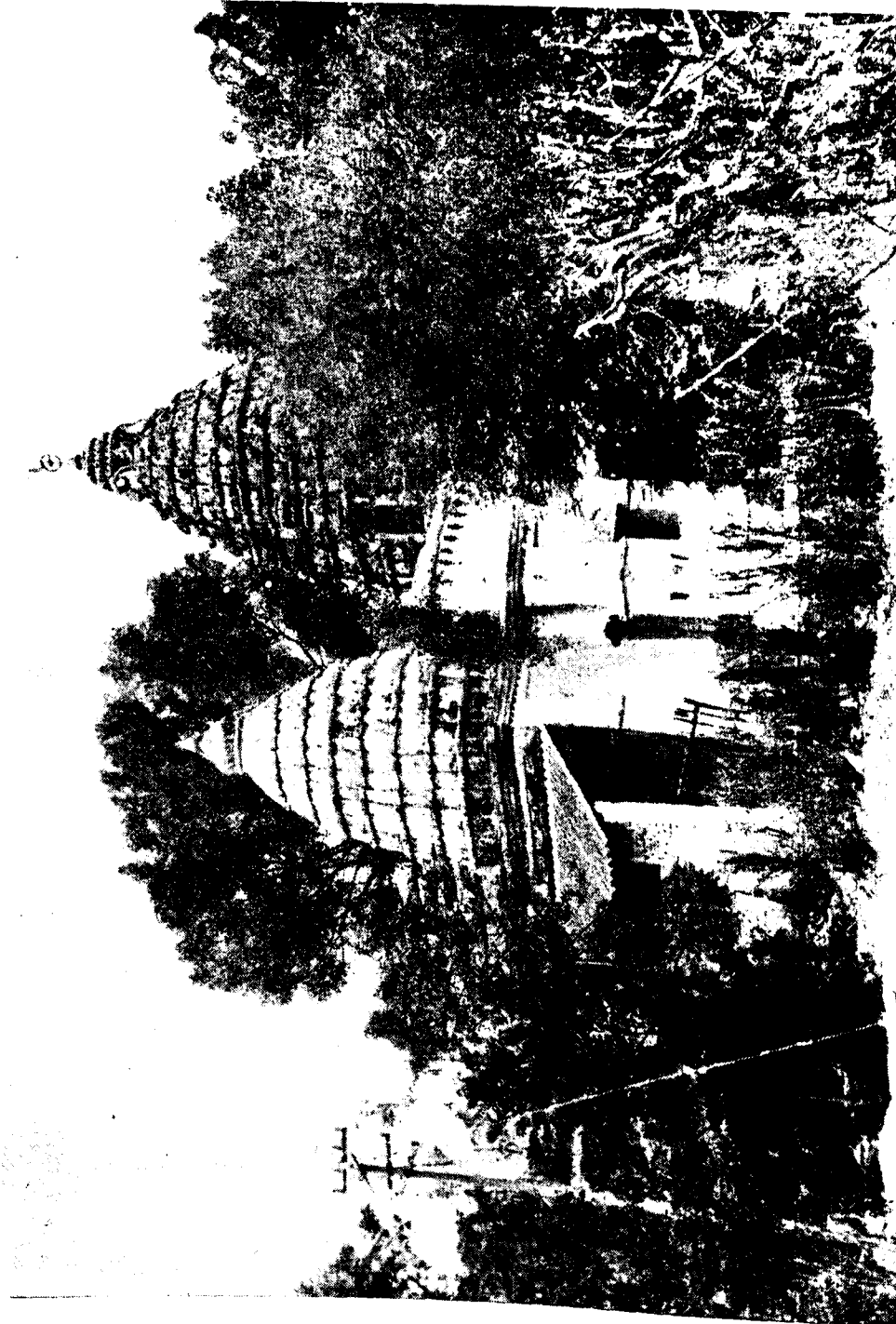




Gopal Mandir, Sarangahi

MADHYA PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



RAIGARH

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DISTRICT GAZETTEERS DEPARTMENT
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PREFACE

The Gazetteer of Raigarh District is the twelfth in the series of District Gazetteers of Madhya Pradesh. The work of preparation and publication of District Gazetteers is being undertaken by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with the Central Gazetteers Unit, Government of India.

Raigarh occupies the eastern most part of Madhya Pradesh and forms a common border with the States of Bihar and Orissa. The District was constituted on the 1st January, 1948, incorporating the five Princely States, namely, Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur, Jashpur and Sakti. After the Reorganisation of States in 1956, the area comprised in Sakti tahsil and part of Kharsia was transferred to Bilaspur district.

A short account of the States, constituting the present Raigarh District, appeared in the *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer* in 1909, written by F.A. De Brett, I.C.S., Political Agent for Chhattisgarh States. Much water has flown down the Mahanadi since then. History has taken a turn and the areas comprised in the District have cast off their age-old slough and are partaking in the developmental activities in the post-Independence period.

The District of Raigarh, being a part of Dakshina Kosala, has a hoary past. It has had a chequered history of victories and defeats, glories and subjugation. The earliest inhabitants of this region were the Palaeolithic men. They have left their record in the rock-paintings of Singhanpur, Kabra-Pahar, Khairpur and Karmagarh. These paintings, discovered in 1910, depict animals, reptiles, human beings, designs and diagrams of totemistic marks in red pigment.

One surmises that Dakshina Kosala might have been colonised by the Ikshvaku kings of Ayodhya, the capital of Uttar Kosala, and that Rani Kaushalya, mother of Rama, was probably a princess of this region. Coming to the historical period, this region formed a part of the vast empires built by the Nandas and the Mauryas. Thereafter it seems to have come under the sway of the Satavahanas. This is attested to by the account of the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang, according to whom a Satavahana king was reigning here, and also by the discovery of four copper coins, bearing the elephant symbol of that dynasty at Balpur village, near the borders of Raigarh District.

Probably Dakshina Kosala emerged as an independent country after the downfall of the Satavahanas. Later, Samudra Gupta (A.D. 340-80) conquered this area. Although he reinstated the local rulers, the Guptas continued to enjoy sovereignty for a long time. Still later, the District came under the sway of the royal house of the Sarabhapurias, who ruled over a vast territory which included Raigarh, Bilaspur and Raipur districts. They were followed by the illustrious Panduvamsis, the Somvamsis and the Kalachuris of Ratanpur. During the ascendancy of the Kalachuris, the rulers of Raigarh and Sarangarh were the feudatories of the Haihayavamsi house.

In the second half of the 18th century the Marathas supplanted the Kalachuri power and succeeded in establishing their hold over the whole of Chhattisgarh. The Sambalpur territory, consisting of fifteen Chiefships, including Sarangarh and Raigarh, was rendered tributary. The Maratha control over them was more nominal than real. Till the advent of the British, Chhattisgarh was ruled by a succession of the Subas (Governors). When the British appeared on the scene, the Raja of Raigarh was the first to conclude a Subsidiary Treaty with the East India Company. Although the chiefs of Sarangarh and Jashpur welcomed the British protection, they remained attached to the Court at Nagpur. After the Third Maratha War, the British considered it inexpedient to introduce direct British rule in this tract. The British, therefore, restored ancient possessions and authority to the chiefs of the States, now included in the District.

A word about the preparation of District Gazetteers. It is intended to be a useful reference book to the administrator, the scholar and the common reader alike. It includes analytical information on almost all conceivable topics concerning the District. For this purpose hundreds of books and reports have to be consulted and information culled from them. Correspondence is also carried out with hundreds of individuals and agencies, both official and non-official, and facts and figures are requisitioned. Available fund of knowledge on virtually every subject has swelled to a great extent and we have freely drawn from them. Still, in the case of the States of Chhattisgarh, there is dearth of information on many topics. At places, therefore, we have felt utterly helpless and rather handicapped. For example, for modern period of history, including the glorious phase of freedom struggle, we could not, in spite of our constant endeavour, procure very many details which could have further enriched it. But the stamp of painstaking labour, analytical treatment and harmony of narration is there. How far we have succeeded in this difficult task is best left to the discerning reader.

There has been inordinate delay in the publication of this volume. The preliminary draft of Raigarh District Gazetteer was prepared in the year 1968 and the finalised draft sent to the Government of India and the State Advisory Board for District Gazetteers in 1969. It was approved by the State Advisory Board in 1971 and sent to the Press in May, 1975.

I feel a deep sense of gratitude to Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education, for his valuable help and guidance. Experienced and scholarly staff of Dr. P. N. Chopra has sent useful suggestions which have gone a long way in eliminating some of the errors and improving the draft.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the learned members of the State Advisory Board, for their scholarly suggestions, which helped us to enrich the Gazetteer.

The preparation and publication of the District Gazetteer is the result of a fine team work. It is my pleasant task to acknowledge in full measure the valuable assistance I received from the following Officers of the Gazetteers Department:—

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Shri K. R. R. C. Nair has prepared the press copy and has seen through the printing of this volume efficiently. Shri S. M. Rastogi has also looked after printing of some of the chapters. I am thankful to both the Officers.

I have to thank Prof. A.M. Sinha, present State Editor, for his keen interest in getting the Gazetteer printed expeditiously.

Most of the photographs included in Raigarh Gazetteer have been supplied by Shri Shiv Sharan Pande of Studio Rajesh (Raigarh) through the good offices

of Shri N. K. Tiwari, Public Relations Officer. The Executive Engineers, Public Works Department (B & R) and Irrigation Department, Raigarh and the Principal, Kirodimal Government Arts and Science College, Raigarh also supplied a few photographs. Prof. K. D. Bajpai, Head of the Department of Ancient Indian History and Culture, University of Saugar, has kindly supplied us line-drawings of the rock-paintings at Singhanpur and Kabra Pahar. I am grateful to all of them.

Bhopal
29th July, 1976

S. D. Gura

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL

Raigarh District occupies the easternmost part of Madhya Pradesh. It lies in the Bilaspur Commissioner's Division between 21° 20' and 23° 15' N. latitude and 82° 56' and 84° 24' E. longitude. It is bounded on the north by Surguja district and Ranchi district of Bihar, on the south by Raipur district, on the east by Ranchi district of Bihar and Sundergarh and Sambalpur districts of Orissa, and on the west by the districts of Surguja, Bilaspur and Raipur.

Area and Population

It is the ninth largest district of Madhya Pradesh in respect of area, which is 12,910 sq. km.¹ According to the Census of 1971 the population of the District is 1,278,705. The District is larger than the two districts of Jhabua and Ratlam, combined together, which lie on the westernmost part of the State, together occupying an area of 11,640 sq. km. and having a population of 1,294,345 in the corresponding year.

Shape of the District

The boundaries of the District are not well associated, for long distances, with the important natural features in the region. However, the District elongated into a long narrow belt for about 219 km. from south south-west to north north-east. The width of the District is greatly wavering. It shrinks twice, first along the southern boundary of Raigarh Tahsil where it is only 13 km., and next at the latitude of the Maini river. From both these sections the width expands towards the north. The narrow sections of the District divide it into three parts—the southern, the central and the northern.

Name of the District

The District is named after Raigarh town, the headquarters of the District. Prior to the formation of the District, Raigarh was the capital of an important feudatory state. As stated in the Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer, the name Raigarh is derived from *rai*, meaning a species of thorny tree and *garh*, a fort. The standard Hindi name for *rai* is *kalla* meaning *Dillenia pentagyna*, Roxb. (Family-*Dilleniaceae*). In Chhattisgarh and the adjoining regions the word 'garh' does not necessarily mean a fort. Under the old Haihaya

1. Survey of India quoted in Census of India, 1971.

rulers of Ratatpur, a 'Garh' was a territorial unit of administration, with or without a fort, controlling, traditionally, 84 villages. Subsequently, the word being more respectable to the place, it was also suffixed to the name of several other settlements. It is gathered from a manuscript history of the ex-Phuljhar *Zamindari* that during the reign of Bhaina Chiefs, prior to the advent of Gond Chiefs, Sarangarh was known as Sarangpur.

History of the District as an Administrative Unit

Out of the four feudatory states which together form the present District, Udaipur State or the present Dharmjaigarh Tahsil formed part of the Surguja State, and was an appanage of the younger branch of the ruling family in Surguja from about 200 A.D. to 1852 A.D.

Bene or Beneghag was the capital of a State in the north. Raibhan, the Dom Chief of Jashpur plateau was ousted and killed by Sujan Rai, a Rajput prince who established the seat of his State at Jashpur. Udaipur State was continuing under the Raksel Rajputs who were a younger branch of the ruling family of Surguja.

In about the same century Madan Singh, a Gond from Wairagarh, established a principality, first at Banga and later shifted to Raigarh. In the southern part of the District there was a Bhaina Raja at Sarangpur. Somehow, he was succeeded by a Gond Chief and the name of the capital was changed as Sarangarh. Saria *pargana* was granted to Raja Vishwanath Sai of Sarangarh by Raja Jaitsingh of Sambalpur in 1781 A. D.

Of these four states Udaipur and Jashpur were the fiefs of the Raja of Surguja State while Raigarh and Sarangarh were feudatory to the Raja of Sambalpur. With the rise of the Maratha and the British powers in turn, these states accepted their overlordship. The rulers of all these states were given the status of Feudatory Chiefs by the British. However, as a result of signing a subsidiary treaty with the East India Company the Chief of Raigarh had to part with the Pudampur *Pargana*, granted to him by the Rani of Sambalpur.

Under the British regime, Deonath Singh, the Chief of Raigarh put down the rebellion against the British by Ajit Singh, the Raja of Baragarh. In recognition of this service, the *zamindari* of Baragarh was conferred on him in 1833. In 1852, the State of Udaipur was escheated to the British Government for the cruel behaviour of the ruler. However, in 1860 the State was conferred on Bindeshwari Prasad Singh Deo, a brother of the Chief of Surguja. His family resided at Partabpur in Surguja but his son, Dharmjit Singh, who succeeded him in 1876, took up his residence at Rabkab in Udaipur State and renamed it Dharmjaigarh. The states of Udaipur and Jashpur were placed under the direction of the Commissioner of Chhota Nagpur in Bengal Presidency until 1905, but later under the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division of the Central

Provinces. The other two states of Raigarh and Sarangarh were already under the commissionership of Chhattisgarh Division. In the year 1909 Raigarh State had 3 *parganas*, namely, Raigarh, Bargarh and Tamnar. Sarangarh State was divided into 2 *parganas* of Sarangarh and Saria. In Jashpur State too, there were 2 tahsils but the tahsildars had no magisterial and revenue powers and their duties were limited to the collection of levy and dues.

India achieved Independence on 15th August, 1947. Thereafter the Chhattisgarh states agreed on 15th December, 1947, to their merger in Central Provinces (subsequently named Madhya Pradesh). Later, on 1st January, 1948, The five states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur, Jashpur and Sakti constituted into a new district named Raigarh. The District was divided into 7 tahsils, viz., Jashpur, Udaipur, Gharghora, Raigarh, Sarangarh, Sakti and Kharsia. After the Reorganisation of States in 1956, an area of 401.5 sq. km. including the whole of the former Sakti tahsil and 274.5 sq. km. and 52 villages of the former Kharsia tahsil, was transferred to Bilaspur District. In return, 25 villages with an area of 101 sq. km. were transferred from Janjgir tahsil of Bilaspur district to Sarangarh tahsil of Raigarh District and 2 villages with 5.2 sq. km. of area from the same tahsil were transferred to Raigarh Tahsil. Thus, Raigarh District was reduced by 295 sq. km. In the same arrangement Kharsia tahsil was abolished and the remaining of its area, i. e., 437.7 sq. km. with 148 villages and a town, was merged in Raigarh Tahsil. The tahsils of Jashpur, Udaipur, and Gharghoda remained unchanged.

Administrative Divisions

The District is now divided into five tahsils—Jashpur, Udaipur, Gharghoda, Raigarh and Sarangarh. Except for the changes indicated above, these tahsils have the same jurisdiction as the erstwhile feudatory states. Erstwhile Raigarh State has, however, been constituted into Raigarh and Gharghoda tahsils.

For purposes of general administration the District has been divided into four Sub-Divisions of Jashpur, Udaipur, Raigarh and Sarangarh with headquarters of the Sub-Divisional Officers at Jashpurnagar, Dharmjaigarh, Raigarh and Sarangarh, respectively. Jashpurnagar is also the headquarters of a Sub-Divisional Officer (Police).

The area and population of each tahsil is given in the following table.¹

1. The area figures given at (a) was supplied by the Surveyor-General of India in 1962, and those at (b) were supplied by the Director of Land Records, Madhya Pradesh. The population figures are based on 1961 Census. Though perfect, the area figures from the Surveyor General are not available for units smaller than the District. The area figure supplied by the State Survey Department differs from that of the Surveyor-General for difference in the methods of measurement adopted. Similarly the District figure does not agree with the total of the tahsil figures which do not include the area of many of the forest Blocks.

Table No. I-1
Area and Population

S. No.	District/Tahsil	Area in sq. km.	Population
1	2	3	4
1.	Udaipur Tahsil	1,778.4	176,893
2.	Jashpur Tahsil	4,569.0	306,105
3.	Gharghoda Tahsil	1,488.1	136,751
4.	Raigarh Tahsil	1,311.9	236,354
5.	Sarangarh Tahsil	988.7	185,123
Raigarh District		(a) 13,116 (b) 12,971.7	1,041,226

Physiography

Raigarh District is divided into three major physiographic divisions, viz., the Chhota Nagpur Plateau, the Mahanadi Valley, and the Southern Hills of Sarangarh. Of these the Chhota Nagpur Plateau occupies the northern half of the District and is most complicated in its character, composition and natural history.

1. The Chhota-Nagpur Plateau

The northern part of the District is a part of the Chhota-Nagpur Plateau, a complex formation. The whole area, in fact, is covered by a group of small plateaux and hills separated from each other, either by the fault scarps, or steep sides falling in the river-valleys. Some of the plateaux are again marked by a number of *pats*, a local name for plateau-like formations on them, remarkable for level surface of their tops. Khuria Plateau in the north-western part of Jashpur Tahsil is the highest part of the District. It also forms a link in the central backbone of the Chhota-Nagpur Plateau. The highlands of Khuria lie between the Mainpat of Surguja plateau in the south-west and Pakaripat, Bahar Barwe and Kasmar plateau of Ranchi district in the north-east.

This is a line between the Ganga and the Mahanadi drainage systems and is also marked through these plateaux. The rivers taking their source from Mainpat, Khuria and Jashpur plateau and draining the southern slopes of the Chhota-Nagpur plateau region in Raigarh District, divide the hills and pats into a few linear groups shooting off from the central structure to the south and south-east. Generally the hills run from north to south near the Great Central Water Shed, further south they bend to the south-east and along the Mahanadi some of them are aligned exactly from west to east.

The Central
Water Divide

The northernmost part of Jashpur Tahsil is an upland region comprising Khuria and Jashpur plateaux, and locally called the *Uparghat*. It rises abruptly above the rest of the tahsil in a scarped fortress like wall of granite, more or less from west to east. The ascent is about 225 to 400 metres to the north of Bagicha, Narayanpur and Serdanr. Further east the scarp bounds the lower plateau of Jashpur and stands only about 150 metres high. The Uparghat is roughly 2,225 sq. km. in area. The general elevation of the tract varies from 600 metres to 750 metres on the Jashpur Plateau in the east and 750 to 1,000 metres on the Khuria Plateau in the west. The Khuria Plateau is separated from the Jashpur Plateau by another minor scarp running north to south, and a series of parallel hills alternating with valleys to the west of Jashpurnagar town. The individual ridges, dissected by the deep upstreams of the tributaries of the Ganga and the Mahanadi criss cross the Central Range and run in a northerly direction. They offer considerable hurdles to communication across them. The meagre development of unmetalled roads has been either along the valleys or on pats along the water divide line. A multitude of gorges, glades and glens is a conspicuous feature of Uparghat. The *pats* are generally barren or covered with grass lands, the slopes covered with the forests and the narrow valleys with cultivated fields and stony land.

The important peaks on the high ridges on Khuria Plateau are: Pandrapat, 1,105 metres, Burjudih, 1,123.5 metres, Bhanwar Pahar, 1,028 metres, Tendupat, 1,038 metres and Sulesha hill, 1,118.6 metres. The triangulated heights at Kurag, Garh Pahar and Laki hill are 100 metres, 982 metres and 1,007 metres, respectively, on the Jashpur Plateau. Sinigutra Pahar, 911.6 metres, Kainkachhar hill, 921 metres, Dungar Pahar, 878 metres and Goraghat, 764 metres are important heights. The town of Jashpurnagar has a spot height of 770.5 metres.

The whole of Jashpur Tahsil and the adjoining area to the south of the scarp marking the Uparghat are known as the Nichghat. The greater part consists of a narrow and gently rolling country along the The Nichghat Ib and its tributaries, in the centre of the area. This is about 275 meters to 500 metres above mean sea level and gradually descends southwards in successive stages. The Ib valley on the Nichghat is surrounded by plateaux of small dimensions, isolated bluffs, hills and tors, which rise to about 550 metres in the south and 900 metres in the north. The northern hills are mostly aligned from north to south, e.g., the Marwel and Kosanga hills whereas the southern hills of Pathalgaon and Karil Dongar seek a south-easterly alignment. The tableland of Marwel forms the watershed between the Maini and the Ib. The hills along the eastern boundary approach the river from east to west. Most of the prominent features of topography are affected by the long period of erosion and are rounded. The characteristics of granite areas are also wellmarked.

