-honoured expedient resorted to by many an ambitious soldier and Raghuji was no exception to it.

² It is said that before Raghuji laid siege to the fort he took the blessings of Devha, a Hindu saint and Pir Shah, a Muslim saint, both of Bhandara.

Raghuji Karande about his plan to trap the enemy forces into those two army groups, by himself pretending to be running away from the field of battle and thus bring Raghunathsingh to his ultimate doom. Raghuji's ruse succeeded when Raghunathsingh and his Gond forces attacked the retreating troops of Raghuji under the impression that they are on the run. In the meanwhile the Maratha divisions stationed at Sonbardi and Giroli attacked Raghunathsingh's army and routed it. The battle was fought near a *doh* in the Wainganga between Sonbardi and Mirnagar and many of the fleeing troops of the Gond army were drowned. Raghunathsingh himself was wounded and captured. Raghuji won him over to his side by granting him certain promises and dispatched him to Devagad with an understanding that he would help Raghuji in capturing Wali Shah by treachery. The siege of the Bhandara fort was now vigorously prosecuted. Hari Patil, the commandant of the fort, resisted bravely for twenty-two days, but Raghuji, making use of treachery, forced the commandant to surrender the fort. Hari Patil who was brought before Raghuji was ordered to be executed by him but he was pardoned by the intercession of Raghuji's general, Raghuji Karande. Bhandara was a place of strategic importance and its capture was of immense importance in the context of Raghuji's plan of eastward expansion.

From Bhandara Raghuji marched to Devagad. Wali Shah, who was then in the fort, was advised by Raghunathsingh to move out of the fort as preplanned. An action took place between Raghuji's forces and Wali Shah in which Wali Shah was defeated and made a prisoner. Raghuji called upon Rani Ratan Kuvar and put her son on the throne. The Rani regarded Raghuji as her third son and bestowed upon him the third part of the kingdom of Devagad as also a sum of rupees ten lakhs as war indemnity. Raghuji was granted a *sanad* accordingly by Rani Ratan Kuvar in 1737 at his own instance. The *sanad* states that the fort of Pavni alongwith Balapur, *Paragana* Mulatai with Chikhali and 156 villages under the said *paragana*, the whole of *paragana* Marud were granted to Raghuji and his successors in perpetuity. The Rani also agreed that she would not enter into a treaty with any other power without the knowledge of Raghuji. The district of Bhandara thus passed under direct Maratha rule. With its acquisition alongwith the territory below the ghats, Raghuji appointed his officers in the newly acquired territory and established important posts therein.

It was at this time that Raghuji shifted his headquarters from Bham in Yeotmal district to Nagpur which must have considerably added to the importance of Bhandara district, with Bhandara occupying a place of strategic importance in the outlying areas. In 1748 Raghunathsingh, the *Diwan* of Devagad, tried to overthrow Raghuji's authority by taking advantage of some disturbances in the remnant Devagad territory. Raghuji, therefore, brought both Akbar Shah and Burhan Shah to Nagpur under his direct protection and managed their territory himself. With

this the Gond kingdom of Devagad faded into insignificance. With the passage of time the entire territory of Devagad passed under the direct rule of the Bhosles of Nagpur. The Bhosles, however, gave due respect to the Gond Kings and submitted them their dues regularly. The relationship between the Gond Kings and the Bhosle *Rajas* of Nagpur was much the same if not more honourable as that existing between the *Chhatrapatis* of Satara and the *Peshvas*.

Raghuji now firmly established himself into Gondavana and with the exception of a few minor disturbances his authority was not challenged. One such episode involved the commandant of Brahmapuri, Khemansingh and his brother Abheray. Raghuji Karande was sent by Raghuji against him. Marching through Bhandara district, Raghuji Karande attacked the fort which capitulated to him after a siege of 12 days. Khemansingh was enrolled into the service of Raghuji. As stated earlier, the fort of Bhandara was captured by Raghuji after the battle of Sonbardi. Its commandant Hari Patil was reappointed as commandant on the advice of Raghuji Karande. He now became restless and refractory. He was, therefore, removed and Khemansingh was appointed in his place as the commandant of the fort of Bhandara.

It may be noted that after Kanhoji's death, his son, Rayaji had his headquarters at Bham but was attacked there by Raghuji in 1739. Their dispute was, however, ultimately settled by Balaji Bajirav, the third *Peshva* on 15th November 1748. Rayaji and Ranoji had further misgivings about their *saranjam* with Raghuji Bhosle, and certain *mokasas* even of the *Peshva* could not escape the ravishing strides of Rayaji's army. However, Rayaji died, leaving no heir, and Raghuji Bhosle secured a fresh *sanad* from Shahu *Chhatrapati* which bestowed upon him the right to collect *chauthai* and *mokasa* of Lucknow, Makasudabad, Berar, Bengal, Bitia, Bundelkhand, Allahabad, Hajipur, Patna and of the Gond Kingdoms of Devagad, Gadha, Bhavargad and Chanda. This very information given by Wills runs as follows: "while returning from Satara Shahu *Chhatrapati* bestowed Gondawana *jhadi* upto Katak free of revenue upon the *sena-saheb-subha*." Gondawana *jhadi* is the ancient Zadi Mandla to the east of the Wardha river which included Nagpur, Bhandara, Chanda, etc.

It may be noted that the relations between *Peshva* Bajirav and Raghuji Bhosle were not very cordial though there had never been an occasion for open confrontation between them. As a matter of fact, Bajirav in all his campaigns sought the help of Raghuji and on many occasions it was granted though grudgingly by Raghuji. In 1736 the relations between the Marathas and the Nizam headed towards a crisis and the latter was trapped at Bhopal by Bajirav. At this critical hour Raghuji avoided sending reinforcement to Bajirav and taking advantage of Bajirav's pre-occupation with the Nizam, Raghuji proceeded as far as Allahabad subjugating Gadha-Mandla and exacting tributes from the *Raja*. Bajirav resented this act of Raghuji and sent his officer

Awji Kawade accompanied by Antaji Mankeshvar against Raghuji. Awji Kawade was, however, defeated by Bhaskar Hari, Krishnaji Atole and Ali Khan sent by Raghuji. Awji Kawade thereupon started depredations in Raghuji's territory. Raghuji strongly protested to Shahu for these actions of the *Peshva's* Officer. Shahu wrote to Bajirav, instructing him to call off his officers from Berar. In the meanwhile Bajirav himself contemplated action against Raghuji, but dropped the idea consequent upon Nadirshah's invasion of Delhi and Chimaji's advice not to press matters against Raghuji. The attitude of Bajirav stemmed from his position as the *Peshva* of the *Chhatrapati* and in that capacity he naturally expected obedience from the other officers of the kingdom. Raghuji's attitude to the *Peshva* was mainly due to his independence of character, his close relationship with *Chhatrapati* Shahu and the jealousy he felt towards the *Peshva* for his dominance in Maratha politics. This jealousy was continued subsequently during the *Peshvaship* of Balaji Bajirav whose claim to *Peshvaship* Raghuji disputed by supporting Babuji Naik's claim to that post and ultimately leading to a clash of arms between the two which did considerable damage to the fortunes of Maratha kingdom.

It was in 1740 that Raghuji Bhosle was sent to Karnatak along with Fatehsingh Bhosle with a large force to the succour of Raja Pratapsinh. The *prant* of Karnatak was in a state of utter chaos after the death of Aurangzeb, with the numerous principalities trying to extend their territory at the cost of each other. Under Aurangzeb Karnatak formed part of the *subhas* of Bijapur and Hyderabad and both these *subhas* were included in the *sanad* given to Shahu by Emperor Muhammad Shah conferring upon him the right of collecting *chauthai* in the six *subhas* of the Deccan. The tributary States of Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Mysore were naturally subject to the levy of *chauthai*. The Nizam as the *subhedar* of the Deccan, disputed this claim of the Marathas and claimed the territories as his own. Of the various principalities in Karnatak which were constantly engaged in wars, the strongest were those of Arcot, Shira, Kadappa, Karnool and Savanur. The ruler of Tanjore, Pratapsinh, who was a cousin of *Chhatrapati* Shahu was constantly harassed by Chanda Saheb, the son-in-law of Dost Ali, the *navab* of Arcot. Pratapsinh appealed to Shahu for help. The latter dispatched a large force under Fatehsingh Bhosle and ordered Raghuji to follow. Raghuji after making due arrangements in the provinces of Devagad and Nagpur proceeded towards Karnatak*. On his arrival in Karnatak he took command of the campaign. The Marathas now attacked Arcot, killed Dost Ali and then advanced towards Trichinopoly, the stronghold of Chanda Saheb and besieged the fort. As Chanda Saheb failed to receive any help from his brother Bada Saheb, he capitulated to Raghuji on 14th March 1741. Both Chanda Saheb and his son were made prisoners by Raghuji

*As Raghuji delayed his departure, Shahu reprimanded him by writing a strongly worded letter to him (*Rajwade Khanda* 6, *Lekh* 149).

and sent to Nagpur. Raghuji's leadership and tact in the Karnatak campaign at once enhanced his prestige at the court of Shahu. He received Fatehsingh and Raghuji Bhosle at Satara with high encomiums and in appreciation of the services rendered by Raghuji, conferred upon him the *mokasa* of Berar and Gondavana right up to the frontiers of Katak. It could well be said that the Karnatak campaign gave Raghuji eminence at the court of Satara and eventually in the Maratha confederacy. It helped in giving him a status on a par with the *Peshva*.

As stated earlier, it was the eastward expansion of the Maratha power thought of by both *Peshva* Balaji Bajirav and Raghuji Bhosle, that brought them into direct confrontation with each other. The Marathas had first made their incursions into Orissa under Kanhoji without, however, securing a stronghold there. To Raghuji, after he defeated his uncle Kanhoji, Shahu had granted a *sanad* of Berar and Gondavana and of the right to collect *chauthai* of Chhattisgad, Patna, Allahabad and Maksudabad. It will be interesting to note that this *sanad* was granted by Shahu in a completely foreign territory that belonged to the Moghal emperors. Balaji Bajirav, who was as ambitious as Raghuji had also broached to *Chhatrapati* the necessity of strengthening the Maratha position not only in Malva and Bundelkhand but in the territories lying beyond towards the east. A clash, therefore, between the *Peshva* and Raghuji Bhosle was inevitable and with the death of Bajirav in 1740, the relationship between the two assumed an added sting.

A brief description of the situation in Bengal would explain why Maratha incursions were made possible in that province. In 1740, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa were under the jurisdiction of the *navab* who resided at Murshidabad. These three provinces were formerly under the excellent rule of Murshid Kuli Khan, who had died in 1727. He was succeeded by Shuja Khan, who died in 1739. Shuja Khan was succeeded by his son Sarfaraz Khan, who was killed by an ambitious Turk in his service, named Alivardi Khan who now assumed the *Navabship*. This usurpation by Alivardi Khan was strongly resented by a strong faction in Alivardi's court headed by Mir Habib who had risen to the deputy *navabship* of Orissa. He now appealed to Raghuji for help. Raghuji at that time was engaged in his Karnatak campaign and his general at Nagpur, Bhaskar Ram was disinclined to undertake major operations in Bengal in the absence of Raghuji. When Raghuji returned to Nagpur after the conclusion of his Karnatak campaign, he was informed of the political situation in Bengal and the offer made by Mir Habib pertaining to Bengal territory if help was extended to him. This was a very tempting offer to Raghuji, who looked on this eastern province of Bengal as his special sphere and he made thorough preparations by fitting out a strong expedition for proceeding into Orissa and Bengal. At this very time the *Peshva* himself conceived the plan of taking a hand in the affairs of Bengal. The expedition started on the *Dasara day* of 1741 headed by Bhaskar Ram. Bhaskar Ram

marched through Ramgad and plundered the district of Burdvan. When Alivardi Khan, who was at this time returning from Katak, heard of these Maratha activities he rapidly marched to Burdvan with a slender force. It was here that the Marathas surprised and surrounded him and started plundering and devastating the adjoining districts. Alivardi Khan, finding himself in a desperate situation, begged for peace but as Bhaskar Ram demanded very high terms the negotiations broke down. Alivardi, thereupon, secretly left for Katva, but was hotly pursued by the Marathas when his escape became known. As the monsoon was approaching Bhaskar Ram decided to retire to Nagpur. Mir Habib, however, prevailed upon him to prolong his stay by placing before him the prospect of obtaining immense wealth by suddenly falling upon Murshidabad. Bhaskar Ram agreed and Mir Habib, taking a select Maratha force, fell on Murshidabad on 6th May 1742, rapidly plundering its treasure. He returned to Katva loaded with plunder amounting to between two and three crores of rupees. The Marathas subsequently extended their sway over territory up to Calcutta and recaptured Orissa. Alivardi Khan now contrived a plan to take revenge upon the Marathas and attacked the Maratha camp at Katva on 27th September 1742 when the Marathas were busy celebrating the *Durgapuja* festival. The Marathas were forced to flee for safety, Bhaskar Ram retreating to Pachet. Burdvan, Hugli, Hijli and Katak were retaken by Alivardi Khan. Bhaskar Ram immediately informed Raghuji of this disaster and requested for additional reinforcement. Raghuji however, could not at once go to the relief of Bhaskar-pant owing to his clash with Balaji Bajirav *Peshva*.

As stated earlier, the common aspirations of both Balaji Bajirav *Peshva* and Raghuji Bhosle in the north led to a violent clash between the two. The *Peshva*, who had left Pune as early as 1741, had claimed the revenues of Bengal and just then captured Gadha and Mandla, plundering the *Paraganas* of Seoni and Chhapar which Raghuji considered as his sphere. Raghuji strongly protested to *Chhatrapati* Shahu against the *Peshva* who had now firmly planted himself in Malva. In the meanwhile Alivardi Khan, who was not aware of the relations between Raghuji and the *Peshva* feared a joint attack from both of them. He, therefore, applied to the emperor for help. The *Peshva*, on the other hand, communicated his readiness to help the emperor if the *chauth* of Malva, Bundel Khand and Allahabad was granted to him. The emperor agreed to the *Peshva's* proposals and directed him to go to the succour of Alivardi Khan who undertook to pay the *Peshva's* expenses. A meeting that took place between the *Peshva* and Raghuji at Gaya was devoid of any concrete understanding between the two¹. From Gaya the *Peshva* proceeded to Murshidabad where he was met by Alivardi Khan on 1st February 1743. The latter agreed to pay the *Peshva* Rs. 22 lakhs towards his expenses and the annual *chauth* of Bengal to

¹*Parandare Daftar* 1, 152.

the *Chhatrapati*. The *Peshva* encountered Raghuji on 10th April in the narrow of Bendu near Pachet when Raghuji started retreating from Katva after forming a plan to fight rear guard actions with the pursuing *Peshva's* army. The encounter between the two was not an all out one as Raghuji's main army had already retreated through the pass and Raghuji's loss was negligible. From Pachet Raghuji went to Nagpur and the *Peshva* to Gaya on his return to Pune. The differences between the *Peshva* and Raghuji and now their actual clash alarmed Shahu. He summoned both of them to Satara where they were reconciled. An agreement was signed by both on 31st August 1743 at Satara by which all the territory from Berar to the east right up to Cuttack, Bengal and Lucknow was assigned to Raghuji with which the *Peshva* bound himself not to interfere whereas the territory west of this line including Ajmere, Agra, Prayag and Malva was to be the exclusive sphere of the *Peshva*¹. Raghuji, after this understanding with *Peshva*, returned to Nagpur and dispatched Bhaskar Ram early in 1744 to complete his unfinished work in Bengal fully equipped with men and material. Alivardi Khan was harassed by Bhaskar Ram and Mir Habib for payment of *chauth*. Finding himself incapable of fighting it out with Bhaskar Ram Alivardi Khan formed a plan of killing Bhaskar Ram by inviting him to a private meeting and have him murdered with all his party. The proposed meeting took place on the plain of Mankara between Amaniganj and Katva on Friday 30th March 1744. Bhaskar Ram had not heeded the warning sounded by Mir Habib and had gone to the meeting with a few select men when all of a sudden at a signal from Alivardi Khan his soldiers rushed in the tent and cut down Bhaskar Ram along with his comrades.

Bhaskar Ram's murder was an irreparable loss to Raghuji and he never forgot the treacherous act of the Khan. With a view to punishing the Khan, Raghuji started with fourteen thousand cavalry, crossed the mountainous tract and putting Sambalpur to his left reached Orissa in March, 1745. Durlabhram, the new deputy governor of Orissa, who was taken by surprise, entered the fort of Barabati for safety. The fort was besieged by Raghuji, Durlabhram soon surrendered to Raghuji and found himself a prisoner in his camp, but the siege continued as another officer, Abdul Aziz, offered stiff resistance. Alivardi was unable to send supplies to Abdul Aziz at the approach of the rainy season. Abdul, therefore, surrendered the fort to Raghuji on 12th May 1745, after bravely defending it for two months. When the siege was on, the Marathas occupied Orissa as far as Midnapur and Hugli, and plundered Burdvan².

After capturing the fort of Barabati the Marathas moved to Burdvan. At the invitation of a number of disgruntled Afghans Raghuji marched towards Bihar. An indecisive battle was fought

¹*Chitnis Bakhar* p. 79; *Aitihāsik Patravṇavahar* 35-39; *Nanasahb Rojnishi* 1-10; *Rajwade Volume* 2, pp. 98-99.

²*Ibid*, p. 14.

at Mehlib Alipur and Alivardi ran towards Murshidabad on 21st December 1745. At Ramdighi near Katva Raghuji received a terrible set-back and left for Nagpur in January of 1746. He stationed three thousand Marathas under Mir Habib on the understanding that he would pay rupees eleven lacs for the use of his army¹.

In order to checkmate the Marathas Alivardi sent his men from Murshidabad in November, 1746. They inflicted a crushing defeat upon the Marathas at Midnapur. The Marathas fled towards Balasore through Jaleshvar.

By this time Janoji Bhosle appeared on the scene. He reached Katak for the rescue of Mir Habib. A stiff battle ensued between Janoji and Alivardi, but as the rains were on, the latter returned to Murshidabad, leaving the Marathas masters of Orissa up to Midnapur throughout the year 1747. The plundering operations of the Marathas continued unabated. Janoji returned to Nagpur on hearing the news of his mother's death. Mir Habib was at Midnapur with a Maratha force to help him. Raghuji sent his son Sabaji for the assistance of Habib.

In 1748 Alivardi reached Balasore and despatched his army to drive away the Marathas, who were making preparations to plunder the English factory under the command of Nilo Pandit. He in vain tried to search for the force under Habib, who was hiding in the jungles of Katak. He then made a surprise attack on the fort of Barabati and was finally able to take it in his possession. In June, 1749, Alivardi returned to Bengal.

Mir Habib with the Maratha force reappeared at Katak, Alivardi had to postpone his attack on the Marathas as the rains had set in. On his reaching Murshidabad he was taken ill in October 1749².

From October, 1749 to March, 1751, the Marathas did not allow Alivardi to rest. They harassed him by avoiding an open war when he came out with a large army from Murshidabad. In 1750 when Alivardi was at Midnapur the Marathas quickly marched towards Murshidabad plundering all the way. Durlabhram and Mir Jafar, the officers who were stationed at Midnapur were nervous and unable to check the Maratha inroads. This lingering war was a great drain on Alivardi's resources and men. The territory under him was a house divided against itself. In 1750 Alivardi was a man of 75, physically ailing. As the situation was intolerable, his shrewd wife advised him to negotiate with the Marathas. Old Alivardi accepted his wife's counsel and deputed Mir Jafar to meet Janoji and Mir Habib to settle the terms of peace. For more than a couple of years Janoji was in Orissa or Raghuji was busy with the political affairs at Satara and Nagpur. The treaty was signed in May, 1751.

¹ OUM., pp. 15, 16.

² OUM., pp. 16, 17.

Raghuji Gaikwad who was guarding the Maratha camp, eluded the pursuers and reached Nagpur. He communicated the news of this tragedy to Raghuji who decided to take revenge for this act of treachery. Raghuji consoled Konher Ram, Bhaskar Ram's brother, and assigned the *subha* of Berar to Taibai, the wife of Bhaskar Ram. It was, however, in February, 1745 that Raghuji left Nagpur for his Eastern expedition. He captured Cuttack on 6th May and demanded a fine of 3 crores of rupees from Alivardi Khan for the murder of his brave general. For the rainy season he cantoned at Birbhum but had to sustain a defeat later in December near Murshidabad, upon which he hastened back to Nagpur leaving a party of 3,000 troops for the assistance of Mir Habib¹ who remained in possession of Orissa. In 1746 Raghuji sent his son Janoji against Alivardi Khan. He, joining forces with Mir Habib, defeated Alivardi Khan near Burdwan. Janoji, however, subsequently suffered defeat at the hands of Alivardi Khan and retraced his steps to Nagpur. The plundering operations of the Marathas still continued unabated. Raghuji now dispatched his third son Sabaji to Bengal. Sabaji and Mir Habib did their best to harass the *Navab* in all possible ways and made the situation so intolerable for him that ultimately he agreed for an accommodation with the Marathas. He sent Mir Jafar to settle the terms of peace and a protracted negotiation resulted in a solemn treaty signed in May, 1751 containing the following terms:—

- (1) That Mir Habib be confirmed in the government of Orissa, as the *Naib* or deputy of the *subhedar* of Murshidabad;
- (2) That the *Navab* should annually pay twelve lakhs of rupees to the Bhosle of Nagpur for the *chauth* of Bengal and Bihar;
- (3) When these amounts are regularly paid, the Bhosles should no longer harass the two provinces by their expeditions;
- (4) That the district of Cuttack, *i.e.*, territory up to the river Suvarnarekha be considered Bhosles' possession.

The treaty thus ensured the imposition of the *chauth* upon Bengal and Bihar and the possession of Cuttack. Raghuji's tenacity and perseverance are well exemplified in this ten-year struggle for the conquest of Bengal. He, however, gradually lost his health and breathed his last at Nagpur on 14th of February 1755. It may be noted here that it was through the Bhandara district that most of the Bengal expeditions of Raghuji Bhosle and his general Bhaskar Ram as also of his sons Janoji and Sabaji passed. In this context the district of Bhandara assumed importance in that it provided a safe passage for these expeditions bounded as it was on its northern and southern boundaries by the thick forests of Balaghat and Chanda, respectively. Naturally the

district of Bhandara had an equal share in the fortunes of the Nagpur territory on account of its geographical and strategic position during the times of Raghuji Bhosle I.

Raghuji's territory included the area from Berar to Katak. The Gond Kingdoms of Gadha-Mandla, Chanda or Chandrapur and Devagad were in his possession. Berar proper was under the dual authority of the Bhosles and the Nizam. Originally the Bhosles were to get from the revenue of Berar 25 per cent as *chauthai*, 10 per cent as *sardeshmukhi* and 5 per cent as *ghasdana*, the total working at 40 per cent. The remaining 60 per cent of the total revenue of Berar was to go to the Nizam. But later, this original treaty seems to have been reversed by which the Bhosles secured 60 per cent of the revenue and the Nizam the remaining 40 per cent.

The strategic forts of Gavilgad and Narnala with the territory attached to them were exclusively under Raghuji's possession. Similarly, the fort of Manikdurg in the Mahur area belonged to him. As already observed, the States of Chhattisgad were also under his sway as important outposts between Nagpur and province of Katak. The acquisition of this vast territory speaks for Raghuji's generalship. He might have lost a few battles but he always won the war. In diplomacy, as understood in his day, he was second to none. By his mounting successes he won the confidence of *Chhatrapati* Shahu and on critical occasions he was consulted by him. Shahu prior to his death, had called Raghuji to Satara to discuss the matter of succession to the *Chhatrapati's gadi*. Raghuji was related to Shahu through his wife.

Like Bajirav I, Raghuji too was loved by his followers. He had capable and trustworthy persons like Bhaskarpant, Raghuji Karande, Tulojipant, Naroji Jachaka, Rakhamaji Ganesh, Krishnaji Atole and others.

Raghuji and the *Peshvas* were not always on good terms. The rivalry between the two goes back to the days of *Peshva* Bajirav I. The spheres of influence of Raghuji and Bajirav came into conflict when Bajirav secured one-third part of Bundelkhand for the timely help rendered to Chhatrasal against Bangash. When Bajirav was fighting with the Nizam at Bhopal in 1738, Raghuji did not offer him any help in spite of repeated requests. In the agreement between Raghuji and Shahu, it was clearly stated that the former would accompany the *Peshva* in his campaigns. But actually neither Bajirav nor his son Balaji was able to command the services of Raghuji in their capacity as the *Peshva* or Prime Minister. *Chhatrapati* Shahu too often found it difficult to exercise control when two or more of his high servants were at sixes and sevens. Lack of strong central authority was rather the serious defect from which the Maratha power suffered in the post-Shivaji period.

Raghuji avoided an open clash with Bajirav knowing well his ability as also the influence he wielded over the *Chhatrapati*.

Bajirav too acting on the advice of his brother Chimajiappa settled his differences with Raghuji amicably.

The differences between Raghuji and Balaji *Peshva* over the eastern sphere are historic. They were settled by the mild-tempered Shahu, who divided the spheres of activity of the two by granting Raghuji the territory from Nagpur to Katak and to the *Peshva* to the west of this line. Raghuji supported Babuji Naik who was aspiring for *Peshvaship* as against Balaji Bajirav. But so long as Shahu was alive, such differences were not allowed to take a serious turn. After Shahu's death Raghuji respected the *Peshva's* authority. He did not join the *Peshva's* opponents in the Maratha confederacy, being convinced that he was the ablest man among the Marathas to occupy the *Peshvaship*. Raghuji knew well when to oppose and when to yield. He was not prepared to allow matters to be carried to the breaking point unnecessarily. In one of his letters to Nana *Peshva* he writes 'the late *Shrimant* Bajirav was kind to me. But differences arose when we had a clash with Avaji Kavade who had entered Berar. All these matters should now be forgotten and I should be treated as your man.'¹ Balaji *Peshva*, on learning the death of Raghuji, wrote, 'Raghuji was a respectable nobleman. His death is indeed a matter of great regret. God's will has to be accepted. Of late Raghuji was of much help to us.'²

Raghuji was a self-made man. He had risen to the status of a first-rate nobleman at the court of Shahu by the dint of his merit. He, therefore, regarded that his status was on par with that of the *Peshva* for all practical purposes. He disliked that the *Peshva* should interfere with his sphere of influence. It may be observed that for this mutual jealousy neither the *Peshva* nor Raghuji was so much at fault. The defect lay in the weakness of the central authority. In the absence of a strong centre the Marathas were not able to create an effective confederacy which could enforce its authority over all.

Raghuji was mainly responsible for the prosperity of Nagpur territory. He brought along with him a number of Maratha and Brahman families from western Maharashtra who infused new order and life in the administration of Nagpur and Berar. Cultivation of Nagpur improved under Raghuji. A number of Kumbi or cultivators' families settled in the territory under Raghuji. The credit of settling the weavers or Koshtis also goes to Raghuji Bhosle.

Raghuji was a devotee of Rama. He installed the idol of Rama at Ramtek and revived the importance of this place of epic fame. He made land grants to many other temples and holy places. The *Jari pataka* and the saffron-coloured flag were the emblems of Raghuji.

Raghuji had four sons—Janoji and Sabaji who were born of the younger wife, and Mudhoji and Bimbaji of the elder one.

¹PD. 20, p. 30.

²PD. 20, p. 68.

Janoji was the eldest among these brothers and Raghuji willed that Janoji should become the *sena-saheb-subha* and others should get their due shares of his territory. Disregarding this Mudhoji claimed the position of *sena-saheb-subha* on the ground that he was the son of the eldest wife of Raghuji. He also wrote letters to Janoji with an address proper only to a younger brother. Janoji had the support of a number of courtiers like Krishnaji Govindrav, the *subhedar* of Berar, Narhar Ballal, the *subhedar* of Nagpur, Shivabhat Sathe, the *subhedar* of Cuttack and others such as Raghuji Karande, Bimbaji Vinjal, Naroji Jachak, Shivaji Keshva Talkute, Anandrav Vagh and Krishnaji Atole. On the other hand, Mudhoji was backed by his *divan* Sadashiv Hari, Dinkar Vinayak, Shivaji Vinayak and Narasingrav Bhavani. The dispute was referred to the *Peshva* Balaji Bajirav. Both of them were called to Pune. The title of *sena-saheb-subha* was conferred on Janoji while the new title of *Senadhurandhar* was created for Mudhoji. Mudhoji received Chandrapur or Chanda and Chhattisgad with the former as his seat of administration. Bimbaji was to reside in Chhattisgad and Sabaji at Darva in Berar. The Bhosle brothers agreed to pay to the *Peshva* a sum of twenty lacs as a present on this occasion according to the time-honoured custom. Actually the *sanad* of *sena-saheb-subha* was issued as late as 1761 by Tarabai when Madhavrav I assumed *Peshvaship*.

By about 1759, the two brothers tried to settle their differences by resorting to arms. A battle was fought near Rahatgaon in which Mudhoji was forced to retreat. In the treaty that followed, it was decided that Mudhoji should actively participate in the administration and Raghuji Karande, Trimbakji Raje (Wavikar), Bhosle and Piraji Nimbalkar should act as mediators with a view to avoid any rupture in future. Piraji Nimbalkar along with his force of six thousand was brought into the service of Janoji by Divakarpant.

In 1760 Janoji and Mudhoji appealed to Sadashivrav to settle their dispute. Sadashivrav offered to settle it but asked them to run to his help at Udgir in his war against the Nizam. Both the brothers hastened to help Sadashivrav but the latter had concluded a treaty with the Nizam before the armies of the Bhosles could be brought into the field. It may here be noted that Mudhoji was mainly against Divakarpant and Balaji Keshav, the two officers of Janoji. Before the two brothers, therefore, proceeded to help Sadashivrav Bhau, Mudhoji secured an understanding from Janoji that both the above officers should be arrested and the former should be imprisoned in the fort of Devagad and the latter in the fort of Ambegad in Bhandara district. When Divakarpant and Balaji Keshav were informed of this development both of them wrote to the *Peshva* to intercede in their behalf. It appears that the matter was subsequently dropped at the intercession of the *Peshva*.

Later, Mudhoji was forced to leave the fort of Chanda when two of his trusted officers Abaji Bhosle and Gangadharpant

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turned against him. Janoji, taking advantage of this difficulty, marched on Chanda, but hurriedly left the place being involved in the *Peshva*-Nizam war, leaving behind Tulojipant and Majidkhan for the reduction of Chanda fort.

The differences between the two brothers often resulting in an armed clash naturally weakened the power of the Bhosle. Nagpur after the death of Raghuji became a hot bed of political intrigues. Many courtiers exploited the family faction to their selfish ends. The two brothers were finally reconciled to each other because Janoji who was without a son decided to adopt Mudhoji's son as his successor. The credit for this amity, however, goes to the situation rather than to the wisdom of either of the brothers.

Janoji Bhosle was a man of vacillating nature. In the conflict between the *Peshva* and the Nizam he sided with the latter. But both the *Peshvas* Balaji and Madhavrav I, proved too strong for him. Raghuji Bhosle when once reconciled with the *Peshva* by the efforts of Shahu remained loyal to him. Janoji failed to grasp the situation and had to pay heavily for the same in his relations with the *Peshvas*. At least as a matter of policy for safeguarding his own territory, he should have maintained friendly relations with the *Peshvas*.

It was Balaji Bajirav who brought about a compromise between Janoji and Mudhoji. Janoji never cared to pay the *Peshva* the sum of the present he had agreed to, when he was invested with the title of *sena-saheb-subha*. Similarly, he was very negligent in the payment of the dues to the central treasury. The *Peshva's* efforts to recover the State dues through his agents Vyankat Moreshwar and Trimbakaji Bhosle proved futile¹. In 1757-58 Mudhoji accompanied Raghunathrav in his north Indian expedition. But soon returned back to Berar owing to some differences with him².

In the battle of Udgir, Janoji and Mudhoji went to help Sadashivrav Bhau when the war was practically over. For a short time, when the Bhosle brothers worked in co-operation they helped the *Peshva* in his attack on the Nizam at Sindkhed. The Bhosle brothers, mainly Janoji and Mudhoji did not accompany Bhausaheb to the battle-field of Panipat. Nor does the Bhau seem to have commanded their service when the Marathas were to engage themselves in a life and death struggle with Ahmad Shah Abdali. The cordial relations which existed between the *Peshvas* and the Shindes were conspicuous by their absence between the *Peshvas* and the Bhosles of Nagpur.

Janoji and Mudhoji were with Nanasahab *Peshva* when he was hastening to help Bhau before the final rout of the Marathas on the battle-field of Panipat. Janoji saved the retreating Marathas from the attacks of the anti-Maratha elements on their homeward

¹NPL, p. 125.

²NPL, p. 123.

journey. He brought the recalcitrant Bundela Chiefs under control.

Following their defeat in the Third Battle of Panipat, the Marathas were busy putting their own affairs in order. The robes of *Peshwaship* were granted to Madhavrav I. His uncle who was aspiring for the same office was not happy with this arrangement. The Nizam, who was smarting under the defeat he had suffered in the battle of Udgir, was eager to fish in the troubled waters at Pune. With a vast army of sixty thousand strong he desecrated the holy places of Toka and Pravara-Sangam and dug up Shinde's palaces at Shrigonda for hidden treasure. In December, 1761, he camped at Urulikanchan for an attack on Pune. Raghunathrav sent urgent calls to the Maratha generals for help. Janoji Bhosle had joined the Peshva with his army. He was present in the battle of Chambhargonda with a force of seven to eight thousand. The Nizam was surrounded by the Maratha forces and compelled to surrender. The majority of the Maratha nobles felt that this was the long awaited opportunity to exterminate the Nizam. But this could not be brought about because of the easy terms he was given by Raghunathrav, under which, territory worth 40 lakhs of rupees was ceded to the Nizam in return for the *jagirs* which Ramchandra Jadhav had held from the Nizam and who had now joined the Marathas.

Raghunathrav had given easy terms to the Nizam at Uruli with a view to securing his support in his dispute with Madhavrav which was expected any moment. Raghunathrav was unwilling to work in co-operation with his young nephew who was the *Peshva*. The situation deteriorated fast heading towards a civil war. Raghunathrav's partisans had secretly secured the help of the Nizam and Janoji Bhosle. In this great plot headed by Raghunathrav it was decided to deprive Madhavrav of his *Peshwaship* and power. Raghunathrav, was to appoint men of his own choice in high offices. Janoji Bhosle was lured into the plot by the offer of *Chhatrapatiship* at Satara after deposing Ramraja. Janoji and the Nizam met near Kalaburgi (Gulbarga) and agreed to join the plot. From the territory that would be acquired, the Nizam was to secure sixty per cent of the total tribute and Janoji forty per cent. The *Peshva's* agents Vyankat Moreshvar and Ramaji Ballal tried in vain to dissuade Janoji and his adviser Divakarpanth from joining the plot.

Young Madhavrav realising the gravity of the situation boldly surrendered himself to his uncle and put an end to the civil war that was threatening to sap the Maratha power. By this dramatic decision Janoji's dream of securing *Chhatrapatiship* evaporated. Janoji doubtless aspired to be the *Chhatrapati*, at the instigation of Raghunathrav. However, for the moment it was dropped and Janoji was given leave to depart.

Shortly after the surrender of Madhavrav to his uncle, the latter-Raghunathrav—started making his own arrangement by distributing offices and titles to his favourites and partisans. For

some days in November, 1762, the Maratha leaders and diplomats assembled at Alegaon and discussed all domestic issues. Unfortunately such meetings could not be held frequently to solve the problems of the Maratha confederacy. Moreover, there was not a strong central authority which could force the decisions on all the members taken at such meetings.

The treaty between the Marathas and the Nizam proved to be short-lived. Raghunathrav, who was proceeding against Haidar Ali, received news that the Nizam and Janoji Bhosle along with a number of discontented courtiers were busy forming a coalition against him. Janoji and the Nizam met at Gulbarga on 9th February 1763 and discussed the plan of seizing the *Peshva's* lands and sharing the spoils. Among the other Marathas who joined the Nizam were the Patwardhans and the Pratinidhis. It may be noted that Raghunathrav, no sooner he assumed power, effected many changes in the administration of the State such as appointing Ramchandrapant Jadhav as *senapati* and his infant son as *Pratinidhi* and by his action made enemies of the Patwardhans and the *Pratinidhis*, the reason perhaps for their joining hands with the Nizam. The Nizam, as the head of this unholy alliance, sent his demands to the *Peshva* stating that all forts east of the river Bhima should be delivered unto him, those who had been deprived of their *jagirs* should receive them back and the *Peshva* should settle all the State affairs in consultation with the Nizam's *divan*.

This challenge nullified the easy terms which Raghunathrav had given to the Nizam at Urulikanchan. Giving up the march on the territory of Haidar Ali, Raghunathrav moved towards Aurangabad. Malharav Holkar joined Raghunathrav when he was promised an additional *jagir* of ten lacs. The plan of Raghunathrav and Holkar was to lay waste the territory of the Nizam and his partisans. Knowing well that Raghunathrav was a past master in the guerilla warfare, the Nizam decided to attack Pune on the advice of Janoji Bhosle. The combined armies of the Nizam and the Bhosles fell upon Pune in 1763. Gopikabai sought shelter with her men and jewellery in the fort of Purandar. Heavy tribute was exacted from the people of Pune, and the city was burnt down. The shrine of Parvati and other temples were desecrated and idols destroyed. Raghuji Karande, the general of the Bhosle laid waste the region around Sinhgad and Purandar. He looted the *Peshva's* jewellery at Sasvad and set on fire important State records taken there for safety. To retaliate the sack of Pune Raghunathrav and his men carried fire and sword in the Nizam's territory. His army sacked parts of Berar. Mahadaji Shinde was ordered to raid Janoji's territory and he proceeded towards Berar from Ujjain. Raghunathrav had written to Janoji reprimanding him of his disloyalty and bringing to his notice how unbecoming it was for him to join the Nizam. At the same time Malharav Holkar was trying to persuade Janoji through his advisers Divakarpanth and Bhavani Munshi to give up the cause of the Nizam. Janoji was offered territory worth 31 lacs and was to be confirmed in the *sena-saheb-subhaship*. These direct threats and

diplomatic approaches finally won Janoji to the *Peshva's* side. He agreed to leave the Nizam at the nick of the moment when the Marathas would lead an attack. The other Maratha nobles like Bhavanrav Pratinidhi, Gopalrav Patvardhan, Piraji Nimbalkar and Gamaji were also persuaded to desert the Nizam on the promise of receiving *jagirs* and restoring lost positions. In the battle of Rakshasabhuvan (10th August, 1763) the Nizam was routed and forced to surrender. He gave to the *Peshva* territory worth 82 lacs that is all that had already been secured at Udgir but which Raghunathrav had agreed to give back at Uruli and Alegaon. Of the territory acquired the *Peshva* handed over territory worth over 32 lakhs of rupees to Janoji. Janoji gave a banquet to the *Peshva* and presented him the guns he had captured in the sack of Pune along with the Nizam. Janoji and the *Peshva* were reconciled temporarily.

Vithal Sunder, the *divan* of the Nizam, who was the brain behind all the ambitious schemes of his master was killed in the battle of Rakshasabhuvan.

The young *Peshva* Madhavrav distinguished himself in this battle. The success of this battle was mainly due to his strategic and tactical movements.

In the Maratha-Nizam struggle which ended in the battle of Rakshasabhuvan, Janoji, because of his changing policy, had displeased both the Nizam and the *Peshva*. He had given up the wise policy of his father of supporting the *Peshva* as the strong man. His policy was devoid of any sound principle. It was guided by the idea of extending his own territory at the cost of others, including that of the other Maratha potentates. This was rather the common malady from which the entire Maratha power was suffering. Madhavrav was determined to correct this defect. With great difficulty he had brought Janoji into his camp in the life and death struggle with the Nizam. The sack of Pune in which Janoji carried fire and sword was an act which the *Peshva* was not prepared to forget. In the family dispute between Madhavrav and Raghunathrav Janoji always espoused the cause of the latter. Raghunathrav in his own way gave easy terms to Janoji, looking upon him as his supporter in his dispute with Madhavrav.

Madhavrav was waiting for an opportunity to punish Janoji. Berar was subject to the dual administration of the Bhosles and the Nizam under the treaty signed on May, 1758 and known as *sathi-chalishi* treaty. This treaty stipulated that 45 per cent of the tribute would go to the Bhosles and the remaining 55 per cent would be allotted to the Nizam. This naturally created friction between the two on several occasions. In 1765 Moro Dhondaji an officer of the Nizam in Berar was attacked by Janoji's men. The Nizam's fiasco in the battle of Rakshasabhuvan was the result of Janoji's treachery. He was keen on taking revenge upon Janoji for his breach of trust. He, therefore, appealed to the *Peshva* for help when his officer was attacked. The *Peshva* at

once decided to help the Nizam. On 17th October 1765, Madhavrav proceeded from Pune and was joined by the Nizam's *divan* Rukna-ud-Daula with a force of seven to eight thousand. The combined forces camped at Edalabad in December, 1765. Raghunathrav also came with his force to join his nephew. The Nizam started from Hyderabad and camped at Karanja. His army was well-equipped with artillery. From Edalabad the *Peshva's* forces went to Balapur and started looting the territory of the Bhosle after dividing themselves into suitable batches. Sums of Rs. 1,75,000 and Rs. 1,70,000 were exacted from Balapur and Akola, respectively, as tributes. Janoji and Mudhoji took shelter in the fort of Amner along with their families. Later, they shifted to the stronger fort of Chanda. Janoji finding the combined forces too strong for him to overcome sued for peace through the *Peshva's* envoy, Vyankat Moreshwar. The *Peshva* too had no stomach for the fight. He was satisfied with the punishment he had meted out to the disobedient Janoji. The terms of the treaty were finalised at Kholapur, near Daryapur in 1766. It was decided that the Bhosle should retain territory worth Rs. 8 lacs only, out of the total territory of Rs. 32 lacs he had received from the *Peshva*, in the battle of Rakshasabhuvan. Out of the remaining 24 lacs, the *Peshva* was to give the Nizam territory worth Rs. 15 lacs and was to retain for himself the rest. Many differences between the Nizam and Janoji were settled on this occasion. Following approachment Janoji sent him men to help Raghunathrav in his north Indian campaign.

When the negotiations between Madhavrav and Janoji were in progress, the former's agent conveyed him Janoji's contention. Its gist is indicative of the general state of affairs in the Maratha Confederacy. Janoji was not slow to understand that the dispute between him and the *Peshva* would only benefit the Nizam. But desire for power rendered any satisfactory solution difficult. The letter written to the *Peshva* by his agent conveying Janoji's mind runs as follows: "The *Shrimant* being angry with us (Janoji) has invaded Berar. I am not guilty of burning Pune. When the Nizam indulged in this act I did not support him. I, however, admit that I did not help in the campaign against Haidar Nayak. It is after all human to err. But the punishment meted out to me by depriving me of territory worth Rs. 30 lacs is too heavy. That has now been offered to the Nizam. Should the serpent be fed with milk? If I am ordered to attack the Nizam, I would destroy him in no time I shall proceed by rapid marches to meet your honour. I should not be let down." Janoji gave expression to his feelings in these words. But it seems that he did not really repent for what had happened. For, within a couple of years after the treaty of Daryapur he once again sided with Raghunathrav in his dispute with Madhavrav and drew the latter's wrath upon himself.

In the quarrel between Madhavrav and Raghunathrav in 1768, Janoji decided to support the latter. However, Raghunathrav was defeated and arrested before Janoji's army could join him.

Madhavrav was determined to teach Janoji a lesson for violating the treaty of Daryapur in which he had agreed to support his cause. Janoji was apprehensive of a fresh attack by the *Peshva*. He, therefore, sent his envoy Chimanaji Rakhamangad Chitanis to the *Peshva* for a talk. The *Peshva* refused to listen to the envoy and asked Janoji to send Devajipant to Pune, as he considered Devajipant to be the mischief-maker in the *Peshva*-Bhosle altercation. Madhavrav arrested Devajipant and marched on Berar. The *Peshva* was accompanied by his generals Gopalrav Patvardhan and Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade. The Nizam sent a force of eight thousand strong under Rukna-ud-daula and Ramchandra Jadhav. The *Peshva*, with the forces of his ally, occupied Bhosle's territory to the west of the Wardha river. The relatives of Janoji had taken shelter in the fort of Gavilgad. Jewellery too was removed to this place. Janoji with his forces encamped at Tivasa to the west of Wardha river on 7-12-1768.

The *Peshva* did not chase Janoji. He took the fort of Amner (20-1-1769) and straightway proceeded to Nagpur. Nagpur was looted and burnt. The burning of Pune by Janoji was thus fully avenged. After the sack of Nagpur Madhavrav dispatched Ramchandra Ganesh Kanade with a force to capture the ground-fort of Bhandara. The fort was besieged and subsequently captured by Ramchandra Ganesh.

The fort of Chandrapur or Chanda, the stronghold of the Bhosles, was the next target of attack. The fort was besieged by the *Peshva's* army. Janoji who was outside moved from place to place carrying on a running warfare with the *Peshva's* army. In order to relieve the pressure on the fort of Chanda, Janoji spread rumours that he was marching towards Pune to release Raghunathrav from the custody. At the same time Devajipant who was in the custody of Madhavrav managed to receive secret letters from Janoji stating that when the *Peshva* was engaged with the siege of Chanda, Janoji would attack Pune and set Raghunathrav free. The letters were intended to be seized by *Peshva's* intelligence department. This ruse had its effect. The *Peshva's* apprehension of Janoji's attack on Pune was strengthened. When these rumours gained currency, Pune was in the grip of consternation as the memory of Janoji's first invasion was yet fresh. The *Peshva* at once decided to raise the siege of Chanda and sent his men against Janoji. He sent a letter through Rukna-ud-daula to Janoji on 3rd March, 1769, expressing his desire for peace. Janoji, who was eager to end the war, sent his terms and the treaty was finalised on 23-3-1769 near Kanakpur. Devajipant was the principal figure on behalf of the Bhosle in bringing about this treaty.

In the treaty of Kanakpur it was decided that—

- (1) Janoji was granted a *jagir* of 32 lacs in 1763, out of which he was allowed to have only 8 lacs in 1766; Janoji should now relinquish all claim over the *jagir*.

- (2) The lands of the Bhosles of Akkalkor confiscated by Janoji should be released.
- (3) The Bhosles used to collect *ghasdana* from the Aurangabad *subha* belonging to the *Peshva*. They should discontinue this practice. The Bhosles likewise should stop collecting *ghasdana* from the Nizam's territory. The Bhosles would get their *ghasdana* collections from the *Peshva* and the Nizam from their officers. The Bhosles should themselves collect *ghasdana* only if the Nizam's Officers fail to do the same for them.
- (4) The Bhosles should serve the *Peshva* with their army when called.
- (5) The Bhosles should make no changes in the strength of their army without the permission of the *Peshva*.
- (6) The Bhosles should not shelter rebels and disloyal persons coming from the *Peshva's* territory.
- (7) The Bhosles should not enter into political negotiations with the Emperor of Delhi, the *Navab* of Oudh, the Rohillas, the English and the Nizam without the consent of the *Peshva*.
- (8) The Bhosles should pay an annual tribute of Rs. 5 lacs to the *Peshva* in five instalments.
- (9) The army of the *Peshva* while passing through the Bhosle's territory would use the old routes.
- (10) The *Peshva* should not interfere with the domestic affairs of Janoji so long as he was looking after his relations properly.
- (11) Reva Mukundpura, Mahoba, Charthanc, Jintur, Sakarkheda, Mehekar should be given to the *Peshva* by Janoji.
- (12) The Bhosle should send his army to Orissa only if it is not required by the *Peshva*.
- (13) The *Peshva* should help the Bhosle with his army in the event of an invasion of the latter's territory.

Madhavrav and Janoji met at Mehekar ceremonially. Parties and presents were exchanged. The Nizam's *divan* Rukna-ud-daula was also present at Mehekar.

A careful analysis of these terms shows that Madhavrav's aim was to bring central control in the Maratha confederacy, which was so necessary for its growth and survival. From the days of Bajirav I, the *Peshvas* were struggling hard to assert their authority over the Bhosles of Nagpur in their capacity as prime ministers. There was no clear constitutional ruling on this point except the prevailing practice. The Bhosles in their own way considered themselves as the equals of the *Peshvas*. All accepted the overlordship of the *Chhatrapati*. But after the death of Shahu his successors proved to be nonentities. Under the circumstance the *Peshvas* tried to assert their authority over others with a good degree of success up to the time of Madhavrav.

HISTORY

During Janoji's *sena-saheb-subhaship* Purushottam Divakar alias Devajipant Chorghade of Narkhed rose into prominence. He secured for Janoji huge sums of money required for war. In his dealings with Madhavray Peshva, Divakarant was his chief adviser. Madhavray considered Devajipant as the Machiavelli at the Nagpur Court. He was a full wise man out of the three and a half wise men of the day. For some time towards the end of Janoji's career Divakarant lost his master's confidence and fell on evil days. But he was always looked upon as the inevitable man on critical occasions because of his keen grasp of events. Very few original papers are available about this diplomat of Nagpur. He died in 1781. Among other persons of note of Janoji's times may be mentioned Bhavanipant Munshi, Bhavani Kaloo and Ganesh Sambhaji. Bhavanipant Munshi became Janoji's counsellor when Devajipant fell from his favour. Bhavani Kaloo rose to the position of the general. For some time he was the *subhedar* of Katak. He constructed the temple of Balaji at Vashim and installed the image found underground. The last, Ganesh Sambhaji too acted as the *subhedar* of Katak.

Janoji Bhosle had no son. He had decided to adopt Raghujii, the eldest son of his brother, Mudhoji. After the treaty of Kanakpur he was on good terms with Madhavray Peshva. Janoji travelled to Thevur near Pune where Madhavray was on his death-bed and secured his consent to Raghujii's adoption. From Thevur he went to the holy places, Pandharpur and Tuljapur. He died at Yeral (Naldurg) on his homeward journey on 16th May 1772, owing to severe stomach-ache. Mudhoji created a monument in honour of Janoji and secured some land from the Peshva for its maintenance.

After the death of Janoji the house of Bhosles was plunged into family feud worse than the one that was witnessed at the death of Raghujii I. Prior to his death Janoji had secured the consent of the Peshva for regularising the adoption of Raghujii II as he was himself without a son. But the actual adoption ceremony had not been gone through. Neither was the title of *sena-saheb-subha* conferred on Raghujii II, officially. Exploiting these lapses Sabaji, the younger brother of Mudhoji, approached Madhavray Peshva for the grant of *Sena-Saheb-Subhaship*. As Mudhoji was a partisan of Raghunathrav, Madhavray sent the robes of *Sena-Saheb-Subhaship* for Sabaji with his agent Ramaji Ballal Gune. At the same time Daryabai, the widow of Janoji, joined Sabaji and declared that she was pregnant and would give birth to a posthumous child. This created an embarrassing situation for Mudhoji. The success of the parties at Nagpur thus depended upon the powerful personality in the family dissensions of the Peshvas at Pune.

As a safety measure Mudhoji sent his family members into the fort of Chanda and collected a force of 25,000 strong to face Sabaji. The armies of the two brothers met at Kumbhari near Akola in 1773. After a few engagements the two brothers decid-

ed to close the fight. It was agreed that *Sena-Saheb-Subhaship* should go to Raghujii II and actual administration should be looked after jointly by Mudhoji and Sabaji. The Prabhu brothers, Vyankat Kashi and Lakshman Kashi were deputed to Pune for securing the robes of *Sena-Saheb-Subhaship* for Raghujii. At this time Narayanrav was the ruling Peshva. This arrangement proved unsuccessful as Sabaji was dissatisfied with it. In the rivalry between Narayanrav and Raghunathrav, Sabaji took the side of the former while Mudhoji supported the latter. Sabaji sought the aid of the Peshva and the Nizam, and the combined forces laid siege to Ellichpur as its *Navab* was a partisan of Mudhoji. But in 1773, when Narayanrav Peshva was murdered, Sabaji's party was considerably weakened and he openly supported the *Barabhais*. Mudhoji's cause was greatly strengthened when Raghunathrav assumed power after murdering his nephew. A compromise was brought about between Mudhoji and Sabaji, which in its own way was destined to be short-lived. The Nizam, who had taken the side of Sabaji, drew upon himself the wrath of Raghunathrav. The Nizam was attacked and forced to enter into a treaty with Raghunathrav. With the Bhosle, the Nizam formed the treaty of Sixty-Forty.

The family dispute between Mudhoji and Sabaji was finally settled when the latter was killed in the battle of Panchgaon near Nagpur on 26th January 1775. In this battle Mudhoji was joined by the Gardi Muhammad Yusuf, one of the murderers of Narayanrav. The Panchgaon battle gave Mudhoji a free hand in the political affairs of Nagpur. Daryabai and the other partisans of Sabaji quietly surrendered to Mudhoji.

For some time in 1775, the *Barabhais* instigated Shivaji Bhosle of Amravati to rise against Mudhoji. They promised *Sena-Saheb-Subhaship* to Shivaji. This move was deemed necessary by them as their rival Raghunathrav had the support of Mudhoji Bhosle. On 6th March 1775, Raghunathrav entered into an alliance with the British at Surat in order to oppose the *Barabhais*. The rising of Shivaji Bhosle of Amravati could not assume any serious proportion due to the timely mediation of Divakarant.

The fratricidal wars among the Marathas were fully exploited by the English for the expansion of their power. In 1773, when the Pune court was faced with extraordinary situation following the assassination of Narayanrav, the British forces moved from Bombay and took the fort of Thana. In fact the British had been casting their covetous eyes on the island of Sashti (Salsette), since long, for the safety of Bombay. The fort of Thana surrendered on 28th December 1773. This was the actual beginning of the First Anglo-Maratha war which terminated in the Treaty of Salbye in 1782. Raghunathrav, in his quarrel with the *Barabhais*, finally embraced the British giving them the long sought opportunity of interfering with the internal affairs of the Marathas. Raghunathrav became a British protege by the Treaty of Surat.

dated 6th March 1775. With a view to curbing the growing ambition of the British and their aggression Nana Phadnis proposed an anti-British Confederacy consisting of the *Peshva's* Government, the Nizam, Haider Ali and the Bhosles of Nagpur. At this time the prestige of the British had suffered a setback in the eyes of the Indian powers due to the unscrupulous methods of Warren Hastings. This was rather the opportune time for the Marathas to move against the British as they were engaged in a long war with the French. But the well-conceived quadruple alliance could not be worked out because of the machinations of Warren Hastings. Realising the danger of the alliance proposed by Nana Phadnis, Hastings restored Guntur to the Nizam and detached him from the Confederacy. His next move was the seduction of the Bhosles of Nagpur.

According to the plan of Nana Phadnis, the Bhosles were to attack the English in Bengal, Haider Ali to proceed against Madras and the Pune forces to harass the British in Gujarat and Bombay. To execute a part of this joint plan, a large force under Khandoji Bhosle popularly known as Chimanaji marched towards Orissa. Chimanaji was a man of courage and action. He was instructed to invade Bengal for the collection of *chauthai* which was in arrears. But at the eleventh hour he was prevented from stepping into Bengal by Raghuji II on the advice of his crafty minister Divakarpant Chorghade. Hastings was able to purchase the loyalty of both Khandhoji and Divakarpant by bribing them heavily. By the end of 1778 Goddard had secured Mudhoji's permission for the passage of his army through the latter's territory into Gujarat. Nana was enraged at this and immediately sent for Raghuji and Divakarpant and secured their support to his four party alliance. But the two never kept their word.

Mudhoji Bhosle who was a sworn member of the Confederacy was the first to inform Hastings of Nana's plan. It was he who prevented Khandoji Bhosle from invading Bengal. Mudhoji, in all these activities had violated the Treaty of Kanakpur between Janoji and Madhavrav. It was presumed that he would observe the treaty to which his elder brother Janoji was a party. But at the critical juncture he cast the previous bindings to the winds and went ahead recklessly allying himself with the British and their protege Raghunathrav for selfish gains. The role played by Mudhoji, Raghunathrav and their supporters is indicative of the state of affairs prevailing among the ruling Maratha noblemen.

In 1785 Mudhoji had been to Pune with his army to help Nana Phadnis in the war against Tipu Sultan. The battle was fought at Badami in 1786 in which the Nizam, the Bhosles and the *Peshvas* jointly defeated Tipu. Chimanabapu distinguished himself in this war. On his homeward journey Mudhoji paid a visit to the holy places in Maharashtra and returned to Nagpur. Mudhoji died at Nagpur on 19th May 1788, after a very active political career of over two decades.

Towards the end of Janoji's career Divakarpant had fallen from his grace and was imprisoned. His property too was confiscated. Mudhoji, who needed his help most, released him. Divakarpant was soon restored to his former position and served Mudhoji as his principal counsellor. Mudhoji was never loyal either to the *Barabhaïs* or to Nana Phadnis. Throughout his career he supported Raghunathrav. At one time he was prepared to serve as a vassal of Warren Hastings severing his relations with the *Peshva*. Divakarpant had to tow the line of his master. But in doing so he could have impressed upon his master as to what was ultimately good for the Maratha nation as a whole. This naturally required a man of high moral character. It could not be expected of Divakarpant, who was enjoying the confidence of Warren Hastings, to rise above self-interest. Divakarpant was bribed by Hastings in order to dissuade the Bhosles from joining the quadruple alliance of Nana Phadnis. Thus, 'the full-wise man' out of the noted three and a half wise men of the Maratha country, proved to be otherwise in the larger national interests.

The title of *Sena-Saheb-Subha* was finally conferred on Raghuji in 1775, during the *Peshvaship* of Savai Madhavrav. Actually he was designated for this title much earlier but sanction for the same could not be had from Pune, because of the strained relations between the *Peshvas* and the Bhosles. Raghuji assumed power after the death of his father Mudhoji.

Raghuji's relations with Nana Phadnis were amicable. In the battle of Kharda in 1795, Raghuji sent his army under Vitthal Ballal Subhedar to help the *Peshva*. Vitthal Ballal distinguished himself in this war and was highly honoured by Nana. Raghuji's gains in this war were substantial. He received territory worth three and a half lacs from the Nizam for the *ghasdana* of the Gangthadi region. The Nizam agreed to pay his arrears to Raghuji amounting to Rs. 29 lacs. It was decided that both should share the revenues of Berar as in the past. New *sanads* of the territory to the south of the Narmada were granted by the *Peshva* to Raghuji. *Sanads* of this territory were granted to the Bhosles by Nanasaheb *Peshva*, but the officers of the latter had not given Raghuji the actual possession so far. Raghuji got the possession of Hushangabad, Chauragad and Bachai. Raghuji stuck to the party of Nana Phadnis even after the tragic end of Savai Madhavrav. In appreciation Nana gave Raghuji Rs. 5 lacs in cash and the possession of Gadha-Mandla.

The *Raja* of Sagar gave Raghuji a part of his territory for the help he had rendered in the event of an attack by one Amirkhan. Similarly, the fort of Dhamoni was secured from a petty Rajput chieftain and Hushangabad from the *Navab* of Bhopal by Raghuji. Thus, by 1800 Raghuji's kingdom was at its zenith. It was the largest of the Maratha States towards the close of the eighteenth century.

The following account might give some idea of the territory and its revenue under Raghuji II:—

Territory	(Rs. in lacs) Revenue
(1) Devagad including Nagpur	30
(2) Gadha-Mandla	14
(3) Hushangabad, Shavani Mahva, Chauragad, etc.	7
(4) Multai or Multapi	2
(5) Half the revenue of Berar and the Gavilgad, Narnala, etc.	30
(6) Orissa and the other feudatory States in the area	17
(7) Chandrapur or Chanda	5
(8) Chhattisgad and the other feudatory States like Bastar, Sambalpur, Sirguja, Kankar, Kalahandi, Jasapur and Gangpur	6
Total	111

These figures of revenue from the different parts of the territory under Raghuji appear to be true. Raghuji, however, was destined to see the decline of the Bhosle house when called upon to face the powerful East India Company.

In 1798, Lord Wellesley came to India as the Governor General. His objective was to bring the Indian States under 'Subordinate Isolation' by his most potent weapon of 'subsidiary system'. Mysore was the first of the Indian States to be forced to accept the subsidiary alliance. The Nizam was the next to enter it for self-protection. Bajirav II in his wars with the Maratha potentates and in particular with Yashvantrav Holkar, embraced the subsidiary alliance in 1802. Thereafter, the Maratha States one after another sold their freedom for a mess of pottage. Under the circumstances, it was not easy for Raghuji to keep himself out of the iron trap laid by Wellesley. As early as 1799 Mr. Colebrooke was sent to Nagpur to persuade Raghuji to enter the subsidiary alliance. He stayed in Nagpur for two years but was not successful in bringing Raghuji under the alliance.

The Treaty of Bassein of 1802, by which Bajirav II bartered away his freedom was highly resented by Yashvantrav Holkar. Daulatrav Shinde and Raghuji Bhosle, too, were upset by Bajirav's decision. After the Treaty of Bassein Lord Wellesley had been pressing upon Daulatrav and Raghuji to enter into a similar alliance with the British without delay. It was clear that Wellesley was trying to hold aloof Daulatrav and Raghuji from each other. Col. Collins was deputed for negotiations with the two chiefs. They evaded a definite reply in order to gain time, whereupon, Col. Collins left the Shinde's camp. On 7th August 1803, General Wellesley proclaimed a war against the Bhosles and the Shindes.

and called upon the general populace to keep itself aloof from the struggle.

The fort of Ahmadnagar which was equipped with munitions and supplies was attacked by Wellesley. Shinde's European Officers who were bribed and seduced went over to the English. Shinde's Brahmin keeper of the fort finding the position untenable surrendered the fort on 12th August 1803. The Bhosle's army joined the Shindes near Jalanapur and a stiff action took place culminating in the battle of Assai on 24th September. The Marathas fought well but were finally defeated. The loss on the English side was heavy, 663 Europeans and 1,776 Indians were killed in action. Stevenson next captured Burhanpur and Ashirgad, the two strongholds of the Shindes. These successes of the English depressed both the Shindes and the Bhosles. On the 6th November Shinde's agent Yashvantrav Ghorpade came to Wellesley's camp to settle the terms of peace.

The Bhosles were now singled out by Wellesley and Stevenson advanced against the fort of Gavilgad. The Shindes sent their force to help the Bhosle, violating the truce they had made with the English. The two armies met on the vast plane between Adgaon and Shirasoli. The Maratha guns played havoc among the English army forcing them to flee. But the English Generals collected their forces again and attacked the Marathas. In the last action the Marathas were defeated. The battle of Adgaon thus decided the fate of the Marathas on the 29th November 1803. The fort of Gavilgad fell on 25th December when its keeper Benisingh Rajput died fighting.

On 17th December Raghuji Bhosle signed a treaty at Devagaon near Ellichpur with the English.

The terms of the treaty of Adgaon were as follows:

- (1) The Bhosle should surrender the territory to the west of the river Wardha as also the provinces of Katak and Bala-sore. The Bhosles were to retain for themselves the forts of Gavilgad and Narnala and the territory under these forts worth Rs. 4 lacs; i.e., the *paraganas* of Akot, Adgaon, Badnera, Bhatkuli and Khatkali.
- (2) Any dispute between the Nizam, the *Peshva* and the Bhosle should be settled through the mediation of the English.
- (3) The Bhosles should have no relations with any European except the English. The English too should have no relations with either the enemies or relatives of the Bhosles.
- (4) The Bhosles should have no relation with any member of the Maratha Confederacy.
- (5) Both the parties should have the envoy of the other at their Courts.

- (6) The Bhosles should respect the treaties which the English have formed with the former's feudatories lying between Orissa and Chhattisgad.

Berar was given to the Nizam for the help he rendered to the English. By this treaty the Bhosles practically lost their independent status. The territory under them was now confined to Nagpur and neighbouring area.

The English were successful in keeping Yashvantrav Holkar out of the picture in their struggle with the Shindes and the Bhosles. They fully utilised the hostility between Daulatray and Yashvantrav. The long cherished dream of the English to secure the coastal strip stretching from Calcutta to Madras was fulfilled.

Daulatray Shinde too signed a treaty with the English at Suraji-Anjangaon on 30th December 1803.

According to the 5th term of the treaty of Devagaon Mount Stuart Elphinstone was sent to Nagpur as the British resident. He forced Raghuji to give up his sovereignty over the States to the east of Nagpur. Smarting under the recent defeat he had suffered at Devagaon, Raghuji was trying to reorganise his army and secure news about Yashvantrav Holkar's movement so that he might take revenge upon the English if a suitable opportunity permitted such action. But the Resident kept a close watch over Raghuji's movements and prevented him from keeping any contact with Holkar and his men.

With the fall of the Shindes and the Holkars the marauding bands of the Pendharis became the scourge of the restless times. They fell upon the peasants and the citizens and looted their property. Where resistance was offered, they indulged in killing and raping. With the fall of their supporters, the Shindes and the Holkars, the cruelties of the Pendharis became all the more wanton. They have been rightly described as the scavengers of the Maratha army.

One of the leaders of the Pendharis Amirkhan attacked Jubbulpore in about 1809. The local *subhedar* of the Bhosles Jijaba Ghatge tried his best to defend the city but was defeated and forced to take shelter in the fort of Mandla. In order to defend the Narmada region from the Pendhari inroads Raghuji appointed Vitthal Ballal Subhedar, Benisingh, Raghunathrav Baji Ghatge and Muhammad Amirkhan of Shivani.

At one time the Pendharis looted Ramtek and Bhandara and appeared in the suburbs of Nagpur which they burnt. The Bhosle's officers Siddik Ali Khan and Malji Abirrav were finally able to force them to retreat. It was Lord Hastings who exterminated the Pendharis by conducting an all-out campaign against them. It was at this time that most of the numerous village forts were built, to which on the approach of these marauders the peasant retired and fought for bare life, all he possessed outside the walls being already lost to him.

Mr. Lawrence in his Settlement Report (1867) describes their attack on Pauni as follows¹:—'The town (Pauni) had extended so much, such a trade had again arisen that Chimna Bhonsla² thought it advisable to fortify its western face. The eastern walls on this side are still standing as is a small loopholed bastion-defences that were sufficient to restrain an oriental foe. Thrice the Pindaris, attracted by the fame of Pauni, swarmed to its plunder. The first time, the inhabitants tried to put the river between themselves and their assailants; but they were overtaken and plundered in the dry sandy bed of the river. An old *Shastri*, still living, describes how, making himself naked, he waited the coming of the dreaded and then unknown foe; but the Pindaris, catching sight of a woman with silver anklets, went after what seemed to promise a richer reward. On their second coming the Pindaris had it all their own way. Again they came; but, this third time the men defended the fort. The Pindaris contented themselves with plundering the defenceless suburbs; there was nothing to be gained from sitting down before even mud walls, the tactics of the Pindari cavalry always consisting in rapid raids and in carrying off bloodless booty.'

During the Bhosle-English wars the *Navab* of Bhopal had taken Hushangabad and Shivani from the Bhosles. In 1807 Raghuji sent his army and captured Chainpurvadi and Chankigad of the Bhopal territory. Later he entered into an agreement with the Shindes for a concerted attack on Bhopal. The two armies besieged Bhopal fort in 1814. But Raghuji withdrew his forces when the *Navab* of Bhopal asked for British help.

Sambalpur and Patna were granted back to Raghuji in 1806.

After the battle of Adgaon Raghuji was being persuaded to accept the subsidiary alliance. Jenkins, who succeeded Mount Stuart Elphinstone as the resident of Nagpur, once again appealed to Raghuji that he should allow the stationing of the British army at Nagpur. But Raghuji skilfully avoided all such appeals. In 1811 when the Pendharis burnt some wards of Nagpur City Raghuji asked for British help, but it was refused as Raghuji was not willing to enter subsidiary alliance.

In 1801-02, on the occasion of the *Simhastha Parvani* Raghuji with the members of his family had been to Dharmapuri on the bank of the Godavari for a bath.

Raghuji's relations with his brother Vyankoji *alias* Manyabapu were not happy. Manyabapu enjoyed the title of *Senadhurandhar*. He was brave and adventurous. He died at Kashi in 1811.

Mr. Colebrooke, the great Sanskrit scholar, who was deputed to Nagpur as an envoy in 1799, has left a lively description of Raghuji. Raghuji lived in a spacious palace surrounded by

¹Paragraph 68.

²This Chimna Bhonsla was governor of part of Bhandara and also led an expedition to Cuttack on behalf of the Raja Mudhoji, whose brother he was. He was afterwards made governor of Mandla with the title of *Sena Bahadur*.

gardens. The palace had six quadrangles or *chauks* each of which had a three storeyed structure. The drawing hall in the palace was well decorated with chandeliers and pictures. The hall which was meant for the *Raja* had beautiful carving. The garden around the palace had good roads enclosed by fencing.

Raghuji was not fond of pomposity either in dress or manners. He was sweet-tongued and behaved in a friendly manner even with his subordinates. He was, however, careful in maintaining the decorum and discipline of the *darbar*. During leisure hours all were entertained by singing and dancing. Raghuji was fond of hunting, so much so that when a tiger was reported in the neighbourhood he often hastened to the place with his party leaving the office work. He, however, never neglected administrative duty. Shridhar Lakshman Munshi and Krishnarav Chitnis were the most trusted courtiers of Raghuji.

The *Dasara* festival during Raghuji's reign was a brilliant spectacle displaying his grandeur and glory.

Raghuji loved his kith and kin and was extremely fond of children. Bakabai was his favourite queen. He was pious and devoted to his mother. But Raghuji lacked quick decision and courage. In the war with the English he often left his fighting forces. He was willing to wound yet afraid to strike. In diplomacy he was no match for the contemporary Englishmen with whom he was required to deal.

After the treaty of Devagaon, Raghuji, it seems, was in financial difficulties. His anxiety for wealth grew with age, bringing him into disrepute. He was nicknamed the big *baniya* for the methods he used in collecting money. Raghuji, who had the good fortune of witnessing the glory of the Bhosle house at its zenith, was also destined to see its decline. He died on 22nd March 1816.

Raghuji II was succeeded by his son Parasoji in 1816. Parasoji was paralytic, blind and mentally deranged. His father's efforts to improve him proved fruitless. Bakabai, Parasoji's step-mother, brought him to her palace and took charge of the administration with the help of Dharmaji Bhosle, Naroba Chitnis and Gajabadada Gujar. Dharmaji was an illegitimate son of Raghuji and was the custodian of the royal jewellery and treasury.

Next to Parasoji the only other claimant to the Nagpur *gadi* was Appasaheb Bhosle. He was a smart young man having the support of many courtiers, as Parasoji was practically insane. Ramchandra Vagh and Manbhat were prominent among his chief supporters. They were trying to seduce the partisans of Parasoji. Thus after the death of Raghuji, Nagpur Court had two factions, one headed by Appasaheb and the other led by Bakabai, Dharmaji and others with Parasoji on the ancestral *gadi*.

Appasaheb had no claim to the *gadi* as Parasoji was the son of Raghuji. The army was under the command of Dharmaji, Siddik Ali Khan and Gajabadada. Appasaheb impressed upon the

courtiers that it was not desirable that Dharmaji, a bastard, should manage the affairs of the Bhosle house. The resident Mr. Jenkins was secretly backing Appasaheb as he was counting upon him to accept the subsidiary alliance which Raghuji had been carefully avoiding all through his life. When Siddik Ali Khan smelt this, his loyalty to Parasoji and Bakabai wavered. He sat on the fence ready to jump to the side of the winning party. Appasaheb called Dharmaji for a meeting on 11th April 1816, and got him arrested. He took possession of the *Raja* and his treasury. Without any further loss of time Appasaheb ceremoniously performed the coronation for Parasoji. He personally held the *chauri* over Parasoji's head and walked barefooted in the procession taken out in honour of the *Raja*. A grand *darbar* was held in which the *Raja* was made to proclaim the appointment of Appasaheb as his regent, Mr. Jenkins graced the occasion by his presence, lending stability to Appasaheb.

Dharmaji was murdered on 5th May 1816. Appasaheb's evil intention of occupying power for himself was thus finally fulfilled. He entered the subsidiary alliance with the English on 28th May 1816, bartering away the independent status of Nagpur which Raghuji II had maintained with great difficulty. The important terms of this alliance were:—

- (1) For the protection of Nagpur the English were to maintain six platoons of foot-soldiers and one of cavalry. The king was to pay seven and a half lacks of rupees for the maintenance of this force.
- (2) The king was to grant territory worth this amount in case of his failure to pay it.
- (3) The king too was to keep a contingent force of 3,000 soldiers and 2,000 horse at his own expense, to be supervised by the Resident in respect of its pay, discipline, provision, etc.
- (4) All foreign affairs should be conducted only through the English Resident.
- (5) The king should not engage in wars with the friends of the English.

This alliance was brought about through Appasaheb's envoys Nagojipant and Narayan Panditji. The former received an annual pension of Rs. fifteen thousand from the English for his successful mediation.

Part of the English subsidiary force moved from Ellichpur to Nagpur under General Doveton and the rest was stationed at Kalameshvar near Nagpur to strengthen Appasaheb's position. Afraid of the machinations of the rival party, Appasaheb left the palace and took residence in the Telankhedi Garden.

On the morning of 1st February 1817 Parasoji was found dead in his bed. Appasaheb was out of station. It was rumoured that Appasaheb managed to throttle Parasoji to death by seducing his body-guards Sadikmanu Bhaladar and Janu Bansod. The

Resident absolved Appasaheb of the murder charge which was thickly rumoured at this time, but later, when he tried to break the bonds of subsidiary alliance he was conveniently made the culprit.

After Parasoji's death, Appasaheb being the only heir to the Nagpur *gadi* his succession ceremonies were gone through quietly on 21st April 1817. The moment Appasaheb assumed charge of Nagpur he began to feel the weight of British supremacy which he had accepted by the subsidiary alliance. His efforts hereafter were directed to overthrow the British yoke. The Resident suspected that Appasaheb was in contact with Bajirav *Peshva* and the Shindes. The agents of one of the Pendhari leaders Chittu were openly honoured in the *darbar* by presenting a dress. As a precautionary measure Col. Adams was asked to move his force to the south of the Narmada to meet any emergency. Similarly, Scott left Ramtek for Nagpur. It was in this atmosphere that Appasaheb decided to receive the robes of *Sena-Saheb-Subha*, formally, from Bajirav *Peshva*; 24th November 1817 was decided as the day for receiving the robes in the *darbar*. Appasaheb invited the Resident for this ceremony. But the latter declined it as war had broken out with the *Peshva* in Pune, and informed Appasaheb that he should not receive the honours from the enemy of the British. In spite of this opposition Appasaheb received the robes and the title in the *darbar*. This was considered as a breach of the subsidiary treaty by the Resident and a war with Appasaheb seemed imminent.

Like Bajirav, Appasaheb too wanted to free himself from the shackles of the subsidiary treaty. He was helped in this task by Manbhat, Ramchandra Vagh, Subhedar Nimbalkar and Narayan Nagare. Appasaheb's Arab soldiers occupied a position between the City and Sitabuldi. He had a total force of 18 thousand men and 26 guns while the English force numbered only 1,800.

Having come to know the movements of the Maratha army, the Resident ordered Lt. Col. Scott to occupy the Sitabuldi hills. Scott had two battalions of Madras Native infantry, two companies of Native infantry and three troops of Bengal Cavalry. He was equipped with four six-pounder guns. Strategically the Marathas committed the first blunder in allowing Scott to occupy the hills.

The *Raja's* palace was in the present Mahal area which was protected by the Shukravar *darvaja*. This was the fort.

The English had taken shelter in the Tulsibag, about the 24th December 1817.

The English residency was situated to the west of the Sitabuldi Fort, i.e., on the site of the present Nagpur Mahavidyalaya. The English had their treasury to the west of the smaller hill of the two Sitabuldi hills. The southern hill spreads from east to west and is the bigger one. The smaller one is to the north. The two hills roughly rise above the ground to a height of hundred feet and are separated by the same distance.

Peace talks were in progress simply to gain time when both the sides were preparing for war. On the evening of 26th November 1817, the Arabs of Appasaheb opened fire on the smaller hill. He sent a message to the Resident saying that this had been done against his orders. Appasaheb throughout this war was wavering, making the position of his loyal supporters like Manbhat most awkward. It is possible that the mercenary Arabs might have acted on their own without waiting for the orders of their master; but this speaks for Appasaheb's lack of leadership. Appasaheb, after his defeat, pleaded that his Arabs opened fire at the order of Manbhat.

The fire of the Arabs was well replied to by the English guns on the hills. Captain Lloyd was in charge of the bigger hill. Captain Sadler was killed by a shot while he was defending the small hill. On the morning of 27th the Bhosle's forces approached the hill. The smaller hill was attacked and occupied. The English were in a confused state. The Arabs were preparing to launch an attack on the bigger hill. The English would have lost the battle but for the brave and spirited attack of Captain Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald's determined onslaught pushed the Marathas back and they broke in all directions. This infused new spirit in the English soldiers who were drooping from fatigue. A combined attack of the cavalry and infantry finally won the day for the English.

It was Manbhat and his Arabs who really fought well bringing victory within easy reach for the Marathas. But lack of concerted action and Appasaheb's vacillation were mainly responsible for the defeat of the Marathas. Appasaheb, in order to save himself pleaded to the Resident that all was done by Manbhat without his orders. Bakabai too towed his line. Thus, in war, Appasaheb proved to be a coward and in defeat acted most disgracefully. Manbhat, Ramchandra Vagh, Ganpatrav Subhedar and their supporters were against any talk of peace. When Doveton was preparing to attack the city, Appasaheb walked into the protection of the Resident on 16th December 1817, at about 9 o'clock in the morning. The masterless Marathas fought one more battle known as the battle of Shakkardara, only to lose. Manbhat with his Arabs and North Indian soldiers totalling 5,000, defended the city from behind the fort.

But he was helpless when the Arabs in a divided state of mind were seduced by the English. They left Nagpur on the 30th when the arrears of their pay were cleared. The Union Jack was hoisted on the old palace of the Bhosles on the same day. Poor Manbhat was arrested and later died in prison.

Appasaheb signed a treaty on 6th January 1818 with the English in which he was bound by terms stricter than those of the subsidiary alliance. The terms of the treaty were:—

- (1) Appasaheb was to surrender the forts of Gavilgad, Narnala and the territory attached to them, along with the States of Sirguja and Jaspur.

- (2) The civil and military administration of Nagpur was to be conducted through the Resident.
 - (3) Appasaheb was to stay in Nagpur under the supervision of the Resident.
 - (4) Appasaheb was to pay the arrears of pay of the subsidiary army.
 - (5) He was to surrender any fort which might be asked for by the English.
 - (6) He should hand over all those who acted against his order in the war.
 - (7) The Sitabuldi hills were to be surrendered to the English along with the neighbouring area they might ask for.
- This sealed the fate of Appasaheb as also of Nagpur once for all.

These terms of the treaty were ratified by the Governor General.

With the surrender of Appasaheb Bhosle the outlying posts of Jubbulpore, the forts of Shivani, Dhirud (south-east of Nagpur), Gavilgad, Chauragad, Narnala and Mandla fell to the English without much resistance. The fort of Mandla which was protected by the river Narmada offered resistance for some time. But when its keeper Raya Hajari ran away the beleaguered force numbering 1,100 surrendered.

After his surrender, Appasaheb was reinstated on his ancestral *gadi* and allowed to stay in the palace. For three months things appeared to move smoothly. On 19th February 1818 Bapu Gokhale, the last great general of Bajirav, fell fighting in the battle of Ashta. Bajirav lost all hope of regaining his position and took to heels begging for help till his surrender to Malcolm. During his flight he was at Vashim for a while and then camped at Pandharkavada. He was accompanied by Ganpatrav Subhedar, one of the generals of Appasaheb. It was rumoured that Bajirav would be joined by Appasaheb and both would march to Chanda which was yet in the hands of its keeper Gangasingh. Jenkin's suspicion that Appasaheb was in correspondence with Bajirav was strengthened when a letter from Appasaheb to Bajirav was intercepted by Elphinstone and sent to him. He at once arrested Appasaheb on 15th March 1818. Appasaheb along with Ramchandra Vagh and Nagopant was sent towards Prayag, as his presence in Nagpur was considered dangerous.

The fort of Chanda fell on 30th May 1818. Its keeper Gangasingh fought desperately till he fell dead along with his trusted followers.

On his way to Prayag Appasaheb escaped from the English camp at Raichur on 13th May 1818. Hereafter began the long flight of Appasaheb.

Appasaheb took shelter in the Mahadev hills of Madhya Pradesh and was helped by Mohansing Thakur of Panchmadhi and Chain Shah of Harai. A few petty Gond Kings too supported

Appasaheb in his last days. The English forces under Adams, MacMorin and Scott combed out the hills and arrested the Gond leaders. Mohansingh and Chain Shah were taken into custody. Appasaheb made good for the fort of Ashirgad, the gateway of the Deccan, on 1st February 1819. He was escorted by the Pendhari leader Chittu and his followers. Appasaheb was received into the fort by Yashvantrav Lad, its keeper. The fort was yet in the possession of the Shindes. It was admirably suited for defence. The English moved their men and material from Malva, Pune, Nagpur and Hyderabad. Prior to the surrender of the fort on 9th April of 1819, Appasaheb had escaped towards Khairi Ghat to the north-west of Ashirgad and taken shelter with a Brahmin at Burhanpur. From there Appasaheb travelled through the territory of the Shindes, Holkars, Jaipur and Jodhpur begging for asylum and took shelter for some time with Ranjit singh. The *Raja* of Mandi gave Appasaheb protection for a short time. Finally, Appasaheb was found with the *Raja* of Jodhpur. The *Raja* refused to hand over Appasaheb to the English in keeping with the chivairous traditions of the Rajputs. In 1829, Appasaheb's wandering career came to an end and he spent the remaining part of his life as a guest-cum-royal prisoner at the court of Jodhpur. He died in 1840.

During his luckless days Appasaheb desperately moved from court to court begging for help. But he was too late. Had he shown sufficient courage and determination in the battle of Sitabuldi, his chances of success were brighter. He let down his honest supporters like Manbhat and Ramchandra Vagh. In expecting aid from Bajirav, Appasaheb was leaning on a weak reed. After his confinement at Jodhpur nobody seems to have been really sorry for the unfortunate Appasaheb. In his flight his wife Umabai supplied him money secretly. His other wife Savitribai who was enjoying a pension at Nagpur did not go to him even after she came to know of his stay at Jodhpur.

In 1818 disturbances took place in the district in consequence of the second revolt of Appasaheb, whose cause was embraced by Chimna Patel, the *zamindar* of Kamtha. Mr. Lawrence's description of the rise of the Kamtha house and of the rebellion, quoting from Sir Richard Jenkins, is here reproduced.¹ 'The founder of the greatness of this family was originally an agent of Raghuji Karundah, an officer about the Maratha court in Nagpur whose estate of Sondar, lying about 30 miles east of Bhandara, and 70 miles from Nagpur, he managed. This village is situated on the military road to Chhattisgarh. It thus happened that Chimnaji Bhonsla took this Kunbi agent, by name Kolu, with him to Cuttack. On the *Raja's* return, while he gave to many of the Ponwars lands to cultivate, to Kolu he gave general authority over the whole of Kamtha, which, at that time, was an uninhabited jungle. He was to locate the settlers, to whom lands were given; he was to bring in others, and generally he was to exercise

¹Settlement Report (1867), paras 92 to 96.

authority over this large tract. He and his vigorous son and grandson, Gondi and Chimna, in the course of a few years, cut the jungle, planted villages, and sowed the seeds of a fine estate. Some villages they held in their own hands, to others they called in any likely man of whatever race or tribe. Here they delegated their authority to others whom they put up as *Shikni zamindars* (joint proprietors), they themselves retaining the superior title of *zamindars*. In this way by force, or by persuasion, or by the circumstances of their own tenure, they exercised authority from the Lanji hills in the north, to the Baghnadi where it crosses the Great Eastern Road in the south, over an area containing about one thousand square miles. They thus continued for 30 years, from 1788 to 1818 A. D.'

Kolu's eldest son had been Ram Patel, but he was put aside in the management of the estate and his brother Gondi preferred as of a more enterprising character. In the same way the succession went to Gondi's son Chimna to the exclusion of Ram Patel's descendants. To this exclusion from the family estates the latter were unwilling to submit and Chimna found it necessary, before he could secure Appasaheb's consent to his predominance, to promise to pay a *nazar* or succession duty of three lakhs of rupees. To collect this money he had to resort to the usual oriental practice of squeezing his dependants and neighbours. He had for some time been ambitious of bringing under his control the Lodhi *zamindars* of Warad and he now proceeded to plunder this estate. Nerbhat, the *zamindar*, fled to Nagpur and after some months Chimna again ravaged Warad and seized Sukul Patel, Nerbhat's brother. He also attacked and captured the *Kamavishdar* of Lanji. This was the commencement of the Lanji rebellion described by Sir R. Jenkins¹ and by Colonel Valentine Blacker in his Memoir of the Maratha War of 1817—1819. Their accounts are reproduced.

'The insurrection in the Lanji and neighbouring Districts, to the eastward of Nagpur, was only inferior in consequence to that in the Mahadev hills, from the latter being the position chosen by Appasaheb himself for his rallying point. In respect of resources and influence, Chimna Patel, who was at the head of this insurrection, was of superior consequence to any of Appasaheb's partisans. He possessed a fertile territory of considerable extent, out of which he only paid a moderate quit rent to the Government; he had consequently amassed considerable treasure, besides having the reputation of possessing more left him by his father Gondi Patel, from whom the former *Rajas* could never extort it. And the whole of the neighbouring district from the Wainganga to the Lanji hills east, an average of about 50 miles, and from Katangi, the southern *pargana* of the Seoni Chhapara district to Pratapgarh south, a length of about 80 miles, were possessed by a number of petty *zamindars*, accustomed to consider him as their chief, and who were united in his cause by that habit, as

¹Despatch No. 38 of 10th January 1819.

well as the incitement of Appasaheb's numerous agents. These districts were besides, the residence of numerous families of the military class, particularly Musalmans and Rajputs, who had retired to their homes on the dissolution of the *Raja's* army, but were ready to embrace the cause of any adventurer who promised them bread. Chimna was attached to Appasaheb from a sense of gratitude for having been released by him from confinement at his accession to the regency, and from late favours accompanied by marks of confidence, which proved how much Appasaheb relied upon him and naturally disposed him to fidelity.

Still, however, until the moment he broke out, his conduct discovered little to lead to any suspicion against him, and his general character for prudence and quiet demeanour, his continued professions of obedience, the general tranquillity of the districts and the good opinion of him entertained by Narayan Pandit, and the other respectable people in Nagpur, induced me to hope that the intelligence I received from time to time of his inimical intentions might be incorrect. At the same moment, however, that the arrival of the Arabs and other troops to the assistance of Appasaheb, obliged us to look particularly to that quarter, we had a call from Lanji for troops, which we were at that moment very ill-able to supply.

The disturbances commenced by an attack on the *Kamavishdar* of Lanji and a party of *sebandis* (sepoys), with which he was making a tour of the district. His person was seized, and his party either destroyed or dispersed. I immediately sent out the only detachment we had the means of forming, composed of about 800 Auxiliary Horse, principally Marathas, 300 of the Nagpur Brigade, with a *Jemadar's* party of the 6th Cavalry under Captain William Gordon. Having the Kanhan and Wainganga rivers to cross, which are both unfordable and particularly the latter, vide and rapid during the rains, when the whole country becomes almost a swamp, his progress was necessarily slow. The enemy attempted to oppose him on the Wainganga, and had seized all the boats on the river, which, however, were replaced from those on the Kanhan which runs into it, and on seeing the boats arrive, covered by the fire of small pieces of artillery, which had been provided from the neighbouring garhis, they retreated, and the river was passed with considerable difficulty and delay from inefficient means, but no opposition.'

'The enemy were at the time in possession of the fort of Kamtha, from whence they overran all the neighbouring country. Captain Gordon, who was on the march to occupy that place and Lanji, found a body of four hundred men, Musalmans, Gosains, and Marathas, drawn up to oppose him, behind a deep *nullah* near the village of Nowargaon. He accordingly left his treasure and provisions under the protection of twenty-five regulars, all his matchlocks and his gun. With the remainder, consisting of

¹The remainder of the description is taken from Colonel Blacker's *Memoirs*.

600 irregular horse and 200 infantry, he advanced against the enemy, who had good cover in the ravines connected with the bed of the *nullah*. They fired at each other for about a quarter of an hour, after which the horse, in two portions, plunged into the stream, and gained the enemy's rear. The infantry, in the meantime, forded in front carrying their cartridge boxes and muskets on their heads, to save them from the water. About one hundred of the enemy were killed, and some prisoners were taken. From them it was ascertained that they were strangers who had been engaged in the service of Appasaheb, by his agents in the city of Nagpur. This success was obtained with the loss of no more than four sepoys. Captain Gordon's progress towards Kamtha continued to be so much impeded by the weather, that he was unable to arrive there before the middle of September. He was then reinforced by two companies of Native Infantry. As in the meanwhile the enemy had extended a chain of posts from Ambagarh to Chandpur, Rampaili and Singarhi, a second detachment was sent out under Major Wilson on the 17th. His instructions were to attack and dislodge all the enemy's parties along his route, to the most distant point of their line. But Captain Gordon proceeded to the attack of Kamtha, before the arrival of the detachment, and his dispositions for this purpose were carried into execution at daybreak of the 18th. The town of Kamtha is surrounded by a well and partial ditch, and contains a small *garhi*, like most other Maratha towns. To attack the town in the first instance the force was divided into three parties, of which the left, under Lieutenant Thuillier, was composed of one hundred and sixty Madras Native Infantry, and two hundred of the Nagpur Brigade. The centre party consisted of a company of the same brigade, and a gun, and the right of matchlockmen, under a native chief named Anand Rav. The left column was provided with fascines, carried by every second man, and as they approached the ditch of the town, which was very contemptible, these were precipitated into it, and the troops passed over without difficulty. After entering the *petlah*, they separated into two parties. One of these took the right and the other the left, and drove the enemy before them with much gallantry and some loss; while the fugitives, who took to the plain, were intercepted by the regular horse, from whom they suffered considerable injury. The enemy had two batteries in the town, one of which was opposed to the centre party, and the other to that on the right. Both these were stormed, as soon as the left column got into the town. The *garhi* alone now remained to be reduced and a gun was brought up to the gate to blow it open; but this failing, an elephant took its place, and forced open the centre barrier. There was still, however, another gate; but while the assailants were devising the means of forcing that likewise, the garrison surrendered, on the promise of personal safety. This was a very important success, as the *killedar* had much influence over several of the remaining garrisons of this quarter, whose submission he immediately promised. The number stated to have been in the town is probably

over-estimated at two thousand men, of whom the loss was estimated at four hundred. The number of British troops killed and wounded amounted to sixty-one.'

Six days later Major Wilson with a small detachment arrived before the fortress of Ambagarh which was garrisoned by 500 men. On a reconnaissance being made the garrison drew cut of the fort to a neighbouring hill and subsequently fled without fighting. Major Wilson then proceeded against Pauni, and took this town by a successful assault described by Colonel Blacker as follows:—

'This place consisted of a partially walled town, having the gate on the south-west side; and in the opposite quarter a *garhi* in a dilapidated state. On the south side ran the Wainganga where was a ferry of difficult access, except through the town. A ridge of earth covered the north side; and behind it the enemy were drawn up with a few small guns in disposition. The infantry were in two parties, of which that on the right was the second Battalion of the 18th regiment of Madras Native Infantry, and the 6th Cavalry were opposite the gate; while the Mughal horse were destined to pass round the town, on the enemy being dislodged. When the detachment advanced their opponents fled into the town and were pursued through the street, at the same time that the cavalry were let in through the gate by the infantry who had passed over the inferior impediments. They made no further resistance elsewhere, but fled towards the ferry, and the *garhi* was scaled as the Mughal horse were endeavouring to overtake the fugitives, having forced a barrier gate. In this, however, they failed, from the intricacy and difficulty of the avenues; but a small party of them arriving at the edge of the ferry, a few of the enemy were there destroyed; and two boats, which were overloaded by the eager crowd, sunk with about forty of them; and were all drowned. Their entire loss was estimated at about one hundred and fifty, while that of the detachment amounted to twelve killed and wounded.'

The forts of Lanji and Hatta were then surrendered to Captain Gordon and the insurrection was at an end. Chimna Patel was confined in his fort at Kamtha and was subsequently a prisoner on parole in his villages of Novargaon and Jhilmili. After two years Captain Wilson granted him the *zamindari* of Kirnapur, now in Balaghat, which had been a part of his former possessions. The Lodhi *zamindar* of Warad was installed as manager of the Kamtha estate, and subsequently in 1843 was granted proprietary right with the dignity of *zamindar*.

When Appasaheb was arrested, the Resident Mr. Jenkins decided to adopt Bajiba, the son of Banubai, as the successor to the Bhosle *gadi*. Banubai was the daughter of Raghuji II. The adoption ceremony was performed on 26-6-1818 and Bajiba was renamed Raghuji III. He was then only ten years old. It was the Resident who took the entire administration into his own hands during the minority of Raghuji III. Bakabai was to look

after the palace affairs. Her ambition to rule may be said to have been fulfilled at least partly. Prior to his retirement the Resident held a grand *darbar* and read out the terms of the treaty with Raghuji III on 1-12-1826. It was ratified by the Governor-General on 13-12-1826.

The terms of the treaty were—

- (1) The terms of this treaty which were not contradictory to the subsidiary alliance of 1816 were accepted by the *Raja*.
- (2) The *Raja* was not to have any relationship with the other Maratha States. He was to retain the title of *Sena-Sahib-Subha*, but was to relinquish the honours connected with it.
- (3) The *Raja* should give to the English territory worth Rs. 7.5 lacs for the maintenance of the subsidiary force. He was, hereafter, not required to keep the contingent force as decided previously by the subsidiary alliance of 1816. The English promised to continue the *raj* in the house of the Bhosles perpetually.
- (4) The *raj* was given over to the King as he had come of age.
- (5) Chanda, Bhandara, Devagad, the territory up the Ghats, Lanji and Chhatisgad were to be under the English along with the feudatories of these regions. The *Raja* was to receive Rs. 17 lacs from these territories after deducting the expenses. The *Raja* was to rule over Nagpur and the rest of the territory.
- (6) The *Raja* should act on the advice of the English in respect of the appointment of officials, the *Raja's* privy purse and the laws of the territory. The English had the right to inspect the King's treasury and the accounts of his kingdom.
- (7) In the event of maladministration the English were free to appoint their own officers and manage things.
- (8) The English were free to take over Sitabuldi or any other fort they required.

Mr. Jenkins gave charge of his office to Captain Hamilton on 29-12-1826 and proceeded to Bombay for further journey.

Jenkins deserves praise for the peace and good administration he gave to the Bhosle *raj* during his ten years' career. He was able to turn the deficit of the kingdom into a surplus treasury. His treatment of the Bhosles was far more considerate than the one meted out to the *Peshvas* by Malcolm. He could have easily annexed Nagpur to the British territory had he meant so.

Jenkins took care to educate Raghuji III. Raghuji was introduced to the 'Three R's' and had working knowledge of Persian and Marathi though he had no inclination for learning. In the

early part of his royal career Raghuji took keen interest in administrative matters but later neglected them. He loved music and dancing and later indulged in gambling to the neglect of his duties. He was addicted to drinking and during his last illness he drank desperately. Apart from these personal vices Raghuji was on the whole a just and good administrator. He was a popular King.

Raghuji was not blessed with progeny though he had in all eight wives. He had one son who died in infancy, after whom he probably did not get any issue. He does not seem to have cared for his successor. He probably considered his being without a son as a blemish and left the question of succession to its own fate. This, however, proved to be detrimental to the Bhosle House as is borne by facts. Raghuji was not on good terms with Resident Mansel. This might have adversely affected the succession question.

Raghuji had been to Kashi, Gaya and other holy places on a pilgrimage in 1838. He was accompanied by Captain Fitzgerald with his Madras contingent. Raghuji died at the age of 47 after a long illness of 25 days on 11th December 1853. His obsequies were performed by his nephew Nana Ahirrav and it was decided to adopt his son Yashvantrav as the next successor. From 1818 to 1830 the Nagpur territories were governed by Sir Richard Jenkins as regent. During the greater part of this period Bhandara or Prant Wainganga was administered by Captain, afterwards Sir, P. Wilkinson. The district at first consisted only of the northern tracts lying round Lanji, the remainder belonging to Nagpur. Captain Wilkinson resided at Kamtha till 1821, when the eastern and southern *paraganas* were placed under his administration and he removed his headquarters to Bhandara. In 1830 the district with the remainder of the Nagpur territories was handed over to Raghuji III on the attainment of his majority and on his death in 1853 it became British territory by lapse.

The question of adoption to the Nagpur *gadi* was discussed thrice prior to the death of Raghuji III. In 1837 the Resident Mr. Cavendish stated that Raghuji III had no right to adopt as his territory had been conquered by the British and given back to him and his sons. In the absence of an heir-apparent or a posthumous child, therefore, the *Raja's* kingdom should escheat or lapse to the British. The views of the former Resident Wilkinson were in favour of Raghuji. In 1840 he had opined that Raghuji or after his death his queen had the right to adopt a son as successor to the *gadi*. The case of Nagpur was in no way different from that of Gwalior or Hyderabad. Actually, according to the treaty of 1826, when Mr. Jenkins was the Resident, the British had promised to continue the *raj* of the Bhosles in perpetuity. But this term was very conveniently set aside and the Court of Directors in England concurring with the views of Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General, ordered that

"it had been determined on grounds, both of right and policy, to incorporate the State of Nagpur with the British territories." Mr. Mansel, the then Resident, had suggested that Nagpur should be annexed. The fateful decision of the Court of Directors was proclaimed by Lord Dalhousie, and Mr. Mansel was ordered to take charge of Nagpur as the first Commissioner. He started working in this capacity from 13th March 1854.

Bakabai, the favourite queen of Raghujii II, and the queens of Raghujii III were informed of this proclamation. There was no popular agitation against this unjust decision of the British, though the late king Raghujii III was liked by his subjects. There was, however, sorrow and resentment among the Brahmmins and the Marathas of Nagpur as is witnessed by the two posters which were stuck on the wall of Jagruteshvar temple. One of the posters expressed anxiety regarding the very existence of the Hindu State after the death of Raghujii and called upon all the Brahmmins to attend the *abhishheka* and *japa* (recitation of God's name) which were being performed in the temple of Jagruteshwar in the city. Those not attending were considered as bastards.

The other poster condemned Dadoba Shirke, a relation of the Bhosles, who helped the British in the annexation of Nagpur.

These posters have their own value, but they cannot be taken as expressive of popular view. Colonel Low, a member of the Governor-General's council, who was against the annexation of Nagpur wrote that the people in the *raj* of the Bhosles were very much tired of their rule and would be happy under the British. Mr. Mansel, the Resident, in his report says that the annexation of Nagpur *raj* would cause great sorrow to all those who are connected with it, but the general public to whom the Marathas were foreigners would desire to be relieved from their troublesome rule. This state of affairs has got to be taken into account in studying the history of Nagpur after its annexation.

The unjust annexation of Nagpur was followed by the high-handed confiscation of the private treasure of the Bhosle family. Popular estimate placed the value of the treasure between Rs. 50 lacs and Rs. 75 lacs. On July 15th, 1854, the Resident's Assistant informed the *ranis* that they would be pensioned and with the exception of a small portion of their jewellery their property would be seized on behalf of the Government. The strong protests of Bakabai and others were of no avail. By the end of October 1854, 136 bags of treasure were removed from the palace to the British treasury. The palace animals were sold by public auction and part of the jewellery was sent to Calcutta where Messrs. Hamilton and Company were appointed as auctioneers.

This loot of the private property of the Bhosles under the garb of law deeply wounded the feelings of Bakabai and the widows of Raghujii III, and caused great excitement among the citizens of Nagpur.

Parvatrav and Jamaluddin who helped the Resident in this arbitrary act became targets of mob fury. The latter was beaten. Mr. Hislop, the well-known missionary of Nagpur, was mistaken for an officer and manhandled.

From the sales of the confiscated property of the royal family, the Bhosle Fund was formed. This was to be utilised for the pensions of the relatives of the royal family.

Pensions sanctioned for the members of the royal family were as follows :—

	Rs.
Bakabai	... 1,20,000
Annapurnabai (the eldest queen)	50,000
Other queens	... 25,000 each
Savitribai (wife of Appasaheb)	... 10,000
Others	... 20,000
The Gond Raja of Nagpur	... 1,25,000
(The pension he enjoyed in the past was continued.)	

Bakabai tried to represent her case directly to Calcutta pointing out that she herself and the *ranis* of the late king had expressed their desire to adopt a son, but the Resident completely changed their case and sent it up while he always promised them that he would look to their interest. Bapu Hanmantrav, the envoy of Bakabai, was asked to send the case through the Commissioner of Nagpur. Later, Bakabai sent her envoys to England to meet the members of the Board of Directors. But she withdrew her case and called back her envoys fearing that this might result in the displeasure of the Commissioner. Bakabai died on 7-9-1858 at Nagpur at the age of seventy-seven.

Prior to her death Bakabai arranged the adoption of Yashvant-rav, the son of Nana Ahirrav, as the next successor in 1855. Yashvantrav was renamed as Janoji. Final sanction to this adoption was received in 1861 during the Viceroyalty of Lord Canning. An annual pension of Rs. 1,20,000 was sanctioned for Janoji and the title '*Raja-Bahadur* of Devur' was conferred on him. The pension was subject to revision after Janoji's death but the title was to continue in the family perpetually. Janoji II died in 1881.

Administration under the Bhosles.—By about 1737 A.D., Raghujii I received one-third of the Devagad kingdom from Rani Ratan Kuvar for the help he rendered her in the fratricidal war. Shortly after this he shifted his capital from Bham in Berar to Nagpur and in 1748 the whole of Devagad kingdom came under his sway. He removed the sons of Rani Ratan Kuvar, Akbar Shah and Burhan Shah to Nagpur under his care. Thus, in 1748 A. D. Raghujii assumed direct charge of the whole

of Devagad kingdom, though by a formal *sanad* the *chauthai* and *mokasa* of Devagad and Chanda of *Prant* Gondavana were granted to him by *Chhatrapati* Shahu much earlier.

Raghuji's new administrative set-up in Nagpur forming part of Devagad below the ghats was more or less a prototype of the system common in other parts of the Maratha country.

When Raghuji I was offered the robes of *Sena-sahib-subha* he first proceeded to Berar and then to Nagpur, and was accompanied by a number of experienced officials of the *Rajamandal* recommended by Shahu. The officials going with Raghuji to Nagpur were assigned important posts.—

- (1) Kanher Ram Mujumdar was to be the *Divan* of Raghuji.
- (2) Rakhamaji Ganesh Ranadive, was appointed as the Secretary-*Chitnavis*.
- (3) Narasingrav Chimaji Prabhu was to work as assistant to Rakhamaji Ganesh, the *Chitnavis*.
- (4) Bhaskar Ram was placed in charge of the army.
- (5) Shankaraji Rakhamaji became the *Potnis* and was also in charge of the *Jamdarkhana* and the Stores.
- (6) Mahadaji Prabhu was to act as the *Phadnavis*, i.e., the Secretary for finances.
- (7) and (8) Vyankajipant and Raghopant were appointed as *Bakshi*-Paymaster of the army.
- (9) Anantbhat Chitale became the *Sikkenavis* or keeper of the Seal.
- (10) Vedamurti Vishvambhar Vaidya was to help Rakhamaji Ganesh, the *Chitnavis*.

These posts assigned to different persons shed light on the principal structure of Nagpur administration. Shahu's intention in sending his own men with Raghuji was to help him to carry on the administration of Nagpur successfully and at the same time to keep an effective check over the distant noblemen was not so successful. It depended upon the personality of the *Chhatrapati*. After Shahu's death the central authority of the *Chhatrapati* remained only in name and the Maratha *Sardars* tried to be independent within their own territories. This is borne out by the serious differences which existed between the *Peshvas* and the Bhosles from the beginning to the end.

The *Divan* was the chief minister of the Bhosles and represented them in all the matters of the State. He was sometimes addressed as the *Karabhari*. The word *Karabhari* in addition to being synonymous with *Divan* means a manager. Its use in this sense shows how the *Divan* or the *Karabhari* was all-in-all.

The *Chitnavis* was the General Secretary. This office continued to be in the family of Rakhamaji Ganesh throughout the reign of the Bhosles. The duties of the *Chitnavis* were:—

- (i) to carry on the private correspondence of the *Raja*;
- (ii) to issue all kinds of orders-*adnyapatra* and *takid-patra*;
- (iii) to issue permits and tax-free passes and to prepare the same;
- (iv) to date all important letters.

In addition, the *Chitnavis* tendered advice to the *Raja* on all diplomatic matters. By his very office, Secretaryship, he was closely associated with the ruling Bhosle.

For the loyal services of Rakhamaji Ganesh, Raghuji I gave him Varambh in the Umred tahsil of Nagpur district as *inam* in perpetuity.

Bhaskar Ram was Raghuji's General. He distinguished himself in the Bengal expeditions of Raghuji I. He, however, does not seem to have had the entire army of Raghuji under his command. There were for instance other noblemen like Raghuji Karande, Anandrav Vagh, Babaji Ghatge, Zunjarav and Sambhaji Shirke having armies under their own command and themselves being directly responsible to Raghuji.

The *Potnis* was in charge of the treasury, royal jewellery and valuables and stores. He was to credit to the treasury presents-*Najarana*, tribute-*peshkash*, etc., and maintain the accounts.

The *Phadnavis* was the Secretary of the Finances and the *Bakshi* the Paymaster of the army. The *Sikkenavis* was the Keeper of the Seal of the Bhosles. He was to put the seal on all important State documents.

The office of the *Munshi*, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, seems to have been created by the later Bhosles. He was usually well-versed in Persian and transacted all the correspondence in that language.

Sometimes two offices were combined in one person as in the case of Bhavani Kalu who was in charge of the army but also acted as the *Divan*.

The *Subhedar* of the *subha* or the province held military as well as civil command within the *subha*. These officers held *jagirs* for their services.

The *Varhadpande* was responsible for land revenue.

The Maratha noblemen were known as *Mankaris* and were directly responsible to the *Raja*. There were no hard and fast rules regarding the duties attached to a particular office. For instance, Divakarpant Chorghade, who was the *Divan*, also acted as the ambassador of the Bhosles to the East India Company.

The *Subhedar* in a distant province like Cuttack similarly acted in various capacities as the man on the spot.

The Bhosles held their *darbar-court* in an open *varandah*. They sat on the throne with the sword and the shield placed in front. Ministers and Military officers attended the *darbar*. All business which required the *Raja's* attention was openly transacted here. The *Raja* was accessible to the people, he heard their grievances and redressed the wrongs.

The revenue office took cognizance of civil and criminal cases, while the *patil* or the village headman decided cases requiring minor magisterial powers. In important cases the appeal rested with the *Sena-Sahab-Subha* who decided them in the open *darbar* after consulting the proper authorities.

The Bhosle administration was direct and efficient though inelegant. It was free from burdensome mannerism and less paper-ridden than that of the *Peshwas*.

The *Sena-Sahab-Subha* was not an absolute ruler. Constitutionally he was accountable to the *Chhatrapati* and the *Peshwa*. The younger brothers of the *Sena-Sahab-Subha* were assigned territories wherein they were more or less independent. Mudhoji, the younger brother of Janoji Bhosle, was given Chanda and the title of *Sena-Dhurandar*. The two other younger brothers Bimbaji and Sabaji were posted at Chhattisgad and Darva, respectively. Other relations of the Bhosles too were given important assignments.

The army of the Bhosles consisted of the foot-soldiers, the cavalry, artillery and elephants. The army of the Bhosles was cantoned at Pardi and Sonegaon, the troops at each place consisting of infantry and cavalry. From these commands troops in platoon strength were dispatched alternately at Chanda, Chhattisgad and Bhandara. In addition to these two major commands the troops disposition of the Bhosles was as under: Raipur 1,100, Chanda 350, Bhandara 250, Chhindvada 250 and Shrinagar on the south bank of Narmada 250.

The details of the cavalry given by Forster, the first Resident of Nagpur (1788—1791) are as follows:—

2,000	Bargir (directly paid by the Bhosles for the maintenance of the horse).
4,700	Cavalry under the <i>Shiledars</i> .
300	Cavalry of the <i>Jagirdar</i> of Shivani.
2,000	Cavalry in Katak <i>subha</i> .
1,500	Cavalry in Gangthadi.

10,500 Total Cavalry of the Bhosles.

200 Elephants.

15 Cannon pieces manufactured in Nagpur, under the command of a Portuguese and a French.

A-2669—10-B.

The cavalry of the Bhosles was known for its speed and efficiency. After the death of Raghuji I the army of the Bhosles became heterogeneous in an increasing manner. In the battle of Sitabuldi, Manbhat was in command of the Arab contingent.

The income of the Bhosles from different provinces during the Residency of Forster was:—

	(Rs. in lacs.)
Nagpur	... 18
Berar $\frac{1}{2}$ income	... 10
Gangthadi	... 2
Katak	... 17
Ratanpur	... 3
Multai	... 2
Other items	... 7
Total	... 59

Out of this income, Rs. 16 lacs were spent in the following manner:—

	(Rs. in lacs.)
Burhan Shah, the Gond <i>Raja</i> for his maintenance	3
<i>Jagirdar</i> of Shivani	... 3
For the expenditure of the army in Berar	... 3
For the expenditure of the army in Katak	... 7
Total	... 16

In 1800 A.D. the Bhosles received highest revenue as the territory under them was at its maximum:—

	(Rs. in lacs.)
(1) Devagad including Bhandara	... 30
(2) Gadha-Mandla	... 14
(3) Hushangabad, Shivani-Malva and Chauragad...	7
(4) Multai	... 2
(5) $\frac{1}{2}$ revenue of Berar and revenue of Gavilgad, Narnala, etc.	... 30
(6) Orissa and the feudatory states	... 17
(7) Chandrapur or Chanda	... 5
(8) Chhattisgad and the feudatory states	... 6
Total	... 111

Local Marathi administration.—'Mr. Lawrence gives the following information as to the administration of the district under the Marathas'. There were ten *Kamavishdars* or revenue sub-divisional officers, but their jurisdiction and powers were not always the same. The *parganas* of Bhandara, of Ambagarh including the north of Chandpur, and of Tirora had each a separate *Kamavishdar*, who reported to and was under the orders of Dharmaji Bhonsla. This personage resided at Nagpur; his duty appears to have consisted in selecting the fittest objects for oppression, and in knowing who had money and could, therefore, be made to disgorge. His cruelties were so great that the *Raja* Appasaheb, in search of popularity and to secure an agricultural following, put him to death. He was known as Dharmaji Pindari; and the word Pindari was to a Maratha as a synonym for a ruthless cruel robber. In the same way the accessible portions of Chandpur and the fertile plains of Rampaili were administered by resident *Kamavishdars* under the guidance of Salinkah *Risaldar* (Cavalry leader), who held them in *jagir*; and afterwards under an *Ijaradar* or farmer of the revenue known as *Kotlikar*. This personage was subsequently manager of the camel and grain department under Raghaji III. The tracts to the south (Pauni excepted, which was at intervals united with Brahmapuri in Chanda) were under *Kamavishdars* who reported direct to the palace at Nagpur. It remains to mention the Lanji *pargana* to the east of the Baghnadi, and Kamtha lying west and north of that river. In this extensive tract there was, up to 1853, but one Government officer, the *Kamavishdar* at Lanji. Most of the area was in the hands of *Zamindars* who were originally contractors for the entire revenue of large tracts. The country was generally wild and the local officer being remote from headquarters was comparatively unchecked. His jurisdiction extended over, besides what the present map shows, some of the tracts which now belong to the Raipur district. His domain was known as the Khaloti, that is the lowlands lying beneath the hills.'

BRITISH PERIOD

"The causes and motives for sedition are innovations in religion, taxes, alterations of laws and customs, breaking of privileges, general oppression, advancement of unworthy persons, strangers, dearths, disbanded soldiers, factions grown desperate and whatsoever in offending people joined them in a common cause." Most if not all these evils had grown and multiplied in India during the forty years between the collapse of Maratha power and the revolt of 1857. In the Nagpur territories a large number of chiefs and landlords had been dispossessed and nursed a genuine grievance against the Government. Similarly legislation such as the Hindu Widows Remarriage Act of 1856 and the Religious Disabilities Act of 1850 together with the

¹ *Settlement Report* (1867), p. 83.

aggressive proselytising activities of Christian missionaries created a feeling in the minds of the people that the government was out to destroy their social fabric. The social structure in the country was such that the initiative for leadership had to come from the feudal leaders and it was to them that people looked up for guidance.

Long before the explosion took place in 1857, the inequities and violence that had been committed throughout the country had laid up a store of highly inflammable feelings. The annexation of Nagpur and Satara States was followed by that of Jhanshi and the last *Peshwa* Nana Saheb who was deprived of his pension by Lord Dalhousie, made common cause with the queen of Jhanshi to whom the Government had shown great injustice by refusing recognition of the adoption of a son by her late husband, *Raja* Gangadhar Rav. Now they found themselves comrades in arms and joined in a grand and desperate adventure to wrest the country from the foreigner's hold. In Nagpur itself there were all the elements favourable for an uprising as a result of recent annexation involving patent injustice. The newspapers which had grown considerably, strongly criticised the annexations by Dalhousie. Among the causes that led to the outbreak of 1857 the newly sprung Indian newspapers should be reckoned as a powerful factor. It may be noted that the discontent had not only increased among the feudal and land-owning classes but had also spread among the troops. Nana-saheb, the *Rani* of Jhanshi and other potential leaders of resistance movement knew the state of the sepoys' feeling and felt that they would lead the movement to success with the aid of troops. It is significant that in 1857 movement both Hindus and Muslims fought side by side and the latter preferred to join the Hindu leaders in their fight against the British. The first sign of unrest occurred in the regiment at Barrackpur in March and was taken as the signal for a general outbreak.

The Nagpur territories were swept by the waves of the uprising only a month after it had flooded the Meerut-Delhi area. At each place the events were similar. The troops rose against the European Officers, either murdered them or held them at bay in their places of refuge. The disturbances in the Nagpur area did not, however, assume serious proportions due to the attitude adopted by the aged *Rani* Bakabai, who set her face against any such action. Naturally the incipient effort to raise the standard of revolt in the Nagpur territory was easily put down by the British, though the Sagara-Narmada territories were caught in the great upsurge. Towards the end of December 1857 Raipur district was in ferment and it was feared by the British that a properly organised revolt would envelop the whole wild tract from Bhandara and Chanda in the west to the borders of Orissa and Bengal. Luckily for the British an emergency of such nature did not arise and the rising in Raipur was put down. It is not necessary to go into details of the revolt as it

spread in various parts of the country and the counter offensive launched by the British to quell it. Suffice it to say that the resistance in all parts of India practically died out and the first attempt by the people to shake off the foreign rule and assert the independence of the country failed. The revolt was however put down with a relentless repression. The officers in the districts were armed with summary powers to deal with the situation. The Act XVIII of 1857 gave the Deputy Commissioners summary powers and under section II of the Act they could try any person for mutiny and desertion. It is almost impossible to know the total number of persons tried and executed under the draconian provisions of the Act during 1857-58. The common method adopted to strike terror in the hearts of the people was to set fire to whole villages in a most indiscriminate way. This went to such an extent that the Commissioner of Nagpur found it necessary to issue a circular to all Deputy Commissioners in the province, discouraging this kind of vandalism. The year 1858 saw a change in the tone of administration with the transfer of power from the company's government to the British crown and the Parliament. It was during this period that the administration acquired those qualities of ruthless efficiency, wooden inflexibility and haughtiness and the officers sent to the districts imbued with this spirit vigorously addressed themselves to the task of putting down every potential element of disturbance. This developed a racial antagonism between the Englishman and the Indian which poisoned every aspect of life in the country. There was a large influx of Englishmen in India which the government tacitly encouraged. A stage was thus set for a period of high-handed repressive rule in India. The Deputy Commissioners were asked to prepare a list of families in the district which had been thought to be guilty of revolt. In this manner district after district was combed and the property of suspected persons was confiscated. The government also enacted another legislation known as the Act XXVIII of 1857 for disarming the people and curb their spirit and render them powerless. The provisions of the Disarming Act were enforced with great thoroughness. The Disarming Act was made a permanent feature of the British policy in India after its renewal for five years in 1860. The result was that for a time the free spirit of man was struck down in speechless awe.

As stated earlier, the convulsions of 1857 barely affected the Nagpur territories of which Bhandara district formed a part. This was not due to the administrative talents of Plowden, the Nagpur Commissioner, but in a large measure due to Rani Bakabai and her influence. The whole of Bundel Khand was, however, seething with a revolutionary ferment during 1857-58 and the Government, therefore, thought of resettling Bundel Khand. This led to the realignment of the Sagar-Narmada and the Nagpur territory and the formation of the Central Provinces.

The Resolution of 2nd November 1861 by which government of India formally established the Central Provinces says that—

“The Sagar-Narmada Territories, conjoined with the Province of Nagpur, form a compact area of about 90,000 square miles, with a population of more than six million souls, and revenues amounting in the total to about three-quarters of a million sterling per annum. And although within the limits of this area some varieties of race, language and custom exist, yet many of the districts, tribes and classes which it comprises are either quite homogeneous, or have a strong resemblance and affinity to each other.”

The Resolution laid down the districts that should comprise the Central Provinces. They were: Nagpur, Chanda, Bhandara, Chhindwara, Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Sironcha with dependencies of Bastar and Kuronda—all of which formed the Nagpur Territory; and Sagar, Damoh, Jabalpur, Mandla, Seoni, Betul, Narsimhapur and Hoshangabad—all of which were the Sagar-Narmada Territories.

One of the consequences of the transfer of power from the East India Company to the British crown was the influx of Europeans to man the administration. A number of new departments such as Public Works Department, Agriculture and Forest Department, Education Department, Public Health Department, etc., were created and Europeans were appointed to head these departments due to the reluctance of the government to appoint Indians to such key posts. Thus grew up the great bureaucracy in India.

The administration of the newly formed Central Provinces was carried on by the Chief Commissioners, the next in the hierarchy being the Commissioners in charge of five districts each. Bhandara district came under the jurisdiction of Nagpur division. However, the pivot of the administration was the Deputy Commissioner, who headed the district. In the time of Lord Ripon Local Self-Government was introduced in Urban and Rural areas. In February 1883, Sir John Morris, the Chief Commissioner of Nagpur called a meeting of the leading citizens and announced that Government was willing to hand over the Municipal administration to elected representatives of the people. The Central Provinces Municipalities Act was passed in 1883 and in 1885 there were 61 municipalities in Central Provinces. By the Local Self Government Act, 1883 District Councils and Local Bodies under their control were established at district and tahsil headquarters, respectively consisting of elected and non-elected representatives. There was very little progress in education till 1862. It was in this year that the Education department was constituted.

The whole system of education was so rudimentary that it was fit only for a semi-civilised, backward people; not for a

land of ripe and ancient civilization which had long ago given light and learning to the West. The new education was meant to make the people soft, docile and unenterprising.

An incident reported in the *Berar Samachar* in its issue of 6th May 1877, reveals to what insane extent this attitude can go:

"A European was walking on the road in Nagpur and taking umbrage at a Kunbi caught hold of him and commanded Ramdayal, a municipal peon who was near at hand, to cut off his head. Ramdayal was aghast at the order of the Sahib and when the latter had left the spot, he let him off. Seeing this the Sahib returned and asked Ramdayal in anger why he had not carried out the order. Thereafter, the Sahib stabbed poor Ramdayal as a result of which he died. He was produced before a magistrate but was discharged on the plea of not being in his proper senses when he stabbed the peon."

This was not an isolated case of racial madness. The *Berar Samachar* in its issue of the 3rd September 1876, published the following account of the inconsiderate behaviour of the head of the province:

"The Chief Commissioner, Mr. Morris, one day saw an innocent unlettered Indian going to fetch water from the well situated in the compound of his bungalow. Mr. Morris challenged him upon which the poor Indian apologised and said that he would not have dared had he known that the bungalow was occupied by a Bara Sahib. Not being satisfied, Mr. Morris had him arrested and the man was produced before a magistrate who let him off. But Mr. Morris was not going to leave him at that; he ordered his retrial by another magistrate who fined him four rupees. The Judicial Commissioner, Colonel Mackenzie, before whom the case went up in appeal, acquitted the man and passed strictures upon the magistrate who had found him guilty."

Now the point of this incident is that a responsible officer like the Chief Commissioner was so callous in his treatment of an Indian whose only offence was that he wanted to draw water from the well in his compound. The *Berar Samachar* summed up its comments on this episode by saying that it was not safe to leave lakhs of people of the Nagpur province to the tender mercies of a Chief Commissioner like Morris.

Along with the repressive measures, the British Government astutely employed the policy of divide and rule in order to keep their hold firm over the populace. In the army as well as in the civil services, this policy was very carefully implemented which finally divided India vertically and horizontally.

The armies were organized in such a manner that tribal, sectarian, religious and caste groups could maintain their own

peculiarities. They were stationed at such places where they had no contacts of any kind with the local population and, therefore were considered alien.

The newly invented theory of martial and non-martial races was applied and the people of U. P. and Bihar were classed under the second category. The communities of North-West India were declared as martial. The people of Oudh and North-Western Provinces who had helped the British in the conquest of the Punjab and the North-West Frontier suddenly became non-martial.¹

The Police force in the Central Provinces including Nagpur was placed under the supervision of the police officers of the Regular Police. The old local village police which had strong affinities with the population were done away with. The aim was to create an efficient administrative instrument isolated from the public.²

The loyal support afforded by Sayyad Ahmad to the British soon bore fruit. After 1875 the Muslims became the chosen people of the Government to put down the patriotic Hindu activities. In the Central Provinces the Muslim population was negligible. Yet more than fifty per cent of the officers and nearly the same percentage of posts in the police were given to them.³ The policy of the British of setting the Muslims against the Hindus continued unabated. The evidence of the '*Berar Mitra*' of 8th July 1879, is significant in this respect. In one of the editorials it asked, "why is it that only Musalmans are appointed Tahsildars these days?"

As a part of the divide-and-rule policy in 1861 the entire Nagpur Irregular Force was incorporated in the police. The police were trained to be overbearing and contemptuous in their behaviour towards the people. The rank and file of the police force was drawn from that section of the population which had no character in the past. This naturally led to corruption and abuse of power in the police force. Sir Richard Temple, the Chief Commissioner of Central Provinces, 1864-65, referring to this state of affairs says, "Service in the police has always been unpopular with natives of superior stamp, and men of character avoided entering it. Men of ability rarely entered it except with the intention of making an unlawful fortune within a short time, risking the chance of such detection as would lead to personal punishment but quite prepared for dismissal."⁴

The police purposely insulted men of status and the Government connived at their rudeness. A British police officer could easily whip a citizen of Nagpur on the street if he failed to stand up when the Sahib passed by.⁵ The feeling of oneness between the police and the people was completely disrupted.

¹*IIFM*, p. 122.

²*Ibid*, p. 124.

³*IIFM*, p. 125.

⁴*Ibid*, p. 126.

⁵*Ibid*, p. 127.

Dalhousie's policy towards the native States was topsyturvierd in the aftermath of the revolt. Except for their sovereignty the States were restored to their former honour and rights. As a result the States came to be recognised as one of the pillars of the British Empire in India till their disappearance. Next to the States, it were the *Zamindars* who merited the attention of the British. In the Nagpur area a new class of *Zamindars* and *Malguzars* was created with full proprietary rights in their villages. This was quite against the Indian tradition which did not recognize private ownership in land. The landlords were revenue farmers or managers in the pre-British period. Endowed with proprietary rights in land, majority of them became stooges of the alien Government and at the same time took upon themselves the odium of revenue collection.¹

The Nagpur revenue assessment was enhanced by the Residents right from 1830. The revenue system under the Bhosles though crude and elementary left the farmers with a surplus that was enough for their maintenance and future agricultural operations.²

To sum up in Bhandara as in other parts of India the alien rulers set the police against the people, the landlords against their cultivators, the Muslims against the Hindus, one caste against the other and even one sub-caste against another sub-caste. The socio-political repercussions of the dissensions nurtured by the British are felt by the people even today. In its trail, it has created problems which are difficult to solution.

The economic effects of the British rule were also disastrous. Within less than a hundred years of the British rule the indigenous economy was killed in the interest of Great Britain. No wonder that Bhandara should have fallen a prey to this general economic devastation.

1886.—Lord Lytton's unblest regime (1876—80) left sad memories in the people's mind. The oppressive Vernacular Press Act, the huge expenditure incurred during the Second Afghan War, the lowering of age-limit for admission of Indians to the I. C. S. and the opening of the Muhammedan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligadh roused public feelings throughout India. Bhandara was not slow to react against these measures.

The people of Bhandara were moved when Vasudev Balavant Phadke of Shirdhon, the first revolutionary, tried to overthrow the British rule. He failed in his attempt and was deported to distant Aden. The people were also quick to receive new ideas from Pune which led to the formation of nationalism. Soon after the foundation of the *Sarvajanik Sabha* of Pune, the *Loka Sabha* was established in Nagpur with its branches in the principal towns of the Madhya Pradesh.³ The educated well-to-do middle class formed the backbone of these public activities.

¹HFM., p. 133.

²Ibid., p. 137.

³Ibid., p. 171.

The birth of the Indian National Congress had a profound effect on the political situation in the Central Provinces as in other parts of the country. Though the policy of the British to divide and rule was paying them rich dividends, it was creating a turmoil in the minds of the people and the atmosphere was seething with discontent. The district of Bhandara had its own share in these happenings.

Another important organisation founded at this time was the *Gorakshan Sabha* which had considerable political influence though primarily its interest was to preserve the cattle wealth of the country. Forty-nine such *Sabhas* were established in the Central Provinces which gradually assumed the form of an All-India organisation. It may be noted that the younger generation of the Central Provinces had to a great extent been educated in Pune and Bombay and was greatly attracted towards the Congress. It was, therefore, but natural that the Indian National Congress elicited an official ill-will on the part of the British government.

The first session of the Congress held in Nagpur was in 1891 and was attended by 3,812 delegates. This session gave a great stimulus to the National movement in the Central Provinces. Most of the English-knowing persons—pleaders, land holders and men of various professions attended the Session. Every one seemed to be inspired with the idea that he had come to Nagpur for the sake of the nation and returned filled with the zeal to serve the nation's cause. It was at this time that *Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak* began to play an increasingly active part in the life of the country through his rousing articles in the *Kesari*.

The last decade of the nineteenth century was almost continuously haunted by famines. The settlement rates of revenue fixed in 1891 were so high that the cultivator could hardly pay them. The famine first struck in 1892, which was followed by one in 1894 and by another in 1894-95 and again in 1895-96. The *Desh Sewak*, *Berar Samachar*, *Subodh Sindhu* and *Nyaya Sabha* published stories of the sufferings of the people. While these series of famines devastated the Central Provinces the western and northern parts of the country were visited by the pestilence of bubonic plague which took a heavy toll of life. But the plague had another indirect and far reaching consequence on the politics of the country. The behaviour of the military which was called out to deal with the situation arising from the pestilence in the country aroused great indignation. It was at this time that Ryand and Lt. Ayerst were murdered by the Chafekar brothers. *Lokmanya Tilak* was tried and sentenced to 18 months rigorous imprisonment. It was under the shadow of this gloom that the thirteenth session of the Congress was held at Amravati. It condemned the reactionary policy of the Government. It thus appeared that a new note had begun to be heard in the country—the strident, impatient, challenging voice of a nation grown restive under years of bureaucratic rule.

The monsoon of 1898 having failed, famine again stalked the land, and the suffering was too fearful for words. The previous famines had already depleted the economic condition and reduced the physical stamina of the people. Things were not, however, so bad in Nagpur, Chanda, Nimar and Jabalpur districts. 6,91,714 persons were on relief, i.e., about 6.41 per cent of the total population were relieved by labour. How the remaining 93 per cent went through life in those days, it is not possible to describe. In 1896, the death rate was 49 per thousand, and in 1897 it was 70. Before famine, the death rate was 32 per thousand. Government spent about one crore and 70 lakhs of rupees in the famine of 1896. The famine of 1899-1900 was infinitely more terrible. In the month of August 23,22,000 people were in the labour camps, i.e., about 21 per cent of the population. The death rate rose up to 58 per thousand, and about four and a half crores of rupees were spent in helping the poor people. Excluding the States, the population fell from 10,784,294 to 9,876,646. The population of the States fell from 2,160,000 to 1,996,000.

The Government of India appeared to have been driven to a state of panic by the events of 1897-98. Their policy was thus somewhat similar to that of the concluding years of Lytton's regime, exactly twenty years before. A sedition law was passed which gave absolute powers to the magistracy, and the Criminal Code was drastically amended.

The whole administration during the period was obsessed by two main preoccupations—the famine and plague on the one hand and the political agitation on the other. It looked as if the bureaucracy, which had been triumphant during the long period from Lytton to Elgin, suddenly found the ground slipping from under its feet. This led to the increasing estrangement between the people and the Government, so that R. C. Dutt remarked, that he could hardly remember any time when the confidence of the people of India in the justice and fair-play of English rulers was so shaken as it has been within the last two years.

However, the average district officer generally pursued the even tenor of his life unworried by the deteriorating condition of the district under him, until something unexpected or violent occurred. His touring was invariably combined with shikar. Those shikar parties were a source of great trouble to the people who had to provide *rasad* and *begar* (free rations and labour). This evil practice grew to such proportions that during the years of famine Government had to issue special instructions to the district officers not to demand from the people *begar* and free supply of rations. Even so, the burden was heavy enough. A Chief Commissioner on tour travelled with a small army of followers. Travelling was done by horses, some of them drawing carriages. A large number of bullock carts was pressed into service to carry a varied assortment of household effects and office requirements. They were usually accompanied by the

lady members of the family and children, with their ayahs, nurses, peons, cooks, *khakashis*, *mashajis*, syces, grass-cutters and the camp followers. Sometimes the Chief Commissioner was accompanied by the Chief Secretary and the entourage became proportionately larger. To these were added the Deputy Commissioner, Tahsildar, *Naib-Tahsildar*, with all their office and domestic attendants, and some minor revenue officials like the Revenue Inspectors and Patvaris. Besides, there was, of course, a full complement of police for messenger and guard duties. The medical attendant and all his staff had also to accompany this caravan. This considerable army would move from place to place, and preparations for its reception and accommodation had to be made at each camp weeks ahead. Stocks of food-grains, fuel, ghee, oil, grass for horses and all the multifarious articles needed for this large population had to be anticipated and provided by every officer who aspired for promotion. The young Tahsildar's attitude was, "Perish India but the Commissioner's camp must not be short of potatoes." Cases were fixed for hearing at the camps, and naturally the litigants also followed. The tours of the Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and of the District Superintendents of Police were also similar, only slightly less spectacular and somewhat smaller in size. All these tours were combined with shikar, and the strain on the population can well be imagined.

It was on this background that Lord Curzon took the momentous decision of partitioning Bengal. This added to the tension and resentment in the country. There was a great political upsurge in India and the district of Bhandara had its own share in vehemently opposing the measure. In 1904 a meeting was held at the residence of Tilak in which the leaders of the Central Provinces decided to support Tilak in his fight against the Government and popularise their stand through public lectures and the press. People's minds were now in ferment and their mood was sullen, suspicious and resentful.

Out of the anti-partition agitation was born the cult of *Swadeshi* and boycott. No wonder the 1905 Session of the Congress met at Benaras in a grim and indignant mood. The leaders from the Central Provinces such as Dadasaheb Khaparde, Dr. Munje, Mudholkar and Chitnavis made their mark in this session, the former two representing the extremist group of Tilak and the latter two representing the moderate school. The Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon ended in 1906 and this marked the beginning of India's aggressive political awakening. The 1906 Session of the Congress was held in Calcutta which declared *Swaraj* as its immediate goal. The Session was dominated by the extremists headed by Lal, Bal and Pal. It was at this time that the terrorist-movement began to assume serious proportions.

An extremist organisation called *Rashtriya Mandal* was established at Nagpur which utilised Shivaji and Ganesh celebrations for propagating the ideal of National Education and *Swadeshi*. The next Session of the Congress was to be held at Nagpur and the

extremist group including Khaparde and Munje toured the province to marshal their forces in preparation for this Session. They visited Wardha in early May and on 12th they went to Seoni where they heard of the arrest of Lala Lajpatrai. At all the places they visited, they addressed largely attended public meetings and established branches of the Nationalist Wing of the Congress.

The meeting of the reception committee convened on the 22nd September 1907 at the Town Hall in Nagpur to elect Lokamanya Tilak as president of the session could not be held due to the tense and excited atmosphere and the venue of the session had to be changed to Surat. This precipitated a breach between the moderate and the extremist sections of the Congress. The spasmodic and hesitating attempts made by the British Government to grant political reforms to India were way late and too meagre. Agitation, repression and violence followed in their wake. Bureaucracy was in alarm. Even a minor episode caused ferocious reaction on the part of the Government. Not content with existing laws whose armoury contained all the weapons that any Government may need in times of repression, new laws were devised to inflict summary punishment on any who may be suspected to be against the British. The Explosives Act and the Seditious Meetings Act were passed, and the Criminal Law was amended drastically for the purpose. The Courts were given summary jurisdiction in regard to all cases of seditious violence. The term "sedition" itself was so incapable of precise definition that any one whom the Government wanted could be brought under its scope. Several well-known leaders, who could by no stretch of imagination be considered terrorists, were arrested. There was another old weapon in the armoury of the British Government which had been lying unused for many decades. It now came handy and was used against the Indian leaders. Regulation III of 1818 gave Government the power to deport without trial any one who might be obnoxious to them. Under this provision not only Indians but also some inconvenient Englishmen were detained and deported. It was under this Regulation that Lala Lajpatrai and Ajit Singh were arrested and deported from the Punjab. In the Central Provinces, the persecution of those who were in any way connected with the Nationalist movement reached its highwater mark during Carddock's regime. For instance, a most extra-ordinary notification appeared in the issue of the Gazette of the Central Provinces, dated the 22nd August 1908. It was signed by F.S.S. Slowcock, Chief Secretary to Government of Central Provinces and was to the following effect:

"For the information of all whom it may concern, it is notified that whereas Shivraj Singh, a pensioned Tahsildar now a resident of Rampaili in the Bhandara district has in spite of the warning given him, participated in political agitation directed against the Government of a kind inconsistent with loyalty and good behaviour, subject to which all such pensions are granted by Government, the Chief Commissioner hereby directs that with effect from the date of this order,

the pension hitherto enjoyed by the said pensioner, Shivraj Singh, is forfeited and that a copy of this order shall be communicated to the Comptroller of the Central Provinces for cancellation of Pension Payment Order hitherto in force in favour of the said Shivraj Singh."

Regarding the specific character of the "political agitation" in which the *ex-Tahsildar* was alleged to have taken part, not a word was said, and it is clear that the offence could not have been of a heinous nature, for in that event a prosecution for sedition was ready at hand. As a matter of fact, it appeared that the gravamen of his crime consisted in his taking part in a procession held to express sympathy with Lokamanya Tilak. If this was really the case, it was monstrous that a man who was no longer in the service of Government and whose participation in political agitation could in no way be regarded as detrimental to the interests of discipline, should be arbitrarily deprived of his pension in such a fashion. In the midst of this fury of repression, many parts of the country including the Central Provinces and Berar were afflicted by famine in 1907-08. In the meanwhile the slow moving process of constitutional reforms was working itself out in the British Parliament. The Morley-Minto reforms were introduced in 1909. They did little however to assuage public opinion. There was keen and widespread disappointment as Lord Minto made it clear in his address to the Imperial Legislative Assembly in 1909 that the Provincial Councils and the Central Assembly were not intended to transfer any power to Indians. The consequent wave of discontent resulted in the imprisonment of many political leaders. Ironically enough the first fruit of the new reforms was the Press Act of 1910 which effectively suppressed a number of Nationalist papers.

The year 1911 was significant because determined efforts were made by some Hindu and Muslim leaders to bring about unity between the two communities. The communal spirit had taken deep roots in the minds of the people due to the subtle and calculated attempts of the British Government to divide the Muslims from the large body of the Indian public, and drive a wedge between them. The Muslims numbered 2 lakhs in the Provincial population of 88 lakhs in 1891 and even after Berar was joined to the province the population of Muslims did not exceed 4 per cent. The Muslims were neither appreciably influenced by the national movement nor did they join the Congress. As a matter of fact the Chief Commissioner of Nagpur Mr. Craddock exhorted the Muslims to keep away from the Congress. He followed a communal policy in every department of administration. The Muslim League was established under the protective wings of Lord Minto. Though the session of the Muslim League held in Delhi in 1909 decided to establish the league in the Central Provinces the unity conference which was held before the next session of the league in Nagpur in 1910 by a resolution defined its object as the attainment of self Government under the British Empire. Like other parts of the country the Central Provinces

were also caught up in the maelstrom of communalism and public life was often punctuated by communal riots. The Congress subsequently adopted and endorsed its complete accord with the resolution of the Unity Conference and declared that the political future of the country depended on the harmonious working and co-operation of the various communities in the country. The year 1913 saw the beginning of a new era in the Central Provinces with the formation of the Central Provinces Legislative Council on 8th November of that year. In August 1914 war broke out in Europe and the reaction in India was one of unanimous and enthusiastic support to the cause of the Allies. Little did the Indians expect at that time that the reward for so lively an effort would be so little. The first meeting of the Legislative Council was held on 17th August 1914. The Chief Commissioner, Sir Benjamin Robertson, exhorted the members to enter upon their responsibilities with seriousness and courage and expressed the hope of fullest co-operation from the province in the war efforts. But the passing of the Defence of India Act in 1915 shattered all these hopes. Under these circumstances the Home Rule League was established in 1916 aimed at the attainment of *Svarajya* by all constitutional measures. The leaders for the Central Provinces headed by Khaparde wholeheartedly supported the Home Rule League. A provincial association was formed in 1916 with members representing every district of the province. Meanwhile Muslim opinion in India was also becoming suspicious of Britain. An attempt at rapprochement between Hindus and Muslims was made. The 1916 Lucknow sessions of the Congress and the Muslim League forged unity between the congress and the league resulting in the conclusion of the famous Lucknow pact. The Congress and the Muslim League thus presented a united front to the British Government. In the meanwhile the provincial association was held in 1916 at Amravati which asked for (1) the establishment of Municipal Committees in all towns with a population of 5,000 and above with 3/4 of the members being elected (2) the administration of the district councils through the representatives of the people and (3) establishment of the Gram Panchayats all over the province. The Government was, however, in a belligerent mood and refused to listen to reason.

Soon after the Congress Session of 1916 the Home Rule agitation led by Tilak and Mrs. Besant gathered momentum. Almost all the prominent leaders of the Central Provinces joined the movement. The student population was also caught up by the wave of national movement. A number of students were expelled from their schools for joining in the demonstrations and public meetings. It was against this background that the new Secretary of State for India Mr. Montague took office in July 1917. He made a conciliatory statement in the House of Commons laying down the fundamental objective of the British policy as the increasing association of Indians in every branch of

administration and the development of self-governing institutions. He expressed his desire to personally visit India and consult the Indian leaders in the scheme of reforms. However, the British Parliament was in no mood to respond to these sentiments, due to its preoccupation with the problems of war. The bureaucracy in India was far too unimaginative and wooden to understand the significance of the popular agitation. The situation would not have worsened if the Government had not appointed a committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Rowlatt to enquire into criminal conspiracies and the spread of revolutionary associations in India and to advise what legislation should be undertaken to deal with them. This provoked and exasperated the people. It was also a warning that more weapons were being acquired for the chastisement of the so called sedition-mongers.

The Calcutta Congress of 1917 condemned this new development. Tilak undertook an extensive tour of the Central Provinces and covered a number of places in Nagpur and Berar divisions, speaking about the objects of Home Rule. In the meanwhile tension between the Government and political leaders in India mounted. In 1918 it was proposed to send a deputation to England composed of Pal, Kelkar and Khaparde but under the orders of the War Council in England they were not permitted to sail. This caused resentment which found expression in the sixth provincial conference held in March 1918. At the same time in the mounting wave of discontent Montague was touring the provinces of India. He met Dadasaheb Khaparde, Mudholkar, Chitnavis, Moropant Joshi and other leaders from the Central Provinces. By now the district political conferences had become a regular feature and helped to spread political awakening in rural areas. They hastened the transformation of the political struggle from a middle class movement to a mass movement. Due to the worsening of the war situation, the viceroy called a war meeting in Delhi. In Nagpur an impressive *Durbar* was held attended by several loyalists. But the voice of the people was heard elsewhere at a number of tahsil meetings where resolutions demanding *swarajya* and National education were passed. The repressive policy of the Government, however, continued and many leaders were prosecuted and jailed under the Defence of India Act. In this atmosphere of repression and awakening the Montague-Chelmsford Report was presented to the British Parliament. The report evoked a sharp criticism from the leaders of the Central Provinces in the provincial conference though a few of them viewed it with favour. The Congress as also the Muslim League voiced their dissatisfaction. When these developments were taking place in regard to constitutional reforms, the report of the Rowlatt Committee was also published which found nothing new and recommended special trials without jury for political cases. The promises, half-hearted though they were, embodied in the Montague-Chelmsford Report were nullified by the unmistakable repressive measures suggested by

the Rowlatt Committee. The war ended in 1918. It brought in its wake the epidemic of influenza followed by the failure of harvest resulting in heavy casualties. In the midst of this situation the Rowlatt Bill was brought before the Imperial Legislative Council. Protest meetings were held in every town of the Central Provinces as elsewhere in India. The bill was vehemently opposed by all the political leaders including those of the Central Provinces. In spite of such an unprecedented unanimity of disapproval, the Rowlatt Bill became an Act.

It is worth noting that the expeditious manner in which this legislation was rushed through was in striking contrast to the leisurely, almost deliberately obstructive manner in which the reform bill was handled. It was in December, 1919, about twenty months after Montague had submitted his report, that the recommendations contained in the report were embodied in the form of an Act. The interval between the passage of Rowlatt Act and the Montford reforms saw repression in almost all parts of India. It was at this time that a new figure arrived on the political horizon of India that was to guide the destiny of India till the dawn of Independence in 1947. The new figure was that of Gandhiji. Gandhiji had struck a new note by imploring the Viceroy not to give his assent to the Rowlatt Bill and had declared that if the bill became law he would start *satyagraha*. The proposal for *satyagraha* found widespread support in the Central Provinces and was observed with remarkable success as in other parts of the country. There was trouble in many parts of the country. Then came the horror of Jallianwala Bagh on 13th April 1919 where the notorious General Dyer by ordering indiscriminate firing brought about a massacre of a number of innocent men, women and children. The tragedy shocked the people of Central Provinces immensely and evoked strong criticism from political leaders. The *Satyagraha* was later suspended by Gandhiji. The Government of India at this inopportune time decided to celebrate the victory gained by the allies in the Great World War. This was grossly callous and the celebrations in the Central Provinces were far from popular.

The period under review had, however, a bright streak on the otherwise dark horizon of Indian politics. It saw for the first time an unprecedented unity among the Hindus and Muslims. The national struggle was strengthened by the *Khilafat* movement. The Ali brothers who were in the forefront of the movement and Gandhiji became for the time being at least the country's most conspicuous leaders. Meanwhile the Montford reforms were put through. The Central Provinces were allotted 5 seats, in the Indian Legislative Assembly and two in the Council of State. Moropant Joshi and other moderates were among the few who pleaded for the acceptance of the Reforms. But their's was a lone voice. Everywhere strong opposition was seen to the acceptance of the Reforms. District conferences were held in the first half of 1920 and the message for struggle travelled

from district to district. At this time India suffered a tragic loss in the death of *Lokamanya* Tilak. Meetings were held in every part of the country and a countrywide *hartal* was observed. However, the appointed task had to be performed and in the special session of the Congress held in Calcutta in September 1920, the Congress outlined the programme of non-co-operation and adoption of *Swadeshi*. Opposition to the resolution of the Congress from the Central Provinces came from Khaparde, who pointed out that the resolution sought to divert the energies of the Congress towards attaining soul force and moral excellence, thus losing sight of the immediate political objective. Opposition also came from members of the Imperial Legislative Council. In this atmosphere the Congress session was held at Nagpur. The session unanimously adopted the resolution on non-co-operation and established finally the unquestioned leadership of Gandhiji in the freedom struggle. The session was eventful as it displayed a rosy picture of Hindu-Muslim unity.

The Nagpur session also passed other resolutions which were destined to have far-reaching influence on the country in the years to come. It was at Nagpur that the Congress adopted the linguistic principle for the realignment of the provinces. Accordingly a provincial Congress Committee was formed and the Central Provinces were grouped under three committees—the Berar, the Hindi C. P. which later came to be called Mahakosal Provincial Committee and the Marathi C. P. which became later the Nagpur provincial committee and which included the Bhandara district. This resulted in diffusing the political activity which was till now centred in Nagpur only, in the whole of the Central Provinces. The two new centres, *viz.*, Jabalpur and Amravati became the radiating nuclei from where the movement spread out into the districts. Soon after the session *Mahatma* Gandhi toured the province explaining to the people the decisions taken by the Congress. People were quick to respond. The District Councils insisted on hoisting the national flag on their buildings defying Government orders. In 1921 Lord Reading succeeded Chelmsford as viceroy. In the same year the Prince of Wales decided to visit India. His arrival was greeted with *hartal* and protest meetings in the Central Provinces as elsewhere in India. The year 1922 dawned and Gandhiji was ready with the programme of mass civil disobedience whose cause he had fervently propagated after the Ahmedabad session of 1921. But Gandhiji had to suspend the movement which was to start at Bardoli due to the tragic happenings at Chauri Chura where a few constables were killed by a mob. This led to the arrest of Gandhiji on 10th March 1922. In the meanwhile the Central Provinces Legislative Council decorously debated various topics under the indulgent eye of bureaucracy. Though none of the resolutions sponsored by the peoples' representatives could get through, they at least served the purpose of voicing public grievances. With political agitation outside being ruthlessly suppressed, the legislatures now provided as possible alternatives of action. Some even

thought of using them in obstructing the machinery of Government. This mood was reflected in other parts of the country as well and with the beginning of 1923 an able and powerful group led by C. R. Das and Pandit Motilal Nehru set about forming the Svarajist Party to carry the fight into the legislatures. By this time the reforms had been in operation for well over two years. But a number of events besides the use of viceroy's special powers had lifted the veil of pretext and make-believe about the reforms. A further tightening of control by the bureaucracy seemed imminent. The memorandum presented by the C. P. and Berar association of the Services to the Lee Commission was an example of unabashed piece of effrontery in cursing the reforms, the Indian Press and politicians and in a minor key the Government of India and the India Office. In spite of these wranglings the All India Congress Committee which met at Bombay on 25th May 1923 decided to contest the forthcoming general elections. However, at this time staunch protagonists of non-co-operation were active in the Central Provinces especially at Nagpur and they made an issue of the hoisting of the national flag on Municipalities and District Councils. Volunteers poured from every district. *Satyagraha* and defiance of the Government ban prohibiting the hoisting of the national flag became a daily, deliberate ritual. There was no frivolity or bravado about it. The affair now no longer remained a provincial one but assumed country wide importance. 18th June 1923 was observed as a flag day in Nagpur. Volunteers from distant parts of the country joined in the procession taken out on that occasion. Such a determined movement could not be ignored by the Legislative Council which passed a resolution demanding the repeal of the order of the Deputy Commissioner of Nagpur which the *Satyagrahis* were defying. The Delhi session of the Congress held on 18th September 1923 recorded the success of the Nagpur struggle.

Meanwhile the life of the first legislature formed under the reforms came to an end with the monsoon sitting of 1923. The new elections were held in 1923 and the Svarajists secured a clear majority in the Central Provinces. In the Central Assembly they formed a compact group of 45 in a house of 140. Among them were Abhyankar, Dr. Gour and Mishra from the Central Provinces. The Svarajists under the leadership of Dr. Munje refused to accept office in the Central Provinces and brought a vote of no-confidence against the Government which had been formed by the nomination of ministers by the Governor. The motion was passed. The jubilant Svarajists then successfully voted out the money bills and blocked the working of the Government. Similar scenes were witnessed in the Central Legislature, and they brought out succinctly the opposition of the people's representatives to any half-hearted measures on the part of the Government.

In the Central Provinces the matters took a dramatic turn with the Budget having been thrown out. The Governor in this situation certified the expenditure on reserved subjects and

restored that on transferred subjects to the amount required for meeting the committed expenditure. Thus there was a shortfall in the latter. Government used this as a stick to beat the Svarajists within the public eye and to malign the party. A circular was issued by the Chief Secretary to all officers in the districts asking them to bring home to the electorate the effect of the destructive policy followed by the Svarajist party in the Legislative Council. Obviously the aim of the Government was to rally round itself the landholding and aristocratic classes to fight the nationalists. Amidst this constitutional crisis when the diarchic system of Government failed to work, communal riots flared up in many parts of the country including the Central Provinces. With the virtual extinction of the *Khilafat* movement, with the repudiation of the Caliph by Turkey, the cause of Hindu-Muslim unity in India lost as if its very foundation. The British were not slow to take advantage of the situation. What they feared most as a danger to their rule was communal unity in India. It was a situation that irresistibly brought Gandhiji to action. On 18th September 1924 he started a 21 day fast in the house of Mohammad Ali at Delhi. This had a desired effect at least temporarily. Subsequently a conference of all party leaders at Delhi adopted a long resolution on communal toleration. On 21st November 1924 another All Parties conference was held in Bombay which appointed a committee to report on *Svaraj* including a communal settlement. The committee met on 1st March 1925 but adjourned *sine die* without coming to any conclusion. This was perhaps expected as a result of the challenging communal situation that had developed over a period of time. The Hindu Mahasabha, and the Muslim League presided over by Jinnah represented the extremist elements in the Hindu and Muslim communities, respectively. Jinnah considered Hindu-Muslim unity as essential before the question of *Svaraj* could ever be discussed. It was now that the term of the legislatures elected in 1923 was coming to an end. New elections were to take place in November, 1926. This gave a splendid opportunity to extremist elements in the country to fan the fire of communalism. The period before the elections and after saw the orgy of communal terror let loose in various parts of the country. The degree of estrangement between the two communities can be gauged from the virulent anti-Hindu tirade coming from a moderate body like the *Khilafat* Conference in May, 1926. In the atmosphere of this mounting tension came the news of the murder of Swami Shraddhanand, by one Abdul Rashid. The murder to some extent chastened the extremists in both the communities and attempts were made to bring them to a common basis of understanding. An appeal to this effect was issued by the Congress President Shrinivas Iyengar. The appeal did not achieve any substantial results. The announcement of the appointment of a Statutory Commission on reforms consisting wholly of Englishmen, however, brought forth nationwide protest. This gave a promise of a renewed effort by all parties to work unitedly for the cause of the nation.

When these events were taking place the Government of India was following a policy of repression. This was marked by the issue of the notorious Bengal Ordinance. But when total unity was necessary a schism was appearing in the rank of the Svarajists especially in the Marathi districts of Central Provinces and Bombay. On 8th October 1925 Shri Tambe decided to accept the membership of the Executive Council of the Central Provinces and this was followed by a resolution of the Executive Committee of the Berar Svaraja party which declared that the time had come to adopt a policy of responsive co-operation. It was in the meeting of the All-India Svarajist Executive held at Nagpur that the breach was complete. Motilal Nehru remarked that "Maharashtra was a diseased limb of the Svaraj party and he was quite prepared to amputate it." The Congress Session at Cawnpore in 1925 carried by a large majority the resolution proposing a course of action within the Legislature sponsored by Motilal Nehru. The responsivists of Berar declared their opposition to this resolution and when the Legislative Council of the Central Provinces met on 4th March 1926 they expressed it by remaining in the council when the entire Svarajist opposition walked out. In the face of this stiff opposition the Government suspended diarchy in the Central Provinces. The 1926 elections were now approaching. The Svarajists as also the responsivists started marshalling their forces for the ensuing elections. The next session of the Congress held at Gauhati saw a stiffening of the Congress attitude towards the acceptance of office and set the tone of policy of the Congress members in the Legislatures for the next three years. These years, therefore, saw the unusual spectacle of the stream of the national movement being fed and strengthened by the incidents inside the Legislature rather than the events in the wider public life.

In the Central Provinces Legislative Council the Congress found itself in a minority with independent Congress party members entering into coalition with responsivists, Non-Brahmins and independents. This coalition of 33 members thus formed the Nationalist party. Though the budget was passed in spite of a stiff opposition it was predicted that the Nationalists coalition would not survive long due to the loose bonds that held it together. It was in the midst of this situation occurred the appointment of an all-white Reforms Commission, as stated earlier, headed by Sir John Simon. This step displayed a great ignorance of the Indian sentiment by the Government. The result was a spontaneous denouncement of the commission from all parts of the country.

All parties joined hands in protesting against the Commission, the Congress spearheading the opposition. It was decided to boycott the Commission. The Congress went a step ahead and in its Madras Session declared that the goal of the Indian people was complete national Independence. The Simon Commission landed at Bombay on 3rd February 1928. The day was observed all over the Country as a day of mourning. In the Central

Provinces legislative council a motion expressing no confidence in the Commission was carried by a majority. The positive response of India to the British Government was, however, contained in the Nehru Report which was the result of the All-Parties conference held in Delhi and Bombay. The report laid down Dominion Status as the basis of the constitution of India and recommended the abolition of separate electorates. Jinnah, who first supported the report, later became its staunchest opponent after his trip to England in 1928. Rabid communalism was thus raising its ugly head again. In the momentous Session of the Congress held at Lahore in 1929 with Jawaharlal Nehru as President, the entire political mood of the country seemed to have changed. Gandhiji declared that *Svaraj* would mean complete Independence. This was the call for the struggle to come. The promise of the Government given a few days before the Session to call a Round Table Conference of the leaders of all political parties after the Simon Commission had submitted its report came very late indeed. The tremendous effect of this call for the struggle which was to be launched against the Government in the form of civil disobedience could be visualised when in far away villages of the Central Provinces, not to speak of the more accessible parts of the Province, groups of men, women and children gathered in an open place in the early hours of the morning, hoisted the tri-colour flag, sang the national song and listened to the message of independence. From now on events began to move rapidly towards the predestined struggle. In obedience to the resolution of the Lahore Congress, members of the Central Assembly and Provincial Legislatures resigned their seats. The spread of the movement in the Central Provinces and Berar was preceded by a great awakening. It gave a fillip to the youth movement. Youths' and students' Conference played a conspicuous role in the freedom movement. The salt law was broken in all parts of the province. On 16th April the Nagpur Pradesh War Council was formed at Nagpur with Abhyankar as President. Among the members were Jannalal Bajaj, Mahatma Bhagwandin, Dr. Khare, Punamchanda Ranka and Nilkanthrao Deshmukh. Batches of *Satyagrahis* defied the salt law and a decision was taken to defy the forest law and sedition law as well. The Government became alarmed at this turn of events and decided to swoop down upon the leaders. Abhyankar and Wamanrav Joshi were arrested. With these leaders behind the bars it fell to Bapuji Aney to inaugurate the forest *Satyagraha* on 10th July 1930. He was arrested as also Brijlal Biyani, Gole, Patwardhan and Soman. The *Satyagraha* now spread in all parts of the State. The *Adivasis* too participated in thousands in the *Satyagraha*. The Government used all the repressive measures at its command to put down the popular upsurge. To deal with the youths and students who joined the struggle and also to intimidate the *Adivasis* who played a great part in Forest *Satyagraha*, the Central Provinces Government adopted the punishment of whipping. Since early August this brutal form of punishment became very popular with the authorities. Fines

they found difficult to collect; imprisonment required them to provide accommodation, howsoever, filthy. But whipping did away with both these problems and, besides, gave them a sadistic pleasure. From August to December, 164 persons were tortured in this way. It also issued the Press Ordinance demanding securities from a number of nationalist papers.

Till now Government had refrained from arresting Mahatma Gandhi. He was now arrested at Dandi. This was followed by the arrests of Abbas Tyabji and Sarojini Naidu. Repression also continued unabated. Picketing was made an offence and all Congress Committees were declared unlawful. The Simon Report had been published. All eyes were now turned towards the Round Table Conference. The Central Provinces had only one representative on it, viz., S. B. Tambe. The Round Table Conference met on 12th November 1930 but in the absence of the Congress, the voice of India was nowhere to be heard. The proceedings of the Round Table Conference were affected by sectarianism. The Labour Government also lost interest in the Round Table Conference facing as it was an insecure position in the home politics. Ramsey Macdonald, the P. M., therefore, hurriedly concluded the Round Table Conference on 19th January 1931 promising that steps would be taken to enlist the co-operation of those sections of public opinion which had held aloof from the conference. This meant that the door was kept open for negotiations with the Congress. The statement of the Prime Minister was followed by the unconditional release of Gandhiji and other political leaders. Gandhiji agreed to hold talks with Lord Irwin, the Viceroy, of which the famous Gandhi-Irwin or the Delhi Pact was the result. The main outcome of the Pact was the participation of the Congress in the next Round Table Conference. Gandhiji reluctantly attended the Round Table Conference in London. Because of the high ideals and self-effacing patriotism of Gandhiji and the cynical self interests of many others from India, the conference was doomed to fail. The constitution it evolved was a sheer mockery. Gandhiji returned to India more frustrated than disappointed. Government had resolved to carry out a policy of suppression. Instructions were issued to the provincial Governments to supply evidence to prove that the Congress was not abiding by the terms of the pact. The Governor of the Central Provinces, Sir Bulter accused the Congress of fomenting a war mentality. The alleged attitude of the Congress was taken as a pretext for repressive measures. The situation was further aggravated by the bad harvest in Nagpur and Berar. There was great discontent among the agriculturists. In spite of the attitude of the Government the Congress decided to extend its hand of co-operation. If it was refused it was resolved to call upon the nation to resume civil disobedience. The Government took this as a threat. There was a wave of arrests. The Congress reacted sharply and established War Councils in place of District Congress Committees. However, the protest meetings held by people all over were dispersed by

severe *lathi* charges. A notable factor in the popular and spontaneous upsurge that had taken place in the Central Provinces was the increasing number of Women volunteers participating in the *Satyagraha*, which continued unabated.

The newspapers were doing the great work of taking the message of the movement to the masses. The Government promptly suspended such newspapers. The gagging of the newspapers led to the ingenious method of spreading the message of the movement through Congress bulletins. In this situation the Congress decided to hold its Session at Delhi which the Government forestalled by arresting Pandit Malaviya, the President elect, and subsequently all those who had assembled. This was followed by a joint conference of Mahakosal, Nagpur and Berar Congress at Nagpur on 29th May 1932. The same story of the arrest of the President-elect and other delegates as in Delhi was repeated here also. The movement received an accession of strength when the working classes decided to join it. The Government, however, was not satisfied with the mere arrest of political leaders. It meted out harsh treatment to them in jails. The Central Provinces Legislative Council debated an adjournment motion on this issue also. It was at this time that the Communal Award was made public by the British Prime Minister. It attempted to cut off the Harijan Community from its Hindu fold. On this, Mahatma Gandhi launched on 20th September 1932 his historic fast unto death. The leaders, however, made frantic efforts for a compromise. This resulted in the Poona Pact according to which separate electorates for the Harijans were done away with and the life of Gandhiji was saved. The fact stirred the nation into a social awakening and the emphasis at least for the time being shifted from political struggle and civil disobedience to social reform. During this period of civil disobedience, the central and the provincial councils had become mere tools in the hands of the bureaucracy. Certain measures such as the Ottawa Agreement, Criminal Law Amendment Bill of 1932, etc., passed by the central legislature had been harmful to the future of the country. When in this situation the Congress decided to hold its session in Calcutta, the political leaders began actively to think of new paths. The leaders who assembled at Calcutta including M. S. Aney were arrested. In the wake of these arrests came the White Paper containing the proposals for constitutional reforms. The White Paper contained obnoxious proposals such as safeguards, and reservations; they were roundly condemned by the Congress. Gandhiji was now released from prison. He decided to call off the civil disobedience movement which was now a spent force. He now shifted his headquarters from Sabarmati to Sewagram in Wardha and resolved to launch the constructive movement of Harijan uplift. From Sewagram he commenced his ten months long Harijan tour and went to Nagpur in November, 1933 and toured the whole of

Central Provinces. In the meanwhile the leaders of the Congress were working out a plan for a positive course of action. The All-India Congress Committee which met at Patna decided to suspend the civil disobedience movement and adopted a resolution favouring re-entry into the Councils by fighting the approaching elections with an animated vigour. In the elections to the Central Assembly the Congress nominees were swept to the polls everywhere among those elected on Congress ticket being Seth Govind Das, Ghanshyam Singh Gupta and M. V. Abhyankar. But much to the sorrow of the country the Central Provinces lost one of its brave freedom-fighters in the death of M. V. Abhyankar, in January, 1935. The Government was now preparing the ground for the inauguration of the Government of India Act passed in July, 1935. Elections under the new Act were to take place in 1936. Though the act was regarded as unsatisfactory and, therefore, condemned by every shade of public opinion the Congress decided to fight elections. The election was a phenomenal success for the Congress. It captured 72 out of 112 seats in Central Provinces. Under the directive of the All India Congress an assurance was asked for from the Governor of the province by the leader of the party that the Council of Ministers would be consulted by the Governor, and the latter would not use his discretionary powers. The Governor refused to give such an assurance. In such an eventuality the Congress decided not to accept office. This led to an unconstitutional action by the Governor in setting up a Council of Ministers consisting of Dr. Raghavendra Rao and others who had no following. On 1st April 1937, the ministry took office. To save the ignominy of defeat for this puppet cabinet, the Governor did not summon the meeting of the Assembly. The elected members on the other hand met at Nagpur and elected a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker and condemned the previous ministry. This provoked an unprecedented constitutional crisis. Ultimately the Government of India gave in and declared that the Governor would at all time be concerned to carry his ministers with him. On this background the puppet ministry resigned and the Congress which had accepted the clarification by the Government formed its first ministry on 14th July 1937 headed by Dr. Khare. The ministry carried out many useful reforms in social, educational and economic fields. It was, however, forced with an immediate crisis regarding the question of responsibility of the ministers. Dr. Khare argued that the ministers could be responsible to the local members alone whereas the Congress insisted that the ministers were responsible to the Central Parliamentary Board of the party. Dr. Khare resigned on this issue and a new ministry was formed with Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla as the Chief Minister. The assumption of power by the representatives of the people changed the entire tone of public administration. In the midst of the working of the popular ministries the Congress

held its successive sessions in Haripura (1938), and Tripuri (1939) in the Central Provinces. Events followed in quick succession after Tripuri and soon after the Second World War began. The Congress whole-heartedly supported the cause of Allies in their fight against Nazi Germany. It, however, reiterated its stand that the issue of war and peace for India must be decided by the Indian people. When the Congress Working Committee met at Wardha on 8th September 1939 it demanded the right of self-determination for the Indian people by framing their own constitution through a Constituent Assembly. The Government derided this outlook of the Congress and called it as ill-timed and calculated to cause embarrassment to England in its life and death struggle. The Viceroy invited the leaders of various political parties including the Congress for interviews. He spoke of the progressive attainment of Dominion Status. There was, however, an ominous note in his statement which said, "Representatives of the minorities have urged most strongly on me the necessity of a clear assurance that full weight would be given to their views and interests in any modification that may be contemplated." This could at best be described as an attempt by the Government to drive a wedge between the Congress which represented the national feeling and the minorities, especially the Muslims who were showing restive signs under the leadership of Jinnah. The statement also displayed complete lack of vision and statesmanship on the part of the Government of India. The Congress could not accept such a situation and directed the Congress ministries to resign. Jinnah was playing a waiting game. He refused to attend the Wardha meeting. The Congress ministers resigned. The League Working Committee congratulated the Government for repudiating the claim of Congress to represent India and extended its whole-hearted co-operation in the prosecution of War. Again infructuous interviews by the Viceroy with political leaders including Gandhiji and Jinnah followed. However, no common ground for co-operation was discerned. This, however, brought the Muslim League closer to the Government. The Viceroy wooed the League which responded with protestations of injured innocence. The solicitude and eagerness on the part of the Government to placate the Muslim sentiment was a counterpoise to the Congress. Before the ministry in the Central Provinces resigned, a debate on the resolution of war took place in which the Chief Minister compared the partisan attitude of the Government with Nazi techniques. The Muslim League, true to its form, repeated its familiar allegations against the Congress. With the resignation of the ministry, the parliamentary form of Government came to an end in the province. Jinnah, loath to lose any opportunity to belittle the Congress gave a call to the Muslims to observe 22nd December 1939 as a Day of Deliverance from the Congress rule. He did not want the Congress even to quit office in a blaze of

approbation. The resignations by the ministries foreshadowed a storm ahead and the Working Committee which met at Wardha from 18th to 22nd December gave a call to the nation to prepare itself for the achievement of complete independence. It was at this critical time that Jinnah put forward his two-nation theory and demanded a separate state for the Muslims. Meanwhile the war situation was worsening for the Allies. The Congress again renewed its offer of whole-hearted co-operation in the war efforts if only Britain would declare the grant of complete independence to India as its object and as an immediate step consent to the formation of National Government at the centre. The Viceroy came out with what later became known as the August offer which meant nothing more than the enlargement of the Executive Council so as to include a few more Indians. The August offer was unequivocally rejected by the Congress. In this situation *Satyagraha* became inevitable. However, the mode of *Satyagraha* was to be such as would not embarrass the Government. In other words the *Satyagraha* was to be individual and not collective. The individual *Satyagraha* gradually gained momentum. From the Central Province the arrested leaders included Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, D. P. Mishra, Gokhale, Seth Govinda Das, Brijlal Biyani and C. J. Bharucka. The stand of the Muslim league was not only not sympathetic but adamant and obstructive. In its meet at Madras in 1941 it reaffirmed in the strongest possible terms the demand for Pakistan. Not content with this Jinnah tried to disrupt Hindu society by suggesting the creation of Dravidistan. The British Government was still following its policy of placating the Muslims. This was amply revealed by the manner in which one of the Muslim League leaders, Siadique Ali Khan, of the Central Provinces charged under the Defence of India Act for instigating riots in Amravati was released at the instance of the Government of India. The war situation in the meanwhile grew worse with the entry of Japan. With the dire peril of war on the very doors of the country the Government released all the political prisoners. The bombing on the eastern coast created a panic among the masses and there was a stream of refugees from Malaya and Burma into India. The Congress Working Committee met at Bardoli on 22nd December 1941 but did not evolve a clear-cut line of action. In the midst of this came the Cripps Offer in March 1942. The Offer was vague in its contents and unsound in principle. It was rejected by the Congress as a post-dated cheque on a tottering bank. Jinnah also rejected the offer. The whole episode brought in its train frustration and an enervating feeling of despair. It convinced the leaders of the country that the interest of the country lay in the immediate and orderly withdrawal of the British from India. From this conviction was born the slogan *Quit India* which was soon to plunge the country into a great movement. The Congress Working Committee

which met at Wardha on 14th July reiterated this stand and resolved, in case of its non-acceptance, to use all non-violent means for the vindication of the political rights and liberty of the people of the country. Anticipating *Satyagraha*, the Government of the Central Provinces issued directives to all the Deputy Commissioners to mobilise resources to deal with the situation arising out of such an emergency. The Congress Working Committee was to meet in Bombay in August. The leaders from the Central Provinces left their headquarters for Bombay after exhorting people to carry on the struggle. The Quit India call came on the night of 8th August. All the top ranking leaders were arrested in the early hours of the morning. The masses were stunned at the news of the arrest of the leaders. An added provocation was the forces of repression used by the Government to crush the movement. The leaders of the Central Provinces decided to return to their own province but were arrested at Malkapur. The mass movement spread to the Central Provinces as in all other parts of the country. It took a violent turn as a result of indiscriminate police firing. The district of Bhandara had its own share in this great national uprising. The effect of the policy of repression followed by the Government was to drive the extremist leaders underground. The dawn of 1943 saw no abating of the nationwide unrest. In the meanwhile the tide of war was changing in favour of the Allies. But the leaders languished in jails. Months passed by. The place of Lord Linlithgow was taken by Lord Wavell in June, 1943. The years dragged on. The war came to a close and the Allies emerged victorious in both the Western and Eastern theatres of war. The days of frustration seemed to have ended. Efforts were afoot to solve the Indian tangle. In the midst of an expectant atmosphere Lord Wavell presented the famous Wavell Plan in June, 1945. The leaders of the Congress were released to facilitate their participation in the negotiations with the Viceroy. The Plan envisaged representation to the main parties in the Viceroy's Council. Jinnah, however, proved to be the main stumbling block because even with the grant of parity to the Muslims in the Council with the Hindus he could not deny majority to the Congress backed by Hindus and other minority communities. A deadlock was thus created. The Viceroy announced that the elections to the Central and Provincial Councils would take place soon. This was followed by the announcement of a Parliamentary Delegation to visit India in order to establish personal contacts between India and the British Parliament. The Delegation subsequently visited India. Meanwhile in the elections Congress won a resounding victory. In the Central Provinces it captured 94 out of 112 seats. It also gave a lie to the separatist propaganda of the Muslim League by claiming a majority in the N.W.F.P. and Assam claimed by the Muslims. In the Central Provinces Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla formed the ministry on 27th April 1946. On assumption of office it released all political prisoners. However, conditions in the provinces whose resources had all been drained by the six years

of war were not very happy. In the midst of this came the Cabinet Mission composed of Lord Pethick Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps and A.V. Alexander for crucial talks with Indian leaders. There was goodwill on both the sides. What emerged from the talks was a general agreement regarding the setting up of a Constituent Assembly to draft a constitution of India and the formation of an interim Government having the support of the major political parties. But the Muslim League again proved a stumbling block with Jinnah claiming the right of the League to nominate Muslim candidates on the interim cabinet. The interim cabinet, therefore, could not come into being immediately and the League gave a call for direct action which was aimed at securing Pakistan by inflaming communal passions against the Hindus. The country witnessed an orgy of communal riots leading to senseless massacre of innocents. In the Central Provinces isolated cases of disturbances occurred. In the meanwhile Lord Wavell invited 12 leaders of his choice to form his cabinet including Nehru, Patel, Rajendra Prasad and Rajagopalchari. This was a spectacle galling to Jinnah who now sent the names of five of his nominees for inclusion in the cabinet declaring that it was with the ostensible purpose of getting a "foothold to fight for our cherished goal of Pakistan". The entry of the League which had not withdrawn its call for direct action was not to the liking of the Congress. The League joined the cabinet now, but it refused to join the Constituent Assembly which created a very anomalous position. The intention of the British Government to divide the country became clear. It was now that Lord Mountbatten was appointed to succeed Lord Wavell. At the same time the Labour Government declared its intention to transfer power to responsible Indian hands by a date not later than June, 1948. The arrival of the new Viceroy was greeted by a frenzy of communal riots in Punjab, N.W.F.P. and Assam sparked by the League mainly to discredit the Congress Governments there. The game of the League now became apparent and the nationalist leaders were forced to realise that freedom for the country could be gained by partitioning the country. Jawaharlal Nehru declared that if Muslim League wanted Pakistan they could have it. Northern India now witnessed an atmosphere of tense anxiety in the following period. Lord Mountbatten left for England for consultation on 18th May 1947 and on his return called a conference on 2nd June to which he invited J. Nehru, S. Patel, A. Kripalani, Jinnah, L. A. Khan, Abdur Rab Nishtar and Sardar Baldev Singh.

MODERN PERIOD

A plan to partition India into two States, viz., India and Pakistan was announced the next day. The actual transfer of power took place on the midnight of 14th-15th August amidst wild scenes of jubilations. Similar scenes occurred in the Central Provinces where Mangaldas Pakwasa took oath as free India's first Governor of the Province of which the district of Bhandara

formed an integral part. From 1947 to 1956 the district of Bhandara alongwith the other districts of Vidarbha region continued to form part of the Central Provinces. With the Reorganization of States, in 1956 Bhandara alongwith the other districts of Vidarbha was transferred to the bilingual State of Bombay which came into existence in that year. In 1960 with the formation of the State of Maharashtra it formed part of the newly created State.

Since Independence the district has made commendable progress in economic, social and educational fields. This has been mainly the result of a liberal policy of socio-economic reforms followed by the Government which is dedicated to the programme aimed at the implementation of the socialistic pattern of society. Over a period of years the population of the district has increased from 587,812 in 1901 to 1,585,580 in 1971. The population has mainly remained agricultural though agriculture is not today bound by the orthodoxy and conservatism that haunted it in the past. The farmer has become more conscious of the changing needs of time and the various measures undertaken by the Government such as provision of irrigation facilities, supply of better seeds and chemical fertilizers, introduction of modern methods of production including tractors, etc., have contributed immensely to the productivity of agriculture.

In no lesser degree has the progressive legislation such as— (i) Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, (ii) Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region and Kutch Area) Act, 1958, (iii) Central Provinces Tenancy Act, 1920, (iv) Madhya Pradesh Abolition of Proprietary Rights (Estates, Mahals, Alienated Lands) Act, 1950, (v) Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954, and (vi) Maharashtra Agricultural Lands (Ceilings on Holdings) Act, 1961, undertaken by the Government contributed to the prosperity of agriculture in the district, which has been reflected in the increasing living standards of the people. As in agriculture, so in industry the efforts of the Government have been directed towards bringing about a balanced growth of the district economy by encouraging industrial development. The increase in the number of persons employed in industry and allied occupations over a period of time is not the only indication of the industrial growth of the district but the growing urbanization that has taken place during the last 25 years, the response that the Government's policy of encouraging industrial growth by inaugurating industrial estates has received in the district as also the change in the nature and composition of industrial organization in the district are also the definite indicators of the same. That the Government is conscious of the needs of the industry in the district in regard to its demand for capital and adequate labour force could be seen from the financial help extended by it through various institutions both at the district and State levels as also by various measures undertaken by it in regard to labour welfare in general and for

improvement of labour conditions in regard to wages, hours of work, etc., in particular, as for example :—

- (i) Industrial Disputes Act, 1926
- (ii) Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
- (iii) Industrial Disputes Act, 1956
- (iv) Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926
- (v) The Trade Unions Bill, 1950
- (vi) Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1953
- (vii) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- (viii) Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946 and
- (ix) The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

This progress which the district economy has achieved has been made possible due to the ambitious five years plans the Government has executed during the course of the last 20 years. Planned economy or attempt at deliberate economic growth which was unknown in the past has now become the watchword in practically every field of the socio-economic life of the district and in the immense progress the economy of the district has made during the five year plans.

This measure of progress which the district has achieved could not have been possible without an enlightened public opinion. The policy of the State has been to encourage education and thereby create and perpetuate a sound public opinion. The progress the district has made in this field could be seen from the increase in the number of educational institutions and the students taking advantage of them.

This progress in educational field has created a mass of enlightened electorate and has set in motion a liberal spirit that has transcended the bounds of social division which for so long had retarded the progress towards social and economic reforms. Today no one any longer has a feeling of being persecuted or oppressed but everyone feels himself to be a part and parcel of the community of which he or she is a member. This liberalism has also destroyed the spirit of individualism and self-interest and individuals today have cast away their feeling of apathy towards their fellow beings and are moved by a sense of brotherliness and fraternity. The role of the State is definitely significant in creating such a positive approach on the part of the individuals towards life in general and their problems in relation to State in particular. The importance of associating the people with the administration and the working of the district in particular and of the State in general was recognised by the State and was reflected in various measures undertaken by the State, particularly the inauguration of the Zilla Parishad in the year 1962.

During the last 30 years after independence the country witnessed vast changes in the politico-economic fields. Thrice the country had to face foreign aggression. These phenomena and their

repercussions, though in a small degree, were reflected in the day-to-day life of the district. Though local problems never turned the minds of the people from wider problems of national importance, they definitely influenced the people of the district. Local leadership developed on the same lines as the national one and people were taken away by varying senses of loyalties and alignments. Such local problems were either of a political, social or religious nature, for example :—

- (i) Problem of election—inactive part of the citizens in election, ignorance about the existing political parties, flexibility of public opinion.
- (ii) Low percentage of literacy.
- (iii) Under-developed nature of the District.
- (iv) Incomplete electrification of the district economy.
- (v) Insufficiency of factors of industrial production.
- (vi) Lack of transport facilities.
- (vii) Low standard of living.
- (viii) Problem of unemployment in urban areas and disguised unemployment in rural areas.

But the people as well as the leadership never made these issues preponderate over the national emergency. The people of the district responded magnanimously at the time of the Chinese and Pakistani invasions and showed the spirit of oneness that had permeated through them for generations. For creating such a feeling of oneness, union and solidarity amongst the people of the district, the State and local leadership was mainly responsible.

However, the horizons are wide, the progress to be achieved is immeasurable and the obstacles are many but the people of the district with glorious traditions of the past are definitely well-equipped to overcome these obstacles and to continue their onward march to further and better progress and growth.

CHAPTER 3—THE PEOPLE

POPULATION

ACCORDING TO 1971 CENSUS THE BHANDARA DISTRICT accommodates 1,585,580 persons (m. 798,072 ; f. 787,508) as spread over its three tahsils. The following table gives the tahsilwise distribution of population in the district in 1971 :—

TABLE No. 1
TAHSILWISE POPULATION OF BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1971.

District/Tahsil/ Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Area in sq. km. (3)	Popula- tion per sq. km. (4)	Population		
				Persons (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)
DISTRICT ..	Total ..	9,214.00	172	1,585,580	798,072	787,508
	Rural ..	9,147.06	154	1,405,067	704,677	700,390
	Urban ..	66.04	2,718	180,513	93,395	87,118
Gondia Tahsil ..	Total ..	2,687.06	232	623,464	313,791	309,673
	Rural ..	2,653.09	200	529,876	265,198	264,678
	Urban ..	33.07	2,777	93,588	48,593	44,995
Gondia (M) ..	Urban ..	18.08	4,314	77,992	40,699	37,293
Tirora (M) ..	Urban ..	15.62	998	15,596	7,894	7,702
Bhandara Tahsil	Total ..	2,606.06	193	502,973	253,913	249,060
	Rural ..	2,573.09	162	416,048	209,111	206,937
	Urban ..	32.07	2,657	86,925	44,802	42,123
Tumsar (M) ..	Urban ..	7.36	4,038	29,721	15,189	14,532
Bhandara (M) ..	Urban ..	16.83	2,342	39,423	20,651	18,772
Pauni (M) ..	Urban ..	8.52	2,087	17,781	8,962	8,819
Sakoli Tahsil ..	Total ..	3,985.08	115	459,143	230,368	228,775
	Rural ..	3,985.08	115	459,143	230,368	228,775
	Urban ..	..	..	..	..	..

The table given above shows that the population of 1,585,580 is spread over the district area of 9,214 km². which works out at about 172 persons to a sq. km. Of these, 1,405,067 persons are

distributed over the rural area of 9,147.6 km.² and the remaining 180,513 persons are spread over the urban area of 66.4 sq. km. This shows a very low percentage of urbanisation in the district.

Variation in Population.— The population of the district and decade variation rates since 1901 are as follows:—

Year	Population	Decade variation	Rate of variation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1901	587,812	..	..
1911	685,828	+98,016	+16.67
1921	717,747	+31,919	+4.65
1931	824,496	+106,749	+14.87
1941	963,225	+138,729	+16.83
1951	1,071,657	+108,432	+11.26
1961	1,268,286	+196,629	+18.35
1971	1,585,580	+312,942	+24.59

The population of the district increased by 16.67 per cent in the decade 1901—11 mainly due to the recovery from the famine and scarcity conditions in the earlier decade. In the following decade in addition to the scarcity conditions, the influenza epidemic of 1918-19 took a heavy toll, and the population increased by only 4.65 per cent. The conditions improved in the following decades and the population increased by 14.87 per cent during 1921—31, by 16.83 per cent during 1931—41 and by 11.26 per cent during 1941—51. During the 1961—71 decade the population increased by 24.59 per cent which was the highest decadal rate observed in the last eighty years. It might be due to control of epidemics and other diseases since 1960.

The 1951—61 decade variation for the district and each of the tahsils was as follows:—

District/Tahsil	Percentage variation (1951—61)
Bhandara district	+18.31
1. Gondia tahsil	+17.25
2. Bhandara tahsil	+17.51
3. Sakoli tahsil	+20.88

Sakoli tahsil, entirely a rural area, recorded the highest variation of 20.9 per cent. Itiadoh scheme of construction of earthen dam initiated in the Second Plan and building of Sakoli-Lakhandur road also might have attracted quite a large number of workers from the adjoining districts or tahsils.

The decade variation during 1961—71 was 24.59.

The net percentage increase since 1901 for the district, division and the State is given in the following statement:—

Period	Bhandara District	Nagpur Division	Maharashtra State
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1901—1911	+16.67	+13.63	+10.74
1911—1921	—4.65	+0.39	—2.91
1921—1931	+14.87	+13.55	+14.91
1931—1941	+16.83	+8.30	+11.99
1941—1951	+11.26	+8.36	+19.27
1951—1961	+18.35	+20.19	+23.60
1961—1971	+24.59	+24.46	+27.45
1901—1971	+168.62	+131.09	+159.97

Density of Population.— The density of population for Maharashtra State, Bhandara district and its tahsils for 1961 and 1971 is as follows:—

State/District/Tahsil	Density		Percentage of district population in	
	1961 (per sq. mile)	1971 (per sq. km.)	1961	1971
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
Maharashtra State	334	164	..	..
Bhandara District	350	172	100	100
Gondia Tahsil	458	232	39.94	39.32
Bhandara Tahsil	415	193	31.62	31.72
Sakoli Tahsil	233	115	28.44	28.96

Urban Population.— The following table gives the urban population of the district at each census and its variation since 1901 besides the variation in population of each town in the district.

TABLE No. 2

TOWNS CLASSIFIED BY POPULATION IN 1971 WITH VARIATION SINCE 1901.

District/Tahsil (1)	Name of town (2)	Status of town (3)	Year (4)	Area in sq. km. (5)	Persons (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Decade variation (9)	Percentage decade variation (10)
District urban population	..	..	1901	..	31,505	15,293	16,212	..	..
			1911	..	27,861	14,062	13,799	-3,644	-11.57
			1921	..	41,189	21,018	20,171	+13,328	+47.84
			1931	..	54,281	28,219	26,062	+14,092	+31.79
			1941	..	66,985	34,432	32,553	+12,704	+23.40
			1951	..	91,965	47,673	44,292	+24,980	+37.29
			1961	..	136,261	70,797	65,464	+44,296	+48.17
			1971	..	180,513	93,395	87,118	-44,252	+32.48
			Class II—50,000 to 99,999						
			1901	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gondia Tahsil ..	Gondia ..	M*	1911	..	5,847	3,115	2,732	..	..
			1921	..	10,617	5,550	5,067	+4,770	+81.58
			1931	..	14,947	8,201	6,756	+4,340	+40.88
			..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Bhandara Tahsil ..	..	..	1941	..	20,320	10,754	9,566	+5,363	+35.86
			1951	..	36,686	19,517	17,169	+16,366	+80.54
			1961	..	56,320	29,643	26,677	+19,634	+53.52
			1971	..	77,992	40,699	37,293	+21,672	+38.48
			Class III—20,000 to 49,999.						
			1901	..	140'32	6,840	7,183	..	..
			1911	..	7,414	3,787	3,627	-6,609	-47.13
			1921	..	13,399	6,867	6,532	+5,985	+80.73
			1931	..	16,738	8,562	8,176	+3,339	+24.92
			1941	..	19,708	9,997	9,711	+2,970	+17.74
Tumsar ..	..	M	1951	..	22,640	11,522	11,118	+2,932	+14.88
			1961	..	27,710	14,366	13,344	+5,070	+22.39
			1971	..	39,423	20,651	18,772	+11,713	+42.27
			1901	..	8,116	3,885	4,231	..	..
			1911	..	4,378	2,123	2,255	-3,738	-46.06
			1921	..	6,692	3,348	3,344	+2,314	+52.86
			1931	..	10,061	5,117	4,944	+3,369	+50.34
			1941	..	13,266	6,696	6,570	+3,205	+31.86
			1951	..	18,250	9,358	8,892	+4,984	+37.57
			..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE No. 2—*contd.*

District/Tahsil (1)	Name of town (2)	Status of town (3)	Year (4)	Area in sq. km. (5)	Persons (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Decade variation (9)	Percentage decade variation (10)	
Bhandara Tahsil—contd.	Tumsar—contd.		1961	..	24,910	12,908	12,002	+ 6,660	+ 36.49	
			1971	..	7.36	29,721	15,189	14,532	+ 4,811	+ 19.31
	Class IV—10,000 to 19,999.									
	Pauni	M	1901	..	..	9,366	4,568	4,798	..	..
			1911	..	..	10,222	5,037	5,185	+ 856	+ 9.14
			1921	..	..	10,481	5,253	5,228	+ 259	+ 2.53
			1931	..	..	12,525	6,339	6,186	+ 2,044	+ 19.50
			1941	..	..	13,691	6,985	6,706	+ 1,166	+ 9.31
			1951	..	..	14,389	7,276	7,113	+ 698	+ 5.10
			1961	..	..	14,801	7,544	7,257	+ 412	+ 2.86
1971			..	8.52	17,781	8,962	8,819	+ 2,980	+ 20.13	
Gondia Tahsil	Tirora	M†	1961	..	12,520	6,336	6,184	..	..	
			1971	..	15.62	15,596	7,894	7,702	+ 3,076	+ 24.57

●M—Municipality.

†Treated as town for the first time in 1961.

The number of towns, the rate of decade variation in urban population and percentage of urban population to total population at each Census since 1901 for the district and the State are as follows:—

Bhandara District				Maharashtra State		
Year	No. of towns	Rate of variation in urban population	Percentage of urban population to total population	No. of towns	Rate of variation in urban population	Percentage of urban population to total population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1901 ..	3	..	5.36	219	..	16.59
1911 ..	4	— 11.57	4.06	232	+ 0.99	15.13
1921 ..	4	+ 47.84	5.74	238	+ 18.72	18.50
1931 ..	4	+ 31.79	6.58	258	+ 15.54	18.60
1941 ..	4	+ 23.40	6.95	266	+ 27.11	21.11
1951 ..	4	+ 37.29	8.58	383	+ 62.42	28.75
1961 ..	5	+ 48.17	10.74	266	+ 21.32	28.22
1971 ..	5	+ 32.47	11.38	289	+ 40.75	31.16

The net growth in urban population of the district in 1971 over that of 1901 is 472.97 per cent as against 388.35 per cent for the State.

The district is much less urbanised than the State average. The proportion of urban population had decreased both for the district and the State in 1911. Since then it has gradually increased up to 1971. There were only four towns since 1911 to 1951. Only one town was added in 1961.

Rural Population.— The following table shows for the district and for each tahsil the number of inhabited villages and their population for each class of villages.

Average population per village in 1961 was 762 in the district as against 792 in Maharashtra. The average population per village within the district varied from 638 in Sakoli tahsil to 1,004 in Gondia tahsil. Villages with a population of 5,000 and over in the district were 9 covering population of 57,034. Their percentage to total rural population was 0.16 in 1971.

Migration.—According to the 1961 Census, out of the total population of 1,268,286 (m. 635,174; f. 633,112), 799,729 (m. 510,456; f. 289,273) or 63.17 per cent were enumerated at the places of birth. This percentage for males was 80.48 but for females it was only 45.80. The difference was due to women married outside their places of birth. This migration of females due to their marriage is further evidenced by a very high proportion of females among persons born elsewhere in the district. This may be true to some extent for those born in other districts and outside Maharashtra State. Among the migrants the proportion of persons born outside the State was higher than that of persons born in other districts of the State. It is so because Bhandara is a border district and has better communications with adjoining districts in Madhya Pradesh. Manganese mines and *bidi* industry seem to be attracting workers from nearby areas in Madhya Pradesh. The following statement gives proportions of population by places of birth in Bhandara district as per 1961 Census:—

(1)	Total population	At place of enumeration	Elsewhere in the district	Outside the district but in Maharashtra	Outside Maharashtra
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
Persons	1,268,286	799,729	349,006	53,281	63,900
Males	635,174	510,456	80,534	18,813	24,460
Females	633,112	289,273	268,472	34,468	39,440
Percentage to total population—					
Persons	100.00	63.17	27.57	4.21	5.05
Males	100.00	80.48	12.70	2.96	3.86
Females	100.00	45.80	42.50	5.46	6.24

Age and Marital Status.—The district has the largest proportion of child marriages in the State. During the period between 1951 and 1961 the proportion of never married however, increased both for males and females. There was also a decrease in the proportion of widowed both for males and females. The proportion of divorced or separated showed an increase but it was hardly of any numerical significance. All these changes contributed towards lowering the proportion of married persons both for males and females. Table No. 4 gives the distribution of the district population by different age-groups and by marital status.

Languages.—Table No. 5 gives the population by nine major languages in the district, its tahsils and towns.

TABLE No. 4

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE-GROUPS, BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1961.

Age-Group (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	POPULATION											
		Never married		Married		Widowed		Divorced		Unspecified status		Males (11)	Females (12)
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)	Males (11)	Females (12)		
All ages ..	T R U	293,604 256,539 37,065	236,114 209,292 26,822	314,603 283,410 31,184	318,498 287,729 30,769	22,875 20,647 2,228	74,669 67,174 7,495	3,887 3,602 285	3,554 3,199 355	205 170 35	277 254 23		
0—9 ..	T R U	178,899 160,207 18,692	179,962 161,386 18,576	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
10—19 ..	T R U	95,678 87,781 13,897	53,342 45,498 7,844	19,748 18,832 916	54,517 50,554 3,963	137 132 5	395 363 32	198 196 2	595 559 36	52 30 22	72 64 8		
20—29 ..	T R U	15,604 11,761 3,843	1,927 1,634 293	89,874 81,498 8,376	111,824 99,878 11,946	1,729 1,541 178	2,145 1,904 241	1,467 1,367 100	1,290 1,160 130	28 25 3	77 70 7		
30—39 ..	T R U	1,576 1,233 343	150 113 37	84,363 76,954 9,409	75,978 68,066 7,912	2,918 2,576 302	7,198 6,448 750	1,105 1,022 83	764 680 84	20 15 5	53 48 5		
40—49 ..	T R U	681 537 144	64 46 18	58,599 52,100 6,499	45,749 41,161 4,588	4,342 3,883 459	15,040 13,422 1,618	604 545 59	487 428 59	13 10 3	31 29 2		

TABLE No. 4—contd.

Age-Group (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Never married		Married		Widowed		Divorced		Unspecified status	
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)	Males (11)	Females (12)
50—59 ..	T R U	313 256 57	84 79 5	35,650 31,945 3,705	20,545 18,873 1,672	4,816 4,328 488	17,881 15,951 1,930	311 283 28	210 177 33	8 7 1	19 19 ..
60 and above ..	T R U	225 175 50	28 26 2	26,329 24,056 2,273	9,798 9,112 686	8,977 8,181 796	32,001 29,077 2,924	202 189 13	207 194 13	6 5 1	22 21 1
Age not stated ..	T R U	628 589 39	558 510 48	40 34 6	87 85 2	6 6 ..	9 9 ..	.. .. ..	1 1 ..	78 78 ..	3 3 ..

TABLE No. 5

POPULATION BY MOTHER-TONGUE, BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1961.

District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Gondi		Gujarati		Hindi		Holiya		Kalari	
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)	Males (11)	Females (12)
District Total ..	Total ..	28,537	30,290	2,271	1,818	100,491	98,509	1,063	1,020	785	831
	Rural ..	28,097	29,858	401	295	84,909	84,679	980	942	782	822
	Urban ..	440	432	1,870	1,523	15,582	13,830	83	79	3	9
Gondia Tahsil ..	Total ..	15,363	16,270	1,747	1,403	75,099	72,719	824	800	653	677
	Rural ..	14,976	15,892	102	63	63,977	62,997	741	721	650	668
	Urban ..	387	378	1,645	1,340	11,122	9,722	83	79	3	9
Bhandara Tahsil ..	Total ..	4,302	4,589	376	298	16,478	16,724	99	104	132	154
	Rural ..	4,279	4,535	151	115	12,018	12,616	99	104	132	154
	Urban ..	53	54	225	183	4,460	4,108	..	..	..	..
Sakoli Tahsil ..	Total ..	8,872	9,431	148	117	8,914	9,066	140	116	..	..
	Rural ..	8,872	9,431	148	117	8,914	9,066	140	116	..	..
	Urban ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE No. 5—contd.

District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Marathi		Sindhi		Telugu		Urdu		Others	
		Males (13)	Females (14)	Males (15)	Females (16)	Males (17)	Females (18)	Males (19)	Females (20)	Males (21)	Females (22)
District Total ..	Total ..	487,839	487,694	3,795	3,250	1,046	873	5,453	5,397	3,894	3,430
	Rural ..	443,494	445,884	456	172	585	478	2,364	2,292	2,309	2,227
	Urban ..	44,345	41,810	3,339	3,078	461	395	3,089	3,105	1,585	1,203
Gondia Tahsil ..	Total ..	152,448	154,341	2,993	2,504	598	523	1,712	1,749	2,201	1,881
	Rural ..	135,318	137,981	234	33	217	189	524	526	920	931
	Urban ..	17,130	16,360	2,759	2,466	318	334	1,188	1,223	1,281	950
Bhandara Tahsil	Total ..	176,040	173,455	629	620	307	264	2,644	2,644	678	562
	Rural ..	148,825	148,005	49	8	227	203	743	762	374	309
	Urban ..	27,215	25,450	580	612	80	61	1,901	1,882	304	253
Sakoli Tahsil ..	Total ..	159,351	159,898	173	126	141	86	1,097	1,004	1,015	987
	Rural ..	159,351	159,898	173	126	141	86	1,097	1,004	1,015	987
	Urban ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Gondi		Gujarati		Hindi		Holiya		Kalari	
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)	Males (11)	Females (12)
Gondia ..	M ..	373	363	1,603	1,325	9,494	8,130	79	79	3	9
Tirora ..	M ..	14	15	42	15	1,628	1,592	4	..	..	..
Tumsar ..	M ..	38	43	103	87	2,492	2,362	..	..	..	..
Bhandara ..	M ..	15	11	102	81	1,808	1,589	..	..	..	..
Pauni ..	M ..	..	..	20	15	160	157	..	..	..	..
District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Marathi		Sindhi		Telugu		Urdu		Others	
		Males (13)	Females (14)	Males (15)	Females (16)	Males (17)	Females (18)	Males (19)	Females (20)	Males (21)	Females (22)
Gondia ..	M ..	12,931	12,219	2,567	2,283	373	329	987	1,018	1,233	922
Tirora ..	M ..	4,199	4,141	192	183	8	5	201	205	48	28
Tumsar ..	M ..	9,600	8,839	411	423	40	26	132	158	92	64
Bhandara ..	M ..	10,781	10,025	169	189	19	14	1,272	1,258	200	177
Pauni ..	M ..	6,834	6,586	..	..	21	21	497	466	12	12

The distribution of languages by rural and urban areas of the district in 1961 is as follows:—

Language (1)	Percentage to total population			Percentage of each language in	
	Total (2)	Rural (3)	Urban (4)	Rural areas (5)	Urban areas (6)
Gondi	4.64	5.12	0.64	98.52	1.48
Gujarati	0.32	0.06	2.49	17.02	82.98
Hindi	15.69	14.98	21.58	85.22	14.78
Holiya	0.16	0.17	0.12	92.22	7.78
Kalari	0.13	0.14	0.01	99.26	0.74
Marathi	78.92	78.57	63.23	91.17	8.83
Sindhi	0.55	0.06	4.71	8.91	91.09
Telugu	0.15	0.09	0.63	55.39	44.61
Urdu	0.86	0.41	4.54	42.91	57.09
Others	0.58	0.40	2.05	61.93	38.07
All languages ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	89.26	10.74

Marathi is the principal language and is the mother-tongue of 76.9 per cent of the population. In rural areas Marathi speakers account for 78.6 per cent of the population. They make 63.2 per cent of the population in urban areas. Hindi has the second largest number of speakers; they make 15.7 per cent of the total population in the district. It is spoken more in urban areas where its speakers make as much as 21.6 per cent against nearly 15 per cent for rural areas. Gondi has the third largest number of speakers. They make 4.6 per cent of the total population of the district. It is spoken more in rural areas where its speakers make as much as 5.1 per cent against only 0.6 per cent for urban areas. The speakers of Holiya and Kalari languages are concentrated in rural areas. Gujarati and Sindhi speakers are mostly concentrated in urban areas. Telugu and Urdu speakers are fairly distributed over rural and urban areas.

The comparative position of the languages in 1901, 1951 and 1961 is as follows:—

Language (1)	Percentage to total population		
	1901 (2)	1951 (3)	1961 (4)
Gondi	8.40	12.41	4.64
Gujarati .. .. .	.. .. .	0.29	0.32
Hindi	13.52	18.09	15.69
Holiya .. .. .	.. .. .	0.04	0.16
Kalari .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	0.13
Marathi	77.60	67.45	76.92
Sindhi .. .. .	.. .. .	0.36	0.35
Telugu	0.17	0.11	0.15
Urdu		0.68	0.86
Others	0.31	0.57	0.58
All languages ..	100.00	100.00	100.00

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The proportion of Marathi speakers decreased from 77.60 per cent in 1901 to 67.45 per cent in 1951 and increased to 76.92 per cent in 1961. The percentage of Hindi speakers increased from 13.52 per cent in 1901 to 18.09 per cent in 1951 and decreased to 15.69 per cent in 1961. Gujarati, Sindhi and Urdu were reported in 1951 and their proportions have increased over a decade. The percentage of Gondi speakers increased from 8.40 per cent in 1901 to 12.41 per cent in 1951 and decreased to 4.64 per cent in 1961. The percentage of Telugu speakers had remained almost constant, Kalari language was reported only in 1961. The proportion of Holiya speakers though not much had increased over a decade. The 1901 proportions shown here are for the district boundaries as they existed in that year. They are not strictly comparable with 1951 or 1961. The reasons why the proportion of Marathi declined so heavily and the proportions of Hindi and Gondi increased instead in 1951 are not clear. The reason may be the differences in the dialects grouped with the more important languages. The 1961 proportions appear to be nearer those of 1901.

Population by Religion.—The Table No. 6 on page 196 gives the population by religions for the district and each tahsil and town separately.

The percentage of religions for a few Census years in the district is also follows:—

Religions (1)	Percentage to total population			
	1901 (2)	1951 (3)	1961 (4)	1971 (5)
Buddhists .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	16.93	13.01
Christians	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.09
Hindus	88.07	98.06	81.10	84.75
Jains	0.07	0.06	0.10	0.21
Muslims	1.91	1.71	1.75	1.86
Others	9.90	0.12	0.06	0.08
All religions	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

About 81.1 per cent of the population reported their religion as Hindu in the year 1961 as against 84.75 in 1971. Buddhists in the year 1961 accounted for 16.93 per cent while it was 13.01 in 1971. Christians, Jains and followers of other religions are similarly more numerous in urban areas. The Hindus and the Buddhists are more numerous in rural than in urban areas. Jains are the most urbanised group and the Buddhists the least urbanised.

TABLE No. 6

TAHSIL-WISE POPULATION BY RELIGIONS, BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1971.

District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Buddhists		Christians		Hindus		Jains	
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)	Males (7)	Females (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)
Bhandara District ..	Total ..	102,085	104,212	703	654	677,754	665,935	1,698	1,685
	Rural ..	93,530	95,941	410	336	600,595	594,470	1,164	1,122
	Urban ..	8,555	8,271	293	318	77,159	71,465	534	564
Bhandara Tahsil ..	Total ..	34,579	34,872	433	408	212,291	207,475	322	429
	Rural ..	31,522	31,996	328	269	173,990	171,694	180	195
	Urban ..	3,057	2,876	105	139	38,301	35,781	142	234
Gondia Tahsil ..	Total ..	28,260	29,531	220	200	277,970	273,079	805	772
	Rural ..	22,762	24,136	32	21	239,112	237,395	413	442
	Urban ..	5,498	5,395	188	179	38,858	35,684	392	330
Sakoli Tahsil ..	Total ..	39,246	39,809	50	40	187,493	185,381	571	485
	Rural ..	39,246	39,809	50	46	187,493	185,381	571	485
	Urban ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bhandara Town ..	..	1,364	1,185	86	114	17,228	15,469	48	150
Tumsar Town ..	..	806	820	11	15	13,554	12,947	92	84
Pauni Town ..	..	887	871	8	10	7,519	7,365	2	..
Gondia Town ..	..	4,300	4,180	186	176	32,633	29,688	398	330
Tirora Town ..	..	1,198	1,215	2	3	6,225	5,996	3	..

District/Tahsil/Town (1)	Total Rural Urban (2)	Muslims		Sikhs		Other religious persuasions		Religion not stated	
		Males (11)	Females (12)	Males (13)	Females (14)	Males (15)	Females (16)	Males (17)	Females (18)
Bhandara District ..	Total ..	15,120	14,412	677	580	10	4	25	25
	Rural ..	8,579	8,193	377	310	10	4	12	14
	Urban ..	6,541	6,219	300	270	..	..	13	11
Bhandara Tahsil ..	Total ..	6,064	5,709	213	162	8	4	3	1
	Rural ..	2,896	2,636	186	143	8	4	2	..
	Urban ..	3,168	3,073	27	19	..	..	1	..
Gondia Tahsil ..	Total ..	6,187	5,773	338	307	..	..	11	11
	Rural ..	2,814	2,627	65	56	..	..	..	1
	Urban ..	3,373	3,146	273	251	..	..	11	10
Sakoli Tahsil ..	Total ..	2,869	2,930	126	111	2	..	11	13
	Rural ..	2,869	2,930	126	111	2	..	11	13
	Urban ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bhandara Town ..	..	1,896	1,834	27	19	..	..	2	1
Tumsar Town ..	..	726	666	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pauni Town ..	..	546	573	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gondia Town ..	..	2,907	2,661	273	251	..	..	11	7
Tirora Town ..	..	466	485	..	..	..	..	..	3

The proportion of Christians and Jains has increased during the last seventy years. The percentage of Hindus has gone down from 98.06 per cent in 1951 to 81.10 per cent in 1961 because some persons belonging to Hindu Scheduled Castes returned their religion as Buddhist or *Nav-Bauddha*. The combined proportion for Hindus and Buddhists has increased over that of 1901. It was because a large number of tribal people who have returned their religion as Hindu had in 1901 been classified as Animists and grouped under the head "Others". The proportion of other religions has accordingly decreased from 9.90 per cent in 1901 to only 0.08 per cent in 1971.

The percentage decadal growth rate during 1961—71 is shown in the following statement:—

Particulars (1)	Percentage decadal growth rate—1961—71 (2)
Total population	24.59
Hindus	30.17
Muslims	32.31
Christians	84.88
Sikhs	104.06
Buddhists	—4.20
Jains	172.24
Others	—87.50

Scheduled Castes.— In all 20 castes were notified as Scheduled Castes in the district but only 18 were reported in 1961 Census and 17 at the time of 1971 Census. The following two tables show the castewise and tahsilwise population of Scheduled Castes:—

TABLE No. 7
SCHEDULED CASTES POPULATION, BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1971.

Scheduled Castes (1)	Total Population			Illiterate			Literate and educated persons		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Basor	943	494	449	718	326	392	225	168	57
Bhangi	1,556	761	795	908	310	598	648	451	197
Chambhar	16,402	8,606	7,796	11,624	5,033	6,591	4,778	3,573	1,205
Dhor	4	2	2	1	..	1	3	3	1
Dom	288	149	139	164	55	109	124	94	30
Ganda	94	25	69	82	19	63	12	6	6
Hasi	350	188	162	235	97	138	115	91	24
Holiya	2,490	1,252	1,238	1,966	841	1,125	524	411	113
Kaikadi	49	13	36	24	9	15	25	4	21
Katia	9	5	4	7	3	4	2	2	..
Khangar	5	2	3	5	2	3	..	..	..
Khatik	1,131	576	555	597	214	383	534	362	172
Kori	480	198	282	350	109	241	130	89	41
Madgi	23	8	15	19	5	14	4	3	1
Mathar	56,306	28,335	27,971	32,720	11,909	20,811	23,586	16,426	7,160
Mang	2,625	1,210	1,415	1,883	681	1,202	742	529	213
Sansi	6	5	1	3	3	..	3	2	1
Unspecified	204	140	64	94	57	37	110	83	27

TABLE No. 8
TAHSIL-WISE SCHEDULED CASTE POPULATION, BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1971.

District/Tahsil/Town	Total Rural Urban (2)	Total Population			Illiterate		Literate	
		Persons (3)	Males (4)	Females (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)	Males (8)	Females (9)
Bhandara District ..	T .. R .. U ..	82,965 68,847 14,118	41,969 34,751 7,218	40,996 34,096 6,900	19,673 16,928 2,745	31,727 26,888 4,839	22,296 17,823 4,473	9,269 7,208 2,061
Bhandara Tahsil ..	T .. R .. U ..	26,380 19,606 6,774	13,358 9,882 3,476	13,022 9,724 3,298	5,836 4,552 1,284	9,742 7,484 2,258	7,522 5,330 2,192	3,280 2,240 1,040
Bhandara Town	..	2,882	1,509	1,373	553	882	956	491
Tumsar Town	..	2,709	1,325	1,384	488	990	837	394
Pauni Town ..	..	1,183	642	541	243	386	399	155
Gondia Tahsil ..	T .. R .. U ..	39,086 31,742 7,344	19,628 15,886 3,742	19,458 15,856 3,602	9,271 7,810 1,461	15,302 12,721 2,581	10,357 8,076 2,281	4,156 3,135 1,021
Gondia Town	..	5,823	2,968	2,855	1,182	2,047	1,786	808
Tirora Town ..	..	1,521	774	747	279	534	495	213
Sakoli Tahsil ..	T .. R .. U ..	17,499 17,499 ..	8,083 8,983 ..	8,516 8,516 ..	4,566 4,566 ..	6,683 6,683 ..	4,417 4,417 ..	1,833 1,833 ..

The comparative position of the Scheduled Caste population in 1951, 1961 and 1971 in the district is as follows:—

(1)	Percentage to total population in		
	District Total (2)	Rural areas (3)	Urban areas (4)
All Scheduled Castes—			
1951	19.74	20.16	15.25
1961	2.45	2.15	4.93
1971	5.23	4.90	7.82

The reduction of the percentage from 19.74 to 2.45 is the result of a large number of persons (mostly from Mahar Caste) returning their religion in the 1961 Census as Buddhist or *Nav-Bauddha*. Among the Scheduled Caste population in Bhandara district in 1971 the Mahar community was the largest group of 56,306 persons or 67.87 per cent. Of these 26,797 or nearly 50 per cent were residing in the Gondia tahsil alone. Next to this group the Chambhar community was in majority who accounted for 16,402 persons or 19.77 per cent to total Scheduled Caste population. They were like the Mahar community concentrated in the Gondia tahsil. The Dhor, Katia, Khangar, Sansi formed a minority.

CASTES

Brahman.— As elsewhere, Brahmans form a very small proportion of the total population. Most of them belong to the *Deshastha* sub-caste. There are a number of *Pardeshi* or North Indian Brahmans who are generally not well-educated, but are physically strongly built. They are very strict in the observance of caste rules and will not touch the plough with their own hands. They are, however, willing to serve as constables, water-bearers and cooks. Maratha Brahmans are given to indulge in inordinate expenses at marriages and such other ceremonial occasions. They are fond of tasty food and eat all kinds of *chutnis* and salads. If a Brahman is imprisoned, he has to make a pilgrimage to Banaras and he has to go through a fresh thread ceremony all over. Similar procedure used to be adopted in the case of those who went abroad. But now all such practices are becoming scarce. Their strict observance of changing into sacred silk dhotis has also disappeared during recent years.

Ponvars.—The Ponvars originally belonged to Malva. The Ponvar dynasty ruled in Malva from the 9th to the 18th Century. In the twelfth Century Nagpur was included in the Malva kingdom and the first settlement of the Ponvars may probably be attributed to this period. They themselves say that they originally came to Nagardhan near Ramtek and then spread over

the surrounding country. Some of the most influential members of the caste accompanied Chinnaji Bhosle on his Cuttack expedition and on their return were rewarded with grants of land in Lanji and other tracts to the west of the Wainganga river which were largely covered with forests. Mr. Low describes the Ponvars as follows:—

‘The Ponvar is to Balaghat what the Kunbi is to Berar or the Gujar to Hoshangabad; but at the same time he is less entirely attached to the soil and its cultivation and much more intelligent and cosmopolitan than either. One of the most intelligent officers of the Agricultural Department is a Ponvar and several members of the caste have made large sums as forest and railway contractors in this District. Ponvar *shikaris* also are not uncommon. They are generally averse to sedentary occupations and though quite ready to avail themselves of the advantages of primary education, they do not as a rule care to carry their studies to a point that would ensure their admission to higher ranks of Government service. Very few of them are to be found as *patvaris*, constables, or *peons*. They are a handsome race with intelligent faces usually fair with high foreheads and often grey eyes. They are not as a rule above middle height but they are active and hardworking and by no means deficient in courage and animal spirits or a sense of humour. They are clannish in the extreme and to elucidate a criminal case in which no one but Ponvars are concerned and in a Ponvar village is usually a harder task than an average police officer can tackle. At times, they are apt to affect, especially in conversation with Government officials, a whining and unpleasant tone, especially when pleading their claim to some concession or other, and they are by no means lacking in astuteness and are good hands at a bargain. But they are a pleasant, intelligent and plucky race, not easily cast down by misfortune and always ready to attempt new enterprises in almost any direction except those indicated by the Department of Agriculture. Their caste customs do not differ in any marked way from those of the other Hindus of the district. They used to allow polygamy. They bitterly resent and if able, heavily revenge any attempt on the virtue of their women by an outsider.’

It is customary among the Ponvars for the parents to supply clothes to a married daughter, so long as they live and during this period, a wife will not accept any clothes from her husband. At her marriage, a girl is given a dowry called *khamora* and she retains this for her own use, her husband having no control over it. The wife is a very important person among the Ponvars and the husband will not give anything to eat or drink out of the house, without her concurrence. The Ponvar women are very good cooks and appreciate variety in food. They also make pretty grass screens and mats for the house. The Ponvars will not eat off the ground but place their dishes on little iron stands. At a funeral, the Ponvars eat fried rice and sugar at the grave, which is peculiar as being contrary to the practice of other castes.

Kunbi.—Kunbis in this district are the most numerous caste with the exception of the Mehras. The Jhare Kunbis or those who belong to the *Zadi* or forest are the oldest settlers and have no doubt an admixture of Gond blood. Among them a father goes and asks for a bride for his son, in opposition to the usual practice of the caste. The Khedules, the next most numerous sub-division are said to derive their name from *khede* or village while the Khaires take it from the *khair* or catechu tree, no doubt because they formerly prepared catechu. The Kunbis, Mr. Napier says ‘are a dull, heavy race with little thought beyond their wheat and their bullocks’. The caste eat fowl. They have a great religious veneration for cattle and the *pola* day on which these are worshipped is their chief festival. On that day all the cattle of the village pass under the *toran* or arch of mango-leaves in order of the social position of their owners and the Kunbi feels it bitterly if he does not receive the precedence to which he considers himself entitled. The Lonaris appear to be a sub-caste of Kunbis who have come from the north, probably from Betul. In Bhandara, they have the customs of a Hindustani caste, performing their marriages by walking round the sacred post and speaking Hindi indoors.

Kohli.—Members of the Kohli caste were the builders of the great tanks of the Sakoli tahsil. Mr. Napier says, ‘the Kohli sacrifices all to his sugarcane, his one ambition and one extravagance being to build a huge reservoir which will contain water for the irrigation of his sugarcane through the long, hot months. They have a remarkable faculty for selecting the best sites for tanks and each rates the other according to the size of his tank and the strength of its embankment. The origin and the affinities of the Kohlis are obscure. According to one tradition they were brought by a Gond king of Chanda from Banaras on his return from a visit to that place. Colonel Lucie Smith, Settlement Officer of Chanda, states that they thought that their forefathers came from the south. The only fact that some of the Bhandara Kohlis can state about themselves is that their first settlement in the Central Provinces was at Lanji in Balaghat, from where they migrated to Bhandara. This rather points to the theory of a Northern origin which is further supported by the similarity of the name to that of the Koiri caste of market gardeners in North India. Kohiri and Kohli are used there as variations of the caste name Koiri. On the other hand, neither in their speech nor in their family names can any trace of Hindustani affinities be detected. Their dress used to be peculiar as they wear a short bandi or coat and a small head-cloth only about three feet long. Those who have *pagris* tie them in a similar fashion to the Gandlis who are oilmen from the Telugu country. Mr. Napier says: “The Kohlis have a splendid caste discipline and their quarrels are settled expeditiously by their *panchayat* without recourse to courts of law. In their relations with people of other castes, they are not always so amiable”. But they are generally considered to be distinctly amenable in character and have the

reputation of being very respectful to Government officers. If a guest comes to Kohli, the host himself offers to wash his feet and if the guest be a Brahman, insists on doing it. Like other castes engaged in cultivation, the Kohlis married two or three wives when they could afford it, a wife being a more willing labourer than a hired servant, apart from the other advantages. For the sake of economy, all marriages in a village are generally celebrated on the same day, once a year. The officiating Brahman ascends the roof of a house and after beating a brass dish to warn the parties, repeats the marriage texts as the Sun goes down. At this moment the couples place garlands of flowers on each other, the bridegroom ties the *mangalsutra* or neckless of black beads round the bride's neck and the marriage is completed. The bride's brother ties a thread round their marriage crowns and is given two rupees for untying it. At their weddings, they make models in wood of a Chamar's *ranpi* or knife, or *khurpa*, this custom perhaps indicating some connection with the Chamars; or it may have arisen simply on account of the prominent part played by the *mot* or leather bag in the irrigation of sugarcane. Widow-marriage is current among Kohlis, but the widow is first married to a sword, representing her second husband who never attends in person. Divorce is very seldom resorted to and involves severe penalties to both parties. The Kohlis eat fish but abstain from liquor.

Gowari.—The grazier caste or Gowaris form a low branch of Ahirs, closely connected with the forest tribes. One of their subdivisions is called Gond-Gowari and these are no doubt simply Gond herdsmen. The Govaris themselves say that the Gond-Govaris are the descendants of one of two brothers who accidentally ate the flesh of a cow. The Gowaris take food from proper Gaolis, but the latter will not accept it at their hands. They do not employ Brahmans at their weddings, an elder member of the caste officiating as priest. They permit widows to marry and if the husband is a bachelor, he is wedded to an *acra* or swallow-wort plant or a copper ring before espousing the widow. This is his real marriage, as a union with a widow is not viewed in that light. When a death occurs, the family of the deceased may not have social intercourse, until the elders of the caste have taken its principle member to the bazar where they purchase rice, vegetables and other food and returning, feed him at his house. If he is a cultivator, he must also be taken to his field where, he is, as it were, inducted into it by the caste committee. If the cow of a Gowari dies with a rope round its neck, a great sin is held to have been committed and the offender must shave his moustaches and give a substantial meal to his caste. The caste eat fowls. Both men and women tattoo their bodies, men usually having a dot between the eyebrows and the women two lines of dots with a longer one below them. The women wear metal bracelets on the right arm and glass bangles on the left arm and in contradistinction to other Maratha women who use red powder, have spangles on the forehead. The Gowaris spend

much of their time in the forests with their cattle and lead a simple life. A saying about them is: The Gond and Gowari drink only rice-water from leaf cups and eat only boiled *jovari* off leaf-plates.

Another grazier caste who are found in small numbers are the Golars or Telugu graziers. They are a migratory race and were formerly addicted to dacoity and cattle theft. The Golars are closely connected with the Holias, or Telugu leather workers and have the same family or section names. When a Golar dies, a plate of cooked rice is laid on his body and then carried to the burning ghat. The Holias belonging to the same section go with it and before arrival, the plate of rice is laid on the ground and the Holias eat it.

Marars.—The Malis or Marars grow vegetables and flowers. They allow a custom of what is called *lamphana* or serving for a bride, which is purely Dravidian and shows their connection with the forest tribes. A young hard-working wife is never divorced, however bad her character may be, but an old woman is abandoned for a very little cause. The Marar women generally have a large glass spangle as an ornament for the forehead. The caste are as a rule poor. They are quiet and industrious but their habit of polygamy often gave rise to family quarrels and also led to excessive sub-division of their holdings.

Telis and Gandlis.—Telis today have given up their traditional occupation of oil-pressing and have taken to agriculture and petty trading. The chief sub-divisions are Do-baile and Ek-baile, that is those who used to yoke two bullocks and one bullock, respectively to the oil mill. There are also the Andeles or growers of castor-oil plants. But these are now ordinary cultivators. The Telis are chiefly concentrated in Pauni area. They consult a Mahar who is called Mohturya, to fix the date of their marriages. The Gandlis were originally the Telugu caste of oilmen but they have now abandoned their profession and taken to agriculture thereby obtaining a rise in social status. They belong to the sect of Lingayats and wear the *lingam* in a little silver casket round the neck or the waist. It is presented to them by a Brahman who comes from Madras at intervals and gives them a *rudraksha* bead which serves as the emblem of Mahadeva. They employ the Jangams or the priests of the Lingayats but some of them also avail of the services of Maratha Brahmans, probably considering it more respectable. They arrange their marriages in Chandrapur district where the caste is very numerous. Those in Bhandara district, mostly live around Adyal.

Dhimars.—Dhimars as a class are generally poor. Besides their callings of fishing and acting as boatmen they follow various other avocations such as growing *singaras* or water-nuts for which the tanks in Bhandara district afford much scope. They also cultivate tasar silk cocoons on *Saj* trees; sell fried rice and gram: breed pigs for sacrifice and act as household servants. At a Dhimar marriage, a net is given to the bridegroom and *Shidori*

or cooked food tied in a piece of cloth is given to the bride and they walk out together as if going to a river to fish, but the bride's brother comes up and stops them. A Dhimar will not touch or wear a shoe sewn with thread, because his net is made of thread and he thinks that the sacred article is debased by being sewn into leather. It is a great degradation to a Dhimar to be struck with a shoe. The Injhvars are another boating caste. The name is simply a corruption of Binjhar and they are an offshoot of this, the comparatively civilised section of the Baiga tribe, formed into a caste, through the adoption of their special calling. The women of one of their sub-castes act as midwives. They are connected with the Govaris and sometimes call themselves Dudh-Govaris. This is not surprising as the Govaris themselves were probably originally Gonds.

Koshtis.—The Koshtis enjoy a higher social position than other weaver communities as they weave finer kinds of cloth, which the highest castes wear and they generally live in towns. The Nagpur Koshtis are on occasions turbulent. One sub-division, the Salewar Koshtis who are of Telugu origin, wear the sacred thread. The bulk of the caste eat flesh and fowls. Women are very useful to them in their work. The Koshtis have their family god installed in their weaving loom and they must not touch it with the foot as they think it would break on account of the insult to the god.

Gonds.—Gonds are probably the third caste in point of members. The local sub-divisions are the Raj Gonds, Dhur Gonds and grouped under the head "Others". The proportion of other *zamindari* families but the bulk of them are ordinary labourers. The Pardhans are considered as inferior to the Gonds and will take food from their hands, though the Gonds will not accept it from them. They celebrate their marriages in the open outside the village and sometimes the couple stand on a heap of refuse. The couple are carried on the shoulders of their relatives five times round the officiating priest who sits in the middle. Two spears are tied together to make an arch and water is poured over it while the couple stand beneath; they then run out and the bridegroom hits the bride a blow on the back which should be given if possible before she runs from under the spears. The bridegroom must force an iron ring on to the bride's finger though she clenches her fist and tries to prevent him. The blood of a chicken is sprinkled over the hands of the pair and sometimes a chicken is slaughtered for each god worshipped by the bridegroom's sept. When a Gond girl wishes to show her preference for a man, she takes a pot of water mixed with turmeric and throws it over him in the presence of three or four witnesses and after this their marriage is celebrated. The Gonds are not considered as impure, though they eat pork and beef and the Ponvars, Govaris and others will take water from them. The Pardhans are, however, held to be impure and are not touched. The Gonds are readily employed as farm-servants as they are honest and hardworking. At the time of *Divali*, the Gonds and

other castes do the *dhandhar* or stick dance in which every man dances separately hitting two sticks together. It is said that the Gonds dance less than they used to and that the famines have taken a good deal of their cheerfulness out of their lives. This statement was made in 1903 and during the last 70 years they have again improved much and become cheerful again.

Halbas.—The Halbas are originally a Dravidian tribe of labourers and their name has probably derived from *hal* which means a plough. Some, however, maintain that it comes from the Kannada word *halbar* which means the old ones or ancients and that they came from the south with the *Raja* of Warangal, who fled to Bastar on being defeated by the Muhammedans. Leading families in Bhandara say they came from the north and migrated to Bhandara from the Makrai State. In their marriage ceremony, these families place crowns of *palas* leaves on the couple which is a practice of the northern castes. In other respects, however, they have adopted Maratha customs and celebrate the marriage by throwing coloured rice over the pair. Their principal god is Dulha Dev whom they call Motha Dev or the great god but they also revere Mahadev and Hanuman. They have two divisions, the *bari* or great and the *lahan* or small. The latter are the offspring of irregular unions. The caste eat fowls and pork but not beef. Many of them are employed in the preparation and sale of *poha*, that is rice which is first boiled to take off the husks and then fried.

HINDUS

Except for the small body of Jains who follow Jainism, the Hindus of the district belong to two main classes. One is Brahmanic Hindus including Brahmans and other small castes who worship Brahmanic gods and employ Brahmans as their priests. The other is low caste and backward Hindus who mainly worship non-Brahmanic and animistic deities.

Beliefs.—The religion of the Brahmans is Hinduism of which they are the priests and exponents. Most Brahmans are worshippers of Shiva or Vishnu and also Rama and Krishna, incarnations of Vishnu and Shakti, the female principle of energy of Shiva.

To describe the religious beliefs of Hindus of the lower castes, the term Animism is often used. Technically, it denotes the collection of beliefs possessed by the Dravidian tribes who have not even nominally been admitted to the caste system or become Hindus. The general nature of Animism may perhaps be explained as the belief that everything which has life or motion has also a soul or spirit and all natural phenomena are caused by direct personal agency. Instances of animistic beliefs may be found in the daily practices of the Hindus. Before climbing a tree, it is customary to pray for its pardon for the rough usage to which it is subjected. Stones and rocks of a peculiar or extraordinary shape suggesting the intervention of personal agency in their construction are considered the abodes of spirits and are consequently

feared and revered. When women go out to the field they take a little sugar and place it on an anthill to feed the ants; the veneration of the cow is proverbial. The custom of worshipping the implements of the caste trade should presumably be classified as animism. Such practices belong as much to the Brahmanical Hindus as to those of the Dravidian tribes.

Village Gods.—The statistics of religion show that 84.75 per cent of the population are Hindus; 13.01 per cent have been returned as Buddhists who were formerly Hindus. Muslims are 1.86 per cent. There is nothing notable about the local Muhammedans except that they are on quite friendly terms with the Hindus. Members of both religions alike join in celebrating the *Holi* and *Muharram*. The rest are negligible. The Gonds and Halbas who are the principal forest tribes of Bhandara, are comparatively civilised and inclined to return themselves as Hindus. As usual, the villagers have a set of minor deities or godlings of their own who in many cases impersonate animals or are spirits attached to various localities. Maruti or Hanuman is found in every village. Muthia is the god of the cattle-stand and is represented by a stone or a heap of stones where the cattle meet outside the village. At the time of *Diwali*, the Govaris dance and sing before him with drums. Sewarya is the god of field boundaries and is represented by a stone placed where three fields meet. He must be propitiated to secure the success of the crops and a goat or cock is offered to him before the winnowing of the rice harvest. Bhimsen is a Gondi god, but is also worshipped by Hindus. Pigs and other animals and liquor are offered to him with the object of averting disease and other calamities. Dulha Deo is a household god and is supposed to reside in an earthen pot suspended by a string to the main beam of the house. The god is represented by a piece of metal or stone. He is worshipped once a year with great ceremony, only the male members of the family being present. The god is taken out and placed on a betel-leaf and offerings are made to him and afterwards eaten by those present, the refuse being buried. One *Malguzar* is reported to have related that on one occasion when a woman was present at the worship of the Dulha Dev in his house, the god vanished but returned on being propitiated with an offering. Belsamundar *Raja* dwells at the crossings of rivers and streams. He is believed to be a young Dhimar who was drowned while fishing and the Dhimars make offerings to him when they go fishing and when the rivers are in flood.

Village Priests.—*Joshi*: The village priests are the Joshi, the Garpagari, and the Bhumak. The Joshi is a priestly astrologer who points out lucky and unlucky days for commencing ploughing and sowing operations and for all agricultural business of importance. He also officiates at births, deaths and marriages and at religious ceremonies of all kinds. He is usually a Brahman and has a *panchanga* or almanac, the repository of all his knowledge. Formerly he held rent-free land, but now he is usually remunerated only by small presents of cash or grain in return

for his services. When a man intends to sink a well, he goes to the Joshi who names an auspicious day and directs that the first clod is to be dug by some elderly person of the family who must stand facing the east. When the well is completed, its marriage is celebrated by making an imitation of the *Mandava* or marriage-booth over it and tying *torans* or strings of mango-leaves round the sides. Relatives and friends of the family then have a feast sitting round the well and after that its water may be drunk. A similar procedure is observed in case of fruit trees before the first fruit is eaten. Every Hindu has plant of *tulasi* or basil in his yard and a few plants of *avla* (*Phyllanthus Emblica*) and the *umbar* (*Ficus Glomerata*) trees. The *umbar* tree is held to be sacred because Dattatreya, an incarnation of Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma dwelt under it. The *avla* is worshipped twice a year on the 14th days of *Ashadha* and *Karttika* as it is sacred to Vishnu. During the four months between these days, the gods are supposed to be asleep and no marriages may be celebrated during this period. Many Hindus, particularly abstain, from sugarcane, brinjals, onions, garlic, radishes and wild plums. On the 12th day of *Karttika* the marriage of *tulasi* with the Shaligrama or sacred stone representing Vishnu is celebrated and all these things are offered to her and afterwards consumed by the people.

Garpagari: The Garpagari's business is to avert hailstorms and other calamities from the crops, for which he receives a contribution from every cultivator in the form of grain. He also drives away locusts and other insects and cures rust. When locusts come, he catches two of them and takes them to Maruti's shrine, placing them before the god. Then he says 'Fly away and I shall make you an offering' and with that the whole flight of locusts is believed to vanish. Similarly he offers a rust-laden blade or two to Maruti. Another method of curing an attack of rust is for a woman in her menstrual period to sprinkle ashes over the crop. It is perhaps held that the rust in the crop resembles the menstrual period in a woman, and that this action would cause it similarly to disappear. To avert hailstorms, the Garpagari places a stone on the ground and calls on Maruti to come and sit on it. He then draws a large circle round the stone to represent the sky and runs round the circle brandishing a sword and calling on the hail to disappear. He then supposes that the clouds will leave the sky. Occasionally, the Garpagari steals a sheaf of corn from the field and the owner dare not complain of him as he is afraid that the Garpagari will retaliate by calling down hail on the crop.

Bhumak: The Bhumak or *Pujari* is usually a Gond or a Dhimar. He receives the same dues from the cultivator as the Garpagari. His business is to perform the customary worship of the village deities at the principal festivals and to attend on and provide for the wants of Government officials who visit the villages. On a Sunday or Wednesday in May, the Bhumak performs the *Bidri Puja*, at which offerings subscribed for by the cultivators are made to all village gods for the success of the crop.

He offers some seed rice to gods, placing it on a mango-leaf and then takes it all round the village giving a few grains to each cultivator who mixes them with his seed-grain and thereafter commences sowing. Again, when the rice-plants are a foot high the Bhumak goes to the field, cuts a handful of blades and distributes them to the cultivators after which they may begin transplantation. When the cultivator has finished transplantation, he proceeds to the field, accompanied by his farm servants and makes five little heaps of earth, placing on each heap five bundles of rice plants. He makes an offering to them of vermilion and boiled wheat and gram and then throwing up the plants, towards the sun, cries, "Oh Sun, fill the fields so that the axles of the carts may break under their loads". Then he takes his farm servants home and gives them a good meal of wheat and gram *chapatis* with liquor. When the crop is ripe for cutting, the Bhumak goes to the field and cuts a sheaf and places one or two ears on the roof of each tenants' house and after this, the harvest may begin. When the crop is on the threshing floor, he offers a cock or goat to the field-gods so that the quantity of grain may be increased. On this occasion, the cultivators invite their friends and go out and take their food in the fields. When the *mahua* comes into flower, the Bhumak picks some flowers and worships them, offering a coconut and vermilion and then fixes a flower on the house of each tenant. Until this has been done, nobody picks *mahua*.

Bhagat : Many villagers have also a *Bhagat* or priest of Devi who is generally a Govari or a Dhimar. The qualification for being a *Bhagat* is to be possessed by the deity, in which case the gifts of divination and prophecy are held to accrue. When a *Bhagat* goes to a village, people gather round him and he makes prophecies, telling those whose relatives are sick whether they will recover, or whether they will obtain property which has been lost or stolen and so on. *Bhagats* make a little hut in front of the Devi's shrine and place a flag on it and from here they give oracles to those who come to consult them. The method of divination by swinging a lamp is also much practised, the answer being in the affirmative or negative according to the direction in which the lamp swings. The lamp is suspended from a stick by a sling made of human hair or of somebody's cast off sacred thread. If a man wishes to make inquiry about some other person from the *Bhagat*, he takes a handful of rice and carries it round him and then takes and places it before the *Bhagat*, to represent the other persons. If a man is bitten by a snake, the *Bhagat* comes and draws water from a well, and, muttering some charm, gives it to the patient to drink; he will then recover and the symptoms of snake poisoning will appear in the *Bhagat* for an hour or two. People bitten by snakes are taken to the villages of Nag ki Parsori in Tirora tahsil or Bhendala in Bhandara tahsil, as it is thought that nobody can die of snake bite within the limits of these villages. If a man is bitten by a scorpion, the *Bhagat* comes and asks how far up his leg or arm the poison has gone. He then

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makes the mark of the double triangle on the spot pointed out and puts his finger lower down, asking if the poison has gone back to there and so on. Thus he eventually brings it down to the tip of the leg or arm and expels it from the body. If a person has jaundice, the *Bhagat* takes two needles and a pot of water and keeps holding them up before his eyes and dipping them in water, when it is supposed that the water gradually becomes yellow and at the same time, the colour leaves the sufferer's skin. Or he rubs lime on the patient's hands repeating charms and when the lime is rubbed off, it is found to have become yellow, while the skin is clear. If a man has tooth-ache, the *Bhagat* takes a nail and a piece of wood and keeps on twisting the nail and pressing it into the wood, saying as he does so '*Tera dant baith gaya*' or 'Has your tooth sat down', the belief apparently being that when the tooth aches, it rises in the socket.

RITUALS AND CEREMONIES.

Hindus.— For the Hindu, religion plays an important part in the context of his family life as also at every stage of the individual's life. Life for him is a round of rituals and ceremonies and most of the Hindu customs and traditions consist of ritualistic practices related to various religious observances known as *sanskaras* or sacraments. According to the Hindu *Dharmashastra*, the individual has to pass through many *sanskaras* which are in fact *sharira sanskaras* for these are intended to sanctify the body beginning from the moment the foetus is laid (*garbhadhana*) to the death (*antyeshti*) of a person. The number of *sanskaras* differs according to different authorities and some say there are sixteen which are compulsory and 24 which are optional. These are usually conducted by Brahman priests who on their part say that they use *Vedic* texts for Brahmans and *Pauranic* texts for others. Of late even the sixteen of these sacraments are reduced to half a dozen in most of the Hindu communities and are observed in respect of birth, thread-girding, marriage, pregnancy and death. It is only among the Brahmans that these are now current according to *Vedic* rites and among the other Hindus according to their traditional customs.

Child birth and Medical Beliefs.— When a woman is in her menstrual period, she stays apart and may not cook for herself nor touch anybody nor sleep on a bed made of cotton thread. The Gonds have a separate house outside the village to which women have to retire at this time. When a woman is with a child for the first time, her women friends come and give her green clothes and bangles; they then put her into a swing and sing songs. While she is pregnant, she is made to work in the house so as not to be inactive. If the birth is delayed, they put a few grains of gram into the woman's hand and then some one takes and feeds them to a mare, as it is thought that the woman's pregnancy has been prolonged by her having walked behind the tethering ropes of a mare which is 12 months in a foal. Or she is given water to drink in which a *Sulaimani* bead or a rupee of Akbar's time has been washed. A pregnant woman must not look on a dead body or her child may be still born and she must

not see an eclipse or the child may be born maimed. Women of the Mang, Mahar, Gond and Dhimar castes act as midwives. Sometimes when delivery is delayed, they take a folded flower and place it in a pot of water and believe that as its petals unfold, so the womb will be opened and the child born or they seat her on a wooden bench and pour oil on her head, her forehead being afterwards rubbed with it, in the belief that as the oil falls so the child will be born. If a child is a long time before learning to speak, they give it leaves of the pipal tree to eat, because the leaves of this tree make a noise by rustling in the wind; or a root which is very light in weight, because they think that the tongue is heavy and the quality of lightness will thus be communicated to it. A child is given grain to eat for the first time six months after birth. The first teeth of a child are thrown on to the roof of house, because the rats who have especially good and sharp teeth, live there and it is hoped that the child's second teeth may grow like theirs or they are placed under a water pot in the hope that the child's second teeth may grow as fast as the grass does under water-pots. If a child is lean, some people take it to a place where asses have lain down and rolled in ashes; they roll the child in the ashes similarly and believe that it will get fat like the asses are. Or they may lay the child in a pig-sty with the same idea. People who want to injure a child get hold of its coat and lay it out in the sun to dry, in the belief that the child's body will dry up in a similar manner.

On the fifth and sixth day of child-birth *pujas* are held and the child is given a name on the 12th day when women rejoice and presents are made to the mother and child. Sweets are distributed to friends and relatives. Among higher class Hindus a ceremony called *annaprashana* is held when the child is fed for the first time with *khir*, the maternal uncle usually officiating as the feeder. Boys have to go through the *upanayana* ceremony when the *gayatri* is taught and the sacred thread given to him. It is followed by *samavartana* better known as *sodmunj* when he is supposed to have left his *guru's* home and returned.

MARRIAGE AND MORALS

Hindus.—The age of marriage used to be very early in the case of both boys and girls but now it is not so. The Ponvars used to marry their daughters at a very early age, but more from motives of economy than religious belief. For a girl of full age a high price had to be paid by the bridegroom. Among the Hindus marriages are celebrated for eight months in the year from the 11th day of dark fortnight of *Karttika* to the 11th day of *Ashadha*, omitting the four months of rains. Brahmans do not go in for celebration of marriages in the months of *Chaitra* and *Pausha* in addition to the other four. The Golars celebrate their marriages both at the bride's house and that of the bridegroom. He rides on a horse and on arrival at the marriage booth, he is presented by his future father-in-law with a cup of milk. The bride and the bridegroom sit on a platform together and each gets up and sits down nine times, the one who accomplishes this first being

considered to have won. The bridegroom then takes the bride's little finger in his hand and they walk nine times round the platform. He afterwards falls at the girl's feet, and standing up, carries her inside the house, where they eat together out of one dish. After three days the party proceeds to the bridegroom's house where the same ceremonies are gone through. Here the family barbers of the bride and bridegroom take the couple up in their arms and dance, holding them, and all the party dance too. Among the Gandlis, the wedding procession goes from the bride's to the bridegroom's house. The Telis, Lohars, Dhimars, Injhvars, Govaris and Maratha Kalars consult a Dhed or Mahar to fix the date of their weddings, this man being called the Mohturya. He is always illiterate. This is probably a sort of deference paid to the Mahars as the earliest inhabitants of the country of which instances occur elsewhere. A custom formerly prevailed among Sonars whereby the bride's foot having been smeared with red powder, she should plant it upon the bridegroom's back, by way of showing her superiority to him; but this has now almost fallen into disuse. At a Labhana or Banjara marriage, the girl is clad only in a light skirt and breast cloth and rubbed all over with oil. The Joshi or village priest who officiates at the wedding is told to run after her and catch her, while she eludes him and the bride's party pelt him with rice, turmeric and areca-nuts. When he finally catches the girl and brings her to the marriage shed, the boy's party subscribe, dropping coins into a plate which he holds and he often receives a considerable sum. Ponvars pay large sums up to a thousand rupees for a young and pretty widow. Kunbis also pay for widows but the prices are not so high. Among the Gonds, Telis, Govaris, Chamars, Kohlis, Lodhis and Marars, a deceased husband's younger brother marries his widow and this practice also prevails among the Muhammedans of Bhandara. Some Muslim families of the higher classes do not permit widows to marry.

Hindu *Dharmashastra* considers that it is obligatory for every person to marry as in its eyes *vivaha* is one of the *Sanskaras*, through each of which every man and woman must pass at the proper age and time. But, though marriage is thus universally prescribed for all Hindus, the institution as such is hedged with several rules and restrictions which fall under two main heads, viz., endogamy and exogamy. Thus they do not marry outside their caste. Brahmans marry within the *gotras* prescribed and rules regarding consanguinity are scrupulously observed. Marriages of widows were once strictly prohibited among Brahmans. Now, law permits them, but they are not very popular or common. *Hunda* or dowry is prohibited but several attempts are made by both parties to circumvent the law.

Enactments.—Social usage in relation to Hindu marriage has been considerably affected by various legal enactments passed perhaps right from 1853 when the regulation prohibiting *sati* was declared. A common form of civil marriage for all communities in India was provided by the Civil Marriage Act III of 1872 which made it possible for an Indian of whatever caste or creed to enter into a valid marriage with a person belonging to any caste or creed, provided the parties registered the contract of marriage, declaring *inter alia* that they did not belong to any religion. This Act was amended by Act XXX of 1923 making it possible for Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains (but not Christians, Jews, Muhammedans and Parsees) to declare their religion and yet get their marriage registered. The Children Marriage Restraint Act XIX of 1929 as amended by Act 19 of 1946, prohibited marriages of boys under 18 and girls under 14 years of age. The Hindu Marriage Disabilities Act XXVIII of 1946 validated marriages between parties belonging to the same *gotra* or belonging to different sub-divisions of the same caste. The Hindu Marriages Act of 1955 which abrogates and modifies all the past laws has made Hindu marriages now strictly adult and monogamous. It has done away with the caste and *gotra* restrictions which limited the field of marriage. It has also set down definite conditions under which a decree of nullity and further of dissolution of marriage could be obtained.

As marriage from the Hindu point of view created indissoluble ties between husband and wife, divorce was not known to the general Hindu Law. Neither party to a marriage could, therefore, divorce the other unless divorce was allowed by custom. The Indian Divorce Act of 1869 provided *inter alia* for dissolution of marriage, but applied only to cases where the petitioner or respondent professed the Christian religion (Section 2 of the Act). However, according to the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 reliefs by way of judicial separation, declaration of nullity of marriage and divorce are recognised (Sections 10 to 13).

FEASTS AND FESTIVALS

Hindu life is replete with celebration of all kinds. There are holidays and other religious festivals and birthday anniversaries of various deities and mythological heroes which as a rule are observed every year. There are also other occasional ceremonies to obtain or avert rain, hailstorms or floods and to prevent epidemics or cattle diseases, etc.

Gudhi Padva, *Rama Navami*, *Hanuman Jayanti*, *Ashadhi* and *Kartiki Ekadashis*, *Gokulashtami*, *Pola*, *Ganesh Chaturthi*, *Gauripujan*, *Dasara*, *Diwali* and *Holi* are the main holidays which are celebrated with enthusiasm. *Vratas* and vows commonly practised by Hindus in neighbouring districts like Nagpur and Wardha are observed in Bhandara also.

Among Muslims *Muharram*, *Ramzan Id* and *Bakr-Id* festivals and some other fairs are observed.

HOUSES AND HOUSING

In Tirora tahsil, houses are usually tiled, in Bhandara both tiled and thatched and in Sakoli usually thatched. Landed gentry have *dhabedar* or terraced houses. Private latrines do not exist in villages and the country people dislike them. The cattle are tied in a shed near the main dwelling or in a verandah behind the house as they must be always under the owner's eye. Grain is kept in round bamboo-work receptacles called *dholas*, supported on wooden posts with thatched covers. Those for seed-grains are often outside the house and are only opened when sowing time comes while those for food are kept inside the house and the requisite amount of grain is allowed to run out daily from a hole in the side. Among the most essential articles of furniture are a roller and a slab of stone for pounding spices and a stone mortar and pestle; these articles are worshipped by several castes at marriages. Many households have *bothris* or mattresses made of old clothes and rags sewn together. If struck with one of these by a Hindu, a Mang is put out of caste temporarily. An ordinary cultivator or agricultural labourer sleeps on straw and covers himself with one of such mattresses and in the cold season with *kamblis*, country woollen blankets.

Among the towns and villages, better and more furniture is coming into vogue like tables, chairs, boxes, cots of wood and in some places steel also. The tendency to make use of more clothes also is there. In the towns, houses are now better built with cement and concrete and multi-storied buildings are also gradually coming up. The standard of life in villages also is thus improving.

DRESS

There is little that could be written about the dress of the people. Men as a rule use white clothes, sometimes with a red turban that is folded. Cultivators use rough loin-cloth of strong and sturdy make. On the head they have a small piece of cloth which they call *rumal*. Under the head-cloth men often wear little cotton caps. The *bandi* or short coat with strings has now disappeared and *banians* of twisted yarn have taken their place. That is the usual covering of the body. Dhimars and Gonds often go bare above the waist as also poor cultivators and labourers of all castes. But this mode of wearing sparse clothing has greatly disappeared.

Women wear one long cloth secured round the waist and folded over the shoulders which is called *sari* when it has a silk border and a *lugde* when it has cotton borders. This cloth is 24 feet long and three to four and a half feet wide, but poor women have it only 15 feet long. Many use black or red colour or black mixed with white or red. Ponwar, Dhimar and Kohli women often wear white clothes, locally called *korvan*. Immigrants from the north as the Umre Kalars, Bhaore Matnas, Kirars and others

wear the *angia* or breast-cloth tied behind while those of the south have the *choli* which is tied in front. Mahalodhi women wear no *choli* and have nothing over their breasts underneath the *sari*. These are the Lodhis who have come from Chhatisgadhi. Both men and women buy clothes ready-made in the weekly bazars to which they are taken for sale. In the cold weather the *kantopre* or cap with flaps coming down over the ears and often stuffed with cotton is worn. *Vahanas* or sandals are a good deal worn both by men and by women who work in the fields. Other women do not usually wear shoes, though in town they have begun to adopt the practice. When a man is on a journey, he will often take off his shoes after he has gone a mile or so and carry them. Dhimars and Halbas may not wear ordinary shoes and several of the lower castes do not wear anything. It was once the practice for men to have their heads shaved clean but for the tuft of hair in the scalp which they clean with earth and then oil and comb it. But now most people keep hair over the whole head. The village barber does not shave Mehars and they get themselves shaved by their caste barber on market-days where a crowd of them may be seen undergoing the operation successively. But this also is disappearing by and large. A child's hair is cut for the first time in the first or third year. Many people go to a sacred river to cut a child's hair for the first time and the temple of Narasimha on an island in Wainganga opposite the railway bridge is a favourite place for hair-cutting. Most people bathe in hot water for the greater part of the year except in the hot season. Cultivators bathe on return from work and women after cooking.

This is so as far as some backward caste people and the villagers are concerned but in towns new styles of dress as all over India have become current. Only five towns in the district have municipalities and their population varies from 13,000 to 60,000, roughly speaking. But they have copied the ways of the people from Nagpur in the matter of dress and footwear. The trousers and the manilas are quite common among young men and the six-yard *sari* and blouses among girls and young women. Shoes and slippers and sandals made by factories and not country *mochis* have also come into vogue.

FOOD

Cultivators in Bhandara eat *ambil*, a gruel of boiled *jowari* and water at about ten and two O'clock. Tamarind vinegar is mixed with this to add to its relish and it is eaten with salt, onions and chillies. For the evening meal they have *bhakar* or thick *chapatis* made of *Jvari* with vegetable and pulse, or *besan*, i.e., gram flour cooked in water with salt, chillies and onions. Landed gentry and other white-collared people have *chapatis* of *jowari* and wheat or boiled rice with pulse and vegetables. The well-to-do eat ghee with their food and the poorer classes *til* oil or *mahua* oil. Kohlis and Koshtis are very fond of crabs. The people generally smoke home-grown tobacco and the bidis made in Tirora are sent outside the district also. Most men smoke

and a good many chew tobacco and some take it in the form of snuff. Women do not usually smoke but many of them chew tobacco. There is a general tendency to abstain from drink. With the exception of Rajputs, Baniyas and Brahmans, all castes eat their food in the fields. If a man is eating food and he is touched by a person of any caste other than from which he is allowed to accept food, the meal is polluted and must be thrown away. Mahars and Gonds were not permitted to draw water from the well before long. Also Mahar boys were not allowed to sit in the school with Hindu boys and were taught in the verandah but those days have gone now. The days when Brahmans did not eat at all in railway trains are gone. Now, they eat, drink water without caring who is seated next. Even now after a journey, they come home and bathe first but that is from notions of cleanliness and not of pollution.

ORNAMENTS

Ornaments are greatly prized, particularly in rural parts more as a means of safe-keeping of money than for decoration or aids to beauty. That is why they are not artistically made, but just hammered or punched into shape and rudely engraved. Men hardly use any ornaments but among women they are popular. Even in this respect fashions have much changed and there is a desire to imitate people from cities like Nagpur. For children, a number of bracelets, anklets and necklaces are used. They are of gold among well-to-do but of silver among the poor.

STIMULANTS OR NARCOTICS

That tobacco is used for chewing, smoking and snuffing has already been said. Tea-drinking has become quite common whether among the rich and the poor and cheap restaurants have come everywhere in the villages also. Coffee is also getting into vogue, particularly in towns. Various cold drinks have also become fashionable, not only in towns but also in the rural and hilly areas. Mahua liquor has been popular among the Gonds and Halbas for generations. Ganja addicts are not to be found in this district except among Sadhus and Bairagis.

AMUSEMENTS

Holidays and religious festivals are occasions of social entertainment. Various types of dancing activities, generally of the nature of folk dances are current among the people, the occasion for them usually being the religious festivals occurring in the months of *Shravana*, *Bhadrpada* and *Phalguna*. On the dark night of the 8th day in *Shravana* and the day following are celebrated the festivals of *Gokulashtami* and *Dahikala* which are occasions for the display of the spectacular *goph* and *tipri* and the boisterous *kala* and *govinda* dances.

In the same month among Brahmans and other advanced classes, young women dance a variety of folk dances known as *phugadis* on the occasion of the *Mangalagouripuja*, which is done by newly married maids for five successive years. After the bright 4th of *Bhadrapada* come Ganesha and Gouri festivals. In towns at the public Ganesha celebrations are held *melas* processions and performances, but in the villages, the agricultural classes, enthusiastically observe *Bharadi Gouri* festival with singing, dancing and merry making. *Holi* or *Shimga* festival, declaring the advent of the spring is spent in boisterous activities and there are performances of *tamasha* troupes.

Some dances are performed out of religious ecstasy and fervour to give expression to any artistic feeling. The *dindi* dance which devotees or *bhajanis* of the Varkari cult engage in while going to the temples of Vitthoba or taking part in a religious procession belongs to this kind. Another dance of this ecstatic kind is the Mahalakshmi dance better known as *ghagan phunkne* perhaps exclusively practised by *Chitparan* Brahman women at the time of Mahalakshmi worship in the bright half of *Ashvina*. But this Brahman sub-caste is to be found in Bhandara in very small numbers as they are recent emigrants.

Gond Dancing.—Dancing and singing by way of accompaniment to dancing constitutes social amusement and recreation of the Gonds who are very fond of it. The principal dance is the Karma dance in celebration of the bringing of the leafy branch of a tree from the forest in the rains. Men and women form two long lines opposite each other with the musicians in the centre, advancing and retreating alternately, bringing one foot forward and the other up behind it, with a similar movement in retiring. At a mixed dance, all the time they are dancing, they also sing in unison, the men sometimes reciting one line and the women the next or both together. The songs generally are erotic, but there are others also.

Folk Songs.—In the rural areas, there would arise a number of occasions for the cultivating classes to entertain themselves with folk songs to be sung individually or in a group. Of these *lavni* and *povada* songs, replete as they are with humour and common-sense form a popular source of entertainment for the village folk. There are professional exponents of the art and a contest between the *lavni* singers arranged at a *jatra* or a fair attracts many, but it is the *lavni* of the female dancer-cum-singer at a *tamasha* that really delights the audience. Folk songs known as *bhaleri* are sometimes sung to encourage reapers working in the fields, at the harvesting time, farmers sing special songs to enthrill, as it were, the bullocks treading corn. In the repertory of folk songs of the villager may be included songs set in *ovi* metre which are often sung by women in the early morning while grinding corn; auspicious songs such as sung by *suvasinis* at the *halad* and *ghana* ceremonies at marriage; *palne* or lullabies and cradle songs which are soothing to the ear are sung to put a child to sleep; propitiatory

songs sung to appease the wrath of deities like small pox; *artya* in praise of gods and goddesses and *ukhane* which are riddles set in rhymes and also ditties composed for the use of women to utter their husband's names in an involved way.

Bhajan, *Bharud*, *Gondhal*, *Kirtan*, *Lalit*, *Tumbadi* and *Tamasha* are the other forms of community entertainments based on folk songs found current in the district. Of these *bhajan*-singing which aims at a religious communion to be achieved by chanting devotional songs in chorus, is widely popular. Occasionally *bhajan-saptahas* or non-stop sessions of *bhajan*-singing for seven successive days are held in temples. The traditional topic of the spiritual uplift of man is delineated in *bharud* songs, delightfully spiced with humour. *Gondhal* is a semi-musical performance given by a professional *gondhali* and his troupe in praise of gods and goddesses such as Malhari, Bhavani, Rama and other legendary heroes. A *kirtan* is a musical discourse given by a *kirtankar* or *kathekari* in which God and religion are discussed and expounded in poetry and prose. *Lalita* as the probable precursor of Marathi drama is a form of crude theatrical art which has for its plot an incident from the *Puranas*. *Tumbadis* are musical satires on social problems. *Tamasha* which is perhaps the most popular and alluring recreational activity in the rural areas consists of a *bari* of five or seven artistes of histrionic talent and musical skill. The *nachya* or dancer in an amateur *tamasha* troupe is generally a boy dressed as a girl. In a professional *tamasha*, a female dancer or singer is the main attraction. *Gana*, *gavlan* and *vag* are the principal components of a *tamasha* and the ruling sentiment maintained throughout by means of dialogues and *lavis* is usually crude and sensuous humour.

Games.—Among the educated classes western games like cricket, football, hockey and tennis are making headway in urban centres and in high schools. Cards and chess are played at home and in clubs. Newspapers, magazines and cinemas are fast becoming popular among the literate. Many a house in the towns is equipped with a harmonium and *tabla* and the radio broadcasts of film music and scientific music have created a new field for amusement of whole families. The rural folk too enjoy broadcasts that are calculated to be both educative and entertaining.

Recreational activities and games popular among children in the district have parallels perhaps with such activities all the world over. Dolls are made of clay and cloth and now-a-days, rubber and plastic and occasionally their marriages are celebrated with feasts. Tag and chase games such as *andhali koshimbir* and *lapandav* are popular among boys and girls of all ages. Games such as *surparambi* and *vagh-bakri* are played in a team spirit. Games of *gotya* and *bhonvara* (marbles and top-spinning) are played with a keen sense of contest by boys, as also kite flying, *bhatukali*, *gajge* or *sagargote* and *phugdya* are essentially games played by girls. Games played in the primary and other schools in the district are practically the same as in any other district of

Maharashtra. Of these the well-known major Indian games are *atya-patya*, *kabaddi*, *kho-kho*, *langadi*, *lagoiya* and *viti-dandu*.

Swimming and walking on stilts are the pastimes of the month of *Shravana*. Kite-flying is indulged in mainly at the time of the *makar sankranti*. It is a favourite game with the old and young and the game of *patanga ladhane* which consists in trying to cut the strings of each others kites while they are flying up in the air is enthusiastically played. When the string of a kite is cut, it falls to the ground and it becomes the property of any one who picks it up first. For the purpose of this game a special kite-thread rubbed with paste mixed with glass-dust, to make it hard and sharp is made use of.

CHAPTER 4 — AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

AGRICULTURAL POPULATION

AGRICULTURE IS THE PRINCIPAL MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD of the people in Bhandara district. It is the most important industry as it not only supplies the basic necessities of life like food, but also the raw materials to feed the industries in the district. The population of Bhandara district is predominantly agricultural. To arrive at the actual population dependant on agriculture it is necessary to look into the decennial Census tables. It may, however, be observed that owing to different methods of Census operations, they do not exactly give comparable data. The total population of the district as per 1971 Census was 15,85,580 spread over an area of 9,214 km². The density of population has increased sharply from 76 persons per square kilometre in 1921 to 135 persons per square kilometre in 1961 and further to 172 persons per square kilometre in 1971. The district density has, however, always been higher than the State average because of the very intensive pattern of crops with a large proportion of areas under irrigation and double cropping.

The following table gives the number of cultivators and agricultural labourers as per 1971 Census in Bhandara district.*

TABLE No. 1
CULTIVATORS AND AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN BHANDARA
DISTRICT, 1971.

Particulars (1)	Cultivators (2)		Agricultural labourers (3)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
District total	2,06,964	1,30,266	88,930	97,717
Rural	2,03,791	1,29,137	86,518	95,406
Urban	3,173	1,129	2,412	2,311

According to 1971 Census workers formed 46.82 per cent and non-workers accounted for 53.18 per cent of the total population. The cultivators formed 21.27 per cent whereas agricultural labourers formed 11.77 per cent of the total population in Bhandara district.

RAINFALL

The main significant feature of the climate from the point of view of agriculture in the district is the monsoon. It has

*District Census Handbook of Bhandara District, 1971.

far reaching economic consequences. Monsoon signifies the rainy season, which is brought about by the winds changing direction twice a year. The south-west monsoon from June to October is the most important as it brings heavy rains in the district. The intensity of rainfall is the greatest in the months of August and September. The direction of monsoon reverses in November blowing from north-east. The north-east monsoon breaks out in November and continues up to the end of December, providing rainfall for winter crops in the district. The rainfall in the months of November and December is very scanty. The rains which come during the months of January and May may be regarded as cyclonic rains in the district.

The significance of the monsoon lies in the fact that it significantly affects the economy of the district. For a predominantly agricultural district like Bhandara with 71.94 per cent of the population depending on land, rainfall is vitally important. The agricultural operations depend upon the timely arrival of monsoon and its quantity and distribution in the district. There are no major irrigation schemes in the district. But tanks, canals and wells are important sources of irrigation. The rainfall, therefore, determines the pattern of crops, and their rotation and the productivity of land in the district.

Rainfall is not uniform in all parts of the district. It is greater in Sakoli and Gondia tahsils than in Bhandara. The figures of average rainfall for these three tahsils, viz., Sakoli, Gondia and Bhandara, were 1,496 mm; 1,597 mm; and 1,395 mm; respectively, for the year 1961. The rainfall increases from west to east in the district. The average rainfall of the district was 841.3 mm and 1,173.3 mm during the years 1965 and 1966, respectively, which was much less than the normal annual rainfall of 1,448.3 mm for the district. Most of the annual rainfall is received from the south-west monsoon.

AGRICULTURAL SEASONS

Kharif and *rabi* are the main agricultural seasons in Bhandara district. However, the district on an average has more area under *kharif* than under *rabi* crops. Only Bhandara tahsil is an exception where *rabi* crops predominate. The *kharif* season commences from June, i.e., from the *Mrug Nakshatra* and continues up to the end of November. Only in case of paddy the *kharif* season starts from May-June and continues up to November-December. The south-west monsoon which starts from June is mainly useful for pre-sowing preparatory tillage of the soil. The regular south-west rains set in by the fourth week of June. The sowing operations start with these rains and last for over 10 days. Farmers in the district start sowing operations with the onset of the monsoon. Rice which is mainly grown throughout the district is drilled in the fields by the end of June. Rice and *tur* are the main crops grown in *kharif* season in the district.

The *rabi* season commences from the middle of October. Only in case of rice, the crop season starts from July. The major *rabi* crops in the district are wheat, *rabi* jowar, gram, lakh and linseed. Sowing of wheat and gram begins from the second or third week of October while that of *rabi* jowar from the third week of September to second week of October. They are sown in non-irrigated fields. The crops in irrigated fields could be sown later. Wheat and gram are ready for harvesting in March. *Rabi* jowar and linseed are harvested in February.

Besides the principal crops enumerated above, a number of fruits and vegetables and condiment crops are produced in the district. Of these chillis, brinjals and tomatoes are transplanted in July. Picking of these crops begins in September and continues up to February. Winter vegetables sown in irrigated lands are also produced in the district. Sowing operations of these crops commence from October. Picking starts from November and lasts till February.

The cultivators hardly do any agricultural work during the hot season and hence this season of the year is unimportant. However, preparatory tillage is undertaken during its latter part.

SOILS

As stated in an earlier Chapter No. 1 (General), the main types of soils are *kali*, *kanhar*, *sihar*, *morand*, *khardi* and *bardi* in the district. The area under *kali* is not very extensive. *Kanhar* is a very rich alluvial soil. *Khardi* differs from *kanhar* by the presence of limestone nodules. *Sihar* is a reddish-yellow soil formed mainly of the detritus of the crystalline rock. It cracks very little in hot weather. *Khardi* is the name given to very inferior types of *sihar*. The *kanhar* and first class *morand* soils are chiefly found in the plains in the south of Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils and especially along the Wainganga river. The soil is very deep, sticky, retentive of moisture and bears a double crop. In the valleys of the Wainganga river the soil consists of sandy loam of varying quality but it is very suitable for the cultivation of rice. The soils generally found in the district are *morand* class II and *sihar*, which cover altogether about 71 per cent of the total cultivated area. Both these soils are utilized for cultivation of rice; but the *sihar* is perhaps prominently the rice soil while the *morand* especially, where it is purest grows jowar, wheat and linseed. The remaining *bardi* and *khardi*, etc., are very inferior types of *sihar-morand* and are used for the cultivation of inferior rice and minor millets. A description of the principal types of soils in Bhandara district as given by the old Gazetteer of Bhandara district is as follows:—

"*Kali* and *kanhar*¹.—The distinction between these soils is not very great, and the area classed as *kali* is nominal; it is usually *kanhar* which has been swamped in water owing to its situation.

¹ Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Vol. A, pp. 77-78.

It thus loses all trace of lime¹ and at the same time is further enriched by rotting vegetable matter. It often takes a distinctly blue-black tint as opposed to the brown-black of *kanhar*. *Kanhar* is a very rich alluvial soil, probably of trap origin. It crumbles readily, and is easy to work.

Morand I differs from *Kanhar* by the presence of *chunkari* or limestone nodules.

Morand II is of two kinds, of approximately equal value. They are both formed of black soil, the one including, however, a considerable amount of *chunkari*, and the other a good deal of sand washed down from the sandstone hills.

Khardi is the name used for all soils dark in colour, which contains so great an admixture of *chunkari*, or of stones, or are so deficient in depth, as to be of less value than *morand II*.

Sihar is a reddish-yellow soil formed mainly of the detritus of the crystalline rock. It cracks very little in the hot weather.

Bardi is the name given to very poor, gritty *sihar* or to the detritus of laterite rock.

Kachhar, *marhani* and *retari* are names given to three sorts of soils found by river banks. They are all alluvial and differ in value according to the deposit brought down. *Kachhar* is blackish in colour, and contains very little sand. *Marhani* is red and is much more sandy than *kachhar*; but still excellently suited, because so constantly renewed, for garden crops. *Retari* is poor stuff, almost all sand, and fit only for growing *kultha*.

Rith is not really a distinct soil class but rather a slate-coloured condition at which any soil may arrive when close to a village. Its value varies according to the original character of the soil.

The most important soils are *morand I* and *II*, and *sihar*, which between them account for 8,24,000 cultivated acres out of 9,80,000."

LAND UTILISATION

The data regarding classification of the total area of the district according to various heads of land utilisation not only reflects the extent of development of agricultural activities in the district but also represents to some extent the cultivation potential of the area. The total geographical area of the district in 1971-72 was 9,27,958 hectares. Table No. 2 gives the classification of the total geographical area under different categories.

¹ The absence of lime in *kali* soil is now thought to be due to its basaltic origin and the absence of any limestone grit at the time of its formation. (S. Clouston, Deputy Director of Agriculture).

TABLE No. 2
STATISTICS OF LAND UTILISATION (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, FOR THE YEARS
1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil (1)	Year* (2)	Total Geographical area (3)	Forests (4)	Barren and unculturable land (5)	Land put to non-agricultural uses (6)	Culturable waste (7)	Permanent Pastures and other grazing land (8)
District	1961-62	22,83,049	6,29,324	37,979	1,87,502	64,708	3,46,914
	1965-66	22,83,049	6,27,496	35,571	1,86,299	65,989	3,48,567
	1969-70	9,27,958	2,51,880	15,039	75,755	27,919	1,36,937
	1971-72	9,27,958	2,51,880	15,182	76,690	30,707	1,31,450
Bhandara	1961-62	6,34,023	1,39,227	6,895	57,807	20,075	74,642
	1965-66	6,34,023	1,38,676	6,244	58,331	21,565	74,538
	1969-70	2,60,614	56,078	2,393	24,184	8,306	30,250
	1971-72	2,60,614	56,078	2,554	24,103	8,529	29,447
Gondia	1961-62	6,64,130	1,25,596	11,260	55,163	21,788	93,387
	1965-66	6,64,130	1,25,060	10,210	54,129	22,839	96,774
	1969-70	2,68,767	49,874	4,548	22,174	9,849	37,133
	1971-72	2,68,767	49,874	4,512	21,681	10,528	37,659
Sakoli	1961-62	9,84,896	3,64,501	19,824	74,532	22,845	1,78,885
	1965-66	9,84,896	3,63,720	19,117	73,839	21,585	1,77,260
	1969-70	3,98,577	1,45,928	8,298	29,397	9,764	69,548
	1971-72	3,98,577	1,45,928	7,816	33,906	11,659	64,344

* Figures for 1961-62 and 1965-66 are in acres.
Figures for 1969-70 and 1971-72 are in hectares.

TABLE No. 2—contd.
STATISTICS OF LAND UTILISATION (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, FOR THE YEARS
1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil (1)	Year* (2)	Land under miscellaneous tree crops & groves not included in area sown (9)	Current fallows (10)	Other fallows (11)	Total cultivated area (12)	Net area sown (13)	Area sown more than once (14)	Total cropped area (15)
District ..	1961-62 ..	16,462	19,633	34,134	13,36,658	9,46,396	3,48,684	12,95,077
	1965-66 ..	17,312	76,536	28,060	13,86,590	8,96,088	2,00,926	10,97,385
	1969-70 ..	7,417	8,990	12,681	..	3,91,340	1,18,125	5,09,465
	1971-72 ..	8,717	9,156	10,756	..	3,90,420	1,26,521	5,16,941
Bhandara ..	1961-62 ..	2,321	4,679	10,000	3,15,646	3,18,377	70,652	3,89,029
	1965-66 ..	1,584	32,011	9,252	3,42,196	2,11,827	22,456	3,14,285
	1969-70 ..	621	2,522	4,010	..	1,32,244	26,119	1,57,368
	1971-72 ..	755	3,218	5,013	..	1,30,920	26,004	1,56,924
Gondia ..	1961-62 ..	5,434	8,276	11,704	3,33,608	3,31,522	1,72,135	5,03,657
	1965-66 ..	6,405	33,863	11,924	3,61,204	3,02,926	96,910	5,99,836
	1969-70 ..	3,069	3,855	4,919	..	1,33,546	54,611	1,88,157
	1971-72 ..	3,274	3,334	3,516	..	1,34,089	58,974	1,93,063
Sakoli ..	1961-62 ..	8,007	6,678	12,430	6,88,402	2,96,494	1,05,897	4,02,391
	1965-66 ..	9,323	10,662	7,684	6,83,090	3,01,706	81,360	3,83,266
	1969-70 ..	3,727	2,613	3,752	..	1,25,550	38,395	1,63,945
	1971-72 ..	4,688	2,604	2,227	..	1,25,411	41,543	1,66,954

* Figures for 1961-62 and 1965-66 are in acres.
Figures for 1969-70 and 1971-72 are in hectares.

Cropped Area.— The percentage of cultivated area to total area in the district was 55.71 in 1971-72, but it varied from tahsil to tahsil, the highest being 71.83 per cent in Gondia tahsil and the lowest being 41.89 per cent in Sakoli tahsil. It stood at 60.21 per cent in Bhandara tahsil. The gross cropped area of 5,16,941 hectares in 1971-72 comprised 3,90,420 hectares of the net area sown and 1,26,521 hectares of the area sown more than once, distributed into food crops and non-food crops. The main food crops of the district are rice, wheat and jowar among cereals, *tur*, gram and *mug* among pulses, chillis among condiments and spices, and some fruits and vegetables. The main non-food crops include castor-seed and linseed.

Forest Area.— The total area under forests in Bhandara district was 4,23,162 hectares in 1972-73. It was divided into three categories, *viz.*, reserved, protected and unclassified, and was in charge of the Forest Department and the Revenue Department. The details regarding the same are given below:—

TABLE No. 3
FOREST AREA IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING THE
YEAR 1972-73.

(In Hectares)					
Serial No. (1)	Department (2)	Reserved (3)	Protected (4)	Unclassified (5)	Total (6)
1	Revenue ..	..	..	78,884	78,884
2	Forest ..	1,32,197	2,12,081	..	3,44,278
District Total ..		1,32,197	2,12,081	78,884	4,23,162

The total forest area of the district accounts for 26.69 per cent of the total geographical area of the district. Of the total forest area of the district, an area of 31.24 per cent is occupied by reserved forests, of 50.12 per cent by protected forests, and the remaining 18.64 per cent by unclassified forests. The entire unclassified forest area is under the management of the Collector of the district, while the reserved and protected forest areas are under the management of the Forest Department. Pratapgarh range lies to the south and a group of hills near Paoni in the south-west corner of the district.

Forest Produce.— Major forest produce of the district comprises timber and firewood. The minor forest produce includes bamboo, grass, lac, gum, tendu leaves, etc. The aggregate value of the total forest produce was Rs. 1,45,67,098 in 1972-73. The annual

outturn of various kinds of forest produce and realisation of revenue thereof during the year 1972-73 is shown in table No. 4.

TABLE No. 4
OUTPUT AND VALUE OF FOREST PRODUCE IN BHANDARA DISTRICT,
IN 1972-73.

Forest Produce	Quantity	Value (in Rs.)
(A) Major--	(Cubic metre)	
(1) Timber	21,034	33,92,329
(2) Fuel	..	17,84,604
(B) Minor :—		
(1) Bamboo	..	10,74,409
(2) Grass and grazing	..	35,183
(3) Other minor produce	..	82,80,573
Total ..	..	1,45,67,098

The main produce obtained is timber in the form of teak and other valuable injaili species, and firewood, part of which is converted into charcoal for export to Bombay, Pune and parts of North India particularly Rajasthan and Delhi. Bulk of the timber is exported to Nagpur from where it finds its market all over the country.

HOLDINGS

The size of agricultural holding is very important in the context of productivity of agriculture. A big size of holding facilitates the use of scientific methods of cultivation and optimum production. Uneconomic holdings increase the unit cost of production and of the total yield as well. They are one of the greatest obstacles in the way of mechanisation of agriculture. With the rapid increase in population, aided by the age-old laws of inheritance and succession, the size of personal holding is becoming smaller and smaller due to the sub-division and fragmentation of holdings.

The agricultural holdings in the district are divided into three classes, viz. A, B and C, Class. A comprises persons who cultivate land by themselves with or without the aid of hired labour; class B consists of those who do not cultivate land by themselves but supervise and direct cultivation by farm servants; while class C comprises persons who receive rent from the land but do not participate directly or indirectly in its cultivation. Broadly speaking persons in the first two classes can be styled as cultivating owners, while those in the last class could be described as non-cultivating owners. The following quinquennial statements (table Nos. 5, 5-A, and 5-B) of holdings for Bhandara district for the year 1969-70, give an idea of the distribution of *khalsa* lands among the holders in relation to various size groups.

HOLDINGS

TABLE No. 5
QUINQUENNIAL STATEMENT OF HOLDINGS IN GOVERNMENT RYOTWARI AREA IN BHANDARA TAHSIL, 1969-70.

Magnitude	No. of persons	Class A		No. of persons	Class B		No. of persons	Class C		No. of persons	Total	
		Area held in acres			Area held in acres			Area held in acres			Area held in acres	
		Khalsa	Inam		Khalsa	Inam		Khalsa	Inam		Khalsa	Inam
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Up to 5 acres.. ..	35,822	76,909-00	..	4,152	10,524-31	..	2,720	4,883-23	..	42,694	92,316-54	..
	12,409	1,05,062-71	..	3,384	31,903-70	..	1,385	3,389-09	..	17,178	1,46,355-50	..
	2,116	43,072-11	..	720	11,875-60	..	211	3,518-36	..	3,037	58,466-07	..
	770	26,882-37	..	943	34,917-22	..	192	4,891-57	..	1,905	66,687-16	..
	..	..	..	12	1,836-66	..	..	..	..	12	1,836-66	..
Over 5 acres, up to 15 acres..												
Over 15 acres, up to 25 acres												
Over 25 acres, up to 100 acres												
Over 100 acres, up to 500 acres												

TABLE No. 5-A

QUINQUENNIAL STATEMENT OF HOLDINGS IN GOVERNMENT RYOTWARI AREA IN SAKOLI TAHSIL, 1969-70.

[illegible]

TABLE No. 5-B
QUINQUENNIAL STATEMENT OF HOLDINGS IN GOVERNMENT RYOTWARI AREA IN GONDIA TAHSIL, 1969-70.

[illegible]

Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings.— One of the main factors leading to low agricultural productivity is fragmentation of land into small size of holdings. The growing pressure of population on land and customary laws of inheritance are mainly responsible for the sub-division and fragmentation of holdings. The sub-divided holdings are not only small in size but are scattered. This makes agriculture uneconomic and deprives the cultivator of the advantages of large scale cultivation. It was, therefore, felt necessary by the Government that consolidation of fragmented lands should be fostered through legal enactment. It was also decided that further sub-division of holdings into uneconomic patches should be prevented. The State Government passed an enactment, viz., the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, to deal effectively with the situation.

This Act provides for prevention of fragmentation and consolidation of holdings. For this purpose it provides for determination of local standard areas, minimum size of an individual fragment and actual consolidation of holdings. It also provides for prevention of further sub-division of farms which are of less than the standard size. A standard area in respect of any class of land means the area which the Government determines, from time to time as the minimum area necessary for remunerative cultivation in any area in the district. The standard area for different types of lands was fixed in Bhandara district on 14th May 1962, as shown below :—

	Area in (Acres)
Dry crop	1.00
Rice	0.50
Garden	0.50

A plot of land smaller than the standard area fixed by this Act is to be treated as a fragment and all such fragments are to be entered in the Record-of-Rights by making an omnibus mutation thereof in it as per section 6 (1) and (2) of the Act. The Act prescribes that fragments must be entered in the Record-of-Rights and other village records. Noting of fragments in Record-of-Rights has not been still done in any of the villages in Gondia division. The necessary instructions in detail regarding noting of fragments in the Record-of-Rights in respect of land falling below the aforesaid prescribed standard areas have been issued to the Tahsildars. The work regarding noting of fragments in Gondia division has been recently started. Where consolidation schemes have been enforced the work of noting the fragments in respect of 262 villages has also been completed before starting the consolidation work there. The matter regarding the penal action to be taken under section 9 (2) and (3) of the Act for transfer or partition of any land contrary to the provision of the Act have been fully considered on 4th September 1969 by the consolidation officers in the district.

Prior to 1960 the work of consolidation schemes was taken up in Bhandara district as per the Madhya Pradesh Consolidation Manual and the consolidation schemes of 50 villages were enforced. During the period from 1956 to 1959, the provisions under section 31 and Rules thereunder of the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947 were made applicable to the said villages.

The Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, was made applicable to the Bhandara district from 1st February 1960. During the year 1960 two posts of officers, viz., Assistant Consolidation Officer I and II, Bhandara were created and they started their work in February 1960. In view of the expansion of the scheme work in the Fourth Five-Year Plan, three more posts of officers, viz., Assistant Consolidation Officers III, IV and V, Bhandara were created in the year 1966, and they took up their work in July 1966. Thus all these five officers have implemented the consolidation schemes of 257 villages having an area of 2,37,870 acres till 31st March 1969, from three revenue circles, viz., Sakoli, Sadak Arjuni and Lakhandur. The target of 55 villages and an area of 68,500 acres was fixed for the year 1969-70. A separate unit for Gondia division consisting of one Consolidation Officer and five Assistant Consolidation Officers was created which started its work from 22nd June 1967, for preparation and enforcement of consolidation of holdings schemes. The jurisdiction of this unit is as shown below :—

Designation of officers (1)	Tahsil (2)	Circle (3)	Villages (4)
(1) Assistant Consolidation Officer I ..	Gondia ..	Goregaon ..	112
(2) Assistant Consolidation Officer II ..	Gondia ..	Gondia ..	94
(3) Assistant Consolidation Officer III ..	Gondia ..	Tiroda ..	130
(4) Assistant Consolidation Officer IV ..	Sakoli ..	Deori ..	154
(5) Assistant Consolidation Officer V ..	Gondia ..	Amgaon ..	128
Total ..			618

The details of the target fixed and target achieved by each of the above officers of Gondia division during the years 1967-68 and 1968-69 are shown below :—

1967-68		
Designation of the officers	Target fixed (in acres)	Target achieved (in acres)
(1) Assistant Consolidation Officer I ..	7,000	6,208
(2) Assistant Consolidation Officer II ..	7,000	12,325
(3) Assistant Consolidation Officer III ..	7,000	8,737
(4) Assistant Consolidation Officer IV ..	9,000	22,470
(5) Assistant Consolidation Officer V ..	7,000	15,254
Total ..	37,000	64,994

1968-69

Designation of the officers (1)	Target fixed (in acres) (2)	Target achieved (in acres) (3)
(1) Assistant Consolidation Officer I	7,000	6,287
(2) Assistant Consolidation Officer II	12,000	9,231
(3) Assistant Consolidation Officer III	8,000	8,909
(4) Assistant Consolidation Officer IV	21,000	27,991
(5) Assistant Consolidation Officer V	15,000	14,799
Total	63,000	67,217

The number of the villages in which consolidation scheme has been completed and enforced in the Gondia division during 1967-68 and 1968-69 is as shown below:—

(1)	Villages (2)	Area (in acres) (3)
Gondia tahsil	102	1,20,428
Deori circle (Sakoli tahsil)	32	53,897
Total	134	1,74,325

BHOODAN AND GRAMDAN MOVEMENTS

Bhoodan: An unofficial movement of a revolutionary character has been started by Acharya Vinoba Bhave. His *Bhoodan* movement seeks to find a peaceful solution to the problem of landless labourers. By collecting lands from voluntary gifts, he wants to distribute them to landless labourers, at the rate of 5 acres for each family of agricultural workers. *Bhoodan* means the land donated to the movement initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave for the acquisition of land through voluntary gifts in favour of the *Bhoodan* Board. In this movement a landowner may donate any piece of land to the Board. *Gramdan* means voluntary donation of land in a village for the purpose of Maharashtra Gramdan Act, 1964, and in accordance with the provision thereof. Here, any owner of land, not being a minor, may file a declaration in the prescribed form before the Collector that he donates voluntarily and without any consideration agrees to transfer to the *mandal* all his land in the village specified in the declaration by way of *Gramdan*.

In Bhandara district the position of *Bhoodan* movement is as shown below:—

Tahsil (1)	No. of donors (2)	Land gifted (in acres) (3)	Land distributed	
			No. of persons (4)	Acres (5)
Bhandara	554	1,499.11	210	1,039.00
Gondia	1,016	2,101.43	334	1,932.75
Sakoli	823	1,670.79	294	1,100.54

Gramdan: The Bhandara Zilla Sarvodaya Mandal has furnished the declarations in the following villages to the Tahsildars concerned for declaring the villages as *Gramdan* villages under the Maharashtra Gramdan Act, 1964.

Tahsil (1)	Name of Village (2)
Bhandara	1. Sirsoli.
	2. Kanhalgaon (Pipalgaon).
	3. Nawegaon
	4. Dawadipar
Gondia	1. Nawezari
	2. Kulpa.
	3. Murmadi
	4. Sitepar
Sakoli	1. Walmazari
	2. Khairi.

None of the villages has yet been declared as *Gramdan* village and the proceedings are under enquiry.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING

Co-operative farming is suggested as an ideal remedy for eradicating the evils accompanied by small holdings. It implies the existence of a society where each cultivator would retain his rights in his own land but cultivation would be carried on jointly by all the members. The characteristics of co-operative farming are—(i) land becomes a single unit; (ii) proprietary rights rest with the individual owners; (iii) joint cultivation and management are promoted; (iv) members are paid for their work; and (v) net profit is shared by the members after earmarking for reserve fund. When the cultivator becomes a member of the co-operative society, he can meet his credit requirements from the financial assistance extended by it. Besides, he is enabled to purchase and use modern machinery, to

effect efficient division of labour, to provide irrigation, to undertake measures for the permanent development of land and finally to sell his produce advantageously, all of which would be beyond the capacity of an individual farmer to achieve.

Co-operative Joint Farming Societies.— There are only two types of co-operative farming societies in the district, viz., co-operative collective farming societies; and co-operative joint farming societies. Under the scheme of co-operative joint farming society all the lands are pooled together from small owners whose individual holdings do not allow economic and efficient cultivation of land. The management and cultivation of farms is done by the society. Members work on pooled land in accordance with the directions of an elected committee and the manager appointed by it. They work jointly on the farm and receive wages for their labour. The ownership of each member in his holding is recognised by payment of dividend or rent in proportion to the value of land. The produce is stockpiled as well as disposed of collectively.

Co-operative Collective Farming Societies.— Co-operative collective farming society itself owns land on free-hold or leasehold and carries on cultivation by the members. Members are paid wages for their work and a bonus in proportion to wages in case of net profits. It is important to note that the members of co-operative collective farming societies necessarily belong to the class of landless labourers who do not enjoy any ownership or proprietary right in land. Thus the membership of this type of society ensures its members, employment and means of subsistence.

The Nagpur Congress Session held in 1958, adopted a resolution that the pattern of agricultural organisation should be based on the principle of co-operative joint farming. Thus future agrarian pattern would take the form of co-operative farming in which "land will be pooled for joint cultivation, the farmers retaining their property rights and getting shares from the net produce in proportion to their land". Those who work in the farm will also get a share in proportion to their work.

Table No. 6 shows the position of co-operative farming in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 6
CO-OPERATIVE FARMING SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1968-69.

Name of Society	Date of registration (2)	Membership		Land pooled (in hectares) (5)	Share capital (in Rs.)		Reserve Fund (in Rs.) (8)	Government loans for construction of cattle sheds and for development of land (in Rs.) (9)
		Land owners (3)	(4)		G overn- ment (6)	Others (7)		
Collective Farming Societies—								
(1) Amgaon Collective Farming Society Ltd. . .	31-12-65	..	20	..	600	600	20	6,716
(2) Chandori Collective Farming Society Ltd. . .	18-3-66	..	28	..	..	1,260	28	..
(3) Dodmazari Collective Farming Society Ltd.	28-3-63	..	18	..	..	360	18	..
(4) Mangali Collective Farming Society Ltd. . .	29-4-66	..	29	..	..	630	29	..
(5) Pindkepar Collective Farming Society Ltd.	30-4-66	..	34	..	..	530	34	..
(6) Sukli, Balapur Collective Farming Society Ltd.	28-3-63	..	32	..	..	440	32	..
(7) Sakoli Collective Farming Society Ltd. . .	21-12-65	..	25	..	..	625	25	..
(8) Sendurwafa Collective Farming Society Ltd.	9-9-67	..	15	..	..	500	15	..
Joint Farming Societies—								
(9) Kinlu (Ekodi) Joint Farming Society Ltd.	18-3-66	7	9	61.6	650	650	16	6,634
Total . .	..	7	210	61.6	1,250	5,595	217	13,350

CEREALS

Table No. 7 on page 239 shows tahsilwise area under cereals in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72. The table reveals that the area under all the cereal crops except rice, wheat and jowar was negligible in the district.

The net area sown in Bhandara district amounted to 3,90,420 hectares in 1971-72. Of this, cereals accounted for 3,52,326 hectares. The important cereals cultivated in the district comprise rice, wheat and jowar. Other cereals such as maize, ragi, barley, etc., are grown on a small scale in the district.

Table No. 8 on page 240 gives outturn of cereals in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

TABLE No. 7

AREA UNDER CEREALS (TAHSIL-WISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT FOR THE YEARS 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

AREA UNDER CEREALS (TAKSIL-WISE) IN BAHAMAL										
Tahsil	Year	Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Bajri	Maize	Kodo or varagu (kodra)	Little Millets (kurki)	Other cereals	Total cereals
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Bhandara	1961-62	145,773	40,434	79,038	..	505	258	131	3	266,188
	1965-66	100,612	42,398	86,554	..	467	162	64	4	230,301
	1969-70	62,887	16,335	31,177	..	..	..	..	345	110,744
	1971-72	65,098	14,875	29,716	..	..	..	..	366	110,055
Gondia	1961-62	279,101	17,118	3,629	3	1,246	4,966	385	55	306,600
	1965-66	243,028	20,266	4,430	3	1,186	4,546	331	177	274,154
	1969-70	111,208	7,262	1,569	7	..	..	..	2,636	122,682
	1971-72	112,671	6,911	1,192	..	..	..	..	2,723	123,497
Sakoli	1961-62	229,902	24,605	12,685	..	957	4,241	1,292	..	274,055
	1965-66	237,046	22,463	13,245	..	913	4,714	1,469	..	279,866
	1969-70	99,032	10,277	5,833	..	..	..	..	3,302	118,444
	1971-72	99,817	10,777	5,192	..	..	..	..	2,988	118,774
District Total	1961-62	654,776	82,157	95,352	3	2,708	9,465	1,808	58	846,847
	1965-66	580,686	85,127	104,229	3	2,566	9,422	1,864	181	784,321
	1969-70	273,127	33,874	38,579	..	..	..	..	6,283	351,870
	1971-72	277,586	32,563	36,100	..	..	..	..	6,077	352,326

Note.—Figures for the years 1961-62 and 1965-66 are in acres and for 1969-70 and 1971-72 are in hectares.

TABLE No. 8
OUTTURN OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Year (1)	Rice (2)	Wheat (3)	Jowar (4)	Barley (5)	Maize (6)	Ragi (7)	Kodra (8)	Little millets (9)	Total cereals (10)
1. 1961-62 ..	1,84,054	15,875	15,016	40	417	37	1,056	202	21,16,697
2. 1965-66 ..	2,63,865	14,667	13,542	3	397	2	1,163	198 (Other cereals)	2,93,837
3. 1969-70 ..	2,90,900	12,800	13,200	..	400	..	..	1,400	3,18,700
4. 1971-72 ..	2,81,000	13,600	9,100	..	400	..	..	..	3,05,700

Note.—Figures for 1961-62 and 1965-66 are in tons, and for 1969-70 and 1971-72 are in Metric tonnes.

Rice.—Paddy (rice, *dhan*) is the staple food crop of the district. It occupied the highest area of 2,77,586 hectares out of 3,90,420 hectares of the net area sown during 1971-72. Rice is grown in all the tahsils of the district. However, Gondia tahsil accounted for 1,12,671 hectares, Sakoli tahsil 99,817 hectares and Bhandara tahsil 65,098 hectares during 1971-72. The following extract from the *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*,* gives some interesting details about rice cultivation.

“By far the most important crop in the district is rice.

The cultivators recognise about 70 different Rice Varieties varieties of rice, and will give slight differences in the method of cultivating each. Curious derivations are sometimes given for the names of different kinds. For instance *pisso* rice is said to be so-called because the grain closely resembles the insect of that name. *Samudarsok* is variously explained as requiring much water for cultivation, requiring much water to boil it, and having been imported from the seashore. The best variety grown is *chinnur* and the village of Raipur in Kamtha *Zamindari* is said to be well known for its *chinnur* rice. This variety sells at a substantially higher rate than the others. For practical purposes rice may be classed as light and heavy. The light kinds require less water, and ripen earlier; the heavy ones require much water and ripen late.

There are two principal methods of cultivating rice, by transplantation, and by sowing broadcast.

Transplanted Rice Transplanting rice (*rohna* or *parha*) is perhaps the most elaborate method of cultivation in the Province. As its name implies the seed is sown in one place and the seedlings after they have grown a little are transplanted to another. The place in which the seed is sown is known as the “nursery” (*Khar*). It is prepared for sowing by being ploughed twice at least, once with the *nagar* or deep plough and once with the *bakhar* or paring plough. It is also heavily manured. The seed is sown broadcast but very thick on the ground. The amount of course varies from 15 to 20 kilograms for an acre. This requires five cart-loads of manure per acre. Besides, chemical fertilizers such as Nitrate, Sulphate and Urea are required for high yielding as well as local varieties. The seed may be sown in dry earth or after the rains have begun but the latter is much the more usual method, as the seeds do not germinate until there has been a fair amount of rain. The seedlings should remain in the nursery for about 30 to 40 days, but they cannot be transplanted until conditions are suitable, and if the transplantation is much delayed the outturn of the crop suffers. The next operation is transplantation. The rice is transplanted into small fields (*bandhis*), with embankments, usually low. It is of great importance that the surface of the embanked fields should be levelled so that a low embankment will keep an equal depth of water all over the field. On sloping ground the surface of each field is

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, pp. 81—85.

levelled by digging out earth at the top and putting it on the lower end. Embankments are not usually more than 18 inches to 2 feet high, though they may occasionally be found on sloping ground not yet levelled as high as three or even four feet. The preparation of the embanked fields is an elaborate process. The object is to reduce the ground to a depth of some inches to a fine liquid mud. This is done by ploughing twice and then harrowing twice, then again ploughing once to four times according to the character of the soil, and finally harrowing again. Before this preparation heavy rain or ample irrigation is an absolute necessity. The first ploughing cannot be done till the ground is covered with some inches of water. When the above operation is complete, the rice seedlings in the nursery are pulled up and tied into bundles of perhaps 50 to 100. These are carried over to the embanked field and stacked on the embankment. The workers take a bundle each and separate it and plant four or five seedlings together; between each group of seedlings they leave an interval of from six inches to a foot. The seedlings from 3 to 4 gunthas of land are sufficient for transplantation over an acre of land. Women are preferred to men for the work of transplantation and are said to work faster and more effectively. The seedlings lie flat for a day or two and then take root and stand erect. Dry weather is required for a few days after transplantation and then a certain amount of rain. Very heavy rain, however, beats them down to the ground where they remain stunted and fail to ear. Practically no weeding is required for the rice after it has been transplanted. The subsequent operations of reaping and threshing are the same for both kinds of rice and will be described below."

"For transplanted rice, ample amount of water either from rain or from irrigation is required, thrice, viz., first, at the time of sowing in the nurseries; second, at the time of transplantation; and third, when the grain is ripening in October. Irrigation required is given to this crop from tanks and wells in the district.

Transplanted rice, in spite of the large amount of labour involved, is much the most profitable method of sowing rice. A cultivator will always transplant if he can. Sometimes he is unable. The heavy black soil of the south-west of the district cannot be worked by cattle in the way described, and rice there is always sown broadcast. Scanty early rain, want of labour, want of capital, and a desire for an early crop, are among the reasons which induce a cultivator to sow broadcast. The soil is usually ploughed up for broadcast rice in the hot weather, but red soil cannot be so prepared unless there is a timely fall of rain. The seed is scattered by hand, whether sown before or after the rains break, and is covered in either by ploughing with the *bakhar* or by harrowing with the *paththa*, any large clods being broken subsequently by hand. If the rice has not been sown before the rains break, and the rains are so continuous as to prevent the land being

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prepared, the seed is sometimes put in water until it begins to sprout, and in this state is thrown into the mud. This method of sowing is called *kawdak*. It has often been believed that a great deal more seed is used in broadcast than in transplanted rice. As a consequence the Chhattisgarh practice of *biasi* or thinning the crop with a plough, is most uncommon; and is I believe, confined to the *zamindaris* on the east, where many of the cultivators have come from Chhattisgarh. Weeding twice or thrice is, however, needed if the crop is to be a good one and this is done by hand.

The harvesting of light rice begins early in September, and reaping of different kinds goes on more or less continuously until early in December. Usually the better the class of rice, the later it is reaped.

Harvesting and threshing

Much, however, depends on the character of the late rainfall. Reaping is a slow and primitive business, done by hand with a sickle; in the present scarcity of agricultural labour a cheap reaping machine adapted to small fields would be a great boon, but there seems to be no machine on the market in the least suitable for rice. After being cut the crop lies for two or three days on the grounds to dry, and is then stacked on the threshing floor, which is usually one of the drier fields stamped hard. Each cultivator has his own threshing floor, and keeps his produce rigorously separate from every one else. The threshing is done by bullocks. 'The treading out the corn' is probably similar to the method described in the Old Testament, and the cultivators certainly heed the precept about not muzzling the ox. A row of bullocks are tethered to a post in the centre round which they walk in an irregular line, and under much urging by their owners. During the threshing and winnowing operations the grain lies on the threshing floor, and though watched at night, forms a tempting object of theft. When these operations are complete it is stored at home."

Recently, some improved early, medium and late maturing varieties of rice have been introduced in the district, viz., R-2-Sultu; Goramatia; Bhoudu X Parva-116; R-12 Banaspatri; R-15 Chinoor; etc.

Japanese method of paddy cultivation.—It may be noted that the Japanese method of paddy cultivation has now attracted the attention of farmers. Farm demonstrations and publicity programmes are organised by the Department of Agriculture to popularise this method. The main features of this method may briefly be mentioned as under:—

- (1) raised bed nurseries for seedlings,
- (2) low seed rate for nurseries,
- (3) heavy manuring of the crop both in nurseries and in the field,
- (4) transplanting of fewer seedlings per bunch, and
- (5) adequate interculturing and proper weeding.

The rich yield of paddy depends as much upon the plentiful and constant supply of water as upon the character of the soil. With a view to accelerating the adoption of the method by farmers a pilot scheme of intensive agricultural district programme commonly known as "Package Programme" has been in operation in the district since the *Kharif* season of 1963. Special staff is also appointed to demonstrate the method in each village included in the block. It is hoped that this will serve the twin object of bringing sufficient acreage under this method and of increasing the yield of *dhan* (paddy) per acre.

Under the scheme of crop campaigns the following works were undertaken during the year 1964-65 for paddy cultivation in Bhandara district.

Opening of hard land in paddy fields: Due to the continuous paddy cultivation without any rotation and low organic content of the soil, paddy land becomes very hard after the harvest of paddy. If these lands were opened immediately after harvest the further operations in the paddy fields become easier and this also helps in destructing the weeds and in controlling pests and diseases. Efforts were, therefore, made to induce the cultivators in paddy growing areas to open out their paddy fields earlier in the season (during summer season) and the area covered under this item was 39,158 hectares.

Supply of paddy seedling: In case of paddy cultivation cultivators were advised to use improved seed, to lower the seed rate and raise the seedlings on raised seed-beds. With a view to supplying paddy seedlings to needy cultivators, it was decided to establish one paddy nursery of 0.40 hectare in each Gram-panchayat. The cost of seed, fertilizer, etc., required for this purpose was borne by the Department. The concerned Gramsevak and Grampanchayat were instructed to raise the seedlings and distribute the same. The target for supply of seedlings was 20,235 hectares against which 11,718 hectares were covered.

Jowar (*juar*) is the second important cereal crop widely grown in the district. It forms the staple food of the cultivators while the *fodder* known as *kadbi* serves as the best cattle fodder. It occupied an area of 36,100 hectares in 1971-72. Jowar is grown in all the tahsils of the district. Bhandara, Sakoli and Gondia tahsils accounted for 29,716, 1,192 and 5,192 hectares of the area under jowar, respectively, in the district in 1971-72. It can be taken as a *kharif* as well as *rabi* crop, but mainly during *rabi* season. An area of 34,506 hectares was under *rabi* jowar in 1971-72. There are numerous varieties some of which belong to the early and others to the late maturing varieties. Early maturing varieties are sown in light soils while late varieties are sown in deep black and irrigated lands. *Kharif* jowar is sown in June-July and harvested from November onwards, whereas *rabi* jowar is sown in September-October and harvested in February-March. *Rabi* jowar requires five to ten cart-loads of manure per acre. It also requires chemical fertilizers such as Ammonium Sulphate, Nitrate, Urea,

etc. The chief and improved *rabi* variety of jowar, viz., M-35-1 is more popular in the district. The fodder of *rabi* jowar is of better quality as compared to *kharif* jowar and fetches good price in the market. Jowar is largely consumed by the poorest classes in the district.

*"An important crop in the district is *juar*. Of this there are two varieties, one an autumn and the other a spring or cold weather crop. The preparation of the land for *juar* is simple, consisting of one or two ploughings and one harrowing. The cost of seed-grain is very small. It is usually grown in light and high-lying soil, and is regarded as of very little importance compared with rice. It is very liable to be stunted by excessive rain, and a year in which rice does well will be a bad one for *juar*. The area under it has naturally increased in the recent dry years. Along the banks of the Wainganga, however, *juar* is sown as a principal crop, and does extremely well, often growing to ten feet or more in height. The cold weather variety is generally sown in combination with some other crop. A single holding not infrequently contains (1) wheat and *juar*, (2) gram and *juar*, (3) linseed and *juar*, (4) wheat and gram, (5) wheat alone to the annoyance of the *patwari*, and the confounding of an inspecting officer. The spring crop variety runs small, seldom over four feet high with a comparatively thin stalk. The grain of *juar* is very largely used for food, the more valuable rice being sold. The stalks are used as fodder, and are most valuable in the hot weather when natural fodder fails. Reaping is a laborious business, each ear being cut separately as it is ripe. For the rains crop variety the harvest begins in November or the beginning of December and continues till well into February. For the cold weather crop called *ringni juar*, it begins at the end of March and ends about the end of April. Watching the fields at the time the grain is ripening puts a severe tax on the people. *Juar* has many enemies, both birds and animals delighting in it. In consequence, the crop has to be watched day and night. A small platform is built in the middle of the field on which some one sits all day and all night, and every possible device is used to scare away marauders. In the day time slings are often used, and long strings are run from the platform and connected with clappers of various kinds situated all over the field. But the principal weapon, especially at night, is the human voice, and the night is made hideous by a series of long-drawn howls which it is difficult at first to believe come from a human throat."

Wheat.—Wheat (*gahu*) as a crop next to the jowar crop covered an area of 32,563 hectares in 1971-72. Wheat is chiefly grown in the Pauni block of Bhandara tahsil. Bhandara tahsil accounted for 14,875 hectares or nearly 45.68 per cent of the total area under wheat during 1971-72. Gondia and Sakoli tahsils accounted for 6,911 and 10,777 hectares during 1971-72. Wheat is produced as a cold weather crop and is sown in the months of

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, pp. 85-86.

October-November and harvested in March-April. Wheat crop is generally taken after the harvesting of paddy crop in the district. It is generally grown as an unirrigated crop in the district. Land is ploughed twice up the depth of 5" to 6" and harrowed, and manured, if possible, with farm-yard manure. Five cartloads of farm-yard manure is required for unirrigated crop while 10 to 15 cartloads for irrigated crop where the irrigation facilities are available. Besides, chemical fertilizers are also given to this crop. Sowing is done by a three coultered drill (*tifan*), which sows three furrows at once. Threshing is done by a pair of bullocks or by an implement locally known as *belan*. About 30 to 40 kilograms of Mexican variety of seed is required for sowing of an acre of land, while 25 to 30 kilograms of seed per acre is required in respect of other varieties. First irrigation is given after 20 to 25 days after sowing, second after 50 to 60 days and third after 60 to 75 days. Wheat generally requires three or four months to ripen and is harvested in the month of March or April. The Agriculture Department has introduced the improved variety, viz., Hy-65-4 for intensive cultivation in the district. Hy-65-4 wheat variety is a rust resistant variety which yields higher when grown under irrigation.

Other Cereals.—Maize occupied a considerable area in 1971-72 in the district. Of this, Gondia tahsil accounted for nearly 50 per cent of the total area under maize crop, while Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils together accounted for the remaining area under the crop in the same year. It is generally sown as an irrigated crop in the month of June and is harvested in September. Sometimes it is sown in the month of February and harvested in May. The green heads (*bhutas*) are usually eaten *parched* or boiled and the ripe grain is parched and made into lahi. The ripe grain is also used in preparing bread after being ground into flour.

Among other cereals *kutki* occupied larger area in 1971-72. The crop requires one ploughing and the lighter and inferior soils are used for its cultivation. The crop ripens quickly and costs very little to sow. The poorer classes of people in the district use it as their staple food. Many fields in the district, which once grew irrigated rice, are now abandoned to *kodan*.

Other cereals grown on stray patches or combined with other cereals include ragi, Italian millets, common millets, sava, barley and kodra. The total area under these crops was 6,077 hectares in 1971-72.

PULSES

There are a number of pulses grown in Bhandara district, the chief among them being *lakh*, *udid*, gram, *tur* and *mug*. The minor ones such as horse gram, *masur*, *math*, *val*, *chavali* and *watana* are also grown in the district. The pulses covered an area of 1,14,232 hectares during 1971-72. Table No. 9 gives tahsilwise area under pulses, during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72 in Bhandara district. Table No. 10 gives outturn of pulses during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72 in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 9
AREA UNDER PULSES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Gram (3)	Tur (Arhar) (4)	Black Gram or Udid (Mash) (5)	Horse Gram (6)	Lakh (7)	Other pulses (8)	Total pulses (9)
Bhandara	1961-62	7,113	7,813	23,116	1,051	47,014	3,355	91,325
	1965-66	7,995	9,579	7,485	2,940	10,736	9,599	49,257
	1969-70	14,246	13,865	6,806	..	13,314	3,434	31,664
	1971-72	3,864	3,432	7,100	..	15,003	3,291	32,690
Gondia	1961-62	7,167	4,494	5,421	2,814	52,659	3,389	76,867
	1965-66	7,472	4,688	4,049	3,105	52,341	4,163	76,879
	1969-70	2,880	2,229	2,085	..	28,827	2,847	38,868
	1971-72	2,761	2,043	2,518	..	34,759	3,106	45,187
Sakoli	1961-62	11,278	2,199	35,360	5,484	37,836	3,326	96,611
	1965-66	10,155	2,611	29,003	5,703	25,154	3,583	77,306
	1969-70	5,109	1,362	12,606	..	11,309	3,945	34,331
	1971-72	5,071	1,382	13,461	..	12,703	3,738	36,355
District Total	1961-62	25,558	14,506	63,897	9,349	137,509	10,050	264,803
	1965-66	25,622	16,878	40,537	11,748	88,231	17,345	203,442
	1969-70	12,235	7,456	21,497	..	53,450	10,226	104,864
	1971-72	11,696	6,857	23,079	..	62,465	10,135	114,232

*Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

TABLE No. 10
OUTTURN OF PULSES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

Year (1)	Gram (2)	Green Gram (Mug) (3)	Tur (4)	Black Gram (Udid) (5)	Horse Gram (6)	Masur (7)	Total Outturn (8)
1. 1961-62 ..	4,430	108	1,943	6,532	1,340	123	14,476
2. 1965-66 ..	4,945	80	2,038	2,408	1,411	87 (Other pulses)	10,969
3. 1969-70 ..	4,400	..	3,500	4,500	..	18,400	30,800
4. 1971-72 ..	5,300	..	3,100	5,800	..	20,100	34,300

Note.—Figures for the years 1961-62 and 1965-66 are given in tons and for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 in Metric tonnes.

Lakh.—*Lakhori* (Lakh) is an important pulse crop sown after paddy and occupied an area of 62,465 hectares in 1971-72. It is grown in all the tahsils of the district. Gondia tahsil accounted for the highest area, i.e., 34,759 hectares whereas, Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils together accounted for 27,706 hectares during the same year. The seeds are sown in moist heavy soils in October-November when paddy crop is standing in the field ready for harvest. *Lakhori* crop is harvested in January-February. Its leaves and stalks when green are used as fodder for cattle in the paddy tract. The pulse is eaten both whole or split, cooked in various ways.

Udid.—*Udid* (black gram) is grown all over the district. In 1971-72, it occupied an area of 23,079 hectares of which an area of 13,461 hectares was in Sakoli tahsil, 7,100 hectares in Bhandara tahsil and 2,518 in Gondia tahsil. It is sown in June-July mixed with *kharif* crop and harvested in November. The ripe pulse is split and consumed. The stalks and leaves form good fodder for the cattle.

Gram.—*Harbhara* (gram) is another important pulse crop taken in the district. It covered an area of 11,696 hectares in 1971-72. Sakoli tahsil accounted for the highest area, viz., 5,071 hectares followed by Bhandara tahsil with 3,854 hectares and Gondia tahsil with 2,761 hectares. It is always produced as a *rabi* crop. It is grown particularly as a second crop after rice. No irrigation is generally given to the crop. It is sown in October-November and harvested after three months when the leaves become reddish brown and the green colour of the pods turns into white. The plants are uprooted and spread all over the threshing floor. After five or six days when the plants are dried they are either trampled by oxen or beaten with sticks.

It is a common practice to pluck off the tops of shoots before flowering to render them strong and bushy. This also helps to increase the yield. The tender leaf of this crop is used as a vegetable. Gram is eaten green and when ripe it is made into *dal*. Gram is a staple food of horses.

Tur.—*Tur* (pigeon pea) is grown all over the district. It covered an area of 6,857 hectares in 1971-72. Its cultivation was prominent in Bhandara tahsil which claimed 3,432 hectares followed by Gondia with 2,043 hectares and Sakoli with 1,382 hectares. It is sown in June-July and harvested in January-February. Usually it is produced on the bunds of rice fields. Generally, the sowing is done by dibbling method. Flowering and fruiting continues for over two months, thus allowing several pickings of ripe pods. The plants are cut close to the ground, then tied into bundles, and are brought to the threshing floor. After about a week the plants are usually beaten with long sticks. The stems are then separated, and tied into bundles, and the broken pods are winnowed. The green pods are eaten as a vegetable while ripe *tur* is split into *dal* and consumed in a variety of ways. The outer husk of the grain is used as fodder.

Horse gram.—Among other pulses grown in the district, horse gram (*kulith*) was predominant. Grown all over the district, with Sakoli tahsil accounting for the highest area followed by Gondia and Bhandara, it is sown in June-July and harvested in December. It is either taken as a single crop or mixed with other *kharif* crops grown in the district. The plants are uprooted and are brought to the threshing floor where they are trampled under the feet of oxen or beaten by sticks. The grains are usually brown and light red. The pulse is consumed by the poorer class of the people in the form of soup. It is also given to cattle after keeping it in water for one night.

Mug.—Mug (green gram) is another minor pulse crop grown in the district. It is mainly grown in Sakoli tahsil which claimed 684 acres of land under this crop during 1965-66. It is sown in June-July with *kharif* crop as a mixed crop and harvested in September. The crop matures within three to four months from sowing. The ripe pulse is split and consumed as *dal*. The leaves and the stalks are used as fodder.

Other pulses.—Other minor pulses grown in the district include *chavali*, *masur*, *math*, *val* and *watana*. The total area under other pulses was 10,135 hectares in 1971-72.

SUGARCANE

Sugarcane (Oos) is a minor garden crop grown in the district and covered only 615 hectares in 1971-72. Of this Sakoli tahsil occupied the highest area of 444 hectares. It is invariably grown as an irrigated crop. Heavy doses of green manures as well as chemical fertilizers are essential.

* Sugarcane is a dwindling crop. At the 30 years' settlement there were 11,000 acres under it, but it has shrunk gradually year by year, till now there are little over 2,000 acres. The reason for this decrease is that which has affected sugarcane throughout the Province. The imported sugar is cheaper than that grown locally. Some attempts have been made, without much success, to introduce improved methods of manufacture. But probably the only thing which would save it would be the establishment of a mill in the immediate neighbourhood of land suitable for sugarcane, where there is permanent irrigation. The best class of sugarcane is practically not grown now. The inferior sort called *kathai* is grown even at Nawegaon. Compared with the better sorts it gives about half the outturn of unrefined sugar per acre, but the growing cane is hardly sweet to the taste, and therefore does not attract wild animals, and three or even four crops may be taken from the same roots. It is therefore much cheaper to grow.

Methods of cultivation.—The ploughing of sugarcane land usually begins as soon as the bullocks are free from work in the rice-fields and land is often ploughed six or seven times and the

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, pp. 86-87.

clods are finally reduced to powder by a heavy beam called *mahu* being dragged over them by three or four yoke of bullocks. The surface is then prepared in squares for irrigation with slight ridges to hold up the water. When the previous year's crop is cut in December or January, the tops of the canes, about 1 foot to 1 foot 3 inches in length, are cut-off and preserved for setting for the new crop. It seems that the crop of the good varieties must be set within a week, but that of *kathai* does not suffer from being kept fifteen days or even a month. The ground must be well watered for an hour or two before setting the cuttings, which are thinly covered with mud. More irrigation is necessary until the cane begins to sprout and again from time to time according to the soil and necessities of the crop. In about a month, when the shoots are about 9 inches high, the field should be manured, the manure being mixed in and the soil round the roots loosened with a *kudali* or spud. This manuring is repeated a month later with the best varieties, but in the case of *kathai* the soil is only loosened and no manure added. The crop must be cleared of grass and weeds a month later or so, and then nothing more is required, except irrigation, until it is ready to cut in the following December or January. The *kathai* cane is very often allowed to stand for a second or third or even a fourth year. The names given to these crops are fantastic, the first is *raoti*, the second *khuti*, the third *buti*, and the fourth *chuti*. The deciding factor is the amount of water in the tank; if the owners of the tank reckon that there will be an excess of water over and above that required to irrigate all the new land taken up, they agree to give water to second crops. The better varieties of sugarcane are seldom allowed to stand more than a year.

The following table gives the tahsilwise area under sugarcane and outturn of sugarcane in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72:—

TABLE No. 11

AREA AND OUT-TURN OF SUGARCANE IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil	Year	Area under Sugarcane (in acres)	Out-turn of Sugarcane (in quintals)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhandara	1961-62	243	253
	1965-66	157	152
Gondia	1961-62	152	170
	1965-66	143	147
Sakoli	1961-62	1,314	1,631
	1965-66	920	1,076
District Total	1961-62	1,709	2,054
	1965-66	1,220	1,375
	1969-70	678	5,000
	1971-72	615	3,500

Note.—Figures for the years 1961-62 and 1965-66 are given for area in acres and for outturn in quintals and for 1969-70 and 1971-72 for area in hectares and for outturn in Metric tonnes.

OIL-SEEDS

A variety of oil-seeds are grown in the district. The area under oil-seeds was 38,869 hectares in 1971-72. Groundnut and linseed are grown in larger areas in the district. Out of the net area sown, i.e., 390,420 hectares in 1971-72, oil-seeds accounted for only 9.96 per cent. This reveals that oil-seeds were cultivated on a relatively small scale in the district. Table No. 12 on pages 253 and 254 shows the tahsil-wise area under oil-seeds in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

Table No. 13 on page 255 gives the outturn of oil-seeds in Bhandara district during the same years.

TABLE No. 12
AREA UNDER OIL-SEEDS (TAHSILWISE-) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Groundnut (3)	Sesamum (4)	Mustard (5)	Safflower (6)	Others (7)	OIL-SEEDS (In acres)*	
							Total edible oil-seeds (8)	
Bhandara ..	1961-62 ..	879	629	3	2	..	1,513	
	1965-66 ..	1,394	496	..	..	..	1,890	
	1969-70 ..	706	..	..	..	..	..	
	1971-72 ..	875	..	..	..	..	..	
Gondia ..	1961-62 ..	4	180	15	12	6	211	
	1965-66 ..	1	321	16	..	..	344	
	1969-70 ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	
	1971-72 ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	
Sakoli ..	1961-62 ..	195	257	16	115	35	583	
	1965-66 ..	146	351	17	2	..	551	
	1969-70 ..	311	..	..	..	..	..	
	1971-72 ..	390	..	..	..	..	..	
District Total ..	1961-62 ..	1,078	1,066	34	129	41	2,307	
	1965-66 ..	1,541	1,168	33	2	..	2,785	
	1969-70 ..	1,019	..	..	..	..	..	
	1971-72 ..	1,267	..	..	..	..	..	

* Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

TABLE No. 12—contd.
 AREA UNDER OIL-SEEDS (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.
 (In acres)*

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Linseed (9)	Castor seed (10)	Niger seed (11)	Others (12)	Total non-edible oil-seeds (13)	Total oil-seeds (14)
Bhandara ..	1961-62 ..	19,114	88	..	..	19,202	20,715
	1965-66 ..	19,759	152	..	398	19,912	21,802
	1969-70 ..	7,900	..	..	521	..	9,004
	1971-72 ..	6,812	..	..	..	..	8,208
Gondia ..	1961-62 ..	115,920	59	33	..	116,012	116,223
	1965-66 ..	44,196	74	..	..	44,270	44,614
	1969-70 ..	24,305	..	..	267	..	24,574
	1971-72 ..	21,954	..	..	270	..	22,226
Sakoli ..	1961-62 ..	24,204	65	5	..	24,274	24,857
	1965-66 ..	18,008	64	5	35	18,102	18,663
	1969-70 ..	7,084	..	..	340	..	7,735
	1971-72 ..	7,681	..	..	364	..	8,435
District Total	1961-62 ..	159,238	212	38	..	159,488	161,795
	1965-66 ..	81,963	290	5	36	82,284	85,079
	1969-70 ..	39,289	..	..	1,005	..	41,313
	1971-72 ..	36,447	..	..	1,155	..	38,869

*Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

TABLE No. 13
 OUTTURN OF MAJOR OIL-SEEDS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, IN THE YEAR 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Year (1)	Groundnut (2)	Sesamum (3)	Mustard (4)	Linseed (5)	Castor seeds (6)	Total out-turn (7)
1. 1961-62 ..	..	107	7	11,647	27	12,230
2. 1965-66 ..	..	120	1	5,647	52	6,292
3. 1969-70 ..	..	300	..	6,600	..	..
4. 1971-72 ..	..	200	..	5,800	..	..

Note.—Figures for the years 1961-62 and 1965-66 are given in tons and for 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in metric tons.

Groundnut.—Groundnut (*bhuinug*) is the most important oil-seed crop grown in the district. It covered an area of 1,267 hectares or 3.26 per cent of the area under oil-seeds in 1971-72. It was chiefly grown in Bhandara tahsil which accounted for 875 hectares in 1971-72. The area under groundnut crop in Sakoli and Gondia tahsils was 390 and 2 hectares, respectively. It is produced as a *kharif* crop sown in June-July. Groundnut seed is either dibbled or drilled with *argada* (coultured drill) to which are attached *sartas* (seed distributing pipes made of bamboo). The crop is ready for harvest in October-November. Farm yard manure is given when available. Local non-descript varieties are grown in the district. Groundnut kernels are used in a variety of ways. Its oil is used for cooking. The cake is used as manure. It is also a good nutritious food for cattle.

Sesamum.—Sesamum (*til*) covered an area of 1,168 acres in 1965-66. Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli tahsils accounted for 496 acres, 321 acres and 351 acres, respectively. It is grown as a *kharif* as well as a *rabi* crop. When produced in *kharif* it is sown in June-July and harvested in October, whereas as a *rabi* crop it is sown in October-November and harvested in January-February. Local non-descript varieties are grown in the district. Its oil is used for cooking and the cake is used as cattle feed.

Other edible Oil-seeds.—Safflower and mustard are the other edible oil-seeds grown on small scale in the district. They together occupied an area of 35 acres in 1965-66.

Non-edible Oil-seeds.—*Linseed.*—Linseed is the major non-edible oil-seed crop grown in the district which occupied an area of 36,447 hectares in 1971-72, i.e., 93.77 per cent of the area under oil-seeds. Gondia tahsil accounted for the highest area, i.e., 21,954 hectares in 1971-72 while Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils together accounted for 14,493 hectares under this crop. It is sown in October-November after the harvesting of rice. It is harvested in January-February. The Agriculture Department has introduced the improved variety of linseed, viz., 35×429 in the district. Many a cultivator use linseed oil for cooking. Linseed cake is a good manure as also an excellent food for milch cattle.

Other Non-edible Oil-seeds.—Castor-seed and niger-seed were the other two non-edible oil-seeds which were taken on a small scale. Castor-seed covered an area of 290 acres in 1965-66 of which 152 acres were in Bhandara tahsil. Niger seed was taken on an area of only 5 acres in 1965-66.

CONDIMENTS AND SPICES

Chillis, coriander, turmeric, garlic, ginger and fenugreek comprise the group condiments and spices, which together occupied an area of 11,877 acres in 1965-66. Chillis, however, accounted for about 89 per cent of the area under condiments and spices.

Table No. 14 gives tahsilwise area under condiments and spices in Bhandara district, for 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72:—

TABLE No. 14

AREA UNDER CONDIMENTS AND SPICES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil	Year	Chillis	Ginger	Turmeric	Coriander	Garlic	Fenugreek (Methi)	Total Condiments and spices
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Bhandara	1961-62 1965-66 1969-70 1971-72	5,149 6,028 N.A. N.A.	42 40	36 50	361 449 N.A. N.A.	15 11	19 12	5,622 6,590 2,883 2,844
Gondia	1961-62 1965-66 1969-70 1971-72	572 706 N.A. N.A.	7 19 .. ..	.. ..	261 299 N.A. N.A.	46 75	1 2	887 1,101 535 599
Sakoli	1961-62 1965-66 1969-70 1971-72	3,079 3,836 N.A. N.A.	10 1	1	366 323 N.A. N.A.	16 18	9 8	3,481 4,186 1,720 1,718
District Total	1961-62 1965-66 1969-70 1971-72	8,800 10,570 N.A. N.A.	59 60	37 50	988 1,071 N.A. N.A.	77 104	29 22	9,990 11,877 5,138 5,161

*Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

Chillis.—Chillis (*mirchi*) occupied an area of 10,570 acres in 1965-66. Chillis are grown all over the district, the highest acreage, i.e., 6,028, was however found in Bhandara tahsil. Gondia and Sakoli tahsils together accounted for 4,542 acres. It is grown as an irrigated as well as rainfed crop. Seedlings are raised in seed-beds by the end of May and transplanted after a month. Interculturing is done regularly. The plants begin to bear fruit after about two months. Green chillis are ready for plucking from September onwards. Red chillis are plucked and dried in sun in the months of December and January. Chillis constitute an essential ingredient in the diet of the people and are used extensively in *chutneys* and pickles.

Coriander.—Coriander is grown in the district as a garden crop throughout the year. It occupied an area of 1,071 acres in 1965-66. It is cultivated both for its small seeds and green leaves. The green leaves are ready for use in about three weeks and the seed in about two months. The leaves and tender stems are used as a vegetable as well as for flavouring many dishes. The coriander seed is a condiment and also contains some medicinal properties.

Garlic.—Garlic (*lasun*) is grown in small patches throughout the district. It occupied an area of 104 acres in 1965-66 of which Gondia tahsil accounted for 75 acres. It is planted in November and harvested in February-March. It is extensively used as a condiment or as spice in *chutneys*. It is also used in curries and for seasoning vegetables. Besides, it is valued for its medicinal properties.

Turmeric.—Turmeric (*halad*) is grown mainly in Bhandara tahsil. It occupied an area of 50 acres in 1965-66. It is an irrigated crop. The rhizomes are planted in early June before the monsoon sets in, on both sides of the furrows. It is harvested in January-February. Turmeric rhizomes are universally used as a condiment.

Other Condiments and Spices.—Other condiments and spices grown in this district are ginger and fenugreek. Ginger occupied an area of 60 acres in 1965-66, of which Bhandara tahsil accounted for 40 acres. Fenugreek occupied small area during the same year. All these condiments and spices find a ready market in the district itself. There is no exportable surplus of these crops.

The total area under condiments and spices which was 4,806.456 hectares in 1965-66 rose to 5,161 hectares in 1971-72. Of the area under condiments and spices Bhandara accounted for 2,844 hectares, Sakoli for 1,713 hectares and Gondia for 599 hectares.

FIBRES

Fibres occupied an area of 2,935 acres in 1965-66, of which 1,592 acres were in Bhandara tahsil. Sann-hemp and Deccan-hemp (*ambadi*) were the two main crops comprising the class of fibres.

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A little over 68.48 per cent of the area under fibres was occupied by sann-hemp in 1965-66. Table No. 15 gives tahsilwise area under fibres in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72. Table No. 16 gives tahsilwise outturn of fibres in Bhandara district from 1961-62 to 1965-66:—

TABLE No. 15

AREA UNDER FIBRES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT
DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

(In acres)

Tahsil	Year	Cotton	Sann-Hemp	Ambadi (Deccan-hemp)	Total Fibres
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Bhandara	1961-62	17	614	13	644
	1965-66	..	1,519	73	1,592
	1969-70	..	390*	..	390
	1971-72	1	308	..	309
Gondia	1961-62	..	193	646	839
	1965-66	..	284	736	1,020
	1969-70	8	343*	..	351
	1971-72	..	372	..	372
Sakoli	1961-62	..	188	75	263
	1965-66	..	207	116	323
	1969-70	1	158*	..	159
	1971-72	17	135	..	135
District—Total	1961-62	..	995	734	1,746
	1965-66	..	2,010	925	2,939
	1969-70	9	891*	..	900
	1971-72	1	815	..	816

*Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

*Other fibres.

TABLE No. 16

OUT-TURN OF FIBRES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT
FROM 1961-62 TO 1965-66.

(In tons)					
Tahsil	Year	Cotton	Sann- Hemp	Ambadi (Deccan- Hemp)	Total outturn
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Bhandara	1961-62	..	11	1	12
	1965-66	..	170	9	179
Gondia	1961-62	..	32	72	104
	1965-66	..	38	96	134
Sakoli	1961-62	..	30	8	38
	1965-66	..	37	15	52
District Total	1961-62	..	73	84	154
	1965-66	..	245	120	365

Sann-hemp.— Sann-hemp or Bombay-hemp (*tag*) occupied an area of 2,010 acres in 1965-66. Its leaves provide excellent green manure and are used as fodder. When the crop is to be grown for green manuring, it is sown thick in the second fortnight of June. It has quick growth. After about two or three months the crop is levelled by a heavy log roller and covered with soil by ploughing the field. When the crop is sown for production of fibre it is harvested after about four to five months. The stalks are cut close to the ground, kept in the sun and when the leaves are stripped off they are tied in bundles and placed in water for rotting. After about ten days the stalks are taken out. The fibre is peeled off and is beaten on stone. The bark is then washed in water.

Deccan-hemp.— Deccan-hemp (*ambadi*) is a very minor fibre crop grown in the district. It occupied an area of 925 acres in 1965-66, of which Gondia tahsil accounted for 736 acres. It is used both as an oil-seed and as a fibre crop. It is grown more or less as a mixed crop with cereals and pulses. The tender leaves are used as a vegetable. Its bark yields valuable fibre.

The total area under fibres which stood at 1,187.753 hectares in 1965-66 declined to 816 hectares in 1971-72. Of the total area under fibres, Gondia accounted for 372 hectares, Bhandara for 309 hectares and Sakoli for 135 hectares.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The total area under fruits and vegetables was 4,808 hectares in 1971-72. Of the total area under fruits and vegetables in the dis-

trict, Bhandara tahsil accounted for 2,692 hectares, representing 55.99 per cent of the total district area, Gondia accounted for 1,066 hectares, representing 22.17 per cent and Sakoli tahsil accounted for 1,050 hectares representing 21.84 per cent.

Among fruits and vegetables grown in Bhandara district, fruits occupied an area of 2,302 acres in 1965-66. Of these, Bhandara tahsil accounted for 1,213 acres. The most common fruits grown in the district are guava, orange, mango and banana. The other fruits like sweet lime, sour lime, custard apple, and *papaya* are grown on irrigated lands.

Table No. 17 on page No. 262 gives the tahsilwise area under fruits in Bhandara district from 1961-62 to 1965-66:—

Guava.— Guava (*peru*) occupied an area of about 770 acres in 1965-66. Of this, the largest area was claimed by Bhandara tahsil *viz.*, 475 acres, followed by Gondia tahsil with 179 acres and Sakoli tahsil with 116 acres. The guava seeds can be sown by propagation. However, for quality fruit, grafts of selected trees are planted. Before planting the soil is well prepared and pits are filled with farm-yard manure. Frequent irrigation is essential in dry season. Inter-crops such as vegetables are usually allowed for a couple of years between the rows of guava trees. Guava trees begin to bear fruits when about four years old. There are two flowering seasons. The fruits of the first season ripen in August-September and that of the second in November-December. Fruits are plucked when they turn yellowish. There is a special variety beside the local one which is very commonly grown throughout the district.

Mangoes.—Mango (*amba*), cultivated throughout the district as a fruit crop on waste land occupied an area of 735 acres in 1965-66. Of this, the largest area was claimed by Sakoli tahsil with 330 acres, followed by Gondia with 223 acres and Bhandara with 182 acres. Mango plants generally bear fruits after ten years. It is propagated from mango stone. After five years it is propagated by grafting. Watering the plants is essential for the first three years for their good growth. Regular manuring is equally necessary. Flowering commences by the beginning of December and ends by January. The fruits are ready for harvest from March onwards. Most of the mango trees are of non-descript varieties and cannot be compared with alphonso mangoes. Ripe Mangoes are relished by all, while raw mangoes (*kairi*) are used for preparing pickles, *chutneys*, etc.

Orange.—Orange (*santra*) is the next important fruit crop grown in the district. It occupied an area of 470 acres in 1965-66, of which 422 acres were in Bhandara tahsil alone. Orange trees are usually planted in medium black or light loamy soil. Seedlings of Jamburi are raised for about a year in the nursery beds. The budded plants are transplanted in orchards during monsoon. The distance maintained between the two plants depends upon the variety grown. The orchard is watered at an interval of 10 to 15 days depending upon the season. Orange plants get three

TABLE No. 17.
AREA UNDER FRUITS (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT FROM 1961-62 TO 1965-66.

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Grape (3)	Banana (4)	Mangoes (5)	Sweet- lime (6)	Orange (7)	Sour- lime (8)	Other citrus fruits (9)	Guava (10)	Custard apple (11)	Jack fruit (12)	Papaya (13)	Other fresh fruits (14)	Total fresh fruits (15)
Bhandara	1961-62	..	40	202	17	672	1	9	465	55	2	..	3	1,466
	1962-63	..	47	208	11	582	1	9	475	66	2	..	1	1,402
	1963-64	..	35	204	8	461	3	..	450	69	2	..	9	1,281
	1964-65	1	42	212	6	421	3	..	524	28	2	..	4	1,243
	1965-66	2	48	182	7	422	3	..	475	71	3	..	..	1,213
Gondia	1961-62	..	8	211	5	177	1	3	129	2	..	1	7	544
	1962-63	..	11	288	7	112	2	..	139	1	1	..	..	501
	1963-64	2	11	242	..	75	1	1	120	1	..	..	12	465
	1964-65	4	9	239	..	59	6	..	153	3	..	..	..	473
	1965-66	4	9	223	..	45	4	..	179	3	..	..	..	467
Sakoli	1961-62	..	13	330	8	124	2	4	97	35	..	1	6	620
	1962-63	..	12	328	5	118	2	..	93	48	..	..	30	636
	1963-64	..	18	333	5	112	2	..	102	37	..	4	27	640
	1964-65	..	15	333	92	..	3	..	96	37	..	4	27	607
	1965-66	..	11	330	88	3	5	..	116	42	..	..	27	622
District Total	1961-62	..	61	743	30	973	4	16	691	92	2	2	16	2,630
	1962-63	..	70	764	23	812	5	9	707	115	3	3	31	2,539
	1963-64	2	64	779	13	648	6	1	712	107	2	4	48	2,386
	1964-65	5	66	784	98	480	12	..	773	68	2	4	31	2,323
	1965-66	6	68	735	95	470	12	..	770	116	3	..	27	2,302

blossoms (*bahars*) *ambia*, *mrug*, and *hatti* or *hasta*. Since the plants do not bear during *hasta bahar* it is not of commercial importance. The plantations are, therefore, treated either for *ambia* or *mrug bahar*, through treatment of special fertilizers. The fruits of *ambia* crop are available between September and January while that of *mrug* crop between February and May. The yield of *mrug bahar* is commercially important.

One good tree yields from 500 to 1,000 fruits, at which rate the trees in an area of one acre yield about 67,000 fruits.

Banana.—Banana (*kele*) is grown on a small scale and occupied an area of 68 acres in 1965-66, of which Bhandara tahsil accounted for 48 acres. Banana is grown on medium black soil or on good garden land which is at least 0.610 metres (two feet) deep. It is propagated by suckers planted in June-July. After the rainy season, plants are irrigated at an interval of 10 to 12 days having regard to the moisture retentivity of the soil. In the hot season, however, they are required to be irrigated at an interval of one week. The plants are manured at the rate of one or two baskets of farm-yard manure per plant. The *Basarai* variety, also known as *Bhusawal green* is mainly planted in the district. Top-dressing of oil-cake and ammonium sulphate in the fourth and the seventh months from planting are necessary. The plant matures after about 12 months. Banana is harvested when the fruits get rounded.

Other Fruits.—Besides fruits described above, other fruits like grape, sweet-lime, sour-lime, *papaya*, custard apple, *etc.*, are also grown in the district on a very small scale. They together occupied an area of 259 acres in 1965-66.

Vegetables.—Vegetables, that are commonly grown in the district, include potato, sweet potato, onion, radish, cabbage, brinjal, tomato, *bhendi*, fenugreek and muskmelon. The total area under these in the district, was 6,101 acres in 1965-66. Table No. 18 gives the tahsilwise distribution of area under vegetables in the district for 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

TABLE No. 18
AREA UNDER VEGETABLES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.
(In acres)

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Potatoes (3)	Sweet Potatoes (4)	Onions (5)	Suran (Elephant foot) (6)	Radish (7)	Cabbage (8)	Brinjal (9)	Tomato (10)	Fenu- greek (11)	Bhendi (Lady's finger) (12)	Musk- melon (Khar- buj) (13)	Other vegetab- les (14)	Total vegetab- les (15)
Bhandara	1961-62	312	134	549	..	15	9	307	44	..	103	28	113	2,614
	1965-66	309	126	618	..	7	86	959	77	..	171	195	756	3,360
	1969-70	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	N.A.	..	2,587
	1971-72	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,692
Gondia	1961-62	20	7	253	..	5	13	298	71	..	91	128	543	1,301
	1965-66	36	7	345	..	15	29	343	101	..	110	..	299	1,413
	1969-70	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	..	N.A.	N.A.	..	..	..	..	N.A.	892
	1971-72	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,066
Sakoli	1961-62	4	76	238	..	3	46	166	22	..	94	623	495	1,144
	1965-66	6	82	145	..	3	75	196	24	..	97	..	677	1,328
	1969-70	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	..	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	N.A.	1,065
	1971-72	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	N.A.	1,050
District Total	1961-62	336	217	1,040	..	23	68	771	137	..	288	28	2,151	5,059
	1965-66	351	215	1,108	..	25	190	1,498	202	..	378	346	1,732	6,101
	1969-70	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	4,545
	1971-72	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	..	N.A.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,808

Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares. The figures in column No. 15 indicate total area under fruits and vegetables.

The vegetable production in Bhandara district is very limited to meet only the local demand. There is no exportable surplus of vegetables. Marked seasonal variations in the supply of vegetables could also be seen.

Onion: Onion (*Kanda*) is grown in good black soils of the district. It occupied an area of 1,099 acres in 1965-66, and thus ranked second after brinjal in order of importance. The largest acreage, viz., 618 was claimed by Bhandara tahsil. There are two varieties, viz., red and white, grown in the district. Onion seed is sown on raised seed-beds for raising seedlings which get ready for transplantation in about a month. They are transplanted on the slopes of furrows. At the time of transplanting there is standing water in the plot. After transplantation is over in November-December, the field is watered every week. In three to four months the crop is ready for harvest. Onion is consumed by all classes, both raw and mixed with various dishes. Its tender leaves are eaten as a pot herb.

Brinjal: Brinjal (*Vange*) is the most important vegetable crop grown on a large scale as compared to other vegetables. In 1965-66, it occupied an area of 1,498 acres, little over 24.66 per cent of the total area under vegetables in the district. It is grown in *rabi* season, in rich soil, often on the river banks. It is grown throughout the year in garden lands. It is an irrigated crop which requires considerable manuring. Seedlings are prepared in seed-beds and are transplanted after about six weeks. The crop gets ready after two months and harvesting continues for two months thereafter. It is a very common vegetable widely consumed in the district throughout the year.

Potato: Potato (*Batata*) is taken as an irrigated crop on a very small scale in the district. In 1965-66, it occupied 351 acres of which Bhandara tahsil accounted for the highest acreage, viz., 309. It requires heavy manuring. Potato sets are planted in October-November. The crop is ready for harvest between January and February. It is watered from time to time. Two varieties, red and white are grown in the district.

Sweet Potato: Sweet potato (*Ratale*) is the most important root vegetable grown in the district and occupied 215 acres of land in 1965-66. There are two varieties, viz., red and white grown in the district. Cuttings from vines of the previous year are used for propagation. The crop needs heavy manuring and constant irrigation. The crop is ready for harvest in six months after planting. The root is eaten green, boiled or roasted on fasting days. The leaves are used as green fodder for cattle.

Radish: Radish (*Mula*) is grown on a negligible scale and occupied an area of 25 acres in 1965-66. It is grown throughout the year as a mixed crop, particularly in garden lands. It is harvested in about two months. If harvesting is delayed the plant begins to bear pods. The roots, leaves and pods are used as vegetables.

Tomato: It occupied an area of 202 acres in 1965-66, in the district. It is grown as a field crop and requires heavy manuring, irrigation and constant care. Seedlings are prepared on raised seed-beds. When about four weeks old, they are transplanted in October-November in lands laid out in ridges and furrows. It is also grown in hot season if adequate irrigation facilities are available. It is one of the most favourite vegetables. The raw fruit is used as a vegetable while the ripe one is eaten like a fruit.

Cabbage: Cabbage (*Kobi*) is a much valued cold season vegetable grown in the district and occupied 190 acres in 1965-66. It is cultivated in loamy or clay loam soil. Intensive manuring and irrigation are of extreme importance for cabbage cultivation. Top-dressing of oil-cake and ammonium sulphate is usually given after one month of plantation. The seeds of cabbage are sown in nursery beds in August and the seedlings are transplanted in September. The crop gets ready for harvesting in about three to four months. The cabbage heads are used as vegetable whereas leaves are fed to cattle.

Bhendi: Bhendi (Lady's finger) is grown in this district as a cash crop in garden lands. It occupied an area of 378 acres in 1965-66. The variety grown is a local one having four edges and a length varying between 15 cm. and 25 cm. Another small-sized variety of *bhendi* is also grown in the district. The green pods are used as a vegetable either boiled or fried. The ripe seeds of *bhendi* are used in curry and in *chutney*.

Fenugreek: Fenugreek (*Methi*) is grown throughout the district in gardens all round the year. It occupied 56 acres in 1965-66 in the district. It is always taken as an irrigated and manured crop. It gets ready for use as a vegetable in three weeks. If allowed to grow beyond this period, the crop bears pods which mature in two and a half months. Seeds in the pods are an essential ingredient in spices used in cookery. It also contains medicinal properties.

Kharbuj: Kharbuj (Muskmelon) is grown in the district, in cold and hot months, in moist and sandy places in the river beds, sometimes with the water melons. It occupied an area of 346 acres in 1965-66. Of this area, Bhandara claimed 195 acres while Gondia and Sakoli tahsils together accounted for 151 acres. The plant is manured when six weeks old and the fruit ripens in the third or the fourth month. The fruit is round, green or yellowish and the skin covered with a network of raised brown lines. It is generally eaten uncooked sometimes mixed with sugar and salt.

LIVE-STOCK

Cattle play an important role in the district economy and forms an integral part of the rural landscape of the district. To the farmer, cattle are a valuable form of wealth. The live-stock plays a vital role in the agricultural economy of the district, because it

not only supplies milk, meat, manure, bones, hides and skins, hoofs and horns but also serves as draught cattle for drawing carts, ploughs and is also used for drawing water. The live-stock in the district could be divided into three classes such as (1) Bovine comprising cattle and buffaloes, (2) Ovine comprising sheep and goats, and (3) Others like horses and ponies, pigs and poultry.

A farmer usually keeps a pair of bullocks, a few cows and little poultry. Better class of farmers are found to keep buffaloes. Live-stock has been a part and parcel of rural life. Cows are maintained for production of good draught bullocks, cows and buffaloes for milk, whereas bullocks and he-buffaloes are kept as draught as well as breeding animals. Horses and ponies serve as pack animals. Sheep are reared for meat, manure and wool, while goats are used for milk and mutton. The live-stock population of Bhandara district as per the 1972 Census is as follows:—

Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,47,181
Buffaloes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,09,051
Sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,386
Goats	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,79,486
Poultry	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,00,021

The detailed tahsilwise classification of live-stock population as per the 1972 Census is shown in table No. 19:

TABLE No. 19
LIVE-STOCK POPULATION IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1966 AND 1972.

Name of the Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Cattle			Total cattle (6)	Buffaloes			Total Buffaloes (10)
		Males over 3 years (3)	Females over 3 years (4)	Young stock (5)		Males over 3 years (7)	Females over 3 years (8)	Young stock (9)	
Gondia	1966	1,04,168	53,933	47,286	2,05,387	20,786	14,023	9,646	44,455
	1972	11,272	59,492	51,698	2,22,462	22,438	14,880	10,312	47,630
Bhandara	1966	70,241	53,506	46,550	1,70,297	1,991	13,838	8,918	24,747
	1972	81,556	56,671	53,529	1,91,756	2,262	16,528	9,696	28,486
Sakoli	1966	1,00,727	64,036	52,242	2,17,005	17,057	8,491	6,823	32,371
	1972	1,04,201	67,073	61,688	2,32,963	16,274	9,586	7,075	32,955
District Total	1966	2,75,136	1,71,475	1,46,078	5,92,689	39,834	36,352	25,387	1,01,573
	1972	2,97,029	1,83,236	1,66,916	6,47,181	40,974	40,994	27,083	1,09,051

Name of the Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Total Bovine (11)	Sheep (12)	Goats (13)	Horses and Ponies (14)	Mules (15)	Donkeys (16)	Pigs (17)	Poultry (18)	Total livestock (19)
Gondia	1966	2,49,842	385	74,917	211	..	9	2,317	84,858	3,28,991
	1972	2,70,092	531	58,276	135	..	6	1,782	1,10,676	3,28,991
Bhandara	1966	1,95,044	3,569	59,665	163	..	..	..	85,295	2,79,063
	1972	2,20,242	1,081	57,540	163	..	..	..	1,74,775	2,79,063
Sakoli	1966	2,49,376	1,798	55,398	..	..	..	3,740	1,37,112	3,30,662
	1972	2,65,898	974	63,670	..	..	..	..	2,14,570	3,30,662
District Total	1966	N.A.	5,752	1,89,980	509	..	15	7,939	3,07,265	9,38,716
	1971-72	7,56,232	2,386	1,79,486	N.A.	..	N.A.	N.A.	5,00,021	9,38,716

Bovines.—The old Gazetteer of Bhandara district has the following to say about the cattle in the district:—

"Cattle are largely bred in the district and the local cattle are generally used for cultivation. The quality is however only fair except in the tract of country north of Tumsar, where there are one or two good breeds of cattle, one of which is locally esteemed nearly as highly as *gaolao* breed of Wardha. The fast trotting cattle used in *tongas* and *chhak-ras* are for the most part imported, but it is possible to find a pair of bullocks able to trot fairly well with *tonga* in almost every village. The working life of a bullock may be put to 8 to 10 years in the wheat country and 5 to 6 in rice. The bullocks in rice country are worse fed, and suffer from being continually worked in water. A good pair of local bullocks will cost about Rs. 60. Imported ones are about double that, and they sometimes run as high as Rs. 200."

"Buffaloes are usually imported from Saugor, Damoh and Mandla, though there is a little local breeding. The females are kept for their milk and the *ghi* that is made from it, while the males are used for any form of extra heavy work such as wet ploughing in heavy soils or carting large timber."*

Bullocks and he-buffaloes are mainly used for heavier agricultural operations on the farm while cows and she-buffaloes are kept mainly for milk production. Poorer farmers do not own draught animals and hence have to hire them out from big landlords. Most of the animals are of non-descript variety. Cows in villages do not yield much milk. However, the calf is allowed to suckle *ad lib* with a view to developing a healthy progeny. But mostly the cattle, except work bullocks and milch buffaloes are generally neglected with the result that the condition of cattle in general in the district is very poor.

Ovines.—Ovine animals, *viz.*, goats and sheep are bred in the district, especially the former in large numbers. Goats are offered in the sacrifice at the beginning of cultivation and also at the festival of *Shivratri*. The flesh is generally eaten by the castes that eat meat. The flesh of sheep is also eaten, but its flesh is not so highly esteemed as that of goats. They are chiefly kept for their wool, which is made locally into blankets. It has been the usual practice of farmers to keep a few goats along with cattle on the farm for their droppings which serve as a good manure for any crop. The manure of both sheep and goats is highly valued by cultivators.

Horses, Ponies and Pigs.—Horses are not bred in the district. Horses and ponies numbered 509 in the year 1966, while pigs numbered 7,839 in the same year. Horses and ponies are not used for agricultural operations although they are found to be very useful in drawing transport vehicles and as pack animals.

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, pp. 99—100.

Poultry.—Poultry comprises fowls and ducks which are valued for their flesh and eggs. Most of the birds are non-descript and belong to *deshi* variety. The keeping of poultry is an important cottage industry in rural areas. However, till recently farmers in Bhandara district did not look upon poultry farming as a subsidiary source of livelihood with the result that poultry farming is not practised on scientific lines and not much headway had been made in this direction. There are a few farmers who take to development of poultry and maintain birds of improved varieties such as white leghorn. People are now practising mixed farming methods and it is expected that cultivators in this district would make progress in the field of poultry improvement by availing themselves of numerous facilities extended by the Government.

Sources of supply.—The most common source of supply of cattle is the weekly markets which are held throughout the district. There are three big cattle markets at Amgaon, Kati and Lakhandur which are being held every week, where animals of *Gaolao* breed and buffaloes from Nagpur and Wardha districts are brought for sale. The average price of a bullock is between Rs. 100 and Rs. 600, and that of a buffalo between Rs. 100 and Rs. 300.

Sources of Fodder supply.—The district is itself sufficient in respect of fodder for cattle. There are a number of forest grass lands in the district from which green grass and hay is supplied. Cattle are grazed through the rains and cold weather and are also given rice straw (*tanis*) and *juar* stalks (*karbi*). In the hot weather the grazing fails, and towards the end of hot weather as a rule only *juar* stalks (chiefly of *ringni juar*) remain. If the rains are much delayed the supply of this fodder becomes very scanty. Plough bullocks are given grain and also oil-cake and *mahua* for a month or two before the working season and while they are in hard work. Fast trotting bullocks (generally the property of well-to-do people) get grain all the year round. The grain is usually gram, but wheat, bran and *lakhori*, are also given. Salt is given to all bullocks at Pola and Diwali, but at other times only valuable trotting bullocks get salt*. Cultivators produce fodder in their farms, mostly *kadbi* which they get from jowar. They also get *kutar* (chaff) from cereals and pulses. Progressive cultivators serve green jowar fodder to the milch and work cattle as it is very nutritious.

Live-stock Products.—Live-stock products in the district comprise milk, eggs, skins and hides, wool, manures, etc. The milk yield per cow is small but the number of milching cows being large the daily average milk yield in the district is quite large and more than what could be normally consumed. A large quantity of the daily produce of milk is converted into *ghee*. The good yield of milk has encouraged the preparation of palatable sweets. There is also good scope for the development of poultry

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers Bhandara District, pp. 99—100.

in this district. The vast *Adiwasi* population keeps poultry as a rule. Trade in skins and hides and wool product is not well organised in the district and admits expansion.

Animal Husbandry-Veterinary and Breeding Facilities.—The primary role of the Animal Husbandry Department in the district is of two fold : (i) Improvement of existing live-stock, cattle, sheep, poultry, pigs and multiplication of superior live-stock with scientific breeding and (ii) treatment of sick animals and prevention of contagious diseases through the medium of veterinary aid, elimination of scrub-bulls by launching castration programme and rendering technical advice to the private enterprises in particular and to agriculturists in general. The following are the schemes in operation in the district at present.

Premium Bull Scheme.—The district premium bull scheme is gradually being introduced in the district. Under the scheme bulls of *Gaolao* breed are located with the farmers. A farmer who purchases an approved bull is paid in lump sum. A subsidy is also given towards the maintenance of the bull. The scheme is proving popular and there is a considerable demand for such bulls from the panchayat samitis. The bulls are located in contiguous groups of five or ten villages each. Under the Premium Bull Scheme which is in operation in the district, 136 bulls have been supplied since 1962-63. Of these 18 bulls have been supplied from block funds. The number of breeding bulls by the end of March 1969 was 53.

Supplementary cattle Breeding Centres.—There are three supplementary cattle breeding centres established in the district with 10 breeding bulls and 106 cows of breedable age at the following places:—

Name of centre	Block	Tahsil
Mandhal	Mohadi	Bhandara
Walani	Pauni	Bhandara
Majitpur	Gondia	Gondia
Thana	Amgaon	Gondia
Lakhori	Sakoli	Sakoli
Soundad	Deori	Sakoli
Darekasa	Salekasa	Gondia
Dighori	Morgaon Arjuni	Sakoli
Barwha	Lakhandur	Sakoli

Key Village Scheme and Artificial Insemination.—State pattern key village scheme was sponsored by the old Madhya Pradesh State, in 1951. Then the entire Vidarbha region was divided

into different zones and different breed was assigned to each of them. *Gaolao* breed was prescribed for Bhandara district. *Gaolao* bulls are located in the villages for grading cattle.

The main feature of the State pattern key village centre was that in the group of about 10 villages, a village co-operative live-stock improvement society was organised. The Veterinary Officer of the locality acted as its President and the Stockman its Secretary. The Vice-president and the Cashier used to be non-officials. Members of the executive body were drawn from the village populace. With the consent of villagers, a bull of the prescribed breed was located in each village with the bull keeper who was approved by the villagers. The villagers collected fodder and concentrates for maintaining the bull. The breeding services of the bull were free of charge. A Stockman was attached to each centre.

There is one Key Village Centre at Bhandara in the State sector with six key village units thereunder. This scheme envisages treatment of animals, castrations of scrub bulls, preventive vaccination, improvement of fodder and development of marketing facilities. The details of inseminations, natural service, castration, vaccination, etc., are as shown below:—

	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
Number of inseminations	1,036	448	924
Number of natural services	1,055	964	485
Number of castrations performed	329	251	380
Number of vaccinations done	4,701	7,531	12,175
Cases treated	446	666	557

There are six artificial insemination sub-centres under the Local Sector. The number of inseminations carried out under these six artificial insemination sub-centres was 88 in 1966-67; 64 in 1967-68 and 154 in 1968-69.

In addition to the above, the following animal husbandry activities were introduced under the Bhandara Package Programme in State Sector in the district.

Breeding Bull Centres.—There are ten breeding bull centres in the district. Two *Gaolao* bulls are located at each centre for natural services. The details regarding the working of the centres are shown below:—

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
(1) Cows served	1,177	742	694
(2) Calves born	515	674	550
(3) Cases treated	9,176	7,090	9,354
(4) Castrations performed	11,376	1,158	1,452
(5) Vaccinations done	46,894	37,723	48,721

Intensive Cattle Development Scheme.—Twelve centres under intensive Cattle Development Scheme have been established in Bhandara district under which 633 cows and 58 bulls have been provided on monthly maintenance charges for natural services. These are supplied to bull agents under the supervision of live-stock supervisor. The progress of work under this scheme is shown below:—

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Cows served	1,646	1,957	1,390
Calves born	715	1,405	1,345
Cases treated	7,488	6,603	8,211
Scrub bulls castrated	984	984	817
Vaccinations done	58,394	50,582	55,500

Poultry Development Scheme: There are two poultry demonstration centres in the district. One of them is at Bhandara and the other at Gondia. They function under the local sector for demonstration purposes for the benefit of poultry keepers. Under the Bhandara Package Programme Scheme, in the State Sector, birds of white leghorn and R.I.R. have been distributed on half-cost subsidy basis. So far 19,426 birds have been distributed.

Sheep Development Scheme: Under the emergency scheme for mutton production, the sheep development scheme was introduced in the district. Under the scheme ten ewes and one ram are distributed free of cost to the cultivators. So far 500 sheep and 50 rams have been distributed to the cultivators.

Veterinary Facilities.—In 1971-72, in Bhandara district there were one hospital, 13 full-fledged veterinary dispensaries and 51 veterinary aid centres for treatment of animals. Of these 13 veterinary dispensaries and a hospital three veterinary dispensaries located at Bhandara, Tumsar and Gondia are under the control of Municipalities and the rest are under Zilla Parishad, Bhandara. Besides, there were 18 artificial insemination centres in 1972-73, there being only one artificial insemination centre prior to 1972-73.

The work turned out at these dispensaries during the last three years is as follows:—

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Cases treated	76,112	167,656	107,739
Castrations performed	16,824	42,920	21,293
Vaccinations performed	105,288	258,093	228,946

Year	Animals treated	Animals inseminated
1972-73	97,019	2,149
1971-72	10,859	984
1970-71	1,13,758	836
1969-70	96,103	726

IRRIGATION

Irrigation is important in the agricultural economy of the district. The agricultural prosperity of Bhandara district depends to a very large extent upon adequate supply of water. The excessive dependence on the timely arrival of monsoon makes agriculture a highly uncertain, unpredictable and risky occupation. Again the rainfall of the district is unevenly distributed. The main crops grown in the district like paddy, wheat, sugarcane, etc., need a regular supply of water. Intensive cultivation under the pressure of a growing population is not possible without irrigation. Besides, it is only by providing irrigation that vast tracts of land in the district could be rendered fit for cultivation. It helps to increase the double cropped area as also the yield of crops. There were no *bandharas* and co-operative lift irrigation societies in the district in the past. The main sources of water-supply for the purpose of irrigation at present are Government canals, tanks and wells which exist in large numbers. Thus in every tahsil of the district, the proportion of irrigated area is considerably higher than the State average. In fact, of all the districts of Maharashtra, Bhandara has the largest proportion of irrigated lands.

The gross irrigated area in 1971-72 was 140,429 hectares in Bhandara district. The total area under different crops, irrigated and non-irrigated, has, however, increased much more, and as a result the proportion of gross irrigated area to gross cropped area decreased from 25.10 per cent in 1964-65 to 23.30 per cent in 1965-66. However, the proportion increased to 27.17 per cent in 1971-72. In 1971-72 Gondia tahsil had the largest area of 55,523 hectares representing 39.54 per cent of the total area under irrigation in the district, while Sakoli and Bhandara tahsils which followed next accounted for 50,877 hectares and 34,029 hectares representing 36.23 per cent, and 24.23 per cent, respectively. Table No. 20 indicates the area irrigated by different sources of water supply in the district, during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

A-2669—18-B.

TABLE No. 20
AREA IRRIGATED BY DIFFERENT SOURCES (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72
(Area in Hectares)

Name of the taluka and years (1)	Government Canals (2)	Tanks (3)	Tube wells and other wells (4)	Other sources (5)	Net Area Irrigated (6)	Gross area Irrigated (7)
Bhandara—						
1961-62	22,097	52,409	2,053	1,010	77,569	78,871
1965-66	1,620	10,649	1,940	1,663	15,872	15,872
1969-70	9,158	19,830	2,582	1,076	32,646	33,280
1971-72	9,930	20,496	2,824	779	34,029	34,029
Gondia—						
1961-62	33,688	85,058	971	785	1,20,502	1,20,861
1965-66	6,311	32,031	680	888	39,917	39,917
1969-70	14,195	38,371	806	811	54,183	54,374
1971-72	15,453	38,459	656	730	55,513	55,523
Sakoli—						
1961-62	128	1,01,349	4,657	2,109	1,05,243	1,05,565
1965-66	161	46,038	1,085	1,220	48,504	48,504
1969-70	512	45,397	1,495	1,298	48,702	49,019
1971-72	3,514	44,368	1,563	1,432	50,877	50,877
District Total—						
1961-62	55,913	2,38,816	4,681	3,904	3,03,314	3,03,297
1965-66	8,092	88,725	3,705	3,771	1,04,253	1,04,293
1969-70	23,865	1,03,598	4,883	3,185	1,35,531	1,36,673
1971-72	28,912	1,03,323	5,243	2,941	1,40,419	1,40,429

Note.—Figures for the year 1961-62 are given in acres.

It will be seen from the above table that there were 12 Government canals throughout the district and the net area irrigated by them amounted to 19,995 acres in 1965-66. There were 62 tube wells of which 32 were in Bhandara tahsil. There were 6,378 masonry wells and 2,775 non-masonry ones which together irrigated 9,154 acres of land. Wells used for domestic purposes were 12,724 while wells not in use numbered 4,108. The district had 360 oil-engines. There were 501 tanks with ayacut of 100 acres or more and 13,701 with ayacut less than 100 acres, which together irrigated a net area of 219,243 acres. The net area irrigated by other sources amounted to 9,318 acres, thus bringing the net area irrigated by various sources of water supply to 257,710 acres.

Tables No. 21 and 22 show the area under food crops and non-food crops irrigated in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 and 1971-72.

TABLE No. 21

AREA IRRIGATED UNDER FOOD CROPS (TAHSILWISE) IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil	Year	(In acres)										
		Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Barley	Sugar- cane	Chillies	Ginger	Tur- meric	Potatoes	Misce- llaneous food crops	Total food crops
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Bhandara	1961-62	73,969	316	177	13	242	762	42	31	311	2,991	78,854
	1965-66	34,104	880	28	12	157	765	40	31	309	2,875	39,201
	1969-70	29,690	440	33	..	64	..	..	7	112	68	33,274
	1971-72	30,566	894	25	..	68	425	..	7	204	510	34,022
Gondia	1961-62	1,19,080	84	..	4	153	320	7	..	9	1,202	1,20,859
	1965-66	96,331	258	..	1	143	440	11	..	32	1,421	98,637
	1969-70	52,920	176	8	..	132	..	..	..	8	65	54,374
	1971-72	54,212	166	1	..	102	217	..	..	13	224	55,513
Sakoli	1961-62	1,00,557	309	..	158	850	2,176	11	..	3	1,093	1,05,157
	1965-66	1,03,549	717	5	..	919	1,237	..	..	6	14,357	1,19,790
	1969-70	45,516	1,287	24	..	481	..	..	..	5	51	49,013
	1971-72	47,080	1,532	22	..	439	1,042	..	1	3	183	50,870
District Total	1961-62	2,93,606	709	177	175	1,245	3,258	60	31	323	5,286	3,04,870
	1965-66	2,33,984	1,855	33	13	1,219	1,442	51	31	347	18,653	2,57,628
	1969-70	1,28,126	1,469	65	..	677	..	..	7	175	184	1,36,661
	1971-72	1,31,858	2,592	48	..	609	1,684	..	8	220	917	1,40,405

Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

TABLE No. 22

TAHSILWISE AREA IRRIGATED UNDER NON-FOOD CROPS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1969-70 AND 1971-72.

Tahsil	Year	Castor seed	Miscellaneous non-food crops	Total non-food crops
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhandara	1961-62	..	10	10
	1965-66	1	5	6
	1969-70	..	2	6
	1971-72	N. A.	N. A.	7
Gondia	1961-62	..	2	2
	1965-66	..	..	..
	1969-70	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.
	1971-72	N. A.	N. A.	10
Sakoli	1961-62	12	3	15
	1965-66	64	..	64
	1969-70	N. A.	N. A.	6
	1971-72	N. A.	N. A.	7
District Total	1961-62	12	15	27
	1965-66	65	5	70
	1969-70	..	2	12
	1971-72	..	..	24

Note.—Figures for the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 are given in hectares.

It will be seen from the above table that the gross cropped area irrigated by the different sources in the district was 1,23,549 hectares in 1961-62. By 1971-72 it had increased to 1,40,429 hectares representing an increase of 13.66 per cent. The net area irrigated in 1961-62 by different sources was 1,22,747 hectares, which increased to 1,40,419 hectares in 1971-72, the increase being to the extent of 14.39 per cent. Net area irrigated by Government canals which stood at 22,627 hectares in 1961-62 rose to 28,912 hectares in 1971-72, an increase of 23.36 per cent. The area irrigated by tanks, wells and other sources which was 96,645, 1,490 and 1,580 hectares, respectively, also increased to 1,03,323 hectares 5,243 hectares and 2,941 hectares.

There are three principal sources of irrigation in Bhandara district viz., tanks, canals and wells which are described below.

Tanks.—Tanks are the most ancient and the major sources of irrigation and are found throughout the district. They were a characteristic feature of the Indian agricultural economy in the

past and even today their importance in the district has not diminished. There are 14,202 tanks irrigating 78 per cent of the net irrigated area in the district. The following account of tank irrigation given in the old Gazetteer of Bhandara district is interesting.

“The largest and best known of them, Nawegaon merits a detailed description. It is situated in a basin almost surrounded by hills and only two bunds had to be made. One is 2,244 feet long and 30 feet high and the other 330 feet long and 40 feet high. They are constructed of earth with a loose pitching. The tank is said to have been constructed about 300 years ago by an ancestor of the present *malguzar*. It has a waste weir 286 feet long and there is a steady flow all the year round through the main irrigation outlet which is never completely closed. There is one main irrigation channel irrigating four villages, and one small one irrigating one village. The tank has a catchment area of 23 square miles and a waterspread area of about 5 square miles. It irrigates about 2,250 acres nearly all rice and it absolutely protects this area against any famine conditions that have yet been experienced in this District. In the year 1899 when the failure of the rains reduced the total cropped area of the Sakoli tahsil by 31 per cent, the area in the 5 villages protected by this tank increased slightly, and a sixteen anna crop of rice and sugarcane was reaped. The Nawegaon people rather welcome famine as it does not affect their crops and increases the price they can get for their grain.

The next in importance is the tank at Seoni, also in the Sakoli tahsil, with a catchment area of 8½ square miles and a water-spread area of 2 square miles. This tank in 1899, though not quite so successful as Nawegaon, gave a sixteen anna crop of rice on a slightly reduced area to the three villages that it serves. After these two lakes come a large number of others in a descending scale of size and effectiveness, till one gets to those of one square mile catchment area which fail entirely in a year of famine.

Tanks of the second class are usually small, though occasionally they have a catchment area of two or three square miles. They have as a rule no sluice and a very primitive wasteweer, if any. The water is let out by cutting a channel through the embankment, which is filled up again in the following hot weather.

If the water is wanted early in the rains the cut is made near the end of the embankment and as much water as will run through at this high level is allowed to go. Very often water is not wanted for the crops until September or October. The cut is then made nearer the middle and the water is sometimes led to it by digging a channel in the bed of the tank to draw off all that is available. In dry years and in

the larger tanks a *mot* or other lifting arrangement is sometimes used for a short period so as to make use of any water that remains in the tank below the level of the bottom of the cut. Many of these were in use in 1902-03; but it is rather a counsel of despair. In ordinary years enough water is drawn off for the crops by the cut alone. The bed of the tank or part of it is often used for *rabi* cultivation after the water has been run off.

In the annual agricultural statistics no distinction is made between the two classes of tanks, nor indeed would it serve any useful purpose, since the object of both kinds is to irrigate rice and the effectiveness of a tank for this purpose depends on its catchment area and similar considerations and not on its class.

Now the most striking thing about the number of irrigation tanks given in the returns is that it fluctuates violently from year to year. In 1902-03 it is given at 12,300, in 1903-04 only 8,600 are put down, and in 1904-05 the number has risen to 9,800. This does not of course mean that in 1902-03 (a year when the rainfall was only 29 inches) nearly 4,000 tanks were destroyed or that 1,200 were built between 1903-04 and 1904-05. For the purposes of the returns an irrigation tank is one that is actually used for irrigation in the year in question, and it is conceivable—though not likely—that in a specially wet year, Nawegaon itself might fall out of the category. The largest number of tanks is brought into use in a year in which there is plentiful early rain (which fills the tanks) followed by a long break. If there is not much early rain the smaller ones do not fill. If the rain is well distributed the water is not used.

In the last 15 years the highest number ever used was 14,475 in 1901-02; and 1900-01 with 13,361 and 1902-03 with 12,317 are not far behind. On the other hand in the good years 1893-94 and 1903-04, only 9,332 and 8,603 tanks were brought into use. And in the wet years, 1891-92 and 1892-93, only 4,300 were used.

The total number of tanks and *boris* that are occasionally used for irrigation is probably not less than 15,000. There are 1,800 villages in the District, so this gives an average of over 8 to a village. This of course includes a large number of very small tanks. The average area irrigated varies very much from year to year, but probably from 15 to 25 acres per tank would be far out. Nawegaon irrigates 2,250 acres and many of the small tanks only irrigate an acre or two.

Government has aided the construction of private tanks in two ways, by grants-in-aid and by *takavi* loans. Both the construction of new tanks and the improvement of existing ones, especially those that have breached or fallen into disrepair, is undertaken on the grant-in-aid system. The

Deputy Commissioner selects the tank to be improved or the site for a new one and obtains the *malguzar's* consent to the improvement. The Public Works Department then supply an estimate of the cost of making the improvement. Half the estimate is met from Government grant and the other half the owner is expected to supply. It was originally provided that the owner could either pay his half in cash, or take a *takavi* loan for the amount. But in practice a *takavi* loan repayable in from 20 to 30 instalments has invariably been taken. The whole amount, both Government grant and private contribution, is then paid to the credit of the Public Works Department and the tank is constructed by that department, the owner having no say in the method or detail of construction. When completed the tank is handed over to the owner, his principal obligation being to keep it in repair. A systematic annual inspection by the Public Works Department ensures that this obligation is fulfilled.

On these terms then a large number of tanks have been built, some for *malguzars* only, some for a combination of *malguzar* and tenants and one or two for combinations of tenants only. In 1902-03 under pressure of the scarcity no less than 28 were commenced, though some of these were closed in the hot weather when it was found that the demand for work was less than had been anticipated. Nearly all of those abandoned were however taken up in subsequent years. Up to date, 21 tanks have been completed, nine are under construction and a number of others are in various stages of investigation and survey. The typical grant-in-aid tank costs from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 4,000 and is provided with a wasteweir and a masonry sluice. The embankment also is usually stronger and better made than that of the private tank. A few of the tanks undertaken on this system however come to from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 and one or two have cost Rs. 1,000 or less. The number of tanks which it is possible to deal with on the grant-in-aid system is limited. It requires first that the tank should be worth improving and second that the owners should be willing to take their share in paying for the improvement. One has also to be careful that as much is not lost by flooding valuable ground, as would be gained by additional irrigation. A large number of the tanks that have been investigated have been left untouched on one or other of these grounds. The programme for this District is probably not very far from completion.

In addition to the above a considerable amount of improvement to private tanks has been done by ordinary Land Improvement loans without a grant. The amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act in the years 1902 to 1906, excluding the sums advanced for grant-in-aid tanks, was Rs. 47,600 and though a considerable part of this represents loans of small sums for petty repairs or for field embankments a part of

it has been spent on irrigation tanks. When sums of over Rs. 300 are advanced, it has generally been provided that the money should be given in instalments and the work inspected by an officer not below the rank of a naib-tahsildar before each instalment is paid. The owner is allowed to construct the work in his own way and in his own time. The periodical inspection makes it reasonably certain that the money or the bulk of it is spent on the work. A considerable number of tanks have been restored and repaired in this way. A group of 18 tanks near Gondia was done under the superintendence of Mr. MacNair in 1903 and a number of tanks in other parts of the District have been repaired under the supervision of the executive staff.

The system of large tanks is still in the experimental stage. There is no doubt that they are valuable to the people and will give them good crops when rain fails, and bring prosperity to the country they irrigate. It is however doubtful if they will prove financially remunerative to Government. And it is probable that on this depends the question whether there will be any large extension of them in future. The grant-in-aid system has still a limited scope, and for some years to come one or two tanks a year can be taken up under it. But most of the works that can suitably be arranged for are already on the programme, and it will be increasingly difficult to find tanks which can be constructed under this system. For the simple *takavi* loan there will always be a demand in this district, both for minor improvements and to restore tanks that have been breached by heavy rain or been allowed to fall into disrepair."

Tanks are almost always constructed and maintained by the Government. The old Gazetteer of Bhandara district states that "Government assistance to irrigation in this district dates from the time of the Irrigation Commission. The Commission indicated the rice tracts of the Wainganga valley of which this district forms part, as one of the most suitable for irrigation in the Provinces. After considering various methods their conclusion was that we should have to depend mainly on storage reservoirs."*

The following table shows the position of each of the irrigation schemes either under construction or completed on 1st October 1967 in the district.

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District Vol. A, 1908, pp. 91 to 98.

TABLE No. 23
IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1967.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Major/Medium or Minor	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan
			Starting	Completion	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara Chorkhamara Tank	Medium	1915	1923	Pre-plan.
2	Bodalkasa Tank	Do.	1911	1923	Do.
3	Khairbandha Tank	Do.	1902	1915	Do.
4	Pangadi Tank	Minor	1911	1917	Do.
5	Gumdoh Tank	Do.	1908	1913	Do.
6	Sedepar Tank	Do.	1910	1912	Do.
7	Kumbhali Tank	Do.	..	..	Do.
8	Rawanwadi Tank	Do.	1953	1962	Plan.
9	Amgaon Tank	Do.	1953	1962	Do.
10	Risala Tank	Do.	1953	1967	Do.
11	Hari Tank	Do.	1953	1967	Do.
12	Nawegaon Tank	Do.	1954	1967	Do.

TABLE No. 23 — *contd.*

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Location of Dam		Catchment area (in sq. miles) (5)	Calculated maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (16)	Details of Dam			
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)	
1	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—contd.	Chorkhamara Tank	..	Gondia	29.00	9,335 Cusecs.	Earthen	M.B. 60.6 ft. S.B. 12.4	1,000.00
2		Bodalkasa Tank	..	Do.	23.5	6,779	Do.	63.0 ft.	1,011.00
3		Khairbandha Tank	..	Do.	16.52	10,250	Do.	M.B. 59.6	162.60
4		Pangadi Tank	..	Do.	3.32	1,556	Do.	39.1	1,138.50
5		Gumdoh Tank	..	Do.	1.6	470	Do.	32.27	1,154.45
6	Sedepar Tank	..	..	Sakoli	0.59	1,095	Do.	23.96	1,147.45
7	Kumbhali Tank	..	..	Do.	0.52	9,806	Do.	23.5	107.00
8	Rawanwadi Tank	..	..	Bhandara	5.00	1,613.5	Do.	41.0 M.B.	896.00
9	Amgaon Tank	..	..	Do.	1.46	750	Do.	14.18 S.B. 37.30	138.00
10	Risala Tank	..	..	Do.	7.00	14,803	Do.	50.0	984.00
11	Hari Tank	..	..	Gondia	1.3	1,713	Do.	29.0	124.00
12	Nawegaon Tank	..	..	Sakoli	22.00	4,358	Do.	29.0	919.00

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in Sq. miles) (17)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in M. cft.) (18)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L. (14)	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles) (15)	M. W. L. (in ft.) (16)			Type (19)	Length (in ft.) (20)	Crest level (in ft.) (21)
(1)				(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara— <i>contd.</i>								
1	Chorkhamara Tank	991.4	1.94	994.40	..	779.00	Clear over fall	.. 510.00	991.4
2	Bodalkasa Tank	1001.25	2.20	1005.00	..	697.00	Do.	.. 310.0	1001.25
3	Khairbandha Tank	153.10	1.56	158.60	..	582.00	Do.	.. 2 Nos. 150.0 & 75.0	153.10
4	Pangadi Tank	1130.56	0.92	1138.56	..	88.00	Do.	.. 92.0	1130.56
5	Gumdoh Tank	1148.48	0.22	1151.48	..	47.00	Do.	.. 28.0	1148.48
6	Sedepar Tank	1141.45	89.72 acres	1143.45	..	21.00	Do.	.. 122.0	1141.45
7	Kumbhali Tank	102.00	34.4 acres R. L.	104.00	..	26.00	Flush bar ..	.. 100.0	102.00
8	Rawanwadi Tank	887.00	0.90	890.00	..	238.71	Submerged ..	.. 116.0	887.00
9	Amgaon Tank	131.00	0.12	134.00	..	31.07	Clear over fall	.. 60.0	131.00
10	Risala Tank	975.00	0.56	978.00	..	224.15	Do.	.. 125.0	973.00
11	Hari Tank	117.00	0.14	120.00	..	42.72	Flush bar ..	.. 262.0	117.00
12	Nawegaon Tank	910.00	4.2	913.00	..	1055.70	Clear over fall	.. 210.0	910.00

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs) (22)	Outlets in Dam			
			Type (23)	Location in Dam (24)	Number (25)	Size (in ft.) (26)
(1)						
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—contd.					
1	Chorkhamara Tank	9,358-00	Rectangular Type ..	R. C. O. 1-50 Ch.	1 No.	4' x 4'.
2	Bodalkasa Tank	6,779-00	Valve Type ..	R. B. C. 1-00 Ch.	2 Nos.	R. B. C. 2 Nos. 4' x 4'.
3	Khairbandha Tank	10,290-00	Circular Type ..	L. B. C. 15-60 Ch.	1 No.	L. B. C. 1 No. 3' x 2 1/2'.
4	Pangadi Tank	1,556-00	Rectangular Type ..	62-6 Ch.	1 No.	30' dia. 2' dia.
5	Gumdoh Tank	470-00	Do.	19-50 Ch.	1 No.	21" x 21".
6	Sedepar Tank	1,095-00	Do.	1-50 Ch.	1 No.	18" x 18".
7	Kumbhali Tank	622-6	Do.	11 Ch.	1 No.	18" x 18".
8	Rawanwadi Tank	1,613-80	Do.	27-5 Ch.	1 No.	2' x 1 1/2'.
9	Amgaon Tank	750-00	Do.	3-83 Ch.	1 No.	2' x 3'.
10	Risala Tank	8,250-00	Do.	15-80 Ch.	1 No.	1 1/2' x 2'.
11	Hari Tank	1,713-00	Do.	Sub-bund 1-02 Ch.	1 No.	4' x 3'.
12	Nawegaon Tank	4,358-00	Do.	2-00 Ch.	1 No.	1 1/2' x 2'.
				L. B. C. O. Ch. F. B. C. 20-6 Ch.	2 Nos.	4' x 4'.

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Sill level (in ft.) (27)	Commanded area (in acres)				Average annual run off (in m. cft.) (32)	Canals completed	
			Maximum discharging capacity (in cusecs) (28)	Gross (29)	Culturable (30)	Irrigable (31)		Main Canal Miles/Feet (33)	Branches Miles ft. (34)
(1)									
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—contd.								
1	Chorkhamara Tank ..	960-85	146-00 Cu-secs	60,578-00	32,750-00	1,000	1,488-00 M. cft.	R. B. C. 8-4	47-06
2	Bodalkasa Tank ..	980-05	174-00 "	47,280-00	36,237-00	10,000	1,206-00	R. B. C. 20-70	29-07
3	Khairbandha Tank ..	128-00	146-00 "	30,754-00	27,841-00	9,500	770-00	L. B. C. 7-80	28-78
4	Pangadi Tank ..	1,097-56	26-60 "	12,575-00	7,393-00	2,663	168-00	R. B. C. 7-48	
5	Gumdoh Tank ..	1,131-48	23-00 "	3,879-00	3,100-00	1,140	90-00	L. B. C. 21-32	3-4
6	Sedepar Tank ..	1,124-45	8-3 "	840-00	840-00	565	21-00	M. C. 5-3	Nil.
7	Kumbhali Tank ..	84-00	9-03 "	10,194-00	1,006-00	581	29-36	M. C. 1-35	0-66 Miles.
8	Rawanwadi Tank ..	866-00	36-74 "	12,568-00	8,262-00	2,600	261-35	3-6 Miles	Nil.
9	Arangaon Tank ..	115-00	16-6 "	1,584-00	1,254-00	748	80-5	8 Miles	8 Miles.
10	Risala Tank ..	947-00	66-00 "	11,316-00	8,726-00	4,858	289-7	138	Nil.
11	Hari Tank ..	95-00	16-89 "	2,000-00	1,574-00	817	60-22	3-05	14-21 Miles
12	Nawegaon Tank ..	898-00 902-00	212-00 "	23,016-00	17,139-00	13,500	1,212-2	R. B. C. 53 Ch. L. B. C. 10 Ch. 5-03 Miles	24 Chains. 44-11 Miles.

TABLE No. 23—*contd.*

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Major/Medium or Minor (3)	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan (6)
			Starting (4)	Completion (5)	
(1)					
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—<i>contd.</i>				
13	Shivanibandh Tank	Minor	1954	1966	Plan.
14	Salegaon Tank	Do.	1954	1964	Do.
15	Bhanpur Tank	Do.	1963	1966	Do.
16	Khamari Tank	Do.	1954	1967	Do.
17	Chandori Tank	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
18	Kokana Tank	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
19	Girola Tank	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
20	Putali Tank	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
21	Sawarbandh Tank	Do.	1965	1967	Do.
22	Palasgaon Dawa	Do.	1964	1967	Do.
23	Bopabodi	Do.	1963	1966	Do.
24	Kosabi	Do.	1965	1966	Do.
25	Rajoli	Do.	1950	1966	Do.

Note.—Tanks from Serial No. 17 to 65 are ex-malguzari tanks.

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Location of Dam		Catchment area in Sq. miles (9)	Calculated Maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (10)	Details of Dam		
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)
(1)								
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—<i>contd.</i>							
13	Shivanibandh Tank	Shivanibandh	Sakoli	7.5	2,420	Earthen	29.0	823.00
14	Salegaon Tank	Salegaon	Do.	2.85	3,070	Do.	58.65	1,186.25
15	Bhanpur Tank	Bhanpur	Gondia	0.79	1,455	Do.	17.0	107.00
16	Khamari Tank	Khamari	Do.	0.79	1,520	Do.	18.0	112.00
17	Chandori Tank	Chandori	Sakoli	2.16	4,630	Do.	20.0	115.00
18	Kokana Tank	Kokana	Do.	1.25	2,318	Do.	21.0	99.00
19	Girola Tank	Girola	Do.	0.60	1,119	Do.	20.0	106.00
20	Putali Tank	Putali	Do.	1.05	1,978	Do.	30.0	102.00
21	Sawarbandh Tank	Sawarbandh	Do.	6.73	1,404	Do.	20.0	827.00
22	Palasgaon Dawa	Palasgaon	Do.	0.60	1,122	Do.	20.36	103.50
23	Bopabodi	Bopabodi	Do.	6.50	943	Do.	23.62	104.00
24	Kosabi	Kosabi	Do.	6.62	1,201	Do.	24.27	104.00
25	Rajoli	Rajoli	Do.	2.8	5,112	Do.	29.8 R.L.	110.50

A-2669—19-A.

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in Sq. miles)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in M. cft.)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L.	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles)	M. W. L. (in ft.)			Type	Length (in ft.)	Crest level (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—contd.								
13	Shivanibandh Tank ..	816-00	1-83	819-00	..	344-00	Clear over fall	90	816-00
14	Salegaon Tank ..	1,177-25	0-20	1,180-25	..	119-29	Do.	94-0	1,177-25
15	Bhanpur Tank ..	101-00	0-18 Acres	103-00	..	22-81	Do.	160-0	101-00
16	Khamari Tank ..	106-00	129-16	108-00	..	27-98	Do.	185-0	106-00
17	Chandori Tank ..	108-00	129-10	111-00	..	36-76	Do.	250-0	108-00
18	Kokana Tank ..	94-00 Depressed F. T. L.	127-40 Acres	95-00	..	25-69	Do.	159 W.W.	94-00
19	Girola Tank ..	92-00 100-00	86-92 Acres	102-00	..	18-19	Flush bar	380 S.W.	100-00
20	Putali Tank ..	95-00	28-60	98-00	..	15-08	C. O. F.	125	95-00
21	Sawarbandh Tank ..	821-00	130-60	823-00	..	27-40	Do.	160-0	821-00
22	Palasgaon Dawa ..	96-50	75-34	99-50	..	19-20	Flush bar	140-0	96-50
23	Bopabodi ..	100-00	70-45	100-00	..	18-05	C. O. T.	108-0	98-00
24	Kosabi ..	99-00	122-00	101-00	..	30-80	Do.	137-0	98-00
25	Rajoli ..	104-50	112-3 Acres	106-50	129-5 acres	45-18	C. O. F.	227-0	104-50

A-2669—19-B.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs)	Outlets in Dam			
			Type (23)	Location in Dam (24)	Number (25)	Size (in ft.) (26)
(1)	(2)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)
	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara—contd.					
13	Shivanibandh Tank ..	2,421-00	Rectangular type ..	L. B. C. O., Ch.	2 Nos.	3½' × 2½'
14	Salegaon Tank ..	3,070-00	Do.	R. B. C. 9-20 Ch.	1 No.	2' × 3'
15	Bhanpur Tank ..	1,455-00	Do.	R. B. C. Ch. 29-30	2 Nos.	1½' dia.
16	Khamari Tank ..	1,520-00	Circular type ..	L. B. C. Ch. 3-70	2 Nos.	1½' dia.
17	Chandori Tank ..	4,630-00	Do.	Ch. 4-00	2 Nos.	18" dia.
18	Kokana Tank ..	2,318-00	Circular plug type	1-50 Ch.	2 Nos.	2' dia.
19	Girola Tank ..	1,119-00	Do.	8-00 Ch.	2 Nos.	18" dia. pipe.
20	Putali Tank ..	1,978-00	Do.	3-00 Ch.	3 Nos.	18" dia. pipe.
21	Sawarbandh Tank ..	1,404-00	Do.	10-00 Ch.	1 No.	1' × 1-5'
22	Palasgaon Dawa ..	1,122-00	Plug type ..	25-50 Ch.	2 Nos.	18" dia. pipe.
23	Bopabodi ..	943-00	Do.	Lower Bank.	3 Nos.	1' × 1-5'
24	Kosabi ..	1,201-00	Do.	0-00 Ch.	2 Nos.	18" dia. pipe.
25	Rajoli ..	1,821-00	Do.	13-73 Ch.	3 Nos.	2' dia.
				29-00 M. B. Ch.	2 Nos.	1' dia.
				5-5 Ch. S. B.	2 Nos.	1½' dia.
				13-50 Ch. S. B.	1 No.	2' dia.
				Ch. 11-00	3 Nos.	2' × 3'
				Ch. 24-00	1 No.	2' × 3'
				Ch. 2-60	1 No.	1½' × 2'

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Commanded area (in acres)				Average annual run off (in m. cft.)	Canals completed	
		Sill level (in ft.)	Maximum discharging capacity (in cusecs)	Gross	Culturable	Irrigable	Main canal Miles/Feet	Branches Miles ft.
(1)	(2)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(33)	(34)
13	Minor Irrigation Division, Bhanda—contd.							
14	Shivanibandh Tank ..	805.00	41.00	7,125.00	6,631.00	4,573	8.52	2.72
15	Salegaon Tank ..	1,138.00	30.00	4,200.00	3,016.00	1,900	4.59	3.72
16	Bhanpur Tank ..	95.00	7.71	500.00	418.00	418	5 Ch.	18 Chains.
17	Khamari Tank ..	98.00	7.18	700.00	525.00	525	98 Ch.	Nil.
18	Chandori Tank ..	97.00	13.57	786.00	742.00 Acr.	692	M.C. 78 Ch.	39 Ch.
19	Kokana Tank ..	97.00	8.77	1,148.00	620.00	462	52.66 Ch.	Nil.
20	Girola Tank ..	92.00	2.16	393.00	383.00	380	58 Ch.	11 Chains.
21	Putali Tank ..	77.00	1.31	340.00	290.00	290	68 Ch.	Nil.
22	Sawarbandh Tank ..	812.00	9.46	993.71	503.00	500	80 Ch.	Nil.
23	Paasgaon Dawa ..	86.00	4.4	642.00	518.00	357	M. C. 30 Ch.	Br. 47 Ch.
24	Bopabodi ..	91.00	5.81	368.00	342.00	340	M. C. 32 Ch.	Nil.
25	Rosabii ..	90.00	5.21	1,512.00	647.00	487	30.80	Br. 20 Ch.
	Rajoli ..	90.00	19.2	987.52	987.52	500	125 Ch.	Nil.

Note.—Tanks from Serial No. 17 to 65 are Ex-malguzari Tanks.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Major/Medium or Minor	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan
			Starting	Completion	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Works in Progress :					
26	Saundad ..	Minor.	1963	1967	Plan.
27	Walnazari ..	Do.	1963	7/1968	Do.
28	Parsodi ..	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
29	Sangadi ..	Do.	1963	1968	Do.
30	Kesalwada ..	Do.	1963	1967	Do.
31	Dighori ..	Do.	1963	1968	Do.
32	Zari ..	Do.	1964	1968	Do.
33	Sitepar ..	Do.	1963	1968	Do.
34	Pathari ..	Do.	1964	1967	Do.
35	Chirchadi ..	Do.	1954	1968	Do.
36	Morgaon Tank ..	Do.	1966	1969	Do.
37	Jambhora Tank ..	Do.	1963	1968	Do.
38	Yekazari Kesalwada Tank ..	Do.	1964	1968	Do.
39	Fulchur Tank ..	Do.	1963	Work sustained for want of revised additional approval.	Do.
40	Adasi Tank ..	Do.	1963	1966	Do.
41	Zilmili Tank ..	Do.	1964	1968	Do.