The Maini, a tributary of the Ib forms a small valley along the western boundary of Jashpur Tahsil. The hill range to the west of the valley forms the

water-parting line between the Maini and the Mand, and broadens out further south to form the Pathalgaon Plateau. This valley is known as *Kakia ilaka*.

The Mainpat is one of the high plateaux along the Great Central Water Parting line of India, on the Chhota-Nagpur group of plateaux. The high level of the *Pat* extends mostly in Surguja district, along the northern and northwestern boundary of Udaipur (Dharmjaigarh) Tahsil. The highest peak of Mainpat in Surguja is 1158 metres. The part of the plateau falling in Raigarh District is joined with Pathalgaon Plateau in the east and the deep course of the Mand river between them can be recognised to be the demarcating factor. The plateau is deeply eroded by the rivers and streams and series of minor hill ranges approach the centrally flowing Koirja nala, both from the east and the west.

Near the bend of the Mand river the town of Dharmjaigarh is settled on the foot hills of the plateau. Between Dharmjaigarh and Pathalgaon it takes the shape of a hill range which extends to the south between the Mand river and the Kurket Nala. Mardongar peak is 806 metres high from the mean sea level.

The plateau occupies the central and west-central parts of the District. It lies between the Mand and the Kurket rivers in the west, and Nichghat in the east. Physiographically, it is associated with the extensions of the Mainpat. The village of Pathalgaon is located on a plateau about 640 metres high. In fact this plateau is the widest part of the hill range which runs along the left (west) bank of the Mahanadi river in the north, and further, along the left (east) bank of the Kurket nala in the south. The highest point is 760 metres near Mainipur. The village Lailunga settles on the foot of a hill 723 metres high. The upper course of the Khorung *nadi* divides the hill range into two parts. The main ridge extends to the south and then, to the south-east from near 22°15'N. parallel. The next ridge extends in a south-easterly direction along the left bank of the Khorung *nadi*. The peak Barkhoa Dongar is 515.4 metres high.

The north-eastern and eastern margins of Pathalgaon Plateau are drained by the east-flowing tributary-streams of the Ib. Most important among them in the District are the Maini and the Khorung.

A line of low hills range from north-west to south-east along the northern limits of the Mahanadi valley proper. The hills extend from Kumhar Pahar in Bilaspur district and are traceable across Raigarh upto the Chanwardhal Mahadeopali bend of the Mahanadi (now the upper limits of Hirakud Dam) in Sambalpur district of Orissa. The range is broken by the tributaries of the Mahanadi, which force their way, from north to south across it. Of these the Borai drains the northern slopes of Kukradamak

Dongar. To explain the river's course across the hill range it may be assumed that originally the southern and northern slopes of the hill range had separate rivers flowing opposite to each other. In course of time the southern river on steeper slope eroded the hill range upstreams and elongated along the newly cut gorge. This diverted some of the streams of the northern (gentler) slope to the southern river. This has resulted into the present drainage line running across the hill range. The Kurket washes the northern foot of these hills for several kilometers in search of a way out to the south and meets the Mand before the latter actually crosses the line of hills between Chonda Dongar and Bhar Dongar. The Kelo crosses the line between Chawardhal and Gajmar hills through Raigarh pass. Chanwardhal is the highest, 609.6 metres and widest of these hills lying to the north-west of Raigarh town.

2. The Mahanadi Valley

The Mahanadi Valley extends in Raigarh and Sarangarh tahsils between the Chanwardhal and Sarangarh hills. The general width of the plain is about 24.2 km. on both the sides of the river. However, it is wider in the west and gradually narrows down to the east. The country presents a wide level plain of alluvial cover deposited on the Cuddapah limestones and shales which form the intermittent low rounded mounds of gravelly soil. The general elevation of the plain in Raigarh District is about 1,288 m. The area comprises one of the most densely cultivated and thickly populated regions of Madhya Pradesh and presents a great contrast with the Chhota-Nagpur Plateau region. All forests in this region have been removed. The flora consists of grasses, redundant shrubs, weeds, etc., in the patches of land left over for essential purposes like *Nistar* in each village. Useful trees, like *munga*, mango, *nim*, *pipul*, *bar*, and *babool* are also seen in small numbers, in addition to the plants and species grown as fence.

3. The Sarangarh hills

The main line of hills in Sarangarh Tahsil extends in a west to east direction from the Sonakhan hills of Raipur district. They scarp towards Raipur along the southern boundry, and disturb the plain topography of Sarangarh Tahsil. Almost all important peaks are along the southern boundary. The highest of them is Rathan near the meridian of Sarangarh town and is 582.5 metres high. Near the source of the Kenkamdi *nala* (21° 22'N. 83° 14'E.), a cross mark of hills is presented. The northern ridge abuts the Mahanadi across Chandarpur, the southern range forms Dongar Kermali across Singhora pass in Raipur, and the north-eastern line develops into Dechua and Budhapahar hills near Hirakud Dam in Sambalpur. Karanpali pool on the northern ridge and Damdamia hill on the north-eastern hills rise to a height over 396 meters.

Drainage

Most parts of the District drain into the Mahanadi, which flows across the southern part, from west to east. However, a small area of Khudia High

lands in the extreme north, beyond Sonkiari and Pandrapat is drained into the Ganga through the Kanhar, a tributary of the Son. Further west in Jashpur Tahsil the Geor and the Machhli *nalas* join the Mahan, (and Rihand), other tributaries of the Son. The north-eastern part of Jashpur is drained by the Sankh, a tributary of the Brahmani. The Mahanadi is the only consequent river, and its tributaries, the Lilar, the Lath and the Kenkamadi joining it on the right bank, and the Mand, the Kelo and the Ib joining it on the left bank, are the only subsequent streams. There is no major obsequent stream flowing from east to west, the direction reverse to the Mahanadi.

The drainage in the whole District is dendritic, both in the catchment areas of the Mahanadi and the Ganga. In the northern plateau and the hilly areas the water flow through numerous channels and small feeders. The larger streams lie entrenched deep between the ridges. The channels are narrow and the banks are high. Most of these cease to flow after November and go dry after March. The major streams are perennial but the flow is meagre in dry season. The deep channels, high banks and sudden floods in the streams offer potential hurdles in easy communication. During the rains, the streams are torrential and active in cutting the beds. There are sudden curves in the courses of the hill-streams.

The Mahanadi

The Mahanadi rises at 20° 20' N. and 82° 0' E., in Sihawa hills, a few kilometres east of Nagri village in Raipur District. It flows towards the west upto Kanhar, towards the north-east upto the Raipur-Bilaspur boundary, and to the eastern limit crosses Raigarh District. The Mahanadi canal has been diverted from the river at Rudri which provides wet season irrigation in the western parts of Raipur district. The Pairi is the first tributary of any significance which joins it on the right bank at Rajim, a holy place, also of archaeological importance. A little above Seorinarayan it receives on the left bank the waters of its first great affluent, to Seonath, which in Chhattisgarh is more important than the Mahanadi itself, on several accounts. The Jonk meets the river on the right bank, opposite Seorinarayan. The Hasdo is another important tributary which joins it on the left in Bilaspur district, further down. Among the tributaries of the Mahanadi flowing in Raigarh District and named earlier, only the left bank tributaries are major streams. Among them, the Mand forms a part of the western boundary while the Ib joins the Mahanadi in Sambalpur district.

The Mahanadi touches the north-western boundary of Sarangarh Tahsil of Raigarh District at Bhadra-Singhanpur after a course of about 274 km. It forms the boundary between Sarangarh Tahsil in the south and Sakti Tahsil of Bilaspur in the north for about 42 km. Later, for about 13 km. it flows through the District between Sarangarh Tahsil in the south and Raigarh Tahsil in the north. Again the river continues to flow along the northern boundary of Sarangarh Tahsil for about 8 km. the northern bank of the river lying in Padampur sub-division of Sambalpur district in Orissa. The width of the river is

open in Bilaspur and Raigarh districts and it further widens below Sambalpur in Orissa. In Madhya Pradesh the banks are usually low, bare and unattractive. There are two river-islands in succession, between Sarangarh and Sakti. The channel of the river is mostly sandy and a span of 225 to 90 metres is seen dry on both sides of the actual stream in the summer. The sand also forms a major component of the alluvium in the low basin which is submerged several times in the rainy season. During the rains the river gets swollen and the Mahanadi is seen in its real form worth its name, a majestic river.

In Orissa from Mahadeopali to Sambalpur the river was flowing towards the south-east before October 1960, but now the dam constructed at Hirakud has submerged a large area, including the river islands. The Mahanadi flows to the south from Sambalpur and to the east from Sonpur onwards until it falls into the Bay of Bengal through its several streams in the 260 km. broad delta fanning out beyond Cuttack. In Sambalpur the river has a width of the first magnitude, more than 1.5 km. in flood time, when it pours down a sheet of muddy water overflowing its submerged banks, carrying with it boughs and trunks of trees, and occasionally the corpses of men and animals which it has swept away. During the rainy season the water covers the rocks and suffices to float down huge rafters of timber. The Jira, the Ong and the Tel join the Mahanadi in Orissa on its right bank, while the Brahmani joins the northern most stream of the river on its left bank. The total length of the river is over 966 km.

The technical statistical data of the river is given below.

1. Drainage area 77,330 sq. km. (29,860 sq. miles).
2. Average Annual Rainfall in the area 137.16 cm. (54 inches).
3. Annual Runoff—32.2 M.A. feet.
4. No. of Multipurpose Schemes—12.
5. Probable power benefits (M.W. @ 100% L.F.)—102.72.

The Mand

The Mand rises at 23° 1' N. 83° 20' E., about 24 km. south-east of Ambikapur. It flows for about 42 km. in Surguja district and enters Dharmjaigarh Tahsil near Golobur. It flows from north to south, except near Dharmjaigarh and joins the Mahanadi near Chandarpur in Bilaspur district. The course of the river is narrow and zigzag on the Mainpat and Udaipur plateaux. The river forms the western boundary of the District for about 19 km. below Dharmjaigarh, and again for about 5 km. before it joins the Mahanadi. Its channel is deeply cut through sandstone rocks in a series of alternate rapids and pools. The river receives the Koirja and Chindai *nalas* on the right and the Kurket river on the left before crossing the narrow pass of Gurda which lies between Chonda Dongar and Bhari Dongar. Dharmjaigarh is the only impor-

tant town on its left (south) bank. A metalled road from Kharsia Railway Station to Dharmjaigarh tracks the narrow lowlying gorge of the river. The road further leads to Pathalgaon and Ambikapur in the north along the river-course. The rock paintings of Singhanpur are seen on the banks of this river. The total length of the river in the District is about 193 km.

The Kelo

The Kelo rises from Ludeg hill, 723 metres at 22° 23'N., 83° 31'E., on the western part of Lailunga plateau and flows to the south. It drains the central part of Gharghora Tahsil and eastern part of Raigarh Tahsil. It forms the eastern boundary of the District for about 5 km. and joins the Mahanadi above Mahadeopali in Orissa. Raigarh town is located on its right bank. Its total length is about 97 km. of which 90 km. lie in Raigarh.

The Ib

The Ib is an important tributary of the Mahanadi, which flows in Raigarh District. It rises from the Khurja hills at 23° 6'N. 83° 43'E. near Pandrapat. For a few kilometres it flows to the north-east and south-east, in succession. It then follows a southerly course, draining the southern slopes of Pathalgaon and Lailunga plateaux, and the western parts of Sundergarh district in Orissa. The Dorki nala, the Maini and Khorung nadi carry the waters of the plateau around Bagicha, Bagbahar and Lailunga to the Ib on its right bank. The Ib leaves the District near Loakasa and joins the Mahanadi about 9.6 km. above Hirakud. Now, the confluence of these rivers is sub-merged under the waters of the Hirakud reservoir.

Of the total length of the river of about 202 km. about half the length lies in Raigarh District.

The Streams of Sarangarh

The Lilar, the Lath and the Kenkamdi flow into the Mahanadi from the south. The first two of these rise in Raipur district from the southern scarps of the bordering hills. The third, the Kenkamdi rises from the Koilbahal hill on the southern boundary.

The Lawa or the Laua

The Lawa stream rises in Surguja, across the northern boundary and flows to the south-east. It drains the north-western part of Jashpur plateau on the north-centre part of Jashpur Tahsil and takes an acute-angle turn to the north-east and joins the Sankh in Ranchi district of Bihar. The Sankh is a tributary of the South Koel which flows into the Brahmani, a river flowing parallel to the Mahanadi in Orissa.

The Kanhar

The Kanhar rises from Bankhona peak 1,015 metres, high, to the north of

Sonkiari. It drains the northern slopes of Khudia ridge and flows into the Ganga. The streams flowing to the west of Pandrapat peak triangulation height of 1,105 metres also drains into the Ganga through the Mahan and the Rehind.

Geology

The earthcrust is made up of layers of rocks of different types lying one above the other. The bottom rock at the base is crystalline without any trace of fossil remains and is supposed to be the oldest formation, about 2500 million years old, nearly the age of the cooling of Earth. The rocks lying above the same have layers and belong to the succeeding periods, the topmost strata being the youngest in age.

A general stratigraphical sequence of the geological formations in the District is given below in order of increasing antiquity:—

Table No. I-2
Stratigraphical Sequence

Age	Formation	Stage
Recent to Sub-recent		Laterite, Soil and Alluvium
Upper Cretaceous-Lower Eocene		Deccan Trap
		 Unconformity.....
Cretaceous		Lameta Series
		 Unconformity.....
Permo-Carboniferous	Lower Gondwana	{ Kamthis Barakars Talchirs
		 Unconformity.....
Upper Pre-Cambrian to-Lower Palaeozoic		Lower Vindhya
		 Unconformity.....
Puranas (upper Pre-cambrian)	Upper Cuddapah	Matadolerite sills and quartz reefs (Raipur Series-Raipur shales and limestones with silt) and Cuddapah Series-Stones, ferruginous sandstones and porcellanites
	Lower Cuddapahs (Chandrapur Series)	 Unconformity..... Chandrapur sandstones and Slate Shales and limestone, sandstones, Shales and limestones, quartzites,
Archaeans	Granite suite :	 Unconformity..... Consisting of granites, granitic gneisses, granodiorites, pagmatites aplites and quartz veins etc.
	Iron Ore Series :	Consisting of phyllites, micaschists hornblendes chists, amphibolites and epidiorites.

Archaeans

The oldest rocks in the District belong to the Iron ore series. They consist of quartzites, mica, hornblende chlorite and talc-schists and epidiorites occurring sporadically as small inclusions within granites and granodiorites.

Bands of quartzite occur about 2.5 km. north-east of Bahama (22°31':83°35'), 3 km. south-east of Kiria (22°32':83°21') in Mand river, and near Dhuria Amba (22°37'30";84°2').

Mica-schists are recorded at Masri-ghat (22°26'30":1'30") between Dhorgramba (22°40'30";83°59') and Khendapari (22°39':84°0'), the best exposures being found around Dhaindhumba (22°59':84°02'), Kardega (22°37':84°02'), Dondani(22°43':83°56') and Kolidia(22°44':83°50'). Around Kandpani the rocks have been extensively injected by granitic materials giving rise to the formation of migmatites. Quartz muscovite, biotite and felspar are the major minerals in the schists. Magnetite and apatite are the common accessory minerals. Chlorite and small needles of tourmaline are also present at places.

Irregular patches of hornblende schists and epidiorite are found exposed at Simirkacha(22°34'30":83°49'), Satpurla (22°18':83°52'30"), Mahuadih (22°18':83°51'30"), Konpara (22°30":83°52') Sapara (22°38'30":83°5') and Bihirgali (22°37':84°4'30"). The hornblende schists are dark green in colour and consist of hornblende plagioclase felspar and quartz. Epidiorites are commonly dark coloured, occasionally with a greenish grey tinge. Hornblende is the most conspicuous mineral. The texture is coarse porphyritic. The chlorite schists range in colour from greyish green to dark green and are composed essentially of chlorite, biotite and quartz with accessories of zoisite, magnetite and apatite. This rock occurs, at places, as minor lenses.

Talc schists are found E.N.E. of Jhakadpur (22°32':83°31'), close to the west of Dupdega (22°31':85°35') and near Dhuria Amba (23°37'30":84°0'). They are of pale bluish green colour with a soapy feel. The talc-schist consists of fibrous aggregates of talc, rounded grains of quartz with accessories of biotite, clinzoisite and magnetite.

A major portion of the District is covered by granitic rocks. These rocks show wide variation in their texture and composition, and range from massive granites on the one hand and highly banded types on the other. The following five types are recognised by their general appearance.

- (1) More or less massive biotite granite,
- (2) Highly banded and gneissic varieties,
- (3) Porphyritic biotite granites,
- (4) Muscovite granites and
- (5) Granodioritic rocks,

The rocks are commonly medium-to-coarse-grained, consisting of quartz, felspar and biotite and at places hornblende also. Magnetite, apatite, sphene and zircon are the accessory minerals.

Massive biotite granites occur around Longe (22°33':83°36'), Matpahar (22°32':83°39') and around Jashpurnagar. Highly banded or gneissic varieties are found at Loguari (22°52'3":83°40'), Amblipahar (2935ft.), Dibsat(22°52'30":83°45'), Bhonura hills(2953 ft.) and Badankol(22°54':83°45'). Granitic rocks are also exposed in the low lying area to the east of Korba Pahar around Urdana (21°56':83°24'), Lamidarha(21°55'), south-east of Sarangarh(21°35':83°05'), north of Rengalmura (21°32':83°07'), around Kundaipali(21°30'30":83°29'30") and Jaramunda(21°30':83°29').

Muscovite granites occur around Kapu(22°40':83°20'), Pidikela(22°43':83°21'), Guthurmia(22°42':83°28') and Kharhadollin(22°38':83°33'). Porphyritic biotite granites are noticed around Bahaura (22°43':83°40') and Bataikela (22°44':83°44'). Granodioritic rocks occur north-east of Korakela (22°37':83°32'), north-west of Surajgarh (22°35':83°35') and north-east of Tirgot (22°35':83°35'). Kenoliths of amphibolite within biotite granites are common.

A number of small quartz veins, aplites and pegmatites traverse the Archaean country, particularly the granites and gneisses.

Lower Cuddapahs

Lower Guddapah rocks unconformably overlie the Archaeans. They are composed of conglomerates, quartzites, arkose grits, quartzose slates, sandstones and shales (micaceous), interbedded with fine-grained sandstones. The last mentioned sandstone group is known as Chandrapur sandstones. The conglomerate and grits are seen in a chain of hillocks, on the right bank of the Mand river, east of Pandikipali (21°32':83°29'). The conglomerates contain quartzite boulders and small pebbles of red shales. The basal quartzite are well exposed in the Chawardhal hills, Kobra pahar ridge and on the ridge south-east of Kharsia (21°59':83°06').

The conglomerates are conformably overlain by calcareous sandstones, which are red, purple and grey in colour and medium-grained in texture. The plains of Raigarh consist of shales interbedded with limestone and sandstone. At some places they show wellpreserved ripple marks and mud cracks. Small patches of dark grey lenticular limestone are exposed east of Chhapora (21°46':83°27') and south of Singhitarai (21°55':83°08').

The Chandrapur sandstones and slates are exposed in the hilly region to the south and east of Sarangarh and exhibit dip of about 10° to the north. The sandstones, in general, are white and purple in colour and are medium to fine-grained. The slates which are interbedded with fine-grained sandstone display shades of grey and purple colour.

Upper Cuddāpahs

The upper series of Cuddāpah system are represented by the Raipur shales and limestones with occasional bands of siltstones and porcellanites. These rocks are exposed in the plains of Sarangarh and Raigarh, on either side of the Mahanadi river. The shales are generally red and purple, but occasionally grey in colour. The interbedded limestones are generally grey or dark-grey and flaggy. The rocks show rolling dips of 5° to 10°. To the north of Mahanadi river, shales are more arenaceous, and locally grade into ferruginous sandstones. Grey porcellanic bands are exposed near Kanekela (21°41':83°28') and Bhukta (21°35':83°26').

Overlying the shales are the limestones which are generally dolomitic in many places. Argillaceous limestones are exposed near Babra (21°47':83°05') and Sakrali (21°45':83°6'). These limestones are overlain by shales interbedded with sandstone and are exposed near Parsi (21°55':83°04'), Bhata (21°56':83°04') Deorghata (21°54':83°06') and Khurdi (21°56':83°06').

Lower Vindhyan

In the area surrounding Raigarh town, granites and gneisses are unconformably overlain by Lower Vindhyan rocks consisting of purple and green shales, mostly calcareous, finegrained sandstones and variously coloured quartzites.

A few dykes of meta-dolerite, trending generally N.N.W.-S.S.E. traverse the shales and sandstones. The dykes are traversed by a few leucocratic veins. The dyke exposed near Mahadeopali (21°42':83°15') is about 30 m. long and 9 m. wide. The sills occurring near the Karrakat (21°32':83°20'30"), Pisora (21°31':83°21') and Bordia (21°38':83°25') are traced for over 1.5 kilometres. At a few places, the shales on either side of the sill are highly indurated.

Lower Gondwanas

The next in succession is the Lower Gondwana rocks represented by Talchirs, Barakars and Kamthis.