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Location of Dam		Catchment area in Sq. miles (9)	Calculated Maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (10)	Details of Dam		
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)
(1)	Works in Progress—contd.							
26	Saundad	Saundad ..	Sakoli ..	2.75	5,150	Earthen ..	21.0	98.00
27	Walmazari	Walmazari ..	Do. ..	2.35	4,956	Do. ..	27.50	106.00
28	Parsodi	Parsodi ..	Do. ..	1.80	4,692	Do. ..	22.0	104.00
29	Sangadi	Sangadi ..	Do. ..	0.84	1,556	Do. ..	17.0	104.00
30	Kesalwada	Kesalwada ..	Do. ..	0.62	1,154	Do. ..	20.72	105.00
31	Dighori	Dighori ..	Do. ..	1.99	3,560	Do. ..	22.44	105.00
32	Zari	Zari ..	Do. ..	1.90	3,559	Do. ..	23.40	105.00
33	Sitepar	Sitepar ..	Do. ..	0.85	1,598	Do. ..	18.0	111.00
34	Pathari	Pathari ..	Do. ..	2.00	3,756	Do. ..	24.50	93.00
35	Chirchadi	Chirchadi ..	Do. ..	0.75	1,377	Do. ..	31.50	108.00
36	Morgaon Tank	Morgaon ..	Do. ..	2.00	3,708	Do. ..	24.0	99.00
37	Jambhora Tank	Jambhora ..	Bhandara ..	0.78	1,437	Do. ..	16.05	101.50
38	Yelkazari Kesalwada Tank	Yelkazari ..	Do. ..	1.47	2,758	Do. ..	18.0	103.50
39	Fulchur Tank	Fulchur ..	Gondia ..	0.37	707	Do. ..	25.0	115.00
40	Adasi Tank	Adasi ..	Do. ..	0.35	671	Do. ..	22.0	102.00
41	Zilmili Tank	Zilmili ..	Do. ..	0.75	1,355	Do. ..	24.10	101.50

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in Sq. miles) (17)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in M. cft.) (18)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L. (14)	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles) (15)	M. W. L. (in ft.) (16)			Type (19)	Length (in ft.) (20)	Crest level (in ft.) (21)
(1)	Works in Progress—contd.								
26	Saundad	91.00	174.24 Acres.	94.00'	..	45.05	Flush bar ..	300.0	91.00
27	Walmazari	99.00	236.50 Acres.	162.00	..	62.72	C. O. T. ..	354.0	99.00
28	Parsodi	97.00	176.00 Acres.	100.00	..	44.63	Flush bar ..	225.0	97.00
29	Sangadi	99.00	115.68 Acres.	100.00	2.5	26.83	C. O. F. ..	110.0	97.00
30	Kesalwada	99.00	91.37 Acres.	101.00	..	20.27	Do. ..	132.0	99.00
31	Dighori	98.00	133.31 Acres.	101.00	..	35.11	Channel type ..	320.9	98.00
32	Zari	100.00 and Depressed	198.78 Acres.	101.00	..	61.87	Flush bar ..	371.0	100.00
33	Sitepar	98.00	118.40 Acres.	107.00	..	28.62	C. O. F. ..	183.0	105.00
34	Pathari	105.00	16.00 Sq. m.	89.50	..	36.20	Flush bar ..	390.0	86.50
35	Chirchadi	100.00	0.20 Sq. m.	103.00	..	36.79	Do. ..	132.0	100.00
36	Morgaon Tank	92.00	1.3 Sq. m.	95.00	..	55.10	Do. ..	235.0	92.00
37	Jambhora Tank	95.00	110.29 Acres.	97.50	..	27.02	Do. ..	180.0	95.00
38	Yelkazari Kesalwada Tank	97.50	138.25 Acres.	100.50	..	30.94	Clear over fall ..	187.0	97.50
39	Fulchur Tank	109.00	53.22 Acres.	111.00	..	14.72	Do. ..	96.0	100.00
40	Adasi Tank	96.00	57.54 Acres.	98.00	..	17.68	Do. ..	77.0	96.00
41	Zilmili Tank	95.00	137.13 Acres.	97.05	..	34.19	Do. ..	155.0	95.00

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs) (22)	Outlets in Dam			Size (in ft.) (26)
			Type (23)	Location in Dam (24)	Number (25)	
(1)	Works in Progress—contd.					
26	Saundad	5,150-00	Plug type	Ch. 2-25	1 No.	1½' × 2'
27	Walmazari	4,950-00	Do.	Ch. 14-00	2 Nos.	2'-6" dia. pipe.
28	Parsodi	4,692-00	Do.	Ch. 12-50	1 No.	2" dia.
29	Sangadi	1,556-00	Do.	Ch. 6-44	1 No.	1-5" dia.
30	Kesalwada	1,154-00	Do.		1 No.	1½' × 1½'
31	Dighori	3,560-00	Do.	Ch. 19-50	2 Nos.	6" dia.
32	Zari	3,559-00	Do.	Ch. 5-35	1 No.	2' × 1'-6"
33	Sitepar	1,598-00	Do.	Ch. 28-50	1 No.	2½' dia.
34	Pathari	3,756-00	Do.	Ch. 9-75	2 Nos.	1' × 1'-0"
35	Chirchadi	1,377-00	Do.	Ch. 28-30	2 Nos.	1'-3" dia.
36	Morgaon Tank	3,708-00	Do.	Ch. 1-5	2 Nos.	2" dia.
37	Jambhora Tank	1,437-00	Do.	Ch. 5-00	3 Nos.	1' dia.
38	Yelkazari Kesalwada Tank	2,758-00	Do.	Ch. 7-00	3 Nos.	1' dia. and 2" dia.
39	Fulchur Tank	707-00	Head wall type	R. D. Ch. 2	2 Nos.	1' dia.
40	Adasi Tank	671-00	Plug type	Ch. 9	2 Nos.	1½' dia.
41	Zilmili Tank	1,355-00	Head wall type	Ch. 32	2 Nos.	1 × 1.
				Ch. 25	1 No.	1½' dia.
				Ch. 26	2 Nos.	1½' dia.
				Ch. 16-35	1 No.	18" dia.
				Ch. 3	2 Nos.	18" dia.
				Ch. 27		

Serial No.	Name of the Project (2)	Sill level (in ft.) (27)	Commanded area (in acres)			Average annual run off (in m. cft.) (32)	Canals completed	
			Maximum discharging capacity (in cusecs) (28)	Gross (29)	Culturable (30)	Irrigable (31)	Main canal Miles/Feet (33)	Branches Miles/ft. (34)
(1)	Works in Progress —contd.							
26	Saundad	80-85	23-71	1,035-00	850-00	850	99 Ch.	28 Ch.
27	Walmazari	80-00	15-49 Cus.	3,426-00	1,834-00	1,100	286 Ch.	Nil.
28	Parsodi	88-00	6-63 "	2,493-00	1,384-36	840	M. C. 57 Ch.	31 Ch. Br.
29	Sangadi	89-00	5-95 "	1,804-00	1,271-00	500	51 Ch.	29 Chains.
30	Kesalwada	90-00	5-95 "	476-50	360-00	360	68 Ch.	Nil.
31	Dighori	80-00	22-13 "	688-00	648-00	628	2 Mile	Nil.
32	Sitepar	83-00	10-11 "	1,410-00	1,235-00	1,170	M. C. 113 Ch.	19 Ch.
33	Pathari	96-00	11-20 "	745-65	500-59	500	118 Ch.	77 Ch.
34	Chirchadi	73-00	7-25 "	1,151-00	672-00	672	137 Ch.	13 Ch.
35	Morgaon Tank	87-00	9-67 "	850-00	800-00	725	90 Ch.	Nil.
36	Jambhora Tank	85-00	6-10 "	954-00	730-00	730	M. C. 100 Ch.	Nil.
37	Jambhura Tank	85-00	6-10 "	1-29 Cus.	540-00	527	36-9 Ch.	Nil.
38	Yelkazari Kesalwada Tank	103-50	2-50 "	7-63 Cus. 7-63 Cus. 722-15	565-00	565	53 Ch.	20 Chains.
39	Fulchur Tank	98-00	2-55 M	..	281-00	281	12 Ch.	20 Chains.
40	Adasi Tank	84-00	3-30 6-92 Cus.	..	337-00	337	18 Ch.	30 Chains.
41	Zilmili Tank	87-00	9-54 "	1,135-00	1,135-00	645	88 Ch.	Nil.

TABLE No. 23—*contd.*

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Major/Medium or Minor (3)	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan (6)
			Starting (4)	Completion (5)	
	Ex-malguzari Tank Division, Gondia (Works completed)				
42	Zaliya Tank	Minor	1965	1966	Plan
43	Kati Tank	Do.	1965	1966	Do.
44	Mendha Tank	Do.	1965	1966	Do.
45	Tedha Tank	Do.	1965	1967	Do.
46	Khairi	Do.	1965	1967	Do.
47	Mahuli	Do.	1965	1966	Do.
48	Kohalgaon	Do.	1965	1966	Do.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Location of Dam		Catchment area in Sq. miles (9)	Calculated Maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (10)	Details of Dam		
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)
	Ex-malguzari Tank Division, Gondia (Works completed)— <i>contd.</i>							
42	Zaliya Tank	Zaliya	Gondia	0.56	1,050	Earthen	17.0	102.03 M
43	Kati Tank	Kati	Do.	0.68	1,260	Do.	5.30 M	100.50 M
44	Mendha Tank	Mendha	Do.	0.50	943	Do.	6.00 M	103.00 M
45	Tedha Tank	Tedha	Do.	1.12	1,995	Do.	6.33 M	99.08 M
46	Khairi	Khairi	Sakoli	0.50	968	Do.	6.41	99.70 M
47	Mahuli	Mahuli	Do.	1.06	1,988	Do.	5 M	101.50
48	Kohalgaon	Kohalgaon	Do.	1.12	2,164	Do.	27.0	106.80 M

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in Sq. Miles)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in M. cft.)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L.	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles)	M. W. L. (in ft.)			Type	Length (in ft.)	Crest level (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
	Ex-Malguzari Tank Division, Gondia (Works completed)—contd.								
42	Zaliya Tank	101-10 M (Raised)	71-75 Acres	101-10 M	..	15-84 M. cft.	Clear over fall	.. 39 M.	100-50 M
43	Kati Tank	100-50 (Depressed)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
44	Mendha Tank	101-80 M	78-44 Acres	101-80 M	..	18-38	Clear over fall	.. 35 M	101-20 M
45	Tedha Tank	97-28 M (Raised)	103-66 Acres	97-88 M	..	21-138	Do.	.. 41 M	96-98 M
46	Khairi	96-98 (Depressed)	67-50 Acres	98-50 M	..	15-94	Do.	.. 31 M	97-80 M
47	Mahuli	97-80 99-30 M	83-60 Acres	100-30	..	16-00	Do.	.. 34 M	99-30 M
48	Kohalgaon	105-00 M	40-00 Acres	105-60	..	16-35	Free over fall	.. 75 M	105-00 M

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs)	Outlets in Dam			
			Type	Location in Dam	Number	Size (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)
	Ex-malguzari Tank Division, Gondia (Works completed)—contd.					
42	Zaliya Tank	1,050-00	Plug type ..	32-4 M. 145 M.	2 Nos.	18" dia. H. P.
43	Kati Tank	..	..	..	..	..
44	Mendha Tank	943-00	Rectangular type ..	0-00 Ch. 30 M.	1 No.	1' x 1-5'.
45	Tedha Tank	1,995-00	Plug type ..	487 M 45 M.	3 Nos.	18" dia.
46	Khairi	968-00	Head wall type ..	285 M	2 Nos.	18" dia.
47	Mahuli	1,088-00	Plug type ..	226 M. Ch. 510 M Ch. 165 M. 60 M.	3 Nos.	18" dia.
48	Kohalgaon	64-00	Do.	97 M .. 179-5 M.	2 Nos.	1' x 1 1/2' 1' x 2'.

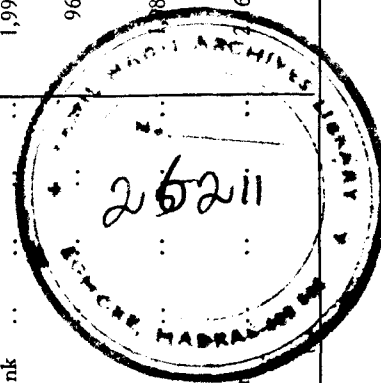


TABLE No. 23—*contd.*

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Commanded area (in acres)					Average annual run off (in m. cft.)	Canals completed	
		Sill level (in ft.)	Maximum discharging capacity (in cusecs)	Gross	Culturable	Irrigable		Main canal Miles/Feet	Branches Miles/ft.
(1)	(2)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(32)	(33)	(34)
	Ex-malguzari Tank Division, Gondia (Works completed)								
42	Zaliya Tank ..	99.15 M 99.57 M	5.57 Cus.	350 Acres	326.00 Acres	292 Acres	30.80	1.25 Miles	..
43	Kati Tank ..	96.72 M 96.72 M	4.75 "	384 "	360.00 "	340 "	37.14	3.04 Km.	..
44	Mendha Tank ..	98.60 M 95.8 M	7.188 "	345 "	345.00 "	345 "	27.50	2.40 Km.	..
45	Tedha Tank ..	95.08 M 95.20 M	3.183 " 3.561 "	502 "	502.00 "	423 "	61.60	1.77 Km.	..
46	Khairi ..	95.2 M 97.29 M	8.76 "	335 "	335.00 "	302 "	27.50	2.95 Km.	..
47	Mahuli ..	96.47M × 1 96.5M × 2	5.800 "	486 "	325.00 "	325 "	58.30	1.83 Km.	..
48	Kohalgaon ..	101.00 M 103.00 M	5.20 " 1.60 "	367 "	352.00 "	327 "	61.06	1.0 Km.	1 Km.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Major/Medium or Minor	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan
			Starting	Completion	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
49	Kawatha ..	Minor	1965 ..	1966 ..	Plan
50	Umari ..	Do.	1965 ..	1966 ..	Do.
51	Pindakepar ..	Do.	1965 ..	1967 ..	Do.
52	Dahegaon ..	Do.	1965 ..	1967 ..	Do.
53	Khandala ..	Do.	1965 ..	1967 ..	Do.
54	Channa ..	Do.	1964 ..	1967 ..	Do.

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Location of Dam		Catchment area in Sq. miles (9)	Calculated Maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (10)	Details of Dam		
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)
(1):	(2)							
49	Kawatha	Kawatha ..	Sakoli ..	0.46	890	Earthen ..	23.0	103.00 M
50	Umari	Umari ..	Do. ..	0.50	970	Do. ..	26.0	101.65 M
51	Pindakepar	Pindakepar ..	Do. ..	0.75	1,452	Do. ..	5 M	100.40 M
52	Dahegaon	Dahegaon ..	Do. ..	1.60	3,037	Do. ..	5.5 M	100.70 M
53	Khandala	Khandala ..	Do. ..	0.86	1,665	Do. ..	5.4 M	100.50 M
54	Channa	Channa ..	Do. ..	0.87	1,685	Do. ..	13.0	102.61

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Details of Reservoir			Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in m. cft.) (18)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L. (14)	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles) (15)	M. W. L. (in ft.) (16)		Type (19)	Length (in ft.) (20)	Crest level (in ft.) (21)
(1)	(2)							
49	Kawatha	97'	80.00 Acres	99.00	15.46	Clear over fall	105 M	97.00
50	Umari	99.85 M	..	100.45 M	19.66	Do.	34 M	99.85
51	Pindakepar	98.5 M Depressed 99.00 M Raised.	..	99.24 M	21.88	Channel type	57 M	98.50
52	Dahegaon	98.70 M	..	99.50 M	31.164	Clear over fall	50.30	98.70
53	Khandala	98.85 Raised 98.70 Depressed	..	99.30 M	34.65	Flush bar ..	70 M	98.70
54	Channa	100.80	17.51 Acres	101.41 M	14.46	Do.	79 M	100.80

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs) (22)	Outlets in Dam			
			Type (23)	Location in Dam (24)	Number (25)	Size (in ft.) (26)
49	Kawatha	890-00	Plug type	2-45 Ch. 0-22 Ch.	2 Nos.	18" dia.
50	Umari	970-00	Do.	0 M. 120 M. 252 M. 582 M. 705 M.	5 Nos.	1 No. 1½' × 1½'. 3 Nos. 18" dia. 1 No. 1' dia.
51	Pindakepar	1,480-00	Do.	90 M. 390 M. 570 M.	3 Nos.	2' × 1'. 2' × 1½'. 1' × 1'.
52	Dahegaon	3,037-00	Do.	23 M. 500 M.	2 Nos.	18" dia.
53	Khandala	1,713-00	Do.	25 M. 60 M.	2 Nos.	2' dia. 18" dia.
54	Channa	1,699-00	Do.	103 M. 505 M.	2 Nos.	0-15 Sq. m. 1-66 Sq. m.

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Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Commanded area (in acres)				Average annual run off (in m. cft.) (32)	Canals completed	
		Sill level (in ft.) (27)	Maximum discharging capacity (in cusecs) (28)	Gross (29)	Culturable (30)	Irrigable (31)	Main canal Miles/Feet (33)	Branches Miles/ft. (34)
49	Kawatha	91-00 88-49	5-45	296-00 Acres	262-00 Acres	262 Acres	3600 Km.	..
50	Umari	99-26 M 98-14 M 96-6 M 97-6 M 99-02 M	2-54 2-57 2-61 2-54 0-50	432-00 "	393-00 "	393 "	2-13 Km.	..
51	Pindakepar	96-0 M 98-0 M	2-29 5-00	756-00 "	521-00 "	413 "	3-100 Km.	0-15 Km.
52	Dahegaon	96-0 M 96-0 M	5-48 7-70	802-00 "	560-00 "	560 "	1-69 Km.	..
53	Khandala	96-32 M 97-50 M	11-87 1-25	772-00 "	650-00 "	635 "	1-38 Km.	..
54	Channa	98-0 M 100	4-019 2-31	415-00 "	304-00 "	304 "	4-210 Km.	..

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Major/Medium or Minor (3)	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan (6)
			Starting (4)	Completion (5)	
55	Indora Tank	Minor	1965	1967	Plan
56	Rengepar Tank	Do.	1965	1967	Do.
57	Pimpalgaon Tank	Do.	1965	1967	Do.
58	Chapral Tank	Do.	1966	1967	Do.
59	Chirchhalbandh	Do.	1968 .. ..	.. ..	Do.
60	Kokodi Tank	Do.	1966 .. ..	.. ..	Do.
61	Lawari Tank	Do.	1964 .. ..	.. ..	Do.
62	Kaneri Tank	Do.	1965	1968	Do.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Project (2)	Location of Dam		Catchment area in Sq. miles (9)	Calculated Maximum flood discharge (in cusecs) (10)	Details of Dam		
		Village (7)	Tahsil (8)			Type (11)	Height (in ft.) (12)	Top level (in ft.) (13)
55	Indora Tank	Indora ..	..	1.166	2,240	Earthen ..	19.0	101.50 M
56	Rengepar Tank	Rengepar ..	Do.	0.76	1,471	Do. ..	11.0	99.44 M
57	Pimpalgaon Tank	Pimpalgaon ..	Do.	5.12	8,890	Do. ..	23.0 8 M	102.10 M
58	Chapral Tank	Chapral ..	Do.	0.53	1,026	Do. ..	4.2 M	100.90 M
59	Chirchhalbandh	Chirchhalbandh ..	Gordia	0.30	580.8 Cusecs	Do. ..	5.72 M	100.00 M
60	Kokodi Tank	Kokodi ..	..	..	..	Do. ..	..	..
61	Lawari Tank	Lawari ..	Do.	1.14	2,216	Earthen ..	10 M	97.20 M
62	Kaneri Tank	Kaneri ..	Do.	2.02	..	Do. ..	10.0	103.00 M

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in M. Sq. miles)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in m. cft.)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L. (14)	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Sq. miles) (15)	M. W. L. (in ft.) (16)			Type (19)	Length (in ft.) (20)	Crest level (in ft.) (21)
(1)	(2)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
55	Indora Tank ..	100-30	..	100-30 M	..	36-36	Clear over fall	46 M	99-40 M
56	Rengepar Tank ..	97-50	..	98-24 M	..	20-02	Do.	37-3 M	77-50 M
57	Pimpalgaon Tank ..	99-40	..	100-90 M	..	57-09	Do.	81 M	99-40 M
58	Chapral Tank ..	99-70 M Raised 99-00 M Depressed	..	99-70 M	..	16-43	Do.	30-5 M	99-00
59	Chirchalbandh ..	98-00	54-25 Acres	98-80	..	13-73	Free over fall	13-5 M	98-00 M
60	Kokodi Tank ..	95-70 M	161-00 Acres	96-00 M	..	29-25	Depressed over fall	44 M	95-10 M
61	Lawari Tank ..	101-60	..	101-80	..	20-63	Channel type	77 M	101-66
62	Kaneri Tank ..	100-50	..	100-75	..	67-81	..	..	100-50

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs) (22)	Outlets in Dam		
			Type (23)	Location in Dam (24)	Number (25)
(1)	(2)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)
55	Indora Tank ..	2,244-00	Plug type	Ch. 92 M. ..	1 No.
56	Rengepar Tank ..	1,471-00	Do.	Ch. 30 M. .. 325 M.	2 Nos.
57	Pimpalgaon Tank ..	8,890-00	Do.	Ch. 390 M. ..	1 No.
58	Chapral Tank ..	1,026-00	Do.	Ch. 200 M. .. Ch. C. M. Ch. 486 M.	3 Nos.
59	Chirchalbandh ..	580-8	Do.	..	..
60	Kokodi Tank ..	2,216-00	Do.	Ch. 137 M. .. 510 M. 735 M.	3 Nos.
61	Lawari Tank ..	..	..	..	2 Nos.
62	Kaneri Tank ..	3,141-00	..	..	3 Nos.

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Sill level (in ft.)	Commanded area (in acres)			Average annual run off (in m. cft.)	Canals completed	
			Maximum discharging capacity (in Cusecs)	Gross	Culturable		Main canal Miles Feet	Branches Miles ft.
(1)	(2)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(33)	(34)
55	Indora Tank ..	96.75 M	15 Cus.	1,000.00 Acres	700.00 Acres	700 Acres	2.83	1.38 Km.
56	Rengepar Tank ..	95.00 M	2.73 "	521.00 "	373.00 "	373 "	1.560 Km.	..
57	Pimpalgaon Tank ..	96.50 M	..	1,490.00 "	1,078.00 "	1,078 "	4.440 Km.	103 Km.
58	Chapral Tank ..	98.0 M 97.4 M 98.25 M	1.2 Cus. 3.5 " 2.2 "	500.00 "	400.00 "	305 "	1.320 Km.	..
59	Chirchalbandh ..	95.160M	..	707.00 "	285.00 "	263 "	..	..
60	Kokodi Tank ..	92.30 M 92.17 M 93.50 M 98.50	3.95 2.54 6.96 5.495 Cus.	680.00 "	650.00 "	585 "	957 M.	210 M.
61	Lawari Tank ..	..	2.77 Cus.	670.00 "	390.00 "	390 "	2.44 Km.	..
62	Kaneti Tank ..	97.23	..	1,960.00	1,289.00 "	1,289 "	7.4 Km.	..

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Major/Medium or Minor	Approximate year of Construction		Pre-plan or Plan
			Starting	Completion	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
63	Ekodi Tank ..	Minor	1965 ..	..	Plan
64	Lendezari Tank ..	Do.	1966 ..	..	Do.
65	Bagheda ..	Medium	1967 ..	..	Pre-plan
	Nagpur Irrigation Division, Nagpur				
66	Sorna Tank ..	Medium	1965 ..	..	Plan
67	Chandpur Tank Upper	Do.	..	1915	Pre-plan
	Lower	Do.	..	1915	Do.
68	Managad Tank ..	Do.	1964 ..	..	Do.
69	Sangrampur Tank ..	Do.	1964 ..	..	Do.

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Location of Dam		Catchment area (in Sq. miles)	Calculated Maximum flood charge (in Cusecs)	Details of Dam		
		Village	Tahsil			Type	Height (in ft.)	Top level (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
63	Ekodi Tank	Ekodi ..	Gondia ..	1.70	3,141	Earthen	19.0	101.95 M
64	Lendezari Tank	Lendezari ..	Do. ..	0.95	1,839	Do. ..	5.45 M	102.45
65	Bagheda	Bagheda ..	Bhandara ..	9.64	15,750	Do. ..	44.32	999.59
	Nagpur Irrigation Division, Nagpur							
66	Sorna Tank	Sorna ..	Bhandara ..	8.08	13,600	Do. ..	47	999.00'
67	Chandpur Tank Upper Lower	Chandpur ..	Do. ..	28.00	..	Do. ..	62.3	258.00
				0.75	..	Do. ..	25.8	210.00
68	Managad Tank	Managad ..	Gondia ..	4.43	17,800	Do. ..	52.4	1,107'
69	Sangrampur Tank	Nimgaon ..	Do. ..	5.7	12,500	Do. ..	46.5	1,021'

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Details of Reservoir			Water spread area at M. W. L. (in Sq. miles)	Live storage capacity at F. R. L. (in m. cft.)	Details of Waste weir or spill way		
		F. R. L.	Water spread area at F. R. L. (in Acres)	M. W. L. (in ft.)			Type	Length (in ft.)	Crest level (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
63	Ekodi Tank	100.29 M	53.56 Acres	101.25	..	13.95	Over fall ..	.. 33 M	100.29
64	Lendezari Tank	988.41	0.64	993.59	..	162.35	Flush bar ..	.. 400.0	988.41
65	Bagheda	988.00'	0.80	933.00	..	202.46	Clear over fall	.. 350.0	988.00
	Nagpur Irrigation Division, Nagpur								
66	Sorna Tank	248.00'	3.5	252.00	..	1,151.38	Flush bar 2 Nos.	.. 323.0	248.00
67	Chandpur Tank Upper Lower	203.00	..	200.00	..	71.10	Do. ..	.. 70.0	203.00
68	Managad Tank	1,098.00	0.42	1,102.00	..	198.72	Do. ..	.. 620.0	1,098.00
69	Sangrampur Tank	1,010.9	0.32	1,015.5	..	138.00	Flush bar ..	.. 400.0	1,010.9'

TABLE No. 23—contd.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Flood discharging capacity at M. W. L. (in cusecs)	Outlets in Dam			
			Type	Location in Dam	Number	Size (in ft.)
(1)	(2)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)
63	Ekodi Tank	1,839-00	..	..	2 Nos.	..
64	Lendezari Tank	17,800-00	Rectangular	Ch., 2140 M.	1 No.	4' x 3½'
65	Bagheda	13,600-00	Rectangular gated	R. & B. C. 32'-0 L. B. C. 9-7.	2 Nos.	2' x 2'.
	Nagpur Irrigation Division, Nagpur					
66	Sorna Tank	..	Do.	Upper	1 No.	..
67	Chandpur Tank Upper	..	..	..	2 Nos.	..
68	Managad Tank	17,800-00	Rectangular gated	Ch. 17-05	1 No.	4' x 4'.
69	Sangrampur Tank	12,500-00	Do.	Ch. 6-5	One	3' x 2'.

Serial No.	Name of the Project	Sill level (in ft.)	Commanded area (in acres)				Average annual run off (in m. cft.)	Canals completed	
			Maximum discharging capacity (in Cusecs)	Gross	Culturable	Irrigable		Main canal Miles/Feet	Branches Miles/ft.
(1)	(2)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	(32)	(33)	(34)
63	Ekodi Tank ..	97-00	1-90 Cus. 3-65 "	290-00	265-00 Acr.	265	52-25	2-225	..
	Lendezari Tank ..	977-10	61-00 "	6,660-00 Acr.	4,662-00	3,330	270-00 M. cft.	4 Miles	3-6 Miles.
65	Bagheda ..	961-00	RBC. 25 " LBC. 41 "	4,203-00 "	3,837-00	3,040	273-00	10-16 "	C. 75 "
66	Sorna Tank ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
67	Chandpur Tank Upper Lower	..	Upper 200 Cus. L.B.C. 41 "	Nil	23,676-00 Nil	Nil	1,314-00 101-00	..	71-6
68	Managad Tank ..	1,070-00	90-00 "	12,376-00	8,377-00	4,200	255-6	9-5 Miles	10-0 Miles.
69	Sangrampur Tank ..	988-00	51-00 "	7,351-00	4,928-00	2,400	175-00	4-75	6-00

Canals and Wells.—Besides tanks, canals and wells are the other sources of irrigation in the district.

Canals and wells irrigate 18.18 per cent and 1.98 per cent of the net area irrigated in the district, respectively. Other sources irrigate the remaining 1.68 per cent of the net irrigated area. The largest canal irrigation is in Gondia tahsil. It is extremely small in Sakoli tahsil. Well irrigation has increased from 4,681 acres in 1961-62 to 9,154 acres in 1965-66, on the other hand canal irrigation has declined from 55,913 acres in 1961-62 to 19,995 acres in 1965-66.

SEED SUPPLY

The value of pure seed of good quality is immeasurable but very often the farmer is either not careful enough in selecting his seed or fails to get the best variety of it. Use of improved seeds is one of the important and quick measures for increasing agricultural production. The quality of seeds counts considerably in stepping up yield. In respect of some crops, it has been found that the yield could be increased by about 8 to 20 per cent by the use of improved varieties of seeds. It is comparatively a recent innovation to step up production by using better seeds. The cultivators use the same type of seeds which they have been growing for decades. They generally reserve certain portion of their field produce and use that as seed. But as they are technically not considered cent per cent pure and are apt to be of poorer quality, they do not give as much yield as is expected from a better variety of seeds. The task of supplying the best variety of seed, therefore, falls, on the Government which by intensive research has to find it out in respect of yield per acre, quality, ability to resist disease, and suitability to local condition. During recent times several improved varieties of seeds have been obtained by the Department of Agriculture either by selection or by acclimatisation.

Evolution of improved strains of important crops is, therefore, of foremost significance. In view of this, the principal food crops have been considered for systematic multiplication under the technical supervision of the Agriculture Department. After evolving suitable varieties of principal food crops acceptable to consumers and cultivators production of "Breeder's Seed" is undertaken at Agricultural Research Stations. It is then multiplied on Taluka Seed Multiplication Farms and the resultant produce known as "Foundation Seed" is further multiplied so as to produce "Certified Seed" in "Seed Villages" or on the farms of Registered Seed Growers for eventual general distribution through the Zilla Parishads with the help of Apex Marketing Co-operative Federation. The effect of improved seeds of important foodgrain crops lasts for nearly five years. Hence the produce of improved seeds once distributed could be used for five

years. The Agriculture Department had introduced the following improved varieties or strains of crops for the district as shown below:—

Crop	Strains
Rice	R-2-Sultu, Goramatia, Bhoudu x Parva—116; R-12-Banaspatri, R-15 Chinoor.
Wheat	Hy-65-4
Rabi Jowar	M-35-1
Linseed	35 x 429

There are eight seed multiplication centres at Sakoli, Deori, Karanja, Amgaon, Dongargaon, Pahela, Salora and Navegaon in the district.

INTENSIVE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMME*

The main object of package programme is to increase the agricultural production by use of improved practices in areas with high production potential. Bhandara district was selected for implementation of the package programme in the year 1962-63. The main features of this programme are to arrange adequate and timely supply of production requisites, technical advice and credit to the farmers.

The programme of collection and analysis of soil samples had made a very rapid progress. More than 8,189 soil samples were collected and 4,057 soil samples were analysed in 1964-65.

The work done under distribution of improved seeds and fertilizers is indicated below:—

	Tonnes
(1) Paddy	19.00
(2) Wheat	6.45
(3) Jowar	0.04
(4) Pulses	0.01
(5) Ammonium sulphate	29.15
(6) Superphosphate	94.49
(7) Other fertilizers	94.49

The area actually covered as per package of practices under different crops was as under:—

Serial No.	Crop	Area covered	
		Target (lakh hectares)	Achievement (lakh hectares)
1	Paddy	0.5180	0.2428
2	Wheat	0.0777	0.1574
3	Rabi Jowar	0.1574	0.0343
4	Pulses	0.0485	0.0526
	Total	0.8016	0.4871

* Annual Administration Report, Department of Agriculture, 1964-65, pp. 44-45.

The crop finance provided to the cultivators through co-operatives as well as through *Taccavi* was to the tune of Rs. 41.75 lakhs.

MANURES

Farmers in Bhandara district, particularly those growing paddy, wheat, jowar, chillis, oil-seeds, etc., seem to be well aware of the utility and importance of manuring their fields. They apply manures on large scale even though they are costly. The most usual practice obtaining in the district is to manure the fields with dung of cattle, sheep and goats, farm refuse and stable litter. Sheep folding is also practised on a large scale. Cultivators are also found to use chemical fertilizers and manure mixtures distributed by the Department of Agriculture.

Indigenous manures are carefully stocked and used throughout the district. However, there is a dirth of cattle-dung for manurial purposes, as nearly 40 per cent of its total supply is commonly used as fuel. Owners of flocks of sheep and goats are paid in cash for quartering their stock overnight in the fields. It is estimated that about a thousand sheep and goats together give manure equal to five to six cart-loads. Town refuse and night soil are utilized for making compost manure by some municipalities in the district. The manure is auctioned to cultivators who use it on a large scale. Compost manure is obtained by digging the pits which are filled with farm refuse, cow-dung, stable litter, etc. The material is allowed to decompose in the pits. The manure so obtained ordinarily contains nitrogen varying between 0.6 per cent and 0.8 per cent. Oil-seed cakes, manure mixtures and chemical fertilizers made available at concessional rates by the Department of Agriculture have become quite popular among the cultivators. The application of oil-seed cakes, manure mixtures and chemical fertilizers to food crops has brought about an increase of about 30 per cent in their yield. The Department of Agriculture has been arranging demonstrations of the application of different manures to various crops with a view to educating and convincing the farmers about the utility of scientific manuring. The quantity of manure to be applied varies from field to field and from crop to crop. Top dressing with ammonium sulphate and super-phosphate is also practised. Many of the cultivators apply only sulphate of ammonia at the rate of one bag per acre under wheat crop. Pulses are not generally manured. Rice, the staple food crop, also receives fertilizers. The crops are always manured with farm-yard manure and chemical fertilizers.

The use of fertilizers and production of local manures and distribution of the same including green manuring is practised on large areas by the cultivators. The details about the achievements

under various schemes relating to these programmes in 1964-65 in Bhandara district are as detailed below :—

Distribution of Sann-Seed at Subsidised rate for Green Manuring.

District	Quantity (in quintals)	
	Target	Achievement
Bhandara	1,434	2,031

Distribution of Fertilizers.

District	Distribution (in metric tonnes)	
	Target	Achievement
Bhandara	7,681	11,848

Development of Local Manurial Resources (Rural Compost).

District	Distribution of rural compost (in metric tonnes)	
	Target	Achievement
Bhandara	59,693	68,087

Composting of Town-Refuse by Municipalities into Manures (Town Compost).

District	Production of town compost (in metric tonnes)	
	Target	Achievement
Bhandara	6,604	5,682

PESTS

A brief account of various pests of crops in the district is given in the following paragraphs. The extent of damage caused by them cannot be gauged accurately as it depends upon the severity of infestation in the year of attack. Remedial measures mentioned against different pests are such as are within the means of the average cultivator.

Of Paddy.—Paddy is generally affected by pests such as, stem-borer, swarming caterpillar, army worms, paddy gall fly, paddy

grasshoppers and crab. The nature and extent of damage caused by these pests and their various control measures are given below :—

Stem-borer (*Schoenobius incertellus*, Wlk.).—*Marks of identification*: The caterpillar is one inch in length; yellowish white in colour and smooth with orange-yellow coloured head. Moths are straw-coloured with yellow fore wings having one black dot on each side while the hind wings are white. They are $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " long with a wing expanse of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Nature of damage: The larvae bore into the stem of paddy plant causing death of central shoot. If the crop is attacked at later stage, the shoot bears empty ears locally known as 'Palinj'.

Life history.—Female moth lays eggs in masses on the tips of leaves. These hatch in about a week's time and the tiny larvae initially feed on the leaves for a day or two and then start boring into the stem. Larval period is about 4 to 5 weeks. Pupation takes place inside the stem in a silken cocoon. Pupal period is 8 to 10 days. Thus a generation is completed in about two months. The pest is carried over to next season by the hibernating larvae or pupae in stubbles remaining in field after harvest.

Control measures: The pest can be controlled by preventive measures only; as the same is an internal feeder. These include—

- (1) Ploughing the land, collection and destruction of stubbles after the harvest of the crop.
- (2) Removal and destruction of affected plants along with the caterpillars inside.
- (3) Destruction of egg masses by clipping leaf tips at the time of transplanting.

Spraying with 0.04 per cent endrin (2 ml. endrin 20 per cent E.C. in 1 litre of water) or parathion (1 ml. parathion 50 per cent E.C. in 2 litres of water) or phosphamidon (1 ml. phosphamidon 100 per cent E.C. in 2.5 litres of water) has been reported to be effective in reducing the pest. Trials with lindane and carbaryl granules in paddy water are also reported to be effective.

Swarming caterpillar (*Spodoptera mauritia* B.): It is dark greenish in colour with a slight yellow tinge and dark white stripes along the body length and with dark head. When full-grown, it measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. Moths are stoutly built with dusky brown hind wings. The fore wings are dark brown with a black spot. They are $\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " in length with a wing expanse of $1\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Army worms (*Cirphis unipuncta* H.): These are dull, greenish in colour with broad light-coloured stripes running along the lateral sides of the body. Full-grown caterpillar is smooth, stout-bodied and measuring about 1" to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. Moths are of two types. The first one is brownish red with prominent spots on the anterior margin of the wings. Hind wings are pale coloured with dark borders. The other one is dusky brown with a dark median line and spots on the apical margin of wings.

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Nature of damage: Immediately after hatching the caterpillars feed on grasses or young paddy seedlings. When the pest attacks the crop at the time of grain formation, considerable losses are caused due to shedding of grains. The pest is active mostly during night while during day time larvae hide in whorls of leaves, leaf sheath or under clods, if the field is not flooded.

Host plants: Besides paddy, jowar and other cereal crops are also attacked by the pest.

Life history: Two to three hundred eggs covered with greyish hair are laid in masses mostly on the lower surface of leaves. Eggs hatch in 7 to 8 days. Caterpillars hatching out of eggs feed on the leaves mostly at night and become full-grown in about two weeks. Pupation takes place in soil in earthen cocoons. Life-cycle is completed in about 40 to 50 days. Larvae have migratory habit and they move like army from one field to another causing complete destruction and hence the name 'Army worm'. It has also been observed that initial good start of monsoon followed by the prolonged dry spell is favourable for the activity of the pests. More than one generation are found in a season.

Control measures: Preventive measures include protection of seed-beds by trenching around the seed-bed and collection of egg masses followed by their destruction, trapping the larvae under bunches of dry grass, flooding the field, etc. Ploughing the fields immediately after the harvest of the crop to expose hibernating pupae in soil also helps considerably in keeping the pest under check. Pest can also be effectively controlled by application of 5 per cent BHC dust at 20—25 lbs. per acre or 0.2 per cent BHC spray. The treatment should preferably be given in the evening when the pest is active.

Paddy gall fly (*Pachytiplosis oryzae* W.)—*Marks of identification*: The larva is a legless maggot while the adult is a fly having two simple wings and long slender legs. Adult female is reddish while the male is ash grey in colour. Wing expanse is about $1\frac{1}{15}$ ".

Nature of damage: Young larvae on hatching gets access into the growing bud and lacerates the tender tissues thereby checking the apical growth. Tubular structure called "Silver shoot" is formed in place of normal shoot. Infestation is highest during the tillering stage.

Life history: Eggs are laid on the basal side of leaf which hatch in 3 to 5 days. Larvae on hatching enter the growing bud. Larval period lasts for 8 to 10 days and pupation is within the silver shoot which lasts for three to five days. Thus generation is completed in 3 weeks time.

Host plants: Besides paddy, grasses and wild rice are host plants.

Control measures: Being an internal feeder it is difficult to control the pest. However, the following control measures have been found to minimise the pest incidence: -

(i) Clean up campaign to destroy other grasses which serve as alternate host plants.

(ii) Three sprayings with 0.04 per cent parathion (1 ml. parathion 50 per cent E.C. in 2 litres of water) or endrin (2 ml. endrin 20 per cent E.C. in 1 litre of water) at 15 days interval as soon as pest incidence is noticed. One spray in the nursery may be given if the infestation is observed.

Paddy Grasshoppers (*Hicoglyphus banian*, Fb.)—**Marks of identification:** Adults are medium sized greenish in colour without spots and with bluish hind tibia. There are 3 dark streaks on prothorax. Female measures about 1½" to 2" while the male measures 1" in length. Nymphs are brownish but turn greenish as they grow.

Nature of damage: Both nymphs and adults feed on foliage and also on developing ears.

Host plants: Besides paddy, the pest attacks sugarcane and grasses.

Life history: Eggs are laid in soil in batches of 30 to 40 especially along the bunds or in fallow lands. These eggs hatch immediately after the first shower of rains and tiny nymphs feed initially on grasses but later migrate to the main crop in fields. They become full-grown in about 70 to 80 days after moulting 4 to 5 times. There is only one generation in a year and carry over of pest is through egg masses.

Control measures: If the pest occurs regularly in a particular area, it is better to plough the fields and crush the egg masses by clod crushing. Scraping the bunds and destroying egg masses also help in keeping the pest under check. The insecticidal trials conducted had shown that the application of 5 per cent BHC dust at 20 to 25 lbs. per acre or 5 per cent BHC poison bait at 20 to 30 lbs. BHC per acre or spraying with 0.2 per cent BHC spray at 80 to 100 gallons per acre, is quite effective in controlling the pest.

Crab (*Paratelphusa Jacquemontii*)—**Marks of identification:** It is whitish to dark brown in colour with yellowish borders. Eyes are stalked and dark black at the back. The body measures 0.5 cm. in thickness and 4 cm. in length.

Nature of damage: Crabs are polyphagous. They cut the young paddy plants near the ground level and carry them to their burrows for feeding. They are mostly active during nights. Besides this they prepare a series of burrows in the embankment of paddy fields as a result of which, water is not retained in the field which is virally required for the crop growth.

Control measures: Fumigation of crab burrows with cyanogas dust was recommended so far. However, poison baiting with 5 per cent DDT 1 per cent dieldrin or 0.08 per cent endrin baits in boiled rice or application of 0.05 per cent endrin or parathion at the rate of 80—100 ml. per burrow is quite effective in controlling the pest.

Of Jowar Jowar stem borer (*Chilo zonellus swinh*).—**Marks of identification:** The caterpillars are dirty white with many spots on the body and with a brown head. The full-grown caterpillar measures about ½" to ¾" in length. The moths are straw coloured with forewings pale yellowish grey having minute dots on the apical margin and white hind wings.

Host plants: Jowar, maize and grasses.

Nature of damage: Caterpillars bore inside the stems causing thereby drying of the central shoots called "Dead Hearts" due to which reddening of stems takes place.

Life history: Creamy white eggs are laid on leaves in clusters which hatch in six days. Young caterpillars bore into the stems and they remain there for three to four weeks, after which the full-grown caterpillars pupate *in situ*. The pupal period is 7 to 10 days and the total period of the life-cycle is 5 to 6 weeks. The pest hibernates as larvae in stubbles. The period of activity is from June to November. There are about four generations in a year. Summer jowar is frequently found heavily infested by this pest.

Control measures: Being an internal feeder only preventive and mechanical measures are found effective and economic:—

(i) The affected plants should be pulled out along with the caterpillars inside and destroyed promptly.

(ii) After harvest of the crop stubbles should be collected and burnt to destroy the hibernating larvae.

(iii) The fodder to be fed to cattle should be cut into small pieces and stored.

Jowar stem fly (*Atherigona indica*)—**Marks of identification:** Its maggots are legless, tapering anteriorly and are found feeding inside the stems of young plants. The adults are similar to house-flies but very much smaller in size, and on their dorsal side, there are a few dark spots.

Host plants: Jowar and other millets.

Nature of damage: The maggots bore inside the stem and cause dead hearts and are generally more common in a very young crop.

Life history: The eggs are laid on stems or tender seedlings and they hatch in 2 to 3 days. The maggots bore into the stems of young plants and feed inside the stem for about a week. Full-grown maggots pupate inside the infested stems of plants. The pupal period lasts about a week. The pest is occasionally serious in early stages of the crop.

Control measures: As the pest is an internal feeder, mechanical methods though laborious have been found to be more useful which consist of : (i) removing the affected seedlings and destroying the larvae, and (ii) increasing seed rate to make up the loss. For hybrid varieties which are more susceptible to the attack of the pest, the following chemical control measures have been recommended :—

(i) Soil application of 10 per cent phorate granules at the rate of 7 kg per acre prior to sowing. The granules should not come in close contact with the seeds, and (ii) if phorate is not available 4 sprays with 0.05 per cent endrin (2.5 ml. of endrin, 20 per cent E.C. in 1 litre of water) at 10 days interval starting from 7 days after germination.

Flea beetle (*Chaetochneuma indica*)—**Marks of identification :** The beetles are black and small about 1/10" long, oblong and with the hind pair of legs thickened by means of which they are able to jump about. Some species may be brownish in colour.

Host plants : Jowar is some times seriously damaged in the eastern parts of Maharashtra, though the pest may also occur at other places. The species is also a serious pest of sann-hemp.

Nature of damage : The beetles feed generally on the middle part of the leaf-blade and not on the border as is the case with caterpillars and grasshoppers. When the flea beetle feeds on the leaf, there result numerous small holes on its surface.

Life history : Its life history is not known fully but the younger stages, i.e., the grubs, are supposed to be root feeders.

Control measures : Dusting 10 per cent BHC at the rate of 8—10 kg per acre gives satisfactory control of the pest. Treatment with 0.05 per cent endrin or 0.15 per cent malathion would also prove to be effective.

Army worms (*Cirphis unipuncta*)—**Marks of identification :** Full-grown caterpillars are 1" to 1½" long, smooth bodied and dull greenish coloured with broad light coloured strips running along its length on either side of the body. They are found in the central whorl of plants, or may remain under stubbles around the plants in soil. Moths are of two types. One type of moth is brownish red with prominent spots on the anterior margin of the wings. The hind wings are pale in the middle with dark borders. The other type of moth is dusky brown with a dark median line and less prominent spots on the apical margin of the wings. A pest called swarming caterpillar which is a little darker and with longitudinal bands is also known to infest jowar. Their habits and the control measures for them are identical.

Host plants : Jowar, maize, bajri, paddy and other cereals.

Nature of damage : The caterpillars feed on leaves mostly at night, while during the day they remain hidden in the whorl in the clods underground. They migrate from one field to another when their food is exhausted and hence the pest is called army worms.

Life history : Round, greenish white eggs are laid on central leaves in two parallel rows in batches which hatch in a week. Caterpillars feed on leaves from the margin inwards and hide in the central whorl of the plant. In bad cases of attack they completely defoliate the plants as they have a habit of feeding together. Their larval period is from 21 to 28 days. Full-grown caterpillars descend to the ground for pupation. Their pupal period lasts from 8 to 10 days. The total period of their life-cycle is five to six weeks. The pest is active from June to November. *Kharif* crops suffer more from it than *rabi* crops. There may be a number of generations during a season, after which the insects hibernate in the pupal stage in soil. The pest does not become abundant every year and it is observed that when a long dry spell follows a good start of monsoon, the pest assumes epidemic form. It shows a tendency to subside if heavy showers occur thereafter.

Control measures : (1) Collection of egg masses and their destruction, (2) if the attack is localised, caterpillars may be collected by employing labour and destroyed, (3) deep ploughing of the infested fields after the harvest of the crop to expose the hibernating pupae to the action of weathering agencies and birds, (4) dusting with 10 kg of 10 per cent BHC or spraying 0.2 per cent BHC [½ kg of 50 per cent BHC (WP) in 120 litres of water], (5) dusting with 5 per cent aldrin or 3 per cent heptachlor at the rate of 10 kg per acre also gives effective control of the pest.

Hoppers and Aphids (*Peregrinus maidis*, Ashm. and *Rhopalosiphum maidis*, F. and *Aphis sacchari* Zhent) : Delphacids (*Peregrinus maidis*, Ashm.) and Aphids are responsible for causing the sugary secretion on jowar, the symptoms are locally known as *Chikla*. It is quite severe especially on *rabi* jowar.

Marks of identification : Delphacids are wedge shaped, greenish brown in colour with blackish spots on wings.

Aphids: Adult is oblong and dark brown or yellowish green in colour having two projections called cornicles on the dorsal side of the abdomen. It is mostly found in the wingless stage.

Host plants : Sugarcane, maize and grasses.

Nature of damage : Sugary secretion is seen on the leaves of the plant and also in the whorl and ultimately the growing shoots of the plant are damaged and further growth is checked.

Control measures : The problem of 'Sugary disease' is still under investigation, however, spraying with 0.02 per cent diazinon, thiometon, endrin or dusting with 5—10 per cent BHC dust helps in reducing the intensity of infestation of these pests.

Of Gram.—Gram pod borer (*Heliothis armigera*)—**Marks of identification :** The moths are stout, light yellowish brown, with a wing expanse of 3.7 cm. The forewings are pale brown with

some black dots and the hind wings are lighter in colour with smoky dark margins. The caterpillars are greenish with darker broken grey lines along the sides of the body. They are 3.7 to 5 cm in length when full-grown.

Nature of damage: The caterpillars feed on tender foliage and young pods. They make holes in the pods and eat the developing seeds by inserting the anterior half portion of their body inside the pods.

Host plants: Gram, cotton, tomato, peas, tobacco, ganja, safflower, etc., are the principal hosts.

Life history: Shining greenish yellow eggs, spherical in shape are laid singly on the tender parts of plants and they hatch in about 6 or 7 days. On hatching the caterpillars start feeding on tender leaves and shoots and as they grow, they bore into the pods and eat the developing grains inside. They become full-grown in 14 to 15 days and descend to the ground and pupate in earthen cocoons in the soil near the plants. Their pupal period lasts from one week to a month. The pest is active from November to March.

Control measures: Hand picking of the caterpillars during initial stages of attack would help in reducing the future infestation. Ploughing the field after the harvest of crop would destroy the pupae.

The pest can be effectively controlled by spraying the crop with 0.1 per cent carbaryl or 0.06 per cent isobenzan or 0.2 per cent DDT or 0.03 per cent aldrin or endrin or heptachlor or 0.12 per cent phosphamidon at the rate of 250 litres per acre.

Of Tur.—Tur pod caterpillar (*Exelastis atomos*)—**Marks of identification:** The moths are slender, not more than 12 mm long and are grey with long, narrow wings. The front wings are divided into two parts and the hind wings are cut into three parts and provided with a fringe-like border. The full-grown caterpillars are about 12 mm long, greenish brown in colour and are fringed with short hair and spines.

Nature of damage: The caterpillars bore into green pods and feed on the developing seeds.

Host plants: Tur and Wal.

Life history: Minute eggs are laid singly on the tender shoots, leaves, flowers or pods and they hatch in about 5 days. On hatching, the caterpillars first scrape the surface of pods and gradually cut holes and thrust their heads into pods and feed on seeds and become full-grown in about four weeks' time. They pupate on the pod surface or even in the burrows of infested pods. Their pupal period lasts for two weeks. The pupae are also fringed with short hair and spines and are often liable to be mistaken for larvae. The total period of their life-cycle is about seven weeks.

Control measures: Preventive measures include collection of the infested pods and their destruction during early stages of attack and avoiding leguminous crops consequently in the same field.

Spraying the crop with 0.2 per cent DDT at 250 litres per acre or dusting with 1 per cent telodrin or 1 per cent endrin or 5 per cent BHC or 3 per cent heptachlor or 10 per cent carbaryl or 4 per cent malathion or 1.5 per cent dieldrin or 5 per cent DDT or 3 per cent morphothion or 2 per cent parathion at 9 kg per acre have also proved effective.

Tur pod fly—(*Agromyza oblusa*)—Marks of identification: Freshly laid egg is white, broad and rounded at the posterior and narrowed anteriorly into a curved elongated hollow process. It measures 0.66×0.15 mm. Newly hatched larvae is white with dark brown mouthparts. It measures 0.61×0.12 mm. A fine brownish stripe runs along the entire mid-dorsal line of body. Full-grown larvae is creamy white measuring 3.5 to 4 mm in length and 1.25 to 1.5 mm in breadth. Pupae measure 2.5 mm $\times$ 1.25 mm. Adult flies are glossy black with pubescent eyes and strong legs with femur slightly thickened. They are proboscis brown at the apex, wings clear, veins brown, yellowish at their bases, halteres black, abdomen broadly ovate. They measure 2.75 mm in length.

Nature of damage: The pest is widely distributed throughout India. Young larvae after hatching from the eggs enter soft seeds and feed on them. At first, the damage resembles that of leaf miners as their galleries run just under the epidermis of seed. Later they burrow deep down resulting in decaying of the grains which become unfit for either consumption or germination. As high as 80 per cent of the pods and 63 per cent of the grains may be damaged. In advance cases of damage, the pods present a twisted appearance.

Host plants: Few hosts belonging to family leguminosae have been recorded.

Life history: Copulation starts within 24 hours after emergence and egg laying takes place soon after. Life of adult is short and oviposition is limited to 3 to 4 days. A female lays on an average 38 eggs with a maximum of 79. It avoids very young as well as mature pods of oviposition. It pierces her ovipositor in pericarp and deposits a single egg. When a pod is opened the eggs appear like needles projecting from the wall of the pod. Larval period is about 6 days at 26°C but during winter it may be as much as 21 days. Pupal stage lasts for 8 days at 27°C and for 30 days at 18°C. Thus it requires about 22 to 23 days to complete one generation.

Control measures: Removal of affected pods of first brood during winter will help in reducing the population to a great extent. The crop may be treated with 0.2 per cent DDT or 0.02 per cent endrin spray at the rate of 300 litres per acre to kill the adult flies.

Tur Pod Bug (*Clavigralla Gibbosa*)—Marks of identification: The adult bugs are about 12 mm long, are greenish brown in colour, have a spined pronotum and a femur swollen at the apical end.

Nature of damage: Both the nymphs and adults suck the sap from pods and cause the infested pods to shrivel. The pest, however, is rarely serious.

Host plants: Tur, Wal, etc.

Life history: The eggs are laid in rows. On hatching, the nymphs start sucking the juice from pods and pass through five moults to reach the adult stage.

Control measures: Preventive measures are the same as those in the case of the pod caterpillar, 5 per cent BHC powder, if dusted at the rate of 8 kg per acre may control the pest.

Of Potato.—Potato Tuber moth (*Gnorimoschema operculella*)—Marks of identification: Full-grown caterpillars are 18 mm. long, pinkish white or greenish with a dark brown head. The moths are very small, narrow-winged, measure 12 mm from tip to tip of the wing and are greyish brown in colour, mottled with hue of a darker brown.

Nature of damage: In the early stages of the crop, the pest injures the plant as a leaf-miner, but this injury seldom attracts much attention. The infested tubers rot. The activity of the pest in stored potatoes can be generally made out by the presence of black excreta near the eye buds. On cutting open one of such potatoes, one finds the caterpillar in the pulp.

Host plants: Potato, tobacco, tomato, egg-plant and weeds of the same family.

Life history: The eggs are laid singly on the underside of leaves or on exposed tubers. On hatching, the caterpillars produce blotch mines on the leaves and subsequently bore into the stems and become full-grown in 2 to 3 weeks. Full-fed caterpillars pupate in a greyish, silken dirt-covered cocoon, about 12 mm in length and entangled in dried leaves or in trash lying on the ground. The pupal period lasts for 7 to 10 days. The total period of their life-cycle is about 4 weeks in warm weather. Warm weather is most favourable for the spread of this pest and there are several generations in a year. The later generations infest the tubers in the field and come out of them for pupation.

Control measures: Timely earthing up of the crop to cover the exposed tubers helps in reducing the intensity of infestation. Initial field infestation can be checked by dusting the crop with 5 per cent DDT or 0.65 per cent lindane at the rate of 8 kg per acre or spraying with 0.03 per cent lindane or 0.2 per cent DDT. Heaps of harvested potatoes should not be kept exposed in the field but covered with straw. The infested tubers should not be rejected before storage.

Fumigate the tubers with carbon-di-sulphide at the rate of 1 kg per 27 cm for 48 hours at 70° F or methyl bromide at the rate of 1.1 kg per 27 cm for atleast 3 hours before storage. Carbon-di-sulphide is reported to induce sprouting in storage. Bags used for storing potatoes may be treated with 1 per cent DDT solution in xylene. Walls of godowns should be sprayed with 1.5 per cent DDT at the interval of 3 months. Treatment of tubers with 0.65 per cent lindane or 5 per cent DDT or malathion at the rate of 125 to 250 gm per 100 kg is also reported to offer good protection against the pest. Such treated potatoes however should not be used for consumption. If cold storage facilities are available, the produce can be safely stored for a longer period.

Cutworm.—(*Agrotis ypsilon* Rott.)—Marks of identification: Full-grown caterpillars are about 18 mm long, dirty black in colour and have habit of coiling up at the slightest touch. As they become old, they live in cracks of soil nearabout the base of plant during the day time and feed on young plants at night. The moths are about 25 mm long with dark or blackish grey patches on their forewings and are attracted by light.

Nature of damage: The caterpillars are active during the night. They cut the young plants at the ground level and feed on tender leaves and shoots. They cut many more plants than they can eat.

Host plants: Potato, tobacco, peas, gram, cotton, tomato, lucerne, chillis, brinjal and other vegetables.

Life history: Creamy white spherical eggs are laid singly quite near one another on the lower surface of leaves and stems close to the ground. The egg-laying capacity of a single female is about 300 eggs. The eggs hatch in a period of 4 to 7 days. Newly hatched caterpillars are light-grey coloured and move as a semi-looper. The caterpillars become full-grown in about 3 to 5 weeks' time and pupate in the soil in earthen cocoons. The pupal period is 11 to 18 days. The total period of their life-cycle in cold weather in the plains is about 5 to 9 weeks and there are generally two generations in a year.

Control measures: Clean cultivation by regular interculturing should be practised. Heaps of green grass may be kept at suitable intervals in the infested field during evening to trap the caterpillars. These heaps should be removed along with the caterpillars during early morning and destroyed. Irrigation also brings the caterpillars to the surface and then birds destroy them. The pest can be effectively controlled by 5 per cent BHC or paris green in 25 parts of wheat bran or one part of 50 per cent wettable BHC in 9 parts of wheat bran. Little jaggery or molasses is added for taste. Sufficient quantity of water should be added to moisten the bait. Bait should be broadcasted in the field in the evening at the rate of 10 to 25 kg per acre depending upon intensity of infestation. Poison baits though reported to be effective are rarely used as it involves high cost. Soil application

of heptachlor or aldrin or DDT at the rate of 4 kg of active ingredient per acre before planting is also reported to reduce the pest infestation.

Mites (*Hemitarsonemus latus*, Banke)—Marks of identification: They are extremely minute with variable colour.

Nature of Damage: They suck the sap from leaves. Badly attacked leaves show a peculiar bronzy and shiny appearance and ultimately wither and dry up.

Host plants: Potato, citrus, cotton, jowar, etc.

Life history: The eggs are laid on the leaf surface from which young-ones hatch out, feed on the host plants and grow into wingless adults. Some plant-feeding mites cause galls on the leaves and others cause reddening or browning, as on jowar; silvering and bronzing are observed on guava, cotton, citrus, etc.

Control measures: The crop should be sprayed with lime sulphur wash after diluting with 90 parts of water. Sulphur dusting at the rate of 8 kg per acre also gives satisfactory control of the pest.

Of Brinjal.—Brinjal shoot and fruit borer (*Leucinodus arbonalis* G.)—Marks of identification: The moths are medium sized and have whitish wings with large brown patches all over. The head and thorax are blackish brown. The caterpillars are pale white about 12 mm long when full-grown.

Nature of damage: The caterpillars bore into the stem and riddle it and eat the internal tissues and thus cause the plants to wither. When the infestation is on shoots, they bend down and wither. They attack the fruits as well, making their entry under the calyx when they are young, leaving no visible signs of infestation. The large holes seen on fruits are usually the exit holes of the caterpillars.

Host plants: Brinjal and stems of potato.

Life history: Flat whitish eggs are laid scattered on the leaf surface which hatch in 3 to 5 days. On hatching, the caterpillars start boring into the tender, growing shoots of plants and when fruits are formed they bore into them. They feed on the internal part of the shoots or fruits and become full-grown in 7 to 13 days. Full-grown caterpillars come out of the larval burrow and pupate in boat-shaped cocoons. Their pupal period lasts for 7 to 11 days.

Control measures: Removal and destruction of the affected fruits and shoots along with the caterpillars helps in reducing the intensity of infestation. Continuous cropping of brinjal and potato in the same area encourages the pest activity and hence proper rotation should be followed.

Two sprayings with 1 per cent DDT or 0.08 per cent endrin at 3 and 6 weeks after transplanting are reported to be promising against the pest.

Of Chillis.—Thrips (*Anaphothrips Dorsalis*)—Marks of identification: The adults are minute delicate insects, less than 1 mm long and are light yellow in colour. Their wings are fringed with hair. The younger stages are still more minute but wingless.

Nature of damage: These insects have mouth parts suited for scraping the epidermis of leaves and sucking the oozing sap. The plant tissues damaged by insects initially become whitish but later turn brown and ultimately dry. As a result of feeding leaves curl and become small, such symptoms are locally known as *Murda* or *Bokadya*.

Host plants: It is a polyphagous species recorded on cotton, mango, *tondli*, bottlegourd, guava, *bhendi*, brinjal, onion, etc.

Life history: Adult female lays fertilized or unfertilized eggs inside the leaf tissues generally on the lower side of leaf. A female can lay 50 to 60 eggs at the rate of 4 to 6 per day. Average incubation, larval, prepupal and pupal periods have been observed to be 8 to 9, 4 to 6, 2 and 3 days, respectively. Prepupal and pupal stages are generally found in soil at a depth of 1" to 2". The pest is more active during later part of monsoon, especially during a dry spell.

Control measures: The pest can be effectively controlled by spraying with 0.2 per cent DDT. So also, 0.02 per cent endrin, telodrin, methyl demeton, diazinon, dieldrin, thiometon, endosulfan, isobenzan, phosphamidon or lebaycid or 0.05 per cent malathion or dimethoate, 0.1 per cent carbaryl have also been found to be quite promising. Addition of sulphur to chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides in equal proportion would help in controlling mites also. Dusting with one per cent endrin plus sulphur or 10 per cent DDT sulphur at the rate 9 kg per acre is also equally effective. Repeated applications may be given at 15 days interval. A period of two to three weeks should be allowed to lapse before the crop is marketed for consumption.

DISEASES

In addition to the damage done by the pests, the crops suffer from various diseases. The following are the important diseases of various crops in Bhandara district.

Of Cereals.—Kani, Kajali: *Spacelotheca sorghi*, locally known as *kani* or *danekani*, and *spacelotheca crucuta*, locally called *kajali* are smuts of jowar. These are responsible for extensive damage to jowar crop in the district. The disease *kani* cannot be recognised until the ears come out. The diseased earheads do not form normal grains and in place of grains, black masses are formed. These black masses are called 'sori' and contain black powder which consists of millions of spores of the fungus. Threshing together of diseased and healthy earheads is the source of infection. It attacks *kharij* crop in September–November and *rabi* crop

in December—February. The present method of controlling it is by treating the seed with 200-300 mesh fine sulphur at the rate of one ounce of sulphur to 6.795 kilograms (15 lbs.) of seed.

The symptoms of *Kajali* are pretty nearly the same as those of *kani* or *danekani* with the difference that wall of sorus gets ruptured and black mass of powder is exposed which gives blackish appearance to the earheads. The period of its occurrence and the method of controlling it are the same as those of *kani*. Removal and destruction of affected earheads also helps to check the disease to some extent.

Tikkyā: *Tikkyā piricularia oryzae* is the paddy blast. This disease has assumed serious proportions in the district, especially in the heavy rainfall tracts. When severe, it is reported to cause damage to the extent of 46 to 75 per cent. It attacks seedling between July and August and the grown-up crop between September and November. The disease appears on leaves, necks and nodes of ears. On leaves it manifests as spindle-shaped spots with grey-white centres and purple red margins. These spots gradually collapse and the leaves ultimately wither. The nodes and necks begin to blacken when earheads are affected and this results in sterility leaving the ears without grains. Infected seed areas and affected debris are the source of infection. The following schedule is recommended to control the disease: (1) treating the seed with organo mercurial seed-dresser containing one per cent organic mercury at the rate of one ounce to 11.325 kg (25 lbs.) of seed, (2) dipping seedlings, before they are transplanted, in Bordeaux mixture 3:3:50, (3) one or two sprayings of Bordeaux mixture 3:3:50 till flowering, any copper compound preferably copper oxychloride containing 50 per cent metallic copper could also be used for the purpose, (3) sowing blast resistant varieties.

Karpa: *Karpa* or *Xanthomonas oryzae* is a bacterial parasite occurring on paddy seedlings in July and on grown up crop between August and October. The loss caused by the parasite is estimated to be of the order of 10 to 20 per cent. The typical symptom of the disease is appearance of black angular lesions on leaves, drying of tips, margins and ultimately the entire leaf. The disease enhances as soon as new leaves and tillers are formed. The ears in general show dying appearance. Seeds from infected areas and affected debris are the source of infection. Spraying the crop every fortnight with copper compound having 50 per cent metallic copper is practised to control the disease.

Tambēra or *Haldya*: *Puccinia graminis tritici*, locally known as *tambēra*, *haldya* or *gerwa* is the stem rust of wheat. It is by far the most destructive disease of wheat and when it is severe, causes damage to the tune of 60 per cent to 75 per cent of the crop. The disease manifests itself in the form of reddish brown elongated linear eruptive spots known as postules mostly on stems and also on leaves, leaf sheaths and awns, etc., in the early part of the season. When these postules are rubbed by a thumb, a

brownish red powder smears the thumb. The reddish brown powder contains spores called uredospores. Later in the season, these reddish brown postules change their colour and become black. These black postules contain blackish powder consisting of spores called teliospores meaning last spores. As the name signifies, this stage appears when the crop is about to mature. On account of the black colour of the powder in the postules, the disease is also known as black stem rust. This is active during November and February. Spores carried by wind and rain constitute the main source of infection.

Kani or *Kajali*: *Kani* or *Kajali*, *ustilago tritici* is a loose smut of wheat. It affects the crop between January and March and causes damage to the extent of about five per cent. The disease appears when the ears turn blackish. Every part of the ear except the rachis and awns gets affected and a loose blackish powder is formed in place of grains. This blackish powder consists of the spores of the fungus. Infected seeds and the black mass of powder are blown by the wind to the adjacent fields when the crop is in flowering stage. This spreads the infection. The infection being inside the seed, dressing them with fungicides is ineffective and hence a special method is evolved which is as under:

The seeds are soaked in cold water from 8 a.m. to 12 noon sometime during the first fortnight of May. The seeds are then spread on galvanised iron sheets in hot sun for about four hours. The seeds are stirred occasionally. Subsequently the seeds are thoroughly dried in the shade and stored in the gunny bags. These gunny bags are dusted with insecticides like pyrethrum. D.D.T. and B.H.C. (Benzene hexachloride) powders.

Of Pulses.—*Mar*: *Fusarium oxysporum*, locally known as *mar* is the wild disease of *tur*. Its attack is generally of a mild nature, the extent of loss in yield being one to two per cent. The disease is soil borne. Affected plants appear sickly, their leaves drop down and they ultimately wither and die. If roots of affected plants are split open, they exhibit brown discoloration of vascular tissue. The disease is of seasonal occurrence and may break out any time during the growth of the crop the method of controlling the disease is to grow wilt resistant varieties.

TENANCY AND TENURES

The system of land tenure in the past permitted a person to own land so long as he paid the customary revenue charges. It however, underwent changes with the course of political events during the different reigns. Bhandara district had *Zamindari* and *Maiguzari* systems of land tenure. Under the Gond rulers the *patil* of the village acted as the agent of Government for apportioning and collecting the revenue assessed on the village.

He received one-fourth to one-sixth of the Government demand as a remuneration. All the village lands were held on a yearly lease from the *Patil*. Under the Marathas (1749-1818) the demand was increased but the system of land tenure continued more or less in the same way.

In *Malguzari* system of tenure the proprietary rights were conferred on the revenue farmers, village *patils* and *Malguzars*. Under this system the *Malguzar* was allowed to manage the village on payment of revenue to Government leaving about one-third of the gross rental as his remuneration. Apart from the *Malguzari* estates, there were certain estates managed by the *Zamindars* and *Jagirdars*, since long even prior to Maratha conquests of 1740-55. These estates were of a feudal nature and were continued as rewards for military service, etc. They had full proprietary rights in their estates. They paid to the Government only quit rents and had the rights to divide and alienate their lands.

At the time of the reorganisation of the States when Bhandara district became a part of the then Bombay State there was no uniformity as regards the systems of tenancy and tenures. The *Malguzari* system was highly undesirable. It had very bad economic as well as social implications. Hence, it was found to be inconsistent with the economic system of a Welfare State. The Government, therefore, sought to bring the land tenancy systems in the Vidarbha region in line with the progressive land legislation already initiated in the old Bombay State. The Government, therefore, decided to secure uniformity in the matter of policy and principles on which the land legislation is based. While the objective was to bring general uniformity, complete uniformity was not sought to be brought in.

The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region and Kutch Area) Act, 1958, which came into force on 30th December 1958, tries to bring about peasant proprietorship, removing all intermediaries and enabling the tenant to be an occupant of the land he cultivates. It also limits the holdings of agriculturists in order to achieve an equitable distribution of agricultural land. Prior to this Act, the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954, were in force in Vidarbha region.

In the old Madhya Pradesh areas settlement was done on the basis of proprietary rights. The conferment of proprietary rights on *Malguzars* interposed between Government and the actual tillers of the soil, a body of persons whose interests often came in conflict with those of the latter. Hence, the need to protect the tenant class soon became apparent. In 1920, a new consolidating and amending Act was enacted known as the Central Provinces Tenancy Act, 1920. Under the Act, three classes of tenants were recognised viz., (1) Absolute occupancy tenants, (2) Occupancy tenants and (3) Sub-tenants. The first two classes of tenants

enjoyed fixity of tenure as well as rent. They were entitled to become *Malik-Makbuzas* on payment of a certain premium. Their rights were also transferable and heritable. The sub-tenants were, however, not given any special protection or rights. Until 1950, the tenancy laws in force in the Vidarbha region were intended only for the protection of tenants holding lands on lease in alienated areas.

There was a revolutionary change when the Madhya Pradesh Abolition of Proprietary Rights (Estates, Mahals, Alienated Lands) Act, 1950 came into force. Under this Act, the lands held by absolute occupancy tenants, occupancy tenants and ante-alienation tenants, etc., vested in Government and consequently these tenants became lessees of Government. The Act also conferred on them a right to become owner of land on payment of certain multiples of rent as premium. This provision was later on repealed by the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 wherein the absolute occupancy tenants and other categories of tenants referred to above were recognised as *Bhumiswamis* or *Bhumidharis* of the lands held by them.

After the coming into force of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 there were only two types of tenants (a) occupancy tenants including lessees who before coming into force of this Code were occupancy tenants or *Malik-Makbuzas* and who were declared as occupancy tenants under the provision of Section 169 (2) of the Code, and (b) ordinary tenants under Section 166 of the Code. Under Chapter XIV of the Code, the occupancy tenants enjoyed special protection and rights including fixity of tenure and right to purchase the land. The ordinary tenants had, however, no fixity of tenure or protection against rack-renting nor had they or the protected lessees any right of purchase. Soon after the reorganisation of States it was felt necessary to have a comprehensive legislation for securing the rights of tenants. Therefore, an ordinance, viz., the Bombay Vidarbha Region Agricultural Tenants (Protection from Eviction and Amendment of Tenancy Laws) Ordinance, 1957 was promulgated in order to safeguard the tenants from eviction by their landlords. Subsequently, it was replaced by the Act No. IX of 1958.

The current tenancy Act (No. XCIX of 1958) known as the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region and Kutch Area) Act, came into force on 30th December 1958. This Act repeals Chapter XIV of Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and Act IX of 1958. In the new Act, the terms "land" and "agriculture" are defined afresh and pursuits allied to agriculture have been recognised separately. This Act has a wider scope than the old tenancy laws in respect of rent, termination of tenancies, inheritance of tenancy rights, etc. It provides for the compulsory purchase of lands by tenants with effect from 1st April 1961. Subsequent amendment provides for purchase of land by the tenant on payment of purchase price to be decided

by revenue courts. It also introduces new provisions such as those in regard to family holdings and ceiling areas as contemplated by the Maharashtra Agricultural Lands (Ceiling on Holdings) Act, 1961. Thus, it prevents a person from holding land beyond the prescribed ceiling limit either as a tenant or as a landlord and consequently the abolition of *Malguzari* is accomplished for ever. It has foreseen the effects of the Ceiling on Holdings Act and has provided for the distribution and management of surplus lands.

The Act, however, has not prevented the holders of small lands requiring their lands for personal cultivation claiming their lands from the tenants provided two conditions are satisfied: (1) the principal source of income of the person claiming land is agricultural pursuits, (2) the tenant dispossessed of the land is not rendered landless. Similarly the Act does end to voluntary surrender of lands. However, the new provision requires surrender of land to be verified by the concerned Tahsildar. This acts as a sort of check and prevents landlords from obtaining their lands either by the use of force or inducements. The previous procedure adopted in the district, prior to the implementation of this Act, for payment of rents in terms of crop share or service (personal labour) has been discontinued and limits placed on payment of rents. The new system envisages putting an end to the exploitation of tenants. The Act has anticipated consequent hardships which may be caused to widows or disabled persons and has sought to protect their interests. Exemptions from the provisions of the Act have been granted in favour of industrial and commercial undertakings, cultivation of garden crops, sugarcane, coffee plantations and municipal areas. It gives a fair opportunity to both the tenants and the landlords for revision of rent if any improvement is subsequently effected or for reduction of the same if any loss is caused due to unforeseen circumstances.

Though in the beginning some difficulties were experienced in the implementation of the Act they were sought to be removed through subsequent amendments to it. The main objective of the Government behind the enforcement of this Act was to remove the intermediary class of *Malguzars* and to make tillers of the soil the owners thereof. However, in so doing the natural rights of the owners of land regarding receiving compensation in lieu of their lands occupied by tenants or by the Government itself securing them as surplus lands, was kept unaffected. Thus they were allowed to receive reasonable compensation.

The Planning Commission had before it the two-fold objective of exploiting the available land to the maximum possible extent and to maximise the yields therefrom but at the same time securing permanently the rights of the tillers in the land they cultivated. While implementing Land Legislation many important considerations, such as achieving the targets laid down under the Five-Year Plans, bringing about balanced economic development

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of the masses, ensuring social justice to the labourers, etc., have to be kept in view. By the introduction of Act No. XCIX of 1958, the long established class of *Malguzars* was abolished for ever.

The system of *royatwari* has been introduced in Bhandara district after the abolition of Madhya Pradesh *Malguzari* Proprietary Rights Act, 1950. At present only *Royatwari* Tenure system is in existence. The tahsilwise position of villages, holders, area covered and assessment is as under:—

Tahsil	No. of royatwari villages	No. of holders (<i>Khat-</i> <i>dars</i>)	Area covered (in acres)	Assessment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhandara ..	558	1,06,135	3,63,914-00	4,72,795-00
Gondia ..	464	1,25,266	3,89,774-00	4,83,256-00
Sakoli ..	622	97,259	3,35,349-00	3,54,789-00
Total ..	1,644	3,28,660	10,89,037-00	13,10,840-00

After the application of provisions of Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region) Act, 1958, the tenants are classified into two categories, i.e., ordinary and protected tenants. The tahsilwise details are as under:—

Tahsil	No. of ordinary tenants	No. of protected tenants	No. of cultivators
Bhandara	20,122	..	86,013
Gondia	13,006	..	1,12,260
Sakoli	11,631	..	85,628
Total ..	44,759	..	2,83,901

The information about ordinary tenants was prepared in the year 1963-64. The total number of cultivators was reported to be 2,83,901 in the district.

The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region) Act, 1958, came into force from 20th August 1958, and under section 8 of the Act about 44,759 tenants were declared and they were holding 99,011.00 acres of land as tenants. The tahsilwise position up to 30th June 1969 is as under:—

Tahsil	No. of ordinary tenants	Area held by them (in acres)
Bhandara	20,122	37,843-05
Gondia	13,006	39,018-00
Sakoli	11,631	22,149-95
Total ..	44,759	99,011-00

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AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

In Bhandara district a number of tenants were restored possession under Sections 7, 10, and 21 (4) of the Tenancy Act.

In respect of resumption application filed under Sections 38, 39, 39-A of the Act, by the landlords the following work has been executed:—

Tahsil	No. of applications filed	No. of applications decided in favour of landlords	Otherwise	Area resumed by the landlords (in acres)
Bhandara	10,471	2,236	8,235	5,348.35
Gondia	1,497	63	1,434	321.26
Sakoli	1,990	508	1,482	2,432.24
Total	13,958	2,807	11,151	8,101.85

The tahsilwise position regarding surrender of tenant's right under Section 20 of the Act, by the tenants and area involved therein is as under:—

Tahsil	No. of Tenants	Area (in acres)
Bhandara	7,909	12,903.41
Gondia	4,826	8,935.28
Sakoli	1,658	8,180.62
Total	14,393	30,019.31

As regards the compulsory transfer of the ownership of the tenants' land to the tenants, under Sections 46 and 49-A of the Act, the following work has been carried out in Bhandara district:—

Tahsil	No. of cases started	Ownership given to tenants by fixing price	Decided in favour of tenants without fixing price	Decided as otherwise
Bhandara	5,072	60	961	3,966
Gondia	14,864	198	2,015	7,045
Sakoli	8,657	473	2,617	4,191
Total	28,593	731	5,593	15,202

The following work in respect of action to be undertaken under section 122 of the Act regarding invalid transfers made after 30th December 1958 is as under:—

Tahsil	No. of invalid transfers reported	No. of invalid transfers validated	No. of invalid transfers filed as otherwise
Bhandara	9,526	35	9,115
Gondia	19,248	36	18,338
Sakoli	18,242	3,800	13,192
Total	47,016	3,871	40,645

The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Vidarbha Region) Act, 1958 came into force from 20th August 1958 and the following work had been carried out till 30th September 1969 :—

Items	Bhandara	Gondia	Sakoli	Total
(i) No. of cases filed under Tenancy Act.	15,961	52,534	36,710	1,05,205
(ii) No. of cases disposed off ..	15,093	46,230	34,973	96,296
(iii) No. of cases pending	868	6,304	1,737	8,909
(iv) No. of cases decided in favour of tenants.	9,536	6,607	6,598	22,741
(v) No. of cases decided in favour of landlords.	957	28,532	21,213	50,702
(vi) Rest of cases	4,600	11,091	7,162	22,853

RURAL WAGES

As elsewhere in the State of Maharashtra agricultural operations are absolutely dependent on manual labour and need a vast array of labourers. There is a very little use of tractors in Bhandara district. The agricultural family provides the central core of the agricultural labourers required for agricultural operations. With the spread of literacy there has been a growing allergy among the agriculturist family to take to ploughing and hence a larger number of labourers are required for carrying out agricultural operations. Ideas of prestige associated with particular castes also act as a bar to doing manual labour for cultivation. The absence of any law to regulate the condition of the agricultural labour somewhat affects the different operations and particularly the reaping of the crops. The average agricultural labourer is getting more conscious of his rights and the time is almost coming when he will be dictating his own terms.

The agricultural labourer as a class consists of males, females and children. Normally operations that require hard manual

labour such as ploughing, etc., are done by the males. Lighter operations like broadcasting of seeds, transplantation of paddy, etc., are done by the females and the children. There is a lot of friendly exchange of labour between agricultural families. The normal practice prevalent throughout the district is to pay daily wages of casual labour in cash but the system of paying them in kind was also prevalent. In the case of casual labourers, cash wages are not generally supplemented by wages in kind. The daily wages of male labourer in Bhandara district varied between Rs. 2.00 and Rs. 3.00, though the common rate of wages paid to male labourer was Rs. 2.00. Female labourers were usually paid at half the wage rate paid to male workers. Not much distinction was made between female labour and child labour so far as wages were concerned. The daily wages of a child labourer varied between Re. 0.75 and Re. 1.00 Table No. 24 gives the monthwise rates of daily wages of casual labourers in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66 and 1968-69.

TABLE No. 24

RATES OF DAILY WAGES OF CASUAL LABOURERS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1968-69.

Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Month (3)	Men (4)	Women (5)	Children (6)
Bhandara ..	1968-69 ..	July ..	2.50	1.25	1.00
		August ..	3.00	1.50	1.00
		September ..	3.20	1.50	1.00
		October ..	2.50	1.25	1.00
		November ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		December ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		January ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		February ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		March ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		April ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		May ..	2.50	1.00	0.75
		June ..	2.50	1.25	1.00
Gondia ..	1968-69 ..	July ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		August ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		September ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		October ..	2.50	1.50	1.00
		November ..	2.00	1.00	1.00
		December ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		January ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		February ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		March ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		April ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		May ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
		June ..	2.00	1.50	1.00
Sakoli ..	1968-69 ..	July ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		August ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		September ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		October ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		November ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		December ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		January ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		February ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		March ..	3.00	1.25	1.00
		April ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		May ..	2.00	1.25	1.00
		June ..	2.00	1.25	1.00

TABLE No. 25
AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62
AND 1965-66.

Months (1)	Year (2)	Carpenters (3)	Blacksmiths (4)	Cobblers (5)	Field Labour (6)	Other Agricultural Labour (7)	Herdsmen (8)
July	1961-62	Rs. 3.75	Rs. 3.00	Rs. 2.75	Rs. 1.50	Rs. 1.04	Rs. 2.00
August	"	3.75	3.00	2.25	1.75	1.37	1.75
September	"	3.00	2.50	2.25	1.50	1.00	1.50
October	"	3.00	2.50	2.50	1.25	1.00	1.50
November	"	3.00	2.50	2.25	2.00	1.50	1.50
December	"	3.00	2.50	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.50
January	"	3.00	2.00	2.50	1.12	1.00	1.50
February	"	3.00	2.00	2.50	1.12	1.00	1.50
March	"	4.00	5.00	2.50	..	1.37	1.25
April	"	4.00	3.00	2.50	1.50	1.37	1.75
May	"	3.00	2.75	2.50	1.12	1.00	1.50
June	"	4.00	4.00	3.00	..	1.00	1.85

TABLE No. 25—*contd.*

Months (1)	Year (2)	Carpenters (3)	Blacksmiths (4)	Cobblers (5)	Field Labour (6)	Other Agricultural Labour (7)	Herdsmen (8)
July	1965-66	Rs. 4-50	Rs. 4-33	Rs. 3-75	Rs. 2-17	Rs. 1-67	Rs. 1-83
August	"	4-92	4-42	3-75	2-42	2-00	2-00
September	"	4-58	4-42	3-75	2-42	2-00	2-00
October	"	4-75	4-42	3-75	2-42	2-00	2-00
November	"	4-58	4-50	3-75	2-42	2-00	2-00
December	"	5-08	4-75	3-75	2-42	2-17	2-17
January	"	4-75	4-75	3-75	2-42	2-17	2-17
February	"	5-08	4-75	3-75	2-33	2-17	2-17
March	"	4-67	4-75	3-75	2-33	2-17	2-17
April	"	5-08	4-75	3-75	2-33	2-17	2-17
May	"	4-75	4-75	3-75	2-33	1-17	1-17
June	"	5-08	4-75	3-75	2-33	1-17	1-17

Sometimes wages are paid to the casual labourers according to the skill and strain involved in the concerned agricultural operations. The daily wages paid to skilled workers including the workers such as carpenters, blacksmiths, cobblers, etc., are given in table No. 25.

Annual Servants.—Annual servants known as *chakar* or *nagaria* are employed in Bhandara district by those who can provide continuous and regular employment throughout the year. Traditionally a *chakar* is at the disposal of the landlord practically for all the hours of the day and night for doing all types of farm work. The contract of employment between the worker and the landlord generally holds good for a period of one year. It can be renewed at the option of both the parties. The number of big landholders who need the services of *chakars* has been gradually on the decline in the district. Consequently the system of maintaining annual servants is not much in vogue. But it was very popular in the past as could be seen from the account reproduced below from the old Gazetteer of Bhandara district.

Farm Servants.—"Farm-servants are generally engaged by the year and are known as *chakar* or *nagaria*. Up till recently they were always paid in grain, but in the vicinity of Bhandara cash wages are often now substituted, and the rate has risen to five or six rupees a month. During the last year or two there has been an acute demand for labour as the population was largely depleted by emigration during the scarcity season of 1903. Many of the labouring classes went to Berar, where good wages were obtainable, and have not returned. At the same time the construction of the new railway and the opening of the manganese mines have created an extra demand and raised the level of wages. As a consequence farm-servants and labourers are in a very advantageous position. Sometimes they stipulate that their employer shall sell them rice at a seer per rupee cheaper than the market rate. And if they work after sundown they expect to get the evening meal. This state of things is however mainly confined to the Chandpur tract in which the mines are situated, and elsewhere labour is still obtainable at a moderate wage. In the Bhandara tahsil grain wages are stated to be 8 small *kuros* or 120 lbs. a month of unhusked rice and Rs. 4 as an annual present, known as *jiwan*. Besides this the farm-servant gets a *bhara* or headload of rice-stalks at harvest containing from 15 to 30 lbs. of grain, and a *khara* containing from 30 to 40 lbs. when the grain is carried home after threshing. The farm-servant also receives a pair of shoes and a blanket every year and is allowed to take the gleanings of rice fields and the sweeping of the threshing floor. He also gets food at three or four festivals and similar presents at the harvest of wheat and *juar* if his employer grows these crops. All this works out to little more than Rs. 3 a month. Another wage is 10 small *khandis* or about 2,500 lbs. of unhusked rice a year and four rupees. Taking unhusked rice at 60 lbs. to the rupee this works out to Rs. 46 a year or a little under four rupees a month. The farm-servant's wife is often

bound to work for his employer when required. She gets ordinary wages and also an annual retaining fee of a cartload of wood, eight annas worth each of salt and chillies and 200 bundles of grass for thatching her house. In return for this she may not work for anyone else when her husband's master requires her services. Grain wages are said to have increased by about 20 per cent. in the last ten years. Occasionally the proprietor sows about half an acre of land for the wives of his farm-servants, who cut the crop and divide the produce between them. A head farm-servant is called *awari* and is paid a little more than the others.*

Balutedars.— Sometimes artisans of the village are actively connected with the agriculturists at various stages of farm operations. They are known as *balutedars* of traditional village economy. Generally, they are paid annually in kind for the services they render to landholders. These artisans include carpenter, blacksmith, cobbler, barber, washerman and other artisans like rope maker, etc. Of these the first four play an important role in the agricultural operations.

The system of *baluta* payment is gradually declining and there is a marked tendency to make payments in cash rather than in kind. The youngsters in artisans family do not enter into *baluta* contracts. They prefer to perform their services independently and for cash rather than be tied down to landholders for payment in kind. *Baluta* is usually paid at the time of harvest. The old Gazetteer of Bhandara district has given the following description of *baluta* system then prevalent in the district.

Village Servants.— "A village menial is called Aikari and the village servants are known collectively as Aiaikari. The Lohar and Barhai or blacksmith and carpenter are each paid 6 small *kuros* or 90 lbs. of unhusked rice annually for repairing the iron and wooden implements of agriculture. Sometimes the rate is a little higher and they also receive presents of a few pounds more at sowing and harvest-time. For making the share of a new plough or *bakhar* the blacksmith is paid 15 lbs. of grain for his labour, the iron being supplied; for a new yoke $7\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. are paid. The washerman and barber are now often paid according to services rendered. If they receive an annual due, it is 75 to 90 lbs. of unhusked rice or the barber may be paid 16 lbs. for each adult male in the family."**

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Research forms the backbone of development of agriculture on scientific lines. It is particularly so in the context of the policy for achieving self-sufficiency in food-grains.

There are nine Taluka Seed Multiplication Farms in the district which provide better seeds to farmers and cover the entire area under improved varieties. Seed multiplication work is con-

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908, pp. 112-13.

**Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908, p. 114.

finer to paddy, jowar and wheat. The nucleus seed produced at the research centre is multiplied on these farms and is then released to the cultivators.

Agricultural demonstration centres serve a useful purpose in demonstrating the improved agricultural practices advocated by the Department on the cultivators' fields. In all, 55 agricultural demonstration centres have been established so far against the target of 30.

Agricultural Education.— Increase in agricultural production is the culminating achievement in the field of agricultural research, supported by a system of agricultural education which provides for instruction in field sciences and their application to the problems of agricultural production. Agricultural education also provides the technical man-power required by the Agriculture Department as well as industries in the private sectors. Agricultural education in the State is being imparted through Agricultural Colleges, Agricultural Schools, *Gram-sevak* Training Centres, Home Science wings, etc.

Agricultural Schools.— The standard of farming has to be raised by educating the farmers in improved methods of agriculture, but the problem poses many difficulties. A vast agricultural population in the district handicapped with ignorance and poverty spread over villages has to be tackled. Propaganda method and resultant demonstrations have achieved a great measure of success, but the progress can be speeded up and lasting effects could be had only if the younger generation of farmers is educated in scientific farming. With this end in view an agricultural school was established at Gondia in Bhandara district, offering a two years diploma course in agriculture and allied subjects, for students coming from agricultural classes. The courses of study are so drawn up that the pupils would gain a working knowledge of scientific agriculture, animal husbandry, and farm operations through practicals on the farm attached to the school. The training also inculcates a spirit of self help and leadership. In 1964-65, 43 students were admitted in this school, of whom 42 successfully completed their course.

FAMINES

Early Famines *—No records remain of the occurrence of famines prior to 1868, but it is known that in 1822 and again in 1832 the people were severely distressed. In both cases failure of the harvest is said to have been caused by want of rain following two or three bad seasons. The famine was aggravated in 1832 by an unusual number of fires, perhaps incendiary, and by hoarding by merchants and traders. The Government stores having been emptied in giving seed-grain for the previous harvest were unable to lower the market. In both years the famine is said to have lasted about eight months and to have spread over the whole

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908, pp. 140-46.

District. The price of grain rose to 4 or 5 seers to the rupee and it was procurable with difficulty even at that rate. It was common for parents to offer their children in exchange for a small supply of grain, and thousands were said to have perished from want. Establishment of relief-houses at central points and the gratuitous distribution of cooked food and grain, forced sale of private stocks at fixed rates, inducements and rewards to Banjaras and other carriers for import of grain from Berar and Chhattisgarh, and remission of revenue and Government loans in the case of the most needy, with a system of payment by instalments for those who were not so hardly pressed, were the principal measures taken by the Maharashtra Government.

The Famine of 1869.—In 1868 the open season from January to May was broken by an unusual amount of cloudy and rainy weather. The monsoon was favourable till the middle of August, when it suddenly ceased, and subsequently only two inches of rain were received in September and some slight showers when the spring crops were in flower. The bulk of the rice harvest perished and the spring crops were poor, while the yield of the mahua flower was 50 per cent below the average. Wheat and rice were sold at 9 and 10 seers per rupee in November 1868. Work was started on the Great Eastern Road and the repair of the Sagar tank at Bhandara, and in May four poor-houses were opened, and subsequently increased to eight. It is reported that 76,000 persons were fed at relief-houses, but this apparently indicated the total number fed throughout the period. Many landowners also distributed cooked food from their private funds. Grain was imported by boat along the Wainganga during the rains and this tended to keep down prices at the most difficult time of the year. It was estimated that about 400 persons perished from direct starvation. The rice crop of 1869 was a bumper one and distress ceased at the harvest.

Scarcity in 1878 and 1886.—In 1878 the light rice failed from want of rain in October, and close and cloudy weather in December and January injured the spring crops. Prices were high and there was some distress among the poorer classes. But a sufficiency of work was available, and many people made a good living by selling bundles of grass to the cartmen on the Great Eastern Road, the traffic on which was so heavy at this period that Rs. 900 were collected in tolls in one week at the Sondar bridge. In 1886 only 6 inches of rain were received in August and much anxiety was felt for the harvest, but a fall of more than 10 inches in September and October saved a considerable part of the crop, and only slight stringency was experienced.

The Seasons from 1892.—A succession of poor harvests commenced from 1892. In that year the rain of September and October was more than 20 inches in Bhandara and the light rice was swamped, while even the transplanted crop did not give a full outturn. Further heavy showers in the winter months injured the spring crops. The season of 1893-94 was very similar to the

preceding one and both the rice and the spring crops were again poor, while the harvest of juar was less than half the normal. In 1894-95, though the rain of September to November was only 13½ inches, it is stated that the ripening rice crop was beaten down and swamped, and where the early rice had been harvested its quality deteriorated owing to the damp weather. Owing to the saturated condition of the ground the spring grains which are largely sown as second crops in the rice fields gave a very poor outturn and the combined harvest was only 58 per cent of normal. The monsoon of 1895 began early and continued with seasonable breaks till the beginning of September, when it abruptly terminated, and with the exception of slight showers in October drought prevailed for the remainder of the year. Rice gave only about a half outturn and the spring crops were still worse. Some distress was felt by the poorer classes in this year, the birth-rate declining to 32 per mille and the death-rate rising to 36.

The Famine of 1897.—In 1896 the monsoon was very heavy up to the latter part of August, 33 inches being received in that month alone. It then failed and September and October were practically rainless. The outturn of rice was only 45 per cent of normal and juar was the same. The spring crops could not be sown over a large area owing to the dryness of the ground, though a good shower in November greatly benefited the fields in which germination had been successful. Both in this and the preceding year however, owing to the heavy rain of July and August, the tanks were filled and the irrigated area was almost a maximum, the failure being thus substantially mitigated. The district would not have experienced a regular famine but for the cumulative effect of the bad harvests of previous years. The net cropped area declined from 898,000 acres in 1893-94 to 799,000 in 1896-97. A regular system of famine relief was initiated, labour being principally employed on roads under the Public Works Department. New roads were made from Arjuni to Gondia and from Amgaon to Satgaon. A large number of loans were given to *malguzars* for the construction and improvement of tanks, Rs. 2·12 lakhs being distributed in special famine loans. It was stated that in June some kind of work was in progress in 499 villages. Village relief and children's kitchens only came into prominence in the later stages of the famine. Relief was given from November 1896 to December 1897, and the largest number in receipt of assistance was 43,000 persons or 6 per cent, of the population in June 1897. The expenditure was Rs. 10 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 33,000 was distributed in Agricultural loans and a lakh was received from the Charitable Relief Fund. Only about a sixth of the District demand for land revenue was suspended. The death-rate for the year was 61 per mille, the mortality, as in other Districts, showing a heavy increase after the breaking of the rains. The birth-rate fell to 26 per mille. The price of rice rose to 7½ seers during the worst part of the famine, the rate for the year being a little less than 9 seers.

The Famine of 1900.—The two following seasons were on the whole favourable, though in 1898 the spring crops were again affected by the premature cessation of the rains. But in 1899 the monsoon again failed completely from July. The total fall of the year was only 26½ inches or half the average. The broadcast rice withered and transplantation could not be carried out at all. As the rain was so scanty the tanks never filled and the irrigated area fell to 45,000 acres. The rice crop was practically lost. Juar, the second autumn crop in importance, grew straight and tall, but owing to the lack of September rain its produce was most meagre and equalled a bare quarter of an average crop. The spring crops, which in this District are largely sown following the rice, failed almost completely.

Administrative Measures.—As the fate of the harvest was doubtful from the first, the moneylenders stopped the usual *potga* or loans for subsistence on the security of the crop and distress began to be felt very early. The great advantage of this was that the necessity for a complete famine organisation was foreseen from the first and fully provided for. Working camps began to be opened from the 15th October and altogether 12 were established. New roads were made from Kardha to Pauni, from Tirora to Khairlanji and from Mohali to Tumsar, and embankment of the Gondia-Jubbulpore railway was constructed by famine labour. The other camps were generally employed on metal-breaking. A large number of tanks were improved or repaired by means of grants to village proprietors, the amount given in this manner being Rs. 1.08 lakhs for 166 works. On these earthwork was paid for by contract at the usual rate of five *pasoris* or 420 cubic feet to the rupee. New tanks were constructed at Amgaon and Dongri under the supervision of the Public Works Department. Grass-cutting was also undertaken in order to afford a supply of fodder, in the event of scarcity and about 7,000 tons of grass were cut at rate of Rs. 3.11 per ton. Relief in return for work in villages was given to able-bodied persons in the rains, and they were employed on transplantation and weeding and on the improvement of village sites and roads. Advances were made to indigent weavers to the extent of about Rs. 1,000 and cloth to the value of Rs. 5,000 was purchased from them. There were no poor-houses, but pauper wards were attached to the dispensaries. The distribution of cooked food at kitchens was a leading feature of the system of relief. Kitchens were opened at the commencement of the operations, at which food was given to anybody who applied for it. As the relief works were organised able-bodied paupers were sent on to them until the rains, when kitchen relief was again afforded to all comers. In August 1900, 256 kitchens were open and 79,000 adults and children were receiving food. The system of cash doles was proportionately less prominent but 24,000 persons were in receipt of them in July 1900. A substantial proportion of these were the relatives of *kotwars* or village watchmen.

Statistics of expenditure.—Relief measures lasted from September 1899 to November 1900, and the highest number of persons in

receipt of assistance was 140,000 or nearly 19 per cent of the population in July 1900. In March the numbers were 127,000, and they declined steadily after July. The expenditure was Rs. 26 lakhs. About 1½ lakhs were distributed in charitable grants and 4 lakhs in loans and more than four-fifths of the revenue demand was suspended. Agricultural loans were given out on the joint security of all the cultivators and this system was found to be very successful. During the early part of the famine the mortality was not severe, but it rose largely in the rains from 4 per mille in May to 7 in June, 8 in July and between 7 and 8 per mille per month in August, September and October. These figures afford a good justification for the liberal policy adopted during the rains, without which they must probably have been even higher. The death-rate for the year was 62 and the birth-rate 28 per mille. The price of rice reached 7½ seers in October 1899, but after this it fell and was never so high again. The average rate for 1900 was 9½ seers per rupee.

The Years 1901-1902.—Even now the misfortunes of the District were by no means ended. The monsoon of 1900 was not established till July, and it stopped with a cyclonic storm at the end of September. Some of the early rice was swamped and the heavier varieties were affected by the want of rain in October. The outturn of the harvests was returned as only 26 per cent. Of normal, but it must apparently have been underestimated, as there was no distress. About half the land revenue was again suspended, and the bulk of the outstanding balance remitted. In the following year the autumn crops were fairly good, but the late rains were very inadequate and the spring harvest, largely sown as a second crop was poor. The cultivating classes remained in a very depressed condition, but labourers were able to command good wages owing to railway construction and the inception of the mining industry.

The Scarcity of 1903.—The chief features of the monsoon of 1902 were its lateness in arrival, its weakness in August and its early withdrawal. The rainfall of the year was only 29 inches. In the country round Gondia and the Chandpur pargana the rice crop failed as completely as in 1899, and over the whole District the crop did not exceed 2 annas. The winter rains were again scanty and the spring harvest was a poor one, the outturn for the year being only 30 per cent of normal. It was anticipated that relief would be necessary, but the fact that the failure was only local and that an effective demand for labour existed in Berar, combined with the employment afforded locally by the mines and the railway, prevented any real distress. The death-rate remained extremely low and prices hardly rose till the rains, when the demand for seed grain forced them up. A liberal distribution of loans was made to the extent of 3½ lakhs, and employment was afforded on ordinary works supplemented by a system of grants-in-aid to *malguzars* for the construction and repair of tanks. The bulk of these were completed in subsequent years under the supervision of the Irrigation Department. The

generous measures adopted by Government since 1900 put heart into the people and the year passed without any serious effects, in the following year the cropped area showed a substantial increase, and in 1905-06 it had recovered to 846,000 acres as against 661,000 in 1899-1900 and a maximum of 898,000 in 1893. The season of 1903-04 gave an excellent harvest, and though the two following years were less favourable the effects of the famines had nearly passed away. The above recital of the successive failures of the rice crop, generally on account of insufficient or badly distributed rainfall especially in the autumn months, sufficiently demonstrates the wisdom of the irrigation policy now being vigorously pursued by Government.

The details of famines from 1910 to 1931 are not available. Scarcity or near-famine conditions have prevailed in Bhandara district in the recent past on several occasions due to scanty rainfall and its uneven distribution. A brief account of the same is given below.

The Years 1940-41.—In 1940-41, owing to insufficient rainfall and consequent shortage of moisture in light soil, the *rabi* crops in 169 villages were affected by famine. The tahsilwise break-up of villages is as under:—

Tahsil	Villages affected
Bhandara	5
Gondia	143
Sakoli	21
Total	169

As a relief measure, land revenue amounting to Rs. 17,444 was suspended for one year.

The Years 1950-51.—In 1950-51, due to the uneven distribution of rains all over the district, the district was affected by a long drought which continued from 19th July 1950 till 25th October 1951. The details of population and area affected are as under : 78,210 persons and 351 villages in Bhandara tahsil, 260 villages and 52,000 persons in Gondia tahsil and 252 villages and 40,000 persons in Sakoli tahsil. As a relief measure 10 works of metal collection were started, improvement of road and murum collection was undertaken which gave relief to 61,688 people. A sum of Rs. 1,83,277 was distributed to them. Tagai and other loans amounting to Rs. 16,63,076 were also distributed. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 1,79,034 was suspended during the same period.

The Years 1952-53.—In 1952-53, scarcity conditions prevailed in 145 villages in Bhandara tahsil and a population of 75,000 was affected. The period of scarcity conditions continued from August 1952 till March 1953. As relief measure Rs. 41,376 were distributed to 411 persons. Tagai and other loans amounting to Rs. 1,76,634 were also distributed. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 35,432 was suspended during the same period.

The Years 1953-54.—During 1953-54, scarcity conditions prevailed in Gondia tahsil affecting 30 villages and a population of 27,000. The period of scarcity ranged from August 1953 till July 1954. As relief measures, work on the construction of 30 tanks and one road was undertaken involving an expenditure of Rs. 1,47,350 and Rs. 83,884, respectively, thereby giving benefit to 126,344 persons. Tagai and other loans amounting to Rs. 7,640 were also distributed during the same period. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 35,432 was also suspended during the same period.

The Years 1954-55.—In 1954-55, scarcity conditions prevailed in 21 villages in Gondia tahsil for a very short period, i.e., from 4th February 1955 till July 1955, affecting a population of 21,691. As a relief measure, a sum of Rs. 69,607 was distributed among 2,009 persons by undertaking one road work and two tanks works in the district. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 12,912 was also suspended during the same period.

The Years 1965-66.—During 1965-66, scarcity conditions prevailed in 451, 304 and 267 villages in Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli tahsils affecting 286,318; 231,621 and 1,12,298 persons in the respective tahsils. The period of scarcity extended from 5th June 1966 to 30th October 1966. As relief measures the work on construction of tanks and roads were undertaken giving relief to 44,509 persons who benefited to the tune of Rs. 1,47,61,955 as a result of these measures. Besides free food, cloth, fodder, seed, etc., valued at Rs. 27,53,935 were also distributed. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 3,37,543 was suspended during the same period.

The Years 1966-67.—During 1966-67, scarcity conditions prevailed in 243; 141 and 69 villages in Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli tahsils affecting 177,588; 117,660 and 66,082 persons in the respective tahsils. The period of scarcity ranged from 12th April 1967 to 25th March 1968. As relief measures, building up of tanks and roads was undertaken giving relief to 36,237 persons. A sum of Rs. 1,38,01,101 was distributed among the affected persons. Besides food, clothes, fodder, seed etc., valued at Rs. 20,15,030 were distributed. Land revenue amounting to Rs. 4,22,535 was also suspended during the same period.

In 1972-73, scarcity conditions prevailed in 502 villages and affected 492,026 persons in Bhandara district. As relief measures 332 relief works were undertaken giving relief to 35,578 persons. A sum of Rs. 38,60,313 was distributed among the affected persons. Besides, *takevi* loans were distributed to the extent of Rs. 11,03,000 under the Agriculturists Loans Acts.

FLOODS

The details of floods prior to 1942 are not available. In the year 1942 the district was affected by a flood of a very severe magnitude. No information regarding the extent of damages caused and relief measures undertaken is however available. It may, however, be noted that the occurrence of floods is infrequent in the district.

CHAPTER 5—INDUSTRIES

INTRODUCTION

ONE OF THE MAIN FACETS OF ECONOMIC LIFE OF BHANDARA DISTRICT is its industrial economy. The term balanced economy is often used in the context of underdeveloped economies implying a balance between the two important sectors of the district economy viz., agriculture and industry. In a predominantly agricultural district like Bhandara, the agricultural sector is necessarily looked upon as a feeder to the industrial sector. However, in the ultimate analysis, both these sectors are viewed as complementary parts of the district economy. Therefore a co-ordinated plan for agricultural and industrial development has to be chalked out so as to ensure a self-generating and self-sustaining economy.

The study of the industrial growth of Bhandara district shows that the district is endowed with many of the pre-requisites for a sustained growth of industries, which are mostly dependent upon the locally available raw materials. Mostly the raw materials available in the district are agricultural and forest products like, rice, oil-seeds, *tendu* leaves, etc. Easy availability of these raw materials has encouraged the establishment of a number of rice-mills, oil-mills and *bidi* factories in the district. From this point of view it is necessary to make energetic efforts to build up a relatively small scale and efficient industrial structure in the district.

Another essential requisite for industrial growth is fuel; it includes mainly electric power, coal, crude oil, diesel, firewood, husk, etc. Electric power is, however, the cheapest facility that is in existence in the district. Most of the industries in the district use electric power. Formerly the electric power supply was restricted to a few towns in the district; but with the rising demand for power, the Maharashtra State Electricity Board has started its power sub-station at Tumsar which is fed through the main Khaparkheda thermal power station near Nagpur. The district gets its supply of electricity through the Vidarbha grid system. In addition, there is another sub-station located at the site of Messers Cambata Ferro-Manganese near Tumsar; it also supplies electricity to the district. With the establishment of an Ordnance Factory at Kavadsi near Bhandara, an additional sub-station at Kavadsi had been established to meet the demand coming from the factory. The electric power has, therefore, helped to a great extent towards the development of industries in the district.

Formerly the entrepreneurial capital was not easily forthcoming. The lack of such type of capital was one of the factors limiting

industrial growth in the district. But at present financial assistance is made available on liberalised terms for the purpose of purchasing factory sites, construction of workshops, purchasing of machinery and to serve as working capital through various agencies and Government. It may be noted that persons engaged in trade and commerce employ their capital in traditional activities, such as, *bidi* making, manganese mining, lac manufacturing, etc., and require capital for investment in new profitable ventures.

Lack of adequate communication and transport facilities is one of the important reasons retarding the development of industries in the district. Though there are not many good metalled roads in the district, the important centres and tahsil headquarters are interconnected by metalled roads. However, many of the interior places have no connection by roads to other places in the district. The Bombay-Calcutta broad-gauge railway line *via* Nagpur passes through the district from west to east with a length of 82 miles. A branch line of 18 miles starts from Tumsar Road to Tirodi in Madhya Pradesh. This line traverses through the manganese producing areas of the district and facilitates the transportation of manganese ore. The Jabalpur-Chandrapur narrow-gauge line also passes through the district from north to south with a length of 73 miles. Another narrow-gauge line running from Nagpur to Chandrapur passes through the south-west corner of the district for only 6 miles. Co-ordinated development of road and rail transport would lead to rapid industrial growth in the outlying area of the district.

Besides road transport the district has 226 post and telegraph offices and 24 banking offices. The district abounds in timber, large deposits of manganese ore and iron ore. Agriculture in the district provides important commercial crops, such as, rice, oil-seeds, etc. Forests in the district provide important species, such as, teak, *tendu* leaves useful in *bidi* making, *palas* for propagation of lac, *khair* for manufacture of *kath*, bamboo for paper industry, etc. In brief it will be seen that Bhandara district possesses considerable potential for industrial growth. With a view to giving fillip to the industrial growth of Bhandara district, the Government of Maharashtra has adopted several measures, the most important among them being the establishment of an industrial estate at Bhandara whose description will follow subsequently.

The following table No. 1 gives the number of persons engaged in industries under Mining and Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction, Electricity, Gas, Water and Sanitary Services in Bhandara district in 1961.

In 1961, there were 190 large and small industrial units registered under the Factories Act, 1948. The table No. 2 gives the distribution of these industrial units, employment provided by them, their productive capital and gross output.

TABLE No. 1
PERSONS ENGAGED IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1961.

Classification of industries (1)	Total workers			Workers in household industry			Workers in non-household industry		
	Persons (2)	Males (3)	Females (4)	Persons (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)	Persons (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)
Division—1									
Mining and Quarrying	4,663	2,814	1,849	..	..	..	4,663	2,814	1,849
Division 2 and 3—									
Foodstuffs	6,771	3,947	2,824	4,542	2,080	2,462	2,229	1,867	362
Beverages	45	45	..	11	11	..	34	34	..
Tobacco Products	79,923	34,775	45,148	73,837	29,753	44,084	6,086	5,022	1,064
Textile—Cotton	9,840	4,969	4,871	9,752	4,909	4,843	88	60	28
Textile—Jute	27	11	16	24	9	15	3	2	1
Textile—Wool	59	21	38	58	20	38	1	1	..
Textile—Silk	328	148	180	327	147	180	1	1	..
Textile—Miscellaneous	4,316	3,840	476	3,217	2,806	411	1,099	1,034	65
Manufacture of Wood and Wooden Products	8,768	5,942	2,826	7,966	5,181	2,785	802	761	41

TABLE No. 1—*contd.*
PERSONS ENGAGED IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1961.

Classification of industries (1)	Total workers			Workers in household industry			Workers in non-household industry		
	Persons (2)	Males (3)	Females (4)	Persons (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)	Persons (8)	Males (9)	Females (10)
Paper and Paper Products	33	31	2	5	3	2	28	28	..
Printing and Publishing	360	360	..	7	7	..	353	353	..
Leather and Leather Products	1,909	1,575	334	1,753	1,425	328	156	150	6
Rubber, Petroleum and Coal Products	21	19	2	1	1	..	20	18	2
Chemicals and Chemical Products	310	224	86	50	43	7	260	181	79
Non-Metallic Mineral Products other than Petroleum and Coal	3,183	1,784	1,399	2,039	1,081	958	1,144	703	441
Basic Metals and their Products (except machinery and transport equipment)	3,306	3,183	123	2,584	2,507	77	722	676	46
Machinery (other than transport) and electric equipments	105	105	..	3	3	..	102	102	..
Transport Equipment ..	581	565	16	127	126	1	454	439	15

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Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	2,457	2,325	132	1,872	1,823	49	585	502	83
Division-4 — Construction and Maintenance of Buildings	2,013	1,656	357	..	..	..	2,013	1,656	357
Construction & Maintenance of Roads, Railways, Bridges and Tunnels	536	341	195	..	..	..	536	341	195
Construction & Maintenance of Telegraph and Telephone lines	3	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	3
Construction & Maintenance of Waterways, Water Reservoirs and Other Agricultural Works	302	281	21	..	..	..	302	281	21
Division - 5— Electricity, Gas, Water & Sanitary Services—									
Electricity and Gas ..	240	240	..	..	..	..	240	240	..
Water-supply & Sanitary Services	548	245	303	..	..	..	548	245	303

Source : District Census Handbook, Bhandara, 1961.

TABLE No. 2
INDUSTRIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1961.

Sr. No. (1)	Industry (2)	Registered factories (No.) (3)	Productive capital (Rs. in thousand) (4)	Employment (No.) (5)	Gross output (Rs. in thousand) (6)	Value added (Rs. in thousand) (7)
1	Manufacture of grain mill products :— (b) Rice Mills	77 (40-53)	26.87 (10.17)	742 (14.16)	26,690 (39.17)	19.22 (32.92)
2	Manufacture of miscellaneous food preparations :— (a) Manufacture of edible oils	3 (1.58)	56 (0.28)	11 (0.21)	3.71 (0.54)	26 (0.41)
3	Tobacco Manufactures :— (a) Bidi	79 (41.57)	37.70 (14.27)	3,412 (65.06)	26,900 (39.48)	38.32 (65.63)
4	Saw Mills :— Wooden and cane containers and small cane ware	7 (3.69)	4.03 (1.53)	87 (0.13)	11.33 (3.96)	306 (5.24)
5	Printing, Publishing and allied industries	3 (1.58)	449 (1.70)	237 (4.52)	2,697 (3.96)	1,102 (18.88)
6	Manufacture of miscellaneous chemical products :— (b) Lac (including shellac)	10 (5.26)	2,300 (8.71)	193 (3.68)	5,708 (8.38)	1,206 (20.65)
7	Non-ferrous basic metal industry	6 (3.16)	16,060 (60.81)	399 (7.61)	35.94 (5.27)	2,809 (48.11)
8	Others	5 (2.63)	687 (2.60)	163 (3.11)	1,047 (1.54)	256 (4.38)

Notes—(1) Figures in brackets are the percentage with respect to the corresponding district total.
(2) Others include—

- | Factory of Manufacture of structural clay products.
- | Factory of Manufacture of Glass products.
- | Factory of Manufacture of Metal products except machinery and transport equipment.
- | Factory of Manufacture of machinery except electrical machinery.
- | Factory of Manufacturing industries not elsewhere classified.

Besides these, there are a number of units which have not as yet been registered under the Factories Act.

An attempt is made in this chapter to describe the industrial life and activities of the district. The chapter is divided into three sections : (I) Large and Small industries, (II) Cottage and Village industries, and (III) Labour Organization. The first section deals with mechanised industries, large and small, registered under the Factories Act. The second section describes cottage and village industries. The third section gives an account of the trade union movement and labour organizations in the district.

SECTION I—LARGE AND SMALL INDUSTRIES.

ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND CONSUMPTION

It is often claimed that an important locational factor leading to a congenial and sustained growth of all industries is power supply. It is, however, equally true that power supply may be made available nearly everywhere economically through grid system and thus may not exert much locational effect on the development of industries. In regard to Bhandara district it may be pointed out that availability of adequate power in the district through grid system with a voltage stability must be ensured, if the desired development of industries is to be achieved, within a specified time.

There is no power generation unit in Bhandara district. The supply of electricity to the district is chiefly made through the Khaparkheda thermal station near Nagpur. The power sub-station of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board at Tumsar is fed through the main Khaparkheda power station. The district gets its supply of electricity through the grid at Tumsar. Besides, there is another sub-station located at the site of Messers Cambata Ferro-Manganese near Tumsar as more power is utilised by this industry for processing of manganese and other minerals. With this in view a 66 kilowatts double circuit line has been brought from Khaparkheda to Cambata plant area. With the establishment of an Ordinance Factory at Kavads near Bhandara an additional sub-station at Kavads is being established to meet the demand from the factory.

The demand for electricity in Bhandara district is growing rapidly due to industrialisation, installation of pumping sets for irrigation and the rising standard of living. In 1961 there were only 37 villages and 5 towns electrified whereas the corresponding numbers were 254 villages and 5 towns for the year 1966. This was a remarkable achievement in the field of rural electrification as it was directly linked up with agricultural production. As a result the consumption of electricity has increased considerably. The industrial power consumption accounted for 41.51 per cent of the total consumption of power in the district in 1965-66, whereas the remaining 58.49 per cent of power consumption was due to domestic, commercial lighting, public lighting and other purposes.

The following table Nos. 3 and 4 give the consumption of electricity and the number of towns and villages electrified and the population covered in Bhandara district in 1965-66.

TABLE No. 3
CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICITY IN BHANDARA DISTRICT (IN '000' K.W.H.)

Sr. No.	Type of Generation	Year	Electricity sold for					Total
			Domestic consumption	Commercial light and small power	Industrial power	Public lighting	Other purposes	
1	Thermal	1964-65 ..	16.17	12.81	48.12	7.40	0.27	84.77
		1965-66 ..	23.24	13.93	39.69	9.01	0.75	95.62
2	Hydro	1964-65 ..	..	Nil	..	..	..	..
		1965-66 ..	..	Nil	..	..	..	..
3	Other	1964-65 ..	..	Nil	..	..	..	..
		1965-66 ..	..	Nil	..	..	..	..
4	Total	1964-65 ..	16.17	12.81	48.12	7.40	0.27	84.77
		1965-66 ..	23.24	13.92	39.69	9.01	0.75	95.62

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Source : Socio-Economic Review and District Statistical Abstract of Bhandara District, 1965-66.

TABLE No. 4
No. OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES ELECTRIFIED AND POPULATION COVERED IN BHANDARA DISTRICT

Agency (1)	Year ending (2)	Villages		Towns		Total	
		No. (3)	Population (4)	No. (5)	Population (6)	No. (7)	Population (8)
Maharashtra State Electricity Board	31-3-1961 ..	37	73,952	4	79,941	41	153,893
	31-3-1966 ..	254	355,440	5	136,261	259	491,701
Private Companies	31-3-1961 ..	..	..	1	56,320	1	56,320
	31-3-1966 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	31-3-1961 ..	37	73,952	5	136,261	42	209,213
	31-3-1966 ..	254	355,440	5	136,261	259	491,701

Source :—Socio-Economic Review and District Statistical Abstract of Bhandara District, 1965-66.

It will thus be seen that electricity has helped considerably the development of manganese mines near Tumsar and other industries such as, Paper mill, Carbon Electrode Producing Centre, lac, glass, rice and saw milling, etc., as also many other small industries.

MINES AND MINERALS

Bhandara district is rich in mineral resources in the whole of Maharashtra State. Apart from the important minerals such as manganese ore and iron ore, this district possesses abundant supplies of minerals like chromite, kyanite, sillimanite, steatite, asbestos, corundum, ochres soap stone, mica, building stone, etc. It is endowed with large deposits of manganese ore of both high and low grade as also those of iron ore which, however, is not useful in the manufacture of steel because of its high titanium-dioxide content. In addition there are deposits of low grade chromite, kyanite and sillimanite. Minerals like asbestos and steatite are only of academic interest at present.

An account of the economically valuable minerals and mineral substances such as : (1) manganese ore, (2) iron ore, (3) chromite, (4) mica, (5) building stones, (6) kyanite, (7) sillimanite, (8) asbestos, (9) steatite and (10) soap stone found in Bhandara district is given below :—

Manganese Ore: The manganese ore in the district has been exploited since 1900, and its existence has been recorded on several occasions. However, the most active exploitation was stimulated during the two World Wars. Manganese ore has been exported in large quantities and is one of the most important earners of foreign exchange.

The ore deposits in Bhandara district are Magnaniferous Sediments of Archean Age, which have undergone intense regional metamorphism and subsequent alteration and weathering. They are generally associated with rock formations called "Gondites" characterised by the presence of sepeessarite garnet and quartz or rhodonite.

The most important deposit of manganese lies in the belt which stretches from Khapa in Nagpur district and enters into Bhandara tahsil from Ramtek tahsil of Nagpur district and then crosses over to Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. The important centres of manganese mining are Chikhala, Dongri Bk., Sita-sawangi and Yedarbuchi in Bhandara tahsil. In 1960-61, 87 mining leases were given to different mining companies for exploitation of manganese ore. The production during 1965-66 was 102,997 tonnes valued at Rs. 1.33 crores as compared to the production of 128,122 tonnes valued at Rs. 1.54 crores during the previous year. The fall in the production was due to the decline in the demand from foreign buyers resulting from recession in world steel industry and competition from Brazilian manganese ore in the U.S.A. market.

The manganese ore recovered from all the mines is of two types — (1) bed ore which is associated with the parent rock called

"Gondite" and (2) the detrital ore. In addition to the above-noted centres, high grade manganese deposits and extensive deposits of low grade manganese ore occur in the district. Several large occurrences of low grade ore are seen associated with the parent rock "Gondite". The low grade occurrences are located at Mangarli, Mandekasa, Lendezari, Alesur, Asolpani and Karli. All these deposits are high silica manganese ore where manganese ore content ranges from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. Due to this, these deposits are not under active exploitation at present.

Most of the mines in the district are worked by open cast methods. Float ore is worked by shallow surface working and bed ore is mined by deep quarrying. The deeper portions of the reefs are mined by underground methods. Most of the mines are worked by manual labour. Pneumatic jack hammers are used for drilling holes in the ore bed. In boulder working, the excavated material is first screened to remove earth and the material is then jigged by manually operated Joplin jigs to concentrate the ore and remove impurities like quartz and other gangue rock.

Most of the manganese ore in the past was exported in its raw state but recently a ferro-manganese plant has been set up at Tumsar which utilises a part of the production. The installed capacity of this plant is 20,000 tonnes per annum.

Iron Ore: Iron ore deposits are located at Khursipar about 10 miles east of Gondia. There are three magnetite ore bodies occurring between Khursipar and Ambetalao in Gondia tahsil. The reserves to the depth of 100 feet are estimated at 6.2 million tonnes. The ore has high contents of Titanium-di-oxide and as such cannot be used for making steel unless it is blended in requisite quantity with low titania ores from other places. The deposits have been leased out but are not being exploited at present.

Chromite: Chromite ore occurs in the vicinity of Pauni village. The ore is noted in the form of a number of small lenses and conspicuous floats of chromite ore which are associated with dunites and serpentinites. The reserves of chromite within 50 feet from the surface are estimated at 0.48 million tonnes. There are also other lenses of chromite in the area which are not exposed at the surface. The chromite contents of ore range between 33.94 per cent and 52.48 per cent. The low grade chromite is amenable to beneficiation. In 1960-61, two mining leases were in force in the district, and 1,228 tonnes of chromite ore valued at Rs. 1.08 lakhs was exploited.

Apart from the deposits of minerals described earlier occurrences of kyanite, sillimanite, corundum, soap stone, gold, mica, building materials, etc., are reported at different places in the district. **Kyanite**—the aluminous silicate—occurs in the chlorite muscovite schist near about Dighori and near Gobarwahi. **Sillimanite** is found at Pohara, associated with a tourmaline rock. There are four or five small belts of sillimanite and kyanite bearing rocks

The belt at Girola has the maximum thickness of 400 feet but the deposit at Pohara is the best known. The reserves are estimated at 1,000 tonnes. *Corrundum* occurs at Pohara at the foot of a small hillock. The mineral is mainly excavated from pits dug in the ground. The reserves are estimated at 100 tonnes to a depth of 10 feet. *Soap stone* occurs at Kaneri village in Sakoli tahsil and also at Biroli near Tirora. The stone is buff in colour and crystalline in structure. There is a large quarry which is extensively worked and the stone is largely used for making vessels. *Mica* deposits occur at a number of places associated with pegmatite types of rocks. The deposits, however, do not have much economic significance. *Gold* has also been reported to occur in the mineralised belt between Bhiwapur in Nagpur district and Pauni in Bhandara district. *Building materials* like building stones, boulders, brick earth, etc., are found at a number of places in the district. The following table shows the quantity and value of different minor minerals extracted during the year 1960-61:—

TABLE No. 5
MINOR MINERALS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1960-61.

Name of mineral (1)	Quantity (in metric tonnes) (2)	Value (in Rs.) (3)
1 Brick-earth	12,947	3,88,380
2 White stone	1,089	10,890
3 Sand for prescribed purposes	10,570	10,570
4 Building stone	2,236	4,472
5 Road metal	220	1,440
6 Murrum	455	910
7 Boulders	1,631	408

According to 1961 Census, 4,663 persons are reported to be engaged in mining and quarrying activities. Of these 2,814 are males and 1,849 females. The mineral potentialities of the district have not yet been thoroughly explored. The surveys conducted by the State Department of Geology and Mining, and the Bureau of Mines, may reveal many more deposits than are known at present in the district.

AUTO-REPAIRING AND GENERAL ENGINEERING

Auto-repairing and general engineering industry is mainly located at Gondia and Bhandara in the district. The expansion programme of motorable roads and subsequent increase in automobile vehicles and marketing centres have brought about an

appreciable rise in the demand for services rendered by this industry. The activities of the units are diverse, ranging from the production of spare parts to welding, manufacture of agricultural implements, motor repairs, etc.

One such unit was located at Gondia and was established in 1964. It worked throughout the year. This unit was purely engaged in auto repairing and servicing. The machinery of general engineering units consisted of lathes of various sizes, grinders, electric and gas welding sets, hack-saws and various types of drilling, shaping, cutting, milling, moulding, edging, bending, shearing and punching machines. The units engaged in repairing of automobiles had lathes, hydraulic ramp lift, pressure washing machine; boring machines, etc. The tools and equipments of different units varied according to their requirements and specialized products.

The raw materials comprising iron and steel bars and rods, plates and sheets, angles, wire, pipes, beams, casting and moulding parts, tin, pig-iron, brass, white metal and rolled strips. The raw materials were purchased from Nagpur and Bombay. The various items of fuel used primarily included hard-coke, coal, mobile oil and electricity. The value of the fuel consumed by the reporting unit amounted to Rs. 1,200 per month. The reporting unit employed four workers and paid them Rs. 200 and Rs. 250 per month according to their skill. The workers employed belonged to the category of turner, moulder, welder and fitter, respectively. The demand for the service of this unit was mostly local.

RICE MILLING

As paddy is the main crop of the district, rice milling forms one of its major industries. There were very a few rice mills prior to the First World War when paddy was dehusk-ed by the hand process. A number of rice mills were started after the First World War. The industry grew rapidly as there was abundance of cheap power and vicinity of market. During the thirties of the century it received a setback due to the fall in prices in the days of the great depression. It thrived again during the Second World War when Government imposed restrictions upon the movement of rice. In 1961 there were about 77 rice mills in the district concentrated in centres like Tumsar, Bhandara, Adyal, Warthi, Sihora, Gondia, Tiroda, Goregaon, Amgaon, Mundikota. These mills were registered under the Factories Act and were engaged in milling of numerous varieties of rice which were locally produced. A few of them were also engaged in making *pohas* (rice flakes). Most of the concerns had their own business of paddy milling. The total employment in the industry was near about 742 persons in 1961.

Of the various units, 22 were surveyed. Most of these units were established after 1928. Some of the reporting units worked throughout the year, their working days varying between 180 and 300. The rice mills functioning seasonally nearly worked for 200 days.

The fixed capital of the 22 reporting units amounted to Rs. 19,20,000. The working capital of the 6 reporting units amounted to Rs. 7,42,500. The amount of working capital does not appear to be commensurate with fixed capital mainly due to the fact that some units did not purchase raw materials. The other contributory factor was the monopoly purchasing of paddy started by the Government in the district. At present the Government had fixed the quota for milling of rice to each unit, which only charge for milling and husking the rice. The rate of milling per hour reported by the unit was 6 quintals to 9 quintals.

Electricity was the chief fuel used, though mobile and crude oil was also used by some units. The monthly expenditure on fuel stood at Rs. 450 to Rs. 500.

The machinery consisted of grinding stones, rollers, elevators and fillers. Crushers and hullers were used for polishing and husking rice. When oil crushing was undertaken side by side, expellers and decorticators and electric motor or an oil-engine were deemed necessary. The investment of various concerns in machinery differed considerably.

These units employed 270 persons including the supervisory staff. The skilled workers included mill driver and oil-men. The other staff included manager, clerks and supervisors. Besides, these units employed unskilled workers. The daily wages, paid to unskilled workers varied between Rs. 2 and Rs. 2.50. Mill driver and oil-men were paid Rs. 90 and Rs. 60, respectively per month. The total annual wage bill as reported by 18 units was Rs. 1,74,050 and bonus paid by three units was Rs. 4,940 in one year.

The working of almost all the units was disturbed by the policy of monopoly procurement of paddy by the Government and some of them stopped functioning.

BIDI MAKING

Prominent among the large and small-scale industries in Bhandara district is the manufacture of *bidis*. Tendu leaves required for *bidis* are found abundantly in the forests and there are a number of large-scale and small-scale factories manufacturing *bidis*. The large-scale factories were located at Bhandara, Gondia, Tirora, Arjuni, Sihari, Warthi and Tumsar. These factories were mainly engaged in sorting and packing of *bidis* as the manufacture of *bidis* mainly goes on a small-scale basis and also through co-operative societies. *Bidis* prepared by them were then sold on wholesale basis to large-scale factories, engaged in sorting and packing for export. There were 79 large and small scale factories manufacturing *bidis* registered under the Factories Act, and employing 3,412 persons in the district in 1961.

The Census Report of the Central Provinces and Berar, 1931, observed as follows: "The *bidi* factories are the most important of the unregulated establishments of this province falling within

the scope of this memorandum. Approximately 866 of these establishments, which manufacture a type of indigenous cigarettes from Indian tobacco rolled up in *tendu* leaves, are scattered all over the province and provide employment to about 42,240 persons representing 80 per cent of the labour dealt with in this memorandum. The industry is, however, most concentrated in the Bhandara district wherein 622 establishments 31,417 persons are employed. Jubbulpore district comes second with 80 establishments employing 3,321 persons. The growth of the industry has been remarkable in recent years. In the Census of 1921, enumerated *biri* establishments were 164 employing 7,680 persons. In 1925, approximately 225 such establishments were recorded employing 12,400 persons, while in 1927, the establishments were 776 employing 30,065 persons, including 15,568 children under 15 years of age and as stated at present there are 866 establishments employing 42,240 persons. There is no doubt that the *swadeshi* movement which started during the first decade of the present century, gave the industry a very great impetus. The present boycott movement has also further increased the demand for *biris*, and this trade is certainly not affected by the prevailing economic depression. Out of the 866 establishments, 185 belong to class (b) employing more than 50 persons a day, and 681 establishments, belong to class (c) employing less. The total number of employees consists of 18,257 males, 10,073 females and 13,910 children. Of the children, 43 per cent or nearly 6,000 are not more than 12 years of age. The distribution of the industry by districts and the average number of men, women and children daily employed are shown below."

TABLE No. 6
AVERAGE NUMBER OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN DAILY EMPLOYED.

Districts (1)	Establishments employing 50 persons or more				Establishments employing less than 50 persons			
	Number of biri factories (2)	Men (3)	Women (4)	Children under 15 (5)	Number of biri factories (6)	Men (7)	Women (8)	Children under 15 (9)
Bhandara	118	3,653	2,981	4,135	504	8,138	5,440	7,020
Jubbulpore	24	1,386	118	504	56	836	95	382
Nagpur	14	1,503	329	263	21	908	393	222
Balaghat	9	107	50	457	11	85	65	174
Chhindwara	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	10
Saugor	3	30	7	31	9	77	10	120
Damoh	3	141	13	117	2	27	..	5
Bilaspur	1	56	11	58	14	198	27	94
Raipur	4	172	33	100	24	249	44	184
Durg	..	..	..	..	9	106	32	32
Wardha	1	40	9	31	3	21	1	2
Chandrapur	..	..	..	..	2	15	10	5
Amraoti	2	93	39	18	3	30	17	26
Akola	1	40	5	5	2	7	5	..
Yeotmal	4	120	105	5	..	12	12	..
Buldana	1	20	46	..	4	76	..	86
Nimar	1	60	4	..	3	13	5	9
Hoshangabad	..	..	..	..	4	8	5	52
Narsinghpur	1	30	10	10	..	..	..	..
Total	185	7,451	3,760	5,559	681	10,806	6,313	8,351

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Bidi making was entirely done by hand and there was little or no use of machinery. The tools required were simple instruments, such as, a brick furnace, metal trays for heating tobacco, a pair of scissors and a knife. The brick furnace is a peculiar construction of bricks for baking *bidis*. It is locally known as *tundoor*. Its cost was usually in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2,000. Generally a factory had two *tundoors* and the baking capacity of a *tundoor* was two lakhs *bidis* at a time. The process of baking *bidis* required nearly 12 hours. The *bidis* were picked soon after baking so as to keep them crisp and fresh.

Raw materials comprised tobacco of different qualities, leaves, thread, packing paper, labels, etc. Quality tobacco which was favourite with the people, was purchased at Nipani (in Belgaum district), Kolhapur and Kaira (in Gujarat State) markets. The leaves used for holding tobacco were generally *tendu* leaves obtained locally in the district as also from other areas in the State. The length of *bidis* was not uniform and varied according to regional demand. As such the quantity of tobacco required for 1,000 *bidis* varied between 349.91 and 524.87 grams. Packing charges though small, formed an important element of the cost of production.

The output of *bidis* manufactured was fairly small during rainy season when labourers were engaged in agricultural operations. It increased after harvest when they had more time at their disposal for *bidi* making. The minimum wages per 1,000 *bidis* were fixed at Rs. 1.62 in municipal areas and Rs. 1.37 in non-municipal areas. The work did not involve special skill and as such there was a keen competition among the workers. It was observed that the rate of wages offered was low.

Some of the factories had branches in the neighbouring districts of Vidarbha and Madhya Pradesh. They collected quite a large number of *bidis* from the feeder factories and the annual turnover of these factories was considerably large. The *bidis* were marketed all over Maharashtra as well as in other States.

The permanent staff of these factories very often included manager, accountant, cashier, *bidi* checkers or supervisors and *tundoorwallas*. They were paid on monthly basis. The number of workers employed in the large-scale and small-scale factories was 30,000 to 40,000 and 13,000, respectively. The daily production of these factories amounted to 2.5 to 3 crore *bidis*.

PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING

The industry is of a comparatively recent origin and its development is generally associated with the growth of educational activities. In 1961, there were three printing presses registered under the Factories Act, which employed 237 workers in the district. Of these, 2 presses were surveyed, one of which was established in 1936 and the other in 1950. They were located at Gondia and worked perennially. The number of working days ranged between 275 and 350.

The fixed capital of the reporting concerns amounted to Rs. 13,16,000 whereas their working capital stood at Rs. 2,12,000.

The equipment and machinery used by these presses differed according to the magnitude of their investment. Printing work consists of litho-printing, offset-printing and block-printing. Preparation of drawings and designs, cutting and book-binding, block making and type foundry are some of the processes undertaken by these presses. The machinery of printing and composing, comprised cylinder printing machine, automatic cylinders, letter-press printing machine, treadle machine and hand presses. The binding machinery included stitching, cutting, ruling, perforating, punching, folding, numbering, eyeletting and card-board cutting machines. The printing machines in the largest press were modern, consisting of offset machines, lino and mono printing machines, automatic caster, engraver and litho machines.

Power was used by most of the concerns. The annual consumption of power by the reporting units amounted to Rs. 42,000.

The total number of workers in the reporting concerns was 255. An amount of Rs. 5,07,200 was paid to them annually by way of wages, salaries and bonus. Of the reporting two concerns one employed 250 persons and paid to its workers Rs. 5 lakhs by way of salaries, wages and bonus annually; while the other one employed 5 persons and paid them Rs. 7,200 by way of salaries and wages annually.

The main raw materials used by these concerns were paper, varnish, spirit, wax, ink, type metal, stationery and binding materials. Paper of various types like art paper, leather paper and brown paper was the largest single item of expenditure. Ink, glue, mobile oil, soap and kerosene were required for printing. Binding cloth, rexine, leather canvas, glue and card-board were used for binding. Paper was purchased from big commercial centres. Superior art paper was imported from foreign countries. Other raw materials were purchased from Nagpur and Bombay. The reporting big concern purchased annually raw materials worth Rs. 20 lakhs while the small one consumed raw materials worth Rs. 1,200.

One of the reporting concerns at Gondia was engaged in lithographic printing and particularly printing of *bidi* labels, *zilli*, posters, etc., on a large scale. The other concern was engaged in printing of forms, bills, cash memos, letter heads, hand bills, registers, etc. The total productive capacity of the reporting big concern was of the value of Rs. 30 lakhs. The main difficulties faced by this industry were in regard to the replacement of outmoded and worn-out machinery, obtaining raw materials and dearth of skilled personnel.

GLASSWARE

There is one unit engaged in glassware industry located at Gondia. The main products of this industry are chimneys,

lampwares, bottles, jars, jugs, tumblers and flower vases. Manufacturing processes in this unit are mostly hand-operated, and therefore, the capital investments in fixed assets are proportionately less than the working capital. The unit meets its requirement of working capital by borrowing from private sources.

The main processes, namely, blowing, pressing and cutting are done by skilled workers by hand. The unit works in two shifts and the total production of this unit exceeds the installed capacity per shift. The production of this unit meets only a fraction of the current demand for the products in the district. About 50 to 60 per cent of the production finds market outside the district, viz., Bombay and Calcutta. It was assessed that production was not oriented to the demand pattern of the people in the area. The sale of certain products like chimneys is mostly confined to the rural areas and as such does not face much competition from products imported from outside the district, which generally meet the demand of urban population. This unit employs the agency of wholesalers for the sale of its products in and outside the district on commission basis. The commission rate paid by them ranges between 12 per cent and 25 per cent according to the type of product and volume of sales.

The percentage of skilled workers to the total number of employees was fairly high. The wage rate generally offered varied between Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 4 per day for a skilled labourer and between Rs. 1.25 and Rs. 1.75 for an unskilled labourer. The unit reported difficulty in getting skilled labour at the existing wage rates.

The unit was handicapped in its manufacturing activity due to insufficient availability of raw materials like soda ash, sand, coal and tin sheets. The shortage of high grade coal was accentuated with the commissioning of the Bhilai Steel Plant. Consequently, the unit had to depend on coal available from Chandrapur. The high content of ash in it, rendered it unsuitable for use by the unit. The unit favoured the setting up of a quartz crushing plant to ensure regular supply of sand.

BRASS UTENSILS INDUSTRY

The Bhandara brassware has been well-known from ancient times. Brassware was one of the small as well as major cottage industries of the district. The size of the industry unit-wise differed considerably. The industry is quite prosperous and utensils manufactured in the district are marketed in various places in the country. There were organised small-scale as well as cottage units engaged in manufacturing of brass utensils in the district. According to the 1951 Census, there were more than 50 cottage units engaged in this industry. There were four units working on small-scale and were registered under the Factories Act. These units were dispersed well over the district employing over 10,000 workers. The small units were mechanised but cottage units were hand operated. All these units had a larger

proportion of their capital invested in fixed assets and worked much below their capacity. The average production per worker employed in these units considerably varied according to the variations in the extent of capacity utilised by them. All kinds of cups and plates, large *gunds*, *jhakni*, *parat*, *ganj*, etc., were manufactured by these units.

The old Gazetteer of Bhandara district has to say the following about this industry, "Bhandara has a fairly large brass working industry, the castes engaged being Kasars, who originally came from Northern India, and Panchals from the South. Brass is imported in sheets from Bombay and old vessels are bought at half price and melted down. All kinds of cups and plates and large *gunds* and *gangals* or water-vessels are made. The Panchals manufacture them also from *kansa*, a mixture of copper and zinc. Articles made from this sell at Rs. 2.8 a *seer* as against Rs. 1.4 to Rs. 1.8 for brass vessels. Cheap vessels of alloy of lead, zinc, copper or other metals are also made and are known as *bharat*. Copperware is not usually made except to order, as Hindus do not use it. Iron nut cutters and other articles are made with imported iron in Kamtha and Pangri. In Kaneri in Sakoli tahsil a soap-stone quarry is worked and stone cups and jars are made. These are used for holding curds and acids which would corrode brass".

In 1961, there were six units registered under the Factories Act engaging 399 workers. In the cottage sector, artisans work for utensil dealers and factory owners hire artisans on piece rate wage basis. This rate includes the cost of solder, acid, flux and fuel required for manufacturing processes. The daily earnings of a worker vary between Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 3; but drop down during the slack season.

The mechanical power presses are used in the production as they facilitate pressing, embossing, spinning, cutting and buff-polishing. The equipment mainly consists of power press, fly press, sharpening and scraping machine, spinning lathe, rolling machine, etc.

The principal raw materials used in these units are various kinds of metals, *viz.*, brass, copper, etc. Among the other raw materials required are chemicals, soda ash, caustic soda, acids, sand, etc. Electricity, hard coke, coal and firewood are used as fuel in the process of production.

Stainless steel, glassware, chinaware and plasticware utensils offered competition to brass utensils industry which greatly affected the industry. Almost all the units experienced difficulty in securing the raw material and capital.

The moderate prospects for the industry as a whole and the idle capacity in the existing units precludes the establishment of new units. However, the industry could be placed on sounder footing through the formation of co-operative societies and their requirements of copper-billets could be met from the Government

Ordnance Depot. This would help the industry in promoting the sale of its products.

SAW MILLING

The most valuable species found in the forest in the district is teak. It has a reputation for the decorative *vencer* in large size and as important constructional timber. The bulk of the forest produce is consumed locally in furniture making and residential constructions. *Khair* is used for preparing of *kath* (*catechu*). A number of saw mills were established in Bhandara district to utilise the forest produce. There were 7 saw mills registered under the Factories Act, and employing 87 persons in 1961.

A survey of five units was conducted. These units were located at Gondia, Tumsar, Tirora and Amgaon, and worked seasonally. The number of working days per year generally varied between 180 and 200 days. The total amount of fixed capital reported by three units together amounted to Rs. 44,200 and working capital reported by two units was of the order of Rs. 75,000. The machinery consisted of bandsaw machine, circular saw, moulding machine, sharpening machine, grinder and electric motor. The value of machinery varied from unit to unit but was generally in the neighbourhood of Rs. 15,000.

The principal item of raw material was wood (especially teak). The total quantity of wood consumed by the reporting two units during one year was valued at Rs. 80,000. Electricity was the chief fuel used by the units and the monthly consumption amounted to between Rs. 70 and Rs. 100 by each unit. The reporting units employed 28 persons, comprising workers and other staff. Skilled workers were paid from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per day and unskilled workers were paid from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.50 per day. The other staff were paid on monthly basis.

The products of the industry were sawn timber and timber waste. The outturn of the units was sizeable. The units cut wooden slabs of timber according to the size ordered by the customers especially for house building purposes.

OIL-MILLS

Oil-seed crushing is a fairly old industry of the district and has been organised for many years as an industry on a small-scale. In former times, every village used to have its own oil-men, and *ghanis* for crushing of oil-seeds. But in recent times due to the competition from the oil-mills the artisans have lost their business considerably. The number of oil-mills in Bhandara district registered under the Factories Act, was three and they employed 11 persons, in 1961.

Two units located at Gondia were surveyed. Of these reporting units, one was established in 1960. These units worked seasonally and their working days varied considerably. The amount of fixed capital employed in these units was Rs. 15,000, and that of working capital Rs. 55,000.

The raw materials used by these units mainly consisted of linseed, groundnut and other oil-seeds, which were generally available locally in the district. The same were also imported from outside. As compared to other oil-seeds the area under cultivation of linseed is more in Bhandara district. It was 46,618.76 hectares in 1964-65. The extensive acreage under linseed and its fairly large production assures adequate supply of the raw materials for the industry. Caustic soda is used in the process of extraction and is imported from outside. The value of raw materials consumed by the reporting units averaged about Rs. 1,25,000 every year.

The machinery consisted of decorticator for dehushing the oil-seeds, expeller for crushing the seeds, hullers and filter pump for oil purification and electric motor. They were purchased from Nagpur and Bombay. Electric power was generally used as fuel. The value of fuel used by these two reporting units amounted to Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 1,300 per month, respectively. The reporting units employed five workers. The daily wages paid to them varied between Rs. 2 and Rs. 2.50. The oil-men and fitters were paid on monthly basis.

The products mainly included linseed oil and oil-cake. The total value of the products as reported by one unit amounted to Rs. 2,00,000. The products were sold locally in the district. The difficulty faced by the reporting units was non-availability of working capital.

LAC INDUSTRY

Lac industry, one of the flourishing industries of the district, to all intents and purpose is a cottage industry. The cultivation of lac is extensively carried on in Bhandara district and lac industry is valued as an important subsidiary occupation of the cultivators. The area under lac cultivation in Gondia tahsil in the district is the second largest in the country. Due to the abundance of *Palas*, *Kusum* and *Rangine* forests, considerable quantity of lac is produced in the district. It forms the basis of shellac industry in Gondia. The principal crop of *Palas* lac is obtained in April and May, but some of it is then left on the trees until October and November when it becomes fit to be gathered and sold as brood lac. The *Kusum* lac is more valuable but less extensively cultivated in the district.

Lac is a resinous incrustation found on the twigs of certain trees, which is produced round the bodies of colonies of the lac insect. The latter subsists on the sap that it sucks up by means of a proboscis from the succulent tissues of the tree. When the young insects escape from the dead body of the female, they crawl about in search of fresh sappy twigs; this is known as swarming and at this time the twigs of trees infected with the lac insect will often be seen to assume a reddish colour, owing to the countless masses of minute insects that are moving all over them. Those that become fixed drop their legs and at once proceed in the process of digestion to transform the sap sucked up by the proboscis and to exude from their bodies the resinous matter with which

they become ultimately incrustated. At this stage when it is evident that the swarming is beginning, the twigs of an old tree with the insects on them are cut off and tied on a fresh tree, which it is proposed to bring under production, at the base of the new shoots which have grown as the result of previous pollarding. After some time the insect crawls up the branches of the fresh trees, and piercing the bark at some place sufficiently soft, fixes itself down and commences to exude lac. The greater and the better part of the lac is exuded by the female after mating. The quality of lac depends upon the brightness of the colour, the thickness of the incrustation, and the comparative freedom from parasites. The cultivator lops off the twigs on which lac has formed with an axe and separates the lac from the twigs with a sickle.

As per the Census of 1961, there were 10 units manufacturing lac registered under the Factories Act, in which 193 persons were employed in the district. The average output per worker employed was almost comparable to that in large and small-scale industries.

Lac is a precious earner of foreign exchange. Indian Lac Cess Committee, the Central and State Governments and the lac industrialists are trying to find more avenues of consumption of lac within the country because all internal markets would be more dependable as a stabilising factor. The Lac Research Institute, Ranchi has made some useful contribution in that direction. Lac is distributed and marketed mainly through export agents who often lift the produce at a price which is not generally conducive to the interests of the manufacturers. The lac manufacturers carry on their operations on individualistic lines and hence on unorganised basis, with the result that they always suffer from shortage of funds for use as working capital as well as for purchase of improved equipment.

Some of the units employ power operated crushers and washers, while other processers are aware of the need of improved machinery and equipment and are anxious to mechanise their operations to the maximum possible extent.

Lac was formerly exported to a number of foreign countries, important among them being the U.S.A., the U.K. and West Germany. Lac industry is at present in a more or less stagnant stage. The foreign market has been substantially lost owing to the introduction of synthetic products in the American and other foreign markets. There has been a steep drop in the price of lac all over the country due to the buyers monopolistic position influenced by the imports of lac from competing countries.

Lac and shellac can be utilised in a number of industries the more important among them being shellac plastics, adhesive and cements, oil-cloth products of vulcanised shellac, etc.

SNUFF MANUFACTURING

There is one unit manufacturing snuff, located at Gondia in the district. It was established before 1955, and now works as a

perennial industry. The unit employs only five persons who are paid each Rs. 80 as wage per month.

The main raw materials used are tobacco and simple snuff which are obtained from Sihor (Gujarat State). Subsidiary raw materials, such as, clay, chemicals, etc., are obtained from Bombay. This unit consumes raw materials worth Rs. 7,000 every year.

Mixture of raw tobacco and water is allowed to ferment for about eight days. After it is melted and denatured, wet tobacco is dried completely in the sun before grinding. Then grinding is done with the help of a mill. The tobacco in the form of dust or flour is kept in an earthen vessel and churned continuously with a wooden rod after adding a little water mixed with other chemicals to attain smoothness and fragrance. The powder is then filtered through a piece of cloth and finally packed in small boxes for marketing. The products are marketed in the district itself.

The difficulty faced by this unit is shortage of capital.

PLASTIC INDUSTRY

There is one factory established in 1963, at Gondia engaged in the production of plastic goods for which there is a good demand in the district as well as outside the district. It produces a variety of products, such as, plastic pipes, bags, cloth, etc. Most of the raw materials are purchased from Bombay. The unit uses raw materials valued at Rs. 80,000 every year. It is a perennial industry. The equipment and machinery used by the factory are valued at Rs. 36,000. Electricity is used to serve as fuel and power, and the monthly consumption of the unit ranges between Rs. 250 and Rs. 300. The unit has seven workers on its staff and their wages range between Rs. 45 and Rs. 85 per month. The annual production capacity of this unit is estimated at two lakhs of rupees. The products are marketed throughout the country.

SECTION II — COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

INTRODUCTION

Most of the cottage industries in the district are age-old and hereditary. Among these cotton weaving, wool weaving, carpentry, blacksmithy, brassware making, pottery, brick making, cane and bamboo industry, *bidi* making, neera and palm gur making, etc., are important. In the past these industries were worked by hand process and no motive power was used. At present, however, some of the industries make use of modern and improved technique of production. These industries are located at both urban and rural centres in the district. To-day cottage industries in the district are either worked individually or on co-operative basis and provide employment to a number of village artisans. Persons engaged through co-operatives numbered more than 1,385. The following table gives the statistics of employment provided by industrial co-operatives in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 7
EMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES, BHANDARA
DISTRICT, 1969.

Name of industry	No. of industrial co-operatives	No. of workers employed
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Palm gur industry	5	30
2 Carpentry industry	3	65
3 Cane and Bamboo industry	10	469
4 Leather industry	2	129
5 Bricks and tiles	19	594
6 Bidi industry	6	79
7 Women's co-operatives	1	19
Total	46	1,385

It is the policy of the government to encourage and develop cottage industries and their industrial co-operatives. The cottage industries and their co-operatives have made steady progress in Bhandara district. It may, however, be noted that ignorance of artisans and lack of financial resources make them conservative and reluctant to follow improved methods of production. The Co-operation and Industries Department is charged with the responsibility of taking all possible steps to ensure the promotion of cottage and village industries and handicrafts. The Khadi and Village Industries Board is also entrusted with similar functional responsibilities. The cottage and village industries are provided with financial as well as technical assistance. The object of the Co-operation and Industries Department is to encourage the individual artisans to form co-operatives and to work on their own by taking advantage of technical and financial assistance extended to them.

Most of the industrial co-operatives face difficulty in getting adequate and timely finance which results into some of them going out of work. Their funds are generally locked up in middle stages of processing, production, unsold stock, etc., and such industrial co-operatives are not in a position to repay their bank loan at the end of some specific period which generally extends over one year. It is, therefore, necessary that the industrial co-operatives require to be sanctioned relieving cash credits by their respective financing agencies so that they could easily overcome this difficulty. The following table gives the position of industrial co-operatives in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 8
POSITION OF INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, 1969.

Serial No. (1)	Name of cottage industry (2)	Number of industrial co-operatives (3)	Employment provided by individual cottage industries (4)	Capital Structure			Wages and salaries paid (8)	Raw material used (9)	Assistance rendered by Govt.		
				Share capital (5)	Reserve and other funds (6)	Working capital (7)			Share capital (10)	Loan (11)	Subsidy (12)
1	Palm gur industry ..	5	30	Rs. 7,907	8,937	Rs. 27,483	Rs. Nil	Rs. 293	Rs. ..	Rs. 1,417	Rs. ..
2	Carpentry industry ..	3	65	11,025	6,822	45,261	18,859	18,820	2,275	..	..
3	Cane and bamboo industry ..	10	469	21,272	3,597	46,341	8,980	35,011	..	7,770	..
4	Leather industry ..	2	129	4,679	753	19,044	..	..	..	..	..
5	Bricks and tiles ..	19	594	22,101	2,576	43,041	12,189	21,254	6,030	2,050	..
6	Bidi industry ..	6	79	3,450	179	3,629	..	..	..	..	..
7	Women's co-operative societies.	1	19	805	19	824	..	..	..	..	..

For the further development of cottage industries peripatetic schools are organised for imparting technical training in various crafts to the artisans. Training-cum-production centres are also established in each block of the district.

The khadi and village industries scheme covers the following industries in the district, viz., oil-crushing, leather working, pottery, neera and palm gur, *khandasari*, soap, hand pounding of paddy, hand-made paper, carpentry and blacksmithy, *kosa* silk etc. There are 55 co-operative societies in Bhandara district, of which only 29 societies are working. The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board has so far made available loans to the tune of Rs. 2,67,266 and grants of Rs. 56,795 for the promotion of the industries included in various schemes operating in Bhandara district.

Handloom Weaving.— Handloom weaving was one of the most important cottage industries in the district with a long tradition. Weaving of silk bordered cloth had a long and remarkable past. The machine-spun yarn was used for weaving cloth with border. The old Gazetteer of Bhandara district has the following to say about this industry: "Ordinary country cloth is also produced in considerable quantities by Mahars, who live in large numbers in Tumsar and the surrounding villages. The number of persons engaged in the cotton industry in 1901 was about 40,000, but had decreased by more than 50 per cent since 1891. The annual sales of thread in Tumsar are estimated at 5 lakhs of rupees. Mill-spun thread of counts of 16, 18 and 20 is generally used. A considerable number of weavers also reside in the villages of Kardi, Jam, Sihora, and Chulhad. In Bhagri and other villages thick cotton cloth called *khadi* is woven for winter wear. The thread used is of 12 or 14 counts and is woven double, so that it becomes practically water-proof. At Beni, carpets and bedding-sheets are woven by Mahars and dyed and printed by Chhipas. Beni has also a considerable dyeing industry, employing about 500 persons, and other dyeing centres are Murdada, Pauni and Mohali. Cloths and carpets are dyed red with alizarine and black with indigo. A grey dye is made by mixing burnt paper with iron filings. Marwari dyers colour head-cloths and handkerchiefs with imported dyes in light colours."

Weaving continued to be the main cottage industry till 1931. The textile wing of the Department of Industries which started its work in 1916, introduced from time to time improved sleys amongst the handloom weavers. These sleys brought an increase in the output by about 75 per cent. The result was over production which created fresh problems for the industry. For want of proper marketing facilities the entire produce could not be sold. Similarly, the weavers were unable to make profitable use of the extra time which the new sleys gave them. The consumers of hand-woven fabrics were taking more and more to mill-made fabrics. The weavers found it difficult to produce latest varieties and patterns so as to keep pace with fashions. Only

those weavers who turned out finer and more artistic fibres could hold their own in the industry. The competition of mill-made piece-goods continued to hit the rest hard. The condition of the handloom weavers engaged in the manufacture of *sarees* and *dhotis* deteriorated. The dyeing and calico printing industry continued to survive but in a moribund condition.

At the end of May, 1961, there were 5,253 cotton and 161 non-cotton handlooms in Bhandara district. Next to the *bidi* industry, handloom weaving engages the second largest proportion of non-agricultural workers in the district. According to 1961 Census, cotton weaving in handlooms engaged 9,747 workers in the district. The following table shows the statistics pertaining to handlooms, powerlooms and the average daily employment provided by them during the years 1964-65 and 1965-66 in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 9
STATISTICS OF HANDLOOMS AND POWERLOOMS FOR THE YEARS 1964-65 * and 1965-66, BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Serial No. (1)	District/ Tahsil (2)	Year (3)	Number of looms		Productions in '000 metre		Average daily employment	
			Hand operated (4)	Power operated (5)	Handlooms (6)	Powerlooms (7)	Handlooms (8)	Powerlooms (9)
1	District Total	1964-65 1965-66	464 322	30 25	N.A. N.A.	N.A. N.A.	505 343	32 32
2	Bhandara Tahsil	1964-65 1965-66	456 314	30 25	N.A. N.A.	N.A. N.A.	495 333	32 ..
3	Gondia Tahsil	1964-65 1965-66	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
4	Sakoli Tahsil	1964-65 1965-66	8 8	.. ..	N.A. N.A.	.. ..	10 10	.. ..

*Figures for the year 1964-65 are revised.

SOURCE : Socio-Economic Review and District Statistical Abstract, Bhandara District, 1965-66.

Sarees and *dhotis* of Pauni, Bhandara, Mohodi, Adyal and Andhalgaon are quite well-known in the district. Weaving of *sarees* on handloom is done on a large scale at Sangadi and Palandur. The weaving of silk bordered cloth is a speciality of the district. Pauni produces *dhotis* fringed with green silk. Country blankets are woven by Dhangars in Chichal and Jaitpur. Ekodi, Bapewada and Ganeshpur are known for the production of handloom *kosa* cloth.

Kosa Silk.—Ganeshpur, a village in Bhandara tahsil, has as many as 442 or 20.02 per cent of the total population or 43.76 per cent of total workers of the village engaged in household industry in which the handloom weaving (*kosa* silk) plays an important role.

The cloth that is produced at Ganeshpur is a silk cloth manufactured by the inter-weaving of silk filaments which are obtained from cocoons. This cloth is locally called as a *kosa* silk cloth. Silk weaving is not new to the people of Bhandara district. It thrived in the district as far back as in 19th century.

In the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (1886), it is stated that “in the town of Pauni a considerable trade still takes place, however, in cotton cloth and silk-pieces; and the finer fabrics manufactured at Pauni are exported to great distances”.

“In 1871 it had silk population of some 1,500, and vary the same number in 1881. These figures include *tasar* workers, of whom until recently there were many in Bhandara. But in the present year (1901) it is reported that there are 950 houses, or at least 4,000 people engaged in the industry. The towns of Pauni and Andhalgaon have long been homes of mulberry silk weaving, and at the present day there are silk workers in the towns Bhandara and Mohali also.”

The former edition of the Bhandara District Gazetteer described the position of *kosa* silk weaving in the following terms: “The weaving of silk bordered cloths is a substantial industry in Bhandara, and has not yet been very seriously affected by the competition of the mills. The principal centres are Bhandara, Pauni, Mohali and Andhalgaon, and the number of persons employed is about 6,000. In Bhandara the *uparna* or shoulder-cloths and loin-cloths are generally woven. Silver-gilt thread is sometimes embroidered on the borders, and cloths consisting wholly of silk are made to order. At Mohali women's *sarees* or body-clothes and *cholis* or breast-cloths are produced, the value of the most expensive *saree* being about Rs. 40. Pauni produces men's cloths fringed with green silk. Loin-cloths cost from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50. The Pauni cloths are considered to be the best in the District and are cheaper than those of Umrer though not of such good quality. Cloths with borders of red silk are also woven in several other villages. Silk thread is obtained from Assam through Nagpur

ready-dyed and cotton thread from the Nagpur mills. Counts of 40, 50 and 60 are generally used and in Pauni as fine as 80. The cloths are sent to neighbouring Districts and in small quantities to Hyderabad and Bombay. At Mundhri the *Gadhewal Koshtis* spin *tasar* silk from cocoons brought from Assam”.

Though Bhandara is so close to Pauni the craft was introduced in this village for the first time in 1935. Before 1935, the *kosa* yarn was used in the borders of *sarees* which were woven in the village. However, this was discontinued in 1930—32 and the weavers of the village took up to the weaving of pure *kosa* cloth. The craft gradually expanded and reached its peak sometime in the year 1958-59. According to local enquiry the number of looms engaged in the manufacture of silk weaving in different years was as under:—

Year						Number of looms
1935	..	..	..	..	..	2
1938	..	..	..	..	..	6
1942	..	..	..	..	..	15
1947	..	..	..	..	..	20
1948	..	..	..	..	..	30
1952	..	..	..	..	..	40
1956	..	..	..	..	..	50
1958	..	..	..	..	..	60
1963	..	..	..	..	..	56

The craft of *kosa* silk weaving at Ganeshpur is, however, entirely monopolised by *Koshtis* of the village whose traditional occupation is that of spinning yarn and weaving cotton cloth.

Tools and Implements: Most of the tools and implements used in the weaving of *kosa* silk cloth are the same as those in use in the weaving of cotton cloth on handloom. The loom, shuttle, winding wheel, bobbins, etc., are used in this craft also. Besides these, there are a few tools which are exclusively used in this craft *viz.*, *natwe*, *pahate* and *kathani* as also other minor tools, such as, *kansari*, *sikalne*, and *natai*.

A few tools like *natwe*, *pahate*, *kathani* and the loom are locally manufactured while others, such as, shuttle and bobbin are purchased at Nagpur or Bhandara.

The loom that is used in the weaving of *kosa* silk cloth at Ganeshpur is the “fly-shuttle loom”. In the beginning of the weaving industry “throw-shuttle loom” was in vogue. Both the types of looms, however, are pit-looms. The loom consists of the main parts, *viz.*, sley and reed, heddles or ‘bais’, warp beam, cloth beam and lease rods.

A list of tools, implements and other accessories required for one loom is given below together with the cost of each item:—

Name	No. required	Total Cost (Rs.)
Loom	1	30-00
<i>Pahate</i>	2	1-00
<i>Natwe</i>	3	4-50
Brass bobbins	15	3-75
Shuttle	5	10-00
<i>Kathani</i>	3	0-75
Winding wheel	1	10-00
Stalk of teak wood	30	7-50
Bamboo sticks	3	1-50
Supporting poles	4	8-00
Reed	1	22-00
Heddles	2	8-00
Wooden plates	2	2-00
Bench	2	4-00
Baskets	2	0-62

Some tools like the loom, reed, *pahate*, *natwe*, etc., last for a considerable period of time whereas others like shuttle, *kathani*, etc., need replacement after a period of six months or so.

Raw Material: The main raw material in the manufacture of *kosa* yarn is cocoons, which are purchased from the producers at Nisti, Tadgaon and Pauni in Bhandara district or from the cocoon rearing areas of Chandrapur district like Armori in Gadchiroli tahsil. The weavers either visit these places personally and purchase the cocoons or the merchants purchase them in the forest and after an initial processing bring them to Ganeshpur and sell dry cocoons to weavers. The other materials which are used in the craft are mercerised yarn and cotton yarn. The monthly requirements of raw materials and other accessories for one establishment with two looms working for 25—26 days in a month are given below:—

Raw material, Auxiliary material, fuel etc.	Quantity (No. of units)	Cost (Rs.)
1. Cocoons	4,000	130-00
2. Art silk yarn	2 lbs.	42-00
3. Mercerised yarn	0-20 lb.	27-00
4. Cotton yarn	0-25 lb.	24-00
5. Washing soda	5-50 lbs.	0-37
6. Washing soap	2 cakes.	0-50
7. Firewood	2-50 maunds.	5-00

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The yearly requirement of the raw material and other accessories of the craft in Ganeshpur thus, comes to Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 85,000. The monthly requirement is almost constant except in the rainy season when the production of cloth is considerably less. This is due to the fact that the stretching of the warp, etc., which is done in the open space is not possible in the rainy season, and also because the workers are busy with transplanting and other agricultural operations.

Manufacturing Process: The silk fibre is procured from cocoons, the rearing of which takes place at Pauni, Nisti, and Tadgaon in Bhandara district and also in the adjoining Chandrapur district.

The process of rearing of cocoons is described below:

Tasar silk worm is a wild variety of silk producing insects and feeds mainly on the leaves of *Ain* (*Terminalia tomentosa*) and *Arjun* (*Terminalia Arjuna*) which are found in abundance in the forests of Bhandara and Chandrapur districts. Besides the above named plants, the worm is also known to feed on the leaves of *Ber* (*Ziziphus jujuba*), *Jambhul* (*Eugenia Jambolana*) *Sal* (*Shorea robusta*) and a few other plants. However, they thrive best on the leaves of *Ain* tree.

The rearing of worms is the most important, delicate and difficult phase of the *kosa* craft. This phase of the craft has to handle millions and millions of worms easily susceptible to changes in environmental conditions and certain diseases. Moreover, it is very essential to use examined disease-free eggs for rearing.

Rearing is mostly done by Dhimars (a caste) and other aboriginals, such as, Nayaks. The *Tasar* (another name for *kosa*) rearing season commences in the month of June every year when, after one or two showers, the moths begin to emerge out of the seed cocoons. Pairing or coupling of male and female moths is done thereafter and then the females are allowed to lay eggs in a small bamboo basket. Each female is capable of laying about 200 to 250 eggs. The eggs are usually kept in a cup prepared out of the leaves of *Char* tree. On the ninth day tiny larvae come out of the eggs in the morning. Immediately thereafter the leaf cup containing the larvae is tied to a branch of an *Ain* tree and the larvae crawl upon the leaves and begin eating them. After 4-5 days the larvae grow in size and change in colour and settle for moulting, i.e., casting off their old skin. During moulting, the larvae stop taking their food for 24 hours and when the old skin is cast-off they begin eating the leaves again. The larvae period lasts for 30 to 40 days depending upon the season and during this period the larvae moult or cast-off their skin four times.

After each moult the larvae grow bigger and bigger in size and after the fourth, i.e., the last moult they take food for about 10 to 12 days and when the silk glands mature, they stop taking food and finding a suitable place on the tree begin to eject silk filament through their spinneret and encase themselves into a silk covering, i.e., cocoons, which are then harvested.

Usually three crops are taken annually. The first in July-August; the second in September-October and the third, *i.e.*, the commercial crop, is reared in November-December, every year. The cocoons from the first crop serve as seed cocoons for the second crop and the cocoons from the second crop serve as seed cocoons for the third or industrial crop. The cocoons harvested from the 3rd crop are stifled by applying vapour to them and after drying they are sold as reeling cocoons to the *kosa* reelers and weavers.

Once the entire year's quota of cocoons is purchased by the weavers they are subjected to undergo further processing before extracting the yarn. The weaver determines the quantity of cocoons required for a given amount of cloth to be woven. He then picks up the required number of cocoons for a day's work, say 100 or 125 from his godown or store-room where hard cocoons are kept in jute gunny bags. The cocoons, as the weaver receives them, are gritty. The weaver's first job is, therefore, to soften them and make them suitable for spinning. They are first dried in the Sun and then steamed or boiled. An earthen pot of medium size (say 2' high and with a diameter of 1' at the base) is taken and inside it 3 to 4 sticks are placed across each other. Sufficient water is poured in the pot so that the sticks get merged. A layer of linseed sticks is then arranged on the stocks placed at the bottom and dry cocoons are placed on them. A little quantity of washing soda and soap is added to the water in the pot which is then covered with an earthen lid and kept on a hearth for heating. The pot is turned every 15 minutes, so that the cocoons should receive uniform heat. It is ascertained at regular intervals that the water at the bottom of the pot is not completely exhausted. After about 2 hours or so the pot is removed from the hearth and the steamed cocoons are deposited in another vessel and covered with a lid. The yarn is then extracted from these cocoons with the help of a *natwe*.

The manufacture of *kosa* cloth comprises the following stages:—

- (i) Extracting of yarn from the cocoons.
- (ii) Winding.
- (iii) Twisting of warp yarn.
- (iv) Peg warping and warp preparation.
- (v) Weft preparation.
- (vi) Weaving and slewing.

The silk cloth produced at Ganeshpur is of two varieties, *viz.* plain *kosa* silk cloth where the warp and the weft yarn is of *kosa* silk and another with some design wherein the warp is of *kosa* yarn but the weft is not all of *kosa* yarn but a mixture of *kosa* yarn, mercerised yarn or cotton yarn. As the first variety of cloth is a costlier one the weavers at Ganeshpur have introduced artificial silk and mercerised yarn which are mixed with *kosa*

yarn in weaving. The varieties of cloth commonly produced at Ganeshpur are given below:—

(i) *Plain cloth*.—This variety has no design. The warp and the weft are of *kosa* silk only.

(ii) *Motha Choukada*.—This cloth is produced from a mixture of *kosa* yarn and mercerised cotton yarn. There are bigger square patterns in this kind of cloth.

(iii) *Lahan Choukada*.—This is similar to category (ii) above but the square pattern is smaller.

(iv) *Gunja Salai in colour*.—In this variety, diagonal designs appear on the cloth along with coloured lines at regular intervals. The coloured lines are either green, blue or orange.

In addition to these designs the following designs are also produced which are, however, not so popular:—*Teen-dhari Choukada*, *Popti*, *Popti teen Kadi* and *Rasta Choukada*.

The wholesale prices of one yard of *kosa* cloth are given below:—

Name of Design	Price per yard (Rs.)
Plain cloth (pure <i>kosa</i>)	5.00
<i>Motha-gunja</i>	2.59
<i>Motha gunja</i> in colour	2.59
<i>Bareek</i> or small <i>choukada</i>	2.50
<i>Bareek</i> or small <i>choukada</i> in colour	2.70
<i>Teen-dhari choukada</i>	2.69
<i>Popti choukada</i>	3.00

The *kosa* silk weaving craft is mostly a household craft and 190 workers from 53 households at Ganeshpur are engaged in it.

Every establishment has its own workshop where all the processes involved in the manufacture of silk cloth are carried out. There are 46 households which fall under the category of family workers who work without receiving wages, in cash or in kind, in any industry conducted by the members of the family; 38 of these have looms of their own and the rest, *i.e.*, 8 do not possess any looms. The eight households are engaged only in extracting yarn from the cocoons and twisting it. The statistics of employment in the craft are as under:

No. of looms	56	
No. of establishments	48	
No. of households-engaged	53	
Persons engaged	Males 96	Females 94
Employers	2	..
Employees	3	5
Family workers and own account workers	91	89

There is no practice of employing hired labour. The imputed earnings of males, females and children working in the craft are as under:—

- (a) Adult male—Re. 1.00 to Rs. 1.50 a day.
- (b) Adult female—Re. 0.31 to Re. 0.50 a day.
- (c) Children—Re. 0.25 a day.

The low rates of wages result from the fact that the labour required for the craft is abundant because of the non-technical character of many operations and also because labour involved in it is not recruited from the organised labour market but is generally drawn from the members of the family who would otherwise remain idle or will have to seek employment elsewhere.

Production and Marketing: It is difficult to assess the annual production of *kosa* silk cloth which is produced at Ganeshpur since no accounts are kept by the weavers. They sell the cloth to the merchants from Madras, Andhra Pradesh, etc., who visit the village once a month. The cloth is very popular in Southern India and it is estimated that about 75 per cent of the cloth produced at Ganeshpur is sold to these merchants and the rest is sold in the markets of Nagpur and Bhandara as also locally. The sale price of each type of cloth is given elsewhere in this chapter. The craft is a perennial one though in the rainy season, i.e., July-August, the production is generally below normal. Usually 75 yards of cloth valued at Rs. 200 is produced on one loom. On this basis, the gross value of the annual production of the 56 looms working in the village could be estimated at about Rs. 1,35,000.

Finance: The problem of finance to meet the expenses of raw materials, especially cocoons, and wages of workers is an important one. This is particularly so in case of this craft since the annual quota of cocoons required by the household has to be purchased during the period December-January. The fixed capital comprises land and building (i.e., the workshop), tools, implements, etc. So far as land and building are concerned, the households have not to incur any additional expenditure since a part of dwelling is used as a workshop where the various stages involved in the weaving of *kosa* silk cloth are carried out. The tools and implements, however, need some investment. The present generation of weavers are the same as were used by the earlier generation of weavers. However, it is estimated that the amount of fixed capital required for investment in tools and implements per loom is about Rs. 125. Thus the total investment of the craft in tools and implements works out to about Rs. 7,000 at Ganeshpur. The working capital required for the operation of one loom per year is Rs. 1,350 and that of the craft as a whole in the village is round about Rs. 70,000 to Rs. 75,000. The entrepreneurs have to raise this capital themselves since there is no outside source to obtain it.

This industry appears to be confronted by two major problems, viz., (a) rising cost of production, and (b) fall in demand for *kosa* silk cloth.

The products of handloom weavers find their way to the market through various channels. To reduce the marketing charges of the middlemen, co-operative societies of handloom weavers have been organised in the district. According to 1961 Census, there were 37 weavers' societies in the district. Their combined membership was 2,833, share capital Rs. 69,000 and working capital Rs. 3.87 lakhs, in 1961. The weavers' societies supply the yarn to member-weavers and get the finished products woven by them. The decontrol of yarn had some adverse effect on the working of these societies with the result that some of the societies became stagnant. In 1967-68, the number of handloom weavers' co-operative societies showed a decline, the number of operating societies being 19 only. This was due to the shortage of power and yarn. The membership, the share capital and working capital also decreased in the same year.

Weavers excepting only a few do not have adequate capital resources for investment in the business. Most of them, therefore, resort to borrowing and sell their goods on retail or on wholesale basis on their own account immediately when the production is over. Government grants are, therefore, given to the artisans through industrial co-operatives or where no co-operative society exists to individual artisans under the State-Aid to Industries Rules.

Under the community development scheme one handloom weavers training centre was started at Sihora for imparting training in the improved methods of production of handloom cloth.

The high price of handloom cloth is one of the main reasons for the incapacity of the industry to withstand the market competition. The reasons for the high cost structure of the industry are manifold. Firstly, the weavers do not have adequate capital necessary for storing raw materials like yarn, sesal fibre, etc. Secondly, because of the interminable exchanges between the mill-owners and the manufacturers, the prices of yarn and dyes fluctuate whereas the price of cloth does not rise or fall proportionately. Thirdly, as the goods are to be disposed of during the year of production, the profits fall to a low level. Thus the cost of production becomes uneconomic. Fourthly, middlemen unduly dominate the scene and reap the profits by exploiting the booms and slumps of the market. However, powerlooms should be installed by separate societies and these should not be mixed up with handloom societies. While encouraging the powerlooms, the interests of handloom weavers should be safeguarded.

Oil-seed Crushing: In the past oil crushing was one of the most important cottage industries, and its importance has not significantly diminished even with the advent of milling industry on a mechanical scale. The oil-men used to cater to the

requirement of oil of the entire population. Almost every village had a few persons, who used to follow it as a hereditary occupation. With the mechanisation of this industry, the oil-man found himself a weaker ingredient of the economic structure of the rural as well as urban areas of the district. Even though the ubiquitous character of the industry is intact, the economic position of the oil-man has been badly affected.

Bhandara district is an oil-seed producing area. The main oil-seeds produced are linseed, groundnut, sesamum, etc. Oil-crushing provides employment to many artisans in the district. Almost all the artisans, except a few are hereditary artisans. The main centres of the industry are Gondia, Amgaon, Pauni, Borgaon, Dawdipar, Nansari, etc. Gondia tahsil is famous for lin-seed crushing on a very large scale in the district.

Telghani constitutes the principal item of the equipment required by the oil-men. At most of the places the traditional village *oil ghani* run by bullocks is used, though a number of progressive oil-men have taken to the modern and improved types viz., *Nutan ghani* or *Nutan Wardha ghani*. The traditional *oil ghani* consists of a wooden mortar which holds seed and a wooden cylinder about 1.22 metres (4') high fitted right in the centre of the mortar with a heavy cross-beam on the top in a standing position, one end of which rests about 0.305 metre (a foot) from the ground. A semi-circular block of wood is attached to the lower part of the mortar with a piece of wood projecting and forming a right angle with the upper beam at the end near the ground. On this piece of wood a large stone is placed which is connected with the upper beam by means of ropes. As the ropes are tightened and the block rises, the pressure of the cylinder is increased. A blind-folded bullock is yoked to the upper beam. As the bullock goes round the mortar the cylinder revolves and thereby the seeds are crushed. Oil is squeezed out and falls to the bottom of the mortar, while the residue forms into a solid mass round the sides of the mortar as oilcake. The cost of a *ghani* is about Rs. 300 to Rs. 400.

The process of oil crushing which requires operations, such as, threshing and cleaning the oil-seeds, crushing the seeds and taking out the oil and cake is spread over a period of three to four hours. Consequently an oil-man can turn over only three *ghanis* a day.

Very often the oil-man takes the help of his family members for operations like cleaning and threshing the oil-seeds and marketing the oil. Some oil-men hire outside labour also. The average daily net earnings of an oil-man amount to Rs. 5 whereas a person employed by him is paid Rs. 1.50 per day.

Government have provided facilities for training the artisans in the improved methods of crushing and use of better implements. Under the Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board scheme, there were 12 oil-men's co-operative societies

in the district in 1968-69. However, only one of these is working at present. The Board has so far given loans to the tune of Rs. 67,581 and grants of the value of Rs. 17,079 to these societies. The reporting society produced oil and oilcake valued at Rs. 1,02,255.65 and Rs. 16,002.13, respectively, in 1968-69. It provided (full time and part time) employment to 12 persons and paid them Rs. 6,588.47 as wages in the same year.

Tanning.—Tanning industry is found in almost all the villages in the district. The main centres of this industry are Andhalgaon Soni, Kudegaon, Karchkheda, Mohadura, Manegaon and Dawdipar villages. Raw hides and skins of dead animals, such as buffaloes, bullocks, cows, sheep and goats are purchased for tanning by tanners.

The process of tanning is accomplished by indigenous method. Cattle hides are dipped in lime water for a few hours to separate the hair, fat and flesh from it. After the hide is well soaked, hair is scrapped with a scraper and fat, as well as flesh are removed with *rapi*. It is then washed and soaked in a solution of *babhul* bark and *hirda* water. Soaking is repeated thrice to tan a hide thoroughly. The hide is then tied in the shape of a bag which now contains a stronger solution of *babhul* bark and *hirda* water. It is then exposed to the sun and washed again on the eighth day and dried.

Raw hides, lime, *hirda* and *babhul* bark are the chief requirements of a tanner. *Babhul* bark is found in plenty in the forest of the district. Tools and equipment necessary for tanning consist of lime and tanning pits, wooden mallets, *rapis*, *aris*, barrels, etc. The set of equipment cost about Rs. 250. The construction of a pit cost about Rs. 500.

The age-old process of tanning adopted by the artisans in the district hardly enables the product to compete with the leather tanned at the tanning factories, which is of a softer variety and durable. The indigenous leather, however, is considered good especially for making rough footwear. Most of the leather tanned in the district is used by the local leather working establishments.

Procurement of the working capital is the main difficulty experienced by the tanners. A major portion of the expenditure is incurred in the purchase of raw hides. Middlemen generally advance the capital which they recover from the price paid for the tanned hide they purchase from the artisans. To help the artisans to overcome these obstacles in securing finance and with a view to providing them with marketing facilities, co-operative societies of tanners and leather workers were organised in the district under the Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board scheme which extended assistance to the artisans.

Leather Working.—Leather working is one of the old cottage industries of the district and provides a source of livelihood to a number of leather workers in the district. The industry is

diffused in rural as well as urban areas of the district. It produces foot-wear in common use like chappals, shoes, leather straps, belts and other goods required by the agriculturist. In towns the leather workers also prepare leather bags, purses, etc.

Leather working requires tools like stitching awls (*ari*), leather knives (*rapi*), cutting nippers, eyelet setter, sharpening stone, hammer, pair of scissors, sewing machine, wooden blocks, etc. The tools used and the process followed by the artisans are age-old and hereditary.

The raw materials chiefly consist of tanned and dyed leather, rubber soles, polish, chrome leather, etc. Tanned leather is procured from the local tanning centres in the district. Chrome leather and rubber soles are procured from the leather merchants in the district.

The artisans faced competition from the footwear companies whose products are of a superior design and finish. In rural areas the artisans work as a family unit. In urban areas they are in the employment of big establishments. Some of them combine tanning with leather working. These establishments paid wages to the artisans according to the articles produced and their craftsmanship. The market for the products is confined mainly to the district. The industry provides employment throughout the year.

The artisans have formed co-operative societies to solve the difficulties faced by them. Government have extended financial help to them in the form of loans and grants. Under the Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board scheme there were 20 co-operative societies of tanners and leather workers established in the district, of which only 12 are working at present. The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board had extended loans of the value of Rs. 20,962 and grants of Rs. 24,590 to them in 1968-69. There are also 2 industrial co-operatives in the district, having a share capital, working capital and reserve fund of Rs. 4,679, Rs. 19,044 and Rs. 753, respectively. Both these co-operatives are dormant for the last 2 years.

Pottery Making.— Pottery making was one of the important cottage industries of the district. It is commonly followed throughout the district and about 1,000 families are engaged in this industry in the district. The chief artisan is generally helped by the other members of his family. Potters are mainly concentrated in areas near the river banks. The clay found in the river beds serves as an important raw material for pottery as well as brick-making. Some of the establishments of potters are found to combine pottery with brick making.

The tools of a potter consist of a wooden or an earthen wheel (known as potter's wheel) brick kiln for baking earthen pots, wooden moulds of various shapes and sizes for making clay toys, pick-axes, *ghamelas*, etc. Red as well as black earth is used for making earthen pots. Earth is at first mixed with horse-dung

and soaked in water for some time before earthen pots are finally produced. The mixture is then kneaded properly and trodden twice. The clay is then given the required shape by being pressed on the rotating wheel. The pot is enlarged and strengthened by continued handling, turning and application of fresh mud till it acquires the required shape. The pots are then dried and a solution of red chalk and black earth is applied externally. The pots are finally baked in the kiln. Rice husk, and cow-dung are spread at the bottom of the kiln and the pots are buried in rows below the husk. The kiln is set fire to and the pots are taken out after the husk and cow-dung turn into ashes. The manufacturing activity is usually in full swing during the summer season, when the labourers are not busy with agricultural operations. During the rainy season the potters are engaged in making toys, dolls and idols for the festival days.

The markets for these products, which included *ghagars*, *gadgis*, *madakis*, *ranjan*, etc., are mainly confined to the district. The demand for these products generally comes from the poorer sections of the society and hence they fetch relatively low prices. The products of the industry are delicate and are easily damaged. The potters always face the difficulty of transporting them to the market places.

Lack of adequate capital, storing facilities and age-old technique of production are the characteristic features of this industry. To enable the potters to overcome the difficulties faced by them, the Zilla Parishad has given loans to individual artisans in the district.

Brick and Tiles Making.— Just like pottery, brick making was also carried on as a cottage industry at many places in the district. There were about 2,000 families engaged in brick and tiles making. This industry mainly met the day-to-day demand for bricks arising from the construction of new houses and repairs to old ones. Where the manufacturing activity was carried out on a small scale, the production mainly catered to the local demand. It is a seasonal industry practised generally by the artisans themselves. Abundant supply of water facilitates the working of this industry. The materials required were earth and ash whereas the items of fuel were coal and wood. The equipment required for brick making and tiles making consists of wooden moulds, *ghamelas*, pick-axes, furnace, etc. All these are available locally. A perfect mixing of clay, coal ash and water is done and the mixture is then laid into bricks and tiles with the help of the moulds. These are then dried in the sun. Baking in the furnace hardens the bricks and makes them durable.

The price of bricks varies with the season and tempo of building activity. It generally ranges between Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 per thousand bricks and averages about Rs. 20 per thousand tiles. Most of the production is sold in the local markets. During the monsoon the artisans are idle and hence work in the fields as agricultural labourers.

In 1968-69, the district had eight brick-layers co-operative societies under the Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board scheme. Of these only five were working and the rest defunct in the same year. The societies are located at Andhalgaon, Salati, Panjara, Lakhandur and Kulpa. These societies arrange for the sale of products of its members and advance loans to them. The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board had so far given a loan of Rs. 3,637 and grants of Rs. 1,000 to these societies. In 1968-69, the total production of these societies was worth Rs. 19,172 and they provided employment to 74 artisans, paying them Rs. 10,817 as wages. There were 19 industrial co-operatives of brick and tile makers as on 30th June 1969, in the district. Of these, nearly half were defunct. They provided employment to 594 workers and paid them Rs. 12,189 as wages. The share capital, working capital and reserve fund of these societies amounted to Rs. 22,101, Rs. 43,041 and Rs. 2,576, respectively in the year 1969.

Considering the availability of clay in the district, brick-laying and tiles making industry has good scope for further expansion.

Blacksmithy.— Blacksmithy was formerly a hereditary occupation and the blacksmith made and repaired agricultural implements. It was an integral part of the rural economy from ancient times. The blacksmith was formerly a member of the class of *balutedars**. At present this industry provides employment to a number of persons in the district and is dispersed throughout the district.

The materials used by the blacksmith comprise iron-sheets with gauge varying from 10 to 30, round bars and flat bars. Old tins and scrap materials are used for repair works. The blacksmiths usually own their establishment. The capital invested by an individual blacksmith ranges from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500. The tools and equipment of a blacksmith consist of anvil, furnace, bellows, sledge hammers, *sandashi*, files and chisels. Most of the tools are of a rough and primitive nature.

Blacksmiths in this district make articles, such as, axes, spades, furrows, sickles, hoes, axels of carts, cart wheels, frying pans, flat pans, sieves, prongs, etc. All these articles are sold in local market as there is always a ready demand for these articles. Very often the blacksmiths get orders from the agriculturists who sometimes give metal sheets or bars for making the articles. In such cases the blacksmiths get only wages for their services. Daily gross earnings of a blacksmith range between Rs. 7 and Rs. 12. An employed worker gets about Rs. 3 per day. Earnings of the blacksmith in the urban areas are slightly higher than those in the rural areas. Generally, a skilled blacksmith seldom encounters any threat of unemployment; only rarely he may face casual unemployment due to irregular supply of iron sheets and bars.

*The *Baluta* system, which formed part of the socio-economic structure of rural India, meant the payment of wages in kind for the services rendered by the village artisans. The system is however fast declining.

There is a blacksmithy training centre at Dhargaon in Bhandara block where the artisans are imparted training in the use of improved methods of blacksmithy. Similar facilities are provided by the Block Development authorities in the district.

Carpentry.— The carpenter was an important member of the *baluta* system which formed an integral part of the rural economy for centuries. These artisans known as *Sutars*, who were hereditary professionals, were engaged in making of agricultural implements, building materials and furniture. This occupation has retained its place in the district economy in spite of the far reaching changes which have occurred in the socio-economic landscape of the district. In fact with the increased pace of building activity the services of the carpenters are highly in demand. They are scattered all over the district, and every village has its own carpenter.

The forest in the district which produces quite a good quality of timber, has encouraged the development of the furniture making industry in Bhandara district.

The carpenters' tools comprise *wasala*, *patasi*, *ari*, *girit*, Whet stone, *karwat*, *hatoda*, *gunya*, *chhani*, *randha*, screw driver, *pakad*, etc. The cost of the entire set is about Rs. 150.

The carpenters mainly prepare furniture and agricultural implements, such as, plough, hoe, coultered drills (*tiphan*), bullock-cart, etc. Building construction also provides them with gainful employment. Besides, their services are availed of for repairing these articles. The carpenters find a demand for their articles in the local areas. The manufacturers of furniture in the district sometimes also export furniture to the nearabout towns. The daily earnings of a carpenter in the urban area range from Rs. 5 to Rs. 8; while in rural area it is from Rs. 4 to Rs. 7.

There are carpentry training centres at Wadegaon, Dhargaon, Salekasa and Yerli, where the artisans are imparted training in the use of improved methods of carpentry. Similar facilities are provided by the Block Development authorities in the district. The Government extends financial assistance to the carpenters through their co-operatives.

There was only one co-operative society of carpenters at Pauni in the district in 1968-69. The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board has given a loan of Rs. 6,000 to this society. The total production of this society was worth Rs. 3,300 in 1968-69. The society provided employment to 138 artisans and paid them Rs. 9,990.35 by way of wages in the same year. Besides, there are three carpentry industrial co-operatives in the district of which one has been registered recently and the working of which is yet to commence. The remaining two societies are operating and have provided employment to 65 members and paid them by way of wages and salaries Rs. 18,859 in the year 1968-69. The share capital, reserve fund and working capital of

all these societies stood at Rs. 11,025, Rs. 6,822 and Rs. 4,526, respectively, in 1966-67. The raw material used by these societies was valued at Rs. 18,820 during the same year.

Bamboo Working.— The artisans engaged in bamboo working are found practically at every important place in the district. They are, however, mainly concentrated at Lakhani, Sakoli, Sadak Arjuni, Mohodi, Adyal, Soundad, Karanja, Dawwa and Majitpur. Household requirements like mats, winnowing fans (*supis*), baskets and *bidi petaras* (boxes) are made by them.

Bamboo which is the main raw material required for this industry is obtained from the forests in the district. The articles are made from bamboos which are of different quality, such as *chiva*, *taqpat*, *chivati*, etc. Each quality is used for making a specific type of article only.

All the artisans use very crude and out-dated tools which consist of *koyata* (sickle), knife, chisel, cutter and wooden blocks. The cost of a set of tools and equipment ranges between Rs. 20 and Rs. 30.

Baskets, mats, *supis*, grain containers, sifters and *bidi petaras* are the main articles made by the artisans. The expansion of the *bidi* industry and the subsequent increase in the demand for *bidi petaras* for packing purposes, has led to an increase in the demand for the services of these artisans and their products. The bark of bamboo from which a mat is made is also used for making baskets. The products are sold in the local markets in the district. They, however, do not bring any handsome returns to the artisans. The earnings of an artisan mainly depend upon his skill. The average daily earnings of an artisan amount to Rs. 2 per day. The occupation does not provide them with full-time employment throughout the year. In the rainy season some of the artisans are required to take recourse to agricultural labour.

There were ten industrial co-operative societies of cane and bamboo workers in the district, which provided employment to 469 artisans who were paid wages and salaries to the tune of Rs. 8,980 in 1968-69. The share capital, working capital and reserve fund of these societies stood at Rs. 21,272, Rs. 46,341 and Rs. 3,597, respectively, as on 30th June 1969. The State Government has given a loan of Rs. 7,770 to these societies. Under the scheme of Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board, there was only one co-operative society at Ghatbori working in the district which provided employment (full-time and part-time) to 80 workers and paid them by way of wages Rs. 5,598. The production of this society was valued at Rs. 1,191 in 1968-69.

Bidi Making.— *Bidi* making is one of the most important cottage industries in the district. It provided a subsidiary source of income to agricultural labourers who were not gainfully employed throughout the year. As it required little or no capital investment and demanded no special skill, illiterate and unskilled

artisans could take to this profession. Besides, important *bidi* making centres, such as, Gondia, Amgaon, Tiroda and Gangazari, persons engaged in this calling were scattered in the mofussil areas throughout the district.

Generally, these workers were employed by contractors who provided them with all the necessary materials like tobacco, leaves and thread and took *bidis* in return. The length of the *bidis* varied and so did the quantity of tobacco. The wages were fixed per thousand *bidis* according to the artisan working in municipal and non-municipal areas. These contractors had their feeder factories where they collected *bidis* from workers and sent them to registered factories. They received agreed commission for their services. The owners of these registered factories usually gave a fixed quota of necessary raw materials to the middlemen and asked for a fixed number of *bidis* in return.

In some cases *bidi* making was undertaken by all the working members of a family, in their residential premises. In the rainy season, the family busied itself with agricultural operations and the tempo of *bidi* manufacturing slowed down. It gathered momentum after the harvest and continued to be brisk till the onset of monsoon.

There were six industrial co-operatives of *bidi* workers in the district during 1968-69, having a total membership of 79. The share capital, working capital and reserve and other funds of these co-operatives amounted to Rs. 3,450, Rs. 3,629 and Rs. 179, respectively, during the year 1968-69. At present, most of these co-operatives are showing signs of stagnancy.

Handpounding.— Handpounding is a traditional cottage industry being followed by artisans in the villages from generation to generation. Bhandara district being a major paddy producing area, the Khadi and Village Industries Board has taken up a programme to popularise handpounding of paddy as a regular processing industry in the rural sector. The industry serves another vital social purpose of providing gainful employment (part-time as well as full-time) to a large number of unskilled but needy persons in rural area of the district. The programme of the Board is intended to help these artisans in raising their productivity through the use of improved implements. Improved and efficient implements for dehusking, winnowing and polishing are available at half the market price to the members of co-operative societies organised for handpounding.

There were two co-operative societies of handpounding in the district in 1968-69. Of these two, only one worked during 1968-69. The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board had given a loan of Rs. 36,760 and a grant of Rs. 1,060 to these co-operative societies. The total production of the working society was worth Rs. 32,814.48 in 1968-69. It provided employment to 14 workers and paid them as wages Rs. 1,187 in the same year.

Scheme of Service Centre: The Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board inaugurated a scheme known as the Service Centre Scheme. Under this scheme, three types of units *viz.*, Qualitex unit, Gear sheller unit and *Chakki* unit are granted to a village level agency. The scheme is meant to benefit the cultivators who want to process their own paddy. The implementing agency also allows the desirous families to make use of these implements on payment of nominal charges. The amount so collected is utilised by the centre for repair and replacement of parts of the implements. If an individual artisan wishes to take up handpounding industry as a source of living he is also provided assistance in the form of loan and grant for purchasing implements and to serve as working capital up to a maximum of Rs. 1,000 under the above scheme.

Khandsari or Gul Industry.—*Gul* industry is one of the most important cottage industries of the district. The industry is carried on in almost all the villages which produce sugarcane. The area under sugarcane in the district was 475.92 hectares in 1964-65. Sakoli tahsil occupied a larger area under sugarcane cultivation in the district. Availability of sugarcane, *tadi* and good demand for *gul* are the main factors which contributed to the growth of this industry. The industry is seasonal and works for about three months after October when the sugarcane crop is harvested.

Tools and equipment consist of power crushers or iron crushers worked by bullocks for crushing the sugarcane. Use of diesel engines, cane crushers, pans, moulders, etc., in this industry is only recent.

Sugarcane is crushed by crushers run on power or iron crushers worked by bullocks for extracting juice. The juice collected is boiled in a large open pan and for cooling, it is poured into a pit where it is solidified. The prepared cakes are then filled in bucket type moulds to get the necessary shape. *Gul* produced is consumed locally and is also sent to the tahsil places in the district.

Under the scheme of Maharashtra State Khadi and Village Industries Board, there were two co-operative societies of *gul* making in the district in 1968-69. The Board had extended loans of Rs. 37,000 and grants of Rs. 3,200 to these co-operatives in 1968-69. These societies provided employment to 10 persons and paid them as wages Rs. 545.37 during the year 1968-69. The total production of these societies was worth Rs. 23,081 during the year 1968-69.

There are at present five *neera* and *tadgul* industrial co-operatives in the district, having a total membership of 63. The share capital, working capital and reserve fund of these societies stood at Rs. 7,907, Rs. 27,483 and Rs. 8,937, respectively, as on 31st of June 1969. Government had also given a loan of Rs. 1,417 to these societies.

Fisheries.—There is a considerable scope for the development of fisheries in the district along the river banks. Similarly, construction of new dams and tanks also affords immense possibilities for the development of pisciculture. The 1961 Census recorded 4,038 persons as engaged in fishing as principal workers, of whom 3,800 were males and 238 females.

Rivers, tanks and ponds are the chief sources of fishing activities in the district. Wainganga is the main river flowing through this district and all other rivers are its tributaries, *viz.*, Bagh, Chulband, Pangoli, Chandan and Bawanthadi. Some of them dry up during the summer. The total length of perennial rivers in the district is about 440 km. There are also about 1,000 perennial and about 14,000 seasonal tanks and ponds in the district. The water spread area provided by them is adequate for the development of fishing industry. The major carps imported from Calcutta are stocked up to augment the fish supply.

Tools and Equipment: Fishing is generally done with the help of gill nets known as *tangad*, cast nets called *bhawan jal*, drag nets or *odhe jal*, longlines *dawan*, bag nets called *shitawar* or *jhurli* and trap *udan*. These nets are mostly of cotton twine but nylon is also effectively used for making nets now.

Development: The commercially important varieties found in the district are *murrel*, *dhadkya*, *botri*, *padhan*, *bod*, *nadicha*, *rohu*, *tambu*, *karvadi*, *poshti*, *dhoara*, *gane* or *kanheri*, *chela*, *katva*, *seenghan*, *chandni*, *mahaseer*, *kolus*, *magur* and *zinga*. These varieties are however not of a fast growing type. As such under the Five-Year Plan Schemes, quick growing Bengal Carps are stocked annually in the perennial water tanks providing about 4,000 acres of water spread area for propagation of pisciculture. The varieties stocked are *catla catla*, *rohu*, *mrigal* and *calabasu*. During the Second Five-Year Plan about 29.49 lakhs of fry was stocked. The total estimated fish netted at the end of the year 1962-63 from these tanks was about 700 metric tonnes. In addition, about 20,000 fingerlings of major carps were stocked during 1962-63, in Seonibandh tank which is 45' deep and has a water spread area of about 2 square miles. Commercial fishing operations in this tank are proposed to be undertaken when the possibilities of breeding of fish in the tank are studied. A fish farm has been established at Seonibandh for research on fish culture and experiments on induced breeding. The farm has an area of 10.68 acres, and has a set of two stocking tanks, two repairing tanks, two marketing tanks and six nursery tanks. Baby fishes of major carps are also reared in this farm up to fingerling size and are then released in different perennial tanks.

Finance and Co-operation: The implementation of the fisheries development programme in the district under different schemes, encouraged fishermen to come under the co-operative fold to avail themselves of the benefits and facilities given by the department. Forty-four co-operative societies of fishermen were organised in

the district up to 1965-66, many of which are in the initial stage. In 1965-66, their membership was 2,617, share capital, Rs. 77,688, working capital, Rs. 94,219 and reserve fund, Rs. 12,281. They are given financial assistance in the form of loans and subsidy for purchase of nylon and cotton twine. They are also helped to secure tanks and ponds for purposes of pisciculture, in the district.

SECTION III—LABOUR ORGANISATION

As the district is industrially backward, the growth of trade unionism is also very slow and of recent origin. The origin of the trade union movement in the district can be traced when the registration of the trade unions first started under the Indian Trade Union Act of 1926. The chief industries in the district are rice mills, *bidi* making, oil-mills, printing presses, glass industry etc. Most of the unions in the district were organised by workers engaged in *bidi* making and the services of the State and Local bodies.

In 1967, there were 22 trade unions registered under the Trade Union Act of 1926, having a membership of 5,391 in Bhandara district. Table No. 10 shows the names, membership and classification of these trade unions.

TABLE No. 10
NUMBER OF TRADE UNIONS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1967.

Serial No. (1)	Name of Union (2)	Membership (3)	Affiliation (4)	Classification (5)
1	Warthi Bidi Mazdoor Sangh, Bhandara.	115	Not affiliated	22 Tobacco, 220 Tobacco manufactures (a) Bid Industries.
2	Independent Labour Party's bidi Workers Union for the local area of Sakoli Janpad, Bhandara.	1,000	Registration cancelled on 24th December 1968.	Do.
3	Gondia Mazdoor Sangh Gondia.	N.A.	N.A.	Do.
4	Bhandara Mazdoor Sangh, Gondia.	N.A.	N.A.	Do.
5	Sakoli Taluka Bidi Mazdoor Sangh, Sakoli, Bhandara.	N.A.	N.A.	Do.
6	Rashtriya Bidi Relai Kamgar Union, Tumsar, Bhandara.	N.A.	N.A.	Do.
7	Litho Press Kamgar Union, Gondia, Bhandara.	198	H.M.P.	28 Printing, Publishing and Allied Industries.
8	Universal Ferro Alloyed Kamgar Sangh, Bhandara.	311	Not Affiliated	(a) Metal Extracting and Refining.
9	Bhandara Madhyavarti Sahakari Adhikosh Kamachari Sangh, Bhandara.	193	B.M.S.	620 Banks and others financial Institutions (c) others.

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TABLE No. 10—contd.

Serial No. (1)	Name of Union (2)	Membership (3)	Affiliation (4)	Classification (5)
10	Bhandara Zilla Motor Kamgar Union, Bhandara.	21	N.A.	713, Motor Transport (a) Taxi.
11	Maharashtra Motor Kamgar Sangh, Bhandara.	48	N.A.	Do.
12	Bhandara Zilla Hospital Kamgar Union, Gondia, Bhandara.	50	N.A.	822, Medical and other Public Health Services. (b) Hospital and Dispensaries.
13	Sahakari Secretary Union, Bhandara.	36	N.A.	810, Government Services.
14	Prathamik Shikshak Sangh, Bhandara.	1,373	B.M.S.	811, Education Services.
15	Independent Labour Party's Safai Kamgar Sangh, Tumsar, Bhandara.	100	N.A.	(a) Services of Local Bodies.
16	Safai Kamgar Union, Bhandara	118	N.A.	Do.
17	Nagarpalika Karmachari Sangh, Tumsar, Bhandara.	105	INTUC	(a) Services of Local Bodies.
18	Maharashtra Gramsevak Association, Gondia, Bhandara.	993	N.A.	Do.
19	Nagarpalika Karmachari Sangh, Bhandara.	73	Not Affiliated	Do.
20	New Explosive Factory Workers' Union, Bhandara.	486	N.A.	360 (d) E-M-5 Workshops.
21	Ordnance Factory Employees Union, Bhandara.	..	N.A.	399 (a) Ordnance Factories not elsewhere classified.
22	Municipal Employees Union, Gondia, Bhandara.	177	Not Affiliated	822, Medical and Other Public Health Services. (a) Services of Local Bodies.

Of the 22 unions in the district, ten were from manufacturing industries; two of the transport workers, nine from services of the State and Local bodies and one of the bank employees. Registration of one union (as shown in the accompanying table) was cancelled on 24th December 1968.

The unions derived their income by way of contributions from members, donations, interest on investment or funds, etc.

Industrial Disputes.—Information about industrial disputes in the district during the years from 1956 to 1968 and number of workers involved, mandays lost, etc., is given in table No. 11.

TABLE No. 11
DETAILS OF NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, WORKERS INVOLVED AND MANDAYS LOST IN BHANDARA
DISTRICT DURING THE YEARS FROM 1956 TO 1968.

Year	Locality	Number of industrial disputes			Workers involved			Mandays lost		
		Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total	Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total	Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1956	Gondia	..	1	1	..	221	221	..	221	221
1957	Gondia	..	1	1	..	35	35	..	105	105
	Tumsar	..	1	1	..	500	500	..	1,500	1,500
1958	Bhandara	..	1	2	165	91	236	495	637	1,132
	Gondia	..	2	2	..	278	278	..	556	556
	Tirora	..	2	2	..	33	33	..	117	117
	Tumsar	..	1	1	..	51	51	..	255	255
	Dandegaon	..	1	1	..	180	180	..	5,760	5,760
	Chikhala	..	2	2	..	1,800	1,800	..	7,300	7,300
1959	Gondia	..	1	1	..	172	172	..	516	516
	Tumsar	..	1	1	..	50	50	..	150	150
1960		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1961		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1962	Gondia	..	1	1	..	344	344	..	344	344
1963	Gondia	..	1	1	..	52	52	..	572	572

INDUSTRIES

LABOUR ORGANISATION

Year	Locality	Number of industrial disputes			Workers involved			Mandays lost		
		Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total	Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total	Engineering industries	Miscellaneous industries	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1964	Gondia	..	1	1	..	130	130	..	130	130
1965	Bhandara	..	1	1	..	1,650	1,650	..	4,950	4,950
	Gondia	..	4	4	..	382	382	..	507	507
1967	Bhandara	4	2	3	125	127	252	500	355	355
	Gondia	..	4	4	..	961	961	..	12,702	12,702
	Pauni	..	5	5	..	142	142	..	1,096	1,096
	Tirora	..	1	1	..	17	17	..	26	26
	Tumsar	..	3	3	..	292	292	..	1,292	1,292
1968	Bhandara	..	3	3	..	426	426	..	1,616	1,616
	Gondia	..	3	3	..	412	412	..	1,804	1,804
	Pauni	..	2	2	..	54	54	..	216	216
	Tirora	..	1	1	..	24	24	..	144	144

Labour Welfare.—Labour welfare is promoted through the Maharashtra Labour Welfare Board, constituted under the Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1953. The Board took over the management of labour welfare centres in Bhandara district along with other centres in Vidarbha. There are four welfare centres conducted by the board in Bhandara district, two at Bhandara and one each at Tumsar and Gondia. The activities conducted by such centres are community and social education, games and sports, entertainment, etc.

CHAPTER 6 —BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

INTRODUCTION

ALTHOUGH THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAME-WORK OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM is uniform all over the State, there prevails a wide range of diversity in the development of credit institutions amongst the districts. This uneven development of the institutions is the result of a large number of factors, such as, location, the system of communications, availability of resources and the economic condition of the masses. It is on account of these multifarious conditions that Bhandara district reveals the peculiarities of its own financial structure.

The present chapter is divided into two parts *viz.* (1) Banking and Finance and, (2) Trade and Commerce. The first part of the chapter attempts to describe the various economic institutions in the field of finance and commerce, such as money-lenders, co-operative banks, joint-stock companies, joint-stock banks, life insurance corporation and other Government agencies extending financial assistance to the people in the district. Among these institutions, the money-lender is the oldest institution which has survived through centuries with little of its pristine pattern. Even now he holds a paramount influence over the agricultural masses. The main reason for this is that he is the continuous source of credit supply to the people in the district, whether as an indigenous banker in the town or as a shop-keeper supplying credit to the village-folk or even as a petty pawn-broker. Another reason is the disinclination of the people to invest their funds for productive purposes or to deposit them in savings banks. Most of them prefer hoarding to savings as they would prefer savings to investment. This has proved a great obstacle in the economic progress of the district.

The excessive rates of interest charged by the money-lender and the mal-practices he adopted to exact money from the poor proved detrimental to the economic well-being of the people in the past. It was with a view to put a stop to this evil that the Central Provinces and Berar Money-lenders Act of 1934 was passed and applied to the whole of the district. This Act subsequently removed the mal-practices of money-lenders and sought to extend protection to the debtors. Another significant force that helped to restrain the money-lenders' influence was the growth of modern banking in the district after 1951. Especially after the establishment of the State Bank of India, the banking business received a further stimulus.

The co-operative movement, too, has spread its wings all over the district and has given a new hope to the people for better production, better marketing and above all, better financial returns to its members. Side by side with the agricultural credit societies, which mostly influence the activities of the rural people, there is also a perceptible growth of many non-agricultural and production societies in this district. Much however, is still expected of the co-operative movement suffering, as it does, from drawbacks such as improper linking of credit with marketing, poor recovery of loans financed by the societies, and at some places a habitual preference for the money-lender by the agriculturists over their own organisations.

Besides purveying credit to the economy, these institutions also collect the savings of the people in the form of premia and invest them in the interest-yielding securities. The insurance and the joint-stock companies need in this context a specific mention. The post-war period found a remarkable progress in case of both these institutions.

The takeover of the insurance business by the State and the legislation enacted by it to reduce the profit margin of the companies thus details the role played by the State in this regard to secure economy, efficiency and excellence of its services. The State also floats loans and raises the funds required for financing its plans and other Governmental outlays. It further extends financial and other aid to industry and agriculture by advancing to them loans and subsidies. This active participation of the State in the economic activities is very well marked especially in the small savings movement. An account of these manifold activities on the part of the State has been discussed elaborately in this part of the chapter.

The financial set-up in the district has got significant bearings on the pattern of its trade and commercial activities. With the attainment of Independence, the old set-up of economic institutions underwent a remarkable change. The growth of banking and other financial institutions and increasing facilities made available to the public, help the movement of goods, and infuses briskness in trade. Price policies adopted from time to time by the State also affect the market trend and determine ultimately the composition of trade. The State similarly restricted the private interests and reduced their profit margins. It also competed successfully with private organisations in catering to the needs of the people in the district and cutting across the chain of middlemen. Especially in regard to commercial activity, it supplied a fresh incentive to producers through higher economic gains.

But that is not all. With the passing of the Central Provinces and Berar Agricultural Produce Market Act in 1935 (as amended by Act No. VII of 1937) and the Central Provinces and Berar Cotton Market Act, 1932 (as amended by Acts of 1936 and 1937), many of the agricultural commodities were regulated and conditions governing trade were controlled. With the establishment

of a number of marketing committees, trade was further facilitated throughout the district. It was not, however, by a negative approach through rules and regulations as by its active participation in the various economic activities that the State's role is gaining importance. State Trading is an illustration in point. The establishment of fair price shops to check the rising trend of prices and relaxing the strain of higher cost of living needs special mention in this context. The growing participation of the State in the economic affairs of the district thus constitutes an important landmark in the history of the various economic and commercial organisations in the district.

Thus the second section of this chapter, viz., Trade and Commerce gives the historical background of trade and the trade routes, and also furnishes details about regulated markets, exports, imports and trade associations in the district.

SECTION I—BANKING AND FINANCE

MONEY-LENDERS

The institution of money-lenders is as old as money itself. Money-lending was a profitable business and any individual who saved a little of his income practised it by force of habit and custom. However, there was no law which regulated the money-lending business. Private money-lending took various forms. Between bankers and businessmen, accommodation in one form or another was often necessary and this was largely the sphere of persons of well-known financial stability.

The following account gives the early history of money-lenders in Bhandara district. "A somewhat peculiar feature of the District finance is that the leading bankers reside in Nagpur. Generally, therefore, the relations between debtor and creditor are of a purely commercial nature and lack the consideration which is sometimes shown by *malguzars* to their own cultivators. On the other hand, some of the Nagpur bankers, notably Mr. Chitnavis and Raja Raghuji Rao Bhonsla were most generous during the conciliation proceedings. The most important of the Nagpur bankers are Krishna Rao Amrit Buti, Ramchandra Amrit Buti, Jageshwar Murlidhar Buti, Balaji Vinayak Buti, Atmaram Amrit Buti, Narayan Shridhar Naik of Umrer, Mr. G. M. Chitnavis, and the Bhonslas. The chief among the local creditors is Ganpat Rao Yadava Rao whose business extends all over the District; the zamindars of Gond-Umri and Amgaon, and the Kunbi proprietor of Saoli-Dongargaon. Many of the local Marwari money-lenders suffered heavily in the famines and are now involved. A new class of small creditor has risen from the Mahar caste. These men have given up drinking and lead an abstemious life, wishing to raise themselves in social estimation. Mr. Napier found twenty or more village kotwars carrying on money-lending transactions on a small scale, and, in addition, many of the Mahars in towns were exceedingly well off."

Private Loans: "The rates of interest on private loans are the same as in other Districts. Large proprietors can get money at 6

per cent, while ordinary malguzars and tenants have to pay from 12 to 24, or even higher rates. Grain-loans of rice are usually made at 25 per cent to reliable borrowers. The Court of Wards tried the system of making advances of grain at 12½ per cent., but found that it did not pay owing to the expense of storage and watch and ward. Oil-seeds are lent at the rate of 50 to 100 per cent. A number of Pathan money-lenders have settled in the District and make small advances at exorbitant rates to the poorer classes. They often charge interest at 2 annas a rupee a month or 150 per cent and extract payment by methods of terrorism. Rai Bahadur Anant Lal gives an interesting account of the dishonest methods of the smaller money-lenders. The creditor makes large profits on the *mahin-khat* system, of which the following is an illustration. Suppose a man wants Rs. 20. He has to execute a bond for Rs. 25, payable in twenty-five monthly instalments of one rupee. Of the loan, the borrower receives actually only Rs. 17.12, the rest being accounted for as follows:—One rupee for *parvesi* or advance payment, one rupee for *dharmavat*, apparently a present, and 4 annas for *batta* or the money-lender's time; 4 annas for the stamp, 2 annas for the writing fee, 2 annas for the account-book and one anna for the witnesses. The true rate of interest on the transaction thus works out to about 50 per cent. In making grain-loans the measurer uses his skill and succeeds in giving out only 19 *kuros* for 20 *kuros*, and when receiving takes 21 for 20 *kuros*. The borrower has also to contribute for the measurer and *bigaris* of the village. The debtors are steeped in ignorance. The majority of them are illiterate and even those who have received education in primary schools have reaped little benefit from it. I heard of debtors who could be duped into a belief that the month of Phag was not one month, the creditor counting it four times over, and calling the same period by four different names, i.e., Phag, Phalgun, Simga and Holi.*

Malpractices: Legislative control became necessary when money-lenders were found to be indulging in questionable practices. They took unfair advantage of the illiteracy, ignorance, credulity and helplessness of the ryots to extract money from them. The Central Banking Inquiry Committee (1931) enlisted the following as some of the mal-practices followed by the money-lenders:—

- (1) demand for advanced interest;
- (2) demand for a present for doing business;
- (3) taking of thumb-impression on a blank paper with a view to inserting any arbitrary amount at a later date if the debtor became irregular in payment of interest;
- (4) insertion in written documents of sums considerably in excess of money actually lent; and
- (5) taking of conditional sale-deeds in order to provide against possible evasion of payment by the debtor.

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Vol. A, 1908, pp. 103—105.

Such practices put a serious drag on the agricultural economy of the district since they robbed the agriculturists of a substantial part of their income. It was imperative, therefore, to regulate the business of money-lenders by appropriate legislative measures.

Central Provinces and Berar Money-Lenders Act, 1934: With this in view the then Government of the Province passed the Central Provinces and Berar Money-Lenders Act, 1934 and made it applicable to Bhandara district along with other districts of the Vidarbha Region. The Act was subsequently supplemented in 1939 and amended in 1949. The important addition to the provisions of the Act in 1939 was that the Act was deemed to be in force with effect from 1st April 1935. According to the Amendment Act (1949), the registration certificates granted before 1st April 1949, were to cease from being operative with effect from the date so appointed. The persons holding such certificates were entitled to refund of the registration fee in such cases.

Bombay Money-Lenders Act: After the reorganisation of States in 1956 the district of Bhandara formed part of the then Bombay State and subsequently with the bifurcation of that State, of the newly formed State of Maharashtra, with the result that the rules, regulations and enactments which were already in force in the State of Maharashtra were gradually made applicable to Bhandara district along with the other districts in the Vidarbha Region. The Bombay Money-lender's Act of 1946 was thus applied to Bhandara district from 1st February 1960. The important provisions of the Act are:—

- (1) The State Government was authorised to appoint Registrar General, Registrar, and Assistant Registrar of Money-lenders and to define areas of their duties.
- (2) Every Registrar was to maintain a register of money-lenders in his jurisdiction.
- (3) Money-lenders were not to carry on business of money-lending except in the area under licence and except in accordance with the terms of licence.
- (4) The Registrar, the Assistant Registrar or any other officer was authorised to demand from any money-lender the production of any record or document in his possession which was relevant for his purposes.
- (5) Every money-lender was to keep and maintain a cash book and a ledger in a prescribed form and manner.
- (6) Every money-lender was to give a specific statement to the debtor about the language, amount, security, etc.
- (7) The State Government was authorised to fix maximum rates of interest for any local area or class of business of money-lending in respect of secured and unsecured loans.
- (8) Molestation of a debtor by the creditor in recovery of loans was to be treated as an offence and was to be penalised.

(9) Notwithstanding any law in force, no debtor who cultivated land personally and whose debt did not exceed Rs. 15,000 could be arrested or imprisoned in execution of a decree for money passed in favour of a money-lender whether before or after the date on which the Act came into force.

The Act was subsequently amended. The important amendments made pertained to the introduction of 4-A and 5-A forms and the "Pass Book" system, provision of calculating interest on *Katimiji* system and facilities to certain classes of money-lenders permitting them to submit a quarterly statement of loans to the Registrar of Money-lenders. Further amendment was effected in 1955 by which, money-lending without licence was made a cognisable offence.

In the following year special measures were adopted for protecting backward class people. The Registrar and the Assistant Registrars were instructed to take special care while checking the accounts of money-lenders in respect of their transactions with backward class people.

The regulations enacted by the Government were not entirely partial to the debtors. The money-lenders also were given relief when the structure of interest rates was revised as from 5th July 1952. This was done with a view to ensuring a steady supply of credit from money-lenders. Accordingly, the maximum rates were raised from six per cent to twelve per cent per annum on unsecured loans. The money-lenders were also allowed to charge a minimum interest of a rupee per debtor per year, if the total amount of interest chargeable according to the prescribed rates in respect of the loans advanced during the year amounted to less than a rupee.

Since the application of the Money-lender's Act, the money-lenders were required to make application to the Assistant Registrar of Money-lenders in the district for either the grant of licences or for their renewal, as the case may be, before they could carry on any money-lending operations. Formerly, the money-lending business in the district was controlled by the Assistant Registrar of Money-lenders. Since March 1961, the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies works as Assistant Registrar of Money-lenders as well.

Although no separate account of money-lenders was maintained during the early years of the present century, the following table gives an idea of the number of money-lenders in the district and credit given by them to traders and non-traders since the implementation of the Money-lenders Act till 1967-68

TABLE No. I
NUMBER OF MONEY-LENDERS AND CREDIT GIVEN BY THEM TO TRADERS AND NON-TRADERS IN THE DISTRICT.

Year (1)	Talukawise No. of licenced money-lenders				Total advances made by money-lenders to traders and non-traders		
	Bhandara (2)	Gondia (3)	Sakoli (4)	District Total (5)	Traders (6)	Non-traders (7)	Total (8)
1960-61	204	161	70	435	Rs. 7,78,963	Rs. 23,31,550	Rs. 31,10,513
1961-62	154	110	91	355	2,34,458	22,15,340	24,49,798
1962-63	149	102	91	342	4,58,361	16,51,379	21,09,740
1963-64	168	95	90	353	6,10,500	22,30,400	28,40,900
1964-65	170	96	84	350	10,26,212	26,43,861	36,70,073
1965-66	163	77	77	317	10,22,513	25,39,168	35,61,681
1966-67	199	73	85	357	5,29,575	23,89,324	29,18,899
1967-68	195	86	84	365	6,70,674	39,21,158	45,91,832

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Historical Background : The Co-operative Movement was started in India as a result of the economic distress caused to the peasants during the latter part of the 19th century. The idea of forming a co-operative society to solve the problem of rural indebtedness was first suggested by Fredrick Nicholson in his Report of 1895-97. The Famine Commission of 1901 also stressed the necessity of starting credit societies in India on co-operative basis. A real beginning of the co-operative movement was, however, made when the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904 was passed. The object of this Act was to encourage thrift, self-help and co-operation amongst agriculturists, artisans and persons of limited means. Societies formed under the Act were given legal status and were authorised to raise funds and carry on business in a corporate capacity. They were classified as rural and urban ; rural societies were bound to accept the principle of unlimited liability while urban bodies were given a free choice of limited or unlimited liability. This Act, however, was deficient in many respects. The Act of 1912 was, therefore, passed to fill in the lacunae of the earlier Act. It regularised certain practices of doubtful legal validity and made provision for further expansion under proper safeguards. The distinction between rural and urban societies was abolished and a more scientific classification based on the nature of the availability of members, whether limited or unlimited, was adopted. Co-operative societies other than credit societies were allowed to be formed. Registration of unions and federal bodies like central banks was expressly legalised and a number of minor improvements were introduced. The simplicity and the elasticity of the old Act were at the same time preserved and a wide rule-making power was left to provinces to enable them to develop on their own lines.

The war and the post-war period witnessed a considerable progress in the number of societies, their resources and their coverage. In particular, there was a vigorous growth of consumers' movement when the Government decided to appoint co-operative societies as agents for distribution of foodgrains that had run in short supply.

The co-operatives played a vital role after Independence. The rise in prices improved the paying capacity of agriculturists. This had a favourable effect on the position of the co-operative societies.

During the Second Five-Year Plan period (1956 to 1961) development of co-operative movement was given special emphasis under the guiding principles incorporated in the Rural Credit Survey Report, viz.,—

- (1) State partnership at all levels.
- (2) Linking of credit with marketing.
- (3) Education and propaganda in the theory and practice of co-operation.

In the following pages is given the constitution, the structure and the progress of the various co-operative societies in the district.

Co-operative societies and banks consist of: (1) agricultural co-operative credit societies, (2) multipurpose societies, (3) district land development bank, (4) non-agricultural credit societies, and (5) district central co-operative bank.

Agricultural Co-operative Credit Societies: These societies provide long-term and intermediate-term loans to agriculturists mostly for productive purposes, such as, digging of wells, improvement of land, reclamation of fallow land, construction of houses, seasonal agricultural requirements, etc. Loans are given mostly on personal security of the borrower and two other members. The society may accept mortgage of moveable property or crops as collateral security.

The rate of interest charged by the societies varies according to their financial position and the rate at which they borrow from other financial agencies. Government helps to lower the rate by giving subsidies to societies to meet their expenses.

Multipurpose Societies: These societies mark a further stage in the evolution of agricultural credit societies. They are essentially credit societies but their objects are wider in so far as they combine marketing of agricultural produce with the provision of short-term credit. Moreover, they aim at supplying such agricultural requisites as seeds, manures, fodder and arranging for joint sale of the produce. Government has authorised the Registrar of co-operative societies to sanction loans at 4 per cent to a multipurpose society undertaking construction of a godown for storing agricultural produce and other requisites. Government also grants loans to newly started multipurpose societies or branches of existing sales societies.

Non-agricultural Credit Societies: These are mainly urban societies whose members are traders, artisans, factory workers, etc. They also include urban banks and salary earners societies.

The area of operation of such a society is restricted to a town or its part or even a department of any institution, private or Government. Membership is open to all the persons residing within the area of operation. The liability of members is limited.

Capital is raised by the issue of shares, acceptance of current savings and fixed deposits and by borrowing from the central financing agency. Borrowing from outside is limited to eight times the paid-up share capital *plus* the accumulated reserves and building fund *minus* the accumulated losses.

These societies advance loans to members either on personal security or on mortgage of property or on the security of valuables pledged. These societies, and more particularly, urban co-operative banks also carry on modern banking operations.

TABLE No. 2
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT IN 1967-68.

Type of society (1)	Number of societies (2)	Membership (3)	Share capital (4)	Reserve and other funds (5)	Working capital (6)
Primary agricultural credit societies	789	99,918	Rs. 73,93,419	Rs. 9,92,975	Rs. 3,11,91,981
District central co-operative bank	1	1,048	65,28,000	13,82,000	2,89,81,000
District land development bank	1	14,365	11,04,000	68,000	1,04,00,000
Non-agricultural credit societies	13	2,298	1,06,993	10,888	3,14,955
Grain storage..	13	780	49,087	16,670	69,123
Sales stores or canteen	24	8,195	1,96,983	3,36,594	5,90,598
Rice mills	22	5,843	14,83,387	6,46,319	22,19,435
Housing societies	23	927	57,283	14,006	9,45,434
Fisheries societies	46	2,640	85,352	13,670	1,03,533
Agricultural societies	11	243	10,468	362	53,246
District sale and purchase societies	15	4,830	10,29,765	5,45,980	27,63,278

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Other non-credit societies—

(1) Poultry farms	2	32	1,250	10	1,260
(2) Cattle breeding	1	14	575	14	589
(3) <i>Sukh sampatti tanwardhan</i>	2	61	..	24	24
(4) Motor transport	1	96	28,225	58,471	1,03,666
(5) <i>Gur khandari</i>	2	52	5,075	54	35,874
Weaving co-operative societies	19	1,784	1,54,501	1,94,501	4,59,547
Other industrial co-operative societies	59	2,189	1,00,739	1,35,956	3,40,846
District industrial co-operative society	1	123	20,946	4,169	50,847
Industrial estate	1	33	44,000	13,465	44,000
Forest labour board..	1	33	..	..	..
District co-operative board	1	893	..	..	..
Supervising Unions..	13	803	..	..	..
Dairy societies	1	4	840	45	685
Labourers' societies	22	643	52,691	10,014	1,03,302
Printing press	1	24	2,600	..	4,500
Forest labourers societies	36	2,326	1,32,625	1,15,591	2,64,760

The number of members of the co-operative societies in the district was 1,50,245 at the end of the year 1968. The co-operative movement in this district covered 1,486 villages. In the beginning of the year 1967-68, the number of co-operative societies of all types was 1,116. During the same year 17 new co-operative societies of different types were established, and 12 old co-operative societies went in liquidation. Thus, at the end of the year the number of these societies stood at 1,121. In table No. 2 is given the number of members, share capital, reserve and other funds, and working capital of each type of society in Bhandara district at the end of the year 1967-68.

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies : In this district, there were 789 primary agricultural credit societies as on 30th June 1968. Out of these, 21 were large sized and the remaining 768 were all small sized. In the beginning of the year 1968, the number of members of these societies was 95,763 but during the year, 4,155 new members were enrolled thus bringing the total number of members to 99,918 at the end of the year. Due to the increase in the number of members, the share capital and reserve fund of these societies also increased. These societies distributed a sum of Rs. 138.58 lakhs as short-term loan and Rs. 46.08 lakhs as medium-term loan to its members during the year 1967-68. During the same year the societies received by way of repayment Rs. 115.87 lakhs as short-term loans and Rs. 29.69 lakhs as medium-term loans extended to its members. The total liabilities of all these societies stood at Rs. 156.87 lakhs as short term loans and Rs. 75.20 lakhs as medium-term loans.

The following table gives the progress made by the societies during the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 3

PROGRESS MADE BY PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Number of societies	790	790	789
Number of members	90,214	95,763	99,918
Share capital (Rs.)	55,06,512	62,77,050	73,93,419
Government's shares (Rs.)	3,41,500	3,41,500	3,41,500
Reserves and other funds (Rs.)	7,87,537	8,23,176	9,92,975
Deposits (Rs.)	6,02,151	6,28,242	6,07,386

District Central Co-operative Bank: The district central co-operative bank generally gives assistance to the primary agricultural credit societies for improving their business potential.

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The bank also gives loan to industrial societies for increasing their production. The number of branches of the district central co-operative bank was 15 in 1965-66, but in 1967-68 the bank had 17 branches at important centres of trade and industry in the district.

The number of members of the bank was 1,008 in 1965-66, 1,030 in 1966-67 and 1,048 in 1967-68.

The following table gives the progress made by the bank from 1965-66 to 1967-68 and its working during the same period:—

TABLE No. 4

PROGRESS MADE BY THE DISTRICT CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Number of branches	15	15	17
Number of members	1,008	1,030	1,048
(i) Number of societies as members of the bank.	815	918	936
(ii) Individual members	113	112	112
Share capital (Rs. in lakhs)	47.30	60.51	65.28
(i) Share capital of co-operative societies and individual members (Rs. in lakhs).	27.05	30.26	35.03
(ii) Share capital of Government (Rs. in lakhs).	20.25	30.25	30.25
Reserve fund (Rs. in lakhs)	10.67	11.91	13.32
Deposits (Rs. in lakhs)	94.82	96.26	141.69
Loans taken by bank (Rs. in lakhs)	37.44	74.30	103.22
Working capital (Rs. in lakhs)	193.06	242.98	289.81
Investment (Rs. in lakhs)	16.44	29.73	42.97
Credit given by the bank (Rs. in lakhs)	180.97	418.23	661.28
Loans recovered (Rs. in lakhs)	148.90	391.11	145.73
Loans recoverable (Rs. in lakhs)	150.33	355.66	215.35
Management expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	4.05	6.64	10.88
Profit (Rs. in lakhs)	0.73	2.56	3.24

The total amount advanced by the bank to the co-operative societies as short-term loan was Rs. 20.06 lakhs whereas Rs. 41.22 lakhs were disbursed as medium-term loan, during the year 1967-68. In the same year the bank recovered a sum of Rs. 145.73 lakhs including short and medium-term loans. The total

recovery of both medium and short-term loans amounted to Rs. 215.35 lakhs. It may be noted that during a bad agricultural season the bank extends medium-term loan to the societies instead of short-term loan.

In the beginning of the year 1968 a sum of Rs. 42,73,976 was due from 20,704 members. During the year 1968-69, certificates amounting to Rs. 38,10,554 were issued to 13,903 members. From the certificates issued previously an amount of Rs. 61,02,146 was still outstanding from 7,069 members.

In the following statement is given the rate of interest on bank loan given to co-operative societies for different purposes:—

	Short-term loan	Medium term loan
(1) For agricultural purpose	5.50%	6.50%
(2) For sale of agricultural produce	10%	10%
(3) For handloom production and its sales	10%	10%
(4) For other purposes	10%	10%

District Land Development Bank: The land development bank formerly known as district land mortgage bank gives long-term credit to needy agriculturists for the construction of wells, repair of old wells or for the purchase of oil engines or electric motors to be used for well irrigation. The bank also provides long-term credit for carrying out specific repairs and investments in agricultural holdings. The bank has three branch offices, one each at Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli.

In the following statement are given the statistics of financial assistance made available by the bank to the poor and needy agriculturists in the district in 1968:—

Nature of Work (1)	Number of applications received by bank on 30th June 1968 (2)	Number of applications on which loan was sanctioned (3)	Amount of loan (4)	Amount actually lent by bank (5)
			Rs.	Rs.
For construction of new wells.	899	753	16,65,500	18,18,675
For repairs of old wells ..	122	121	1,14,450	1,88,925
For purchase of engines and pumps.	282	276	8,81,000	6,28,900
For improvement of land	328	273	3,61,650	3,25,100
Total ..	1,631	1,423	30,22,600	29,61,600

In the following table is given the progress made by the bank from 1965-66 to 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 5
PROGRESS MADE BY DISTRICT LAND DEVELOPMENT BANK IN
BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Branch offices	3	3	3
Number of members	11,340	13,238	14,365
Share capital (Rs. in lakhs)	6.19	8.16	11.04
Deposits (Rs. in lakhs)	0.62	0.62	0.59
Reserve and other funds (Rs. in lakhs)	0.47	0.55	0.68
Working capital (Rs. in lakhs)	60.24	82.31	104.00
Loans given (Rs. in lakhs)	11.54	20.06	29.62
Loans recovered (Rs. in lakhs)	2.82	7.22	10.49
Loans to be recovered (Rs. in lakhs)	60.87	74.76	93.05
Investment (Rs. in lakhs)	4.06	5.15	6.85
Profit or loss (Rs. in lakhs)	(—) 0.26	(+) 0.27	(+) 0.34

Co-operative Purchase and Sale Societies: There were 15 co-operative purchase and sale societies in 13 development blocks in Bhandara district in 1967-68. A total of 747 co-operative societies are affiliated to these 15 purchase and sale societies and are under their jurisdiction. The number of district purchase and sale societies rose to 16 in the year 1968. There are 8 marketing centres in the district, viz., Bhandara, Gondia, Amgaon, Tiroda, Lakhani, Tumsar, Lakhandur and Pauni, of which the first five are regulated markets.

These purchase and sale societies supply chemical fertilisers, improved seeds, agricultural implements and controlled commodities, such as, sugar, iron, cement, tin, etc. Out of these societies three societies act as wholesale agents of sugar for three tahsils in the district. Other societies purchase agricultural goods from their members and agriculturists, with a view to give them fair returns for their produce so as to encourage them to produce more. The society has recovered from its members an amount of Rs. 28,65,328 given as bank loan from the value of the agricultural produce which it purchases from its members.

Out of the 15 purchase and sale societies, 10 societies make wholesale purchase of paddy and rice. They also supply fertilisers to the agriculturists on behalf of the Vidarbha Co-operative Marketing Society, Nagpur. These 10 societies do their wholesale business within their jurisdiction on behalf of the Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Society, Bombay.

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The statistics of all the co-operative purchase and sale societies for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68 are given in the following table:—

TABLE No. 6
WORKING OF CO-OPERATIVE PURCHASE AND SALE SOCIETIES IN
BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Number of societies	14	14	15
Number of members	3,923	4,510	4,830
(i) Societies	675	712	740
(ii) Individuals and others ..	3,248	3,798	4,090
Share capital (in Rs.) ..	8,73,030	8,63,015	10,29,765
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	2,83,352	3,95,955	5,45,980
Loans taken (in Rs.)	12,78,059	6,30,136	11,53,658
Working capital (in Rs.) ..	24,47,729	19,08,405	27,63,278
Management expenditure (in Rs.)	2,49,311	8,72,884	13,49,350
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+) 1,25,520	(+) 2,31,673	(+) 2,80,290

Consumers' Co-operative Stores: There are in all 24 consumers co-operatives in Bhandara district. Of these, two co-operatives are of railway servants, one of factory servants and the remaining are multipurpose co-operatives. Of the 24 consumers co-operatives, 6 operate in the urban areas and the remaining 18 carry their business in rural areas. The co-operatives supply rationed food articles to its members as also other necessary commodities required for daily use. The consumers co-operative store at Gondia has started separate counters for wholesale and retail sales to meet the requirements of its members, and has four branches in different parts of Gondia town.

In the following table is given the comparative progress made by these co-operatives during the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 7
PROGRESS MADE BY CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVES IN BHANDARA
DISTRICT.

Particulars	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68
Number of societies	24	25	24
Number of members	7,575	7,803	8,115
Share capital (in Rs.)	1,55,807	1,85,208	1,96,983
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	1,77,303	2,03,819	2,36,594
Management expenditure (Rs.)—			
(i) Pay and wages	68,579	77,720	1,01,755
(ii) Other expenditure	54,613	81,085	1,01,281
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+) 42,089	(+) 39,837	(+) 2,015

Wage Earners' Societies: In the beginning of the year 1967-68 there were 9 wage earners societies in Bhandara district to which were added four new societies in the subsequent period of the year. Out of these, 3 are urban credit societies; 9 dairy earners' societies and one is a rural credit society. These societies run fair price shops besides carrying on their usual business. The working of these societies is given in the following table:—

TABLE No. 8
WORKING OF WAGE EARNERS' SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies	7	9	13
Number of members	1,165	1,533	2,298
Share capital (in Rs.)	50,145	64,960	1,06,993
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	6,759	9,439	10,888
Loans advanced (in Rs.)	49,984	1,61,499	3,58,236
Loans recovered (in Rs.)	46,989	79,506	2,44,520
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	1,702	4,554	4,070

Grain Stores: There were 13 grain stores in the district at the end of the year 1967-68. There was a scheme to transfer these grain stores to service societies in 1965 and hence the grain stores could not make any substantial progress since 1965. Their number also decreased from 15 in 1965 to 13 in 1967-68. Similarly, their membership also decreased from 821 in 1965 to 780 in 1967-68. The following table shows the position of these stores for three years, viz., 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 9
POSITION OF GRAIN STORES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies	15	13	13
Number of members	821	750	780
Share capital (in Rs.)	36,495	35,314	49,080
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	7,569	9,035	18,670
Working capital (in Rs.)	46,902	45,440	59,123
Loans advanced (in Rs.)	8,949	5,619	6,340
Loans recovered (in Rs.)	8,886	5,619	840
Loans not recovered (in Rs.) ..	8,438	66,944	93
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+) 438	(+) 4,116	(+) 3,780

Co-operative Rice Mills: Bhandara district is well-known for its paddy production. For converting paddy into rice some rice mills have been established on co-operative basis. There were 22 co-operative rice mills at the end of the year 1968. They received a sum of Rs. 7,70,600 as share capital from the Maharashtra Government. In addition they also received Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 60,000, respectively, as loan for purchasing shares in other societies and machinery required for their use. In spite of the help received by these co-operatives only 16 rice mills out of 22 are operating regularly in this district. All these rice mills dehusk paddy into rice received from their agriculturists, members or from the paddy purchased by the co-operative society itself as per the grain procurement policy of the Government of Maharashtra.

The details of the working of the rice mills for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68 are given in the following table:—

TABLE No. 10

WORKING OF CO-OPERATIVE RICE MILLS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of mills	22	23	22
Number of members—			
(i) Members of the society ..	359	350	361
(ii) Individual members ..	4,481	5,026	5,482
Share capital (in Rs.)—			
(i) of Government	7,70,600	7,70,600	7,70,600
(ii) of Individuals and societies	7,11,735	6,97,792	7,12,787
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.) ..	2,55,325	4,03,586	6,46,319
Value recovered from dehussing (in Rs.) ..	99,268	3,36,914	4,66,358
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+)13,813	(+)1,44,915	(+)2,26,907

Housing Societies: There were 23 housing societies in Bhandara district at the end of the year 1968. Of these, six were organised under low income group housing scheme, 15 for housing of backward class persons, and two for other class of persons. Out of the 15 housing societies of backward class persons, 12 received assistance from the Government. However, seven of these societies refunded the assistance received by them due to their inability to purchase land. The rest have completed the construction of 104 tenements whereas the construction of 26 more tenements is in progress.

The low income group housing societies received financial assistance from the Vidarbha Co-operative Housing Board and three of these have completed the work of building 130 tenements.

The details of the progress made by these housing societies for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68 are given in the following table.

TABLE No. 11

PROGRESS MADE BY HOUSING SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies	30	27	23
Number of members	1,191	1,119	927
Share capital (in Rs.)	53,064	55,034	57,283
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.) ..	12,469	13,829	14,006
Working capital (in Rs.)	7,84,772	7,01,351	9,45,434
Loans advance (in Rs.)	13,224	3,491	..
Loans to be recovered (in Rs.) ..	32,703	72,577	6,578
Loans due to members (in Rs.) ..	6,67,658	5,98,572	5,91,994
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+)1,727	(+)10,720	(—)6,976

Fishermen's Societies: The district of Bhandara has a large number of tanks and ponds and hence large areas are available for fisheries activities. There were 45 fisheries co-operatives in this district by the end of 1967. The number of societies rose to 46 in 1968. The fishery societies are given one or two tanks each on lease for fishing. The fish is marketed locally in the nearby towns. In the year 1961, one small-sized godown was built for the Tirora Fisheries Co-operative Society limited for storing of fish.

In the following table are given the details about the working of these societies during the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 12

WORKING OF FISHERMEN'S SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies	44	45	46
Number of members	2,617	2,543	2,640
Share capital (in Rs.)	77,688	80,279	85,352
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.) ..	12,281	12,445	13,670
Loans taken (in Rs.)	4,250	1,070	4,511
Working capital (in Rs.)	84,219	93,724	1,03,533
Management expenditure (in Rs.)—			
(i) Pay and daily wages	11,406	7,366	9,603
(ii) Other expenditure	16,976	17,445	16,016
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+)5,277	(—)11,246	(+)27,214

Non-Credit Co-operative Societies: There were nine non-credit co-operative societies in the district at the beginning of the year 1968. Subsequently, one society went into liquidation. The relevant statistics about the extant non-credit co-operative societies for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68 are given in the following statement:—

Type of society (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Poultry societies	3	2	2
Cattle breeding societies	3	1	1
Better living societies	3	3	2
Motor transport society	1	1	1
Gur and khandsari societies	2	2	2
Total ..	12	9	8

TABLE No. 13
STATISTICS REGARDING NON-CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN
BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies	12	9	8
Number of members	437	262	255
Total share capital (in Rs.)	36,140	34,135	35,125
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	58,878	52,573	58,573
Loans taken (in Rs.)	48,849	48,789	47,715
Working capital (in Rs.)	1,43,567	1,40,489	1,41,493
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(—)1,537	(—)10,611	(—)7,325

Industrial Co-operative Societies: There were in all 135 industrial co-operative societies in the district at the beginning of the year 1968. By the end of the year, the number of industrial co-operative societies stood at 139. Out of these, 19 societies were of handloom weavers, 12 of cane and bamboo workers, 21 of pottery and brick-makers, 22 of labourers, 30 of forest labourers, and 30 of miscellaneous category.

The relevant details of all these societies for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68 are given in the following tables:—

TABLE No. 14
INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Type of society (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Handloom weavers societies	22	20	19
District industrial co-operative society	1	1	1
Oil <i>ghanis</i> societies	2	1	1
Cane and bamboo workers societies	12	11	12
Leather workers societies	2	2	2
Brass workers societies	6	6	6
Carpentry workers societies	2	2	2
Women's society	1	..	..
Pottery and brick-making societies	21	20	20
<i>Bidi</i> workers societies	3	6	6
<i>Kosa</i> production societies	2	2	2
Fertiliser production societies	1	2	1
Soap production society	1	1	1
<i>Lakh</i> production society	1	1	1
Neera production societies	3	3	3
Labourers societies	14	18	22
Forest labourers societies	34	36	36
Union of forest labourers society	1	1	1
Industrial estate	1	1	1
Total ..	130	134	137

TABLE No. 15
WORKING OF INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA
DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of industrial co-operative societies ..	130	134	137
Number of members	7,012	7,024	7,131
Share capital (in Rs.)	3,94,591	4,24,455	4,93,094
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.)	3,34,812	3,48,173	3,60,912
Working capital (in Rs.)	12,07,959	12,95,485	12,63,209
Total production (in Rs.)	18,76,933	13,90,244	7,30,202
Total sales (in Rs.)	1,93,525	13,58,969	8,66,828
Profit or loss (in Rs.)	(+)11,557	(+)61,442	(+)32,425

Weaver's Co-operative Societies: At the beginning of the year 1967-68 there were 19 weavers' co-operative societies in the district. One of these went into liquidation during the year 1968. Of these societies, one had power driven machinery in its production whereas the rest worked on handlooms.

The following table gives the financial position of these societies for 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 16
FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES
IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of societies ..	22	20	19
Number of members ..	1,190	1,810	1,784
Share capital (in Rs.) ..	1,01,064	1,02,412	1,94,501
Reserve and other funds (in Rs.) ..	1,38,724	1,40,026	1,94,501
Loans taken (in Rs.) ..	3,59,219	3,66,439	3,32,953
Working capital (in Rs.) ..	5,98,597	6,18,078	4,59,547
Production (in Rs.) ..	14,01,304	9,71,104	5,13,545
Sales (in Rs.) ..	8,45,707	9,65,350	6,79,345
Profit or loss (in Rs.) ..	(—)36,338	(—)24,902	(—)17,489

During the year 1967-68, the weavers' societies received Rs. 2,39,997 from Government in the form of rebate on their sales.

The table below gives the details about handloom weavers societies for the years 1965-66, 1966-67 and 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 17
STATISTICS OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN
BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Particulars (1)	1965-66 (2)	1966-67 (3)	1967-68 (4)
Number of handloom weavers ..	5,223	5,223	5,223
Number of members ..	1,990	1,810	1,784
Handlooms under the fold of co-operative societies.	2,325	1,050	1,148
Handlooms under the production of co-operative societies.	347	279	173

The weavers' societies supply yarn to members and get the finished products woven by the members as per specifications.

Other Industrial Co-operative Societies: Although Bhandara is primarily an agricultural district, there are a number of small-scale and cottage industries in the district. They include leather-tanning, brick and potteries-making, rope-making, oil *ghanis*, carpenters, brass-workers, cane-makers, industrial estate, forest labourers board, turban production, etc.

There were 115 other industrial co-operative societies, during the year 1967-68. By the end of the year 1968, the number stood at 120. The following table shows the working of all the other industrial societies during 1967-68:—

TABLE No. 18
FINANCIAL POSITION OF OTHER INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT, DURING 1967-68.

Serial No. (1)	Type of society (2)	Number (3)	Number of members (4)	Share capital (5)	Reserve and other funds (6)	Working capital (7)	Loans taken (8)	Production (9)	Sale (10)	Profit or loss (11)
1	Cane workers' societies ..	12	446	(Rs.) 21,257	(Rs.) 4,089	(Rs.) 42,093	(Rs.) 17,967	(Rs.) 35,351	(Rs.) 28,967	(Rs.) (—) 377
2	Leather workers societies ..	2	129	4,689	1,392	19,044	13,973	13,754	7,697	(—) 71
3	Oil <i>ghani</i> co-operative society ..	1	22	1,557	250	3,457	1,650	..	..	..
4	Brass workers co-operative societies.	6	190	16,694	1,05,558	1,27,841	9,589	88,948	80,649	(+) 1,313
5	Carpenters societies ..	2	41	9,000	7,872	23,221	6,052	31,241	28,028	(—) 32
6	Bricks and pottery making societies	20	953	27,173	2,789	65,054	30,265	16,904	13,090	(+) 662
7	District industrial co-operative board	1	123	20,946	4,169	50,847	25,732	..	55,870	(—) 1,788
8	Neera co-operative societies ..	3	61	6,485	13,565	27,882	7,832	16,936	16,936	(+) 6,538
9	Industrial estate ..	1	33	44,000	13,465	44,000	..	..	..	(+) 2,751
10	Labourers societies ..	22	643	52,691	10,014	1,03,302	26,488	..	..	(+) 11,346
11	Forest labourers societies	36	2,326	1,32,625	1,15,591	2,64,760	16,551	..	..	(+) 30,051
12	Forest labourers board	1	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13	<i>Bidi</i> labourers societies ..	6	166	4,951	91	5,042	..	..	..	..
14	Turban production societies	2	114	3,875	3,052	9,237	2,300	3,294	3,437	(—) 135
15	Sugar Cane production societies	2	26	2,400	1,252	8,536	1,674	5,503	5,544	(—) 332
16	Soap production co-operative society	1	22	1,500	11	7,446	5,063	3,865	2,865	(—) 1
17	Hosiery co-operative society	1	11	500	..	..	..	..	..	..
18	Lakh production society ..	1	19	650	25	675	..	..	..	..

STATE AID TO AGRICULTURE

The system of granting *tagai* loans to the needy agriculturists and farmers is not new. Even before the British rule, it was being operated, although on a small scale, to help agriculturists tide over years of famine or drought. Later the system was applied almost invariably even during normal years. Under the British administration, a number of Acts were passed between 1871 and 1879. Substantial financial assistance, however, was granted only after the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883 and the Agriculturists' Loans Act of 1884 came into force. The former Act is broadly concerned with long-term loans, while the latter deals with short-term financial accommodation.

The following paragraph gives an account of the loans given by Government to needy farmers at the time the old Gazetteer of Bhandara district was published.

Government Loans: "The system of Government advances for land improvement loans has been largely expanded in recent years, as an excellent method of providing work in seasons of distress. From 1874 to 1896 only about Rs. 60,000 were advanced in all under the two Acts of 1871 and 1883. Since that year nearly Rs. 3 lakhs have been advanced, principally in the famines of 1897 and 1900 and the scarcity of 1903. In 1897 special famine loans were granted without interest, the amount so given out being more than two lakhs. In 1899-1900 the advances were very much smaller, as the village proprietors were not in a position to take loans. But a number of small tank works were undertaken by Government both directly and by means of grants to *malguzars*. In 1903 the 'grant-in-aid' scheme devised by Mr. Craddock as Commissioner of Nagpur was introduced. By this tanks were constructed under Government supervision in *malguzari* villages, a half of the cost being borne by Government and a half by the *malguzar* or the *malguzar* and tenants jointly. A number of tanks were begun on these lines, and have been or are gradually being completed in subsequent years. In 1902-03, a sum of Rs. 41,000 was distributed under the system in 28 villages. Out of a total sum of Rs. 3.45 lakhs advanced in loans from 1873 to 1905, Rs. 1.64 lakhs have been recovered and Rs. 16,000 remitted, while Rs. 18,000 have been received on account of interest. Rs. 1.65 lakhs are outstanding. As these totals include famine loans advanced under the special condition of part remission of the principal, the results may be considered sufficiently favourable. Up to 1904-05, a total of 155 *sanads* or certificates were granted for works of improvement. Of these, 71 were given for the improvement and two for the construction of tanks. In the other cases they were given for the improvement of fields or for sinking wells. Under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, transactions were similarly on a small scale up to 1895-96, but have reached very large dimensions in recent years. In 1897 about Rs. 70,000 were given out, in 1900 more than three lakhs, and three lakhs again

in 1902-03. Altogether Rs. 9.8 lakhs were advanced from 1884 to 1905, of which Rs. 6.1 lakhs have been recovered and Rs. 2 lakhs remitted. Rs. 20,000 have been received on account of interest. In 1902-03 advances were made to the village as a unit, on the joint and several responsibility of all its recipients. This lessened the time and labour involved in distribution and gave a direct incentive to the villagers to prevent loans being granted in undeserving cases; should an untrustworthy applicant come forward the other cultivators would protest."*

Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883: Loans under this Act are granted to cultivators for works of improvement in land, such as, construction of wells and tanks, preparation of land for irrigation, drainage, reclamation of land from rivers or other waters and protection of it from floods or erosion. The Collectors, Prant officers and Tahsildars are authorised under this Act to grant loans each to a specific extent and charge on all loans an interest at the rate of 8.50 per cent per annum. Government, however, may charge in particular case, a reduced rate or charge no interest at all. The loan is given when the grantor is satisfied as to the security with a margin of safety. When the value of the applicant's interest in the land to be improved clearly covers the amount of the loan with interest and the cost (if any) likely to be incurred in making the same, collateral security is not required at all. Generally immovable property is demanded as security against loan if the amount advanced is large. Personal security may be accepted, even that of one person, provided that his solvency is certain.

Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884: Under this Act Loans may be granted to the holders of arable lands for: (i) purchase of seed, fodder, cattle, agricultural stock, agricultural implements, hire of agricultural implements or cattle, etc., (ii) rebuilding houses destroyed by fire, flood or any other calamity, (iii) maintenance of cultivators while engaged in sowing or tilling their lands prior to the next crop, (iv) any other purpose not specified in the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883, connected with agricultural objects. Collectors, Prant Officers and Tahsildars are authorised to grant loans up to specified limits. Loans above Rs. 2,500 have to be referred to Government for approval. Interest of 8½ per cent per annum is charged on all loans, but the Government on the recommendation of the Collector may in particular cases authorise to reduce rate or charge no interest at all. Terms as regards security are the same as under the Land Improvement Loans Act of 1883.

Tagai loans for purchase of seed, fertilizers and weeding operations and for grow more food under the Agriculturists' Loans Act are advanced against collateral security, jointly or severally whereas individual loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act are granted on hypothecation of immovable of the borrowers.

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Vol. A, 1908 pp. 102-03.

The loans are granted even to a person furnishing a collateral security. When individual security falls short while granting loans, the repaying capacity of the borrower is taken into consideration. Generally 75 per cent of the loans are advanced against security of land and 25 per cent are advanced against collateral security. The ratio of the value of security to the total amount of loans advanced is 2:1.

The following tables give the details of the *tagai* loans granted to the agriculturists in the Bhandara district during 1966-67, 1967-68 and 1969.

They indicate in the first instance, the total number of applications received and sanctioned and the amount of loans asked for, sanctioned and actually distributed (table No. 19); secondly, purpose for which the financial assistance is given (table No. 20); thirdly, the time-lag between the date of application and the date of sanction (table No. 21); fourthly, the time-lag between date of sanction and the date of disbursement of these loans (table No. 22); fifthly, the duration of loans (table No. 23); and lastly, the reasons for the rejection of loans in a number of cases (table No. 24).

TABLE No. 19

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1966-67, 1967-68 AND 1968-69.

Particulars	Year	Loans under Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883	Loans under Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884	Financial assistance under grow more food campaign	
				Loans	Cash Subsidies
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1) Applications pending at the beginning of the year—					
	1966-67 ..	Rs. 850	Rs. 1,118	Rs.	Rs.
	1967-68 ..	871	650	..	..
	1968-69 ..	737	727	..	..
(2) Amount involved in 1 above—(in Rs.)					
	1966-67 ..	3,25,025	4,22,480	..	..
	1967-68 ..	3,85,580	2,86,090	..	..
	1968-69 ..	7,38,550	5,96,000	..	..
(3) Number of applications received during the year—					
	1966-67 ..	2,269	4,652	1,446	..
	1967-68 ..	4,383	4,710	8,114	..
	1968-69 ..	3,427	3,876	..	..
(4) Total amount applied for by the applicants in 3 above (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	9,69,217	18,23,505	2,09,941-08	..
	1967-68 ..	19,33,330	21,49,425	8,53,298-53	..
	1968-69 ..	18,86,949-92	16,99,925-31	..	..
(5) Number of applications sanctioned—					
	1966-67 ..	1,553	4,184	1,646	..
	1967-68 ..	2,448	2,467	8,114	..
	1968-69 ..	2,402	2,655	..	..

TABLE No. 19—contd.

Particulars (1)	Year (2)	Loans under Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 (3)	Loans under Agriculturist's Loans Act, 1884 (4)	Financial assistance under grow more food campaign	
				Loans (5)	Cash Subsidies (6)
(6) Total amount asked for in 5 above (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	Rs. 4,79,325	Rs. 10,90,862	Rs. 2,09,941	Rs. ..
	1967-68 ..	5,40,600	7,79,400	8,53,298.53	..
	1968-69 ..	6,92,597.92	8,79,325.31	..	..
(7) Total amount actually sanctioned (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	4,72,090	9,87,950	2,09,941.08	..
	1967-68 ..	5,40,600	7,79,400	8,53,298.53	..
	1968-69 ..	6,23,897.92	7,75,525.31	..	..
(8) Total amount actually disbursed during the year (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	4,72,080	9,87,950	2,09,941.08	..
	1967-68 ..	5,40,600	7,79,400	8,53,298.53	..
	1968-69 ..	6,23,897.92	7,75,700	..	..
(9) Total loans repaid during the year (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	1,01,106.78	1,84,798.75	42,190.36	..
	1967-68 ..	3,98,739.51	7,69,755.06	3,04,868.78	..
	1968-69 ..	7,34,426.84	12,88,125.47	9,01,903.61	..
(10) Total loans outstanding (in Rs.)—					
	1966-67 ..	20,62,001.86	27,52,255.74	17,88,398.95	..
	1967-68 ..	17,86,999.35	21,34,731.68	23,13,463.04	..
	1968-69 ..	12,89,330.58	15,93,493.94	14,25,676.86	..

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TABLE No. 20

GOVERNMENT FINANCE FOR AGRICULTURE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PURPOSE

Purpose for which the financial assistance is sanctioned (1)	Year (2)	Loans under Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 (3)	Financial assistance under grow more food campaign	
			Loans (4)	Cash Subsidies (5)
(1) For seed—				
	1966-67 ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 3,20,969.48	Rs. ..
	1967-68 ..	..	18,16,520.49	..
	1968-69 ..	..	..	..
(2) For manure—				
	1966-67 ..	..	6,14,741.27	..
	1967-68 ..	..	1,82,271.37	..
	1968-69 ..	..	..	..
(3) Purchase of draught animals—				
	1966-67 ..	4,75,000	..	..
	1967-68 ..	4,25,000	..	..
	1968-69 ..	2,50,000	..	..
(4) For farm implements—				
	1966-67 ..	..	1,60,827.72	..
	1967-68 ..	..	..	..
	1968-69 ..	..	..	..

TABLE No. 21
GOVERNMENT FINANCE FOR AGRICULTURE FROM 1966-67 TO 1968-69 IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Time lag between the date of application and the date of sanction (1)	Year (2)	Number of applications (3)	Amount applied (4)	Amount sanctioned (5)
			Rs.	Rs.
(1) Less than one month—				
	1966-67	562	69,021-00	69,021-00
	1967-68	2,012	1,87,800-00	1,87,800-00
	1968-69	..	..	..
(2) 1—2 months—				
	1966-67	1,082	1,40,920-08	1,40,920-08
	1967-68	4,018	3,75,374-79	3,75,374-79
	1968-69	25	5,500-00	2,000-00
(3) 2—3 months—				
	1966-67	75	2,500-00	1,000-00
	1967-68	..	5,500-00	2,000-00
	1968-69	40	..	..
(4) 3—4 months—				
	1966-67	395	1,02,435-00	85,170-00
	1967-68	517	2,16,050-00	1,84,225-00
	1968-69	414	1,65,585-00	1,31,752-00

(5) 4—5 months—	1966-67	717	2,49,880-00	2,07,530-00
	1967-68	859	4,37,325-00	3,03,750-00
	1968-69	698	2,10,840-31	2,58,173-31
(6) 5—6 months—	1966-67	1,525	6,20,265-00	3,35,150-00
	1967-68	1,066	2,70,650-00	2,49,185-00
	1968-69	398	1,28,589-00	96,589-00
(7) 6—7 months—	1966-67	604	2,30,550-00	1,30,500-00
	1967-68	446	1,66,080-00	1,30,140-00
	1968-69	1,373	3,06,908-00	3,41,708-92
(8) 7—8 months—	1966-67	1,697	6,05,950-00	3,88,565-00
	1967-68	3,109	7,97,123-74	5,30,123-74
	1968-69	415	1,61,000-00	87,700-00
(9) Over 8 months—	1966-67	870	3,49,497-00	3,12,115-00
	1967-68	1,002	5,17,700-00	2,12,700-00
	1968-69	..	..	..

TABLE No. 22
GOVERNMENT FINANCE FOR AGRICULTURE FROM 1966-67 TO 1968-69 IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Time-lag between date of sanction and date of disbursement (1)	Year (2)	Number of applications (3)	Amount sanctioned (4)	Amount disbursed (5)
(1) On the same day—			Rs.	Rs.
	1966-67	..	..	..
	1967-68	3,732	7,15,123-74	7,15,123-74
	1968-69	1,076	2,50,000-00	2,50,000-00
(2) Less than one month—				
	1966-67	7,529	16,69,971-08	16,69,971-08
	1967-68	9,297	14,58,174-79	14,58,174-79
	1968-69	4,144	11,49,423-23	11,49,423-00

TABLE No. 23
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE FROM 1966-67 TO 1968-69 IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Duration of loan (1)	Year (2)	Number of applications (3)	Amount (in Rs.) (4)
Less than 12 months—			
	1966-67	2,046	3,09,941-08
	1967-68	8,114	8,53,298-53
	1968-69	47	1,00,000-00
Less than 2 years—			
	1966-67	500	1,15,650-00
	1967-68	..	..
	1968-69	..	..
Less than 3 years—			
	1966-67	3,068	6,78,300-00
	1967-68	2,467	7,79,400-00
	1968-69	2,588	7,27,825-31
Less than 5 years—			
	1966-67	1,915	5,66,080-00
	1967-68	2,448	5,40,600-00
	1968-69	2,156	5,71,597-92

TABLE No. 24
GOVERNMENT FINANCE FOR AGRICULTURE FROM 1966-67 TO 1968-69 IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.
(Rejection of Loans)

Reasons for rejection (1)	Year (2)	Number of applications (3)	Amount (in Rs.) (4)
(1) Lack of security—	1966-67	90	30,000
	1967-68	370	1,40,500
	1968-69	195	70,000
(2) Old dues to Government—	1966-67	1,665	7,95,410
	1967-68	3,932	12,36,200
	1968-69	1,045	9,30,200

Crop Finance: The Government instituted the system of crop or seasonal finance when it was found that the financial assistance rendered by the Government through its various agencies fell short of the needs in rural areas. The system is thus primarily intended to fill in the vacuum in the credit facilities caused mainly by legislation relating to debt relief, money-lending and land tenure during the past few years.

The advances made by way of crop or seasonal finance are secured against the crops grown by debtors. These advances are essentially short-term in nature. Their main object is to finance agricultural operations required for raising of crops. The interest charged on these advances is quite reasonable.

The principal agencies which are recognised for grant of crop or seasonal finance are as follows :—

- (1) Co-operative societies.
- (2) *Tagai* loans advanced through revenue department.
- (3) Grain depots.
- (4) Persons authorised under Section 45 of the Bombay Agricultural Debtors Relief Act of 1947.

STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES

With a view to encouraging and developing small-scale and cottage industries the Government of Maharashtra has made them a special responsibility of the Department of Industries. The department gives financial assistance to these Industries under various schemes under which loans are granted for :—

- (1) construction of buildings, godowns, warehouses, wells, tanks, etc.,
- (2) purchase of land for buildings,
- (3) purchase of and erection of plant and machinery,
- (4) purchase of raw materials, and
- (5) use as working capital.

The important small-scale and cottage industries in the Bhandara district are *bidi* making, handloom, brassware, rice milling, gur making, cane and bamboos works, saw milling, soap, cement tiles, oil ghanis, etc.

In 1960, the Government of Maharashtra passed the Maharashtra State Aid to Industries Act, to regulate grant of loans to small-scale and cottage industries in the State. Under the Act cottage industry is defined as an industry carried on by an artisan in or near his home with capital not exceeding Rs. 25,000. The Act defined small-scale industry as an industry with capital assets not exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs, regard being had to the nature of the undertaking and the number of persons employed therein. The loans granted under the Act were repayable by instalments together with interest from the date of the actual advance of the loan.

Subsequently, the Government passed the Maharashtra State Aid to Industries Rules 1961 with a view to granting loans to small-scale or cottage industries for the following purposes :—

- (1) purchase of land required for an industry,
- (2) construction of buildings for workshops, godowns, warehouses, wells etc.,
- (3) purchase of tools, equipment, appliances, plant and machines,
- (4) erection of plant and machinery,
- (5) purchase of raw materials, or for other use as working capital otherwise than as cash credit, and
- (6) tiding over initial difficulties or bottlenecks.

Under the rules the following authorities are entitled to grant loans up to the amount specified against each of them as given below :—

Authority	Amount
	Rs.
Secretary to Government, Industries and Labour Department	1,00,000
Director of Industries	25,000
Deputy Director of Industries	5,000
Assistant Director of Industries	2,000

The loans, which are granted to the extent of Rs. 1,000 are to be secured by personal bond of the applicant, and in case of the applicant being a firm, by personal bonds of all partners. Loans exceeding Rs. 1,000 but not exceeding Rs. 5,000 are to be secured by one or more personal sureties.*

Maharashtra State Financial Corporation: Financial assistance to small-scale and cottage industries is rendered through this agency also. Originally known as the Bombay State Financial Corporation, this institution was set-up in the year 1963 under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951. Now its activities are restricted only to Maharashtra State.

The Corporation provides financial assistance to medium and small-scale industrial concerns in the State for purposes of purchase of land, plant and machinery and other assets, for renovation and expansion of new ones. It considers applications from small-scale units under the State Aid to Industries Rules for aid ranging between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 75,000 and in exceptional cases up to Rs. 1 lakh. The rate of interest for loan advanced is 6½ per cent. The period of loan is decided on merit but is not generally more than ten years. The amount of loan is to the extent of 59 per cent of the net value of the fixed assets consisting of land, building, plant and machinery*.

*Statistics of the financial assistance given under this scheme are not available.

Assistance by Zilla Parishad: The following schemes are implemented in the district by the Zilla Parishad:—

- (1) Grant of subsidy for management expenses,
- (2) Grant of loans and subsidies for purchase of tools and equipment, and
- (3) Grant of loans and subsidy for construction of godown and shed to the industrial co-operatives and weavers' societies. The funds for the schemes are provided by the Co-operation Department of the State Government. The schemes are being implemented to provide funds for the weak industrial co-operatives at their primary stage since they are unable to incur management expenses. The management subsidy is granted to them to cover the losses.

Under the State Aid to Industries Rules, 1961, the loans to the individual artisans numbering 759 have been granted by the Zilla Parishad since 1962-63. The funds are provided to the Zilla Parishad by the State Government.

Upto October 1969, 37 industrial co-operatives took financial assistance provided by the Zilla Parishad under the State Aid to small-scale industries and backward class workers schemes.

The following tables furnish the statistics of financial assistance to individual artisans and goldsmiths and to industrial co-operatives in the district by the Zilla Parishad :—

TABLE No. 25

FINANCIAL AID TO INDIVIDUAL ARTISANS AND GOLDSMITHS UNDER STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES RULES, 1961, BY ZILLA PARISHAD, BHANDARA.

Sr. No. (1)	Name of scheme (2)	(3)	1962-63 (4)	1963-64 (5)	1964-65 (6)	1965-66 (7)	1966-67 (8)	1967-68 (9)	1968-69 (10)
1	Loans to backward class artisans under S.A.I., Rules* 1961.	Loan ..	4,583	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	Loans to educated unemployed bonafide craftsmen under S.A.I. Rules, 1961.	Loan ..	1,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Loans for financial assistance to industrial artisans under S.A.I. Rules, 1961.	Loan ..	7,000	2,51,000	59,700	48,750	40,500	49,700	41,500
4	Total number of loanees ..		16	48	94	88	95	116	115
5	Loans to Goldsmiths under S.A.I. Rules, 1961.		..	38,850	19,400	8,200	..	2,500	..
6	Number of loanees ..		..	110	49	23	..	5	..

*S.A.I.—State-Aid to Industries Rules.

TABLE No. 26

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES BY ZILLA PARISHAD, BHANDARA.

Name of scheme (1)	Loan or subsidy (2)	1962-63 (3)	1963-64 (4)	1964-65 (5)	1965-66 (6)	1966-67 (7)	1967-68 (8)	1968-69 (9)
*S.S.I.-11 Plan Schemes—								
Tools and equipments to industrial co-operatives.	Loan ..	2,000	3,000	6,000	3,000	600	3,600	3,000
	Subsidy ..	1,000	1,500	3,000	1,500	600	3,600	3,000
Godown and shed to industrial co-operatives.	Loan ..	..	..	..	8,000	11,000	6,000	6,000
	Subsidy ..	..	..	..	4,000	4,600	3,900	3,000
Management subsidy to industrial co-operative societies.	Subsidy ..	5,663	6,000	3,351	4,202	3,517	3,000	1,855
Management subsidy to handicraft workers.	Subsidy ..	1,000	900	2,000	..	..	..	..
Total ..		9,663	11,400	14,351	20,702	30,317	20,100	16,855
†B.C.W.-3 Management Subsidy—								
Scheduled Castes ..	..	..	1,400	3,000	2,000	500	1,000	200
Scheduled Tribes ..	..	..	600	1,000	1,000	..	..	..
Other Backward Classes ..	..	..	500	600	600	..	..	..
Total ..		..	2,500	4,700	3,600	500	1,000	200

*S.S.I.—Small-scale Industries.

†B.C.W.—Backward Class Workers.

SMALL SAVINGS

The small savings movement was started in India in 1945 with the intention of mopping up resources and curbing inflationary pressures in Post-War years. The Planning Commission later adopted it as an important means to finance expenditure on capital schemes included in the Five-Year Plans.

The following categories of investments have been classified as small savings:—

- (1) Post-office savings certificates.
- (2) 12-Year national plan savings certificates, issued from 1st June 1957 including past holdings of 12-Year and 7-Year national savings certificates as well as 10-Year national plan certificates issued before June 1957.
- (3) 15-Year treasury savings deposit certificate issued from 1st June 1957 including past holdings of treasury deposit certificates issued before that date.
- (4) 15-Year annuity certificates.
- (5) Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme.

Post-office Savings Bank: The Post-office savings banks constitute an important source for the collection of small savings, especially from people of small means. The agency of post-office savings banks is well suited to the rural areas where there are meagre banking facilities. Moreover, as an agency of the Government, they enjoy complete confidence of the people. Keeping savings banks accounts constitutes one of the functions of the post offices and can, therefore, be carried on economically which is not possible in case of other banking institutions.

Twelve-Year National Plan Savings Certificates: The Government discontinued the seven-year and twelve-year national savings certificates and ten-year national plan certificates and issued the twelve-year national plan savings certificates with effect from June 1957. The latter are available at all postal savings banks in the denominations from Rs. 5 to Rs. 5,000. They yield an income-tax free simple interest of 5.41 per cent and compound interest of 4.25 per cent at maturity, that is at the end of twelve years.

Ten-Year Treasury Savings Deposit Scheme: The Ten-year treasury savings deposit scheme was started in 1951. Originally the deposits were to be multiples of Rs. 100 only with a ceiling on the maximum amount that may be invested, the ceiling varying according to the nature of the holders. From January 2, 1958, deposits have been accepted in multiples of Rs. 50 only. These were available at the Reserve Bank of India, branches of the State Bank of India doing treasury work and treasuries and sub-treasuries. The deposits are repayable *at par* on the expiry of ten calendar years from the date of deposit.

Fifteen-Year Annuity Certificates: These certificates were issued since 2nd January 1958 and are sold in multiples of Rs. 1,330 up to Rs. 26,600 and yield the amount together with compound

interest of approximately 4.25 per cent every year by way of monthly payments, spread over 15 years. Jointly one could invest up to Rs. 53,200. These certificates are also available at such places where treasury savings deposit certificates are sold.

Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme: It is an easy way to save regularly. The scheme is very simple, flexible, and suits everyone's need. Under this scheme people can deposit every month Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 20, Rs. 100, Rs. 200, or Rs. 300, at a post-office for a period of 5, 10 or 15 years. At the end of the period it brings a handsome lump sum to the investor. The return is free of income-tax. Interest at maturity works out to about 3.3 per cent *per annum* compound on a ten year account and 4.3 per cent *per annum* compound on a 15 year account.

By 1969, there were 67 pay roll saving groups, 540 small savings agents, 35 *bachat* offices, 35 *bachat* schools, and 35 *bachat* grams in the district.

In the following table are given the statistics regarding collections and withdrawals made by the above agencies for all the schemes described above in the district up to 30th September 1969.

TABLE No. 27
STATISTICS REGARDING COLLECTION AND WITHDRAWALS OF SMALL SAVINGS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Year (1)	Target for small savings collection (Rs. in Lakhs) (2)	Achievement		Cumulative Time Deposits		Post Office Savings	
		Gross (3)	Net (4)	Target of acco- units (5)	Achievement (6)	Target of acco- units (7)	Achievement (8)
1964-65	14	Rs. 62,87,910	Rs. (+) 11,24,992	Not allotted	1,385	25,000	2,220
1965-66	12	59,35,935	(+) 2,98,507	2,000	2,011	20,000	4,495
1966-67	12	66,11,467	(+) 7,11,317	2,000	2,764	10,000	4,531
1967-68	15	85,02,088	(+) 17,43,436	2,000	4,837	15,000	14,653
1968-69	18	94,52,579	(+) 19,93,411	6,000	6,165	25,000	30,460
1969-70 upto 30-9-69.	18	50,25,421	(+) 8,27,407	Not allotted	3,027	Not allotted	6,342

Small Savings Agents: In order to intensify the small savings campaign, the Government has started various schemes which are in operation under executive instructions issued by the Government of Maharashtra and the Government of India. The schemes are as follows :—

- (1) The General Authorised Agency Scheme open to all citizens including Government servants, co-operative societies, scheduled banks and social welfare institutions.
- (2) Internal Agency Scheme.
- (3) Primary Teachers' Agency Scheme.
- (4) Rural Agency Scheme.
- (5) Extra Departmental Branch Post Master Scheme.

LIFE INSURANCE

The Life Insurance Corporation of India was established by the Government of India on 1st September 1956, after the passing of the Life Insurance Corporation Act of 1956, which nationalised the business of life insurance and made the Corporation the only agency for carrying out the life insurance business in the whole of India. General insurance which includes fire, marine, accident and other insurance is also nationalised recently in 1972. Most of the former Insurance Companies and societies which used to transact all insurance business, including life, had switched over entirely to general insurance during the intervening period.

Under the new organisational and administrative set-up of the Life Insurance Corporation, Bhandara district is placed under the territorial jurisdiction of the Nagpur Division of the Western Zone together with Akola, Amravati, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Wardha and Yeotmal districts.

The following table shows the number of agents, number of policies issued and the total amount insured during the years from 1962-63 to 1968-69 :—

TABLE No. 28
NUMBER OF AGENTS AND NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED IN
BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Year (1)	No. of agents (2)	No. of Policies (3)	Sum insured (in Rs.) (4)
1962-63	313	2,090	71,31,000
1963-64	312	2,861	99,69,000
1964-65	315	3,324	1,13,13,000
1965-66	228	3,737	1,43,73,000
1966-67	207	3,783	1,56,26,000
1967-68	205	3,191	1,35,36,000
1968-69	197	4,408	2,02,12,500

It will be seen from the above table that the number of agents during the first three years remained constant and afterwards went on decreasing but the number of insurance policies and the amount insured increased year after year. Towards the close of every year there was on the whole, heavy rush for securing business on the part of the agents since each of them was obliged to complete a specific quota of the insurance business before the end of the financial year.

JOINT STOCK BANKS

By the beginning of the 19th century some indigenous firms were carrying on banking business in Bhandara district. Some of them used to cash bills and make advances to merchants. Some of them also received deposits and made payments and carried out exchange, remittance and other banking operations for the Government. The first modern bank operating in the district was the branch of the Punjab National Bank. It was established in 1951. Later on in the year 1955, two branches of the State Bank of India were established in the district at Tumsar and Gondia.

State Bank of India: Till the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India, the Imperial Bank of India was acting as the Central Bank or the Government's Bank in Bhandara district. On 1st July 1955 the State Bank of India was constituted by a special Act and all the undertakings of the Imperial Bank of India were taken over by it. This policy was adopted mainly with a view to extending banking facilities on a large scale to the people in the rural and urban areas. The State Bank, however, also acts as Agent to the Reserve Bank of India and conducts Government transactions. In addition it provides remittance facilities to scheduled banks, co-operative banks and co-operative societies. The role of the State Bank of India in respect of providing agricultural and rural credit facilities in the district at present consists of—

- (a) financing agriculturists by way of advances to them against pledge of gold ornaments,
- (b) making advances against warehouse receipts, and
- (c) making advances to co-operative and marketing societies by way of repledge of their stocks with the Bank.

The rates of interest on advances differ according to the purpose for which the advances are made. Generally loans without security are not favoured, and if made, are for small sums and for short durations only. The interest rates in such cases range from 8 per cent to 9 per cent per annum. Such advances, however, are payable on demand. Loans to industries are also given, the rate of interest varying between 7 and 8 per cent per annum. For cloth merchants and hardware dealers the rate of interest is between 7½ per cent and 8 per cent. Advances to industries are given priority over those to merchants dealing in commodities like cotton, foodgrains, etc. Next preference is given to traders and last to the personal account holders.

A-2669—29-B.

The State Bank of India is the most important bank because, besides its usual banking activities, it conducts, as an agent of the Reserve Bank of India, Government business and affords remittance and exchange facilities to the local banks and the public. It also affords special facilities, such as—

- (1) medium term finance,
- (2) special credit transfer system,
- (3) safe custody of articles,
- (4) financial assistance to small-scale industries,
- (5) traveller's cheques, and so on.

Whereas the State Bank of India acts as the Government's Bank, the other joint-stock banks in the district are engaged in activities mainly of a commercial nature. Their main object consists of carrying on banking business including borrowing, raising and lending or advancing money against different types of securities, accounts, policies, bonds, *hundis*, bills, etc., granting and issuing letters of credit and circular notes, dealing in stocks, funds, bonds, debentures, investments, etc., receiving money and valuables on deposit or for safe custody or otherwise collecting and transmitting money and securities, managing of property and transacting all kinds of agency business. In short, the main business of the banks is to attract deposits, current, fixed and savings, and to make available to their clientele the requisite finance.

The nationalisation of banking in 1969 was an important event in the economy of the district as of the country. The branches of the nationalised banks in the district provide finance on liberal terms for agriculture and small industries as also to self-employed enterprising persons. The statistics about the same are however not available.

In the following table is given the list of banks in Bhandara district with details regarding the date of establishment, names of places of location and number of offices.

TABLE No. 29
JOINT STOCK BANKS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT.

Place (1)	Name of Bank (2)	No. of offices (3)	Date of opening (4)
Bhandara ..	State Bank of India	1	23-1-1957
	Bank of Maharashtra	1	2-4-1965
Gondia	Bank of Maharashtra	1	27-3-1961
	Central Bank of India	1	20-4-1960
	Punjab National Bank	1	12-3-1951
	State Bank of India	1	1-7-1955
	Dena Bank	1	1-9-1967
Sakoli	State Bank of India	1	31-10-1957
Tirora	State Bank of India	1	15-1-1958
Tumsar	State Bank of India	1	1-7-1955

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

In the absence of any proper records it is difficult to trace the gradual evolution of the joint stock companies in Bhandara district. As elsewhere they appear to have developed out of the partnership or proprietary type of concerns. The latter as a matter of fact, required a good deal of capital, not easy for a single individual to supply. Credit, too, was not obtainable unless complete security could be provided to the creditor. Partnership was a still more difficult form of operation because it depended for its success upon smooth co-ordination amongst the members concerned. The joint-stock companies, as they exist to-day, therefore, came up as a more suitable form of business organisation through which instability in the business could be reduced to a great extent.

The following statement gives the details about the companies in Bhandara district:—

Name	Place	Public or Private	Date of establishment	Share holders	Authorised capital	Issued capital
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Paper Mills.	Tumsar	Public	1960 ..	24	Rs. 50,00,000	Rs. 12,75,000
2. Guruna n ak Private Ltd.	Gondia	Private	1966 ..	2	N.A.	N.A.
3. Swatan tra Bharat Trading Company.	Gondia	Private	1944 ..	6	10,00,000	5,00,000

SECTION II — TRADE AND COMMERCE
EXTENT OF EMPLOYMENT

Trade and commerce are important from the point of view of the economy of the district as they afford employment to a large number of people. As per 1971 Census the total number of persons engaged in trade and commerce in the district is 18,960 out of which 8,862 or 46.74 per cent are in rural areas and 10,098 or 53.26 per cent are in the urban areas. The proportion of the workers engaged in trade and commerce is only 2.55 per cent to that of the total number of workers in the district. Out of the total workers in trade and commerce 4.93 per cent are engaged in wholesale trade, 71.37 per cent in retail trade and 23.70 per cent in miscellaneous trade and commerce. About 73 per cent of the wholesalers are in urban areas. The wholesale trade of cereals and pulses is mostly combined with wholesale trade of gur, sugar, spices, groundnut oil, etc. The number for this group is 230 for the whole district. The following table gives the break-up of workers, in trade and commerce in the district.*

*Census of India, Maharashtra, 1971.

TABLE No. 30

EMPLOYMENT IN TRADE AND COMMERCE, 1971.

Category	Total workers	Workers in urban areas
(1)	(2)	(3)
Working proprietors, Directors and Managers—wholesale trade.	30	30
Working proprietors, Directors and Managers—retail trade.	25	15
Commercial travellers and manufacturers agents ..	50	20
Merchants and Shopkeepers, wholesale and retail trade.	9,685	5,868
Salesmen, shop assistants and related workers	4,225	1,485

TRADE ROUTES

The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta broad gauge railway line passes through the district in the west-east direction with a length of 82 miles. It is the main artery of commercial transport in the district. This route makes direct commercial traffic possible to the most important markets in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. It connects Nagpur, Akola, Jalgaon, Nasik and Bombay on the one hand and Raipur, Bilaspur, Bhilai, Drug, Tatanagar and Calcutta on the other hand. Bhandara Road, Tumsar Road, Tirora, Gondia, Amgaon and Salekasa are the important commercial centres on this line in the district. The majority of the villages and towns in Bhandara and Gondia tahsils in the district, through which this route passes, are within easy reach from the railway line.

The other route, next in importance to the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta railway line, is the Chandrapur-Gondia-Balaghat metre gauge railway line of the South-Eastern railway which further extends to Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. This railway route serves mainly as an outlet to the economic products in the district. It also meets the needs of local commercial traffic in the district as well. It is important in so far as it helps in bringing the commercial cargo from the interior places to Gondia which is the biggest commercial centre in the district. This railway route serves the Sakoli and Gondia tahsils. Saundad, Gond Umri, Navegaon, Devalgaon, Arjuni and Wadegaon are the other commercial centres on this route. It is important as it facilitates the transport of the entire forest produce of the district, viz., bamboos, firewood, teak, timber and coal to the distant markets in the country. The entire bamboo production in the district and especially from Sakoli forests is transported to the paper mills at Ballarpur in Chandrapur district. The railway route also serves as a commercial link between Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh as it connects the district with Jabalpur.

The other branch line of the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta route traversing through the district is from Tumsar to Tirodi (Madhya Pradesh) and has a run of 18 miles in the district. This line traverses through the manganese producing areas of the district and facilitates the transportation of the ore to Tumsar.

The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway is next in importance to the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta railway route as an artery of trade. The highway traverses through Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils covering a distance of 60.5 miles. It connects the markets in this district with Nagpur, Amravati, Akola, Jalgaon, Dhulia, Nasik, Thane and Bombay on the one hand and Raipur, Bilaspur, Bhilai, Drug, Tatanagar and Calcutta on the other hand. Most of the commercial traffic is carried on through this route only. The low freight commodities and goods of more fragile nature are mainly transported by motor trucks on this road. The stationery and other miscellaneous articles are brought from Bombay on the one hand and from Calcutta and Bhilai on the other. The importance of transport in this district is not confined to internal traffic only because the railway-road system in the district facilitates the transport of goods from Bombay and Nagpur regions to Calcutta *via* Bhandara and Sakoli and *vice versa*.

The Sawangi-Gondia-Balaghat (in Madhya Pradesh) road is next in importance from the commercial point of view as it is motorable in all the seasons and as it emanates from the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway at Sawangi, thus bringing the district closer to Madhya Pradesh and serving as a commercial link with other States also. On this road the main commercial centre in the district, *viz.*, Gondia is located. The forest produce and the cash crops are transported, *via* Gondia through this road to Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh. Besides, the road also serves Sakoli and Gondia tahsils in the district.

The Bhandara-Bhivapur road joins the Nagpur-Chandrapur State highway and also meets the Nagpur-Chandrapur railway route. This road facilitates the transport of agricultural produce to Chandrapur and Nagpur districts. The agricultural produce from Adyal and Pauni centres is transported by trucks on this road. The road is motorable throughout the year. Bhandara-Seoni (in Madhya Pradesh) road is another trade route which serves as a commercial link between Bhandara and Madhya Pradesh. The road passes through the manganese producing areas of the district. Tumsar-Waraseoni (in Madhya Pradesh) road is also important as a trade link between Bhandara and Madhya Pradesh.

In the eastern part of the district the Chichgad-Deori-Amgaon road is important. The entire agricultural produce in Palandur, Chichgad, Deori and Sategaon is brought to Amgaon for marketing by this road.

In Retrospect.—Bhandara district since long has a tradition of prosperous trade with distant parts of India as well as with foreign countries. Being an active commercial district in the former Central Provinces and Berar it has today trade links with

the neighbouring districts of the present State of Madhya Pradesh and other States in the Indian Union. The old Bhandara District Gazetteer gives a vivid account of the conditions of trade prevailing in the district in the past which is reproduced below.

“Mr. Lawrence stated that the principal trading towns in the District at the time of the 30 years’ settlement (1867) were Bhandara, Tumsar and Pauni. The trade of the District was described as follows: Commerce has received a great impetus since the annexation of Bhandara with the rest of the Province of Nagpur by the British Government. The vastly improved condition now of the Great Eastern Road and of the District communications, an enlightened administration, and a well-ordered police have greatly facilitated traffic. The extinction of the Bhonsla rule has, however, diminished the demand for the superior description of the Pauni cloth; and the rise in the price of grain, together with the simultaneous rise in the price of cotton, has reduced the sale also of the inferior kinds of cloth, but the export of the cloth from this town is still great, having last year amounted to Rs. 50,372. The chief articles imported are cotton, salt, wheat, rice, oilseeds, metal and hardware, English piece-goods, tobacco, silk, dyes and cattle; and the articles most extensively exported are country cloth, tobacco and hardware. The direction of the trade is chiefly to and from Nagpur and Raipur by the Great Eastern Road, and by another route through Palandur, also to and from Kamptee by the Tumsar route, and towards Mandla by Hatta and Kamtha. Of the articles imported, salt is brought from Berar and the Eastern Coast; sugar, metals and spices from Mirzapur; hard-ware from Mirzapur and Mandla; European cloth and silks from Mirzapur and Bombay; country silks from Burhanpur, red country cloth from Mhow and Ranipur in the Jhansi District; wheat and rice from Raipur; and cattle from the Seoni and Mandla Districts. Of the articles exported, country cloth is sent from Pauni, Andhargao, Mohari, Bhandara and Bhagri to Nagpur, Poona and Bombay; and hardware from Bhandara and Pauni to Nagpur, Raipur and Jubbulpore. Articles of traffic are generally conveyed in small country carts and on pack-bullocks.*

CHANGES IN PATTERN AND ORGANIZATION OF TRADE

The pattern and organization of trade which mainly depends upon the general economic situation, agrarian structure, industrial progress, convenient facilities of transport and communications and institutional framework have undergone radical changes since the beginning of this century.

In the past the pattern of trade was mainly based on the partly self-sufficient economy existing then. The cultivators and craftsmen were economically poor and they were dependent upon the landlords. The trade was, in the past, hampered due to inconvenient transport and communications facilities existing in the district.

*Central Provinces and Berar District Gazetteer: Bhandara District, 1908 P.P. 119—120.

As a matter of fact the dense forests and hills in the district must have obstructed the improvement in trade and communications. This state of affairs affected the wants and the general requirements of the people which more or less revolved round their local production only. Whatever was produced was almost entirely consumed locally. Cloth, salt, spices, cutlery, building materials and a few food articles were imported, while some foodgrains, fruits, etc., were exported. The volume and value of import and export trade was much smaller than at present.

Since the regulation of markets under Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963 there has been a significant change in the organization of trade. The regulation of primary trade transactions at all the principal markets *viz.*, Bhandara, Gondia, Lakhani, Amgaon, Tirora and Pauni in the district is an important landmark in the history of agricultural marketing. Today the transactions of sale and purchase of agricultural produce are held under the supervision of the market committees. This has strengthened the bargaining power of the agriculturists and has also helped in reducing several mal-practices and irregularities inherent in the state of unregulated trade. Co-operative societies have also emerged as a great force in the marketing of agricultural produce. They compete with other commission agents and help the agriculturists in getting better prices.

Another event in influencing the organization and pattern of trade is the introduction of State trading in foodgrains. Government has introduced the system of monopoly procurement for jowar and paddy, under which private trade of these foodgrains is totally banned. Government is the sole agency for the purchase and distribution of these food-grains through the Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Federation. Besides, wheat, sugar and other food-grains are also distributed through fair price shops.

REGULATED MARKETS

In the past the farmer was deprived of his just reward by the middleman who paid him a lower price for his produce whereas the consumer was also duped as a reasonable price was not charged to him by the same agency. The condition in which the cultivator had to dispose of his produce were far from satisfactory. The standard of markets where agricultural produce is marketed at present was also very poor in the past. There were great variations in market practices and on the whole the functions of the marketing machinery were more inclined towards safeguarding the interest of the traders and the middlemen rather than those of the primary producer. There was no check on weights and measures prevailing or extraordinary and illegal deductions made. The marketing machinery was choked up with such glaring mal-practices that it had thrown the cultivator in a mood of pessimism and helplessness. The cultivators were also ignorant about their stake in the economic process associated with the

marketing of agricultural produce and had thus to depend solely on the middleman. An average agriculturist was the victim of 'distress sales' which led to windfall gains and windfall profits to the traders. This state of affairs received the attention of the Royal Commission on Agriculture (1927) which recommended to the Government the necessity of regulating the agricultural trade. The timely passing of the subsequent Acts stressed the need of protection to the farmers in the proper marketing of agricultural produce by establishing a number of regulated markets.

The markets for agricultural produce in Bhandara district are regulated as per the Central Provinces and Berar Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1935.

In the district there are, at present nine important market places where agricultural produce is assembled. The Agricultural Produce Market Committees have already been formed at six places *viz.*, Bhandara, Gondia, Amgaon, Tirora, Lakhani and Pauni. These markets are mainly established to regulate the sale and purchase of agricultural produce. The markets have committees as per the provision contained in the Central Provinces and Berar Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1935. The Act provides for the establishment of market committees consisting of not less than ten and not more than 16 members who represent growers, traders, local authority and Government. The main features of the Act are : regulation of market practices, clear definition of market charges and reduction of excessive charges, licensing of market functionaries *e.g.*, buyers, brokers, and weighmen, use of standard weights and measures, settlement of disputes, publishing of reliable and up-to-date market information, Government control over markets and market committees, *etc.*

The Central Provinces Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1935 as amended by Act No. VII of 1937 and the Central Provinces Cotton Market Act, 1932 as amended by the Acts of 1936 and 1937 have been repealed by the enforcement of the Maharashtra Agricultural Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963 since May 1967. The regulated markets established under the repealed Central Provinces and Berar Agricultural Produce Market Act, are deemed to be within the purview of the new Act.

According to this new Act the prices of commodities brought into the market are settled by open auction or an open agreement in the presence of officials of the market committee. This rule is strictly adhered to. Before the auction starts the individual lots are arranged in open heaps for inspection of the buyers. Previously cotton was sold by *fardi* system and the rate of cotton was being declared in the market committee office. The system was found to be defective as there was no chance of getting maximum prices for the produce of the cultivators. To remove these defects a new system, *viz.*, the cart-wise auction of cotton was initiated. Under this system the produce is arranged in heaps or bullock carts near the *adat* shops of the authorised general commission agents. The general commission agents who are also called

adatyas play the key-role of intermediaries between the cultivators and traders. They dispose of the agricultural produce on behalf of the cultivators and get commission in this transaction at rates prescribed by the market committee. The traders or their representatives inspect the agricultural produce and start bidding. The bidding is done in the presence of the market supervisors appointed by the market committee. As soon as the bargain is agreed between the cultivator and the trader through the commission agent, the general commission agent prepares an agreement called *kabulayat* regarding price. The officials of the market committee supervise all these transactions. The bargain is registered in the register of market committee, after which the necessary payments regarding market fee, etc., are made to the committee.

The weighment of all agricultural commodities except cotton is completed in the market yard. The weighment of cotton is undertaken generally in the premises of ginning and pressing factories. As soon as the weighment is completed the commission agent prepares sale-proceeds and payment is made to the cultivator-seller immediately. The duplicate copy of the sale-proceed is checked by the officials of the market committee to ascertain whether the market charges prescribed by the market committee are deducted or not. The weighment and payment is supervised by the supervisory staff of the market committee. The weighment is done in weights and measures prescribed by Government. The scales for weighment of agricultural produce are provided by the *adatyas*. The unit of sale for price quotations is in terms of quintals.

The market committees render a very useful service for the development of agricultural marketing by giving a just price to the cultivators for their produce. Moreover they encourage and propagate the importance of their service by aiming to provide quality and graded produce to the traders.

The supervisory staff of the market committees oversee all the operations involved in the marketing of agricultural produce. A code of business conduct is prescribed, and arrangements are made to settle any dispute as and when it arises. The functionaries in the market, viz., general commission agents, *hamals* and weighmen are licensed by the market committee. On payment of the prescribed market fee they are issued with licenses. The market committees shoulder the responsibility for ensuring smooth and steady business and protection of the interests of the agriculturists.

One of the important functions of the Market Committee is to compile data regarding prevailing commodity prices and other market news in their area and supply it regularly to concerned authorities. All such statistical information is sent to the Marketing Research Officer, Bombay, the Economic and Statistical Adviser to Government of India, New Delhi and other concerned offices for news broadcast. Daily prices also sent by telegram

to the Nagpur Radio Station, and to some important grampanchayats. Besides, the trends of prices in important markets in the districts as well as in the State are also announced for the information of the local agriculturists before the auction takes place. This serves as a guide to the sellers as well as buyers of agricultural produce.

The Zilla Parishad is empowered to exercise supervision and control over the agricultural produce market committees. However, this supervision is limited to the developmental and promotional activities. The administrative control over these market committees is, however, now vested in the Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance, Maharashtra State, Pune, consequent on the enforcement of the new Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963. The Director of Agricultural Marketing and Rural Finance has, however, delegated powers to the District Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bhandara, to facilitate expeditious working of the market committees.

Bhandara district is well-known for its paddy crop, and the main arrivals in the market are paddy and rice. Under the system of monopoly procurement of paddy, rice, and jowar, private trade in these commodities is prohibited. Paddy, rice and jowar are sold to the agencies appointed by Government. Hence they are not transacted in the market yards. This has reduced the income of the committees which could have accrued to them by way of licence fee from the traders, commission agents and *hamals*.

A number of commodities have been brought under the regulation of the market committees, the important among which are cotton, wheat, paddy, *bhusa*, gram and gram *dal*, linseed, *tur dal*, *popat*, *mung*, *udid* and *udid dal*, *jawas*, *watana*, *safflower*, *meihi*, *dhania* (coriander), *mot*, *masur*, groundnut, sesamum, *mahua* and tamarind.

To decide the quality of agricultural produce the grading system is introduced in this district also. The grading unit is attached to the grain market committees at Gondia and Tirora. The same unit is also attached to the purchase and sale society at Tumsar. Only commercial grading is carried on at these places. The commodities are classified as 'A', 'B' and 'C' according to their quality.

To keep the agricultural produce of the cultivators intact there are two warehouses, one belonging to the Central Warehousing Corporation at Gondia and the other to the Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation at Tumsar. Except Gondia market committee no other committee has been sanctioned financial assistance for construction of a market yard for storing of agricultural produce.

Bhandara: The Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Bhandara, was established on 22nd November 1963 under the Central Provinces and Berar Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1935,

Since the repeal of that Act in 1967 it is regulated under the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act, 1963. The market committee is located on the outskirts of Bhandara town. The jurisdiction of the market extends over a radius of five miles from the market yard. The municipal limits of Bhandara town have been defined as the limit of the market yard for that purpose. Being a district headquarters it is an important and fast developing trading centre. The market committee which is a corporate body comprises 12 members, of whom six represent agriculturists, two traders and one each, local body and Government.

The important commodities regulated at this market are gram, wheat, paddy, *rai*, jowar, *tur*, *udid*, mung, *barbati*, *kulthi*, *alsi*, *til*, *ambadi*, *karadi*, groundnut, *popat*, lakh and *masur*.

The market committee derives its income from collecting market fee and licence fee. Market fee is levied on an *ad valorem* basis at a rate of 25 paise for the produce worth Rs. 100 and it is collected through commission agents. The income by way of market fee was Rs. 1,292 and by way of licence fee Rs. 1,194 in 1968-69. In the same year the other income was Rs. 1,455 thus making a total of Rs. 3,941. The expenditure during the same year was Rs. 3,341 which left the committee with a surplus of Rs. 600 at the close of the year.

The daily attendance of cultivators and traders in the market comes to about 35 to 50 which goes up to 100 to 150 during the peak season.

The functionaries working in the market yard are sellers, buyers, *hamals*, weighmen, etc. Their number is shown below:—

Market Functionaries					No
(1)					(2)
Brokers	..	..	..	..	3
Traders and <i>Adatyas</i>	..	..	..	..	19
Weighmen	..	..	..	..	9
<i>Hamals</i>	..	..	..	..	19
Processors	..	..	..	..	2

The various market charges prevailing in the market area are as under:—

Brokerage	..	..	0.50	Rs. per quintal
Weighing	..	..	0.15	Rs. Do.
<i>Hamali</i>	..	..	0.10	Rs. Do.
Chalan	..	..	0.20	Rs. Do.
Sewing	..	..	0.03	Rs. Do.
Filling bags	..	..	0.05	Rs. Do.

The market committee possesses its own godown in the market premises where the agricultural produce is stored on nominal charges. The storing capacity of the godown is about 250 bags.

The committee in order to finance its activities takes credit from the State Bank of India, the Bhandara District Central Co-operative Bank, Co-operative Societies etc. The market yard is spacious and provides necessary facilities, such as sheds, drinking water, water tank, cattle trough, sanitary blocks, electricity, approach roads, radio-sets, etc.

Co-operative marketing has achieved a highly satisfactory progress at Bhandara. The two co-operative societies viz., (i) Co-operative Rice Mill Society Limited, Kardha and (ii) the Bhandara branch of the Zilla Shetki Sahakari Vikri Society Limited have a prominent place in the commercial transactions. In addition, there are a number of other co-operative institutions doing *adat* business in the market yard, one among them being the Vidarbha Co-operative Marketing Society Limited.

The following table shows the quantity and value of various commodities arrived at the Bhandara market yard during the year 1968-69:—

TABLE No. 31

TURNOVER OF COMMODITIES ARRIVED AT BHANDARA MARKET COMMITTEE DURING 1968-69.

Name of Commodity						Quantity	Value
(1)						(2)	(3)
							Rs.
Wheat	..	..	..	..	..	3,105	3,09,720
Gram	..	..	..	..	..	527	53,886
<i>Laka Lakhori</i>	..	..	..	..	..	433	23,653
<i>Alsi</i>	..	..	..	..	..	537	74,096
<i>Til</i>	..	..	..	..	..	35	5,327
<i>Tur</i>	..	..	..	..	..	643	49,518
<i>Udid</i>	..	..	..	..	..	161	14,351
<i>Mung</i>	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,037
<i>Barbati</i>	..	..	..	..	..	2	120
<i>Popat</i>	..	..	..	..	..	1,023	71,224
<i>Masur</i>	..	..	..	..	..	9	735
<i>Kulthi</i>	..	..	..	..	..	2	72
<i>Watana</i>	..	..	..	..	..	14	1,031
<i>Mot</i>	..	..	..	..	..	1	46
<i>Lakhori</i>	..	..	..	..	..	6	380
Gram (<i>Dal</i>)	..	..	..	..	..	0.25	32
<i>Tur (Dal)</i>	..	..	..	..	..	2.55	340

Tirora: The Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Tirora, was established on 10th October 1961. Its actual functioning, however, started from 20th December 1963. Because of its location on the Bombay-Calcutta railway line it is a developing commercial centre. Moreover, the convenient and favourable means of transport and communications available, facilitate the quick disposal of commercial transactions. The jurisdiction of the market committee extends over a radius of four miles from the market yard. The municipal limits of Tirora town have been declared as the limit of market yard for that purpose. The market committee is composed of 11 elected representatives.

The leading commodities regulated by this market committee are paddy, wheat, *bhusa*, gram, gram *dal*, linseed, *tur* and *tur dal*, *popat*, mung, *udid* and *udid dal*, *jawas*, *masur*, *rai*, *alsi*, etc.

The committee derives its income from the levy of market fee and license fee. The market fee is levied on an *ad valorem* basis at a rate of Re. 0.25 for produce valued at Rs. 100 and this is collected through commission agents. The income by way of market fee was Rs. 4,214.45 whereas it was Rs. 100 by way of license fee in the year 1968-69. The miscellaneous income amounted to Rs. 2,500.96 which left the committee with Rs. 2,819.05 as a net surplus at the close of the year.

The various market charges prevailing in the market yard are as under:—

- Adat*—Re. 1.00 per Rs. 100 from sellers
- Dalali*—Re. 0.25 per Rs. 100 from sellers
- Hamali*—Re. 0.15 per quintal
- Weighing—Re. 0.10 per quintal
- Filling bags—Re. 0.05 per quintal

In order to finance its activities the market committee takes credit from the State Bank of India. The market yard is about four acres wide and provides necessary facilities, such as, sheds, drinking water, water tank, cattle trough, sanitary block, approach roads, radio-sets, etc., and is owned by the committee. The market committee proposes to extend the market yard by purchasing 4 acres of additional land. The office of the market committee is housed in its own spacious building. In order to standardize the agricultural produce a separate grading unit is attached to the market committee.

Co-operative marketing has encouraged the development of marketing in Tirora. The two co-operative organisations, *viz.*,—(1) The Co-operative Purchase and Sale Society Limited, Tirora and (2) The Nehru Sale and Purchase Society, Wadegaon, play a prominent role in the commercial transactions in the Tirora market. In 1968-69, transactions in paddy amounting to 28,476 quintals valued at Rs. 17,65,512 were executed through the co-operative societies

It may, however, be noted that the policy of monopoly-procurement of jowar, rice and paddy followed by Government has considerably affected the turnover of trade at the market and its income too.

IMPORTS

The Old Gazetteer of Bhandara district published in the year 1908 gives a vivid description of the imports during the latter part of the nineteenth century in the district. The tempo and direction of the trade and its concern with the neighbouring districts of Maharashtra as well as outside Maharashtra from the communicational point of view is highly significant. Following is a brief account of the import trade in Bhandara district reproduced from the old Bhandara District Gazetteer.

"The principal imports are cotton yarn and piecegoods, salt, kerosene oil, sugar and metals. It is noticeable that between 1903 and 1905 the imports of European cotton manufactures increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 8 lakhs while those of Indian manufactures declined from Rs. 11 to Rs. 8½ lakhs. Indian yarn is obtained from the Nagpur and Hinganghat mills and cloth from Nagpur. Sea-salt from Thana District in Bombay is generally used. Foreign sugar has hitherto been principally consumed, but Indian sugar, called Mirzapuri, is now used on account of the prejudice against the employment of bonedust, charcoal in refining Mauritius sugar. *Juar* and *arhar* are imported from Berar. Some 10,000 maunds of chillis are obtained annually from Guntur in Madras. Betel-vine comes from Ramtek. Gondia and Tumsar are the two most important stations for trade, Gondia having about 40 per cent of the total both of exports and imports. The greater proportion of this, however, probably belongs to the Balaghat district. Tumsar has about 30 per cent of the export trade and 27 per cent of the imports, but here again the figures include the trade of the Katangi and Waraseoni tracts of Balaghat. The third station for exports is Darekasa, owing to the bulk of its timber exports, while in respect of imports Bhandara comes third. The statistics of the five principal stations in maunds were as follows in 1905: *Exports*—Gondia 9,60,000; Tumsar 8,86,000; Darekasa 2,18,000; Tirora 1,06,000; Salekasa 92,000; *Imports*—Gondia 2,25,000; Tumsar 1,61,000. Bhandara 96,000; Tirora 52,000. Amgaon 22,000. It is impossible to estimate what proportion of the total trade is carried to Nagpur by road."*

The consequential developments and radical changes which have taken place in industrial and agricultural production in the district have altered the direction and course of the trade in the district. Similarly, the developments in the means of transport and communications have also contributed to change the nature and composition of trade in the district. Naturally the present position in regard to the imports is quite different from that prevailing in the past. With the passage of time and changes in the mode of standard of living and general economic conditions

*Central Provinces and Berar District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908, pp. 124—125.

the maximum that "today's luxuries are tomorrow's wants" becomes true in the context of the present needs and requirements of the people. In this context the quantum and composition of imports at present show a consequential change if compared to the conditions prevailing in the past. Today the district imports different varieties of commodities which may be termed in the present context luxurious goods apart from the commodities of daily consumption.

The chief articles of import in the district are different varieties of cloth, such as, woollen, nylon, terylene, hardware, cutlery and toilet articles, salt, spices and condiments, sugar, cosmetics, stationery and utensils. Besides this, radio-sets, watches and other useful and miscellaneous articles are also imported.

Of these, textiles of various kinds are the most important. Cloth is mainly imported from the textile centres of Bombay, Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Nagpur, Madras, Hyderabad, Delhi, Akola and Malegaon. Readymade clothes are brought from Bombay and Nagpur. Many of the merchants place their orders directly with mill owners whereas some of them purchase their goods from wholesale dealers. The district enjoys a favourable geographical location situated as it is on the borders of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and has easy transport facilities.

Ayurvedic and unani drugs have a large market in the district. The allopathic medicines are mostly ordered directly from the companies at Bombay, Pune and Nagpur. Many businessmen purchase the requirements from the medical representatives of the various companies who are either permanently stationed at the particular town or place in the district or come as travelling salesmen. Leather goods are mostly imported from Kanpore and Calcutta. For electrical goods and appliances the district is mainly dependent upon Bombay, Nagpur and Calcutta, whereas hardware goods come from Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and the Punjab.

Stationery articles and books are brought from Nagpur and Bombay. Paper mainly comes from Titagarh and presentation articles from Delhi and Mysore. Means of transport like scooter and motor-cycle are being increasingly used in Gondia town. These are brought from Bombay and Calcutta. Radio-sets are brought from Bombay and Nagpur. Wrist-watches and other time pieces are brought from Bombay, Hyderabad and Bangalore. Utensils are generally brought from Nagpur, Bombay, Bhopal and Hyderabad. Tobacco is brought from Gujarat and Madras, chillis from Nagpur, spices from Orissa and Malabar and betel-nuts from Bezwada and Hyderabad. The district is not always self-sufficient in regard to all agricultural produce and hence pulses and sometimes grains are required to be imported from Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

EXPORTS

Bhandara district with a fertile and extensive agricultural tract produces a large number of agricultural commodities to meet the local needs of the people. The district is mainly an exporter of

rice, wheat, manganese and forest produce. The old Bhandara District Gazetteer gives the following account of export trade existing then.

"The expansion of the export trade in the last two years is remarkable, even allowing for the fact that 1903 was a year of scarcity. Rice is the staple export and is sent from Gondia, Tumsar and Tirora stations to Nagpur, Berar, Khandesh and Bombay. The pulse *urad* probably comes second in importance among exports of grain, and wheat and gram are also sent out, the wheat grown in the Pauni Chauras being generally taken to Nagpur by road. Teak, *biula* (*Pterocarpus Marsupium*), and bamboos are sent from the Sakoli tahsil to Nagpur by road. From the eastern zamindaris considerable quantities of timber are put on to the railway at Salekasa and Darekasa stations. Mahua flowers are now an important article of trade, the exports amounting to more than Rs. 4 lakhs in 1905. A trade has also arisen in mahua nuts, which are locally known as *todi*. The oil from these nuts was formerly expressed locally and used as a substitute for or in adulteration of *ghi*; but a good price is now obtained for export. The trade in lac is growing rapidly, the exports having increased from 8,000 maunds valued at Rs. 2.18 lakhs in 1903 to 14,000 valued at Rs. 5.32 lakhs in 1905. The exports of manganese increased from 18,361 to 23,539 tons during this period. Among minor articles *singhara* or water nuts (*Trapa bispinosa*) and mangoes are sent to Nagpur and Kamptee and also ginger, oranges and plantains in small quantities. The leaf cigarettes made at Tirora go to all the surrounding districts. Cartwheels from Tumsar are sent to Nagpur and Berar. Silk-bordered cloths are sent to Berar and the Bombay Presidency. A regular trade has grown up in fish, eggs and fowls which are despatched daily to the Nagpur market, and this has had the effect of considerably increasing the cost of living in Bhandara."

With the passage of time and the implementation of Five Year Plans agricultural production has doubled during the last decade or so. This is because of intensive cultivation, introduction of new methods of production, the Grow More Food campaign and emphasis on bringing about 'Green Revolution' in agriculture. Similarly, the crop pattern in the district is far superior to the average for the State. The district average yield for most of the crops is higher than the State average. Crops like linseed and lac are grown after rice. Thus the district having become a major producer of agricultural commodities commands wider markets outside the district for its products.

Rice of the district is obviously the most important crop for export, which covers slightly more than half of the gross cropped area. In fact Bhandara is a major rice producing district in Maharashtra State. *Goramatia*, *Sungadhi*, *Luchai*, *Chinoor* and *Benisar* are some of the important varieties of rice exported from the district.

The chief exports of the district besides rice, are timber, bamboos, brassware, glassware, cotton textiles, clay, manganese, lac, *bidis*, etc. Brassware of Bhandara is famous and various kinds of brass utensils are exported to Madhya Pradesh, Khandesh, all the districts in Vidarbha region and as far as Tatanagar. Bamboos are exported from Sakoli tahsil and manganese from the northern part of the district. Fish, eggs and fowls are also sent to Nagpur.

Bhandara district abounds in rich forest produce which is exported to other parts of the country. The produce is transported in bullock-carts to several forest depots. From these depots it is carried by bullock-carts and trucks to Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia. A large part of the produce is also transported to Raipur in Madhya Pradesh and the coastal areas of Gujarat by trucks and rail. Bamboos are transported by rail to Ballarpur in Chandrapur district.

The forest produce includes *tendu* leaves, required for *bidi* making which are available in abundance. These are supplied to a number of large and small-scale factories manufacturing *bidis* at Bhandara, Gondia, Tirora, Badegaon, Arjuni, Sihara, Warathi and Tumsar. *Bidis* prepared by these industries are sent to Raipur and Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and to many districts in Maharashtra.

RETAIL TRADE

During the sixty years or so a marked change has taken place in the volume, direction and composition of retail trade in the district. The factors that have contributed to this change are the improved means of transport, increase in population, growth of towns and cities, etc. As a result, a number of retail shops dealing in various essential commodities of daily use have come up in the urban as well as in the rural areas of the district in place of the few retail shops and periodic markets and village fairs which dominated the retail trade in the past. These new retail shops deal in various goods such as grocery, cloth, *pan-bidi*, etc., on a large scale. The growth of these retail shops is more marked in urban and semi-urban places than in the rural parts of the district. The population of towns of Bhandara, Gondia, Amgaon, Sakoli, Tumsar and Tirora has gone up during the last half a century and consequently the number of retail shops dealing in various commodities has also increased.

Retail shops provide a link between the wholesale trader and the consumer, and thus play a prominent role in the commercial sector of the rural as well as urban economy. These shops are mainly located in the central localities of the towns and big villages, such as main bazarpeth, State Transport or Railway station and the like and cater to the needs of their respective localities. Their stock in trade is limited but the turnover is rapid. At many of the wholesale trade centres there is not much of a distinction between wholesale and retail business as a few wholesalers do retail trade also. The retail traders usually buy their needs from outside merchants or producers particularly in

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the cloth and electrical and hardware trade. The business is mainly conducted on cash basis. However, the practice of maintaining running account for customers is not uncommon.

Gondia and Bhandara are the two leading commercial centres in the district. Amgaon, Tumsar, Pauni, Sakoli, Lakhani and Sawangi are next in importance in respect of population, trade and industrial activity.

Following are some of the observations regarding retail trade in the district based on the information collected in the survey of some of the places mentioned above.

Grocery, *pan-bidi*, cloth, coal and wood, and vegetable shops are numerous, and are evenly distributed in almost all the localities and wards. Bicycle being a convenient mode of transport, a number of bicycle shops (doing hire and repair business) are found in all the main commercial centres. Shops dealing in medicines, stationery, footwear, general merchandise, sweetmeats, fruits, etc., which do not feature in day to day life are not found universally in the small towns. Still other kinds of shops dealing in articles of seasonal or less regular demand, e.g., jewellery, utensils, glassware, hardware, building material, etc., are seen to be concentrated in particular localities, while location of shops selling mutton and fish in a few places is mainly due to the municipal regulations.

The retail shops are not found in large number in remote villages because of the limited demand from the villagers. These shops generally do brisk trade during the season extending from October to June. The peak season is reached during religious and social festivities. The value of the stock-in-trade of these shops depends on the daily turnover of the business and varies considerably from a couple of hundred rupees to scores of thousands in case of a distant village shop and a shop located in a busy town.

The retail traders usually purchase the goods from the wholesalers in large towns like Gondia, Bhandara and Lakhani but some of the retailers have direct contracts with the district merchants especially for the purchase of cloth, medicines, electrical appliances, drugs, hardware, etc. Retail sales are usually on cash basis but in certain remote villages the barter system still prevails. In certain cases, a number of shopkeepers extend credit facilities to their customers.

Pattern of Retail Shops Distribution: The general dispersion of retail shops exhibits certain peculiar features. Shops catering to the needs of day to day life like grain, grocery, *pan* and *bidis*, cloth and hosiery, coal, wood and fuel, fruits and vegetables are fairly distributed in all the rural as well as urban localities in the district. Shops dealing in books and stationery, footwear, sweetmeats, drugs and medicines are found mainly in urban areas. Besides, other shops dealing in metal utensils, potteries, glassware,

hardware, perfumes and building material have their own particular clientele and hence they are mainly found in certain localities in Bhandara, Gondia, Lakhani and a few other places.

Grocery Shops: The grocery shops dominate the retail trade in respect of their number and total turnover in the district. The shops in this category are evenly distributed in rural as well as in urban area and a large number of grocers are found in every town or village. They sell cereals, pulses, gur, sugar, ghee, spices, tea, coffee, groundnut oil, coconut oil, hydrogenated oils, soaps, toilet articles, pencils, tobacco, *bidi*, confectionery, etc., and other grocery articles of daily use. The stock-in-trade of individual shops varies in value by a wide range from Rs. 100 to over a lakh of rupees depending upon the urban or rural character and size of the shop. A majority of the shops are, however, small with a stock worth about Rs. 200 to Rs. 1,000. The grocery articles are generally bought at the wholesale trade centres of the district, while a few shopkeepers have direct connections with the outside merchants. In very few shops servants are found employed for handling and weighing commodities. The bigger shopkeepers sometimes employ clerks and accountants for maintaining account books.

Some of the grocers are found to be selling stationery and cutlery goods and patent medicines against common complaints. The grocery business in urban sector is thus of a more varied character. The bigger grocers at Gondia, Bhandara, Lakhani, Pauni and Tumsar procure the goods from local drug stores or from Nagpur and Gondia. The shopkeepers in villages procure their stock-in-trade from the dealers in towns in the district.

Cloth, Readymade Clothes and Hosiery: The cloth shops deal in all kinds of textiles, such as, cotton, woollen, silk and nylon. However, cotton goods are still in great demand in the rural areas of the district where modern textiles have not made their appearance as they have in urban areas. Shirtings, coatings, saris, *dhotis*, *chaddars*, *shawls*, etc., are kept for sale in these shops. In the towns of Bhandara and Gondia readymade fabrics are in great demand. The old types of *Banarasi shaloos* and *Paithanis* are not currently popular. They seem to be replaced by Bangalore silk, Kanjiwaram silk and other fabrics.

The bulk of the cloth is imported by the dealers from Bombay, Ahmedabad, Madras, Kanpur, Malegaon and Nagpur whereas hosiery goods are brought from Ludhiana, Delhi, Jullunder and Kanpur.

At urban centres, such as, Gondia, Bhandara, Lakhani and Tumsar shops specialising in the sale of hosiery and readymade clothes are found. In rural centres, however, cloth shops sell these goods also. Gondia is the biggest cloth market in the district followed by Bhandara. The value of the stock-in-trade generally varies between Rs. 500 and Rs. 20,000. However, the shops in towns stock goods worth from Rs. 10,000 to over a lakh of

rupees. Big shops employ salesmen and clerks. As in the case of other shops the business is generally slack during rainy season. There is a heavy rush during festivities and the marriage season. The business still largely runs on credit basis in towns like Gondia and Bhandara, whereas in the rural areas it seems a tradition in almost all shops to attract the customers regularly by offering them easy credit facilities. The net profit in this business is found to vary between 6 and 12 per cent.

Medicines and Drugs: With the growing health consciousness and the greater availability of medical facilities a number of shops of this category have come up. However, in remoter parts of the district which abound in thick forests people are found to be using herbs which are available in plenty. Almost every town and some larger villages have a drug and medical store. These shops deal in a variety of allopathic, ayurvedic and other foreign and indigenous medicines.

The bulk of the medicines are either purchased from Bombay, Nagpur and Calcutta or through the agents of the various pharmaceutical firms in the district. The manufacturers or their agents provide various facilities to purchase on a large-scale whereas in certain cases the retailers acquire their needs only on commission basis. The rates of commission vary from 5 per cent to 20 per cent. The net profit for a retailer is reported to be about 7 to 12 per cent. The capital investment in this business varies from Rs. 10,000 to over a lakh of rupees.

Bicycle Shops: Shops of this category are found almost throughout Bhandara district as it is a convenient means of transport, and is within the reach of the common man. There are a number of shops selling bicycles in the important towns of the district, viz., Gondia, Bhandara, Sakoli, Lakhani, Tumsar, Pauni and Amgaon. These shopkeepers have direct connections with the producer companies or their agents in Bombay, Nagpur and elsewhere from whom purchases are made. The wholesalers in big towns generally receive 10 per cent commission directly from the companies concerned.

Fruits and Vegetables: The perishable nature of the goods sold and the general absence of cold storage facilities restrict the size of the shops dealing in fruits and vegetables. But still the shops find good business in big towns like Gondia, Bhandara, Sakoli and Lakhani where a large number of shops dealing in fruits are established. The stock is obtained from the adjoining rural areas. The type of fruits and vegetables sold depends upon the seasons in which they are grown. Amongst others the Nagpur oranges are in great demand in the district.

Hardware and Building Material: With the general increase in the building activities and town planning schemes, the number of shops in this category appear to be concentrated in urban centres such as Gondia, Bhandara, Navegaon and Sakoli. These shops deal in beams, iron sheets, chains, nails, bolts, screws, cast

iron articles, buckets, pipes, pins, colour paints, cement, etc., and a number of other articles required for construction works. Of the stock-in-trade, tools are brought from Jullunder, colour paints, pipes, nails and general hardware from Bombay and Nagpur, chains and nails from Delhi, cast iron from Agra and beams, buckets and iron sheets from Calcutta and Bombay. A bulk of these merchandise is brought by railways. The annual turnover of these shops ranges between Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 70,000. These shops supply materials to Government also.

Stationery and Cutlery: With the spread of education and the growth of literacy and educational institutions in the district, stationery and cutlery shops have come up in large number in the urban area as also in big villages to meet the increasing needs of school and college-going pupils. There are big stationery and cutlery stores in Gondia, Bhandara and Lakhani. These shops sell toilet articles, bangles, hosiery, pencils, inks, nibs, fountain-pens, cutlery and provision goods, presentation articles, etc. Stationery articles are brought from Bombay and Nagpur, and sometimes from Delhi, Madras and Calcutta; paper from Titaghar, and cutlery and provision goods from Bombay. The small shop-keepers generally purchase the articles at Gondia and Bhandara from the wholesale traders. The stock-in-trade of these shops varies from Rs. 500 to Rs. 50,000. The margin of profits varies from 8 to 10 per cent. The business generally records its peak sales at the time when the educational institutions reopen after the vacation.

Electrical Goods and Appliances: Trade in electrical goods and appliances is restricted to towns and larger (big) villages of the district. The electrification of some of the rural areas has led to an increase in the number of general electrical shops. The demand for radio-sets, electric fans and irons, fluorescent tubes and other accessories has increased considerably in recent times. Many of the shops provide facilities for repairing of old appliances also.

The total capital investment of the shops in this category varies from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 20,000. Besides the owner, an average shop provides employment to one or two other workers to keep accounts or transact business.

STATE TRADING

Bhandara district is mainly a paddy producing district and as such rice is the chief commodity for export from the district. The Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Federation Limited works as the chief purchasing agent on behalf of the Government of Maharashtra in the district. The leviable agriculturists themselves bring their produce for sale to purchase-centres opened by the Federation in the district. Besides this, the agriculturists are also allowed to transport up to 20 kg. of paddy or 15 kg of rice to the market place directly for sale to bona fide consumers in the district. The produce purchased by the Federation from the agriculturists is taken over by the Government to supply it to other districts in the State as per demand.

The object of the Government of Maharashtra is to secure the maintenance of supplies of grains to the consumers, bring about their equitable distribution and make them available at reasonable prices. With this view the Government of Maharashtra has introduced the system of monopoly Procurement of paddy, rice and jowar under the order, "The Maharashtra Scheduled Foodgrains (Stocks Declaration and procurement and Disposal, Acquisition, Transport and Price Control) Order, 1966". In order to realise its objective to control production, supply and distribution of essential commodities the Government of Maharashtra has also applied various food control measures in the district.

The Government of Maharashtra has introduced the system of Monopoly Procurement of paddy, rice and jowar since 1965-66 in the district with the view to check the rising spiral of prices. To make it effective the Maharashtra State Co-operative Marketing Federation Limited has been appointed as the chief purchasing agent for Government. The distribution of paddy and rice is entirely handled by Government through this Federation.

For purchasing and milling paddy in the district, the Federation has appointed its purchasing and milling sub-agents. As far as possible and wherever feasible co-operative rice mills are selected for milling of Government paddy. For the purpose of effecting the purchase of paddy, the Federation has a sufficient number of purchase-centres at convenient places in the district. The Government had fixed the purchase prices for the year 1968-69 payable for paddy and rice as under:—

Variety (1)	Paddy (2)	Rice (3)
	Rs.	Rs.
(1) Superfine	72	97-70
(2) Fine	67	91
(3) Medium	62	84-25
(4) Coarse	56	76-15

The purchase price for jowar was fixed as under:—

Variety (1)	Purchase Price (per quintal) (2)
	Rs.
(1) Superior (<i>rabi</i> or hybrid)	56
(2) Medium (<i>kharif</i>)	54
(3) Yellow (<i>peelee</i> and other)	49

The quantity and value of paddy and jowar procured during the year 1968-69 are given below:—

Procurement up to 16th October 1969

Variety	Quintals	Value (Rs.)
Paddy	8,26,266	4,95,75,960-00
Rice	5,65,102	5,72,49,849-36
Jowar	749	44,940-00

Fair Price Shops: Almost every village or town has one or more fair price shops except the very small villages in the district. As regards the distribution of foodgrains through these shops, there are at present 1,263 fair price shops in the district. These shops provide the inhabitants with their day-to-day requirements. They deal in rice, wheat, jowar, milo, sugar, gram and gram dal.

Generally the demand for foodgrains in the urban areas remains fairly constant all the year round as its population mainly comprises wage and salary earners. In villages, however, the demand is seasonal because during the harvest time foodgrains are not purchased by the cultivators.

The foodgrains are distributed to the fair price shops through the Tahsildars concerned. The total quantity of foodgrains distributed through these fair price shops during the period from September 1967 to August 1969 is given below:—

FOODGRAINS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH FAIR PRICE SHOPS IN 1967-68 AND 1968-69.

Year (1)	Variety (2)	Foodgrains (quintals) (3)	Value (Rs.) (4)
1967-68	Wheat	76,430	65,34,765-00
	Milo	57,791	33,51,523-50
	Jowar	90,347	55,56,240-50
	Rice	83,322	82,90,539-00
	Kani	1,515	76,507-50
	Gram	2,957	2,30,143-31
	Gram dal	476	62,655-88
1968-69	Wheat	1,26,155	1,07,86,252-50
	Milo	29,125	17,03,812-50
	Jowar	17,099	10,51,532-50
	Rice	69,631	6,93,44,634-50
	Kani	818	41,309-00
	Gram	189	10,818-07
	Gram dal	128	16,868-64

The following statement shows the number of authorised Fair Price Shops in 1967-68 and 1968-69 :—

NUMBER OF AUTHORISED FAIR PRICE SHOPS IN THE DISTRICT IN 1967-68 AND 1968-69.

Serial No. (1)	Name of tahsil (2)	Co-operative societies (3)	Village Panchayats (4)	Other organised bodies (5)	Private traders (6)	Total (7)
1967-68						
1	Bhandara ..	33	184	36	122	375
2	Gondia ..	144	156	4	133	433
3	Sakoli ..	27	216	14	198	455
1968-69						
1	Bhandara ..	35	182	36	125	378
2	Gondia ..	141	150	5	148	444
3	Sakoli ..	38	210	13	222	488

PEDLARS

Pedlars go from village to village carrying their merchandise with them. A number of factors have affected their trade adversely during the last half a century or so. They are : (i) growing importance of weekly bazars, (ii) the opening up of retail shops in the distant villages, and (iii) improved transport facilities providing villages an easy access to the nearby urban areas and market places. The villagers who formerly used to patronize the pedlars, now with the passage of time show a marked preference for weekly markets and retail shops wherein they get a wider choice for selection. However, the remote areas are inadequately served by retail shops and weekly markets, and in such places, pedlars play a prominent part.

Pedlars, in the remote villages of the district, still carry on their business in the same old fashion. Some of them use horses and bullock-carts to carry their goods. However, many of them carry their loads on their persons. Almost all transactions are on cash basis. But in exceptional cases the transaction is on credit basis. Barter takes place only when agricultural produce is exchanged for other useful articles.

The pedlars belong to professional classes, viz., oil-men, weavers and gardeners. Others buy goods at urban places and sell them by peddling in villages. The pedlars still carry on their business in remote villages which are far off from the developed localities and where there are no retail shops. Different types of pedlars deal in different types of goods, e.g., gardeners in fruits and vegetables, farmers in foodgrains, grocers in groceries, oil-men in oil, potters in earthenware and tailors in readymade clothes.

The local pedlars usually carry on their business in fair weather. From October to June and especially during the festivals, local fairs and marriage season, their trade is brisk. Generally the pedlars belong to the local areas of the district, but sometimes pedlars from adjoining area and occasionally from distant towns trade in the district. In Gondia and Bhandara the pedlars do brisk business.

FAIRS

The fairs in Maharashtra as elsewhere in India formerly served a twofold purpose. They were in the first place religious gatherings though attended by persons belonging to almost all the religions. Secondly, they were also centres of trade for exchange of indigenous goods and produce by village artisans. They were thus complementary to weekly markets in so far as commercial transactions were concerned. Moreover they provided an outlet for local goods and talents.

Following is an account of the fairs held in the various parts of Bhandara district at the time the old Bhandara District Gazetteer was published:—

“No fairs of commercial importance are held in the District, but there are a number of religious gatherings, at some of which temporary shops are opened for the sale of vessels and provisions. The most important of these is the *Gaimukh* fair near Ambagarh which takes place at the *Shivratri* festival in February or March and lasts for about 15 days. The attendance is about 20,000 persons and about 100 temporary shops are opened. A fair is also held on the *Shivratri* festival at Pratagarh in Sakoli tahsil, but the attendance here is smaller. Small religious gatherings are also held at Bondgaon in the Sakoli tahsil and at Sukli in the Tirora tahsil on the last day of *Chaitra* (April). Some temporary shops are opened at Bondgaon. The fair at Sukli is a gathering of the religious order of the *Manbhao*s. A small religious gathering is also held at Pongejhara near Asolpani on the day of *Shivratri*. In the Wainganga between the villages of Deohada and Madgi, and visible from the railway bridge, there is an island and on it a temple of *Narsingh*. A religious fair is held here on the last day of *Kartik* (November).

Fairs were generally held to celebrate the anniversary of a deity or a saintly person on a particular day every year, and very high religious importance was attached to them. But with the passage of time and spread of education among the masses, the importance of fairs declined as a religious gathering. Now fairs are held more in the nature of a commercial activity, though they have still not lost their religious significance. The turnover at such fairs is considerable as compared to that in a weekly bazar and pedlars, hawkers, retail traders who set up their booths at the site of fair do a flourishing business.

At present 37 fairs are held in various parts of the district. Among them a few, viz., *Gaimukh*, *Amgaon*, *Sukdi*, *Adyar*, *Ambhara*, *Bondgaon*, *Kumbhali* and *Pratapgad* are noteworthy a description of which is given in as follows:

Amgaon: It is one of the biggest fair in Gondia tahsil held twice a year. Because of convenient transport and communication facilities people from all over Vidarbha region attend the fair. The fair of *Mahadeo* held in *Vaishakh*, i.e., April-May is attended by about 3,000 people, whereas the fair of *Khandoba* held in *Margashirsha*, i.e., November-December is also largely attended by people, numbering more than 30,000. A large turnover of trade of agricultural produce takes place at the time of the fair. The traders from Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia and Madhya Pradesh attend the fair and do flourishing business.

Pratapgad: The famous fair of *Mahadeo* is held in the month of *Magh*, i.e., January-February and lasts for ten days. The fair is celebrated at the time of *Mahashivratri* and more than eight thousand persons attend the fair. Besides, the *Rakshabandhan* fair is also held here in the month of *Shravan* attended by about two thousand people.

Gaimukh: The *Gaimukh* fair is held at the time of *Mahashivratri* in the month of *Magh*, i.e., January-February in honour of *Mahadeo* in Bhandara tahsil. The fair lasts for 15 days and is attended by more than five thousand people from nearby and distant places outside the district. The articles sold in the fair are clothes, earthen and other domestic articles, such as brass and copper vessels, grain, bangles, sweetmeats and toys. Traders from Bhandara, Nagpur and Gondia visit the fair to sell their goods.

Bondgaon: The Bondgaon fair is held twice a year on the day of *Chaitri-Purnima* and *Ashwin Sud. 9* in honour of Ganga-Jamna Devi. The fairs are attended by more than five thousand people from all over the district.

WEEKLY MARKETS

The weekly market is a meeting together of people at a stated time and place for the purpose of exchange (as in cattle provisions, were etc.) by way of sale and purchase, and only rarely by auction. The details of the weekly markets as given in the old Bhandara District Gazetteer published in 1908 are reproduced below—

“There are over a hundred weekly markets in the District or one for every 40 square miles and 18 villages. *Amgaon* is a very important cattle-market, at which a large number of head of buffaloes are sold, and many worn-out animals are disposed of to the butchers. In 1904, 35,000 head were sold at *Amgaon*, of which 16,000 were cow and 10,000 male buffaloes. The income from registration fees was Rs. 5,000. *Lakhandur* and *Kitari* in Sakoli tahsil are also important cattle-markets, and a few animals are brought to several of the larger village bazars. *Gondia* and *Katni* on the Satpura railway are the largest markets in Tirora tahsil; *Tumsar*, *Mohali* and *Bhandara* in the Bhandara tahsil; and *Lakhandur*, *Kitari*, *Pohra* and *Lakhani* in Sakoli tahsil. *Lakhandur* is an important timber market, as is *Mundhri* in Tirora. The best rice is sold at Tirora bazar. *Mohali* is a large cloth market.”

The 1931 Census Report of Central Provinces and Berar vividly describes the market village in the following words:—

"The bazar village corresponded and still corresponds in many respects, though on a smaller and more primitive scale, with the small market town in rural areas in England. A large village with a weekly or bi-weekly bazar will be found all over the province at distances of 5 to 10 miles, serving the surrounding villages. Go through any of those surrounding villages in the afternoon of the bazar day, and you will find it practically deserted. But if you proceed on to the bazar village, you find all the countryside collected. Many of these village bazars are now under the management of the district council, who arrange for the sanitation and have often constructed *chabutras* or raised platforms for stalls, sometimes covered in to keep off the sun and rain and make charges in return for the use of these sites for stalls. Here will sit, with their wares spread out before them, the purveyors of all those commodities required in rural life. The local Kachis or market gardeners will be there with their onions, pumpkin's melons, vegetables, etc. There will be the grocers with their salt, condiments, *haldi* (turmeric), etc., and the oil-sellers with sweet oil and the coarse red kerosene oil which is now used for lighting and which is purchased by the bottle. There will be the weavers with the home-made *saries* and *dhotis*, etc., while now a days there may be some mill-made cloth imported from outside. There will be stalls for the sale of glass bangles, cheap anklets and bracelets of silver alloy, combs and cheap hand looking-glasses, etc., so popular now a days. There will be some leather workers with the gaily decorated country shoes; and some sellers of country tobacco and *pan*, etc., Cartwheels, carved doors, whips, leather thongs, rope, etc., and numerous other articles will be for sale here, all of local manufacture. To many of these bazars the small cultivators still take small quantities of grain which they sell retail and with the proceeds make their petty purchases. The larger bazars may also have risen to the rank of cattle markets and here cattle, young and old, will be brought for sale to cultivators who require them, or in some tracts, to the *Kasai* (butcher) for slaughter, although in many tracts Hindu sentiment is proving too strong for this latter class. Sometimes the local bazar is also a grain market, where dealers come for purchase and wholesale export to the rail head. Sometimes ghee also may be purchased for export in the same way. To the bazar nearly every one will go, sometimes from considerable distances, in their country carts or *damnis*. The women-folk particularly will be there in large numbers, often decked out in their best clothes. They do not always to make purchases, but here they meet their friends, wander about and hear the latest gossip of the countryside, and enjoy the weekly outing. In fact with the exception of occasional visits to the large religious fairs the weekly visit to the bazar village is one of the few outings which occur to break the monotony of village life. In the tracts more cut off from the towns grain is still the chief medium of exchange and the supply of money required

for implementing the exchange of commodities at some of these bazars is sometimes surprisingly small. But the money changer, who changes silver into copper coins for a small charge, will still usually be found. Some of these petty tradesmen reside in the bazar village if it is a big one, but now a days, with improved communications, there are numerous petty grocers or hawkers who travel round to the various small bazars selling their wares and often purchasing small quantities of ghee and grain in exchange. Thus the needs of the villager, foodgrain, clothing, cattle, etc., were, and still can be, met in or near his village in the countryside."

The above description of a village market given more than forty years ago holds good even now.

The bulk of the petty trade is carried on in the periodical village bazars and permanent market centres in big villages and towns. Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli have permanent market centres. In certain villages and urban areas periodical markets are held. "The other important market where the producer sells his produce is the bazar held on fixed days in a convenient village for the benefit of the surrounding villages. These bazars as well as the street markets in the villages provide as easy access to the agriculturists for contracting the prospective buyers. It is estimated that approximately a third of the total agricultural output is sold in these markets." *

Besides local traders, agents of outside merchants especially from Nagpur and Madhya Pradesh as also pedlars put up their temporary booths. Agricultural produce, cattle and articles of domestic requirements, such as, cloth, bangles, etc., are brought for sale.

The important commodities transacted in these markets are mainly agricultural goods produced in the localities concerned, the turnover depending upon and varying with the season. In addition to foodgrains, oil-seeds, pulses, gur (unrefined sugar), tobacco, vegetables, fruits, etc., are also sold. Besides these, live-stock and live-stock products like ghee, butter, eggs, poultry, hides and skins are also handled in some of the periodical markets. Apart from agricultural produce other articles, such as, cloth, salt, spices, oils, metallic vessels, bangles, *saries* and *khans*, brooms, ropes, shoes, fodder are also sold. Business in these markets is mostly transacted between sellers and buyers directly without any intermediaries.

Attendance in various weekly markets varies from a hundred persons to several thousands depending upon the importance of the market. As a general rule attendance in the periodical markets is said to be the maximum during winter, medium during summer and minimum during the rainy season. Agriculturists attending the periodical markets are from the locality or from the neighbouring villages or towns.

Report of Expert Committee on the Review of the Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1939, para. 80.

Every village, where a bazar is held, has its separate market place. The local authorities collect market cess and stall fee from the traders and provide, in return, facilities for the upkeep of the bazar including the arrangement of water-supply, provision of *otas* for stocking goods and so on. With all these the weekly markets offer a lively sight. Besides the sale and purchase activities of various goods of daily use, the entertainment corner with merry-go-rounds and magic shows and eatables and other refreshments constitute an added attraction.

The largest number of village weekly bazars numbering 84 is found in Gondia taluka. Transport and communication facilities as also the geographical location of the tahsil have contributed to this fact. The following statement gives the total number of markets and cattle-markets in each tahsil in Bhandara district:—

Tahsil	Weekly markets	Cattle markets	Average attendance of people	Persons engaged in trade
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Gondia	86	12	5,089	3,172
Bhandara	43	5	7,760	2,887
Sakoli	40	11	9,017	3,164
District Total	169	28	6,698	9,223

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

In the past there was a multiplicity of weights and measures. The unit value of indigenous weights and measures differed from place to place and also from commodity to commodity at the same place. The English units were also used in certain transactions. The convertibility of the local units into the English units was difficult and confusing at that time. The ignorance of the farmers and workers added to the ambiguity of the conversion factors. The following extract from the old Bhandara District Gazetteer throws some light on the state of affairs prevailing in the past in the district:—

“The measures ordinarily used for grains are—

One <i>chitack</i>	6½ <i>tolas</i> .
One <i>seer</i>	4 <i>chitacks</i> or 25 <i>tolas</i> .
One <i>adheli</i>	2 <i>seers</i> .
One <i>paili</i>	4 <i>seers</i> or 100 <i>tolas</i> or 2½ <i>lbs</i> .
One <i>katha</i>	4 <i>pailis</i> or 10 <i>lbs</i> .
One <i>kuro</i>	8 <i>pailis</i> or 20 <i>lbs</i> .
One <i>khandi</i>	20 <i>kuros</i> or 5 <i>maunds</i> .

The above are grain measures. In weighing goods the Government seer of 80 *tolas* is usually employed. Chillis and vegetables are sold by the *pasori* of 120 *tolas*. The maund of gur contains

13½ *seers*, and of sugar and ghee 12½ *seers*. Brass vessels are weighed by a maund of 14 *seers* 10 *chitacks*. A *khandi* of seed area is 2½ acres, being roughly the extent of land for which a *khandi* of unhusked rice will provide seed. Earthwork in fields and tanks is measured by the *pasori* or pit of 5 cubits square by one cubit in depth from which the earth is removed. This is equivalent to 84 cubic feet of earth dug. Tank-making is paid for by contract at the rate of a rupee for 5 *pasoris* or 420 cubic feet, while in the case of field embankments rupee is paid for 6 or 8 *pasaris* as the lead is less.”

Metric Weights and Measures.—Not much was done subsequently during the British rule to improve this situation. Some of the British units of weights and measures were enforced. However, local transactions continued to be in terms of the old units. In order to end this multiplicity and to bring about a uniform system for the whole country the Government of India enacted the Standard of Weights and Measures Act in 1956. This Act and the State Government Act *viz.*, the Bombay Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act of 1958, a complementary measure, provide for the enforcement of standard weights and measures based on the metric system.

In pursuance of this legislation the new units have been enforced in the district. Accordingly all the transactions in the district in the organised sector of trade, wholesale as well as retail, and most of the petty sale transactions at the peasants house are done in terms of the metric units. Weights and measures under the new units that are used in transactions are inspected by Government officials periodically. Petty sales activities in foodgrains, vegetables, milk, etc., are however, still found to be taking place as per the old units in some of the distant villages.

CHAPTER 7 — COMMUNICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

THIS CHAPTER DEALS WITH THE HISTORICAL AND STRUCTURAL ASPECT of the various means of transport and communications in the district. The following is the brief account showing the position of railways and roads at the beginning of this century. *

The Bengal-Nagpur railway route was the first to be constructed in this district in 1882. It was then constructed as a metre gauge line from Nagpur and was subsequently converted into broad gauge in 1888. Before the construction of this route the only important road was the Great Eastern road now called Bombay-Calcutta road. This was the only road which was bridged and metalled for 72 miles from Nagpur to Arjuni, of which 40 miles were within Bhandara district. The remaining length of 20 miles from Arjuni to the district border had only a surface coating of gravel. A temporary bridge was constructed on the road across the Wainganga river near Bhandara which could be used only in the fair weather season. This was by far the only important route for commercial traffic in the central zone of India. The subsidiary trade routes emanating from the Great Eastern road were : Chichgarh-Palandur *via* Sangarhi to Lakhani and Lakhandur to Lakhani.

After construction of the Bengal-Nagpur railway line, which passes through the northern part of the district, several metalled roads were constructed to join important places and railway stations. Before construction of the Satpura railway line in 1903 the Gondia-Balaghat road was the principal trade route in the northern part of the district. The other main roads were from Tumsar to Rampalli and from Tumsar to Katangi. The produce from the Balaghat low lands and northern Bhandara was carried along them to the market of Tumsar. The manganese ore from the Chandrapur mines was carried by the Tumsar-Katangi road.

Besides the main roads above, there were some metalled and unmetalled roads interconnecting the railway stations and the important places on the Great Eastern road.

In 1908 the total length of metalled roads in the district was 166 miles and of unmetalled 70 miles. The Jabalpur-Gondia section of the Jabalpur-Chanda Fort railway route (narrow gauge) was opened for traffic in 1903, whereas its subsequent extension from

*Based on the account given in *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Volume-A.* (published in 1908).

Gondia to Nagbhir was opened for traffic in 1908. The Tumsar-Tirodi railway line (narrow gauge)* was opened for traffic in 1916, while the Nagpur-Nagbhir route which passes only for 6 miles in the district was opened for traffic in 1908.

The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta broad gauge line passes from west to east through the district and touches Bhandara, Tumsar, Gondia and Salekasa, while the narrow gauge line which runs from south to north connects the district with Chandrapur in the south and Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradaesh in the north. The total length of railways in the district is about 335 km. (209 miles) of which a length of 180 km. (112 miles) is broad gauge and the remaining narrow gauge.

Road development, however, received serious attention of the Government only after Independence. The Nagpur Plan of Road Development initiated a concerted programme under which proper targets were set for each category of roads in each district. Accordingly a number of new roads have been constructed and old roads have been improved and upgraded to higher standards of construction and maintenance. A number of bad roads or unpassable tracks have been improved up to normal standards of motorability. A considerable organisational set-up supported by financial allocations has been created so as to bring about a rapid development. It is interesting to note that the road development was further accelerated by the scarcity relief works during the years 1971-72 and 1972-73. Under the relief works many new road works were undertaken and bad roads were repaired and improved.

In spite of this development the fact remains that Bhandara district is still deficient as regards roads. The ratio of road mileage to total area in the district is much less than the average ratio for India as well as for Maharashtra.

During the period of the Third Five-Year Plan there was a considerable increase in the total length of all types of roads, viz., by 987.75 km. which was more than double the road length in 1961.

The following table shows the length of various categories of roads and their surface-wise classification in Bhandara district as on 31st March 1972.

*This line was converted into Broad Gauge subsequently in 1929.
A-2669—31-B.

TABLE No. 1
STATISTICS OF ROADS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT
(AS ON 31ST MARCH 1972).¹
(figures in km.)

Particulars (1)	Length (2)
<i>Category of roads—</i>	
National highways	97.37
State highways	294.51
Major district roads	381.25
Other district roads	195.50
Village roads	1,110.00
Total	2,078.63
<i>Surface classification—</i>	
Cement concrete	0.05
Black-topped	425.30
Water bound macadam	394.91
Granular material	1,257.52
Lower types	0.85
Total	2,078.63

In 1972 the percentage of black-topped roads to total road mileage was 20.44 whereas the percentage of road length covered by national highways and state highways to total road mileage was 18.85. The proportion of road length per 100 sq. km. was about 22.15 km. in the district.

Though the district is not benefited by the regular air transport services an air-strip has been provided near Gondia (Birasi). This aerodrome mainly serves the landing and take off of aircrafts used by dignitaries.

RAILWAYS

Bhandara district like Nagpur enjoys a very favourable position as regards railway communications. There are five railway routes traversing the fertile black alluvial soil and the flourishing agricultural land which immensely add to the importance of the district. The railway routes, supplemented by some highways and feeder roads, have been of very great benefit to the district, for, besides the usual advantages of improved communications and the development of trade, they have helped in the proper exploitation and utilisation of the agricultural and forest resources of the district.

Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta Route.— The portion of the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta route falling within Bhandara district traverses from west to east for a total length of about 132 kilometres (82 miles). "The line was originally constructed as a metre gauge route up to Raj-Nandgaon and opened for traffic in 1882. It was

¹. Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra.

reconstructed as a broad gauge route and was extended up to Asansol in 1888.* The double line was constructed between 1918 and 1922. It now falls under the South-Eastern Railway Zone of the Indian Railways. The route traverses the Buldhana, Akola, Amravati, Wardha and Nagpur districts before entering Bhandara district after leaving Khat railway station in Nagpur district. It crosses the Jabalpur-Chanda Fort narrow gauge line at Gondia, while the Tumsar-Tirodi broad gauge line emanates from it at Tumsar Road. The newly constructed broad gauge line to Jawaharnagar Ordnance Factory emanates from it at Bhandara Road.

The topography of the countryside through which this railway line passes is plain and even. Hills and rocks are rarely to be found. There is very heavy passenger and goods traffic on this line. The commercial importance of this line has increased to a considerable extent during the last 30 years or so. In Bhandara district, it has the following railway stations, *viz.*, Bhandara Road, Koka, Tumsar Road, Mundikota, Tirora, Kachekhani, Gangajhari, Gondia, Gudma, Amgaon, Dhanoli, Salekasa and Darekasa. Of these Tumsar Road and Gondia are important, a description of which is given below:—

Tumsar Road: Tumsar Road is a junction on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta broad gauge railway route. It is of considerable commercial importance and is an exporting station for commodities, such as, cotton, cotton seed, grain, pulses and *bidi*. The station is well laid out and provided with two spacious platforms which are equipped with electric fans, light, potable water, tea stalls and benches. There are upper as well as lower class waiting rooms equipped with all the necessary amenities to the travelling public. Vegetarian and non-vegetarian refreshment facilities are also provided. There are book stalls and fruit stalls also.

Gondia: Gondia is another important junction and has heavy passenger and goods traffic. The station has three platforms out of which two are for broad gauge and the third for narrow gauge railway line. All the platforms are adequately provided with amenities such as potable water, tea stalls, benches and waiting sheds. There is a fruit stall and a book stall too. The station is also equipped with an upper class waiting room and waiting hall for lower class passengers.

Jabalpur-Chanda Fort Route.—The Jabalpur-Chanda Fort narrow gauge railway line passes through Bhandara district from north to south and has a length of about 117 km. (73 miles) in the district. The Gondia-Jabalpur line was first opened for traffic in 1903, whereas its extension from Gondia to Nagbhir (Chandrapur district) was opened for traffic subsequently in 1908. It is a single track line. This line crosses the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Vol. A 1908, p. 126.

broad gauge line at Gondia and traverses through the Gondia and Sakoli tahsils. It crosses the Chulband and the Wainganga rivers over which there are well built bridges. Formerly this railway line was grouped under the Satpuda Railway. After the regrouping of the Indian Railways in 1952 it was placed under the jurisdiction of the South-Eastern Railway. It enters Bhandara district after crossing the boundary of Madhya Pradesh near Birsola station in Bhandara district. The topography through which this railway line passes is plain and even. There are fifteen railway stations on this route in the district:—

- (1) Birsola, (2) Garra, (3) Pratapbagh, (4) Gondia, (5) Gankhera, (6) Hirdamali, (7) Pindakepar, (8) Gongale, (9) Khodshioni, (10) Sondad, (11) Gond-umri, (12) Dewalgaon, (13) Barabhati, (14) Arjuni, and (15) Wadegaon.

The description of Soundad railway station on this line is given below:—

Soundad: Soundad railway station, has only one platform. The station is equipped with amenities such as a waiting hall for lower class passengers, a separate waiting room for ladies, an upper class waiting room, tea stall, potable water and cloak room. Vegetarian and non-vegetarian refreshment facilities are also provided. There are book stalls and fruit stalls also. Saundad is also served by the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta National highway.

Tumsar Road—Tirodi Route.—A branch line covering a distance of 18 miles (29 km) in the district starts from Tumsar Road and terminates at Tirodi in Madhya Pradesh. It is a broad gauge railway line falling under the control of South-Eastern Railway. This line traverses through the manganese producing area of the district and facilitates the transportation of manganese ore to Tumsar. This line was opened for traffic on 1st April 1916 as a narrow gauge track. It was purchased by the Government from the Central India Mining Company and subsequently made over to Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company for maintenance and working as a part of their undertaking*. The line was subsequently converted into a broad gauge route in September 1929. After the regrouping of the Indian Railways in 1952 it was regrouped under the South-Eastern Railway.

The topography through which this railway line passes is plain and rich in manganese ore. The line has permanent way with 85 lbs. Flat-footed steel rails. It is unfenced. The sharpest curve has a radius of 1,146 feet. The ruling gradient is 1 in 100. It has the following stations on its route *viz.*, Tumsar Road Junction, Tumsar Town, Chicholi, Gobarwahi and Dongri Buzurg.

Nagpur-Nagbhir Route.—The Nagpur-Nagbhir section of the Satpuda Railway runs a distance of about 9.6 km. (6 miles) in Bhandara district. This narrow gauge route passes through the south-western corner of the district. Pauni Road and Bhuyar are

*History of Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways, 1951, p. 30.

the only two stations on this line in Bhandara district. It was opened for traffic on 10th November 1908. The railway line is constructed of permanent way and consists of 40, 41, 50, 75 and 85 lbs., rails on *sal* sleepers. The line is laid mostly with stone and *murum*. The sharpest curve is of 409 feet radius. Formerly this line formed part of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. After the regrouping of the Indian Railways in 1952 it was regrouped under the South-Eastern Railway. Following is a brief description of Pauni Road station.

Pauni Road.—It serves as an exporting centre for rice and cotton. The station is equipped with amenities, such as, a waiting hall for lower class passengers, and a separate waiting room for ladies, an upper class waiting room, tea stall, potable water and cloak room. The station is provided with a shed.

Bhandara Road—Jawaharnagar Route.—This route is a broad gauge track and was opened for traffic in 1965. It is a single track line. No passenger trains run on this route. It covers a length of about 19 km. (12 miles) up to Jawaharnagar where there is an ordnance factory. There is no station in between Bhandara Road and Jawaharnagar Ordnance Factory.

ROADS

National Highways.—The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta Road is the only national highway passing through the district, which covers a total distance of 99.37 km. The account of the same is given below.

Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta Road: This is the only national highway passing through Bhandara district. Leaving Nagpur district it enters the western border of Bhandara district at mile No. 32/0 near Kharbi village and leaves the district at mile No. 92/4 near village Sirpur. It runs through the entire length of the district (through Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils). The total length of the road in the district is 60 miles and 4 furlongs (97.37 km). It crosses Chulband, Wainganga and Bagh rivers in its course over which bridges have been constructed. There are five major bridges on this road:—(1) Wainganga river bridge in mile No. 39/0, (2) a bridge in mile No. 41/5, (3) a bridge in mile No. 64/2, (4) a bridge on Chulband river in mile No. 69/5 and (5) a bridge on Bagh river in mile No. 92/4. It crosses Jabalpur-Chanda Fort narrow gauge railway line near Soundad in mile No. 68/7 and the Bhandara Road-Jawaharnagar broad gauge railway line near Bhandara in mile No. 37/4. It touches the following places at the distance (mile number) indicated against them:—Shahapur 32/5, Lakhani 51, Sakoli 62, Soundad 68, Sawangi 71, Kohamara 72, Duggipar 73, Deori 87, and Sirpur 92/4.

The following roads either take-off from the national highway or are crossed by it:—

Place of junction (1)	Name and class of road (2)
(1) Bhandara ..	(i) Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat (S. H.) ¹ (ii) Bhandara-Ramtek (M. D. R.) ² .
(2) Kardha ..	Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat (S. H.).
(3) Paladi ..	Paladi-Koka-Mundhari (M. D. R.).
(4) Sakoli ..	Sakoli-Ekodi (M. D. R.).
(5) Arjuni (Sadak) ..	Arjuni-Gondia-Balaghat (S. H.).
(6) Deori ..	Deori-Chichgarh (M. D. R.).
(7) Amgaon ..	Amgaon-Lanji (M. D. R.).

State Highways.—There are five State highways which cover a total distance of 294.54 kilometres in Bhandara district. The account of the same is given below:—

Nagpur-Mul-Chandrapur Road: This road starts from Nagpur and enters the district at Ranala. It runs in south-eastern direction for a total length of 9.66 km. in Bhandara tahsil and leaves for Chandrapur district. It runs parallel to the Nagpur-Chanda Fort railway line and touches Ranala, Nilaj, Khapri and Bhuyar in its stretch. It has a black-topped surface and is motorable throughout the year.

Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Tirora-Gondia Road: This road starts from Mansar (near Ramtek) on the Varanasi-Nagpur-Bori-Cape-Camorin National highway and leaves the eastern border of Nagpur district to enter Bhandara district near the village Hiwara to run towards the east up to Gondia. It passes through Bhandara and Gondia tahsils for a total length of 86.77 km. in the district.

It crosses the Nagpur-Calcutta railway line twice in its stretch in the district, *viz.*, near Dewhadi and Kochewahi, and runs parallel to the railway for some length. It touches Hiwara, Jam, Khapa, Tumsar Road, Dewhadi, Tirora and Dongargaon.

The following roads either take-off from it or are crossed by it:—

Place of junction (1)	Name and class of road (2)
(1) Khapa at 56.5 km. (near Tumsar Road).	Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat S. H.
(2) Tirora at 32 km.	Tirora-Khairlangi M. D. R.
(3) Bopesar at 35.2 km.	Mundhari-Bopesar M. D. R.

It crosses the Wainganga river at 51 km. near the village Madali where there is a major bridge.

Of the total length of 86.77 km. in the district, that of 73.32 km. has a black-topped surface and the remaining one has a water bound macadam surface. The conversion of the water bound macadam portion into a black-topped one is in progress.

¹ S. H.—State Highway.

² M. D. R.—Major District Road.

Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat Road: This road starts from Nilaj on the Nagpur-Mul-Chandrapur road, runs towards the north through Bhandara tahsil for a total length of 108.64 km. and proceeds to Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh. It crosses the Nagpur-Chanda Fort railway line near Pauni Road Station, the Nagpur-Calcutta railway line near Bhandara Road Station and the Tumsar-Tirodi railway route near Tumsar.

This road is fully bridged, the major bridges being as follows:— on the Wainganga river at km. 12.8 near Pauni at km. 54.4 near Kardha and on the Sur river at km. 72 near Mohagaon.

It touches the following places: Pauni (12.8 km), Adyar (32 km), Kardha (54.4 km), Bhandara (59.2 km), Warathi (Bhandara Road Station) (70.4 km), Mohadi (75.2 km), Tumsar (88 km) and Sihora (100.8 km).

The following roads either take-off from it or are crossed by it:—

Place of junction (1)	Name and class of road (2)
(1) Sinpuri (13 km)	Sinpuri-Lakhandur M. D. R.
(2) Kardha (54.4 km)	Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta N. H.
(3) Khapa (81.6 km)	Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Gondia S. H.
(4) Mohadi (75.2 km)	Mohadi-Andhalgaon M. D. R.
(5) Tumsar (88 km)	Tumsar-Seoni S. H.

Of the total of 108.64 km. of this road in the district, a length of 98.39 km. has a black-topped surface and the remaining one is water bound macadam.

Tumsar-Seoni Road: This road covers a length of 29.77 km. up to the district border where it enters Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. It has a black-topped surface and is fully bridged except over the Bawanthadi river where traffic is interrupted occasionally. It passes northwards through the forest areas in Bhandara tahsil. The tract along this road is rich in manganese ore which has added to its importance. It crosses the Tumsar-Tirodi railway line near the village Mitewani at km. 8 and near Gobarwadi at km. 20.8. It touches Mitewani, Chicholi, Gobarwahi and Nakadongri.

Arjuni-Gondia-Balaghat Road: This highway starts from Arjuni on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta road and runs from south to north through Gondia up to Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh. It is fully black-topped and passes through Sakoli and Gondia tahsils and covers a length of 64.27 km. in the district. It is bridged and motorable throughout the year except during very heavy rains. The road touches the following important places in the district: Mundipar, Goregaon, Fulchur, Gondia, Nagra, Rajegaon and Satona.

The following roads either take-off from it or are crossed by it:—

Place of junction (1)	Name and class of road (2)
1. Fulchur at 41.6 km	Gondia-Amgaon M. D. R.
2. Gondia at 44.8 km	Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Tirora-Gondia S. H.

Major District Roads.— The account of important major district roads in the district is given below, while the relevant details of the less important roads are furnished in table No. 2.

Bhandara-Ramtek Road: This major district road starts from Bhandara town, runs north-westwards through Bhandara tahsil for a length of 12.3 km. and enters Nagpur district. It crosses the Bhandara Road-Jawaharnagar railway line near Bhandara town. It has a water bound macadam surface. It touches Tawepar, Khursipar and Satona.

Paladi-Koka-Mundhari Road: This road starts from Paladi on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta road and runs eastwards for some distance and then takes a turn towards north up to Mundhari. It traverses the thick forests in Bhandara tahsil for a total length of 28.96 km. and touches Dodmaziri, Koka, Khadki, Borgaon and Mundhari. It has a water bound macadam surface and is motorable in the fair weather season only.

Mundhari-Kardi-Bopesar Road: This road starts from Mundhari, runs eastwards for some distance up to Lohara and then takes a turn towards north up to Bopesar where it meets the Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Gondia road. It traverses the Bhandara and Gondia tahsils for a total length of 21.12 km. The entire surface of this road is water bound macadam. It touches Kardi, Khedapur, Lohara, Silli, Wadegaon and Bopesar in its stretch.

Sakoli-Yekodi Road: This road starts from Sakoli on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta road, runs towards the north-west up to Yekodi and traverses only the Sakoli tahsil for a total length of 10.46 km. It touches Bodra, Pindakepar, Nilagondi and Sindipar in its stretch. The entire surface of this road has a water bound macadam surface and it is motorable during the fair weather season only.

Gondia-Amgaon Road: This road starts from Gondia, runs towards the south-east up to Amgaon parallel to the Nagpur-Calcutta railway line. It traverses the Gondia tahsil for a total length 15.2 km. and crosses the Rangoli river near Gondia. It touches Fulchur, Kamasi, Adasi, Dahegaon and Thana in its stretch. Its length of 13.2 km. has a black-topped surface and the remaining of 2.0 km. has a water bound macadam surface. It is motorable throughout the year.

Sinpuri-Lakhandur Road: This road starts from Sinpuri on the Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat road and runs towards the east up to Lakhandur. It traverses the Bhandara and Sakoli tahsils for a total length of 29 km. It crosses the Chulband river near Lakhandur where a bridge is constructed. It touches Bhandara, Asgaon and Dhamani in Bhandara tahsil and Irli, Kirmati, Rohoni and Asola in Sakoli tahsils. It is a water bound macadam road.

Bodalkasa-Goregaon Road: This road starts from Bodalkasa, runs towards the east up to Goregaon on the Arjuni-Gondia-Balaghat road. It traverses Gondia tahsil for a total length of 25.5 km. and crosses many nallahs where there are no bridges. It crosses the Jabalpur-Chanda Fort railway route near Hirdamali. The surface of this road is gravelled and is not motorable during heavy rains. It touches Mangezari, Bagadbandh, Kurhadi, Katangi and Hirdamali in its stretch.

Tirora-Khairlanji Road: It starts from Tirora on the Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Gondia road, runs towards the north and enters Balaghat district in Madhya Pradesh to terminate at Khairlanji. It traverses the Gondia tahsil for a total length of 18 km. It crosses the Wainganga river on the north border of the district near Bondrani. The Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta railway route is crossed by this road near Tirora. It touches Chirekhani, Paldongri, Korn Bk., Chandori Kh., Arjuni and Bondrani in its stretch. Its length of 13 km. has a black-topped surface and the remaining one is water bound macadam.

Sakoli-Lakhandur Road: This road starts from Sakoli on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta road and runs towards the south up to Lakhandur. It traverses the Sakoli tahsil for a total length of 45 km. and crosses the Chulband river near Dharampuri. After Dharampuri it runs parallel to the same river. It touches Kumbhali, Seoni, Sangadi, Bondgaon, Jaitpur and Dahegaon. Its length of 12 km. has a black-topped surface and the remaining one of 33 km. is water bound macadam.

The account of the remaining major district roads is given in table No. 2.

TABLE No. 2
MAJOR DISTRICT ROADS OTHER THAN THOSE DESCRIBED ABOVE AS ON 31ST MARCH 1972.

Serial No.	Name of road	Taluka traversed	Length (in km)			Important river crossings		
			Total	Black-topped	Water bound macadam	Gravelled	Name of the river	Km. No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1	Mohadi-Andhalgaon	Bhandara	9.2	2.4	6.8	..	..	..
2	Andhalgaon-Jamb	Bhandara	6.1	..	6.1	..	..	..
3	Amgaon-Lanji	Gondia	4.5	3.2	1.3	..	Bagh river	2.9
4	Deori-Chichgarh	Sakoli	21.0	4.8	16.2	..	..	..
5	Chichgarh-Kurkheda	Sakoli	10.0	..	10.0	..	Das river	3.7
6	Wadsa-Chapral	Sakoli	10.4	..	10.4	..	..	..
7	Manegaon-Pohara-Palandur	Sakoli	18.4	..	3.4	15.0	..	..
8	Ambadi-Silli-Manegaon	Bhandara	11.5	..	11.5	..	..	..

Serial No.	Name of road	Taluka traversed	Important roads either met or crossed		Important places on it
			Name and class of road	Place of junction	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1	Mohadi-Andhalgaon	Bhandara	Bhandara-Mohadi-Tumsar S. H.	Mohadi	Mohadi.
2	Andhalgaon-Jamb	Bhandara	Ramtek-Tumsar S. H.	Jamb	Jamb and Andhalgaon.
3	Amgaon-Lanji	Gondia	Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta N.H.	Deori	Amgaon.
4	Deori-Chichgarh	Sakoli	..	..	Deori and Chichgarh.
5	Chichgarh-Kurkheda	Sakoli	..	..	Chichgarh.
6	Wadsa-Chapral	Sakoli	Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta N.H.	Manegaon	Chapral.
7	Manegaon-Pohara-Palandur	Sakoli	Kardha-Pauni S. H.	Ambadi	Pohara and Palandur.
8	Ambadi-Silli-Manegaon	Bhandara	..	..	Ambadi, Silli and Manegaon.

Other District Roads.— The list of Other District Roads with their surface-wise length in the district as on 31st March 1972 is given in the following table:—

TABLE No. 3
OTHER DISTRICT ROADS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT AS ON
31ST MARCH 1972.

Name of road (1)	Taluka traversed (2)	Length (in km)			
		Black- topped (3)	Water bound macadam (4)	Gravelled (5)	Total (6)
(1) Tumsar Railway feeder ..	Bhandara	4.5	..	..	4.5
(2) Parawada-Murdada ..	Gondia	..	7.6	..	7.6
(3) Lakhegaon-Bampewada-Yekodi (1st Sect.)	Gondia	..	11.0	..	11.0
(4) Tirora-Bodalkasa ..	Gondia	..	13.6	0.8	14.4
(5) Mundipar-Hardoli ..	Gondia	..	16.0	..	16.0
(6) Hiwara-Murdada ..	Gondia	0.3	17.6	..	17.9
(7) Gangazari-Khalbanda ..	Gondia	..	1.6	3.5	5.1
(8) Tedha-Jabartola ..	Gondia	..	11.4	..	11.4
(9) Kati-Dangurli ..	Gondia	..	9.2	..	9.2
(10) Birsola Railway feeder ..	Gondia	..	5.0	..	5.0
(11) Kati-Kasa ..	Gondia	..	3.7	..	3.7
(12) Bawanwadi-Birsi ..	Gondia	..	6.4	..	6.4
(13) Tirora Railway feeder ..	Gondia	..	2.5	..	2.5
(14) Kudwa-Jabartola ..	Gondia	0.7	2.5	..	3.2
(15) Murri-Chutiya-Pangadi ..	Gondia	..	..	9.1	9.1
(16) Amgaon-Salekasa ..	Gondia	..	16.2	..	16.2
(17) Salekasa-Darekasa ..	Gondia	..	6.4	..	6.4
(18) Kamtha-Amgaon ..	Gondia	..	20.0	..	20.0
(19) Soundad-Bopabodi ..	Sakoli	..	2.4	..	2.4
(20) Soundad-Soundad Station	Sakoli	..	0.4	..	0.4
(21) Soundad-Soundad village	Sakoli	..	1.4	..	1.4
(22) Nawegaon-Palandur ..	Sakoli	..	0.8	3.2	4.0
(23) Lakhegaon-Bampewada-Yekodi (2nd Sect.).	Sakoli	..	..	10.8	10.8

BRIDGES

Bridges are a *sine-qua-non* for a good system of transport and communications. There are six major rivers in the district. These rivers flow in a zig-zag fashion and thus require more than one bridge over each of them at many places. There are some major bridges constructed over these rivers. There is also a programme of construction of new bridges. The construction of minor bridges and culverts on important roads has almost been completed except at a few places where the work is in progress.

The table No. 4 furnishes the locational and constructional details of the major bridges in Bhandara district.

TABLE No. 4
MAJOR BRIDGES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT (1969-70).

Serial No. (1)	Name of road (2)	Mile No. (3)	River/Nala (4)	Nearest village/ town (5)	Length (6)	Average height (7)	Breadth (8)	Year of con- struction (9)	Cost of construc- tion (Rs. in lakhs) (10)
1	Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta*	(i) 39/1 (ii) 41/5 (iii) 64/2 (iv) 69/5 (v) 92/4	Wainganga river Bhilwadi nala Kapoori nala Chulband river Bagh river	Bhandara Bhilwadi Sendurwafa Sawangi Sirpur	N.A. N.A. N.A. N.A. N.A.	30'-00" 35'-06" 8'-00" 16'-00" N.A.	18'-6" 15'-7" 18'-0" 14'-9" 15'-3"	1939 N.A. N.A. N.A. N.A.	N.A. N.A. N.A. N.A. N.A.
2	Mansar-Ramtek-Tumsar-Tirora-Gondia.	(i) 32 (ii) 32	Wainganga river Spill of Wainganga bridge.	Madagi Madagi	1,260'-00" 120'-23"	23'-36" ..	22'-0" 22'-0"	1967-68 1969-70	38.30 2.67
3	Bhandara-Mohadi†	(i) 11 (ii) 13/1 (iii) 13/3	Sur river Nala Nala	Mohgaon Mohadi Mohadi	62'-06" 59'-00" 140'-00"	8'-06" 10'-00" 12'-00"	22'-0" 18'-9" 22'-0"	1968-69 1968-69 1968-69	0.62 0.91 2.34
4	Gondia-Arjuni	(i) 0	Nagpur-Howrah Railway	..	N.A.	10'-00"	30'-0"	1955	N.A.
5	Deori-Chichgarh	(i) 1/6 (ii) 2/5 (iii) 3/1	Fulehur nala Nala Nala	Gondia Salai Salai	184'-00" 28'-00" 20'-00"	12'-00" 10'-3 1/2" 9'-05"	22'-0" 22'-0" 22'-0"	1967-68 1961 1961	2.45 0.18 0.14
6	Gondia-Amgaon	(i) 1/6 (ii) 14/1	Dangoli Kindgirpar Nala	Fulehur Kindgirpar	120'-00" 144'-00"	8'-40" 13'-40"	22'-0" 22'-0"	1969 1965	1.70 2.24

*Mile Numbers are counted from Nagpur towards the east.

†This road is a Section of Nilaj-Pauni-Bhandara-Tumsar-Balaghat road and mile numbers for this Section are counted from Bhandara towards the east.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

State Transport.—Among the public transport organisations the State Transport is the most important. The State Transport undertaking has been catering to the needs of passenger transport on an increasing scale. The undertaking is owned and managed by the Government of Maharashtra as a public utility concern run on commercial lines. The parent body, the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation, is a statutory public corporation.

Nationalisation of passenger transport services in Bhandara district, which formerly formed part of the Nagpur division of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation, was started in 1946. The services were initially run by the Provincial Transport Company which was subsequently purchased by the State Government in 1955 and renamed as the Provincial Transport Services, Nagpur. After the reorganisation of States in November 1956, the operations were looked after by a separate department under the erstwhile Government of Bombay called the 'Transferred Road Transport Undertakings Department'. With effect from 1st July 1961, the 'Transferred Road Transport Undertakings Department' was abolished, and the Provincial Transport Services, Nagpur, along with the State Transport Services in the Marathwada region were amalgamated with the Bombay State Road Transport Corporation, and the reorganised corporation was named as the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation.

The operations in Bhandara District were first started on two routes, viz., Nagpur-Gondia and Gondia-Bhandara with a total route length of 265.3 km. The services on these routes were operated from depots outside the district. The first depot in the district was started on 11th February 1968 with 36 vehicles. By the end of May 1969, 47 vehicles were attached to the depot from which buses on 10 routes were operated.

The number of bus routes increased from 126 in 1961 to 266 in 1966. There was also an increase in the number of buses and passengers travelled per day mainly because of the increase in the bus routes.

The following is the list of some bus routes in the district (as on 31st March 1969):—

Name of route (1)	Distance (2)	No. of trips	
		Dn. (3)	Up. (4)
(1) Amgaon-Pujari-Tola	22.3	2	2
(2) Andhalgaon-Pauni	75.3	1	1
(3) Gondia-Banathar	19.0	3	3
(4) Gondia-Paraswada	23.7	5	5
(5) Gondia-Hirapur	22.4	5	5
(6) Gondia-Deori	67.5	2	2
(7) Chichgarh-Deori-Amgaon	58.6	4	4
(8) Tumsar Road-Tumsar-Bavanthadi-Katangi	53.8	6	6

Name of route (1)	Distance (2)	No. of trips	
		Dn (3)	Up (4)
(9) Tumsar-Andhalgaon	21.0	2	2
(10) Tumsar Road-Sihora-Bapera	27.5	2	2
(11) Tumsar-Lobhi	31.2	1	1
(12) Deori-Pujari-Tola	25.0	2	2
(13) Pauni-Adyar-Bhandara	77.7	*39	*39
(14) Pauni-Bhuyar	26.3	1	1
(15) Pauni-Bramhapuri-Wadasa-Kurkheda	105.7	2	2
(16) Bhandara-Mohadi-Andhalgaon	29.0	7	7
(17) Bhandara Road-Bhandara-Jawaharnagar	29.2	14	14
(18) Bhandara-Andhalgaon-Jamb-Ramtek	67.4	1	1
(19) Bhandara-Bapera-Waraseoni-Balaghat	105.9	1	1
(20) Bhandara-Nagpur-Wardha-Yeotmal	210.0	1	1
(21) Bhandara-Pohra-Palandur	42.8	1	1

*Including short distance routes.

Besides the above routes, many buses start from various towns in Maharashtra and terminate at Bhandara, Gondia, Tumsar, Sakoli, Arjuni, etc., in the district. Bhandara district which in the past formed a part of the Nagpur Division of the State Transport, has now been separated from the latter and a new division has been created for the district.

Amenities: For the convenience of the travelling public, bus stations have been constructed at Bhandara, Gondia and many other towns. In addition, refreshment rooms with tea stalls have been provided at Bhandara, Gondia, Jamb and Kondhala. Temporary bus stations have been constructed at Jamb and Kondhala and pick-up stands at Dongargaon, Khamboda and Nandora.

Private Passenger Transport.—Up to 1965-66 the Maharashtra State Transport Corporation had extended its operations only to a few routes, and private companies used to serve most of the transport needs of the people in the district. A number of routes were left exclusively for the private owners, whereas on a few routes, the passenger traffic was shared between the State Transport buses and private services.

Private companies used to work as private stage carriage operators. Transport services on these routes could not be nationalised due to shortage of passenger vehicles, and shortage of financial resources for construction of bus stands, depots and work shops.

The services rendered by the private bus operators were not up to the mark. Rules regarding safety of passengers, their comforts and convenience were not properly observed. Overcrowding in buses was a frequent occurrence and the bus services, very often, were not regular.

This oppressive state of affairs could not be continued for long. Accordingly more and more passenger transport routes were brought under the fold of the State Transport Undertaking. The process of progressive nationalisation was slowed down for some time by litigation by the private carriage operators. These

impediments were overcome by the Government and effective steps were taken to extend the bus services on most of the routes leaving only a few routes for private operators. In accordance with this policy a separate State Transport Division has been created for Bhandara district which helps manage the operations more effectively.

RURAL TRANSPORT

The facilities of transport in the rural areas were very inadequate in the past. The village roads were mostly earthen tracks which were not usable in the rainy season even for cart traffic. However, during the last two decades considerable progress has been achieved and several schemes of road development are now under way. The construction of link roads is actively engaging the attention of the Government. Under the road development programme of the Five-Year Plans, a number of approach roads have been constructed and a greater number of them are proposed.

The bullock-cart was formerly the only means of transport for passenger traffic as well as carriage of goods from and to the markets. The bullock-cart also known as *chhakda*, still continues to be the principal conveyance for the cultivators' produce to the markets, even though for purposes of trade, the motor trucks and railways have supplanted all slow-moving traffic through bullock-carts and horses.

A big section of the middle class population uses bicycles. The motor-cycles and scooters have also been in use in rural as well as in urban areas.

On most of the motorable roads private transport companies as well as the State Transport Authorities are plying buses*. Towns and villages on most of the highways and major roads are, thus served by buses. Moreover approach roads from railway stations have lately been developed, with the result that the problem of inadequacy of rural transport has been mitigated to some extent.

MOTOR VEHICLES

The statistics regarding all types of vehicles in the district during the year 1971-72 are given below:—

TABLE No. 5
MOTOR VEHICLES IN OPERATION IN BHANDARA DISTRICT AS ON
31ST MARCH 1972.

Type of vehicles (1)	Number (2)
(1) Motor-cycles and scooters	14,352
(2) Motor cars	7,712
(3) Taxi cabs	131
(4) Auto-rickshaws	213
(5) Stage carriages—	
(i) Diesel	443
(ii) Petrol	157
	600

*The Directory of Villages and Towns given at the end of this Volume also gives the nearest bus stand and the nearest railway station to each village and town in the district.

TABLE No. 5—contd.

Type of Vehicles (1)	Number (2)
(6) Lorries—	
(a) Private carriages—	
(i) Diesel	680
(ii) Petrol	439
	1,119
(b) Public carriages—	
(i) Diesel	2,374
(ii) Petrol	598
	2,972
(7) Ambulances	53
(8) School buses	6
(9) Private service vehicles	27
(10) Trailors	786
(11) Tractors	1,157
(12) Others	95
Grand Total ..	29,223

TRAVEL AND TOURIST FACILITIES

Government has provided considerable travel and tourist facilities in Bhandara district. There are 13 rest houses maintained by the Government of Maharashtra (1966). Primarily these rest houses are meant for Government Officers on tours. But now they are also made available to the travelling public. A nominal rent is charged to Government servants on duty. The rental charge is higher for the general public. The list of rest houses in Bhandara district is given below:—

Serial No. (1)	Tahsil (2)	Rest House (3)	Number of suites (4)
1	Bhandara ..	Circuit house at Bhandara	2
2	Do. ..	Rest house at Bhandara	4
3	Do. ..	Rest house at Lakhani	2
4	Do. ..	Rest house at Nakadongri	2
5	Do. ..	Rest house at Dewadi	4
6	Sakoli ..	Rest house at Sakoli	2
7	Do. ..	Rest house at Sawangi	2
8	Do. ..	Rest house at Deori	2
9	Do. ..	Rest house at Nawegaon	2
10	Do. ..	Rest house at Morgaon-Arjuni	1
11	Gondia ..	Rest house at Gondia	6
12	Do. ..	Rest house at Tirora	2
13	Do. ..	Rest house at Amgaon	2

GOODS TRANSPORT

Transport of goods and merchandise is not undertaken by the State Transport Organisation. Besides railways, goods transport which is in the hands of private owners of motor trucks plays an important role. The total number of goods vehicles, both public and private carriers, registered and licensed in the district was 973 in 1969. Of these 943 were public carriers and 30 were private carriers. Freight rates are not determined by any official body, but are allowed to be governed by the principles of demand and supply.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

The district is included in the Chandrapur Postal Division. The head post office is situated at Gondia and sub-offices at tahsil headquarters and towns. The bigger villages have branch post offices.

The following table shows the postal, telegraphic and telephone statistics in Bhandara district during 1961-62, 1965-66, 1970-71 and 1971-72.

TABLE No. 6

POSTAL, TELEGRAPHIC AND TELEPHONE STATISTICS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT DURING 1961-62, 1965-66, 1970-71 AND 1971-72.

Year	No. of Post Offices	No. of Telegraph Offices	No. of letter boxes	No. of Postmen	No. of Tele-phones	No. of radio licences issued and renewed together
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1961-62 ..	211	11	323	27	566	2,174
1965-66 ..	226	14	369	48	439	6,246
1970-71 ..	226	16	331	48	971	7,506
1971-72 ..	234	16	339	48	1,081	7,710

Source.—Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra.

COMMUNITY RADIO SETS

Realising the importance of radio as a medium of communication the Government of Maharashtra introduced the Rural Broadcasting Contributory Scheme in Bhandara district also. Under this scheme the Directorate of Publicity provides radio sets to rural institutions like grampanchayats, public libraries and municipalities. The Directorate not only installs the radio sets but also provides for their maintenance and servicing. Dry batteries are provided to the battery radio sets.

The community radio sets are meant exclusively for the use of the public and the parties concerned are required to tune radio programmes relayed from the All India Radio and especially the programmes for the villagers and workers.

A-2669—32-B

In March 1972 about 999 villages in Bhandara district were provided with radio receiving sets under the contributory scheme.

The following table shows the rural broadcasting statistics in Bhandara district as on 31st March 1972.

TABLE No. 7

RURAL BROADCASTING STATISTICS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT AS ON 31ST MARCH 1972.

Tahsil	No. of villages in which receiving sets are installed by the Rural Broadcasting Department	Rural Population of villages having receiving sets (according to 1971 Census)	Total number of Radio farm forums
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Gondia	333	3,77,119	43
Bhandara	258	2,62,836	54
Sakoli	408	3,37,250	58
District Total ..	999	9,77,205	155

Source.—Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

CHAPTER 8—MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

INTRODUCTION

THE PRINCIPAL SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY, *viz.*, agriculture, industry, trade and transport provide means of livelihood to a majority of the population. But they do not cover the whole field of economic activity. There is an appreciable percentage of the population which earns its livelihood by following small crafts and occupations, such as, hair cutting, hotels and restaurants, flour mills, tailoring, etc. Most of these are engaged in production of goods of daily consumption or rendering useful service to the society. A comparatively small number is engaged in professions like education, medicine, etc. These occupations are typically urban in character and have much impact on the economy of the district. A considerable development has taken place in their structure and character in the last fifty years and as a few of them have disappeared, a large number has inflated their ranks. The increase in the number of such occupations has provided further employment to the local people. The increase in the number of establishments is attributed to the changing habits of the people. For instance, change in the wear apparel has resulted in an increase in establishments dealing in ready-made clothes. Thus the rapid growth of occupations, such as, hotels and restaurants, hair cutting, laundering, tailoring, pan-patti, etc., is both a factor to be reckoned with in the urbanisation of country-side and an index of the decree of prosperity and economic stability of the district.

An attempt is made in this chapter to give a brief account of certain selected miscellaneous occupations in the district. A sample survey was conducted at the district headquarters and tahsil places with a view to presenting a broad picture of the economic conditions prevailing in these occupations. About ten per cent of the total establishments situated in different localities and of different sizes and types were surveyed. A general questionnaire was prepared and answers were collected from each of the selected samples.

Many of these occupations represent a combination of industry and trade and are chiefly to be found in the urban areas. The following account is related only to employment, earning, wages, equipment and raw materials used by these occupations.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

Except in a few small villages, the tea shop or a similar establishment has made its appearance in all parts of the district. There are those establishment serving only tea, a few selling hot and cold beverages with eatables and those which also serve

meals mostly on a rice-plate basis. The difference between the urban and the rural areas relates to the size and appearance of such establishments. The hotels in the urban areas are generally better equipped and serve a large variety of eatables in contrast to the establishments in the rural part of the district. The furniture of a tea-shop consists of two to three benches, a small cupboard, etc. However, the peculiarity in such types of shops is the combination of various jobs in one person—who acts as owner, cashier, cook and service boy as well. Thus there is a large variety of hotels scattered all over the district from fairly good restaurants at Gondia, Bhandara and Tumsar to small tea-shops in the rural areas of the district.

The accessories include sugar, tea, milk, groundnut oil, spices, etc. The extent of consumption solely depends upon the size and location of the establishment. Generally a small sized tea-shop consumes accessories worth Rs. 100 to Rs. 120 as against Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 per month in case of a big establishment.

As regards tools and equipment the use of benches appears to be common in the small hotels as against chairs, tables, decorative mirrors and pictures, ceiling fans and radio-sets in case of a big restaurant. The amount invested in tools and equipment runs from a few thousand rupees in case of a big unit to a few hundred rupees for a small hotel.

The big size hotels provide some scope for employment where generally six to seven persons are employed as waiters. The scope for employment always depends upon the size of the establishment and its location. In some cases the owner manages all the business with one or two boys employed to clean tables, to serve indoor and outdoor orders. As per the 1961 Census, there were 1,441 persons engaged in this occupation as against 805 in 1951.

The persons employed in this occupation could be classified as skilled and unskilled. A cook represents the former and all others belong to the latter category. A cook is generally paid higher wages. The wages of unskilled workers varied between Rs. 15 and Rs. 100 per month. The employees are also provided with tea, snacks, meals etc., in the morning and evening in addition to their monthly or weekly wages. As the employment in this occupation does not provide the worker with any incentive, there is mobility of labour from one occupation to another or from one establishment to another. The application of the Shops and Establishments Act and the minimum wage legislation to a few of these occupations described in this chapter has considerably eased the situation.

In respect of the income and the expenditure, according to the findings of the survey, the income varied between Rs. 70 and Rs. 150 in case of a small establishment, as against Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 2,000 per month in case of a big establishment. The amount spent on accessories is one of the major items on the expenditure side. Nearly 65 per cent of the total expenditure is accounted for by the accessories which are generally purchased in the local market on

wholesale basis. The other items of expenditure are rent, wages and electricity charges. The amount of rent varied between Rs. 30 and Rs. 100 per month depending mostly upon the size and the location of business.

BOARDING AND LODGING

The number of lodging and boarding houses is small in the district as compared to that of the hotels and restaurants. These establishments are mostly situated at tahsil and district headquarters. Some of these are only boarding houses whereas many serve boarding as well as lodging facilities.

The accessories consist of foodgrains, spices, sugar, milk, vegetables etc, in addition to fish, mutton and eggs in case of non-vegetarian boarding houses. The amount spent on this head mostly depends upon the size and location of the business. The average expenditure on this head of a big establishment ranges from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 per month. The same amounts to Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per month in case of a small unit.

The tools and equipment include chairs, dining tables etc., for dining purpose. In small boarding houses *patss* (low stools) are provided to the diners. Dishes, pots etc., are among the common utensils used. In case of a lodging house the tools and equipment include iron or country cots, pillows, mattresses with other requirements stated above as generally every lodging house serves tea or coffee to its customers in the morning and evening. The investment on all these items varies more or less as per the size ranging from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,000 in case of a boarding house and Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 in case of a boarding and lodging house.

The establishments of this type provide employment to a good number of persons. Generally a big establishment employs nearly eight to ten persons representing different categories, such as, cooks, waiters and sweeping boys; whereas a small establishment is run with the help of two to three persons. The boarding houses in some cases are run by the owner with the help of his family members. The wages paid vary from place to place and from unit to unit. The amount of wages paid ranges from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per month. In addition to emoluments, the employees are provided with meals twice a day.

A boarding house serves food twice a day on a rice-plate or a full-meal basis. Generally, all boarding houses provide facility of monthly coupon system for its regular members for which lower rates are charged. The lodging house provides a cot and mattress and in addition facilities for bathing and washing clothes. The daily turnover of a big lodging and boarding house ranges from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 as against Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 in case of a small establishment.

The items on the expenditure side are rent, wages, electricity charges and provision for raw materials. More than half the

expenditure is accounted for by the accessories. Most of the establishments are housed in rented premises, the amount of rent being Rs. 500 to Rs. 700 in case of a big establishment and Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 in case of a small establishment.

HAIR CUTTING

In a small village the barber is a *balutedar* of the old tradition and he serves the villagers for which he is paid in kind at the time of harvest. Generally he sits under a tree or in a shade near about his residence. His bag contains all the instruments and is virtually a mobile saloon. It is only in big towns that establishments are found well equipped with furniture, radio-sets, fans and in a few cases even mechanical appliances.

In this occupation no heavy expenditure is involved on the accessories except a small amount on cosmetics, such as, pomade, hair oil, powder, snow, soap, etc. However, the barber in rural areas moving from place to place with his bag does not carry all these items necessarily except soap, coconut oil, a pair of scissors, a razor and a cropping machine. On the other hand, a shop in a town is equipped with other items, such as mirrors hung on the walls, chairs and tables. In most of the establishments, furniture is of simple type and just enough to serve the purpose. The sample survey disclosed that the cost of the tools and equipment varied between Rs. 150 and Rs. 200 in case of a small establishment; while it exceeded a thousand rupees in the case of a big unit.

The barber in the villages moves from place to place to serve his customers and hence for him there are no uniform working hours. In the big establishments, although the working hours are fixed, the employees remain busy in the morning and during the holidays for the whole day. The artisans are paid wages either on time-basis or work-basis but in either case the earnings vary between Rs. 40 and Rs. 100 a month. In the rural areas a barber is found to possess some agricultural land and he attends to the agricultural operations during the monsoon season. The 1951 Census recorded a figure of 1,479 as engaged in this occupation. The Census of 1961 puts the figure at 2,316.

TAILORING

Tailoring shops of big and small sizes are found in all parts of the district. The tailor today is an indispensable component of the society as he was in the days gone-by. Some tailors in the urban areas add to their monthly income by selling ready-made clothes. The occupation provides employment to a good number of persons. With an increase in the income of the people and their attitude of easy adaptability to changing fashions, the demand for skilled tailoring service has gone up. This situation ensures a prosperous future to this occupation. However, a tailor has to learn new fashions that change from time to time.

Buttons, needles, oil etc., constitute the accessories of a tailor which are locally available. The amount spent on these items

varies from Rs. 15 to Rs. 40 per month depending upon the work load.

A sewing machine, a pair of scissors, stool and chair are the important items that constitute the tools and equipment of a tailoring shop. A small tailoring shop has one or two machines and a table while in a big shop four to five machines are kept and artisans are employed on daily or monthly basis. Besides the machines, the tailoring shop has cupboards to keep the clothes and chairs and other furniture for the convenience of the customers. The capital investment varies from Rs. 400 to Rs. 600 in case of a small unit and from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 in case of a big size shop.

Shirts, pants, blouses, trousers are the common items of stitching. The average standard of stitching in the district does not appear to be up to the mark probably because the tailors have not fully acquired specialised training in tailoring and whatever skill they possess has come to them by practical experience. In small villages tailoring has been more or less a neglected profession and associated with poor standard. The tailor's output of work depends upon the location of the shop. In villages the daily income of a tailor comes to one to two rupees, except the days of festivals, fairs and marriages when the business remains brisk and the earnings amount to Rs. 4 to Rs. 7 per day. In urban areas the monthly income of a tailoring establishment varies between Rs. 250 and Rs. 400.

Rent is the most important item of expenditure in case of a tailoring establishment. In a few cases in rural areas the owner of the shop starts his business at his residence only and the establishment entails no expenditure on rent. Where rent is paid the amount of rent ranges between Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 per month. In the towns, however, the amount spent by way of rent varies from Rs. 30 to 70 per month.

LAUNDRIES

The location of laundry establishments as such is restricted only to the towns in the district. In other parts of the district where there are no laundry shops the services are rendered by *dhobis* who collect the clothes from the customers by moving from place to place. The clothes are washed and ironed and delivered back to the customers. A small sized laundry has a table for ironing, while a well-equipped laundry has a few tables, a cupboard, a couple of irons, in a few cases electrical. In 1961, 982 persons were engaged in the laundry services as against 638 in 1951.

The establishments selected for the survey were truly representative of the occupation as a whole as they belonged to various sizes. In the urban areas, the occupation was the main source of livelihood to those engaged in this profession; whereas in rural area it was a subsidiary means of livelihood.