The Talchirs are exposed to the south of Regra (21°56':83°26'), about 1.6 km. west of Badpali and near Delari (22°00':83°20') and Bhagora (21°54':83°31') dipping at about 20° to 25° to the north east. The Talchirs comprise boulders, beds, shales, siltstones and varved clays. The boulder bed consists generally of pebbles and boulders, of biotite granite, Vindhyan sandstone and Bijawar conglomerate. The shales and sandstones are yellowish green in colour and fine-grained.

Overlying the Talchirs occurs a long narrow strip of Barakar rocks, consisting of coarse-grained, feldspathic sandstones with associated carbonaceous shales and coal seams. The rocks dip at 5° to 8° to the north-east, and are exposed near Gerwani (22°00':83°23'), Badpali and Bhagora. Bituminous coal,

about 1.5 m. thick is found exposed in Gerwani nala section, about 0.6 km. W. S. W. of Amaghat (22°05':83°24').

Overlying the Barakars, occur Kamthi sandstones which are ferruginous. These are exposed on the high grounds to the east of Gerwani and Kuchedega nala sections.

Lameta Series (Infra-trappeans)

Lameta series forms only a very minor proportion of the rocks exposed in Jashpur area. These sedimentary rocks occurring as thin bands are seen to underlie the Deccan Traps and overlie the Archaeans. The formation consists of grits, gravels, sandstones and ferruginous shales and occur at Kardama (22°59':84°01'), Thutapanipahar (23°0':83°59'), Garpahar (23°4':84°0'), Madwapahar (23°5':84°3'), Jashpur (23°6':84°5'), Handikona (23°2':84°5'), Dihdapur (23°1':84°3'), Hazaroat (23°1':84°8'), Hena (23°7':84°3'), and Khogha (23°2':84°2'), etc.

Deccan Traps

Deccan traps occur in the north-western corner of Jashpur area. These are generally weathered and lateritised, but unaltered outcrops are not uncommon. These rocks are dark grey in colour, usually fine grained and consist chiefly of plagioclase and augite. An interesting occurrence of grits containing small pebbles of agate, chalcedony, carnelian, etc., associated with Deccan Trap was found in the vicinity of Laro (23°7':83°4'). These are at times good enough to be classed as semi-precious stones.

Recent and Sub-recent

The country around Uparghat, north of latitude 22°48' for most of its part is covered with a mantle of detrital reconsolidated laterite, highly ferruginous in character. The primary laterite resulting from the alternations of rocks in situ, occurs as cappings on the high, flattopped hills locally known as *pats*. This laterite is also ferruginous and occurs in both pisolitic and vermicular forms. Locally, however, the primary laterite contains segregations of bauxite.

Fairly large patches of ferruginous laterite are seen capping the shales. These are exposed in the high grounds near Bokramura (21°38':83°18'), Saria (21°38':83°22'), Deogaon (21°35':83°19'), Kandevela Charpali (21°42':83°29') and Amlipali (21°41'30":83°30').

*Economic Minerals.**Bauxite*

In the Jashpur sub-division of Raigarh District, bauxite is found to occur in the Khuria highlands and in the Marol plateau. In the Khuria highlands the deposits are located at the following places: Pandrapat (23°06':83°41'), Tandapat

(23°07':83°41'), Daitupani (23°01':83°42'), Rauni (23°03':83°39'), Chichola (23°3':83°30'), Murhi (23°05':83°35'), Bijaghat (23°07':83°33'), Kadora Pahar (23°04':84°03'), Patia (22°58':84°01'), Garh pahar (23°10':83°42'), Thatapani Pahar (23°00':83°59'), Jarhapat (23°06':84°5'), Dampat in the Moral plateau, in the Burha and Kusang hills and Deopani hill station. Bauxite is also found at other places, viz., to the south of Ghugri (21°49':83°45'), to the south-west of Daunapat (23°1':84°5'), south of Arkena (23°01':84°01'), S. W. of Saraidhi (23°05':84°01'), east of Madwa (23°02':84°7'), 1.6 km. S. E. of Jalepat (23°05':83°59'), etc. The known reserves in the area are about 0.5 million tonnes with Al_2O_3 (Aluminosilicate) varying from 51 to 58.64 per cent, Fe_2O_3 (ferric oxide) between 2.12 and 11.21 per cent and TiO_2 (Tita. oxide) between 9.40 and 14.12 per cent.

Nodular segregations of bauxite associated with laterite are noticed on the hill to the south-west, of Paika (23°00':84°12') and on the small hills to the east and south east of Pakritoli (22°55':84°20').

Occurrence of bauxite in the lateritic cappings has been reported about one km. S.E. of Gernavani village, situated 1.6 km. E.S.E. of Purunga (22°17':83°12'). A few boulders of pink to buff coloured bauxite are found on the slopes of the ridges east of Puhani.

Building Material

Upper Cuddapah sandstones are being quarried at Panrahardi (21°52':83°51') and a few other localities.

The limestones near Parath (21°40':83°25'), Somlia (21°41':83°26'), Ruchilda (21°31':83°24'), Chikhli (21°38':83°26') and Kanthipali (21°31':83°20') and the flaggy limestones near Churela (24°36':83°11') and Dhaurabhata (21°31':83°08') are being quarried for building material and road metal.

Sandstones occurring in the hills to the north of Raigarh town (21°54':83°24') are used as road metal. The granites and gneisses occurring between Ambikapur (23°07':83°12') and Pathalgaon (22°33':83°28') are also being quarried for use as road and building materials.

The metadolerite near Karrakot (21°32':83°20') could also be utilised as road metal.

Principal source of lime in Jashpur is kankar which locally occurs on the surface of the Archaean rocks. Calcareous tufa is found near Manora (23°00':84°03') and Koladar (23°5':84°06'). Three other deposits of tufa were found near the Khuriarani cave (23°02':83°37'), Balod pass (22°58':83°52') and Phani-

Clay

Terra-cotta clay deposits between Dibora and Raigarh consists of recent silt and alluvium. They are being used for making country tiles and bricks of poor quality. The clays are of inferior quality. Small deposits of white clay were found at Arajhar (21°56':83°39'30"), Kishanpur (21°56':83°23') and Prasada (21°57':83°19'). The quality is generally poor but occasionally good.

Coal

In the Mand Valley coalfield, a minimum thickness of 200 m. was estimated for the Barakaras containing at least eight coal seams varying in thickness from less than a metre to 8.56 m. These are found in Gopal, Pause, Dhuan, Bija, Khera and Bhainsa pathar *nalas*, Amaldiha, Syang, etc.

Associated with the Kamthis, four coal seams, ranging from less than a metre to 2.5 m. in thickness, are found in Bija Khera *nala*, 1.6 km. S.S.E. of Ranaikat Pahar. The coal is of high moisture type and belongs largely to Class III-Class IV category (I.S.P.).

Seven thin coal seams varying in thickness from 1 cm. to 34 cm. are found exposed in *nalas* flowing from the Gadi hill towards the north. A number of coal seams varying in thickness from 10 cm. to 1.30 m. crop out around Lal-mati (22°27':83°21') and Parasatoli (22°26':83°22'). Seven coal horizons varying in thickness from 25 cm. to 1.10 m. occur in the hills to the south of Dhogaon (22°27':83°24').

Four to five impersistent coal seams, ranging in thickness from a few mm. to 1.12m. have been recorded in the Karharbari formations at about 2.4 km. N. 60° W. of Tuikakunda. A thick seam has been recorded at about 3.2 km. east of Rajkot. All the seams are of inferior quality.

Occurrences of coal are reported from Samarsanga (22°18':83°11'), Kanji nala and Bijapatra (22°26':83°11'). The coal from these places is of non-coking type. The chemical analysis indicated moisture content as 7.00 per cent, volatile as 27.88 per cent, ash as 13.88 per cent and fixed carbon as 51.24 per cent.

Two coal-seams each 1.5m. thick have been reported from Domnara (22°05':83°07') and Barand. The coal at Barand is of poor quality containing pyrites and carbonaceous shale.

The occurrence of coal seams is also reported from Barod (22°17':83°20') Chotigura (22°15':83°28'), Gare (22°08':83°32') and in the neighbourhood. The coal seam at Barod is about 2.3 m. thick but is shaly in nature. Quarry to the south of Barod has exposed three seams of coal each 1.5 m. to 2m. in thickness. About 2.4 km. west of Chotigura on the bank of the Masankuru *nala*, is exposed a coal seam of 2m. to 2.3 m. thickness. The coal is, however, of inferior quality.

In the Gore-Sarasmat-Lamdarha area, two coal seams are met with, each about 3.6 m. thick. Low grade coal is reported to occur near Bhadera (21°54':83°31').

Another occurrence of coal within Barakar sandstones was recorded in the Domnara *nadi* (Rasang *nadi*) near its confluence with Fulwari *nala*. Further downstream, two coal seams are seen to crop out, and still further down-stream, two more out-crops of coal seam are seen, 0.4 km. N. W. of confluence of the Domnara *nadi* and the Cherro *nala*.

Occasionally, coal seams, 1.5 m. to 2.7 m. thick, are met with in the *nala* cuttings in Gharghoda tahsil. Coal seams of 1.5 m. thickness occur near Amghat (22°05':83°25') and Kusumghat (22°18':83°16'). Coal seams at Ambgaon (22°24':83°14'), Donidih (22°15':83°16'), Karadona (22°26':83°25'), Purunga (22°17':83°12') and Konaikela (22°12':83°09') are thin and shaly in nature.

Raigarh coalfield is located on the north-west corner of the District. South Raigarh coalfield is a narrow strip extending from Kelo *nala*, near Lakha to Bagodia *nala* near Borkhel, a distance of about 4.5 km. in a south-east direction.

Copper

Thin films of malachite were found in an aplite vein occurring on a hill about 1.6 km. south-west of Simirkacha (22°35':83°51'). The occurrence has no economic importance.

Felspar

Large quantities of felspar, chiefly microcline of various sizes, are available over a wide area in the District, especially around Samdur (22°56':83°45'), Samardor (22°47':83°45'), Bagicha (22°58':83°38'), Bonpur (22°50':83°48'), Simirkacha (22°35':83°48'), Upakapa (22°45':83°46'), Karang (22°46':83°46'), and Bagid.

Gold

Alluvial gold is reported to occur in the sands and gravels exposed at low water in the Ib river, along the lower half of its course. It is also found in the tributaries of the river and in the surface materials.

Several trial pits and trenches were put down at Jammunda (22°39':83°58'), Bartoli (22°25':84°0'), Kanchuakani (22°35':83°57'), Aonrijor (22°34':83°58') and Dhorasand (22°32':83°58'), on the Ib river, at Gowarmara (22°37':83°51') and Beabal (22°37':83°52'), on the Maini *nadi*, at Dandajor and in the Amjhar *nala*, at Turialaga (22°29':83°55') on the Sonajor *nadi*; at Bangaon (22°32':83°54') on the Mangarkunda *nala* and at Pharasabhal (22°31':83°55') on a tributary of the Mangar kunda *nala*. At all these localities presence of alluvial gold was detected on the surface extending down to the decomposed upper parts of the

gneissic bed rock. But the principal concentration is expected to be in the 'buried' gravels overlying the granitic gneiss on the banks of the streams.

The occurrence of alluvial gold is also reported from the Baghbahar circle of the Dharamjaigarh tahsil (between the latitude 22°28' and 23°37' and longitude 83°40' and 83°50'). Gold is also reported from Bananthipur (22°23':83°40'), Redey (23°34':83°42') and Landond (22°38':83°42') and in the alluvium from the streams of the Dharamjaigarh Tahsil where several occurrences revealed traces of gold.

A gold bearing tract similar to that of Jashpur occurs in the valley of the Mand river at Dharmjaigarh (22°28':83°17'). The gravels are being washed by local people for gold on the Bharari river at Bakaruma (22°31':83°29'), Koirja *nala*, at Kamhar (22°35':83°18'), the Maini river at Jamargi (22°34':83°48'), and on the Sangur river at Salkao (22°43':83°22') and at other villages in the neighbourhood.

Lead Ore

Traces of galena were found 1.6 km. north of Sinibahal (22°33':84°0') and Phardbahar (22°25':83°55'), and at 0.5 km. south of Bandarchua (22°41':83°54'). Small specks of galena have been seen associated with quartz veins about 100m. N. 55°E. of milestone 5/7 (9.4 km.) along the Raigarh-Dharmjaigarh road.

Mica

Books of muscovite mica (measuring 10 cm. by 7.5 cm. or more) have been reported from the pegmatite veins traversing the granitic rocks near Kainkachhar (22°48':84°10'), and at Jampani (22°48':84°13'), Jurwani (22°48':84°15') and Thuti Amka (22°48':84°16'). The extent and economic aspect of the deposits are not known. The micas are stained sometimes heavily. Small mica flakes were noted in the pegmatite veins at Kapu (22°40':83°30'), Bahanantnagar (22°38':83°26'), Kandrajha (22°45':83°24') and east of Bakalo (22°38':83°15').

Occurrences of muscovite were also reported from the pegmatite veins near Keondapani (22°45':84°12'), Teratoli (22°44'30":84°12'), Jhargaoon (22°42':84°12'30"), Bartoli (22°42':84°9'), Rengola (22°48':84°7'), Jagmara (22°47':84°8') and Barnijortoli (22°43':83°7'), and Dametaghat (22°47'30":84°06').

Ochres

Occurrences of two deposits of light yellow ochre were recorded near Baherna (23°19':83°58'). Several other deposits of brick red type occur on the bank of the Geor *nadi* near Hurkuria (23°16':83°37'), the bank of a tributary *nala* of the Geor *nadi* near Nopani Pahar (23°08':83°34'), and Gibura (23°02':83°34'), and on the bank of a tributary *nala* of the Machhli *nadi*. All the occurrences are capped by laterite. The material from Baherna is being used as a colour wash in buildings at Jashpurnagar.

Iron Ore

Small pockets of haematite in haematite quartzites occur at about 16 km. S.S.E. of Saramdega (22°1':83°44'). There are several small lenses, some measuring 61 m. by 30 m. The ore occurs as loose boulders traversed by a net work of crushed vein quartz. The iron content of the ferruginous shales associated with the Kamthi sandstones near Padigaon (23°03':83°29') in Gharghoda Tahsil ranges from 20.64 to 31.28 per cent.

Limestone

Several deposits of low grade limestone locally used for lime burning and as road metal have been reported from Saraipali (22°01':83°08') and Banipathar (22°00':83°03'). The deposit at Jharidi is reported to yield limestone of good quality. Two bands of limestone each about 1 metre thick are interbedded with shales near Porath (21°41':83°25'), Rochida (21°36':83°24'), Kanthipali (21°36':83°24'), Kanthipali (22°31':83°20'), etc.

Two deposits of limestone occur near Laldhurwa and at about 0.6 km. to the S.E. of Jognipali within the former Sarangarh State (21°35':83°05'). The Laldhurwa deposit consists of whitish finely crystalline limestone while limestone near Jognipali is saccharoidal in texture. The deposits contain fairly large reserves of limestone.

These deposits of calcareous tufa are located in the neighbourhood of the waterfalls near the Khuriarani cave (23°02':83°37'), Balod pass (22°58':83°32') and Phankihasa waterfall (22°02':83°5'). The deposits near Khuriarani and the Phankihasa are fairly large.

A large deposit of cipolino, a variety of crystalline limestone, containing layers of a micaceous mineral, occurs in the valley of a tributary *nala* of the Darki *nadi* near Khuriarani cave. A few bands of grey crystalline limestone occur in the Archaean rocks near Dharaughar (23°09':83°35'). A small deposit of calcareous tufa has also been reported near Dhoragaon (22°27':83°26'). The material is spongy in nature and greyish in colour.

Quartz

An occurrence of quartz crystals has been reported from Patamatola (22°37':83°39'). Transparent (2.4 × 0.6 cm.) and translucent (about 4.8 × 0.6 cm.) varieties are reported to have been noticed.

Lepidolite

The pegmatite veins about half a kilometre south of Kilkila (22°37':83°25') and one kilometre N.N.W. of Dewanpur (22°35':83°30') carry minor amounts of lepidolite, which are not of economic importance.

Groundwater

The rocks in the southern part of the District covers mostly of limestones and shales. These are poor aquifers and the available water in these rocks is found in joints and along bedding planes. Dug-wells with wide diameter are the best means of obtaining water. Water in small quantity may be available in granites and pegmatites in their joints and fracture planes.

Sinking of tubewells or deep dug-wells may not be suitable in the Cuddapahs, Talchirs and Barakar country. These rocks are dense with intercalations of clayey material. Tanks and *nalas* are the usual sources of water-supply. The Kamthi sandstones, however, yield a good supply. The water supply of Raigarh town, situated on Cuddapah rocks is obtained from the Kelo river located close to the town but is not adequate. Earthen dams may be constructed across *nalas* like that of the Mardan *nalas*, etc., for supply of water for irrigation.

Earthquakes and Tremors

The District experienced some earthquakes in the past which had caused slight to moderate damages. They are listed below :

1. Nepal Earthquake of 26th August, 1833 covered the northern part of the District, the farthest range of the seismic area.
2. Tremors were felt in the District when three distinct undulations, lasting 45 seconds with loud rumbling noise rocked Hazaribagh in Bihar on the 30th September, 1868.
3. During the Great Earthquake of Assam on 12th June, 1897 (Epicentre: Shillong Plateau) the whole District felt shocks of 50 Iseist as per Rossi Foreal Scale which was not severe enough to cause any damage.
4. During the Sidhi earthquake of 2nd June, 1927 (Epicentre : 24° 0' N. and 82° 3' E.) the District came under M.M. Intensity VI. There is no other record of local earthquakes in the region.
5. During the Bihar-Nepal Earthquake of 15th January 1934, Raigarh District experienced shocks of intensity VI in M.M. Scale.

The District is a part of the stable Peninsular Shield region of India known as 'Horst Block' and is outside the main earthquake belt of India. However, sympathetic shocks of earthquakes originating in the Himalayan Belt, though felt in 1934, were never disturbing beyond the V Iseist as per Rossi Foreal scale in 1897 and in 1934 Iseismal V of the Mercalli scale. The V Iseist includes places where the earthquake was strong enough to be generally noticed, but not severe enough to cause any damage. Iseismal V indicates rather strong earthquake-shock felt generally indoors, with waking of those asleep, alarm of some persons, rattling of doors, ringing of bells, large oscillation of suspended objects, stopping of clocks, etc., with acceleration 100 mm. per sec. per sec.

For engineering constructions, the safety factor may be taken into consideration. The Seismic Zone Map of India shows the District in Zone II and recommends seismic co-efficient 0.02 g. on hard soil, 0.03 g. on average soil and 0.0 g. on soft soil for construction of civil engineering structures.

Flora

The flora of the District has been cleared off from all even and culturable tracts. It has been disturbed elsewhere but the remnants are to be found in the Government reserves. The total area under Reserved forests of Jashpur Forest Division is 1,087.8 sq. km. whereas it is only 1,732.7 sq. km. in the rest of the District. The forests of the District are classed into four major types, viz., *Sal*, Mixed, Bamboo and Teak, after the most predominant species in the forests.

Sal Forests

The forests with *sal* (*Shorea robusta*) as the most predominating species are classed as *Sal* Forest. The *Sal* forests of Jashpur Forest Division have been studied under the classes based on the topographic divisions. In the rest of the District they have been studied under the classes based on the variation in the local topography. *Sal* forests are limited to the north of the Mahanadi valley. They occupy about 60 per cent of the Reserved area in the District.

In Jashpur Division these forests occur in Khuria Range, western part of Nagar Range and the slopes leading to *pats* in Kunjara and Narainpur Ranges.

Uparghat Sal Forests

A few compartments around Kusang hill also have a similar flora on account of the elevation. As regards quality, and density, they correspond to Champion's Moist Peninsular *Sal*, Group 3B/C1/B1 and are the best forests in Jashpur Division. They appear to be a true climax or a proclimax or a preclimax to a moister evergreen type. The general forest grows from 18 to 25 metres high, but may vary from 12 to 30 metres. The forests have suffered maltreatment by local people before the reservations. Now, they have disappeared from Pandrapat Plateau and only young crop is met with in Tiranga, Ranihar and Chondipahar blocks. The low girth of most of the trees is due to lack of thinning and cultural operations. The density of the crop varies between 0.6 and 1.0. The associated species are similar to those found in the mixed forests of the District except that moist species predominate.

The southern three Ranges of Jashpur Tahsil, viz., Narainpur, Kunjara and Tapkara, bear *Sal* type forests on the slopes and valleys with sufficient depth of soil. They occupy about 50 per cent area of the reserves in the west but thin out in the eastern and southern parts of the tahsil. The general crop stands from 15 to 20 metres high in the west but is 12 to 18 metres in Kunjara and Tapkara Ranges, in the east and the south. They reach upto 30 metres in

the *dhabbs*, small alluvial patches of Tara, Kutua, Kasjor and Berkhol *nalas*. All age classes are present though most of the mature trees have been removed in the past. Regeneration is adequate.

This sub-type covers nearly the whole area of Dharmjaigarh and Chhal Ranges and the adjoining areas of Pathalgaon and Lailunga Ranges. *Sal* forests of plain type occur on the metamorphics, gneisses, Kamthis Plain *Sal* Forests of and Barakars, the determining factor being the steep and the Western Valleys well-drained but moist soil. The forest is moderately well-stocked. The trees attain a height of 15 to 18 metres and the stems are straight. Most of these forests were clear-felled after 1930 and therefore the crop, in such areas, is young. Even in the unworked areas middle-aged stems of 60 to 107 cm. girth predominate. Small grassy blanks occur all over the region and the eroded *nala* banks are understocked. The type of forest is a climatic climax and the proportion of *Sal* (*Shorea robusta*) varies between 30 and 70 per cent.

This type of forests occurs on the slopes and upper reaches of the plateau, mostly in the central and eastern parts of Raigarh Forest Division. The forests are dry due to shallow soil, frequent fires and other edaphic factors. It is a fairly stable type. The general height of the forest is 12 to 15 metres. The density is generally low with understocked and blank patches over considerable areas. The crop is uneven-aged and the bulk is unsound. Bulges at the base and epicormic branches on the stems are common features.

Mixed Forests

Mixed Forests are the class in which no single species is marked to predominate over a large area. In this District all forests, with low density of *Sal* (*Shorea robusta*), are classed as Mixed Forests. The foresters have studied this type under three classes, namely, the Uparghat Mixed Forests, the Nichghat Mixed Forests and Raigarh Mixed Forests. A list of associate species found in the forests of Raigarh District is given in the Appendices.

Small patches of Mixed forests occur in the midst of *Sal* forests of Uparghat, where soil condition transgress the requirements of *Sal*. They are, therefore, in the nature of an edaphic climax. The general quality met with is IV, with the height of trees between 12 and 18 metres. The density of the crop is usually poor and varies between 0.1 and 0.4. Although the crop is mature, it presents a dry appearance with malformed, stag-headed and unhealthy trees, except in a few good quality areas. Undergrowth and climbers are scanty in these forests. The total area under these forests in Uparghat is 25.9 sq. km.

This type occupies the bulk of the forests in Kunjara and Tapkara ranges and about half the reserved area in the western Range of Narainpur. These

forests appear to be in the nature of an edaphic climax conditioned by shallow and dry soils, on which they grow. The quality is better than that in the Uparghat. M.P. Quality III (18 to 24 metres high) forests are also found over a considerable area in favourable localities. The density varies greatly, between 0.1 and 0.8. The crop is mostly mature. These forests had not been worked upto 1961, when extraction of firewood and charcoal manufacture were started. The underwood, undergrowth and climbers are poorly represented in the flora.

In the southern part of Raigarh Forest Division the Mixed forests occupy wide areas on Cuddapahs. They occur most in Sarangarh, Raigarh and Kharsia Ranges. They also occur on the Gondwanas and gneisses within the *Sal* forests in other ranges north of Raigarh range. Generally, they occupy the higher reaches of hills and the interior of the forests, in localities with soils, too dry, shallow, exposed or rapidly drained. It is expected that *Sal* may invade the parts of deeper soils, with fire-protection measures, but still most of these forests appear to be edaphic climax. The crop is 9 to 15 metres in height (M. P. IV quality) with open stocking but it is poorer and stunted on dry ridges and rocky slopes. They contain all age classes, except in areas worked under Coppice-with-Standards system, where young crop upto 35 years (in 1965) of age has taken place.

Bamboo Forest

Dendrocalamus is the only species that occurs in the division. Sufficiently large and dense clumps are found in the forests of Raigarh, Gharghoda, Lailunga and Kharsia ranges. In the northern part of the division Khandamacha block is the only important bamboo bearing area. Except this area and the few clumps that exist in the Jaldega, Kumarta, Endoo and Dhumpahari blocks, the forests of the former state of Udaipur do not contain any bamboos. Best bamboos occur in the mixed forests. Their quality and quantity fall in the *sal* areas. The bamboos of Raigarh Forest Division are not very tall, but they are thick-walled. Solid clumps are rare. Several bamboo areas have been badly treated in the past, but the areas which were leased out to the paper mills have been properly worked. The reproduction of bamboos occurs in these portions of the Gajmar, Urdana, Rabo and Rabodongri blocks, where tree species have failed to come up.

Bamboos are rare in Jashpur Forest Division. Scattered bamboos in a very dilapidated condition are found in Damera, Surjula, Badarkhol and Marwal blocks. A small patch of bamboos occurs on Karildongar in Satpuria block. Fairly good bamboos have been found to be flowering nearly all over the Division. They are usually associated with mixed forests.

Teak

Mention may be made of the occurrence of a small patch of teak in Rathan block of Sarangarh Range. Probably it is an artificial plantation as there is no

other teak area in the vicinity. The existing crop consists of scattered mature trees of IIIrd quality which have been so freely regenerating themselves that middle-aged trees, young poles and saplings and well-grown healthy advance growth are now found spread over an area of about 20 hectare. Attempts were made to plant teak in some other places also from time to time but with little success. A few teak poles are seen in the western part of the Boirdadar block (Raigarh range). In compartment 347 a few hundred teak root shoot cuttings were put in 1953, some of which were surviving and attained 1.3 metre height in 2 years. An area of about 0.1 hectare was planted with teak in 1942, in the Chhureljharia block of Patalgaon Range. The plants are over 7.5 metres high and 38 cm. in girth.

In the open shelterless valleys of Uparghat, *sal* finds it difficult to establish. It is no problem under the protection of trees. Many times it also survives the annual fire. In the Nichghat regeneration of *sal* is plentiful in good quality areas whereas poor-quality areas and overgrazed tracts have little or no regeneration. In Raigarh Forest Division reproduction is inadequate except in Chhal Range, and in the sheltered, moist soil areas protected from fires, dense growth of grass and bamboos.

The natural regeneration of *Dhaura* (*Anogeissus latifolia*) *saj* (*Terminalia tomentosa*) and *bija* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*) is adequate in some parts only. Coppice reproduction of *garari* (*Cleistanthus collinus*), *lendia* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*) and *bhirra* (*Chloroxylon swietenia*) can be relied on but that of *bija* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*) and *dhaura* (*Anogeissus latifolia*) is uncertain. *Salai* (*Boswellia serrata*) of seedling origin are seen in Taraimal, Suhaj and Sisinga blocks. Scattered growth of *semal* (*Bambox malabaricum*) occurs in parts of Sarangarh Range.

History of the Forest Management

In the year 1858, half of the forest areas lying to the south of Gharghoda and Tamnar were demarcated. The forests lying within a distance of ten miles from the Railway line were reserved and the remaining forests were termed as *Grami* (village) Forests. Simultaneously shifting cultivation, resin-tapping and unrestricted felling of trees were prohibited. Instead the licence system of exploitation was introduced for 39 years with the result that from the open areas the best trees were removed and the worst left behind. Besides, the forests (including the reserved) were heavily worked for about 14 years upto 1917 for the extraction of sleepers. Commutation system was introduced for the *Grami* Forests in 1888. This system is still in vogue for the *Grami* Forests.

In 1927 a working plan for the 20 blocks of Reserved forests was prepared. These blocks were surveyed and mapped by the local staff. Systematic

From 1927 to 1941 working of the forests was started in Raigarh State for the first time. 'The State owed everything in the direction of forest management and conservation to this plan' as remarked in an inspection note of 1937. In this Working Plan five working circles, namely, (i) High Forest Working Circle, (ii) Sal Coppice Working Circle, (iii) Mixed Forest Coppice Working Circle, (iv) Miscellaneous Working Circle, and (v) Bamboo Working Circle were formed.

After one year the prescriptions were disregarded most probably for the sake of revenue.

In the High Forest Circle out of the five felling series, Dongbirra and Tolge, could not be worked due to remoteness. In the remaining two, that is, Barkachar and Boirdadar, fellings were done regularly but not according to the prescriptions laid down in the plan. In the Sal and Mixed forest working circles work was carried on regularly but the number of the standards to be left per acre had been reduced since 1937 to a maximum of 10 per cent. Very little work had been done in the remote areas. All bamboo felling series, except Tolge, were worked but the contractors did not fully exploit the areas owing to the limited demand.

In the year 1941 eighteen new forest blocks were demarcated and declared as reserved, the sal coppice working circle and the mixed forest coppice working circle were grouped into one 'Coppice with standards' circle. The felling cycle of the Bamboo Working Circle was increased from 3 to 4 years.

After 1948, the existing arrangement of the felling series was continued but the hilly areas of the State were ordered to be marked on the lines of selection-cum-improvement fellings and the rest of the forest on the lines of coppice-with-reserves. The minimum number of trees to be reserved, per hectare, was fixed at 100 and the existing rotation of 30 years was followed. The important changes after the merger were the closer attention to the closing of the worked areas to grazing and protecting them from fires. In 1949 five forest blocks, of the Zamindar of Taspali, being looked after by the Forest Department for a long time past were also declared as reserved.

In the year 1876, Raja Dharamjit Singh divided the forests of Udaipur into village forests or "Kamosi" and reserved forests or "Sarakari". As the forests of Udaipur are situated in a remote locality no concentrated fellings were done in them till 1934. About the year 1887 Sal trees used to be cut for railway sleepers from time to time from easily accessible localities. In 1910 a *Wazib-ul-arz* was prepared under which shifting cultivation was prohibited and desired

trees were to be cut flush with the ground. As no marking used to be done prior to fellings the lessee felled only trees which could yield sleepers. Unsound trees were left standing.

In April 1934, an officer of The Government of India visited the Udaipur State. He found that the forests of both the categories were in a very poor condition. He drew up interim scheme for the working of both kinds of forests. He started the demarcation and survey of the reserved forests. The forests of the north-western part of the State were leased out for exploiting sal trees of over 1.3 metres girth for 5 years. In 1935 fellings under the coppice with standards system were started for the first time in the Bojia, Godainbhari and Lotan blocks, by forming annual coupes of about 75 acres.

Under the next Working Plan (1939 to 1955), demarcation and survey of the 62 forest blocks was completed by March 1939, and the blocks were declared as reserved by the Political Agent. A working plan was prepared for them by a State Forest Officer. This Plan came into force from the year 1939-40. This working plan divided the forests of the Udaipur State into 3 working circles, viz., (i) High Forest Working Circle (ii) Coppice Working Circle, and (iii) Bamboo Working Circle.

The High Forest Working Circle included 20 forest blocks. The rest were included in the coppice working circle. High Forest Working Circle included all the remote hilly and inaccessible blocks. The yield was fixed by the number of trees. Besides exploiting the areas by a series of long-term leases by doing selection fellings of sal trees for sleepers no other work was done and the prescriptions of the working plan about the improvement fellings remained a dead letter. The fellings were confined to the easily accessible blocks.

The Coppice Working Circle covered an area of about 187 sq. km. The silvicultural system adopted was coppice-with-standards. The rotation was 40 years. Worked coupes were to remain closed to grazing for 5 years, and were to be specially protected from fires.

The best areas were selected for fellings. Consequently, comparatively poor area with understocked forests are now left. In some parts, dense young wood have resulted from the clear felling of the original crop. Improvement fellings were carried out in the Lambikhar block where the forest has benefited by this operation. Under the pressure of supplies for the second World War, some areas, e.g., Purunga block were stripped bare of all good trees in the name of improvement fellings.

Systematic management was introduced in the former State of Sarangarh only since 1943. Prior to this the State used to collect about Rs. 22,000 annually through commutation grazing fees and the sale of timber, bamboos and minor produce on licences. The Forest Adviser, Eastern States Agency, visited the State in 1943 and suggested

that about 20 percent of the total area of the State be formed into the reserved forests. Consequently the 15 forest blocks were demarcated, surveyed and notified as reserves in February, 1946. Irregular exploitation of timber on licences was stopped and coupe system was introduced. The Silvicultural system adopted was Coppice-with-Standards. About 6-10 standards per acre were to be retained.

After 1948 the system of Coppice-with-Standards was replaced by Coppice-with-Reserves. The number of trees to be reserved per hectare was fixed at 75 to 100. Steep slopes were treated under Improvement Fellingings. Fire protection by burning interior and exterior lines was started and worked coupes were ordered to be closed for grazing for 5 years. Four bamboo felling series were also formed and bamboos were exploited on a 4 years cutting cycle.

The first reservation took place between 1850-90 during the time of Raja Pratap Narain Singh Deo. Badarkhol, Marwal, Kunjara, Rajpuri and Maduspahar were declared reserved mainly for the Ruler's shikar. But in the year 1913, the Political Agent held that the Zamindar of Khuria had no rights to the income from the forests in the *Zamindari* except that of levy on grazing. This was the State's property. In the year 1924, the first Settlement Officer compiled the first Record of Rights. Commutation fees for *nistar* and rates for grazing were fixed. Grazing and *nistar* was prohibited in the reserved forests. Shifting cultivation was abolished except with the permission of the State. One third of the village area had to be kept for *nistar*. The village *thekedars* could not give land for cultivation on hills, slopes and other unsuitable sites.

(A) Past working prior to the Forest Adviser's Plan of 1943:—The first record of any forest operation is that one Deo Singh started sleeper work in 1905 and continued till 1915. About 1916-20 an able forest officer worked in the forests to the East of Jashpurnagar and was granted a seven year lease from December, 1920.

(B) Period covered by the Forest Adviser's (Eastern States Agency) Plan from 1943 to 1962:—In the year 1942 he drew up a working plan. Accordingly, three working circles were constituted as stated below:

- (i) Selection Working Circle included 104.4 sq. km. of 'A' class forests which were to be worked for production of timber for export.
- (ii) Coppice Working Circle included 388.5 sq. km. mostly of 'B' class forests and were to be worked exclusively for the supply of timber and fuel to local tenants paying commutation. The system adopted was Coppice-with-standards.
- (iii) Bamboo Working Circle included 41.4 sq. km. of forest and in all cases overlapped the Selection Working Circle.

- (iv) Miscellaneous Working Circle included 254 sq. km. of reserved forests. No extraction was prescribed in the areas allotted to this working circle. In the opinion of the Forest Adviser (E.S.A.) though most of the area in this working circle was eminently suited for conversion to uniform working circle but in view of the fact that nothing but sleepers could be economically exploited from these forests, selection system was introduced which was the only alternative. In the year 1957, the Conservator of Forests ordered marking for improvement fellingings together with marking for selection trees. Since then the practice is continuing.

Teak plantations which began in this division in 1956 in Kunjara and Tapkara ranges were raised in Sal areas either worked or under the selection working circle.

Scientific fire protection started with the demarcation of the forests in 1943. The first forest village in the division was established in the year 1954.

Upto 1963 eleven villages were settled in the reserved forests. In most of these villages the residents, who are tribals, have been given residential accommodation, bullocks, agricultural implements and seeds. In a few villages there is a school and public purpose building.

Fauna

Thick monsoon forests, multitude of streams and vivid topography of the District provide an ideal abode of wild life but with the gradually increasing pressure of population and expansion of agriculture. Shikar was the Royal privilege during feudatory rules during which guilty were punished heavily. On their abolition, the tribals with bows and arrows have greatly reduced the number of wild life, since the terror of severe punishments have been normalised by the lengthy court proceedings.

Wild buffaloes were extinct in these parts as early as in 1908, reports the Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer. Wild elephants occasionally strayed in the southern parts of the erstwhile Jashpur State, but now, they seem to have been extinct. The Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer recorded absence of feline tribe in Sarangarh State as also the black buck and chinkara (Indian gazelle) in the plains. The facts show that the fauna has gone thin and reduced in its vividity. The last about 100 years have been adverse to its density. Latest estimates of the number of some of the big game animals is given in the Appendices A-Table No. 1.

Carnivora

Tigers (*Panthera tigris*) are generally found in the sheltered valleys in the larger forest-blocks. However, their absence is noticed in Kharsia, Pathalgaoon, Tapkara and Kinjara forest ranges. Their favourite haunts in Jashpur Tahsil are Manduvapahad and Garhpahad in Manora tract, the tract along Potara.

Alori and Sonkiari, Charbhaiya block in Khudia range and Badarkhal and Marwal in Narainpur range. Although their number is not easily accessible, an estimate by the Forest Officers is appended in the Table.

Panther (*Panthera pardus* or *Felis pardus*) is smaller than the tiger. It is quite common in all parts of the District. It also frequents the inhabited villages situated along the forest tract. Wild dogs (*Cuon alpinus*) are rare but jackals (*Canis aureus*) are fairly common. Wolves (*Canis pallespes*) are not found in deep forests and they stick to riverain tracts. Hyena (*Hyaena striata*) are also commonly found in the District.

Herbivora

Bisons are seen sometimes in Marpahar block of Gharghoda Range and Bijamal block of Sarangarh Range. *Sambhars* (*Rusa unicolor* or *Cervus unicolor*) are found in large numbers in the dry ridges in Sarangarh Range and Toge and Marhapahar blocks of Raigarh Range. It is occasionally also met with in Rajkot, Sajapali, Dahidand, Taraimal and Gajmar blocks. It is very rare in Jashpur Forest Division. A few specimens of bluebull or nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) are found in Mahapahar block of Gharghoda Range and a small plateau on Mandua pahad in Minora circle of Nagar Range. Barking deer or bherki (*Cervus muntjack*), four-horned deer (*Tetracerus quadricornis*) and spotted deer or chital (*Axis axis*) are common in the forests on the plains and are plentiful in Taraimal block of Gharghoda Range, Bijapathar-Sherband, Dahidand blocks of Udaipur Range, Benhar, Lamhikhar and Dhuma Pahari blocks of Chhal Range, Nag, Dhaniainghar and Kirunga block of Lailunga Range, and Rathan and Jhal blocks of Sarangarh Range. These species are rare in Jashpur Forest Division and are seen in Kunjara, Badarkhol, Satpuria and Marwal blocks all located in the Nichghat. Chinkara is rare. Wild boars (*Sus cristatus*) are fairly common in the District, but their number is small in Jashpur Tahsil.

Other Animals

Sloth bear (*Malurus ursinus*) is the only animal which is found in any number in the hilly tracts throughout the District. It is also common in the plains in Jashpur Division. It is omnivorous and the most abundant of all the wild animals. Hares (*Lepus ruficaudatus*) and rabbits are found everywhere in the forests. They rest in the tree-roots and burrow-holes in the ground. Langur (*Semnopithecus entellus*) is the common monkey. Porcupine is another small animal which burrows the ground and has spikes on the body. Squirrels and flying squirrels (*Sciurus indicus*) are found in the bushes.

Birds

There is a large number of birds commonly met with in the District but they are not abundant in the Jashpur plateau. Even ducks and teals do not visit the northern plateau in as large numbers as they do the southern plains.

Probably large numbers of tanks in Raigarh and Sarangarh tahsil is the factor, which attracts them most.

Among the birds noticed in the forests, pea fowl (*Pavo cristatus*), red jungle fowl (*Gallus ferrugineus*), grey jungle fowl (*Gallus sonneratii*), sand grouse (*Pterocles exustus*), painted partridge (*Francolinus pictus*), green pigeon (*Crocopus chlorogaster*), blue rock pigeon (*Columba livia intermedia*) and quails (*Perdica* species) are common.

House sparrow, crow and myna are seen around the human dwellings. A few species of bulbul are noticed in the gardens. Weaver bird or baya is seen around its remarkably artistic nest hanging on trees. Ghaghar is seen flying away swiftly from its grassy hide-out on the ground, when disturbed. The sweet call of cuckoo or koel (*Endynamys scolopacea scolopacea*) is heard from the groves in the morning of the warm summer. The poetic call of 'Pee Kahan' is also heard of papeeha or the brain fever bird (*Hierococcyus varius*) in the early rains.

Fishes

The rivers and tanks abound in the variety of fishes. In addition to the rivers there are 5,685 tanks of different sizes in the District. They provide about 13,688 acres of water area. The major carp fishes of the District are katla (*Catla catla*), rohu, (*Labeo rohita*) and mirgal (*Cirrhina mrigala*). The most abundant in the rivers are silond (*Silondio silondia*), attu (*Wallagonia attu*) and singhan (*Mystus seenghala*). A detailed list of species noted in the water bodies of Raigarh District is given in the Appendix.

Watery and Amphibian Life

Crocodiles are sometimes noticed in the Mahanadi. Crabs, toads, tortoises and several varieties of mantids, shells, insects, etc., are also noticed in the rivers and tanks.

Preservation of Wild Life

In the erstwhile feudatory states shooting was the monopoly of the rulers and members of royal family in their respective states. Relatives and friends of the rulers and high-ranking officers, especially those belonging to Political and Military Departments of the British Government, were also entertained by arranging a shikar. Barring this, shooting was jealously guarded and none from the public dared to attempt the game hunting. Shooting of spotted deer was guarded by the special orders of the Ruler even as far back as in 1906 in Jashpur State. Shooting Rules similar to our present Rules, were enforced in 1936 and 1939 in Raigarh and Udaipur States, respectively. Rules and Game Act, 1946, was enforced in Sarangarh State. The loss to the fauna was enhanced by the destruction of forests. The rulers and other privileged persons seem to have over indulged in games, it being a favourite pastime of theirs.

With the merger of States in 1948 the following Rules were enforced in the Government forests.

- I. The Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act (Act No. VIII of 1912) as amended in its applications in Madhya Pradesh (Act XII of 1938).
- II. The Shooting Rules of the Central Provinces and Berar under Section 26 (i) and 26 (d) of the Indian Forest Act (Act XVI of 1927).
- III. The Central Provinces Game Rules of 1935 made under Section 13 to the Central Provinces Game Act (Act XV of 1935).