The accessories of a laundry establishment consist of soap, soda, tinopal, bleaching powder, starch, etc., whereas charcoal and firewood are used as fuel. Most of these items are purchased locally. The extent of the consumption of these items depends upon the type and size of the establishment as few shops do the business of ironing only and do not require other materials except charcoal and firewood. Nevertheless a small laundry spends on account of accessories, Rs. 10 to Rs. 40 and a big one, Rs. 50 to 75 per month.

The equipment depends upon the size of the establishment. An average laundry possesses petty furniture like a chair, a table and a cupboard to keep the clothes, ironed or otherwise. The number of irons depends upon the size of the shop. The cost of an iron comes to Rs. 150. The initial capital investment is small in regard to this occupation. As capital is not locked up as the business is on a cash basis, a number of persons have taken up to this profession.

In regard to this profession it was found out that the entire family works as a working unit. The *dhobis* have no fixed working hours and they practically remain busy throughout the day. They are paid on piece-rate basis, the rate depending upon the number of items accepted for washing and cleaning. A big unit usually employs the services of three to four persons. The monthly wages of a *dhobi* were found to vary between Rs. 40 and Rs. 75.

The laundry services include washing and cleaning and ironing clothes. The gross turnover of a big laundry generally varies between Rs. 450 and Rs. 600 per month.

It is difficult to say as to whether washermen as a class have succeeded in elevating their economic position. The independent *dhobis* are hardly found to be earning substantially. But those who have established a laundry and have regularised their business in a systematic manner enjoy a moderate level of subsistence.

PAN-BIDI SHOPS

These shops are found in almost all the parts of the district except possibly a few villages. Some of the shops are merely a part of the hotels and restaurants, while others carry on business independently at the more crowded places in towns and big villages. These shops have sprung up to cater to the ever increasing needs of customers who prefer chewing and smoking as a mode of relaxation. The occupation, however, does not provide a measurable scope for employment.

The raw materials which consist of betel-leaves, tobacco, lime, catechu etc., are usually brought from the retailers. Different types of *bidis* manufactured in the district are also kept in the shop for sale. In a few cases the shops also keep sundry articles, such as, post cards, soap, oil etc., which are sold at slightly higher rate than the prevailing ones. The value of purchases made by

the shops generally ranges from Rs. 30 to Rs. 70 and Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 in case of small and big sized shops, respectively.

The tools of the business include nut-crackers, a bucket to keep the betel-leaves, a small pot and such other articles necessary for the purpose. As the shops are very small in size neither there is place for any decorative furniture nor does the nature of its transactions demand any such articles except a small cupboard. In the big towns, however, shops are decorated with photographs, mirrors and in a few cases with a radio-set, tubelights, etc. The amount of investment generally varies between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100 in case of a small shop as against Rs. 300 and Rs. 700 in case of big shop. The nature of business does not involve fixed capital as the business is effected on cash basis. Very few establishments were found to have borrowed for the sake of investment. The business is usually managed by the owner himself. Where the shop undertakes the manufacture of *bidis*, it is found to employ a few persons on piece-rate basis. The total turnover of an average shop ranges from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 per day. The net margin earned by a small unit generally ranges from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per month, whereas it varies between Rs. 300 and Rs. 500 in case of big shops. The considerable margin is perhaps due to absence of any other expenditure except rent which accounts for Rs. 10 to Rs. 30 per month.

FLOUR MILLING

Till recently women used to grind grains on grinding wheels in their houses. Now, almost all the big villages have flour mills worked with oil-engines. In towns electricity is increasingly used instead of oil-engines. These mills grind grains and chillis and de-husk rice.

Most of the establishments are managed by the proprietors with the help of a worker who is paid on a monthly basis. Electric motor, oil-engine, grinders and minor tools constitute the main equipment. The investment in a flour mill varies between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 4,000. Most of the establishments were housed in rented premises, the rent varying between Rs. 20 and Rs. 50 per month.

BICYCLE REPAIRING

Bicycle has become a vehicle of the common man. It is found not only in towns but has reached the most remote villages in the district. The bicycles and bicycle-rikshaws provide cheap means of conveyance in the towns. The majority of the bicycle repairing shops are of medium size and employ as a profession a considerable number of persons. These shops besides bicycle repairing, sell bicycle spare parts and carry out minor repairing, such as, of petromaxes, stoves, etc., and take to such allied occupations.

The initial capital investment is large and is mainly required to purchase bicycles and spare parts and other equipment. In a small shop, four to five bicycles are usually kept for hire. The working capital in the shop is required for purchase of bicycles as

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also of accessories such as, oil, grease, etc., and for paying rent and wages to the employees.

Most of the establishments manage their business with the help of two or three workers, generally boys who are paid between Rs. 30 and Rs. 75 per month. The amount of rent generally varies between Rs. 10 and Rs. 35 per month. The income of these establishments consists of charges towards bicycle repairing and for hiring them. The monthly income of a small unit generally ranges from Rs. 80 to Rs. 125, while that of a big shop ranges from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400.

DOMESTIC SERVICES

An indication of the growing prosperity of the urbanites is the positive increase in the number of domestic servants. Generally, the well-to-do families and those having agricultural bias employ domestic servants. In the rural areas domestic servants are employed only during agricultural season and are paid in cash or kind for their services. The position of domestic servants in the urban areas is different. They are generally employed either to do specified jobs, such as, washing or cleaning or employed as full-time servants where they have to do a manifold kind of work in a household.

The majority of the servants are employed as part-time workers and their earnings vary from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per month, in addition to meal, clothes, etc., which may also be provided to them. Even though there is an increase in the earnings, there is no appreciable change in their living conditions. Most of them live in one-room tenements. However, a change is visible in their economic status due to the growth of trade unionism among them and the demand coming from them for better ways and living conditions. Their children now go to schools and enjoy facilities offered by the Government to the families in the low income group.

The number of persons engaged in domestic services was put at 1,717 in the year 1951, while it rose to 2,475 in 1961.

MEDICAL, LEGAL AND TEACHING PROFESSIONS

The increase in the number of persons belonging to these categories is an indication of the educational achievement of the society. During the past few years, the number of earners in these professions has considerably gone up. Persons engaged in the educational profession could be divided into four categories, viz., primary teachers, secondary teachers, those engaged in colleges and institutions imparting higher education and persons employed in the various technical institutions. As per the Census of 1961, there were 5,034 persons engaged in this profession as against 1,256 in 1951.

The income of a school teacher on an average is found to range between Rs. 150 and Rs. 300 and that of a teacher in a technical institution or a college between Rs. 250 and Rs. 600 per month.

In respect of qualifications and earning, this category shows a definite improvement over the past. There is also a variety in training secured by the teachers with the introduction of technical subjects, physical education and methods of teaching technical education.

The medical profession has also gained ground during the last fifty years or so. The number of practitioners and consultants has increased considerably during this period. The people have become more conscious about their health and this has resulted in the increase in the number as also of the earnings of the medical practitioners. The monthly income of a general practitioner was found to vary between Rs. 400 and Rs. 1,000 per month. A number of primary health centres, maternity homes and child health centres have been established under rural health programme. However, the proportion of the doctors to the entire population of the district is very low especially in the rural areas. The number of medical practitioners and persons engaged in health services increased from 662 in 1951 to 1,539 in 1961.

The passage of various laws relating to the land by Government has resulted in a diminution in the cases involving land and this has adversely affected the practice of lawyers who have specialised on the civil side. Although the number of persons receiving education in law has increased, very few of them take to regular practice. The average income of a lawyer was found to vary between Rs. 300 and Rs. 1,000 though cases of lawyers having twice or thrice this practice were not rare. The number of persons engaged in the legal services was 82 in 1951 as against 160 in 1961.

In addition to the occupations described above, there are a number of other miscellaneous occupations, such as, sweetmeat making, photo-frame making, watch repairing, gold and silver smithy, cap making, etc., in the district.

CHAPTER 9 — ECONOMIC TRENDS

INTRODUCTION

THE PRESENT CHAPTER DEALS WITH THE DEMAND SIDE OF the productive activity of the district as a counterpart of the preceding chapters which deal with the supply side of the productive activity, *e.g.*, Agriculture, Industry, Trade and Commerce, *etc.*, in the district. It depicts the present standard of living, *i.e.*, income-expenditure pattern of the people of the district and the economic prospects of the district in the different economic spheres. The chapter is divided into two sections, *viz.*, (i) Standard of Living and (ii) Economic Prospects.

SECTION I — STANDARD OF LIVING.

STANDARD OF LIVING

General.—The existence of individual wants is the basis out of which economic activity in particular region, say a district, grows. The real income and the tastes of the people determine their expenditure pattern and, therefore, are the most influential factors in determining the productive activity or the industrial growth of the district. The commodities to the consumption of which an individual is accustomed to may be classified into necessities, comforts and luxuries and they constitute his standard of living. What is true of one individual is true of a group of individuals or for that matter of all the individuals in a social group taken together. The standard of living of the people of the district could thus be said to be mostly determined by the level of their income and material benefits derived from it, the pattern of expenditure depending upon the habits of consumption.

A survey of the present standard of living of the people of the district becomes necessary in the context of the preparation of a plan for its economic and social progress. As things stand the low standard of living is one of the obstacles impeding the economic growth of the district. The low standard of living especially in underdeveloped areas is the effect of low *per capita* incomes. Naturally, the emphasis is now more upon enhancing the avenues and quantity of investments which would lift the real incomes and money incomes of the people of the district. The standard of living of the people depends upon the extent of resources available for the production of wealth, the quantity of wealth produced by the people and the way in which the wealth produced is distributed. In a case like that of our own country, elementary needs in the form of food, shelter and clothing are not satisfied to the extent to which they ought to be. Naturally

all the activities of the State directed towards the supply of these needs by following a policy of all-round planning could be regarded as an attempt to bring about equilibrium between the elementary needs of life and their satisfaction and not as an attempt to improve the standard of living of the people.

The term 'Standard of Living' should be distinguished clearly from the term 'Standard of Life' as many a time both are considered to be synonymous. The term 'Standard of Living' indicates the necessities, comforts and luxuries to the consumption of which an individual is accustomed to while, the term 'Standard of Life' indicates an ideal situation or goal towards which an individual or family would strive to raise their standard. One well-known economist, viz., Marshall, distinguishes between the standard of life and the standard of comfort, the former implying the individuals' entire social and moral outlook whereas the latter suggesting an increase of artificial wants, among which the grosser wants may predominate.

National income figures are an index to the standard of living possible for a people. They are useful also for finding the trend of economic development or progress over a period of time. When we do so, we have to take into account the changes that might have occurred in prices, in the habits of the people regarding food, drink, clothing and such other things.

The method adopted for calculating national income could be used to calculate the district income as well. The national income of a country could be computed by making use of any of the three following methods:—

(i) *Census of Production Method*: As per this method the value of the net national product including all productive activities in a given period of time is found out. The goods and services produced might either be valued at measure prices or factor prices which means wages received by all the factors of production.

(ii) *The Census of Income Method*: As per this method, the incomes and payments received by all the residents of a country in the form of wages, rent, profits, interest, etc., are added to arrive at the figure of national income.

(iii) *The Census of Expenditure, Investment and Savings Method*: As per this method, the expenditure of all individuals is added so that the national income is equal to the sum-total of expenditure on consumer goods, investments and hoardings of the people.

However, it is not possible to use any one of these methods singly to the exclusion of the others because none of the methods covers all the sources of incomes accruing to the individuals, both material as well as non-material. If the methods could be applied with advantage for computing the national income as ready statistics are easily available, it is not so in so far as the computation of the income of a region or a part thereof is concerned

The difficulties encountered in obtaining statistics for such a small tract of the territory as a district both by collection and Survey are innumerable and any attempt to compute the district income on this basis proves futile.

Naturally, while assessing the standard of living of the people in the district, no attempt is made in this chapter to calculate the district income as also the relative standard of living of the people in the district.

This chapter, therefore, gives the statistics of income-expenditure ratios of different income groups in the district. Such a data would provide a basis for comparison between the standards of living enjoyed in the district by the families in different income groups.

There are three major factors that enter any assessment of the standard of living of the people in the district. They are—(i) those elements which are essential and possess survival value for the individual such as food, clothing, shelter and medical services; (ii) the prestige values which indicate the existence of social groups and have survival value for the group, they are the symbols which distinctly mark the social status and so enable the individual to identify himself with the group, e.g., clergyman's coat; and (iii) those elements which represent the group concept of welfare including values which make the particular bias or interest of the group, whether puritanic or commercial.

The extract taken from the old Gazetteer of Bhandara district, published in 1908, concerning the material condition of the people may be of some value in the present assessment of the standard of living of the people in the district. The same is reproduced below:

"The following note on the condition of the people has been contributed by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. E. Danks.

'The District enjoyed considerable prosperity in the period that elapsed between the 30 years' settlement and the beginning of the famine years. There have never been any large towns and during this time it depended almost entirely upon agriculture. It was very thickly populated and evidences of its prosperity are to be found in the large number of private irrigation works built, and in the solid character of the houses, especially in the open country. The density of population is the more striking in that a large portion of the District is under forest. As a natural result of its dense population and its almost complete dependence upon agriculture, the District was very hard hit by the famine years. The cropped area reached its height in 1893-94, when it was nearly 900,000 acres. In succeeding years it dropped each year with one partial recovery to little more than 650,000 acres in 1899-00. For the next three years it fluctuated between 750,000 and 800,000; since that time it has generally risen again to nearly 850,000. The area under rice, by far the most important crop

in the District, showed a larger proportionate decrease and has not recovered so much. Mr. Craddock wrote in 1901 as follows: 'When I took charge of the division in 1901 the outlook was gloomy and there were suggestions in the air for the opening of kitchens (this though the rainfall of 1900-01 had been excellent); I marched through the Chandpur *pargana* early in May and found what seemed hopeless debt and despondency; little or no revenue had been paid, and no orders for suspension or remission had been passed.' Vigorous measures of relief were taken.

"The conciliation of private debts, a species of informal bankruptcy, was begun in 1901 under the charge of Rai Bahadur Anant Lal and concluded in 1905. The revenue demand was also decreased in 418 villages and the programme of public and private irrigation works was pushed on as fast as staff and funds would permit. The effect of these measures on the agricultural classes has been most marked even in the few years that have since elapsed. Relieved of an overwhelming load of debt, with the revenue demand reduced in every village which could fairly justify it, and with a large number of irrigation works built under stimulus and mainly at the expense of Government, the area under cultivation has steadily increased year by year and the people are with rare exceptions solvent and content. The number of minor improvements of land that are being made by private persons at their own expense, and the number of new houses that have been and are being built are a striking proof of the improvement of the condition of the agricultural population. The alteration in the position of the labourer is even greater. Between 1891 and 1901 the population of the District fell by nearly eighty thousand people or between 10 and 11 per cent. In the year 1902-03 when there was again scarcity though the death-rate remained low, a very large emigration took place, estimated at the time at fifty to sixty thousand people; a large proportion of these did not return to the District as they found remunerative employment elsewhere. The consequence is that the strength of the labouring population has been very greatly decreased. At the same time some large and many small public works have been begun, the manganese industry has made a sudden and expanding demand for labour, and reviving agriculture has begun once more to ask for its former supply. The supply of labour is totally inadequate to meet the demand. Attempts to import workers from other parts of the Province have not been very successful for various reasons, and the labourer holds command of the situation. The wages of unskilled labour have doubled in the last few years. The manganese industry is paying famine prices for the carts it wants to convey the ore to the railway. The labouring classes are enjoying a period of prosperity unparalleled in the previous history of the District.*"

To find out the income and expenditure pattern of the different classes of persons in the district a sample survey was conducted in the urban as well as rural areas of the district. The survey

* Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, Volume A, 1908 A-2669-33-B

covered the following places in the district, viz., Lakhani, Arjuni, Sakoli, Adyal, Goregaon, Bhandara, Tumsar, Gondia, Gondumari, Saundad, Amgaon and Arjuni Morgaon. The conclusions of the surveyed do not indicate whether the various classes of families surveyed are better off or worse off than they were in the past but it shows the budgets of the different classes of families and the various trends in their budgets. Statistical accuracy is not however, claimed for the various findings of the survey.

The following method was adopted for conducting the survey for collection of information. A family or a household was taken as a unit of sampling in certain rural and urban areas representative of their typical characteristics. The actual observations were noted in the tabulated forms. A family was taken to represent four units so that the size of the family need not affect the income group to which it belonged under the above method. The families were grouped according to variations in income. The grouping was not based upon the actual income of a family but upon its computed income. For the sake of convenience, each adult or two minors (below 12 years of age) represented one full unit. On this basis the families surveyed were grouped as under:—

Income Group I.—Families with an annual income of Rs. 4,200 and above.

Income Group II.—Families with an annual income ranging between Rs. 4,200 and Rs. 1,800.

Income Group III.—Families with an annual income of Rs. 1,800 and below.

The survey of a family was undertaken with reference to the following points:—

(i) Annual income of a family from all possible sources of livelihood such as land, house, business or profession was noted. If the family had property in the form of house, land and cattle, etc., then the present value of the property was calculated on the basis of the figures supplied by the persons concerned.

(ii) The volume of debt and savings, if any, were also noted.

(iii) On the expenditure side the items of expenditure were calculated under two heads, viz., monthly and annual. The former was taken to consist of commodities of daily use where payment was made from month to month. Such items included, grocery, lighting, domestic services, education, entertainment, milk and house rent. The latter included items on which expenditure was incurred occasionally, such as clothing, religion, medical, charity, travel, etc.

In addition, family possessions in the form of utensils, ornaments, clothing (costly), furniture, etc., were also taken note of.

Income Group I.—The families in the first income-group comprised big businessmen, agriculturists possessing considerable land, some owners of the miscellaneous occupations, big indus-

trialists, doctors, merchants, officers—both government and non-government, etc. The families in this income group lived comfortably as their incomes ranged well over Rs. 4,200 per month. Generally, they preferred to have accommodation of their own and hence went in for separate blocks and independent bungalows depending upon their means and mostly situated in the elegant localities of the towns. Their dwellings were equipped with polished and costly furniture, such as sofa-sets, fans, mirrored steel cupboards, and floor carpets in the drawing rooms, bedding and mosquito curtains in the bed-rooms and gas-stoves, pressure cookers, dining table and cupboards with formica tops, etc., in the kitchen and dining room. A few even possessed expensive luxuries like refrigerators and various modern electric appliances. Some families decorated their dwellings with floor lamps or wall lamps of various shapes and painted the walls with pleasant colours.

The survey covered 36 families from this group. The family was composed of 4 adults and 3 minors making a total of 5.5 units. Of the 36 families, only 7 families had more than one earning member, the total number of earners in the families surveyed being 45. Of the families surveyed, 12 families owned houses, while 9 families owned both houses as well as land and 15 families owned only landed property. Twenty families did not possess property in any form and depended for their livelihood upon the income from their respective professions. It was found that no family possessed property in the form of cattle and bullocks.

The annual incomes of the families in this group accrued from either : (i) land, (ii) house or (iii) occupation. The sample survey revealed that 15 families derived their income from land, aggregately valued at Rs. 61,700 giving an average of Rs. 4,113. Twelve families owned houses, but did not derive any income in the form of house rent. The total annual income of all 36 families surveyed, earned from different occupations was placed at Rs. 3,03,572, giving an average of Rs. 8,430 per annum per family.

Generally, the household savings consisted either in the form of financial assets such as cash, bank deposits, provident fund, life insurance policy and claims on government and private corporate sector or in the form of physical assets such as a house or agricultural holdings.

Of the 36 families surveyed, 24 families had their savings in the various forms mentioned above, the total savings amounting to Rs. 2,47,240 giving an average of Rs. 10,300 per family.

Out of 36 families, only 3 families were reported to be indebted and the average debt of a family was to the tune of Rs. 1,00,930. This debt was mainly taken for business purposes or for investment in land, houses, etc. All the three indebted families borrowed from banks, co-operative societies and relatives.

The monthly expenditure of the family was on food items and non-food items like education, entertainment, etc.

The survey revealed that the average monthly expenditure of a family in this group on food items was Rs. 160 and comprised cereals and pulses, Rs. 80; oils, i.e., edible oil, ghee, etc., Rs. 28; vegetables, and mutton, eggs (if a family is non-vegetarian), Rs. 28 and milk, Rs. 25. The average monthly expenditure on non-food items was Rs. 145 which was distributed as follows: lighting, Rs. 10; domestic services, Rs. 74; education, Rs. 22; entertainment, Rs. 8; and expenditure on dwelling in the form of rent or municipal taxes and repairing charges, Rs. 31.

The average annual expenditure of a family in this group on clothing was Rs. 525, i.e., about 51 per cent of the total annual expenditure on non-food items. The high percentage expenditure on clothing was due to changing fashions and clothing of finer and costlier variety that was available in the market.

In all the surveyed families with the exception of one or two in this group, the average expenditure on religion amounted to Rs. 55 annually. The expenditure on medicines which was the next important item in the annual budget of the family, amounted to Rs. 250 on an average annually. Expenditure on social obligations was comparatively small, being about 2 per cent of the total annual expenditure of the family. The average annual expenditure of family on miscellaneous-food and non-food items such as condiments and spices, hotelling, travelling, laundering, etc., was about Rs. 160 per month.

As the families in this group were well-to-do, they invested a large amount in ornaments, furniture, etc. All the families possessed utensils made of stainless, copper and brass. Even the possession of silver utensils was not uncommon. The average value of the utensils possessed by the family was to the tune of Rs. 8,600. Of the 36 families surveyed, 29 families possessed gold and silver ornaments, collectively valued at Rs. 50,000. Eight of the surveyed families had costly garments such as *shalus*, *paithani*, woollen suits, and some other *jari* articles. Almost all the families owned a radio receiver and a bicycle, as well as various items of furniture depending upon the taste of the family.

The common items of furniture were, however, steel and wooden cupboards, big mirrors, number of cots—wooden or steel, chairs or sofa-sets, time-piece, etc.

The total monthly expenditure of a family in this group on food items was found to be 19 per cent of the total income which accounted for 48 per cent of the total expenditure.

Income Group II.—The middle class family as is generally known earned annually between Rs. 1,800 and Rs. 4,200. They stood in the middle between the rich and poor as regards their financial position and also their pattern of expenditure. The families in this group tried to reach the living standard of the

families in the first group which they could not, however, do due to their limited resources.

The sample survey covered 52 families from this group and an average family was composed of 5 adults and 3 minors making a total of 6.5 units. Of the fifty-two families surveyed from this group, 33 families were dependent on the single earning member while the others had more than one earning member. Only 15 families, *i.e.*, about 29 per cent possessed property in the form of land or house. The remaining 71 per cent of the families in this group earned occupational incomes.

The 15 families who possessed landed property, derived a total annual income of Rs. 37,600 giving an average of Rs. 2,505 per annum. The average occupational income of the family from this group was calculated at Rs. 3,190 per annum.

Of the fifty-two families surveyed from this class, only 18 families, *i.e.*, 35 per cent saved a part of their income after meeting their day-to-day expenses. The average saving of the family was to the tune of Rs. 2,960. They had their savings in the various forms such as deposits in the bank, life insurance policy, provident fund, C. T. D., and hoardings. No borrowings were recorded in this class of families except a few which had to borrow to meet some unforeseen financial need such as illness in the family or marriage or such other social or religious occasions. The borrowings of the families were collectively valued at Rs. 4,750. Generally, loans were taken from co-operative societies, provident fund, banks, etc. While the families in the first group indulged in the borrowings for the sake of further investment in business, buildings, etc., the families in the second group indulged in the borrowing to face unforeseen expenditure as stated before.

The average expenditure per month of the family from this group on items of food amounted to Rs. 170. The expenditure on cereals and pulses was the highest, averaging about Rs. 75, *i.e.*, 51 per cent of the total food expenditure per month. The total monthly expenditure of all the families from this group on oils was Rs. 1,285, giving an average of Rs. 25 and on vegetables, fruits, mutton, etc., Rs. 1,260, giving an approximate average of Rs. 25 per month per family. The expenditure of a family on milk and milk products averaged Rs. 15 per month.

Out of the 52 families surveyed from this group, only 32 recorded expenditure on lighting and other electrical amenities. 17 families, *i.e.*, 33 per cent from this group employed domestic servants. The average monthly expenditure of a family in this group on lighting and on domestic servants amounted to Rs. 10 and Rs. 15, respectively. The monthly expenditure on education of these families varied from Rs. 5 to Rs. 120 per month depending upon the level of education, *i.e.*, whether school, college or technical, etc. The average expenditure on education came to Rs. 30 per month. About 31 families, *i.e.*, 59 per cent recorded expenditure on entertainment, the average monthly expenditure

being Rs. 13. The average monthly expenditure on rent of the families which did not possess their own houses, was Rs. 22 and was 24 per cent of the total monthly expenditure on non-food items.

The items on which a family spent annually were clothing, religion, medicines, social obligations, and miscellaneous items such as travelling, hotelling, transport charges, payments to tailors, laundries, etc. The average annual expenditure of a family on clothing was Rs. 515, *i.e.*, 59 per cent of the total annual expenditure while that on medicines Rs. 190. Out of 52 families surveyed from this class, 41 families, *i.e.*, 82 per cent spent on religion, the average expenditure in it being Rs. 50 per annum. The average annual expenditure of 35 families in this group on social obligations was Rs. 35. The annual expenditure of an average family in this group on miscellaneous items amounted to Rs. 75.

The families in this group possessed aluminium, brass and copper utensils, just sufficient for their everyday needs. Stainless-steel utensils were rarely found in the households. Forty families, *i.e.*, 77 per cent from this group, possessed ornaments, collectively valued at Rs. 56,550, giving an average of Rs. 1,400 per family. Generally, all families possessed tables, chairs, stools, etc., but no family could afford the luxury of cots, sofas, etc. Bicycle was the common item of possession as it provided a cheaper means of conveyance. Very few families had radio-sets.

The survey disclosed that the families in this group could spend little on comforts but nothing on items of luxury. Their households were small but clean and decent.

The total average monthly expenditure of a family in this group on food items was 43 per cent of the total income which accounted for 54 per cent of the total expenditure.

Income Group III.—This group comprising families with an annual income of less than Rs. 1,800 presents the lowest rung in the social order in the district. It is economically the most depressed class. The group was composed of petty artisans and farm workers in the rural areas and shop assistants, *gumastas* in the small commercial establishments, sweepers, coolies, and peons in the Government offices in the urban areas of the district. Generally they stayed in one-room tenements which were ill-ventilated and ill-equipped or in huts constructed in the outskirts of towns and villages vulnerable to heavy rains. Consequently the poorer members of the class could not live within their incomes and the deficits in their incomes were met by incurring debts and some times by contributions from relatives. The persons in this group were however optimistic and always hoped for a better future.

Forty families were surveyed in the sample which revealed that a family in this group consisted of 5 adults and 3 minors, making a total of 6.5 units. There were 58 earning members in 40 families, giving an average of 1.4 per family. 26 families had

one earner per family. Only 5 families out of 40 had subsidiary income from agricultural land, collectively valued at Rs. 5,500. Many families had their own small houses in the form of huts. The possession of milch or drought cattle by the families was a rare occurrence even in rural areas of the district.

The occupational annual income of all the families in this group was collectively placed at Rs. 70,510, giving an average of Rs. 1,764 per family. The earning members in this group were not assured of steady employment as also of monthly earnings. Some families could save in cash or in rare cases in the form of a policy though the amount of the saving was very meagre in case of such families. The budgets of many families in the group were characterised by a recurring deficit. Their small incomes forced the families to keep immediate bills pending and pay those that were overdue.

The average monthly expenditure of a family on food items came to Rs. 93, comprising cereals and pulses, Rs. 40; oils, Rs. 18; vegetables, Rs. 23 and milk, Rs. 12. Of the forty families surveyed, only twenty families, i.e., 50 per cent spent on lighting, the average expenditure on it being Rs. 8 per month. Only 6 families in this group could afford expenditure on domestic servants which gave a monthly average of Rs. 11. The survey figures further revealed that 22 families spent on education, collectively to the tune of Rs. 445, giving an average of Rs. 20.27 per month per family. The average expenditure of 26 families who spent on entertainment amounted to about Rs. 9 per month per family. One fourth of the families surveyed from this group lived in rented premises and the remaining in owned huts. The families in this group generally stayed in one-room tenements, the monthly rent whereof averaged to Rs. 16.

A family in this group on an average spent about Rs. 345 on clothing and Rs. 60 on religious account per annum. The clothing expenditure claimed 54 per cent of the average annual expenditure of the family. Of the surveyed families, 30 families afforded expenditure on medical treatment, and other miscellaneous items while only 20 families afforded expenditure on social obligation. The average annual expenditure of a family on the abovementioned items was Rs. 137, Rs. 82 and Rs. 24, respectively.

The household equipment of these families consisted of a few utensils of brass and copper and mostly of earthen pots. It was found that some 50 per cent of the families possessed trinketry of petty value. Their bedding was also scanty and mostly comprised two or three mattresses, worn-out carpets and *kambhis*. The possession of a bicycle, wrist-watch and a radio by the families in this group was a rare occurrence. Even if some possessed furniture in the form of one or two chairs, cot, etc., it was not of a very significant value and desirable.

The families in the group were characterised by a low standard of literacy, which was the result of two factors, viz., (i) their low

incomes which prevented them from incurring any expenditure on this item, and (ii) the tendency in the families to employ their children in the petty establishments or as farm labourers to supplement the family incomes.

A family in this group spent about 64 per cent of its income on food items which accounted for 54 per cent of its total expenditure.

Comparison between the three groups.—The standard of living of the district is determined by the amount and quality of subsistence the people get and the several amenities of life which they enjoy. The standard of living varies with different income groups and also with the changing conditions as time passes. When the income of the family increases it spends more on consumer goods. But the propensity to consume is low in the case of families with high incomes and high in the case of families with low incomes. Besides this, many other factors such as psychological attitude, expectations of changes in prices and rates of taxes determine the propensity to consume.

The sample survey disclosed that though the budget of an average family in all the three income groups was composed of necessities, comforts and luxuries, the percentage expenditure on these items differed with the differences in the incomes. The item of expenditure which was a necessity for a family in the first group was a comfort to that in the second group and a luxury to that in the third group.

Consumption of milk was confined to the families in the first and second income groups and was a luxury for the families in the third group.

Clothing claimed the largest share in the annual expenditure of the families in the first and second groups. The quality and quantity of wearing apparel used by the families in these two groups differed slightly, though both preferred quality clothes. The number of sets of dresses was higher in the first group than in the second. The clothes of the families in the third group were scarcely sufficient and were of coarse quality. The families in the third group could not afford high quality food, and also could not spend much on vegetables. While, the families in the first group generally purchased cereals and pulses, etc., of good quality and fruits of various types.

The families in the first group employed full-time or part-time domestic servants. The survey revealed that the average expenditure on domestic servants was Rs. 75 per month in the case of first group and Rs. 11 in the case of third group as very few families in the third group could afford the employment of domestic servants and that also only for washing of clothes and cleaning of utensils.

The average size of the household in the first group was composed of 5.5 units while that in the second group was composed of 6.5 units.

The persons in the first group could spend a larger amount on medical items such as doctor's fees and medicines than the family in the second group. The family in the second group could spend a larger amount on medicines than a family in the third group. The survey figures revealed that while an average family in the first group spent Rs. 250 per year on medical items, an average family in the second and third groups spent about Rs. 190 and Rs. 137, respectively, on the same.

As the concept of necessities differed with the families in different income groups, expenditure on food and other necessities could not be noted. Naturally percentage expenditure on food items only was taken into consideration.

In keeping with the above economic law, the families in the first income group spent about 19 per cent of their income on food-items which accounted for 48 per cent of their total expenditure (food as well as non-food) as against 64 per cent and 73 per cent by the families in the third group. The corresponding figures for families in the second group were 43 per cent and 54 per cent, respectively.

The survey also revealed that in the case of a family from the first group, food expenditure claimed 19 per cent of the total income while it claimed 64 per cent of the total income of the families in the third group. The families in the first group could keep a surplus aside after deducting the food expenditure for the consumption of articles representing comforts and luxuries.

Besides, the survey also showed that the percentage expenditure on rent and light was almost the same for all income groups. Though a family in the first group spent Rs. 41 per month on light and rent, and family in the second and third groups spent about Rs. 32 and Rs. 24, respectively, the expenditure of all the income groups on these items constituted about 10 per cent of the total expenditure. Similarly, the percentage expenditure of the families in all three income groups on clothing was almost the same.

The big size of the households affected adversely the financial position of the families. As per the 1961 Census, the composition of the household differed in rural and urban areas of the district. The Census gives the percentage proportions of different types of households as follows:—

				Total	Rural	Urban
Single member	..	..	..	6.21	5.70	10.24
2—3 members	..	..	..	26.38	25.96	29.61
4—6 members	..	..	..	45.74	46.51	39.77
7—9 members	..	..	..	16.75	16.87	15.79
10 members and more	..	..	..	4.92	4.96	4.59
All sizes	..	..	..	100.00	100.00	100.00

'Among the different size groups, household with 4 to 6 members are more common (45.74 per cent) than others. The percentage distribution of rural and urban households by their size shows that single and small size households are more (39.85 per cent) in urban than in rural areas (31.66 per cent). The average size of the household in the district is 4.9. It is 4.9 in rural areas and 4.5 in urban areas.'

It may also be noted that the families, in the first group stayed in spacious and airy tenements, either owned by them in rural areas or in big rented flats in urban areas. The families in the second group stayed in one or two-room tenements but clean and well-ventilated though not well-furnished or in their own huts built by them on their lands. But the families in the third group stayed in one-room tenements, which were ill-ventilated and ill-equipped.

This shows that housing conditions differed in rural and urban areas and even in the case of families from the same income group. The incomes of the people determined their housing conditions and the housing conditions affected though partially the standard of living of the families.

The following description taken from Bhandara District Census Handbook, 1961 throws sufficient light on the housing conditions in rural and urban areas of the district:—

"The density of residential house per square mile in the district has increased along with the density of population per square mile from 59.9 in 1951 to 71.0 in 1961. The number of persons per residential house has, however, decreased from 4.94 in 1951 to 4.86 in 1961. This may indicate an increased mobility of population from rural to urban areas as well as a tendency towards smaller families in urban areas.

Classified by "owned" and "rented" categories 86.75 per cent of the dwellings in the district are owned and only 13.25 per cent are rented. The proportion of "owned" in the rural areas is higher (91.15 per cent) and much lower (52.28 per cent) in the urban areas. Even this low proportion of 52.28 per cent for the urban areas in the district is higher than the average of 30.28 per cent for all urban areas of Maharashtra.

Out of the various materials used for walls, mud is predominant in all the tahsils of the district with a proportion of 82.31 per cent. The other material used next to mud is burnt bricks. Its proportion in the urban areas is 40.06 per cent as against 2.97 per cent in the rural areas. The utility of mud for the walls in the rural areas is 87.32 per cent as against 42.98 per cent in the urban. Grass, leaves, reeds or bamboos are used in 8.01 per cent dwellings. Its use in the rural is 7.96 per cent as against 8.45 per cent in urban areas. Its proportion in the tahsil of Sakoli is comparatively more, as it is used next in predominance to mud.

Out of the materials of roof, tiles, slate and shingle are predominant in the district with a proportion of 93.16 per cent. Tiled roofs are, however, more common in rural areas in all tahsils as their proportion in the rural is 93.66 per cent as against 89.27 per cent in urban areas. In the rural areas along with the tiled roofs, roofs of grass, leaves, reeds, etc., are also used next in predominance although they have a proportion of only 5.82 per cent. Roofs of concrete and stone and corrugated iron and zinc sheets are comparatively more in use in urban areas with 4.05 per cent and 3.06 per cent, respectively. The district falls in a fairly good rainfall belt, and most of the houses, therefore, have slopy tiled roofs.

Classified by the number of rooms occupied, 62.34 per cent of households are occupying one-room dwellings and 23.16 per cent are occupying two-room dwellings. Households occupying larger number of rooms are more in urban than in rural areas. Average number of persons per room is 3.31 for total, 3.44 for rural and 2.57 for urban areas."*

The literacy rate was found to be the highest in the case of families in the first group. The families in the second group tried to provide higher education to their children. But the families in the third group could not afford to provide it to their children.

The introduction of compulsory education has resulted in an increase in the literacy percentage of the district. Government has provided freeships to the students whose parents cannot afford the expenditure on higher education.

The low percentage of literacy prevented the people in the third income group from earning better incomes as they could not secure such employment in well paid establishments.

The following table shows the literacy percentage at the State and district levels:—

*As per the 1971 Census there were 2,97,075 census households in the district, of which 2,62,885 were in rural areas and 34,190 in urban areas.

TABLE No. 1
LITERACY PERCENTAGE IN THE DISTRICT, 1961.

State/District/Tahsil (1)	Total		Rural		Urban	
	Persons (2)	Males (3)	Persons (5)	Males (6)	Persons (8)	Females (10)
Maharashtra State	29.82	42.04	21.46	33.51	51.07	37.90
Bhandara District	24.07	39.90	21.66	37.20	44.12	25.45
1 Gondia Tahsil	25.59	41.75	22.80	38.75	43.33	25.21
2 Bhandara Tahsil	25.18	40.97	21.19	36.39	44.92	25.70
3 Sakoli Tahsil	20.70	36.09	20.70	36.09	..	..

Within the district, Gondia tahsil has the highest literacy for total population and for rural areas also. For urban areas, Bhandara tahsil has higher literacy rates both for males and females than those in Gondia tahsil. Sakoli tahsil has no Urban areas.

SECTION II — ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

Agrarian Economy.—The economy of Bhandara district remains palpably paradoxical and unintegrated. Though agriculture is the base of the entire economic structure, and is the mainstay of about 71.94 per cent of the population, it is still in the semi-backward stage as regards various functional aspects. An average agriculturist has stuck to his occupation not because he regards it a profitable industry but because he is not equipped to follow other pursuits. He follows the traditional subsistence farming also because he is generally averse to sedentary occupations, and though he is quite ready to avail himself of the advantages of primary education he does not care to carry his studies to a point that would ensure his admission to the higher ranks of other pursuits.

The greatest paradox of the agrarian economy is that though agriculture is the largest industry, it is not run on the principles of economic efficiency. The average farmer is not equipped to apply the considerations of input and output which are so very characteristic of industry. He is both a bad craftsman and a poor businessman. He gets accustomed to the erratic ways of Nature and submits with philosophic resignation to the slings and arrows of an outrageous fortune.

Another characteristic of the agricultural economy is the existence of uneconomic holdings, brought about by progressive subdivision. The land tenure systems of the past also hindered agricultural progress to some extent. The excessive pressure of population on land has also been a great hindrance in raising the *per capita* production.

It is against this background that the trends in the agrarian economy of the district are to be analysed.

The structure of the agrarian economy of the district can be judged from the pattern of land utilisation. In 1905-06, for which year the Bhandara Gazetteer of 1908 had furnished the information, the total area of the district was 3,966 square miles. Of this total, an area of 533 square miles was under forests, 399 square miles were not available for cultivation, 1,324 square miles were culturable waste, and 1,697 square miles were under cultivation. Thus, only about 42.75 per cent of the total geographical area was under cultivation, while about 33 per cent of the total area was culturable waste land. There was, therefore, considerable scope for the reclamation of cultural waste lands and fallow lands.

Subsequently, however, the culturable waste land decreased progressively, and with it the scope for extensive cultivation. This will become evident from the statistics given below:—

Year	Culturable waste land	Other fallow land
1957-58	69,900	41,100
1960-61	67,500	38,400
1962-63	68,000	33,500
1964-65	66,700	28,500
1965-66	65,889	28,860

Since the culturable waste lands and other fallow lands showed a decrease, the net area sown naturally showed an increase. This is important in the context of the dire need to feed the growing multitudes. However, it is in the fitness of things that under the present conditions culturable waste and fallow lands are an enormous economic waste. Though not all, a sizeable area can be brought under active cultivation.

The area sown more than once showed an increase from 242,200 acres in 1957-58 to 348,000 acres in 1964-65. This rising trend is exactly as it could be expected, and is attributable to irrigation facilities in the district. The physical features of the district lend themselves remarkably to the construction of irrigation tanks, and the farmers have to a wonderful extent taken advantage of the natural facilities.

Though the area sown more than once has registered a substantial rise during the last about seven decades the cultural practices of the same exhibit elements of semi-primitive practices. Rice is the substantive crop and the after crops are sown in a casual way without giving credence to preparation of the land which results into meagre yield. In certain cases the first crop of rice is sown broadcast, and a light variety which is reaped earlier is grown, and the field is made available for the *rabi* crop. Both the methods are wasteful, and do not contribute to the goal of optimum utilisation of scarce land.

The following statistics of double cropped area are interesting in this respect:—

Year	Acres	Year	Acres
1899-1900	7,325	1957-58	2,42,200
1900-1901	1,31,323	1960-61	3,33,100
1901-1902	1,18,105	1964-65	3,48,000
1902-1903	52,494	1965-66	2,00,926
1903-1904	1,94,719		

The conditions and methods of cultivation in the past, especially those in the forest tracts in the southern tahsils, were of a primitive nature. Rice was simply thrown broadcast among the ashes and Nature was left to do the rest. Everything was left to soil and climate. The cultivator did not realise the necessity of ploughing, while from his point of view the process was the acme of economy. After cultivating for a year or so the field was abandoned, and the brushwood upon it was allowed to recuperate. Such a field either reverted permanently to its pristine state of jungle or remained undisturbed until the new growth was sufficiently luxuriant to tempt somebody to repeat the process. An average cultivator in the district had a tendency to throw his economic lot with bountiful nature.

However, since the last about 50 years there has been remarkable progress in various aspects of the agrarian economy. The compelling influence of education, growth of population and urge for betterment of economic conditions and many other forces shook off the poor cultivator out of his traditional indifference, and made him aware of the importance and efficiency of intensive cultivation and the cultivator is responding to the progressive measures undertaken by the Government in Independent India.

It has now been accepted that the development of agriculture warrants the adoption of intensive methods of cultivation. The future course of agrarian growth lies through scientific methods of cultivation, adoption of hybrid seeds, chemical fertilisers plant protection measures, and maximum utilisation of irrigation facilities. Though the existing irrigation facilities also are quite considerable there is enough scope for their optimum utilisation and further expansion.

Since the last about 15 years a good deal of progress has been achieved, under the guidance of the State Government, in respect of the various aspects of intensive cultivation. The development programmes under the four Five-Year Plans have been instrumental in accelerating the rate of progress. Agriculture in this district, as in the entire Maharashtra, is going through a "green revolution". The State Government has staked considerable funds and organisational efforts towards the implementation of the desired objective. A new enthusiasm and confidence has been generated among the agriculturists. The green revolution has initiated a process of momentous development. Its fruits, however, are still to be reaped by the common farmer who regards the revolution more pale than green. This is attributable to the fact that his economic standing does not allow him to invest money in the requisite inputs that are so very essential to obtain the optimum output. Institutional help for the same, say from co-operatives or the Government, is not often readily available, and if at all, it is untimely. The cost of inputs is also a limiting factor which the poorer of the small holders ill-afford at the time of sowing operations.

All the same it is evident that the better off farmers from among the tenant agriculturists have availed of the opportunities thrown open by governmental effort, and they are the main participants and beneficiaries of "green revolution". They are very well aware of the feasibility of intensive cultivation, as well as the efficiency and profitability of improved culture practices. They have realised that deep ploughing, systematic sowing, interculturing and proper rotational measures lead to better returns. Though mechanical implements are not so very popular, there is a desire among the progressive agriculturists to use them. Chemical fertilisers are becoming more and more popular. However, the higher cost of these fertilisers together and the difficulty in procuring them are the principal limiting factors. These need to be removed in the interest of increasing the productivity of land. Pesticides, fungicides and other crop protection measures which were hardly used by the agriculturists in the past are gaining ground in this district.

The better off agriculturists in this district have responded well to the propagation of hybrid seeds. However, the area under the hybrid crops in the district is very much less since paddy is the principal crop which is not hybridised as yet. As regards the paddy crop considerable progress has been done in propagating improved varieties.

By virtue of its being the rice bowl of Maharashtra, Bhandara district was selected for implementation of the package programme, also known as Intensive Agricultural District Programme. The main object of the programme, the implementation of which was started in the district in 1962-63, is to increase agricultural production by use of improved practices in areas with high production potential. The salient features of the programme are to arrange adequate and timely supply of production requisites, technical advice and credit facilities to the farmers. Intensive studies are being made regarding analysis of soil samples. These and other studies are intended to evolve guidelines for agrarian practices. Improved seeds and requisite fertilisers are distributed under the programme. During 1964-65, an area of 48,710 hectares* was actually covered as per package of practices in the district. Of this, an area of 24,280 hectares was under paddy, 15,740 under wheat, 3,430 under *rabi* jowar and 5,260 under pulses. A sizeable amount of Rs. 41.75 lakhs was provided as crop finance to the cultivators in 1964-65. A special gall-fly control campaign was also organised under which plant protection service was rendered for an area of 11,118 hectares during the year.

A major drawback in the agrarian economy of Bhandara district is that the crop pattern does not show a balance between

*The target for the same was 80, 160 hectares.

food crops and non-food crops. This is evident from the statistics furnished below:—

Year	Area under food crops (Acres)	Area under non-food crops (Acres)
1957-58	10,58,200	1,05,400
1960-61	11,20,200	1,55,000
1962-63	11,26,700	1,47,400
1964-65	11,88,200	1,20,100
1965-66	10,09,334	88,051

Commercial crops which are regarded as indication of prosperous agriculture occupy a small area. This speaks of the overwhelming importance of subsistence farming in the district.

As agriculture is the most important productive activity in the district, it is of interest to study the trend in production of agricultural goods. The statistics of average production of principal foodgrains, and sugarcane as well as oil-seeds during the period covered by the first three Five-Year Plans (*viz.*, 1951 to 1966) are furnished below:—

Crops	Average production per annum (Figures in hundred tons)			
	1951-52	1951-56	1956-61	1961-66
Rice	1,574	1,892	2,518	2,273
Wheat	90	121	101	118
Jowar	202	229	116	152
Other cereals	33	24	20	19
Total cereals	1,899	2,266	2,805	2,562
Total pulses	145	236	282	298
Total foodgrains	2,044	2,502	3,087	2,860
Sugarcane	32	32	24	21
Linseed, mustard and rape seed	46	75	97	92

The above statistics, in spite of their limitations in respect of seasonal variations and natural factors, bring home certain interesting findings. The production of almost all commodities during the Plan periods has shown a definite increase over that in 1951-52 which is taken here as a base year.* The average annual production of total foodgrains increased by 22.41 per cent during the First Five-Year Plan over that in 1951-52. The

*1951-52 was by and large a near normal year. It is also a year significant because it was the beginning of national planning in the country.
A-2669-34-B.

responding increase during the Second Plan period was 45.11 per cent, while that in the Third Plan period was 39.92 per cent. The fall in the rate of increase in the production of foodgrains in the Third Plan period may perhaps be attributable to the fact that the rainfall in 1965-66 was inadequate which resulted in the failure of paddy crop. The performance of the *rabi* season in the same year was also far from good. Of the total foodgrains, the production of cereals during the Second Plan increased by 42.34 per cent over that in 1951-52. By itself this could be said to be an impressive rate of increase. The corresponding increase during the Third Plan was 34.91 per cent. The increase in the production of pulses was more impressive than that of cereals. This becomes evident from the fact that pulses registered a production rise by 62.67 per cent, 81.38 per cent, and 105.51 per cent, during the First, Second and Third Plan, respectively, over that in 1951-52.

The fall in the production of jowar and wheat in the Second and the Third Plan is, however, inexplicable. Sugarcane cultivation seems to have become less popular since not only the production but also the area under this crop declined during the Second and Third Plan. Oil-seeds, however, recorded a very big rise of about 200 per cent during the Second and Third Plan.

The system of tenure and tenancy has an important bearing on the state of the agrarian economy. The *Malguzari* system of the past was feudalistic in nature wherein the *Malguzar* was a feudal lord having uninhibited rights over a village or cluster of villages, while the tenants were helpless tenants at will who could be evicted by the former. The element of uncertainty of tenure, the denial of proprietary rights to the tenants and the wasteful methods of the *Malguzars* were formidable handicaps in the way of agricultural development.

Since Independence a good deal has been done towards the emancipation of the tenant cultivators who have been assured of the security of tenure and a right to cultivation of the land. The progressive land legislation has been instrumental in giving incentive to the tenant to adopt intensive methods of cultivation, and in increasing the productivity of land.

The physical features of the district lend themselves remarkably to the construction of irrigation tanks, and the inhabitants have to an appreciable extent taken advantage of the natural facilities. The authors of the *Bhandara District Gazetteer* of 1908 have paid a glowing tribute to the skill of the cultivators in regard to tank construction. "It is customary to hold up to the admiration of mankind the industry, perseverance and thrift of the peasants of Italy and the south of France, who have made a sterile country productive by terracing the whole face of the hill in which they live, and so making a series of tiny plateaus one below another on which crops and fruit trees can be grown. But I think that the list of irrigation works constructed in the District

by the people of this country will compare not unfavourably even with the achievements mentioned above. Working without instruments, unable even to take a level, finding out their mistakes by the destruction of the works they had built, ever repairing, reconstructing, altering, they have raised in every village a testimony to their wisdom, their industry and their perseverance." *

Many of the irrigation tanks are extremely picturesque, and there are few more pleasant sights to the official touring in the rice growing tracts than the broad clear blue sheet of water which awaits him at the end of the morning march, reflecting perhaps the contour of surrounding hills and rocks and verdurous forests. The glowing tanks afford sights of a duck riding on its bosom and a snipe haunting its margin, both a pleasant recreation and a welcome addition to camp fire.

There was remarkable progress in irrigation during the last century. Besides the bigger tanks of Nawegaon and Seoni, a number of smaller tanks, not less than 15,000, existed in the first decade of this century. On an average, each village had a number of tanks within its revenue limits. However, quite a number of them were used for irrigation only occasionally while some were out of repairs. Even now a number of tanks need considerable repairs so as to make them serve wider acreage.

The following statistics show the state of irrigation since 1957-58:—

Year (1)	Total gross area of crops irrigated (acres) (2)	Percentage of total gross area irrigated to total area sown (3)	Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown (4)
1957-58			
1960-61	3,20,200	27.5	34.7
1962-63	3,10,000	24.3	32.7
1964-65	3,18,900	25.0	33.6
1965-66	3,29,300	25.2	34.3
	2,57,710†	N.A.	28.8

A bright future awaits the agrarian economy of the district which will assume a new face after the completion of the four irrigation projects, viz., Bagh river project, Itiadoh project, Chulband project and Bawanthadi project. The construction work on the first two is in an advanced stage while the other two are undertaken under the Fifth Plan. The Itiadoh project which is expected to be completed in 1978 has an irrigation potential of about 80,000 acres of land in Sakoli tahsil and Gadchiroli tahsil (of Chandrapur district). The project is proposed to cost about Rs. 908.14 lakhs. The Bagh river project to be built at the cost of Rs. 1559.78 lakhs has an irrigation potential of 61,000 acres and is proposed to be completed in 1978. It will transform the rice tracts in Gondia tahsil into a rich agricultural zone.

*Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908, p. 94.

†The area irrigated in 1965-66 decreased because of failure of monsoons.

Development Programmes in Third Five-Year Plan: The Third Five-Year Plan offered greater opportunities for accelerating the rate of growth and for reorienting the economy into a self-propelling process. This plan represented a phase in a programme of long term development for remodelling the economic structure during the course of the future development plans. It also contemplated to rectify the various imbalances and disparities inherent in the economy of the district. As compared to the First and Second Plan, larger financial outlays were earmarked during the Third Plan for accelerating and intensifying the programmes under irrigation, agrarian development, roads and education.

The Third Plan outlay for district level programmes of Bhandara was Rs. 6.85 crores, against which the actual expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 6.63 crores. Agricultural programmes were accorded the highest priority in this district as compared to the scale of priorities in other districts of Vidarbha. More than half the total outlay was earmarked for agrarian development programmes which included research and education, use of improved seed, fertilisers, plant protection, better implements, soil conservation, expansion of irrigation facilities and extension of paddy cultivation. The important feature of the agricultural programmes was the implementation of the Package Programme for which this district was particularly selected in Maharashtra.

The higher priority for agrarian schemes becomes evident from the fact that agricultural programmes were allocated 52.64 per cent of the total plan outlay of Rs. 6.85 crores. It was followed by co-operation and community development programmes* with 21.37 per cent of the total outlay, while social services received 16.42 per cent, transport and communications 8.89 per cent and industries 0.68 per cent.

An evaluation of the overall performance of the Plan Programmes by Government authorities in the district showed that the limited outlay was utilised to the maximum possible extent.

Agricultural Programmes: The planned outlay and actual expenditure on different programmes during the Third Plan were as under:—

Programme (1)	Outlay (Rs. lakhs) (2)	Expenditure (Rs. lakhs) (3)
1. Agricultural production	136.64	118.34
2. Soil conservation	..	19.32
3. Minor Irrigation	208.69	24.13
4. Animal husbandry	1.78	2.07
5. Forests	8.61	24.26
6. Fisheries	4.02	4.20
7. Warehousing and marketing	0.87	0.33
Total ..	360.61	292.65

*It is noteworthy that co-operation and community development programmes are by and large complementary to agricultural development.

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ECONOMIC TRENDS

The Package Programme accounted for an expenditure of 73.18 lakhs covering an area of about a lakh of acres. The implementation of the programme had an important bearing on the agrarian development of the district. This becomes evident from the statistics of targets and achievements given below:—

Item (1)	Target (2)	Achievement (3)
1. Improved seed distribution—		
(a) Paddy ..	40	52
(b) Wheat ..	5	91
(c) Gram ..	16	17
2. Improved implements—Iron ploughs (No.)	4,200	4,150
3. Chemical fertilisers (quintals)	464	154
4. Compost manure (tonnes)	4,08,000	1,59,000
5. Green manuring (acres)	10,000	11,453
6. Additional area under fruits (acres)	755	460

After the expiry of the Third Plan, the Annual Plan was formulated for the year 1966-67 which envisaged an outlay of Rs. 204.72 lakhs for the district. However the implementation of the planned schemes seemed to be rather sluggish as only Rs. 158.10 lakhs were actually utilised for the same. Agricultural programmes, as it could be expected, were accorded a high priority with more than 50 per cent of Plan outlay being earmarked for the same. Implementation of the Package Programme was again a distinguishing feature of the Annual Plan of 1966-67 as that of the Third Plan. Co-operation and community development ranked next to agriculture and received 13 per cent of the total outlay, while schemes under social services accounted for about 24 per cent, transport and communications 8 per cent, and industries and mining 1 per cent of the total outlay. The planned outlay as well as the actual expenditure on the various aspects of agricultural development in 1966-67 were as given below:—

(1)	Outlay (Rs. lakhs) (2)	Expenditure (Rs. lakhs) (3)
1. Agricultural production	10.72	6.65
2. Soil conservation	30.10	30.10
3. Minor irrigation	51.91	44.55
4. Animal husbandry	0.26	0.24
5. Forest	14.91	13.16
6. Fisheries	0.74	0.40
7. Warehousing and marketing	0.92	0.17
Total	109.56	95.27

Implementation of the Package Programme accounted for an expenditure of Rs. 1.53 lakhs and covered an area of about 1,26,787 acres including 6,353 acres under the cultivation of Taichung Native-1 high yielding variety of paddy. The details of physical targets and achievements in the Annual Plan period are given below:—

(1)	Target (2)	Achievement (3)
1. Improved seed distribution (quintals)—		
(a) Paddy ..	16,140	31,776
(b) Taichung Native-1 ..	2,436	2,092
(c) Wheat ..	344	730
(d) Rabi jowar ..	720	19
(e) Gram ..	32	60
2. Chemical fertilisers distribution (quintals)	N. A.	81,200
3. Compost production (tonnes)	17,000	14,767
4. Green manuring (acres)	3,800	3,000
5. Additional area under fruits (acres)	180	273

Industrialisation.—When we turn to industrial economy of the district it is found that in spite of the availability of minerals and rich deposits of coal, an adequate industrial base has not yet been built up in this district. Side by side with the peaks of extractive industries, there are the deep troughs of traditional industries depending on abjectly primitive techniques. The meagre industrial development in this district started with the extractive industries which were not preceded by the growth of the light capital goods or consumer goods industries, as has normally happened in the process of industrialisation in the developed regions of this state. While the development of collieries and mining industries in the district was beneficial to the growth of the metallurgical industries in South Bihar and Orissa, it did not lead to the diffusion of entrepreneurial activities which the development of the diversified light consumer goods industries could have done. Even the development of consumer goods industries, which is an evidence of the initial phase of industrialisation, has not found a good beginning.

The industrial backwardness of the district is attributable to two principal factors, viz., absence of economic overheads and external economies.

Moreover, the district lacks in the necessary infrastructure in the shape of transport and communications, water, power and other facilities which are required for setting up of new industries. The benefits of external economies which generally accrue from the growth of industrial development on a large scale are not readily available. A system of incentives in the form of easy

credit and banking facilities, institutional assistance as regards procurement of raw materials, machinery and finding a ready market for the products is lacking to the detriment of industrial growth. The district suffers from the paucity of the entrepreneurial class, which by itself is a formidable impediment.

By and large, Bhandara is an underdeveloped district which has remained so because of a number of factors operating from historical times. The Maharashtra Economic Development Council in their study, viz., *Maharashtra—An Economic Review* (1967) have applied five criteria for determining the state of underdevelopment. This study has examined the position of the district against that of Maharashtra State in the light of the criteria given below:—

Criterion (1)	Bhandara District (2)	State average (3)
1. No. of agricultural workers per 100 acres of land.	50	25
2. Percentage of urban population with respect to total population.	11	28
3. Percentage of male workers engaged in secondary and tertiary sectors.	30.7	38.2
4. Percentage of literate and educated persons in population.	24.07	29.82
5. Proportion of workers in household industry and manufacturing in the total working population.	16.63	11.28

On the basis of these criteria Bhandara is a very underdeveloped district. It is classified as underdeveloped because its position is above the State average only according to criterion No. 1 and below the State average according to all other criteria.

Industrial backwardness of Bhandara district also becomes obvious from the pattern of factories and factory employment which is given below:—

PATTERN OF FACTORIES AND EMPLOYMENT IN 1965.*

Industries (1)	Number of Factories (2)	Employment (3)
1. Edible oils (other than hydrogenated oils)	1	8
2. Tobacco	69	2,845
3. Basic chemicals (including fertilisers)	1	8
4. Miscellaneous chemical products	4	64
5. Bricks and tiles	1	5
6. Basic metal industries	5	529
7. Metal products (other than machinery)	1	27
8. Machinery (other than electrical machinery)	1	20
9. All other industries	83	1,019
Total	166	4,525

**Maharashtra—An Economic Review* (1967), Maharashtra Economic Development Council, Bombay-1.

The study mentioned above further reveals that the number of factories and factory employment in Bhandara district decreased by 52 and 8,461, respectively in 1965 over that in 1956. The decrease in respect of both the number of factories and employment was more pronounced in the case of bidi manufacturing. The number of bidi factories decreased by 58, while employment by 8,506 in 1965 over that in 1956.

Although agricultural development has a crucial role in the process of economic development in the district as in the rest of the country, substantial improvement in the level of living and employment opportunities can be achieved only by diversification of the economic activity through rapid industrial development. Bhandara district does not furnish a happy picture as regards industrialisation as it ranks seventh in Nagpur Division and eighteenth in the State in order of placement in respect of workers per lakh of population employed in registered factories. There are only two important major industries, viz., rice milling, and bidi manufacturing, while manufacture of seedlac, shellac and ferro-manganese are the other major industries which deserve mention. The percentage of major industries to that of the total registered factories was about 83.33 in 1966, while the average daily employment in the major industries was about 89.00 per cent of that in total registered factories. These facts speak of the state of industrialisation in Bhandara district.

Bhandara district though industrially backward possesses valuable minerals and forest resources which would encourage industrial growth in the future. It is one of the most important mineral producing areas in Maharashtra, and is endowed with large deposits of manganese ore of both high and low grade. The manganese ore contents of the raw ore range from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. Investigations made at the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur have proved that even the low grade ores in Bhandara district are amenable to beneficiation.* The iron ore deposits though not very useful in the manufacture of steel are an important natural gift to the district. The reserves up to a depth of about 100 feet are estimated at 6.2 million tons. Chromite is another important mineral the reserves of which are estimated to be about 4.8 lakh tons within a depth of 50 feet from the ground surface. The chromite contents of the ore range between 33.94 and 52.48 per cent. Besides, there are considerable reserves of kyanite, sillimanite, corundum and soapstone, the proper exploitation of which will encourage industrial development in the district.¹

The Geological Survey of India have carried out preliminary geological mapping and mineral investigations in the district, while further work is in progress. In order to carry out detailed

*A 600 tons per day capacity plant for beneficiation of low grade manganese ore by heavy media separation has been established at Dongri Buzruk in the district. A ferro manganese plant has also been established in the district.

For details of mineral deposits refer Chapters 1 and 5.

prospecting and exploration, the work is planned to be undertaken in stages. This will have a definite impact on the economy of the district.

Proper exploitation of mineral and other resources has an important bearing on the economic development of the district in the future. In this connection the recommendations made by the *Master Plan for Industrialisation of Bombay State* are very important. As per the recommendation of the Ore Beneficiation Committee of the Government of India, the *Master Plan* suggested that a factory for beneficiation of low grade manganese ore should be established at Tumsar which answers practically all the requirements of the industry. Tumsar is a favourably situated broad gauge railhead, and is conveniently connected by railway as well as by roads with the manganese mines in the district. Electricity and water-supply which are so essential for this industry are abundant at Tumsar. Prior to the preparation of the *Master Plan* heavy media separation beneficiation plant was established at Dongri Bazruk in the private sector.

The *Master Plan* also suggested that the availability of kaynite in ample quantity would make it possible to establish a plant with annual production capacity of 3,000 tons each of hot face insulation and dense mullite, refractories, near about Bhandara railway station. The capital outlay on such a plant would amount to about Rs. 12 lakhs.

As referred earlier, Bhandara district is a rice bowl of Maharashtra which produces a large quantity of rice bran which goes waste at present. The authors of the *Master Plan*, therefore, suggested that a plant for the extraction of rice bran oil by the solvent process would be feasible, particularly near Bhandara or Tumsar. The bran oil is an edible oil which finds a ready market particularly because of the shortage of groundnut oil in the country. A solvent extraction plant would be more economic if it also undertakes extraction of tamarind seed oil, mohuwa oil and karanji oil.

The *Master Plan* also indicated that Bhandara district furnishes ample opportunities for the establishment of raw material based industries, such as, manufacture of strawboard, hardboard, fibre-board and chipboard which will provide employment opportunities to considerable number of persons. The newly started ordnance factory at Bhandara has opened good prospects for the establishment of a factory for the manufacture of sulphuric acid and other chemicals. "Proximity to Bhandara should be considered suitable for establishment of several chemical lines like nitrates, sulphates of copper and iron salts for preservation of wood, etc., owing to a number of favourable factors, viz., water-supply from river Wainganga, power, central location, rail road communications and proximity to Nagpur."*

* *Master Plan for Industrialisation of Bombay State.*

Communications.—Bhandara district is not provided with inter-connecting arterial roads which are so very essential for its economic development. The uneven topography of the district does not favour easy road development. Extensive forested areas and general economic backwardness were the other contributing factors responsible for a low-priority to road development in the past. In the beginning of this century the Nagpur-Calcutta road which was known as the Great Eastern road, was the only important line of traffic. A few more roads were constructed by the British Administration connecting the above mentioned road with Tumsar and Amgaon.

The pace of road development, however, gathered momentum since the Second Plan. The period between 1961 and 1967 witnessed an increase of 765 kilometres of new roads in the district. This development was conspicuous because this increase meant more than double the road length existing prior to 1961. It was also the result of the vigorous road development programme undertaken by the Zilla Parishad which made determinate efforts to construct approach roads. This quantitative development, however, was not matched by qualitative progress in the form of improving the surface of roads. This is borne by the fact that only 22.73 per cent of the total road length was black-topped up to 1967. The condition of many of the approach roads is such that they are not capable of sustaining heavy and quick flow of traffic throughout the year. Even in respect of the proportion of road length to 100 square kilometres of area, which was only 14.92 km. in 1967, the district ranks below the State average.

Co-operative Movement.—The co-operative movement is an important force to be reckoned with in depicting the economic history of this district. The movement has played a significant role in improving rural credit, agricultural marketing, farming, fisheries and processing of agricultural produce. The movement gathered momentum during the last about 15 years mainly because of Government patronage and the direction and guidance of a cadre of co-operators in the district.

The movement has recorded a good deal of progress in recent years. The comparative position of agricultural credit societies, which comprise the most important wing of the movement, in 1950-51 and 1965-66 is given below:—

Item	1950-51	1965-66
1. Number of agricultural credit societies ..	267	792
2. Number of members	3,184	1,02,562
3. Share capital (Rs. in lakhs)	0.49	108.56
4. Working capital (Rs. in lakhs)	4.89	490.26

The total number of societies of all kinds was 1,116 in 1966-67, of which about 71 per cent were agricultural credit societies, 18.37 per cent non-agricultural credit societies, 9.86 per cent agricultural non-credit societies and 0.80 per cent non-agricultural non-credit societies. It is also remarkable that agricultural credit societies accounted for 80.32 per cent of the total share capital, and 88.79 per cent of the total working capital of all co-operative societies together in 1966-67.

By the end of 1967-68, the movement had a membership of about 1,50,245 and covered 1,486 villages in the district. The number of societies increased to 1,121 in 1967-68. The movement benefited to a considerable extent from the pioneering role played by the District Central Co-operative Bank which had 17 branches in 1967-68. The bank had under its fold 936 member societies and 112 individual members, and advanced Rs. 661.28 lakhs by way of credit in the same year. Besides financial accommodation, it provides guidance and direction to the entire co-operative movement in the district. The District Land Development Bank having three branches made remarkable progress during the span of three years from 1965-66 to 1967-68. The loans advanced by this bank stood at Rs. 11.54 lakhs in 1965-66, Rs. 20.06 lakhs in 1966-67 and Rs. 29.62 lakhs in 1967-68. All these statistics speak for the achievements by the co-operative movement in the district.

An appraisal of the movement in the district, however, reveals that there is good progress in the field of agricultural credit, while its performance in the fields of cottage industries, processing industries, fisheries, irrigation, dairying, etc., is by no means satisfactory. These fields are also important in so far as they furnish future prospects of providing employment to a considerable number of persons. Secondly, the movement has remained more as a rural credit movement than as an instrument of encouraging production and marketing of produce. Its performance in the domain of agricultural marketing, which is so vital in an agrarian economy, is far from satisfactory. The co-operative movement could have been utilised as a powerful instrument for giving "infant industry" protection to the numerous cottage industries and forest industries. The traditional cottage industries and handicrafts could not stand the hazards and problems confronted by the modern industry and the consumer oriented market for want of proper finance, better techniques and equipment. These requisites could be made available to the artisans through the co-operative fold more effectively. So also is the case with the various forest based industries which could have found an effective panacea in the co-operative movement.

Banking.—Banking, which is so very important in the context of economic development is underdeveloped in Bhandara district. The district had to wait till 1951 for the establishment of the first banking office at Gondia. The establishment of the branch of the Punjab National Bank in 1951 was followed, after a good lapse of time, by two branches of the State Bank of India

in 1955 at Gondia and Tumsar. The banking structure in the district at present comprises five branches of the State Bank of India, two branches of the Bank of Maharashtra and one branch each of the Punjab National Bank, Central Bank of India and Dena Bank.

This low development of banking, like industrialisation reflects the underdeveloped state of the district economy.

Community Development.—Community development as a method of rural extension is contemplated as an agency through which transformation of the social and economic life of the village community could be initiated. After the initiation of this programme to be accomplished through a movement devoted to the cause of extension in rural areas. The concept of rural extension gradually broadened into that of Panchayat Raj which included the development of a set-up of interconnected democratic and popular institutions at the village, block and district level in which the representatives of the people in the Village Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishad, as well as the co-operative organisations functioning with the support of various development agencies of the Government work together as a team. One of the principal tasks in the Third Plan was to ensure the growth of the Panchayat Raj institutions so as to enable the community to achieve maximum development on the basis of local man power, economic resources, co-operation and financial assistance from the State sector. In a way it is an ambitious programme of development by enabling public participation in the super-structure of economic development.

Bhandara district did not lag behind in respect of this development method, and had eight development blocks comprising 926 villages during the First and Second Plans. The Third Plan period witnessed the formation of five more blocks. Now all the revenue villages in the district have been covered under this programme.

Price Trends.—The information about prices is available for the Bhandara district for the period beginning with 1861. The records pertaining to the period show that the purchasing power of the rupee was considerably high in relation to the present day situation. In the context of the present day market conditions, the extremely low prices of commodities during that period may sound as incredible. However, it would be unrealistic to say that there was bountiful abundance in the past. Neither there is any evidence to say that there was affluence during those days. The hard economic facts point to the truth that as the prices were considerably low so were the income earnings. An able bodied worker had to struggle hard for a daily wage of a quarter of a rupee. The pangs of economic miseries and the sordidness of mean streets were characteristic of those good old days.

The account of prices for the period beginning with 1861, as furnished in the Bhandara District Gazetteer published in 1908 is given below.

Rice and Wheat: "Rice is the staple foodgrain of the District. The average price of husked rice during the period of seven years (1861—68) preceding the last settlement was 53 lbs. to the rupee. It rose largely just afterwards on account of the famine of 1869, when the rate in Bhandara was 24 lbs. The rate fell to an average of 37 lbs. between 1870 and 1877, rose to 22 lbs. in 1878 and 1879 and fell to 42 lbs. in 1883. During the seven years 1887—1894, the average of which was taken as the rate prevailing at the recent settlement, the price was 26 lbs. As compared with the period before the 30 years settlement the price of rice had, therefore, doubled. In the market of Nagpur, which must determine the rate obtaining in Bhandara the price of rice had more than doubled during the same period. During the decade 1891—1900 the average rate varied between 18 and 27 lbs. to the rupee, the former figure being that of the famine of 1897. Between 1901 and 1903 the rate was 21 lbs., in 1904, 26 lbs., and in 1905, 23 lbs. The average enhancement in the rental made at last settlement was only 38 per cent or nothing approaching the increase in the prices of agricultural produce, and since the settlement, the price of rice has been in nearly every year slightly higher than that taken at settlement. The rate at Bhandara does not vary much at different seasons, but appears to be 2 to 4 lbs. lower in the months following the harvest than in those preceding it. Wheat generally appears to be about 2 lbs. per rupee cheaper than rice, though differences in the harvest will make the relative prices of the two grains vary considerably. During the years 1861—68 Mr. Napier found the average price of wheat to be 50 lbs. and during the years 1887—1894, 33 lbs. or 7 lbs. cheaper than rice. During the decade ending 1900 the average price was 26 lbs. and the cheapest rate recorded since 1890 is 33 lbs. In 1904-05 the rate was 26 to 28 lbs. or about 21 lbs. cheaper than rice. Gram is generally about 4 lbs. cheaper than wheat and 6 lbs. cheaper than rice the difference in price tending to increase in prosperous seasons, while in famine years the rates approximate more closely. No returns of the price of juar are available in recent years."

Miscellaneous articles: "For the fifteen years preceding the abolition of the customs line in 1874 the price of salt averaged 15 lbs. to the rupee. Between 1875 and 1890 the average price was 19½, varying between 18 and 22 lbs., and nearly the same rate prevailed during the next ten years. In 1903 the price fell to 23 lbs. owing to the reductions of the duty, and after a temporary increase to 20 lbs. in 1904 declined again to 24 lbs. in 1905. Up-till recently foreign sugar was generally used, but the article manufactured in Northern India is coming into favour. The wholesale rate of foreign sugar is Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a maund and the retail rate 8 to 10 lbs. to the rupee, while Mirzapuri sugar from Northern India costs 5 to 6 lbs. The best gur or unrefined sugar sold in Bhandara is from the Bellary District and fetches 8 lbs. a rupee. Ordinary gur is sold at from 8 to 10 lbs. and the

inferior kind produced in Bhandara from the *kathai* cane at 11 lbs. *Ghi* now costs about a rupee a seer in the country and a little more than that in towns, while milk is 9 to 10 seers a rupee and in the hot weather months sometimes rises to 7½ seers. Brass vessels if sold by weight cost Rs. 1-8-0 a seer and those of bell metal Rs. 2-8-0. A cartload of 10 maunds of firewood costs about Rs. 2-8-0 and a family of five persons will consume five or six cartloads annually, their expenditure thus being about Rs. 13. Juar-stalks fetch Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 a thousand boundless, the price having more than doubled in the last few years. A pair of loin-cloths of coarse cotton cloth cost about Rs. 3 and a pair of silk-bordered cloths Rs. 5 to Rs. 15."

During the decade beginning with 1911 abnormal conditions prevailed with the result that prices and cost of living fluctuated widely. The wage curve was not far below the price curve.*

The fluctuations of prices of agricultural produce during the decade 1921—30 are shown in the table below. The table furnishes the prices of staple foodgrains and cotton compiled for the Central Provinces and Berar which were more or less representative of the price situation in Bhandara district:—

Year	Rice	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Cotton (ginned) Rs. per Bengali maund
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1921	6.2	8.9	5.7	6.7	32.15
1922	7.5	12.8	8.8	12.2	42.15
1923	7.3	11.9	9.5	13.2	57.11
1924	6.4	9.2	7.2	10.2	44.12
1925	6.3	9.8	7.3	9.9	32.50
1926	6.4	8.5	7.4	8.4	26.12
1927	6.7	11.3	8.0	8.7	31.12
1928	6.3	8.6	7.3	7.6	28.30
1929	7.3	11.6	9.4	9.3	21.20
1930	10.8	22.2	16.6	17.1	15.60

The figures for 1930 show an extraordinary slump in the prices of agricultural produce which could be noticed as a feature of the world-wide depression of 1930. The wages of agricultural and other classes of labourers fell with the prices of agricultural produce and the only people who really benefited from the low cost of living were those who had fixed salaries or income, and had adopted a European standard of living.†

*Census Report—Central Provinces and Berar, 1921.

†Census Report—Central Provinces and Berar, 1931.

In the period that followed a fall in the purchasing power of the rupee was visible. Apart from the fluctuations of seasonal and temporary nature, the prices of all goods have been rising. During the First World War prices of almost all goods rose sharply. This trend of higher prices continued till the Great Depression of 1930. The Depression which produced an adverse impact on the 'economies of the U. S. A., the U. K., and the France had an adverse effect on the prices of primary goods in the international markets. This led to a momentous slump in the prices as well as demand for Indian goods in the international markets. The Indian economy received a severe setback. The slump continued till 1933, after which there was a revival of prices and demand.

The outbreak of hostilities in 1939 was an important event in the economic history of this country as well. Being a part of the British Empire, India had to bear many of the economic evils forced on her. Prices shot up from the end of 1939. The acute shortage of consumers goods caused the prices to rise continuously. Consequent upon the shortage of goods there was a deplorable trail of black marketing and hoarding. Consumers goods, such as, cloth, sugar, kerosene and many of the luxury goods were scarce. The Government enforced rationing of consumer goods. The cessation of hostilities in 1945 brought down the prices to some extent. The next important event which brought about the rise in prices was the Korean War boom. The price rise in the international markets during the war found its reflection in the Indian economy which in turn affected the economy of Bhandara district as well. After the Korean War boom there was a slight fall in prices, but it was only short lived.

The decline in prices that started in the middle of 1951 was arrested after March 1952. As a matter of fact prices in general rose by 2 per cent between March 1952 and March 1953, although the average price level for 1952-53 as a whole was still less by 12.4 per cent than that of 1951-52. During 1953-54, prices remained fairly stable and recorded a rise of only 2.3 per cent over those in March 1953. Broadly speaking, there was a comparative stability of prices during 1952-53 and 1953-54. This period was followed by a downward trend in 1954-55, the fall being particularly marked during the second half of the year. After June 1955, there was a reversal of the downward trend which continued throughout the year 1955-56. However, this rise brought the prices to the level of December 1954 only.

The rising trend of prices initiated in June 1955 persisted throughout the Second Plan period. Not only the prices of food articles but also those of industrial raw materials of agricultural origin showed substantial rises. Barring a slight decline of nearly 0.2 per cent from March 1957 to March 1958, the general index recorded a price rise in each of the remaining four years of the Plan, the extent of rise being 7.6 per cent in 1956-57, 6.6 per cent in 1958-59, 5.7 per cent in 1959-60 and 7.2 per cent in 1960-61

An interesting feature of the price situation during this period is the preponderance of food prices in the rise of the general index up to 1959. The rising prices of foodgrains could be explained by the fact that the production of foodgrains lagged behind the rising demand throughout the country. The rising demand for foodgrains, in turn, could be explained by the high income elasticity of demand for food, which is very much characteristic of an underdeveloped area.*

A part of the rise in the prices of manufactured articles was due to the rise in the prices of industrial raw materials based on agriculture. Rising money wages which generally follow rising prices of essential commodities also contributed to the rising prices of manufactures. It is however not suggested that food prices acted as the prime mover in the spread of inflation. The inflationary pressure in an area like a district is conditioned by numerous factors having nation-wide repercussions which are beyond the scope of this analysis.

The price situation started deteriorating with the outbreak of hostilities with China in October 1962. The general shortage of essential goods on account of failure of harvests coupled with the mounting defence expenditure led to a sporadic trend of prices with the opening of 1963. Hoarding of goods which is an usual feature of an adverse economic situation contributed immensely to the rising 'trend through 1963 and 1964. The Pakistan war of 1965, further aggravated the problem of rising prices. This coupled with the drought in 1966 further deteriorated the conditions in Bhandara district. An abnormal increase in prices was observed in case of all foodgrains, groundnut oil, vanaspati ghee, vegetables, fish and manufactured articles in 1966. The prices of sugar, *gul*, kerosene, rice and wheat rose still further in 1967. Sugar was offered at Rs. 6 per kilogram in June 1967.

This made it imperative on the part of the Government to intervene. Government intervention was of some avail and resulted in slightly easing the situation. By that time, however, the average consumer had reconciled himself with the hard realities of the sordid economic conditions.

The statistics of average wholesale prices in the district from 1962-63 to 1968-69 will illustrate the above analysis of price trends during this period.

*Prof. P. K. Mukherjee, *Money Supply and Prices in India*.

TABLE No. 2
AVERAGE PRICES IN BHANDARA DISTRICT FROM 1962-63 TO 1968-69.

Commodity (1)	Years						
	1962-63 (2)	1963-64 (3)	1964-65 (4)	1965-66 (5)	1966-67 (6)	1967-68 (7)	1968-69 (8)
Rice	55.33	61.33	80.59	90.67	93.91	101.24	103.80
Wheat	46.00	69.24	87.23	101.20	98.77	118.19	103.70
Jowar	41.00	44.01	52.00	65.99	64.21	61.16	65.00
Urid	N. A.	65.33	67.25	72.70	129.63	126.80	115.00
Lakhori	"	48.54	56.30	58.94	87.18	"	"
Gram	"	59.91	105.56	142.38	149.43	167.77	118.00
Tur	"	61.48	84.52	81.23	80.15	94.30	107.50
Linseed	"	84.52	86.71	131.09	184.13	123.62	103.00

(Price in Rs. per quintal)

A:2669—35-B.

Wage Trends.—The poverty of the landless labourers, as a part of the poverty of the people of India, is all too known. There is further a painful socio-economic contrast between a small section of population having fabulous earnings and a larger section living on the brink of economic misery. Rich mine owners, landlords and high salaried officials who absorb a sizeable portion of the district income, co-exist with innumerable destitute families and countless paupers.

Apart from the low level of earnings, there are a number of factors which affect the real wages and standard of living of the workers. One of the evils suffered by the working class in connection with employment is the undesirable method of recruitment of labour through contractors which is associated with many abuses and malpractices*. This is quite characteristic of the mine workers in Bhandara district. Ignorance and illiteracy among the workers helps the contractor in pushing down wages to the lowest level. Another factor which leads to the exploitation of labour is the casual nature of employment and its insecurity. This is characteristic of the numerous landless labourers, bidi workers as well as mine workers in the district. The mine workers in particular and the factory workers in general suffer from another handicap that they are required to work under unhealthy conditions which affect their productivity and span of working life.

In the bidi-making industry, which is by far the most important industry in Bhandara district, the piece-rated workers are deprived of the contracted wage by supplying defective or inadequate raw material.

These and a number of other evils which are characteristic of an unorganised labour force have been in existence since the past. Against this background the wage trends in the district are given below. The earliest information about wages which is furnished in the Bhandara District Gazetteer of 1908 is given below.

Farm-Servants : "Farm-servants are generally engaged by the year and are known as *chakar* or *nagaria*. Up till recently they were always paid in grain, but in the vicinity of Bhandara cash wages are often now substituted, and the rate has risen to five or six rupees a month. During the last year or two there has been an acute demand for labour as the population was largely depleted by emigration during the scarcity season of 1903. Many of the labouring classes went to Berar, where good wages were obtainable and have not returned. At the same time the construction of the new railway and the opening of the manganese mines have created an extra demand and raised the level of wages. As a consequence farm-servants and labourers are in a very advantageous position. Sometimes they stipulate that their employer shall sell them rice at a seer per rupee cheaper than the market rate. And if they work after sundown they expect to get the evening

*S. A. Palekar, Real Wages in India.

meal. This state of things is, however, mainly confined to the Chandpur tract in which the mines are situated, and elsewhere labour is still obtainable at a moderate wage. In the Bhandara tahsil grain wages are stated to be 8 small *kuros* or 120 lbs. a month of unhusked rice and Rs. 4 as an annual present, known as *jiwan*. Besides this, the farm-servant gets a *bhara* or headload of rice-stalks at harvest containing from 15 to 30 lbs. of grain, and a *khara* containing from 30 to 40 lbs. when the grain is carried home after threshing. The farm-servant also receives a pair of shoes and a blanket every year, and is allowed to take the gleanings of rice fields and the sweepings of the threshing-floor. He also gets food at three or four festivals and similar presents at the harvest of wheat and *juar* if his employer grows the crops. All this works out to little more than Rs. 3 a month. Another wage is 10 small *khandis* or about 2,500 lbs. of unhusked rice a year and four rupees. Taking unhusked rice at 60 lbs. to the rupee this works out to Rs. 46 a year or a little under four rupees a month. The farm-servant's wife is often bound to work for his employer when required. She gets ordinary wages and also an annual retaining fee of a cartload of wood, eight annas worth each of salt and chillies and 200 bundles of grass for thatching her house. In return for this she may not work for anyone else when her husband's master requires her services. Grain wages are said to have increased by about 20 per cent in the last ten years. Occasionally the proprietor sows about half an acre of land for the wives of his farm-servants, who cut the crop and divide the produce between them. A head farm-servant is called *awari* and is paid a little more than the others.

Labourers: At the last settlement¹ (1894—96) Mr. Napier recorded the rates of wages as follows: 'Two annas a day is the maximum daily wage of a casual labourer, while in many cases a woman works 16 days and a man 12 days for a rupee and one meal of rice in the day.' Since this period there has been a marked rise in the rate of wages. When labour is scarce, as at the time of transplantation of rice, a woman may be paid 2 to 3 annas and a man 3 to 4 annas a day. For weeding the crops for a day of six or seven hours a woman gets 6 pice in Sakoli. At harvesting a woman is paid 2 lbs. of *juar* or wheat or 4 lbs. of unhusked rice, and a man gets twice as much. The condition of the labouring classes has improved and they can now afford a good meal of rice, whereas formerly they often had nothing better than *ambil* or a paste made of a small quantity of rice boiled in a panful of water. They have regular loin-cloths reaching to the knee instead of merely short peices of cloth covering the thighs. Labourers on the railway can also afford *bandis* or cotton coats and caps.

Village Servants: A village menial is called *Aikari* and the village servants are known collectively as *Aiaikari*. The Lohar and Barhai, or blacksmith and carpenter, are each paid 6 small *kuros* or 90 lbs. of unhusked rice annually for repairing the iron

¹Settlement Report, Para 19.

and wooden implements of agriculture. Sometimes the rate is a little higher and they also receive presents of a few pounds more at sowing and harvest time. For making the share of a new plough or *bakhar* the blacksmith is paid 15 lbs. of grain for his labour, the iron also being supplied; for a new yoke 7½ lbs. are paid. The washerman and barber are now often paid according to services rendered. If they receive an annual due, it is 75 to 90 lbs. of unhusked rice, or the barber may be paid 16 lbs. for each adult male in the family."*

After the publication of the old Bhandara Gazetteer, the level of wages changed with that of prices. The rising prices during the World War I pushed up wage rates of almost all categories of workers. The agricultural workers were benefited by the rising wages, while the fixed income earners suffered due to rising prices. The depression of 1930 pushed down the earnings of daily wage earners, while the fixed income earners were the beneficiaries as their incomes did not fall commensurately with prices. Industrial work and agricultural labourers had to suffer miserably on account of unemployment and depressed wage rates.

The Index numbers of working class cost of living at Nagpur and the then Madhya Pradesh State, which are given below are important in the context of the study of wage trends in Bhandara district.†

COST OF LIVING.
INDEX NUMBERS.
[Base year 1939—100]¹

Year	Nagpur City	Madhya Pradesh State
(1)	(2)	(3)
1939	100	100
1940	106	107
1941	114	117
1942	159	164
1943	288	285
1944	257	271
1945	249	255
1946	274	277
1947	308	307
1948	358	358
1949	363	385
1950	358	393

*Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908, pp. 112 to 114.

†Bhandara district is adjacent to Nagpur and the cost of living in the district might be considered to accord slightly on the lower side with that in Nagpur.

¹Real Wages in India, S. A. Palekar.

The rise in the index for the period as a whole was fairly steady except for the very steep rise in 1943. After a short recession in 1944 and 1945, the index resumed its upward course, and it stood in 1950, at a level almost four times its base year level. The year 1943 was the most catastrophic year for workers in Madhya Pradesh as compared with those in other States. The real wage index slumped suddenly from 92 in 1942 to 35 in 1943 which was the lowest level in any year in any State. The catastrophic fall in real wages in 1943 was the combined result of a sudden jump of 121 points in the cost of living index and sudden fall of 51 points in money wages. Money wages regained their position between 1947 and 1950 which by the end of 1950 reached a level of about four times their base-year level. This rise in money wages, by gradually adjusting itself to the rise in the cost of living, enabled the workers not only to improve their real wages but also to regain their 1939 real wage position.*

The money wages of almost all categories of labour registered a rising trend throughout the period under Planning. The consciousness and enlightenment generated by democratic and socialistic ideals brought about a situation under which every worker has become conscious about his share in the produce. The rise of the trade union movement has also been responsible for educating the worker in asserting his right to a better wage. These factors along with rising prices have contributed to raising the rates of wages.

Statistics regarding agricultural wage rates were collected at three centres in the district since July 1963 by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics. The agricultural wage rates at the three centres could be regarded as a broad indicator of the taluka-wise variations in wage rates. The statistics of wage rates at Adyal in Bhandara tahsil, Lakhani in Sakoli tahsil and Mundikota in Gondia tahsil for 1964 and 1966 are given below:—

AVERAGE WAGE RATES IN 1964 AND 1966 †

Centre (1)	Skilled labour		Field labour		Herdsman	
	1964 (2)	1966 (3)	1964 (4)	1966 (5)	1964 (6)	1966 (7)
Adyal	3.14	3.14	1.28	1.28	1.50	1.50
Lakhani	4.00	4.00	1.27	1.27	1.50	1.50
Mundikota	3.83	3.83	1.38	1.39	1.50	1.50

The above statistics speak volumes for the low rates of earnings of almost all classes of labourers. In these hard days of soaring prices of essential commodities, an average rate of Rs. 1.28 for a field worker and Rs. 1.50 for a herdsman is much below what is called the subsistence wage. These wage rates also speak for the socio-economic malady referred to earlier in this section.

*S. A. Palekar, *Real Wages in India*.

†Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra.

CHAPTER 10 — GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

INTRODUCTION

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE STATE in the last century consisted mostly in providing security to person and property and raising the revenue necessary for the purpose. In other words, Police, Jails and Judiciary representing security, and Land Revenue, Excise, Registration and Stamps representing revenue formed the most important departments of the State. The Public Works Department was the only other branch of sufficient importance, but its activities of construction and maintenance were, apart from roads and irrigation works, confined to buildings required for the departments of Government. With the spread of Western education and the growth of political consciousness in the country, and as a result of the gradual association of a few Indians with some aspects of the works of Government, the demand arose for the expansion of governmental activities into what were called "nation-building" departments, viz., Education, Health, Agriculture, Co-operation, etc. In the twenties and thirties of this century after the introduction of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, greater emphasis came to be laid on the development of these departments. When, as a result of the Government of India Act of 1935, complete popularisation of the Provincial Government took place in 1937, the new Government attempted not only to expand the "nation-building" departments but also to take steps in the direction of creating what has now come to be generally described as a Welfare State. After the close of World War II and the attainment of Independence by India in 1947, an all out effort is being made to achieve a Welfare State as rapidly as possible and to build up a socially directed economy. The present activities of the State, therefore, require a much more elaborate system than what was felt to be necessary during the nineteenth century.

In the description that follows in this chapter and in chapters 11—17, the departments of the State operating in the district have been grouped as follows:—

- Chapter 10—General Administration.
- Chapter 11—Revenue Administration.
- Chapter 12—Law and Order and Justice.
- Chapter 13—Other Departments.
- Chapter 14—Local Self-Government.
- Chapter 15—Education and Culture.
- Chapter 16—Medical and Public Health Services.
- Chapter 17—Other Social Services.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

Since the pre-Independence days, Bhandara district consisted of three Tahsils and three Sub-Divisional Offices. The district now covers an area of 9214.0 sq. km. and has, according to 1971 Census, a population of 15,85,580. The administrative divisions now stand as below :—

Sub-Division	Tahsil	Area in Sq. km.	Population (1971 Census)
Bhandara	.. Bhandara ..	2606.6	5,02,973
Gondia	.. Gondia ..	2687.6	6,23,464
Sakoli	.. Sakoli ..	3985.8	4,59,143

DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER

Bhandara district is included in the Nagpur Division. The Divisional Commissioner, Nagpur Division, Nagpur, has jurisdiction over Nagpur, Chanda, Wardha, Akola, Buldhana, Amravati and Yeotmal districts also besides Bhandara.

The Commissioner is the chief controlling authority of the Division in all matters concerned with land revenue and the administration of the Revenue Department. He acts as a link between the Collector and Government. Appeals and revision applications against the orders of the Collector under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code and Tenancy Law lie with him. Besides revenue matters he is also responsible for supervision of the work of the Collectors in their capacity as District Magistrates. He is responsible for the development activities in the Division and has to supervise the work of regional officers of all departments concerned with development.

The following duties have been specifically laid down for the Commissioner:—

- (a) Supervision of and control over the working of Revenue Officers throughout the division;
- (b) Exercise of executive and administrative powers to be delegated by Government or conferred on him by law;
- (c) General inspection of offices of all departments within the division;
- (d) Inspection of local bodies on the lines done by the Director of Local Authorities in the pre-reorganisation State of Bombay;
- (e) Co-ordination and supervision of the activities of all Divisional Heads of Departments with particular reference to planning and development;
- (f) Integration of the administrative set-up of the incoming areas.

COLLECTOR

The Collector is the head of the district administration and in so far as the need and exigencies of the district administration are concerned, he is expected to supervise the working of other departments also.

Functions.—Revenue: The Collector is the custodian of Government property in land (including trees and water wherever situated) and at the same time the guardian of the interests of members of the public in land in so far as the interests of Government in land have been conceded to them. All land wherever situated, whether applied to agricultural or other purpose is liable to payment of land revenue except in so far as it may be expressly exempted by a special contract. Such land revenue is of three kinds, viz., agricultural assessment, non-agricultural assessment and miscellaneous. The Collector's duties are in respect of (1) fixation, (2) collection, and (3) accounting of all such land revenue. The assessment is fixed on each piece of land roughly in proportion to its productivity. The assessment is revised every 30 years tahsil by tahsil. A revision survey and settlement is carried out by the Land Records Department before a revision is made and the Collector is expected to review the settlement report with great care and caution. The assessment is usually guaranteed against increase for a period of 30 years. Government, however, grant suspensions and remissions in bad seasons and the determination of the amount of these suspensions and remissions is in the hands of the Collector. As regards non-agricultural assessment it can be altered when agriculturally assessed land is used for a non-agricultural purpose. In the same way unassessed land used for non-agricultural purpose is assessed to non-agricultural rates. All this has to be done by the Collector according to the provisions of the rules under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966. Miscellaneous land revenue also has to be fixed by the Collector according to the circumstances of each case when Government land is temporarily leased. It is also realised by sale of earth, stones, usufruct of trees, revenue fines, etc.

The collection of land revenue rests with the Collector who has to see that the revenue dues are recovered punctually every year and with the minimum of coercion and that the collections are properly credited and accounted for in the *Wasul-baki-navis* branch both at the tahsil level and the district level. However, the work of actual collection of land revenue is done by the Talathis under the control of the Tahsildars.

The Collector is also responsible for the collection of fees and taxes under various other Acts such as the Bombay Irrigation Act (VII of 1879), the Indian Stamps Act (II of 1899), the Indian Court Fees Act (VII of 1870), the Bombay Entertainment Duty Act (I of 1923) and the Bombay Prohibition Act (XXV of 1949). There are also other revenue Acts which contain a provision that

dues under them are recoverable as arrears of land revenue. The Collector and his office have to undertake recovery of such dues whenever necessary.

As regards the Prohibition Act, the Collector has to issue personal permits to liquor and drug addicts. In fact, he is the agency through which the Director of Prohibition and Excise executes the policy of the department. The administration of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act in its proper spirit rests with the Collector. He is also an appellate authority to hear appeals under various Sections of these two Acts.

Inams : All *inams* have been abolished under the Land Revenue Exemption Act, 1948, and donations or cash grants for charitable purposes, grants to religious, charitable and public institutions and to the descendants of the Ruling Chiefs under the Central Provinces and Berar Revocation of Land Revenue Exemption Act, 1948, have been sanctioned. With the introduction of the Abolition of the Proprietary Rights Act, the *ex-Madhya Pradesh* Government inaugurated a policy of abolishing alienations and all lands in the district have now been assessed to full land revenue.

Public Utility: The Agriculturists Loans Act (XII of 1884) and the Land Improvement Loans Act (XIX of 1883) regulate the grant of loans to agriculturists at cheap rates for financing their agricultural operations. The Collector has to estimate the needs of his district in accordance with the policy of Government for the time being and in the event of a bad season, to make further demands for as much money as could be usefully loaned for the purpose of tiding over the need. He has to take necessary steps for the most advantageous distribution of the amount placed at his disposal and to see that the advances so made are recovered at the proper time. After the loans are advanced to the borrowers it is the duty of the Prant Officers and the Tahsildars to see that the loans are not utilised for purposes other than those for which the same were advanced.

Accounts: The separation of the Treasury and Revenue cadres at the district level has come into force with effect from April 1, 1955. Before the separation of the Treasury from the Revenue Department, the Treasury Officer was from Revenue Department and he had to perform various important executive functions in that connection. After the separation, the Treasury Officer, became a member of the cadre of Maharashtra State Accounts Service and functioned independently. The Treasuries are under the administrative control of the Finance Department. At the district headquarters, the cash business has been taken over by the Reserve Bank of India and at the tahsil headquarters where there are non-banking treasuries, the cash business rests with the sub-treasuries managed by the Sub-Treasury Officers. The accounts are submitted to the Accountant-General and instructions laid down in the Account Codes and Compilation of Treasury Rules are followed by the District Treasury. Before the separation of

treasuries from Revenue Department, the Collector and the Accountant-General carried out periodical inspections of treasuries. As a measure of administrative control the Collector inspects the District Treasury once in a year before the close of the financial year and similarly the Deputy Collectors inspect the sub-treasuries. The Collector does not, however, participate in the daily routine of treasury business. For that work the Treasury Officer is his delegate and representative.

Quasi-Judicial Functions in Revenue Matters: Among the quasi-judicial functions of the Collector on the revenue side apart from hearing appeals from the decisions of the Sub-Divisional Officers under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code and various other Acts may be mentioned : (i) the revisional powers exercised under Section 23 of the Bombay Mamlatdars Courts Act (II of 1906) in respect of Tahsildars' orders under the Act (This power is delegated to an Assistant or Deputy Collector), (ii) appellate powers under Sections 53 and 67 of the Bombay Irrigation Act (VII of 1879), (iii) the work which the Collector does in connection with the execution of Civil Court decrees, and (iv) proceedings and awards under Section 11 of the Land Acquisition Act (I of 1894).

Local Self Government: With the passing of the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, the Village Panchayat Administration is looked after by village panchayats constituted for the villages. However, the actual control of the village panchayats has been transferred to the Panchayat Samitis with the passing of the Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis Act. The Collector is empowered to hold elections and bye-elections to the municipalities and the village panchayats. The various acts governing local bodies have conferred upon the Collector as the chief representative of Government authority to supervise the actions of the local bodies and to give them advice.

Officers of other Departments : The officers of other departments stationed at the district headquarters are: (1) The District and Sessions Judge, (2) the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, (3) the District Superintendent of Police, (4) the Executive Engineer (Buildings and Communications), (5) the Civil Surgeon, (6) the District Deputy Registrar of Co-operative societies, (7) the Divisional Forest Officer, and (8) the District Inspector of Prohibition and Excise.

The District Judge has a separate and independent sphere of work, and as Sessions Judge he exercises appellate powers over the decisions of all Judicial Magistrates in the district. The Bombay Separation of Judicial and Executive Functions Act (XXIII of 1951) has separated the magistracy into 'Judicial Magistrates' who are subordinate to the Sessions Judge and 'Executive Magistrates' who are subordinate to the District Magistrate. It has practically withdrawn all the powers of the Executive Magistrates of trial of Criminal Cases.

The District Superintendent of Police and the Police force are under the control of the Collector in his capacity as the District Magistrate in so far as the maintenance of law and order in the district is concerned.

The Executive Engineer's (Buildings and Communications) work being of a technical nature he is not directly subordinate to the Collector. However, he is expected to assist the Collector whenever required to do so. The programme of relief work is to be chalked out by him in consultation with the Collector. The Civil Surgeon has also a separate and independent sphere of his own but is expected to place his professional and technical advice and assistance at the disposal of the general district administration whenever required.

The District Agricultural Officer, the Social Welfare Officer, the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Educational Inspector, the Administrative Officer and the other officers have been allotted to the Zilla Parishad since May 1, 1962 and are under the control of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad.

The Industries Officer, the Treasury Officer, the District Inspector of Land Records, the Employment Exchange Officer, the Publicity Officer and the Inspector of Shops and Establishments have intimate contact with the Collector in matters relating to their departments and have to carry out his general instructions.

District Magistrate: The Collector's duties as District Magistrate are mostly executive. He is at the head of all other Executive Magistrates in the district. He exercises the power under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code.

When authorised by the State Government, the District Magistrate may invest any magistrate subordinate to him, with the necessary powers. Besides being in control of the police in the district, the District Magistrate has extensive powers under the Criminal Procedure Code and the Bombay Police Act (XXXII of 1951) and other Acts for the maintenance of Law and Order. It is his duty to examine the records of police stations in order that he may gain insight into the State of crimes within the limits of the police stations and satisfy himself that cases are being promptly disposed of.

In his executive capacity, the District Magistrate is concerned with the issue of licences and permits under the Arms Act (II of 1878), the Petroleum Act (VIII of 1899), the Explosives Act (IV of 1884), and the Poisons Act (I of 1904). He has also to supervise the general administration of these Acts and functions laid down thereunder.

District Registrar: As District Registrar the Collector controls the administration of the Registration Department within his district.

Sanitation and Public Health: The duties of the Collector as regards sanitation are :—(a) to see that sanitary measures are initiated in case of outbreak of epidemic diseases, (b) to watch and stimulate the efficiency of the daily sanitary administration of municipal committees and other sanitary authorities, and (c) to advise and encourage local bodies to improve the permanent sanitary condition of the areas under them so far as the funds at their disposal will allow. He can freely requisition the advice and technical assistance of the District Health Officer.

Zilla Sainik Board : The Collector acts as President of the Zilla Sainik Board and exercises overall control over the Board with the assistance of a paid secretary appointed from the retired military officer's cadre. He maintains liaison between *ex-service-men* and their dependents, with the help of the staff sanctioned for the Board by Government. The constitution of the Board is as under :

The District Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Board is composed of 12 members, a vice-President and a President. The Collector is the *ex-officio* President of the Board while a retired military officer acts as the Vice-President. The Board meets periodically and tackles problems confronting *ex-servicemen* and their dependents.

Control of Essential Articles: The supply of essential articles such as foodgrains, cement, coal, iron, etc., is controlled by the Collector and the distribution made according to the policies laid down in this behalf by the Government. The post of the Food and Civil Supplies Officer was abolished with effect from 1st September 1962 and now one of the Deputy Collectors looks after food matters in addition to his normal duties. To prevent malpractices and ensure equitable distribution, the fair price shops are occasionally inspected by the Deputy Collector in charge.

PRANT OFFICERS

Under the Collector are the Prant Officers who are either Assistant Collectors (Indian Administrative Service Officers) or District Deputy Collectors (Members of the Maharashtra Civil Service). There are in all three Prants or Sub-Divisions in the district which are in charge of Sub-Divisional Officers.

The Prant Officers form the connecting link between the Tahsildars and the Collector. A Prant Officer exercises all the powers conferred on the Collector by the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code and any other law in force or by executive orders in regard to the tahsils in his charge, except such powers as the Collector may specially reserve to himself.

TAHSILDARS AND NAIB-TAHSILDARS

Each tahsil is in charge of a Tahsildar. He is the officer in executive charge of the tahsil.

Each tahsil has been divided into revenue circles, each in-charge of a Revenue Inspector. *Patwaris* are appointed for *Halkas*; each *Halka* contains on an average three to four villages depending upon the size of the village.

Functions.—*Revenue*: The Tahsildars' revenue duties are to enquire and report on cases under various Sections of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, now Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, and other Acts to the higher officers who have powers to dispose of the matters. There are certain powers under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 vested in the Tahsildars under which they themselves can dispose of certain matters.

In regard to the annual demand and collection of land revenue, the Tahsildar has to prepare the *jamabandi* of the tahsil. The *jamabandi* is an audit of the previous year's accounts. The demand for fixed agricultural revenue as well as the non-agricultural demand is settled. There are remissions and suspensions to be calculated upon the fixed demand in lean years. Remissions and suspensions are given in accordance with the crop *anneewari* with the determination of which the Tahsildar is most intimately concerned. To the demand of fixed revenue is added the amount of non-agricultural assessment and fluctuating land revenue, such as that arising from the sale of trees, stones, sand, melon beds, etc., when the individuals apply for them.

The Tahsildar has also to supervise and inspect the work of collection of land revenue, *tagai* dues and other dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue. He can issue notices, impose fines, distrain and sell moveable or immoveable property under the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966. In short, he is to follow the procedure laid down in various Sections of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 and the Rules thereunder.

It is the duty of the Tahsildar to see that there is no breach of any of the conditions of the lease or any irregularities or encroachments upon Government land and to take immediate cognizance in case of such an occurrence.

Applications for grant of *tagai* are received by the Tahsildar who makes enquiries into them through the *Patwaris*, inspects the sites for the improvement of which *tagai* is sought, ascertains whether the security offered is sufficient, determines what instalments for repayment would be suitable, etc. These applications are put before the *Tagai* Advisory Committee for advice. The final orders regarding the grant of the amount of *tagai* are passed by the Tahsildar or *Naib-Tahsildar* as the case may be. Under

the provisions of the Agriculturists Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act, there are certain limits up to which the Tahsildar himself can grant the loan. If the granting of the loan is not within his power he enquires into the case thoroughly and submits his report in the case for the orders of the Sub-Divisional Officer or the Collector, whoever is competent to pass final orders regarding the grant of the loan.

The Tahsildar's duties regarding *tagai* do not end with the granting of it. He has to see that the loan in question is properly utilised, to inspect the works undertaken with it, to watch the payment and to make recoveries from the defaulters. He is primarily responsible for the administration of the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act (LXVII of 1948) within the areas under his charge.

Additional Tahsildars and *Naib-Tahsildars* (*Mahalkaris*) have been appointed for each tahsil for the work in connection with the implementation of the Tenancy Law. The Tahsildars are in overall charge of the tahsil administration and are not in any way concerned with matters coming under the purview of the Tenancy Law for which Additional Tahsildars and *Naib-Tahsildars* are appointed.

Quasi-Judicial: In his capacity as a tahsil officer the Tahsildar has to perform multifarious duties. He is to enquire in respect of disputed cases in connection with the Record-of-Rights in each village. The matters which the Tahsildar has to enquire into are registered under appropriate heads mentioned in the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 and the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966.

Magisterial: Every Tahsildar is the *ex-officio* Magistrate of his tahsil. The *Naib-Tahsildars* are also appointed as Tahsil Magistrates. They are to hear chapter cases under the Criminal Procedure Code from various police stations allotted to them. They have to keep the District Magistrate and the Sub-Divisional Magistrates informed of all the criminal activities in their charge and take steps incidental to the maintenance of law and order with the aid of police.

Other Administrative Duties: In addition to the duties mentioned above the Tahsildar is responsible to the Collector and the Sub-Divisional Officer whom he has to keep constantly informed of all political happenings, outbreak of epidemics and other matters, occurring in his tahsil. He generally helps or guides the officers of other departments in the execution of their respective duties in so far as his tahsil is concerned. He is responsible for holding the cattle Census. The Tahsildar is also expected to propagate co-operative principles in his tahsil. The Tahsildar's position in relation to the tahsil officers of other departments, e.g., the Station Officers of the Police Department, the Sub-Registrar, the Range Forest Officer, Medical Officer, Postmaster, etc., is not definable. Though they are not subordinate to him they are

grouped round him and are expected to help and co-operate with him in their spheres.

Though the Tahsildar is not expected to work directly for local bodies he is usually the principal source of the Collector's information about them.

REVENUE INSPECTORS

In order to assist the Tahsildar in exercising proper supervision over the village officers and village servants, Revenue Inspectors are appointed for every Revenue Inspector's circle. Each such Revenue Inspector has under him 25 to 30 *Patwaris*. They form a link between the Tahsildar and the village population.

The main duties of the Revenue Inspector as laid down in various manuals concerning revenue matters, and particularly the Revenue Inspector's Manual are as follows :—

- (1) To supervise the work of *Patwaris*.
- (2) To prepare, maintain and check *rasid bahis*.
- (3) To visit each *patwari* circle in his charge once in three months and each village once in each touring season.
- (4) To submit report to Tahsildar and the Sub-Divisional Officer with a copy to District Inspector of Land Records regarding condition of crops, rainfall, prices of foodgrains, fodder and water condition when called upon to do so.
- (5) To report the occurrence of any calamity, i.e., outbreak of cattle disease, epidemic or anything unusual affecting the condition of the people, crop or cattle.
- (6) To conduct survey or measurement of land, prepare any maps or superintend any survey operations whenever required to do so by the revenue officers.
- (7) To make local enquiry in respect of correctness of entries in village records and collect information relating to land or agriculture when required by any revenue officer.
- (8) To make immediate reports regarding damage from hailstorms, locusts, floods, fires, etc., and failure of water-supply, permanent deterioration of land from diluvion, etc.
- (9) To attest all entries made by the *Patwaris* in *khasara* relating to any land improvement to ensure the exemption of such improvements from assessment.
- (10) To watch the proper utilization of loans granted under Land Improvement Loans Act and Agriculturists' Loans Act and report cases of misappropriation to the Tahsildar for necessary action.
- (11) To detect and report the cases of diversion of agricultural loans to non-agricultural purposes.
- (12) To maintain a register of survey appliances passed by the *Patwaris* and to check the instruments once in every three months.

(13) To check and sign the traced maps, copies of *khasara* and *kistabandi* prepared by the *Patwaris* in connection with land acquisition work.

(14) To certify mutations only when they follow from the execution or cancellation of a conditional sale or relate to the imposition or discharge of a mortgage.

TALATHIS

The *Patwaris* or Talathis are the principal village officials. Talathis are in charge of *Sazas* (*Halkas*) which contain on an average, three to six villages depending on the size of the villages. There are in all 1,644 villages excluding 11 Forest villages and 290 Talathis are in-charge of these villages. The main duties of the Talathis are—

- (1) To prepare *panchsala khasara* as per roster approved by the Collector.
- (2) To write land revenue or rental demand in *khate pustika*.
- (3) To prepare *kistabandi goshwara*.
- (4) To prepare statements of sales and leases for selected villages in the prescribed form.
- (5) To prepare grazing lists for issuing *charai* passes.
- (6) To prepare tenants' list after *girdawari* every year.
- (7) To report cases of diversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes.
- (8) To report regarding breaches of condition of *nistar toajib-ul-arz*.
- (9) To submit forecast reports of every crop in time to the district officers.
- (10) To report about farm prices of commodities sold in weekly markets from selected villages.
- (11) To help in the recovery of land revenue and other Government dues during the visit of revenue officers and credit into the bank.
- (12) To prepare *irsal-patti*.
- (13) To supply necessary village records to *chakbandi* officers and also to help them in their work.

VILLAGE SERVANTS

The village servants or *Kotwals* are appointed on fixed remuneration. Generally, one *Kotwal* is appointed by Government where the village is small, and more than one are appointed where the village is big. They assist the village officers to collect land revenue, to summon villagers to the *chawadi*, to carry land revenue to the tahsil office, to detect offences and to apprehend known criminals and to keep law and order in the village. There are at present 1,961 *Kotwals* in the district.

CHAPTER 11 — REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT

THE LAND REVENUE SYSTEM PREVALENT IN BHANDARA DISTRICT was *malguzari* and it was based on a complete survey, soil classification and settlement of every field. This *malguzari* system was subsequently abolished after the passing of the Madhya Pradesh Abolition of Proprietary Rights Act, 1950 and now the *rayat* is directly responsible for payment of land revenue to Government.

During the Maratha Rule short term settlements of Land Revenue were carried out. A part of certain area was given to an official called *mamlatdar* who made himself responsible for the collection of revenue. The total assessment was distributed in the villages in consultation with the *patils* who in turn shifted the burden on to the cultivators according to their individual capacity. The demand of land revenue was increased or decreased according to the circumstances prevailing over the course of the year. In the early British period (*i.e.*, after 1854), summary settlements were made on the basis of rent rolls then existing. These original settlements were commenced during 1859 and completed by 1867. During these settlements, areas were surveyed and mapped. The soil was classed and the records of every field were prepared and the assessment on the basis of rent was fixed. The first revision settlement was then made during the period from 1895 to 1900 and was concluded for a period of 20 years. The Second Revision Settlement was made between the period from 1916 to 1921. The entire district was due for revision settlement in between the period from 1937 to 1939. But the Central Provinces Government postponed the operations due to Second World War in the first instance and then pending the enactment of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. The enactment of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 was soon followed by the reorganisation of States. The Government, therefore, postponed the Revision Settlements *sine-die*.

Survey.— The survey in this district was done with the system then existing in the Central Provinces known as Betul Plan. By using traverse survey methods, the control points were fixed and cadastral maps of individual fields were drawn to the scale of 10 chains to an inch (*i.e.*, 16 inches : 1 mile). The unit of area was the English acre with its sub-division "cent" as one per cent of an acre. The area of each survey number was separately

entered in the district, taluk and village records under an indicative number. Since the adoption of metric system of weights and measures in the State, the unit of area has been changed to hectares. The area of each parcel of lands is now being converted into metric units.

Village, Taluka and District Maps.—After measurement of individual field, village maps to a scale of 16"=1 mile were prepared showing therein topographical details such as roads, nullas, wells, hills, etc. Two copies of village maps were prepared at the time of each settlement, one called the reference map, viz., map deposited in the settlement, *misal* of each village in the district record room and the other, the working map, was given to the *Patwari* for his day to day work.

Classification.—The soil classification has been primarily devised for the equitable distribution of assessment in consideration of fertility of the soil and water advantages. In this district the soils are denoted by common names by which cultivators recognise them. They are as under:—

- (1) *Kali*—Black soil.
- (2) *Kanhar*—A brown black alluvial soil, deep and fertile.
- (3) *Morand I*—Similar as above but lighter in colour and containing a small number of lime stones.
- (4) *Morand II*—Brown in colour, containing considerable number of lime stones and admixture of sand not very deep as *morand I*.
- (5) *Khardi*—Very inferior *morand* and shallow poorest soil of *morand* type.
- (6) *Schar*—Usually yellow.
- (7) *Bardi*—A red inferior poorest soil of *schar* type.
- (8) *Retadi*—Almost pure sand.
- (9) *Marhani*—A reddish soil formed by alluvium.

In second revision settlement rice and unirrigated lands were further sub-divided as follows:—

- (1) Rice land—
 - (i) *Tikre*—sloping or highlying.
 - (ii) *Saman*—same level.
 - (iii) *Jhilau*—low lying.
- (2) Other land—
 - (i) *Wahari*—badly cut by ravines.
 - (ii) *Pathar*—sloping inferior.
 - (iii) *Sadharan*—ordinary.
 - (iv) *Bandhia*—embanked.

Soil Unit System.—During the last revision survey, large fields were sub-divided according to difference in soils and they were further sub-divided according to differences both in soil and position. With a view to distribute the incidence of rent burden and

assessment, the factor of relative value of each class of land included in the soil classification was assigned to each class of soil and position. While assigning this factor, it was aimed to allot a single factor to each soil and position irrespective of crop grown. The acre rates were adopted for individual villages instead of rating all the villages in a group according to single scale of group rate. The second revision settlement was carried out and based on principles according to the soil unit system prescribed in the Central Provinces districts which was made effective from 1916 to 1921.

Settlement and Assessment.—Prior to 1954, the settlement procedure as prescribed under the Settlement Code of Central Provinces was followed. This code was replaced by the Central Provinces Settlement Act, 1927 which was subsequently repealed by the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. The Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 is now repealed by the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966 made effective from August 15, 1966. The procedure of settlements prescribed under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 is as under:—

(1) Settlement is defined as a result of operations conducted in a local area in order to determine and revise the Land Revenue Assessment.

(2) The settlement officers appointed by State Government under the provisions of Section 59 of Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1959 after examination of the past revenue history of area assessed and the general effect of existing incidence of assessment on the economic condition of the area arrived at a settlement.

If the settlement of any local area is to be carried out, a forecast of the probable results of the settlement to be prepared under the orders of the State Government is made.

A notice of the intention of the State Government to make settlements together with the proposals based on the forecast is to be published for inviting objections. Such forecast proposals are to be sent to every member of the State Legislative Assembly 21 days before the commencement of the session of the Legislative Assembly. Notification of the proposed revenue survey under Section 64 is to be issued. The local area notified is held under such survey from the date of such notification till another notification for closing the operations is issued.

For the purpose of assessment the Settlement Officer divides the area to be settled into groups and in forming such groups he takes into consideration the physical features, agricultural and economic conditions and trade facilities in the area under Section 70 of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. The Settlement Officer prepares the proposals of assessment rates of each group and submits them for approval of the State Government (*vide* Section 73 of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954). The assessments are so fixed, that the increase in the fair assessment of an agricultural holding does not ordinarily exceed

50 per cent of the original assessment. The principles laid down in Section 76 of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 are followed while fixing the fair assessment. Improvements made at the cost of the holders are exempted for the purpose of enhancement of assessment as per Section 76 (5) of Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. The announcement of the settlements is done by giving a notice under Section 77 of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. The assessment finally announced under this Section is the land revenue payable annually on such land during the term of settlement unless it is modified in accordance with the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954. Once the assessment are approved by the State Government, the Settlement Officer calculates the fair assessment on each holding in accordance with the assessment rates. The term of settlement is to be fixed by the State Government and it is not to be less than 30 years (*vide* Section 80 of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954). The State Government can reduce during the currency of settlement the assessment after considering the general conditions for such period as it may deem fit. The terms of settlement can be reduced to 20 years by the State Government for special reasons.

The following statement gives information regarding demand and collection of land revenue in the district :—

Year				Demand	Collection
				Rs.	Rs.
1951-52	..	..	..	14,78,307	13,65,744
1952-53	..	..	..	14,98,838	13,48,772
1953-54	..	..	..	15,11,598	13,58,528
1954-55	..	..	..	15,06,537	13,58,564
1955-56	..	..	..	15,42,225	13,78,672
1956-57	..	..	..	15,68,394	14,21,165
1957-58	..	..	..	15,20,529	13,87,849
1958-59	..	..	..	15,03,796	13,58,961
1959-60	..	..	..	15,22,191	13,83,203
1960-61	..	..	..	16,59,936	12,85,406
1961-62	..	..	..	17,39,459	12,04,278
1962-63	..	..	..	15,99,387	12,41,536
1963-64	..	..	..	13,86,774	13,07,213
1964-65	..	..	..	13,06,152	12,70,386
1965-66	..	..	..	14,42,370	2,90,943
1966-67	..	..	..	23,76,125	16,36,603
1967-68	..	..	..	N.A.	N.A.
1968-69	..	..	..	19,37,615	16,15,782
1969-70	..	..	..	16,29,756	13,55,612

Sources.—(1) District Census Hand Book, Bhandara, 1961.

(2) Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Bombay.

Record of Rights.—In this district the interim Record of Rights was introduced in non-urban areas in the year 1956 as per Section 115 (1) of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954.

The full-fledged Record of Rights as prescribed under Section 148 of the Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1966, is yet to be prepared.

Administrative Set-up.—The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records, Maharashtra State, Pune, is the head of the department. He is assisted in his work by the Regional Deputy Director of Land Records. The Superintendent of Land Records is the officer next to the Regional Deputy Director of Land Records. The jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Land Records, Nagpur Circle, Nagpur, who is responsible to the Regional Deputy Director of Land Records, Nagpur Circle, Nagpur, extends over all the eight districts of the Vidarbha region. There are eight District Inspectors of Land Records, (one for each district) under the Superintendent of Land Records, Nagpur Circle, Nagpur, who are assisted by the Assistant District Inspector of Land Records. The District Inspector of Land Records and the Assistant District Inspector of Land Records are assisted in their work by measurers, *Nazul* Maintenance Surveyors, Survey Clerks, Revenue Inspectors and *Patwaris*. Prior to the reorganisation of Land Records Department at the district level in Vidarbha region the Land Records Administration was controlled by the Collector of the district through a separate branch in the Collectorate under the District Superintendent of Land Records and Assistant Superintendent of Land Records. The Superintendent of Land Records, Nagpur Circle, Nagpur had to control the establishment and supervise the work of Revenue Inspectors, *Patwaris* and *Nazul* Surveyors. The District Superintendent of Land Records (District Inspector of Land Records) and his assistants were also entrusted with the work relating to survey and land records. The revenue items of work were subsequently transferred to the Collector¹. The District Superintendent of Land Records, who is now designated as the District Inspector of Land Records and his subordinate have now been entrusted with the work relating to survey only.

District Inspector of Land Records : The District Inspector of Land Records, Bhandara is the principal officer in the district in charge of the Land Records Department. He is directly subordinate to the Superintendent of Land Records, Nagpur Circle, Nagpur in all technical matters. He is also subordinate to the Collector of the district and the Regional Deputy Director of Land Records, Nagpur and has to carry out all administrative orders of these officers in the matter of survey, settlement and land records. He is assisted by one Assistant District Inspector of Land Records in supervising field work, one District Surveyor and eight Cadastral Surveyors in field measurement work, one Headquarter Assistant, one Scrutiny Clerk and one Survey Clerk and *basta bardar* in the district survey office, two *Nazul* Maintenance Surveyors and two Assistant *Nazul* Maintenance Surveyors

¹ Under Government Resolution, Revenue and Forests Department No. EST. 1061/14867-C dated June 13, 1964.

in maintaining *Nazul* records and other ministerial staff. The staff of ten *pot-hissa* measures and one *Nimbandar* carry out the work of measurement of sub-divisions formed due to sales, partition, etc., so as to keep the Record of Rights up-to-date.

The duties of the District Inspector of Land Records are—

- (1) to supervise and take a field test of the measurement and classification done by District Surveyor, Cadastral Surveyors, *Nazul* Maintenance Surveyors and *pot-hissa* Measurers;
- (2) to exercise proper check over the disposal of all measurement and correction work done by the survey staff;
- (3) to take test of the work of as many Revenue Circle Inspectors and Talathis as possible to find out as to whether they understand their duties in respect of (i) Record of Rights, (ii) tenancy and crop registers and (iii) boundary marks repairs work of unauthorised occupation of Government land, etc;
- (4) to compile the season and crop report of the district;
- (5) to inspect *Nazul* Survey Offices;
- (6) to arrange in consultation with the Collector concerned, for the training of the Junior I.A.S. Officer, District Deputy Collectors and Tahsildars in survey and settlement matters;
- (7) to advise Revenue Officers in the district in matters relating to maintenance of Survey and Settlement and Record of Rights.

***Nazul* Survey.**—*Nazul* surveys were carried out at Bhandara, Gondia and Tumsar during the years 1920, 1920 and 1940, respectively. The survey and assessment of diverted lands in the urban areas of Gondia were carried out in the years 1937-38 and 1950-51. The operations of survey and reassessment of lands at Bhandara were undertaken between the period from 1954 to 1959. The term of settlement of Bhandara town is yet to expire. The term of settlement of diverted lands of the *nazul* towns of Tumsar and Gondia has already expired and action for preparation of standard rates of assessment for revision of assessment is in progress.

Special Schemes.—In addition to the normal duties of the department referred to in the foregoing paragraphs, the Land Records Department is at present entrusted with the execution of the special schemes concerning consolidation of holdings, survey of village *gaothans* and adoption of metric system of weights and measures in the department.

Consolidation of Holdings.—The work of consolidation of holdings is being carried out in the district from 1956. The consolidation of holdings scheme work has been completed in respect of 55 villages by one Assistant Consolidation Officer under the legal provision laid down in the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code. After the Bombay Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1947, was introduced in this

area from April 1, 1959, the staff of two more Assistant Consolidation Officers was appointed to carry out the operations. The staff was further strengthened in 1966. At present 10 Assistant Consolidation Officers are working under the control of 2 Consolidation Officers. The scheme has been executed in 446 villages in the district so far.

Survey of Village Gaothans.—The Government have sanctioned¹ the scheme of survey of village *gaothans*. Accordingly the detailed mapping work of twenty one villages has been completed under the supervision of the Special District Inspector of Land Records, (CTS) Nagpur. Out of these 21 villages, the enquiry of titles has been completed in respect of 14 villages.

Metric System.—The scheme of adoption of metric system in final survey records has been sanctioned by Government² and the Special District Inspector of Land Records (Metric), Nagpur and the ancillary staff has been entrusted with the work of conversion of final survey records into metric system in Nagpur and Bhandara districts. The work of conversion of final survey records was started from July 24, 1969 in Bhandara district and the same has been completed in respect of 165 villages by the end of September, 1969. The complete change over in metric system is expected to be completed within a period of 2 years.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Functions :—The main functions of the Registration Department are registration of documents under the Indian Registration Act, (XIV of 1908); registration of births and deaths under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Act (VI of 1886); and registration of marriages under the Bombay Registration of Marriages Act (V of 1954), the Parsee Marriage and Divorce Act (III of 1936) and the Special Marriages Act (XLIII of 1954).

Organisation :—The Inspector General of Registration is the head of the department and he supervises the registration work in the district. The Collector of the district functions as *ex-officio* District Registrar. Under the District Registrar there are Sub-Registrars. In 1968 there were three Sub-Registrars one each for Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli talukas.

The Sub-Registrars are assisted by the necessary staff. The appointments of the Sub-Registrars are made by the Inspector General of Registration while those of the staff subordinate to him are made by the District Registrar.

The District Registrar carries out the instructions of the Inspector General of Registration in all departmental matters, and if he has any suggestions to make for the improvement of the

¹ Under Government Resolution, Revenue and Forests Department No. CTS. 5760/22408-C dated March 16, 1964.

² Under Government Resolution, Revenue and Forests Department No. Mics. 2663/131464-C dated September 23, 1964.

registration system, they are to be submitted to the Inspector General of Registration. The Sub-Registrar seeks the guidance of the District Registrar in matters of the day to day administration. The District Registrar visits the sub-treasury offices in his district at least once in every two years and sends his memorandum of inspection to the Inspector General of Registration. The Sub-Registrar, Bhandara, visits Tumsar Treasury once in every week. The District Registrar hears appeals and applications referred to him under Sections 72 and 73 of the Indian Registration Act (XVI of 1908) against refusals to register documents by the Sub-Registrars under him. Under Sections 25 and 34 of the Act, he is empowered to condone delays in presentation of documents and appearance of executants provided the delay does not exceed four months and to direct that the documents concerned be registered on payment of a fine not exceeding ten times the proper registration fee. He is also competent to order refunds in the case of surcharges and grant full or partial remission of safe custody fees in suitable cases. A will or codicil may be deposited with him under a sealed cover, and it may be got registered at the cost of the party desiring it after the depositor's death.

The Senior Sub-Registrars are appointed as Inspectors of Registration. They inspect the work of all sub-registry offices in their charge.

Under the Indian Registration Act (XIV of 1908), compulsory registration is required in the case of certain documents and optional registration is provided for certain other documents. Documents which fulfil the prescribed requirements and for which the required stamp duty and registration fees are paid are registered. A record of such preserved documents is kept and extract of documents affecting immoveable property in respect of which Record of Rights is maintained are sent to the offices concerned for making mutations. Certified copies from the preserved records of registered documents are also issued to parties who apply for them. Till 1968, 28,303 documents, coming under optional and compulsory registration were registered, the aggregate value of which was Rs. 3,00,659.

Fees are levied for registration according to the prescribed scale, but the State Government has exempted the levy of registration fees in respect of documents pertaining to the co-operative societies registered under the Co-operative Societies Act.

Photo Copying System :— The photo-copying system was extended to this district from January 16, 1964. The documents submitted in the Sub-Registrars' Offices at Bhandara, Gondia and Sakoli are sent to the Government Photo Registry Office, Pune for photo copying. In 1968 the income derived from the photo copying system amounted to Rs. 86,887.

Bombay Registration of Marriages Act 1954 :— The Bombay Registration of Marriages Act 1954 (V of 1954) was made applicable to the district from April 1, 1964. Under this Act

18 marriages were registered in 1968. Under the Special Marriages Act, only one marriage was registered in the district in the year 1968.

SALES TAX DEPARTMENT

General.—Sales Tax, an indirect tax, is an important source of revenue to the State exchequer. A General Sales Tax was first introduced in the former State of Madhya Pradesh (Central Provinces and Berar) with effect from June 1, 1947 by the Central Provinces and Berar Act (XXI of 1947). The Act underwent various amendments by the legislature, important amongst which were those effected by the Amendment Acts dated 8th October 1948, 11th April 1949, and 1st December 1953. The Act was repealed on 1st January 1960 by the Bombay Sales Tax Act (LXXVI of 1959). Up to 30th November 1953, the Act provided for levy of tax only on the sales of goods excluding those mentioned in Schedule II appended to the Act. By the Amendment Act (XX of 1953), however, provision was made to tax the purchase price of the goods purchased, on the strength of declarations prescribed under Central Provinces and Berar Sales Tax Rules [26 (3) of 1947] and utilised for purposes other than those specified in the declaration, i.e., if resold out of the former State of Madhya Pradesh or used unauthoritatively in the manufacture of goods.

Dealers liable to pay Tax :— Under the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959 the dealers have been divided in three categories, i.e., (1) Importer, (2) Manufacturer, and (3) Other dealer.

In respect of importer, the liability to pay tax commences when the value of goods imported is not less than Rs. 2,500 and his total turnover of sales or purchases exceeds Rs. 10,000. The manufacturer becomes liable to pay tax if the value of goods manufactured by him exceeds Rs. 2,500, if his total turnover of sales or purchases exceeds Rs. 10,000 and if his taxable sales or purchases exceed Rs. 2,500 or more.

The other dealer becomes liable to pay tax if the turnover of his purchases or sales exceeds Rs. 30,000 and his taxable sales or purchases exceeds Rs. 2,500.

No tax was levied on goods specified in schedule II which has 43 entries. The list of items exempted from taxation comprised largely the necessities of life. A provision for voluntary registration for dealers whose turnover did not exceed the prescribed limits was introduced in 1948. In 1949, a levy at half the regular rate was introduced in respect of goods transported to other States. The general rate was similarly reduced to three pies in a rupee on goods of special importance, namely bullion and specie and vegetable oils (excepting hydrogenated products). The position originally obtaining under the Central Provinces Act was that the purchase price was added to the taxable turnover where goods were purchased by registered dealers against their registration

certificates free of tax and were resold outside the area of the Madhya Pradesh State. Even after the reorganisation, Nagpur remains an important centre for the distribution of goods to the Mahakoshal area of Madhya Pradesh State and so the original restriction was found to be onerous and detrimental to the interests of the dealers of Nagpur. This restriction was accordingly removed by the Government after reorganisation.

Raw cotton, the sales of which were tax-free in the Madhya Pradesh at the time of reorganisation, was brought into the list of taxed goods after reorganisation. The Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959, was applied to the region from January 1, 1960.

If the dealer becomes liable for payment of sales tax he has to apply for registration. If he is registered he has to file returns under Section 32 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959.

The assessment of the dealers is done under Section 33 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959. The assessments are completed after allowing deductions contemplated under Sections 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959. For the purpose of assessment the dealers are divided in two categories—viz., (1) non-document holders and (2) document holders.

On fulfilment of certain conditions stated in Sections 23, 24, 25 and 27, the dealer is entitled to hold documents known as licence, authorisation, recognition and permits. On the strength of his documents he can purchase goods without payment of tax to his vendor or on concessional rates under Section 11 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959. Section 35 contemplates reassessment of the dealer if his turnover has escaped assessment under Section 33.

Penalty has been provided under Section 36 for not furnishing the returns in time and payment of tax and concealment of transactions by the dealer.

If the dealer does not pay the amount of tax assessed, the same is recovered as arrears of land revenue under Section 38 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959. Section 39 has been provided for special mode of recovery. Under this Section the recovery can be effected from a person who holds money on account of the defaulter.

Section 37 has been provided for forfeiture of tax being collected by the dealer in contravention of the provisions under this Act.

Section 52 has been provided to allow the persons to get their disputed question determined by the department.

Provisions for appeals against the assessment order have been made in Sections 54 to 61 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959.

Section 62 has been provided for rectification of mistakes apparent on the face of records.

Section 63 has been incorporated for prosecutions of the person committing various offences. The compounding of offences has been provided for under Section 69 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959.

Before the commencement of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959, the repealed Act of Central Provinces and Berar was in force and hence the actions taken under this Act have been retained by introducing Section 77 of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1959.

There are five schedules incorporated in the Act. Schedule A deals with tax-free commodities. The rest of the schedules B, C, D and E are incorporated for subjecting the commodities for Sales Tax and General Sales Tax, whereas, Sections 13 and 14 have been provided for imposition of purchase tax under the Act.

For regularising the administration of the Act, Bombay Sales Tax Rules, 1959 have been framed. The Act being a multi-point one, provision of the set off to be given are made under the Rules so that industrial progress in the State may not be hampered. Such set off is ordinarily given to dealers who manufacture goods for sale or who export goods outside the State.

Administrative Organisation.—Bhandara district comes under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Commissioner, Sales Tax stationed at Nagpur.

Under the Act and Rules made thereunder the Sales Tax Officer exercises the power delegated to him by the Commissioner of Sales Tax for the general administration of the Act. He registers the dealers liable to pay tax under the Act and receives periodical returns from them which show their gross turnover, taxable turnover and tax payable by them. After the closing of the year (followed by the dealers), an assessment case of all the returns for that year is prepared and the dealer is assessed by the Sales Tax Officer or the Assistant Sales Tax Officer as the case may be. Up to June 1958, the Assistant Commissioner of the Sales Tax used to exercise the powers of assessment of dealers whose gross and taxable turnover exceeded Rs. 20 lakhs and Rs. 4 lakhs, respectively. In June, 1958, powers of assessment in case of dealers whose gross turnover exceeded Rs. 1 lakh in the preceding year were delegated to the Sales Tax Officers and Assistant Sales Tax Officers assess dealers having gross turnover below Rs. 1 lakh. The Sales Tax Officer is also responsible for detection of cases involving evasion of tax, etc. In short, the Sales Tax Officer is the head of the office and is principally responsible for the general administration of the Act in his circle.

The officer next above the Sales Tax Officer is the Assistant Commissioner of Sales Tax and he is the first appellate authority. Any order passed by the Sales Tax Officer is appealable. The Assistant Commissioner is also in charge of administration of the Act in the circles in his jurisdiction. He guides the Sales Tax

Officer in complicated matters. Against the appellate order passed by Assistant Commissioner, Sales Tax, second appeal could be made before the Deputy Commissioner of Sales Tax. Against the second appellate order the dealer could prefer revision before the Board of Revenue or the Commissioner of Sales Tax. In the latter case, however, the decision of the Commissioner of Sales Tax is final, whereas the order of the Board of Revenue is subject to a reference and ultimate revision in the High Court.

The following statement gives the amount of Sales Tax collected in the Bhandara district and the collection charges:—

Financial Year	Amount of tax collected				Collection Charges
	Amount of Under B.S.T. Act	tax collected Under C.S.T. Act	Under M.S.T. Act	Miscellaneous	
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1950-51	7,66,422	..	..	..	13,797
1951-52	7,01,633	..	..	..	10,832
1952-53	8,92,230	..	..	..	17,780
1953-54	7,22,084	..	..	..	36,820
1954-55	8,64,015	..	..	..	40,405
1955-56	8,81,615	..	..	..	42,373
1-1-56 to 31-10-56	8,52,705	..	..	..	44,091
1-11-56 to 31-3-57	5,37,425	..	..	..	18,906
1957-58	13,21,286	1,235	..	..	46,916
1958-59	13,59,236	1,09,969	4,455	..	54,268
1959-60	15,01,561	1,02,508	786	..	48,488
1960-61	15,94,861	1,34,856	53	..	55,821
1961-62	11,60,557	1,38,231	101	..	43,091
1962-63	9,75,032	1,61,600	98	46	48,679
1963-64	13,36,389	2,85,535	65	54	54,579
1964-65	10,62,345	4,36,533	60	201	50,974
1965-66	12,31,751	3,83,714	74	74	46,229
1966-67	14,86,263	5,98,427	144	83	43,945
1967-68	13,54,975	5,09,047	48	69	55,056

MOTOR VEHICLES DEPARTMENT

Motor Vehicles Act.—The Motor Vehicles Department with headquarters at Bombay is concerned with the administration of the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, as amended by Act 100 of 1956 and the Bombay Motor Vehicles Rules, 1959, the Bombay

Motor Vehicles Taxation Act 1958; the Bombay Motor Vehicles Taxation Rules, 1959; the Bombay Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers) Act, 1959; the Maharashtra Tax on Goods (carried by road) Act, 1962 and Maharashtra Tax on Goods (carried by road) Rules, 1962, and also the Motor Cars, Scooters and Commercial Vehicles (Distribution and Sales) Control Orders.

Administrative Set-up.—The department is headed by the Director of Transport, Maharashtra State. At the State level the Director of Transport is assisted by the two Deputy Directors of Transport, one for Administration and the other for Inspection and Taxation Wing. For the purposes of administration of the above Acts in the State, Regional Transport Offices have been set up in Bombay, Pune, Thane, Nagpur and Aurangabad with Sub-Regional Offices at Amravati, Kolhapur and Nasik.

State Transport Authority: There is a State Transport Authority for the State and Regional Transport Authorities have been set-up for convenient regions of the State. The State Transport Authority co-ordinate the activities of the Regional Authorities. The Regional Transport Authority controls the different categories of transport vehicles in the region and deals with the issue of permits to them according to the policy laid down by the State Transport Authority and the State Government from time to time. It also performs such duties as grant of authorisation to drive public service vehicles and conductor's licences, take departmental action against those permit holders who contravene any condition of permit, etc., and prescribed policy in certain important matters relating to vehicular transport in the region.

Regional Transport Authority.—The Regional Transport Authority for the Nagpur Region with its headquarters at Nagpur has jurisdiction over the Nagpur district and also over the districts of Buldhana, Akola, Amravati, Yeotmal, Wardha, Bhandara and Chandrapur. It is vested in a body of six members, including the secretary, four officials and two non-officials being nominated by the State Government under sub-section (1) of Section 44 of the Bombay Vehicles Act.

No sub-office of this department is functioning in Bhandara district. The district comes under the jurisdiction of the Regional Transport Officer, Nagpur.

Regional Transport Officer: The Regional Transport Officer functions as the Secretary and Executive Officer of the Authority. In his capacity as Regional Transport Officer he is the licensing authority for licensing drivers and registering authority for registering vehicles. He is invested with powers of prosecuting offenders under the Motor Vehicles Act. The immediate subordinate to the Regional Transport Officer at the headquarters is the Regional Supervisor. He assists the Regional Transport Officer in executing his duties, looks after the office administration and acts for him in his absence. He supervises the work of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors.

Other Staff: Necessary staff of Inspectors for executive work and for ministerial work is provided to the Assistant Regional Transport Officer.

There are also eight Motor Vehicles Inspectors and three Assistant Motor Vehicles Inspectors working under the Regional Transport Officer. Inspectors carry out the work of registration, inspection of motor vehicles, holding tests for drivers and conductors, checking of motor vehicles and detection of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act.

Assistant Inspectors carry out routine office work and assist Inspectors in carrying out inspection of vehicles. They look after the work of Inspectors when the latter are on tour or on special duty.

Liaison with Police Department.— This department has liaison with the Police Department which helps in checking motor vehicles periodically and in detecting offences under the Motor Vehicles Act. It also attends to references from the Motor Vehicles Department regarding verification of character of applicants for public service vehicle authorisations, conductors' licenses, taxicab permits, etc. Besides it helps in the verification of vehicles which are off the street, recovery of arrears of taxes and in specifying particular places for bus stops, etc. The District Magistrate renders all possible help to this department in connection with imposition of restrictions on road transport, fixation of speed limits and location of motor stands at various places, etc.

Bombay Motor Vehicles Tax Act.— Under the Motor Vehicles Tax Act, taxes are levied on all motor vehicles, except those designated and used solely for agricultural operations on farms and farmlands. The taxes are imposed according to the type of vehicle (e.g., motor cars and cycles, goods vehicles, passenger vehicles, etc.) and their laden or unladen weight. The Act has removed all municipal and State tolls on motor vehicles. The Rules under this Act lay down that when a vehicle is to be registered with the State, the registering authority (i.e., the Regional Transport Officer or the Assistant Regional Transport Officer) shall verify the particulars furnished in the application for registration (e.g., the make of the vehicle, its capacity, etc.) and determine the rate of the tax for which the vehicle is liable. Every registered owner who wants to use or keep for use any vehicle in the State has to pay the tax determined in respect of transport vehicles. The limits within which he intends to use the vehicles, i.e., whether only within the limits of particular municipality or cantonment or throughout the State have to be stated. A token for the payment of the tax is issued by the taxation authority and this has to be attached to and carried on the vehicle at all times when the vehicle is in use in a public place. A fresh declaration has to be made annually or every time the tax is to be paid (i.e., quarterly, half-yearly or annually). The taxation authority before issuing the token in respect of the payment of

the tax has to satisfy itself that every declaration is complete in all respects and the proper amount of tax has been paid. Every owner of a motor vehicle has to give an advance intimation of his intention of keeping his vehicle in non-use during any period for which he desires to be exempted from the payment of tax and declares the place of garage while in non-use.

The Bombay Motor Vehicles (Taxation of Passengers) Act, 1958, envisages levy and payment to the State Government of a tax on all passengers carried by stage carriages (including stage carriages used as contract carriages) at 10 per cent inclusive of the amount of the fares payable to the operators of the stage carriages except where such stage carriages ply exclusively within a municipal area or exclusively on such routes serving municipal and adjacent areas as may be approved by the State Government.

STAMPS DEPARTMENT

Organisation.— The Superintendent of Stamps, Bombay, is the authority who controls the supply and sale of stamps in the State. In the district the Collector holds general charge of the district administration of the stamps department as the administrative head of the district. The stock of stamps is kept in the district treasury at Bhandara under the Treasury Officer, Bhandara and in the Sub-Treasuries at Gondia, Sakoli and Tumsar under the respective Sub-Treasury Officers. The Treasury Officer, Bhandara, who is a Gazetted Officer is responsible for the custody of stamps, their distribution to the branch depots at Gondia, Sakoli and Tumsar and their sale to the public. The sale of stamps to the public is made by the stamp vendors appointed by the Collector on payment of commission to them. The stamp vendors purchase the stamps from the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries and sale them to the public. There are in all 11 such stamp vendors in the district, three at Bhandara, one at Mohadi and two at Tumsar in the Bhandara tahsil, three at Gondia and one at Tirora in Gondia tahsil and one in Sakoli tahsil.

The stamp vendors can purchase the stamps from the Treasury and Sub-Treasuries for sale to the public up to the denomination of Rs. 300 in each case whereas the stamps of denomination of above Rs. 300 are sold directly from the Treasury and the Sub-Treasuries to the public.

Income.— The total income from the stamps realised in Bhandara district from 1964-65 to 1968-69 was as under:—

Year	Judicial Stamps	Non-Judicial Stamps
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1964-65	2,50,024	6,41,118
1965-66	2,05,605	6,11,440
1966-67	2,51,560	5,48,156
1967-68	2,81,117	8,44,881
1968-69	3,00,766	9,50,906

CHAPTER 12—LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Functions.—THE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE POLICE are the prevention and detection of crime, the maintenance of law and order, the apprehension of offenders, escorting and guarding of prisoners, treasure, private or public property of which they may be placed in charge, and the prosecution of criminals. They have, however, various other duties to perform such as control and regulation of traffic, service of summonses and execution of warrants in criminal case, inspection of explosives and poison shops, extinguishing fires, giving aid to displaced persons and pilgrims, verification of character, passport and naturalisation inquiries, etc.

Organisation.—Under section 17 of the Bombay Police Act, (XXII of 1951) the District Magistrate of the district has full control over the District Police Force. In exercising this authority, the District Magistrate is subject to the rules and orders made by the State Government and to the lawful orders of the Revenue Commissioner. Under Section 6 (1) of the Bombay Police Act, 1951, the direction and supervision of the whole Police Force in the State vests in the Inspector-General of Police who is assisted by one or more Assistant Inspectors-General of Police of the rank of the District Superintendent of Police. It is the province of the Inspector-General of Police to advise the Government on all problems, specially those connected with Police personnel, their training and equipment, supplies and stores, financial provision for the functioning of the force, other powers and duties of various grades of officers, and to make rules and orders for the guidance of the officers on all such matters. He has to keep in touch, by frequent inspections with the requirements of the police force so as to maintain its efficiency and has also to keep due watch over all matters relating to the maintenance of law and order and prevention and detection of crime.

For the purpose of administration, the State is divided into 4 Police Ranges, besides the 3 Commissionerates in Greater Bombay, Pune and Nagpur. In Greater Bombay, the Commissioner of Police, who is second in the Police hierarchy, is in charge of the Greater Bombay police force. The Commissioners of Police in charge of Pune and Nagpur are of the rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Police. Below these officers are the District Superintendents of Police in charge of districts and Superintendents of Police in charge of the Railways.

Subject to the control of the Inspector-General of Police and the District Magistrate in their respective spheres of authority, the direction and regulation of the Police throughout the district are vested in the Superintendent of Police, who as the executive head of the Police Force, has full control over the internal economy and discipline of the force under him.

There are 16 police stations and 5 out-posts, of which four are town police stations, viz., Bhandara, Gondia, Tiroda and Tumsar, one is a taluka police station and the rest are rural police stations. Bhandara sub-division comprises 8 police stations viz., Bhandara, Tumsar, Mohadi, Adar, Paoni, Andhargaon, Arjuni and Lakhandur and 3 out-posts, viz., Kardi, Jawaharnagar and Dighori. Gondia sub-division has 8 police stations, viz., Gondia, Tiroda, Amgaon, Dawniwada, Salekasa, Sakoli, Duggipar and Chichgarh and 2 out-posts viz., Lakhani and Deori.

Strength.—On December 31, 1968 there were 49 officers and 877 men in the district police force. The composition of the Police Force is as under :—

District Superintendent of Police, 1; Deputy Superintendent of Police, 2; Police Inspectors, 4; 42 sub-Inspectors including one armed Police sub-Inspector; 186 Head Constables including 55 armed and 691 Constables including 279 armed. The ratio of police to area and population worked out at 1 policeman to 10.13 square kilometres and 1370 persons, respectively.

As the head of the force, the primary duties of the District Superintendent of Police are to keep the force under his control properly trained, efficient and contented and to ensure by constant supervision that prevention, investigation and detection of crime in the district are properly and efficiently dealt with. For this purpose he has to associate with the public to ascertain their needs generally and to be constantly in touch with his subordinates. He also has to carry out inspections of the police stations and other branches of work annually. Assistant Superintendent of Police or Deputy Superintendents of Police are responsible for all crimes, in their charge and visitation of serious offences. Under the general orders of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, they are responsible for the efficiency and discipline of officers and men under them and for holding detailed inspections of police stations and out-posts at regular intervals. Bhandara district which has its headquarters at Bhandara, is divided into two sub-divisions, viz., Bhandara and Gondia with their headquarters at Bhandara and Gondia, respectively. Each sub-division is in the charge of a Sub-Divisional Police Officer. He is responsible for all the crime work in his charge and visits all scenes of serious offences as laid down in the standing orders. He is also responsible for the efficiency and discipline of the officers and men in his division.

At the district headquarters, the Superintendent of Police is assisted by Inspector of Police, who is designated as Home Police Inspector. He works as a Personal Assistant to the

Superintendent of Police and supervises the work of the whole office which consists of the establishment, accounts, crime and confidential branches, disposing of routine correspondence and various other miscellaneous items of work. He also supervises the work at the district Police headquarters.

A Sub-Inspector of Police is ordinarily the officer in charge of the Police Station. A Police Station Officer exercises all the powers as defined in the Criminal Procedure Code. The Sub-Inspector is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime in his charge and for the implementation of the orders and instructions issued by his superior officers. He is also responsible for the proper maintenance of the discipline of the Police force under his control. He is provided with the required strength of the head constables and constables for attending to the various duties in his charge.

Head constables are subject to the orders of the Sub-Inspector placed over them and of the superior officers of the police force. They are to report to the Sub-Inspector about all crimes committed in their beats, investigate less important cases and also to assist the Sub-Inspector in the investigation and detection of crime. When in charge of a particular out-post or beats of villages, the Head Constables act in all police matters in concern with the heads of the village police. When attached to the police station they hold charge in the absence of the Sub-Inspector and look to all routine work including investigation of crime.

The constables perform such police duties as they are ordered by the Head Constables and other superior officers for the prevention and detection of crime, maintenance of law and order, apprehension of offenders, escorting and guarding of prisoners, patrolling beats, controlling traffic, etc.

The control and administration of the Railway Police which comprises two separate charges are vested in the Superintendent of Police, Central, South-Eastern and Western Railways, Nagpur and the Superintendent of Police, Central, Southern and Western Railways, Pune, each of whom has a separate force under him, organised on the lines of the district police. He functions under the supervision and control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Criminal Investigation Department, Maharashtra State, Pune, and the Inspector-General of Police, Maharashtra State, Bombay.

Appointments of Superintendents of Police are made by promotion of Assistant Superintendents of Police and Deputy Superintendents of Police in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf by the Central Government in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission.

Recruitment to the cadre of Assistant Superintendent of Police, who belongs to the Indian Police Service, is made by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Union Public Service

Commission. On appointment, an Assistant Superintendent of Police is attached to the National Police Academy, Abu, for training for a period of one year. After successful completion of the training, he is sent to the State to which he is allotted for further training. On arrival in this State Indian Police Service Probationers are attached to the Police Training College, Nasik, for 3 months' training and then to the districts for practical training for 9 months before they are appointed to hold independent charge as Sub-Divisional Police Officers. Assistant Superintendents of Police are considered eligible for promotion to senior posts in the Indian Police Service Cadre after their confirmation in the Indian Police Service in vacancies in the direct recruitment quota.

Seventy per cent of the total number of appointments on the sanctioned cadre of Deputy Superintendents of Police are filled in by promotion from the lower ranks of the District Police Force and the remaining thirty per cent by direct recruitment, which is made by the State Government from candidates recommended by the Maharashtra Public Service Commission. Candidates appointed by direct recruitment are attached to the Police Training College, Nasik for training and are kept on probation for a period of two years and three months. During the first two years of their probationary period, they are required to pass the departmental examination prescribed by Government.

After a training at the Police Training College, they are required to undergo military training for 5 weeks and thereafter practical training in the district for the remaining period of probation. They are considered for promotion to the Indian Police Service Cadre after they have put in eight years' service as Deputy Superintendent of Police.

Appointments of Inspectors of Police are made by the Inspector-General of Police by promotion of Police Sub-Inspectors who are found fit for promotion by the Selection Board comprising the Inspector-General of Police as Chairman and the Commissioners of Police and Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, as members. No direct recruitment is ordinarily made.

Recruitment of Sub-Inspectors is made by the Inspector-General of Police both by promotion of officers from the lower ranks of the District Police Force and by direct recruitment. 50 per cent of the vacancies are filled in by direct recruitment. Of the remaining 50 per cent, 25 per cent of the vacancies are filled in by departmental candidates passing through the Police Sub-Inspector's course at the Central Police Training College, Nasik, and the remaining 25 per cent by promotion of officers from the lower ranks. Candidates for direct recruitment may be selected either from outside as well as from within the Police Department. On recruitment, they are required to undergo training in the Police Training College, Nasik, as Police Sub-Inspectors. The selection is made by the Inspector-General of Police, assisted by a Committee comprising the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, a Deputy

Inspector-General of Police and the Principal, Police Training College, Nasik.

Recruitment to the posts of Police Constables is done directly. As for Head Constables, it is generally done from the rank of Constables by promotion. However, to attract better-educated men, recruitment to the post of Head Constables is made directly from qualified candidates to the extent of 33 per cent of the vacancies that may occur. Appointments of constables are made by the Deputy Superintendent of Police. Men from the district are preferred as they are more likely to have local knowledge and could better understand the language and manner of life of the people. A fair number of men from the scheduled castes and tribes are now coming up for recruitment.

A tear-gas squad of 1 Reserve Sub-Inspector and 10 Policemen is formed in the district.

Arms Inspection Branch.— There is an Arms Inspection Branch under the charge of a Deputy Superintendent of Police, whose headquarters is at Bombay. He is assisted by 2 Police Inspectors, 1 Police Sub-Inspector, 3 Head Constables and 4 Police Constables. The main function of the branch is to inspect the arms and bicycles held on charge in the various Police Units regularly and to ensure proper maintenance. The branch is under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Armed Forces.

Women Police Branch.— Women Police Branches exist in almost all the districts of the State. The main functions of this branch are to help in the recovery of abducted women, to attend to the convenience and complaints of female passengers at important railway stations, to apprehend and search female offenders, to help in the administration of the Bombay Children Act and the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, to man the Police Telephone Exchanges, to keep vigilance at places of worship or public entertainment, etc. They also help the Executive Police Officers at the time of holding inquests on dead bodies of women, whenever required.

Motor Transport.— A Motor Transport Section for the whole State under the control of a Superintendent of Police, designated as Superintendent of Police, Motor Transport, is organised for maintaining a fleet of motor vehicles and water-craft for Police duties. It consists of (i) a District Motor Transport Section at the headquarters of each district and each State Reserve Police Force Group, (ii) Central Motor Transport Workshop together with mobile units at Pune, Aurangabad and Nagpur and (iii) the Mobile Repair Unit for Police Water-craft with headquarters at Thane. The District and State Reserve Police Force Motor Transport Sections which consist of motor vehicles and in some districts water-crafts as well, are under the administrative control of Police of the district or the Commandants of the Group concerned.

as the case may be and, for technical supervision under the Superintendent of Police, Motor Transport.

The Bhandara district has a fleet of 8 motor vehicles.

Wireless Grid.—In order to facilitate speedy communications pertaining to law and order between the various Police units in the State and with other States, a Police Wireless Grid has been established and it is under the control of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police, who is designated as Director of Police Wireless, Maharashtra State, who has his headquarters at Pune. The grid comprises wireless telegraphy circuits of high frequency and very high frequency with static and mobile stations and broadcast service stations. There are wireless stations at the headquarters of each District and State Reserve Police Force Group and in the three Commissionerates of Greater Bombay, Pune and Nagpur cities. The wireless personnel in Bombay and those attached to the Districts and the State Reserve Police Force Groups are under the control of the Commissioners of Police, Superintendents of Police and the Commandants of the State Reserve Police Force Groups, respectively.

The Bhandara district has a net work of high frequency system of communications. There are 2 static high frequency stations in this district and 1 high frequency mobile station.

C. I. D. Unit.—The State Criminal Investigation Department is divided into two branches, viz., (1) Intelligence and (2) Crime and Railways, each under a Deputy Inspector-General. Both the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police are assisted by one or more Assistants of the rank of Superintendent of Police and have a number of Deputy Superintendents of Police, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables working under them. There are Criminal Investigation Department units at important places in the State, each under a Deputy Superintendent of Police assisted by the necessary subordinate staff.

Anti-Corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Bureau.—With a view to eradicating the evil of corruption and ensuring a more effective implementation of the Prohibition policy of the Government, the Anti-Corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Bureau has been created under the control of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police, who is designated as Director, Anti-Corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Bureau, Maharashtra State, with his headquarters at Bombay. He has been declared as a head of department under the administrative control and supervision of the Home Department of the State Government. He is assisted by an officer of the rank of Superintendent of Police (who is *ex-officio* Deputy Commissioner of Police) and six other officers of the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police and Deputy Superintendent of Police. The Bureau has its officers in all districts and has four regional units with headquarters at Bombay, Pune, Aurangabad and Nagpur, each in the charge of a Deputy

Superintendent of Police. The unit for Greater Bombay is in the charge of the Deputy Commissioner of Police.

The Anti-Corruption Unit at Bhandara consists of 1 Police Sub-Inspector and 2 Constables.

State Reserve Police Force.—With a view to providing the Armed Force which may be required at any place in the State to deal with any serious disturbances or other similar emergencies, the State Reserve Police Force, trained more or less on military lines and equipped with modern weapons, has been organised under the Bombay State Reserve Police Force Act, 1951 (Bombay Act No. XXXVIII of 1951), and stationed in groups at important centres in the State. Each group is under the control of a Commandant (who is an officer of the rank of a Superintendent of Police) assisted by the necessary staff of officers of different ranks. The groups are provided with wireless and motor transport sections.

Crime.—The following statement shows the crimes reported to the Police during the year 1968 and the preceding four years:—

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Cognizable Cases, ..	6,070	5,353	5,477	4,432	3,852
Classes I to V.					

The important crime reported during the year 1968 and the preceding four years was as under:—

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
Murders-cognate crime..	44	37	35	38	34
Dacoities	3	..	5	2	4
Robberies	28	23	17	22	12
Attempted murders ..	6	6	5	1	8
House-breaking and thefts	634	652	641	476	429
Thefts and cattle thefts ..	1,191	1,144	1,161	907	877
Cheating	28	28	42	27	22
Receiving stolen property	1	1	..	..	..
Riots	19	18	19	20	19
Total ..	1,954	1,909	1,925	1,493	1,405

The incidence of the reported cognizable crimes (Class I to V) per thousand population of the district during the year 1968 and the preceding four years was as under:—

	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
	2.14	1.98	1.97	1.74	1.66

Prosecuting Staff and Prosecution.— There are 6 Police Prosecutors in the Bhandara district. The senior most Police Prosecutor stationed at the district headquarters, supervises and co-ordinates the work of all Police Prosecutors. Each Police Prosecutor is entrusted with the work of prosecution of criminal cases in one or more courts. The total number of cases conducted by the prosecuting staff in 1968 was 1,844 of which 1,346 cases ended in conviction.

Police Dog Unit.— In modern times certain types of dogs such as Dobermann, Pinscher, Alsatian, etc., are being utilised by the Police for detection of crime and apprehension of criminals as well as for patrolling. The dogs are sent for from Police Dog Unit stationed at Nagpur and utilised for detection of important crime such as murder, house breaking, etc.

Literacy.— Amongst the 49 officers and 877 men of the Bhandara Police Force at the close of the year 1968, 9 men were illiterate. The percentage of illiterate men to the actual number of men in the force was 1.02 which is due to the fact that illiterate men were also enlisted in the State Reserve Police Force in the erstwhile Madhya Pradesh State and they were received on transfer from the State Reserve Police Force Group VI, Kamptee, in 1959.

Housing.— Officers of and below the rank of Police Inspectors are entitled to rent-free quarters. In 1968, out of 49 officers and 877 men, 34 officers and 491 men were housed in Government quarters. The remaining officers and men lived in private buildings on hire.

Village Defence Parties.— The village Defence Parties are chiefly meant for the defence of the village against depredations of dacoits and other types of criminals as also for the protection of person, watch and ward, the security of property and public safety of the villages.

Till the close of the year 1968, village defence parties were formed in 558 villages. The number of villages where village defence parties were yet to be formed was 973.

Police Welfare Fund.— A benevolent Fund known as the Police Welfare Fund has been started in the district with a view to providing amenities and comforts to the policemen and their families and other low paid staff of the department. The fund is of a private nature and is operated in accordance with the Welfare Fund Rules framed by the Inspector-General of Police and approved by Government. The fund is raised through periodical contributions of the members of the fund, donations and staging of entertainment programmes, etc. The fund is operated by the Superintendent of Police in his official capacity. Out of the proceeds of the fund, a children's park, a recreation centre, a flour mill, a *Balak Mandir*, a fuel stall and a barbers shop, etc., have been started and conducted for the welfare of the policemen and their families and children at the district headquarters. A cinema

projector is provided in the headquarters police lines for displaying cinema shows. A maternity home has been constructed in the headquarters police lines. The fund extends monetary help for purchase of books, payment of tuition fees, etc., to deserving students for school and college education. The help is also extended towards the purchase of costly medicines not stored in Government hospitals, and for funeral ceremonies of policemen. The balance in the Welfare Fund of this district at the end of the year 1968 was Rs. 7,645.84 paise.

Village Police.— At the village level, the District Police are helped by the Village Police. The control of the village police is vested in the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate may, however, delegate his authority in certain matters to the Superintendent of Police. Each inhabited village has a Police Patil. The Police Patil is required to collect information regarding suspicious strangers and important occurrences in the village and send it to the Police Station. He has to keep a strict watch over the movements of notorious characters and criminals under surveillance of the Police. He is required to give information to the Police Station of any offence committed in the village. When a beat duty policeman goes to the village, the Police Patil has to give him all the information he possesses about all events in the village. The Police Patil is also responsible for maintaining law and order in the village.

In 1968, the number of Police Patils in the Bhandara district was 1378.

JAIL DEPARTMENT

Location.— For the purpose of Prison administration, the State is divided into two divisions, viz., Eastern and Western. The Eastern division is composed of the revenue divisions of Aurangabad and Nagpur whereas the Western Division is composed of Bombay and Pune revenue divisions. The Inspector-General of Prisons, Maharashtra State, Pune, exercises general control and superintendence over all prisons and jails in the State subject to the orders of the State Government. The Superintendents of Nagpur Central Prison and the Yeravada Central Prison have been appointed as the *ex-officio* Deputy Inspectors-General of Prisons for the Eastern and Western Divisions, respectively. Some of the powers exercised by the Inspector-General of Prisons have been delegated to the Deputy Inspectors-General of Prisons. They are in immediate overall charge of the prisons in their respective spheres.

The Superintendent, Bhandara District Prison, is vested with the executive management of the prison in all matters relating to internal discipline, economy, labour, punishment, etc., subject to the orders and authority of the Regional Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons, Nagpur and the Inspector-General of Prisons, Pune. He is assisted in his work by the necessary ministerial and field

staff. The services of well-behaved convict overseers are utilised for doing patrolling duty outside the sleeping barracks but inside the jail at night time. The main wall and outer yards are always manned for duty by the guarding staff.

Classification.—The prison at Bhandara has been classified as a class II prison. The prison is meant mainly for confinement of short term casual prisoners up to one year and local undertrial prisoners. The two magisterial lock-ups in the district are located at Gondia and Sakoli.

Accommodation.—The authorised accommodation of the prison is comprised of 132 males and 12 females.

Recruitment.—The post of the Inspector-General of Prisons is filled in by appointment of an Indian Civil Service or an Indian Administrative Service officer or by promotion from amongst those who are borne on the cadre of the Superintendents of Central Prisons (*i.e.*, including the holder of the post of the Deputy Inspector-General) or by transfer of a suitable officer in Maharashtra Medical Service, class I or by direct recruitment.

The Superintendents of Central Prisons are officers promoted from the ranks of Superintendents of District Prisons. The seniormost Superintendent of Central Prison is usually appointed to hold the post of Deputy Inspector-General in consultation with the Public Service Commission. The Superintendents of District Prisons are appointed both by direct recruitment or by promotion from amongst Jailors in Grade I in the proportion of 1:2. Jailors in Grade I are also appointed both by direct recruitment and by departmental promotion from amongst Jailors in Grade II in the proportion of 1:2. The candidates for direct recruitment to the post of Superintendent of a District Prison and/or Jailer, Grade I must hold a bachelor's degree with honours. They are recommended for appointment by the State Public Service Commission. A diploma in sociology and penology is considered to be an additional qualification. Appointments to Jailors, Grade II are made by the Inspector-General by promotion of Jailors in Grade III. Appointments to Jailors, Grade III are also made by the Inspector-General. However, 50 per cent of the posts are open to outside candidates who must necessarily be graduates, while the remaining posts are filled in by promotion of suitable departmental candidates who have passed the S. S. C. or its equivalent examination. The candidates for appointment to the posts of Jailer Grade III, are interviewed by a selection board consisting of the Inspector-General and two Superintendents of Prisons who are nominated by Government. The posts of sepoys are filled in by direct recruitment and the higher posts from the guarding establishment are generally filled in by promotion according to the seniority. But if suitable persons according to the seniority are not available, appointments to the posts in higher grade are made by selection from amongst the members of the next lower rank or by nomination of candidates with some high academic qualifications fixed for similar posts.

Appointments to the posts of junior clerks are made by nomination from amongst candidates who must have passed the S.S.C. examination or its equivalent. Appointments to the ministerial posts in higher grade are made by promotion generally according to seniority from amongst the members of the next lower rank. Medical Officers are drafted for services in Jail Department for a period of two years from the Medical Department.

Training.—The Jail Officers' Training School established at Pune in 1955, imparts practical as well as theoretical training to prison officers (Superintendents of Prisons, Jailors, Garde I and II) on various subjects relating to correctional administration provided for guards and non-commissioned officers. A separate training class of three months duration for non-commissioned officers has been started at the Jail Officers' Training School to impart practical knowledge of the duties which are expected of a jail guard.

A physical training instructor visits the jails in the State in rotation and imparts training in drill, games and other physical activities both to the inmates of the jail and also to the jail guards.

Medical Staff.—A full-time Medical Officer on deputation from the medical department looks after the prisoners at the Bhandara district prison.

Guarding Establishment.—Part of the guarding establishment is armed. This section serves as a reserve guard to reinforce the unarmed guards in the immediate charge of prisoners inside the prison or in extramural gangs in the event of assault, mutiny, escape or other emergency. It is also available to mount guard over particularly dangerous prisoners or prisoners sentenced to death, who are termed as "condemned prisoners".

Matron.—No posts of matrons are sanctioned for headquarters sub-jails; but the Superintendent is empowered to engage a matron locally whenever a women prisoner is admitted to the jails.

Classification of Prisoners.—Prisoners are classified as class I or class II by the court after taking into consideration their status in society and also the nature of their offence. They are further classified as casual, habitual, undertrial and security or detainee. There is no separate class of Political Prisoners but certain rules which do not allow the grant of facilities and privileges on the score of length of sentence are relaxed in their favour under the specific orders of Government. Prisoners are also grouped as short-termers, medium-termers and long-termers. Prisoners with a sentence up to three months are classified as short-termers, those sentenced up to a period of three months and above but up to two years are classified as medium-termers and those sentenced up to two years and above are classified as long-termers. Headquarters sub-jails are meant for the confinement of short-term prisoners and undertrial prisoners only.

Jail Reforms.—In recent years many reforms, calculated to bring about the reformation of prisoners, have been introduced. With the abolition of the Whipping Act, *vide* Bombay Act No. XXXIX of 1957, flogging as a jail punishment is stopped altogether. Punishments of penal diet and gunny clothing have been abolished. Rules about letters and interviews have also been liberalised.

Work.—Work is arranged according to the prisoner's health. On admission, the prisoner is examined by the Medical Officer, who classifies him as fit for light, medium or hard labour. The work allotment committee is constituted for Central and District Jails, the members of which have to take into account health condition of the prisoners, their aptitude, past experience, etc., and assign suitable work for newly admitted prisoners with a sentence of six months and above. Any change in the work so allotted to prisoners by the committee has to be effected only with the concurrence of the members of the committee. No such committee is appointed for short-term prisoners.

Prisoners are engaged in handloom weaving, pitloom weaving, laundry work, carpentry, tailoring and smithy at the Bhandara district prison.

The prisoners cultivate a piece of land measuring six acres whereas vegetable requirements of the prison are met with from the garden maintained by the prisoners.

Wages.—Medium-term and long-term prisoners so also security and undertrial prisoners who volunteer to work are paid as per the prison rules. They are generally paid 1/5th of the wages which are normally paid for similar work outside, provided they complete their daily quota.

Release on Parole and Furlough.—A prisoner is released on parole by the Divisional Commissioner, Nagpur Division, Nagpur, in the event of serious illness or death of any member of the family or nearest relative of the prisoner or any other cause deemed sufficient. The period spent on parole is not counted as part of the sentence. A prisoner who is sentenced to more than a year and up to five years and who has actually undergone one year's imprisonment is eligible for release on furlough for a period of two weeks. A prisoner sentenced to more than five years is eligible for release on furlough on completion of two years of actual imprisonment.

Remission of sentence.—Only long-termers come within the ambit of the rule on remission of sentence. Prisoners confined in the main prisons are granted liberal remissions, which are ordinary remission, annual good conduct remission, special remission, blood donation remission, remission for conservancy work

and remission for physical training. In addition, State remission is awarded by Government on the occasions of public rejoicing. It is granted unconditionally and cannot be forfeited under any circumstances.

Board of Visitors.—A Board of Visitors comprising official and non-official visitors is appointed for every headquarters sub-jail and taluka sub-jails. There are ordinarily four non-official visitors for the headquarters sub-jail out of whom two are members of the Maharashtra Legislature and two are nominated by Government of whom one is a lady visitor. The appointment of non-official visitors other than members of the Maharashtra Legislature is made for a period, not exceeding three years. Persons who in the opinion of Government are interested in prison administration and are likely to take interest in the welfare of prisoners both while they are in the prison and after their release are nominated by Government on the Board of Visitors on the recommendation of the District Magistrate concerned and the Inspector-General Prisons. The Chairman of the Board of Visitors who is usually the District Magistrate arranges for a weekly visit to the prison by one of the members of the Board. Quarterly meetings of the Board are also convened. Non-official visitors are also allowed to visit the prison on any day and at any time during the day in addition to the weekly visit arranged by the Chairman. The Board records in the visitors' book its observations after the detailed inspection of the jails. Any remark at the quarterly meeting or at the weekly visits deserving special and prompt disposal is immediately forwarded by the Superintendent to the Inspector-General for necessary orders with such remarks as the former may desire to offer.

In bigger jails a committee of prisoners is selected for each year by the prisoners themselves and the Jailor and Superintendent consult the committee which is known as "Jail Panchayat Committee" in matters of discipline and general welfare of prisoners.

With a view to provide training in co-operation and disciplined way of life and in cultivating a sense of responsibility and self-reliance among the inmates of the jail, a panchayat of convicted prisoners has been organised at the district prison.

The cases of long term prisoners are initially reviewed by the Advisory Board. Prisoners deserving concessions are released prematurely under the orders of Government.

Education.—Literacy classes are conducted for those prisoners who are ignorant of the three 'R's under the supervision of literate convicts. Paid teachers are appointed only at some of the main jails in the State. Regular annual examinations are held in the jail by the Deputy Educational Inspectors. Towards these literacy classes, the jail department receives a grant-in-aid from the Education Department. Twenty-five per cent of the grant-in-aid received is given to the convict teachers as an encouragement after the quarterly examinations of the students (prisoners) are

held and the remaining portion is utilised towards the purchase of books, boards, etc., required for the literacy classes.

Films of educational and reformatory values are also exhibited by the District Publicity Officer concerned. News-papers are also supplied to the prisoners at the costs of the Government. Besides they are also allowed to retain books of religious as well as non-religious nature. Musical programmes and such other cultural programmes are also arranged for the benefit of prisoners.

Discipline.—Emphasis is laid on the maintenance of good discipline in the prison. Positive and constructive discipline is treated as the basic foundation for wholesome changes in the attitudes of prisoners.

DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL WELFARE (CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATION WING AND NON-CORRECTIONAL WING)

Organisation.—The department of social welfare was formed in 1957, after amalgamating the offices of the Director of Backward Class Welfare and the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools.

At the State level, the department is controlled by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare. The office of the Directorate of Social Welfare has been divided into two wings, one dealing with backward class welfare and the other dealing with correctional work and the work relating to the welfare of women under the social and moral hygiene programme and of the physically handicapped. In the Correctional Wing, the Director of Social Welfare is assisted by the Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Correctional Administration) who is also *ex-officio* Chief Inspector of Certified Schools and Chief Inspector of Certified Institutions. There are three Inspectors of Certified Institutions. There are three Assistant Directors of Social Welfare each in charge of Children's work, beggars' work and plan work, respectively. There is also a Probation Superintendent of the rank of Assistant Director for looking after the work under the Probation of Offenders Act. There is also a small unit of inspectorate staff working under the Chief Inspector.

At the divisional level the department has regional officers called Divisional Social Welfare Officers each posted at the headquarters of the revenue division. They are entrusted with administrative and supervisory work relating to all the subjects handled by the Directorate of Social Welfare. For correctional and allied work they have been given the assistance of an Inspector of Certified Schools. Since the formation of Zilla Parishad, their services are transferred to the Zilla Parishad.

At the district level, the Correctional Wing has no elaborate administrative machinery save superintendents of the institution posted in the districts wherever there are such institutions. The

District Social Welfare Officer is primarily responsible for the welfare of Backward Classes.

The Correctional Administration Wing is responsible for the implementation of the Bombay Children Act, 1948, which is applicable throughout the State.

Broadly speaking this Act provides for the protection of destitute, neglected and victimised children below the age of 16 and seeks reformation of delinquent children through training provided in remand homes and certified schools.

The Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959, deals with the problem of elimination of beggary. It is however, not applicable throughout the State but only to the cities of Bombay and Pune. The Bombay Probation of Offenders Act, 1938, provides for the probation of offenders in lieu of jail punishment in suitable cases recommended by the probation officers appointed by this department under the Act. Its jurisdiction extends over the districts of Western Maharashtra only. The Central Provinces and Berar Probation of Offenders Act, 1936 is applicable to the eight districts of Vidarbha region. The Central Provinces and Berar Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 is applicable to 4 districts in Aurangabad Division. The Bombay Habitual Offenders Restriction Act, 1959, is applicable to Western Maharashtra only and deals with the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders. Such habitual offenders are sent to industrial and agricultural settlements for their rehabilitation in appropriate cases. The Bombay Borstal Schools Act, 1929 is applicable to Western Maharashtra and deals with offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 committed to the Borstal School, Kolhapur. The provisions of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 are implemented by the Police Department. However, the Department of Social Welfare is responsible for starting the protective homes and supervising the administration of these Homes provided for in the Act. For this purpose the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools is the Chief Inspector of the Protective Home. At present there is only one such home at Chembur, Bombay. The Women's and Children's Institutions Licensing Act, 1956, is an all-India legislation providing for the licensing of institutions opened by voluntary agencies for the benefit of women and children. For the inspection and supervision of such institutions a Woman Inspector is appointed while the Director of Social Welfare is the licensing authority.

After-Care Programme.—Besides these social legislations with which this department is actively concerned, the Directorate of Social Welfare has undertaken the following after-care programmes pertaining to the welfare of children and women.

The Maharashtra State Probation and After-Care Association is a federal body devoted to the care and after-care programmes relating to children. Whenever the Bombay Children Act has

been applied, remand homes are sponsored by the District Probation and After-Care Association which are affiliated to this body. In the after-care field the Association maintains after-care hostels for boys and girls released from certified schools.

Social and Moral Hygiene Programme.—The object of the social and moral hygiene programme sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board is to take care of women's welfare. It envisages the opening of Reception Centres and State Homes for women either released from the correctional institutions or seeking shelter on reference. Eight Reception Centres and three State Homes have been functioning in the State of Maharashtra for girls and women in moral danger, destitute or deserted women or women released from institutions or needing shelter and help.

The department is also in charge of work relating to the education and rehabilitation of the physically handicapped. At the headquarters, the work is organised by an Officer designated as the Deputy Director (Education) for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped. The Department runs Shools for the various categories of the handicapped and also Sheltered Workshops for their sake as well as Homes for crippled children for their treatment and education. It also aids voluntary agencies doing work in this field. The Deputy Director (ERH) is assisted by 4 Inspectors in this work.

The department also accords grants to dance, drama and music institutions and also to other social welfare institutions such as Rescue Homes, Mahila Mandals, Akhadas, Kustigir Parishads, Bharat Sevak Samaj, etc. As a preventive measure Juvenile Guidance Centres have been organised in localities which are the breeding places of delinquency. In order to promote proper community living among the youth, youth clubs have been organised.

Remand Home.—A Remand Home has been started at Bhandara for the reception of children coming under the purview of the Bombay Children Act under the management of the District Probation and After-Care Association, Bhandara which receives grant-in-aid on account of the expenditure thereof.

The following are the institutions working in the Bhandara district managed by the Government *viz.*—

- Remand Home for Boys, Bhandara,
- Reception Centre for Women, Bhandara and,
- School for Blind Boys, Bhandara.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT *

District Judge.—The District and Sessions Judge is the head of the Judicial Department in the district. The Judiciary is entirely separated from the executive. The Collector continues to be the

* Bhandara District Census Handbook, 1961.
A-2669—38-B.

District Magistrate and the Deputy Collectors and Tahsildars are vested with magisterial powers. But those powers are limited to those specified under chapter VIII of the Code of Criminal Procedure and none of them ever tries any criminal case. The District Magistrate does not have any administrative control over the other magistrates who try criminal cases in the district. This separation of the Judiciary from the executive has been brought about in 1959.

The District and Sessions Judge is assisted by one Civil Judge of the Senior Division. He attends to Civil suits in the whole district.

There are two Civil Judges (Junior Division) and First Class Judicial Magistrates and one Civil Judge of the Junior Division with headquarters at different tahsil places. They deal with cases under the Indian Penal Code and the Prohibition Act.

There are also Five First Class Judicial Magistrates who attend to criminal cases arising within their respective jurisdiction.

CHAPTER 13—OTHER DEPARTMENTS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Organisation.—THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT at the district level is under the dual control of the State Government and the Zilla Parishad, respectively. The sphere of activities has been divided into two sectors. The works regarding the Major District Roads and the roads of the lower order, buildings required by the Animal Husbandry department and other departments at the tahsil level, constructional activities under the block development schemes and works relating to tanks that will irrigate less than 200 acres of land are the responsibility of the Zilla Parishad; while the works relating to National Highways, State Highways and the buildings required for the administrative, departments in the State sector, such as judicial department, Police department, etc., are entrusted to the department in the State sector. Buildings required for research and agricultural college by the department of agriculture are also the responsibility of the department in the State sector.

Chief Engineer and Other Functionaries.— The Chief Engineer who is also the Joint Secretary to the Government is the head of the department at the State level. Under the Chief Engineer are the Superintending Engineers of Public Works and Housing Circles and Electrical Engineer to the Government. Each circle comprising five or more divisions is controlled by a Superintending Engineer. The divisions are in charge of Executive Engineers, and Sub-Divisions of Assistant Engineers or Deputy Engineers. The Sub-Divisions are further divided into sections each in charge of an overseer.

Superintending Engineer.— The Superintending Engineer is responsible for administration and general professional control over public works in charge of the department. He has to inspect the state of various works within his circle and to satisfy himself that the system of management prevailing is efficient and economical. He is required to ascertain efficiency of subordinate officers and petty establishments and to report whether the staff employed in each division is actually necessary or adequate for the management of the department. The Superintending Engineer is empowered to transfer and post Deputy Engineers and overseers within his circle in the interest of administration. However, Executive Engineers of divisions are consulted before posting these officers to particular sub-divisional charges under their control. It is also the duty of the Superintending Engineer to

recommend removals or transfers of Executive Engineers from his own circle.

Under Superintending Engineer, Nagpur Circle, are three Public Works divisions, viz., Nagpur divisions Nos. I and II which comprise Nagpur and Bhandara districts and the Road Project Division having jurisdiction over four districts, viz., Nagpur, Bhandara, Chandrapur and Wardha.

The Road Project Sub-Division No. 1, Nagpur has jurisdiction over Nagpur and Bhandara districts. The jurisdiction of Buildings Project Sub-Division at Nagpur extends over the districts of Nagpur, Bhandara, Chandrapur and Wardha. In the district sector the Zilla Parishad has one Parishad Executive Engineer of the rank of the Executive Engineer with four or five Deputy Engineers under him.

During 1974-75, the total length of the roads in the district under different categories was 2886.28 km. Of these roads of the length of 2340.14 km were under the Zilla Parishad and the remaining under State sector. Out of the total length, the National Highways accounted for 97.37 km, State Highways 299.10 km; Major District Roads 449.31 km, Other District Roads 206.36 km and Village roads 1891.96 km.

IRRIGATION AND POWER DEPARTMENT

The Irrigation and Power Department deals with major and medium irrigation works, hydro-electric projects, minor irrigation works, water-supply and drainage works and flood control works.

Organisation.—The department is headed by the Secretary to the Government who is assisted by Chief Engineers in charge of major and medium irrigation projects and water-supply and development schemes in the State and the Director of Minor Irrigation in charge of minor irrigation projects in the State. The Superintending Engineer who is responsible to the Chief Engineer and the Director of Minor Irrigation for the works in their respective spheres is placed in charge of a circle normally consisting of four to five divisions. The division is headed by the Executive Engineer. Each division normally comprises four to five sub-divisions. The sub-division which is placed in charge of a sub-divisional officer is divided further into four to five sections each in charge of an overseer. The section is generally formed for maintenance of about 2,023.430 hectares (5,000 acres) of irrigated land or where capital expenditure of Rs. one to two lakhs is involved.

Superintending Engineer.—The Superintending Engineer, Nagpur, is in charge of *Malguzari* Tanks Division, Minor Irrigation Division, Bhandara and Minor Irrigation Division, Chandrapur.

Tanks are the major source of irrigation irrigating about 78.18 per cent of the net irrigated area in the district. Canals irrigate another 18.18 per cent, wells 1.95 per cent and the remaining 1.68 per cent of the area is irrigated by other sources.

Irrigation Projects.—Following are some of the irrigation projects under the control of the Irrigation and Power Department.

Channa Tank : This is the *ex-malguzari* Tank situated about 4½ miles south-west of Lakhani. It was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,10,858 and commands an area of 415 acres.

Lawari Tank : This Tank is situated between two villages, viz., Lawari and Umari. The construction of the tank was started in 1964 and the work was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,40,628. The area commanded by the tank is 680 acres.

Kawatha Tank : The construction of the Kawatha tank was started in 1965 and the project was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,14,958. The area commanded by the tank is 296 acres.

Umari Tank : Umari Tank is situated in the neighbourhood of Umari village. Its construction was started in the year 1965 and was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,28,234. The area commanded by the tank is 432 acres.

Kanheri Tank : This is the *ex-malguzari* Tank situated about 6 miles south-west of Manegaon village. The catchment area of the tank is 670 acres. Besides the above projects there are the following tanks constructed in the district.

Mahuli, Indora, Rengepar, Dahegaon, Pimpalgaon, Zalia, Kohalgaon, Mendha, Khairee, Kokodi, Kati, Tedha, Lendezari, Ekodi, Pindkepar, Khandala, Chaparal and Chinchalband.

Bag River Project : This project is under construction and the estimated cost of the project is Rs. 1559.78 lakhs. Its maximum storage capacity is 7,200 (MCFT).

Itiadh Project : The Itiadh Project is under construction. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 908.14 lakhs. It has a storage capacity of 10,000 (MCFT).

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

Organisation.—Activities pertaining to Agriculture in the district are under the dual control of the State Government and Zilla Parishad, respectively. The activities regarding plant protection scheme, cotton extension scheme, integrated oil-seed development scheme, mechanical cultivation scheme, blasting and boring scheme and seed multiplication farm scheme as also the management of the Agricultural Engineering Workshop are entrusted to the department of Agriculture in the State sector. All other works are looked after by the Zilla Parishad and are thus in the district sector.

The department at the State level is headed by the Secretary of the Agriculture and Co-operation Department who is the administrative head of the department. At the Directorate level it is headed by the Director of Agriculture with his headquarters at Pune. He is assisted by four Joint Directors each in charge of establishment, extension, agricultural engineering and agricultural research and education, respectively.

Superintending Agricultural Officer.—The Superintending Agricultural Officer being responsible to the Director of Agriculture, Maharashtra State, Pune, is the technical and administrative head of the Division. Even though he is the officer in the State sector, he guides the District Agricultural Officer who heads the Agriculture department of the Zilla Parishad in the district sector in technical matters. He is assisted in his work by class I officers like Deputy Directors of Agriculture, one each for Research and Education, Soil Conservation and Engineering and Class II officers like Plant Protection Officer, Seed Development Officer, Assistant Horticultural Development Officer, Assistant Vegetable Development Officer, Hybrid Seed Production Officer, Assistant Oilseed Extension Officer, Assistant Compost Development Officer, Assistant Statistician, Divisional Supervisor (F.V.T.) and Agricultural Engineer in implementing the State sector schemes at Regional or Divisional level. He gives technical guidance to local sector schemes at Zilla Parishad level. Besides these officers, the State level specialists who are specialised in different aspects of crop production also give technical guidance for State and local sector schemes.

Agricultural Development Officer.—The Agricultural Development Officer of the Zilla Parishad who is a class I officer at district level on deputation to the Zilla Parishad, works under the administrative control of the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad of the district. The Agricultural Development Officer, Zilla Parishad, Bhandara implements the Agricultural Schemes in local sector of the district. He is assisted by District Agricultural Officer, Campaign Officer and Hybrid Seed Production Officer, the last of whom is deputed by the State Government for supervising and implementing Hybrid Seed Production Programme. A unit under the Agricultural Development Officer prints pamphlets and booklets giving the latest recommendations for cultivation of crops, as approved by the Director and the specialists, to be distributed to the cultivators through the touring officers of the Department and Block Development Officers. The unit gives press notes from time to time pertaining to agricultural operations, pest control measures and research findings. Besides documentary film shows it participates in rural broadcasting programmes and various agricultural exhibitions.

Schemes under State Sector.—The following schemes were undertaken by the State sector in Bhandara and are in progress :—

- (i) Establishment of taluka seed multiplication farms,
- (ii) Scheme for development of local manurial resources, subsidy for town compost and Dhaincha seed,
- (iii) Construction works under Bhandara package programme,
- (iv) Establishment of agricultural implement workshop under package programme, Bhandara.

- (v) Construction of new wells,
- (vi) Installation of pumping sets and
- (vii) Scheme for terracing of land.

Schemes under Local Sector.—The following activities were undertaken by the Zilla Parishad in the district :—

- (i) Construction of buildings for agricultural schools,
- (ii) Scheme for distribution of Sann seed for green manuring,
- (iii) Loans under horticultural development schemes,
- (iv) Intensive cultivation of food crops,
- (v) Multi crop demonstration scheme,
- (vi) Development of land belonging to backward class cultivators, and
- (vii) Irrigation wells for backward class cultivators.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

Functions.—The Animal Husbandry department deals with the treatment of sick animals, control of cattle epidemics and castrations. The department administers the work of control and destruction of ticks, advises people in the hygienic methods of animal management and participates in the various cattle fairs and shows held at various places in the State by opening veterinary stalls for propaganda.

The Animal Husbandry department was a separate department till the formation of the Zilla Parishad. In 1961, with the inception of the Zilla Parishad, the Animal Husbandry activities in the district are looked after by the Animal Husbandry Section of the Agriculture department of the Zilla Parishad. At the State level, it still continues to function as a separate department.

Organisation.—At the State level, the department is headed by the Director of Animal Husbandry, Maharashtra State, Pune. Bhandara district falls under the Nagpur Division and hence the District Animal Husbandry Officer is responsible to the Regional Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagpur, in technical matters. For other matters he is responsible to the Agricultural Officer of the Zilla Parishad. Animal Husbandry activities in the Bhandara district are under the control of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, who is in Maharashtra Animal Husbandry Service Class II under the control of the Zilla Parishad. He is expected to look after the following activities :—

Veterinary dispensaries, veterinary aid centres, artificial insemination sub-centres, extension activities at block level, cattle breeding centres, district premium bull scheme and poultry demonstration centres.

The key village scheme and checkpost, Amgaon, comes under the State sector, and is under the administrative control of the Regional Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, Nagpur.

Veterinary Institutions.—In Bhandara district there are 13 full fledged veterinary dispensaries and 51 veterinary aid centres for treatment of animals. Of these 13 veterinary dispensaries, three veterinary dispensaries at Bhandara, Tumsar and Gondia are under the control of municipalities and the rest of the veterinary dispensaries and veterinary aid centres are under the Zilla Parishad. Besides the above, one key village centre at Bhandara, three supplementary cattle breeding centres, six artificial insemination sub-centres and ten breeding bull-centres have been established in the district.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

Organisation.—The head of the forest department in the State is the Chief Conservator of Forests, with his headquarters at Pune. For administrative purposes, the whole State is divided into seven circles, viz.,—

Name of Circle	Headquarters
1. Nasik Circle	Nasik.
2. Pune Circle	Pune.
3. Nagpur Circle	Nagpur.
4. Amravati Circle	Amravati.
5. Chandrapur Circle	Chandrapur.
6. Thane Circle	Thane.
7. Aurangabad Circle	Aurangabad.

At the headquarters of each Circle is a Conservator of Forests.

The Conservators have under them Divisional Forest Officers and Sub-Divisional Forest Officers, to look after the administration of the Divisions and independent Sub-Divisions, respectively. The Divisional Forest Officers belong to Maharashtra Forest Service, Class I and the Sub-Divisional Forest Officers to Maharashtra Forest Service, Class II. The Divisions in some cases are divided into Sub-Divisions, which are in charge of Sub-Divisional Forest Officers. The Divisions or Sub-Divisions as the case may be, are divided into small executive parts called "Ranges" and each Range is managed by a Range Forest Officer, under the control of the Divisional Forest Officer or Sub-Divisional Forest Officer, as the case may be. The Range Forest Officer is a non-gazetted subordinate Officer (Class III) who is usually trained at one of the forest colleges of India, i.e., those at Dehradun and

Coimbatore. Each Range is sub-divided into "Rounds" and is managed by a Round Officer or a Forester who is usually trained at one of the forest schools in the State. Finally each Round is sub-divided into "Beats" and each is in charge of a "Beat-Guard".

Conservator of Forests.—Forests of Bhandara district are divided into two Forest Divisions, viz., Bhandara and Gondia with headquarters at Bhandara and Gondia, respectively. These Divisions fall within the Nagpur Forest Circle under the charge of the Conservator of Forests who has supervisory functions in respect of all forest works, control of establishment, expenditure and advances for such works and also those pertaining to contracts, sales and supplies and the general management of forests within Nagpur Forest Circle.

Divisional Forest Officers.—The Forest Divisions in the District are held by the Divisional Forest Officers, Bhandara and Gondia. The Divisional Forest Officers are responsible for the administration of each of the Forest Divisions and the execution of the works in their charge. They arrange for exploitation, regeneration and protection of forests according to the sanctioned working plans and other orders. They conduct sales, enter into contracts, supply material to department and the public, realise revenue and control expenditure. They deal finally with forest offence cases. All State level and District level plan schemes in their charge are executed by the Divisional Forest Officers.

Sub-Divisional Forest Officers.—The Sub-Divisional Forest Officers assist the Divisional Forest Officers, in the management and protection of the forests and administration of the charges held by the Divisional Forest Officers. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, with a view to achieve thorough exploitation of forests, Mechanised Logging Units have been established at Gadegaon in Bhandara Division and Nawegaon in Gondia Division.

Logging Officer.—Each of these units is looked after by the respective Divisional Forest Officers with the help of a Logging Officer.

The following is the organisation of the Bhandara and Gondia Divisions:—

BHANDARA DIVISION ¹ (Headquarters Bhandara)			GONDIA DIVISION ² (Headquarters Gondia)		
Ranges		Headquarters	Ranges		Headquarters
(i) Bhandara ..	..	Bhandara.	(i) Gondia ..	..	Gondia.
(ii) Tumsar ..	..	Tumsar.	(ii) Amgaon ..	..	Amgaon.
(iii) Tirora ³ ..	..	Tirora.	(iii) Chichgarh ..	..	Chichgarh.
(iv) Sakoli ..	..	Sakoli	(iv) Pratapgarh ..	..	Morgaon-Arjuni.
(v) Paoni ..	..	Paoni.	(v) Rajoli ..	..	Nawegaon-Bandh.

Range Forest Officers.—The Range Forest Officers are in executive charge of each of the Ranges. They are responsible for the efficient management of their Ranges, the condition and custody of all Government property and the discipline of all forest subordinates in their charge. They are also responsible for carrying out the marking, reservation and felling of the trees, the transport of timber and fuel, etc., to the sale depots, sowing, planting and other silvicultural works, construction of roads, buildings and wells, protection of forests and investigation of important forest offences, supervision and removal of forest produce by the purchasers and right and privilege of holders and execution of all works concerned with the Development Schemes during the Plan period.

The Range Forest Officers have Round Officers (Foresters) and Beat Guards (Forest Guards) under them who are in charge of smaller units, to assist them.

Forest Areas.—Forest areas in charge of Forest Department (Bhandara and Gondia Divisions) and Revenue Department are given in the following statement:—

	Reserved Forests	Protected Forests	Unclassed Forests	Total
Bhandara Division	91,839.20	78,626.73	..	1,70,465.93
Gondia Division ..	42,495.69	1,38,089.44	..	1,80,585.13
Revenue Department ..	..	..	78,886.62	78,886.62
Total ..	1,34,334.89	2,16,716.17	78,886.62	4,29,937.68

System of Management.—The forests in Bhandara district are managed mainly under two silvicultural systems, *viz.*, selection *cum*-improvement fellings and Coppice-with-Reserves.