The defaulters of game rules generally lack the sense of beauty and charm of adventure. They take it only as easy economic gain. Until 1966 no shooting permit was issued in Jashpur. Since 1971 there is a blanket ban on shooting wild life except pigs neelgai and rabbits, under Govt. orders passed under the Act of 1912. Then followed the Act of 1972.

With greater vigilance in the recent past, the situation is being brought under control.

Prior to 1948, Bijapathar-Sherband and Dahidand blocks of Udaipur State and Bairadar block of Raigarh State were once constituted as sanctuaries.

In 1948 nineteen Forest shooting blocks were constituted covering the Raigarh Division which is maintained as yet. In Jashpur Forest Division, the number of shooting blocks, the specifications of game sanctuaries and those open for shooting with permit, are published annually. The shooting permits are issued by the Divisional Forest Officers, Jashpur and Raigarh, for their respective jurisdictions.

Mortality From Reptiles and Wild Beasts

On an average about 86 persons die annually due to snake-bite in the District. Pharsababar Police Station followed by Pathalgaon, Bagicha and Kunkuri, records the highest number of mortality due to snake-bite. In the year 1968, in village Tapkara 50 persons died of snake bite between June 15 and July 20. Of these as many as 30 died of *Ghori-Karayati* snake-bite. This species is known as *Ghori-Pachhar* in other parts of the State. Tapkara is located in the area of Pharsadabar Police Station. Plain and open areas, such as under the Police Stations Tamnar, Sarangarh, Baramkela, Sarda, Chhal and Dharmjaigarh have low records. The mortality occurs most in the month of July, followed by August. The two months record about 50 per cent of the annual deaths due to snake-bite. Late November to early March is the safest period from snake-bite.

The wild animals kill about 7 persons every year mostly during the months from May to October. December and January are again the safest months from beasts. Danger to human life has been highest in the Sanna Police Station Circle. The wild animals have caused more human deaths in the areas of Chhal,

Dharmjaigarh, Kunkuri, Pharsababar and Bagicha Circles. The details are given in the Appendix.

Climate

The climate of this District is characterised by a hot dry summer and well distributed rainfall in the south-west monsoon season. The cold season from December to February is followed by the hot season from March to mid-June. The period from mid-June to September constitutes the south-west monsoon season. The succeeding period lasting till the end of November is the post-monsoon or retreating monsoon season.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the District are available for stations for periods ranging from 56 to 83 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the District as a whole are given in the Appendix. The average annual rainfall in the District is 1619.7 mm. The rainfall in the District increases from the south-west towards the north-east and varies from 1445.8 mm. at Sarangarh to 1726.6 mm. at Jashpurnagar. About 87 per cent of the annual rainfall in the District is received during the south-west monsoon months, June to September, July being the rainiest month. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is small. In the 50 year period, 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall which was 132 per cent of the normal occurred in 1946. The lowest annual rainfall amounting to 74 per cent of the normal occurred in 1905. In the same period annual rainfall less than 80 per cent of the normal occurred in only two years. Considering the rainfall at the individual stations, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred twice at Sarangarh. It will be seen from table 2 that the annual rainfall in the District was between 1400 and 1900 mm. in 37 years out of 50.

There are on the average 78 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 68 at Sarangarh to 92 at Jashpurnagar.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the District was 360.9 mm. at Raigarh Town on the 10th July, 1958.

Temperature

There is a meteorological observatory in the District at Raigarh. The records of this observatory, subject to variations in the stable factors that influence, may be taken as representative of the meteorological conditions in the District in general. Temperatures begin to increase rapidly from about the beginning of March. May is usually the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 42.9°C. and the mean daily minimum at 28.9°C. The heat in May and the early part of June till the onset of the monsoon is trying. The onset of the monsoon by about mid-June brings some

relief as the temperatures decrease appreciably. In September due to breaks in the monsoon which are not uncommon, the day temperatures increase slightly and this increase continues in October. The temperatures begin to decrease rapidly after October. December and January are generally the coldest months with the mean daily maximum at 28.4°C and the mean daily minimum at 13.5°. The District is sometimes affected by cold waves in association with passing western disturbances across north India and then the minimum temperature drops down to about 7°C.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Raigarh was 47.2°C. on the 3rd June, 1953. The lowest minimum temperature was 6.4°C on the 24th December, 1959.

Humidity

The relative humidities are high during the south-west monsoon season, generally exceeding 75 per cent. The humidity decreases in the post-monsoon season. The air is fairly dry in the cold season. The driest part of the year is the summer season when the relative humidities in the afternoon are less than 25 per cent.

Cloudiness

Skies are mostly clouded heavily or overcast during the monsoon season. In the latter half of the summer and during the post monsoon season cloudiness is moderate. The skies are mostly clear or lightly clouded during the rest of the year.

Winds

Winds are generally light with some strengthening in force during the late summer and monsoon seasons. The winds blow generally from directions between north and east during the post-monsoon and winter months. South-westerlies and westerlies begin to blow from March and by May and during the south-west monsoon season these predominate.

Special Weather Phenomena

During the monsoon season depressions from the Bay of Bengal move across the District or its neighbourhood causing widespread heavy rain and gusty winds. Storms and depressions from the Bay of Bengal during October also occasionally reach the District or its neighbourhood and affect the weather. Thunderstorms occur in the summer and monsoon seasons.

Appendices give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and special weather phenomena, respectively, for Raigarh.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

The earliest settlers of this region have left their record in the rock paintings of Singhanpur, Kabra Pahar, Khairpur and Karmagarh (all in Raigarh District).

Singhanpur is a village about 4.8 km. away from Naharpali station on Bilaspur-Raigarh section of the South Eastern Railway. Near this village, in the rock shelters of the Chanwar-dhal hills, a railway engineer discovered in 1910 numerous cave paintings representing beasts, reptiles, various other designs and diagrams of totemistic marks, etc., in red pigment. The human beings are painted by drawing vertical and horizontal lines. In one picture a group of persons are chasing a big animal with clubs and rods, in another a small beast is looking back to a man in a threatening pose.

According to Percy Brown these paintings are of very remote antiquity and they contain some hieroglyphics. A few chipped agate flakes, found here are described by Hayden as the Palaeolithic implements of the early Stone Age. In type they may be of late Capsion group. Apart from these Palaeoliths, a black haematite pastle discovered by Anderson, reminds us of the cylindrical haematite of Mohenjodaro. In technique the paintings of Singhanpur have striking similarity with some cave paintings of eastern Spain, though they suggest an Australian affinity.¹ The cave paintings of Kabra Pahar, about 32 km. from Raigarh, depict lizard, crocodile, sambhar and other animals, as well as human beings arranged in tiers.²

In the early period this region was included in what was called *Dakshina Kosala*. Queen Kausalya, mother of Rama, was probably a princess of this region. Southern Kosala might have been a colony of the Ikshvaku kings of Ayodhya, the capital of Uttara Kosala.³ According to a local legend Kusa, the younger son of Lord Rama, gave his name to the country of *Dakshina Kosala*.

Early History

From the point of view of strict historical reference, however, Southern Kosala might not have been penetrated by the Aryans till the 6th century B.C.

1. P. Mitra, *Prehistoric India*, pp. 197-98; *Shukla Abhinandan Grantha, Itihās Khanda*, p. 6.

2. *Shukla Abhinandan Grantha, Itihās Khanda*, p. 6.

3. *The Classical Age*, pp. 217-18.

because no reference of any tract beyond the Asmaka country is found in Panini's *Astadhyayi*. By the time his commentator Katyayana flourished in 4th century B. C., the Aryans knew the Pandyas, Cholas and Keralas. Thus, Aryan penetration in this region might have taken place sometime during the intervening period, when this region was the home of the Sabara tribe.¹

Nanda and Mauryas

During the Nanda and Maurya periods Kosala formed part of these mighty empires. It is a well known fact that king Nanda of Magadha ruled over the people called the Gangaridae and Prasii, that is the inhabitants of the Ganges valley and the easterners known as the Kosalas, Panchalas and Surasenas.² Though there is no direct reference, the region comprising some parts at least of the modern District, might have shared the same fate with other parts of Kosala.

Asoka inherited from his father and grandfather a vast empire, extending from the Himalayas to the borders of Mysore excepting, of course, Kalinga, which he himself conquered. Hence this area must also have formed part of the Maurya realm. There is yet another proof of Asoka's sway in Southern Kosala. The celebrated Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang who came to Southern Kosala in the middle of the 7th century A. D. discovered an old monastery with an Asokan tope in the capital city of the country.³ The discovery of a few gold and silver coins in a village of the adjoining district at Bilaspur is another corroborative proof that this area was a part of Asoka's vast empire.⁴

Satavahanas

According to Hiuen Tsang, a Satavahana king (Sha-to-p-ha) was reigning here when the great Mahayana preceptor Nagarjuna came to settle down in the aforesaid monastery.⁵ An inscription at Gunji, in the adjoining Sakti tahsil of Bilaspur district, states that Kumara-Baradatta was the sovereign of that tract.⁶ Four square copper coins from the Mahanadi river, near village Balpur of Bilaspur district, bearing the elephant symbol of the Satavahana dynasty in association with red pottery of the Satavahana period, go a great way to establish the existence of the authority of these southern emperors in this region.⁷ It is not unlikely that these coins might have been issued by some local dynasty of Southern Kosala after the downfall of the Satavahanas.⁸

1. *Shri Vishnu Mahajagna Smarak Grantha*, p. 64.
2. Mookerji, *Chandragupta and his Times*, p. 35.
3. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 78; Vincent Smith, *Asoka*, p. 81; Thomas Watters, *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, p. 200.
4. *Utkirna Lekh*, compiled by B. C. Jain, p. 2.
5. Thomas Watters, op. cit., pp. 200-201.
6. *Utkirna Lekh*, p. 3.
7. *Indian Archaeology, A Review*, 1955-56, p. 72.
8. *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. IX, pp. 31-33; *Madhya Pradesh Ke Puratatva ki Ruprekha*, p. 11.

The people of Kosala might have gathered much impetus under these rulers to carry on maritime trade with foreign countries with greater vigour. It is believed that diamonds from Kosala were very much appreciated by the ancient Romans, whose coins have been found in abundance all over this tract.¹ From the discovery of an inscription from Bilaspur district it seems that the Satavahanas introduced a well-organised administration in this, as in other areas of their dominion.²

Imperial Guptas

When the Satavahana influence faded in Southern Kosala is difficult to ascertain, but by the time Emperor Samudra Gupta (A. D. 340-80) came to conquer the Southern regions, king Mahendra was the reigning monarch of Kosala. Probably Southern Kosala emerged as an independent country after the downfall of the Satavahanas. The great conqueror Samudra Gupta reinstated the kings of both Kosala and Mahakantara, namely, Mahendra and Vyaghraraja, respectively.³ What was the exact relationship between the rulers of the Southern Kosala with the Gupta emperors is not known; but from the adoption of the Gupta era by the Sura rulers of Arang, as well as the influence of the Gupta coin type on the coinage of Southern Kosala it can be definitely asserted that the region remained under the influence of the Guptas till the 6th century A. D.⁴ The discovery of a hoard of forty coins from a village named Pitaiban in Raipur district, containing the legend Mahendraditya and Kramaditya, has reaffirmed the political sway of the Guptas in Southern Kosala.⁵

Sura Rulers

From the Arang copper plate of Bhimsena II, it is known that at least 6 kings of this royal house of Sura, namely, Sura, Dayita I, Vibhisana, Bhimsena I, Dayita II, and Bhimsena II, ruled over this tract during 5th and 6th centuries A. D. They introduced themselves in the grant, as *Maharajas* from a family celebrated for its dignity like that of the royal ascetics (*rajarshi tulya kula*). The epithet has striking similarity with that of *rajadhirajarshi* of Chandragupta II in his Udayagiri Cave Inscription.⁶

The Sarabhapurias

The other dynasty holding sway over this District during the same period was the royal house of the Sarabhapurias. The Sarangarh grant of Sudevaraja and the Thakurdia plate of Mahapravararaja give definite proof that it was

1. *Shri Vishnu Mahajagna*, p. 82.
2. *ibid.* pp. 80-81.
3. Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, p. 13.
4. A. S. Altekar, *The Coinage of the Gupta Empire*, p. 215; *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. X, pt. II, p. 137; Vol. XI, pt. II, p. 109.
5. *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. XVI, pt. I, p. 30.
6. Hiralal, *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, pp. 94-96; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. IX, pp. 342-43 ff.

under the possession of the Sarabhapur rulers till the time of their last known member.¹ The history and chronology of these monarchs are still a matter of controversy among scholars. They professed themselves as belonging to the *Amararya Kula*, as occurring in the Mallar plates of Vyaghraraja.² Curiously enough all the undated inscriptions of this house are incised in the box-headed characters, prevailing in the 8th and 9th centuries A. D., whereas they are generally believed to have flourished in the 6th century A. D., when the Imperial Guptas were steadily losing their hold over their vassals.

Sarabhapur, the capital city of these sovereigns, has not yet been conclusively identified. Some scholars say, it may be located even in Sarangarh.³ From the Kurud plates and the Pipardula grant of Maharaja King Sarabha Narendra, it seems that Sarabhapur was founded by king Sarabha. He might be identified with Sarabharaja, the maternal grandfather of Goparaja, who was a vassal of the Gupta ruler Bhanugupta, and who died at Eran in A. D. 510. Sarabharaja too might have owed allegiance to the Imperial Guptas.⁴ The emblem of the Sarabhapuris was Gaja-Lakshmi, which is found on the seals of all their charters.⁵

The next ruler of this dynasty was Naredra. His son was king Prasannamatra whose gold and silver coins bear the figure of Garuda and the symbol of conch and discus.⁶ According to the Mallar plates of Narendra, Mahapravararaja and the Arang plate of Mahajayaraja, Prasannamatra was succeeded by his sons Mahajayaraja, and Manamatra, otherwise known as Durgaraja, followed by Sudevaraja and Mahapravararaja. Sudevaraja's Sarangarh plates,⁷ issued from Sirpur (or Sarabhapur), record the grant of a village named Chullandarka, in the Tundaraka sub-division, by the royal family to a number of learned priests in his 10th regnal year.⁸ Like his predecessors all his earlier grants, excepting the Kauvatal copper plates, discovered at Kauvatal village near Sarangarh in Raigarh District, were issued from Sarabhapur.⁹ The Kauvatal plates issued from Sirpur thus furnish definite proof that Sudevaraja had his second capital

1. *The Classical Age*, p. 219; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXII, pp. 16-17.
2. *Journal of the Indian History*, Vol. XLIV, pt. II, p. 455.
3. *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XIX, p. 144, note; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXII, pt. I, p. 17, note.
4. *The Vakataka Gupta Age*, p. 86; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXII, p. 17; Vol. XXXI, pp. 267-68 and *Indian Archaeology—A Review*, 1957-58, p. 57.
5. *The Classical Age*, p. 219.
6. *ibid. The Coinage of the Gupta Empire*, p. 215.
7. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. IX, p. 281 ff.
8. Hiralal, *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, p. 18; *Journal of Indian History*, Vol. XLIV, pt. II, p. 466.
9. *Journal of Indian History*, Vol. XLIV, pt. II, p. 466; *The Classical Age*, p. 219; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXXI, pp. 103-04.

at Sripura (Sirpur), founded by himself. As indicated by the Baloda Bazar¹ and Rajim plates² of Trivaradeva of the Panduvamsi dynasty of Southern Kosala, the last known ruler of the Sarabhapuriya house, namely, king Pravararaja II of the Thakurdia grant was probably ousted by the former. Pravaradeva is assigned a date in the middle of the third quarter of the sixth century, and according to the Thakurdia plates it is he, not Sudevaraja, who shifted the capital from Sarabhapur to Sirpur (Sirpur),³ that was more centrally situated. The Thakurdia (a village in Sarangarh tahsil of Raigarh District) plates mention him as *Paramabhagavata*, who won the earth with his own arms. The Sarabhapuris seem to have ruled over a vast tract, which among other territories included Bilaspur, Raipur and Raigarh Districts.

The Panduvamsis

The District thus seems to have passed under the Panduvamsi rulers after the Sarabhapuriyas. It is gathered from several inscriptions from Bhandak, Baloda Bazar and Sirpur that Tivara's father was Nannadeva, grandfather Indrabala and great-grandfather was Udayana, whose reference as an ancient king occurs in a rock inscription in Kalanjara, in the Banda district of Uttar Pradesh.

The earliest record of the Panduvamsi rulers has been discovered at Kharod, a village in the Janjgir tahsil of the adjoining Bilaspur district. Their movement towards Southern Kosala seems to have started during Nanna's time. Tivara himself is introduced in his Rajim and Baloda Bazar plates as *Kosaladhipati*⁴ (king of Kosala) and *Prapta Sakala Kosaladhipatiya* (one who obtained the sovereignty of the entire Kosala country).⁵ These epithets suggest that the conquest of Kosala by these Panduvamsi rulers from Bhandak was completed during the reign of Tivaradeva.⁶

Tivara was succeeded by Chandragupta and then by Harshagupta, whose Queen Vasata, daughter of the Maukhari prince Surya Varman of the Varman dynasty of Magadha, erected the famous Lakshmana temple of Sirpur during her widowhood. Harshagupta's realm, known as Kosala of *Prak Kosala*, comprised perhaps Dakshina Kosala, Purva Kosala with Tosala, Utkala and Odra, extending upto the eastern seashore.⁷

1. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. VII, pp. 104 ff.
2. Fleet, *op. cit.*, p. 221 ff.
3. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXII, pp. 16-17.
4. *The Classical Age*, p. 220.
5. Hiralal, *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, pp. 96-97.
6. *The Classical Age*, p. 221.
7. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXVII, p. 321.

The Lodhia and Bardula plates¹ of Mahasivagupta in his late regnal year present him as the illustrious son of Harshadeva, belonging to the lunar dynasty (or *Indu* lineage) and as a devout worshipper of Maheshvara Mahasivagupta (Siva).² In the Lakshman Temple inscription, he is also called Balarjuna, who at the request of his nephew (sister's son) donated a village, called Kailasapura to a *Bhikshu Samgha* (monastery of the Buddhist monks) of Taradamsaka.³ Evidently this scion of the *Panduvamsa* had a distinguished career and a long reign of about 60 years, when he ushered in an era of religious toleration in this region. This is corroborated by the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang, who records that the *Kshatriya* ruler of Southern Kosala was benevolent.⁴ Probably his reign extended from the first or second quarter to the last quarter of the 7th century A. D.⁵ On the testimony of the Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II of Vatapi, the king of Kosala was defeated by the southern conqueror before A. D. 634 and probably was brought under his vassalage. Another epigraphic evidence suggests that the region came under the influence of the Nala kings of Bastar, probably after Balarjuna in the 7th century A. D.⁶

The Somavamsis

After the downfall of the *Panduvamsi* rulers the later *Somavamsis* appear to have ruled over Southern Kosala about the 10th century A.D. King Sivagupta was the first known member of this dynasty, next came Janamejaya Janamejaya, who ruled between A. D. 935-70 and issued a few charters from Suvarnapura (modern Sonpur in the old Sonpur State of Orissa). In some of these records he is specifically mentioned as the king of Kosala and the lord of Trikalanga (Kosala, Kalinga, Utkala and Odra). Possibly he had a clash with the Kalachuri Lakshmanaraja of Tripuri.⁷ Janamejaya was succeeded by his son Yayati Mahasivagupta, a devout worshipper of Siva *Paramamaheshvara*, whose date is c. A.D. 970-1000.

Before this monarch came to power a Chola king of the south seems to have invaded the country and conquered both Kosala and Utkala. Yayati Sivagupta recaptured, according to his Maranjamura inscription, these lost territories and also vanquished the rulers of Karnata, Gurjara, Lata, Radha and Gauda.⁸ Before his death he claims to have inflicted a crushing defeat on the Chedi king of Dahala and depopulated

1. Two small villages in Sarangarh tahsil.
2. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXVI, pp. 287, 319 & 320.
3. *ibid.* pp. 320-21.
4. Thomas Watters, *op. cit.*, pp. 200-201.
5. *ibid.* pp. 318 and 321.
6. *The Classical Age*, pp. 190 and 222; R. C. Majumdar and others, *Advanced History of India*, pt. I, p. 175.
7. *The Age of Imperial Kanauj*, p. 146.
8. *The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 210-11 and R. C. Majumdar, *Ancient India*, pp. 382-83.

his territory.¹ The last great king of this dynasty was Uddyotakesari.² Mahabhavagupta IV who flourished between c. A. D. 1055-80 and won victory over the monarchs of Dahala, Odra and Gauda.³

Uddyotakesari appears to have been defeated by the Ganga king Devendra Varma Rajaraja I and his son, Chodaganga. Uddyotakesari completed the construction of the famous Lingaraja temple at Bhubaneswar, where he had his capital. Though himself a devout Saivite he had great respect for Jainism too, which under his patronage continued to flourish in Khandagiri region.⁴ He gave up the western portion of this dominion, containing Kosala and probably the District too to another branch of the Somavamsi dynasty. A member of this dynasty, viz., Indraratha was defeated and killed by Rajendra Chola sometime in A. D. 1023. The *Somavamsi* rule over Sambalpur-Sonepur region⁵ was thus supplanted for a while by the Chola dynasty. Simultaneously, the Kalachuris of Ratanpur established themselves in the beginning of the 11th century at Tummana and later shifted to Ratanpur.⁶ Though direct reference is not yet forthcoming, it is generally believed that the present District formed an integral part of their dominion.

The Kalachuris

The Kalachuris of Tummana claim their descent from the Haihaya dynasty. In the Sakha inscription of Ratnadeva II, Kharod inscription of Ratnadeva III and Ratanpur inscription of Jajalladeva, Kartavirya Sahasrarjuna is said to be the founder of the original house of the Haihayas.⁷ According to these epigraphic records, Kokalla (c. A. D. 850-890) of the Kalachuri dynasty of Tripuri had 18 sons, of whom the eldest succeeded to the throne of Tripuri. According to the Bilhari Stone Inscription⁸ and Banaras Plates⁹ of Karna, Mughdhatunga, son of Kokalla, conquered Pali, 30 miles from Tuman, (old Tummana) in Bilaspur district from the lord of Dakshina Kosala. Kalingaraja was born to the family of his youngest son, on whom his father bestowed the Tummana *mandala*. He conquered Southern Kosala by the prowess of his arms in A. D. 1000 and left his ancestral home and established himself at Tummana. He ruled as a feudatory of the central power.

1. W. W. Hunter and others, *A History of Orissa*, p. 367.
2. *The Struggle for Empire*, p. 211.
3. *A History of Orissa*, p. 369.
4. In the mediaeval period a major part of the District formed part of the 18 Garhjat States subordinate to Sambalpur.
5. *A History of Orissa*, pp. 369-70.
6. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXI, p. 160; Vol. XXII, p. 160; Pargiter, *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, pp. 41, 102, 144, etc.
7. V. V. Misaishi, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. I, No. 45, line 10.
8. *ibid.* No. 48, line 13.
9. *ibid.* pt. II, No. 77, verse 6.

Kalingaraja's son, Kamalaraja (c. A. D. 1020-1045), too rendered military aid to his overlord Gangeyadeva during his conquest of Utkala.¹ His son, Ratnadeva and Prithvideva I Ratnadeva, the great builder, constructed a number of groves and temples of Vankeshvara, Ratnesvara, etc., in Tummana and an extensive township at Ratanpur, which could abash the city of Kuvera.² His son, Prithvideva I, by his Queen Nonalla, a princess from Komomandala, 25 miles north-west of Ratanpur in Bilaspur district, ruled in the later part of the 11th century from his new capital at Ratanpur.³ Though still a feudatory of the parent house, his Amoda plates assert that he was the sole lord of Dakshina Kosala, comprising 21,000 villages.⁴ Like his father, he too constructed a temple at Tummana and also a sea-like lake at Ratanpur.

Prithvideva's illustrious son, Jajalladeva I (c. A. D. 1090-1120), maintained friendly relations with Yashakarna of Tripuri, but taking advantage of his weak rule asserted complete independence. If his Ratanpur stone inscription reflects historical facts, he entered into alliance with the kings of Kanauj and Bundelkhand, as well as developed friendly relation with the contemporary sovereigns of Gahadavala and the Chandella dynasties. Further, king Bhujabala of Suvarnapura (Sonpur on the Mahanadi) and Somesvara of Bastar were defeated and tributes were received from the chiefs of the neighbouring mandalas of Dakshina Kosala, Andhra, Khimidi, (Ganjam district) Vairagarh (Chanda district) Talavi (parts of Bilaspur and Raipur districts), and Lanjika (Balaghat district).⁵ He founded the town, named Jajallapura, constructed a monastery, excavated a tank, raised garden, and planted a grove of mango trees.⁶

During his expedition towards the east he entered into wars with Ananta Varman Chodaganga, espousing the cause of the ruler of Orissa, Jateswara. He carried his arms even as far as Dandakpur (Midnapur district). As he occupied a strategic position on the route of communication between the north and the south, the northern powers sought his friendship. Jajalladeva presided over a vast kingdom extending from Amarkantaka in the north to the banks of Godavari in the south and from Vidarbha in the west to the borders of Orissa in the east.

1. *ibid.* No. 76, lines 12-13; *The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 64-65.
2. H. C. Ray, *Dynastic History of Northern India*, p. 804; *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, p. 33.
3. *The Struggle for Empire*, p. 65; *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. II, p. 408.
4. Hiralal, *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, p. 119.
5. *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. II, pp. 410 & 411; *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, pp. 33-34; *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, pp. 116-17; *Epigraphia Indica* Vol. XXII, p. 162; *Struggle for Empire*, p. 65.

Jajalladeva's son, Ratnadeva II, came to the throne in A. D. 1120 and repulsed the joint attack of Ananta Varman Chodaganga and Jateswara.⁷ Prithvideva II (c. A. D. 1135-1165), the eldest son of Ratnadeva II, of the Kalachuri house, defeated Kamarnava, the son and successor of Anantavarman, sometime between c. A. D. 1147-1156 A. D. Discovery of some coins of these two Kalachuri kings in the Khuda sub-division of Puri district suggests that they might have some sway in Orissa. Till then, a part at least of the District was outside their influence as is suggested by the Rajim Stone inscription of Jagapaladeva, dated A. D. 1145. It is mentioned in this record that Jagapaladeva, who served as an able minister for Ratnadeva II and Prithvideva II and Jajalladeva II, conquered for them Ratha, Terama and Tamanala (Tamnar) countries (all in Raigarh) and forts of Saraharagarh (modern Sarangarh in Raigarh District) and Navakasi, Lava, etc.⁸

After Jajalladeva II, the sovereignty passed on to Jagaddeva, Ratnadeva III and Pratapamalla,⁹ the last known king according to inscriptional evidence. Before inclusion in the Kalachuri dominion, Sarangarh was under the rule of a dynasty, one of whose members, a Gopaladeva of the Pujaripali (a village in Sarangarh) stone inscription. Born at Pendra, he founded Gopalapura and paid visits to Kedara, Prayaga, Pushkara, Puri, Narmada, etc. He might be identified with Gopaladeva, mentioned in the Boramdeo Inscription of the former Kawardha State. This undated record is assigned to the 11th or 12th century A.D.⁴

It is not known when exactly the District passed out of the Kalachuri domain. The discovery of four gold coins in the Kharsia tahsil of the Yadava king Singhana (A.D. c.1210) suggests that this southern dynasty might have some authority over this tract. This conjecture gains some weightage from Hemadri's *prasasti* (eulogy) that the Yadava king Singhana of Devagiri had captured the elephant corps belonging to king Jajalla.⁵ Singhana's grandson, Krishna (A.D. 1247-61), is also stated to have led his army upto the Southern Kosala country.⁶

The Ratanpur Dynasty of the Kalachuris was split up into two in 1375 A.D., when a separate principality was established, with Raipur as its capital.⁷

1. *A History of Orissa*, p. 374.
2. *Inscriptions in C. P. & Berar*, p. 107; *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. II, pp. 452-53, and *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXVIII, p. 150.
3. *Inscriptions in C. P. and Berar*, pp. 181-82; Cunningham, *Archaeological Survey of India*, Report, Vol. X, p. 35 ff. and *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. II, pp. 588-90.
4. *ibid.*
5. *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. VIII, pt. II, pp. 147-149; *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. I, p. CXXX.
6. *The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 192-94.
7. *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV pt. I, p. CXXXI.

During the reign of king Vahara of Ratanpur, who may have reigned from circa 1489 to 1515 A. D., skirmishes took place with the Pathan adventurers. According to the Kosgain Inscription Vahara gained victory over them.¹

Vahara shifted his capital from Ratanpur to Kosanga (modern Kosgain) probably owing to the raids of the Pathans. From this stronghold of Kosanga, he used to raid the Pathan outposts. The Kosgain (a village in Bilaspur district) Inscription gives us details regarding the Pathan invasions and of victory of Vahara and his minister, Madhava, over them.² The Muslim chroniclers, however, do not speak of any raids of the Afghans into this region, which being land-locked, must have been comparatively secure from their depredations.³ *Tariki-hi-Daudi* of Abdulla records invasion of Sikandar Lodi on the fort of Bandhu (Bandhogarh) in Rewa district. Bandhogarh is about 125 miles north-west of Kosgain. The invasion seems to have occurred about 1496 A.D., two years after the date of Ratanpur Inscription of Vahara's reign. During this expedition or sometime later, some Afghans might have raided the Kalachuri territory but were repulsed by the Kalachuri King, Vahara.⁴

Kalyan Sahai, son and successor of Vahara, is said to have proceeded to Delhi to pay homage to the Mughal Emperor, Akbar, and for the purpose of getting himself acknowledged as the ruler of the Ratanpur territory. He, ultimately, succeeded in his attempt. He was at Delhi for eight years and returned to Ratanpur in 1571 A.D., laden with honours and titles. His successors continued to pay tribute to the royal house of Delhi.⁵ Local tradition mentions twelve successors of Vahar Sahai, who ruled over Ratanpur kingdom, until 1742 A.D., when the country was conquered by Bhaskar Pant, General of the Bhonslas of Nagpur. At that time Raghunath Singh, the last ruler of Ratanpur dynasty was on the *gaddi*.⁶ He was, however, permitted to carry on the Government in the name of the Bhonslas. Later, Raghunath threw off the Maratha yoke and reasserted authority. He was, therefore, deposed and was assigned only five villages for support. In his place Mohan Singh, an illegitimate son of Raghoji Bhonsla of Nagpur, was placed on the *gaddi*.⁷

By the year 1755, the Maratha yoke was extended over the whole of Chhattisgarh and Sambalpur, and the other surrounding Zamindaris were rendered tributary.⁸ Raghoji I, the Raja of Nagpur, died in the same year.

1. *ibid.* pt. II, No. 105, lines 6-7.

2. *ibid.* No. 105, Verses 8-9 and 12-17.

3. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, pp. 36-37.

4. *ibid.* p. 37.

5. *ibid.* Cunningham, Archaeological Survey Report, Vol. XXII, p. 80; *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, pt. I, pp. CXXXII-III; *The Gazetteer of the Central Provinces of India*, 1870, p. 160.

6. *Bilaspur Settlement Report*, 1868, p. 30.

7. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, p. 49; *C. P. Gazetteer*, 1870, p. 160.

8. R. Jenkins, *Report on the Territories of the Raja of Nagpur*, p. 56.

After his death Chhattisgarh and its dependencies were recognized as the appanage of his youngest son, Bimbaji.¹ Though nominally subordinate to the Raja at Nagpur, Bimbaji was to a large extent independent, with a separate court and household at Ratanpur, separate ministers and a separate army.²

The territory of Sambalpur consisted of fifteen chiefships including Sarangarh and Raigarh chiefships. Maratha control was, however, more nominal than real upon these Sambalpur tracts.³ In the year 1766, when military reinforcements, on their way from Nagpur to Cuttack, appeared before Sambalpur they were refused supplies of forage and money by the local Raja. They, therefore, attempted to force an entry into the town but were repulsed.⁴

Again, in the year 1781 A.D., the Raja of Sambalpur was insubordinate towards the Marathas leading to the distresses and importunities of Chimnaji, a son of the Nagpur Raja (the nephew of Bimbaji).⁵ At this time Vishwanath, the Raja of Sarangarh, rendered valuable military service to the Raja of Sambalpur in recognition of which Vishwanath received a *Sanad* from the Sambalpur Raja, awarding him the *Saria pargana*.⁶ Later, in the year 1783 A.D., when Mahipat Rao was appointed as *Subah* of Chhattisgarh, the Sambalpur Raja revolted and the Sambalpur tract with other petty states became independent, and remained so until 1800 A.D.⁷

The present District of Raigarh has been formed mostly with the integration of four feudatory states of Chhattisgarh region. These states were Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur.

During the Haihaya rule in Chhattisgarh, the Rajas of Sarangarh and Raigarh States were subordinate or rather feudatories of the Haihayavansi house. According to one of the revenue books of Kalyan Sai, the Raja of Sarangarh (1766-1777 A.D.), the Haihaya rulers exercised paramount authority for a number of years over this tract of the Chhattisgarh region.⁸ These states paid tribute to their paramount power but were free in their internal administration.⁹

About the year 1760 A.D., the territory of Sarguja consisted of the three states of Sarguja proper, Udaipur and Jashpur. Udaipur and Jashpur were large states, each paying Rs. 1,000 as tribute, to the Raja of Sarguja. The

1. C. U. Wills, *British Relations with the Nagpur State in the 18th Century*, p. 147.

2. R. Jenkins, *op. cit.*, p. 76.

3. C. U. Wills, *op. cit.*, p. 150.

4. *ibid.* p. 38.

5. *ibid.* p. 73.

6. *ibid.* pp. 96 and 150; *Shukla Abhinandan Grantha, Itihas Khanda*, p. 103.

7. C. U. Wills, *op. cit.*, pp. 148-49.

8. *Raipur District Gazetteer*, p. 53; *C. P. Gazetteer*, 1870, p. 463.

9. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, p. 38.

latter maintained a small army of some 300 horse and 700 or 800 foot.¹ In that year the tract was overrun by a Maratha army and the Chief of Sarguja was compelled to acknowledge himself a tributary of the Nagpur State.

The Maratha government, however, could neither exercise the actual control nor obtain efficient authority over this wild tract. A general acknowledgement of its sovereignty, the payment of a tribute of Rs 3,000 and the maintenance of the security of the highway from Mirzapur, Benaras, and Gaya to the Capital of Nagpur were the only proofs of obedience and submission expected from the Raja of Sarguja, and his punctuality in the fulfilment of these obligations appeared to have secured him against all interference in the internal management of his states.²

On assumption of the charge, Bimbaji Bhonsla carried on the Government with great oppression and rapacity. But on his death in the year 1787, as already stated, Sambalpur with its dependencies, i. e., Sarangarh and Raigarh states became independent in the year 1788. And thus nearly half of the present Raigarh District went out of the Maratha control for the next twelve years, up to 1800 A.D.

Bimbaji had no sons. He, therefore, had adopted his nephew, Chimnaji, a son of Mudhoji, and nominated him the successor of his territory. Just about this time, in 1788, Mudhoji, the Raja of Nagpur, also passed away leaving behind his dominions in the hands of Raghoji II, the elder brother of Chimnaji.³ Chimnaji died suddenly in mysterious circumstances in August, 1789 under the suspected plot of Raghoji II.⁴ Chhattisgarh was allotted to Vyankoji, younger brother of Raghoji II, as an appanage.

Vyankoji, though he paid two or three flying visits to Chhattisgarh, never entered regularly on the Government, being too much mixed up with the more important politics of Nagpur. He ordered Subah Mahipat Rao to assume the Government of Chhattisgarh on his behalf. This was much resented by Anandi Bai, the widow of Bimbaji. Consequently, it was decided that the Government should be carried on in the name of Vyankoji who should be represented by Subah on the spot, but that Subah should be bound to obey all orders of Anandi Bai. Thus the Udaipur and Sarangarh tracts of Sarguja group along with other parts of Chhattisgarh passed under the authority of Anandi Bai. Practically Anandi Bai wielded all authority until her death at the beginning of the 19th century.⁵

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 203.

2. *ibid.*

3. R. Jenkins, *op. cit.*, p. 61.

4. Prayag Dutt Shukla, *Madhya Pradesh Ka Itihas Aur Nagpur Ka Bhohsle*, p. 140; R. Jenkins *op. cit.*, p. 62.

5. *Bilaspur Settlement Report*, 1868, p. 32.

An European Traveller, who passed through these territories in 1790 writes, "the widow of Bembajee, Moodajee's brother, is still alive, and all ostensible respect is shown to her; but the executive part of the government is in the hands of Mayput Raou, a bramin from Nagpur."¹ As a matter of fact practically after the death of Bimbaji, till the advent of Britishers, the Chhattisgarh province was ruled by a succession of 'Soobah' who exercised in all departments a very extensive authority.² The Subah of Chhattisgarh with its dependencies was in 1795 A.D., rented by the Nagpur Government to Vithal Pandit for a specific sum which was payable annually in Nagpur.³

The cession of the tract of Sambalpur in 1788 inclusive of Raigarh and Sarangarh was much resented by Raghoji II, the Raja of Nagpur. On the 5th April, 1800 a sudden attack was, therefore, made upon the Sambalpur fort by the Marathas and it was captured.⁴ Seeing annexation of Sambalpur by the Marathas, the Raigarh ruling chief, Jujhar Singh, concluded a Subsidiary Treaty with the East India Company. As a result of the Treaty, Jujhar Singh had to part with Padampur pargana granted to him by the Rani of Sambalpur.⁵

After the close of Second Maratha War, in January, 1804, Lt. Col. Broughton effected the conquest of Sambalpur and adjoining territory in spite of the opposition of the Maratha troops in these regions.⁶ The defeat of the Marathas and protection of the British was welcomed by the Chiefs of Raigarh and Sarangarh and several others. They wanted to get rid of the state of dependence on the Maratha Government as they were much tired of it. It was the custom for the Maratha troops to loot as freely in estates tributary to them as in any enemy's territory.

Civil administration was largely in abeyance over these eastern dominions of Marathas. W. Hunter writes "I have most carefully examined the records of this period but I can detect absolutely no trace of anything like a civil administration. The Maratha cavalry harried the country at stated periods each year and departed with the spoil. The village communes alone stand out above the stormy waters, and their internal organization formed the only sort of Civil Government during the 40 years which preceed our accession (in 1803)."⁷

Though British protection was welcomed by the Chiefs of the District, yet the British made it open to them that the company's protection could be withdrawn if they themselves consented "to resume their original state of dependence

1. *Early European Travellers in the Nagpur Territories*, p. 66.

2. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, p. 50.

3. C. U. Wills, *op. cit.*, p. 130.

4. *ibid.* pp. 150-51.

5. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, pp. 168-69.

6. *Selections from the Nagpur Residency Records*, Vol. I, p. XIV.

7. C. U. Wills, *op. cit.*, p. 39.

on the Maratha Government". In response to this a petition dated 26 March, 1804 was received by Lt. Col. Broughton from Raja Jujhar Singh of Raigarh, Raja Vishwanath Sahi of Sarangarh and several others, all professing that they had voluntarily submitted to the English Government which they regarded their "sole protector" and rejected the idea of returning to the Bhonsla's Government.¹ Upon which the transfer of these territories to the British was confirmed.

Subsequently, after the arrival of Cornwallis a second time as Governor-General of the East India Company, the policy of intervention was reversed. Anxious to adhere to the non-intervention policy and to placate the Bhonslas, he decided upon "restoring eventually to the Rajah of Nagpur the districts of Sambalpur and Patna without compromising public faith" of the Company's Government.²

Negotiations were, thus, again opened with the local Chiefs in 1805 A. D. and after prolonged discussions some of the Chiefs showed their willingness, but Raja Jujhar Singh of Raigarh, along with a few others resented the proposals and threatened armed resistance³ if they were forcibly transferred to the charge of the Bhonsla's Government. The Raja of Sarangarh, however, agreed tacitly to the British proposal.⁴ Ultimately an engagement between the British Government and the Bhonsla was entered into, which confirmed the transfer of Sambalpur and Patna tracts to the Bhonsla. But Raigarh with one other state was excluded from this transfer. It was impressed upon the Bhonsla that on no account should Jujhar Singh be molested and the Marathas would not in any manner interfere with the Raigarh territory, which should be considered as the territory of the East India Company.⁵

At this period Jujhar Singh was exercising great influence at Sambalpur. He instigated the Rani of Sambalpur and other zamindars to resist the Maratha occupation of Sambalpur tract. Jujhar Singh was, therefore, warned by the Governor-General against any complicity in the hostility against the Marathas.⁶ Relations between this Raigarh Chief and the Marathas were, however, not to remain amicable for long. In the month of May, 1811 Jujhar Singh had to draw attention of the British authorities about an expected attack by Marathas on Raigarh.⁷ However, the death of Vyankoji occurred in the same year, on his trip to Benaras.⁸

In the meanwhile significant developments took place in the relations of the Jashpur State with the British Government. When the British forces, under

1. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. I, p. XIV.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.* p. XV.
4. *ibid.* p. 77.
5. *ibid.* pp. 84-85.
6. *ibid.* Vol. II, p. 64.
7. *ibid.* p. 87.
8. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, p. 50.

the command of Colonel Broughton invaded Sambalpur in the year 1803, Raja Ranjit Singh, the ruler of Jashpur, was the first Chief in these areas to reach the British camp for assistance and "He afforded great assistance to that officer in the opening of a road through his district into Gongpore; his intention was to become a British Government subject."¹

Later, in 1813 A. D., Raja Ranjit Singh apprehended a few insurgent Sardars and delivered them over to the British. The Jagirdars of Jashpur were connected by ties of blood and friendship with the insurgents, and they were the only landholders in Jashpur who had remained faithful to the Raja. In seizing and delivering them over to the British, the Raja of Jashpur ran the greatest risk, unless rewarded and secured by the powerful protection of the British Government, of completing his own destruction.²

Recommending suitable reward and protection to the Raja, Capt. Roughsedge wrote to the Government to write to R. Jenkins, Resident at the Bhonsla Court. "Mr. Jenkins be directed," writes Roughsedge, "to communicate to the Raja of Berar, in due terms of recommendation, the praiseworthy conduct of the zamindar of Jashpur and if not deemed improper that his Highness be moved on the part of the British Government to lay his commands on the Raja of Sirgooja to refrain from molesting this person and to be content with established malguzaree of his pergunnah³."