Selection-cum-Improvement Fellings: Forests assigned to this system of management extend over 59,577.476 hectares (1,47,469 acres) of reserved forests and 15,706.306 hectares (38,877.00 acres) of protected (*Fazal*) forests. Different exploitable girths are prescribed for these classes of forests since they differ in quality from locality to locality. Felling cycle of 20 years is adopted. Precipitous and very steep slopes, under-stocked areas and banks of main water courses are excluded from working. Groups of young pole crop is thinned. Areas containing abundance of teak reproduction is clear-felled. Selection-cum-improvement fellings of 50 per cent of trees over selection girth limits is carried out. Care is taken to see that the density in the worked area does not fall below 0.6. Plantations of teak are also raised over better quality areas. Cutting back operations are done soon after main fellings and clearings and thinnings in the patches of young teak crop in the 6th and 11th year, respectively, after main work is carried out.

Coppice-with-Reserve: The total area worked under this system of management extends over 65342.152 hectares (1,61,736 acres) of reserved forests and 53060.148 hectares (1,31,337.00 acres) of protected (*Fazal*) forests. Inferior quality areas as compared to the Selection-cum-Improvement fellings are assigned to this system of management. Rotation of 80 years is adopted. Regeneration is aimed mainly by coppice reproduction. These forests have been divided into 36 felling series of reserved forests and 58 felling series of protected (*Fazal*) forests. Steep slopes, poorly stocked areas, areas along banks of the perennial water courses and those devoted to the production of 1 acre are excluded from fellings. Patches containing profuse reproduction of teak are clear felled and young pole crop of teak is thinned. Area containing mature crop is felled after keeping at least 40 to 50 reserves in the medium and low stocked forests and 30 reserves in well stocked forests. Reproduction of miscellaneous species and teak, if not suppressed and malformed is retained. Young trees of valuable species whose timber is utilised in large sizes are also reserved against fellings.

Cutting back operations are carried out soon after main fellings. Cleaning and thinning are carried out in the 6th and 11th years after main fellings in patches of young teak crop. A thinning in 26th year is carried out in the teak and well stocked mixed forests wherever it is necessary.

Bamboos.—The entire forests are divided into 15 bamboo felling series from reserved forests and 26 from protected (*Fazal*) forests. Each felling series is divided into three annual working units called coupes. Felling of bamboo is done in sequence of coupes as laid down in the working plan. A felling cycle of three years is adopted. Felling of bamboos is not allowed between 1st July and 30th September. Clump having less than 10 culms is not worked. Culms which are more than two years old are permitted to be felled. Care is taken to reserve mature culms equal to double the number of culms of the current season in a clump. Digging of rhizomes is prohibited. Felling series are exploited partly by the consumers on rated passess, and a part of the area is assigned to the Ballarpur Paper and Strawboard Mills.

Tendu Leaves and Lac.—These are important minor forest products in the district. The entire forests are divided into 207 tendu and 101 lac units and are sold annually by public auctions.

Grass and Grazing.—Grazing incidence fixed is 3 acres per cow unit in the tree forests and two acres per cow unit in the minor forests. Regulated grazing as per grazing settlement is permitted all over the forest areas. Grass is sold by auction or is allowed to be cut and removed on sale by rated passes from the areas closed to grazing such as grass birs, closed coupes, plantation areas, etc.

Exploitation.—Forest coupes are worked partly through the agency of Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies and contractors. Some of the areas are also worked through departmental

agency employing modern methods and equipment for logging, dragging and transport. The main produce obtained is timber in round of teak and other valuable *injaili* species and firewood, part of which is converted into charcoal for export to Bombay and Pune and a part to North India particularly Rajasthan and Delhi. Bulk of the timber in round is exported to Nagpur from where it finds its market all over the country.

Income.—The annual out-turn of various kinds of forest produce and realisation of revenue thereof during the year 1968-69 is indicated in the statement furnished below :—

Forest Produce (1)	Quantity (2)	Value (3)
	Cu. M.	Rs.
A. Major—		
(1) Timber	25,965	23,09,301-00
(2) Firewood	93,385	12,52,670-00
B. Minor—	M. T.	
(1) Bamboo	54,220-19	11,45,690-00
(2) Grass other than fodder	232-97	1,166-00
(3) Fodder grass other than grazing	48-92	2,869-00
(4) Lac	18-52	10,123-00
(5) Gum	7-55	12,826-00
(6) Tendu leaves (bidi leaves)	8,238-00	18,40,045-00
(7) Other minor produce	..	2,130-00
Total	..	65,76,820-00

Employment.—Annually a large force of labour is provided with seasonal employment for various forestry operations through departmental agency, the Forest Labourer's Co-operative Societies and the forest contractors. This labour or the seasonally unemployed, try to supplement their slender resources by seeking employment on forest works and by collection and sale of forest produce such as fuel, bamboos, *tendu* leaves, gum, grass, *khus* and edible fruits. Carting of forest produce such as timber, firewood, charcoal, gums, etc., to the market places becomes an additional source of employment. Bamboos offer raw material for cottage industry such as making baskets, packing cases for bidis and other products of day to day usage in the mofussil areas. Manufacture of bidis is a flourishing industry in the District and as such it needs a special mention. Through sale

of *tendu* leaves, the Forest Department annually realises considerable revenue. This in turn offers seasonal employment to hundreds of people to collect leaves, cure them and manufacture bidis. In short, bidi making practically forms the back-bone of the rural economy in general and even urban economy to a certain extent in the District. The principal requirements of the people for which they are dependent upon the forests are timber and poles of various species for their constructional works, agricultural implements and fencing posts, etc., fuel, bamboos, grass for grazing of livestock, edible fruits and thorny bushes and climbers for fencing. Forests thus play an important role in the rural economy.

Measures to Secure Scientific Exploitation and Development of Forests.—The exploitation of forests is done as per the 'Working Plan' which lays down the details of scientific management of the forests for a prescribed number of years. The aim is to accelerate amelioration of the forest flora and fauna and to improve the growing stock in quality and quantity various plan schemes are under execution in the District. Physical achievements under each one of such plan schemes is given briefly as under.

Plantation of general utility timber: As mentioned in the foregoing paras, forests in the District have preponderance mainly of inferior species which are economically less valuable. Areas suitable for raising plantation of valuable species such as teak are brought under plantation for improving the growing stock both in quality and quantity. So far 1752.764 hectares (4,336.89 acres) have been planted with teak.

Plantation of bamboos and eucalyptus: With a view to raise the potential of raw material for pulp, plantation of bamboos and eucalyptus is undertaken. So far such plantations have been raised over 3783.370 hectares (9,779.95 acres).

Conservation and preservation of wild life : During the Fourth Plan, the construction of wild life sanctuaries at Nagjhira and Nawegaon was undertaken. These places are being provided with modern amenities for the tourists, with adequate facilities for sight seeing, hiking, swimming, boating, etc. Wild life in the surroundings is apt to provide immense pleasure and thrill to the tourists in this tract.

Development of pasture and fodder : With a view to provide palatable grasses and succulents to the milch cattle in the District, this scheme was put into operation from the year 1969-70.

Farm Forestry.—After the abolition of *ex-proprietary* forests, the *nistar* forests under the management of 'Gram Panchayats' became depleted. Naturally, the villagers find it difficult to secure their *nistar* for their *bona fide* consumption. The villagers thus have to rely exclusively on the surrounding reserved and *fazal* forests to meet their requirements. To augment the supply

that they can secure from the depleted forests, this scheme is introduced to raise plantations of village level utility species and transfer them to the Gram Panchayats for subsequent management after 5 years. So far plantations over 20 hectares have been raised.

Labour Welfare.—With a view to improve the living conditions of labourers camping in the forests during the period of their seasonal employment, basic requirements such as adequate shade and hygienically potable water are intended to be offered by erecting labour sheds and sinking new wells.

Roads and Bridges.—The entire forests are in compact blocks and very few all weather roads serve them. This results in complete stoppage of activities during the monsoon season. As such works of upgrading of the existing roads and construction of culverts and causeways over the *nallas* crossing the roads, are carried out under this scheme. The total length of all weather forest roads in the District extends over 268.678 kilometres.

Central Nurseries.—Central nurseries are established to provide adequate planting stock of optimum size for raising various plantations and meeting the requirements of *vana-mahotsava*.

Forest Development Board.—With a view to speedily improve the qualitative and quantitative growing stock from the mixed forests of the State, a 'Forest Development Board' has been constituted under a Director (with a status equivalent to that of the Conservator of Forests) with headquarters at Nagpur. One unit of this board under a Deputy Director (an officer of the status of the Divisional Forest Officer) is set up in the District. This unit is entrusted with the task of improving the growing stock to the tune of 800 hectares annually. Besides, the board would also employ modern and scientific methods of logging, dragging, exploitation, etc.

On similar pattern Mechanised Logging Units have already been established at Nawegaon and Gadegaon for scientific exploitation of forests. Adequate machinery, live-stock and staff are all geared into efficient working of such units.

Forest Villages.—Forest villages were established in the past to obtain assured source of labour for forestry operations. Government has now decided to grant the tenure rights in respect of land under tillage by the forest villagers. In addition, co-operative housing societies have been registered to provide decent dwelling sheds for them. Similarly efforts are also made to raise their economical status by starting small scale and cottage industries for the forest villagers.

DIRECTORATE OF INDUSTRIES

Organisation.—The work of the Directorate of Industries in Bhandara district is mainly confined to the development of cottage, small scale and large scale industries. The Department

of Industries was reorganised and the Directorate of Industries was formed in 1960. The control of cottage industries was transferred to the Directorate of Industries with effect from December 1, 1960.

Structure.—The head of the organisation of the Directorate of Industries is the Industries Commissioner and his office is at Bombay. Bhandara District which falls in the Vidarbha Region of the State is under the control of the Joint Director of Industries (Class I, State Service) whose office is at Nagpur. In addition to Bhandara District, he is also responsible for development and progress of cottage, small scale and large scale industries in other Districts in Vidarbha Region, viz., Akola, Amravati, Buldhana, Yeotmal, Chandrapur, Wardha and Nagpur. He is also the Deputy Controller of Weights and Measures and exercises direct control over district level administration under the Bombay Weights and Measures (Enforcement) (Amendment) Act, 1964.

The regional organisation follows the pattern of a revenue division. Every district has an Industries Officer. The District Industries Officer is under the executive control of the Collector of the District who is also an *Ex-Officio* Deputy Industries Commissioner. The Collector and Deputy Industries Commissioner, is directly responsible to the Industries Commissioner. Except the administration of weights and measures enforcement, the Regional Joint Director of Industries is the co-ordinating agency at District level and functions as technical adviser to the Deputy Industries Commissioner.

Bhandara district is split up into the following divisions for the purpose of enforcement of Weights and Measures Act :—

- (i) Bhandara tahsil and western half of Sakoli tahsil under Senior Industries Inspector (M) with headquarters at Bhandara.
- (ii) Gondia tahsil and eastern half of the Sakoli tahsil under Junior Industries Inspector (M) with headquarters at Gondia.

The Senior Industries Inspector is assisted by one junior clerk and other assistants, while the Junior Industries Inspector is assisted by one manual assistant. At the district level the Industries Officer is assisted by a Senior Industries Inspector and other necessary staff.

Inspection, investigation, collection of records and enforcement of Bombay Weights and Measures (Enf.) (Amend.) Act, 1964, are undertaken by Industries Inspectors. In addition, the Industries Inspectors are also required to render guidance to entrepreneurs for starting new industries.

In the sphere of promotion of large scale industries, the functions of the Directorate are restricted to processing of applications for industrial licences and offering suitable recommendations to the Government of India, under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, developing areas with facilities of

power, water, transport, etc., for location of large scale industries, providing facilities for industrial research by giving grants and export promotion.

In the development of Small Scale Industries the Directorate plays a major role by assisting entrepreneurs in the following ways :—

(i) securing land, water, power, (ii) organisation of Co-operative Industrial Estate, (iii) giving financial aid, (iv) assistance for importing machinery, spares and raw materials, (v) assistance for obtaining machinery on hire purchase basis, (vi) assistance for securing indigenous raw materials, (vii) marketing of products through Control Stores Purchase Organisation for buying requirements of State Government, (viii) quality marking of products of S.S.I., (ix) export promotion, (x) providing research facilities through Industrial Research Laboratories and research grants, (xi) imparting training to craftsmen, (xii) organisation of resource-based small and cottage industries through Government sponsored industrial co-operatives to stimulate industrialisation in industrially underdeveloped areas, etc.

The development of cottage, village industries and handicrafts is the responsibility of the Zilla Parishad. However, the Directorate gives technical guidance to the institutions under the Zilla Parishad.

Industries Officer.— Functions : Approval of Schemes.—Since July, 1968 the Industries Officer is empowered to approve the schemes which are not in the list of banned industries. On receipt of such approval the entrepreneurs are permitted to take steps to establish the industry.

Registration of Industries : A small scale industrial unit is required to get SSI registration from the Directorate, if it desires any help from the Government. An industrial unit can be registered provisionally if the proprietors of the unit have taken effective steps to establish the unit, such as purchase of land, building, machinery, etc. A provisionally registered unit on starting production within one year of such registration is eligible to get permanent registration. The total number of registered units up to March 1969 were 167.

Registration of SSI units for obtaining power subsidy : The small scale industrial units registered with this Directorate if using motive power could obtain a subsidy subject to the maximum of 2,000 units per month, provided the total connected load does not exceed 20 H.P. For Co-operative Societies there is no such limit. Such units after registration can apply every three months for claiming subsidy. 16 units have been registered under this Scheme.

Registration for Electricity Duty exemption : As per the Electricity Duty Act, 1951, a small scale industrial unit could be exempted from payment of electricity duty for a period of 5 years

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only. One small scale industrial unit has been registered under this scheme.

Assistance in obtaining machinery on hire purchase basis through Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation and/or National Small Industries Corporation : A small scale industrial unit registered with the Directorate of Industries can avail of machinery on hire purchase basis. However, industries of low priority are not normally considered. Only one small scale industrial unit has secured machinery under this scheme.

Registration for Incentives : New units which are established within the district are accorded various incentives as declared by the Government from time to time. No unit has so far been registered in the district under the scheme.

Import of raw material and machinery : Applications from small scale industrial units for imported raw material and machinery and also indigenous scarce raw materials are processed. Items such as parafin wax, mutton tallow, coconut oil, ferrous and non-ferrous metals are distributed through Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation. Assistance rendered in this respect during the years from 1964-65 to 1968-69 is as under :—

Year (1)	Ferrous		Non-Ferrous metal (4)	Other (SIC) (5)	Machinery (6)	Cement (7)	Coal/Coke (8)
	Imp. (2)	Ind. (3)					
1964-65 ..	3	12	32	..	2	36	2
1965-66 ..	..	15	34	..	..	19	5
1966-67 ..	..	12	32	7	..	20	..
1967-68 ..	1	11	26	5	6	20	1
1968-69 ..	..	6	..	..	..	20	1

Assistance in procuring land : Land for proposed industrial estate is acquired under the Land Acquisition Act for handing over to the Industrial Estate Co-operative Society, Bhandara. Action under sections 6 and 9 of L. A. Act has already been completed.

Financial Assistance : Applications for financial assistance under State Aid to Industries Act, and through the Bank of Maharashtra or Maharashtra State Financial Corporation are processed by this office. Seven Small scale industries have received financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 41,000-00 from the Bank of Maharashtra.

Similarly 606 goldsmiths have received financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 3,84,100 for business purposes as rehabilitatory measures subsequent to the enforcement of the Gold Control Order, 1963.

CO-OPERATION DEPARTMENT

Introduction.—The Co-operation Department plays an important role in an agro-industrial economy and particularly so in the sphere of rural credit. The activities of the Co-operation Department are associated with rural finance, agricultural marketing, industrial co-operatives, regulated markets and money-lending business, and are governed under various enactments. The Co-operation Department is entrusted with the administration of the Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960; the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963; the Bombay Money-lenders Act, 1946 and the Bombay Warehousing Act, 1959 and the Rules made thereunder.

Organisation.—Since the formation of the Zilla Parishad the co-operative movement has come under the dual control of the State Government and the Zilla Parishad. The Co-operation Department of the Zilla Parishad is responsible for registration, organisation, supervision, inspection, etc., of all types of co-operatives in rural areas having authorised share capital of Rs. 50,000 or working capital up to Rs. 5 lakhs. The supervision and control over regulated markets is also entrusted to the district sector. All other schemes are looked after by the department in the State sector.

The Commissioner for Co-operation and Registrar of Co-operative Societies is the head of the Co-operation Department at the State level. The Divisional Joint Registrar is the Divisional Officer who also works as the Registrar of Money-lenders for his division. He is assisted by the Divisional Deputy Registrar, three Divisional Assistant Registrars, one Textile Officer and one Assistant Statistician. The Divisional Special Auditor is incharge of the Audit Section of the Division.

The activities in the State sector in the district are placed under the administrative control of the District Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bhandara, who is a class I Gazetted Officer in the Maharashtra Co-operative Service and upon whom have been conferred various statutory powers by the Government. Under the Bombay Warehousing Act, 1959, the District Deputy Registrar has to work as 'Prescribed Authority' and under the Money-lenders Act, he has to work as the Registrar of Money-lenders. He is assisted by three Assistant Registrars who are class II Gazetted Officers of whom one Assistant Registrar is for Land Development Bank, while the jurisdiction of the other two Assistant Registrars extends over an area specified by the District Deputy Registrar after taking into account the actual work load. The Assistant Registrar is incharge of Sakoli tahsil and Paoni and Bhandara Development Blocks of Bhandara tahsil and the other Assistant Registrar is incharge of Gondia tahsil and Tumsar and Mohadi Blocks of Bhandara tahsil.

Co-operative Officers.—There is one Co-operative Officer, Class III and six Assistant Co-operative Officers to assist the regular Assistant Registrars in their work. The District Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies are empowered to exercise all powers under the Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960. They also work as Assistant Registrars of money-lenders for their respective jurisdiction. Since the formation of the Zilla Parishad the services of one Assistant Registrar have been transferred to it. He works as the Co-operation and Industries Officer of the Zilla Parishad. He is directly responsible to the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad. He is delegated with certain powers of Registrar of Co-operative Societies in so far as registration of new societies and amendments to the bye-laws of certain types of societies coming under the purview of the Zilla Parishad are concerned. He has also to work on the Co-operation Sub-committee of the Zilla Parishad. He is assisted in his work by the Block Development Officers and Extension Officers.

Supervisory Staff.—The main responsibility of the supervising staff is confined to supervision over the working of all agricultural credit and multipurpose societies in the district. They are expected to supervise every society in their charge. There are at present 27 supervisors working in the district whose appointments are made by the District Deputy Registrar with the approval of the Divisional Joint Registrar, Nagpur. They are placed under the administrative control of the Assistant Registrars. In pursuance of the policy of democratic decentralisation, supervising unions have been organised at 13 development blocks. One of the supervisors in each block works as the *ex-officio* Secretary of each supervising union. Services of these supervisors are also placed at the disposal of these unions for inspection and supervision of affiliated primary societies.

District Co-operative Board.—Education and training in co-operation and propaganda for the spread of co-operative movement are carried out by the District Co-operative Board under the guidance of the Maharashtra State Co-operative Union Ltd., Bombay. The membership of the Board is of two classes, *viz.*, ordinary consisting of all co-operative societies in the district and associate, consisting of individuals. A nominee of the Financing Agency, the Bhandara District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bhandara, the District Deputy Registrar, and Executive Officer of the Maharashtra State Co-operative Union are *ex-officio* members of the Board. It has a membership of 906. There are 4 instructors in this district who are appointed by the Maharashtra State Co-operative Board, Bombay, for training and propaganda. Out of these four instructors, one instructor works as the Secretary of the Board. The Board conducts courses for secretaries as also for the members of the managing committee of the Board.

Auditing.—The audit of co-operative societies is a statutory duty of the Registrar under Section 81 of the Maharashtra

Co-operative Societies Act, and accordingly he, by himself or through the persons authorised on his behalf audits every society at least once a year. As stated above the audit staff has now been separated from the regular administrative wing. The audit staff of the district consists of one Special Auditor, Co-operative Societies, Bhandara, who is a Class II officer, 10 Auditors and a Sub-auditor. The audit staff in the district is under the administrative control of the Divisional Special Auditor who is a Class I officer at divisional level.

The Special Auditor at the district level makes arrangements for audit of all societies in the district for which purpose a list of societies at the end of the co-operative year (i.e. on 30th June) is prepared and societies are allotted to different members of the audit staff, according to the volume of business and the size of societies. The Act also provides for appointment of certified auditors with necessary qualifications. The societies which can get their accounts audited by certified auditors are notified in the Gazette and accordingly these societies make arrangements to get their accounts audited through certified auditors from the approved panel.

Maharashtra State Co-operative Societies Act, 1960.—The Maharashtra State Co-operative Societies Act of 1960 provides that all disputes touching constitution, election of officers, conduct of business and management of societies shall be referred to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Accordingly the District Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrar act as arbitrators for deciding the disputes in the district referred to them. Under the Act, the Divisional Joint Registrar is empowered to appoint persons to work as Registrar's nominees to whom the disputes can be referred for decision, in case the District Deputy Registrar or Assistant Registrar is not in a position to decide the dispute. All these officers are selected from legal practitioners of good standing. The powers regarding the award of decision in the disputes are exercised by the Assistant Registrars in the department, concurrently with the District Deputy Registrar and Divisional Joint Registrar for all societies of which the headquarters are in their jurisdiction.

Co-operation and Industries Officer.—The Co-operation and Industries Officer of the Zilla Parishad who works as the Secretary of the Co-operation and Industries Committee of the Zilla Parishad heads the department at the district level. He is assisted by one Co-operative Officer, one Assistant Co-operative Officer, 13 Extension Officers and other requisite staff. The department controls training-cum-production centres at Pimpalgaon, for carpentry and smithy. So far three sessions have been completed and the centre has trained 28 candidates.

Since the formation of the Zilla Parishad, 129 societies have been organised and registered in the district including two consumers' co-operative societies, 11 dairy societies, 7 industries

societies, 19 labour contract societies, 11 farming societies, 4 housing societies, 44 industrial societies, 17 fisheries societies and 12 forest labourers co-operative societies.

Money-lending.—The salient features of the Bombay Money lenders Act are licensing of money-lenders, maintenance of accounts by money-lenders in prescribed proformas and restriction on rates of interest.

The Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Nagpur, works as the Divisional Joint Registrar of Money-lenders. The Assistant Registrar works as Assistant Registrar of Money-lenders in his respective jurisdiction while the District Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies works as Registrar of Money-lenders in the district. He issues licences to money-lenders and is responsible for the administration of the Bombay Money-lenders Act. The Co-operative Officer and Assistant Co-operative Officer have to work in their individual capacity both as Co-operative Officers, Assistant Co-operative Officers and Inspectors of Money-lenders.

MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Introduction.—The Bhandara district forms a separate division of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation from 16th October 1974. The nationalisation of passenger transport was started in 1947. The services in the district were initially run by the Provincial Transport Services. After Reorganisation of States in 1956 the Provincial Transport Services continued to operate buses in Bhandara district till the merger of the same in the Maharashtra Road Transport Corporation in 1961.

For administrative convenience of operating the services the State has been divided into 15 viable units called divisions.

The officer-in-charge of each division is called the Divisional Controller who is a class I officer. He is immediately under the control of the central office of which the General Manager is the administrative head, assisted by the following departments and branches viz.,—

- (1) Administration, (2) Accounts and Audit, (3) Traffic, (4) Mechanical Engineering, (5) Statistics, (6) Organisation and Methods, (7) Security, (8) Stores, (9) Civil Engineering, (10) Secretariat, (11) Legal and (12) Central Workshop.

The Divisional Controller is responsible for the operations in the Bhandara division. He is assisted by 13 class II officers who are charged with the following functional responsibilities :—

The Divisional Traffic Officer is in-charge of all matters relating to traffic and operation. He is assisted by the Divisional Traffic Superintendent. The Labour Officer looks after all matters relating to labour relation with the administration. Matters relating to publicity in the division are also looked after by the Labour Officer.

The Divisional Accounts Officers and the Divisional Statistician look after the work in connection with accounts and statistics. The technical side of the division is looked after by the Divisional Mechanical Engineer. In addition, there are as many Depot Managers as there are depots who are wholly responsible for the working of the respective depots in the division.

In so far as the working of the State Transport Corporation in the district is concerned, the operations were first started on Nagpur-Gondia and Gondia-Bhandara routes. The first depot in the district was opened in 1968 with 36 vehicles at its disposal.

Maintenance.—The light and heavy repairs of the buses are carried out at the divisional workshop situated at Nagpur. After the operation of every 24,000 kilometres the vehicles are routed by the depots to the divisional workshop for preventive maintenance. In addition, daily maintenance of vehicles in the district is carried out at Bhandara depot which has 47 vehicles attached to it. Regular daily and weekly maintenance and 8,000 kilometres docking for maintenance is also carried out in this depot.

Various amenities to the travelling public are provided at various bus stations in the district*.

The Corporation also provides amenities to its employees. A medical dispensary functions at Bhandara. For the recreation of the employees a library and a reading room have also been provided at Bhandara.

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

Departmental Set-up.—Before 1956, fisheries activities in the eight districts of the Vidarbha region and the three districts *viz.*, Chhindwara, Seoni and Betul, now under Madhya Pradesh, were looked after by an Assistant Fisheries Development Officer posted at Nagpur while the Assistant Fisheries Development Officer with headquarters at Bhandara was in-charge of fish seed collection scheme with statewide jurisdiction. The post of Assistant Fisheries Development Officer was redesignated as the Superintendent of Fisheries, with the Reorganisation of States in 1956. Subsequently, the Superintendent of Fisheries, Bhandara, was placed in-charge of the fisheries activities in Bhandara district while the Superintendent of Fisheries, Nagpur, supervised the work in the remaining seven districts of the Vidarbha region. Both the Superintendents were responsible directly to the Director of Fisheries, Bombay.

With the addition of one more post of Superintendent under the Second Five-Year Plan in 1958 with headquarters at Chandrapur, the work in Chandrapur and Yeotmal districts was transferred to him. The post of an Assistant Director of Fisheries was created with headquarters at Nagpur as a regional head for the Vidarbha region.

* For details see chapter 7.

The Assistant Director of Fisheries is the planning, supervising and co-ordinating officer for all the activities of the department in the three fisheries divisions in the Vidarbha region.

Duties.—The duties of the Superintendent of Fisheries are as follows :—

- (i) to carry out survey of new sheets of water to assess their suitability for pisciculture;
- (ii) to stock tanks and ponds with suitable varieties of fish every year;
- (iii) to construct nurseries and to nurture fry in them;
- (iv) to form and supervise all the fisheries co-operative societies and to devise ways and means to improve the socio-economic conditions of fishermen;
- (v) to investigate applications from fishermen for loan and subsidy from Government;
- (vi) to effect loan recoveries and credit the money into the treasury;
- (vii) to associate and encourage fishermen to take advantage of different schemes of the department;
- (viii) to collect statistics of fish and other data pertaining to fisheries and fishermen of the district;
- (ix) to give technical guidance to the deep tank fishing operations conducted by the societies;
- (x) to supervise the working of ice and cold storage plant; and
- (xi) to supervise in general the work of development of fisheries in areas under his jurisdiction.

Fisheries Co-operatives.—Improvement of socio-economic condition of fishermen has been one of the main objectives of the Fisheries Department. Attention is focused on the formation of fisheries co-operatives. There were 46 fisheries co-operative societies functioning in the district in 1968, with a total membership of 2,500 fishermen. The total share capital of these societies as on 30-6-1968 was Rs. 41,852 and Government share capital contribution, Rs. 43,500. Apart from the activities undertaken by these societies, fishing permits to net out fish from the departmental tanks are also given to the societies. During departmental works, such as transplantation of fingerlings, induced breeding experiments, etc., members of these societies are employed on daily wages.

There were about 15,000 fishermen in the district, out of whom 10,000 were full-time fishermen and rest were part-time workers.

Developmental Activities.—Water resources available for the fish culture in the district are vested in different authorities, *i.e.*, Fisheries Department, Irrigation and Power Department, Zilla Parishad and individual fishermen. To undertake development

of fisheries, most of the water resources are leased out, preferably to the fisheries co-operative societies for a period of 5 years on reasonable lease amounts. This has also helped in bringing the scattered fisherman population under co-operative fold.

The tanks under fish culture in the district are stocked with quick growing varieties of fishes i.e., Rohu, Catla, etc. To increase the fish production, fisheries co-operative societies, local bodies and individual pisciculturists are helped by supplying quality fish seed at subsidised rates. The Department also extends loan-cum-subsidy facilities to the fisheries co-operative societies and individuals for desilting the tanks in order to make these tanks more productive.

Taking into consideration the increasing demand of fish seed of cultivable fishes in the district, a well equipped fish seed farm was established at Seonibandh in 1963-64. The total area of the farm is 4.27 hectares. The farm consists of 6 nurseries, 2 rearing ponds and 6 brood fish ponds. Water supply to the farm is from the Seonibandh reservoir throughout the year.

In addition to this, there are about 15,300 fishing nursery tanks which are looked after by the Department.

CHAPTER 14—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

INTRODUCTION

THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT vests in the various statutory bodies enjoying autonomy in different degrees. The progress of these institutions could be marked in three ways. Firstly, in regard to their constitution, from fully or partially nominated bodies, they have now become entirely elective, though there is a provision of nomination by the Government of a few members. Secondly, in regard to their franchise, it has reached the widest limit viz., universal adult franchise, through an enactment so that every person who (i) is a citizen of India and (ii) has attained the age of 21 years of age is now entitled to be enrolled as a voter. Before 1958, there was no provision for the reservation of seats for women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Act XVI of 1958 has now provided for the reservation for women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Thirdly, wider and wider powers have been gradually conferred on local bodies and their needs for the administration of areas under their jurisdiction have been met with.

As regards the controlling authority, before the reorganisation of the States the State Government used to exercise the control. Afterwards this power was delegated to the Commissioners of the division. Now Divisional Commissioner, Nagpur Division, supervises these institutions in the Vidarbha region of which Bhandara district forms part.

MUNICIPALITIES

Under the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities Act, 1922, as amended, the State Government have powers to declare any local area to be a municipal committee and to extend the present limits of existing municipal committees. Every municipal committee consists of elected councillors. The State Government have also powers to prescribe the number of wards, number of councillors and seats reserved for women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

The term of the office of a municipality is for five years. Every municipality has to be presided over by a president elected by the councillors from among themselves.¹ Each committee has a vice-president who is nominated by the president from amongst the members of the committee. A president or a vice-president could be removed from the office by the committee by passing a resolution to that effect provided that the three-fourth of the total

¹ As per the recent amendment the President of the municipality is elected directly.

number of members of a committee vote in favour of such a resolution. They are also removable from the office by the State Government for misconduct or neglect or incapacity to perform duties after giving reasonable opportunities to the concerned persons to represent their case.

Under the provisions of the Municipalities Act and rules made thereunder the duties of the president are as follows:—

- (a) to preside over the meetings of the municipal committee;
- (b) to guide the financial and executive administration and perform such other executive functions as may be performed by the municipality; and
- (c) to supervise and exercise control over all officers and servants of the municipality.

The Act provides for the formation of sub-committees of different branches of a municipal committee for administration by the elected members.

In so far as the duties of the municipality are concerned, they are divided into obligatory and optional. The matters essential to the health, safety, well-being of the population fall under obligatory duties while optional duties cover those which despite being legitimate objects of local expenditure, are not considered absolutely essential. The following are some of the obligatory duties:—

- (1) lighting public streets, places and buildings;
- (2) watering public streets and places;
- (3) cleaning public streets, places and abating all public nuisances;
- (4) extinguishing fires and protecting life and property from fire;
- (5) regulating or abating offensive or dangerous trades or practices;
- (6) removing obstructions in public streets and places;
- (7) securing or removing dangerous buildings and reclaiming unhealthy localities;
- (8) constructing and maintaining public streets, markets, slaughter houses, latrines, drains, washing places, etc.;
- (9) providing sufficient supply of water;
- (10) naming streets and numbering premises;
- (11) registering births and deaths;
- (12) carrying out public vaccination;
- (13) establishing and maintaining hospitals and dispensaries and providing medical relief;
- (14) establishing and maintaining primary schools; and
- (15) printing and publishing annual administration reports of the committee.

The municipality may impose taxes on the following items:—

- (1) a tax on buildings and lands;
- (2) a tax on trade and profession or art;
- (3) market dues on persons exposing goods for sale in any place or market belonging to the State Government;
- (4) water rate where water is supplied by the municipality;
- (5) octroi tax on animals or goods brought within the municipal limits;
- (6) tax on pilgrims;
- (7) lighting rate and;
- (8) drainage tax.

The State Government may raise objections to the levy of any tax which appears to be unfair in its incidence in the interest of the general public and suspend the levy of such tax until the objections are removed. Many of the taxes are levied by the municipalities but the rates at which they are levied do not enable them to meet all their expenditure. Therefore, their incomes have to be supplemented by various types of grants by the Government, both recurring and non-recurring.

The control of the municipalities in the State vests in the Director of Municipal Administration. The State Government have powers to suspend the execution of a resolution passed by a municipality or prohibit any act which is considered to be in contravention of powers conferred upon it by the Maharashtra Municipalities Act, 1965; provided that a reasonable opportunity is given to the committee to show cause against the order. The Government is also entrusted with powers to direct the performance of any work or duty if it is satisfied that the committee has made default in performing such a work or duty. It may also direct the committee to bear the expenses incurred in such default. If the Government is satisfied that a committee makes default again and again or is incompetent to discharge its duties or abuses its powers, it may suspend the working of a committee, and the same is entrusted to the executive officer appointed by the Government for general improvement in the administration of the committee.

Five towns in Bhandara district, viz., Bhandara, Gondia, Tumsar, Pauni and Tirora have municipal committees established under the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities Act, 1922. Their details are shown in the following statement:—

Name of Municipality	Year of establishment	1961 Population	Total number of municipal council-lors	Seats reserved for	
				Scheduled castes (5)	Women (6)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		
Bhandara	1867	27,710	29	..	..
Tumsar	1867	24,910	19	2	..
Pauni	1867	14,801	20	..	..
Gondia	1919	56,320	31	..	..
Tirora	1956	12,520	13	2	1

The five municipalities together covered 100 per cent of the urban population or 10.74 per cent of the total population of the district in 1961. As regards incidence of taxation the *per capita* municipal tax during 1961-62 was 13.22 at Gondia, 10.03 at Bhandara and 11.29 at Tumsar as against 5.90 and 3.02 at Paoni and Tumsar, respectively. The income and expenditure of all municipal committees in 1965-66 was more by 48.25 and 49.23 per cent over that of 1961-62, respectively. The break-up of the income from all sources during 1965-66 revealed that 35.14 per cent of the income was derived from Government contribution, 11.44 per cent from octroi, 19.39 per cent from house tax and other taxes and the remaining 34.03 per cent was derived from revenue received from the municipal property and other sources. The break-up of expenditure on the other hand, during the same period showed that 11.45 per cent of the expenditure was incurred on general administration, 2.17 per cent on public works and the remaining 86.38 per cent on other items such as public health, safety, public convenience, etc.

ZILLA PARISHAD

Introduction.—The villages in ancient India were autonomous units and their main feature in the administration was the prevalence of freedom and autonomy in governing the village institutions. Some efforts were made during the British administration to revive these institutions with the object of giving training to the local people in the administration by providing them representation in these bodies.

With the attainment of freedom, India started earnest efforts towards economic and social advancement and planned economy was accepted as the guiding principle. Community Development Programmes and National Extension Service were envisaged to improve the lot of the rural population. But afterwards it was realised that rural development was not commensurate with the expectations of the Government and this was mainly attributed to the non-participation of rural people in the implementation of such developmental schemes. The Government subsequently appointed a committee called 'Balwantrai Mehta Committee' to go into the causes behind this state of affairs.

The Balwantrai Mehta Committee visited various developmental activities, interviewed Government officials and other social workers. The committee in its report submitted to the Government stressed the need for the local self-governing institutions in taking active interest in the developmental activities. The 'interference' in the working of the local bodies by outsiders leading to confusion in their working principle was one of the findings of the Committee. To remedy the existing state of things it pointed out that responsibility for such regional and local development work should be assigned to such local bodies at the district level with Government accepting the role of guiding, supervising and planning from a higher level and making available the

required finances. The Committee also recommended the formation of local committees on par with the block development committees to be named as Panchayat Samitis and at the district level a district committee to be called as Zilla Parishad. Thus the three-tier system, that is to say Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads become the responsible functionaries in the new set-up involving decentralisation of administration.

In keeping with these recommendations the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis Act was passed in the year 1961. The Act provides for the establishment of Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis in rural areas and entrusts the execution of certain works and schemes in the State Five Year Plan to such local bodies.

By and large, all functions of Government administration including development activities at the district level, excluding matters relating to the law and order, judicial and quasi-judicial functions, and development functions involving high technical skill like research station etc., have been devolved on the Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis. The Zilla Parishad has replaced the erstwhile statutory bodies known as the *Janpad Sabhas* and the district panchayat mandal. The functions of the non-statutory body known as the district development board have of course been absorbed. Municipalities, however, remain unaffected as the municipal areas are excluded from the jurisdiction of the Zilla Parishad.

Powers and Functions.—Following is the brief description of the powers and functions of the office-bearers of the Zilla Parishad:—

President.—(a) has to preside over the meetings of the Zilla Parishad ;

(b) has access to the records of the Zilla Parishad ;

(c) discharges all the duties imposed and exercises all the powers conferred on him ;

(d) supervises the administration and submits to the Parishad all problems connected therewith which required its order ; and

(e) exercises administrative supervision and control over the Chief Executive Officer for securing implementation of resolutions or decisions of the Zilla Parishad or of any committee or of any Panchayat Samiti.

The president in cases of emergency directs the execution or suspension of any work or the doing of any act which requires the sanction of the Zilla Parishad or any authority thereof, and immediate execution or doing of which, in his opinion, is necessary for the service or safety of the public, and may direct that the expense of executing such work or doing such act shall be paid from the District Fund.

Provided that, he shall report forthwith the action taken under this section, and the full reasons thereof to the Zilla Parishad, the subjects committee in the next meeting and the Zilla Parishad or the committee may amend or annul the direction made by the president.

Vice-President.—(a) in the absence of the president, presides over the meetings of the Zilla Parishad;

(b) exercises such of the powers and performs such of the duties of the President as the President from time to time subject to the rules made by the State Government in this behalf, delegates to him by an order in writing; and

(c) pending the election of a President or during the absence of the President exercises the powers and performs the duties of the President.

Chairman of standing committee or subjects committee.—Subject to the provisions of the Act, and the rules made thereunder by the State Government, the chairman—

(a) convenes, presides over and conducts the meetings of the committee; and

(b) has access to the records of the committee.

The chairman of any such committee in relation to the subjects allotted to them—

(a) can call for any information, return, statement, accounts or report from any officer employed by or holding office under the Zilla Parishad; and

(b) enter on and inspect any immovable property of the Zilla Parishad or any institution under it or any work or scheme in progress undertaken by the Zilla Parishad.

(c) In regard to the chairman of the standing committee, he can in addition to the powers stated above grant leave of absence for a period of more than two months but not more than four months to any officer of class I (other than the Chief Executive Officer) or class II of the Zilla Parishad.

Save as otherwise provided by or under this Act, the powers and duties of the subject committee are such as may be prescribed by regulations.

Chief Executive Officer.—The Chief Executive Officer, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, the Block Development Officers and the heads of various departments of the Zilla Parishad are its executive officers. They are all gazetted officers and are transferable by the State Government to other districts. The Chief Executive Officer—

(i) lays down the duties of all officers and servants of the Zilla Parishad in accordance with the rules;

(ii) is entitled to call for any information, return, statement, report from any officer or servant of the Zilla Parishad;

(iii) supervises and controls the activities of the Zilla Parishad;

(iv) has power to possess the papers and documents connected with the proceedings of the meetings of the Zilla Parishad and its committees;

(v) draws and disburses money out of the District Fund;

(vi) is entitled to attend the meetings of the Zilla Parishad or any of its committees; and

(vii) assesses and gives his opinion confidentially every year on the work of the class I and II officers of the Zilla Parishad and forwards them to such authorities as are prescribed by the State Government and lays down the procedure for the writing of such reports.

Heads of the Departments.—(1) Every head of the department in respect of the works and development schemes pertaining to his department accords technical sanction thereto.

(2) He assesses and gives his opinion confidentially every year on the work of class II officers working in his department and forwards them to the Chief Executive Officer.

Organisation.—The Zilla Parishad, Bhandara, along with 13 Panchayat Samitis was established in the year 1962. The areas under the jurisdiction of the Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis correspond to the district and block boundaries except the areas of municipal towns. The Zilla Parishad covers 99.20 per cent of the area and 89.26 per cent of the total population of the district. The population covered includes the entire rural population residing in the 1,486 villages of the district.

The Zilla Parishad has 51 direct elected councillors including one councillor belonging to the scheduled castes. In addition, two women councillors have been co-opted by the elected councillors. There are five associate councillors who are chairmen of five federal co-operative societies conducting business in the district.

The Zilla Parishad functions through a standing committee presided over by the President and six subjects committees for finance, works, agriculture, co-operation, education and health. Two subjects committees are presided over by the vice-president and four by two chairmen elected by the Zilla Parishad to preside over the two specified subjects committees each. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer works as the secretary of the standing committee while the respective heads of departments work as secretaries to the subjects committees concerned.

In what follows is given in brief the functioning of the various departments of the Zilla Parishad :—

The General Administration department of the Zilla Parishad deals with the non-technical matters such as establishment, parishad revenue, panchayats, social welfare and planning. The A-2669—40-A.

General Administration department is controlled and directed by the standing committee of the Zilla Parishad. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer is its secretary and he heads the General Administration department. The social welfare section of the department is incharge of the Social Welfare Officer. He is entrusted with the work of implementation of various schemes for the uplift and welfare of backward classes. The amelioration of the backward classes is sought by granting them various educational and financial concessions.

The Finance department of the Zilla Parishad is divided into four branches viz., audit, budget, accounts and stores. It is headed by the Chief Accounts and Finance Officer who is assisted by an Accounts Officer. The Finance department is controlled by the finance committee of the Zilla Parishad with the Chief Accounts and Finance Officer as its secretary. Preparation of the budget is also a function of the Finance department which is dealt with by an independent branch. The department co-ordinates the budgets of the several departments before they are placed for approval before the Zilla Parishad. This department has also a stores branch which is controlled by a Superintendent. This is in addition to another stores branch functioning in the Works department.

The Works department like other departments is directly under the administrative control of the Chief Executive Officer. The Parishad Executive Engineer is the head of the department and is solely responsible for the execution of the works pertaining to buildings, roads and irrigation under the Parishad. The execution of these works is vested mainly in the Deputy Engineers in-charge of sub-divisions under the Executive Engineer.

The Agriculture department is incharge of the Agricultural Development Officer who is directly responsible to the Chief Executive Officer. He is assisted by the District Agriculture Officer and the Agricultural Officer and members of the subordinate service. The Agriculture Development Officer has to undertake *kharif* and *rabi* campaigns, high yielding variety programme, intensive cultivation schemes and has to look after the work of the subordinate staff.

The Animal Husbandry department is headed by the District Animal Husbandry Officer, who deals with the treatment of sick animals and carries out vaccinations against diseases of live-stock and breeding of animals.

The Industries and Co-operation department of the Zilla Parishad is incharge of the Co-operation and Industries Officer. The department is controlled and directed by the co-operation committee of the Zilla Parishad with the Co-operation and Industries Officer as its secretary. The department administers the extension and promotional activities of the co-operative societies. It also deals with the grant of loans to small scale and cottage industries, grant of financial assistance to *bona fide*

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craftsmen and backward class artisans, grant of subsidies to industrial co-operatives and loans to industrial societies.

The Public Health Officer is the head of the Health department of the Zilla Parishad. He is also the secretary of the health committee of the Zilla Parishad which guides and directs the functioning of the Health department. He is responsible for effecting measures to control epidemics, maintaining the sanitation of the district and all the medical and public health activities in the district except the civil hospital and State controlled schemes. There are at present, 14 primary health centres, 65 ayurvedic dispensaries, 22 allopathic dispensaries, 21 family planning centres, 18 leprosy survey, education and treatment units and 31 maternity and child welfare centres in the district.

The Education Officer heads the Education department of the Zilla Parishad. He also works as the secretary of the education committee. The education committee of the Zilla Parishad guides and directs the working of the Education department. Technical guidance and suggestions for improvement are made by the Director of Education, Maharashtra State. The Zilla Parishad has under its control 1,151 primary schools, 5 Indian-English middle schools and 48 higher secondary schools.

The various developmental activities undertaken by the Zilla Parishad are financed by the imposition of taxes on profession, trade, calling for employment as also on water-supply, public entertainments and a special tax on lands and buildings. The financial assistance given by the State Government includes 70 per cent of the land revenue collected within the area of the Zilla Parishad. Government also pays to the Parishad purposive grants at the rate of 75 per cent of the expenditure incurred on the specific works and development schemes transferred to the Parishad. The other grants include a deficit adjustment grant.

The total revenue receipts of the Zilla Parishad for the year 1963-64 were Rs. 146.88 lakhs. The major portion of receipts was from Government. It accounted for 93.4 per cent, whereas the Zilla Parishad receipts amounted to 6.6 per cent of the total revenue receipts. The total revenue expenditure was Rs. 156.65 lakhs. Following were the major items of expenditure along with the percentage expenditure incurred on each item.

	Per cent
General Administration	3.0
Education	43.2
Community development project.. ..	7.9
Buildings and communications	11.1
Miscellaneous.. .. .	7.3
Other items	27.5

The break-up of the income of the Zilla Parishad during 1965-66 revealed that 3.77 per cent of the income was derived from self-raised resources, 21.98 per cent from Government grants and the remaining 74.25 per cent was derived from other sources such as loans and advances and remittances. The break-up of expenditure during the same period, on the other hand, showed that 56.76 per cent of the expenditure was incurred as revenue expenditure and the remaining 43.24 per cent was incurred on debt section.

The figures of revenue receipts and revenue expenditure for the year 1968-69 stood at Rs. 70,564,008 and Rs. 59,697,955, respectively.

PANCHAYAT SAMITIS

With a view to promoting development of democratic institutions and securing a greater measure of participation by the people in the development plans and in local and governmental affairs by adopting a policy of decentralisation of powers and functions, Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis have been established in the district.

Under Section 57 of the Maharashtra Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samitis Act, 1962, every panchayat samiti will consist of the following members :—

- (a) all councillors who are elected on the Zilla Parishad from the electoral divisions in the block,
- (b) the co-opted members of the Zilla Parishad residing in the block,
- (c) the chairmen of such co-operative societies conducting the business of sale and purchase of agricultural produce in the block, as nominated by the Government (to be associate members),
- (d) the chairman of co-operative society conducting business relating to agriculture (not being a society falling under the head 'C' above), in the block, co-opted by the panchayat samiti (to be an associate member),
- (e) one member who is a regular resident in the block if the woman member belonging to scheduled castes or scheduled tribes is not available.
- (f) *Sarpanchas* elected by members of the village panchayats.

Powers and functions of Chairman.—The term of the office of the chairman and members of the panchayat samiti is co-terminous. The chairman is paid an honorarium of Rs. 300 per month with the facility of free residential accommodation.

Subject to the provisions of the Act and the rules or regulations made thereunder :

(1) The Chairman of a panchayat samiti—

- (a) convenes, presides over and conducts meetings of the panchayat samiti ;

(b) has access to the records of the panchayat samiti ;

(c) exercises supervision and control over the officers and servants of or under the Zilla Parishad and working in the block, in matters of execution and the accounts and records of the panchayat samiti ;

(d) in relation to the works and development schemes to be undertaken from block grants, exercises such powers of sanctioning acquisition of property or sale or transfer thereof as may be specified by the State Government.

(2) The chairman is authorised—

(a) to call for any information, return, statement, account or report from any officer or servant working under the panchayat samiti ;

(b) to enter into and inspect any immovable property in the block occupied by the Zilla Parishad or any institution in the block under the control and management of the Zilla Parishad or the panchayat samiti or any work or development scheme in progress undertaken by the Zilla Parishad or the panchayat samiti or under its direction.

Powers and functions of Deputy Chairman.—(1) The deputy chairman of a panchayat samiti—

(a) in the absence of the chairman, presides over the meetings of the panchayat samiti ;

(b) exercises such of the powers and performs such of the duties of the chairman as the chairman from time to time may, subject to the rules made by the State Government in that behalf, delegates to him by an order in writing ; and

(c) pending the election of the chairman or during the absence of the chairman, exercises the powers and performs the duties of the chairman.

At present there are 13 panchayat samitis working in the district at Bhandara, Gondia, Tirora, Goregaon, Amgaon, Salekasa, Tumsar, Mohadi, Pauni, Sakoli, Lakhandur, Deori and Arjuni Morgaon. As per the Census of 1961 these 13 panchayat samitis covered as many as 1,486 inhabited villages in the district.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS

From the early times, the villages formed self-sufficient units and were administered by the gram panchayats. During the British period, these gram panchayats lost their status due to concentration of powers in the hands of the central and provincial governments. In the early 19th century, efforts were made towards granting a restricted measure of self-government in order to keep away the popular discontent. Accordingly, an act was

passed in 1915 under which a few village panchayats were formed in the district, the supervision having been entrusted to the district councils then in existence.

Later on, the Village Panchayats Act of 1946 envisaged the establishment of village panchayats in villages, the population of which was above 1,000, above 500 and above 150 in three stages. Under this Act, membership of between 5 and 15 was envisaged on the basis of adult franchise. After the reorganisation of States, the Bombay Village Panchayats Act, 1958, was made applicable to the district.

Under this Act, which was put into force in the district from June 1, 1959, women were represented in the panchayats for the first time. The membership of revenue patils who were *ex-officio* members of the panchayats was abrogated. The division of the duties of village panchayats as obligatory and optional was annulled and the panchayats were made responsible for the allround development of villages.

The special features of the new Act are :—

- (a) reservation of two seats for women in every village panchayat,
- (b) constitution of *gram sabhas* of all adult residents of the village,
- (c) establishment of district village panchayat *mandal* for every district (now defunct since the formation of the Zilla Parishad),
- (d) appointment of the secretary of a village panchayat as a full-fledged government servant,
- (e) training of the village panchayat secretary,
- (f) payment to village panchayats of grant-in-aid of not less than 25 per cent of the land revenue collected in villages, and
- (g) constitution of group *nyaya* panchayats for five or more villages with fairly wide judicial powers, both civil and criminal.

A district village panchayat officer was appointed to control the administration of village panchayats in the district. He assists the Collector in his functions and duties in respect of administration of village panchayats with the aid of district auditor, five sub-auditors and other necessary staff. Besides, two Social Welfare Inspectors were allotted to the district to work in the capacity of supervisory staff.

With the formation of the Zilla Parishad the district panchayat *mandals* were abolished and the village panchayat officer now works with the Zilla Parishad. The control of village panchayats now vests in the Zilla Parishad and is exercised through the Panchayat Samitis.

The number of independent village panchayats, group gram panchayats and villages covered in each tahsil in 1964 is shown below:—

Tahsil	Number of inhabited villages	Number of independent village panchayats	Number of group village panchayats	Number of villages covered by group village panchayats
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Gondha	436	269	63	188
Bhandara	485	156	132	394
Sakoli	565	188	146	434
Total	1,486	613	341	1,016

Note.—Column (5) perhaps includes hamlets. The total of columns (3) and (5) does not therefore, tally with the figures in column (2).

On the financial side, the village panchayats receive grants from the Government up to 30 per cent of the land revenue collected in the village or one rupee per head of population whichever is more. The village panchayats also get the entire local fund cess collected in the village. At present it is collected at the rate of 20 paise per rupee of land revenue. The village panchayats can raise it with Government approval up to 100 paise per rupee of the land revenue.

During the period 1961-62 the total income of the 954 village panchayats was put at Rs. 17,55,000. The amount of grant was the main component and the same stood at Rs. 9,48,000, *i.e.*, 54.02 per cent. On the side of expenditure, the major (*i.e.*, 68.33 per cent) head of expenditure represented items which included improvement of village roads, construction of new drinking water wells, construction of panchayat office, schools, etc. The percentage increase in the income and expenditure of village panchayats in 1965-66 over that in 1962-63 worked out to 304.03 and 309.93, respectively. The break-up of the income of village panchayats from all sources during 1964-65 revealed that 19.63 per cent of the income was derived from taxes and fees, 4.57 per cent from contributions, fees and donations and 63.62 per cent from the grant-in-aid. The analysis of expenditure, on the other hand, showed that 75.08 per cent of the expenditure was incurred on sanitation and public works while the remaining expenditure was incurred on welfare and social activities.

TOWN PLANNING AND VALUATION

TOWN PLANNING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT

The Maharashtra State has an independent Town Planning and Valuation Department under the administrative control of the Urban Development, Public Health and Housing Department.

This department came into existence in the year 1914 with the Consulting Surveyor to Government, Pune, now designated as the Director of Town Planning, Maharashtra State, as its head. The department, as its name indicates, principally deals with the important subject of town planning and valuation of real properties. Some of the important duties and functions of this department as stipulated by Government are as under :—

Duties and Functions of the Department.— *Town Planning :*

(1) To prepare the regional plans, development plans and town planning schemes under the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, which has come into force in the State with effect from 11th January, 1967.

(2) To render assistance to the municipal authorities in the preparation of development plans and town planning schemes in the shape of advice, as well as loan of the services of technical personnel for the preparation of development plans, draft town planning schemes, etc.

(3) To perform the duties of the Town Planning Officers and Arbitrators, when so appointed by Government under the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, to carry out surveys, to prepare existing land use plans and development plans to scrutinise development or building permission cases, to tender advice to the Tribunal of Appeal and to draw up final town planning schemes, to work as members of the Regional Planning Boards, constituted by Government and to prepare regional plans.

(4) To advise Government on all matters regarding town and country planning including legislation.

(5) To advise and prepare town development, improvement, extension and slum clearance schemes under the Municipal Acts.

(6) To prepare development schemes or layouts of—

(i) lands belonging to Government,

(ii) lands of co-operative housing societies and

(iii) lands of private bodies with the sanction of Government.

(7) To prepare village layouts for extension of old village *gaothan* and new village *gaothan* sites.

(8) To advise the Government on housing, slum clearance, regional planning and prevention of ribbon development including legislation.

(9) To prepare type designs for the housing of the middle and poorer classes including Harijans.

(10) To scrutinise miscellaneous building permission cases and layouts received from the Collectors and to recommend suitable building regulations for adoption in the areas concerned.

Valuation : The Director of Town Planning is the chief expert adviser of Government on this subject and his duties under this heading include—

(1) valuation of agricultural and non-agricultural lands and properties in towns and villages belonging to Government and intended for the purposes of sale or lease ;

(2) valuation of Government properties for the purpose of rating under the Provincial Municipal Corporation Act and to function as the Authorised Valuation Officer for finalisation of the lists of assessment of all the properties in municipal towns submitted by the chief officers under the provisions of the Maharashtra Municipalities Act, 1965 ;

(3) valuation for miscellaneous purposes such as cantonment leases, probate or stamp duty, etc. ;

(4) valuation for the purposes of fixing standard rates of non-agricultural assessment and prescribing zones of values in all villages and rising localities in the vicinity of important and growing towns ;

(5) valuation for the purposes of fixing standard table of ground rents and land values in respect of lands in cantonments ;

(6) scrutiny of awards of compensation under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 ;

(7) supplying trained technical assistants to do duty as Special Land Acquisition Officers in important towns where the land acquisition work is of a very important and responsible nature ;

(8) giving expert evidence when called upon to do so in the District Courts and High Court when appeals are lodged against the awards of compensation under the Land Acquisition Act ; and

(9) undertaking valuation work on behalf of Railways and other departments of the Central Government and private bodies with the sanction of Government on payment of fees, etc.

Miscellaneous: (1) To advise the various heads of departments of Government in the selection of sites required for public purposes.

(2) To see that all town planning schemes or layouts sanctioned by Government are properly executed within a reasonable period or periods fixed in the schemes, and

(3) To advise Government as regards interpretation, amendment of or addition to the Maharashtra Regional Town Planning Act, 1966, or rules thereunder.

Regional Planning : The statutory powers regarding planning were embodied under the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915, which was in force till its replacement by the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1954. The Act of 1954 generally incorporated the provisions of the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915, and in addition made obligatory on every local authority (barring village panchayats) to prepare development plan for the entire area within its jurisdiction.

The Bombay Town Planning Act, 1954, applied to lands included within the municipal limits only and therefore there was no provision for exercising proper and effective control over the planning and development of land in peripheral areas outside the municipal limits which were growing in an irregular and haphazard manner. The evil results of such uncontrolled growth and development have already become apparent in the vast areas outside Greater Bombay and Pune and other important urban centres. It was considered that the only way to tackle adequately these evil effects arising out of rapid industrialisation and urbanisation would be by resorting to regional planning for areas around the metropolitan centres like Bombay, Pune and Nagpur and by developing counter magnets for the disposal and reallocation of both industries and population within the region.

There was no statutory power under the Act of 1954 for the preparation of regional plans which has, therefore, been repealed and replaced by the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966. The Act came into force in the State with effect from 11th January, 1967. This Act provided for the establishment of regions and constitution of Regional Planning Boards for the preparation of regional plans, designation of sites for new towns, establishment of development authorities to create new towns, preparation of development plans for the municipal areas and town planning schemes for execution of the sanctioned development plans.

The scope of the regional plans for an urban region consists of the formation of a policy for guidance and control of development within the region in such a manner that—

(i) land be used for the best purposes for which it is most suitable, e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, etc., having regard to both public and private interests;

(ii) adequate means of communications be provided for traffic throughout the region;

(iii) building development be concentrated in areas where adequate public utility services can be supplied economically;

(iv) ample areas be reserved as open spaces;

(v) amenities and countryside be protected including preservation of landscape; and

(vi) preservation of historical monuments, etc.

Thus in short, the object of the regional plan is to regulate development so as to maintain a proper balance between buildings and open spaces and secure healthy and economic urban growth.

Organisation.—The department as stated above, was started in the year 1914 with the Consulting Surveyor to Government (now designated as the Director of Town Planning, Maharashtra State, Pune) as its head who was later on given the assistance of one Assistant Consulting Surveyor to Government (now designated as the Deputy Director of Town Planning), one Deputy Assistant Consulting Surveyor to Government (now designated as the Assistant Director of Town Planning), and two Senior Assistants (now designated as Town Planners) with the requisite staff. As the activities of this department increased, these Assistants had to be posted at prominent places in the State to attend the work of town planning, valuation, etc., very essentially required in and around the towns and cities. There has been a tremendous increase in the activities of the department in recent years with the consequential increase in the number of branch offices in the State. This department also spares officers to work in the awards section of Revenue and Forests department to scrutinise the land acquisition awards in the Bombay Collectorate to deal mainly with valuation work in Bombay, and in the rural housing cell of the Rural Development and Co-operation department to prepare layouts of villages included in the schemes of that department. Officers of this department are also called upon to give expert evidence in the Courts in acquisition references and are also appointed to function as Arbitrators to finalise the draft town planning schemes prepared by the planning authorities. They also work as part time Special Land Acquisition Officers at Pune, Solapur, Ahmadnagar, Satara, etc.

Consequent upon the reorganisation of States on 1st November, 1956, Bhandara district was included within the jurisdiction of the branch office at Nagpur with the Assistant Director of Town Planning as the head of the office. The framing and execution of town planning schemes and the development of the areas within municipal limits was being regulated under the Central Provinces and Berar Town Planning Act till 1st May, 1965 since when the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1954, was extended to the Vidarbha region. The Act of 1954 has been repealed and replaced by the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, which came into force from 11th January, 1967. According to the provisions of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, it is obligatory upon every municipal council, termed in the Act as a planning authority, to carry out survey, prepare an existing land use map and prepare and publish a development plan

for the entire area within its jurisdiction. There are in all five municipal councils, *viz.*, Bhandara, Gondia, Tumsar, Paoni and Tirora in the district. Out of these, the draft development plan of Tumsar has been prepared and published in April 1966. The draft development plan of Bhandara was also prepared but the municipal council did not publish the same. The municipal council was, therefore, advised to make a resolution declaring its intention to prepare the development plan under Section 4 (1) of the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1954. Similarly, the Gondia Municipal Council also declared its intention to prepare the development plan under Section 23 of the Maharashtra Regional and Town Planning Act, 1966, and it has, with prior approval of Government, appointed Town Planning Officers.

A number of layouts in respect of the Government lands in the Bhandara district were prepared and necessary advice was given to the revenue authorities in respect of valuation of Government lands either to be leased out, sold or granted. Besides, a number of cases regarding grant of *nazul* lands, grant of building permissions, grant of no objection certificates for cinema purposes and establishment of petrol pumps, etc., were dealt with and remarks were offered to local revenue authorities.

CHAPTER 15—EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

IT IS NOT PRECISELY KNOWN AS TO WHAT SYSTEM OF EDUCATION prevailed in ancient and mediæval times in the district. The education by heritage might be considered as one of the systems of education during these times. It is also likely that schools and *pathshalas* were organised by the learned persons belonging to the various communities for imparting instructions in the various fields of knowledge then available. The conditions that prevailed by the end of 18th century in Bhandara district have been described by the old Gazetteer of Bhandara as under :

"The Bhandara District occupies a fairly high place in the Province in regard to education. The number of schools has increased from 50 to 141 and the number of scholars from 3,691 to 8,696 since 1880-81. It is the fourth District in the Province in respect of the number of its schools and 52 per thousand of males can read and write. The standard of literacy among Muhammadans and Jains is markedly higher than the average for the district. Female education is comparatively backward, only 199 females being returned as literate at the last Census. The Monro High School, Bhandara, is the only high school in the District. This was originally a middle school and was raised to the status of a high school in 1903-04. In 1905-06 it contained 55 scholars in the high school and 71 in the middle department. There are two English middle schools in Bhandara ; one is a municipal school with 139 scholars and the other is a mission school with 21 scholars. There are five vernacular middle schools in the District including one belonging to the United Free Church Mission with 171 scholars ; of these four have training classes for the teachers' certificate examination. The number of primary schools is 129 with 7,165 scholars. Two schools, containing 142 scholars, are supported by the United Free Church Mission and two are maintained by private persons with grants from Government. The District has four girls' schools, two departmental and two aided, containing 196 girls in all. The aided schools are at headquarters and the departmental schools are at Pauni and Tumsar. Of the 8,696 scholars in 1905-06, 1,344 were in receipt of secondary and 7,352 of primary education. The percentage of children under instruction to those of school-going age in this year was 18 for boys and less than a half per cent for girls.

The expenditure on education increased from Rs. 31,000 in 1901-02 to Rs. 45,000 in 1902-03 and to Rs. 51,000 in 1905-06. In the latter year Rs. 10,500 were provided from Provincial revenues, Rs. 35,000 from local funds and Rs. 5,500 from other sources. The District is under the Inspector of Schools for the Nagpur Circle and has two Deputy Inspectors.”*

The education department in the district was established in 1862.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

Since the time of the publication of the old Bhandara District Gazetteer substantial progress has been achieved in the field of primary and secondary education and female literacy in the district as could be seen from the following statement :—

Year (1)	Total (2)	Males (3)	Females (4)
1901	2.53	5.16	0.06
1911	2.75	5.44	0.15
1921	4.82	9.37	0.37
1931	4.06	7.61	0.56
1941	6.91	11.89	1.97
1951	14.50	26.20	2.90
1961	24.07	39.90	8.19

The statement shows that literacy percentage has increased by more than six times in 1961 over that in 1931. The percentage of female literacy especially showed a marked improvement from 0.56 in 1931 to 8.19 in 1961. Male literacy rates also improved substantially during the two decades 1941—51 and 1951—61. The scheme of compulsory education introduced by the State Government contributed basically to the improvement of literacy rates.

The district seems to be divided into three broad zones, viz., northern, central and southern with highest literacy rates being concentrated in the western zone comprising northern parts of Gondia and Bhandara tahsils. Literacy rate drops down as we go from north to south. The southern portions of Sakoli tahsil have the lowest literacy rates. Within the district, Gondia tahsil has the highest literacy for total population and for rural areas also.

*Central Provinces District Gazetteers : Bhandara district, 1908, pp. 173-74

The following table shows the classification of literates in different degrees, in 1961 :—

TABLE No. 1
Classification of Literates in Different Degrees in the District

(1)	Persons (2)	Males (3)	Females (4)
Total population	12,68,286	6,35,174	6,33,112
Illiterate	9,63,000	3,81,752	5,81,248
Literate (without educational level) ..	1,69,555	1,36,459	33,096
Primary or Junior basic	1,27,641	1,09,721	17,920
Matriculation and above—			
<i>Rural</i>	3,078	2,032	146
<i>Urban</i>			
Matriculation or higher secondary ..	4,157	3,530	627
Technical diploma not equal to degree	87	87	..
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	51	41	7
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree.	502	470	32
Engineering	17	17	..
Medicine	20	17	3
Agriculture	8	8	..
Veterinary and Dairying	5	5	..
Technology	1	1	..
Teaching	139	89	50
Others	48	45	3

PRIMARY EDUCATION

Education is the most important single factor in achieving rapid economic development for creating a social order founded on the values of freedom, social justice and equal opportunities. During the last twenty years there has been a rapid growth in the number of primary schools in the district. The number increased from 37 in 1950-51 to 928 in 1960-61 ; and 1,215 in 1967-68. The State Governments policy of converting primary schools into basic schools has also made steady progress in the district. In 1962 there were 74 basic schools and additional 4 schools were subsequently opened in 1966.

The number of teachers in the primary schools during 1961-62 stood at 3,705; out of them 1,780 or 48.2 per cent were trained teachers. In 1967-68 there were as many as 5,166 male and 640 female teachers, out of whom 4,091 male and 489 female teachers were trained. The number of pupils for the year 1961-62 stood at 1,02,386 including 33,696 girl students, as against 1,53,849 including 55,395 girl students in 1967-68.

In 1962, 5 towns and 888 villages in the district had primary schools and 456 villages had schooling facilities, *i.e.*, primary schools situated within a mile from a village. 142 villages did not have even schooling facilities. The Third Five-Year Plan was intended to expand and intensify the educational efforts and to bring every home within its fold. Efforts were accordingly made so that every village in the district, at present, enjoys the schooling facility. The number of boys and girls enrolled increased by 21.29 per cent and 49.38 per cent, respectively, in the year 1965-66 over that of the year 1961-62. The increase in the number of girl students in primary schools is mainly due to opening of many schools in rural areas.

As regards accommodation for the schools, out of 788 buildings in which primary schools were housed, 768 were owned by local bodies, 18 by private institutions and 8 by Government. In 1967-68 the number of school buildings increased by 66.

On the expenditure side, the State Government's share in 1961-62 was 80.9 per cent of the total expenditure which was incurred through grants-in-aid to the Zilla Parishad and building loans. Similarly, students belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and wards of parents whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 1,800 get free education. This list is further supplemented by the inclusion of children of political sufferers and army personnel. During the Third Plan period, the total amount spent on general education programme touched the mark of Rs. 57.24 lakhs out of which Rs. 54.66 lakhs were spent on primary education.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

The progress of secondary education in the district is also quite rapid. The institutions providing secondary education are adequately dispersed in rural and urban areas of the district. The number of high schools increased from 12 in 1950-51 to 60 in 1960-61 and to 129 during 1967-68. The number of students enrolled in 1962 stood at 22,457 including 3,112 girl students, while it was 38,869 including 9,350 girl students in 1967-68. In 1962 the Bhandara tahsil had the largest number of schools, *i.e.*, 37, while Gondia and Sakoli tahsils had 15 and 8, respectively. The number of schools increased by 68.49 per cent in 1965-66 over that of the year 1961-62, whereas the strength of boys and girls enrolled increased by 51.20 and 135.13 per cent, respectively, over that of 1961-62. The increase in the number of girl students is mainly

due to the extension of secondary school facilities in rural areas and also due to the change in the traditional outlook of villagers who were reluctant to send their wards to schools.

During 1961-62 private institutions managed 48, *i.e.*, 65.8 per cent of the secondary schools in the district. The Government's share in the total expenditure on secondary education was 78.9 per cent and was incurred through grants-in-aid, salaries, equipment, freeships and scholarships, etc., and special concessions to the backward class students. Other indices noted by the 1961 Census pertaining to secondary education as compared to the State average are as follows :—

(1)	Bhandara district (2)	Maharashtra State (3)
Population served by each secondary school ..	17,586	13,805
Area served by each secondary school (sq. miles) ..	49.1	40.8
Pupil-teacher ratio	22	25
Pupils per secondary school	308	338
Average annual salary per teacher (Rs.)	1,579	1,870
Average annual expenditure (direct) per secondary school ..	28,575	39,543
Average number of teachers per secondary school ..	13.7	13.7

The district provided seven examination centres for S.S.C. and Higher S.S.C. Examinations conducted by the Vidarbha Board of Secondary Education, Nagpur. In 1962, 1,458 and 258 students passed the S.S.C. and Higher S.S.C. Examinations, respectively.

The problem of school buildings and necessary equipment is gradually solved through grants-in-aid extended by the Government. Inadequacy of training facilities coupled with unwillingness of trained staff to serve in the rural areas creates difficulties in the administration of these schools. The district is served with the facility of basic training colleges. There are 5 such basic training colleges situated at Bhandara, Bela, Sakoli, Dandegaon and Gondia, providing training in spinning, weaving and agriculture. The colleges at Gondia and Bela are managed by Government. The basic training college, Bhandara, is exclusively for female candidates.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Till the year 1957-58 there was no facility of higher education in the district. In that year one Arts and Commerce College was started at Gondia. Due to the rapid increase in the number of primary and secondary schools and the growing need of the local people for collegiate education, some new colleges were opened to provide higher education. The number of such institutions increased from 2 in the year 1961-62 to 7 in 1967-68 and the strength of students also increased by 340.58 per cent during the same period. The following table shows the progress of higher education in the district:—

TABLE No. 2
Higher Education in the District, 1963-64.

Name of the College (1)	Faculty (2)	Enrolment			Teacher		Total (8)
		Boys (3)	Girls (4)	Total (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)	
N. M. D. College of Arts and Commerce, Gondia.	Arts, Science and Commerce.	547	60	607	27	1	28
P. P. College of Education, Gondia..	Diploma in Education	69	10	79	6	..	6
J. M. Patel Arts and Commerce College, Bhandara.	Arts and Commerce..	..	..	.. Opened in June 1964.	..	..	..
Samartha Mahavidyalaya, Lakhani ..	Do.	..	..	.. Opened in June 1964.	..	..	..
S. N. M. Arts and Commerce College, Tumsar	Do.	..	..	.. Opened in 1965.	..	..	..
Government College of Education, Bhandara	B. Ed. ..	..	..	.. Opened in 1965.	..	..	..
Arts and Commerce College, Tirora..	Arts and Commerce..	..	..	.. Opened in 1966.	..	..	..

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TABLE No. 2—contd.
Higher Education in the District, 1967-68.

Name of the College (1)	Faculty (2)	Enrolment			Teacher		
		Boys (9)	Girls (10)	Total (11)	Males (12)	Females (13)	Total (14)
N. M. D. College of Arts and Commerce, Gondia.	Arts, Science and Commerce.	1,220	166	1,386	46	6	52
P. P. College of Education, Gondia ..	Diploma in Education	71	9	80	9	..	9
J. M. Patel Arts and Commerce College, Bhandara.	Arts and Commerce	612	107	719	17	..	17
Samartha Mahavidyalaya, Lakhari ..	Do.	495	27	522	14	..	14
S. N. M. Arts and Commerce College, Tumsar	Do.	330	53	383	14	..	14
Government College of Education, Bhandara	B. Ed. ..	61	9	70	6	2	8
Arts and Commerce College, Tirora..	Arts and Commerce..	190	12	202	6	1	7

Shree Sharda Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, Gondia, imparts training in music. The enrolment of the institution was 52 in 1963-64 and it increased to 70 in 1967-68.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

A few more special schools comprising agricultural schools, technical schools have been opened in the district during the Third Plan period. The number of such schools increased from 9 in the year 1962-63 to 13 in the year 1965-66, whereas the strength of boys and girls also increased correspondingly from 307 and 2 in the year 1961-62 to 719 and 81, respectively, during 1965-66. There is a Government agricultural school at Gondia and Government Mining Polytechnic at Tumsar. The latter imparts instructions in mining and mine-surveying. The following statement gives the information of other professional and special educational institutions working in the district in 1967-68 :—

Name of Institution (1)	Type of Institution (2)	Enrolment (3)	Teachers (4)
Leprosy Training Centre, Gondia	Leprosy	82	2
Sanskrit Pathshala, Gondia ..	Oriental school ..	16	1
Government School for the Blind	Blind	50	7
Shivaji Tailoring and Cutting Institute, Sakoli.	Arts and Crafts ..	16	2
Kshirsagar Tailoring and Cutting Institute, Bhandara.	Arts and Crafts	16	2
Tailoring and Cutting Institute, Shahapur.	Arts and Crafts ..	9	1
Parvatidevi Shivan Class, Bhandara	Arts and Crafts	18	
Adarsha Shivan Sanstha, Gondia..	Arts and Crafts ..	38	3
Sangamira Education Society, Bhandara.	Arts and Crafts ..	19	2
Nanda Tailoring and Cutting College, Bhandara.	Arts and Crafts ..	16	1

SOCIAL EDUCATION

A social education scheme, introduced by the former Madhya Pradesh Government intends to literate the villagers with a view to achieving their all round development. Under the scheme, viz., *Gram Shikshan Mohim*, introduced by the Maharashtra Government, the adult literacy classes are conducted. The villages which achieve cent per cent literacy are honoured by *gram gaurao* ceremony. Such ceremonies were celebrated at 36 villages by the end of 1966. The number of adults made literate stood at 10,481 men and 4,967 women.

LIBRARIES

There were five libraries in the district recognised by the Government as on March 1964, of which one was a district library and other four were town libraries. These libraries were sanctioned Rs. 1,567 as grants-in-aid during 1963-64 by the State Government.

ORGANISATION

Prior to the establishment of the Zilla Parishad, education was under the State control and was administered by the Director of Education. Since the formation of the Zilla Parishad, education has come under dual control, viz., that of the State Government and the Zilla Parishad. The Deputy Director of Education, Vidarbha region, is stationed at Nagpur and he exercises jurisdiction over all the districts of Vidarbha including Bhandara.

The education department of the Zilla Parishad is under the control of the Parishad Education Officer who also acts as secretary to the education committee of the Zilla Parishad. He supervises, controls and guides the work of his subordinates. He is entrusted with powers to inspect and release grants to the primary and secondary schools in the district. He also grants recognition to primary, middle and secondary schools. He is assisted in his work by the Deputy Education Officer. The work of the inspection of the secondary schools is done by the Assistant Deputy Education Officers.

All the girls' schools, whether primary or secondary come within the purview of the Zilla Parishad. The Assistant Deputy Education Officer visits and inspects the primary schools whereas secondary schools are inspected by the Inspectors of Schools.

DIRECTORATE OF PUBLICITY

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY

Organisation.—The Directorate of Publicity, Maharashtra State, has four regional offices in the State. The regional office, Nagpur, is under the control of the Regional Publicity Officer who exercises jurisdiction over the eight districts of Vidarbha including Bhandara. At the district level, the District Publicity Officer looks after the publicity work and other concerned matters.

The Regional Publicity Officer works as a link between the Government offices and the press in the district. He keeps in touch with these offices and issues news items and write-ups to the press. He also acts as a correspondent of the Directorate of Publicity, Maharashtra State, and gives publicity to the various Government schemes and activities. He keeps the Director of Publicity informed of the trends in the local press and public opinion and helps the film section of the Directorate in producing documentary films and news-reels on subjects pertaining to the region.

District Publicity Officer.— The District Publicity Officer, Bhandara, a representative of the Directorate of Publicity in the district works under the supervision of the Regional Publicity Officer, Nagpur. He is entrusted with the work of giving publicity to the various schemes and progress made under the development programmes. The reports and comments appearing in the press in respect of his district are scrutinised by him and submitted to concerned officers for necessary action.

He supplies material, booklets and information for being incorporated in various publications of the Directorate. He keeps the Regional Publicity Officer acquainted with trends in the local press. He also keeps himself in close touch with the Collector and carries out his instructions in respect of publicity.

The information centre at the district headquarters forms the part of the district publicity office. It is provided with maps, charts, models and various Government publications showing the progress of development works. The centre also subscribes to important newspapers.

Rural Broadcasting.— Under the scheme of contributory scheme of community listening, a village desirous to having a radio set is required to pay Rs. 175 as installation contribution and Rs. 90 towards maintenance charges.

The installation and routine maintenance of these radio sets is carried out by Rural Broadcasting Unit. In Bhandara district, there are in all two maintenance units located at Bhandara and Sakoli. A third unit is proposed to be opened at Gondia. Each of the unit is placed in charge of a supervisor, who is provided with requisite testing equipment, etc., to attend the routine and minor repairing of radio sets. A departmental vehicle is stationed at each unit for transport of radio sets, allied accessories and staff to and from the villages in connection with installation and maintenance of the radio sets.

The radio sets are installed in the public places such as village *chawdi*, village panchayat office, library, etc. In 1969, 613 villages in the district were provided with radio sets.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Department of Technical Education, Maharashtra State, controls the technical schools and institutions and courses leading upto diploma standard.

The necessity of promoting technical education was pointed out in 1880 by the Indian Famine Commission. The Atkinson Dawson Committee report stressed the need of apprenticeship to the technically trained personnel in the province of Bombay and recommended suitable centres or classes in the regional languages and suggested that minor technical centres should be placed under one central technical institution. In the year 1948, the then

Government of Bombay, setup the Department of Technical Education and technical education at all levels in the State was vested in it. The Department until 1963 was also conducting the examination for diploma and certificate courses offered by the polytechnics and some of the technical institutions in the State. A separate board, *viz.*, the Board of Technical Examinations with headquarters at Bombay was constituted in 1963 to take this responsibility. The Board lays down syllabi for various courses, prescribes text reference books and awards certificates and diplomas to successful candidates.

Apart from the above, the Department also looks after the training schemes, sponsored by the Government of India, *viz.*, (i) craftsmen training scheme, (ii) apprenticeship training scheme, and (iii) evening classes for industrial workers.

The Department is headed by the Director of Technical Education, Maharashtra State. He is assisted in his work by the Deputy Directors of Technical Education, placed in charge of the divisions of the State. The Deputy Director of Technical Education, Nagpur, looks after technical education in the Vidarbha region of which Bhandara district forms a part.

The polytechnics cater to engineering or technology diploma courses of three years duration. Theoretical and practical instructions are given to trainees of the diploma institutions who on passing the examination are absorbed in supervisory capacity in the related industry. Technical high schools are secondary schools with a technical bias. Their aim is not to train the students specially for entering into wage-earning occupations but to give them a broad based training in basic engineering workshop courses without neglecting the academic subjects. The aim of vocational high schools, on the other hand, is to provide the students from rural areas with such type of training as could be useful for occupations in industry. The training of skilled workers required for various industries is offered at the Government industrial training institutions. Students are so trained as to make them skilled artisans for suitable industrial employment. The other type of training is mainly vocational where training is offered in cottage and small scale industries with a view to prepare the trainees for gainful employment. The trainees in the industrial training institutions admitted to the trades of one or two years duration could after completion of training join the concerned industry as semi-skilled workers.

The number of technical institutions during 1966-67 stood at 18, of which 4 were subsequently closed in 1967-68, and the intake capacity in selected trades in industrial training institutions in the district was 640. Of the 14 institutions in 1967-68, nine were craft and needle craft institutions. The industrial training institution at Gondia, which is the only institute of its type, in the district, provides courses to train the students as electrician, draftsman, motor mechanic, moulder, welder, blacksmith, fitter, etc.

The total intake capacity of the institute is 192. There are two technical high schools in the district located at Gondia and Tumsar, the intake capacity of which is 80 and 64, respectively. The pre-vocational training centre, Gondia, offers courses in black-smithy, turning, fitting, carpentry, moulding, welding, etc. The duration of the course is for three years. The centre can accommodate 45 students. The facility of basic training and related instructions is also available at the centre at Gondia. During 1967-68 the intake capacity of this centre was 80. The craft and needle craft institutions numbering seven in 1967-68 are located at Bhandara with two and one each at Sakoli, Gondia, Tumsar, Lakhni and Pauni. The intake capacity of these institutions during the same period was 160 and they were run by private bodies.

CHAPTER 16—MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

THE GROWTH OF MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH CONSCIOUSNESS is a recent phenomenon. It was brought about by the spread of Western education coupled with the progress made in the field of scientific research. During the old days, the ailment was generally ascribed to the evil influence when the general masses lacking in education were under the spell of orthodox thought and as such the remedies thought fit for curing physical disorders were propitiating the evil influence through sacrifices rather than medical treatment.

Even then the people had the knowledge of anatomy and the *vaidyas* used to treat patients under the *ayurvedic* system of medicines based upon the use of different medicinal herbs and minerals. The reference to different kinds of *rasas* and *bhasmas* in the early Sanskrit treatises like the *Sushruta*, *Ashtangahridaya*, *Charak*, etc., bears sufficient testimony to the knowledge of the *vaidyas* in respect of chemistry and different minerals. The system of diagnosis of the *vaidyas* was generally through the reading of pulses (*nadi pariksha*).

The advent of the Muslim rule in the country witnessed the spread of a system of medicine that had its origin in Arabia and that was in vogue in the neighbouring countries known as the *unani* system of medicine. The method of diagnosis and treatment of the *hakims* following this system of medicine did not differ much from the one followed by the *vaidyas*. Besides the *vaidyas* and *hakims*, the third class of people engaged in providing medical assistance were known as the *vaidus*. They had a very good knowledge of the rich medicinal properties of the different herbs. However, they lacked in the knowledge of human anatomy and they were not able to read the pulse, though exceptions were not unknown, and hence their diagnosis was mainly based upon the symptoms of the disease as narrated by the patient or his close associates. They also used to treat sick animals in the absence of any veterinary medical system. They used to move from place to place.

In the absence of the specialised knowledge of gynaecology and obstetrics the experience of the elderly ladies in the joint family was of immense help in respect of anti-natal and post-natal care of expectant mothers as the deliveries generally used to take place at the residence rather than at the existing maternity hospitals

as the people were under the obsession of the orthodox views. The elderly ladies in the family also used to treat the minor ailments with a small stock of medicine which they always preserved in what was known as *ajibaicha batva* and which could be well compared with the stock of patent medicines maintained at homes in recent times.

Modern Trends.—The spread of Western education and the strides made in the field of scientific research made a large percentage of the population health conscious. Hence it will be interesting to know the 'medical relief' provided at the time the old Bhandara District Gazetteer was published in 1908. The account pertaining to it is reproduced below:

"The District has altogether 10 dispensaries, four at head-Medical quarters including the mission hospital, and the Relief remainder at Tumsar, Tirora, Gondia, Sakoli, Nawegaon and Pauni. The public dispensaries have accommodation for 40 in-patients, the Bhandara main dispensary containing 16 beds. The police dispensary contains accommodation for 10 patients. The daily average number of in-door patients at the public dispensaries during the decade ending 1901 was 10 and that of out-door patients 517. The number of patients treated at the public dispensaries during the years 1901 to 1905 averaged 89,000 annually. The mission hospital was started in 1889 by the United Free Church Mission. In 1895 the present hospital blocks comprising male and female wards, operation rooms, two private wards, hospital assistant's quarters, and store rooms, were erected as a memorial to the late Revd. Robert Barbour of Bonskeiel, Scotland, who left funds for the salary of the Medical Missionary. During 1905-06 the operation room was reconstructed and equipped with the most modern surgical appliances. An additional piece of land was purchased and added to the compound, on which new sanitary arrangements and a shelter for the open air treatment of consumptives are to be erected. The income of the public dispensaries in 1905 was Rs. 14,500, of which the greater part was provided from Provincial and local funds. The principal diseases treated were malarial fevers and bowel and chest complaints. The number of operations performed annually during the decade ending 1901 approximated to 1,600. A midwife is employed at the main dispensary and one at the branch dispensary, Gondia."

"Vaccination is only compulsory in the municipal towns of Bhandara, Tumsar and Pauni, but is carried on throughout the district from October to March yearly. In towns 10 to 13 per cent of the population have been vaccinated annually during the last few years. Taking the district as a whole, 26,114 people were vaccinated during 1904-05; the cost per successful case was Rs. 0-1-9, and the total rate per mile of population was 39 in this year, the percentage of successful primary vaccinations being 99. Over 96 per cent

of the children born and surviving to one year of age have been vaccinated since 1891. The number of revaccinations has been about 800 annually from 1901 to 1905. The staff employed during 1904-05 consisted of one native Superintendent and 14 vaccinators. The cost of the operations in 1904-05 was Rs. 2,500."*

Hospitals and Dispensaries.—The number of hospitals has increased from 5 in 1950 to 7 in 1966. Out of these, five hospitals were managed by the State Government and the remaining two by the Zilla Parishad and the Municipal Council Bhandara, respectively. The General Hospital, Bhandara, has a provision for 99 beds, 44 for males and 55 for females. The hospital provides facilities of X-ray, ambulance service, operation theatre, maternity ward, anti-rabic treatment, etc. One resuscitation centre is also functioning in this hospital for blood collection and donation to the patients. The following statement shows daily average of in-door and out-door attendance of patients in this hospital:—

(1)	1964 (2)	1965 (3)	1966 (4)
Daily average of in-door	114.45	103.35	116.10
Daily average of out-door	193.89	204.69	254.13

The other four Government owned hospitals are the B. G. Women's Hospital (for females), the T. B. Hospital (both for males and females) and the K. T. S. Hospital (for males), all situated at Gondia and the Police Hospital at Bhandara. The bed strength of these hospitals during 1960 was 30, 50, 30 and 12, respectively. The Police Hospital is meant for only police patients and serious cases are referred to the General Hospital, Bhandara, for further treatment.

As regards dispensaries there were 51 Government and Government-aided dispensaries in the district in 1964, out of which two were managed by the Government and the rest by the Zilla Parishad. In 1966 the number rose to 92. The dispensary fund committee hospital at Gondia has been taken over by the State Government while the management of hospitals and dispensaries run by the former dispensary fund committee at Tumsar and Pauni is entrusted in the respective municipal councils.

The rural medical aid is provided through the allopathic dispensaries dispersed all over the district where all preventive and immediate measures are under taken. Five such allopathic dispensaries with in-door facilities are functioning in the rural areas of the district.

There is no cottage hospital in the district.

Table No. 1 shows the position of in-door and out-door patients in the district in various hospitals.

* Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara, District 1908, pp. 174-75.

TABLE No. I
PATIENTS TREATED IN THE HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES IN THE DISTRICT

District/tahsil (1)	Year (2)	In-door patients treated			Out-door patients treated		
		Males (3)	Females (4)	Children (5)	Males (6)	Females (7)	Children (8)
Bhandara	1950	281	565	219	26,199	30,026	33,052
	1955	622	956	585	22,984	18,018	21,028
	1960	1,423	1,708	980	55,736	36,504	30,510
	1965	1,772	1,959	1,662	1,23,715	98,027	85,093
Gondia	1950	492	513	273	32,936	18,972	25,195
	1955	369	939	555	27,232	21,254	20,235
	1960	6,188	5,547	2,087	43,494	30,810	35,776
	1965	1,019	2,803	1,640	77,048	88,554	79,257
Sakoli	1950	108	58	23	17,484	6,748	10,739
	1955	84	68	46	19,508	8,934	15,308
	1960	182	186	132	25,521	15,387	26,028
	1965	172	209	100	68,676	25,149	53,205
District Total	1950	881	1,136	515	76,619	55,746	68,986
	1955	1,075	1,963	1,186	69,724	48,206	56,571
	1960	7,793	7,441	3,199	1,24,751	82,701	92,314
	1965	3,043	4,971	3,402	2,59,439	2,11,730	2,17,555

The number of out-door patients treated per hospital and dispensary increased in all tahsils in 1966 as against the corresponding number in 1961. This increase in out-door patients was to some extent due to the increase in the number of dispensaries in the year 1966. An increase in in-door patients, treated per hospital and dispensary in the year 1966 over 1961 was found in all tahsils except Sakoli. A remarkable rise was found in Gondia tahsil where the increase in in-door patients was mainly due to the increase in the number of primary health centres in the year 1966 as compared to those in 1961. The decrease in in-door patients per hospital was found in Sakoli tahsil due to increase in the number of dispensaries where formerly there was no arrangement to treat in-door patients. The population per bed worked out to 2,463 persons whereas the proportion of in-door patients to out-door patients was 1 : 70 during the year 1966.

The number of beds available in all the hospitals and dispensaries is shown in the following statement :—

District/tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Number of beds for	
		Males (3)	Females (including children) (4)
Bhandara	1950	53	26
	1955	53	34
	1960	71	62
	1965	83	142
Gondia	1950	29	31
	1955	29	35
	1960	64	58
	1965	75	115
Sakoli	1950	4	5
	1955	4	2
	1960	16	26
	1965	27	78
District Total	1950	86	62
	1955	86	71
	1960	151	146
	1965	183	335

The total number of persons working as doctors and nurses is shown in the following statement :—

District/Tahsil (1)	Year (2)	Number of persons working as	
		Doctors (3)	Nurses (4)
Bhandara	1950	5	6
	1955	7	8
	1960	12	14
	1965	..	43
Gondia	1950	5	5
	1955	4	5
	1960	11	13
	1965	25	47
Sakoli	1950	4	2
	1955	4	2
	1960	6	11
	1965	27	30
District Total	1950	14	13
	1955	15	15
	1960	29	38
	1965	74	135

The total number of persons working as surgeons, dentists, pharmacists and other medical and public health technicians in the district in 1961 was 1,301 out of whom 880 were working in the rural areas as against 421 in urban areas. The number of medical personnel per one lakh population in the district was 42 as against 54 for the whole State. According to the Census of 1961 the proportion of physicians working in rural areas to urban areas was 16 : 1 whereas the proportion of urban/rural population was 8 : 1 only. The proportion of female physicians in rural areas to urban areas was more than the corresponding proportion of male physicians.

Under the programme of primary health, construction of building works of 5 primary health centres was completed in 1966-67. The major programme envisaged the control of communicable diseases, for which the expenditure amounted to Rs. 4.45 lakhs, out of a total expenditure of Rs. 9.57 lakhs incurred on public health programme. The national malaria eradication unit

which was already in existence, has done the work as per the time schedule during the Third Five-Year Plan period. Under the family planning programme an amount of Rs. 5.12 lakhs was spent.

ORGANISATION

Now medical and public health activities in the district are under the control of the Zilla Parishad and the State Government. All the hospitals are looked after by the Civil Surgeon as State's district representative whereas the dispensaries and primary health centres are controlled by the local bodies. With the formation of the Zilla Parishad in 1962 the Health Department's work in the district is now within the purview of the Zilla Parishad. A subjects committee looks after its working and the District Health Officer works as secretary to the committee as well as officer-in-charge of the health activities in the district.

DISEASES COMMON TO THE DISTRICT

The diseases noted to have been common in the district are malaria, leprosy, small-pox, fevers and respiratory diseases. Tuberculosis is also fairly wide spread in the district.

Malaria.—Under the National Malaria Control Programme, a malaria control unit was started in the district from October 1954. The State Government provides the operational cost while the Central Government supplies all insecticides, drugs, equipment and transport required. Under this programme DDT is sprayed twice in a year in the endemic areas with a special third round in selected areas. Under the programme, two methods of surveillance *viz.*, active and passive are carried out. In 1961-62 98.86 per cent houses were sprayed and under the active surveillance work 88,669 fever cases were detected and 79,978 persons were given presumptive treatment.

Leprosy.—Leprosy is a dangerous disease that causes deformation amongst the persons affected. The intensive efforts for the control of the disease are undertaken through the out-patient treatment. To encourage patients suffering from leprosy to go in for proper treatment as early as possible, without fear or shame, intensive health and education propaganda was undertaken through the SET units and leprosy subsidiary centres. The two tahsils *viz.*, Sakoli and Gondia have a large number of lepers. Three leprosy subsidiary centres at Sakoli, Gondia and Bhandara and five survey, education and treatment units at Tumsar, Arjuni-Morgaon, Pauni, Tirora and Gondia were established. During the Second Plan period these centres surveyed 41,634 persons, detected 15,892 cases and treated 2,804 persons. The leprosy incidence per thousand for the district was put at 15.08 as against 10.65 for Nagpur division.

Tuberculosis.—To control and eradicate tuberculosis, BCG vaccination was carried out during 1961 in the district. During the anti-T.B. campaign the infant BCG vaccination programme was started in most of the hospitals and dispensaries. In 1961 the total number of persons tested in the Bhandara, Sakoli and Gondia tahsils of the district was 37,089, 64,773 and 97,580 out of whom 15,249, 25,857 and 41,182, respectively showed positive symptoms. To meet the requirements of the district, one T.B. Hospital at Gondia was started in 1957-58. The hospital provided facility for 50 beds with X-ray plant and other modern equipment.

Cholera.—Anti-cholera inoculation is taken in hand immediately by the Public Health Department on receipt of information regarding the out-break of cholera epidemic. Temporary cholera regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, are applied to the affected areas to enable the staff to push on mass inoculations campaign without public opposition. Besides this, disinfection of water sources with bleaching powder and propaganda about steps to be taken by all villagers are also carried out so that they would not fall a prey to the disease. Cholera in a virulent form was prevalent in the district during 1958 when 536 cases and 61 deaths were reported. In 1964, 6,02,098 persons were inoculated. 57 deaths occurred in the district in 1966 due to cholera.

Small-Pox.—Small-pox disease was also virulent during the years 1951, 1955 and 1956. The number of deaths due to this disease was 250 in 1956. The number of vaccinations in 1960 was 2,20,258. With a view to create resistance to the incidence of small-pox 3.39 lakhs of persons were vaccinated and re-vaccinated during 1966.67. Except two districts *viz.*, Bhandara and Wardha, all the districts of the State recorded deaths from small-pox.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following statement shows statistics of births and deaths in the district from 1951 to 1961 and for the years 1965, 1966 and 1969.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	1951	1952	1953	1954
Births	38,685	37,551	41,220	31,187
Deaths	27,558	20,028	28,890	21,409
(including infant deaths).				
	1955	1956	1957	1958
	46,552	36,026	40,564	40,207
	23,778	28,420	27,796	22,993
	1959	1960	1961	1965
	46,198	44,978	42,942	48,655
	19,267	18,893	23,077	18,767
			+5,112	+5,398
	1966	..	1969	..
	54,250	..	36,765	..
	22,592	..	15,892	..
	+5,398	..	..	..

The table No. 2 gives the statistics about the number of deaths and causes of deaths from the years 1951 to 1966.

TABLE No. 2
CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS IN THE DISTRICT FROM 1951 TO 1966

Year	Causes of deaths						
	Cholera (2)	Small-Pox (3)	Plague (4)	Fever (5)	Dysentery and Diarrhoea (6)	Respiratory Diseases (7)	Other causes (8)
1951	46	2,228	836	17,078	83	..	7,287
1952	12	5	319	14,930	381	..	4,381
1953	1,245	..	232	20,727	233	..	6,453
1954	3	55	20	15,644	54	..	5,633
1955	3	250	..	16,239	52	765	7,234
1956	70	92	..	18,355	73	628	9,065
1957	32	69	..	18,790	159	170	8,118
1958	61	5	..	15,303	43	765	7,411
1959	17	78	..	7,745	42	342	10,620
1960	..	6	..	5,310	169	..	13,066
1961	..	..	..	8,079	1,409	..	11,387
1962	..	..	..	9,331	1,671	..	7,690
1963	1	23	..	12,225	191	..	9,576
1964	115	17	..	11,069	165	..	7,865
1965	28	35	..	9,931	203	..	8,066
1966	57	70	..	..	208	..	20,141

The following statement shows the number of deaths according to age in 1961:—

Town (1)	Under one year (2)	1 to 10 years (3)	10 to 20 years (4)	20 to 30 years (5)	30 to 40 years (6)	40 to 50 years (7)	50 to 60 years (8)	60 and above (9)
Bhandara	258	104	61	32	40	40	45	30
Gondia	251	119	48	28	42	34	45	113
Pauni	36	22	13	9	13	7	32	99
Tumsar	11	23	17	12	4	5	22	63
Total	556	268	139	81	99	86	144	305

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FAMILY PLANNING

To check the excessive growth of the population, family planning centres were set up at various places in both urban and rural areas. In 1958 five such centres were set up at Arjuni-Morgaon, Tirora, Tumsar, Salekasa and Pauni. Subsequently a separate unit was established through which effective family planning propaganda is carried out in the whole district. Besides other hospitals and dispensaries, the General Hospital, Bhandara, runs a separate department to look after the family planning work for the urban areas. This department is controlled by a co-ordinator with the help of one female field worker. Under the family planning programme vasectomy and tubectomy operations were performed on 3,191 persons and 3,954 loops were inserted against the target of 3,732 operations and 7,130 loops, respectively during the year 1966-67.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES

The primary health centre is headed by a Medical Officer and is responsible for the proper functioning of sub-centres in his charge. The supervision of a sub-centre is entrusted to a mid-wife whose duties include maternity and child health services, anti-natal clinic, etc. The family planning centres working in the rural areas are attached to these primary health centres. At the end of 1960, there were only three such primary health centres at Tumsar, Tirora and Arjuni-Morgaon. In 1960-61 three more centres were opened at Pohara, Dargaon and Salekasa, in addition to 18 maternity houses. In 1965 the number stood at 14 for the district, four for Bhandara tahsil, five for Gondia tahsil and five for Sakoli tahsil. During 1965-66 there were 35 maternity homes. With the formation of the Zilla Parishad in 1962, all these primary health centres in local sector were transferred to it and now work under the control of the Zilla Parishad.

CHAPTER 17—OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

Organisation.—ALL THE OFFICES DEALING WITH LABOUR MATTERS fall within the administrative control of the Industries and Labour Department of the Government of Maharashtra. The Commissioner of Labour is the head of all such offices. He has under him—(i) six Deputy Commissioner of Labour (four at Bombay and one each at Nagpur and Pune); (ii) twenty-six Assistant Commissioners of Labour (seventeen at Bombay, four at Nagpur, two at Pune and one each at Aurangabad, Nasik and Kolhapur); (iii) fifty-one Government Labour Officers (twenty at Bombay, seven at Nagpur, five at Pune two each at Aurangabad, Bhandara, Sholapur, Nasik, Ahmednagar and one each at Thana, Kalyan, Jalgaon, Kolhapur, Sangli, Wardha, Akola, Nanded and Amravati); (iv) Chief Inspector of Factories, Bombay, with subordinate Inspectorates at different important centres of the State, and (v) Chief Inspector of Steam Boilers and Smoke Nuisance, Bombay, with subordinate Inspectorates.

Functions.—The Commissioner of Labour performs the statutory functions entrusted to him under the following Acts and supervises their enforcement administratively, *viz.*, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; the Trade Unions Act, 1926; the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955; the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961; the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; the Bidi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 which are the Central Acts and the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946; the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, which are the State Acts.

Apart from the above, the Commissioner of Labour supervises and co-ordinates the working of the abovementioned offices under his control. In addition, the office of the Commissioner of Labour performs the following functions:—

- (1) Compilation and publication of the consumer price index numbers for working class for Bombay, Sholapur, Jalgaon, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Nanded and Pune.
- (2) Conducting of socio-economic enquiries into the conditions of labour.
- (3) Compiling and disseminating information on labour matters, in general and statistics regarding industrial disputes, agricultural wages, absenteeism, cotton mill production, trade unions, etc., in particular.

(4) Publication of two monthlies, *viz.*,—

(i) The Labour Gazette, and

(ii) The Industrial Court Reporter.

(5) Supervision over the working of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, where it is administered by local authorities.

The office of the Government Labour Officer, Bhandara, was started in the year 1961, with headquarters at Bhandara. For the enforcement of the Bidi and Cigar Workers Act, 1966, one additional post of the Government Labour Officer was sanctioned by Government in the year 1969 for the Bhandara district taking into consideration the concentration of *bidi* industry in the district. It is estimated that nearly one and half lakh workers earn their livelihood through this industry. For the enforcement of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, an Inspector has been posted at the district headquarters who works under the administrative control of the Government Labour Officer, Bhandara. Within his jurisdiction the municipal limits of Bhandara and Kamptee towns are included. The Government Labour Officer, Bhandara, is also notified as Inspector under the following labour enactments, *viz.*, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948; the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961; the Working Journalists Act, 1955; the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; and the Bidi and Cigar Workers Act, 1966.

In addition to the aforesaid six enactments, he has to perform duties as the Government Labour Officer under Section 34 of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946. With the exception of the following few industries, this Act has been made applicable to all other industries in the district:—

(1) Industries undertaken by or on behalf of the Municipal Council, the Zilla Parishad or a Village Panchayat constituted under law for the time being in force.

(2) Industry carried on in any establishment to which the provisions of the Bombay Shops and Establishment Act, 1948, (LXXIX of 1948) apply except banking companies as defined in Section 5 of the Banking Companies Act, 1949, not having branches or other establishments outside the State of Maharashtra.

(3) Dairy or dairy products industry.

(4) Industry engaged in transport of goods by public carriers by roads.

(5) Rice, flour or *dal* mills.

(6) Industries engaged in manufacturing bricks or tiles including roof tiles.

(7) Industries engaged in the construction or maintenance of roads or in building operations, in the Vidarbha area.

(8) Industries engaged in the generation or supply of electrical energy or both.

(9) Industries engaged in the conduct and maintenance of public passenger transport service by omnibus.

(10) Industries engaged in the manufacture of paper and straw boards.

Besides, he has to keep a close watch on the labour situation in the district under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1948. He has not only to send reports on labour situation to higher authorities, but has to tackle the situation and make efforts to bring about amicable settlements, if possible.

Conciliation machinery under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.—A Government Labour Officer has been posted at Bhandara for the investigation and redressal of the grievances of industrial workers in that area under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. He acts as the Conciliation Officer under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for mediating in and promoting the settlement of industrial disputes within the meaning of Section 2A of the said Act. The Assistant Commissioner of Labour at Nagpur also attends to conciliation cases under Sections 2A and 2(K) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Labour Unions.—The provisions of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, have been made applicable to the Vidarbha and Marathwada regions of the State with effect from 1st May 1965. One of the Assistant Commissioners of Labour at Nagpur has been notified as Additional Registrar with one Assistant Registrar under him for the Vidarbha region. The Registrar's work is of a *quasi-judicial* nature and falls under the following heads, *viz.*, (a) recognition of undertaking and occupations, (b) registration of unions, (c) maintenance of approved lists of unions, (d) registration of agreements, settlements submissions and awards, (e) maintenance of list of joint committees constituted under Section 48 of the Act, and (f) maintenance of list of protected employees of unions connected with the industries covered under the Act.

Trade Unions Act, 1926.—The Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Nagpur, in addition to his normal duties has been notified as Additional Registrar of Trade Unions for the Vidarbha region under the Trade Unions Act, 1926. The Additional Registrar is assisted by one Assistant Commissioner of Labour, who has been notified as Deputy Registrar of Trade Unions for the Vidarbha region. The work of the Additional Registrar in connection with administration of Trade Unions Act includes the registration of trade union, registration of amendments to the constitutions of the unions, dissolutions, amalgamation of trade unions and the submission of annual reports on the working of the Act in the State based on the information contained in the annual returns submitted by registered trade unions under Section 28 of the Act.

There were 22 workers' unions having a membership of 5,391 as on 31-12-1967 in the district registered under the Trade Unions Act, 1926.

Payment of Wages Act.— The Civil Judges who have been appointed authorities under the Payment of Wages Act also act as authorities under the Minimum Wages Act to hear and decide claims arising out of payment of less than the minimum rates of wages to employees employed or paid in their respective jurisdictions.

Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948.— The provisions of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act are applicable to the Tirora, Tumsar and the Bhandara Municipal Councils. The Act is administered in the above local areas by the respective municipalities, except in the case of the Bhandara Municipal Council where the Act is administered by Government. The Act fixes working hours, rest periods, spread-over of work, weekly holidays with wages, annual leave with wages, etc., for employees in shops, restaurants, commercial establishments and places of amusement.

Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952.— The Employees Provident Fund Act has been extended to 63 factories/establishments in the district. Approximately 1,890 employees are enjoying the benefits of the Employees Provident Fund Act and Scheme, 1952.

Authorities under the Workmen's Compensation Act, Payment of Wages Act and Minimum Wages Act.— Under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act (VIII of 1923), the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay, has been given exclusive jurisdiction over Greater Bombay. The Commissioner has also exclusive jurisdiction to try all cases relating to the Western and Central Railways and the hydro-electric companies under the management of Messrs. Tata Hydro-Electric Agencies Ltd., arising in the State irrespective of the district in which they occur. The Commissioner has also general jurisdiction over the whole State. The Civil Judge, Senior Division, Bhandara, is *ex-officio* Commissioner for the district.

The principal reason for giving the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay, jurisdiction over the whole State is to enable him to settle the cases with Insurance companies and other firms which have their head offices in Bombay City. But as this arrangement necessarily entails a certain amount of overlapping, Government have issued instructions under Section 20 (2) of the Act for distribution of work between the Commissioner and the *ex-officio* Commissioners. Under these instructions, the Commissioner at Bombay is authorised: (a) to receive deposits for distribution of compensation under sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 8; (b) to issue notices to, and to receive applications from dependants in cases of deposits under these sub-sections, and (c) to receive agreements for registration under Section 28 wherever the accident may have taken place.

Where a deposit is received or an agreement is tendered for registration, the Commissioner notifies the *ex-officio* Commissioner concerned. Applications for orders to deposit compensation when no deposit under Section 8 (1) had been received, and other application provided for in Section 22 of the Act should be made to the *ex-officio* Commissioner within whose jurisdiction the accident occurs. Notices to employers under Section 10-A requiring statements regarding fatal accidents in the districts are issued by the *ex-officio* Commissioners and reports of fatal accident made under Section 10-B are also received by them. After notice has been issued by the *ex-officio* Commissioner under Section 10-A, the employer deposits the money with the Commissioner at Bombay and the letter notified the receipt of the deposit to the *ex-officio* Commissioner concerned. Application for review of commutation of half monthly payments have to be made to the Commissioner who passed the original orders. As regards the cases arising out of accidents on the Southern Railways they are dealt with by the *ex-officio* Commissioners concerned. In the Bhandara district the Civil Judge has been appointed as authority for the areas within his jurisdiction.

Industrial Court.— The Court of Industrial Arbitration, commonly referred to as the Industrial Court, Bombay, constituted under Section 10 of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, has jurisdiction to decide the disputes arising in the cotton, silk and woollen textile processing, sugar and electricity industries, etc., in the State of Maharashtra. The Bombay Industrial Relations (Extension and Amendment) Act, 1965, is made applicable to the industries in the Vidarbha area. Before the commencement of that Act, the Central Provinces and Berar Industrial Disputes Settlement Act, 1947, was in force in the Vidarbha area which was repealed by Section 123-A of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946.

The Industrial Court has a Bench at Nagpur having jurisdiction to decide the disputes arising in the Nagpur division which includes the Bhandara district. Industrial disputes, arising in industries not covered by the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, are referred to the Industrial Tribunal. A member of the Industrial Court, Nagpur Bench, is also appointed as Industrial Tribunal under Section 7-A of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The Industrial Court acts as a Court of Arbitration in the disputes referred to it by the Government, the representative unions, employers or jointly by the parties to the dispute. In its appellate jurisdiction it decides appeals preferred to it, from the decisions of the Labour Courts, at Nagpur, and the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Nagpur Division. It also hears appeals in the criminal cases from the decision of the Labour Courts. The Government may make a reference to it for a declaration whether a proposed strike, lock-out, closure or stoppage would be illegal. Reference on the point of law can be made to it by the Commissioner of Labour, Conciliator, Labour Courts, as well as by the

State Government. There are two Labour Courts at Nagpur constituted under Section 9 of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946. The presiding officer of each of the Labour Courts is also notified as Labour Court under Section 7 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Labour Courts decide the disputes regarding orders passed under the standing orders governing relations between employers and employees and changes made in any industrial matter specified in schedule III of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act and schedule II to the Industrial Disputes Act. The Labour Courts have also powers to decide the legality or otherwise of a strike, lock-out, closure, stoppage or change.

These two Labour Courts at Nagpur have jurisdiction over the entire Vidarbha area. As there is no separate Labour Court for Bhandara, the disputes arising from the district are heard at Nagpur.

Wage Board.—The three Wage Boards for the cotton textile, silk textile and sugar industry, have been constituted under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, for the State of Maharashtra. The Wage Boards are to decide such disputes as are referred to them by the State Government under Section 86-C and by the unions and the managements under Section 86 CC of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946. Government can also refer disputes on recommendation from the Industrial Court under Section 86-KK of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946. The Wage Board for the sugar industry was empowered to function as a tri-partite body to hear and decide the disputes pertaining to the implementation of the recommendations of the Central Wage Board for the sugar industry.

Factory Department.—The enforcement work of the Factories Act is carried out by the Factory Department. The function of the Factory Department is to ensure that the provisions of the Factories Act are observed by the managements of the factories covered under the Factories Act. Besides this, the Department has to administer various other labour laws, viz., the Payment of Wages Act, the Maternity Benefit Act, the Employment of Children Act and the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act in so far as Section 9 of the said Act is concerned.

This Department is under the administrative control of the Commissioner of Labour and Director of Employment, Bombay. The Chief Inspector of Factories is the head of the office and is subordinate to the Commissioner of Labour and Director of Employment. The Department has a sub-office at Bhandara under the Inspector of Notified Factories, who works under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Deputy Chief Inspector, Nagpur. He has jurisdiction over the district of Bhandara. The activities of this Department also extend to securing labour welfare amenities such as education, recreation, sports, co-operative societies, housing, etc.

The main duty of the Inspector is to ensure that the provisions of the Factories Act are observed by the managements of the factories to which the Act is applicable. The Collector is also the *ex-officio* Inspector of Factories in the district of Bhandara. The Inspector has powers to prosecute, conduct and defend before the courts after taking the permission from the Chief Inspector of Factories, Maharashtra State, Bombay.

Steam Boilers and Smoke Nuisance Department.—The work pertaining to the registration and inspection of boilers, economisers, steam pipes and other kindred matters is carried out by the Senior Inspector in accordance with the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Maharashtra Boiler Rules, 1962, and the Maharashtra Economiser Rules, 1965. The Senior Inspector of Steam Boilers and Smoke Nuisance with headquarters at Nagpur has jurisdiction over all the districts of Vidarbha including Bhandara district.

Welfare Activities.—The Maharashtra Labour Welfare Board is a statutory body constituted under the Bombay Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1953, and it conducts labour welfare activities through the labour welfare centres. The welfare activities conducted at the labour welfare centres include the management and organisation of information centres, libraries and reading rooms, nursery schools and *shishu mandirs*, tailoring, sewing and handicraft classes, outdoor and indoor games, entertainment, educational and recreational programmes, audio-visual aids, scouting, exhibitions, excursions and health programmes, etc. In addition to the daily routine activities, occasional activities like celebration of national and special days, competitions in games and sports and cultural festivals are also organised in which a great number of workers and their family members and others actively participate.

The Board conducts 4 welfare centres in the Bhandara district, two at Bhandara, and one each at Tumsar and Gondia. The centres at Bhandara and Tumsar, conduct *shishu mandirs* and the centre at Gondia, a full-fledged nursery school imparts pre-primary education to children belonging to the working class.

Activities at each of the centres are planned and organised as per the annual schedule prepared for all the centres in the State. The welfare organiser who is incharge at each centre is assisted in his work by the subordinate staff. For the purpose of general administration and supervision, the welfare centres in the district are looked after by the Workers' Welfare Officer, Nagpur Bhandara Circle, Nagpur, who is responsible to the Assistant Welfare Commissioner, Nagpur-Aurangabad Division, Nagpur, for all purposes.

PROHIBITION AND EXCISE

Introduction.—The prohibition policy of the Government aims at the moral, ethical and economic uplift of the common man and the achievement of peaceful living conditions in society.

To implement this policy the prohibition laws are enforced which prohibit the production, possession, export, import, transport, purchase, sale, consumption and use of all intoxicants except as permitted by any rules, orders or regulations. Prohibition was implemented in the then Bombay State from 6th April 1950.

The Prohibition and Excise department administers the Bombay Prohibition Act, 1949; the Bombay Opium Smoking Act, 1936; the Bombay Drugs (Control) Act, 1959; the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duty) Act, 1955; the Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control Act, 1955; and the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930.

The Bombay Prohibition Act, 1949, prohibits the production, manufacture, possession, exportation, importation, sale, etc., of all intoxicants, except those permitted by any rules, or regulations. The Act also regulates the possession, sale, etc., of *mhowra* flowers and molasses.

The Bombay Drugs (Control) Act regulates the possession and sale of certain drugs which are injurious to health.

The Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act provides for the levy and collection of duties of excise on medicinal and toilet preparations containing alcohol, opium, Indian hemp or other narcotic drugs.

The Spirituous Preparations (Inter-State Trade, and Commerce), Control Act makes provisions for imposition in the public interest of certain restrictions on inter-State trade in spirituous, medicinal and other preparations.

The Dangerous Drugs Act prohibits the manufacture, exportation, importation, sale, possession and transportation of manufactured drugs like cocaine, heroin, pethidine, etc., except in accordance with the rules made in that behalf.

Organisation.—The Collector of Bhandara is the officer-in-charge of the administration of the Prohibition and Excise department in the district. He is responsible to the Director of Prohibition and Excise, Maharashtra State, Bombay. For the performance of his functions the Collector is invested with powers under the Bombay Prohibition Act (XXV of 1949), the Dangerous Drugs Act (II of 1930) and the Bombay Opium Smoking Act (XX of 1936). The Collector has also powers to grant, cancel or suspend licences, under the Bombay Prohibition Act (XXV of 1949), the Dangerous Drugs Act and the Bombay Opium Smoking Act. Officers of and above the rank of Sub-Inspector of Prohibition and Excise have been vested with necessary powers to investigate offences under different Prohibition Acts. The Prohibition Propaganda Officer carries out prohibition propaganda throughout the district under the guidance of the Superintendent of Prohibition and Excise, Bhandara.

The work of issuing certificates to drugs addicts has been entrusted to a Government Medical Officer, Bhandara, who examines persons applying for permits to possess opium, *ganja* or *bhang* for personal consumption and who are directed by the Collector or any authorised officer to appear before him. On examination the medical officer issues a medical certificate specifying the disease the applicant is suffering from, the drug recommended for consumption as a medical necessity and its quantity to be permitted per month.

Functions.—The Police department is the enforcement agency to deal with the detection and investigation of offences and prosecution of offenders under the Bombay Prohibition Act. Officers of the Prohibition and Excise department of and above the rank of a Sub-Inspector have been invested with powers to investigate offences but these Officers pass on information of the commission of offences and handover cases detected by them to the Police for investigation. Under Section 134 of the Bombay Prohibition Act, village officers, village servants, officers of other departments of the State Government, and officers and servants of local authorities are bound to give information to the Police of breaches of the provisions of the Act which may come to their knowledge and also to prevent the commission of breaches of the provisions of the Act, of which they may have knowledge. Under Section 133, the officers and servants of person authorised to carry out the provisions of the Act. Under Section 135, occupiers of lands and buildings, landlords of estates, owners of vehicles, etc., are bound to give notice of any illicit tapping of trees or manufacture of liquor or intoxicating drug to a magistrate, a prohibition officer or a Police officer as soon as it comes to their knowledge.

All revenue officers of and above the rank of Mamlatdar, all Magistrates, and all officers of the Department of Prohibition and Excise of and above the rank of a Sub-Inspector have been authorised under Section 123 of the Bombay Prohibition Act within the limits of their respective jurisdictions, to arrest without warrant any person whom they have sufficient reason to believe to be guilty of an offence under the Act and to seize and detain any article of contraband. The officers so authorised, when they arrest any person or seize and detain any articles, have to forward such person or articles without unnecessary delay, to the officer-in-charge of the nearest police station.

Kinds of Permits.—The following kinds of permits are granted for the possessions, use, etc., of foreign liquor—

(1) **Emergency Permit:** An emergency permit is granted for the use or consumption of brandy, rum or champagne to any person for his/her own use or consumption or to any head of the household for the use of his/her household for medicinal use on emergent occasions. This permit is granted for a period not beyond 31st March next following the date of the commencement of the permit, and for a quantity not exceeding

375 ml. of brandy or rum per three months or 750 ml. of champagne per three months. A permit is not granted to more than one member of a household at any one time. The term 'household' is defined as a group of persons residing and messing jointly as members of one domestic unit.

(2) *Health Permit*: A health permit is granted to any person for the use or consumption of foreign liquor for the preservation or maintenance of his/her health. No health permit is granted for a quantity exceeding that recommended by the Area Medical Board or a registered medical practitioner, as the case may be:

Provided that such quantity shall not exceed—

(i) 2 units of foreign liquor per month in the case of an applicant who is less than thirty years of age;

(ii) 3 units of foreign liquor per month in the case of an applicant who is not less than thirty years of age but is less than forty years of age; and

(iii) 4 units of foreign liquor per month in the case of an applicant who is not less than forty years of age. No such permit is granted in the case of a person who is of a age less than 30 years for a period exceeding twelve months and in any other case for a period exceeding twenty-four months. The fee for a permit granted for a period not exceeding twelve months is twelve rupees and in any other case twenty rupees.

(3) *Temporary Resident's Permit*: This permit is issued to person born and brought up or domiciled in a country outside India, where liquor is usually consumed and who come and stay in the State temporarily. No permit is granted for a period exceeding twenty-four months from the date of commencement. The permit is granted for such monthly quantity not exceeding 6 units per month.

(4) *Visitor's Permit*: Any person visiting the State for a period of not more than a week and desiring to possess, use and consume foreign liquor can apply to the Collector for a permit. The permit is granted for a period not exceeding one week provided that the Collector may extend the period of such permit but in no case shall such period be extended to a total period exceeding one month. No permit is granted for a quantity exceeding one unit per week.

(5) *Interim Permit*: Any person who is eligible for a permit under rules 63, 64 or 68 of the Bombay Foreign Liquor Rules, 1953, and desires to possess use or consume foreign liquor may apply to the Collector or any other officer authorised in this behalf for an interim permit while applying for a regular permit under any of the said rules. No such permit is granted for a period exceeding two months. The permit is granted for such monthly quantity of foreign liquor as the Collector may fix provided that such quantity does not, in any case, exceed two

units of foreign liquor per month if the permit holder is not eligible for a permit under rule 63 or four units of foreign liquor per month in other cases, except with the sanction of the Director of Prohibition and Excise.

(6) *Tourists Permit*: A tourist's permit is issued free of charge to a foreign tourist holding a tourist introduction card or a tourist visa. The permit is granted for a quantity not exceeding six units per month and the period for which it is granted is one month.

(7) *Special Permit for Privileged Personages*: This permit is granted to consular corps, and members of the staff appointed by or serving under them, provided that such members are the nationals of a foreign State. It is also granted to the consorts and relatives of the above persons. This permit is also granted to a representative or officer of any international organisation to which privileges and immunities are given from time to time by or under the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947. This permit is granted for any quantity of foreign liquor if the permit holder is a sovereign or a head of foreign State or his consort. If the permit holder is any other person, the permit is granted for a quantity of foreign liquor not exceeding that which may be fixed by the State Government, or as directed by the Director in that behalf.

Any person not less than 21 years of age can without any permit, purchase mild liquor in sealed bottles from a foreign liquor vendor's licensee and possess and transport it for his own consumption.

Toddy.—The *toddy* scheme has been introduced in the State of Maharashtra with effect from February 1968. Under this scheme, sale of *toddy* containing not more than 5 per cent alcohol by volume is permitted to be made by licensees to persons above twenty-one years of age. The licences for the sale of *toddy* are disposed of by the Collector in accordance with the provisions of the Maharashtra Toddy Shops (Public Auctions) Order, 1968. The total number of licences for sale of *toddy* in each district is fixed by the Director. Transport and possession of *toddy* in quantity not exceeding three litres at a time in the aggregate purchased from a person holding a licence for the retail sale of *toddy* by a person not less than twenty-one years of age is permitted without a permit throughout the State.

Denatured Spirit.—The possession and use of denatured spirit is prohibited except under a permit. A permit for possession and use of denatured spirit for domestic purposes is normally granted for a quantity not exceeding one bottle per month, but the officer granting the permit may for any special reasons grant the permit for any quantity not exceeding three quart bottles per month; provided further that with the previous sanction of the Collector, a permit may be granted for a quantity exceeding three bottles per month. The possession and use of denatured spirit for

medical, scientific and educational purposes and for purposes of art, industry or profession is regulated by a system of licences prescribed under the Bombay Denatured Spirit Rules, 1959.

Country Liquor and Wine.— A permit for the use of country liquor and wine for sacramental purposes only, is granted to priests of certain communities, viz., Parsees, Jews and Christians.

Ganja, Bhang and Opium.— A permit for personal consumption of opium, *ganja* or *bhang* is granted only on production of a medical certificate from the Medical Board constituted by Government for the purpose. The maximum quantity which is allowed per month under such permit is 96 grams in the case of *ganja* and *bhang* and 60 grams in the case of opium.

Use for Industrial Purpose etc.— There are also rules under the Bombay Prohibition Act, 1949, governing the possession, use, transport, sale etc., of dangerous drugs, *mhowera* flowers, molasses, rectified spirit and absolute alcohol for industrial, medicinal and similar purposes.

Neera and Palm Products.— Licences for the sale of *neera* as well as licences for manufacturing *gur* from *neera* are granted only to—(1) the co-operative societies organised by social workers, (2) other similar organised institutions such as Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, (3) *ashrams*, (4) organisations in charge of intensive area schemes, and (5) to sarvodaya centres, etc.

The objective in implementing the prohibition policy has been achieved to a considerable extent. It has resulted in improving the economic lot of people. Accompanied by other socio-economic reforms, the prohibition policy is bound to improve the living conditions of the people.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Organisation.— At the ministerial level, the Social Welfare Department was constituted after the reorganisation of States in 1956. The backward class welfare work done previously by the Backward Class Department was transferred to the backward class wing of the Social Welfare Department. The designation of the Director of Backward Class Welfare was changed to that of the Director of Social Welfare. The post of Chief Inspector of Certified Schools and Institutions was redesignated as the Deputy Director of Social Welfare (correctional wing). There is another post of a special officer who is entrusted with the work relating to education and social welfare of physically handicapped. The backward class wing of the department aims at ameliorating the conditions of backward classes so that they reach the standard of other advanced sections of the society.

The department is under the administrative control of the Education and Social Welfare Department. The Director of Social Welfare Department is the head of the department with his headquarters at Pune. So far as backward class wing of the Directorate

is concerned, he is assisted by two Deputy Directors, one Chief Research Officer, four Assistant Directors and other administrative staff. There are four Divisional Social Welfare Officers of the rank of Deputy Directors for each revenue division as the regional heads. At the district level there are Social Welfare Officers. In the erstwhile State of Madhya Pradesh of which Bhandara district was an integral part, the Directorate was established in the year 1954, and at every district there were District Social Welfare Officers. After the Reorganisation of States in 1956, they were redesignated as Social Welfare Officers.

With the inception of Zilla Parishads the Social Welfare Officers have been transferred to the Zilla Parishads and they are responsible to the Chief Executive Officers of the Zilla Parishads. The subject of social welfare of scheduled castes and other backward classes in the district is now within the purview of the Zilla Parishad. In the standing committee which is the most powerful committee of the Zilla Parishad at least two members from backward classes are required to be elected by the Parishad. This standing committee acts as the subjects committee for that subject and the Social Welfare Officer works under it.

Backward Classes.— The backward classes are classified into three broad categories, viz., (a) scheduled castes, (b) scheduled tribes, (c) other backward classes who economically, socially and educationally are as backward as the other two sections. The communities coming under the (a) and (b) categories are notified by the Government of India for each of the States, while communities forming the third group are recognised by the States concerned on the basis of classification of "other backward classes" has now been replaced by a new classification based on income. The income limit was raised from Rs. 900 per annum to Rs. 1,200 per year with effect from June 1960. All persons whose annual income from all sources does not exceed this limit are, irrespective of their religion, caste or community, treated as belonging to the other backward classes. From May 1960, the scheduled castes converted to Buddhism are being treated as eligible for all concessions and facilities available to scheduled castes except the statutory concessions under the constitution and certain special schemes for removal of untouchability, etc., which cannot by their very nature apply to non-Hindus.

Out of the total population of the district numbering 12,68,286 as per the Census, 1961 there were 31,074 persons belonging to scheduled castes and 2,14,748 were *nao*-Buddhists. The population of *vimukta jatis* and nomadic tribes was estimated at 11,600 and 5,100, respectively.

In view of the policy of the Government to ameliorate the conditions of backward classes so as to bring them on par with the other advanced sections of the society, a number of privileges are granted to them by the Constitution of India. Besides normal concessions made available to backward classes from time to time special schemes are framed for the backward classes by the State Government under the Five-Year Plans.

Measures of Uplift.—The disabilities of backward classes are three-fold—educational, economic and social. The Government have therefore launched a three-pronged drive to eliminate these disabilities within the shortest possible period.

Education: In the sphere of education the Government provides to the backward class students many facilities such as freeships, payment of examination fees, tuition fees at all stages of education irrespective of income and age. In addition to this, eligible students are awarded scholarships on poverty-cum-merit basis. The concession is awarded in the primary schools, high schools or technical schools. 4,723 students benefited from these schemes on which Rs. 2,63,830 were spent during the year 1962-63. The following statement shows the expenditure incurred under Plan and non-Plan schemes during 1968-69 :—

Category (1)	Expenditure (2)	Beneficiaries (3)
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Scheduled Castes	26,799.00 (Plan)	1,290 (Plan)
	72,051.00 (non-Plan)	2,050 (non-Plan)
Scheduled tribes	4,991.00	112
Other backward classes	12,137.75	405
Vimukta Jatis	498.50	42

It is not possible for students belonging to backward classes to avail of the lodging and boarding arrangements on payment basis at the places of their studies. The voluntary agencies are therefore encouraged to start hostels for such students on grant-in-aid basis and are paid grants at the rate of Rs. 25 per month per boy for ten months and Rs. 30 per month per girl student for the period of 10 months. Subsidy is also paid at 50 per cent of the expenditure on rent of hostel building. There is also a provision for payment of non-recurring grant to hostels for purchase of utensils, etc. A sum of Rs. 1,50,955 was spent on 18 backward class hostels and 8 cosmopolitan hostels in the district during the year 1962-63. 729 students were admitted in these hostels. In 1968-69, there were as many as 40 hostels run by the voluntary agencies in the district. The following statement shows the expenditure incurred on the various hostel schemes during 1968-69 under Plan sector :—

Name of scheme (1)	Expenditure (2)	Beneficiaries (4)
	Rs.	
Grant-in-aid to scheduled caste hostels.	18,934.77	3 Hostels
Grant-in-aid to other backward class hostels.	7,844	3 Hostels
Grant-in-aid to cosmopolitan hostels.	6,563	4 Hostels

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In addition to the above expenditure, an amount of Rs. 2,34,869.54 was spent on 26 hostels under non-Plan schemes. Besides, there are two Government-run hostels, one at the district headquarters for boys and other at Gondia for girls.

Balwadis are also opened along with *sanskar kendras* for the benefit of the scheduled castes, the *vimukta jatis* and nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes. The idea behind this is to educate the backward class children to be good citizens and at the same time to achieve their assimilation with other caste—Hindu children. In the district there is one *balwadi* for the scheduled castes at Lakhni. An expenditure amounting to Rs. 2,620 and Rs. 600 was incurred during 1968-69 under the Plan and non-Plan sectors, respectively. One *sanskar kedra* is also functioning at Amgaon for scheduled castes. During the year 1968-69 an expenditure of Rs. 1,700 was incurred, on this *kendra*.

Economic : In so far as the economic uplift of the backward classes is concerned, the problem of economic rehabilitation is solved by granting them cultivable waste land and other facilities such as supply of implements, seeds, etc., establishing training centres for teaching them their hereditary crafts; granting loan-cum-subsidy for cottage industries and professions, etc. Under the loan-cum-subsidy for cottage industries and professions, Rs. 12,900 were given to 83 beneficiaries from the scheduled castes and other backward classes from under-developed rural areas during 1962-63 and Rs. 2,400 were spent on 17 beneficiaries under the scheme of assistance for purchase of milch cattle.

A number of housing societies of backward classes have been formed in the district. Financial assistance in the form of loans and subsidies is given to these societies. Assistance is also given in the form of cash or kind. Under this scheme Rs. 6,910 were distributed to 80 beneficiaries and building sites were allotted to 14 beneficiaries. In addition, Rs. 19,448 were spent for purchase of 18 tons of corrugated iron sheets which were used in the construction of houses for backward classes. There were in all 24 co-operative housing societies of backward classes in the district.

Financial assistance is given to poor deserving agriculturists from *vimukta jatis*, and other backward classes for purchase of ploughs, bullocks, implements, seeds, etc. Rs. 2,313 were spent on 23 beneficiaries under this scheme during the year 1962-63. Under the scheme of granting cultivable waste land, 735 acres of land were allotted to persons belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes during 1968-69. As regards facility of drinking water wells, an amount of Rs. 23,750 was spent on this scheme of which Rs. 20,250 were spent for construction of drinking water wells for 11 scheduled castes beneficiaries and Rs. 3,500 for 2 beneficiaries from other backward classes.

Monetary aid is also granted under the scheme of medical aid to the backward classes. An amount of Rs. 510 was spent on 60 beneficiaries during 1962-63.

Social: The activities under this head are designed to remove the stigma of untouchability in respect of scheduled castes, assimilation of scheduled tribes in the general population without destroying their hereditary traits and rehabilitation of *ex-criminal* tribes and nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes from among the category of other backward classes. Mention may be made of the Bombay Harijan (Removal of Social Disabilities) Act (XXXVI of 1947) as amended in 1948, which has been enacted with a view to remove untouchability as far as public and civil rights are concerned. The schemes employed for the removal of untouchability include various measures of publicity against untouchability for example *sanskar kendras*, *balwadis* and film shows are organised, meetings and *melas* are addressed, *kirtan* programmes, inter-caste dinners, celebration of weeks and days of national and local importance are arranged. Building sites are also given to the scheduled castes in caste-Hindu localities and subsidy is paid to caste-Hindu landlords for letting their premises on hire to the scheduled castes. Prizes are also awarded to villages which show outstanding work for removal of untouchability. Rs. 6,903 were spent under the various schemes during the year 1962-63.

The schemes which were already in operation before the Third Plan were treated as committed schemes and those added under the Third Plan were separately treated as Plan schemes. The expenditure described above against each scheme was out of the committed schemes and included expenditure on the Plan schemes.

CHARITY COMMISSIONER

Bombay Public Trust Act.— Before 1950, the religious and charitable trusts in the State were governed by various enactments based on religious principles. In the year 1950 the Bombay Public Trusts Act (XXIX of 1950) was passed which defines public trust as "an express or constructive trust for either a public religious or charitable purpose or both, and includes a temple, a *math*, a *wakf*, a *dharmada* or any religious or charitable endowment and a society formed either for a religious or charitable purpose or for both and registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860)".

The State Government is empowered to apply this Act to any public trust. On such application the provisions of the previous Acts cease to apply to such trusts. The Act was made applicable to the following classes of public trusts in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions from February 1961 :—

- (1) temples ;
- (2) *maths* ;
- (3) *wakfs* ;
- (4) public trusts other than (1), (2) and (3) above created or existing for the benefit of any community or any section thereof.

(5) societies formed either for religious or charitable purpose or for both and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 ;

(6) *dharmadas*, i.e., any charges which, according to the custom or usage or any business or trade or agreement between the parties relating to any transaction are recovered from any party to the transaction or collected under whatever name as being intended to be used for charitable or religious purpose ; and

(7) all other trusts, express or constructive, for either a public religious or charitable purpose or for both.

The Charity Commissioner who is stationed at Bombay, administers the Act. The Assistant Charity Commissioner posted at Nagpur looks after the work in the districts of Nagpur, Wardha, Chandrapur and Bhandara.

Duties of Trustees.— The Act has laid down certain duties to be performed by the trustees. The trustees of the public trust must apply for registration within the period of three months of the application of the Act or its creation by giving particulars viz.,—(a) estimated value of movable and immovable property owned by the trust, (b) the gross annual income of the trust property and (c) the amount of annual expenditure of the trust. No registration is however necessary in case of *dharmadas* which are governed by the special provisions of the Act. The trusts registered under the previous Act are deemed to be registered under this Act.

Table No. 1 shows statistics relating to the public trusts in the Bhandara district as on 30th December 1968.

TABLE No. 1
PUBLIC TRUSTS IN BHANDARA DISTRICT

Section (1)	Total number of public trusts registered (2)	Value of property		Gross average annual income (5)	Average annual expenditure (6)
		Movable (3)	Immovable (4)		
'A' (Trusts for the benefit of Hindus)	62	73,246.59	4,31,224.65	40,186.59	31,450.63
'B' (Trusts for the benefit of Muslims)	26	22,571.50	5,25,655.00	24,373.00	20,135.00
'C' (Trusts for the benefit of Parsees)	Nil	..	..	..	..
'D' (Trusts for the benefit of Christians)	Nil	..	..	..	..
'E' (Trusts for the benefit of any particular community).	88	11,76,872.93	2,80,388.20	3,30,681.80	2,81,700.00
'F' (Trusts registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860).	129	6,71,442.50	27,27,123.37	11,94,010.03	11,72,082.73

A registration fee ranging from Rs. 3 to Rs. 25 is levied depending upon the value of the property of the public trust. An annual contribution at the rate of Rs. 2 is also recovered and credited to the Public Trusts Administration Fund. Public trusts created solely for the purpose of advancement and propagation of secular education or medical relief and public trusts having gross annual income of Rs. 1,000 or less are exempted from the contribution. The contribution is levied on the net profit in the case of public trusts conducting business or trade.

Every trustee has to keep regular accounts of the trust which are audited by Chartered Accountants or any other person authorised by the Act. The auditor has to submit his report to the Deputy or Assistant Charity Commissioner of his region.

If on considering the report, the Deputy or Assistant Charity Commissioner is satisfied that the trustees are guilty of gross negligence, breach of trust or misconduct resulting in a loss to the trust, he has to report to the Charity Commissioner, who after inquiry determines the loss if any caused to the trust and surcharges the amount on the person found responsible for it. The trustee of a public trust is bound to invest the surplus funds of the trust in public securities or first mortgage of immovable property on certain conditions. For making investment in any other form, the previous sanction from the Charity Commissioner must be obtained.

Application of Funds by Cypres.—If the original object of a public trust fails wholly or partially, if there is surplus income not likely to be utilised or in the case of public trust, it is not in the interest to carry out wholly or partially the original intention of the author of such trust, an application can be made to the District Court or City Civil Court, Bombay, as the case may be, for application cypres of the property or income or any of its portion.

If there is a breach of trust or a declaration is necessary that particular property is the property of public trust or direction is required to recover the possession of such property, two or more persons having interest in the trust or the Charity Commissioner can file a suit in the District Court or City Civil Court, Bombay, to obtain reliefs mentioned in the Act. If the Charity Commissioner refuses consent the interested parties can take the matter to the Maharashtra Revenue Tribunal. The Charity Commissioner can also file such suit on his own motion.

Charity Commissioner to be sole trustee.—The Charity Commissioner may with his consent be appointed as a trustee of a public trust by a court or by the author of a trust, provided the appointment is made as sole trustee. But the court is not empowered to appoint the Charity Commissioner as a trustee of a religious public trust.

Inquiries by Assessors.—Inquiries regarding the loss caused to a public trustor trusts registered under the previous Act, in consequence of the act or conduct of a trustee or any other person,

have to be conducted with the aid of assessors not less than three and not more than five. These assessors have to be selected as far as possible from the religious denomination of the public trust to which the inquiry relates. A list of assessors has to be prepared and published in the official Gazette every three year.

Charitable Endowments.—The Charity Commissioner is deemed to be and to have always been the treasurer of charitable endowments, for the State appointed under the provisions of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

In case of religious and charitable institutions and endowments which vest in or the management of which vests in the State Government, they are to be transferred and vested in the committee of management to be appointed by the State Government for each district. The Charity Commissioner is vested with powers to enquire into the duties of these committees and to direct expenses in respect thereof to be paid from the funds belonging to the endowments.

Contraventions of the Act amount to offences and are punishable with maximum fines ranging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 depending upon the nature of offence. The Charity Commissioner is the sole authority in instituting such legal proceedings.

MANAGED ESTATES

ADMINISTRATION OF MANAGED ESTATES

On many occasions the Government takes over the administration of estates of minors, lunatics and persons incapable of managing their own property. The purpose behind this is to secure proper care and management of the estates concerned. The estates of the above mentioned persons are also taken at the time when the Government is of the opinion that it is expedient in the public interest to preserve the property of the person for the benefit of his family and the property is of such value that economic management on an agency basis is practicable.

Courts of Wards.—The Court of Wards is empowered, with the previous sanction of the State Government, to assume the superintendence of the property of any landholder or of any person who is disqualified to manage his own property being (a) minors, (b) females declared by the District Court to be incapable of managing or unfit to manage their own property, and (c) persons adjudged by a competent Civil Court to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing their estates efficiently.

Guardians and Wards Act.—The Central Act, *i.e.*, the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, is also applicable to the estates of minors with much the same provisions of the Central Provinces Court of Wards Act, 1899.

At present there are no estates taken over under the Court of Wards Act under the management of the Collector, Bhandara.

CHAPTER 18—PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

PUBLIC LIFE

THE VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS have a place of importance in the public life in general and in the socio-economic scheme of society in particular. Considered in the historical perspective, they are of a recent origin. As a matter of fact, their growth in recent times and their non-existence in the past could be attributed to the nature of human existence in the historical and political surroundings in these times. Human life in the past was not so eventful as it is today. What could be regarded as the various aspects of the cultural and civilized life were mostly in a backward and semi-progressive state. Human wants both material and non-material, were very few and far between. There was no richness and fullness in human life in those days and strangely enough it was not desired also. Human existence was more natural than normal. There were no complexities and intricacies in the social life of the individual and the energies of the human beings were more directed towards the search of the unknown. Not that science and increasing knowledge of life did not spurt the imagination of a few in the society. These few did see a full and beautiful life, leading a more sophisticated existence but the prognostications of a few did not materially affect the even tenor of life which the majority sought for. The life of the individuals as the members of the social organization and as citizens of a State was guided by certain norms of behaviour and moral code of conduct with which the individuals were content. The necessity for competitive and complementary associations to supplement the efforts of the society and the State was not felt and if it was felt by some under the pressing urge of advance and progress, their existence would not have been tolerated by the political power which guided the course of social events under its auspices. These conditions underwent a radical change during the last hundred years or so. Tremendous progress was visible in every aspect of human activity—social, economic, political, moral, scientific, literary, artistic and æsthetic. Vistas unknown were opened in wild stretches which the developed and scientific intellect of those pioneers in the social and scientific fields could not very well fathom. Development of transport brought together hitherto separated parts of the world and created a feeling of commonness, fraternity and brotherhood. Scientific advance solved the problems of life which were getting more complex with the march of time and made life more material and easier than what was in the past. Literature and art developed

bringing out forthwith the hidden and unbounded virtues of human life and created an altogether different political philosophy which gave prime importance to individual in the general scheme of things. These developments were sure to have a profound effect on the life and psychology of the individual through the media of books, newspapers and periodicals that came to be published, widened his horizons, affected his outlook on life and created in him a hankering for a better and rich existence. This process of thinking was accentuated by the developments that were taking place in the socio-economic organisation of the society. Almost every where the villages lost their character of a economic self-sufficiency, mass production replaced and relegated in the background the concept of localised and limited production, a new class, numerically powerful, viz., the working class came into existence and the very panorama of human existence in its economic and social perspective changed. These factors made life more complex and increased the needs of the individual and though they added to the material comforts of life they now made life more machine-like, rigid and a humdrum existence. The tired human intellect started finding avenues where he could refresh his mind and mental faculties and get relief. The State was not, however, a silent spectator of these phenomenal changes that were taking place in human existence and its environments. It had taken upon itself the role of satisfying those human needs and fulfilling those human aspirations which the individual could not do on his own. The power of the State had increased enormously and so also its responsibilities. No State could lead an isolated existence in the world which was now living a life of co-operation. But even the powers of the State failed to respond to the convulsions and the urges that were felt in the inner depths of human mind. The State could supply the material wants of the individuals and create circumstances to make life worth living but it could never touch those inner compartments of human mind which seek satisfaction which cannot be measured in material terms. This urge is diverse and the atmosphere where this urge requires fulfilment is incompatible with the rigours of discipline that go with the functions of the State. Hence the necessity of such outlets where this urge could be fulfilled and where human mind could recapture its essence. This is provided by the Voluntary Social Service Organisations whose very name indicates their voluntary character. These institutions are in a way competitive to the State but they differ from it in that they allow free play to human emotions and volitions and supply the individual with a moral force that the State may be incapable of providing. It may not be misunderstood that their voluntary character and the looseness with which they bind their members implies an inherent weakness in them. As a matter of fact their very voluntary nature provides them with a strength of character which the very powerful of the States may fail to supply because if the State appeals to the intellect of the individual they touch the very core of the human existence that is the heart of the

individual. History has proved time and again that if results are to be judged by the means with which they are achieved then these organisations supply a far more powerful means than the one supplied by the State. That does not mean that the aims and objectives of the State and these organisations are conflicting. Far from that, these organisations supplement the efforts made by the State towards the development of human personality and by their power and influence over the lives of the individuals make it rich, resourceful and worth living. They are a part and parcel of the public life and though morally superior they are subordinate and subservient to the political organisation. Their importance in the social organisation cannot be minimised, because they reflect the culture and civilization of the social group of which they form a part. As a matter of fact they represent the various aspects of the public life in a social organisation. They exercise a formative influence on the public opinion which is a conglomeration of distinct social, political and economic views held by the majority of persons in the community. The concepts of public opinion are complex and intricate. If public life is more concerned with the social and cultural sides of human existence and is an expression of individual feeling through social organism, public opinion is more concerned with the political and economic sides of human existence. Both, however, are complementary to each other because the aim of both is to educate the masses and bring about social, political and economic reform. In this context it may be noted that the factors that are responsible to create public life and public opinion may differ in their characteristics and connotation but unequivocally these factors are in one way or the other a representation of voluntary organisations that are working in the society. It is proposed to describe in this chapter a few of such voluntary organisations working in the district of Bhandara, and other aspects of public life in the district such as the press, political representation etc.

Press.—Public life in Bhandara has been enriched by the newspapers which voice popular grievances and suffering of the people from time to time. Though the activities of voluntary social service organisations help in creating healthy and conscious social atmosphere, yet the press is the powerful weapon responsible for moulding and formulating public opinion. In fact the press could be regarded as an agency mainly responsible for creating political consciousness among the different strata of the society. It is the press which discusses freely and sympathetically the grievances of common man and also of the neglected sections of the society.

There are at present eight periodicals in the district which purvey the district news, important national as also international events. Almost all the periodicals are weeklies. A list of these weeklies published from Bhandara district is given below :—

Lokwani	—	Bhandara
Bhandara Times	—	Bhandara

Gramin Samachar	—	Lakhani
Ankush	—	Gondia
Bhandara Darshan	—	Gondia
Time Bomb	—	Gondia
Satyadarshan	—	Tumsar
Tiroda Times	—	Tirora

Besides these local periodicals a number of English, Hindi and Marathi newspapers published from Nagpur, Bhopal and Bombay find a wide circulation in the district. These include *Tarun Bharat*, *Nagpur Times*, *Maharashtra*, *Hitarwada*, *Nav Bharat*, *Yugdharma* and *Nagpur Samachar* (all published from Nagpur) and *Times of India*, *Free Press Journal*, *Indian Express*, *Maharashtra Times* and *Lokasatta* (all published from Bombay).

Representation.—Bhandara district has one parliamentary seat for Lok Sabha. The total number of seats in the State constituencies is 11 of which 9 seats are allotted for State Legislative Assembly and 2 for Legislative Council.

Since 1957 the district has 9 Assembly seats. In 1957, Bhandara and Sakoli constituencies were double-member constituencies with one of the two seats reserved for Scheduled Castes.

After abolition of the double-member constituencies in 1961, the seats from Adyar and Sadak-Arjuni are reserved for Scheduled Castes.

The number of voters on rolls for each Assembly constituency in 1961 was as follows :—

Assembly Constituency (1)	Number of Voters on rolls (2)
1. Tirora	68,932
2. Gondia	77,932
3. Goregaon	74,222
4. Amgaon	82,799
5. Sakoli	82,207
6. Sadak-Arjuni	76,742
7. Bhandara	67,849
8. Adyar	69,131
9. Tumsar	81,449
Total	681,283

In the 1962 General Elections, the Assembly constituencies of Tirora, Gondia, Goregaon, Amgaon, Sakoli and Sadak-Arjuni together made one Parliamentary constituency called Gondia constituency and the remaining assembly constituencies of Bhandara, Adyar and Tumsar combined with Assembly constituencies of Bhadrawati, Chimur and Brahmapuri from Chandrapur district made another Parliamentary constituency called Bhandara constituency.

The total number of voters on rolls in the district in 1961 was 681,283. The total population 21 years and above in age according to 1961 Census was 655,779. Comparison can, however, be only approximate as the two figures related to two different dates in the year 1961.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Vasatigriha, Lakhani.—Jeevan Shikshan Sanstha's Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Vasatigriha was established at Lakhani on 1st July 1963. It is run with the object of accommodating and providing necessary facilities such as free boarding, lodging, etc., to poor and deserving students studying in secondary schools and colleges. It endeavours to inculcate in the students a feeling of patriotism and interest in social service, spirit of self reliance and self respect.

The administration of the *vasatigriha* is looked after by an executive body of seven members elected from amongst the students. Of them one is superintendent, one secretary, one accountant and the rest are ordinary members.

The income of the *vasatigriha* amounted to Rs. 9,080 in the year 1969-70 whereas the expenditure amounted to the same in the same year. It received Rs. 10,455 as grant-in-aid from the Government of Maharashtra in the year 1969-70.

Dai Ben Madhukanta Tuberculosis Hospital, Gondia.—The Dai Ben Madhukanta Tuberculosis Hospital was established in 1956 at Gondia with the object of treating T.B. patients and patients having chest diseases. The hospital is fully equipped to provide every type of medical as well as surgical treatment to the patients. The surgical treatment includes all types of palmonary, resection and other chest surgeries.

The hospital is housed in its own building which was donated by a private individual. It has an accommodation for 50 beds. The total strength of the staff including doctors, nurses and compounders is 56. The annual expenditure of the hospital amounted to Rs. 1,80,000 in the year 1969-70. It received grant-in-aid from the Maharashtra Government to the tune of Rs. 1,80,000 in the year 1969-70.

Gondia Education Society, Gondia.—The Gondia Education Society located at Gondia was established on 8th December 1958. The society is run with the following aims and objects :—

To promote the cause of education by establishing and conducting institutions with a view to developing the personality of the students in all its aspects—physical, mental and moral and thereby making them useful members of society. The society proposes to achieve these aims by adopting the following means :—

- (i) establishing colleges for higher education.
- (ii) establishing industrial and technical institutions for vocational training.
- (iii) publishing books and magazines.
- (iv) running hostels for students taking education in the institutions run by the society.

The society has about 25 founder members. The administration of the society is run by an executive committee which had a strength of 15 in 1969-70. Of these one is a president, two vice-presidents, two secretaries, one treasurer and the rest are ordinary members.

The society at present runs the following institutions :—

	Year of Establishment
1. Natvarlal Maniklal Dalal, College of Arts and Science, Gondia ..	1958
2. The Dhote Bandhu Science College, Gondia	1969
3. Punjabhai Patel College of Education, Gondia	1963
4. The J. M. Patel College of Arts and Commerce, Bhandara ..	1964
5. The S. N. Mor College of Arts and Commerce, Tumsar	1966
6. The C. J. Patel College of Arts and Commerce, Tirora	1966
7. The M. B. Patel College of Arts and Commerce, Sakoli	1968
8. Junior College of Education	1965

The total assets of the society including both movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 21 lakhs 60 thousand. Of this amount, deposits in reserved funds account for Rs. 1,60,000, movable property is valued at Rs. 5 lakhs and the rest represent immovable property.

Gurudev Seva Mandal, Adyar.—The Gurudev Seva Mandal located at Adyar was established in 1930. The *mandal* is run with the object of creating a liking for religious precepts among the masses to make them duty-conscious. The *mandal* also aims at bringing about unity among the people from the various strata of the society on grounds of fraternity and mutual respect. The *mandal* proposes to achieve this objective by adopting the following means :—

- (i) to render *kirtans* every week and on festive days.
- (ii) to establish *dharmashalas* to provide facilities for *warkaries*.
- (iii) to run *ashrams* to provide facilities for mass gatherings.

The daily affairs of the *mandal* are looked after by an administrative body of 12 members of whom one is president, one vice-president, one secretary and the rest ordinary members. The *mandal* had a membership of 90 during 1969-70.

The *mandal* has its own *bhajan* party which renders *bhajan* performance on every Sunday when numerous persons assemble. *Kirtan* is also arranged every month. Besides, the *mandal* also arranges community feasts outside the village. The *mandal* is housed in its own building.

The total assets of the *mandal* including both movable and immovable property amount to Rs. 12,000. Of this Rs. 10,000 are invested in the building and Rs. 2,000 in movable property such as instruments required for *bhajan* and *kirtan*. The income of the *mandal* amounted to Rs. 800 in 1969-70 whereas the expenditure came to Rs. 900 in the same year.

Kunwar Tilak Sinh Hospital, Gondia.—The Kunwar Tilak Sinh Hospital located at Gondia was established on 1st June 1962. The hospital is run with the object of treating poor patients free of charge and is particularly meant for male patients and children.

The hospital initially was run by Gondia Municipality but later on a Board of Trustees was created for its management. It had a staff of 16 in 1969-70. The total assets of the hospital both movable and immovable are valued at Rs. 21,000. The income of the hospital amounted to Rs. 84,690 in the year 1969-70 whereas the expenditure amounted to Rs. 80,609 in the same year.

Mahila Mandal, Arjuni Morgaon.—The *Mahila Mandal* was established in 1959 at Arjuni Morgaon. The *Mandal* is run with the object of uniting women from various strata of society and bringing about their uplift in social, educational and cultural spheres. The *mandal* also aims to make them economically independent. In order to fulfil these aims it organises various social activities, conducts tailoring and other classes and thus gives opportunity for women belonging to all classes in the society to come on a common platform.

The administration of the *mandal* is run by an executive body of seven members of whom one is president, one vice-president, one secretary and the rest ordinary members. The *mandal* had a membership of 40 in the year 1969-70.

The *mandal* celebrates *sharadotsava* every year when drama and *rangoli* competitions are held. Festivals such as *nagpanchami*, *gokulashtami*, *kojagiri purnima* are also celebrated. Besides, the *mandal* conducts a tailoring class which had a strength of 40 in 1969-70. It also runs a fruit preservation class which is attended every day by about 30 women.

The income of the *mandal* consists of membership fees and donations. It amounted to Rs. 80 in the year 1969-70.

Mahila Mandal, Sakoli.—The *Mahila Mandal* located at Sakoli was established in 1956. It is run with the object of bringing about uplift of women in social, educational and cultural spheres. In order to achieve this objective it organises various social activities and cultural programmes.

The administration of the *mandal* is run by the executive body of 9 members of whom one is president, one vice-president, one secretary and the rest ordinary members. The *mandal* had a membership of 150 in 1969-70.

Mahila Samaj, Gondia.—The *Mahila Samaj* located at Gondia was established in 1933 and was registered on 22nd April 1937. The *samaj* is run with the object of bringing about uplift of women in educational, social and cultural spheres. It also endeavours to make them economically independent. The *samaj* is also wedded to the object of eradicating casteism and to create a new casteless society based on equality and brotherhood of all. In order to fulfil these aims it organises various social activities, encourages debating, conducts tailoring, painting and embroidery classes, arranges trips and visits to various places.

The administration of the *samaj* is run by an executive body of seven members, of whom one is president, one vice-president, one secretary and the rest are ordinary members. The *samaj* had a membership of 25 in 1969-70.

At present the *samaj* is running three institutions. They are :—

(1) *Balak Mandir* : Established on 27th September 1962, the *Mandir* had 40 children between the age group of 3 and 7 years in 1969-70 under its care. Two lady teachers are engaged by the *Samaj*.

(2) *Tailoring class* : The *samaj* has employed lady teachers to coach women in tailoring. There are two batches attending the classes daily.

(3) *Udyog Mandir* : The *mandir* is engaged in the preparation of such articles as pickle, *masala*, *papad* and vegetables, etc., of daily use. These are sold privately and the entire profit is donated to the institution.

The *samaj* also celebrates *sharadotsava* every year for about 15 days. The *samaj* has a *bhajani* party of its own which arranges *bhajan* every fortnight. The *samaj* celebrates days of national importance as also festivals such as *sankrant*, *nagpanchami*, group *kumkum* ceremony, etc. It also arranges competitions in music, debating, knitting and painting. The *samaj* is housed in its own building.

The total assets of the *samaj* including both the movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 4,000. The income of the *samaj* consists of the monthly contributions from the members.

Prakash High School, Adyar.—The *Prakash High-school* was established in 1957 at Adyar and is a branch of *Adarsh Dnyan*

Prakash Shikshan Sanstha, Nagpur. The *sanstha* is run with the following aims :—

To promote the cause of education, develop the personality and moral character of the students and make them useful members of the society. The *sanstha* proposed to achieve these aims by adopting the following means :—

(1) to establish colleges for higher education.

(2) to establish industrial and technical institutions for vocational guidance.

(3) to run libraries and publish books and magazines.

(4) to run hostels for students taking education in the institution.

The administration of the school is run by an executive body of six local members of which the headmaster is the *ex-officio* president. There are also one vice-president and one secretary besides ordinary members.

The school conducts classes from Vth to XIth standard. Instructions are imparted through Hindi and Marathi. The school gives much stress on sports and moral training to develop the career of the students. It takes part in the district and Vidarbha sports competition held annually. Outdoor games are mainly encouraged by the school. The school provides for education in subjects pertaining to arts, science and commerce besides home science and physiology and hygiene. The school has an excellent library with books on various subjects valued at Rs. 25,000. Besides, the school has an up-to-date laboratory with an equipment valued at Rs. 50,000.

The school runs a hostel which has an accommodation for 20 students. The hostel is housed in its own building valued at Rs. 60,000 and possesses 5 acres of land which is used as a playground, etc. A spacious double storey school building with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 1,25,000 is under construction. The school proposes to start a college at Adyar. The school had 600 students on its roll in 1969-70.

The school conducts drama, debating and intelligence competitions. Besides quarterly intelligence, general knowledge and merit tests are held. The annual gathering and *sharadotsava* are the special feature programmes of the school. The cultural *samiti* organised by the school encourages students with an artistic bend of mind to take part in national competitions. Scholarships and books are awarded to deserving students. During the Gandhi Centenary Year the school constructed two approach roads, and a house costing about Rs. 3,000 which is donated to a poor *harijan*.

The total assets of the school including both movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 5,80,000. Of this amount deposits in bank balance account for Rs. 90,000, immovable property Rs. 26,000 whereas the rest represent movable property. The income and expenditure of the institution amounted to Rs. 1,24,000 in 1969-70.

Rashtriya Shikshan Sanstha, Gondia.—The Rashtriya Shikshan Sanstha located at Gondia was established on 9th April 1955. The *sanstha* is run with the following aims and objects :—

(1) to provide and promote educational literature, agricultural education and scientific art with a view to develop the personality of the students and thereby making them useful members of society.

(2) to propagate the ideals of self-sacrifice, self-reliance and truth.

The *sanstha* proposes to achieve these aims by adopting the following means :—

(i) to establish colleges for higher education.

(ii) to run hostels for students taking education in the institutions run by the *sanstha*.

The *sanstha* has 14 founder members. The administration of the *sanstha* is run by a governing body which had 12 members in the year 1969. Of these one is a president, one vice-president, and two are secretaries. At present the *sanstha* has 30 members. The members are categorised as founder members, patrons, sympathisers, ordinary members and life members according to the financial assistance rendered by them to the *sanstha*.

The *sanstha* at present runs three institutions of which Nutan Vidyalaya, Gondia is the biggest of its kind in Gondia tahsil. It conducts classes from Vth to XIth standard. It has also implemented the three language formula for imparting instructions to its students. The *sanstha* encourages physical activities for the students so as to develop their personality. The *sanstha* has an up-to-date laboratory for its science faculty and plenty of books on various subjects are maintained in its library. The *sanstha* is housed in its own spacious building. The Nutan Vidyalaya is also housed in its own building. The *sanstha* had a teaching staff of 33 in 1969-70. The *sanstha* takes part in the district and Vidarbha sports competitions every year. The outdoor games are also encouraged by it. Besides, days of national importance such as Independence Day, Republic Day etc., are celebrated. The *sanstha* conducts debating competitions as well. Financial assistance and concessions in fees are extended to deserving students by the *sanstha*.

The total assets of the *sanstha* including both the movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 2,63,205. The income of the *sanstha* amounted to Rs. 1,35,263, whereas the expenditure amounted to Rs. 70,000 in 1969. The Gondia Municipality gives Rs. 500 as annual grant-in-aid to the *sanstha*.

Saraswati Mahila Samaj, Amgaon.—The Saraswati Mahila Samaj located at Amgaon was established in October 1960. The *samaj* is run with the object of bringing about an uplift of women in social, educational and cultural spheres and to make them conscious of their place in society. The *samaj* is also wedded to the object of eradicating the roots of casteism from the society and to create a new casteless society mainly based on equality and

brotherhood of all. In order to achieve this end it organizes various social activities, such as *sahabhojans* with *Harijan* women, debates, excursions, etc.

The administration of the *samaj* is run by an executive body of eight members, of whom one is president, one secretary, one treasurer and the rest are ordinary members. The *samaj* had a membership of 30 in 1969-70.

The *samaj* celebrates *sharadotsava* every year when dramas are presented and embroidery and *Rangoli* competitions are organised. The *samaj* has its own *bhajan* party which renders its programmes on festive days such as *sankrant*, *nagpanchami*, *haldi kumkum*, etc.

The income of the *samaj* consists of membership fees and donations from the public.

Srimati Saraswatibai Mahila Vidyalaya, Gondia.—Srimati Saraswati Mahila Vidyalayas at Gondia was established on 11th May 1946. The Vidyalaya is run by the Chintamani School Trust which was founded in the same year. The *vidyalaya* is run with a view to promote education and scientific arts among the girl students in order to develop their personality and thereby make them responsible members of the society. The *vidyalaya* also aims to make women conscious of their importance and status in the society.

The *vidyalaya* proposes to achieve this aim by adopting the following means :—

(1) to establish colleges for higher education ;

(2) to establish technical institutions for vocational training ;

(3) to publish books and magazines ;

(4) to run hostel for students taking education in the *vidyalaya*.

The *vidyalaya* has 10 founder members or trustees. The day-to-day administration of the *vidyalaya* is carried on by an executive committee of 5 members of whom one is a president, one vice-president, one secretary and the rest are ordinary members. The *vidyalaya* had 25 members in 1969-70.

At present the *vidyalaya* conducts classes from Vth to XIth standard. It had 310 girl students on its roll and a teaching staff of 15 in 1969-70. The *vidyalaya* gives much stress on discipline and moral education for girls. Prominent persons are invited to deliver lectures on important subjects. Besides, the *vidyalaya* encourages sports by taking part in the district sports competition. It also arranges debating competition annually and gives attractive prizes to winners. Besides, days of national importance and festivals such as *sankrant*, *sharadotsava*, *navaratriotsava* and *nagpanchami* are also celebrated.

The total assets of the *vidyalaya* including both the movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 1,68,843. The income of the *vidyalaya* amounted to Rs. 70,193 in 1969-70 whereas the expenditure was Rs. 68,597 in the same year. The *vidyalaya* received Rs. 58,889 and Rs. 2,078 as grant-in-aid from the Government of Maharashtra and the Municipality respectively in 1969-70.

Sharada Vachanalaya, Gondia.—The Sharada Vachanalaya located at Gondia was established in 1927-28 with the object of promoting the cause of education. The *vachanalaya* proposes to achieve this object, by establishing libraries at various centres in the district, and by arranging lectures of prominent and talented persons on topics of interest to the common man.

The *vachanalaya* has about 600 to 700 members. The administration of the *vachanalaya* is run by an executive body of seven members of whom one is chairman, one vice-chairman and one secretary. The *vachanalaya* is housed in its own specious building.

The total assets of the *vachanalaya* including both movable and immovable property are valued at Rs. 95,839-00. Of this amount Rs. 33,513.47 account for books purchased, Rs. 2,910 as balance and Rs. 44,590.14 as cost of the building. The income of the *vachanalaya* in 1969 amounted to Rs. 14,912.73 and the expenditure Rs. 14,912.43 in the same year. The *vachanalaya* received Rs. 3,125 and Rs. 880 as grants from Maharashtra Government and Gondia Nagar Parishad, respectively in 1969.

CHAPTER 19 — PLACES

ADYAR

Adyar, with in 1971 a population of 7,496, is a large village in Bhandara tahsil, situated about 14 miles south of Bhandara on the Pauni road, the road that takes off from the Nagpur-Raipur highway near the town of Bhandara. The village contains an antique shrine of Mahavira Hanuman with a colossal image believed to be *svayambhu* or to have come out of the ground by itself. It is depicted in the act of trampling the demon Jambumali under its left foot with mother Anjani looking on. A large annual fair lasting for seven days and attended by over 15,000 persons is held at this temple on *Chaitra-Shuddha 9* (March-April). The fair is popularly known as *Ghodyachi Jatra*, its highlight being a chariot procession carrying an image of Balaji on a wooden horse attended by four wooden sentries. Another fair known as *Mandai* fair and attended by nearly 2,000 persons is held on *Kartika-Shuddha 2* (October-November). Jain remains in the district are very few, but some years ago, a life-size image of Parasnath, well-carved in black stone, was unearthed here while excavating a foundation. A number of Gandlis are engaged in weaving silk-bordered *saris*, cloth and *dhotis* on handlooms on co-operative basis, the silk-bordered *saris* being particularly known for their fine texture and quality. Bamboo baskets and matings are also made. There is a branch of the District Central Co-operative Bank, and a sub-centre of the sale and purchase union. Besides primary schools, Adyar has a basic school, two high schools and a *balak mandir*. Medical institutions comprise a maternity home, a primary health centre, an *ayurvedic* dispensary and a veterinary dispensary. At the weekly market held on Sundays, household goods, provisions and cattle are put up for sale. In fact Adyar is one of the important cattle markets in the district. The village has the usual grampanchayat, post and telegraph facilities, a police station, a rest house, a revenue circle office and a soil conservation office. Despite five good-size tanks and a few wells, shortage of drinking water is felt during the hot season. The agricultural labourers of this village are known for their skill and knowledge of paddy cultivation and hence are sought after by the agriculturists of the neighbouring villages. The village was previously owned by *malguzars* but the system of *malguzari* has since been replaced by the *ryotvari* system.

AMBAGAD RANGE

Ambagad Range, is a picturesque low range of hills forming an outlier of the Satpudas, which enters Bhandara on the west, and

trending in a north-easterly direction cuts off the valley of the Bavanthadi river from the rest of the district. Soon after entering Bhandara the ridge is crowned by the Ambagad fort, while further east the village and the ruined fortress of Chandpur stand on a fine bluff overlooking the confluence of the Wainganga and the Bavanthadi. Although of low elevation, the range is remarkable for the beauty and ruggedness of its scenery. At its western extremity in the Nagpur district is the Ram Tekdi adorned by the well-known group of Ramtek temples. Throughout the range basaltic and trappean formations predominate.

AMBAGAD VILLAGE

Ambagad, or the fort of the mangoes, so called on account of a large number of mango trees in and around the fort and the village in former days, is a village of 1,124 inhabitants in 1971 in Bhandara tahsil lying about 18 miles due north of Bhandara. On a bluff above the village, forming the end of the Ambagad range, stands the fort of that name, which is believed to have been built by a Pathan Governor of Seoni under the Gond Raja Bakht Buland in 1700 A.D. During the Bhosle regime it was used as a prison, where, it is said, criminals were despatched to be poisoned by being compelled to drink the stagnant and dark waters of the inner well of the fort. One Kadu Patel of Mohadi village who was imprisoned here on a charge of sorcery died in his confinement. He has since been elevated to the position of a deity, as Afzal Khan has been at the foot of Pratapgad, and worshipped by the Koshtis. He is known as the Ambagadhia Dev and the credulous villagers sacrifice goats and fowls at his altar in order to be cured of their diseases. The fortress including the gate on the eastern side which stood until recently, lies in total ruins. This fort together with that of Pauni was held against the British during Appa Sahab's rebellion in 1818. After the reduction of Kamtha, Major Wilson arrived before the fort which was garrisoned by 500 men. On a reconnaissance being made the garrison drew out of the fort to a neighbouring hill feature and subsequently fled without giving a fight. Having thus assaulted and carried the fort by storm, Major Wilson proceeded against Pauni. Fronting the fort and looking across a valley which here pierces the Ambagad range, is a remarkable basaltic precipice with a sheer drop of 200 feet. There is a small tank on the hill and from this water is believed to flow to a *gaimukh* or spring lower down. Not far from the village is the Baghada Gari Bandh under execution. It is estimated to cost rupees forty-five lakhs and irrigate 3,000 acres of land. A decade ago a hoard of over 1,000 silver coins was brought to light. Ambagad has a middle school and a grampanchayat.

AMGAON

Amgaon (the mango village), is a large village of 7,228 inhabitants in 1971 in Gondia tahsil, about 60 miles north-west of Bhandara and two miles from the Bagh river where an irrigation project is in progress. It is also a railway station on the Jagpur-Raipur broad gauge line of the south-eastern railway; the

settlement, however, lies about a mile from the railway. Amgaon was the capital of the erstwhile Amgaon *zamindari* which consisted for the most part of a long and narrow strip of land in the valley of the Bagh river, widening considerably towards the south. The village is now the headquarters of a development block with a panchayat samiti. At Padampur on the Amgaon Deori road about a mile and half east of Amgaon, there are remains of massive stone buildings and old images of Hindu gods like Vishnu and Sarasvati and of some Jain Tirthankaras, which indicate that the place is probably identical with ancient Padmapura, the birth-place of Bhavabhuti, one of the greatest Sanskrit playwrights, the author of the *Mahaviracharita*, *Malati-Madhava* and *Uttara-Rama-charita*. Today an arts and commerce college at Amgaon perpetuates the memory of Bhavabhuti. The village is best known as the site of the most important and perhaps the largest cattle market in the district. Being a railway station it is well situated for the export of cattle to places outside the district and even outside the State. The railway also handles large quantities of bamboo and other forest produce. Butchers from Kamptee and other places throng the Friday-Saturday weekly market for the purchase of infirm and worn-out cattle. Buffaloes from Indore, Jaypur, Bhopal, Nimad, ect., brought here for sale, are principally purchased by agriculturists from Chhatisgarh. Bulls and horses are also traded. The market has become a lucrative source of revenue to the Zilla Parishad, realisations by way of tax amounting to an average sum of Rs. 3,000 at each market during the busy season from April to June. Receipts vary from Rs. 100 to Rs. 400 at each market during the slack season. Amgaon is a wholesale centre for collection and export of agricultural produce, there being a regulated market. Essential amenities and facilities such as market yard, godown, cattle shed, water troughs, rest-house and fencing are provided. There are bidi manufacturing and rice dehussing units. There is a fine tank here which was improved by Government during the famine of 1900 at a cost of Rs. 15,000. It has since been greatly expanded and serves the double purpose of irrigation and pisciculture. Educational institutions, in addition to primary schools and the college, include three high schools one of which is maintained by the Zilla Parishad, a *balak mandir* and a library. A maternity home, an *ayurvedic* and an allopathic dispensary, the latter maintained by the Government, and a veterinary dispensary provide medical care to both beast and man. There are a post and telegraph office, a police station, a rest-house and a range forest office. Two fairs, one in honour of Khandoba in *Margashirsha* (November-December) and another in honour of Mahadev in *Vaishakha* (April-May) are held annually. At one of these fairs free food is distributed by the former *zamindar* family.

ANDHALGAON

Andhalgaon, also known as Andhargaon or the dark village, is a village of 5,164 inhabitants in 1971 in Bhandara tahsil lying

about 16 miles north of Bhandara and connected with Mohali by a good metalled road. It is one of the principal centres in the district having a considerable weaving industry, silk-bordered cloths for women being chiefly produced. The *kosa* (silk) cloth for which the district is so well-known has become very costly and hence the demand for it has correspondingly declined. A weekly market is held on Wednesdays to which some cattle are also brought for sale. Andhalgaon has a primary school, a high school conducted by the Zilla Parishad, an allopathic dispensary, a maternity home, a veterinary aid centre, a *sarvodaya* centre, and a library. There are also a sub-post office and a police outpost.

ARJUNI ZAMINDARI

Arjuni, is a village in Sakoli tahsil situated to its east and traversed by the Nagpur-Raipur highway. It is popularly known as Sadak Arjuni and is also connected by another road with Gondia which further on runs to Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh. It was previously the headquarters of the Arjuni *zamindari*¹.

" Arjuni has a weekly market of some importance and there are a school and a post office. At Deopaili, a village of the *zamindari*, is a shrine which is believed to be under the guardianship of two white tigers, and it is supposed that these make their appearance on the occasion of the death of each *zamindar*. Another story is that the *Raja* of Nagpur intended to build a tank by blocking a pass in the hills, which would rival Navegaon lake. But so many of the labourers died that he desisted, but he buried the money which would have been expended on the tank in one of the hills where it is still supposed to remain . . ."² Arjuni has a maternity home and an *ayurvedic* dispensary.

BALLAHI RANGE

Ballahi Range, is a low ridge of sandstone hills capped with granite which overhang the Nagpur-Raipur highway a few miles to the west of Bhandara and forms a prominent feature in the landscape. The hills raise about 400 feet above the level of the plain. They are almost bare of vegetation, but afford some pasturage for cattle and plenty of building material in the shape of large slabs of shale and blocks of laterite.

BHAGI SUB-ZAMINDARI

Bhagi Sub-Zamindari: "This is a *sub-zamindari* of Deori Kisori lying in the east of the Sakoli tahsil, along the Bagh river.

¹ When independence came there were certain estates managed by *Zamindars*. These estates were of a feudal nature and were granted as reward for military service etc. The *Zamindars* had full proprietary rights in these estates including the right to divide and alienate their lands. They paid only quit rents to Government. In this edition of the Gazetteer the accounts of the *Zamindaris* are given merely for the sake of record. It needs to be noted, however, that *Zamindari* and *malguzari* systems were abolished under the Madhya Pradesh Abolition of Proprietary Rights (Estates, Mahals, Alienated lands) Act, 1950 which came into operation on 14th March 1951. The system of land tenure has since become *ryotwari*.

² Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed., p. 183.

It has an area of 30 square miles, about half of which is covered by forest, *saj* being the principal timber tree. The estate is held by a Raj-Gond family and was apparently acquired at the time of Chimanaji Bhonsala's return from Orissa. It is said to have been granted as a reward for the destruction of a man-eating tiger. The family, which is a large one, is related to the *zamindars* of Purada. The estate contains 12 villages, of which one is held by an inferior proprietor and the remainder are managed direct by the *zamindar*¹. Bhagi is now an insignificant village.

BHANDARA

Bhandara, is the headquarters of the district to which it gives its name and lies in latitude 21° 10' north and longitude 79° 40' east on the Wainganga river to which the Sur, rising in the Ramtek tahsil of Nagpur district, meets about a mile from the town. The town is 40 and 560 miles distant from Nagpur and Bombay, respectively, and has a station, Bhandara Road, on the Nagpur-Howrah railway route, about seven miles distant. It has the additional advantage of the Great Eastern Road, now known as Bombay-Calcutta National Highway passing through it. There are post, telegraph and telephone facilities. These facile means of transport and communications have in no small measure contributed to the growing prosperity of the town. Bhandara had a population of 39,423 in 1971, of which males numbered 20,651 and females 18,772.

Bhandara is a corruption of Bhanara, a name by which the local people still call the town. A reference to Bhanara is found in an inscription of 1100 A.D. traced at Ratanpur, the chief of Bhanara having been at that time a feudatory of the Haihayavanshi kings of Ratanpur. The town is thus an old one, and in view of this inscription, the popular belief that the derivation is from of this inscription, the popular belief that the derivation is from a *bhana*, a brass dish, based on the fact that the town has a substantial brass-working industry, appears to be baseless. In the second half of the thirteenth century A.D. Bhandara was visited by Shri Chakradhara, the founder of the Mahanubhava sect. The *Sthana-pothis* of the Mahanubhavas mentions the house of a Brahmana named Nilabhata, which is still shown at Bhandara. The work also mentions the tank on the north of the town and the temple of Narasimha situated on its western bank. According to another version of the *Sthana-pothis*, there was a temple of Shiva also near the tank. The town is named Bhandara in the *Sthana-pothis*.

Prior to 1820 the district was administered from Lanji. Thereafter the headquarters were shifted to Bhandara when a European Officer was appointed Superintendent under the Regency of Sir Richard Jenkins. The town is well laid out with broad streets, the main street being the road to the station which meets the Bombay-Calcutta highway at the district office. There is a circuit road of six miles round the town.

¹ Reproduced from 1908 edition of Bhandara Gazetteer, pp. 185-86

Municipality.—Bhandara was created a municipality in 1867, the area under its jurisdiction now being 6.3 square miles. The municipal committee is composed of 24 members, 22 elected and two co-opted.

Income and Expenditure: " . . . the average municipal income during the decade ending 1901 was Rs. 35,000. In 1904-05 the income was Rs. 32,000, being principally derived from octroi and a water-rate".¹ In 1968-69 the total municipal income derived from various sources, excluding a sum of Rs. 1,14,083 as income derived from extraordinary and debt heads, amounted to Rs. 12,36,604. The expenditure during the same year, excluding a sum of Rs. 1,44,786 incurred on account of extraordinary and debt heads, stood at Rs. 11,93,524. The principal items of expenditure were general administration and collection charges, and public health, safety, convenience and instruction.

Medical Aid, Drainage and Water Supply: A Government conducted General Hospital with a capacity of 99 beds provides medical aid. An x-ray machine and two operation theaters for major and minor operations are also provided. For T. B. patients a special ward of 10 beds is attached. The district as a whole and Sakoli and Gondia tahsils in particular has a large number of leprosy patients. With a view to checking this disease a leprosy subsidiary centre has been opened at Bhandara too. Bhandara has a maternity home and an ayurvedic dispensary also. Under the National Malaria Control Programme D. D. T. spraying is done periodically. The veterinary dispensary of the town with an artificial insemination centre attached to it is conducted by the municipality. The drainage system consists of stone lined surface drains kept in order by the sanitary staff. "The water supply of the town is obtained from the Wainganga river. Three filtration wells have been sunk in the bed of the river and water is carried from them to a service reservoir near the jail, from which it is distributed over the town in pipes. The works were opened in 1900, the cost of the scheme being Rs. 1.84 lakhs and the annual maintenance charges Rs. 6,000. A large proportion of the cost was raised by local subscriptions, the zamindar of Kamtha, Indraraj Bhau, contributing Rs. 55,000.¹ Although the water supply scheme was subsequently expended, the supply falls far short of the demand. A new scheme, to be undertaken on the same river, has therefore been submitted for Government approval. It is estimated to cost Rs. 11 lakhs.

Education: Primary education is looked after by the municipality. It is compulsory. There are four *balak mandirs* and 14 primary schools. The town has seven secondary schools, of which two are maintained by Government and one by the Municipality. Of the high schools, the Manro High School, named after the then Director of Public Instruction, was opened in 1904 by

¹. *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908 ed., p. 192.*

Mr. Joshi, a well known citizen of the town. The number of colleges is three.

On the banks of the Wainganga river a cremation ground is maintained by the municipality; besides there are two burial grounds.

Manufacturers, Trade.—Brass-working is not only the principal industry of the town but it is also the most ancient. Until the end of the 19th century *Kasars* who originally migrated from North India and Panchals from the south were the only ones engaged in this industry. However, as the industry began to prosper with mechanisation, others also entered the field. Bhandara has at least four large-scale and numerous small-scale units manufacturing a variety of brass-ware such as cups, plates, *gunds* and *gangals* or water-vessels. It has become one of the principal marts supplying brass-ware to the whole of Khandesh and Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh and Tatanagar. Bidi-making is another industry of note, there being two large scale factories and many small-scale ones. Another industry which employs a substantial number of people is the weaving of silk-bordered cloths. Dhotis and saris, *uparanas* or shoulder cloths and loin cloths are generally woven. Silver-gilt thread is sometimes embroidered on the borders, and clothes consisting wholly of silk are made to order. These goods find demand in the neighbouring districts, in Bombay and Hyderabad. The town has also a few cotton ginning and pressing factories, rice and flour mills, oil presses and saw mills. An industrial estate has been set up recently. The town is a wholesale trade centre for the collection and export of agricultural produce. There is a regulated market provided with all the essential amenities and facilities such as a market yard, cattle-shed, water troughs, rest-house, fencing, etc. Weekly markets, at which cattle are also sold, are held on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. A daily vegetable market is also provided.

Remains.—Two antique *Hemadpanti* temples, dedicated to Ambai and Nimbai, or the goddesses of the mango and *nim* trees, stand in the centre of the town. An old fort which is said to have been built by a Gaoli king is now converted into a sub-jail. Also ascribed to the Gaolis is a tank called the *Khamb Talav* and the pillar in its centre is said to have been the one to which their bullocks were tied. It, however, appears that in reality it is the ordinary sacrificial post erected for worship when the tank was finished. Some temples stand on the banks of the tank. In the Mendha ward of the town are two large images of Maruti and Ganapati, and close to them is a *math* or monastery known as *Alon Baba Ka Math*. This contains four old temples in which are images of Narayan, Lakshmi, and Mahadev. The monastery was founded by one Chatarnath Gosain of the *Giri* order, who came to be known as Alon Baba, from the fact that he did not consume salt. This practice of abstaining from salt-eating is still kept up by his successors. Near the *math* there are numerous *samadhis* or graves of the *Gosains*. The *math* had formerly a

grant of seven or eight villages for its maintenance. A *Hemad panti* temple of Pinglai containing a fine image of that goddess stands in the suburb called after the goddess. On the birth of a boy and a girl respectively the Kamtha *zamindars* used to offer a goat and a cocoanut at this temple. The tonsure ceremonies of their children were invariably performed at this temple. An annual fair with a wrestling competition was formerly held in honour of Pinglai goddess. Near the town are two *takias* or tombs of Muhammedan saints and feasts for the dead are held annually in August or September. The town has a good garden, a fountain known as Fraser ornamental fountain, two cinema theatres and an open air theatre.

Miscellaneous.—Since Bhandara is the district headquarters, there are besides the revenue offices, Zilla Parishad, District Superintendent of Police, Civil and Criminal Court, Buildings and Communications, Forest, Soil Conservation and various other official establishment of the different Government departments. There are a rest-house and a circuit house.

BIJLI ZAMINDARI

Bijli Zamindari.—“This estate is situated in the east of the Tirora tahsil between the Bagh River and the Salekasa and Darekasa sub-zamindaris. A considerable part of it is wild and mountainous with forests of inferior species of timber trees and bamboos. There is some open and fertile country along the Bagh river. The area of the estate is 59 square miles and it contains 29 villages. The estate was granted by Chimnaji Bhonsla, brother of Raghuji II, to the Lodhi family, in subordination to the *Zamindar* of Kamtha, who at that time was the principal executive authority in the tracts east of the Wainganga. In 1856 it became independent of Kamtha. In 1844 the estate was partitioned between three brothers on payment of a fee of Rs. 10,000 to the Nagpur *Raja*.....of the 29th villages 15 are held by inferior proprietors and 7 by lessees. At settlement the shares were separately assessed”¹

BONDGAON

Bondgaon, is a small village of 2,148 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about 13 miles south of Sakoli near the Chulband river. In honour of Gangajumna Devi, who is supposed to dwell in a tank in the village, a fair is held on *Chaitra-Purnima* (March-April). The fair lasts for a fortnight, the attendance not exceeding 5,000. On *Ashvin Shuddha 9* another fair is held. The priest of the temple is much revered and goes about on tour in *Chaitra*. He is believed to possess the gift of divination and prophecy. Bondgaon has a maternity home, an ayurvedic dispensary, a veterinary aid centre, a post office and facilities for education up to the high school level. For the supply of potable water it depends upon wells.

¹. Reproduced from *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*, 1908 ed., pp. 193-94.

BRAHMI

Brahmi, is a small village in Bhandara tahsil lying about 25 miles south of Bhandara. It contains an antique well constructed of long slabs of stone. The local people ascribe its building to the giants or rakshasas. There is a primary school at Brahmi.

CHANDPUR

Chandpur, with a population of 609 in 1971, is a small village in Bhandara tahsil situated about 32 miles north of Bhandara. It was the headquarters of a *pargana*, and the residence of a *kamavisdar*. There is an old and a ruinous fort ascribed to the Gaolis, on the site of which custard-apple trees now grow. A large number of Gaolis are engaged in cattle-breeding. Inside the fort is a *dargah* of one Chand Shah Vali at which an *urus* is held in March-April. A large irrigation tank with a capacity to irrigate 3,040 acres of land was completed in 1915 in two stages. It is known as Chandpur tank and has been brought under pisciculture. The village has a grampanchayat, a primary school and a service co-operative. The soil is metamorphic and shows traces of manganese deposits. At Chikhla, about six miles west of Chandpur, a manganese mine is worked.

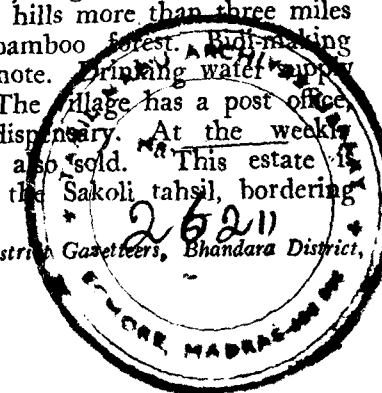
CHICHEWADA, SUB-ZAMINDARI

Chichevada Sub-Zamindari : “This is a sub-zamindari of Deori-Kishori situated in the east of the Sakoli tahsil to the south of the Great-Eastern Road (now known as Bombay-Calcutta National Highway). Its area is 40 square miles, the bulk of which is forest. The *Zamindari* belongs to a Halba family. It contains 11 villages, of which five are leased and six managed by the proprietors..... The income of the estate was Rs. 2,100 at settlement, the bulk of which was derived from the forests; a *takoli* of Rs. 1,000 was fixed the whole of which is payable to Government through the *zamindar* of Deori”¹ Chichevada is now an insignificant village in Sakoli tahsil with 747 inhabitants according to the 1971 Census.

CHICHGAD

Chichgad or Tamarind fort is a village of 1,324 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about 42 miles from Sakoli. It was the headquarters of the Chichgad *zamindari* and is linked with the Bombay-Calcutta National Highway by a good road, which near Chichgad runs through a pass in the hills more than three miles in length and bordered by dense bamboo forest. ¹ *Hand-making* is perhaps the only industry of any note. Drinking water supply is obtained from wells and a tank. The village has a post office, a middle school and a medical dispensary. At the weekly market held on Saturdays cattle are also sold. This estate is situated in the south-east corner of the Sakoli tahsil, bordering

¹. Reproduced from the *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*, 1908 ed., p. 196.



on the Nandgaon State and the Chanda district. Its area is 240 square miles, a large proportion of which consists of unculturable hill country covered by forest. The Barabhati estate was added to the *zamindari* in 1818 on being confiscated from the *zamindar* of Sansari in Chanda district for complicity in Appa Sahib's rebellion. The *zamindari* contains 84 villages of which 11 are uninhabited.....The cropped area was 20,000 acres in 1906-07, of which about 4,000 are irrigated. About 160 square miles are covered by forest and contain *teak*, *saj*, *butta*, *dhaura* and bamboos.....Inferior proprietary rights exist in six villages and of the remainder about half are managed direct and half leased to farmers.....A large timber market is held at Kasari."¹

CHIKHALI

Chikhali, is a small village of 2,039 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil lying to its east. It has a post office and a primary school. A few Gond families are engaged in the manufacture of soft matting of *sukhavasa* grass. Together with Savangi it formerly constituted the Chikhali *zamindari*.

DALLI ZAMINDARI

Dalli *zamindari*: "This estate is situated in the north-east of Sakoli tahsil adjoining Tirora, and has an area of 52 square miles."² Dalli village had 677 inhabitants according to 1971 Census. Drinking water is obtained from wells, tank and a *nala*.

DAREKASA

Darekasa, with in 1971 a population of 186 is a small village in Gondia tahsil situated on the railway line about 73 miles from Bhandara Road. It was the headquarters of the former Darekasa *zamindari*. There are some interesting caves, partly natural and partly artificial, in the Chandsuraj hills near here. They are called Kachgad or iron fort, *kacha* being the Gondi word for iron. About 200 persons can sit in one cave formed out of a single rock. In a well-known Gond folk song recorded by Rev. Mr. Hislop, Mahadev is said to have shut up the Gonds in the Kachikopa Lohagad or "The iron cave of the red hill" closing the mouth of the cave with a large boulder. Lingo, the leader of the tribe, rolled away the stone and liberated 16 score of Gonds who were the ancestors of the whole tribe. It is quite possible that the scene of this legend may have been taken from Darekasa. At a little distance from Darekasa there is a waterfall forming into a fine pool known as Ramidoh with some picturesque scenery.

DAWWA

Dawwa, a small village of 2,479 inhabitants in 1971, is in Sakoli tahsil lying about 18 miles east of Sakoli. There is a post office and a middle school. It was the headquarters of the Dawwa *zamindari*

¹. Reproduced from the *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*. 1908 ed., p. 197.

². *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed., p. 198.

"situated in the east of the Sakoli tahsil between the boundary towards Tirora and the Great Eastern Road. Its area is 26 square miles, of which about a third is occupied for cultivation, and a large proportion is under scrub jungle. The *zamindari* was held by the family before the Maratha conquest and was confirmed to Muka Thakur Halba in 1775. The Chikhli *zamindari* formed a part of the original grant but the two villages it contains were given to a younger branch of the family."¹

DEORI-KISHORI ZAMINDARI

Deori-Kishori Zamindari, "This estate is situated in the north-east of the Sakoli tahsil, adjoining Tirora and its own subordinate *zamindaris* of Salegaon, Bhagi and Chichevada. The Great Eastern Road (Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta National Highway) passes through it and Deori is connected by a fair-weather road with Amgaon station, 23 miles distant. The area of Deori-Kishori, excluding the sub-*zamindaris*, is 27 square miles. The estate having been confiscated from Chimna Patel together with the Kamtha *zamindari* was made over to Narbad Lodhi with Kamtha in 1818."²

DHIWARA

Dhiwara, is a village on the Wainganga river in Gondia tahsil, just south of the railway line and 24 miles distant from Bhandara. Opposite the village in the Wainganga stands an antique temple of Narasimha which is frequently visited and venerated by the local people. On the last day of *Kartika* (October-November), a small fair is held at the temple. A fine view of the shrine can be had from the railway.

DIGHORI

Dighori, is a village of 4,802 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about 28 miles south-west of Bhandara and 14 miles south of Sakoli. The Chulband river passes within a mile of the village. Dighori formerly belonged to the Bhosle Queen Baka Bai and was known as 'Bai Saheb Ki Dighori'; later on it passed on to Lakshaman Rav Bhosle. There are some fine tanks here in which a good deal of *singhara* is grown and the double cropped area is large. Building work of one of the tanks was completed in 1968 and it irrigates about 628 acres of land. After the paddy harvest, wheat, gram and pulses are raised in the moist fields. Dighori has some trade in timber. There are a post office, a middle school, medical dispensary and a rest-house. A weekly market is held on Wednesdays.

DONGARLI ZAMINDARI

Dongarli Zamindari: "This estate consists of only one village about 4 miles from Birsola station. Its area is 1,934 acres.....The

¹. *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed., p. 200.

². *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed., pp. 200-201.

village was granted by the Bhonsla *Raja* to a Rajput for settlement before 1800 A.D.¹

FULCHUR

Fulchur (Phulchur), is a village of 3,923 inhabitants in 1971 in Gondia tahsil, situated on the Pangoli stream, 56 miles north-east of Bhandara and three miles from Gondia railway station. It is connected with Gondia by a good road. There is a post office and a primary school. Fulchur has a tank irrigating 183 acres.

GAIKHURI RANGE

Gaikhuri Range, is a range of hills that runs from the east of Bhandara town to the railway near Gondia. It may be generally described as a cluster of low peaks surrounded by irregular forest country. It attains a width of about five miles towards the centre where the forest is dense. Bisons are occasionally met with in these forests. The peak of Khaira to the north of the range attains an elevation of 2,000 feet.

GAIMUKH

Gaimukh, is a small village of 217 inhabitants in 1971 in Bhandara tahsil 20 miles north of Bhandara and six miles from Ambagad. It is so called because a spring issues from the rocks here, and the name *gaimukh* or cow's mouth is usually applied to such springs the form of a cow's mouth being sometimes carved out of the rock. The spring is supposed to have its source in a tank two miles away. There is a cave temple ascribed to the Kuramvars. A fair lasting for a fortnight is held at the place on the day of *Mahashivaratra* in March. The attendance is about 50,000 persons. A number of shops are opened for the sale of brass vessels and hardware.

GANGAZARI

Gangazari, with a population of 1,534 in 1971, is a village in Gondia tahsil lying about eight miles east of Tirora. It is a railway station having post and telegraph facilities, a dispensary and a school. *Mahashivaratra* fair attended by nearly 1,200 persons is held in *Magh* (January-February). The village was the headquarters of the Gangazari *zamindari* of which the following details are available in the earlier edition of Bhandara Gazetteer : "This estate is situated in the Tirora tahsil, to the east of Tirora and adjoining the railway It contains seven villages and has an area of 18 square miles. It was a subordinate *zamindari* of Warad, but at Mr. Napier's settlement the *zamindar* was permitted, in accordance with his expressed desire, to pay the *takoli* direct to Government. The Maratha administration at one time treated with its owner direct, and when and for what reason the change was made is not recorded.

¹. Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed., p. 202.

GONDIA

Gondia, situated in latitude 21° 28' north and longitude 80° 13' east, on the Bombay-Nagpur-Howrah trunk line, is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. The tahsil, with its headquarters at Tirora, was previously known as Tirora tahsil but came to be known as Gondia tahsil with the shifting of the headquarters to Gondia in 1914. Gondia is the railway junction for the line running towards its north to Jabbalpur across the Satpuda plateau, and to Brahmapuri and Chanda southwards. By rail it is 81 miles from Nagpur and 601 from Bombay. It is the fifth railway station from Bhandara Road lying 42 miles east of it, and is also connected with the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway by a branch road which forks off at Sadak Arjuni. A new road has recently been constructed linking Tumsar and Tirora with Gondia. The district is included in the Chanda postal division. The head post office is situated at Gondia there being two telegraph offices at Gondia and Gondia Bazar, respectively. There is a telephone exchange too. Gondia, which was no more than a village in 1901 with a population of 4,457, has rapidly grown into a prosperous and populous municipal town. Its population stood at 77,992 in 1971. There is hardly any town in the district to rival Gondia in commercial activity. The railway has been primarily responsible for the speedy growth and prosperity of the place. It is one of the two leading goods stations in Bhandara receiving the produce of the surrounding area of Bhandara and of the lowlands of the adjoining Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh. The town has a considerable trade in grain and forest produce. It is a wholesale centre for the collection and distribution of agricultural produce, there being a regulated market provided with all the essential amenities and facilities. Many a Cutchi, Marvadi and Gujarathi trader and Kirar and Sindhi petty dealers reside here. A large weekly market is held on Tuesdays at which all kinds of articles such as food grains, pulses, chillis, spices, gur, oils, fruits and vegetables are brought for sale. Pedlars and hawkers set-up temporary booths. The local traders and shop-keepers also set up temporary stalls. Buyers within a radius of eight to ten miles frequent this weekly market. Since *tendu* leaves grow in abundance in the forests of the region there are some large scale factories engaged in the manufacture as well as sorting and packing of bidis for export. Manufacture of shallac, seedlac, kirilac etc., from crude lac is localised at Gondia. This is an important industry as the forests in the vicinity yield lac in abundance. A fine Litho Works undertakes lithographic printing affording employment to over 200 workers. Tumblers chimneys and other glass-ware are also manufactured. The town has also a bone mill, besides saw mills, and rice and flour mills. Gondia being an important commercial centre leads in banking activities and has more than half of the 13 banking institutions in the district, both scheduled and non-scheduled. It has two branches of the Central Co-operative Bank. There is also a branch of the State Bank which works for the treasury too.

"The town stands close to the railway station and is well laid out with two main roads. The greater part of it is situated on Government land and the rents of this are credited to a fund for sanitary purposes which are supplemented by a house-tax. The receipts of the fund are about Rs. 2,000 annually. Considerable progress had been made with a drainage scheme. Gondia is a notified area under the Municipal Act. The total area of Gondia village is 1,430 acres of which 150 are *nazul* or Government land."¹ The town has since considerably expanded and is laid out with some fine roads.

Municipality.—Gondia was constituted a municipality in 1919.² Its jurisdiction, extends over an area of seven square miles. Thirtyfour members compose the municipal committee.

Income and Expenditure : Municipal receipts derived from various sources such as municipal rates and taxes, property and powers apart from taxation, realisations under special acts and grants for special and general purposes were Rs. 25,31,591 in 1968-69. Expenditure incurred on general administration and collection of taxes, public health, public safety, convenience and public instruction etc., stood at Rs. 25,07,042 during the same year. Income and expenditure on account of extra-ordinary and debt heads amounted to Rs. 14,432 and Rs. 16,364, respectively.

Medical Aid, Water Supply and Drainage : The town has mostly Government conducted Medical Institutions affording adequate medical treatment. Gondia is one of the tahsils having a large number of lepers. A survey, education and treatment leprosy unit has therefore been maintained here. For T. B. patients a T. B. hospital with 50 beds, an X-ray plant and other modern equipment, was opened in 1957-58. Besides, there are B. G. Women's hospital and the K. T. S. hospital including a family planning centre and an *ayurvedic* dispensary. In 1968-69 the municipality spent Rs. 7,220 on account of the veterinary dispensary of the town. Measures for malaria eradication and the control of epidemic diseases like cholera and small-pox are taken from time to time. Gondia still depends on wells for water supply. A water-works estimated to cost Rs. 57,00,000 would, however, soon provide this prosperous town with tap-water. Although the drainage system consists of open stone-lined surface gutters, care is taken to keep the town sanitarily clean.

Education : There are primary schools imparting education in Marathi, Gujarati, Punjabi and Hindi and three *balak mandirs*. In addition to middle schools the town has one municipal higher secondary school and others conducted privately. The Natvarlal Maniklal College has the faculties of Arts and Commerce. An Industrial Training Institute trains students in the courses of electrician, fitter, turner, welder and carpenter. Training is also

¹ *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*, 1908 edition, p. 204.

² *District Census Handbook, Bhandara*, 1961, p. 4; The Gondia Municipality has however, given the year as 1921.

provided in certain technical courses by the Government Technical High School. A non-government institute imparts training in minor trades like tailoring and cutting. The town has also library facilities made available both by government and private institutions.

A fairly well-equipped fire brigade is maintained by the municipality. It has also provided markets for vegetables, fish, mutton and beef. Of the two gardens, the one known as Subhash Garden is maintained by the municipality. Gondia has a temple in honour of Ram and had a station of the Methodist Episcopal Mission.

Gondia is the headquarters of a sub-division, and has the tahsil office, panchayat samiti, civil and criminal courts, police station, a sub-registration office and various other government establishments. There is also a S. T. bus stand and a rest house.

GONDUMRI

Gondumri is a village of 1,516 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil about ten miles distant from Sakoli. It is a railway station on the Gondia-Chanda Fort line which crosses the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway, a little south of Scoundad. Soft matting of *sukhavasa* grass is manufactured here by the Gonds. The village has a middle school, a dispensary, post office and rest house. A weekly market is held on Tuesdays. Gondumri was the headquarters of the Gond-Umri *zamindari*. "This estate lies in the centre of the Sakoli tahsil to the south of the Great Eastern Road. Its area is 28 square miles, about half of which is covered by forest. The forests at Koliwara contain good timber. The estate is said to date from the time of Nizam Shah the Gond *Raja* of Mandla (*circa* 1751 A. D.) and the family are Kanauija Brahmans. One story is that it was granted on a lease for bringing it under cultivation, and another that Shankar, the founder of the family wrested it by force from the previous Gond possessor. This Shankar lived in the time of Raghuji I and a *sanad* dated 1775 A. D. conferring the estate on him was formerly in possession of the family"¹

JAMB

Jamb is a village in Bhandara tahsil, situated about 20 miles north-west of Bhandara on the road from Tumsar to Ramtek in Nagpur district. Its population was 2,718 in 1971. The name is said to have been derived from that of the guava tree. A number of Maras reside here and are engaged in the cultivation of vegetables such as ginger, potatoes and earth-nuts with the help of well irrigation. There are also a few sugarcane gardens, and a small cotton hand-weaving industry. Some difficulty is experienced in obtaining potable water for which wells are dug in the bed of a shallow stream which flows by the village. The village has a post office, a middle school, and a medical practitioner. A weekly market is held on Mondays.

¹ *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed. p. 205.

JAMBHALI ZAMINDARI.

Jambhali Zamindari : "This estate is situated in the north-west of the Sakoli tahsil and has an area of 15 square miles, of which three-fourths is forest. *Saj* is the principal timber tree. The *zamindars* are Raj-Gonds and their tenure is believed to date from the time of the Mandla kings"¹.

Jambhali village had a population of 1,406 in 1971.

KAMTHA.

Kamtha, is a village of 3,031 inhabitants in 1971 in Gondia tahsil lying about 60 miles north-east of Bhandara and 34 miles from Tirora which was formerly the tahsil headquarters. It is about 10 miles distant from Gondia and gave its name to the erstwhile large *zamindari* of Kamtha. The *zamindar* of Kamtha used to reside here in the summer months. There is an old temple here 20 feet square, and an inscription with a footprint and a figure of a Chamar's *rampi* or cutting instrument on a black stone which stands by a house in the village. There is also a small fort which was stormed by the British in 1818. During Appa Saheb's rebellion, Chimna, the manager of Kamtha taluka sided with him and thus Kamtha also came to be held against the British. "After reducing Nowargaon, Captain Gordon proceeded against Kamtha and arrived there in September. There he was reinforced by two companies of Indian Infantry. As the rebels had established a chain of posts from Ambagad to Rampaili and Sangarhi, a second detachment was sent out under Major Wilson on the 17th with instructions to dislodge them. But Captain Gordon proceeded to the attack of Kamtha, before the arrival of the detachment and his dispositions for this purpose were carried into execution at day break of the 18th. The town was surrounded by a wall and a partial ditch and contained a small *gadhi*. To attack the town in the first instance the force was divided into three parties, of which the left, under Lieutenant Thuillier, was composed of one hundred and sixty, Madras Infantry and 200 of the Nagpur Brigade. A company of the same Brigade formed the centre party and a gun, and the right of matchlockmen, was placed under a local chief named Anand Rao. The left column was provided with fascines, carried by every second man, which were precipitated into the ditch. The troops thus passed over the ditch without difficulty and after having entered the *pettah* separated into two parties. The rebels were driven by launching an attack from the left and the right, the regular horse intercepting those who took to the plain. The rebels had two batteries in the town one directed against the right. Both these were stormed no sooner the left column got into the town. In order to reduce the fort a gun was used to blow its gate. Failing that an elephant was used to force it open. While devising measures to open the second gate, the garrison surrendered on the promise of personal safety. The *killedar*, who had much influence over

¹ Reproduced from *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*, 1908 ed. p. 206.

several of the remaining garrisons, promised their immediate submission. The loss of the rebels was estimated at 400 men. Sixty-one of the British troops were killed and wounded². The fort was subsequently repaired. About a mile to the west of the village at Birshapur is an air-strip. There is a good trade in leather. At a distance of about a mile to the north is the fine tank of Zilmili and the small stream of the Pangoli flows past the village to the east. The Zilmili tank was built in 1968 and has a capacity to irrigate 645 acres of land. A circular cistern fed by a natural spring is used by the people to wash their clothes. Kamtha has a Government rice mill, a middle school, an allopathic and a veterinary dispensary and a post office. A weekly market is held on Thursdays.

"This fine estate lies in the north-east of the Tirora tahsil in an open fertile country. It is situated to the south of the Wainganga between Amgaon on the east and Warad on the west. The total area is 288 square miles and it contains 128 villages. The soil is moderately fertile, consisting very largely of a sandy loam, generally cropped with rice and bearing second crops in favourable years. On the banks of the Wainganga and Bagh some rich black soil is found. Gondia is within the *zamindari* and is connected with its headquarters, Phulchur, by a metalled road. The estate is traversed by the Bengal-Nagpur railway and the Satpura branch line and by the Gondia-Arjuni and Gondia-Balaghat roads."

"The present *zamindari* includes only a part of the old estate, all the subordinate *zamindaris* having been separated from it."

"The first proper settlement was made in about 1750 A.D. by a Kunbi cultivator, who was given a grant of land here on a quit-rent of Rs. 60. Gradually the borders of his estate extended until it included all the *zamindaris* of Tirora tahsil, Hatta, Kiranapur and Bhadra in the Balaghat district, and Deori-Kishori in the Sakoli tahsil. This large property was however split up partly among members of the founder's family and partly among outsiders. In 1818, Chimna, the manager of Kamtha taluka..... sided with Appa Saheb in his rebellion and apparently involved all his family.....except the branches which held Amgaon and Palkheda; and the whole estate with these exceptions was lost to the family, though subsequently they were given Kiranapur and some village for their maintenance. Kamtha, Hatta and Deori-Kishori were entrusted for management for two years to Narbad Patel, a Lodhi of no special family, who three years earlier had been given the *zamindari* of Warad. Two years later the estate were handed over to him at the instance of Major Wilkinson, but whether any conditions were made at the time is not known, as even at the 30 years' settlement the papers concerning the transaction were not forthcoming. Narbad Lodhi was succeeded by his eldest son Dewaji in 1826, but he died childless in 1827 and

² The description is taken from Col. Blacker's *Memoirs*.

was succeeded by his brother Gaji. The son of the latter, Yashvant Rao, succeeded in 1838 and it was with him and his brother Jijoba that settlement was made in 1867. These brothers lived jointly until the year 1877, when by an agreement 16 villages, 11 in Kamtha and 5 in Warad were made over to Jijoba free of *takoli*, for his maintenance. Yashvant Rao died in 1885, and was succeeded by his son Indraraj, commonly called as Lataria Bhau, and as he was a minor the estate was managed by the Court of Wards until the year 1894. Jijoba died in 1896, but just before his death adopted a son Suraj Lal, much to the disgust of his nephew who expected to succeed. Everything comes however, to him who waits, and just as Indraraj Bhau was preparing to sue to have the adoption set aside, Suraj Lal, a boy of about 8 years old, died rather suddenly in the year 1899. Indraraj Bhau has shown his public spirit by a liberal donation of Rs. 55,000 to the Bhandara water works and has been rewarded by Government by the title of Rao Bahadur. He has also been given the powers of a honorary magistrate but does not exercise them. He is 32 years of age (1907), knows a little English, and lives at Phulchur, 22 miles from Tirora."

"... Of the total area 61 per cent was occupied for cultivation in 1906-07 and 98,000 acres were cropped. Second crops were grown on 48,000 acres and 47,000 are stated to be capable of irrigation. Of the total of 128 villages, 64 are held by inferior proprietors, 23 by lessees and 41 are managed direct. The inferior proprietors are mainly Panwars and these are the best cultivators. There are also a number of Kunbis, many of them relatives of the old *zamindar* Chimna or Chimna Bahadur, as he is locally called. The Kunbis, Mr. Napier says, are generally bad landlords and are generally indebted..... The estate contains 15 schools."¹

KANHARGAON ZAMINDARI

Kanhargaon Zamindari, "This diminutive estate consists of one village of 12 persons, all of whom appear to belong to the *zamindari* family. It is situated near the southern border of the Sakoli tahsil, 26 miles from Sakoli. It is said to have been conferred six generations before 1819 on a Rajput called Bhikrai for killing two tigers. Only about 50 acres are cropped. A *takoli* of Rs. 90 was assessed at settlement, which has now been reduced to Rs. 70 with Rs. 4 as cesses. The family are Rajputs."²

KARDI

Kardi, with in 1971 a population of 3,970 is a village in Bhandara tahsil about 14 miles north-east of Bhandara and 12 miles south-west of Tirora. A large proportion of the residents are cotton-weavers. Glass bangles are also made here. Kardi has a high school, a post office and a medical dispensary. Drinking water is obtained from wells and a tank.

¹ Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908 ed., pp. 206-08.
² Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 209.

KATI

Kati, is a village in Gondia tahsil with a population of 4,572 according to the 1971 Census. The railway station of Birsola, 10 miles from Gondia on the Gondia-Jabalpur route, is situated in the revenue limits of this village. A large cattle market is held here on Sundays to which buffaloes are brought for sale from Mandla and Rewah. Other articles put up for sale are gur or unrefined sugar from Balaghat, bamboos, tobacco and country shoes. Kati consists of seven hamlets situated at a small distance from each other. Wells and a tank are the sources of water-supply. Acute scarcity is, however, experienced during the hot season. The tank was built in 1966 and has a capacity to irrigate 340 acres. The village has a middle school, a post office and an ayurvedic dispensary.

KHAIRI TELOTA

Khairi Telota, is a small village in Bhandara tahsil lying 24 miles south of Bhandara and having a population of 337 according to the 1971 Census. It is known for an old cromlech consisting of two upright slabs of stone with a third laid over them. Other cromleches of the same kind are found in the neighbouring district of Chanda. These are attributed to the Kurumvar Shepherds. The one here is locally known as Giant's *telota* or frying-pan, the horizontal stone having the appearance of a girdle supported over an oven. They are in fact the burial places of people in the megalithic age. On account of this, the village has acquired its second name *telota* which together would mean Khairi of the frying-pan.

KHAIRI ZAMINDARI

Khairi Zamindari, "This small estate is situated in the north of the Sakoli tahsil, a few miles north of Sakoli. It consists of 4 villages and has an area of 14 square miles, of which three quarters are forest. The estate is said to have been granted to the ancestor of the present Mana family as a reward for the destruction of wild beasts. It may originally have been a part of Turmapuri, the *zamindars* of which are also Manas. In a grant dated 1775 it was confirmed to the holders by the Nagpur Raja on an annual payment of Rs. 38."¹

KHAJRI

Khajri, is a small village of 1,001 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about 18 miles east of Sakoli between the Chulband and the Gondia road. The village has a primary school and a post office. People depend upon wells and a tank for water supply which falls short during the summer months. "This small estate lies north of Arjuni between the Chulband and the Gondia road. It consists of only two villages with an area of 4,300 acres. It was granted by Bakht Buland of Deogarh to Amar Singh, *kiledar* of

¹ Reproduced from Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed., p. 210.

the Partabgarh fort and confirmed to his grandson by Raghuji Rao.¹

KUMBHALI

Kumbhali, is a village of 2,046 persons in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about two miles south of Sakoli on the road to Lakhandur. There are temples dedicated to various deities, of which the one to Durgadevi on the banks of the Chulband river, about two furlongs from the village, has great religious importance. It is considered to be a *jagrit daivata* or one which responds to prayers, and the fair held on 14th and 15th January every year is attended by nearly three lakhs of people coming from all over Vidarbha and the districts of Balaghat. Temporary shops and booths for the sale of various articles are erected over an area of 60 acres. It is said that this village was granted by Raghuji Bhosle to one Dikshit Brahman for the maintenance of the temple. It was subsequently purchased by Punaji Neuji Ghor-mare (*malguzar*). Excavations on the eastern border of the village yield idols of deities. The temple holds seven acres of land. Kumbhali has a school imparting instruction up to the eighth standard, a post office, a forest labourers society, a Durga Seva Co-operative Society, and a Durga Krida Mandal.

KIBMARO

Kibmaro, is a small village lying about three miles south-west of Bhandara on the Wainganga river. An old temple constructed of large blocks of stone and having a low verandah occupies the knoll of a hillock near the village. On the front inner wall an undeciphered inscription formerly existed, but the wall has now been plastered over and it is no longer visible. On the side of the hill south of the village and about a mile and a half distant is a cave temple with a figure of Mahadeva in it. The entrance to the cave is just large enough for a man to creep in, but in the inner chamber one can stand upright. The people of the neighbourhood frequently resort to the place for worship. The name of the village is probably derived from the Kuramvar shepherds who may have founded it.

LAKHANI

Lakhani, is a large and prosperous village of 7,591 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil, situated on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway, 13 miles distant from Bhandara and about midway between that place and Sakoli. It is an electrified village and is so called because of the lac bangles which used to be manufactured here. This industry as well as glass bangle manufacturing industry which once flourished here is almost extinct. A substantial number of people are engaged in wicker and leather work, the latter having a co-operative society. Bidi manufacturing is also undertaken on a small scale. There are a sale and purchase

¹ Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 210.

union, Lakhani being an important centre for the collection and export of foodgrains and other agricultural produce, and a *seva sahakari* society and a branch of the District Central Co-operative Bank. Although a village, Lakhani has good educational facilities, there being two *balak mandirs*, five middle schools, three high schools and an Arts and Commerce College. For accommodating the students two Government aided hostels are maintained. Medical institutions include a maternity home, an allopathic dispensary and a veterinary dispensary. Means of entertainment include a cinema house and a local club known as Sangam Friends' Club. Among places of worship may be noted a temple dedicated to Hanuman and a mosque. Lakhani has the usual village panchayat, a police out-post, and offices of the soil conservation and Deputy Engineer (Irrigation). A weekly market is held on Tuesdays, at which, besides the usual commodities, cattle are also brought for sale.

MADGI

Madgi, is a small village of 1731 inhabitants in 1971 in Bhandara tahsil, about 23 miles north of Bhandara and remarkable for a double storeyed temple of Narsimha crowning the top of a rocky formation in the bed of the Wainganga. The shrine is a double storeyed building and is given access by a flight of steps on the eastern face of the island. The bridges, one of iron and the other of cement concrete have been thrown across the Wainganga on the northern and southern sides of the temple, respectively, the former being 250 yards distant from the temple and the latter about three furlongs. Installed in the sanctuary is a fine idol of Narasimha. There is a spacious *sabhamandapa* and an open terrace above. A fair lasting for 15 days is held in the month of *Pausha*. The temple affords a picturesque view of the Wainganga. Not far away, to the south of the temple is Devala village. It would be interesting to relate here the cause of the curiously winding and circuitous course of the Wainganga through the Seoni district. The legend relates that once upon a time there lived a certain *Raja* in the Bhandara district, who had a talisman; and the effect of the talisman was, that daily, when he put it in his mouth, he could be transported to Allahabad to bathe in the Ganga. But after he had done this daily for a long time, the Ganga said to him that it was a great labour to him to come everyday to Allahabad to bathe in its waters; and that if he filled a bottle with its water and laid it down by his house, a new stream would flow whose water would be that of the Ganga, and bathing in which would confer the same religious efficacy. Thanking the river, the *Raja* joyfully filled up a bottle with the water. But on his homeward journey, while stopping to rest at Partabpur, the present source of the Wainganga, he inadvertently laid the bottle on the ground. Instantly a stream issued forth from it and began to flow. The dismayed *Raja* then besought the river that this place was far from his home, and he would not be able to come there and bathe. So the river pitying him,

changed its course, and flowed north, east and south in a wide half-circle, until it passed through Bhandara by the *Raja's* house. Madgi has a school giving instructions up to the eighth standard, a Seva Sahakari Society, a gymnasium and a factory known as the Universal Ferro Allied Chemicals Ltd.

MAHAGAON ZAMINDARI

Mahagaon Zamindari, "This estate is situated in the south of the Sakoli tahsil bordering the Chanda district. Its area is 31 square miles. The founder of the family was a Ponwar Rajput who came from Malva and rose to the post of 2,000 horse in the service of the Gond *Raja* Bakht Buland (1700 A.D.). He was given a grant of land for suppressing a recalcitrant *zamindar* in Tirora, and the family is said subsequently to have held Lanji, which was surrendered to the Bhonsla Government in exchange for Mahagaon. The *zamindars* held *sanads* from the Nagpur Government and some takids or injunctions formerly existed which were given by Captain Wilkinson in 1822 and 1826 and conferred on the *zamindar* the privilege of imposing fines up to Rs. 5 and of levying a tax up to Rs. 15 on the remarriage of widows. In 1840 a deed was granted by the Nagpur *Raja*, conferring the estate on Kewal Ram, the then holder on the rule of primogeniture."¹ Mahagaon has an institute imparting training in leather working.

MOHADI

Mohadi, with in 1971 a population of 6,295 is a village in the Bhandara tahsil situated about 12 miles north of Bhandara on the road to Tumsar. It is the headquarters of a development block having post and telegraph facilities and telephone exchange. A large number of weavers reside here and produce silk-bordered cloths, dhotis, women's *saris* being particularly well-known. There are as many as 650 handlooms and the recent electrification of the village would give a stimulus to the industry, in that it would help setting up of powerlooms. Coarse cloths, mats and carpets are also woven and dyed. On a small scale bidis are also manufactured. A weekly market is held on Thursdays at which all kinds of goods including cloths are sold. Mohadi has a primary school, a high school maintained by the Zilla Parishad and a basic school. There is a primary health centre, a veterinary dispensary with quarters for the staff and a police station. The Marvadis of the place have erected a handsome temple.

MUNDHARI Bk.

Mundhari Bk., is a village in the Bhandara tahsil situated on the Wainganga river, 12 miles north-east of Bhandara and 14 miles from Tirora. The nearest railway station, however, is Koka which is only three miles away, while Tumsar Road is six miles off. In 1971 there were 3,045 inhabitants. A large cattle market is held here on Tuesdays. Formerly teak, *saj* and bamboo

were also brought for sale at this market; but now these are mostly sold in the neighbouring village of Koka. Bamboo baskets, matting and earthen pots are made in the village. Mundhari has educational facilities upto the high school stage, an Ayurvedic dispensary and a branch post office. The villagers depend upon wells and the river Wainganga for water-supply.

MURMADI

Murmadi is an electrified village in Sakoli tahsil situated by the side of the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway, 12 miles east of Bhandara near Lakhani, the distance from the latter being hardly a furlong due to the extension of the residential locality. Its population was 2,498 in 1971. It contains the tomb of an English lady, the wife of a Major Clave Watson, who died in 1831 or 1851, the inscription being indistinct. Until recently the tomb was worshipped by the people of the neighbourhood under the name of *kabar* or tomb, *dewal* or shrine. Offerings were also made to it. The practice has, however, ceased now. Murmadi has a primary school, a medical dispensary and a rest house.

NAGARA

Nagara, is a village in Gondia tahsil about three miles distant from Gondia on the road to Balaghat. It had a population of 4,591 persons in 1971. The village is an old one and is surrounded by the remains of a moat. There is a curious old temple to Mahadeva and round it are a number of small wells lined with earthenware. These wells are so narrow that only one bucket can be worked at a time in each. According to a tradition Nagara was a settlement of the Gavalis when the whole of the surrounding country was densely forested. The village has the usual educational and medical facilities, and a post office. A weekly market is held on Fridays. Wells are the source of drinking water-supply.

NANSARI

Nansari is a small village of 765 inhabitants in 1971 in Gondia tahsil situated on the Bagh river to the north of Amgaon. The village has a medical practitioner. Water is obtained from wells and a tank. Nansari was a small *zamindari* estate formerly. "The estate was given to a Maratha Brahman in 1814, and the family were afterwards *kamaishdars* of Lanji".

NAWEGAON BANDH

Navegaon, popularly known as Navegaonbandh, is a village of 4,771 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about 18 miles east of Sakoli. It has a railway station at Deulganv on the Gondia-Brahmapuri narrow-gauge railway and is about 40 miles by rail from Gondia. The well-known and the largest tank, Navegaon tank, is situated in this village. "The tank has a circumference of about 17 miles and a water surface of about five square miles.

¹ Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 214.
A-2669-47-A.

¹ Reproduced from Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed., p. 212.

The average depth is said to be 40 feet, increasing in places to 90 feet. Water is taken from the tank through sluices in irrigation channels and is distributed to five villages. The area irrigated is said to be about 2,500 acres. The tank is surrounded by hills showing eight distinct peaks, and numerous streams pour their waters into this rocky basin, which is closed by two embankments 110 and 748 yards in length, respectively. The shape of the tank is very irregular, running into long creeks behind the hills, but the short lengths of the embankment show how well the site was selected¹. Rebuilding and expansion of the tank was taken up in the First Five Year Plan and was completed at a considerable cost. A net-work of canals was built to feed the hungry land with water. The tank has now a capacity to irrigate about 13,500 acres of land. Originally this tank is said to have been built by Kolu Patel Kohali in the beginning of the eighteenth century at a cost of Rs. 64,000. Kolu Patel has apparently been deified as Kolasur Dev and his shrine stands on one of the peaks surrounding the tank. The other peaks are known as *Sat Bahini* or the Seven Sisters and it is believed that these deities assisted Kolu in building the tank, by coming and working on the embankment at night when the labourers had retired. Some whitish-yellow stones on Kolasur hill are pointed out as the baskets of the Seven Sisters in which they carried earth, and the smaller length of the bank which sustains the greatest pressure of water is said to be their work originally. On the bank of the tank is a statue of Hanuman, the deity of strength, whose feet are believed to go underground into the embankment. An island in the centre is known as Maldongri and it is related that in times of Pendhari raids the people of the village sought refuge in the island with their property, and all the available boats so that the Pendharis could not reach them. Crowning the top of one of the hills and overlooking the lake is one of the finest rest houses in the State unfolding before one's eyes a bewitching view of the lake below, and the forest-clothed hill sides. For its pastoral beauty the spot is unrivalled in the district and if developed could become a good health resort. A stone pillar standing in the village is called Balaji column with figures of deities carved on it. Navegaon has a primary health centre, a sub-post office, educational facilities upto the high school level, irrigation sub-division office, a branch of the District Central Co-operative Bank and a forest depot. A weekly market is held on Thursdays.

PALASGAON ZAMINDARI

Palasgaon Zamindari., "This estate is situated in the Sakoli tahsil (Pratabgarh pargana) lying between the Navegaon lake and the Chichgarh zamindari. The area is 72 square miles, of which three-fourths are under forest. The forests contain teak, *saj* and *biula* timber and bamboos in fairly large quantities. This estate is said first to have been conferred by the Mandla Raja as a reward for the apprehension of some dacoits, and the tenure was

¹ Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed., pp. 214-21
A-2669-47-B.

confirmed by Raghuji Bhonsla on an annual payment of Rs. 10. The family are Halbas by caste. The zamindari contains 13 villages, of which two are held by inferior proprietors The area in cultivation forms only 6 per cent of the total. The cropped area is 1,800 acres of which 500 are irrigated"

PALASGAON ZAMINDARI

Palasgaon Zamindari (Sangarhi pargana), "This strange zamindari contains only two villages, Palasgaon and Pipri, both of which are held by inferior proprietors, though the zamindar has a good deal of absolute occupancy land in Palasgaon. They are situated on the Chulband stream. There is a fine tank in Palasgaon. The estate seems to have been first granted to the present Rajput family by Nizam Shah, Raja of Mandla (1751 A.D.). It was confirmed by Raghuji I and there was a letter extant at the 30 years settlement from Janoji Bhonsla to the Zamindar, calling on him to loot the Peshwa's army¹.

PALKHEDA

Palkheda, with in 1971 a population of 807 persons, is a small village in Gondia tahsil situated about 10 miles from Gondia. There is a primary school in the village. The supply of water, drawn from wells and a tank falls short during the hot season. Palkheda was a zamindari estate of which available details are as given below : "This estate lies in the south-east of the Tirora tahsil, bordering Sakoli Its area is 41 square miles and it contains 21 villages. There is a good deal of hilly wooded country. The family are descended from Deo, fifth son of Kolu Patel, the founder of Kamtha¹.

PRATAPGAD RANGE

Pratapgad Range, also known as Navegaon hills lie in the south-east of the district and form its highest part. Among these hills under a mass of seven peaks, known locally as the hill of the Seven Sisters, is the beautiful tank of Navegaon, and on an outlying bluff of this cluster stands the old and totally dilapidated fort of Pratapgad (1,842 feet). The peak of Nishani with a height of 2,314 feet is the highest.

PRATAPGAD

Pratapgad, (also known as Partapgad) is a small village in Sakoli tahsil with 520 inhabitants in 1971, situated about 40 miles south-east of Bhandara. The elevation of the hill on whose summit stands the utterly ruined fort of Pratapgad is 1,842 feet. It is believed to have been erected by the Gonds and afterward held by Raj Khan, the Pathan *diwan* of Seoni under Bakht

¹ Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 216.

Buland, the *Raja* of Devgad. The hill forms an outlying bluff of the cluster known as the Navegaon or Pratapgad range. The height of the hill and the singularity of its shape makes it a prominent feature in the landscape of the surrounding country. At an early period it became a place of worship among the people of the surrounding region, to which effect a legend is told. The legend connected with this place relates that a man-eating demon had made the hill his abode. From this position of vantage he surveyed the country below and snatched up for his meal any ill-fated person who happened to pass by. Finally a Muhammedan holy man came and resided at the foot of the hill and on being attacked by the demon vanquished and destroyed him in a battle lasting for seven days, thus freeing the people of his menace. In commemoration of his victory, the holy man erected a building and named the hill as 'The House of Victory'. The building and the hill were made over to the Gond *Raja* of the locality for safe custody. On the side of the hill is the tomb of Usman Wali, the saint. In a deep cave excavated in the hill side is a shrine to Mahadeva at which a fair, attended by about 4,000 persons, is held on *Mahashivaratra* in *Magha* (January-February). It lasts for three days. Until recently a majority of the crowd used to be of the Mahar community coming from Bhandara, the neighbouring districts and Berar. The story of the saint and the demon is an interesting example of the way in which an immigrant religion appropriates to itself the shrines and festivals of a lower one already existing. There is little reason to doubt that the hill was originally a place of worship of the Mahars and other primitive tribes as the abode of the demon and that the Muhammedan priests presented the locality with the story of the demon and the saint probably during the time of Raj Khan, the Pathan *divan* of Seoni who lived at Sangadi. But with the extinction of the Muhammedan power and restoration of Hinduism as the faith of the local governors, a temple of Mahadeva came to be established in the cave which became the object of pilgrimage of the Mahars and others, whose original veneration of the place is due to the commanding appearance and position of the hill itself. To the north of the village is a 12 feet high Balaji *stambh* installed on a 20' x 20' pedestal, its top decorated with images of deities. Near the village, the Gadhvi river, which is fed by streams issuing from the Pratapgad hills, is being tapped for irrigation by throwing an earthen dam across it. It is known as the Itiadoh project, and is expected to cost Rs. 753 lakhs and provide irrigation facilities to 141 villages. An interesting legend is told as to how the river came to acquire the name Gadhvi. At the prayer of Garga Rishi the river issued from the earth, but the waters flowing sluggishly, the holy man grew irate and shouted in rage 'Begone thou she-ass (*gadhvi*)'; so ever afterwards the river has borne the name alike of Gadhvi and Gargi a combination which would doubtless disturb the choleric saint if he only knew it¹.

¹ Major Lucie-smith's *Chanda Settlement Report*, pp. 19-20.

PAUNI

Pauni, with in 1971 a population of 17781 persons, is a municipal town in Bhandara tahsil, situated in 20° 48' North and 79° 39' East, on the Wainganga river, 32 miles south of Bhandara by road. Pauni Road is a railway station on the Nagpur-Chanda narrow gauge route which traverses the north-western corner of the district. There are post and telegraph facilities too.

Many a legend are current about Pauni and one such considers the town as an old one and well peopled in the days when the greater part of the district was an impenetrable wilderness. The name is derived from the mythical king Pavan, after whom Pohna and Paunar in Wardha district and Pavanghar in Berar are also called. The town was formerly known as Padmavati after the king or the queen, so that in old times to speak of it as Pauni was to show yourself a newcomer and not one of the old families to whom the name Padmavati was still a sacred remembrance. Interesting tales are told about king Pavan. His name was derived from *pavana* or the wind, and he left Paunar in the morning to bathe in the Wainganga at Pauni over 100 miles distant and then made a return journey of 130 miles to Pohna in Hinganghat tahsil to take his food, after which he returned another 30 miles to Paunar for the night. His queen was so virtuous and had such merit that she walked over tanks supported only by a lotus leaf, and drew water from wells in unbaked pots by means of an untwined string. Although the couple possessed untold wealth, they wore simple white garments and laboured with their own hands to make a living. According to another account they possessed the philosopher's stone by whose touch they could turn their subjects, tribute of iron ore and such other things into gold and silver if they so desired. But a day dawned when Pavan's wife, known as Kamptapat, the queen of the water-lily, was tempted by colourful garments and ornaments of gold and silver, on seeing the rest of the women go out to celebrate the *Pola* festival, gaily dressed and bedecked with all kinds of jewellery. She too must dress like-wise; and before the next festival came round, she had induced her lord by constant importunity, to let her dress and adorn herself as other women did. She joined the festival, no longer distinguished by the simplicity of her apparel. But alas! She found that her virtue had departed from her. Her eyes were now opened. No longer would her untwined string and the unbaked pot perform their office; no longer would the lotus-leaf support her steps. To crown it all an earthquake followed which left Pauni in shambles. The glory of Pavan had departed, and soon afterwards he fell under the power of the Musalman invaders. These are, however, popular legends not worthy of credence from a critical mind. But recent excavations carried out by the Nagpur University and the Archaeological Department of the Central Government have proved that Pauni was a well-known centre of Buddhism in ancient times. It lay on the bank of the sacred river Vena (modern Wainganga), which has been highly eulogised in the Mahabharata. Its antiquities

go back to pre-Ashokan times. In the excavations, pottery and punch-marked coins of the pre-Ashokan period have been found. The hillock near the tank called Balasamudra just outside the city wall represents an ancient *stupa* which was erected in the pre-Ashokan age and was developed and decorated with a railing and gateways in the Shunga period. It seems that Pauni was an important Buddhist centre on the highway from the north to the south. Pauni retained its importance in the later Kushana and Vakataka periods. A stone inscription found outside the city-wall mentions a *padukapatta* installed by King Bhagadatta of the Bhara family. The remnant of a memorial pillar of Mahakshatrapa Rupiamma was found in a field near Pauni. A set of copper plates discovered recently at Pauni records a grant of the Vakataka king Pravarasena II, which shows that Pauni retained its importance till the fifth century A.D. at least. Coins of the Satavahana and later periods have also been found in the excavations at Pauni.

"The town is surrounded on three sides by a mound of earth and a moat, the walls being in some parts covered with stone battlements. On the fourth side to the east is the scarped bank of the Wainganga Within the town is a citadel or old fort with walls consisting of loose dressed stones of a large size. This is attributed to the Gaolis. The gateway and one of the walls of the fort are still standing¹". Of the fortifications and the moat, hardly any trace remains. The town has since greatly expanded and has spilt much beyond the old fortifications. The prosperity of the town thrice invited the attacks of the Pendharis in olden days. Mr. Lawrence has given a description of these attacks in his Settlement Report of 1867. The first time, the inhabitants tried to put the river between themselves and their assailants; but they were overtaken and plundered in the dry sandy bed of the river. On their second coming the Pendharis had it all their own way. They came again for the third time; but the men valiantly defended the fort this time. The Pendharis had to content themselves with looting the defenceless suburbs; there was nothing to be gained by sitting down before even mud walls as the tactics of the Pendhari cavalry always consisted in lighting raids and carrying off bloodless booty². The town was captured by the British in 1818, an account of which is given in the chapter on History. On the banks of the Wainganga some bathing *ghats* or broad flights of steps have been constructed. The Diwanghatis perhaps the best of all. Overlooking the river and interspersed with fine trees are some temples of fair architecture. Among the shrines, the temple to Murlidhara is the most important. It is a handsome and lofty building surrounded by a wall and adorned by a beautiful and tall *shikhar*. The town has two large tanks called Karhada and Balasamudra.

¹. Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908, ed., p. 220.

² Mr. Lawrence's Settlement Report (1867), paragraph 68.

Municipality.— Pauni was created a municipality in 1867 and has an area of 3.3 sq. miles under its jurisdiction. Composed of 17 councillors, the municipal council is headed by the president elected by the members from among themselves.

Income and Expenditure : Till 1908 when the old Gazetteer was published the average municipal receipts were a little more than Rs. 4,000, having been nearly stationary for a number of years. The receipts are mainly derived from a property tax¹. Since then the income has greatly increased, and in 1968-69 it stood at Rs. 4,86,215.92, the major sources being municipal rates and taxes, municipal property and powers apart from taxation, and realisations from special acts, grants and contributions. Expenditure during the same year amounted to Rs. 4,62,445.92. The major heads of expenditure were general administration and collection charges, public safety, public health and convenience, and public instruction.

Medical Aid, Drainage and Water Supply : A medical dispensary located in the Sahar ward and maintained by the municipality together with an *Ayurvedic* dispensary render medical aid. The town has also a T.B. Survey, Education and Transport Centre, a maternity home and a family planning centre. Steps are taken to inoculate the people in times of epidemics like cholera. The veterinary dispensary located in Bhaitalav ward is conducted by the Panchayat Samiti. The drainage system consists of *kutcha* drains which are dug every year. At present the town depends upon wells, the Wainganga and the tanks for its water-supply, which, however, falls short during the hot season. A water-supply is under active consideration. It is estimated to cost Rs. 10 lakhs.

Education : Primary education is imparted in Marathi, Hindi and Urdu. It is taken care of by the Zilla Parishad. There are three high schools of which one is conducted by the municipality.

Cremation and burial places : The municipality maintains four burial and cremation places.

"The staple industry of the town is the manufacture of silk-bordered cloths and thread of very fine counts is woven. Some of the finer fabrics are exported to great distances. In 1865 Pauni cloths took the first and second prizes at the piece-goods section of the Nagpur exhibition. The industry is not so prosperous now as in former times Men's loin-cloths are chiefly woven and thread of counts as fine as 80's is employed. A little *tasar* silk is also spun from the cocoons by *Koskatis*". Dhotis fringed with green silk or silver thread continue to be a speciality of Pauni. Although the weaving industry is no longer as prosperous, it has nevertheless been considerably revived by giving aid in the form of loans and subsidies and organising the weavers into co-operatives. Manufacture of bidis on a small scale is

¹. Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District, 1908 ed., p. 220.

². Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. pp. 220, 221.

another industry of note. In the vicinity of the town chromite ore is mixed. Gold has also been reported to occur in the mineralised belt between Bhiwapur in Nagpur and Pauni in Bhandara. A regulated market with necessary facilities and amenities has been set up at Pauni. It has gone a long way in giving the cultivators a fair price to their produce. In the environs of the town there are a number of betel-vine gardens and the production of the leaf is greater here than in any other part of the district. *Singhara* or water-nut (*Trapa bispinosa*) is also grown. The seed is first sown in shallow water and then just before the rains the creepers are uprooted and planted in waist-deep water, being stamped into the mud with the foot. The plants grow up to the surface in the rains and the fruits appear on the top of the water. Pauni has a police station, and a rest house. A weekly market is held on Tuesdays and Saturdays, besides the daily vegetable market where fish is also sold. A separate mutton market has also been provided.

PHUKIMETA ZAMINDARI

Phukimeta Zamindari.—“This estate lies to the south of the Amgaon *zamindari* on the bank of the Bagh river in the Tirora tahsil. It has an area of 9 square miles and contains six villages. The headquarters, Phukimeta, is 6 miles from Amgaon station. The *zamindari* was formerly subordinate to Amgaon, but was separated from it at the recent settlement¹”.

POHARA

Pohara, with in 1971 a population of 5590 is a fairly large village in Sakoli tahsil on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway, about 16 miles south-east of Bhandara and three miles from Lakhani. Bidi manufacture is undertaken on a small scale; there is also a pottery industry. At Pohara sillimanite associated with a tourmaline rock is found. There are nearly five small belts of sillimanite kaynite bearing rocks, the estimates of reserves being put at 1,000 tons. Corundum occurs at the foot of a small hill near here. This mineral is mined mainly by digging pits in the ground. Vegetables, guavas and oranges are grown by irrigation. On Thursdays is held the weekly market at which besides grain, chillis and tobacco, cattle are also sold. Pohara has a post office, a middle school, a primary health centre and an *Ayurvedic* dispensary. Water-supply is obtained from wells, a *nala* and a tank. Scarcity is felt during the summer months.

PURADA

Purada, with a population of 1842 persons in 1971 is a village in Gondia tahsil about 49 miles distant from Tirora. The village has a primary school, and Monday is the weekly bazar day. Purada was the chief place of the Purada *zamindari* now abolished. About this *zamindari* the following details are available :

¹. Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 221.

“This estate is situated in the south-east corner of the Tirora tahsil, adjoining Sakoli and the Khairagarh State. The total area is 38 square miles, the greater part of which is forest, and it contains only 7 villages. The estate was granted in the beginning of the nineteenth century by Chimaji Bhonsla, on his victorious return from Orissa, to Karu Gond who had accompanied him¹”.

RAZOLI ZAMINDARI

Razoli Zamindari “The estate is situated in the south-east corner of the Sakoli tahsil adjoining the Chanda District. It has an area of 50 square miles, the greater part of which is forest. The *zamindari* is held by a Muhammedan family, which is related to the Gavardha family of Chanda, and the present *zamindari* appeared as a claimant for the Gavardha *zamindari*. The Rajoli estate is said to have been conferred on the ancestors of the present family about six generations ago for assistance given by them against the Gonds. A grant signed by the Bhonsla Raja in 1775 stated that it had been held by a branch of that of Raj Khan. The family is believed to have been a branch of that of Sangarhi in the governor of Dongartar, who held the fort of Sangarhi in Bhandara, and granted these estates to some of his relatives. In this case it would be related to the Divan family of Seoni Chhapara. Bahadur Khan and Amir Khan were brothers and the sons of Amir Khan, Rajoli²”. The Rajoli tank was recently repaired. It has a capacity to irrigate 500 acres.

SAKOLI

Sakoli, with a population of 6654 persons in 1971 is the headquarters of the tahsil to which it gives its name, situated on the Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta national highway about 24 miles from Bhandara and 62 miles from Nagpur. The word Sakoli means a bier and ‘there is a Marathi saying to the effect that whoever goes to live at Sakoli is likely soon to require the use of one’. The saying probably arose because of the bad climate that Sakoli enjoys. Sangadi, which is connected with Sakoli by a good road, was formerly the headquarters of the tahsil. About 1867 it was removed to Sakoli probably on account of its position on the main highway. The tahsil building was originally on the Balapur hill, about a mile distant from the village, where the rest house now stands. There are two tanks. Sakoli has besides the tahsildar's office, a panchayat samiti, a sale and purchase union, a police station, a post office, civil and criminal courts and two high schools. For higher education there is an Arts and Commerce college and as also basic training college. There is a medical dispensary and a leprosy subsidiary centre. *Gur* manufacturing is undertaken on small scale. A weekly market is held on Sundays at which cattle are also sold. Water is obtained from wells and tanks. Scarcity is felt during the hot season. There is a temple dedicated to Mahadeva.

¹. Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 222.

². Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. pp. 222-223.

SALEGAON

Salegaon, is a village of 330 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil. It was included in the Salegaon sub-zamindari of which the following information is available. "This estate was a sub-zamindari of Deori-Kishori in the north-east of the Sakoli tahsil. It has an area of 17 square miles. Prior to the 30 years' settlement Salegaon was held by a Lodhi zamindar. Shortly before the settlement he had fallen into arrears with his revenue and was arranging to sell the estate. The tahsildar of Kamtha, Ajudhia Prasad, heard of this and induced the zamindar to sell the estate to him, registering it in the name of his sons. The Chief commissioner, however, set aside the sale as contrary to public policy, and called on the zamindar of Deori to pay the purchase money as superior proprietor. This, however, the zamindar declined to do, and he gave a lease of the estate to Ajudhia Prasad, whose sons are now perpetual thekedars¹". The village has a fine tank located on the Deori-Amgaon road about 10 miles from Salegaon. Known as Salegaon bandh, it has a capacity to irrigate 1,900 acres of land.

SALEKASA

Salekasa, a village of 517 souls in 1971 in Gondia tahsil about 73 miles distant from Bhandara, has a railway station on the Nagpur-Howrah trunk route. The forests in the vicinity yield timber of a good quality. Medical institutions of the village include a maternity home with an attached family planning centre, a primary health centre and an Ayurvedic dispensary. Advantage of the medical aid rendered is taken of by the people of the surrounding villages also. Besides the usual educational facilities, Salekasa has a *balaka mandir*, and a police station. It is the headquarters of a Development Block. The village was the residence of the Salekasa zamindar. "This estate is subordinate to the Bijli zamindari. It lies in the east of the Tirora tahsil between Bijli and Darekasa. The area is 24 square miles but the two villages of Managarh and Kolarbhath, comprising more than half of the zamindari, have been sold outright and have now been detached from it. A large part of the zamindari is forest and it contains some good timber. The family are Gonds, to whom the estate is said to have been given by one of the Bijli zamindars to be brought under cultivation²".

SANGADI

Sangadi, with in 1971 a population of 3,857, is a large village in Sakoli tahsil lying about nine miles from Sakoli and 34 miles south-east of Bhandara. The village contains the ruins of an old fort erected by the Divan family of Seoni, which held the two zamindari estates of Gewardha in Chanda and Rajoli in Bhandara. The fort was called Sahangad or the fort of Sahan, the word meaning the court or small enclosure at the back of a house. It

¹. Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. pp. 228, 229

². Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 229.

is said that the village was so named because it lay right at the extremity of the *pargana* to the south-east. An old gun lying imbedded in the sand by the fort is worshipped by the people. It is reported that a band of Pendhari marauders who were raiding the village were scared away by a charge from this gun, and that its report was so loud that the men who fired it had to jump into a shallow pool of water in order to escape being deafened. There is a belief prevalent that whenever this gun is moved the government of the country will be changed. A Bhonsle Raja tried to remove it by harnessing 16 pairs of bullocks but only succeeded in dragging it a little way. Sangadi was formerly the headquarters of the tahsil which comprised the three *parganas* of Sangadi, Pratapgad and Pauni. It was removed to Sakoli in 1867. Sangadi has four rice mills of which one is organised on co-operative basis. A large number of Koshtis reside here most of whom are engaged in the weaving of cloth and saris on hand-loom. While educational institutions include a high school, a middle school, a primary school and a *balaka mandir*, the medical institutions comprise an Allopathic and an Ayurvedic dispensary, a maternity home and a veterinary dispensary. There are a post office and a rest house. Sangadi has some old Hindu temples dedicated to deities like Vitthal, Mahadeva, Lakshmi-Narayan and Hanuman, and two *baolis* or wells with steps. There is an old mosque and an *Idgah* too. A weekly cattle market is held on Fridays. Household utility goods including grains are also sold at this market. Building of the Sangadi tank was taken up in 1963 and completed in 1968. It irrigates 500 acres of agricultural land. The village suffers from inadequacy of drinking water-supply.

SAOLI-DONGARGAON ESTATE

Saoli-Dongargaon Estate : "The estate was held at settlement as a subordinate zamindari of Amgaon by a family of Gonds related to the zamindars of Purada and Bhagi. They became heavily involved and sold the estate to one of the family of Kunbis who had obtained inferior proprietary right in the village of Basipar at the 30 years settlement. This man's name was Ganesh and litigation sprang up between him and rest of his family over the estate, but the final decision confirmed him as a sole proprietor¹".

SEONI

Seoni, popularly known as Seoni Bandh, is a small village of 1931 inhabitants in 1971 in Sakoli tahsil situated about six miles south of Sakoli. The village is chiefly known for a large tank which is second in size only to Navegaon. The tank is said to have been originally constructed by "Dadu Patil Kohli three centuries ago, but it is probably more recent". Reconstruction work was taken up in 1954 and completed in 1966. The tank is about seven miles round, the water surface being nearly two

¹. Bhandara District Gazetteer, 1908 ed. p. 230.

square miles and depth 45 feet. It is surrounded on three sides by a circle of hills the fourth being closed by a dam. It irrigates 4,575 acres land in six villages. The shape of the tank is an oval and a great part of it is fringed with forest, the view from the embankment being very picturesque. The tank has been brought under pisciculture. It is chiefly stocked with major carps. For carrying out research on fish culture and experiments on induced breeding, a fish farm has been established at Seoni. It covers an area of 10.68 acres and has a set of two stocking tanks, two rearing tanks, two marketing tanks and six nursery tanks. Baby fishes of major carps are also reared on this farm upto fingerling size and then released in different perennial tanks in the district. There is a primary school at Seoni. Seoni was held by the Kohli family for a long time, but under the Bhosle rule they were ejected and it was made over to Baka Bai, the dowager Maratha queen.

SIHORA

Sihora, with a population of 4,846 persons in 1971, is a village in Bhandara tahsil about 30 miles north-east of Bhandara on the Tumsar-Rampaili road. There is a *baoli* or well with steps in the village and a temple dedicated to Mahadeva. A fairly large tank lies to its south. Cloth on handlooms is woven here and training in handloom weaving and dyeing and printing is imparted by a centre located here. On a small scale bidis are manufactured. Sihora has a I.E.M. School, a post office, a medical dispensary and a police station. A weekly market is held on Saturdays.

SUKDI

Sukdi, also known as Dakaram Sukali, is a small village in Gondia tahsil lying about six miles south-east of Tirora railway station and having a population of 2261 according to the 1971 Census. The village is sacred to the Mahanubhavapanthis, as it is believed that a demon who formerly resided here and troubled the people was slain by Krishna, the principal deity of the sect. Several tombs of Bhope's or Mahanubhav priests are situated here. A fair known as Dakaramdev fair is held here on *Chaitra Purnima* (April) and attended by about 5,000 members of the sect. Camphor is burnt and cocoanuts are broken before the tombs of the saints. The village has a middle school, a high school, a Zilla Parishad dispensary, a post office and a *seva sahakari* society. A centre to impart training in bamboo work operates here. A weekly market is held on Fridays.

TIRKHEDI-MALPURI ZAMINDARI

Tirkhedi-Malpuri Zamindari, "This estate of the Tirora tahsil consists of two *zamindaris*, Tirkhedi situated between the Bagh river and Salekasa and Darekasa estates, and Malpuri to the south of Phulchur on the borders of the Sakoli tahsil. Tirkhedi has an area of 15 square miles and contains 7 villages. Most of the area is hilly but the villages along the Bagh are good ones. Malpuri

has an area of 21 square miles and has 7 villages. Much of it is forest, yielding a considerable profit. The estates have always been held together and were granted to Pandu Ponwar in 1815 as a reward for loyalty to the Maratha Government, when the Ponwar *Zamindar* of Warad created a disturbance¹.

TIRORA

Tirora, with a population of 15596 persons in 1971, is a municipal town in Gondia tahsil, situated on the Nagpur Howrah railway line, 23 miles from Bhandara Road station and 31 miles from Bhandara town by road. About 19 miles distant from the tahsil headquarters, Tirora was formerly the headquarters of the tahsil, to which it gave its name. The tahsil headquarters were, however, shifted to Gondia in 1914 and the name of the tahsil was also changed to Gondia. The town is about a mile from the station and is divided into two parts called the old and the new *bahals*, which are virtually separated by a tank. Foodgrains and especially rice are grown in abundance in the surrounding tracts, an important rice market being held on Sundays. A regulated market, with essential facilities and amenities, has been established here for the collection and export of agricultural produce. There are some rice and flour mills. Bidi industry, of which there are both large and small scale units, is increasingly gaining an importance. It has provided gainful employment to a large section of the population. The tobacco is imported from Assam, Madras and Chanda and rolled in leaves of *tendu tree* (*Diospyros tomentosa*), which burn with a pleasant flavour. In addition to primary and middle schools, Tirora has two high schools and a college. The town has a primary health centre, a T.B. survey, education and treatment centre, and a veterinary dispensary. It is the headquarters of a development block and has post and telegraph, and telephone facilities, a police station and a rest house. It was created a municipality in 1956.

TUMSAR

Tumsar, is a rapidly developing municipal town in Bhandara tahsil situated in 21° 23' N. and 79° 46' E. on the Nagpur-Howrah railway line, 27 miles from Bhandara and 570 miles from Bombay. A branch line takes off from Tumsar to Katangi and Tirodi. About three miles distant from the station, the town is well laid out with broad streets. In 1971 there were 29721 inhabitants. It is surrounded by numerous mango groves and other fruit gardens chiefly producing guaves, oranges and *mosambi* of the gardens within the town, the one known as *Agarwal Bag* is well maintained.

Tumsar is a centre of grain trade and there is a municipal *ganj* or covered market. The staple produce is rice, the crop grown in the neighbouring tract having a high reputation. A regulated market provided with basic amenities serves as a centre for the collection and export of agricultural produce. There are a few

1. *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed. pp. 232-233.

rice and flour mills. There is a considerable output of manganese from the mines in the vicinity, and the Central India Mining Company has constructed a trainway from Tumsar Road through Tumsar to Bondkota on the Bavanthadi, a distance of 23 miles. Imparting instruction in mining and mine surveying is a polytechnic maintained by the Government. The Maharashtra State Electricity Board has a sub-power station here which is fed through the Khaparkheda Thermal Power Station and which supplies electricity to the entire district. A ferro-manganese plant having 20,000 tons installed capacity *per annum* and employing 500 workers is set up here. As the plant requires a large quantity of power to process manganese and other minerals, a 66 K.W. double circuit line has been brought from Kharparkheda to the plant area. Tumsar has a paper mill, a carbon electron producing centre, a few saw mills and numerous other small industrial units. Abundant *tendu* leaves available in the nearby forests have given rise to a flourishing *bidi*-rolling industry. Cart-wheels are largely made in Tumsar and supplied to most of the neighbouring districts. The hubs are usually made of *babul* wood and the rest of the wheel, of teak. At the weekly market held on Tuesdays, cart wheels are sold. Cloth is also woven in large quantities in the surrounding villages. White loin-cloths with red borders are chiefly produced. Silk-bordered cloths with silver gilt thread are also woven.

Municipality.—Tumsar was created a municipality in 1867. Its jurisdiction extends over an area of 6.3 square miles. A total of 23 councillors, 21 elected and two co-opted constitute the municipal council. The meetings of the council are presided over by the president elected by the councillors from among themselves.

The old Gazetteer had the following to say about the income and expenditure of the municipality :—

Income and Expenditure : “ . . . the average receipts for the decade ending 1901 were Rs. 5,000. In 1904-05 the income had fallen to Rs. 4,600, being principally derived from a property tax and market dues¹”. The municipal income has considerably risen since then and in 1968-69 touched Rs. 13,80,656. Sources which made up this income were municipal rates and taxes, Rs. 9,98,036; realisation under special Acts, Rs. 4,775; revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation, Rs. 95,906; grants and contributions for special and general purposes, Rs. 7,69,191 and miscellaneous, Rs. 12,748. Expenditure during the same year stood at Rs. 13,99,082 and comprised general administration and collection charges, Rs. 2,36,213; public safety, Rs. 59,376; public health and convenience, Rs. 3,61,806; public instruction, Rs. 6,88,343; contributions, Rs. 200 and miscellaneous, Rs. 53,144.

Medical Aid, Drainage and Water-Supply : Tumsar has two hospitals out of which one is maintained by the municipality

¹. *Central Provinces District Gazetteers, Bhandara District*, 1908 ed., pp. 238

while the other receives an annual grant from it which in 1963-64 amounted to Rs. 5,000. The town has also a primary health centre, a T.B. survey, education and treatment unit and a family planning centre. There is a veterinary dispensary in Gautam Nagar along Tumsar-Katangi road. Measures to eradicate malaria and filaria are taken from time to time in concert with the Government. The town has no regular drainage system, the drains being pucca stone-lined surface gutters. An underground drainage scheme estimated to cost Rs. 14,91,550 would soon replace the existing system considerably improving the sanitation of the town. Hitherto the town depended principally upon wells and the Wainganga for its water-supply. Now the town gets tap water from the water-works installed on the Wainganga at a cost of over Rs. 21,33,000.

Education : Primary education is conducted by the municipality for which it maintains ten primary schools, nine Marathi and one Hindi, and two *balaka mandirs*. The New English Primary School, the Sindhi Primary School and the Shreeram Balaka Mandir are privately conducted. A middle school for girls is managed by the Zilla Parishad. Tumsar has five higher secondary schools, of which three are managed by the municipality. There is a college named Seth Narsingdas Mor Arts and Commerce College. Of the three public libraries in the town, one is maintained by the municipality.

The municipal council has no fire fighting equipment. Services of the fire-brigade maintained by Shri R. B. Seth Shreeram Durgaprasadji are utilised in times of need. Cremation and burial places are also maintained and used by the communities concerned.

Tumsar has three cinema theatres. The places of worship include a fine mosque, two Hindu temples and a large Jain temple. Recently a Shivamandir has been added. Tumsar has post, telegraph and telephone facilities, a rest house, a police station and a panchayat samiti. Besides the weekly market and the grain market, the town has a covered market place known as baradvvari so called because it has 12 openings. The dailiy vegetable market has been provided with platfroms. A combined fish and meat market and a slaughter house have also been established.

TURMPURI ZAMINDARI

Turmapuri Zamindari “This estate is situated in the Sakoli tahsil about 5 miles north of Sakoli. It has an area of 14 square miles, of which three quarters is forest, and contains seven villages, three of these being held by thekedars, while two are uninhabited The cropped area is about 1,200 acres. The estate has been in the hands of the present family since 1732 and was apparently originally granted by the Gond Raja of Mandla. The family belong to the Mana caste, and the present representative is Mussammat Kanku, widow of Sukal Bapu”.

¹. *Bhandara District Gazetteer*, 1908 ed. p. 239.

UMRI ZAMINDARI

Umri Zamindari: "This estate is situated in Sakoli tahsil lying east, west and south-east of the Nawegaon lake. Its area is 17 square miles and about half of it is under forest, but there is no valuable timber. The estate is said to have been conferred on the founder of the family for proficiency in wrestling and for having tamed a wild elephant, and a deed was given in 1775 by the Nagpur Raja to Najak Ram, then the proprietor, stating that the estate was granted long before, on condition of his serving on the Partabgarh fort with five men; and conferring it again on him free of all revenue demand. Subsequently, however, a payment of Rs. 500 was imposed."

WARAD ZAMINDARI

Warad Zamindari: "This estate lies in the Tirora tahsil between Tirora and Kamtha to the south of the Wainganga. It has an area of 70 square miles and contains 32 villages. The country..... contains some first rate soil. The estate was first granted by the Deogarh Raja to a Ponwar, but in 1815 the family was ejected for misrule and participation in dacoities and it was made over to Narbad Lodhi of Bijli to whom the Kamtha estate was given three years afterwards. Warad is now held by the Kamtha Zamindar family.....of the 32 villages, 13 are held by inferior proprietors, and 4 by lessees."

DIRECTORY OF VILLAGES AND TOWNS

EXPLANATIONS OF COLUMN HEADINGS, SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

THE NAMES OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES ARE ARRANGED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER FOR THE WHOLE OF THE DISTRICT

Column 1.—The names are given both in English and Deonagari. Abbreviations indicating talukas :—

Bdr—Bhandara. Gda—Gondia. Skl—Sakoli.

Column 2.—(a) Direction and (b) Travelling distance of the village from the taluka headquarters. Abbreviations used showing direction from taluka headquarters :—

E—East. S—South. NW—North-West.
W—West. NE—North-East. SW—South-West.
N—North. SE—South-East. HQ—Headquarters.

Column 3.—(a) Area (acres); (b) Total population; (c) Number of households; (d) Agricultural population.

Column 4.—(a) Post office; (b) Its distance from the village.

Column 5.—(a) Railway station; (b) Its distance from the village.

Column 6.—(a) Weekly bazar; (b) Distance of the bazar place from the village; (c) Bazar day.

Column 7.—(a) Nearest motor stand; (b) Its distance from the village.

Column 8.—Drinking water facilities available in the village :—

br—brook. str—stream. o—scarcity of water.
n—nalla. p—pond. W—big well.
t—tank. rsr—reservoir. w—small well.
pl—pipe-line. cl—canal. spr—spring.

Column 9.—(a) Miscellaneous information about school, panchayat, co-operative society, temple, math, mosque, dargah, chavadi, gymnasium, library, dispensary, church and inscription :—

Sl—school. (i)—industrial. mq—mosque.
(h)—high. (con)—consumers. dg—dargah.
(m)—middle. (mis)—miscellaneous. dh—dharma-shala.
(pr)—primary. (mp)—multipurpose. gym—gymnasium.
(tr. clg.)—training college. (gr)—group. ch—chavadi.
mun—municipality. (sp)—sale and purchase. lib—library.
pyt—panchayat. (wvg)—weaving. dp—dispensary.
Cs—Co-operative society. Fr—fair. (vet)—veterinary.
(c)—credit. tl—temple. Cch—Church.
(fmg)—farming. m—math. ins—inscription.

Months according to Hindu Calendar :—

Ct.—Chaitra; Vsk.—Vaishakha; Jt.—Jaishtha; Asd.—Ashadha; Srn.—Shravana;
Bdp.—Bhadrapada; An.—Ashvina; Kt.—Kartika; Mrg.—Margashirsha; Ps.—Pausha;
Mg.—Magha; Phg.—Phalgun; Sud.—Shuddha (first fortnight of the month);
Vad.—Vadya (second fortnight of the month).

N. B.—Figures for distance in columns (2), (5), (6) and (7) are given in miles and furlongs.

A—2669—48—A.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Amagaon—Bdr.—आमगाव	SW; 33.0	928; 683; 145; 331	Local; ..
Amagaon—Skl.—आमगाव	E; 26.0	1626; 343; 68; 149	Deori; 4.0
Amagaon Bk.—Gda.—आमगाव बु.	E; ..	3142; 7228; 1347; 1094	.. ..
Amagaon Bk.—Skl.—आमगाव बु.	N; 6.0	2034; 1662; 311; 613	Local; ..
Amagaon Kh.—Gda.—आमगाव खु.	SE; 23.0	803; 1919; 461; 317	Local; ..
Amagaon Kh.—Skl.—आमगाव खु.	N; 5.0	599; 406; 59; 226	Amagaon Bk.; 0.4
Amagaon Singoritolā—Bdr.— आमगाव सिंगोरीटोला	SE; 7.0	926; 2551; 448; 823	Local; ..
Ambadi—Bdr.—आंबाडी	S; 22.0	321; 145; 29; 83	Masali; 3.0
Ambadi—Bdr.—आंबाडी	S; 3.0	463; 1036; 105; 190	Silli; 1.0
Ambagad—Bdr.—अंबागड	N; 27.0	3772; 1124; 223; 298	Mitewani; ..
Ambetalao—Gda.—अंबेतलाव	SE; 18.0	1005; 1024; 201; 521	.. ..
Ambhora—Gda.—अंभोरा	N; 6.0	1356; 2011; 272; 609	 2.0
Ambhora—Skl.—अंभोरा	SE; 58.0	1610; 227; 36; 71	Kesori; 6.0
Ambhora—Skl.—अंभोरा	SE; 38.0	480; 396; 76; 101	Chichgad; 2.0
Andhalagaon—Bdr.—आंधळगांव	N; 21.0	859; 5164; 879; 626	Local; ..
Anjora—Gda.—अंजोरा	SE; ..	2631; 2139; 433; 822	.. ..
Antaragaon—Skl.—अंतरगांव	SW; 34.0	1281; 541; 103; 224	 3.0
Adasi—Gda.—अदासी	E; 6.0	2762; 3095; 630; 1289	Tarda; 0.5
Adyar—Bdr.—अड्यार	S; 15.4	3109; 7496; 138; 1466	Local; ..
Agri—Bdr.—आग्री	NE; 20.0	229; 113; 29; 81	Mohagaon; 2.0
Ajimabad Hamesha—Bdr.— अजीमाबाद हमेशा	S; 4.4	978; 497; 93; 121	Silli; 3.0
Akola—Bdr.—आकोला	N; 20.0	790; 684; 118; 293	Andhalgaon; 2.0
Akot—Bdr.—आकोट	S; 23.0	1779; 2318; 434; 1098	Kosara; 1.0
Akotola—Gda.—आकोटोला	SE; 17.0	177; 233; 39; 106	Mohadi; 1.0
Akta—Skl.—आक्टा	SE; ..	627; 14; 2; 8	.. ..
Alebedar—Gda.—आलेबेदर	SE; 28.0	946; 111; 21; 124	Sawali; 3.0
Alebedar—Gda.—आलेबेदर	SW; ..	951; 5; 3; ..	.. ..

A-2669-48-B.

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Local; ..	Bhiwapur; 2.0; Fri.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 Cs; 2 tl.
Sondad; 18.0	Deori; 4.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
.. ..	Amagaon .. ..	.. ..	W.	..
.. ..	Bk.;	.. ..	..	..
Sondad; 12.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 6.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 3 Cs (mp); tl; ch; lib.
Local; ..	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	4 SI (pr, 2 m, h); 2 Cs; 2 tl; mq; dg; lib; 3 dp.
Sondad; 12.0	.. 6.0; ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 14.0	Local; .. Fri.	Singori; 1.4	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; 2 tl; gym; dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Pauri Road; 20.0	Nawegaon; 1.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 11.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun., Wed.	Stage; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Chicholi; 3.0	Local; .. Fri.	Mitewani; 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; mq.
Hirdamali; ..	Hirdamali; 2.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Gondia; 4.0	.. ..	.. 0.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; mq.
Wadegaon; 4.0	Arjuni; 20.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 20.0	W.	Cs (c).
Sondad; 30.0	Chichgad; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 15.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W;rv.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 6 tl; dg; gym; 2 dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
.. ..			..	..
.. 13.0	Lakhardur; 3.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W;rv.	2 tl.
Gudama; 0.6	Local; .. Sun.	Local; 0.3	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 2 tl.
Bhandara 19.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; Ram-Navami Fr. Ct. Sud. 15; 4 tl; mq; 2 dg; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Tumsar 6.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	Mohagaon; 2.0	W.	tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Bhandara 11.4	Bhandara; 4.4; Sun., Wed.	Bhandara; 4.4	W.	tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Bhandara 14.0	Andhal- 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W;n.	SI (pr); tl.
Road;	gaon;	.. ..	..	..
Pauni Road; 14.0	Kondha; 1.0; Wed.	Kondha; 1.0	W.	SI (m); Cs; tl; gym; ch.
Goregaon; 7.0	Mohadi; 1.0; Thu.	.. 7.0	W.	tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Goregaon; 18.0	Sawali; 3.0; Sun.	Sawali; 3.0	W.	tl; gym.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Alegaon—Skl.—आलेगांव	NW; 9-0	700; 419; 80; 206	Chandori; 2-0
Alejhari—Gda.—आलेझरी	SW; 29-0	929; 427; 100; 255	Sukdi; 0-4
Alesur—Bdr.—आलेसूर	NE; 29-0	865; 1198; 217; 529	Gobarwahi; 12-0
Alesur—Skl.—आलेसूर	W; 16-0	1032; 589; 108; 249	Lakhori; 1-0
Alivada—Skl.—अलीवाडा	SE; 37-0	789; 456; 85; 162	Chichgad; 4-0
Aratatondi—Skl.—अरततोडी	S; 20-0	839; 728; 122; 356	Arjuni; 2-0
Aratatondi—Skl.—अरततोडी	SE; 60-0	1538; 596; 122; 182	Kesori; 8-0
Arjuni—Bdr.—अर्जुनी	S; 10-0	939; 535; 98; 171	Manegaon; 3-0
Arjuni—Skl.—अर्जुनी	S; 21-0	1227; 4743; 897; 1241	Local; ..
Arjuni—Gda.—अर्जुनी	NW; 22-0	1835; 3599; 711; 1294	Local; ..
Arjuni—Gda.—अर्जुनी	N; 7-3	962; 1245; 255; 507	.. 1-4
Asagaon—Bdr.—आसगाव	SE; 32-0	3063; 2180; 445; 963	Local; ..
Asola—Skl.—आसोला	SW; 31-0	1451; 1318; 245; 629	Lakhandur; 1-0
Asolapani—Bdr.—आसोलपाणी	N; 32-0	1513; 812; 154; 379	Bagheda; 2-0
Asolapani—Gda.—आसोलपाणी	SW; 15-0	2031; 475; 104; 299	.. 4-0
Asoli—Gda.—आसोली	SE; ..	1657; 1305; 231; 601	.. ..
Asoli—Gda.—आसोली	NE; 6-0	1622; 2573; 631; 1132	Nawargaon; 1-0
Asoli—Skl.—आसोली	S; 35-0	627; 282; 36; 64	Korambhi; ..
Ashti—Bdr.—आष्टी	N; 18-0	2441; 3423; 338; 961	Local; ..
Athali—Skl.—आथली	SW; 32-0	553; 828; 147; 296	Lakhandur; 2-0
Atri—Gda.—अत्री	NW; 17-0	1131; 1355; 242; 374	Murdada; 2-0
Atri—Bdr.—अत्री	SE; 21-0	466; 379; 78; 204	Pimpalgaon; 2-0
Avali—Skl.—आवळी	S; 37-0	813; 336; 61; 160	Soni; 2-0
Babai—Gda.—बबई	SE; 14-0	1037; 1152; 223; 599	Bhasgaon; 2-0
Bachhera—Bdr.—बच्छेरा	NW; 25-0	788; 336; 94; 163	Kandri; 1-0
Bachevadi—Bdr.—बाचेवाडी	SE; 25-0	791; 554; 98; 288	Masal; 1-0
Bagabodi—Bdr.—बागबोडी	SE; 9-0	849; 544; 96; 95	Gunthara; 2-0
Bagadbandh—Gda.—बागडबंद	SW; 12-4	2527; 311; 52; 9148	Kurhadi; 3-0
Bagheda—Gda.—बाघेडा	SE; 24-0	3371; 364; 67; 181	Tigaon; 2-0
Bagholi—Gda.—बाघोली	S; 8-0	817; 764; 150; 308	Kawalewada; 2-0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Sondad; 17-0	Bampe- wada; 2-4; Sat.	Sakoli; 9-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tirora; 8-0	Sukdi; 0-4; Fri.	Sukdi; 0-4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; 2 m.
Dongri 9-0	Dongri 9-0; Mon.	Tendeziari; 3-0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl; ch.
Bk.;	Bk.;	.. 3-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Sondad; 22-0	Lakhani; 3-0; Tue.	.. 4-0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 29-0	Chichgad; 4-0; Sat.	..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Arjuni; 2-0	Arjuni; 2-0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 22-0	Arjuni; 22-0; Sat.	Arjuni; 22-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bhandara 16-0	Manegaon; 3-0; Thu.	.. 7-0	W;rv.	..
Road;	..	..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 Cs; 4 tl; mq;
Local; ..	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	..	dh; lib; dp.
Tirora; 11-0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 0-4	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; tl; lib;
.. 3-0	Rawan- wadi; 1-4; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	dp.
Pauni Road; 12-0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 6-0	..	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 5 tl; 2 m;
Wadegaon; 9-0	Lakhandur; 1-0; Tue.	Lakhandur; 0-3	W;rv.	gym.
Chicholi; 4-0	Bagheda; 2-0; Thu.	.. 2-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); Cs; tl; ch; 2 dp.
Hirdamali; 9-0	Kurhadi; 4-0; Sun.	.. 9-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; gym.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gondia; 6-0	.. 6-0; ..	Khamari; 4-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
.. 6-0	.. 5-0; ..	Arjuni; 9-0	W.	..
.. 7-0	Chikhala; 3-0; Fri.	.. 1-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); tl;
Wadegaon; 10-0	Lakhandur; 2-0; Tue.	Parsodi; 1-4	W;rv.	dp.
Kachepani; 6-0	Murdada; 2-0; Wed.	Gond- mohadi; 2-0	W.	tl.
Pauni Road; 18-0	Nawegaon 2-0; Thu.	Sonegaon; 4-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Bramhapuri; 6-0	Lakhandur; 7-0; Tue.	.. 2-0	rv.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Pindkepar; 4-0	Goteagaon; 4-0; Sat.	.. 4-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; dp.
Khat; 12-0	Kandri; 1-0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; 2 tl.
Pauni Road; 16-0	Nawegaon; 1-4; Thu.	.. 4-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Bhandara 20-0	Dhargaon; 5-0; Mon.	.. 5-0	W.	2 tl; dg; ch.
Road;	..	.. 7-0	W.	..
Hirdamali; 8-0	Kurhadi; 3-0; Sun.	.. 8-0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 8-0	Amgaon; 8-0; Fri.	.. 8-0	W.	tl.
Gankhera; 4-4	Kawale- wada; 2-0; Wed.	Gordia; 8-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Bagholi—Gda.—बाघोली	W; 10.0	1248; 821; 138; 399	Paraswada; 0.4
Bagholi—Gda.—बाघोली	N; 11.0	1886; 1545; 277; 608	Kati; 1.4
Bakati—Skl.—बाकटी	S; 20.0	1142; 1453; 283; 459	Bondgaon; 2.0
Baki—Skl.—बाकी	E; 11.0	675; 478; 97; 197	Chikhali; 1.4
Balapur—Gda.—बालापुर	SW; 29.4	1866; 188; 38; 53	Sukdi; 1.5
Balapur—Skl.—बाळापुर	SE; 28.0	710; 107; 20; 52	Palandur; 2.0
Balapur Hamesha—Bdr.—बाळापुर हमेशा	N; 20.0	493; 763; 180; 63	Gobarwahi; 6.0
Bamhani—Bdr.—बाम्हणी	S; 23.0	1029; 669; 118; 328	Kurza; 3.0
Bamhani—Bdr.—बाम्हणी	NE; 22.0	932; 1123; 213; 349	Madagi; 1.0
Bamhani—Gda.—बाम्हणी	SE; 18.0	1018; 1328; 242; 618	Mohadi; 2.0
Bamhani—Gda.—बाम्हणी	E; 27.0	1160; 1232; 237; 671	.. 4.0
Bamhani—Gda.—बाम्हणी	SE; ..	1073; 837; 160; 319	.. ..
Bamhani—Skl.—बाम्हणी	E; 12.0	280; 463; 90; 172	.. ..
Bamhani—Skl.—बाम्हणी	W; 6.0	589; 565; 101; 208	Pimpalgaon; 2.0
Bamhani—Skl.—बाम्हणी	E; 18.0	129; 919; 164; 507	Khursnipar; 3.0
Bampevada—Skl.—बांपेवाडा	N; 9.0	1054; 1566; 279; 646	Yekodi; 1.4
Banagaon—Gda.—बनगाव	E; ..	653; 1385; 264; 278	.. ..
Banathar—Gda.—बनाथर	NE; 12.0	2535; 1936; 156; 422	Local; ..
Baniyatola—Gda.—बनियाटोला	NE; 15.0	500; 252; 30; 154	.. ..
Banjari—Gda.—बांजारी	SE; 33.0	1310; 349; 86; 191	Darekasa; 2.0
Bapera—Bdr.—बापेरा	N; 22.0	933; 761; 133; 257	Tumsar; 8.0
Bapera—Bdr.—बापेरा	NE; 32.0	1725; 2173; 442; 571	Local; ..
Barabasapura—Gda.—बरबसपुरा	NE; 4.0	998; 1105; 203; 545	Batana; 2.0
Barabasapura—Gda.—बरबसपुरा	W; 14.0	1097; 1079; 237; 369	Kochewahi; ..
Barabhati—Skl.—बाराभाटी	S; 23.0	2094; 1901; 358; 887	Local; ..
Baradakinhi—Skl.—बरडकिन्ही	SW; 7.0	1731; 315; 67; 109	Khandala; 3.0
Baravha—Skl.—बारव्हा	SW; 21.0	884; 2357; 464; 825	Local; ..
Basipar—Gda.—बासीपार	SE; 8.0	1013; 419; 75; 180	Sitepar; 1.4
Basora—Bdr.—बासोरा	S; 6.0	1086; 643; 120; 160	Dawadipar; 4.0
Batana—Gda.—बटाना	NE; 6.0	1145; 1369; 273; 469	Local; ..
Bayavada—Gda.—बायवाडा	SW; 30.0	541; 740; 171; 368	Gangla; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Tirora; 10.0	Paraswada; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; m.
Birsola; 1.4	Kati; 1.4; Sun.	Kati; 1.4	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 6.0	Local; .. Fri.	Bondgaon; 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Gond Unui; 6.4	Sadak- 3.4; Sat.	Kohamara; 1.0	W; t.	SI (pr); tl.
	Arjuni;			
Tirora; 6.0	Sukdi; 1.4; Fri.	Sukdi; 3.0	W.	pyt; Cs; 2 tl; 3 m.
Dewalgaon; 26.0	.. 2.0; Sun.	Nawegaon- 24.0	W.	tl; dg; ch.
		Bandh		
Dongri Bk.; 1.0	Dongri 1.0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
	Bk.;			
Pauni Road; 11.3	Palora; 1.6; Thu.	Sindpuri; 3.2	W.	SI (pr); pyt; tl; gym.
Dewhadi; 3.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Goregaon; 9.0	Mohadi; 2.0; Tue.	.. 9.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
.. 9.0	Pathari; 2.0; Sat.	.. 9.0	W.	SI (pr); 7 tl.
.. ..			..	..
.. 5.0	Sadak- 3.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); pyt; tl.
	Arjuni;			
Sondad; 14.0	Lakhani; 6.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 13.0	Sondad; 13.0; Wed.	Local; 0.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Sondad; 16.0	Local; .. Sat.	.. 9.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 3 tl; 2 dg.
.. ..			..	..
Gondia; 12.0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs (c); tl; gym; lib; dp.
Gondia; 12.0	 Fri.	.. 3.0	w;rv.	Cs; tl.
Darekasa; 2.0	Darekasa; 2.0; Fri.	.. 12.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Tumsar 8.0	Andhal- 5.0; Wed.	Mitewani; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Road;	gaon;			
Tumsar 17.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl; ch.
Road;				
.. 4.0	.. ..	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Kochewahi; 1.0	Ekodi; 1.0; Thu.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Local; ..	Navegaon 4.0; Thu.	Navegaon 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 4 tl; gym.
	Bandh;			
Sondad; 14.0	Pohara; 5.0; Thu.	Mundipar; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Arjuni; ..	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 2 tl; dp.
Gudama; 1.4	Amgaon; 6.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 12.0	Dawadi- 0.4; Sat.	.. 0.4	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; mq; dg; ch.
Road;	par;			
.. 6.0	.. ..	.. 3.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); pyt; tl; dp.
Mundikota; 4.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Bela—Bdr.—बेला	SW; 3.0	1364; 1825; 363; 456	Local; ..
Belagaon—Skl.—बेलगाव	SE; 37.0	698; 252; 45; 149	Nilaj; 3.0
Belagaon—Bdr.—बेलगाव	NE; 6.0	540; 384; 72; 67	Matora; ..
Belaghata—Bdr.—Included in urban area III—बेलघाटा	.. ..	नागरी विभाग ३ मध्ये समा- विष्ट.	.. ..
Belati Bk.—Gda.—बेलाटी बु.	W; 23.0	913; 1047; 219; 394	Kawalewada; 2.0
Belati Kh.—Included in urban area V—Gda.—बेलाटी	.. ..	नागरी विभाग V मध्ये समा- विष्ट.	.. ..
Belati—Skl.—बेलाटी	SW; 27.0	978; 1518; 321; 654	Local; ..
Beradipar—Gda.—बेरडीपार	SW; 39.0	1195; 690; 142; 279	Sukdi; 2.0
Beradipar—Gda.—बेरडीपार	W; 17.0	2333; 3120; 607; 1186	Local; ..
Berodi (Pradhanatola)—Bdr.— बेरोडी (प्रधानटोला)	E; 3.0	506; 816; 156; 249	Matora; 2.4
Betara—Bdr.—बेटारा	S; 30.0	523; 482; 94; 242	Pauni; 2.0
Betara—Bdr.—बेटारा	NE; 9.0	3106; 1975; 442; 676	Local; ..
Bhadanga—Gda.—भडंगा	S; 14.0	1323; 2534; 490; 1297	Goregaon; 2.0
Bhadipar—Gda.—भाडीपार	SE; 29.0	387; 265; 50; 100	Tirkhedi; 4.0
Bhadutola—Gda.—भादुटोला	NE; 9.0	341; 183; 40; 93	Paraswada; 3.0
Bhagadi—Skl.—भागडी	SW; 28.0	2667; 2362; 453; 1060	Local; ..
Bhagi—Skl.—भागी	E; 27.0	1917; 255; 42; 69	Deori; 1.0
Bhagi—Skl.—भागी	SE; 37.0	334; 536; 90; 140	Chichgad; 2.0
Bhajeppar—Gda.—भजेपार	SW; 37.0	1565; 1643; 309; 589	Wadegaon; 2.0
Bhajiyyadar d—Gda.—भजियादंड	SE; 26.0	651; 44; 8; 21	Sakharitola; 4.0
Bhajiyyar—Gda.—भजियापार	SE; 25.0	1609; 1470; 280; 689	Anjora; 1.0
Bhajiyyar—Gda.—भजियापार	E; 10.0	1139; 1205; 237; 598	Chirchal- bandh;

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara Road;	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun., Wed., and Fri.	Stage; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, clg); Cs; 2 tl; gym.
Sordad,	.. 4.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Bhandara Road;	Bhandara; 7.0; Sun., Wed., and Fri.	Bhandara; 6.0	W.	2 tl.
..			..	..
Tirora,	Tirora; 3.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
..			..	..
Pauni Road;	Navegaon; 2.0; Thu.	.. 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch.
Tirora;	Sukdi; 2.0; Fri.	Tirora; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; gym.
Kochewahi;	Dande- gaon; 3.0; Mon.	Kochewahi; 0.6	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl.
Bhandara Road;	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun., Wed.	.. 2.0	W; n.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (mp); 3 tl; gym.
Pauni Road;	Pauni; 2.0; Sat., Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; tl.
Koka;	Local; .. Fri.	Mohagaon; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Pindkepar;	.. ..	Goregaon; 9.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; gym; ch; lib.
Salekasa;	Amgaon; 4.0; Mon.	Satgaon; 3.0	w;rv.	Sl (pr).
Pratapbagh;	Khatia; 1.0; Mon.	Arjuni; 1.0	W.	2 tl; gym; ch.
Wadegaon;	Local; .. Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (m); Cs; 6 tl; dp.
Amgaon;	Deori; 1.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	tl.
Sondad;	Chichgad; 2.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tirora;	Wadegaon; 2.0; Wed.	Tirora; 10.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl; 2 gym.
Salekasa;	Sakharitola; 4.0; Wed.	.. 4.0	w;rv.	tl.
Darekasa;	Amgaon; 7.0; Fri.	Anjora; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); 7 tl.
Gudama;	Amgaon; 4.0; Fri.	.. 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Bhambodi—Gda.—भांबोडी ..	SW; 29.0	606; 681; 103; 226	.. ..
Bhanasula—Gda.—भनसुला ..	SE; 22.0	201; 146; 25; 49	Salekasa; 5.0
Bhandara—urban area II—Bdr.— भंडारा नागरी विभाग II	HQ; ..	16.83; 39423; 7626; 1922	Local; ..
Bhandara Khas—Included in urban area I—Bdr.—भंडारा खास	N; ..	0.1; .. ..	.. ..
Bhanapur—Gda.—भानपूर ..	NW; 10.0	985; 1529; 325; 457	Dawat iwada; 5.0
Bharanoli—Skl.—भरनोली ..	SE; 40.0	2265; 703; 122; 397	Desaiganj; 21.0
Bharregaon—Skl.—भर्रेगांव ..	E; 28.0	1865; 649; 121; 273	Waghmadi; 5.0
Bhasagaon—Gda.—भसगांव ..	SE; 2.2	2047; 2369; 457; 855	Local; ..
Bhavad—Bdr.—भावड ..	SE; 20.0	1610; 1497; 273; 625	Pimpalgaon; 1.0
Bhendara—Bdr.—भेंडारा ..	S; 28.0	891; 882; 162; 400	Pauni; 2.6
Bhikarakheda—Bdr.—भिकारखेडा ..	N; 16.0	687; 545; 99; 161	Dongargaon; 1.4
Bhikaraminsi—Bdr.—भिकारमिन्सी	SE; 13.0	142; 75; 17; 37	Pahela; 3.0
Bhilevada—Bdr.—भिलेवाडा ..	SE; 3.0	1385; 1256; 225; 346	Kardha; 1.0
Bhivakhidaki—Skl.—भिवखिडकी ..	S; 15.0	1464; 1087; 221; 353	Local; ..
Bhivapur—Gda.—भिवापूर ..	SW; 18.0	960; 840; 162; 355	Tirora; 4.0
Bhojapur—Bdr.—भोजापूर ..	W; 1.0	933; 500; 106; 147	Bhandara; 1.0
Bhojapur—Bdr.—भोजापूर ..	SE; 32.0	1216; 650; 115; 339	Sawarla; 6.0
Bhondaki—Bdr.—भोंडकी ..	N; 29.0	545; 135; 22; 42	Chicholi; 1.0
Bhosa—Bdr.—भोसा ..	NW; 11.0	714; 171; 26; 63	Neri; 2.0
Bhosa—Gda.—भोसा ..	E; ..	1018; 1151; 212; 591	.. ..
Bhugaon—Skl.—भुगांव ..	SW; 11.0	1694; 2030; 381; 1111	Local; ..
Bhuyar—Bdr.—भुयार ..	SW; 37.0	2397; 1710; 138; 746	Local; ..
Bidasitepar—Bdr.—बिडसितेपार ..	NE; 7.0	894; 642; 118; 185	Bhandara; 8.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Mundikota; 2.0	Mundikota; 2.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Salekasa; 5.0	Salekasa; 5.0; Mon.	.. 7.0	W; tl.	26 SI (18 pr, 6 h, 2 clg);
Bhandara 7.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W; Pl.	24 Cs; 72 tl; 2 m; 4 mq;
Road;	Wed; and Fri.	.. ..	..	17 dg; 7 gym; ch;
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	3 lib; 19 dp; Cch.
Gondia; 7.0	Gondia; 7.0; Tue	.. ..	..	2 SI (pr, m); 4 tl; gym; ch;
Warsa; 21.0	Kurkheda; 7.0; ..	.. 7.0	W.	2 dp.
Sondad; 23.0	Deori; 2.0; Tue.	.. 1.4	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Hirdamali; 2.0	Goregaon; 2.0; Sat;	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; mq; ch.
Pauni Road; 17.0	Nawegaon; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl.
Pauni Road; 9.6	Pauni; 2.6; Sat; Tue.	Sindpur; 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); tl; ch.
Tumsar 7.0	Andhal- gaon; 4.0; Wed.	Dongar- gaon; 1.4	W; n.	SI (pr); 3 tl.
Bhandara 19.0	Pahela; 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	tl; ch.
Bhandara 9.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; dg;
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Nawegaon 4.0; Thu. bandh;	Local; ..	W; t.	2 gym; ch.
Tirora; 4.0	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	Tirora; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Bhandara 8.0	Bhandara; 1.0; Sun; Wed;	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 3 tl; m; 2 dg;
Pauni Road; 13.0	Pauni; 6.0; Tue; Sat.	Pauni; 6.0	W; rv.	2 gym; ch.
Chicholi; 1.4	Pawanara; 2.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Khat; 2.4	Bhandara; 5.0; Thu.	Bhandara; 5.0	W; rv.	tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	2 tl.
Arjuni; 18.0	Sangadi; 4.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 4.0	W; rv.	..
Local; ..	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr m); pyt; Cs; 3 tl;
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	3 dg; 2 gym; ch; dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; dh.
				SI (pr); 2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Bihirya—Gda.—बिहीरीया	W; 23-0	948; 1121; 216; 497	Karti Bk.; 2-0
Bijepar—Gda.—बिजेपार	SE; 30-0	2983; 595; 121; 192	Kotara; 2-0
Bilaragondi—Skl.—बिलारगोंदी	E; 28-0	557; 88; 12; 26	Deori; 3-0
Binakhi—Bdr.—बिनाखी	NE; 26-0	857; 758; 135; 268	Chulhad; 1-0
Binjali—Gda.—बिजली	SE; 22-0	1485; 965; 194; 295	Kawara- bandh; 2-0
Birasi—Gda.—बिरसी	SE; ..	823; 1099; 217; 394	.. ..
Birasola—Gda.—बिरसोला	N; 12-0	1999; 2039; 395; 829	Kati; 2-0
Biratola—Skl.—बिरटोला	S; ..	774; 286; 46; 148	Navegaon; 5-0
Biroli—Gda.—बिरोली	SW; 29-0	635; 312; 66; 143	Mundikota; 3-0
Bitekhari—Bdr.—बिटेखारी	NW; 20-0	708; 36; 7; 18	Jamb; 2-0
Boda—Gda.—बोडा	W; 12-0	2051; 1687; 347; 659	Sejgaon; 2-0
Boda—Gda.—बोडा	NE; 16-0	753; 706; 138; 321	Tirora; 2-0
Bodade—Skl.—बोडदे	SE; 22-0	2122; 379; 71; 118	Zarpada; 1-0
Bodalabodi—Gda.—बोदलबोडी	SE; 24-0	929; 541; 105; 319	Salekasa; 4-0
Bodaladand—Skl.—बोदालदंड	SE; 35-0	1716; 130; 21; 64	Futana; 3-0
Bodalakasa—Gda.—बोदलकसा	SW; 24-0	1164; 525; 102; 180	Sukdi; 1-4
Bodra—Skl.—बोद्रा	N; 2-2	1146; 1734; 322; 830	Pindakepar; 2-0
Bodra—Skl.—बोद्रा	S; 22-0	643; 440; 72; 226	.. ..
Bodunda—Gda.—बोदुंडा	SW; 14-0	3022; 864; 154; 516	Kurhadi; 3-4
Bodunda—Skl.—बोदुंडा	NE; 19-0	321; 39; 12; 28	Gongale; 7-0
Bolade—Skl.—बोळदे	SE; 9-0	1235; 569; 103; 187	Gond Umri; 2-0
Bolade—Skl.—बोळदे	S; 25-0	1468; 1002; 172; 525	Barabhati; 1-4
Bondagaon—Skl.—बोंडगांव	S; 19-0	1534; 2148; 438; 639	Local; ..
Bondagaon—Skl.—बोंडगांव	SE; 33-0	636; 682; 141; 196	Gothangaon; 3-0
Bondarani—Gda.—बोंडरानी	NW; 22-0	1185; 73; 19; 8	Arjuni; 2-0
Bonde—Bdr.—बोंडे	NE; 11-0	861; 150; 24; 83	Koka; 2-0
Bonde—Skl.—बोंडे	S; 5-0	748; 666; 122; 301	Khandala; 1-0
Bonde—Skl.—बोंडे	SE; 40-0	1212; 300; 58; 165	Chichgad; 11-0
Bondri—Bdr.—बोंद्री	NW; 20-0	708; 342; 66; 121	Kandri; 2-0
Bopabodi—Skl.—बोपाबोडी	E; 6-0	1647; 1399; 267; 393	Local; ..
Bopesar—Gda.—बोपेसर	SW; 16-0	539; 788; 148; 300	.. ..
Bora—Gda.—बोरा	W; 10-0	1518; 1730; 278; 507	Paraswada; 1-0
Boragaon—Bdr.—बोरगांव	SE; 33-0	1108; 837; 159; 440	Asgaon; 2-0
Boragaon—Bdr.—बोरगांव	NE; 22-0	559; 731; 154; 196	Sihora; 1-0

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Tirora; 8-0	Indora Bk.; 0-4; Sat.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Salekasa; 10-0	Sakhari- tola; 6-0; Wed.	.. 6-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; 3 tl.
Amgaon; 26-0	Deori; 3-0; Tue.	.. 3-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Tumsar Rd.; 18-0	Sihora; 4-0; Sat.	Chulhad; 1-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Dhanoli; 2-0	Local; Wed.	.. 6-0	W.	.. ..
.. ..				
Birsola; 2-0	Kati; 2-0; Sun.	Kati; 2-0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; 9m.
Dewalgaon; 5-0	Navegaon 5-0; Thu.	Navegaon 5-0	W.	.. ..
.. ..	Bandh;	Bandh;	.. ..	.. ..
Mundikota; 3-0	Mundikota; 3-0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 14-0	Jamb; 2-0; Mon.	.. 2-0	w;rv.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Gangajhari; 5-0	Dawan- wada; 3-0; Mon.	.. 2-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; m.
.. ..				
Gondia; 16-0	Tekari; 3-0; Thu.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 5-0	Arjuni; 5-0; Sat.	Arjuni; 5-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); tl; ch; lib.
Salekasa; 4-0	Salekasa; 4-0; Mon.	.. 8-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
.. 33-0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Tirora; 8-4	Sukdi; 1-4; Fri.	Tirora; 4-0	W.	2m.
Sondad; 8-0	Sakoli; 2-2; Sun.	Sakoli; 2-2	W;t;pl.	2 SI (pr,m); Cs; tl; dg; lib.
.. 8-0	Arjuni; 8-0; Sat.	.. 2-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Pindkepar; 6-0	Kurhadi; 3-4; Sun.	.. 9-0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Gorgle; 7-0	.. 1-0; Thu.	.. 12-0	W.	Ch.
Gond Umri; 2-0	Gond 2-0; Mon.	Navegaon 4-0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
.. ..	Umri;	Bandh;	.. ..	.. ..
Barabhati; 1-4	Navegaon 5-0; Thu.	Navegaon 5-0	W.	SI (pr).
.. ..	Bandh;	Bandh;	.. ..	.. ..
.. 6-0	Arjuni; 6-0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, l); Cs; 6 tl;
Arjuni; 13-0	Gothar- gaon; 3-0; Sun.	Gothargzon; 3-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
.. ..				
Tirora; 11-0	Arjuni; 2-0; Fri.	.. 1-0	rv.	.. ..
Koka; 3-0	Palora; 3-0; Sat.	Khadki; 1-0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 10-0	Sakoli; 5-0; Sun.	.. ..	W;t.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Sondad; 29-0	Chichgad; 11-0; Sat.	Chichgad; 11-0	W.	.. ..
Khat; 10-0	Kandri; 2-0; Sat.	.. 2-0	W.	SI (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Sondad; 3-0	Sondad; 3-0; Wed.	.. 3-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; dp.
.. 5-0	Wadegaon; 3-0; Wed.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; gym.
Tirora; 8-0	Paraswada; 1-0; Mon.	.. 1-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl; dg; ch.
Pauni Rd.; 13-0	Asgaon; 2-0; Wed.	.. 7-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar Rd.; 9-0	Sihora; 1-0; Sat.	.. 1-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (mp); 2 tl; ch; lib.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Boragaon—Bdr.—बोरगांव	SE; 21-0	618; 116; 26; 56	Pimpalgaon; 3-0
Boragaon—Bdr.—बोरगांव	S; 8-4	1405; 816; 150; 198	Manegaon; 1-0
Boragaon—Bdr.—बोरगांव	NE; 20-0	677; 668; 142; 227	Palora; 1-0
Boragaon—Gda.—बोरगांव	S; 9-0	982; 1771; 352; 762	Kawalewada; 3-0
Boragaon—Gda.—बोरगांव	SW; 35-2	594; 743; 152; 241	Wadegaon; 0-2
Boragaon—Skl.—बोरगांव	E; 31-0	1418; 594; 138; 193	Local; ..
Boragaon—Skl.—बोरगांव	SW; 26-0	564; 186; 34; 83	Barwaha; 2-0
Boragaon—Skl.—बोरगांव	E; 30-0	1600; 379; 80; 117	Dawaki; 1-0
Boragaon—Skl.—बोरगांव	N; 6-0	1162; 1105; 200; 308	Amgaon Bk.; ..
Boragaon—Skl.—बोरगांव	W; 10-0	509; 878; 172; 219	Lakhori; 3-0
Boragaon Kh.—Bdr.—बोरगांव खु.	S; 9-0	1056; 753; 143; 355	Pahola; 3-0
Borakanhar—Gda.—बोरकन्हार	SE; ..	1668; 1527; 287; 607	.. ..
Boratola—Skl.—बोरटोला	S; 20-0	618; 658; 109; 386	Navegaon 4-0 bandh;
Bori—Bdr.—बोरी	NE; 21-0	448; 1239; 237; 491	Umarwada; 1-0
Bori—Bdr.—बोरी	NE; 12-0	438; 390; 70; 159	Kardi; 2-0
Bori—Skl.—बोरी	S; 35-0	406; 667; 117; 264	Mahagaon; 6-0
Bote—Gda.—बोटे	S; 9-0	1373; 1912; 377; 823	Bhasgaon; 2-0
Bothali—Bdr.—बोथली	N; 12-0	677; 524; 87; 200	Bhandara 3-0 Road;
Bothali—Gda.—बोथली	SE; ..	1013; 1420; 291; 670	.. ..
Bothali—Skl.—बोथली	SW; 22-0	857; 1016; 196; 494	Barwaha; 3-0
Bothali—Skl.—बोथली	NE; 14-0	659; 629; 114; 335	Khajri; 1-0
Bramhi—Bdr.—ब्रम्ही	SE; 24-0	515; 1078; 207; 475	Masal; 1-0
Budhewada—Skl.—बुधेवाडा	S; 20-0	715; 795; 121; 226	Zarpada; 1-0
Burasitola—Skl.—बुरसीटोला	SE; 16-0	752; 117; 25; 50	Nawegaon- 2-0 bandh;
Butai—Skl.—बुटई	SE; ..	2212; 1; 1; ..	.. ..
Chakara—Bdr.—चकारा	S; 17-0	822; 691; 139; 146	Chichal; 2-0
Chandakapur (1)—Bdr.— चंडकापूर (१)	S; 28-4	1354; 11; 2; 4	Pauni; 0-4
Chandakapur (2) included in urban area III—Bdr.—चंडकापूर (२) नागरी विभाग (३) मध्ये समा- विष्ट.	..	.. ..	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Pauni Road; 18-0	Adyar; 4-0; Sun.	Adyar; 4-0	W.	..
Bhandara 14-4 Road;	Manegaon; 1-0; Thu.	.. 5-4	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Koka; 4-0	Palora; 1-0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Garkhera; 5-0	Kawale- 3-0; Wed. wada;	Gondia. 9-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 4 tl; gym; ch.
Tirora; 8-0	Wadegaon; 0-2; Wed.	.. 8-0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; gym.
Amgaon; 29-0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	4 SI (pr, m, h, clg); Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 2-0	Barwaha; 2-0; Mon.	.. 2-0	W.	..
Amgaon; 20-0	Deori; 3-0; Tue.	Local; ..	W;t.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Soundad; 12-0	Amgaon 1-4; Fri. Bk.;	.. ..	W.	2 SI (2 pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Soundad; 22-0	Lakhani; 5-0; Tue.	Lakhani; 5-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl.
Bhandara 14-0 Road;	Pahela; 3-0; Fri.	.. 2-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; gym.
.. ..			..	..
Dewalgaon; 4-0	Navegaon 4-0; Thu. Bandh;	Navegaon 4-0	W.	Cs.
Dewhadi; 4-0	Tumsar; 3-0; Tue.	.. 3-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Koka; 4-0	Palora; 1-0; Sat.	Kardi; 2-0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Hirdamali; ..	Goregaon; .. Sat.	Goregaon; 3-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Bhandara 3-0 Road;	Bhandara 3-0; Thu. Road;	Local; ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
.. ..			..	..
Wadegaon; 12-0	Barwaha; 3-0; Mon.	.. 3-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Khodshjori; 3-0	Sadak 5-0; Sat. Arjuni;	Khajri; 1-0	W.	SI (pr); 3 tl; gym; ch.
Pauni Road; 17-0	Nawegaon; 3-0; Thu.	.. 5-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Wadegaon; 2-0	Arjuni; 5-0; Sat.	Arjuni; 5-0	W;t.	SI (pr); 3 tl; ch.
Dewalgaon; 2-0	Nawegaon 2-0; Thu. Bandh;	Local; ..	W.	2 tl; 2 Cch.
.. ..			..	..
Bhandara 23-0 Road;	Adyar; 1-0; Sun.	Adyar; 1-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Pauni Road; 23-0	Pauni; 0-4; Sat. & Tue.	.. 1-0	W.	tl.
Urban area ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Chandamara—Bdr.—चांदमारा ..	N; 22.0	929; 332; 50; 170	Gobaiwadi; 8.0
Chandapur—Bdr.—चांदपूर ..	NE; 32.4	1694; 609; 103; 241	Chellhad; 4.0
Chand Suraj—Gda.—चांद सुरज ..	SE; 35.0	421; 298; 65; 171	Darekasa; 5.0
Chandi—Bdr.—चांदी ..	S; 36.0	739; 444; 94; 225	.. 10.0
Chandori—Bdr.—चांदोरी ..	SE; 6.0	968; 1741; 346; 433	.. ..
Chandori—Skl.—चांदोरी ..	NW; 12.0	2295; 1697; 312; 723	Local; ..
Chandori Bk.—Gda.—चांदोरी बु. ..	SW; 29.0	971; 905; 189; 332	Mundikota; 2.0
Chandori Kh.—Gda.—चांदोरी खु. ..	W; 24.0	1866; 1184; 187; 388	Paraswada; 2.0
Changotola—Gda.—चांगोटोला ..	SE; 20.3	370; 272; 49; 151	Chopa; 0.3
Channa—Skl.—चान्ना ..	S; 20.0	1109; 1529; 181; 624	Bondgaon; 2.0
Channa—Skl.—चान्ना ..	W; 13.4	1283; 2114; 403; 957	Lakhar; 4.0
Channa—Skl.—चान्ना ..	SE; 22.0	619; 384; 66; 168	Nawegaon-bandh; 2.0
Channevada—Bdr.—चन्नेवाडा ..	S; 37.0	228; 196; 33; 71	.. 11.0
Chapti—Skl.—चापटी ..	S; 18.0	678; 696; 131; 351	Barabhati; 3.0
Chapral—Skl.—चप्राळ ..	S; 34.0	2856; 2325; 426; 485	Sori; 2.0
Charabhata—Skl.—चारभाटा ..	NE; 34.0	673; 447; 88; 206	Lohara; 3.0
Charabhata—Skl.—चारभाटा ..	E; 31.0	566; 105; 22; 36	Borgaon; 2.0
Charagaon—Bdr.—चारगांव ..	NE; 23.0	987; 603; 115; 168	Madagi; 2.0
Charagaon—Skl.—चारगांव ..	E; 5.4	691; 672; 121; 431	Soundad; 3.0
Charagaon—Gda.—चारगांव ..	N; 8.0	1317; 1415; 245; 440	Rawanwadi; 2.0
Chengera—Gda.—चंगेरा ..	N; 10.0	1456; 572; 97; 217	Barathar; 2.0
Chhipiya—Gda.—छिपीया ..	NE; 15.0	1860; 2785; 90; 1250	Paraswada; 2.0
Chichagad—Skl.—चिचगड ..	SE; 39.0	4243; 1324; 236; 337	Local; ..
Chichagaon—Skl.—चिचगांव ..	S; 28.0	587; 173; 33; 88	Wadegaon; 2.0
Chichagaon—Skl.—चिचगांव ..	W; 5.0	405; 235; 39; 89	Pimpalgaon; 5.0
Chichala—Bdr.—चिचाला ..	S; 20.0	1954; 3113; 301; 1145	Local; ..
Chichakheda—Bdr.—चिचखेडा ..	SW; 31.0	405; 374; 72; 179	Pauni; 5.0
Chichal—Skl.—चिचाल ..	SW; 21.0	873; 702; 125; 388	Barwha; 1.0
Chichatola—Skl.—चिचटोला ..	NE; 18.0	730; 544; 99; 159	Kosamtordi; ..
Chichewada—Skl.—चिचेवाडा ..	E; 27.0	1114; 747; 140; 349	Deori; 5.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Dongri Bk.; 2.0	Dongri 2.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 18.0	Sihora; 6.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 4 tl; m.
Darekasa; 5.0	Darekasa; 5.0; Fri.	.. 15.0	W.	Cs; tl.
Mangli; 2.0	Mangli; 2.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	Cs; tl.
Bhandara Road; 12.0	.. 2.0; Sat., Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl; 3 m; 2 dg; gym.
.. ..	Saundad; 20.0; ..	.. 12.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Mundikota; 1.4	Mundi- 2.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
.. ..	kota; ..	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (2 pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 10.0	Paraswada; 2.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 tl; gym.
Hirdamali; 11.1	Chopa; 3.0; Tue.	Mundipar; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Arjuni; 6.0	Bondgaon; 12.0; Fri.	Bondgaon; 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl.
Soundad; 14.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 2.0	Nawegaon 2.0; Thu.	Nawegaon-bandh; 2.0	W.	tl.
.. ..	bandh; ..	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; 2 tl.
Mangli; 2.0	Mangli; 2.0; Sat.	Nawegaon; 5.0	W.	Sl (m); Cs; 4 tl; ch; lib.
Barabhati; 3.0	Nawegaon; 5.0; Thu.	.. 0.2	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Wadsa; 8.0	Lakhandur; 4.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W;t.	tl.
Amgaon; 17.0	Sawali; 4.0; ..	.. 2.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Amgaon; 30.0	Borgaon; 2.0; Thu.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Dewhadi; .. Sun	Tumsar; 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; 3 m; lib.
Soundad; 3.0	Soundad; 3.0; Wed.	Soundad; 3.0	W.	tl; 4 m; mq.
Gondia; 8.0	Rawan- 2.0; Wed.	Rawanwadi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
.. ..	wadi; ..	.. ..	W.	..
Birsola; 4.0	Banathar; 2.0; Thu.	.. ..	..	..
Gatra; 6.0	Rawan- 4.0; Wed.	.. ..	..	..
.. ..	wadi; ..	.. ..	..	..
Soundad; 33.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; mq; ch; lib; dp.
Wadegaon; 2.0	Lakhan- 4.0; Tue.	Lakhandur; 4.0	W.	tl.
.. ..	dur; ..	.. ..	..	..
Soundad; 12.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 14.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (m); 2 Cs; 4 tl.
Bhiwapur; 6.0	Pauni; 5.0; Sat., Tue.	Pauni; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..			..	..
Arjuni; 11.0	Darwha; 1.0; Mon.	Stage; ..	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); mq.
.. ..	Kosam- 1.0; Tue.	.. 17.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl.
.. ..	tendi; ..	.. ..	..	..
Soundad; 16.0	Deori; 3.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; 2 m; ch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Chicholi-Bdr.- चिचोली	SW; 14.0	318; 72; 10; 32	Jawahar- 2.0
Chicholi-Bdr.- चिचोली	N; 22.0	825; 603; 109; 185	nagar; Ardhalgaon; 1.0
Chicholi-Bdr.- चिचोली	N; 28.0	991; 1616; 542; 592	Local; ..
Chicholi-Skl.- चिचोली	SW; 27.0	837; 796; 146; 329	.. 3.0
Chicholi-Skl.- चिचोली	SE; 30.0	700; 410; 107; 240	Kesori; 2.0
Chikana-Skl.- चिकना	SW; 20.0	765; 524; 105; 173	Barwahi; 1.0
Chikhali-Bdr.- चिखली	N; 35.0	1663; 3538; 641; 427	Local; ..
Chikhali-Bdr.- चिखली	W; 14.0	656; 154; 29; 84	Rengapar; 2.0
Chikhali-Skl.- चिखली	SE; 19.0	674; 1034; 216; 497	Adyar; 2.4
Chikhali-Bdr.- चिखली	N; 26.0	1386; 1029; 187; 273	Gobarwahi; 12.0
Chikhali-Bdr.- चिखली	W; ..	1530; 698; 131; 275	.. ..
Chikhali-Gda.- चिखली	SW; 18.0	1380; 1667; 311; 356	Local; ..
Chikhali-Skl.- चिखली	E; 10.0	1690; 2039; 379; 1025	Local; ..
Chikhali-Pahela-Bdr.- चिखल पहेला	SE; 13.0	527; 412; 78; 175	Pahela; 2.0
Chilhati-Gda.- चिल्हाटी	SE; 13.0	1599; 1103; 217; 508	Blasgaon; 2.0
Chilhati-Skl.- चिल्हाटी	SE; 51.0	1586; 682; 149; 383	.. 1.0
Chimanatola-Gda.- चिमनटोला	SE; 24.0	174; 145; 29; 83	.. ..
Chinchagaon-Gda.- चिचगांव	S; 7.0	1235; 1593; 265; 736	Gankhaira; 2.0
Chinchakheda-Bdr.- चिचखेडा	N; 10.0	870; 419; 65; 112	Kankhad- 3.0
Chingi-Skl.- चिगी	SE; 15.0	933; 453; 79; 105	gaon; Nawagaon- 6.0
Chipota-Skl.- चिपोटा	SE; 55.0	1537; 523; 100; 308	bardh; ..
Chirachadi-Skl.- चिरचाडी	NE; 15.0	3116; 1207; 181; 550	Khajri; 2.0
Chirachalabardh-Gda.- चिरचाळ बांध	SE; 9.0	2099; 2118; 410; 786	Local; ..
Chirekhani (1)-Gda.- चिरेखानी (१)	W; 21.0	1382; 1583; 164; 484	Tirora; 1.0
Chirekhani (2) included in urban area II-Gda. चिरेखानी (२) नागरी विभाग (२) मध्ये समाविष्ट	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 20.0	Jawahar- 2.0; ..	Jawahar- 2.0	W;rv.	tl.
Road;	nagar;	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 16.0	Andhal- 1.0; Wed.	..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Road;	gaon;	Local; ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Local; ..	Pawanara; .. Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Wadsa; 13.0	Lakhan- 3.0; Tue.	..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Arjuni; 12.0	dur;	Gaothan- ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; mq.
.. 10.0	Kesori; 2.0; Mon.	gaon;	W.	Cs (c); tl.
..	Barwahi; 1.0; Mon.	.. 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Gobarwahi; 4.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl; 2 dg.
Soundad; ..	Lakhani; 5.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W;t.	2 gym; Ch; lib.
Bhandara 25.0	Adyar; 2.4; Sun.	Adyar; 2.4	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl.
Road;	..	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl; ch.
Dongri Bk.; 6.0	Dongri Bk. 6.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl; 2 dg.
Tirora; 4.0	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	Tirora; ..	..	2 gym; Ch; lib.
Soundad; 4.0	Sadak 4.0; Sat.	Soundad; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl.
Bhandara 19.0	Arjuni; 2.0; Fri.	Pahela; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Pyt; tl.
Road;	Pahela; 2.0; Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Hirdamali 4.0	.. ..	.. 11.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 49.0	.. 1.0; Tue.	.. 8.0	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 8.0	Amgaon 8.0; Fri.	Amgaon; 8.0	..	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Gankhaira; 2.0	Bk. ;	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.
Bhandara 7.0	Goregaon; 4.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Road;	Mohadi; 3.0; Thu.	..	..	..
Gondumri; 3.0	Gond 3.0; Tue.	Soundad; 9.0	W.	..
..	Umri; 3.0; Tue.	.. 15.0	W;t.	Sl (pr).
Amgaon; 53.0	.. 3.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 5 tl.
Pandhari; 6.0	Dawwa; 2.0; Wed.	Dawwa; 3.0	W;n.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; Mahashiv-
Gudama; 2.0	Amgaon; .. Fri.	..	..	aiatra. Fr. Mg. Sud.
Tirora; 1.0	Tirora; 1.0; Sun.	Tirora; ..	W.	13; 2 tl; gym; lib.
.. ..	Dhargan; 1.0; Mon.	Dhargan; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop ; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Chitapur (Chichapurtola)—Bdr.— चित्तापूर (चिचापूर टोला)	SE; 5.4	918; 311; 25; 108	Dhargao; 1.0
Chopa—Gda.—चोपा	SE; 20.2	629; 1041; 200; 483	Local; ..
Chorakhama—Gda.—चोरखमारा	SW; 40.0	841; 423; 74; 165	Wadegaon; 5.0
Chorakhama—Bdr.—चोरखामारी	NW; 14.0	890; 348; 62; 81	Warthi; 5.0
Chova—Bdr.—चोवा	S; 12.0	1347; 929; 184; 454	Pahela; 1.0
Chulhad—Bdr.—चुल्हाड	NE; 22.0	2864; 3000; 601; 1218	Local; ..
Chullaradoh—Bdr.—चुल्लारडोह	NE; 23.7	701; 207; 43; 87	Mohagaon; 2.0
Chulod—Gda.—चुलोद	E; 3.0	2005; 2009; 400; 744	Datora; 1.4
Chumbhali—Skl.—चुम्बली	SE; ..	2254; 119; 14; 62	.. ..
Churadi—Gda.—चुरडी	SW; 21.0	762; 1390; 283; 326	Tiroda; 3.0
Chutiya—Gda.—चुटिया	W; 4.0	3210; 2534; 484; 885	Local; ..
Chutiya—Skl.—चुटीया	SE; 32.0	3130; 181; 24; 52	Pauni; 4.0
Dabha—Bdr.—दाभा	N; 5.0	576; 808; 150; 243	Kothurna; 4.0
Dabhana—Skl.—दाभना	S; 2.0	1071; 843; 123; 241	Arjuni; 2.0
Dadhari—Gda.—दहारी	E; ..	4679; 148; 26; 62	Darekasa; 4.0
Dahegaon—Bdr.—दहेगांव	N; 13.0	784; 635; 123; 194	Tumsar; 8.0
Dahegaon—Gda.—दहेगांव	SE; 8.0	942; 1471; 283; 753	Tanda; 2.0
Dahegaon—Skl.—दहेगांव	S; 23.0	1226; 1237; 252; 626	Pardi; 3.0
Daitamangali—Skl.—दैतमांगली	W; 16.0	704; 435; 78; 141	Kengepar; 1.4
Daladalakuhi—Gda.—दलदलकुही	SE; ..	571; 219; 38; 99	Darekasa; 6.0
Dalli—Skl.—दल्ली	E; 19.0	3454; 677; 119; 382	Arjuni; 7.0
Dandegaon—Gda.—दांडेगांव	W; 11.0	2078; 3122; 695; 579	Local; ..
Dandegaon—Skl.—दांडेगांव	SW; 27.0	1035; 402; 68; 170	Barwha; 4.0
Dangurli—Gda.—डांगूर्ली	NW; 11.0	1964; 1692; 289; 551	Dasgaon 2.0 Bk;
Darabada—Gda.—दरबडा	SE; 22.0	981; 774; 141; 239	Amgaon; 6.0
Darekasa—Gda.—दरेकसा	SE; 32.0	1043; 186; 41; 103	Local; ..
Dasagaon Bk.—Gda.—दासगांव बु.	N; 10.0	1199; 1386; 111; 442	Local; ..
Dasagaon Kh.—Gda.—दासगांव खु.	NW; 12.0	1324; 2102; 399; 516	Dasgaon 1.0 Bk;
Datora—Gda.—दतारा	E; 6.0	1717; 2135; 430; 831	Local; ..

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 9.4	Local; .. Tue.	Mundipar; 6.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 4 tl; gym; ch; dp.
Road;				
Hirdamali; 10.0	Wadegaon; 5.0; Wed.	Tirora; 13.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; gym.
Tirora; 13.0	Warthi; 5.0; Thu.	Warthi; 5.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 5.0	Pahela; 1.0; Fri.	Pahela; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Pyt; Cs; tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 18.0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 0.4	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 5 tl; gym; ch.
Road;				
Tirora; 6.0	Sihora; 3.4; Sat.	.. 3.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); 2 tl.
Tumsar; 11.0	Gondia; 3.0; Tue.	Gondia; 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl; dp.
Gondia; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Tirora; 3.0	Tirora; 3.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; dg; 2 gym; ch.
Gondia; 4.0	Gondia; 4.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 tl; lib.
Dewalgaon; 14.0	Nawegaon 14.0; Thu. bandh;	Kohalgaon; 9.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	Jamni; 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl; ch.
Road;				
Arjuni; 2.0	Arjuni; 2.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Darekasa; 4.0	Darekasa; 4.0; Fri.	Salekasa; 12.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 5.0	.. 2.0; ..	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Road;				
Gudama; 2.0	Gondia; 8.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
.. 9.0	Barwha; 3.0; Mon.	Barwha; 3.0	W;t.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl.
Soundad; 22.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; gym.
Darekasa; 6.0	Darekasa; 6.0; Fri.	Salekasa; 13.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Soundad; 14.0	Sadak 6.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W;rv;	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
	Arjuni;		t.	
Gangazari; 1.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, tr-clg); Cs; 4 tl; dg.
Arjuni; 8.0	Barwha; 4.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Birsola; 7.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Dhanoli; 6.0	Amgaon; 6.0; Fri.	.. 6.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Fri.	.. 10.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; lib; dp.
Birsola; 5.0	Local; .. Tue.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl; mq; dg; gym; lib; dp.
Birsola; 6.0	Dasgaon 1.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 4 tl; mq; 2 dg; gym.
.. 6.0	.. ..	Khamari; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl.

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Davadipar—Bdr.—दवडीपार ..	S; 6.0	759; 1543; 294; 383	Local; ..
Davadipar—Bdr.—दवडीपार ..	SW; 4.0	576; 902; 158; 445	Bela; 2.0
Davadipar—Bdr.—दवडीपार ..	NE; 29.0	471; 184; 26; 103	Kardi; 3.0
Davadipar—Gda.—दवडीपार ..	SE; 10.0	1025; 1256; 244; 574	Goregaon; 4.0
Davaki—Skl.—डवकी ..	E; 29.0	1168; 916; 151; 204	Local; ..
Davanivada—Gda.—दवनीवाडा ..	NW; 12.0	1924; 3020; 631; 922	Local; ..
Davejhari—Bdr.—दावेझरी ..	NE; 28.0	1288; 829; 160; 384	.. 1.0
Davejhari—Bdr.—दावेझरी ..	N; 26.0	700; 135; 30; 33	Mitewani; 2.0
Davva—Gda.—डव्वा ..	S; 6.0	1431; 1593; 278; 625	Kawale- wada; 2.0
Davva—Bdr.—डव्वा ..	SE; 7.4	1076; 940; 174; 353	Dhargaon; 2.0
Davva—Skl.—डव्वा ..	NE; 18.0	4456; 2479; 333; 1109	Local; ..
Devalagaon—Skl.—देवलगांव ..	S; 21.0	1007; 730; 147; 389	Navegaon; 1.4
Devalagaon—Skl.—देवलगांव ..	SE; 21.0	544; 409; 71; 106	.. 2.0
Devalagaon—Skl.—देवलगांव ..	SE; 38.0	400; 287; 44; 146	Chichgad; 1.0
Devapayali—Skl.—देवपायली ..	E; 14.0	638; 20; 3; 8	Sadak- Arjuni; 5.0
Devari—Gda.—देवरी ..	NW; 13.0	1829; 862; 185; 430	Dhapewada; 3.0
Devari—Skl.—देवरी ..	SW; 33.0	1003; 503; 97; 183	Palandur; 3.0
Devari—Skl.—देवरी ..	E; 26.0	3465; 3018; 625; 601	Local; ..
Devaridev—Bdr.—देवरीदेव ..	NE; 32.0	747; 933; 166; 362	Chulhad; 2.0
Devasara—Bdr.—देवसरा ..	NE; 28.0	640; 908; 186; 316	Bapera; 0.4
Devanara—Bdr.—देवनारा ..	N; 24.0	908; 765; 156; 293	Dongri; 4.0
Devhada Bk.—Bdr.—देवहाडा बु. ..	NE; 28.0	1910; 1354; 247; 509	Bk.; .. 7.0
Devhada Kh.—Bdr.—देवहाडा खु. ..	NE; 32.0	866; 972; 201; 295	.. 6.0
Devhadi—Bdr.—देवहाडी ..	NE; 20.0	1386; 3504; 531; 425	Local; ..
Deulagaon—Bdr.—देऊळगांव ..	NW; 20.0	705; 307; 58; 127	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 12.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; tl; mq; 2 dg; ch; dp.
Road; Bhandara 10.0	Bhandara; .. Sun; Wed.	Bela; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Road; Mundikota; 8.0	Mundhari 6.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Goregaon; 4.0	Bk.; Goregaon; 4.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl; ch.
Amgaon; 20.0	Deori; 3.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Gangazari; 5.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl; mq; dg; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Tumsar; 10.0	Tumsar; 7.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Chicholi; 3.0	Ambagad; 1.0; Fri.	Mitewani; 2.0	W.	2 tl.
Gankhaira; 1.4	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Gondia; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch; lib.
Bhandara 13.0	Dhargaon; 2.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 4 tl; ch.
Road; Pandhari; 4.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; lib; dp.
Dewalgaon; 1.4	Nawegaon; 1.4; Thu.	Nawegaon; 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
.. 8.0	Arjuni; 8.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; Cch.
Soundad; 38.0	Chichgad; 1.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W;t.	dg.
Soundad; 10.0	Sadak 5.0; Sat.	.. ..	W;t.	..
Gondia; 13.0	Arjuni; Dasgaon; 3.0; Tue.	Dasgaon; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; 2 m.
Arjuni; 26.0	Palandur; 3.0; Sat.	Lakhani; 14.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Soundad; 20.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	4 Sl (pr, 2m, h); 3 Cs; Mahashivaratri Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; 5 tl; mq; ch; lib. dp.
Tirora; 5.0	Sihora; 5.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); ch.
Tumsar; 19.4	Bapera; 0.4; Thu.	Bapera; 0.4	W;rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; ch.
Gobarwahi; 10.0	Dongari Bk.; 4.0; Mon.	Dongri Bk.; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Tumsar; 3.0	Tumsar 3.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Narsing Devi's Fr. Kt.; 4 tl.
Tumsar; 4.0	Road; Tumsar 4.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); pyt; 2 tl; mq; 2 lib.
Tumsar; 15.0	Jamb; 2.0; Mon; Fri.	Jamb; 2.0	rv;n.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (ac. & s); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Deutola—Gda.—देऊटोला ..	SE; 21.0	2062; 450; 79; 210	Sawali; 4.0
Dhabetekari—Skl.—धाबेटेकरी ..	S; 22.0	922; 997; 176; 523	Zarpada; 1.0
Dhabetekari—Skl.—धाबेटेकरी ..	SE; 27.0	56; 57; 9; 22	Local; ..
Dhadari—Gda.—धादरी ..	SW; 19.0	829; 952; 186; 209	Sarandi; 2.4
Dhadari—Gda.—धादरी ..	SW; 21.4	221; 13; 3; 6	Chikhadi; 3.0
Dhakani—Gda.—धाकणी ..	W; 4.0	1512; 1845; 393; 688	Dauniwada; 7.0
Dhakundi—Bdr.—धाकुंडी ..	SW; 36.0	40; 76; 16; 43	Amgaon; 3.0
Dhamalevada—Bdr.—धामलेवाडा ..	N; 24.0	89; 75; 13; 41	Gobarwahi; 6.0
Dhamanagaon—Gda.—धामणगांव ..	N; 12.0	1023; 1936; 191; 822	Banathar; 2.4
Dhamanagaon—Gda.—धामणगांव ..	E; ..	1005; 918; 171; 410	.. ..
Dhamanevada—Gda.—धामणेवाडा ..	W; 13.0	1921; 1115; 232; 344	Ekodi; 1.0
Dhamani—Bdr.—धामणी ..	SE; 34.0	870; 563; 117; 307	.. ..
Dhanala—Skl.—धानला ..	SW; 14.0	803; 1099; 229; 367	Pohara; 2.0
Dhanasuva—Gda.—धनसुवा ..	SE; 27.0	436; 88; 20; 40	Amgaon 6.0
Dhanegaon—Bdr.—धनेगांव ..	NE; 23.0	862; 817; 172; 363	Kh.; Mohagaon; 2.0
Dhanegaon—Gda.—धनेगांव ..	SE; 33.0	308; 143; 30; 76	Darekasa; 1.0
Dhanoli—Gda.—धानोली ..	SE; 20.0	961; 737; 154; 254	Amgaon; 5.0
Dhanora—Skl.—धानोरा ..	NE; 19.0	1707; 799; 163; 230	Kosantordi; ..
Dhanora—Skl.—धानोरा ..	SE; 35.0	872; 29; 5; 21	Nilaj; 2.0
Dhanori—Bdr.—धानोरी ..	S; ..	1681; 833; 156; 392	Walani; 4.0
Dhonsi—Gda.—धोंसी ..	SE; 21.0	717; 432; 80; 203	Salekasa; 4.0
Dhapevada—Gda.—धापेवाडा ..	NW; 12.0	2935; 3121; 614; 1311	Local; ..
Dharagaon—Bdr.—धारगांव ..	SE; 5.0	937; 1830; 365; 432	Local; ..
Dharmapuri—Skl.—धर्मपुरी ..	S; 1.0	984; 711; 116; 170	Wadad; 2.4
Dharmapuri—Bdr.—धर्मपुरी ..	N; 16.0	632; 122; 22; 36	Dongar- gaon; 2.0
Dharmapuri—Skl.—धर्मपुरी ..	SW; ..	760; 652; 127; 295	.. ..
Dhavadiola—Gda.—धावडीटोला ..	SE; ..	963; 567; 109; 197	.. ..
Dhavalakhedi—Skl.—धावलखेडी ..	SE; 47.0	1859; 270; 49; 163	.. 6.0
Dhivarakheda—Skl.—ढिवरखेडा ..	SW; 21.0	475; 296; 54; 94	Palandur; 1.0
Dhivaravada—Bdr.—ढिवरवाडा ..	NE; ..	1542; 965; 184; 477	Betara; 2.0

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Amgaon; 12.0	Sawali; 4.0; Sun.	Sakharitola; 4.0	t.	2 tl.
Arjuni; 6.0	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; 3 mq; ch; lib; dp.
Dewalgaon; 5.0	Nawegaon- 5.0; Thu. bandh;	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cch.
Tirora; 4.0	Sarandi; 2.4; Thu.	Tirora; 4.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Kochewahi; 4.2	Tirora; 6.0; Sun.	Tirora; 6.0	W.	..
Gondia; 3.0	Gondia; 3.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 3.0	Bhiwapur; 5.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Gobarwahi; 6.0	Sitasa- 4.0; Thu.	Gobarwahi; 6.0	W;t.	..
.. ..	wangi;	.. ..	..	..
Birsole; 4.0	Banathar; 2.4; Thu.	Banathar; 2.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Gangazari; 3.0	Ekodi; 1.0; Thu.	Ekodi; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl; lib.
Pauni Road; 15.0	Asgaon; 3.0; Wed.	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sourdad; 20.0	Pohara; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; gym; ch.
Salekasa; 0.0	Amgaon 6.0; Mon.	Amgaon; 16.0	W;rv.	..
.. ..	Kh.;	.. ..	..	..
Tumsar; 8.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); 3 tl; gym; lib.
Darekasa; 1.0	Darekasa; 1.0; Fri.	.. 12.0	W.	tl.
Dhanoli; ..	Amgaon; 5.0; Fri.	.. 5.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gongale; 5.0	Pandhari; 5.0; Mon.	.. 20.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Soundad; 45.0	Chichgad; 5.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	..
Pauni Road; 11.0	Pauni; 3.0; Sat; Tue.	Pauni; 3.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs (mp); 2 tl.
Salekasa; 4.0	Salekasa; 4.0; Mon.	.. 6.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gangazari; 8.0	Dawani- wada; 2.0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 4 tl; mq; dg; gym; lib; 2 dp.
Bhandara 16.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl; gym; ch; 2 dp.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Soundad; 8.0	Sakoli; 2.0; Sun;	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar; 6.0	Mohadi; 4.0; Thu.	Kharbi; 0.6	W.	3 tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	t.	tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	t.	tl.
Amgaon; 45.0	.. 6.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	t.	tl.
Arjuni; 17.0	Palandur; 1.0; Sat.	Palandur; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Koka; 2.0	Mundhari 3.0; Tue. Bk.;	.. 1.0	rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Dhobisara—Skl.—धोबीसराड	E; 25.0	896; 285; 57; 83	Deori; 1.0
Dhodara—Skl.—ढोडरा	SE; 35.0	222; 162; 34; 74	Chichgad; 10.0
Dholasa—Skl.—ढोलसर	SW; 29.0	1246; 840; 165; 335	Warali Bk.; 2.0
Dhop—Bdr.—धोप	N; 20.0	1557; 1161; 236; 417	Salai Kh.; 3.0
Dhoravada—Bdr.—ढोरवाडा	NE; 25.0	897; 700; 137; 90	Madagi; 4.0
Dhusala—Bdr.—धुसाला	NW; 22.0	1732; 1091; 221; 424	Kandri; 3.0
Dhutura—Bdr.—धुटेरा	N; 25.0	687; 492; 89; 235	Nipali- dongari; 3.0
Dighori—Skl.—दिघोरी	SW; 15.0	649; 1126; 199; 240	Murmadi; 1.0
Dighori—Skl.—दिघोरी	S; 14.0	3298; 4802; 849; 1406	Local; ..
Dighori (Buddhatola)—Bdr.— दिघोरी (बुद्धटोला)	SE; 6.0	835; 838; 150; 264	Amgaon; 0.2
Dodake—Gda.—दोडके	S; 16.0	2914; 395; 62; 234	Local; ..
Dodamajhari—Bdr.—डोडमाझरी	E; 6.0	412; 811; 184; 174	Kardha; 3.0
Donad—Skl.—दोनाड	SW; 30.0	1084; 860; 159; 371	Itan; 2.0
Dongaradev—Bdr.—डोंगरदेव	NE; 11.0	745; 267; 55; 107	Koka; 2.0
Dongaragaon—Bdr.—डोंगरगांव	N; 18.0	3011; 2004; 343; 672	Local; ..
Dongaragaon—Bdr.—डोंगरगांव	S; 14.0	777; 192; 27; 84	Pahela; 3.0
Dongaragaon—Gda.—डोंगरगांव	SE; 28.0	1897; 802; 160; 502	Local; ..
Dongaragaon—Gda.—डोंगरगांव	E; ..	749; 669; 134; 244	.. ..
Dongaragaon—Gda.—डोंगरगांव	W; 6.0	1150; 1265; 259; 507	Dawani- wada; 4.0
Dongaragaon—Gda.—डोंगरगांव	SW; 31.0	485; 1015; 193; 526	Thanegaon; 3.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	SE; ..	164; 15; 3; 5	.. ..
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	SW; 12.0	1128; 545; 95; 141	Murmadi; 2.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	NE; 20.0	1536; 1826; 323; 947	Khajri; 1.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	S; 11.0	479; 79; 13; 33	Sangadi; 1.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	SE; 22.0	1051; 124; 23; 54	Nawegaon; 2.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	SW; 15.0	1206; 410; 84; 210	Kaneri; 1.0
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव	SE; 40.0	1853; 146; 30; 76	Chichgad; 1.4

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Amgaon; 24.0	Deori; 1.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W;t.	tl; m; ch.
Soundad; 25.0	Chichgad; 10.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 10.0	W.	tl.
Patni Road; 16.0	Sarandi 2.0; Fri. Bk.;	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl; ch.
Tumsar; 9.0	Andhal- 2.0; Wed. gaon;	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar 4.0 Road;	Dewhadi; 4.0; Sun.	Tumsar; 7.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 15.0 Road;	Kandri; 3.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gobarwahi; 9.0	Chikhala; 2.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Arjuni; 20.0	Murmadi; 1.0; Tue.	pimpalgaon; 7.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; 4 tl.
Arjuni; 10.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W;t.	2 Sl (m, h); pyt; 3 Cs (c); 5 tl; 2 gym.
Bhandara 12.0 Road;	Dhargaan; 6.0; Mon.	Singori; 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; m.
Pindkepar; 6.0	Local; .. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Koka; 6.0	Bhandara; 6.0; Sun; Wed.	Kardha; 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bramhapuri; 8.0	Itan; 2.0; Fri.	Lakhandur; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Koka; 3.0	Mundhari 2.0; Tue. Bk.;	Khadki; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Maha Shivaratri Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; Ram- navami Fr. Ct. Sud. 15; 2 tl.
Bhandara 9.0 Road;	Andhal- 2.0; Wed. gaon;	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (mp); 3 tl; ch; dp.
Bhandara 20.0 Road;	Pahela; 3.0; Fri.	Pahela; 3.0	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 14.0	Sawali; 1.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; lib; dp.
.. ..				
Gangajhari; 4.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; 2 m
Tirora; 6.0	Sukdi; 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	4 tl; 2 m.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	.. ..
Arjuni; 14.0	Murmadi; 2.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; gym
Soundad 12.0	Sadak 3.0; Sat.	Khajri; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl
Arjuni; 11.0	Dangadi; 1.0; Fri.	.. ..	W;n.	tl; ch.
Dewalgaon; 2.0	Nawegaon; 2.0; Thu.	Nawegaon; 2.0	W.	tl.
Soundad; 21.0	Kaneri; 1.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl; ch.
Soundad; 40.0	Chichgad; 1.4; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Dongaragaon—Skl.—डोंगरगांव ..	E; 18.0	1353; 284; 56; 71	Khurshipar; 1.4
Dongarala—Bdr.—डोंगरला ..	NE; 22.0	1010; 1064; 193; 345	Tumsar; 2.0
Dongari Bk.—Bdr.—डोंगरी बु. ..	N; 20.0	1996; 3450; 693; 1056	Local; ..
Dokesarandi—Skl.—डोकेसरांडी ..	SW; 22.0	566; 575; 108; 221	Bhagadi; 3.0
Dudhara—Bdr.—दुधारा ..	E; 14.0	370; 182; 19; 98	.. ..
Duggipar—Skl.—डुगीपार ..	E; 12.0	2554; 532; 95; 162	.. ..
Dunda—Skl.—डुंडा ..	NE; 18.0	1164; 518; 103; 146	Pandhari; 2.0
Durgutola—Gda.—दुर्गूटोला ..	SE; 27.0	700; 427; 74; 188	Satgaon; 2.0
Ekalari—Bdr.—एकलारी ..	N; 8.0	1045; 980; 192; 274	Warthi; 1.0
Ekodi—Gda.—एकोडी ..	W; 12.0	1914; 3581; 733; 811	Local; ..
Gadakumbhali—Skl.—गडकुंभली ..	S; 1.4	885; 469; 80; 211	Sakoli; 1.4
Gadhegaon—Skl.—गढेगांव ..	W; 15.0	1206; 1434; 263; 494	Lakhani; 2.0
Gadhegaon—Skl.—गढेगांव ..	SE; 35.0	1431; 458; 83; 250	Futana; 2.0
Ganakhaira—Gda.—गणखैरा ..	S; 5.0	1196; 2302; 453; 631	Local; ..
Gandatola—Gda.—गांडाटोला ..	SE; 28.0	449; 434; 118; 160	.. 4.0
Gandhari—Skl.—गंधारी ..	SE; 34.0	1167; 320; 67; 133	Gothan- gaon; 4.0
Ganeshapur (Takiyatola)—Bdr.— गणेशपूर (तकीयाटोला)	S; 1.0	557; 2368; 429; 265	Bhandara; 1.0
Gangajhari—Gda.—गंगाझरी ..	W; 9.0	3389; 1534; 366; 461	Local; ..
Gangala—Gda.—गांगला ..	SW; 25.0	696; 1174; 266; 259	Local; ..
Gangalevada—Bdr.—गांगलेवाडा ..	SE; 8.0	210; 132; 25; 67	Dhargaon; 5.0
Garada—Gda.—गराडा ..	S; 19.0	2087; 122; 23; 84	.. 4.0
Garada—Gda.—गराडा ..	SW; 19.0	356; 1488; 289; 470	Chikhali; 1.0
Garada—Skl.—गराडा ..	W; 15.0	1393; 1472; 258; 433	.. 1.0
Garada Bk.—Bdr.—गराडा बु. ..	S; 8.0	1529; 1350; 262; 475	Manegaon; 2.0
Garada Kh.—Bdr.—गराडा खु. ..	S; 6.0	1196; 844; 161; 373	Dawadipar; 0.4

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Soundad; 13.0	Sadak 5.0; Sat. Arjuni;	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Tumsar; 2.0	Tumsar; 2.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; 2 tl; dh; lib; dp.
Wadegaon; 12.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, h); tl.
.. 8.0	Khadki; 4.0; Fri.	.. 0.2	W.	tl.
Soundad; 7.0	Sadak 3.0; Sat. Arjuni;	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Gorgale; 2.0	Pandhari 2.0; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); ch; 2 tl.
Amgaon; 10.0	Sakhari- tola; 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	..
Bhandara Road; 1.0	Warthi; 1.0; Tue.	Warthi; 1.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); 5 tl; 2 gym.
Soundad; 6.0	Sakoli; 1.4; Sun.	Sakoli; 1.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Soundad; 11.0	Lakhani; 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; gym.
Soundad; 33.0	Chichgad; 5.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	SI (pr);
Local; ..	Goregaon; 3.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 30.0	Sakhari- tola; 4.0; Wed.	Sakharitola; 4.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs.
Arjuni; 15.0	Gothan- gaon; 4.0; Sun.	Gothangaon; 4.0	W.	Cs; tl; dg; ch.
Bhandara Road; 8.0	Bhandara; 1.0; Sun., Wed. and Fri.	Bhandara; 1.0	W; n.	3 SI (2 pr, h); Cs; tl; gym; lib.
Local; ..	Dandegaon; 1.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; dh; gym.
Mundikota; 3.0	Local; .. Sat.	.. ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs (c); tl; dp.
Bhandara Road; 21.0	Dhargaon; 5.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	tl.
Pindkepar; 2.0	.. ..	Mundipar; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Tirora; 4.0	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	Tirora; 4.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl; ch.
Soundad; 15.0	Lakhani; 5.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; 2 tl.
Bhandara Road; 14.0	Manegaon; 1.0; Thu.	Dawadipar; 3.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 3 tl.
Bhandara Road; 12.0	Dawadipar; 0.4; Sat.	.. 0.4	t.	SI (pr); tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling Distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Garada Jangali—Bdr.—गराडा जंगली	SE; 14-0	476; 222; 33; 100	Dharggaon; 2-4
Garakabhoraga—Bdr.—गरकाभोगा	N; 32-0	700; 76; 10; 35	.. ..
Gardarapur (Raiyyatavari)—Skl. गार्दनपूर (रय्यतवारी)	SE; 30-0	284; 286; 61; 113	Kesori; 2-0
Garra—Bdr.—गर्गा	.. N; 30-0	1566; 3110; 559; 1163	Local; ..
Garra—Gda.—गर्गा	.. N; 8-0	1661; 342; 445; 707	Rawanwadi; 2-0
Gawarala—Skl.—गवराळा	.. SW; 37-0	1728; 1062; 187; 562	Moharana; 1-0
Gawarra—Skl.—गवर्गा	.. SE; 30-0	719; 383; 70; 173	Kesori; 2-0
Gayadongari—Bdr.—गायडोंगरी	.. SW; 33-0	749; 272; 57; 145	Pauni; 8-0
Gayamukh—Bdr.—गायमुख	.. N; 23-0	443; 217; 52; 81	Tumsar; 12-0
Ghorapad—Bdr.—घोरपड	.. NW; 20-0	948; 259; 47; 137	Kandri; 3-0
Gharatoda—Skl.—घरतोडा	.. SW; 27-0	538; 336; 80; 206	Sarandi Bk.; 1-0
Ghatabori—Skl.—घाटबोरी	.. NE; 10-0	2291; 2802; 476; 1033	Khajari; 4-0
Ghatakunoda—Bdr.—घाटकुरोडा	NE; ..	816; 227; 43; 96	Betara; 2-0
Ghatakunoda—Gda.—घाटकुरोडा	SW; 29-0	1459; 1057; 230; 372	Mundikota; 3-0
Ghatatemani—Gda.—घाटटेमनी	.. NE; 16-0	2323; 1929; 363; 930	Girola; 1-0
Ghatagaon—Skl.—घाटेगांव	.. NE; 13-0	1839; 986; 190; 549	Khodshion; 2-0
Ghatipalagaon—Skl.—घाटी- पळसगांव	S; 26-0	1467; 307; 83; 57	Wadegaon; 0-3
Ghivari—Gda.—घिवारी	.. N; 5-0	1680; 1766; 320; 835	Rawanwadi; 2-0
Ghodejari—Skl.—घोडेझरी	.. SW; 17-0	1117; 832; 162; 336	Palandur; 4-0
Ghodejari—Skl.—घोडेझरी	.. SW; 26-0	493; 309; 59; 145	Belati; 1-4
Ghogara—Gda.—घोगरा	.. SW; 29-0	1353; 1507; 273; 316	Mundikota; 2-0
Ghogara—Skl.—घोगरा	.. SE; 40-0	4730; 125; 7; 29	Gothan- gaon; 12-0
Ghonadi—Skl.—घोनाडी	.. Sb; 30-0	4269; 387; 68; 216	.. ..
Ghoti—Gda.—घोटी	.. SW; 20-0	686; 101; 14; 33	Sukdi; 6-0
Ghoti—Gda.—घोटी	.. S; 10-0	1586; 2477; 560; 889	Local; ..
Ghoti—Skl.—घोटी	.. NE; 15-0	1002; 1178; 218; 435	Dawwa; 2-0
Ghumarra—Gda.—घुमर्गा	.. S; 7-0	1497; 1333; 258; 665	Local; ..
Gidalapar—Skl.—गिदलापार	.. N; ..	4851; 15; .. ..	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 13-0	Dharggaon; 2-4; Mon.	.. 2-4	W.	3 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Chicholi; 4-0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Cs.
Arjuni; 13-0	Kesori; 2-0; Mon.	Kesori; 5-0	W.	..
Chicholi; 2-0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W;n.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; m; gym; ch; dp.
Local; ..	Rawan- wadi; 2-0; Wed.	.. 3-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch.
Brarhapuri; 8-0	Moharana; 1-0; Sun.	.. 3-4	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 13-0	Kesori; 2-0; Mon.	Gothangaon; 9-0	t.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Bhiwapur; 8-0	Pauni; 8-0; Tue. and Sat.	Pauni; 8-0	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 12-0	Andhal- gaon; 6-0; Wed.	Dhop; 3-0	W.	2 tl.
Khut; 15-0	Kandri; 3-0; Sat.	Kandri; 8-0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl.
Wadegaon; 17-0	Nawegaon; 5-0; Thu.	Barwaha; 6-0	W.	tl.
Soundad; 6-0	Arjuni; 5-0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; dh; gym.
Koka; 3-0	Mundhari 1-0; Tue. Bk.;	.. ..	W;rv.	2 tl.
Mundikota; 2-4	Mundi- kota; 3-0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Gondia; 16-0	Local; .. Fri.	Kamtha; 4-0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Khodshion; 2-0	Pandhari; 4-0; Mon.	.. 6-0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Wadegaon; 0-3	Arjuni; 6-0; Sat.	Arjuni; 6-0	W.	tl.
.. 1-0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 4 tl.
Arjuni; 15-0	Palandur; 4-0; Sat.	Dighori; 5-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 16-0	Nawegaon; 3-0; Thu.	Adyar; 6-4	W.	tl.
Mundikota; 1-4	Mundi- kota; 2-0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 24-0	Gothan- gaon; 24-0; Sun.	.. 12-0	W.	..
Soundad; 18-0	Chichgad; 11-0; Sat.	Chichgad; 11-0	W.	Sl (pr).
Tirora; 12-0	Sukdi; 6-0; Fri.	Tirora; 12-0	W.	3 m.
Hirdamali; 2-0	Goregaon; 0-4; Sat.	Goregaon; 0-4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 6 tl; mq; gym.
Khodshion; 3-0	Dawwa; 2-0; Wed.	Dawwa; 2-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Hirdamali; 7-0	Chopa; 3-0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
.. ..			..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Gidhadi—Gda.—गिधडी	SE; 15.0	1920; 2312; 475; 1055	Chopa; 2.0
Girola—Gda.—गिरोला	SE; 24.0	1318; 1200; 180; 425	Amgaon Kh.; 3.0
Girola—Gda.—गिरोला	E; 16.0	2209; 2283; 440; 1200	Local; ..
Girola—Gda.—गिरोला	N; 6.0	508; 1253; 240; 357	Pandhara-bodi; 2.0
Girola—Bdr.—गिरोला	S; 2.4	301; 50; 8; 10	Kardha; 1.0
Girola—Skl.—गिरोला	NE; 15.0	1211; 1260; 197; 695	Khodshioni; 2.0
Girola—Skl.—गिरोला	SW; 6.0	588; 442; 89; 110	Khandala; 3.0
Gobarwahi—Bdr.—गोबरवाही	N; 32.0	1020; 1901; 430; 230	Local; ..
Golevadi—Bdr.—गोळेवाडी	S; 13.4	835; 1127; 244; 412	Pahela; 2.4
Gondamohadi—Gda.—गोंडमोहाडी	NW; 20.0	1527; 1798; 370; 599	Murdada; 2.0
Gondasawari—Skl.—गोंडसावरी	W; 12.0	1299; 827; 164; 347	Regepar; 1.0
Gondaunari—Skl.—गोंडउमरी	SE; 8.0	1340; 1516; 307; 677	Local; ..
Gondegaon—Skl.—गोंडेगाव	SW; 19.0	596; 807; 164; 315	Garadha; 1.0
Gondekhari—Bdr.—गोंदेखारी	NE; 30.0	848; 1095; 203; 382	Chalhad; 1.4
Gondekhari—Gda.—गोंदेखारी	SW; 6.0	607; 658; 143; 251	Kawale-wada; 2.2
Gondi—Skl.—गोंदी	SW; 31.0	541; 548; 100; 181	Palandur; 2.0
Gonditola—Gda.—गोंडीटोला	N; 7.0	623; 527; 142; 165	Rawanwadi; 1.0
Gondia Kh. included in urban area I—Gda.—गोंदिया खु. नागरी विभाग-१ मध्ये समाविष्ट	.. ..	Included in Urban Area I.	.. ..
Gondia—Urban Area—Gda.—गोंदिया नागरी विभाग १	HQ; ..	18.08; 77992; 15337; 1665	.. ..
Gorgale—Skl.—गोंगले	NE; 20.0	1288; 1167; 238; 455	Pandhari; 2.0
Gopivada—Bdr.—गोपीवाडा	W; 7.0	1811; 1197; 207; 236	Shahapur; 1.0
Goratha—Gda.—गोरठा	SE; ..	1066; 1715; 235; 447	.. ..
Goregaon—Gda.—गोरेगांव	S; 9.0	2421; 4257; 831; 1232	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Hirdanali; 5.0	Local; .. Sun.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; Mahashiv-aratra Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; 2 tl; ch.
Salekas; 3.0	Amgaon 3.0; Mon. Kh.;	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Gondia; 16.0	Local; .. Sun.	Kamtha; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gondia; 4.0	Pandhara- 2.0; Sat. bodi;	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bhandara 9.4	.. ..	Bhandara; ..	W.	tl; dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. 12.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; gym.
Khodshioni; 2.0	Sakoli; 12.0; Sun.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; tl; ch.
Warasa; 31.0	Sakoli; 6.0; Sun.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); tl; dp.
Local; ..	Chikhala; 4.0; Fri.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; ch; lib.
Bhandara 19.4	Pahela; 2.4; Fri.	Pahela; 2.4	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; tl; gym; ch; lib.
Road;	.. ..	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Tirora; 10.0	Murdada; 2.0; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 6 tl; m; lib; dp.
Soundad; 18.0	Lakhani; 5.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Tue.	Soundad; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bhandara 49.0	Guradha; 1.0; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; m; ch.
Road;	.. ..	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar; 16.0	Sihora; 3.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Gondia; 6.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Gondia; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; 2 m; gym.
Arjuni; 25.0	Palandur; 2.0; Sat.	Lakhani; 14.0	W.	.. ..
Garra; 1.0	Rawan-wadi; 1.0; Wed.	Rawanwadi; 1.0	W.	.. ..
.. ..			..	
.. ..			..	
Local; 2.0	Pandhari; 2.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 4 tl; m; ch.
Khat; 4.0	Shahapur; 1.0; Tue.	Shahapur; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..			..	
Local; ..	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); 3 Cs; 6 tl; ch; lib; dp.

BHANDARA DISTRICT

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Gorre—Gda.—गोरे	SE; 29.0	1235; 994; 180; 360	Tirkhedi; 2.0
Gosaitola—Gda.—गोसाईटोला	E; ..	747; 503; 112; 263	..
Gosi Bk.—Bdr.—गोसी बु.	S; 27.0	1935; 1299; 254; 593	Kurza; 3.0
Gosi Kh.—Bdr.—गोसी खु.	S; 23.0	1446; 696; 145; 323	Kurza; 2.0
Gotahodi—Skl.—गोटाबोडी	E; 29.0	1793; 453; 68; 136	Dawaki; 3.0
Gothanagaon—Skl.—गोठनगांव	SE; 30.0	1513; 1484; 354; 252	Local; ..
Govaritola—Gda.—गोवारीटोला	SE; 25.0	380; 444; 71; 215	Chopa; 3.0
Gudama—Gda.—गुदमा	SE; 5.0	1642; 1726; 331; 620	Datora; 2.0
Gudaru Kh.—Bdr.—गुडरु खु.	N; 34.0	257; 220; 34; 115	Gobarwahi; 5.0
Gudegaon—Bdr.—गुडेगांव	SE; 32.0	1129; 598; 12; 340	Sawarla; 4.0
Gudhari—Skl.—गुदरी	S; 112.0	1141; 678; 128; 323	Sangadi; 2.0
Gudhari—Skl.—गुदरी	W; 5.0	803; 390; 67; 165	Pimpalgaon; 5.0
Gumadhavada—Gda.—गुमाधावाडा	W; 10.0	1149; 1455; 321; 376	Local; ..
Gunjepar—Skl.—गुंजेपार	SW; 23.0	917; 704; 124; 225	Sarandi Bk.; 2.0
Gunjepar—Bdr.—गुंजेपार	NW; 5.0	659; 343; 68; 139	Bhandara; 5.0
Gunthara—Bdr.—गुंधारा	SE; 13.0	600; 2077; 388; 722	Local; ..
Guradha—Skl.—गुरढा	SW; 20.0	1007; 1277; 264; 449	Local; ..
Halbitola—Gda.—हलबीटोला	SE; ..	847; 805; 175; 366	Amgaon 2.0 Kh.; ..
Halbitola—Gda.—हलबीटोला	S; 26.0	522; 149; 23; 140	.. 6.0
Haldi—Skl.—हळदी	E; 34.0	2394; 110; 17; 51	Borgaon; 5.0
Hardoli—Bdr.—हरदोली	NW; 12.0	1756; 494; 202; 403	Mohadi; 7.0
Hardoli—Bdr.—हरदोली	NE; 30.0	1289; 1059; 221; 441	Sihora; 4.0
Hardoli—Bdr.—हरदोली	N; 27.0	1061; 918; 162; 452	Mitewani; 2.0
Hardoli—Gda.—हरदोली	SE; 22.0	1472; 762; 139; 417	Sawali; 1.4
Hardoli—Skl.—हरदोली	SW; 24.4	792; 731; 160; 311	Local; ..
Hasapur—Bdr.—हसापूर	S; 10.4	1448; 438; 68; 162	Manegaon; 1.4
Hasara—Bdr.—हसारा	N; 21.0	1141; 1403; 289; 266	Tumsar; 1.0
Hattidoi—Bdr.—हत्तीडोई	W; 8.0	859; 713; 119; 324	Khat; 2.0
Hingana—Bdr.—हिंगना	N; 23.0	1265; 982; 164; 294	Mitewani; 2.0
Hirapur—Gda.—हिरापुर	SE; 15.0	3468; 1744; 314; 903	Kurhadi; 3.0

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Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Salekasa; 4.0	Salekasa; 4.0; Mon.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..			..	..
Amgaon; 13.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Amgaon; 13.0	Gosi Bk.; 1.0; Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 22.0	Deori; 4.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 10.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl; m; 3 dg; ch; dp; 2 Cch.
Amgaon; 16.0	Chopa; 3.0; Tue.	.. 12.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Local; ..	Adasi; 2.0; Sun.	Adasi; 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; tl.
Gobarwahi; 5.0	Sitasa- wangi; Pauni; 8.0; Sat., Tue.	Gobarwahi; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Pauni Road; 13.0	Pauni; 8.0; Sat., Tue.	Pauni; 8.0	W; rv.	tl.
Dewalgaon; 7.0	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); gym; ch.
Soundad; 12.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tirora; 4.0	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Wadegaon; 14.0	Barwaha; 4.0; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl.
Bhandara 7.0	Shahapur; 3.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Bhandara 20.0	Dhargao; 4.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Bhandara 30.0	Local;	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs (c); 2 tl; 2 m; lib.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
.. ..	Amgaon 2.0; Mon. Kh.; ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..	Chopa; 6.0; Tue.	.. 15.0	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 33.0	Borgaon; 5.0; Thu.	.. 5.0	rv.	tl; ch.
Bhandara 6.0	Andhal- gaon; 7.0; Wed.	Andhalgaon; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; dp.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Tumsar; 6.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Chicholi; 3.0	Tumsar; 7.0; Tue.	Mitewani; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 12.0	Sawali; 2.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Mhashivratri Fr; 3 tl; gym.
Arjuni; 14.4	Barwaha; 3.0; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl.
Bhandara 16.4	.. ..	Ambadi; 7.4	W; rv.	2 tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Tumsar; 1.0	Tumsar; 1.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); m; 2 dg.
Knat; 2.0	Khat; 2.0; Wed.	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Tumsar; 3.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 3.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2tl; gym.
Pindkepar; 4.0	Kurhadi; 3.0; Sun.	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Hirapur Hamesha—Bdr.—हिरापुर हमेशा	N; 38.0	1542; 267; 48; 76	Gobarwahi; 8.0
Hirdamali—Gda.—हिरडामाली	S; 7.0	1506; 1842; 353; 827	Gunkhaira; 2.0
Hiwra—Bdr.—हिवरा	NW; 26.0	1418; 986; 196; 392	Local; ..
Hiwra—Gda.—हिवरा	E; 3.0	1152; 1254; 245; 473	Ratnara; 1.0
Housitola—Gda.—हौसीटोला	S; ..	309; 140; 27; 84	Chopa; 2.0
Ilda—Skl.—इळडा	SE; 35.0	1936; 575; 110; 305	Wadad; 16.0
Indora—Skl.—इंदोरा	S; 38.0	2668; 403; 77; 220	Soni; 2.0
Indora Bk.—Gda.—इंदोरा बु.	W; 22.0	1088; 1369; 296; 273	Karti Bk.; 1.0
Indora Kh.—Gda.—इंदोरा खु.	W; ..	1642; 1824; 363; 414	Chikhali; 3.0
Indurkha—Bdr.—इंदुरखा	N; 8.0	1213; 712; 133; 166	.. 1.0
Inzewada—Bdr.—इंझेवाडा	E; 14.6	434; 298; 71; 133	.. 2.0
Inzori—Skl.—इंजोरी	S; 20.0	707; 355; 67; 166	Bondgaon; 2.0
Irali Dambhi—Skl.—इरली डंभी	S; 36.0	1580; 1209; 243; 526	Moharana; 4.0
Irali Bk.—Skl.—इरली बु.	SW; 30.0	1574; 1543; 300; 604	Local; ..
Irali Kh.—Skl.—इरली खु.	SW; 28.0	912; 794; 148; 203	Itan; 1.0
Irra—Gda.—इरी	E; ..	1612; 1784; 320; 637	.. ..
Isapur—Gda.—इसापूर	SW; 20.0	456; 399; 72; 125	Nagara; 3.0
Isapur—Skl.—इसापूर	S; 28.0	697; 615; 106; 179	Wadegaon; 2.0
Isapur—Skl.—इसापूर	N; 19.4	627; 723; 137; 187	Guradha; 1.0
Istari—Skl.—इस्तारी	SE; 40.0	1051; 430; 89; 215	.. ..
Itakheda—Skl.—इटखेडा	S; 28.0	872; 1728; 300; 565	Local; 2.0
Itan—Skl.—इटान	SW; 26.0	2005; 1215; 241; 353	Local; ..
Itgaon—Bdr.—इटगांव	S; 16.0	773; 599; 107; 180	Pahela; 5.0
Itgaon—Bdr.—इटगांव	S; 28.0	1631; 545; 116; 268	Kurza; 2.0
Jabarotola—Gda.—जबरटोला	N; 2.4	657; 743; 153; 124	Panthara- bodi; 2.4
Jadabhavada—Skl.—जदभावडा	E; 34.0	3346; 409; 65; 296	Borgaon; 5.0
Jaitapur—Skl.—जैतपूर	SW; 21.0	1180; 2535; 496; 954	Barwha; 1.0
Jakh—Bdr.—जाख	S; 10.4	452; 204; 36; 50	Monegaon; 3.0
Jakh—Bdr.—जाख	W; 6.0	983; 542; 138; 179	Shahapur; 2.0
Jamagaon—Bdr.—जामगांव	S; 14.4	767; 566; 106; 219	Pahela; 4.4

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance; (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gobarwahi; 8.0	Chikhala; 2.4; Fri.	.. 3.0	W; t.	2 tl.
Goregaon; 2.0	Goregaon; 2.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 18.0	Kandri; 2.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 4 tl.
Gondia; 3.0	Gondia; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Goregaon; 11.0	Chopa; 2.0; Tue.	Mundipar; 8.0	W.	tl; gym; ch.
.. 16.0	Ilda; 5.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; 2 m; dg.
Wadegaon; 7.0	Wadad; 7.0; Sun.	Soni; 2.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Tirora; 6.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
.. 5.0	Tirora; 8.0; Sun.	Tirora; 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; 3 m; dp (vet.).
Bhandara Road; 3.0	Virli; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
.. 9.0	Khadki; 2.0; Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Dewalgaon; 8.0	Baki; 2.0; Fri.	Bondgaon; 2.0	W.	tl.
Bramhapuri; 7.0	Lakhandur; 6.0; ..	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Pauni Road; 15.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; gym dp.
Wadegaon; 15.0	Itan; 1.0; Fri.	.. 2.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; dg.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Mundikota; 4.0	Sarandi; 2.0; Thu.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Wadegaon; 2.0	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; Cch.
Bhandara Road; 49.4	Guradha; 1.0; Wed.	.. 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 45.0	.. 6.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	t.	Sl (pr); tl.
Wadegaon; 2.0	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Wadegaon; 16.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 3 tl; dg; gym.
Bhandara Road; 22.0	Pahela; 5.0; Fri.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Pauni Road; 9.6	Pauni; 2.6; Sat., Tue.	.. 2.0	W; rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 3 tl; m.
Gondia; 2.4	Gondia; 2.4; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; 3 m.
Amgaon; 33.0	Borgaon; 5.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Arjuni; 12.0	Barwha; 1.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; m.
Bhandara Road; 16.4	Manegaon; 3.0; Thu.	Ambadi; 7.4	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road; 8.0	Shahapur; 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl.
Bhandara Road; 20.4	Pahela; 4.4; Fri.	Pahela; 4.4	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Jamakhari—Gda.—जामखारी	SE; ..	1182; 1293; 214; 484	.. ..
Jamakundo—Gda.—जमाकुंडो	SE; 32.0	2623; 851; 219; 355	Darekasa; 0.4
Jamanapur—Skl.—जमनापूर	NE; 30.0	355; 124; 23; 66	Dawaki; 6.0
Jamanapur—Skl.—जमनापूर	N; 1.0	1121; 325; 57; 104	Sakoli; 1.0
Jamani—Bdr.—जमनी	N; 4.0	674; 302; 64; 57	Warthi; 2.0
Jamb—Bdr.—जंब	NW; 18.0	2786; 2718; 608; 908	Local; ..
Jambhadi—Gda.—जंभडी	SE; 16.0	3310; 397; 75; 244	Shenda; 4.0
Jambhadi—Skl.—जंभडी	SE; 34.0	1562; 295; 55; 116	Desaiganj; 7.0
Jambhadi—Skl.—जंभडी	W; 2.0	1298; 1197; 193; 490	Sakoli; 2.0
Jambhadi—Gda.—जंभडी	SE; 27.0	2115; 235; 50; 101	Amgaon 5.0
Jambhalapani—Bdr.—जंभळापानी	NE; 30.0	446; 43; 7; 23	Kh.; 4.0
Jambhali—Skl.—जंभळी	NE; 15.0	3040; 1406; 264; 649	.. 3.0
Jambhali (Gandhari)—Skl.— जंभळी (गंधारी)	SE; 35.0	676; 84; 15; 28	Gothan- gaon; 5.0
Jambhali (Porla)—Skl.—जंभळी (पोर्ला)	SE; 29.0	2584; 102; 18; 45	Dhabete- kari; 2.0
Jambhora—Bdr.—जंभोरा	NE; 23.0	1110; 2260; 466; 889	Palora; 1.0
Jambhurpani—Gda.—जंभूरपाणी	S; 17.0	693; 147; 32; 86	Mundipar; 5.0
Jambhuratola—Gda.—जंभूरटोला	SE; ..	505; 553; 86; 300	.. ..
Ja muniya—Gda.—जमुनीया	W; 17.0	1226; 1055; 233; 424	Berdipar; 1.0
Janava—Skl.—जानवा	S; 8.0	862; 572; 86; 328	Mahagaon; 3.0
Jaratal—Gda.—जरताळ	NW; ..	551; 114; 23; 57	Ratnora; 3.0
Jarughata—Skl.—जरूघाटा	SE; 34.0	226; 46; 7; 26	Gothan- gaon; 4.0
Jawri—Gda.—जवरी	E; ..	1118; 1493; 297; 578	.. ..
Jewanala—Skl.—जेवनाळा	SW; 18.0	917; 1518; 206; 470	Palandur; 3.0
Jhabada—Bdr.—झबाडा	S; 6.4	525; 256; 54; 87	Manegaon; 1.0
Jhadgaon—Skl.—झाडगांव	S; 7.0	2520; 389; 72; 157	Sangadi; 3.0
Jhadutola—Gda.—झाडूटोला	W; 9.0	548; 501; 107; 160	Dawani- wada; 2.0
Jhaliya—Gda.—झालिया	E; 20.0	1589; 1943; 368; 955	Kawara- bandh; 2.0
Jhanjheriya—Bdr.—झंजेरीया	NE; 30.0	946; 12; 2; 2	.. ..
Jhanjya—Gda.—झंज्या	S; 3.0	874; 1061; 206; 371	Mohagaon 2.0
			Bk.;

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
.. ..				
Darekasa; 0.4	Darekasa; 0.4; Fri.	.. 12.0	W.	Cs; tl; ch.
Soundad; 25.0	Deori; 8.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W;rv.	tl; ch.
Soundad; 6.0	Sakoli; 1.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 0.4	W.	tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 12.0	Local; .. 4.0; Thu., Mon.	Local;	rv.	2 Sl (pr, h); 2 Cs; 9 tl; m; lib; 3 dp.
Road;				
Pindkepar; 6.0	Shenda; 4.0; Fri.	.. 16.0	W.	3tl; gym;ch.
.. 17.0	Kurkheda; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	..
Soundad; 8.0	Sakoli; 2.0; Sun.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Salekasa; 5.0	Amgaon 5.0; Mon.	.. ..	rv.	Sl (pr).
	Kh.;			
Mundikota; 7.0	Mundhari 7.0; Tue.	Kardi; 4.0	W.	tl.
	Bk.;			
Gongle; 6.0	Kosam- tondi;	.. 18.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl.
Arjuni; 15.0	Gothan- gaon;	Gothangaon; 5.0	W.	..
Dewalgaon; 7.0	Nawegaon 7.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	Cs (c); tl.
	bandh;			
Koka; 8.0	Palora; 1.0; Sat.	Khadki; 3.0	W.	2Sl(pr,m); Cs; 4 tl.
Pindkepar; 3.0	Pandhari; 2.4; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl(pr);tl.
.. ..				
Kochewahi; 0.6	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	Kochewahi; 0.6	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Arjuni; 7.0	Mahagaon; 2.0; Wed.	.. 8.0	W.	Cs; tl.
Gangajhari; 4.0	Ekodi; .. Thu.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Arjuni; 14.0	Gothan- gaon;	Gothangaon; 4.0	W.	tl.
.. ..				
Arjuni; 20.0	Palandur; 3.0; Sat.	Lakhani; 12.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl.
Bhandara 12.0	Manegaon; 1.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	tl.
Road;				
Gondumri; 6.0	Sangadi; 3.0; Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	S(pr); tl; ch.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Dawani- wada;	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 4.0	Amgaon; 4.0; Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 9 tl.
.. ..				
Hirdamali; 3.0	Goregaon; 3.0; Sat.	Goregaon; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..				

Village Name (1)	Direction ; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Jhankar-Gondi—Skl.—झंकार-गोंदी	SE; 19.0	1838; 22; 3; 12	Chikhali; 7.0
Jharali—Bdr.—झारली	NE; 230	1220; 392; 75; 207	Yerli; 1.0
Jharap—Skl.—झरप	SW; 16.0	654; 656; 126; 209	Murmadi; 2.0
Jharapada—Skl.—झरपडा	S; 22.0	995; 1180; 177; 461	Local; ..
Jhari—Skl.—झरी	S; 27.0	448; 98; 16; 46	Pardi; 1.4
Jhilamili—Gda.—झिलमीली	NE; 13.0	2465; 1051; 194; 531	Kamtha; 1.0
Jhunjharitola—Skl.—झुंझरीटोला	NE; 34.0	1969; 57; 13; 35	Lohara; 4.0
Jogikheda—Bdr.—जोगीखेडा	SW; 33.0	308; 3; 2; 2	Pauni; 1.0
Junevani—Gda.—जुनेवानी	SW; 18.0	1518; 142; 29; 39	Dandegaon; 5.0
Junevari (Raiyyavarari)—Skl.— जुनेवानी (रैयतवारी)	SE; 34.0	477; 97; 19; 59	Desaiganj; 17.0
Junona—Bdr.—जुनोना	S; 28.0	1053; 872; 182; 483	Walani; 2.0
Kadholi—Skl.—कढोली	SE; 33.0	325; 96; 1; 56	Gothan- gaon; 3.0
Kadhotitola—Gda.—कढोतीटोला	SE; 26.0	1859; 722; 124; 358	Sakhari- tola; 2.0
Kadikasa—Skl.—कडीकसा	SE; 46.0	4708; 669; 128; 322	Local; ..
Kahali—Gda.—काहली	SE; 28.0	1475; 1051; 216; 325	Salekasa; 3.0
Kakepar—Bdr.—ककेपार	SW; 38.0	507; 351; 61; 190	Bhuyar; 3.0
Kalachuva—Skl.—कलचुवा	E; 28.0	301; 64; 13; 23	Borgaor; 2.0
Kalamana—Bdr.—कलमना	N; 12.4	578; 301; 65; 79	Mohadi; 0.1
Kalapathari—Gda.—कलपाथरी	S; 5.4	1198; 943; 166; 505	..
Kalimati—Gda.—कालीमाटी	S; ..	1583; 2222; 441; 1096	..
Kalimati—Gda.—कालीमाटी	SE; 18.0	1943; 1888; 385; 907	Tigaon; 2.0
Kalimati—Skl.—कालीमाटी	SE; ..	1552; 21; 6; 10	..
Kamakajhari—Bdr.—कमकाझरी	SE; 14.0	509; 114; 23; 45	Pahela; 5.0
Kamakasur—Bdr.—कमकासूर	NW; 34.0	216; 153; 29; 72	Gobarwahi; 20.0
Kamaragaon—Gda.—कमरगांव	S; 12.0	1359; 1511; 280; 756	Mundipar; 2.0
Kamatha—Gda.—कामठा	NE; 12.0	2482; 3031; 561; 1247	Local; ..
Kandri—Bdr.—कांद्री	NW; 24.0	2845; 2878; 446; 921	Local; ..
Kaneri—Skl.—कणेरी	SE; 30.0	728; 594; 108; 185	Local; ..
Kaneri—Skl.—कणेरी	SW; 15.0	2096; 2056; 398; 455	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gond Umri; 8.0	Gond 8.0; Tue. Umari;	Kohamara; ..	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Tumsar; 3.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 3.0	W;n.	tl.
Arjuni; 16.0	Murmadi; 2.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; dg.
Arjuni; 4.0	Arjuni; 4.0; Sat.	Zarpada; 4.0	n.	Sl (pr); tl; 3 ch; lib.
Arjuni; 10.0	Barwaha; 4.0; Mon.	Barwaha; 4.0	W.	tl.
Gondia; 13.0	Kamtha; .. Fri.	Kamtha; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 5 tl.
Amgaon; 25.0	Deori; 5.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	tl.
Bhiwapur; 1.0	Bhiwapur; 1.0; Fri.	.. 1.0	t.	2 tl.
Gangajhari; 6.0	Dande- gaon; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	4 tl.
Warsa; ..	Kurkheda; 6.0; Sat.	.. 8.0	W.	..
Pauni Road; 10.0	Pauni; 3.0; Sat. & Tue.	.. 2.0	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl.
Arjuni; 11.0	Gothan- gaon; 3.0; Sun.	.. 8.0	W.	tl; dh.
Amgaon; 10.0	Sakhari- tola; 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	t.	2 tl.
Amgaon; 44.0	.. 6.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Salekasa; 3.0	Salekasa; 3.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (2 pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Bhuyar; 3.0	Bhuyar; 3.0; Wed.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr.); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 27.0	Deori; 4.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	t.	tl; ch.
Bhandara Road; 6.0	Mohadi; 1.0; Thu.	.. ..	W;n.	tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. 3.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2tl.
.. ..			..	..
Amgaon; 7.0	Local; .. Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Bhandara Road; 20.0	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Pahela; 5.0	W.	tl; ch.
Dongri Bk.; 14.0	Dongri 14.0; Mon. Bk.;	Lendezari; 8.0	W.	tl; ch.
.. 5.0	Goregaon; 5.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gondia; 12.0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 5 tl; 4 m; mq; dp.
Tumsar; 16.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); pyt; 5 tl; mq; 4dp.
Arjuni; 12.0	Local; .. Mon.	Gothan- gaon; ..	W.	Cs; m; mq; ch; lib; dp.
Sondad; 21.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 4 tl; 2 m; dg; ch; lib; dp.

Village Name	Direction; Travelling distance	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists	Post Office; Distance
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Kaneri—Skl.—कणेरी	SE; 12.0	1844; 731; 141; 342	Gond- umri; 2.0
Kanhadagaon—Bdr.—कन्हाडगांव	S; 34.0	1304; 1077; 227; 625	Pauni; 7.0
Kanhadagaon—Bdr.—कन्हाडगांव	N; 15.0	2252; 1538; 305; 637	Local; ..
Kanhadagaon—Bdr.—कन्हाडगांव	NE; 20.0	774; 720; 145; 253	Mundhari Bk.; 1.0
Kanhadamole—Bdr.—कन्हाडमोह	SE; 9.0	501; 50; 11; 10	Dhargao; 3.0
Kanhalagaon—Skl.—कन्हाळगांव	S; ..	1420; 808; 187; 526	.. ..
Kanhalagaon—Skl.—कन्हाळगांव	S; 27.0	691; 260; 51; 111	Wadegaon; 1.0
Kanhalagaon—Skl.—कन्हाळगांव	E; 29.0	1100; 622; 101; 291	Deori; 3.0
Kanhalagaon—Skl.—कन्हाळगांव	SE; 37.0	846; 528; 97; 269	Desaigarj; 18.0
Kanhalagaon—Skl.—कन्हाळगांव	SW; 18.0	779; 887; 170; 290	Murmadi; 2.0
Kanharapayali—Skl.—कन्हारपायली	NE; 23.0	1722; 806; 142; 467	Shenda; 2.0
Kanharatola—Gda.—कन्हारटोला	N; 6.0	369; 428; 93; 197	.. ..
Kanharatola (Chopa)—Gda.— कन्हारटोला (चोपा)	SE; 18.0	161; 89; 15; 33	Chopa; 0.2
Kanharatola (Chango)—Gda.— कन्हारटोला (चांगो)	SE; 19.0	155; 230; 42; 104	Chopa; 0.4
Kanholi—Skl.—कान्होली	SE; 26.0	832; 419; 72; 138	Dhabete- kari; 4.0
Karachakheda—Bdr.—करचखेडा	E; 3.0	518; 1057; 209; 282	Kardha; 1.4
Karadagaon—Skl.—करडगांव	S; 22.4	1214; 100; 19; 29	Zarpada; 1.4
Karadi—Bdr.—करडी	NE; 26.0	2907; 3970; 841; 1185	Local; ..
Karakapur—Bdr.—करकापूर	NE; 30.0	928; 819; 168; 388	Tumsar; 7.0
Karali—Bdr.—कारली	N; 33.0	821; 273; 55; 170	 3.0
Karandala—Skl.—करांडला	SW; 24.0	1306; 705; 132; 275	Wirli Bk.; 2.0
Karandali—Skl.—करांडली	SE; 36.0	595; 582; 102; 204	Kesori; 13.0
Karanja—Gda.—कारंजा	S; 3.0	1922; 2707; 549; 1051	Local; ..
Karanji—Gda.—करंजी	NE; ..	1574; 1723; 341; 762	.. ..
Karati Bk.—Gda.—करटी बु.	W; 20.0	1802; 2439; 505; 710	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day	Motor Stand; Distance	Water	Institutions and other information
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Gondumri; 2.0	Gondumri 2.0; Tue.	Saundad; 4.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 4 tl.
.. 6.0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 7.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; dp.
Bhandara 10.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl.
Road; 3.0	Mundhari 1.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; m.
Koka; 3.0	Bk.; ..	Local; ..	W.	2 tl.
Bhandara 19.0	Dhargao; 3.0; Mon.	Local; ..	..	..
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Wadegaon; 0.4	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 26.0	Deori; 3.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	t.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; 3 m; ch.
Warsa; 18.0	Kurkheda; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Arjuni; 18.0	Murmadi; 2.0; Tue.	Pimpal- gaon; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; dg; gym.
Sondad; 18.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 9.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Gondia; 6.0	Pandhara- bodi; Sat.	.. ..	W.	2 tl.
.. 10.0	Chopa; 0.2; Tue.	Mundipar; 8.0	W.	3 tl; gym.
.. 10.0	Chopa; 0.4; Tue.	Mundipar; 7.0	W.	2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Nawegaon; 4.0; Thu.	.. 1.0	W.	Cs (c); tl; Cch.
Bhandara 10.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun.	.. ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (mp); 2 tl.
Road; 5.0	Arjuni; 5.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 5.0	W.	tl; ch.
Arjuni; 7.0	Mundhari 3.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); 3 Cs (mp); 3 tl; mq; dg; 2 gym; 2 dp.
Dewhadi; 4.0	Bk.; ..	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 4.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. 4.0	Bagheda; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Wadegaon; 14.0	Itan; 2.0; Fri.	Gothan- gaon; ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; dg; ch.
Arjuni; 15.0	Kesori; 3.0; Mon.	Gondia; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 4 tl; gym; ch.
Gondia; 3.0	Gondia; 3.0; Tue.	.. ..	..	..
.. ..	.. ..	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs (c); tl; ch; lib; dp.
Tirora; 5.0	Indora 1.2; Sat.	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Karati Kh.—Gda.—करटी खु.	W; 22.0	1488; 1016; 204; 313	Karti Bk.; 2.0
Kardha—Bdr.—कार्धा	SE; 2.0	286; 1523; 228; 242	Local; ..
Karutola—Gda.—कारुटोला	W; 10.0	298; 472; 88; 158	Dawari- wada; 2.0
Kasa—Gda.—कासा	N; 12.0	1923; 1499; 30; 605	Kati; 2.0
Kasari—Skl.—कसारी	SE; ..	1351; 905; 3; 365	.. ..
Katangadhara—Skl.—कटंगधरा	S; 8.0	663; 539; 96; 295	.. ..
Katangtola—Gda.—कटंगटोला	SE; 26.0	529; 214; 34; 87	Anjora; 5.0
Katangi—Gda.—कटंगी	S; 10.0	2107; 1968; 404; 977	.. 3.0
Katangikala (1)—Gda.—कटंगीकला (१)	N; 2.0	1832; 3549; 690; 1047	Local; ..
Katangikala (2) included in urban area 1—Gda.—कटंगीकला (२) नागरी विभाग १ मध्ये समाविष्ट	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Kate Bahmani—Bdr.—काटे बाहणी	N; 22.0	1122; 625; 13; 201	.. ..
Kati—Bdr.—काटी	NW; 21.0	1370; 499; 71; 254	Andhal- gaon; 3.0
Kati—Gda.—काटी	N; 11.0	2702; 4572; 822; 1035	Local; ..
Kattipar—Gda.—कट्टीपार	E; ..	1021; 3228; 287; 926	.. ..
Katurli—Bdr.—कातुर्ली	SE; 20.0	1711; 940; 199; 447	Virli; 2.0
Katurli—Gda.—कातुर्ली	E; ..	970; 1776; 343; 484	.. ..
Kavadasi—Bdr.—कवडसी	SW; 32.0	379; 121; 26; 47	Pauni; 6.0
Kavadasi—Bdr.—कवडसी	SW; 6.0	1304; 999; 211; 319	Shahapur; 4.0
Kavadasi—Skl.—कवडसी	SW; 29.0	336; 232; 37; 81	.. ..
Kavadi—Gda.—कवडी	SE; 26.0	1427; 1105; 250; 532	Anjora; 4.0
Kavalevada—Gda.—कवलेवाडा	S; 6.0	1995; 2658; 453; 983	Local; ..
Kavalevada—Gda.—कवलेवाडा	W; 22.0	3446; 3999; 756; 1421	Local; ..
Kavalevada—Bdr.—कवलेवाडा	NE; 26.0	610; 1327; 243; 451	Local; ..
Kavalevada—Bdr.—कवलेवाडा	SE; 13.0	1222; 673; 112; 281	Pahela; 4.0
Kavalevada—Bdr.—कवलेवाडा	E; 9.0	687; 768; 147; 262	Amgaon; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Tirora; 7.0	Indora 3.0; Sat. Bk;	.. 2.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Bhandara 9.0	Bhandara; 2.0; Sun; Road; Wed.	Stage; ..	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, h); Cs; 2 tl; mq.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Dawani- wada; 2.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Birsola; 2.0	Kati; 2.0; Sun.	Kati; 2.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); 3 tl.
.. ..			..	..
Dewalgaon; ..	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl.
Amgaon; 9.0	Sakharitola 5.0; Wed.	Amgaon; 5.0	W.	tl.
Hirdamali; 3.0	Goregaon; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; dp.
Gondia; 2.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl; mq; gym; lib.
.. ..			..	..
Tumsar; 5.0	Usarra; 2.0; Mon.	Khapa; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Khat; 9.0	Andhal- gaon; 3.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 8 tl; mq; dh; gym; ch; lib; dp.
.. ..			..	..
Bhandara 39.0	Adyar; 7.0; Sun.	Adyar; 7.0	W.	Cs; tl; ch.
.. ..			..	..
Bhiwapur; 6.0	Pauni; 6.0; Sat. and Tue.	.. 6.0	W.	tl.
Khat; 9.0	Shahapur; 4.0; Tue.	Shahapur; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 22.0	Palandur; 2.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 10.0	Sakhari- tola; 3.0; Wed.	Satgaon; 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl.
Gankhera; 2.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 5 tl; m gym; ch; lib; dp.
Tirora; 2.0	Tirora; 3.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl.
Gobarwahi; 2.0	Chikhala; 2.0; Fri.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl.
Bhandara 16.0	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Adyar; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; ch.
Road; ..	Bhandara; 9.0; Sun. Wed.	Singori; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; gym.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Kavalevada—Skl.—कवळेवाडा ..	SE; 30.0	504; 355; 65; 140	Chichgad; 4.0
Kavalevada—Skl.—कवळेवाडा ..	SE; 16.0	6518; 319; 65; 161	Chikhali; 5.0
Kavalevada—Skl.—कवळेवाडा ..	SW; 20.0	210; 341; 73; 80	.. 1.0
Kavarabardi—Gda.—कावराबांध ..	E; 22.0	1896; 2349; 440; 857	Local; ..
Kavatha—Skl.—कवठा ..	SE; 24.0	1151; 320; 61; 147	Barabhati; 4.0
Keslapuri—Bdr.—केसळपुरी ..	SE; 19.0	570; 116; 20; 62	Adyar; 3.0
Kesalavada—Bdr.—केसळवाडा ..	SE; 20.0	465; 691; 124; 256	Virli; 3.0
Kesalavada—Bdr.—केसळवाडा ..	NE; 12.0	1394; 584; 119; 298	Palora; 1.0
Kesalavada—Bdr.—केसळवाडा ..	N; 1.0	1035; 152; 28; 71	Bhandara; 1.0
Kesalavada—Gda.—केसळवाडा ..	SW; 30.0	1225; 1596; 327; 577	Local; ..
Kesalavada—Skl.—केसळवाडा ..	E; 13.0	841; 284; 46; 115	Sadak- Arjuni; 1.0
Kesalavada—Skl.—केसळवाडा ..	W; 14.0	1934; 2818; 556; 1035	Local; ..
Kesalavada—Skl.—केसळवाडा ..	NW; 12.0	967; 756; 142; 256	Salebhata; 2.0
Kesalavada—Skl.—केसळवाडा ..	SW; 23.0	704; 427; 87; 178	Guradha; 1.0
Kesalavada—Skl.—केसळवाडा ..	S; 8.0	1306; 227; 47; 139	Bhiokhidki; 2.0
Kelavada—Skl.—केळवडा ..	SE; 30.0	647; 86; 18; 32	Kesori; 2.0
Kesori—Skl.—केसोरी ..	SE; 35.0	535; 498; 87; 296	Nilaj; 1.0
Kesori—Skl.—केसोरी ..	SE; 30.0	1006; 1504; 271; 672	Local; ..
Khadaki—Bdr.—खडकी ..	NE; 10.0	782; 1158; 239; 319	Palora; 1.0
Khadaki—Gda.—खडकी ..	SW; 25.0	735; 753; 140; 326	Munegaon; 3.0
Khadaki—Skl.—खडकी ..	E; 19.0	4185; 860; 80; 448	Khurshipar; 4.0
Khadaki (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.— खडकी (रय्यतवारी) ..	SE; 40.0	605; 139; 23; 76	Desaigarj; 21.0
Khadipar—Gda.—खाडीपार ..	SW; 12.0	875; 999; 204; 491	Kurhadi; 1.0
Khadipar—Skl.—खाडीपार ..	NE; 20.0	1151; 1030; 205; 565	Pandhari; 2.0
Khairabodi (I)—Gda.—खैरबोडी ..	W; 19.0	1584; 1403; 295; 626	Tirora; 1.4

(9)

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Sondad; 28.0	Pindake- 1.0; Wed. par;	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Gondumri; 5.0	Gondumri; 5.0; Mon.	Kohamara; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 16.0	Palandur; 1.0; Sat.	Palandur; ..	W.	m.
Amgaon; 6.0	.. ..	.. 6.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 8 tl; lib; dp.
Barabhati; 4.0	Navegaon; 5.0; Thu.	Navegaon; 5.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 26.0	Adyar; 3.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W.	tl; ch.
Bhandara 26.0	Adyar; 3.4; Sun.	Adyar; 3.4	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Koka; 4.0	Palora; 1.0; Sat.	Khadki; 2.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 6.0	Bhandara; 1.0; Sun., Wed. and Fri.	Bhandara; 1.0	W.	tl.
Mundikota; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; gym.
Sondad; 6.0	Sadak- 1.0; Sat. Arjuni;	Sadak- 1.0 Arjuni;	W;rv.	2 tl.
Sondad; 18.0	Lakhani; 3.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; 2 dg; gym; ch.
Sondad; 22.0	Lakhani; 6.0; Tue.	Lakhani; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 23.0	Guradha; 1.0; Wed.	Guradha; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 8.0	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	Siregaon; 1.0	W.	tl.
Arjuni; 12.0	Kesori; 2.0; Mon.	Gothan- gaon;	9.0 W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Sondad; 3.0	Chichgad; 4.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Arjuni; 12.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl.
Koka; 3.0	Palora; 1.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 10.0	.. 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; 2 m.
Sondad; 14.0	Sadak- 6.0; Sat. Arjuni;	.. 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Warsa; 21.0	Kurkhedi; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	..
Hirdamali; 6.0	Kurhedi; 1.0; Sun.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Pandhari; 2.0	Pandhari; 2.0; Mon.	Patekhurra; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 2.0	Tirora; 2.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; gym.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Khairabodi (2) included in urban area II—Gda.—खैरबोडी (२) नागरी विभाग (२) मध्ये समाविष्ट	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Khairalarji—Bdr.—खैरलोजी	NW; 21.0	921; 460; 90; 195	Jamb; 2.0
Khairalarji—Bdr.—खैरलोजी	NE; 24.0	687; 413; 80; 93	Tumsar; 4.0
Khairalarji—Gda.—खैरलोजी	NW; 22.0	1233; 803; 160; 310	Paraswada; 1.4
Khairalarji—Skl.—खैरलोजी	N; 2.0	655; 175; 32; 61	Sakoli; 2.0
Khairana—Skl.—खैरना	SW; ..	915; 793; 143; 435	Moharana; 1.0
Khairi—Bdr.—खैरी	SW; 6.0	707; 391; 67; 170	Pipari; 3.0
Khairi—Bdr.—खैरी	SE; 15.0	813; 157; 26; 80	Pahela; 5.0
Khairi—Bdr.—खैरी	NE; 9.0	860; 758; 136; 275	Kothurna; 1.0
Khairi—Gda.—खैरी	SW; 30.0	841; 526; 120; 139	Nawezari; 2.0
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	SW; 34.0	1387; 994; 191; 470	Kudegaon; 5.0
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	SW; 29.0	1003; 525; 101; 277	Musal; 2.0
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	N; 3.0	757; 304; 51; 171	Amgaon 2.0
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	SW; 18.0	468; 63; 13; 26	Bk.; Palandur; 1.0
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	SE; 24.0	1597; 216; 36; 71	Barabhati; 1.4
Khairi—Skl.—खैरी	W; 7.0	641; 515; 104; 211	Pimpalgaon; 1.0
Khairi Divan—Bdr.—खैरी दिवाण	S; 30.0	1432; 1025; 206; 393	Asgaon; 2.0
Khairi Telota—Bdr.—खैरी तेलोता	SE; 22.0	523; 337; 55; 156	Pimpalgaon; 2.0
Khajari—Skl.—खजरी	NE; 14.0	2039; 1001; 188; 506	Local; ..
Khakasi—Bdr.—खाकसी	S; 31.0	858; 37; 5; 18	Pauni; 4.0
Khalabanda—Gda.—खलबंदा	W; 10.0	1157; 793; 181; 246	Dawani- wada; 2.0
Khamakhura—Skl.—खामखुरा	S; 22.0	1536; 1242; 199; 530	Itakheda; 1.0
Khamakhura—Skl.—खामखुरा	SE; 35.0	766; 348; 61; 192	Nilaj; 2.0
Khamari—Bdr.—खमारी	NE; 4.0	864; 1780; 241; 382	Matora; 2.0
Khamari—Gda.—खमारी	E; 3.4	2587; 4750; 923; 1739	Local; ..
Khamari—Gda.—खमारी	SW; 22.0	629; 841; 155; 373	Chikhali; 2.0
Khamari Bk.—Bdr.—खमारी बु.	NW; 13.0	585; 1384; 256; 505	Warthi; 4.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
.. ..				
Khat; 10.0	Jamb; 2.0; Mon.	.. 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Tumsar; 4.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	.. 0.1	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 10.0	Arjuni; 1.0; Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 10.0	Sakoli; 2.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 2.0	W.	..
Bramhapuri; 6.0	Lakhandur; 6.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 14.0	Shahapur; 6.0; Tue.	Shaha- pur; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; gym.
Road;	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Adyar; 4.0	W.	tl; ch.
Bhandara 21.0	Warthi; 4.0; Fri.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Koka; 1.0	Mundhari; 5.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Tirora; ..	Lakhan- 3.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Bramhapuri; 8.0	dur;	.. ..	..	..
Pauni Road; 17.0	Navegaon; 4.0; Thu.	.. 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Sondad; 10.0	Sakoli; 3.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 16.0	Palandur; 1.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	..
Barabhati; 1.4	.. ..	Arjuni; 4.0	W.	..
Sondad; 12.0	Lakhani; 5.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	tl; dg.
Pauni Road; 12.6	Local; .. Mon.	Sindpur; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 4 tl.
Pauni Road; 17.0	Nawe- 1.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	tl.
.. ..	gaon;	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; gym.
.. ..	4.0; Sat.	.. ..	rv.	tl.
Pauni Road; 12.0	Pauni; 4.0; Tue., Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; 2 gym.
Gargajhari; 2.4	Dawani- 2.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.
Wadegaon; 3.0	Mahagaon; 2.0; Wed.	Arjuni; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Sondad; 34.0	Chichgad; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W;t.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bhandara 7.0	Local; .. Tue.	Bhandara; 4.0	W;rv.	..
Road;	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 3 Cs
Gondia; 3.4	Local; ..	Local; ..	W.	Dattajayanti Fr.; 5 tl;
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	2 gym; lib;
Tirora; 6.0	Tirora; 6.0; Sun.	Tirora; 6.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; m
Bhandara 4.0	Warthi; 4.0; Thu.	Warthi; 4.0	W;rv.	Sl(m); Cs; tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling Distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Khamatalav—Skl.—खामतलाव	NE; 36.0	2140; 80; 12; 48	Lohara; 3.0
Khamba—Skl.—खांबा	NE; 9.0	1825; 900; 166; 399	Kinhi; 2.0
Khambadi—Bdr.—खंबाडी	SE; 20.0	906; 589; 116; 264	Pimpalgaon; 2.0
Khambi—Skl.—खांबी	S; 16.0	1259; 867; 177; 495	Bondgaon; 2.0
Khandal—Bdr.—खंडाळ	NE; 32.0	540; 380; 76; 238	Gobarwahi; 0.9
Khandala—Skl.—खंडाळा	S; 6.0	1163; 1217; 232; 323	Local; ..
Khapa—Bdr.—खापा	S; 7.0	456; 185; 38; 70	Dawadipar; 1.4
Khapa—Bdr.—खापा	S; 4.0	144; 179; 29; 93	Silli; 2.0
Khapa—Bdr.—खापा	NW; 32.0	474; 185; 38; 91	Gobarwahi; 17.0
Khapa—Bdr.—खापा	N; 20.0	1269; 1253; 244; 433	Local; ..
Khapari—Bdr.—खापरी	SW; 36.0	323; 194; 33; 100	Bhuyar; 1.0
Khapari—Bdr.—खापरी	SW; 35.0	1615; 620; 123; 261	Pauni; 9.0
Khapari—Bdr.—खापरी	S; 19.0	442; 151; 26; 71	Chichal; 2.0
Kharabi—Bdr.—खरबी	W; ..	1531; 1232; 123; 334	.. ..
Kharabi—Bdr.—खरबी	N; 16.0	1607; 1171; 202; 437	Dongar- gaon; 3.0
Kharadi—Bdr.—खरडी	W; ..	903; 362; 69; 157	.. ..
Kharra—Gda.—खर्रा	W; 6.0	3116; 784; 159; 333	Gangazari; 4.0
Khatakheda—Bdr.—खातखेडा	SE; 36.0	1001; 551; 95; 279	.. ..
Khatitola—Gda.—खातीटोला	W; 9.0	748; 547; 115; 194	Dawani- wada; 2.0
Khatiya—Gda.—खातीया	NE; 10.0	1443; 2240; 498; 761	Rawanwadi; 2.0
Khedepar—Gda.—खेडेपार	SW; 38.0	668; 448; 96; 184	Nawezari; 1.0
Khedepar—Gda.—खेडेपार	E; 28.0	1410; 1011; 216; 406	Sonpuri; 4.0
Khedepar—Skl.—खेडेपार	W; 14.0	965; 555; 111; 203	Rengepar; 1.0
Khoba—Skl.—खोबा	SE; 13.4	1264; 699; 142; 370	Nawegaon; 6.0
Khodagaon—Bdr.—खोडगांव	N; 10.0	452; 27; 4; 12	Tumsar; 8.0
Khodagaon—Gda.—खोडगांव	SW; 21.0	397; 459; 98; 203	Lakhegaon; 2.0
Khodashivani—Skl.—खोडशिवनी	NE; 10.0	1292; 1865; 333; 907	Local; ..