The situation in Jashpur, in the meantime, grew desperate on account of the rebellion instigated by Sangram Singh, the Raja's brother. Sangram Singh conquered one-half of the country, while rebels were active in three-fourths of the remaining territory, thus reducing Raja Ranjit Singh to a small perganah, which stretched along the frontier of *Chhota-Nagpur*.⁴

The Governor-General admitted the claim of Raja Ranjit Singh to "the contenance and support of the British Government on account of the attachment which he has manifested to that Government and the assistance which he has rendered in the apprehension of the insurgent sardars who have been seized". It was decided to instruct the Resident at Nagpur to address the Bhonsla ruler in favour of Raja Ranjit Singh.⁵

But before any effective protective steps could be taken, Raja Ranjit Singh of Jashpur was alleged to have been poisoned to death by his brother Lal Sangram Singh, in April, 1813. On receiving the news through the messengers, sent by the late Raja's widow, Captain Roughsedge despatched a small guard to

1. Foreign Political Consultation, No. 35, dated 2 April, 1813, p. 2.
2. Foreign Political Consultation, No. 35, dated 2 April, 1813, pp. 1 and 5.
3. *ibid.* pp. 6-7.
4. *ibid.* p. 4.
5. *ibid.* No. 37, dated 2 April, 1813, pp. 1-2.

Jashpur for the protection of the Raja's family.¹ Governor-General asked the Raja of Sarguja by whom Jashpur was directly held and the Nagpur Bhonsla, his sovereign, to treat the Jashpur family and its claims with justice.²

The Sarangarh Chief, Vishwanath, who had rejoined hands with the Nagpur Government in 1805, rendered invaluable services to Vyankoji on several occasions; for which he received various presents from the Nagpur Government.³ He died in 1808 A.D. and was succeeded by his son Subhadra Sai who ruled only for 7 years. His two sons followed him to grave one after the other leaving no male issue. Their uncle Gajraj Singh then ascended to gaddi.⁴

Meanwhile, Vyankoji in his trip to Benaras, had already passed away in 1811. Raghoji II died in March, 1816 and his son Parsoji succeeded him. But on account of his infirmities and incapacity to rule, his cousin, Appa Saheb, the son of Vyankoji, was invested by him "the entire administration of his Government".⁵ Shortly after this a treaty of Subsidiary Alliance was concluded with the British by Appa Saheb secretly at night on 27th April, 1816 against the general opinion of the responsible servants of the Nagpur Government.⁶ In concluding this Alliance, Appa Saheb was only preparing the way for realizing his future ambitions. On 1st February, 1817 Parsoji was strangled to death by the secret order of Appa Saheb and the British connived at it.⁷

Thus, excepting the Raigarh chiefship, the remaining part of the Raigarh District passed under the rule of Appa Saheb. Appa Saheb was not happy with the Subsidiary Alliance he had made with the British Government. Therefore, to throw off his state of dependence, early in 1817 he befriended the Pindari leader Cheetu and enlisted a large number of fresh troops.⁸ Appa Saheb also joined the Peshwa Bajirao who was organizing an anti British conspiracy.⁹ Then the hunt of Pindaris by the British merged into the Third Maratha War, which led to the Battle of Sitabaldi on 26 and 27 November, 1817 at Nagpur. Before commencement of the battle, Appa Saheb Summoned the Rajas of Sambalpur, Chhattisgarh, and all the surrounding Chiefs including Jashpur, to join him with their followers. but none obeyed the order and declined joining him. These Chiefs were again summoned by Appa Saheb, but they declined saying, "they could not attend the Raja as the Ryuts were dissatisfied, had nothing to eat, and their *paiks* would not follow them".¹⁰

1. *ibid.* No. 60, dated 30 April, 1813, p. 1.

2. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. III, pp. 23-25; Foreign Political Consultation, No. 21, dated 28 May, 1813, pp. 1-6.

3. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, pp. 203-04.

4. *ibid.*

5. Selections from the Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. III, p. 60.

6. Sardesai, *A New History of the Marathas*, Vol. III, 474.

7. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. III, p. VI.

8. Sardesai, *op. cit.*, p. 475.

9. *ibid.* pp. 474-475.

10. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. IV, p. 81.

Consequently, as a part of the treaty concluded between Appa Saheb and the British the whole of Raigarh District including Jashpur and Udaipur (under Sarguja group) and Sarangarh (under Sambalpur group) came under the British sway. Raigarh was already under the British protection. The defeat of Appa Saheb led to the unsettled state of Jashpur, Sarguja and Sambalpur tracts.

Roughsedge advanced into Sarguja territory in May, 1818. There he came to know that the Jagirdars of Sarguja accompanied by Jeet Singh of Palamow and headed by Lal Isaree Singh were wandering in and about that district, apparently determined to evade submitting either to the Marathas or to the British authorities, and the orphan Raja of Jashpur and his family were carried away to a remote part of the Zamindari.¹ By June, 1818 the British succeeded in capturing some refractories and were able to bring the young Raja of Jashpur and his family² under the British protection. Roughsedge also took steps for the settlement of Sambalpur and its dependencies of which Sarangarh was a part.³

Major-General G. Martindell, Military Commissioner Commanding at Cuttack, took measure to incite the Rajas of the territories between Ratanpur and Cuttack, who owed allegiance to the Bhonsla to rebel against him. The results of which were to the satisfaction of the British Government.⁴

After settlement of the transitional affairs the British Government concentrated upon the general administration of the areas comprising the District. The introduction of the direct authority of the British Government in these tracts was considered to be inexpedient by the British. Their remote situation, their great extent, the natural difficulties of the country, their scanty population and inconsiderable product, as well as the backward social conditions, all conduced to render the region unfit for introduction of a system of administration suited to the British Government. The British Government, therefore, left unaltered the existing usages and institutions, excepting controlling authority against serious corruption and abuse.⁵ Similar arrangements were made in Sarguja area including Jashpur, Udaipur, and Sambalpur area, including Sarangarh State. Accordingly, the ancient possessions and authority were restored to the above Rajas and Chiefs.⁶ Thus the affairs were settled in all the four States comprising the District to the satisfaction of the British Government.

The Jashpur Chief, before this charge was taken over by the British, used to pay its tribute to the Sarguja Chief as his fief. Jashpur was ceded to the

1. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. IV, pp. 41-42.

2. *ibid.* pp. 86-87.

3. Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. IV, p. 125.

4. *ibid.* p. 71.

5. *ibid.* pp. 83-84.

6. *ibid.* p. 84.

British Government by the provisional agreement concluded with the Bhonsla in the year 1818. Although it was originally treated as a feudal dependency of Sarguja, it was since long dealt with as an independent State. The annual tribute payable to the Government was fixed at Rs. 1,250.¹ Subsequently, he started paying it direct to the British Government. This was disliked by the Sarguja Chief. Therefore, in 1826, the Jashpur Chief, Raja Ram Singh, who was then a mere boy, was induced by the Sarguja Chief to visit Sarguja and was imprisoned there by his host until he acknowledged the later as his overlord.²

In the year 1833, Ajit Singh, the Raja of Bargarh, set up rebellion against the British. At this critical juncture, the Raigarh Chief, Deonath Singh, the eldest son of late Raja Jujhar Singh, helped the British overlord in putting down the rebellion. In recognition of this inglorious service, the zamindari of Bargarh was conferred upon him.³

In common with the Sarguja group of States, Udaipur was also ceded to the British according to the provisional agreement concluded with Appa Saheb in 1818. At the time of its transfer to the British Government, Kalyan Singh, then Chief of Udaipur, paid tribute through Sarguja. In the year 1852, Kalyan Singh, the ruler of Udaipur, and his brothers were convicted for manslaughter and sentenced to imprisonment and Udaipur escheated to the British Government.⁴ They were detained under surveillance at Ranchi (Bihar). When the Great Revolt of 1857 took place, and the British were forced to evacuate Ranchi the two brothers, Raja Dhiraj Singh and Sheoraj Singh, managed to reach back Udaipur by September, 1857.⁵ They were able to regain their lost territory of Udaipur and received recognition by the local jagirdars and zamindars. The tahsildar, acting on behalf of the British Government, was forced to quit, and Dhiraj Singh forfeited some 500 rupees of British Government collections that were in⁶ the possession of tahsildar and established his rule.

The British Government was alarmed at these developments. The Officiating Commissioner of Chhota Nagpur, E. T. Datton issued a proclamation, warning the inhabitants against paying revenue to any unaccredited person, or acknowledging any authority but that of British Government officers deputed by him.

Meanwhile, Dhiraj Singh passed away and Sheoraj Singh took over the Chiefship.⁷ He was able to continue the short lived rule upto 1859 when the British, with the help of the Raja of Raigarh and others were successful in

1. Foreign Department (Internal-B) Proceedings, January, 1902, No. 146-150, p. 113.
2. Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer, pp. 279-80.
3. *ibid.* pp. 168-69.
4. *ibid.* p. 261.
5. Parliamentary Papers Reg. Mutinies in India, 1857-58, No. 1, p. 101.
6. *ibid.* p. 302.
7. *ibid.*

capturing him. Sheoraj Singh was convicted of murder and rebellion and transported for life to Andaman.¹ With his transportation, the Great Revolt came to an end in the District. Subsequently, as a reward for his good services, during the Great Revolt, the Chiefship was conferred in 1860, together with the title of Raja Bahadur, upon Lal Bindeshwari Prasad Singh Deo, a younger brother of the Sarguja Raja.²

In the year 1861 the Central Provinces came into being. Raigarh and Sarangarh States, known as the Garjjat States, came under the administration³ of the Central Provinces, whereas Udaipur and Jashpur States were taken under the administration of Chhota Nagpur.

Raja Deonath Singh of Raigarh died in 1862 A. D. and was succeeded by his son Ghanshyam Singh. In the year 1867 Ghanshyam Singh received a *sanad* from the British Government defining his status as Feudatory Chief. The takoli (tribute) of Rs. 400 per year, was also levied in 1867. It was stipulated to revise the amount of tribute, according to the circumstances of the State, after a period of 20 years.⁴ Owing to the maladministration, the management of the State was taken over by the British Government in February, 1885 and Rama Saran Ghosh, an Extra-Assistant Commissioner was appointed to the management of the State. At the time of the take over, the Chief's debts amounted to about R. 72,000, the balance in the treasury was only 12 annas. A loan of Rs. 64,000 was, therefore, negotiated with the firm of Gokul Das Ballabh Das of Jabalpur, to pay off the creditors. At the same time, the Raja and his family was allowed a maintenance allowance of Rs. 800 per mensem. Raja Ghanshyam Singh died on 31st January 1890 and was succeeded by his son Bhup Deo Singh. The British Government, however, continued to manage the State till 1894, when Raja Bhup Deo Singh received the full power of a Feudatory Chief.⁵

Raja Sangramsingh, the Chief of Sarangarh State, received *sanad* in 1867 defining his status as a Feudatory Chief. The Chief was under the direct political control of the Political Agent, Chhattisgarh Feudatories and general control of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division. The *takoli* (tribute) of Rs. 1,350 was fixed for the State in 1867, which was revised to Rs. 3,500 in 1887. The Raja of Sarangarh too sided with the British during the great Revolt of 1857.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 261.
2. *ibid.* Foreign Department (Internal-B) Proceedings, January 1902, Nos. 146-150, p. 117.
3. *The History of Freedom Movement in M. P.*, p. 112.
4. Foreign Department (Political) Proceedings, August, 1867, No. 168, pp. 1-2.
5. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, pp. 168-69; Foreign Department (Internal-A) Proceedings, June, 1885, Nos. 1-2, p. 1; and September, 1886, Nos. 367-369, p. 1.

Later, in 1867, he captured the famous rebel leader Kamal Singh, who had long defied the British authority and whom they had been trying to capture for years.¹

On the death of Raja Sangram Singh on 5th June, 1872, his only son by his younger Rani, named Bhawani Pratap Singh was recognised by the Governor-General-in-Council as the successor to the State. As Bhawani Pratap Singh was a minor, aged 10 years, the management of the State was entrusted to the Dowager Rani Ganesh Kaur.² Due to maladministration the State was temporarily taken over by the British Government in 1878.

Raja Bhawani Pratap Singh died in September, 1889 and was succeeded by his cousin Raghuwar Singh, who passed away within a year of his succession, on 5th August, 1890. He was succeeded by his infant son, Jawahir Singh, who was installed as Feudatory Chief on 3rd November, 1909 A. D. in a public Darbar at Raipur. The Chief did not maintain any military force and was not entitled to a 'Salute'.³

Regarding Udaipur State, as already stated, the State was conferred on Bindeshwari Prasad Singh Deo. In 1871, he aided the British in suppressing a rebellion of Keonjhar State and in recognition of services, he was given the title of Raja Bahadur by the British Government. On his death in 1876 he was succeeded by his son Dharmjit Singh Deo, who took up his residence at Rabkoba in Udaipur, which he renamed as Dharmjaigarh. He died in December 1900 A. D., leaving a son, Chandra Sekhar Prasad Singh Deo who being minor aged 12 years, the State was managed by the Commissioner of Chhota Nagpur upto 1905 A. D. Besides Udaipur the minor Raja was heir to two valuable parganas, namely, Pratappur and Paharbullu in Sarguja State, yielding an annual income of over Rs. 48,000. These parganas were held as maintenance grant from the ruling family of Sarguja State. Later, on the transfer of the State to the Central Provinces, the management was transferred under the charge of the Commissioner, Chhattisgarh Division.⁴

The Chief of Jashpur State was granted a *Sanad* in 1899 A. D. The Chief under the *Sanad* was formally recognised as the ruler and permitted to administer his territory, subject to prescribed conditions. The tribute was fixed at Rs. 1250 a year.⁵ The Chief of the State, Raja Pratap Narain Singh Deo, who had administered the affairs of his State with marked ability for 50 years, succumbed to an attack of small pox in April, 1900. The succession of his eldest son, Raja Bishen Prasad Singh Deo, was recognised by the Government of India

in September, 1900, subject to his retaining for a period of two years a Dewan to be selected by the Government. Raja Pratap Narain Singh Deo was a benevolent ruler and the State prospered during his regime.¹

A *sanad* was reissued in 1905 A. D., due to the transfer of the State to Central Provinces. Under the *Sanad* the Chief was formally recognized and permitted to administer his territory subject to prescribed conditions. The Chief was under the general control of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division.² The annual tribute payable to the Government was fixed at Rs. 1250.

The freedom movement was rather weak in the States constituting the present Raigarh District. Even so the Congress made its impact upon the people of the District. As early as in 1923, when the famous Flag Satyagraha was organised at Nagpur, Prabhulal Kabra and Bande Ali Fatami from the District took part in the Satyagraha. From this time onwards the signs of political awakening were traceable in the District. Subsequently when Sardar Bhagat Singh was hanged by the British Government, the people of the District showed a quick reaction and a strike was observed under the guidance of Lakuram Gupta of Sarangarh.

This was followed by Salt Satyagraha, when Gandhiji undertook his historic march from Sabermati to Dandi in April, 1930. In the forest satyagraha that was inaugurated in the District during the Civil Disobedience Movement Harijan, Dhaniram, Jagatram and Kuar Bhan courted arrest. However, the movement was initially confined only to the educated sections of the people. Later, it spread to the peasants also. The peasants of Udaipur in particular took active part in the Movement. The local Marwari Library and students organisation played prominent part in the freedom fight.

On 8 August, 1942 the All India Congress Committee passed the 'Quit India' resolution. The British Government reacted sharply by declaring the Congress illegal and arrested its top leaders. In the District Seth Dulichand and Baldeo Prasad ex-Dewan of Raigarh State helped their best to promote the Movement. States People's Conference was formed in Raigarh in which Amarnath Tiwari and Lakuram Gupta took active part. On account of the political activities, Lakuram Gupta was ousted from Raigarh. In the struggle for freedom ladies of the District also played important roles, prominent among whom were Hemlata Bai, Nanhee Bai and Manorama Devi.

In May, 1945 Mahatma Gandhi was released from detention on the grounds of ill health. Shortly afterwards the Second World War came to an end. The Labour Government that came to power in Britain decided to hold

1. Foreign Department (Political) Proceedings, August, 1867 Nos. 168-171, p. 4.
2. *ibid.* November, 1872 Nos. 120-121, p. 1.
3. *ibid.* (Internal-B), October, 1904, No. 110, p. 12; Report on the Feudatory States of the Central Provinces, 1909, p. 31.
4. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 261.
5. *ibid.* p. 280.

1. Foreign Deptt. (Internal-B) Proceedings, January 1902, Nos. 146-150, p. 113.
2. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 279.

elections, which were held in the beginning of 1946. The congress swept the polls in most of the Provinces. About this time the trial of Indian National Army prisoners created another wave of popular demonstrations. The mutiny in Royal Indian Navy with their slogan "Down with British Imperialism" in 1945, shook the British authority to its foundations.

These developments in the background and the world opinion in the fore, forced the British Government to transfer power. Indian Independence Act was passed through the British Parliament on the 18th of July 1947.¹ In the mid-night of August 15, 1947 the country became Independent.

Thereafter in 1948 the merger of States to Indian Union took place and Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur were united to form Raigarh District of the State of Madhya Pradesh.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

Area and Population

Constituted in 1948 after the merger of four feudatory states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur, Raigarh District had a population of 10,41,226 and 12,78,705 persons according to Census 1961 and 1971 respectively. While the District was sixth largest in descending order of population ranking in the State it was ninth biggest in area ranking in 1961. The corresponding ranking in 1971 were eighth and ninth, respectively, showing that though it came down by two places in population ranking, its area ranking remained unchanged during the decade 1961-71. Consequent upon the Reorganisation of States in the year 1956, the area of the District increased from 10,230.50 sq. km. in 1954 to 12,971.7¹ sq. km. in 1961 and was revised to 12,910 sq. km. in 1971 on account of territorial adjustments.

Raigarh District has been divided into five Tahsils. The population distribution among them seems to be very uneven. Physiographically, the District may be divided in two parts, namely, the northern, mainly a hilly region which is sparsely populated and the southern, predominantly a plain country, which is comparatively densely populated tract.

The Tahsil-wise break-up of population and area according to Census 1961 and 1971 is given in the following Table:—

Table No. III-1
Tahsilwise Area and Population, 1961 and 1971.

Tahsil	Area in sq. km.		Population 1961	Population 1971		
	1961	1971		Persons	Males	Females
Udaipur	1,778.4	1,780.5	1,76,893	2,20,927	1,10,839	1,10,088
Jashpur	4,569.0	4,569.0	3,06,105	3,87,935	1,93,248	1,94,687
Gharghoda	1,488.1	1,488.5	1,36,751	1,73,051	85,868	87,183
Raigarh	1,311.9	1,319.7	2,36,354	2,79,301	1,39,767	1,39,534
Sarangarh	988.7	988.7	1,85,123	2,17,491	1,07,166	1,10,325
Distt. Total	12,971.7	12,910	10,41,226	12,78,705	6,36,888	6,41,817

1. According to State Survey Department. Area figures of Surveyor General of India have not been used in this chapter to avoid confusion since they differ from these figures.

1. *History and Culture of the Indian People-Struggle for Freedom*, Vol. XI, pp. 786-787.

With an average of 5.12 persons per occupied house, the number of occupied residential houses in 1961 numbered 2,03,370 in the District. The corresponding 1971 figures are 6.22 and 204,912. The average receded to 4.76 in urban and increased to 5.14 in rural areas in 1961, while the respective decline and increase in 1971 were 5.17 and 6.30.

Sex-Ratio

Lying in the high-proportion zone, Raigarh stood third in ranking in the State in respect of proportion of females in 1961, when with 1,010 females per 1,000 males, Raigarh trailed behind Raipur (1,037) and Bilaspur (1,024). In 1971 it stood second in ranking (1,008) next only to Raipur (1,010). Divided in two distinct physiographic and ethnic regions of dissimilarities, the northern, a predominantly hilly region, showed comparatively low proportion of females than did the southern, a predominantly plain region. The low sex-ratio in the uplands in the District has eluded a plausible explanation, so far, in the decennial demographic studies. The Census Report of 1911 stated that "the extraordinary fertility of these people (aborigines) may be accompanied by more than proportionate death-rate of women in child birth."¹ In 1921, the probability of enormous omission to enumerate women in this wild and sparsely inhabited region² and masculinity at birth being affected by race were advanced as causes.³ Similarly in Census 1931, the possibility of an adverse effect upon the sex figures of backward tracts owing to the distribution of tribes was put forth⁴ as one of the causes of low sex-ratio.

The entirely rural Udaipur Tahsil showed least proportion (978) of females which tendency was vitiated as one moved south to it in Gharghoda (1,014), Raigarh (1,013) and Sarangarh (1,049) Tahsils. Jashpur, the northern-most Tahsil, with small urban population also showed a slight edge of females (1,003) over males. Another characteristic feature of these two dissimilar regions was that whereas the southern tahsils showed considerable decline in sex-ratio during the decade 1951-61, the northern tahsils of Udaipur and Jashpur registered an increase. The increase was considerable in respect of Jashpur Tahsil, where the sex-ratio increased from 966 in 1951 to 1,003 in 1961. Below is given a Table showing the changes in the proportion of sexes during 1901 to 1971:—

1. Quoted in Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961.
2. *ibid.* p. Li.
3. Census of India, 1931, C. P. & Berar, Pt. I, p. 153.
4. Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. Li.