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Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Amgaon; 18.0	Sawali; 4.0; ..	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Khodshioni; 6.0	Sakoli; 9.0; Sun.	.. 9.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Pauni Road; 19.0	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Adyar; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Barabhati; 3.0	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	Bondgaon; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gobarwahi; 6.0	Sitasa- wangi; 4.0; ..	Gobarwahi; 6.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
.. ..	Sakoli; 6.0; Sun.	.. 6.0	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; tl.
Bhandara 13.0	Dawadi- par; 1.4; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	tl.
Road; ..	Bhandara; 4.0; Sun., Wed.	Bhandara; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; gym.
Bhandara 11.0	Dongri 11.0; Mon.	Lendezari; 8.0	W.	tl.
Dongri Bk.; ..	Tumsar; 3.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 Cs; 3 tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Bhuyar; 1.0; Wed.	.. 1.0	W.	tl.
Bhuyar; 1.0	Pauni; 9.0; Tue. and Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; lib; dp.
Bhiwapur; 10.0	Adyar; 3.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W;n.	..
Bhandara 25.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Road; ..	Andhal- gaon; 5.0; Wed.	Stage; ..	W;n.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; lib.
Tumsar; 8.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr).
.. ..	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Gangajhari; 4.0	Brahma- puri; 8.0; ..	Pauni; 12.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (mp); tl.
Brahmapuri; 8.0	Dawani- wada; 2.0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	tl.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); 6 tl; 4 m; gym; ch.
Garra; 4.0	Mundhari; 5.0; Tue.	Karadi; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Tirora; 17.0	Pathari; 2.0; Sat.	.. 12.0	W.	SI (pr); 4 tl.
Salekasa; 8.0	Lakhani; 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl; ch.
Sondad; 20.0	Gond- umri; 4.0; Mon.	Soundad; 8.0	W;t.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Gondumri; 4.0	Warthi; 7.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 7.0	Wadegaon; 6.0; Wed.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; gym.
Road; ..	.. 6.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W;t.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl; 2 m; 2 gym; ch.
Tirora; 7.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Local; 1.4	.. ..	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Khokari—Skl.—खोकरी	SE; 37.0	814; 176; 28; 108	Kesori; 4.0
Khokaridhorap—Bdr.—खोकरीदोरप	S; 34.0	530; 328; 71; 186	Sawarla; 4.0
Khokarla—Bdr.—खोकर्ला	W; 2.0	843; 393; 70; 127	.. ..
Kholada—Skl.—खोळदा	SE; 31.0	795; 66; 8; 24	 1.0
Kholagadh—Gda.—खोलगढ	SE; 25.0	865; 780; 154; 346	Salekasa; 4.0
Kholamara—Skl.—खोळमारा	SW; 25.0	682; 376; 51; 110	Barwha; 4.0
Kholi—Skl.—खोली	SE; 22.0	385; 88; 20; 35	Nawegaon; 2.0
Khopada—Gda.—खोपडा	SW; 28.0	671; 482; 110; 161	Gangla; 2.0
Khunari—Skl.—खुनारी	SW; 16.0	1010; 854; 171; 349	Palandar; 4.0
Khurakudi—Gda.—खुरकुडी	SW; 17.0	675; 902; 186; 174	Sarandi; 2.0
Khurasi—Skl.—खुरासी	SW; 18.0	1393; 1111; 237; 495	Palandur; 3.0
Khursipar—Bdr.—खुर्सीपार	NW; 5.0	1118; 378; 59; 100	Bhandara; 5.0
Khursipar—Bdr.—खुर्सीपार	SE; 9.0	866; 857; 167; 225	Gunthara; 3.0
Khursipar—Gda.—खुर्सीपार	SW; 35.0	789; 535; 109; 220	Sukdi; 3.0
Khurshipar—Gda.—खुरशीपार	SE; 10.0	1622; 1763; 346; 756	Chirchal bandh; 2.0
Khurshipar—Skl.—खुरशीपार	E; 20.0	2173; 253; 45; 132	Local; ..
Khurshipar—Skl.—खुरशीपार	SW; 15.0	425; 166; 38; 73	Kaneri; 2.0
Khurshipar—Skl.—खुरशीपार	NW; 12.0	394; 64; 9; 31	Salebhataa; 7.0
Khutasavari—Bdr.—खुटसावरी	N; 11.0	1003; 782; 145; 258	Kanhadgaon; 3.0
Kikaripar—Gda.—किकरीपार	E; ..	1942; 1911; 373; 767	.. ..
Kindagipar—Gda.—किडगीपार	NW; 22.0	390; 424; 76; 117	Paraswada; 2.0
Kindagipar—Gda.—किडगीपार	E; ..	880; 936; 171; 501	.. ..
Kindagipar—Gda.—किडगीपार	W; 11.0	1556; 558; 108; 209	Gangazari; 3.0
Kinhala—Skl.—किन्हाळा	S; ..	612; 364; 75; 105	.. ..
Kinhi—Gda.—किन्ही	NW; 12.0	1940; 1445; 422; 391	Dasgaon Bk.; 2.0
Kinhi—Skl.—किन्ही	SW; 24.0	702; 443; 87; 251	Sarandi Bk.; 1.0
Kinhi—Skl.—किन्ही	NE; 10.0	1289; 1498; 304; 503	Local; ..
Kinhi—Skl.—किन्ही	W; 16.0	981; 542; 107; 214	Regepar; 3.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Arjuni; 14.0	Kesori; 4.0; Mon.	Gothan- gaon; 7.0	W.	2 tl; dg; ch.
Pauni Road; 15.0	Pabarani; 6.0; ..	Kanpa; 6.0	n.	tl.
Bhandara 8.0	Bhandara; 2.0; Sun., Wed., Fri.	Bhandara; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
.. 8.0	 Wed.	.. 8.0	rv.	..
Salekasa; 4.0	Salekasa; 4.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 16.0	Barwha; 4.0; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Dewalgaon; 2.0	Nawegaon; 2.0; Thu.	Nawegaon; 2.0	W.	2 tl.
Mundikota; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 18.0	Palandur; 4.0; Sat.	Dighori; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Mundikota; 8.0	Sarandi; 2.0; Thu.	Sarandi; 2.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; mq; dg.
Arjuni; 18.0	Palandur; 4.0; Sat.	Dighori; 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Bhandara 6.0	Bhandara; 5.0; Sun., Wed. and Fri.	Bhandara; 5.0	W.	2 tl; dp.
Bhandara 13.0	Dhargao; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Tirora; 10.0	Sukdi; 3.0; Fri.	Tirora; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Gudama; 3.0	Amgaon; .. Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Sondad; 15.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 7.0; Sat.	Local; 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 21.0	Pohara; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Sondad; 22.2	Lakhani; 7.0; Wed.	.. 7.4	W.	..
Bhandara 5.0	Kanhad- gaon 3.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
.. ..			..	..
Tirora; 10.0	Murdada; 3.0; Wed.	Gond- mohali; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); ch.
.. ..			..	..
Gangajhari; 3.0	Gondia; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..			..	..
Birsola; 7.0	Dasgaon 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); 4 tl; dg; gym.
Wadegaon; 14.0	Bk.; Barwha; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 6.0	Sakoli; 10.0; Sun.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; lib.
Sondad; 22.0	Lakhani; 3.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (s); 2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Kinhi—Skl.—किन्ही	.. NW; 7.0	1922; 1972; 385; 1082	.. ..
Kiramati—Skl.—किरमटी	.. SW; 24.0	784; 858; 154; 416	Kudegaon; 2.0
Kisanpur—Bdr.—किसनपूर	.. NE; 25.0	663; 210; 43; 104	Kardi; 4.0
Kitadi—Bdr.—किटाडी	.. NE; 6.0	143; 74; 14; 39	Matora; 4.0
Kitadi—Skl.—किटाडी	.. SW; 20.0	2216; 2027; 404; 536	Local; ..
Kitadi—Skl.—किटाडी	.. SW; 6.0	521; 102; 25; 38	Pimpalgaon; 5.0
Kochchi—Skl.—कोच्ची	.. SW; 25.0	669; 741; 125; 381	Barwha; 3.0
Kochevahi—Gda.—कोचेवाही	.. W; 16.0	1769; 1304; 278; 500	Local; ..
Kochevahi—Gda.—कोचेवाही	.. NE; 12.0	1650; 1607; 85; 595	Banathar; 0.4
Kodamendi—Skl.—कोदामेंडी	.. S; 24.0	413; 42; 8; 20	Barwha; 1.4
Kodamendi—Skl.—कोदामेंडी	.. E; 15.0	1041; 678; 127; 347	Sadak- Arjuni; 2.0
Kodamendi (Raiyyatwari)—Skl.— कोदामेंडी (रैयतवारी)	SW; ..	543; 3; 1; 3	.. ..
Kodelohara—Gda.—कोडेलोहारा	.. SW; 39.0	1074; 1440; 291; 467	Wadegaon; 4.0
Kodobarra—Gda.—कोडोवरा	.. SW; 21.0	835; 267; 42; 74	Sukdi; 5.0
Kodurli—Bdr.—कोदुर्ली	.. SE; 38.0	1166; 1430; 290; 477	Walani; 3.0
Kodurli—Bdr.—कोदुर्ली	.. SE; 21.0	208; 204; 38; 89	Pimpalgaon; 3.0
Kohaka—Gda.—कोहका	.. NW; 10.0	1237; 613; 120; 281	Dawani- wada; 4.0
Kohalagaon—Skl.—कोहळगांव	.. SE; 25.0	1038; 730; 137; 356	Dhabete- kari; 2.0
Kohalipar—Skl.—कोहळीपार	.. NE; 21.0	2092; 107; 21; 60	Shenda; 3.0
Kohamara—Skl.—कोहमारा	.. E; 10.0	6531; 748; 161; 212	.. ..
Koka—Bdr.—कोका	.. NE; 16.0	1336; 1593; 308; 632	Local; ..
Kokana—Skl.—कोकना	.. SE; 12.0	2307; 819; 159; 391	Nawegaon 7.0
Kokanagad—Bdr.—कोकनागड	.. SE; 6.0	660; 396; 77; 113	bandh; Dhargao; 1.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Sondad; 12.0	Bampe- wada; 2.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (fmg); 6 tl; m; 4 mg.
Bramhapuri; 8.0	Lakhan- dur; 6.0; Tue.	Lakhandur; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar Road; 10.0	Mundhari Bk.; 6.0; Tue.	Kardi; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Bhandara Road; 6.0	Bhandara; 8.0; Sun. Wed. and Fri.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Pauni Road; 20.0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; 4 Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch; 3 dp.
Warsa; 40.0	Sakoli; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	ch. ..
Arjuni; 2.0	Barwha; 3.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W,rv.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Local; ..	Tirora; 5.0; Sun.	Tirora; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Birsola; 5.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. 0.2	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; lib.
Arjuni; 14.0	Barwha; 1.4; Mon.	Barwha; 1.4	W.	..
Sondad; 8.0	Sadak- Arjuni. 3.0; Sat.	.. ..	W,rv.	Sl (pr); tl; mq; dg.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Tirora; 12.0	Local; .. Mon.	Tirora; 12.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl; 2 gym.
Tirora; 12.0	Sukdi; .. Fri.	Sukdi; ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; 3 m.
Pauni Road; 9.0	Pauni; 1.0; Tue. and Sat.	Pauni; 1.0	W,rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (mp); 4 tl; gym.
Pauni Road; 19.0	Adyar; 5.0; Sun.	Adyar; 5.0	W.	ch.
Gondia; 10.0	Bhanpur; .. Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Dewalgaon; 3.0	Nawegaon- bandh; 3.0; Thu.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl; Cch.
Sondad; 16.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 8.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W,pv.	tl.
Sondad; 5.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 1.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Local; ..	Khadki; 2.0; Fri.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); 3 tl; dp.
.. ..	Gond- Umri; 2.0; Tue.	Sondad; 6.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; lib.
Bhandara Road; 14.0	Dhargao; 1.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W;t.	tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Kokana Gosai—Skl.—कोकना गोसाई	SE; 17.0	286; 103; 16; 21	Nawegaon 4.0
Kokodi—Skl.—कोकोडी	SE; 52.0	1381; 1531; 319; 618	bandh; Local; ..
Kolara—Skl.—कोलारा	SW; 15.0	643; 500; 102; 154	Murmadi; 2.0
Kolari—Skl.—कोलारी	SW; 15.0	1291; 977; 203; 240	Bhugaon; 2.0
Kondha—Bdr.—कोंढा	S; 22.0	1221; 2278; 427; 968	Kosara; ..
Kondhi—Bdr.—कोंढी	SW; ..	1235; 671; 123; 150	.. ..
Kondhala—Skl.—कोंढाला	SW; 28.0	544; 41; 7; 20	Belati; 1.0
Kopalagadh—Gda.—कोपाळगढ	SE; 35.0	5344; 383; 80; 144	Dapekasa; 4.0
Kopitola—Gda.—कोपीटोला	SE; 23.0	465; 255; 49; 127	Tigaon 3.0
Korambhi—Bdr.—कोरंभी	S; 4.0	1510; 798; 147; 196	Bhandara; 4.0
Korambhi (Korambhitola)—Bdr. —कोरंभी (कोरंभीटोला)	S; 32.0	979; 815; 151; 360	Pauni; 5.0
Korambhi—Skl.—कोरंभी	S; 8.0	653; 811; 133; 359	.. 1.0
Korani—Gda.—कोरनी	N; 12.0	1929; 1089; 201; 263	Kati; 3.0
Kurjha—Bdr.—कुर्झा	E; 24.0	2032; 1339; 364; 617	Local; ..
Kosabe—Skl.—कोसबे	E; 10.0	637; 605; 106; 310	Chikhali; 2.0
Kosabi Bk.—Skl.—कोसबी बु.	SE; 40.0	2404; 226; 32; 130	Nilaj; 4.0
Kosabi Kh.—Skl.—कोसबी खु.	SE; 38.0	671; 52; 11; 18	Chichgad; 3.0
Kosamaghat—Skl.—कोसमघाट	SE; 11.0	302; 170; 28; 108	Chikhali; 1.4
Kosamatarra—Gda.—कोसमतर्रा	SE; 33.0	2875; 404; 78; 115	Tirkhedi; 5.0
Kosamatondi—Skl.—कोसमतोंडी	NE; 18.0	1238; 1418; 272; 682	Local; ..
Kosara—Bdr.—कोसरा	S; 22.0	2381; 1638; 150; 721	Local; ..
Koshti—Bdr.—कोष्टी	NE; 20.0	965; 517; 98; 127	Dewhadi; 3.0
Kotajambhora—Gda.— कोटजांभोरा	SE; 23.0	1320; 1421; 261; 672	Kawara- bandh; 2.0
Kotajambhora—Skl.— कोटजांभोरा	SE; 30.0	2121; 589; 108; 181	Chichgad; 2.0
Kotalapar—Bdr.—कोटलपार	SW; 35.0	361; 89; 21; 47	Amgaon; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Nawegaon- 4.0; Thu. bandh;	Nawegaon- 4.0 bandh;	W.	2 tl.
Amgaon; 5.0	Local; .. Tue.	.. ..	W.t.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl; ch; dp.
Arjuni; 17.0	Murmadi; 2.0; Tue.	Pimpal- gaon; 10.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 16.0	Murmadi; 3.0; Tue.	Salabardi; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Pauni Road; 13.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 2 tl; ch; 2 dp.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Pauni Road; 14.0	Nawegaon; 1.0; Thu.	.. 9.0	W.	ch.
Darekasa; 4.0	Darekasa; 4.0; Fri.	.. 15.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 8.0	Amgaon; 8.0; Fri.	Amgaon; 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 10.0	Bhandara; 4.0; Sun., Wed.	Bhandara; 4.0	rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pauni Road; 13.0	Pauni; 5.0; Tue. Sat.	Pauni; 5.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; Mahashiv- ratri Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; 2 tl; gym.
Wadegaon; 3.0	Arjuni; 8.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 8.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Birsola; 3.0	Birsola; 3.0; Sun.	Rajegaon; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Pauni Road; 10.0	Palora; 3.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl; m; gym.
Sondad; 6.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 3.0; Sat.	Kohamara; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Sondad; 31.0	Chichgad; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	..
Sondad; ..	Pindake- par; 1.0; Wed.	Chichgad; 3.0	W.	tl.
Gond Umri; 6.4	Sadak- Arjuni; 3.4; Sat.	.. 2.4	W.	dg.
Salakasa; 5.0	Salakasa; 5.0; Mon.	.. 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch; dp;
Gongale; 6.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 12.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, clg); 2 Cs; tl; ch; dp.
Amgaon; 13.0	Kondha; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	..
Tumsar Road; 3.0	Tumsar; 3.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 7.0	Local; .. Sun.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); 5 tl.
Sondad; 34.0	Pindake- par; 1.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 2.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Kotara—Gda.—कोटरा	.. SE; 28.0	2830; 1679; 275; 571	Local; ..
Kothurana—Bdr.—कोथुरना	.. NE; 8.0	986; 1300; 226; 296	Local; ..
Koyalari—Gda.—कोयलारी	.. SW; 36.0	1071; 1168; 234; 425	Nawezari; ..
Koyalari—Skl.—कोयलारी	.. E; 23.0	2651; 800; 147; 211	Dongar- gaon; 4.0
Kudava (1)—Gda.—कुडवा (१)	.. N; 0.5	2120; 2892; 563; 694	Gondia; 0.5
Kudava (2) included in urban area (1)—Gda.—कुडवा (२) नागरी विभाग १ मध्ये समाविष्ट	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Kudegaon—Skl.—कुडेगांव	.. SW; 35.0	1711; 1541; 316; 814	Local; ..
Kulapa—Gda.—कुलपा	.. SW; 38.0	502; 72; 15; 40	Nawezari; 1.0
Kularabhatti—Gda.—कुलरभट्टी	.. SE; 33.0	2996; 215; 38; 134	Tirkhedi; 5.0
Kumbali—Skl.—कुमली	.. S; 3.0	920; 2046; 375; 565	Wadad; 2.0
Kuramuda—Bdr.—कुरमूडा	.. N; 22.0	763; 606; 115; 89	Gobarwahi; 8.0
Kurhadi—Gda.—कुर्हाडी	.. S; 12.0	1732; 2462; 478; 543	Local; ..
Kushari—Bdr.—कुशारी	.. N; 15.0	2197; 1349; 255; 550	Tumsar; 7.0
Lakhandur—Skl.—लाखांदूर	.. S; 28.0	2379; 4014; 791; 1430	Local; ..
Lakhani—Skl.—लाखणी	.. W; 13.0	2143; 7591; 1532; 1104	Local; ..
Lakhegaon—Gda.—लाखेगांव	.. SW; 13.0	996; 1535; 320; 436	Local; ..
Lakhori—Skl.—लाखोरी	.. W; 12.0	925; 2470; 483; 1005	Local; ..
Lanjhera—Bdr.—लंजेरा	.. NW; 22.0	997; 377; 84; 165	Jamb; 1.0
Latori—Gda.—लटोरी	.. E; 22.0	1429; 1442; 270; 618	Kawara- bandh; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Salekasa; 10.0	Bhiwa- puri; 2.0; Fri.	.. 0.4	W.	tl.
Koka; 2.0	Sakhari- tola; 4.0; Wed.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 6 tl; gym lib; dp (vet).
Tirora; 13.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. 4.0	W;rv.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); pyt; Cs; tl; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Sondad; 18.0	Wade- gaon; 4.0; Wed.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl.
.. ..	Deori; 10.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Gondia; 0.5	Gondia; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; gym.
Bramha- puri; 10.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Tirora; 16.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 3 tl; lib; dp.
.. 8.0	Mundhari; 5.0; Tue.	.. 8.0	W.	2 tl.
Sondad; 2.0	Sakoli; 3.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; 2 tl; ch; lib.
Hirdamali; 5.0	Dongri Bk.; 2.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Bhandara Road; 8.0	Mohadi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; gym.
Warsa; 10.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	5 Sl (3 pr, 2 h); Cs (c); mq; dh; gym; ch; lib; 2 dp.
Sondad; 18.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W;t.	8 Sl (pr, 3 m, 3 h, clg); pyt; 3 Cs; 8 tl; m; mq; 4dg; gym; ch; lib; 3 dp.
Tirora; 5.0	Wadegaon; 3.0; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch.
Sondad; 21.0	Lakhani; 2.4; Tue.	Lakhani; 2.4	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; 2 tl; dg; gym; 3 lib; 2 dp.
Tumsar Road; 12.0	Jamb; 1.0; Mon.	Jamb; 1.0	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 7.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (m); 3 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Lavadi—Bdr.—लावडी	SE; 33.0	481; 326; 59; 175	Asgaon; 2.0
Lavari—Skl.—लवारी	S; 4.0	1675; 2430; 451; 1086	Umari; 0.4
Laveshvar—Bdr.—लावेश्वर	N; 7.0	985; 640; 119; 207	Kothurna; 2.0
Lahitola—Gda.—लहीटोला	N; 6.0	359; 515; 104; 249	.. ..
Ledada—Gda.—लेदडा	SW; 26.0	794; 478; 108; 223	Gangla; 1.0
Lendehari—Bdr.—लेंडेहरी	NW; 38.0	366; 414; 79; 241	Bagheda; 8.0
Lendehari—Bdr.—लेंडेहरी	NE; 25.0	631; 32; 8; 25	Palora; 2.0
Lendehari—Gda.—लेंडेहरी	SW; 6.0	986; 534; 107; 315	Kawalewada; 3.0
Lendehari—Skl.—लेंडेहरी	NE; 21.0	644; 403; 89; 237	Kosamtondi; 3.0
Lendijob—Skl.—लेंडीजोव	E; 37.0	1443; 248; 67; 107	Deori; 6.0
Limba—Gda.—लिम्बा	SE; 26.0	1302; 775; 148; 273	Salekasa; 2.0
Lobhi—Bdr.—लोभी	N; 38.0	2053; 2319; 414; 881	Ashti; 2.0
Lohara—Bdr.—लोहारा	N; 22.0	1536; 1117; 248; 507	Tumsar; 10.0
Lohara—Bdr.—लोहारा	SW; ..	488; 248; 44; 61	.. ..
Lohara—Gda.—लोहारा	SE; 27.0	2213; 1604; 263; 826	Tirkhedi; 2.0
Lohara—Gda.—लोहारा	NW; 6.0	1795; 1227; 258; 397	Ratnara; ..
Lohara—Skl.—लोहारा	NE; 34.0	1085; 1132; 196; 406	Local; ..
Lohara—Skl.—लोहारा	SW; 17.0	1007; 716; 122; 354	Palandur; 4.0
Lonara—Gda.—लोणारा	SW; 37.0	792; 596; 128; 310	Nawezari; 2.0
Lonhara—Bdr.—लोन्हारा	S; 25.0	1600; 1115 201; 451	Kondha; 3.0
Macharana—Skl.—मचारना	SW; 19.0	912; 966; 180; 259	Palandur; 4.0
Machera—Bdr.—मचेरा	NE; 23.0	119; 623; 119; 383	Sihora; 1.0
Madagi—Bdr.—माडगी	SE; ..	1587; 1086; 218; 402	Gunthara; 7.4
Madagi—Bdr.—माडगी	NE; 22.0	949; 1731; 396; 150	Local; ..
Madeghat—Skl.—मडेघाट	S; ..	1332; 1422; 293; 729	Pimpalgaon; 2.0
Mahagaon—Skl.—महागाव	SE; ..	6125; 4435; 751; 1916	Local; ..
Mahaka—Skl.—महाका	SE; ..	4098; 580; 100; 379	.. ..
Mahalagaon—Bdr.—महालगाव	NE; 28.0	1278; 1174; 245; 337	Bapera; 2.0
Mahalagaon—Bdr.—महालगाव	SW; ..	439; 152; 25; 68	Pauni; 9.0
Mahalgaon—Bdr.—महालगाव	N; ..	433; 421; 69; 206	Mohadi; 2.4

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Pauni Road; 14.6	Asgaon; 2.0; Wed.	.. 7.0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 6.0	Sakoli; 4.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W;t.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; 3 tl; gym.
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	Dabha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl; ch.
Road;				
Gondia; 6.0	Pandha- rabodi;	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Mundikota; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Chicholi; 10.0	Rongha; 3.0; Fri.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Koka; 9.0	Palora; .. Sat.	Khadki; 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Gondia; 6.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gongale; 5.0	Pandhari; 5.0; Mon.	.. 20.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 30.0	Deori; 6.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Salekasa; 2.0	Salekasa; 2.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W;n.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; ch.
Dongri Bk.; 3.0	Dongri 3.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W;t.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl; m.
Tumsar 10.0	Bk.; Andhal- gaon;	Dhop; 2.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 4 tl.
Road.			W;rv.	.. ..
Salekasa; 5.0	Salekasa; 5.0; Mon.	.. 6.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Gondia; 6.0	Ratnara; 1.4; Thu.	Pandha- rabodi;	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 6 tl; 2 m.
Amgaon; 15.0	Sawali; 1.0; ..	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Arjuni; 16.0	Palandur; 4.0; Sat.	Dighori; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); tl.
Tirora; 15.0	Wadegaon; 6.0; Wed.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Pauni Road; 10.6	.. 1.0; Thu.	Kondha; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c).
Arjuni; 22.0	Palandur; 4.0; Sat.	Palandur; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl; mq.
Tumsar Road; 11.0	Sihora; 1.0; Sat.	Sihora; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl;
Bhandara 16.4	Dhargaan; 8.0; Mon.	.. 7.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl. gym.
Road;				
Tumsar 2.0	Tumsar; 2.0; Sun.	Tumsar; 5.0	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 3 tl. gym.
Road;				
Wadegaon; 7.0	Lakhan- dur;	.. 2.0	W.	Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; ..	Local; .. Wed.	.. 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; 3 tl; dh; ch.
Amgaon; 57.0	.. 5.0; Tue.	.. 17.0	W;t.	.. ..
Tumsar Road; 15.0	Bapera; 2.0; Thu.	Bapera; 2.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.
Bhiwapur; 9.0	Pauni; 9.0; Tue. Sat.	Pauni; 9.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 8.4	Mohadi; 2.4; Thu.	Mohadi; 2.4	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Road;				

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Mahalagaon—SkL.—महालगाव ..	S; ..	789; 316; 58; 120	Zarpada; 1-0
Mahalagaon—SkL.—महालगाव ..	S; ..	1357; 1456; 168; 524	Palasgaon; 2-0
Mahalagaon—Gda.—महेलगाव ..	NW; ..	1597; 1592; 282; 712	Murdada; 1-0
Maladi—SkL.—माहुली ..	NE; 5-0	709; 444; 78; 150	Bopabodi; 2-0
Malurkuda—SkL.—माहुरकुडा ..	S; ..	1537; 1450; 258; 561	Mahagaon; 1-4
Majitpur—Gda.—मजीतपुर ..	W; ..	1398; 1130; 223; 292	.. 0-2
Makadola—SkL.—मकईटोला ..	NW; 15-0	0-3; 88; 15; 47	Chandori; 3-0
Makadi—Gda.—माकडी ..	N; ..	840; 725; 150; 265	Dasgaon 1-0
Makardhokada (Nawintola)—Bdr.—मकरधोकडा (नवीनटोला).	SW; ..	1448; 438; 78; 162	Bk.; Manegaon; 1-4
Makatola—Gda.—मकाटोला ..	SE; 28-0	997; 743; 191; 198	Sakharitola; 3-0
Malachi—Bdr.—मालची ..	S; ..	443; 303; 58; 126	Chichal; 3-0
Malda—SkL.—मालदा ..	S; ..	1437; 197; 35; 125	Dighori; 2-0
Malakazari—SkL.—मलकाझरी ..	SW; 14-0	790; 98; 18; 46	Pohara; 3-0
Malakazari—Gda.—मलकाझरी ..	SW; ..	203; 6; 1; 4	.. ..
Malapuri—Gda.—मलपुरी ..	S; 16-0	5110; 1165; 202; 662	Kurbadi; 4-0
Malapuri—Gda.—मलपुरी ..	SW; ..	1110; 1262; 246; 429	Chikhali; 1-0
Malegaon—Bdr.—मालेगाव ..	W; ..	451; 175; 33; 72	.. 1-0
Malharbodi—SkL.—मलहारबोडी ..	E; ..	988; 22; 3; 9	Deori; 3-0
Malhi—Gda.—माल्ही ..	E; ..	2171; 2022; 257; 833	.. ..
Malhi—Gda.—माल्ही ..	SW; ..	935; 686; 144; 296	Gangla; 3-0
Malida—Bdr.—मलीदा ..	N; ..	621; 461; 84; 179	.. 1-0
Malijunga—SkL.—मालीजुंगा ..	NE; 19-0	586; 602; 111; 242	Pandhari; 2-0
Malipar—Bdr.—मालीपार ..	SE; ..	1254; 693; 138; 145	Dawadipar; 1-0
Managad—Gda.—मानागड ..	SE; 31-0	4343; 939; 172; 775	Tirkhedi; 3-0
Mandanagaon—Bdr.—मंडनगांव ..	NE; ..	606; 467; 98; 227	Gawaritola; 4-0
Mandavi—Bdr.—मांडवी ..	NE; 34-0	822; 709; 190; 306	Wahari; 2-0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Arjuni; 3-0	Arjuni; 3-0; Sat.	Arjuni; 3-0	W;n.	ch'
Gond Umri; 4-0	Sakoli; 6-0; Sun.	.. 6-0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 4 tl; m; ch; dp.
Gangazari; 7-0	.. 1-0; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; gym.
Sondad; 5-0	Sakoli; 5-0; Sun.	Sakoli; 5-0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Arjuni; 5-0	Mahagaon; 1-4; Wed.	.. 5-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gobarwahi; 0-2	Dande- 1-2; Mon.	Local; 0-1	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Sondad; 19-0	Bampe- 5-0; Sat.	Lakhani; 14-0	W.	tl; gym.
.. ..				
Bhandara Road; 16-4	Manegaon; 2-4; Thu.	Ambadi; 7-4	W;rv.	2 t.
.. ..				
Amgaon; 14-0	Sakhari- 3-0; Wed	Sakhari- 3-0	W.	Sl (r); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 15-0	Gosi Bk.; 1-4; Fri.	.. 5-0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 11-0	Dighori; 1-0; Wed.	Dighori; 1-0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 20-0	Pohara; 3-0; Thu..	.. 3-0	W.	tl.
Hirdamali; 4-0	Kurbadi; 4-0; Sun	.. 5-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Tirora; 3-0	Tirora; 3-0; Sun.	Tirora; 3-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; wg; 2 gym; ch.
Khat; 5-0	Shahapur; 1-0; Tue.	Shahapur; 1-0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 19-0	Deori; 3-0; Tue.	.. 1-0	W.	tl.
.. ..				
Mundikota; 6-0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Bhandara Road; 16-0	Andhal- 1-0; Wed.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Gongale; 2-0	Pandhari; 2-0; Mon.	.. 7-0	W; t.	Sl (pr); tl
Bhandara Road; 13-0	Dhargao; 2-0; Mon.	Dawdipar; 2-0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Salekasa; 6-0	Local; .. Sun.	.. 7-0	W;n.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara Road; 5-0	Bhandara; 6-0; Sun.	Bhandara; 6-0	W.	Sl(pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Tumsar Road; 13-0	Sihora; 4-0; Sat.	.. 4-0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Mandavi—Bdr.—मांडवी	NE;	1156; 1246; 230; 433	Matora; 4.0
Mandavi—Gda.—मांडवी	W;	966; 927; 172; 375	Kawale- wada; 3.0
Manded—Skl.—मांदिड	SW;	1258; 897; 163; 317	Kudegaon; 2.0
Mandekasa—Bdr.—मंडेकसा	NW;	145; 7; 1; 2	Gobarwahi; 20.0
Mandeshwar—Bdr.—मांडेश्वर	N;	1437; 1647; 273; 745	.. 3.0
Mandhal—Bdr.—मांडळ	NE;	1980; 1480; 292; 548	Tumsar Road; ..
Mandhal—Skl.—मांडळ	SW;	1699; 2092; 375; 792	Sarandi Bk.; 2.0
Mandokhal—Skl.—मांडोखाल	S;	1143; 1542; 250; 473	.. ..
Manegaon (Mandhatola)—Bdr.— मानेगाव (मॅण्डाटोला)	S;	2233; 1926; 332; 520	Local; ..
Manegaon—Gda.—मानेगाव	SE;	1672; 962; 179; 271	.. ..
Manegaon—Skl.—मानेगाव	W;	1396; 1576; 321; 422	Lakhani; 2.0
Manegaon—Skl.—मानेगाव	S;	482; 511; 91; 254	Pandbi; 2.0
Manekasa—Gda.—मानेकसा	E;	1066; 394; 79; 88	.. ..
Mangardon—Skl.—मंगरडोह	SE;	3816; 482; 79; 360	Palandur; 2.0
Mangezari—Gda.—मंगेझरी	SW;	487; 315; 59; 93	Sukhi; 6.0
Maneri—Skl.—मणरी	SE;	684; 384; 59; 134	Chikhah; 2.0
Mangali—Bdr.—मांगली	NE;	683; 616; 125; 248	Sihera; 2.0
Mangali—Bdr.—मांगली	N;	634; 1017; 189; 231	Tumsar; 3.0
Mangali—Bdr.—मांगली	SE;	964; 1879; 360; 891	Walani; 2.0
Manghali—Skl.—मांघली	SW;	2128; 961; 195; 458	Kitadi; 3.0
Mangardhokada—Skl.—मंगरधोकडा	E;	1865; 360; 68; 140	Sirpur; 2.0
Mangarli—Bdr.—मंगर्ली	NW;	404; 146; 32; 54	.. 20.0
Manora—Gda.—मनोरा	SW;	1403; 693; 144; 312	.. 3.0
Maramjob—Skl.—मरामजोब	E;	2344; 378; 67; 148	Dongar- gaon; 10.0
Maregaon—Gda.—मारेगाव	SW;	97; 625; 122; 264	Wadegaon; 2.0
Maregaon (Moragaon)—Skl.— मरेगाव (मोरगाव)	W;	1226; 1284; 268; 423	Salebhata; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 6.0	Bhandara; 5.0; Sun. Wed.	Bhandara; 7.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Road; 5.0	Tirora; 4.0; Sun.	.. 5.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tirora;	..	..	..	..
Bramhapuri; 8.0	Lakhan- dur; 3.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Chicholi; 16.0	Ronani; 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	..
Bhandara 4.0	Warthi; 4.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (m); Cs; 3 tl.
Road;	..	..	..	..
Tumsar; ..	Dewnadi; 3.0; Sun.	.. ..	W;n.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 10.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	SI (m); Cs; tl.
.. 4.0	Mahagaon; .. Wed.	.. 6.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 2 tl. 3 SI (pr); 3 tl.
Bhandara 13.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Road;	..	..	..	..
Sondad; 15.0	Lakhani; 2.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Arjuni; 12.0	Barwha; 3.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
.. ..			..	..
Dewalgaon; 24.0	.. 2.0; Sun.	.. ..	W.	tl; dg; ch; Cch. tl.
Tirora; 12.0	Sihera; 2.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Gond Umri; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 8.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Pauni 13.6	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Pauni 23.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Sondad; 27.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; gym.
Chicholi; 16.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch; lib.
Mundikota; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Sondad; 18.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Tirora; 10.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; gym; ch.
Sondad; 22.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (s); 3 tl; ch; lib.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Marhegaon—Skl.—महेगाव	SW; 23.0	1023; 914; 173; 473	Palandur; 3.0
Masal—Skl.—मासळ	SW; ..	2680; 1871; 370; 609	Local; ..
Masalmeta—Skl.—मासलमेटा	W; ..	703; 1071; 216; 283	Salebhata; 1.0
Masulakasa—Skl.—मासुलकसा	E; ..	6349; 406; 71; 119	Deori; 4.0
Masurbhawada—Skl.—मासूरभावाडा	SE; ..	1152; 125; 26; 64	Borgaon; 5.0
Mathadi—Bdr.—माथाडी	SE; ..	388; 28; 3; 6	Dawadipar; 1.0
Matora (Govaritola)—Bdr.— माटोरा (गोवारीटोला)	N; ..	3616; 1246; 263; 324	Local; ..
Maudi—Bdr.—माँदी	S; ..	622; 266; 39; 102	Pahela; 2.4
Mehatakheda—Skl.—मेहताखेडा	SE; ..	3734; 533; 94; 292	.. 6.0
Mehegaon—Bdr.—मेहेगाव	N; 22.0	1071; 833; 183; 159	Tumsar; 2.0
Mendaki—Skl.—मेंडकी	E; ..	688; 159; 30; 97	Chikhali; 1.0
Mendha—Gda.—मेंढा	SW; ..	1280; 1833; 360; 468	Thanegaon; 2.0
Mendhegaon—Bdr.—मेंढेगाव	SW; ..	1002; 628; 122; 351	Bhuyar; 2.0
Mendipur—Gda.—मेंदीपूर	SW; ..	1138; 959; 193; 393	Chikhali; 2.0
Mengapur—Skl.—मेंगापूर	SW; 19.0	272; 35; 9; 5	Palandur; 1.0
Mhaswani—Skl.—म्हसवानी	NE; 16.0	482; 995; 177; 281	.. ..
Mhaisuli—Skl.—म्हैसुली	SE; ..	2768; 293; 48; 170	Chichgad; 7.0
Minsi—Bdr.—मिन्सी	SE; ..	802; 1148; 232; 610	Pahela; 3.0
Miregaon—Skl.—मिरेगाव	SW; 7.0	1197; 1176; 229; 528	Khandala; 2.0
Misapiri—Skl.—मिसापिरी	SE; ..	8623; 1478; 255; 959	.. 6.0
Mitevani—Bdr.—मिटेवाणी	N; 24.0	1710; 1796; 363; 597	Local; ..

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Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Arjuni; 18.0	Palandur; 3.0; Sat.	Palandur; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Pauni Road; 15.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Sondad; 15.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	Lakhani; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; lib; ch.
Sondad; 16.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 34.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr).
Bhandara Road; 12.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Bhandara Road; 10.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl. SI (m); Cs; 3 tl; vet. SI (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; 2 gym.
Bhandara Road; 19.4	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
.. .. 44.0	.. 5.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; gym.
Tumsar Road; 2.0	Tumsar; 2.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 2.0	W;t.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gond Umri; 6.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr.); tl; ch.
Tirora; 5.4	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; gym; ch.
Bhuyar; 2.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr).
Tirora; 5.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Arjuni; 15.0	Palandur; 1.0; ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Khod- Shioni; 3.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 5.0; Sat.	Khapri; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 3 tl; ch; gym.
Sondad; 20.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Bhandara Road; 19.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	2 SI (pr, h); Mela Fr. Kt.; 5 tl; dh; gym; cn; 2 lib; 3 dp.
Sondad; 12.0	Murmadi; 3.0; Tue.	Sangadi; 5.0	rv.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; gym; ch.
Amgaon; 52.0	.. ..	.. 2.0	W.	Cs (c); ch.
Tumsar; 4.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Mogara—Gda.—मोगरा	NE; ..	1121; 1078; 209; 401	Paraswada; 1.0
Mogara—Skl.—मोगरा	SW; 13.0	1066; 729; 134; 341	Kaneri; 3.0
Mogara—Skl.—मोगरा	E; ..	2262; 290; 49; 160	.. 5.0
Mohadi—Bdr.—मोहाडी	N; 12.0	571; 629; 1133; 438	Local; ..
Mohadi—Gda.—मोहाडी	S; 16.0	1062; 1856; 370; 1002	Local; ..
Mohadikhapa—Bdr.—मोहाडीखापा	NE; 30.0	515; 1390; 274; 558	Chulhad; 2.0
Mohadura—Bdr.—मोहदुरा	NW; ..	1151; 904; 180; 305	Bhandara; 6.0
Mohagaon—Bdr.—मोहगाव	N; 25.0	2365; 1808; 334; 512	Kardi; 2.0
Mohagaon—Bdr.—मोहगाव	NE; 27.0	1298; 984; 207; 360	Local; ..
Mohagaon—Bdr.—मोहगाव	NE; 9.0	793; 369; 81; 149	Bhandara; 8.0
Mohagaon—Gda.—मोहगाव	SE; 19.0	769; 1332; 252; 683	Local; ..
Mohagaon—Gda.—मोहगाव	E; ..	1094; 906; 160; 367	.. ..
Mohagaon—Skl.—मोहगाव	SE; ..	926; 430; 73; 239	Nilaj; 2.0
Mohagaon Bk.—Gda.—मोहगाव बु.	SE; 6.0	2445; 3028; 571; 1148	Local; ..
Mohagata—Skl.—मोहगाटा	NE; ..	575; 215; 38; 57	Shenda; 2.0
Mohagata—Skl.—मोहगाटा	SW; 6.0	603; 328; 58; 85	Pimpalgaon; 6.0
Mohandi—Skl.—मोहांडी	SE; ..	832; 274; 57; 82	Chichgad; 1.0
Moharana—Skl.—मोहरना	SW; ..	1755; 1823; 329; 873	Local; ..
Mohari—Bdr.—मोहरी	SE; ..	839; 655; 227; 380	Asgaon; 2.0
Mokhara—Bdr.—मोखारा	S; ..	558; 507; 95; 162	Pauni; 4.0
Mokhe—Skl.—मोखे	NE; 10.0	974; 747; 131; 166	Virasi; 1.0
Moragaon—Bdr.—मोरगांव	N; 15.0	1019; 264; 49; 120	Mohadi; 3.0
Moragaon—Skl.—मोरगांव	S; 8.0	1302; 1186; 237; 604	Salebhata; 2.0
Moravahi—Gda.—मोरवाही	E; ..	1561; 1377; 264; 630	.. ..
Mujabi—Bdr.—मुजबी	W; ..	880; 615; 104; 206	Bela; 2.0
Mulla—Skl.—मुल्ला	NE; ..	1189; 1186; 217; 465	Lohara; 2.0
Mundhari Bk.—Bdr.—मुंडरी बु.	NE; 24.0	1158; 3045; 607; 524	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gatora; 5.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 19.0	Pohara; 3.0; Thu.	Pohara; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 12.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 6.0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; 8.0	W;n.	2 Sl (pr, h); 3 Cs; 30 tl; gym; dh; mg; lib; 3 dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Hirdamali; 7.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl.
Tumsar; 17.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr, m).
Bhandara 5.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; gym; ch.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Koka 9.0	Mundhari; 4.0; Tue.	Karadi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Tumsar 9.0	Tumsar; 6.0; Tue.	Local; 0.1	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	.. ..	W;rv.	Sl (m); Cs; stl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Goregaon; 11.0	Local; .. Sun.	Mundipar; 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; 2 gym.
.. ..				
Sondad; 29.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Hirdamali; 6.0	Goregaon; 6.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 18.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Bhandara 26.0	Sakoli; 6.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Sondad; 28.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Bramhapuri; 8.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Pauni 14.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pauni 11.0	 Tue.	Local; ..	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl; mg; ch; dp.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Sondad; 5.0	Sakoli; 10.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Bhandara 8.6	Mohadi; 3.0; Thu.	Mohadi; 2.6	W;n.	tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Arjuni; 0.4	Local;	Lakhani 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; ch; lib; 2 dp.
.. ..				
Bhandara 10.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Amgaon; 18.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	.. ..
Koka; 4.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, h); Cs; 3 tl; mg; ch; dp.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop ; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Mundhari Kh.—Bdr.—मुंदरी ख.	NE; 15.0	662; 1131; 234; 480	Mundhari 1-0 Bk.;
Mundharitola—Gda.—मुंदरी- टोला	S; 16.4	208; 81; 11; 45	Mohadi; 0-4
Mundikota—Gda.—मुंडीकोटा	SW; ..	1195; 2426; 530; 489	Local; ..
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	E; ..	1826; 1440; 276; 511	.. ..
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	W; ..	1153; 915; 197; 210	Chutiya; 3-0
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	SE; 23.0	1078; 917; 175; 321	Sonpuri; 3-0
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	NE; ..	852; 804; 127; 382	.. 1-0
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	S; 12.0	3146; 2422; 509; 972	Local; ..
Mundipar—Gda.—मुंडीपार	W; ..	1183; 1273; 294; 404	Kawale- wada; 2-0
Mundipar—Skl.—मुंडीपार	E; ..	2925; 132; 26; 37	Deori; 5-0
Mundipar—Skl.—मुंडीपार	NE; 18.0	1399; 1006; 195; 422	Kosamtondi; 2-0
Mundipar—Skl.—मुंडीपार	W; 7.0	1163; 604; 106; 169	Pimpalgaon; 1-0
Mundipar—Skl.—मुंडीपार	NE; 12.0	1277; 118; 23; 48	Sadak- Arjuni; 4-0
Mundipar—Skl.—मुंडीपार	W; 10.0	719; 478; 94; 132	Lakhani; 7-0
Mungali—Skl.—मुंगळी	SE; ..	915; 822; 143; 426	.. ..
Muradada—Gda.—मुरदाडा	NW; ..	2069; 2260; 898; 870	Local; ..
Muradoli—Gda.—मुरदोली	S; 20.0	2838; 425; 91; 250	.. ..
Muradoli—Skl.—मुरदोली	E; ..	923; 375; 75; 109	Deori; 2-4
Murakudoh—Gda.—मुरकुडोह	E; 39.0	2337; 289; 52; 104	Darekasa; 7-0
Murali—Bdr.—मुरली	NE; ..	605; 538; 117; 304	Sihora; 3-0
Muramadi—Gda.—मुरमाडी	SW; ..	1346; 858; 178; 236	Nawezari; 1-0
Muramadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	S; ..	530; 1139; 191; 546	Pardi; 1-0
Muramadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	W; 13.0	525; 2498; 522; 274	Lakhani; 0-1
Muramadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	SW; ..	206; 4; 1; 2	Palandur; 3-0
Muramadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	SE; ..	356; 585; 126; 230	.. 2-0
Muramadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	SW; 14.0	818; 1835; 356; 537	Local; ..
Murapar—Gda.—मुरपार	SE; 33.0	4234; 855; 180; 478	Purada; 2-0
Murapar—Gda.—मुरपार	N; ..	578; 770; 140; 311	Rawanwadi; 1-0
Murapar—Gda.—मुरपार	SW; ..	997; 513; 113; 126	.. ..
Murapar—Skl.—मुरपार	E; ..	3357; 1692; 148; 207	Sirpur; 3-0
Murapar—Skl.—मुरपार	NE; 20.0	779; 442; 72; 165	Pandhari; 2-0
Murapar—Skl.—मुरपार	NE; 20.0	1159; 589; 103; 302	Kosamtondi; 3-0
Murza—Skl.—मुर्झा	S; ..	737; 682 116; 350	Pardi; 1-0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Koka; 4.0	Mundhari; 1.0; Thu. Bk;	Local; ..	W;rv.	tl.
Hirdamali; 7.4	.. ..	Hirdamali; 7.0	W.	tl.
Local; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; gym.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 4 tl.
Gangazari; 5.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 6.0	Salekasa; 6.0; ..	Salekasa; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gondia; 7.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Pindkepar; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 4 tl.
Tirora; 3.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 28.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gongale; 4.0	Pandhari; 4.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr,m); Cs; tl; gym.
Sondad; 12.0	Lakhani; 5.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 4 tl; gym.
Khod- shioni; 2.0	Sadak 4.0; Sat.	Sadak 4.0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 17.0	Arjuni; 0.1; Tue.	Arjuni; 0.4	W.	Cs; pyt; tl; dg; dp.
Dewalgaon; 1.0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Gangazari; 8.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	.. ..
Pindkepar; 6.0	Mundipar; .. Thu.	Local; ..	rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 21.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; gym.
Darekasa; 7.0	Darekasa; 7.0; Fri.	Darekasa; 7.0	W.	Cs; tl;
Tumsar; 10.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl.
Tirora; 14.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 11.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Sondad; 18.0	Lakhani; 0.1; Tue.	Lakhani; 0.1	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 21.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Amgaon; 50.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 13.0	Local; .. Tue.	Pimpalgaon; 8.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl; gym; dp; lib.
Amgaon; 17.0	Sawali; 3.0 Sun.	Sawali; 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Gatra; 2.0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Mundikota; 4.0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Sondad; 27.0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pandhari; 2.0	Pandhari; 2.0 Mon.	Palasgaon; 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gongale; 6.0	Gongale; 6.0 Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Arjuni; 9.0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Nagara—Gda.—नागरा	N; 3.0	3320; 4591; 854; 1738	Local; ..
Nagatola—Gda.—नागतोला	SE; ..	268; 243; 88; 123	.. ..
Nakadongari—Bdr.—नाकाडोंगरी	N; 37.0	846; 2148; 400; 365	Local; ..
Nakati—Skl.—नकटी	E; 31.0	1505; 491; 87; 153	Borgaon; 2.0
Nanasari—Gda.—ननसरी	E; ..	589; 765; 153; 418	.. ..
Nanavha—Gda.—नानव्हा	SE; 22.0	891; 838; 150; 337	Salekasa; 3.0
Nandalapar—Gda.—नांदलपार	SW; 40.2	624; 274; 69; 158	Wadegaon; 5.2
Nanded—Skl.—नांदेड	SW; 26.0	804; 787; 135; 419	Itan; 1.4
Nandikheda—Bdr.—नांदीखेडा	SE; 37.0	104; 149; 27; 55	Pauni; 9.0
Nandora—Bdr.—नांदोरा	SW; 7.0	1688; 1105; 92; 268	Shahapur; 1.0
Nangapura (1)—Gda.—नंगपूरा— (१) नागरी विभाग	W; 0.4	716; 2142; 435; 361	Local; ..
Nangapura (2)—Gda.—नंगपूरा (२) नागरी विभाग (१) मध्ये समाविष्ट	..	.. ..	.. ..
Nangapur—Gda.—नंगपूर	E; ..	602; 841; 166; 397	.. ..
Nanhori—Skl.—नान्होरी	SW; 12.0	698; 386; 83; 154	Murmadi; ..
Naravha—Skl.—नरव्हा	SW; 17.0	603; 525; 116; 246	Dighori; 2.0
Narodi (Mathatola)—Bdr.—नरोडी (मठटोला)	E; 3.0	723; 214; 41; 113	Matora; 2.0
Navaragaon—Bdr.—नवरगांव	NE; 21.0	548; 671; 69; 322	Tumsar; 1.0
Navaragaon—Bdr.—नवरगांव	S; 12.4	860; 666; 120; 165	Pahela; 1.4
Navaragaon—Gda.—नवरगांव	SW; 10.4	1387; 142; 28; 62	Kawale- wada; 4.4
Navaragaon—Gda.—नवरगांव	SW; 25.0	617; 629; 127; 291	Gangla; 3.0
Navaragaonkala—Gda.—नवरगांव- कला	NE; ..	1445; 1734; 356; 343	Local; ..
Navaragaon kh.—Gda.—नवरगांव खु.	E; 6.0	834; 1221; 247; 512	Nawaragaon- 2.0 Kala;
Navatola—Gda.—नवाटोला	N; 7.0	186; 151; 24; 55	Pandhara- bodi; ..
Navatola—Gda.—नवाटोला	SE; 30.0	1943; 269; 58; 57	Salekasa; 5.0
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव	NW; 20.0	368; 133; 38; ..	Kandri; 4.0
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव	NW; 21.0	890; 515; 93; 219	Kandri; 3.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gondia; 3.0	Local; .. Fri.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; Shiv Yatra Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; 3 tl; 2 gym; lib.
.. ..			..	..
Gobarwahi; 5.0	.. 2.0; ..	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 2 tl; 2 m; ch; lib; dp.
Amgaon; 29.0	Bargaon; 2.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
.. ..			..	..
Salekasa; 3.0	Salekasa; 3.0; Mon.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 13.2	Kode- lohara; 1.2; Mon.	Tirora; 13.2	W.	2 tl; gym.
Wadegaon; 12.0	Itan; 1.4; Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Pauni 16.0	Pauni; 9.0; Sat., Tue.	Pauni; 9.0	W.	tl.
Road;	Shahapur; 1.0; Tue.	Shahapur; 1.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; Shivratri Fr. Phg. Vad. 14; 2 tl.
Khat; 6.0	Gondia; .. Tue.	Gondia; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl; lib.
Gondia; 0.4	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
.. ..			..	..
Arjuni; 17.0	Murmadi; 2.0; Tue.	Pimpal- gaon; 6.0	W.	pyt; 2 tl; ch.
Arjuni; 15.0	Dighori; 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 7.00	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun., Wed.	Bhandara; 3.0	W.	Cs (mp).
Road;	Tumsar; 1.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m.); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 1.0	Pahela; 1.4; Fri.	Pahela; 1.4	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Bhandara 18.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Road;	Kawale- wada; 4.4; Wed.	Gondia; 10.0	W.	tl; ch.
Gankhera; 6.4	Gangla; .. Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Mundikota; 5.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
.. ..			..	..
Gondia; 6.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Khamari; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl.
Gondia; 7.0	Pandharabodi; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Salekasa; 5.0	Salekasa; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 5 tl.
Khat; 7.0	Kandri; 4.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	..
Bhandara 14.0	Andhalgaon; 3.0 Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव	NE; 16.6	642; 141; 21; 62	.. ..
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव	W; 7.0	862; 126; 21; 37	Shahapur; 3.0
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव	SE; 23.0	447; 194; 41; 95	Masal; 2.0
Navegaon—Gda.—नवेगांव	E; 26.0	894; 831; 159; 304	Sonpur; 4.0
Navegaon—Gda.—नवेगांव	N; 6.0	431; 761; 189; 213	Pandhara- 0.4 bodi;
Navegaon—Gda.—नवेगांव	NW; 10.0	2987; 1562; 344; 788	Dhapewada; 2.0
Navegaon Bk.—Bdr.—नवेगांव बु.	NE; 25.0	826; 846; 173; 380	Kardi; 2.0
Navegaon—Gda.—नवेगांव खु.	SW; 31.0	1162; 834; 135; 358	.. ..
Navegaon bandh—Skl.—नवेगांव बांध	SE; 20.0	7108; 4771; 1008; 1374	Local; ..
Navegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव पालेपार	S; 18.0	526; 602; 124; 248	Chichal; 2.0
Navejhari—Gda.—नवेझरी	SW; 37.0	900; 731; 143; 307	Local; ..
Nayagaon—Bdr.—नायगांव	S; 30.0	354; 102; 22; 52	Pauni; 4.0
Nerala—Bdr.—नेरला	S; 14.0	2161; 2212; 421; 910	Local; ..
Nerala—Bdr.—नेरला	N; ..	1001; 10; 2; 1	.. ..
Neri—Bdr.—नेरी	NW; 9.0	2353; 1366; 130; 526	Local; ..
Nevari Urph Kholapur—Bdr.—नेवरी उर्फ खोलापूर	S; 9.4	594; 100; 19; 37	Manegaon; 2.0
Nighavi—Bdr.—निघवी	SE; 24.0	877; 794; 149; 389	Asgaon; 1.0
Nilagondi Hamesha—Bdr.—निलागोंदी हमेशा	N; ..	18; 25; 15; ..	.. ..
Nilagondi—Gda.—निलागोंदी	NW; 10.0	1032; 836; 185; 293	Dawani- 3.0 wada;
Nilagondi—Gda.—निलागोंदी	SW; 36.0	390; 44; 14; 14	Nawezari; 2.0
Nilagondi—Skl.—निलागोंदी	NW; 7.0	457; 985; 186; 442	Lakhani; 7.0
Nilaj—Bdr.—निलज	SW; 35.0	944; 538; 107; 245	Amgaon; 1.0
Nilaj Bk.—Bdr.—निलज बु.	NE; ..	824; 1203; 250; 462	Mundiko- 7.0 ta;

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
.. 6.0	Khadki; 2.0; Fri.	.. 0.6	W.	tl.
Bhandara 7.0	Shahapur; 3.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	tl.
Road; Pauni 18.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	..
Road; Amgaon; 9.0	Kotjam- 2.0; Sun.	.. 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Gondia; 6.0	Pandhara- 0.4; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gondia; 10.0	Murdada; 6.0; Wed.	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 4 tl; lib.
Tumsar; 7.0	Mundhari 5.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Mundikota; 2.0	Mundi- 2.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Dewalgaon; ..	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); pyt; Cs; 7 tl; ch; dp.
Bhandara 24.0	Adyar; 2.0; Sun.	Adyar; 2.0	W.	Cs; 2 tl.
Road; Tirora; 15.0	Mundhari; 6.0; Tue.	Wadegaon; 7.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; lib.
Bhiwapur; 7.0	Pauni; 4.0; Sat., Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Bhandara 21.0	Adyar; 2.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Road; .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Bhandara 3.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (m); Cs; 2 tl; m; dp (vet).
Road; Bhandara 15.4	Manegaon; 2.0; Thu.	Ambadi; 6.4	W;n.	tl.
Road; Pauni 10.0	Asgaon; 2.0; Wed.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; ch.
Road; .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Gondia; 10.0	Ratnara; 3.0; Thu.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; 3 m.
Tirora; 14.0	Mundhari; 8.0; Tue.	.. 7.0	W;n.	tl.
Sondad; 14.0	Sakoli; 7.0; Sur.	Sakoli; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl; dg; ch; lib; dp.
Amgaon; 1.0	Bhiwapur; 2.0; Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Tumsar; 6.0	Mundhari 3.4; Tue. Bk.;	Kardi; 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 4 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Nilaj Kh.—Bdr.—निलज खु.	NE; 28.0	706; 762; 141; 279	Kardi; 2.0
Nilaj—Gda.—निलज	N; 9.0	1563; 1414; 289; 719	Dasgaon Bk.; 4.0
Nilaj—Skl.—निलज	SE; 3.0	589; 419; 87; 152	Arjuni; 2.0
Nilaj—Skl.—निलज	SE; 8.0	844; 1146; 199; 436	Gond Umri; 1.0
Nilaj—Skl.—निलज	SE; 35.0	554; 448; 84; 235	Local; ..
Nimagaon—Bdr.—निमगांव	S; 13.0	1093; 812; 139; 303	Pahela; 2.0
Nimagaon—Bdr.—निमगांव	SW; 30.0	305; 173; 30; 95	Pauni; 4.0
Nimagaon—Gda.—निमगांव	W; 15.0	1113; 336; 68; 110	Chikhali; 3.0
Nimagaon—Skl.—निमगांव	SW; 18.0	804; 1051; 197; 290	Murmadi; 1.0
Nimagaon—Skl.—निमगांव	S; 4.0	1177; 1846; 331; 783	Bondgaon; 1.0
Nimba—Gda.—निंबा	SE; 20.0	2600; 777; 144; 429	Chapa; 5.0
Nipiyaratola—Skl.—निपियरटोला	NW; 11.0	244; 157; 28; 72	Chandori; 1.0
Niragudi—Bdr.—निरगुडी	N; 22.2	318; 153; 31; 54	.. 0.2
Nisti—Bdr.—निस्ती	SW; 31.0	997; 810; 156; 365	Amgaon; 1.4
Nyahravani—Skl.—न्याहारवानी	S; 8.0	569; 128; 24; 70	Sangadi; 3.0
Opara—Skl.—ओपारा	SW; ..	1654; 1064; 197; 505	Bhagdi; 4.0
Ovara—Gda.—ओवारा	SE; 28.0	3934; 1210; 227; 785	Sawali; 2.0
Pachakhedi—Bdr.—पचखेडी	S; 6.0	503; 775; 168; 209	Dawadipar; 0.3
Pachara—Bdr.—पचारा	NE; 24.0	394; 379; 79; 129	Yerli; 2.0
Padamapur—Skl.—पदमपूर	SE; 32.0	1051; 252; 45; 110	Borgaon; 4.0
Padamapur—Skl.—पदमपूर	E; 32.0	448; 122; 19; 44	Sirpur; 3.0
Padamapur—Gda.—पदमपूर	SE; ..	1332; 1838; 292; 671	.. ..
Paghora—Bdr.—पाघोरा	S; 12.4	785; 214; 37; 90	Pahela; 1.4
Pahadi—Skl.—पहाडी	SW; 30.0	599; 262; 37; 99	Palandur; 2.0
Pahela—Bdr.—पहेला	S; 11.0	1392; 1939; 405; 526	Local; ..
Pahunagaon—Bdr.—पाहुनगांव	SW; 32.0	516; 340; 66; 180	Bhiwapur; 3.0
Pahunagaon—Skl.—पाहुनगांव	SW; 33.4	952; 952; 180; 438	Bhagadi; 2.0
Pahuni—Bdr.—पाहुणी	NW; 9.0	1107; 781; 149; 110	Khat; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Dewvadi; 7.0	Mundhari 3.0; Tue. Bk.;	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Garra; 3.0	Kati; 6.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl; gym.
Arjuni; 2.0	Arjuni; 2.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Gond Umri; 1.0	Gond- 1.0; Tue. Umri;	Sondad; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 3.0	Chichgad; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 19.0	Pahela; 2.0; Fri.	Pahela; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Road;	..	.. 4.0	W.	..
Bhiwapur; 7.0	Pauni; 4.0; Sat. Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	..
Kachewant; 5.0	Tirora; 6.0; Sun.	Barbaspura; 5.0	W.	tl.
Arjuni; 22.0	Murmadi; 1.0; Tue.	Guradha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Arjuni; 4.0	Arjuni; 4.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Amgaon; 15.0	Chapa; 4.0; Tue.	.. 14.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Sondad; 17.0	Bampe- 2.0; Sat. wada;	.. 11.0	W.	3 tl.
.. 13.2	Kondha; 0.5; Wed.	.. 0.2	W.	..
Amgaot; 1.4	Pauni; 5.0; Sat. Tue	.. 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; ..	Sangadi; 3.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 3.0	W.	tl.
Wadegaon; 16.0	Dokesa- 0.4; Sun. randi;	.. 7.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Amgaon; 14.0	Sawali; 2.0; Sur.	Dongar- 2.0 gaon;	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Bhandara 12.0	Dawadi- 0.3; Sat. par;	Dawadi- 0.3 par;	W.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; tl; ch.
Tumsar; 5.0	Tumsar; 5.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 5.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Amgaon; 32.0	Bergaon; 5.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	t.	tl; ch.
Sondad; 27.0	Waghmodi; 4.0; ..	.. 3.0	W; rv.	tl; ch.
.. ..			..	..
Bhandara 18.4	Pahela; 1.4; Fri.	Pahela; 1.4	W.	tl.
Road;	..	..	..	..
Arjuni; 23.0	Palandur; 2.0; Sat.	Lakhani; 13.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 17.0	Local; .. Fri.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); pyt; Cs; tl; gym; ch; dp.
Road;	..	.. 3.0	W; rv.	pyt; tl.
Bhiwapur; 3.0	Bhiwapur; 3.0; Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Wadegaon; 14.0	Bhagadi; 2.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Khat; 2.0	Khat; 2.0; Wed.	..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Paladi—Bdr.—पालडी	E; 5.0	644; 582; 111; 81	Amgaon; 1.0
Paladongari—Bdr.—पालडोंगरी	N; 17.0	1131; 559; 109; 200	Andhal- gaon; 1.4
Paladongari—Gda.—पालडोंगरी	W; 19.0	2691; 2187; 420; 791	Karti; 1.0
Palagaon—Bdr.—पालगांव	S; 4.0	820; 317; 58; 70	Dawadipar; 2.0
Palakheda—Gda.—पालखेडा	SE; 18.0	1959; 807; 141; 438	Mohagaon; 2.0
Palanagaon—Skl.—पालनगांव	SE; 34.0	1715; 857; 166; 461	Borgaon; ..
Palandur—Skl.—पालंदूर	SW; 20.0	1377; 3307; 660; 640	Local; ..
Palandur—Skl.—पालंदूर	SE; 28.0	5133; 1651; 295; 813	Local; ..
Palasagaon—Skl.—पालसगांव	SW; 16.0	969; 599; 102; 193	Bhugaon; 3.0;
Palasagaon—Skl.—पालसगांव	NE; 20.0	1886; 1516; 282; 678	Dawwa; 1.0
Palasagaon—Skl.—पालसगांव	E; 9.0	1215; 1104; 203; 401	.. 2.0
Palasagaon—Skl.—पालसगांव	SE; 8.0	2816; 2072 356; 815	Local; ..
Palasagaon—Skl.—पालसगांव	SE; 36.0	7813; 669; 125; 308	Pauni; 8.0
Palasapani—Skl.—पालसपाणी	NW; 8.0	776; 651; 116; 397	Chandari; 2.0
Palependhari—Skl.—पालेपेंढरी	SW; 27.0	855; 745; 165; 293	Belati; 2.0
Palevada—Gda.—पालेवाडा	S; 15.0	2890; 1097; 225; 492	Mundipar; 3.0
Palora—Bdr.—पालोरा	S; 24.0	1506; 1336; 1246; 615	Kondha; 2.0
Palora—Bdr.—पालोरा	NE; 27.0	1447; 2143; 459; 702	Local; ..
Panagaon—Gda.—पानगांव	SE; 25.0	1035; 1144; 265; 550	Sonpuri; 2.0
Panagaon—Gda.—पानगांव	SE; 26.0	1107; 699; 128; 280	.. 1.0
Panchgaon—Skl.—पांचगांव	SW; 26.4	811; 603; 136; 328	Belati; 1.4
Panchagaon—Bdr.—पांचगांव	N; 9.0	1963; 1532; 280; 521	Bhandara; 8.0
Pandharabodi—Bdr.—पांढराबोडी	NW; 13.0	1142; 497; 99; 185	Andhal- gaon; 9.0
Pandharabodi—Bdr.—पांढराबोडी	N; 3.0	951; 897; 158; 303	Bhandara; 2.0
Pandharabodi—Gda.—पांढराबोडी	N; 5.0	1351; 2774; 551; 919	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 11.0	Dhargao; 2.0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 12.4	Andhal- gaon; 1.4; Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (mp); 2 tl.
Road;				
Tirora; 4.0	Tirora; 3.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; 2 gym.
				tl.
Bhandara 10.0	Dawadi- par; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	
Road;				
Goregaon; 9.0	Mohagaon; 2.0; ..	Mundipar; 6.0	W.	SI (pr); 5 tl; gym; ch.
Amgaon; 33.0	Chichgad; 3.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W;t.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 16.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	8 SI (2 pr, 2 m, 2 h, 2 clg); Cs (mp); 2 tl; 2 m; mq; ch; 2 lib; 2 dp.
				SI (pr); 2 tl; 2 dg; ch; dp.
Dewalgaon; 24.0	Local; .. Sun.	Nawegaon; 24.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 4 tl.
Arjuni; 15.0	Dighori; 2.0; Wed.	Salebardi; 1.0	W;rv.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Pandhari; 3.0	Dawwa; 1.0; ..	Local; ..	W	SI (pr); pyt; 2 tl.
Sondad; 3.0	.. 2.0; ..	.. 2.0	W	SI(m);Cs;8tl; gym.
Gond Umri; 3.0	Gond- Umri; 3.0; Tue.	Sakoli; 8.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; Cch.
Dewalgaon; 14.0	Nawe- gaon; 14.0; Thu.	Kohalgaon; 11.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; dg.
Sondad; 15.0	Bampe- wada; .. Sat.	.. 8.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 17.0	Adyal; 6.0; Sun.	Adyal; 6.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; ch.
Pindkepar; 3.0	.. ..	Mundipar; 3.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 2 tl; gym; ch.
Pauni 11.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 1.0	W.	dp.
Road;				
Koka; 7.0	Local; .. Sat.	Khadki; 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 2 Cs; 4 tl.
Salekasa; 4.0	Salekasa; 4.0; Mon.	.. 9.0	W;n.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Amgaon; 8.0	Amgaon; 8.0; Mon.	Sakhari- tola; 1.0	W.	SI (pr); 3 tl.
Arjuni; 16.0	.. 6.4; Sun.	.. 6.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl.
Bhandara 2.0	Warthi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 8.0	.. 5.0; Thu.	Mohadi; 9.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 5.0	Bhandara; 2.0; Sun., Wed., Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Road;				
Gondia; 5.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; 2 m.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Pandharavani—Gda.—पांढरवाणी	SE; 28.3	1026; 48; 7; 34	Shenda; 1.0
Pandharavani—Gda.—पांढरवाणी	SE; 32.0	2719; 1071; 54; 648	Local; ..
Pandharavani—Skl.—पांढरवाणी	E; 21.0	1495; 457; 91; 100	Arjuni; 5.0
Pandharavani—Skl.—पांढरवाणी	E; 29.0	1127; 140; 24; 40	Deori; 5.0
Pandharavani—Skl.—पांढरवाणी	SE; 23.0	411; 167; 30; 56	Nawegaon- bandh; 2.0
Pandharavani (Raiyyatavari)— Skl.—पांढरवाणी (रैयतवारी)	SE; 24.0	690; 216; 36; 88	Nawegaon- bandh; 4.0
Pandhari—Gda.—पांढरी	E; 28.0	1207; 676; 133; 289	Sonpuri; 3.0
Pandhari—Skl.—पांढरी	NE; 18.0	1723; 2220 442; 956	Local; ..
Pandhi—Bdr.—पांधी	SW; 10.0	534; 28; 5; 17	Pipari; 3.0
Pangadi—Bdr.—पांगडी	N; 40.0	558; 27; 7; 19	.. 10.0
Pangadi—Gda.—पांगडी	SW; 6.0	3446; 175; 36; 106	Kawale- wada; 4.0
Pangadi—Skl.—पांगडी	N; ..	698; 28; 9; ..	.. ..
Panjara—Bdr.—पांजरा	NE; 40.0	718; 697; 142; 220	.. 1.0
Panjara—Bdr.—पांजरा	N; 32.0	1059; 482; 97; 192	.. 8.0
Panjara—Bdr.—पांजरा	NE; 17.0	615; 225; 39; 49	Tumsar; 3.0
Panjara—Bdr.—पांजरा	NW; 25.0	755; 85; 14; 39	Kandri; 1.0
Panjara—Bdr.—पांजरा	N; 11.0	442; 512; 98; 134	Warthi; 2.0
Panjara—Gda.—पांजरा	NE; 14.0	1347; 1770; 345; 808	Kamtha; 2.0
Panjara—Gda.—पांजरा	SW; 30.0	826; 947; 195; 217	Mundikota; 1.4
Pannasi—Bdr.—पन्नासी	S; 13.0	112; 77; 12; 41	Pahela; 3.0
Papada Bk.—Skl.—पापडा बु.	S; 8.0	977; 403; 74; 169	Palasgaon; 2.0
Papada Kh.—Skl.—पापडा खु.	S; 8.0	333; 155; 28; 63	Sangadi; 2.0
Paradi—Bdr.—पारडी	N; 14.0	1179; 926; 192; 357	Tumsar; 8.0
Paradi—Skl.—पारडी	S; 25.0	1544; 1049; 184; 246	Local ..
Paradibandh—Gda.—पारडीबांध	W; 12.0	1587; 1139; 234; 450	Dawani- wada; 10.0
Parasatola—Skl.—परसटोला	SE; 60.0	1291; 678; 149; 330	Kesori; 6.0
Parasawada—Bdr.—परसवाडा	NE; 18.0	1294; 902; 163; 307	Tumsar; 2.0
Parasawada—Bdr.—परसवाडा	NE; 32.0	1095; 872; 179; 370	Wahani; 2.0
Parasawada—Gda.—परसवाडा	NW; 22.0	1397; 1742; 357; 476	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
.. ..	Shenda; 1.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	2 tl.
Salekasa; 10.0	Sitekora; 2.0; ..	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 3 tl.
Sondad; 16.0	Sadak 8.0; Sat. Arjuni;	.. 3.0	W;n.	tl; ch.
Amgaon; 28.0	.. ..	.. 5.0	t.	tl.
Dewalgaon; 2.0	Nawegaon 2.0; Thu. bandh;	Nawegaon- bandh; 2.0	W.	tl.
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Nawegaon 4.0; Thu. bandh;	Nawegaon- bandh; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Salekasa; 6.0	Pathari; 2.0; Sat.	.. 11.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Local; ..	Local; .. Mon.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, h); Cs; 2 tl; ch; lib; dp.
Bhandara 18.0	Shahapur; 6.0; Tue.	Shahapur; 6.0	W.	tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	n.	tl.
Gondia; 6.4	Bagheda; 10.0; .. Gondia; 6.4; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Koka; 7.0	.. 2.0; Tue.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Tumsar; 9.0	Silora; 5.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Tumsar; 3.0; Tue.	Mohadi; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Khat; 10.0	Kandri; 1.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	tl.
Bhandara 2.0	Bhandara; 2.0; Thu.	Bhandara; 2.0	W.	tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.
Gondia; 14.0	Kamtha; 2.0; Thu.	Kamtha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Mundikota; 2.0	Mundi- kota; 1.4; Mon.	.. ..	W.	tl; ch.
Bhandara 19.0	Pahela; 3.0; Fri.	Pahela; 3.0	W.	tl; ch.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 4 tl.
Gond Umri; 3.0	Gond- Umri; 3.0; Mon.	Nawegaon- bandh; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); 4 tl.
Gond Umri; 6.0	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 2.0	W.	2 tl.
Bhandara 6.0	Mohadi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; gym.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs
Arjuni; 10.0	Barwha; 3.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gangajhari; 6.0	Gondia; 12.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c);
Arjuni; 20.0	Arjuni; 20.0; Sat.	Gothan- gaon; 13.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 2.0	Dewhadi; 2.0; Sun.	Tumsar; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; gym.
Tumsar; 11.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 2 tl; ch;
Tirora; 6.0	Tirora; 6.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	lib; 2 dp.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Parasavada—Gda.—परमवाडा	NE; 11.0	527; 1666; 341; 640	Local; ..
Parasodi—Bdr.—परसोडी	W; ..	1053; 1539; 294; 442	.. ..
Parasodi—Bdr.—परसोडी	SW; 36.0	918; 489; 101; 231	Pauni; 10.0
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	SW; 32.0	638; 591; 101; 331	Kudegaon; 1.4
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	SW; 25.0	537; 306; 55; 172	Belati; 4.0
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	NE; ..	570; 932; 168; 464	Sadak- Arjuni; 2.0
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	SE; 6.0	2493; 2605; 502; 1181	Local; ..
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	NW; 11.0	806; 769; 145; 280	Salebhata; 2.0
Parasodi—Skl.—परसोडी	SE; 35.0	2149; 622; 128; 344	Futana; 3.0
Parasodhi (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.— परसोडी (रैयतवारी)	SE; 14.0	783; 550; 89; 188	Nawegaon- bandh; 6.0
Patekhurra—Skl.—पाटेखुरा	NE; 20.0	2317; 905; 166; 464	.. 2.0
Pathantola—Gda.—पाठाणटोला	SE; ..	545; 703; 14; 44	.. ..
Pathari—Bdr.—पाथरी	S; 21.0	1519; 1269; 233; 637	Chichal; ..
Pathari—Bdr.—पाथरी	N; 3.4	1440; 1996; 280; 673	Naka- dongari; 1.0
Pathari—Gda.—पाथरी	E; 26.0	775; 682; 128; 363	Sonpuri; 2.0
Pathari—Gda.—पाथरी	S; 12.0	2161; 3302; 634; 1523	Local; ..
Pathari—Skl.—पाथरी	SW; 20.0	915; 858; 164; 403	Palandur; 4.0
Pathari—Skl.—पाथरी	E; 2.0	1078; 446; 76; 159	Sakoli; 2.0
Pauladavara—Gda.—पाऊळदवना	SE; 26.0	1364; 617; 107; 191	Sawali; 2.0
Pauladavara—Gda.—पाऊळदवना	SE; 28.0	831; 629; 119; 218	.. 3.0
Pauladavara—Gda.—पाऊळदवना	SE; ..	1079; 531; 103; 241	.. ..
Pauladavara—Skl.—पाऊळदवना	SW; 26.0	930; 316; 52; 154	Belati; 2.0
Pauna Bk.—Bdr.—पौना बु.	SE; 32.0	1197; 689; 135; 379	Walani; 2.0
Pauna Kh.—Bdr.—पौना खु.	SE; 31.0	605; 603; 110; 194	Walani; 1.0
Pauni (1)—Bdr.—पौनी (१)	S; 28.0	2106; 29; 12; 2	Local; ..
Pauni (2) Urban Area III—Bdr.— पौनी (२) नागरी विभाग	S; ..	8.52; 17781; 228; 2237	.. ..
Pauni—Skl.—पौनी	SE; 41.0	880; 14; 3; 5	Chichgad; 3.0
Pauni—Skl.—पौनी	SE; 28.0	1872; 594; 105; 243	Dhabe- tekari; 1.0

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Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gatra; 7.0	Kamtha; 2.0; Thu.	Kamtha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Bhiwapur; 8.0	Bhiwapur; 8.0; Fri.	Pauni; 10.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl.
Wadegaon; 12.0	Lakhan- dur; 2.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Pauni 21.0	Barwha; 5.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	2 tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Khodshioni; 5.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 2.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 2.0	Sondad; 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Sondad; 20.0	Lakhan; 7.0; Tue.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; gym.
Sondad; 30.0	Pindake- par; 2.0; Wed.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Dewalgaon; ..	Nawegaon- bandh; 6.0; Thu.	Nawegaon- bandh; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Pandhari; 3.0	Pandhari; 3.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..				
Amgaon; 16.0	Adyar; 1.4; Sun.	.. ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
.. 6.0	.. 3.0; ..	.. ..	W;rv.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; m; gym; lib.
Salekasa; 6.0	Local; .. Sat.	.. 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
.. 4.0	.. 1.0; ..	.. ..	W.	Cs; tl; dp.
Arjuni; 16.0	Palandur; 4.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 7.0	Sakoli; 2.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 12.0	Sawali; 2.0; Sun.	Sawali; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Salekasa; 4.0	Salekasa; 4.0; Mon.	.. 11.0	W.	Sl (m); 2 tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	.. ..
Pauni 19.0	Barwha; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; ch.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pauni 13.6	Mangli; 2.4; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pauni 12.6	Pauni; 2.0; Sat., Tue.	.. 5.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pauni 8.0	Local; .. Sat., Tue.	Local; ..	W;rv.	Cs; Vajeshwar Fr. Kt. Sud 15; 3 tl; 3 mq; dg; 2 dh; 3 gym.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
.. ..				
.. 21.0	Chichgad; 3.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	.. ..
Dewalgaon; 6.0	Nawegaon- bandh; 6.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr); m); Cs (c); tl; Cch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Paurajhola—Skl.—पाऊरझोला ..	SE; 44.0	2624; 425; 90; 222	.. 2.0
Pavanara—Bdr.—पवनारा ..	N; 27.0	1331; 902; 197; 366	Chicholi; 1.0
Pavanarakhari—Bdr.—पवनारखारी ..	N; 29.0	4481; 472; 70; 130	Gobarwahi; 2.0
Pavanarakhari Homeshah—Bdr.— पवनारखारी हमेशा ..	N; 29.0	1177; 802; 150; 325	Gobarwahi; 4.0
Pendhari—Bdr.—पेंढरी ..	S; 18.0	621; 108; 36; 66	Chichal; 2.0
Pendhari—Skl.—पेंढरी ..	SW; 12.0	1866; 1931; 352; 537	Pohara; 1.0
Pendhari—Skl.—पेंढरी ..	SW; 25.0	847; 633; 134; 271	Hardoli; 1.0
Pevatha—Bdr.—पेवठा ..	SW; ..	751; 137; 118; 59	.. ..
Phanuli—Bdr.—फनूली ..	SE; 21.0	409; 598; 121; 296	Pimpalgaon; 1.0
Phattpur—Gda.—फतेपूर ..	W; 4.0	1312; 822; 176; 247	Dawani- wada; 5.0
Phukimeta—Gda.—फुकीमेटा ..	SE; ..	925; 789; 150; 377	.. ..
Phukimeta—Gda.—फुकीमेटा ..	SE; 37.0	3984; 895; 200; 507	Purada; 3.0
Phulachur—Gda.—फुलचूर ..	S; 1.0	1826; 3923; 822; 740	Local; ..
Phutala—Bdr.—फुटाळा ..	NW; 25.0	964; 168; 34; 82	Kandri; 1.0
Phutala—Skl.—फुटाळा ..	E; 7.0	380; 467; 68; 219	Soundad; 0.4
Phutana—Skl.—फुटाना ..	SE; 33.0	841; 804; 144; 257	Local; ..
Pilandri—Bdr.—पिलांद्री ..	SE; 21.0	1120; 845; 167; 396	Pimpalgaon; 3.0
Pimpalagaon—Bdr.—पिंपळगांव ..	SE; 13.0	1419; 1237; 462; 647	Local; ..
Pimpalgaon—Bdr.—पिंपळगांव ..	SE; 10.0	594; 202; 37; 102	Gunthara; 5.4
Pimpalagaon—Bdr.—पिंपळगांव ..	NW; 11.0	708; 572; 114; 252	Warthi; 3.0
Pimpalagaon—Skl.—पिंपळगांव ..	W; 10.0	656; 2673; 533; 627	Local; ..
Pimpalagaon—Skl.—पिंपळगांव ..	S; 20.0	1182; 1602; 301; 774	Barabhati; 2.0
Pimpalagaon—Skl.—पिंपळगांव ..	S; 30.0	2941; 2597; 465; 979	Local; ..
Pindakepar—Bdr.—पिंडकेपार ..	S; 3.0	747; 597; 111; 109	Bhandara; 3.0
Pindakepar—Gda.—पिंडकेपार ..	SW; 28.0	1585; 729; 145; 248	Sukdi; 3.0
Pindakepar—Gda.—पिंडकेपार ..	S; 12.0	3163; 1164; 232; 641	Kurhadi; 3.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Amgaon; 42.0	.. ..	.. 5.0	W;t.	SI (pr).
Chicholi; 1.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; tl.
Gobarwahi; 2.0	Dongri; 2.0; Mon.	Gobarwahi; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; tl.
Gobarwahi; 4.0	Dongri; 4.0; Mon.	Gobarwahi; 4.0	W.	tl.
.. 25.0	Chichal; 2.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	..
Sondad; 17.0	Pohara; 1.0; Thu.	.. 1.4	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; gym; ch.
Arjuni; 15.0	Barwala; 5.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W;rv.	..
Pauni 18.0	Nawegaon; 3.0; Thu.	Nawegaon; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Road; Gondia; 4.0	Gondia; 4.0; Tue.	Bhanpur; 1.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; gym.
.. ..			..	..
Amgaon; 21.0	Wagha- nadi; 4.0; Sat.	Mulla; 5.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gondia; 1.0	.. ..	.. ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl; lib.
Tumsar; 17.0	Kandri; 1.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 0.4	Sondad; 0.4; Wed.	Soundad; 0.4	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 32.0	Borgaon; 5.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; m; ch.
Pauni 19.0	Adyar; 5.0; Sun.	Adyar; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Road; Pauni 16.0	Kondha; 3.0; Wed.	Kondha; 3.0	W.	SI (m); 2 tl; gym; ch; dp.
Road; Bhandara 15.0	Dhargao; 7.6; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	2 tl; ch.
Road; Bhandara 3.0	Warthi; 3.0; Thu.	Warthi; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Road; Sondad; 15.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; 3 tl; gym; dp.
Barabhati; 2.0	Arjuni; 4.0; Sat.	Nimgaon; 1.4	W.	3 SI (pr, 2 m); Cs; (s) 2 tl; 2 Cch.
Wadegaon; 5.0	Lakhan- dur; 3.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Bhandara 9.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun. Wed. Fri.	Bhandara; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 8.0	Sukdi; 2.0; Fri.	Sukdi; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 m.
Local; 1.0	Kurhadi; 3.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Pindakepar (1)—Gda. पिडकेपार (१)	SW; 2.4	1182; 1431; 281; 558	Karanja; 10.
Pindakepar (2) included in Urban Area I—Gda.—पिडकेपार (२)	..	.. ..	.. ..
नागरी विभाग I मध्ये समाविष्ट			
Pindakepar—Skl.—पिडकेपार	N; 3.0	2123; 1991; 380; 745	Local; ..
Pindakepar—Skl.—पिडकेपार	NE; 31.0	1146; 655; 119; 224	Local; ..
Pindakepar—Skl.—पिडकेपार	SE; 37.0	3132; 722; 149; 279	Chichgad; 4.0
Piparakhari—Skl.—पिपरखारी	SE; 44.0	7063; 341; 59; 204	Chichgad; 6.0
Pipaotola—Gda.—पिपरटोला	SE; ..	708; 158; 31; 85	.. ..
Piparatola—Gda.—पिपरटोला	SE; ..	308; 594; 108; 171	.. ..
Piparatola—Gda.—पिपरटोला	SE; 22.0	851; 438; 91; 244	.. 3.0
Piparatola—Gda.—पिपरटोला	N; 6.0	317; 299; 51; 78	Pandhara- bodi; 2.0
Pipari—Bdr.—पिपरी	SW; 14.0	963; 1272; 220; 519	Local; ..
Pipari—Skl.—पिपरी	SE; 8.0	663; 160; 26; 46	Soundad; 3.0
Pipari Chunni—Bdr.—पिपरी चुन्नी	NE; 34.0	589; 688; 124; 294	Chulhad; 3.0
Pipariya—Gda.—पिपरिया	E; 31.0	3496; 2310; 444; 1396	Local; ..
Pipariya—Gda.—पिपरिया	NW; 25.0	926; 745; 141; 228	Arjuni; 3.0
Pipariya—Bdr.—पिपरिया	N; 25.0	652; 687; 142; 203	Mitewani; 2.0
Pipariya—Bdr.—पिपरिया	NW; 24.0	678; 1244; 240; 551	Jamb; 2.0
Pitejhari—Skl.—पिटेझरी	N; 9.0	4742; 290; 52; 127	Amgaon 3.0 Bk.;
Pohara—Skl.—पोहरा	SW; 11.0	2591; 5590; 1073; 1595	Local; ..
Polatola—Gda.—पोलाटोला	NW; 14.0	149; 124; 19; 64	Dawani- wada; 1.0
Pratapagad—Skl.—प्रतापगड	SE; 30.0	672; 520; 108; 141	.. ..
Purada—Gda.—पुराडा	SE; 34.0	12,696; 1842; 372; 1234	Local; ..
Puragaon—Gda.—पुरगांव	S; 7.0	1238; 1556; 268; 557	Gankhaira; 2.0
Purakabodi—Bdr.—पुरकाबोडी	SE; 10.0	291; 65; 16; 33	Gunthara; 8.0
Putali—Skl.—पुतली	E; 21.4	1424; 574; 104; 336	Dongargaon; 3.0
Puyar—Skl.—पुयार	S; 29.0	1080; 600; 102; 352	Wadegaon; 3.0
Rajaguda—Skl.—राजगुडा	E; 19.4	2800; 820; 143; 448	Khurshipar; 5.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
.. ..	Gondia; 2.0; Tue.	Gondia; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; lib.
.. ..			..	..
Sondad; 9.0	Sakoli; 3.0; Sun.	.. 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 Cs; 2 tl; ch
Amgaon; 22.0	Deori; 5.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
.. 30.0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 34.0	Chichgad; 6.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 6.0	W.	Sl (pr).
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Amgaon; 14.0	.. 3.0; Tue.	.. 14.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Gatra; 3.0	Pandhara- bodi; 2.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road; 20.0	Local; .. Fri.	Jawahar- nagar; 4.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Gond- umari; 3.0	.. 3.0; ..	Soundad; 4.0	W.	2 tl.
Tumsar; 15.0	Sihore; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Salekasa; 7.0	Local; .. Thu.	.. 7.0	W.	5 Sl (3 pr, 2 m); Cs; 6 tl; ch.
Tirora; 14.0	Arjuni; 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Tumsar; 4.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 4.0	n.	Sl (pr); Cs; Ramnawami Fr; tl.
Tumsar; 13.0	Jamb; 2.0; Mon.	Jamb; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Sondad; 9.0	Sakoli; 9.0; Sun.	.. 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); tl.
Sondad; 16.0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 6 tl; 2 m; mq; dh; gym; ch; lib; dp.
Gondia; 14.0	Ratnara; 5.0; Fr.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
.. ..			..	..
Amgaon; 18.0	Local; .. Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (m); pyt; Cs (s); 5 tl.
Gankhera Halt; 2.0	Goregaon; 3.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; Mahashiv Mg. Sud. 13; tl.
Bhandara Road; 20.0	Dhargao; 9.0; Mon.	.. 8.0	W.	2 tl; ch.
Sondad; 16.0	Deori; 8.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Wadegaon; 3.0	Lakhan- dur; 4.0; Tue.	Lakhan- dur; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; Ramnawami Fr. Mg. Sud. 13; tl; ch.
Sondad; 14.4	Sadak- Arjuni; 7.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Rajamadongari—Skl.— राजमडोंगरी	E; 30.0	994; 85; 15; 34	Borgaon; 2.0
Rajani—Skl.—राजनी	SW; 33.0	1445; 938; 239; 292	Sarandi 2.0
Rajapur—Bdr.—राजापूर	N; 31.0	1182; 1404; 182; 374	Bk.; Naka- dongari; 1.0
Rajedahegaon—Bdr.— राजेदहेगांव	W; ..	1489; 548; 95; 201	.. ..
Rajegaon—Bdr.—राजेगांव	SE; 15.0	492; 414; 49; 80	Gunthara; 3.0
Rajegaon—Gda.—राजेगांव	N; 8.0	1448; 1260; 242; 389	Rawanwadi; 2.0
Rajegaon—Skl.—राजेगांव	W; 8.0	654; 1018; 170; 314	Salebhata; 2.0
Rajoli (Raiyyatawari)—Skl.— राजोली (रैय्यतवारी)	SE; 48.0	1131; 415; 78; 206	Desaiganj; 21.0
Raka—Skl.—राका	E; 9.0	1598; 1487; 285; 588	.. 2.0
Ramaghat—Skl.—रामघाट	SE; ..	281; 8; 5; 5	.. ..
Ramapur Hamesha—Bdr.— रामपूर हमेशा	N; 23.0	4162; 378; 76; 201	Tumsar; 10.0
Ramapuri—Skl.—रामपुरी	SW; 15.0	1278; 631; 134; 203	Murmadi; 1.0
Ramapuri—Skl.—रामपुरी	SE; 28.0	676; 470; 78; 252	Dhabe- tekari; 3.0
Ranala—Bdr.—रनाळा	SE; 33.0	815; 460; 96; 261	Asgaon; 2.0
Ranala Urph Annapurna—Bdr.— रनाळा उर्फ अन्नपूर्णा	SW; 33.0	514; 88; 20; 42	Amgaon; 1.0
Ranera—Bdr.—रनेरा	NE; 6.0	659; 557; 106; 110	Sihora; 2.0
Rapevada—Gda.—रापेवाडा	S; 4.0	1361; 1395; 271; 692	Kawale- wada; 2.4
Ratanara—Gda.—रतनारा	NW; 6.0	1345; 2313; 438; 1103	Local; ..
Ravanavadi—Gda.—रावणवाडी	N; 6.0	1048; 1266; 270; 358	Local; ..
Ravanavadi—Bdr.—रावणवाडी	SE; 10.0	1073; 366; 74; 175	Pahela; 3.0
Rayapur—Gda.—रायपूर	NW; 12.0	1335; 1010; 227; 407	Dawani- wada; 5.0
Rehali—Skl.—रेहली	SE; 39.0	1087; 338; 73; 212	Nilaj; 3.0
Rengepar—Bdr.—रेंगेपार	NE; 25.0	626; 531; 99; 194	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Amgaon; 28.0	Borgaon; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	T.	tl.
Wadegaon; 18.0	Doke- sarandi; 1.4; Sun.	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl.
Gobarwahi; 4.0	Chikhila; 1.0; Fr.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl.
.. ..	Local; .. Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
Bhandara Road; 20.0	Dhargaan; 3.0; Mon.	.. 3.0	W.	2 tl; dg; ch.
Birsola; 3.0	Koti; 3.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 3 tl; m; ch; lib.
Bhandara Road; 24.0	Morgaon; 0.1; Thu.	.. 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); tl; ch; lib; dp.
Warsa; 21.0	Kurkheda; 6.0; Sat.	Khurkheda; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
.. 3.0	.. 2.0; ..	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; 2 tl; mq.
.. ..			..	..
Tumsar; 7.0	Mitewani; 4.0; ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Arjuni; 22.0	Murmadi; 1.0; Tue.	Pimpal- gaon; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Dewalgaon; 5.0	Nawegaon 5.0; Thu. bandh;	Nawegaon bandh; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; Cch.
Pauni 14.6	Asgaon; 2.0; Wed.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 1.0	Bhiwapur; 2.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	..
Tumsar; 9.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Gondia; 4.0	Gondia; 4.0; Tue.	Gondia; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Gondia; 6.0	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 5 tl.
Garra; 2.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl; dp.
Bhandara Road; 15.0	Pahela; 3.4; Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Gondia; 12.0	Dasgaon; 3.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3 tl.
Sondad; 28.0	Chichgad; 3.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W;t.	Sl (pr).
Tumsar; 10.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Rengepar—Skl.—रेंगेपार	NE; 24.0	2534; 744; 139; 322	Sadak- 4.0 Arjuni;
Rengepar—Skl.—रेंगेपार	NE; 19.0	942; 791; 154; 420	Pandhari; 1.0
Rengepar—Skl.—रेंगेपार	NE; 13.0	725; 459; 92; 196	Satalawada; 2.0
Rengepar—Skl.—रेंगेपार	W; 15.0	1434; 2053; 348; 609	Local; ..
Rengepar—Skl.—रेंगेपार	W; 8.0	1407; 1451; 261; 484	Pimpalgaon; 0.6
Rengoda—Skl.—रेंगोडा	SW; 24.0	819; 619; 115; 148	Guradha; 2.0
Revani—Bdr.—रेवनी	SE; 30.0	535; 380; 58; 186	Walani; 4.0
Risama—Gda.—रिसामा	SE; ..	623; 3056; 804; 550	.. ..
Roha—Bdr.—रोहा	NE; 9.0	3006; 1619; 348; 366	Betara; 3.0
Rohana—Bdr.—रोहणा	S; 33.0	426; 21; 3; 13	Pauni; 5.0
Robana—Bdr.—रोहणा	N; ..	2233; 1381; 258; 524	Betara; 3.0
Rohani—Skl.—रोहणी	SW; 24.0	1106; 1011; 187; 347	Kudegaon; 1.0
Rondha—Gda.—रोंढा	SE; 28.0	866; 778; 137; 268	Salekasa; 2.0
Rongha—Bdr.—रोंघा	NW; 42.0	1634; 1127; 83; 413	Gobarwahi; 17.0
Ropa—Skl.—रोपा	SE; 34.0	1187; 51; 12; 31	Chichgad; 9.0
Rupera—Bdr.—रूपेरा	NE; 23.0	819; 615; 115; 215	Sihora; 2.0
Rustamapur—Gda.—रुस्तमपूर	SW; 18.0	292; 265; 44; 75	Sukdi; 6.0
Ruyad—Bdr.—रुयाड	S; 26.0	464; 598; 124; 267	Pauni; 0.6
Sadak-Arjuni—Skl.—सडक अर्जुनी	E; 10.0	855; 2488; 478; 444	Local; ..
Sahakepar—Skl.—साहकेपार	E; 23.0	1944; 109; 19; 68	Khurshipar; 2.0
Shahapur—Bdr.—शाहापूर	W; 6.0	1053; 1965; 388; 405	Local; ..
Shaharavani—Gda.—शहरवानी	SW; 7.0	1860; 2008; 401; 809	Kawale- 2.4 wada;
Sahejapur—Gda.—सहेजपूर	W; 12.0	1422; 1711; 306; 718	Ekodi; 0.4
Sahuli—Bdr.—साहुली	SW; 13.0	2731; 1093; 243; 213	Jawahar- 1.0 nagar;
Sakadi—Bdr.—साकडी	NE; 26.0	1786; 1122; 225; 487	Mitewani; 1.0
Sakara—Skl.—साकरा	S; 5.0	774; 678; 126; 264	Khandala; 1.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Sondad; 19.0	Sadak- 6.0; Sat. Arjuni;	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Gongale; 0.4	Pandhari; 1.0; Mon.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mis); tl; ch.
Khod- 4.0	Sakoli; 13.0; Sun.	.. 13.0	W.	Cs; tl.
shioni;				
Sondad; 20.0	Lakhani; 3.0; Tue.	Lakhani; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch; lib.
Sondad; 15.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	Pimpal- 0.6	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; 4 tl; 3 dg.
		gaon;		
Arjuni; 27.0	Guradha; 27.0; Wed.	Guradha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Pauni 11.0	Pauni; 3.0; Sat., Tue.	Pauni; 3.0	W;t.	tl.
Road;				
.. ..				
Koka; 2.0	Mundhari 1.0; Tue.	.. 1.1	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 3 tl; dh; gym.
	Bk.;			
Pauni 5.0	Pauni; 5.0; Sat.; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	tl.
Road;				
Koka; 3.0	Mohadi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; gym; lib.
Bramhapur; 8.0	Lakhan- 5.0; Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl; lib; dp.
	dur;			
Salekasa; 2.0	Salekasa; 2.0; Mon.	.. 10.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Chicholi; 14.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl.
Sondad; 26.0	Chichgad; 9.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 9.0	W.	..
Tumsar; 9.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Tirora; 16.0	Sukdi; 6.0; Fri.	Sukdi; 6.0	W;n.	3 m.
Pauni 8.6	Pauni; 0.6; Sat; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Pyt; 2 tl.
Road;				
Sondad; 6.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	4 Sl (3 pr, h); 4 Cs; tl; mq; dg; gym; ch; lib; 4 dp.
Sondad; 18.0	Deori; 5.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	tl.
1. Bhandara 12.0	Local; .. Tue.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 5 tl; gym; 2 lib; 2 dp.
Road;				
2. Khat; 5.0				
Gondia; 7.0	Gondia; 7.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (2 pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Dande- 1.6; Mon.	.. 1.5	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl; gym.
	gaon;			
Bhandara 20.0	Jawahar- 1.0; ..	Jawahar- 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Road;	nagar;			
Chicholi; 3.0	Tumsar; 5.0; Tue.	Mitewani; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (s); tl.
Dewalgaon; ..	Sangadi; 4.0; Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Sakara—Skl.—साकरा	.. SW; 20.0	865; 561; 107; 307	Dighori; 2.0
Sakarla—Bdr.—सकर्ला	.. N; 19.0	915; 666; 140; 251	Andhalgaon; 1.0
Sakoli—Skl.—साकोली	.. HQ; ..	2121; 6654; 1401; 968	Local; ..
Sakkaradara—Bdr.—सक्करदरा	.. NE; 33.0	765; 336; 67; 170	Naka- dongari; 5.0
Salai—Skl.—सालई	.. E; 26.0	1438; 249; 61; 81	Deori; 3.0
Salai Bk.—Bdr.—सालई बु.	.. N; 18.0	1666; 1312; 271; 540	.. 2.0
Salai Bk.—Skl.—सालई बु.	.. SE; 15.0	643; 402; 90; 247	Bhiokhidki; 1.0
Salai Kh.—Bdr.—सालई खु.	.. N; 26.0	2479; 1548; 268; 449	Local; ..
Salaitola—Gda.—सालइटोला	.. SE; 28.0	459; 367; 67; 182	Sakharitola; 3.0
Salangatola—Gda.—सलंगटोला	.. SE; 14.0	173; 270; 41; 134	Bhasgaon; 1.0
Salebardi—Bdr.—सालेबर्डी	.. SW; 6.0	895; 603; 116; 191	Pipari; 3.0
Salebardi—Bdr.—सालेबर्डी	.. S; 3.0	462; 470; 109; 145	Silli; 2.0
Salebardi—Bdr.—सालेबर्डी	.. N; 22.0	1033; 506; 103; 172	Mohali; 11.0
Salebardi—Gda.—सालेबर्डी	.. SW; 20.0	602; 782; 169; 250	Sarandi; 6.0
Salebardi—Skl.—सालेबर्डी	.. S; 16.0	1417; 463; 93; 210	Dighori; 2.0
Salebhata—Skl.—सालेभाटा	.. W; 12.0	942; 2010; 370; 544	Local; ..
Saledharani—Skl.—सालेधारणी	.. E; 19.0	1014; 197; 42; 93	Dongargaon; 1.4
Salagaon—Skl.—सालेगांव	.. NE; 38.0	1364; 330; 64; 205	Lohara; 4.0
Salaheti—Bdr.—सालेहेटी	.. E; 7.0	474; 210; 42; 118	Matora 2.0 (G. tola);
Salekasa—Gda.—सालेकसा	.. SE; 24.0	818; 51; 99; 205	Amgaon ..
Salevada—Bdr.—सालेवाडा	.. S; 15.0	937; 480; 100; 214	Kh.; Adyar; 0.4
Samevada—Skl.—सामेवाडा	.. W; 8.0	880; 609; 121; 217	Lakhori; 3.0
Sanagadi—Skl.—सानगडी	.. S; 10.0	1541; 3857; 756; 916	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Arjuni; 12.0	Dighori; 2.0; Wed.	.. 0.3	rv.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 13.0	Andhal- gaon; 1.0; Wed.	.. 1.0	W;n.	SI(pr);pyt;Cs;tl.
Road;	..	Local; ..	W.	10 SI (3 pr, 3 m, 2 h, 1 clg, 1 tr. clg); 7 Cs; 10 tl; m; 2 dg; dh; 3 lib; 4 dp.
Soundad; 7.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	tl.
Gobarwahi; 10.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	Sihora; 4.0	W.	tl.
Soundad; 19.0	Deori; 3.0; Tue.	Local; ..	T.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 6.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; m.
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Nawegaon 4.0; Fri.	Bhic- khidki;	W.	2 tl.
Tumsar; 12.0	.. 2.0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl.
Amgaon; 10.0	Sakhari- tola; 3.0; Wed.	Sakhari- tola;	W.	tl.
Hirdamali; 3.0	Goregaon; 3.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 14.0	Shahapur; 6.0; Tue.	Shahapur; 6.0	W;rv.	..
Road;	..	..	..	..
Bhandara 10.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun.	Bhandaar; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; gym.
Road;	.. Wed.	..	..	..
Bhandara 16.0	Andhal- gaon; 4.0; Wed.	Andhal- gaon;	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Road;	..	..	..	..
Tirora; 5.0	Sarandi; 4.0; Thu.	Tirora; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 10.0	Dighori; 2.0; Wed.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Soundad 21.0	Lakhni .. Tue.	.. 5.0	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; tl; 2 dp.
.. 12.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	.. 1.4	W.	tl.
Amgaon; 19.0	Sawali; 5.0; ..	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Bhandara 8.0	Bhandara; 7.0; Sun.	Bhandara; 7.0	W.	Cs (c); tl.
Road;	.. Wed. and Fri.	..	..	..
Local; ..	Amgaon 2.0; Mon.	..	..	SI (pr); Cs (c).
Bhandara 20.0	Adyar; 0.4; Sun.	Adyar; 0.4	W.	SI (pr); tl; Cch.
Road;	..	..	..	..
Soundad; 15.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	Pimpal- gaon;	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 12.0	Local; .. Fri.	..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs (c); 28 tl; m; 2 mq; 2 dg; 5 gym; lib; 5 Cch.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Sangam—Bdr.—संगम	SW; 10.0	766; 388; 59; 34	Pipari; 3.0
Sanagaon—Skl.—सानगांव	S; 9.0	439; 340; 71; 159	Sangadi; 1.0
Sarakaratola—Gda.—सरकारटोला	E; ..	1185; 1963; 283; 540	.. ..
Sarandi—Gda.—सरांडी	SW; 18.0	1490; 1882; 366; 345	Local; ..
Sarandi Bk.—Skl.—सरांडी बु	SW; 29.0	2806; 2146; 427; 916	Local; ..
Sarati—Skl.—सराटी	W; 4.0	517; 269; 48; 113	Sakoli; 4.0
Sarpevada—Bdr.—सर्पेवाडा	E; 14.0	472; 547; 124; 190	.. 2.0
Sarra—Gda.—सर्रा	SW; 37.0	1030; 686; 131; 368	Wadegaon; 2.0
Sarregao—Skl.—सर्गेगांव	SE; 35.0	1275; 542; 70; 273	Chichgad; 11.0
Sasara—Skl.—सासरा	S; 8.0	1603; 2377; 422; 1025	Sangadi; 1.0
Satagaon—Gda.—सातगांव	SE; 24.0	3990; 3522; 661; 1723	Local; ..
Satalavada—Skl.—सातलवाडा	NE; 12.0	1158; 980; 185; 465	Local; ..
Satava—Gda.—सटवा	S; 6.0	531; 785; 148; 309	Kawale- wada; 2.0
Satona—Bdr.—सतोना	NW; 7.0	953; 1168; 223; 199	.. 7.0
Satona—Gda.—सतोना	SW; 38.0	1103; 1283; 241; 469	Wadegaon; 1.0
Satona—Gda.—सतोना	N; 13.0	1232; 1364; 111; 805	Benathar; 3.4
Saundad—Skl.—साँदड	E; 6.0	3102; 4214; 811; 1450	Local; ..
Saundada—Bdr.—साँदडा	S; 16.0	913; 247; 47; 133	Adyar; 4.0
Savali—Gda.—सावली	SE; 28.0	2013; 1143; 230; 499	Local; ..
Savangi—Gda.—सावंगी	SE; ..	869; 883; 148; 367	.. ..
Savangi—Skl.—सावंगी	E; 11.0	778; 927; 200; 328	Local; ..
Savar—Gda.—सावरा	NW; 25.0	671; 563; 120; 228	Arjuni; 2.0
Savarabandh—Skl.—सावरबंध	S; 3.0	1046; 1658; 197; 776	Khandala; 2.0
Savaragaon—Bdr.—सावरगांव	S; 16.0	1001; 715; 126; 345	Nerla; 2.0
Savaragaon—Skl.—सावरगांव	SW; 32.0	652; 446; 76; 208	Kudegaon; 4.0
Savarala—Bdr.—सावरला	SE; 38.0	1141; 215; 389; 689	Local; ..
Savaratola—Skl.—सावरटोल	S; 20.0	666; 741; 129; 373	Navegaon; 4.0

Railway Station Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 16.0	Jawahar- nagar; 6.0; ..	Jawahar- nagar; 6.0	W;rv.	SI (pr); tl.
Road;	..	..	..	..
Dewalgaon; 13.0	Sangadi; 1.0; Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
.. ..			..	..
Mundikota; 4.0	Local; .. Thu.	Wirsi; 3.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (s); 4 tl. ch.
.. ..			..	..
Arjuni; 12.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 4.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl; dp.
Soundad; 11.0	Sakoli; 4.0; Sun	Mundipar; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.
.. 8.0	Khadki; 4.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Tirora; 10.0	Wadegaon; .. Wed.	Tirora; 10.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; m; gym.
Soundad; 28.0	Chichgad; 11.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 11.0	rv.	SI (pr).
Dewalgaon; ..	Sangadi; 1.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 1.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); 4 tl.
Amgaon; 9.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); Cs; 4tl; 6m; mq; 4 dp.
.. ..			..	..
Khod- shioni; 3.0	Sakoli; 12.0; Sun.	.. 7.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 Cs; 2 tl.
Gankhaira; 4.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Gankhaira; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..			..	..
Bhandara 5.0	Bhandara 5.0; Thu.	.. 5.0	W.	SI (m); Cs; tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
.. ..	(Dewhadi);	.. ..	..	..
Tirora; 7.0	Wadegaon; 1.0; Wed.	Tirora; 7.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; 2 gym.
Birsola; 4.0	Kat; 4.0; Sun.	Rajegaon; 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	2 SI (pr, h); 2 Cs; 5 tl; m; dh; 2 gym; ch; lib; dp.
.. ..			..	..
Bhandara 22.0	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Adyar; 4.0	W;rv.	SI (pr); tl.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Amgaon; 14.0	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	T.	2 SI (pr, m); 3 tl; gym; lib; dp.
.. ..			..	..
Soundad; 3.0	.. ..	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs; 2 tl.
Tirora; 13.0	Arjuni; 2.0; Fri.	.. 2.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Soundad; 10.0	Sakoli; 3.0; Sun.	Local; ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); ch.
Bhandara 22.0	Adyar; 4.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); ch.
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Bramhapuri; 8.0	Lakhan- dur; 2.0; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
.. ..	.. 6.0; Mon.	Pauni; 14.0	t.	2 SI (pr, h); Cs (mp); tl.
Pauni 19.0	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Road;	.. ..	.. ..	..	..
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Navegaon; 4.0; Thu.	Navegaon; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Savari—Bdr.—सावरी	SW; ..	762; 858; 176; 56	.. ..
Savari—Bdr.—सावरी	SE; 10.0	1400; 834; 158; 263	Gunthera; 5.0
Savari—Skl.—सावरी	S; 35.0	364; 85; 15; 37	Mahagaon; 2.0
Savari—Gda.—सावरी	N; 5.0	2703; 925; 550; 978	Rawan- wadi; 1.0
Savari—Skl.—सावरी	W; 13.2	772; 1278; 221; 288	Lakhani; 0.2
Sayagaon—Skl.—सायगांव	SW; 21.0	597; 104; 22; 55	Kitadi; 2.0
Sayagaon (Rayyatavari)—Skl.— सायगांव (रय्यतवारी)	SE; 36.0	2169; 269; 48; 154	Desaiganj; 17.0
Sayatola—Gda.—सायटोला	NW; 8.0	397; 192; 36; 105	Rotnara; 3.0
Sayatola—Gda.—सायटोला	S; 14.0	134; 88; 30; 32	Kurhadi; 1.4
Sedepar—Skl.—सेडेपार	E; 16.0	2306; 272; 70; 92	Deori; 2.0
Sedisomanala—Bdr.—सेडीसो- मनाळा	SE; 33.0	797; 772; 161; 410	Sawarla; 4.0
Segaon—Bdr.—सेगांव	SE; 16.0	290; 123; 20; 49	Pahela; 6.0
Sejagaon—Gda.—सेजगांव	W; 10.0	1009; 735; 151; 173	Chutiya; 4.0
Sejagaon—Gda.—सेजगांव	W; 16.0	1322; 996; 387; 436	Local; ..
Selotapar—Gda.—सेलोटपार	SW; 31.0	734; 547; 115; 194	Keshwada; 1.4
Seloti—Skl.—सेलोटी	W; 11.0	1535; 1020; 392; 681	Lakhani; 1.4
Senda—Skl.—सेंडा	NE; 22.0	865; 1106; 211; 505	Local; ..
Sendri Bk.—Bdr.—सेंद्री बु.	SE; 24.0	1529; 931; 185; 491	Kosara; 3.0
Sendri Kh.—Bdr.—सेंद्री खु.	SE; 24.0	764; 645; 131; 169	Kosara; 2.0
Senduravapha—Skl.—सेंदुरवाफा	E; 1.0	1309; 4379; 679; 1359	Local; ..
Sherakatola—Gda.—शेरकाटोला	N; 10.0	580; 276; 47; 147	Birsola; 2.4
Serapar—Gda.—सेरपार	SE; 27.0	1133; 354; 64; 310	Tirkhedi; 4.0
Serapar—Skl.—सेरपार	E; 25.0	3853; 625; 98; 261	Deori; 6.0
Sihari—Bdr.—सिहरी	N; 22.0	1104; 366; 63; 144	Salai Kh.; 1.0
Sihora—Bdr.—सिहोरा	NE; 24.0	1576; 4846; 902; 887	Local; ..
Silapur—Skl.—सिलापूर	E; 31.0	1818; 696; 94; 334	Dawaki; 2.0
Silegaon—Bdr.—सिलेगांव	NE; 30.0	1212; 1745; 362; 642	Sihora; 1.0

Railway Station; Distance	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day	Motor Stand; Distance	Water	Institutions and other information
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (m).
Bhandara 25.0	Lakhani; 8.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; gym; ch.
Road; .. 6.0	Managaon; 2.0; Wed.	Arjuni; 8.0	W.	..
Gondia; 1.0	Rawanwadi; 1.0; Thu.	Rawanwadi; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl.
Sondad; 18.0	Lakhani; 0.2; Tue.	.. 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs; tl; dg.
Pauni 22.0	Kitadi; 2.0; Wed.	.. 5.0	W.	tl.
Road; Warsa; 17.0	Kurkheda; 6.0; Sat.	.. 6.0	W.	Cs.
Gondia; 8.0	Pandharbodi; 3.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	2 tl; gym.
Hirdamali; 6.4	Kurhadi; 1.4; Sun.	.. 6.4	W.	tl.
Sondad; 18.10	Deori; 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Pauni 14.0	Local;	Pauni; 7.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); tl.
Road; Bhandara 22.0	Adyar; 5.0; Sun.	Adyar; 5.0	W.	tl; ch.
Road; Gangajhari; 4.0	Gondia; 10.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 3 tl; gym.
Gangajhari; 3.0	Local; .. Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; m; gym.
Mundikota; 4.0	Mundikota; 4.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 17.0	Lakhani; 1.4; Tue.	Lakhani; 1.4	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; 4 tl; ch.
Sondad; 17.0	Sadak-Arjuni; 9.0; Sat.	.. 5.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Pauni 12.0	Kondha; 7.0; Wed.	Kondha; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Road; Pauni Road; 14.0	Kondha; 1.0; Wed.	Kondha; 1.0	W.	2 tl; ch.
Sondad; 6.0	Sakoli; 2.0; Sun.	.. 0.4	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs (c); 4 tl.
Birsola; 2.4	Kati; 2.4; Sun.	Kati; 2.4	SW.	tl.
.. 7.0	Salekasa; 7.0; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Sondad; 18.0	Deori; 5.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Tumsar; 6.0	Salai Kh.; 1.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 11.0	Local; .. Sat.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 6 Cs; 4 tl; mq; gym; lib; dp.
Amgaon; 26.0	Deori; 5.0; Tue.	.. 2.4	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Tumsar; 12.0	Sihora; 1.0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Silegaon—Gda.—मिलेगांव	S; 10-0	819; 1229; 429; 269	.. ..
Silehari—SkL.—सिलेहरी	S; 16-0	1356; 1225; 230; 557	Sangadi; 3-0
Silli—Bdr.—सिल्ली	S; 5-0	2163; 2318; 459; 649	Local; ..
Silli—Gda.—सिल्ली	SW; 32-0	960; 988; 197; 535	Gangla; 3-0
Sinapuri—Bdr.—सिनपुरी	S; 26-0	742; 307; 69; 150	Pauni; 0-6
Sindapuri—Bdr.—सिंदपुरी	NE; 25-0	1180; 1715; 349; 438	Sihora; 1-0
Sindhi—Bdr.—सिंधी	S; 32-0	409; 118; 17; 78	.. ..
Sindibiri—SkL.—सिंदीबीरी	SE; 31-0	1005; 374; 72; 119	Borgaon; 3-0
Sindipar—SkL.—सिंदीपार	W; 10-0	472; 470; 85; 222	Sakoli; 10-0
Sindi, ar—SkL.—सिंदीपार	E; 10-0	1733; 738; 143; 442	Bopabodi; 2-0
Singanadoh—SkL.—सिंगनडोह	SE; 34-0	300; 128; 20; 79	Chichgad; 9-0
Singori—Bdr.—सिंगोरी	SW; 33-0	504; 237; 49; 95	Pauni; 4-0
Singori—Bdr.—सिंगोरी	SW; 5-0	117; 164; 33; 57	Angaon; 2-0
Sirapur—Gda.—सिरपूर	NE; 19-0	1394; 1407; 287; 430	.. ..
Sirapur—SkL.—सिरपूर	E; 34-0	1232; 558; 80; 130	Local; ..
Sirapur—SkL.—सिरपूर	SE; 40-0	181; 328; 49; 172	Chichgad; ..
Sirasaghat—Bdr.—सिरसघाट	S; 3-0	701; 375; 85; 70	Silli; 2-0
Sirasala—Bdr.—सिरसाळा	S; 30-0	1695; 400; 78; 214	Pauni; 4-0
Sirasi—Bdr.—सिरसी	N; 5-0	1098; 701; 131; 243	Warthi; 1-0
Sirasoli—Bdr.—सिरसोली	N; 18-7	832; 615; 103; 219	Mohadi; 5-6
Siregaon—SkL.—सिरेगांव	S; 12-0	1493; 1104; 211; 462	Bhiokhidki; 13-0
Siroli—SkL.—सिरोली	SE; 29-0	1257; 1117; 199; 533	.. ..
Sitasavangi—Bdr.—सितासावंगी	N; 30-0	1362; 3167; 740; 153	Gobarwahi; 2-0
Sitekasa—Bdr.—सितेकसा	NW; 22-0	200; 134; 30; 106	Gobarwahi; 18-0
Sitepar—Bdr.—सितेपार	NE; 24-0	1032; 388; 75; 88	Tumsar; 4-0
Sitepar—Bdr.—सितेपार	NE; 8-0	596; 257; 53; 53	Matora; 2-0

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Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Gankhera; 5-0	Kurhadi; 3-0; Sun.	.. 5-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 9-0	Sangadi; 3-0; Fri.	Local; ..	W, n, t.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; Cch.
Bhandara Road; 12-0	Mane- gaon; 3-0; Thu.	Bhandara; 5-0	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); 3 tl; lib.
Mundikota; 6-0	Gangla; 3-0; Sat.	.. ..	W.	SI (pr) ; 2 tl; gym.
Pauni; 8-6	Pauni; 0-6; Sat; Tue.	Local; ..	W;rv.	2 SI (pr, m); pyt; Cs (c); tl; dh.
Road; 12-0	Sihora; 1-0; Sat.	.. ..	W;t.	SI (pr); 2 tl; gym; lib.
Tumsar; 13-0	Pauni; 7-0; Sat; Tue.	Pauni; 7-0	W;rv.	tl.
Road; 31-0	Borgaon; 3-0; Thu.	.. 2-0	t.	tl; ch.
Angaon; 17-0	Lakhani; 7-0; Tue.	Sakoli; 10-0	W.	SI (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Sondad; 4-0	Saundad; 4-0; Wed.	.. 4-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; tl.
Sondad; 26-0	Chichgad; 9-0; Sat.	Chichgad; 9-0	W.	..
Angaon; 3-0	Pauni; 4-0; Sat; Tue.	.. 1-4	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road; 12-0	Dhargao; 2-0; Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 tl; m.
Birsola; 6-0	Local; .. Sat.	Rawar- wadi; 3-0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Angaon; 30-0	Wagho- nadi; 1-0; ..	Local; ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Sondad; 35-0	Chichgad; 2-0; Sat.	Chichgad; 2-0	W.	SI (pr).
Bhandara Road; 10-0	Bhandara; 3-0; Sun; Wed.	Bhandara; 3-0	W.	Cs; 2 tl; gym.
Pauni; 11-0	Pauni; 4-0; Sat; Tue.	Pauni; 4-0	W, t.	SI (pr); tl.
Road; 1-0	Warthi; 1-0; Thu.	.. 2-0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl; ch.
Bhandara Road; 11-6	Mohadi; 5-6; Thu.	Mohadi; 5-6	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road; 6-0	Sangadi; 2-0; Fri.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Dewalgaon; 5-0	.. 0-4; Wed.	.. 0-6	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Gobarwahi; 2-0	Local; .. Thu.	Gobarwahi; 2-0	W.	2 SI (pr); pyt; tl; dp.
Dongri Bk.; 22-0	Dongri 12-0; Mon.	Lendezari; 6-0	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 4-0	Tumsar; 4-0; Tue.	Dongarla; 2-0	W.	Cs; tl.
Koka; 7-0	Bhandara; 8-0; Sun; Wed.	Bhandara; 8-0	W.	SI (pr); tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Sitepar—Bdr.—सितेपार	NW; 12.0	785; 460; 87; 158	Mohadi; 8.0
Sitepar—Gda.—सितेपार	SW; 38.0	629; 845; 175; 304	Nawezari; 1.0
Sitepar—Gda.—सितेपार	E; ..	1773; 1903; 362; 855	.. ..
Sitepar—Sk1.—सितेपार	NE; 5.0	478; 191; 39; 30	Wirshi; 1.0
Sitepar—Sk1.—सितेपार	NE; 17.0	1442; 661; 128; 225	Pandhari; 2.0
Shivanala—Bdr.—शिवनाळा	S; 29.0	1070; 1034; 207; 596	Wakari; 1.0
Sivanala—Bdr.—सिवनाळा	SE; 34.0	231; 170; 35; 98	.. ..
Sivenatola—Sk1.—शिवनटोला	NE; 18.0	216; 121; 24; 56	Pandhari; 0.2
Sivani—Bdr.—सिवनी	NE; 19.0	590; 324; 61; 166	Aladagi; 2.0
Sivani—Bdr.—सिवनी	NW; 22.0	1596; 707; 157; 275	.. ..
Sivani—Gda.—सिवनी	N; 10.0	1161; 1063; 229; 399	Dasgaon Bk.; 3.0
Sivani—Gda.—सिवनी	E; ..	1363; 1758; 336; 688	.. ..
Sivani—Sk1.—सिवनी	SW; 10.0	2082; 1931; 352; 537	Kaneri; 2.0
Shivanibandh—Sk1.—शिवनीबांध	S; 6.0	836; 1092; 222; 266	Sangadi; 2.0
Somalpur—Sk1.—सोमलपूर	S; 12.0	603; 431; 72; 187	Bhiokhidker; 3.0
Somalavada—Sk1.—सोमलवाडा	W; 15.0	1249; 1837; 351; 721	Rengepar; 2.0
Somanala—Bdr.—सोमनाळा	SE; 19.0	830; 101; 19; 47	Pimpalgaon; 1.0
Somanala—Bdr.—सोमनाळा	SE; 23.0	1105; 947; 159; 336	Kosava; 2.0
Sonabihari—Gda.—सोनबिहरी	NW; 12.0	2889; 1516; 325; 825	Dhapewada; 5.4
Sonamala—Sk1.—सोनमाळा	SW; 10.0	902; 624; 111; 253	Murmadi; 3.0
Sonapuri—Bdr.—सोनपुरी	N; 23.0	448; 55; 14; 19	Tumsar; 12.0
Sonapuri—Gda.—सोनपुरी	E; 27.0	1762; 1356; 249; 633	Local; ..
Sonapuri—Gda.—सोनपुरी	NW; 9.0	1233; 531; 122; 180	Dawani- wada; 3.0
Sonapuri—Sk1.—सोनपुरी	N; 5.0	790; 466; 78; 225	Yekodi; 2.0
Sondalagondi—Gda.—सोदलागोंदी	S; 18.0	787; 53; 9; 33	Mundipar; 6.0
Sondya—Bdr.—सोंड्या	NE; 29.0	1022; 688; 114; 234	Bapera; 4.0
Sonegaon—Bdr.—सोनेगांव	SE; 14.0	745; 314; 55; 141	Pahela; 3.0
Sonegaon—Bdr.—सोनेगांव	S; 18.4	782; 817; 156; 350	Virli; 2.0
Sonegaon—Bdr.—सोनेगांव	NE; 23.0	497; 880; 171; 358	Sihora; 2.0
Sonegaon—Gda.—सोनेगांव	SW; 9.0	1817; 855; 187; 444	.. ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Bhandara 6.0	Bhandara; 6.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Road;				
Trrora; 16.0	Mundhari; 5.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..			..	..
Sondad; 8.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Gongli; 3.0	Pandhari; 2.0; Mon.	.. 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; m; ch.
Pauni 10.0	Asgaon; 3.0; Wed.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c).
Road;				
Khat; 8.0	Pauni; 7.0; Sat; Tue.	Kanpa; ..	W,t.	Cs (c); tl.
Gongale; 1.0	Pandhari; 0.2; Mon.	.. 5.0	W.	tl.
Dewhadi; 2.0	Tumsar; 2.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 18.0	Andhal- gaon; 2.0; Wed.	.. 2.0	W,t.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Road;				
Khat; 2.0	Dasgaon Bk.; 3.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 3Cs (c); 2 tl; 2 gym; ch.
.. ..			..	..
Sondad; 16.0	Pohara; 2.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 5 tl; ch; lib.
Dewalgaon 2.0	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	.. 0.1	t.	Sl (pr); 2tl.
Dewalgaon 6.0	Sangadi; 3.0; Fri.	Siregaon; 2.0	W.	2 tl.
Sondad; 12.0	Lakhani; 2.0; Tue.	Lakhani; 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl; dg.
Pauni 18.0	Adyar; 3.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W.	..
Road;				
Pauni 14.0	Kondha; 1.0; Wed.	Kondha; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Road;				
Gondia; 11.0	Dasgaon; 3.4; Tue.	Dasgaon; 3.4	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; 3 m.
Dewalgaon; 12.0	Murmadi; 3.0; Tue.	Sangadi; 4.0	W;rv.	3Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl.
Tumsar; 12.0	Andhal- gaon; 6.0; Wed.	Dhop; 3.0	W.	2 tl.
.. ..	Pathari; 2.0; Sat.	.. 10.0	W.	Sl (m); Cs; 4 tl.
Gondia; 9.0	Dauni- wada; 3.0; Mon.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 22.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Pindkepar; 5.0	Pandhari; 2.4; Mon.	Mundipar; 6.0	W.	tl.
Tumsar; 20.0	Sihora; 8.0; Sat.	Bapera; 4.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 20.0	Pahela; 3.0; Fri.	Pahela; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Road;				
Bhandara 26.0	Adyar; 2.4; Sun.	.. 0.4	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl; ch.
Road;				
Tumsar; 10.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (mp); tl.
Gondia; 7.0	.. ..	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Sonegaon—Gda.—सोनेगांव	W; 12.0	1,859; 2,010; 271; 852	Boda; 1.0
Sonegaon—Skl.—सोनेगांव	SW; 25.0	633; 479; 91; 209	Hardoli; 1.0
Sonegaon—Skl.—सोनेगांव	NW; 15.0	559; 201; 42; 116	Chandori; 2.0
Sonegaon—Skl.—सोनेगांव	S; ..	479; 10; 3; 7	.. ..
Sonekhari—Gda.—सोनेखारी	SE; 24.0	786; 564; 116; 187	Tigaon; 3.0
Sonekhari—Gda.—सोनेखारी	SW; 36.0	730; 513; 106; 260	Nawezari; 1.0
Sonekhari—Skl.—सोनेखारी	SW; 16.0	629; 135; 25; 68	Regepar; 3.0
Soni—Gda.—सोनी	SE; 9.0	2,946; 2,835; 574; 1,388	Local; ..
Soni—Skl.—सोनी	S; 36.0	1,475; 2,553; 478; 1329	Local; ..
Sonoli—Gda.—सोनोली	SW; 27.0	422; 269; 38; 105	Sarandi; 3.0
Sonuli—Bdr.—सोनली	N; 6.0	348; 518; 122; 157	Warthi; 1.0
Sorana—Bdr.—सोरना	NW; 23.0	681; 722; 92; 178	Tumsar; 11.0
Subrayatola—Skl.—सुब्रायटोला	NE; 36.0	817; 47; 9; 28	Lohara; 2.0
Sukadi—Gda.—सुकडी	SW; 31.0	930; 2,261; 519; 522	Local; ..
Sukadi—Skl.—सुकडी	SE; 23.0	797; 447; 119; 143	Barabhati; 1.4
Sukadi—Skl.—सुकडी	S; 7.0	934; 942; 177; 261	Wadad; 2.0
Sukali—Bdr.—सुकली	NE; 24.0	1,709; 1,298; 238; 315	Tumsar; 3.0
Sukali—Skl.—सुकली	SE; 34.0	7,888; 460; 94; 298	Chichgad; 9.0
Sukali Nakul—Bdr.—सुकली नकुल	NE; 30.0	1,593; 1,892; 342; 479	Chulhad; 2.0
Sundari—Skl.—सुंदरी	SE; 40.0	407; 298; 55; 56	Chichgad; 2.0
Sundari—Skl.—सुंदरी	E; 7.0	576; 283; 52; 130	Soundad; 1.0
Supalipar—Gda.—सुपलीपार	E; ..	1581; 1,545; 220; 628	.. ..
Suraban—Skl.—सुरबन	SE; 34.0	535; 245; 47; 86	Kesori; 4.0
Surabodi—Bdr.—सुरबोडी	S; 19.0	755; 520; 94; 252	Chichal; 3.0
Suragaon—Skl.—सुरगांव	S; 20.0	713; 175; 36; 79	Navegaon; 4.0
Surakuda—Gda.—सुरकुडा	SE; ..	1,797; 1,260; 250; 562	.. ..
Suratoli—Skl.—सुरतोली	SE; ..	782; 217; 38; 101	.. ..
Suratoli—Skl.—सुरतोली	NE; 35.0	1,936; 384; 102; 109	Lohara; 1.0
Surevada (Dhivaratola)—Bdr.—सुरेवाडा (ढिवरटोला)	E; 3.0	874; 1,620; 312; 522	Matora; 1
Susaradh—Bdr.—सुसरडोह	NW; 33.0	1027; 668; 114; 365	Gobarwahi; 19.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Kachewani; 4.0	Ekodi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 15.0	Navegaon; 4.0; Thu.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Sondad; 25.0	Lakhani; 12.0; Tue.	.. ..	W.	..
.. ..			..	..
Amgaon; 8.0	.. ..	Amgaon; 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tirora; 16.0	Mundhvari; 5.0; Tue.	Karadi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 22.0	Lakhani; 4.0; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	2 tl.
Hirdamali; 5.0	Goregaon; 5.0; Sat.	Dahegaon; 2.0	W.	3 Sl (2 pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Warasor; 6.0	Lakhandur; 6.0; Tue.	.. 0.1	W,rv.	Sl (m); Cs; 4 tl; gym; ch; 2 lib; dp.
Mundikota; 3.4	Sarandi; 3.0; Thu.	.. ..	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road;	Warthi; 1.0; Thu.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tumsar; 11.0	Andhal- gaon;	Dhop; 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Amgaon; 17.0	Sawali; 3.0; ..	.. 2.0	W.	tl.
Tirora; 6.4	Local; .. Fri.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; 5tl; 3m; dh; lib; dp.
Barabhati; 1.4	Arjuni; 4.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 4tl; m; ch.
Gondumri; 5.0	Sakoli; 7.0; Sun.	.. 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 4 tl; m; ch.
Tumsar; 3.0	Dewhadi; 3.0; Sun.	Tumsar; 6.0	W,rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 25.0	Chichgad; 9.0; Sat.	Chichgad; 9.0	W.	Sl (pr).
Tumsar; 30.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); tl; ch.
Sondad; 30.0	Chichgad; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 1.0	Sondad; 1.0; Wed.	Soundad; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
.. ..			..	..
Arjuni; 12.0	Gothan- gaon;	Gothan- gaon;	W.	Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Bhandara Road;	Adyar; 3.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W.	tl.
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Navegaon; 4.0; Thu.	Navegaon; 4.0	W.	..
.. ..			..	..
.. ..	.. ..	.. 1.0	W.	Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Amgaon; 16.0	Sawali; 2.0; ..	.. 3.0	W,rv.	Sl (pr); pyt; 2 Cs (mp); 3 tl.
Bhandara Road;	Local; .. Mon.	.. ..	..	..
Dongri Bk.; 13.0	Dongri Bk.;	Lendezari; 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Tadagaon—Bdr.—ताडगाव	N; 20.0	1,477; 830; 151; 289	Sakhi kh.; 0.0
Tadagaon—Skl.—ताडगाव	S; 1.0	2,131; 1,504; 290; 440	Arjuni; 1.0
Tai Bk.—Skl.—ताई बु.	SW; 23.0	791; 1,420; 247; 511	Hardoli; 1.0
Tai Kh.—Skl.—ताई खु.	SW; 23.0	755; 251; 46; 83	Hardoli; 1.0
Takala—Bdr.—टाकला	N; 24.0	1,002; 679; 178; 297	Mitewani; 2.0
Takali—Bdr.—टाकली	NW; 13.0	672; 363; 66; 115	Neri; 4.0
Takali—Bdr.—टाकली	N; 2.0	1,620; 552; 102; 156	Bhandara; 2.0
Takari—Gda.—टाकरी	E; 16.0	478; 703; 128; 189	Kalimati; 2.0
Tamasavadi—Bdr.—तामसवाडी	NE; 27.0	931; 1,159; 221; 459	Local; ..
Tamasavadi—Bdr.—तामसवाडी	NE; 22.0	686; 348; 73; 83	Tumsar; 3.0
Tambhora—Skl.—तांभोरा	SE; ..	2,954; 230; 243; 114	.. ..
Tanda—Gda.—तांडा	SE; 6.0	1,642; 2,083; 399; 853	Local; ..
Tanga—Bdr.—टांगा	N; 20.0	1,381; 801; 152; 260	Dongargaon; 2.0
Tavashi—Skl.—तावशी	SW; 23.0	1,814; 1,286; 320; 537	Barwaha; 2.0
Tavashi Kh.—Skl.—तावशी खु.	S; ..	920; 119; 5; 74	.. ..
Tavepar—Bdr.—टवेपार	N; 3.0	582; 728; 138; 252	Bhandara; 3.0
Tedha—Gda.—टेढा	SE; 20.0	2,253; 1,939; 273; 913	.. 6.0
Tedhava—Gda.—तेढवा	N; 10.0	1,610; 1,716; 356; 847	Dasgaon 2.0
Tekadi—Bdr.—टेकाडी	SW; 36.0	586; 291; 68; 155	Amgaon; 2.0
Tekabedar—Skl.—टेकावेदर	NE; 32.0	763; 491; 100; 197	Dawaki; 6.0
Tekari—Gda.—टेकरी	E; ..	495; 408; 80; 78	.. ..
Tekepar—Bdr.—टेकेपार	SE; 11.4	995; 841; 157; 322	Gunthara; 8.0
Tekepar—Bdr.—टेकेपार	S; 8.0	1,321; 887; 178; 667	Amgaon; 2.0
Tekepar—Bdr.—टेकेपार	E; 6.0	644; 1,083; 211; 304	.. ..
Telangakhedi—Gda.—तेलंगखेडी	SE; 7.4	2,323; 669; 125; 400	.. ..
Telapendhari—Bdr.—तेलपेंढरी	SE; 19.0	406; 56; 11; 17	Virti; 3.0
Temani—Bdr.—टेमनी	NE; 31.0	11,35; 902; 137; 414	Chulhad; 4.0
Temani—Gda.—टेमनी	NE; 4.0	1,211; 1,359; 278; 615	Batana; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Tumsar; 12.0	Andhal- 5.0; Wed. gaon;	Dhop; 1.4	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 4 tl.
Arjuni; 1.0	Arjuni; 1.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 1.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Arjuni; 13.4	Barwaha; 2.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W;rv.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 13.4	Barwaha; 2.0; Mon.	Barwaha; 2.0	W.	2 tl.
Tumsar; 6.0	Usarra; 2.0; Mon.	.. 6.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Khat; 2.0	Bhandara 7.0; Thu. Road;	Bhandara 7.0	W;rv.	SI (pr); tl.
Bhandara 5.0	Bhandara; 2.0; Sun, Wed, Fri.	.. 1.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; 2 tl.
Amgaon; 10.0	Tekari; 1.0; Thu.	Kamtha; 5.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Tumsar; 6.0	Tumsar; 6.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 6.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar; 3.0	Dewhadi; 2.0; Sun.	Tumsar; 3.0	W.	Cs (c); tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (c); tl.
Gudama; 2.0	Gondia; 6.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar; 8.0	Andhal- 4.0; Wed. gaon;	Dongar- 2.0	W.	SI (m); 2 tl; gym.
Arjuni; 12.0	Barwaha; 2.0; Mon.	Kodamondi; 2.0	W.	.. ..
.. ..	.. ..	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl.
Bhandara 6.0	Bhandara; 3.0; Sun, Wed, Fri.	.. 12.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 Cs (c); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 12.0	Amgaon; 12.0; Fri.	Kati; 4.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Birsola; 4.0	Local; .. Fri.	.. 2.0	W.	SI (pr).
Amgaon; 2.0	Bhiwapur; 3.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W;n.	SI (pr); tl; ch.
Sondad; 23.0	Deori; 6.0; Tue.	.. ..	..	.. ..
.. ..	.. ..	.. 10.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; 3 tl; gym; ch.
Bhandara 27.0	Dhar- 11.0; Mon. gaon;	.. ..	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Bhandara 15.0	Bhandara; 8.0; Sun; Wed.	Local; ..	W;rv.	SI (pr); 2 tl.
Bhandara 12.0	Manegaon; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
.. ..	.. ..	.. 4.0	W.	.. ..
Bhandara 2.0	Adyar; 3.0; Sun.	Adyar; 3.0	W.	.. ..
Tumsar; 13.0	Local; .. Wed.	.. 3.4	W.	2 SI (pr, m); Cs (mp); gym; ch; lib.
Gondia; 4.0	.. ..	.. 2.0	W.	2 SI (pr, m); pyt; Cs; tl.

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; distance (4)
Temani—Sk1.—टेमनी	NE; 10.0	198; 55; 9; 28	Khod- 4.0
Tembhari—Sk1.—टेमरी	S; 37.0	600; 287; 49; 128	shion; Kudlegaon; 5.0
Thana—Bdr.—ठाणा	S; 30.0	551; 85; 18; 43	Pauni; 7.0
Thana—Bdr.—ठाणा	W; ..	651; 314; 70; 97	.. ..
Thana—Bdr.—ठाणा	NE; ..	526; 6; 2; 4	.. ..
Thana—Gda.—ठाणा	SE; ..	2363; 222; 448; 1123	.. ..
Thanegaon—Bdr.—ठाणेगांव	SW; 35.0	604; 129; 27; 60	Bhuyar; 1.0
Thanegaon—Gda.—ठाणेगांव	SW; 25.0	1260; 2325; 520; 718	Local; ..
Tidaka—Sk1.—तिडका	S; 23.0	605; 533; 90; 185	.. 2.0
Tidaka—Sk1.—तिडका	SE; 32.0	2607; 168; 24; 103	Dhabete- 4.0
Tidaka—Sk1.—तिडका	E; 15.0	510; 1477; 289; 643	kari; Sadak- 2.0
Tiddi—Bdr.—टिड्डि	S; 9.4	976; 492; 90; 67	Arjuni; Manegaon; 2.0
Tigaon—Gda.—तिगांव	SE; ..	1644; 1630; 339; 708	.. ..
Tikayatapur—Gda.—टिकायतपुर	W; 9.0	403; 179; 42; 83	Gangazari; 0.3
Tilli—Gda.—तिल्ली	SE; 28.0	2506; 1728; 318; 848	Mohagaon; 0.4
Timejhari—Gda.—तिमेझरी	SW; 13.0	1456; 1195; 244; 628	Kumbadi; 2.0
Tirakhedi—Gda.—तिरखेडी	SE; 23.0	2378; 1718; 305; 898	Local; ..
Tirakhuri—Sk1.—तिरखुरी	SW; 25.0	967; 372; 74; 139	Kitadi; 3.0
Tirakhuri (Raiyyatavari)—Sk1.— तिरखुरी (रेय्यतवारी)	SE; 42.0	338; 50; 10; 31	Desaigaon; 23.0
Tiroda; Urban Area II—Gda.— तिरोडा, नागरी विभाग २.	NW; 20.0	1562, 15596, 3133; 1516	Local; ..
Tirri—Bdr.—तिरी	SE; 16.0	1579; 1175; 224; 548	Pahela; 5.0
Toyagondi—Gda.—तोयागोंडी	SE; 35.0	3561; 343; 71; 162	Darekasa; 4.0
Toyagondi—Sk1.—तोयागोंडी	E; 32.0	1673; 275; 57; 136	Borgaon; 3.0
Tudaka—Bdr.—तुडका	NE; 21.0	1137; 1340; 247; 221	Tumsar; 1.0
Tudamapuri—Sk1.—तुडमापुरी	N; 6.0	1114; 656; 127; 313	Sendur- 5.0
			wafa;

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Khodshioni; 3.0	Pandhari; 6.0; Mon.	.. 7.0	W.	tl.
Bramhapuri; 6.0	Lakhan- 5.0; Tue.	.. 6.0	W; rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl.
Pauni 15.0	Pauni; 7.0; Tue., Sat.	Pauni; 7.0	W; rv.	tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr).
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
Bhuyar; 1.0	Bhuyar; 1.0; Wed.	.. 1.0	W.	..
Tirora; 5.4	Sukdi; 2.0; Fri.	.. 2.4	W.	Sl (m); Cs; 2 tl; 2 m; dg; ch.
Arjuni; 5.0	Arjuni; 5.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 5.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Dewalgaon; 8.0	Nawegaon 8.0; Thu.	.. 6.0	W.	tl; Cch.
Sondad; 8.0	bandh; Sadak- 2.0; Sat.	.. ..	rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Bhandara 15.4	Arjuni; Manegaon; 2.0; Thu.	Ambadi; 6.4	W; rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	..
.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	W.	tl.
Gangajhari; 0.3	Dande- 1.0; Mon.	Local; ..	..	..
Goregaon; 10.0	gaon; Mohagaon; 0.4; Sun.	Mundipar; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; gym; ch.
Goregaon; 6.0	Kurhadi; 2.0; Sun.	.. 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (m); 3 tl.
Salekasa; 5.0	Amgaon 5.0; Mon.	.. 6.0	W; rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs(c); tl.
Pauni 18.0	Kh.; Kitadi; 3.0; Wed.	.. 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. 9.0	W; t.	..
Warsa; 23.0	Kurkheda; 9.0; Sat.	.. ..	..	..
Local; ..	Local; .. Sun.	Local; ..	W.	9 Sl (6 pr, 2 h, clg); 5 tl; mq; dg; dh; gym; lib; 10 dp.
Bhandara 21.0	Adyar; 5.0; Sun.	Adyar; 5.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; ch.
Road; ..	.. ..	.. 14.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Darekasa; 4.0	Darekasa; 4.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Amgaon; 31.0	Borgaon; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W; t.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Tumsar 1.0	Tumsar; 1.0; Tue.	Tumsar; ..	..	..
Road; ..	.. ..	.. 6.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 11.0	Sakoli; 6.0; Sun.	.. ..	..	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; distance (4)
Tukum Narayan—SkI.—तुकुम नारायण	SE; 10-0	1,092; 384; 73; 173	Kesori; 2-0
Tumadikasa—SkI.—तुमडीकासा	SE; 49-0	2,151; 286; 64; 150	.. 3-0
Tumakheda Bk.—Gda.—तुमखेडा ब.	S; 5-0	1,360; 1,744; 377; 589	Gankhaira; 2-0
Tumakheda Kh.—Gda.—तुमखेडा ख.	S; 5-4	1,445; 2,208; 432; 818	.. ..
Tumasar—Gda.—तुमसर	SE; 20-0	2,589; 1,825; 369; 965	Chopar; 3-0
Tumasar; Urban Area I.—Bdr.— तुमसर, नागरी-विभाग-१.	NE; ..	736; 29,711; 5,902; 1,685	.. ..
Uchepur—SkI.—उचेपुर	SE; 53-0	2,176; 573; 116; 328	.. 1-0
Ukara—SkI.—उकारा	E; 5-0	398; 518; 90; 265	Wirshi; 1-0
Umarajhari—SkI.—उमरझरी	N; 10-0	1,319; 554; 115; 290	Yekodi; 6-0
Umaravada—Bdr.—उमरवाडा	NE; 24-0	1,003; 1,588; 312; 490	Local; ..
Umari—Bdr.—उमरी	SE; 30-0	535; 651; 128; 313	Virli; 1-0
Umari—Bdr.—उमरी	SE; 34-0	648; 524; 108; 237	Walani; 3-0
Umari (Phulmogarotola)—Bdr.— उमरी (फुलमोगराटोला)	SW; 5-0	799; 775; 159; 169	Shahapur; 1-0
Umari—Gda.—उमरी	SW; 17-0	900; 452; 97; 194	Sarandi; 2-0
Umari—Gda.—उमरी	N; 10-0	555; 678; 149; 370	Dasgaon Bk.; 2-0
Umari—SkI.—उमरी	S; 20-0	323; 76; 14; 52	Navegaon; 4-0
Umari—SkI.—उमरी	SE; 5-0	2,396; 2,389; 406; 897	Local; ..
Usagaon—SkI.—उसगांव	NW; 17-0	974; 766; 137; 202	Chandori; 3-0
Usaragondi—Bdr.—उसरागोंदी	E; 5-0	736; 485; 94; 86	.. 3-0
Usarra—Bdr.—उसरा	N; 20-0	1,223; 1,390; 294; 586	Salai Kh.; 2-0
Usaripar—Bdr.—उसरीपार	S; 10-0	930; 254; 48; 113	Pahela; 1-0
Usikheda—SkI.—उसीखेडा	NE; 20-0	998; 473; 90; 291	Dongar- gaon; 4-0
Vadad—Bdr.—वडद	S; 15-0	1,553; 648; 132; 163	Pahela; 5-0
Vadad—Gda.—वडद	NW; 14-0	2,412; 1,763; 342; 420	Dawani- wada; 1-0
Vadad—Gda.—वडद	SE; 25-0	1,097; 649; 101; 160	Anjora; 4-0

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Arjuni; 12.0	Kesori; 2.0; Mon.	Gothan- gaon; 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs.
.. 47.0	.. 3.0; ..	.. 9.0	W;t.	..
Gankhera; 2.0	Local; .. Wed.	Gondia; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; ch; lib.
Gondia; 5.0	Gondia; 5.0; Tue.	Gondia; 5.0	W.	Sl(pr); Cs; tl; m; gym; ch; dp.
Amgaon; 12.0	.. 3.0; ..	.. 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
.. ..			..	..
.. 51.0	.. 1.0; Tue.	.. 13.0	W;t.	Sl (pr).
Sondad; 3.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	Local; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Sondad; 17.0	Bampe- wada; 4.0; Sat.	Sakoli; 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Tumsar Road; 4.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 4.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl.
Bhandara Road; 25.0	Adyar; 2.6; Sun.	Adyar; 2.6	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Pauni Road; 14.6	Mangli; 2.0; Sat.	.. 9.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); tl.
Khat; 6.0	Shahapur; 1.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tirora; 4.0	Sarandi; 2.0; Thu.	Tirora; 4.0	W;n.	..
Birsola; 2.0	Kati; 2.0; Sun.	Kati; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Dewalgaon; 4.0	Navegaon; 4.0; Thu.	Navegaon; 4.0	W;t.	..
Sondad; 4.0	Local; .. Wed.	Sakoli; 5.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; tl; ch; lib.
Sondad; 21.0	Lakhani; 10.0; Tue.	.. 10.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; gym.
Bhandara Road; 10.0	.. ..	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); 2 tl.
Tumsar Road; 6.0	Local; .. Mon.	Local; ..	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; tl; gym; dp.
Bhandara Road; 18.0	Pahela; 11.0; Fri.	Pahela; 1.0	W.	tl.
Sondad; 15.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 7.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W;n.	Sl (pr); t l; ch.
Bhandara Road; 22.0	Pahela; 5.0; Fri.	Pahela; 5.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; tl.
Gangajhari; 7.0	Dawani- wada; 1.0; Mon.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs; 4 tl.
Amgaon; 8.0	.. ..	Amgaon; 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.

Village Name	Direction; Travelling distance	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists	Post Office; Distance
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Vadad—SkL.—वडद	.. S; 5.0	2579; 2658; 507; 776	Local; ..
Vadegaon—Bdr.—वडेगांव	.. S; 28.0	746; 279; 53; 112	Pauni; 2.0
Vadegaon—Bdr.—वडेगांव	.. N; 17.0	1253; 979; 193; 338	Andhal- gaon; 3.0
Vadegaon—Bdr.—वडेगांव	.. N; 12.6	1007; 1349; 234; 27	Mohadi; 0.1
Vadegaon—Gda.—वडेगांव	.. NE; 14.0	832; 718; 127; 276	Banathar; 2.0
Vadegaon—Gda.—वडेगांव	.. SW; 35.0	1099; 3976; 806; 865	Local; ..
Vadegaon—SkL.—वडेगांव	.. NE; 13.0	906; 1446; 266; 361	Sadak- Arjuni; 1.0
Vadegaon—SkL.—वडेगांव	.. N; 7.4	1259; 753; 131; 334	Kinh; 2.0
Vadegaon—SkL.—वडेगांव	.. NE; 34.0	2011; 551; 107; 178	Lohara; ..
Vadegaon—SkL.—वडेगांव	.. S; 26.0	1212; 867; 153; 186	Local; ..
Vadegaon—SkL.—वडेगांव	.. SE; 40.0	2435; 413; 79; 142	Kesori; 5.0
Vadekasa—SkL.—वडेकसा	.. SE; 49.0	1278; 176; 33; 86	.. 3.0
Vaghadongari—Gda.—वाघडोंगरी	.. SE; ..	654; 102; 21; 48	.. ..
Vahani—Bdr.—वाहनी	.. NE; 30.0	822; 99; 204; 443	Local; ..
Vahi—Bdr.—वाही	.. SW; 30.0	766; 776; 151; 345	Pauni; 3.0
Vakal—SkL.—वाकल	.. SW; 24.0	959; 780; 144; 329	Hardoli; 2.0
Vakalasarra—Gda.—वाकलसारी	.. SE; 29.0	1444; 228; 39; 119	Salekasa; 5.0
Vakesar—Bdr.—वाकसर	.. SE; 11.0	1675; 1618; 301; 734	Pahela; 2.0
Valamghari—SkL.—वलमाझरी	.. N; 5.0	1754; 477; 86; 179	Pindakepar; 1.0
Valani—Bdr.—वलनी	.. SE; 30.0	1896; 1584; 304; 827	Local; ..
Vandhare—SkL.—वांदरा	.. SE; 38.0	721; 422; 72; 238	Chichgad; 3.0
Vangi—Bdr.—वांगी	.. NE; 32.0	336; 92; 24; 55	Wahani; 2.0
Vangi—SkL.—वांगी	.. SE; 12.0	1138; 1194; 225; 443	Nawegaon- bandh; 7.0
Varapindakepar—Bdr.— वारपिंडकेपार	.. NE; 34.0	674; 563; 99; 264	Bapera; 3.0
Varathi—Bdr.—वरठी	.. N; 7.0	1077; 4321; 933; 225	Local; ..
Varavhi—SkL.—वारव्ही	.. SE; 30.0	740; 191; 36; 95	Kesori; 2.0

Railway Station; Distance	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day	Motor Stand; Distance	Water	Institutions and other information
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Gondumri; 6.0	Sakoli; 4.0; Sun.	.. 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); 3 tl; m; gym; ch; dp.
Pauni Road; 8.0	Pauni; 2.0; Sat., Tue.	.. 1.4	W.	tl.
Bhandara Road; 11.0	Andhal- gaon; 3.0; Wed.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 3 tl.
Bhandara Road; 6.0	Mohadi; 1.0; Thu.	Local; ..	W;n.	tl; mq; gym.
Birsola; 7.0	Koche- wahi; 2.0; Mon.	Banathar; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl.
Tirora; 8.0	Local; .. Wed.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); 2 Cs; 6 tl; 2 gym; dp.
Sondad; 5.0	Sadak- Arjuni; 1.0; Sat.	Sadak- Arjuni; 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Sondad; 12.0	Sakoli; 7.0; Sun.	.. 7.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Amgaon; 17.0	Deori; 6.0; Tue.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Local; ..	Arjuni; 6.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 6.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl.
.. 3.0	Arjuni; 8.0; Sat.	Arjuni; 8.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c).
.. 47.0	.. ..	.. 9.0	W.	..
.. ..			..	..
Tumsar Road; 13.0	Sihora; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Pauni Road; 4.0	Pauni; 3.0; Sat; Tue.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl.
Arjuni; 14.0	Palandur; 3.0; Sat.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); Cs.
Salekasa; 5.0	Salekasa; 5.0; Mon.	Salekasa; 5.0	W.	Cs (c); tl; ch.
Bhandara Road; 17.0	Pahela; 2.0; Fri.	.. 1.3	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs; tl; ch.
Sondad; 13.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	Sakoli; 5.0	W;t.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Pauni Road; 11.6	.. ..	.. 4.0	W;rv.	2 Sl (pr, m); pyt; Cs.; dp.
Sondad; 28.0	Chichgad; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Ramnavmi Fr. Ct., Sud. 15; tl; dp.
Tumsar Road; 14.0	Sihora; 4.0; Sat.	.. 4.0	rv.	tl.
Gondumri; 2.0	Gond- umri; 2.0; Tue.	Saundad; 8.0	W.	Sl (m); Cs; 2 tl.
Tumsar Road; 18.0	Bapera; 3.0; Thu.	.. 3.0	W;rv.	Sl (pr); tl.
Local; ..	Local; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 2 tl; m; gym; 2 lib; dp.
Arjuni; 12.0	Kesori; 2.0; Mon.	Gothan- gaon; 3.0	W.	..

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Vasani—Sk1.—वासनी	SE; 39.0	850; 149; 24; 68	Chichgad; 9.0
Vasala—Bdr.—वासेळा	S; 23.0	1,060; 667; 138; 320	.. 1.0
Vatetkar—Sk1.—वटेटेकर	S; 8.0	461; 360; 65; 156	Khandala; 1.0
Vayagaon—Bdr.—वायगांव	SW; 39.0	573; 312; 44; 176	Bhuyar; 1.0
Velava—Bdr.—वेळवा	S; 32.0	545; 264; 33; 101	Pauni; 4.0
Viharapur—Gda.—विचारपूर	SE; 35.0	1,150; 458; 93; 267	Darekasa; 5.0
Vihiragaon—Bdr.—विहीरगांव	N; 18.0	753; 547; 95; 220	Khapar; 2.0
Vihiragaon—Gda.—विहीरगांव	SW; 18.0	1,360; 1,010; 197; 434	.. 2.0
Vihiragaon—Sk1.—विहीरगांव	S; 36.0	786; 297; 62; 186	Soni; 3.0
Vihiragaon Buradyr—Sk1.— विहीरगांव बुराड्या	S; 12.0	902; 1,265; 230; 663	Bhugaon; 0.4
Vihiragaon Baradya—Sk1.— विहीरगांव बरड्या	S; 18.0	942; 457; 78; 263	.. 2.0
Vihiragaon Kanhalya—Sk1.— विहीरगांव कन्हाळ्या	SW; 15.0	856; 822; 127; 361	Bhugaon; 2.0
Vilam—Bdr.—विलम	SE; 34.0	447; 183; 28; 100	Sawarla; 2.0
Virali—Bdr.—विरली	SE; 20.0	830; 1,266; 270; 642	Kosara; 4.0
Virasi—Gda.—विरसी	NW; 10.0	1,060; 1,616; 378; 602	Dasgaon; 2.0
Virasi—Gda.—विरसी	SW; 18.0	1,090; 1,203; 259; 328	.. ..
Virasi—Gda.—विरसी	NE; 11.0	1,169; 1,054; 215; 386	Paraswada; 1.0
Virasi—Sk1.—विरसी	E; 5.0	1,637; 2,309; 406; 860	Local; ..
Visapur—Bdr.—विसापूर	SE; 35.0	826; 360; 54; 137	Walani; 4.0
Yadamakot—Gda.—यडमाकोट	SW; 31.0	1,242; 639; 140; 245	Mundikota; 2.0
Yanoda—Bdr.—यनोडा	S; 26.4	454; 156; 29; 61	Pauni; 1.4
Yedagaon—Sk1.—येडगांव	S; 16.0	262; 207; 42; 113	Dighori; 2.0
Yegaon—Sk1.—येगांव	S; 8.0	456; 778; 131; 251	Koranabi; 1.0
Yedarabuchi—Bdr.—येदरबुची	N; 31.0	1,301; 1,311; 246; 376	Gobarwahi; 4.0
Yekalera—Bdr.—येकलारा	N; 11.6	1,114; 25; 4; 3	Mohadi; 2.0
Yekodi—Sk1.—येकोडी	NW; 7.0	1,908; 2,503; 466; 1,034	Local; ..

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Sondad; 20.0	Chichgad; 2.0; Sat.	.. 2.0	W.	..
Amgaon; 14.0	Kondha; 1.4; Wed.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); tl; ch.
Dewalgaon; ..	Sangadi; 4.0; Fri.	.. 3.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Bhuyar; 1.0	Bhuyar; 1.0; Wed.	.. 1.0	W.	tl.
Pauni 4.0	Pauni; 4.0; Sat.; Tue.	.. 4.0	W.	tl.
Road;				
Darekasa; 5.0	Darekasa; 5.0; ..	.. 15.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; ch.
Dewhadi; 5.0	Tumsar; 4.0; Tue.	.. 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); 2 tl.
Tirora; 5.0	Tirora; 5.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Bramhapuri; 6.0	Lakhan- dur; 6.0; Tue.	.. 7.0	W.	Cs; tl; ch.
Arjuni; 1.0	Sangadi; 2.0; Fri.	Sangadi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 2 tl; ch.
Arjuni; 8.0	Sangadi; 5.0; Fri.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); 2 Cs; tl.
Arjuni; 15.0	Dighori; 3.0; Wed.	Salebardi; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; 3 tl; gym.
Brahmapuri; 8.0	Brahma- puri; 8.0; ..	Brahma- puri; 8.0	W;rv.	5 tl.
Pauni 17.0	Kondha; 4.0; Wed.	Sonegaon; 2.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); 2 tl; gym; ch.
Road;				
Gara; 5.0	Dasgaon; 2.0; Tue.	Dasgaon; 2.0	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Tirora; 5.0	Tirora; 5.0; Sun.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl; gym.
Gondia; 11.0	Kamtha; .. Thu.	Local; ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs (c); 2 tl.
Sondad; 3.0	Sakoli; 5.0; Sun.	.. 1.0	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; 5 tl; ch; dp.
Pauni 15.6	Mangli; 2.0; Sat.	.. 9.0	W.	tl.
Road;				
Mundikota; 2.0	Mundi- kota; 2.0; Mon.	.. ..	W.	Sl (pr); Cs; tl.
Pauni 8.4	Pauni; 1.4; Sat; Tue.	.. 0.4	W.	tl.
Road;				
Arjuni; 10.0	Dighori; 2.0; Wed.	Stage; ..	W.	..
Wadegaon; 5.0	Mahagaon; 2.4; Wed.	Arjuni; 8.0	W.	2 Sl (pr, m); Cs (c); tl; dh.
Gobarwahi; 4.0	Chikhala; 4.0; Fri.	Gobarwahi; 4.0	W.	Sl (pr); pyt; Cs (c); tl.
Bhandara 5.4	Mohadi; 2.0; Thu.	.. 2.0	W;n.	tl.
Road;				
Sondad; 20.0	Local; .. Wed.	Stage; ..	W.	3 Sl (pr, m, h); Cs; Ram- navmi Fr. Ct. Sud. 15; 3 tl; 2 dg; gym; lib; 3 dp. (ivet.)

Village Name (1)	Direction; Travelling distance (2)	Area (acres); Pop.; Households; Agriculturists (3)	Post Office; Distance (4)
Yelodi—SkL.—येळोडी	.. SE; 28.0	846; 345; 66; 183	Dhabeta - 3.0 kari;
Yerali—Bdr.—येरली	.. NE; 21.0	1686; 2761; 625; 726	Local; ..
Yeramada—Gda.—येरमडा	.. SE; 18.0	1103; 449; 84; 235	Tigaon; 3.0
Yerandi—SkL.—येरंडी	.. S; 22.0	668; 895; 176; 395	Barabhati; 1.4
Yerandi—SkL.—येरंडी	.. S; 12.0	742; 405; 81; 131	Bondgaon; 2.0
Yerandi—SkL.—येरंडी	.. SE; ..	1757; 86; 16; 47	.. ..
Yerandi—SkL.—येरंडी	.. SE; 35.0	212; 123; 21; 54	Mahagaon; ..
Yetevahi—Bdr.—येटेवाही	.. SE; 16.4	335; 168; 34; 93	Pahela; 4.4

Railway Station; Distance (5)	Weekly Bazar; Distance; Bazar Day (6)	Motor Stand; Distance (7)	Water (8)	Institutions and other information (9)
Dewalgaon; 7.0	Nawegaon- 7.0; Thu. bandh;	.. 4.0	W.	Cch.
Tumsar 2.0 Road;	Tumsar; 2.0; Tue.	Tumsar; 2.0	W;t; n.	2 SI (pr, m); tl; lib.
Amgaon; 7.0	Sakhari- tola; 4.0; Wed	.. 4.0	W.	SI (pr); 2 tl; m.
Barabhati; 1.4	.. ..	Navegaon Bandh; 3.0	W.	SI (pr); Cs; tl.
Barabhati; 6.0	Sangadi; 3.0; Fri.	Silezari; 2.0	W.	SI (pr); tl; Cch.
.. ..			..	..
.. 6.0	 Wed.	.. 6.0	W.	3 SI (pr, m, h); dh.
Bhandara 21.4 Road;	Pahela; 4.4; Fri.	Pahela; 4.4	W.	2 tl.

THE LIST OF DESERTED VILLAGES, BHANDARA DISTRICT

Name of the Village	Name of the Village
Ajani Hamesha—Bdr.—आजनी हमेशा	Gendurzariya—Gda.—गेंडुरझरीया
Ajani Rithi—Bdr.—आजनी रिठी	Girola—Gda.—गिरोला
Alebedar—Skl.—आलेवेदर	Girola—Skl.—गिरोला
Alesur—Skl.—आलेसूर	Hasapur—Bdr.—हसापुर
Alezari—Skl.—आलेझरी	Hattipangadi—Bdr.—हत्तिपांगडी
Ambadi—Bdr.—आंबाडी	Jogikheda Hamesha—Bdr.—जोगीखेडा हमेशा
Antaragaon (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.—अंतरगाव (रैयतवारी)	Jogiwada—Bdr.—जोगीवाडा
Arabkasa—Gda.—अरबकसा	Kachhargadhi—Gda.—कच्छारगढ
Arattondi—Skl.—अरततोंडी	Kachekhani—Bdr.—कच्छेखानी
Asagaon—Bdr.—आसगाव	Kachekhani—Gda.—कच्छेखानी
Awalagaon—Bdr.—आवलगाव	Kakadagondi—Bdr.—काकडागोंदी
Bagheda—Bdr.—बघेडा	Kamkazari—Gda.—कमकाझरी
Bandrazari—Skl.—बांद्राझरी	Kamkazari—Gda.—कमकाझरी
Belgaon—Bdr.—बेलगाव	Kanhalgaon (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.—कन्हलगाव (रैयतवारी)
Bhagi—Skl.—भागी	Katagaon—Skl.—काटगाव
Bhandari—Skl.—भंडारी	Katalwahi—Gda.—कातलवाही
Bhiokhidaki—Bdr.—भिवखिडकी	Kesori—Skl.—केसोरी
Boratekari—Skl.—बोर्तेकरी	Kesori (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.—केसोरी (रैयतवारी)
Boteswar—Bdr.—बोटेस्वर	Khaicalanji—Bdr.—खैरलंजी
Bothali—Bdr.—बोथली	Khairi—Skl.—खैरी
Bundalghat—Skl.—बुंदलघाट	Khairi—Skl.—खैरी
Budhewada—Gda.—बुधेवाडा	Khapa Mohadi—Bdr.—खापा मोहाडी
Chhattartola—Skl.—छत्तरटोला	Kisanpur—Hamesha—Bdr.—किसनपूर हमेशा
Chichabodi—Bdr.—चिचबोडी	Kitadi—Bdr.—किटाडी
Chichgaon—Bdr.—चिचगाव	Kodamendhi—Bdr.—कोडामेंढी
Chichtola—Gda.—चिचटोला	Kodamoh—Bdr.—कोडामोह
Chikhalabodi—Bdr.—चिखलाबोडी	Kodurli—Bdr.—कोडुर्ली
Chikhali Hamesha—Bdr.—चिखली हमेशा	Kosambodi—Bdr.—कोसमबोडी
Darregaon—Skl.—दरगाव	Kowesar—Gda.—कोवसर
Deori Hamesha—Skl.—देवरी हमेशा	Kudka—Skl.—कुडका
Dhadri—Gda.—धादरी	Laxmipur Hamesha—Bdr.—लक्ष्मीपूर हमेशा
Dhamangaon—Bdr.—धामणगाव	Lendezari—Bdr.—लेंडेझरी
Diwatisur—Gda.—दिवटीसूर	Lohara—Bdr.—लोहारा
Dokepar—Bdr.—डोकेपार	Mahaka—Bdr.—महाका
Doma—Skl.—डोमा	Mahuli—Skl.—माहुली
Dongargaon—Skl.—डोंगरगाव	Makardhokada—Skl.—मकरधोकडा
Dongargaon—Skl.—डोंगरगाव	Malkazari—Skl.—मलकाझरी
Dongargaon—Skl.—डोंगरगाव	Malakazari—Skl.—मलकाझरी
Gangezari—Skl.—गंगेझरी	Mandavagota—Bdr.—मांडवगोटा
Garadapar—Bdr.—गराडापार	
Gawarra—Skl.—गवरा	

THE LIST OF DESERTED VILLAGES, BHANDARA DISTRICT—contd.

Name of the Village	Name of the Village
Mandavi—Bdr.—मांडवी	Rajlohi—Bdr.—राजलोही
Mandekasa Hamesha—Bdr.—मंडेकसा हमेशा	Rajkota—Bdr.—राजकोटा
Mandokhal (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.—मांडोखाल (रैयतवारी)	Rajoli—Skl.—राजोली
Mangezari—Skl.—मंगेझरी	Rengepar—Bdr.—रेंगेपार
Maramjob—Gda.—मरामजोव	Rengepar—Gda.—रेंगेपार
Maramjob—Gda.—मरामजोव	Rohana—Bdr.—रोहणा
Mardagondi—Gda.—मर्दागोंदी	Rongha Hamesha—Bdr.—रोंघा हमेशा
Matimeta—Bdr.—माटीमेटा	Salai Kh.—Skl.—सालई खु.
Mehuni—Bdr.—मेहुनी	Salai—Skl.—सालई
Mendipur Hamesha—Bdr.—मेंदीपूर हमेशा	Salebardi—Bdr.—सलेबर्डी
Mohagata (Raiyyatavari)—Skl.—मोहगाटा (रैयतवारी)	Saleheti Hamesha—Bdr.—सालेहेटी हमेशा
Mohagaon Kh.—Bdr.—मोहगाव खु.	Sanagaon—Skl.—सानगाव
Mohagaon—Skl.—मोहगाव	Sangrampur—Gda.—संश्रामपूर
Mujabi—Bdr.—मुजबी	Sarandi—Skl.—सरांडी
Muranadi—Bdr.—मुरमाडी	Sawaragaon—Bdr.—सावरगाव
Murmadi—Skl.—मुरमाडी	Sawargaon—Skl.—सावरगाव
Murmadi Hamesha—Skl.—मुरमाडी हमेशा	Selari—Bdr.—सेलारी
Murapar—Skl.—मुरपार	Silli—Skl.—सिल्ली
Naganagaon—Bdr.—नागणगाव	Silli—Skl.—सिल्ली
Nawegaon—Bdr.—नवेगाव	Singori—Bdr.—सिंगोरी
Nawegaon—Skl.—नवेगाव	Singori Hamesha—Bdr.—सिंगोरी हमेशा
Nishani—Skl.—निशाणी	Sindamarhan—Skl.—सिंदमन्हाण
Pangadi—Gda.—पांगडी	Singori—Skl.—सिंगोरी
Pangadi Hamesha—Bdr.—पांगडी हमेशा	Sirmalkasa—Gda.—सिरमलकसा
Pardi—Skl.—पारडी	Sirpur Hamesha—Bdr.—सिरपूर हमेशा
Pathari—Skl.—पाथरी	Sitepar—Bdr.—सितेपार
Pauldawana—Skl.—पाउलदवणा	Somalpur—Skl.—सोमलपूर
Panjarepar—Bdr.—पांजरेपार	Sonkund—Bdr.—सोनकुंड
Pindkepar—Bdr.—पिंडकेपार	Tahkazari—Gda.—तहकाझरी
Pindakepar—Skl.—पिंडकेपार	Tambekhani—Bdr.—तांबेखनी
Pingalai—Bdr.—पिंगलाई	Tekepar Hamesha—Bdr.—टेकेपार हमेशा
Piparwahi—Skl.—पिपरवाही	Thadezari—Skl.—थाडेझरी
Pitesur—Bdr.—पिटेसूर	Tumadimendha—Skl.—तुमडीमेंढा
Pradhan (Dhorap)—Bdr.—प्रधान (डोरप)	Tumadimendha—Skl.—तुमडीमेंढा
Purkabodi—Skl.—पुरकाबोडी	Usaripur—Bdr.—उसरीपूर
Purkabodi—Skl.—पुरकाबोडी	Vadegaon—Bdr.—वडेगाव
Raini—Bdr.—रैनी	Wadhona—Gda.—वाढोणा
	Wadipar—Bdr.—वाडीपार
	Yelkazari—Bdr.—येलकाझरी
	Yetewahi—Bdr.—येटेवाही
	Yetewahi—Skl.—येटेवाही
	Zaliya—Gda.—झालिया

THE LIST OF FOREST VILLAGES, BILANDARA DISTRICT

Name of the Village	Name of the Village
Chandapur—Bdr.—चांदपुर	Nawegaon—Bdr.—नवेगांव
Govindtola—Gda.—गोविंदटोला	Sodipur—Bdr.—सोदीपुर
Jabbarakheda—Skl.—जबबारखेडा	Thadezari—Skl.—थाडेझरी
Malakanapur—Skl.—मालकनपुर	Umarpalli—Skl.—उमरपायली
Nagzira—Skl.—नागझिरा	Witapur—Bdr.—विटपुर

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APPENDIX I

A KEY TO DIACRITICAL MARKS

ā-आ; ī-ई; ū-ऊ; ṛ-ऋ; ॠ-ॡ; e-ए; ch-छ; t-ट; th-ठ; d-ड; dh-ढ; n-न; ṇ-ण;
ś-श; ṣ-ष; s-स; h-ह; l-ल.

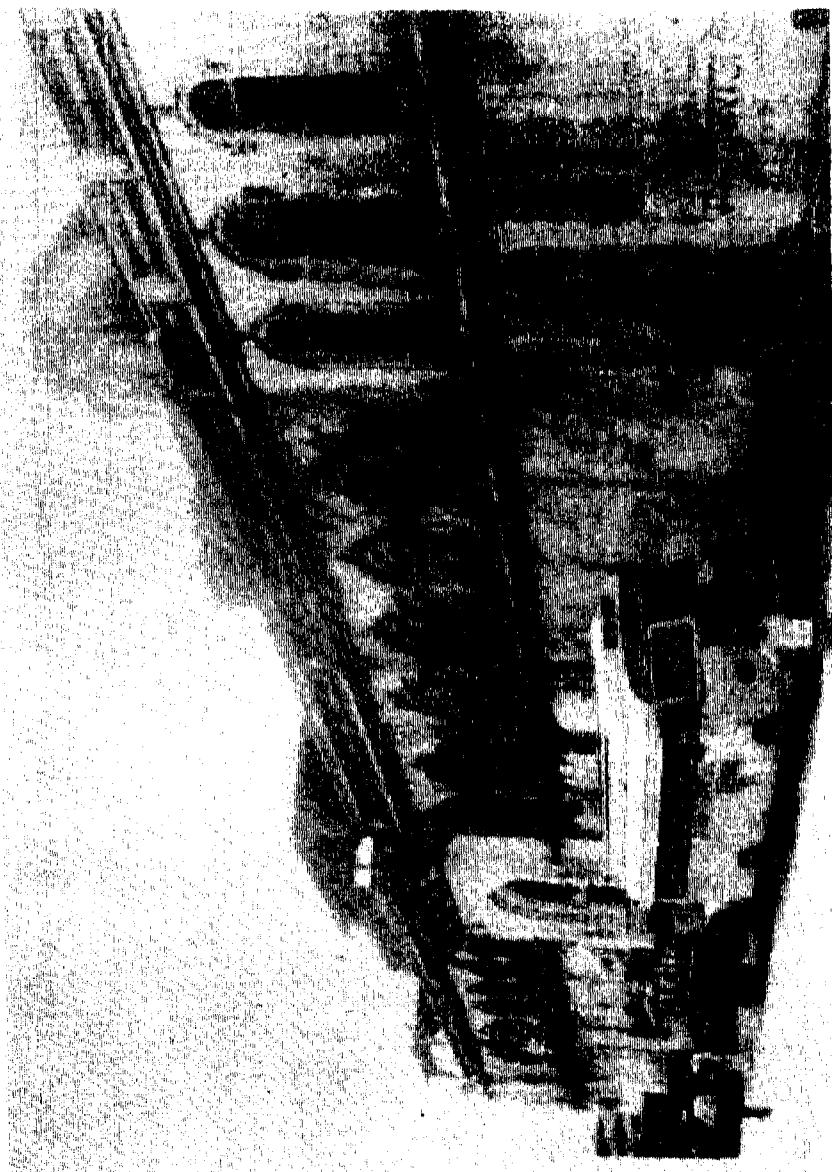
Current Spelling	Diacritical Spelling	Current Spelling	Diacritical Spelling
<i>Abhishek</i>	<i>Abhiṣhek</i>	Jamb	Jāmb
Adyar	Adyar	<i>Jyeshtha</i>	<i>Jyēṣṭha</i>
<i>Akshat</i>	<i>Akṣat</i>	Kalachuris	Kalacuris
<i>Akshayatriiya</i>	<i>Akṣayatṛīyā</i>	Kamtha	Kāmthā
Ambagad	Āmbāgād	Kanhargaon	<i>Kanhārgāñv</i>
Amgaon	Āmgāñv	<i>Kartik</i>	<i>Kārtik</i>
Andhalgaon	Āndhālgāñv	Kati	Katī
<i>Annaprashana</i>	<i>Annaprāṣana</i>	Khandoba	Khaṇḍobā
<i>Antyeshti</i>	<i>Antyeṣṭi</i>	Koshti	Koṣṭī
<i>Ashadh</i>	<i>Aśādh</i>	Krishnaraja	Kṛṣṇarāja
Ashoka	Aśoka	Kumbhali	Kumbhālī
<i>Ashvina</i>	<i>Aśvina</i>	Kunbi	Kuṇbī
<i>Bhādrapada</i>	<i>Bhādrapad</i>	Lakhani	Lākhani
<i>Bhakar</i>	<i>Bhākar</i>	<i>Magh</i>	<i>Māgh</i>
Bondgaon	Boṇḍgāñv	Maharashtra	Mahārāṣṭra
Brahmi	Brāhmī	Mali	Mālī
<i>Chaitra</i>	<i>Chaitra</i>	<i>Mangalashaka</i>	<i>Maṅgalāṣṭaka</i>
Chalukyas	Chālukyas	Marar	Marār
Chandol	Caṇḍol	<i>Matrikūpūjana</i>	<i>Mātrikūpūjana</i>
Chandpur	Cāṇḍpūr	Mohadi	Mohādī
Chichgad	Cicagād	Mundhari	Muṇḍhārī
Chikhali	Cikhālī	Murmadi	Murmādi
<i>Choli</i>	<i>Colī</i>	<i>Naga Panchami</i>	<i>Nāga Pañcamī</i>
<i>Dharmashastra</i>	<i>Dharmaśāstra</i>	<i>Nagara</i>	<i>Nagārā</i>
<i>Divali</i>	<i>Divālī</i>	Nareghat	Nāreghāt
Fatekhherda	Phatekhkerḍā	Nansari	Nānsārī
Fulchur	Phulcūr	Narnala	Narnālā
<i>Ganapati</i>	<i>Gaṇapati</i>	Nawegaon	Navegāñv
Ganga	Gaṅgā	Palasgaon	Paḷasagāñv
<i>Gokulashami</i>	<i>Gokuḷāṣṭamī</i>	Palkhed	Pālkhed
Gond	Goṇḍ	<i>Panchadhatu</i>	<i>Pañcadhātū</i>
Gondumri	Goṇḍumrī	Pañchal	Pañcāl
Gowari	Gowārī	Pañchavati	Pañcavāṭī
<i>Gudhi Padva</i>	<i>Guḍhī Pāḍvā</i>	Pauni	Paunī
Halba	Halbā	<i>Pausa</i>	<i>Pauṣa</i>
Harishena	Harīṣeṇa	Pavnar	Pavnār
Hemadpant	Hemāḍpant	<i>Peshwa</i>	<i>Peṣavā</i>
<i>Holi</i>	<i>Hoḷī</i>	<i>Phalguna</i>	<i>Phālguna</i>
Holkar	Hoḷkar	<i>Pola</i>	<i>Polā</i>
Hoshang Shah	Hoṣāng Śāh	Prakrit	Prākṛit
Ikshvaku	Ikṣvākū	Pratapgad	Pratāpagād

A KEY TO DIACRITICAL MARKS—*contd.*

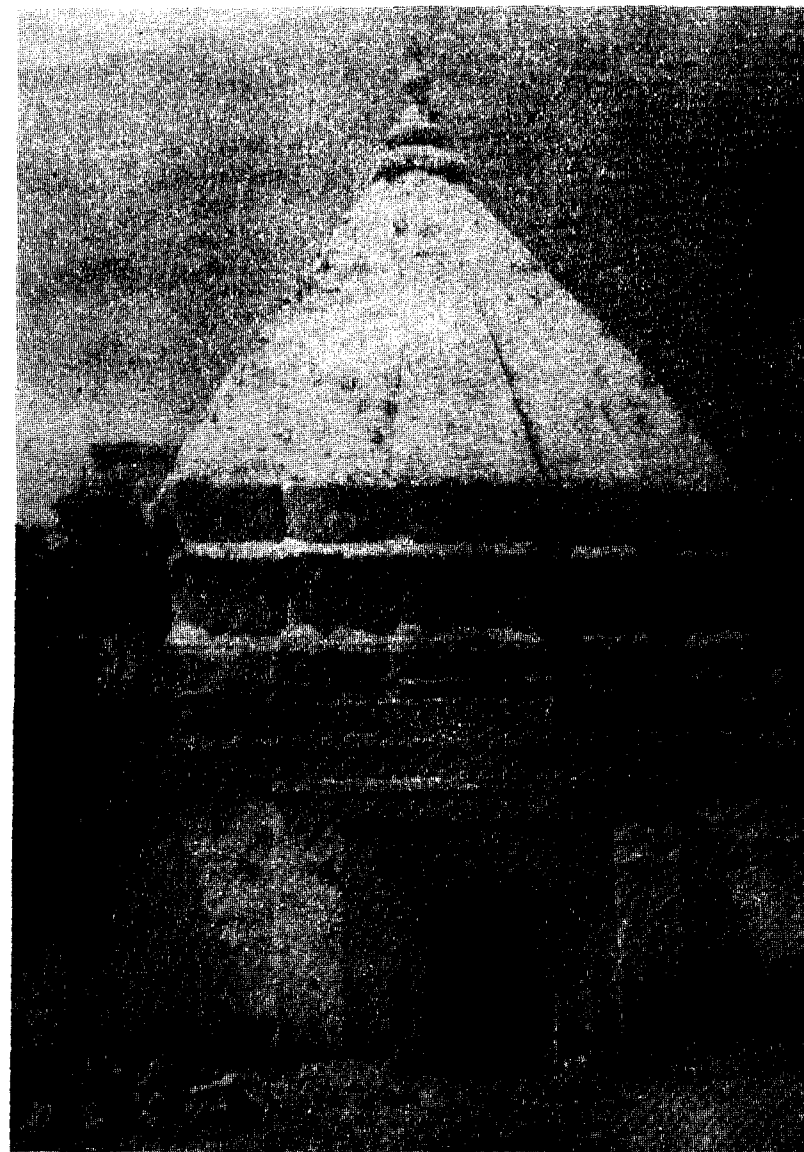
Current Spelling	Diacritical Spelling	Current Spelling	Diacritical Spelling
<i>Pratishthana</i>	<i>Praṭiṣṭhāna</i>	Seoni	Śivāṇī
Prithivishena	Prthiviṣhena	Shah Jahan	Śāh Jahān
Pulkeshin	Pulakeśin	Shivaji	Śivājī
<i>Punyahavachan</i>	<i>Puṇyāhavācana</i>	<i>Shraddha</i>	<i>Śrāddha</i>
Purāḍa	Purāḍā	<i>Shravana</i>	<i>Śrāvāṇa</i>
<i>Puranas</i>	<i>Purāṇas</i>	<i>Sodmuj</i>	<i>Sodmuj</i>
<i>Rakshasa</i>	<i>Rākṣasa</i>	<i>Surparambi</i>	<i>Surpārambi</i>
<i>Ramayana</i>	<i>Rāmāyana</i>	Teli	Telī
Rashtrakuta	Rāṣṭrakūṭa	<i>Vagnishchaya</i>	<i>Vāgnishchaya</i>
Sakoli	Sākoli	<i>Vaishakh</i>	<i>Vaiśākha</i>
Sanskrit	Sanskṛit	<i>Vakatakas</i>	<i>Vākāṭakās</i>
Satakarni	Sātakarṇī	<i>Vishnukundin</i>	<i>Viṣṇukunḍin</i>



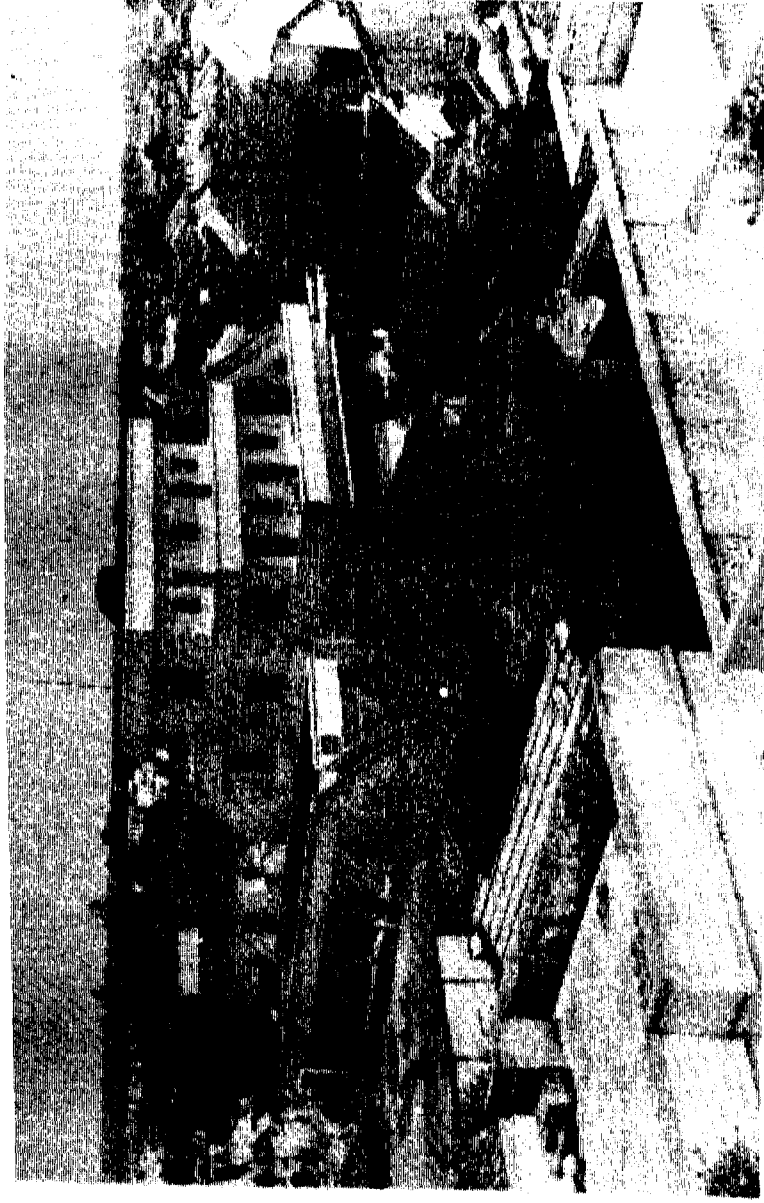
Kumb Talao, Mandara—a general view.



Yadavrao's Palace, Bhandara.



Ambai—Nambai Temple, Bhandara—a general view.



A present view of Old Bhandara Town.



An Old gun, Sanged Fort.



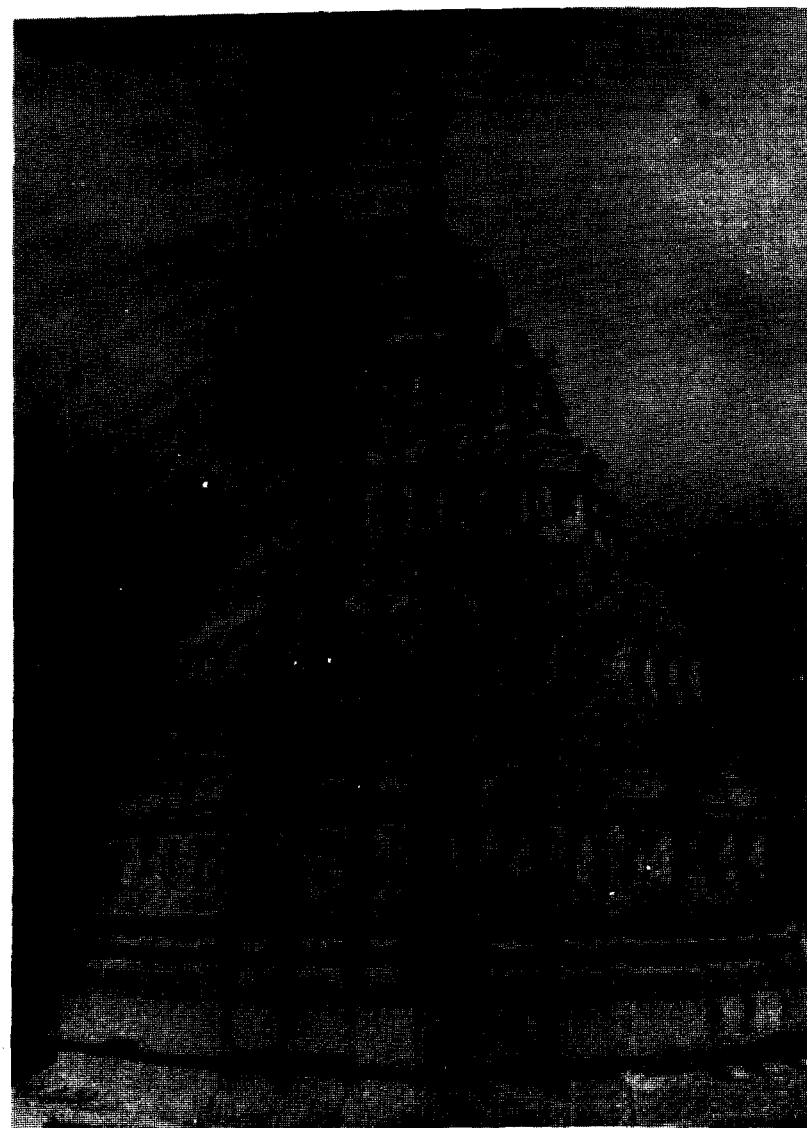
Entrance gate, Sangadi Fort.



Chandpur Tank, Chandpur—a general view.



Seoni Bandh, Seoni—a general view.



Murtidhar Temple, Shikhar Pauri.



Shrines in Murudhar Temple, Pauni.



Nawgaon Bandh.

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