Table No. III-2

Proportion of Sexes

Year	Population			Sex-ratio (No. of females per 1,000 males)		
	Persons	Males	Females	Total	Rural	Urban
1901	4 28,761	2,12,975	2,15,786	1,013	1,013	1,003
1911	5,55,153	2,75,591	2,79,562	1,014	1,014	1,026
1921	5,79,543	2,87,323	2,92,220	1,017	1,016	1,071
1931	6,91,242	3,42,158	3,49,084	1,020	1,020	1,013
1941	7,87,553	3,91,661	3,95,892	1,011	1,012	990
1951	8,53,067	4,23,392	4,29,675	1,015	1,017	980
1961	10,41,226	5,17,958	5,23,268	1,010	1,017	981
1971	12,78,705	6,36,888	6,41,817	1,008	1,015	991

Contrary to the declining trend of sex-ratio in Bilaspur Division, as also in the State as a whole during 1901 to 1971, the District presented a gradual and consistent increase till the year 1931. During this period the sex-ratio increased from 1,013 in 1901 to 1,020 in 1931. In the year 1941, a decline of 9 females per 1000 males was registered, which is largely attributed to a larger decline in urban areas, i. e., 23 females per 1000 males in that year. Since the number of towns in that year remained the same, the increase of 41.28 per cent in the urban population is explained in terms of influx of labour force from outside in the commercial and industrial establishments. This influx of labour force appears to be the cause of decline in the sex-ratio during 1941. An improvement was witnessed in 1951, when a sex-ratio of 1,015 was recorded, but the earlier tendency of decrease reasserted itself, and in 1961, a decrease of five females per 1000 males was recorded. In 1971, a further decrease of 2 females per 1000 males has been recorded. While the rural sex-ratio maintained status quo and ranged between 1,013 and 1015 during 1901-71, the urban sex-ratio declined steeply from 980 in 1951 to 901 in 1961 although it remained stationary in 1971. All the three southern tahsils of Raigarh, Gharghoda and Sarangarh were responsible for the decline in sex-ratio during 1951-61. The sex-ratio in Raigarh Tahsil declined from 1,035 to 1013, in Gharghoda from 1,064 to 1,014 and in Sarangarh from 1,061 to 1,049 during the aforesaid decade.

• The pattern of sex-ratio in age-groups in the District corresponded more to Bilaspur District than to the State. In Raigarh District, the sex-ratio rose from 985 in age-group 0-14 years to 1,040 in age-group 15-24 years. But after losing in the age-group 35-39 years to 952, it again retrieved its position to 1,298 females for 1,000 males in the age-group 60 years and above in 1961. Similar trend was reflected in Bilaspur district.

Growth of Population

Four feudatory states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur, which largely constitute the present Raigarh District, have a demographic history dating back to 1872, when the first census was conducted. By the year 1901, four censuses were conducted in Raigarh and Sarangarh States. In 1901, their respective population was 1,74,929 and 79,900 persons. The population of Udaipur and Jashpur States was 45,391 and 1,32,114 persons respectively in that year. The decade 1891-1901 was characterised with famines and distress caused by cholera epidemic which resulted in a slight decrease (3,310 persons) in the population of Sarangarh State. The rest of the States, however, escaped the severe onslaught and showed on the contrary a slight improvement in their population over 1891. Raigarh State increased by 6,404 persons, Udaipur State by 7,855 persons, and Jashpur State by 68 persons.

Variation in Population

The population of Raigarh District in 1901, adjusted to the jurisdiction of the District in 1961, was 4,28,761 (2,12,975 males, 2,15,786 females). The following Table gives the population of the District from 1901 to 1971, also showing the decennial percentage variation in population.

Table No. III-3

Variation in Population, 1901-71

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1901	4,28,761	—	—
1911	5,55,153	+ 1,26,392	+ 29.48
1921	5,79,543	+ 24,390	+ 4.39
1931	6,91,242	+ 1,11,699	+ 19.27
1941	7,87,553	+ 96,311	+ 13.93
1951	8,53,067	+ 65,514	+ 8.32
1961	10,41,226	+ 1,88,159	+ 22.06
1971	12,78,705	+ 2,37,479	+ 22.80

A higher percentage increase (142.85) than Bilaspur Division (122.20) had been recorded in the District during the period from 1901 to 1961. In fact the District stood third among the six districts of Bilaspur and Raipur divisions, as far as the increase in population over the period was concerned. The first two districts showing yet higher increase were Bastar (184.64 per cent) and Surguja (155.56 per cent).

The characteristic feature of 29.48 per cent increase in the District population during 1901-11 decade was that increase was less in the plains than in the hilly areas. The State of Udaipur led with 42.9 per cent increase, trailed by Jashpur (32.1 per cent), Sarangarh (27.7 per cent) and Raigarh (25.1 per cent) in their respective population. "For these hilly areas, one of the reasons given was the increased accuracy of enumeration which exaggerated the real expansion of population due to immigration and natural growth".¹

During the ensuing decades 1911-21 and 1921-31, the District population grew by 4.39 per cent and 19.27 per cent respectively. The growth in the District population was faster in both decades than the average growth of population in the State as a whole in general and Bilaspur Division in particular. It appears that the influenza-ridden decade of 1911-21, which has been anathematized as the darkest period in the demographic history of the province, spared the States comprising the present Raigarh District from devastation. Except for Jashpur State, where the population declined by 11.6 per cent, the population of all the other three feudatory states, viz., Raigarh (10.4%), Sarangarh (15.5%) and Udaipur (9.7%) increased during the decade. It was recorded that the excess of births over deaths was more marked in the plain areas than in the hilly terrains of Udaipur and Jashpur States. A sizeable amount of immigration was recorded in Census 1921 of the District which out-stripped the emigration from Raigarh by 902 persons, from Sarangarh by 10,284, from Udaipur by 2,221 and from Jashpur State by 3,238 persons. Contrary to the adjoining districts of Raipur and Bilaspur, which sent out more persons from the district than they received, Raigarh District was on the other end, and gained considerably by immigration.

The population trend during the decade 1921-31, showed considerable increase in the District population. Immigration seems to be instrumental in pushing up the rate of growth in the District, besides the substantial excess of births over deaths. It was enumerated that immigration in Udaipur increased from 8,743 in 1921 to 22,094 in 1931, while in Jashpur it increased from 12,443 to 18,852 during the same period. It seems probable that the emigrants who left in the wake of adverse conditions prevalent during the latter part of the decade 1911-21, again came back during this decade. "It must, however, be mentioned that large number of labourers emigrated from Jashpur through Ranchi which is easily accessible by road, to Assam. They generally return after a few years and probably bring with them numbers of children born in other Province."²

1. Raipur District Census Handbook, 1961, p. XLIV.
2. (Quoted) Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. XIV.

The two successive decades after 1931 were characterised with comparatively declining rate of population increase. In 1931-41, the population increase was 13.93 per cent, followed by 8.32 per cent during the Decades 1931-51 decade 1941-51. The District still maintained its edge, though slight, over the average population increase in Bilaspur Division, as also in the Province as a whole during 1931-41. But the politically momentous decade 1941-51 witnessed a lesser percentage of increase (8.32) in the District population than did the Bilaspur Division (10.39) or for that matter the State average increase, which was 8.67 per cent.

This brings us to the threshold of an eventful decade 1951-61, characterised with the adoption of planning as a creed for economic development which had far-reaching effects on the demographic map. An all-time high increase (22.06), since 1901-11 decade, was recorded in the population of the District during this decade, which was enumerated as 10,41,226 persons. The high increase was a phenomenon common to the State as a whole, as also the factors leading to it. Apart from greater accuracy in enumeration, the high increase had been a cumulative effect of many factors. The concerted drive to root out epidemics, and extension of medical facilities in the interiors has led to an effective arrest of mortality. The vital statistics recorded in the District clearly bring out the above facts to light. While the death-rate which was 21.34 in 1952 declined to 17.8 in 1956 and to 17.9 in 1960, the birth-rate increased from 26.2 in 1952 to 34.7 in 1956, and then declined to 31.8 in 1960.

The net migration has also been instrumental in pushing up the rate of increase in this decade. From the continuous tracts of Raipur, Bilaspur and Surguja, the District gained 4,655 persons. During the decade 1951-61, in all 50,778 persons emigrated to these districts, while Raigarh received 55,433 persons from these areas. About 21,788 immigrants from adjoining Sambalpur and Sundargarh districts of Orissa were also enumerated in Raigarh District.

The following Table gives the actual immigrant population in 1961.

Table No. III-4
Immigration, 1961

Born in	Immigrants			Rural	Urban
	Total	Males	Females		
Other Districts of the State	57,892	18,031	39,861	48,241	9,651
States in India beyond Madhya Pradesh	49,905	19,533	30,372	39,954	9,951
Countries in Asia (including USSR)	3,825	2,069	1,756	2,434	1,391
Countries in Europe (excluding USSR)	27	18	9	24	3
Unclassifiable	504	210	294	420	84

The Table above shows that about 51.6 per cent of the immigration in the District was from other districts of the State, and the rest 48.4 from other areas. The contiguous districts of the State accounted for 34 per cent of the total immigration. The main districts of other states sending a bulk of immigrants were Sambalpur and Sundargarh districts in Orissa, Ranchi (9,00 immigrants) in Bihar, Assam (2,853) and Uttar Pradesh (2,355) among the other non-contiguous states, and Pakistan (3,244) from beyond India were other important sources of immigration. An important feature of immigration-pattern has been the universal preponderance of females from contiguous tracts, and that of males from non-contiguous tracts. Another interesting feature is that immigration from contiguous tracts and from beyond the countries in Asia and Europe showed preference to rural and from non-contiguous states to urban areas in the District.

Density of Population

The District density in 1901, as per its territorial constitution in 1961, was 86 persons per sq. mile. With 208 persons per sq. mile, the District in 1961 stood seventeenth in descending order of population density in the State, receding to 196 in rural areas and rising to 5,114 in urban areas. Roughly speaking, as one moves to northern hilly areas of the District, the density goes on receding. Sarangarh Tahsil, which is the plain southern-most part of the District, is the most densely populated tract in the District with 485 persons per sq. mile. Close to it stands Raigarh Tahsil with 467 persons per sq. mile. The predominantly hilly tahsils of Gharghoda, Udaipur and Jashpur registered a respective density of 238, 258 and 174 persons per sq. mile in 1961.

With 11.7 sq. miles of urban area in the District, the urban density was recorded as 5,114 as against 196 in rural area. Udaipur and Gharghoda tahsils were entirely rural, while Sarangarh with one town had the largest urban density, i.e., 9,177. Raigarh Tahsil with two towns had an average urban density of 5,771 persons per sq. mile. The remaining one town was in Jashpur Tahsil with a density of 1,961 persons in 1961.

As compared to 1951, the District density declined in 1961. In the face of 22.06 per cent increase in the District population in 1961, the decline in density appears a paradox, though the variations in the area figures compiled by the State Survey Department in 1951, and those compiled in 1961 were largely responsible for the same. Without taking into consideration the area transfers effected in 1956, the area of the District was reported as 3,844 sq. miles in 1951 and 5008.4 sq. miles in 1961 by the State Survey Department.

Leaving aside the minor area adjustments that have taken place, the densities of the respective erstwhile feudatory states may be regarded as those pertaining to the tahsils. Thus it may be noted that in 1872, the population densities were as low as 26 in Udaipur, 34 in Jashpur, 43 in Raigarh (including

Gharghoda) and 69 in Sarangarh. While considerable improvement was registered in the plain areas comprising Raigarh (including Gharghoda) and Sarangarh by the year 1931 when their respective densities moved to 187 and 239, the hilly area comprising Udaipur and Jashpur moved to 93 and 99, respectively over the period. Thenceforth, the increase has been conspicuous and density by the year 1962-63, as per revised area figures, increased to 194 in Udaipur, 140 in Jashpur, 183 in Gharghoda, 379 in Raigarh and 376 in Sarangarh. The District density then was 210 per sq. mile. The following Table shows the population density per sq. km. in 1971 in tahsil-wise break-up.

Table No. III-5

Density of population 1971

Tahsil	Density per sq. km. 1971		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Udaipur	124	124	—
Jashpur	85	83	1,048
Gharghoda	116	116	—
Raigarh	212	171	2,376
Sarangarh	220	211	3,294
Distt. Density	99	93	2,167

The above Table shows that the district density was 99 per sq. km. in 1971. A decade back density was only 81 per sq. km. This shows that there was an increase of 18 persons per sq. km. during the decade 1961-71.

Rural-Urban Population

The rural area comprising 2,242 villages (2,185 inhabited and 57 uninhabited,) extending over an area of 4,996.7 sq. miles (12,941.4 sq. kms.) accounted for 9,81,339 (486,454 males, 4,94,885 females) persons according to census 1961. The urban area extending over 11.7 sq. miles (30.3 sq. km.) comprising four towns accounted for 59,887 persons (31,504 males and 28,383 females) forming 5.75 per cent urban component. Since 1951, the rural-urban ratio has slightly declined from 94:6 in 1951, to 94.25:5.75 in 1961 but a strict comparison is not possible as the area transfers after 1951 made Raigarh District part with Sakti town to Bilaspur and then Gharghoda town was declassified in Census 1961. In 1971 the rural-urban ratio was 94.06:5.94. A peculiar feature about the District had been the tendency towards an increase in the number of inhabited villages since 1941, when 2,111 villages were registered. Their number increased to 2,179 in 1951, to 2,185 in 1961 and to 2,198 in 1971. This coupled with the declassification of Gharghoda town in 1961 census gives an indication

of the absence of the forces of urbanization in the District. The number of towns remained stationary at 4 during both 1961 and 1971 Censuses.

The following Table gives the population, number of villages and towns in Tahsil break-up according to Census 1971.

Table No. III-6

Rural-Urban Composition, 1971

Tahsil	No. of villages		No. of Towns	Population		
	In-habited	Uninhabited		Total	Rural	Urban
Udaipur	298	1	1	2,20,927	2,20,927	—
Jashpur	656	1	1	3,87,935	3,79,962	7,973
Gharghoda	320	4	—	1,73,051	1,73,051	—
Raigarh	428	2	2	2,79,301	2,21,320	57,981
Sarangarh	496	40	1	2,17,491	2,07,510	9,981
Distt. Total	2,198	48	4	12,78,705	12,02,770	75,935

In 1961, 68.79 per cent (against 77.28 in 1951) of the villages were with less than 500 persons, and covered about 30.56 per cent of the total population (against 50.42 per cent in 1951). The second largest number of villages constituting 23.34 per cent were with a population between 500 and 999 persons in 1961, against 18.54 per cent in 1951, and covered 35.26 per cent of the population against 33.89 per cent a decade ago. The villages having a population above 1000 persons, but less than 1999 persons, only accounted for 6.86 per cent, and those with 2000-4999 persons, 0.96 per cent and with 5000 to 9999 persons, about 0.05 per cent of the total number of villages in the District. Similarly, the population covered by these classes of villages was 19.34 per cent, 5.29 per cent and 0.59 per cent, respectively. The tendency analysed above indicates an increase in the number of villages with a bigger population and a decrease of these very small villages having a population below 500 persons. But still a vast majority of villages belongs to this class (below 500), which covers almost two-fifths of the total population in the District. In comparison to 1951, the population in this class of villages (below 500) decreased from one half in 1951 to two-fifths in 1961. However, in other class of villages with higher population range, the population increased considerably.

The urban population in 1961 and 1971 as well lived in its four towns one each in Jashpur and Sarangarh tahsils, and two in Raigarh Tahsil all lying in the less urbanized category. Raigarh Tahsil had the largest urban population both in 1961 and 1971 followed by Sarangarh and Jashpur tahsils.

The variation in rural and urban population during the 70 years since 1901 is given in the following Table:

Table No. III-7

Percentage Variation in Rural-Urban population, 1901-71

Year	Rural		Urban	
	Population	Percentage variation	Population	Percentage variation
1901	4,16,770	—	11,991	—
1911	5,41,737	29.98	13,416	11.88
1921	5,64,485	4.20	15,058	12.24
1931	6,68,571	18.44	22,671	50.56
1941	7,55,524	13.01	32,029	41.28
1951	8,05,735	6.35	47,332	54.84
1961	9,81,339	22.149	59,887	20.75
1971	12,02,770	22.56	75,935	26.80

Source : Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961 and Census Report, 1971.

Lack of industrialization and urbanization coupled with scant diversification and overwhelming concentration in agriculture are the important economic features of the District. Whatever growth in urbanization has been during the decades 1931-41 to 1941-51, was more a result of classification of more places as towns than other causes, viz., migration, etc. Till 1921, there were only two towns in the District. In 1931, one more township of Kharsia was added, and in 1951, Jashpurnagar was also classed as a town. Consequently, the urban population in 1951 increased by 54.84 per cent. But the readjustment of the District boundaries after 1951, resulted in the transference of Sakti town to Bilaspur district, and Gharghoda town was declassified in 1961. As a result of this, the urban population increased only by 20.75 per cent during 1951-61 decade. The immigration was also not much, and from other districts of the State it amounted to only one-sixth (9,651) of the total immigration in this category. The increase during 1961-71 decade in urban population was, however, a little more (26.80%).

The over-all increase in the rural population during 1901-61 was 135.46 per cent (it was 188.59% during 1901-71). During 1951-61, the rural population increased by 22.14 per cent, the highest since the first decade of the present century, when an increase of 29.98 per cent in the District was recorded. In the next decade 1961-71, it was still a little more (22.56%). Low percentage increase during the influenza and scarcity ridden decade 1911-21, and in the decade which resulted into the merger of feudatory states (1941-51), is in accordance with the State as well as the trend prevailing in Bilaspur Division

as a whole. In fact the State suffered 1.38 per cent decline in 1911-21 decade, largely owing to the influenza and scarcity conditions.

The population of four urban centres in the District in 1961 and 1971 (against six in 1951), is given in the following Table beginning with the year in which they were classed as towns.

Table No. III-8

Urban Population, 1901-71

Town	Population							
	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971
Raigarh	6,764	8,041	8,667	12,020	20,327	29,684	36,933	48,049
Sarangarh	5,227	5,375	6,391	7,046	8,045	7,721	9,452	9,981
Kharsia	—	—	—	2,805	3,657	5,539	7,737	9,932
Jashpurnagar	—	—	—	—	—	4,388	5,765	7,973

Source : Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961 and Census Report, 1971.

Raigarh and Sarangarh towns have had continued existence since 1901. Their population since then has increased by 446 per cent and 80.8 per cent, respectively, in 1961. The increase in population of Raigarh in the decade 1961-71 is significant, while the growth of Sarangarh is normal, as is clear from the above Table.

Displaced Persons

In the wake of Partition of the Country, a small section of the displaced persons came to Raigarh District during the period 1947 to 1951. According to Census 1951, their number was 1,551 (858 males and 693 females). Hardly 48 of them were enumerated in rural areas, and the bulk of them (1,503) were enumerated in non-city urban areas of the District. Dadu (542), Sukkur (422) and Gujarat (172) were the main districts in Pakistan from where the displaced persons immigrated to Raigarh District.

The entire displaced population earned their livelihood through non-agricultural occupations, 'commerce' (1,117) and other services (297), absorbing 91.2 per cent of their population.

A fresh wave of approximately 2,149 displaced persons was received in the District during the period 1964-67, of whom 703 were adult males, 688 females and 758 children. All of them came from places in the then East Pakistan. All the displaced families were agriculturists except for five who belonged to trading class and one following the tailoring vocation. Under the rehabilitation programme, the agriculturist families were each provided with seven acres of

land for cultivation. Each family was also granted loan amounting Rs. 680 for the purchase of seeds, implements, manure, bullocks, etc., and another Rs. 500 as loan for general purposes. A grant of Rs. 500 was also given to them for the construction of their houses.

Language

There is a medley of languages and dialects in Raigarh District. At the Census of 1961, as many as 81 of them were returned in the District. Compared to the number of dialects current in other districts of Chhattisgarh, this number is more than that in Surguja (61), Bilaspur (65) and Bastar (74), but less than that in Raipur (91) and Durg (92). Some of the important mother-tongues and the number of people speaking them are given below.

Table No. III-9

Number of Speakers of various Languages/Dialects, 1961

Languages/Dialects	Total Number of Speakers		
	Persons	Males	Females
Ahiri	1,494	827	667
Banjari	1,558	782	776
Bengali	2,793	1,227	1,566
Chhattisgarhi	54,127 (5.20)	26,151	27,976
Dhangari	1,074	339	735
Hindi	6,25,420 (60.07)	3,12,678	3,12,742
Kharia	13,459 (1.29)	6,700	6,759
Korwa	5,012 (0.48)	2,515	2,497
Kurukh/Oraon	1,66,918 (16.03)	81,545	85,373
Marathi	1,312	709	603
Marwari	3,434	1,802	1,632
Oriya	96,878 (9.30)	47,822	49,056
Sadri/Sadon	56,038 (5.38)	28,732	27,306
Sindhi	1,473	769	704
Urdu	2,357	990	1,367

(Note —The figures in brackets show percentage to total population.)

The above Table accounts for the speech of 10,29,863 persons in the District. The remaining 11,363 who form 1.09 per cent of the total population speak 66 forms of speeches, dialects or languages. Out of the languages and dialects mentioned above, Hindi is the most prevalent language whereas Chhattisgarhi constitutes the dialect of the majority. It has been rightly observed that a good proportion of Chhattisgarhi speakers have returned Hindi as their mother-tongue.¹ The number of persons residing in urban areas, who have returned Hindi as their mother-tongue is 35,743, while as many as 5,89,677 rural inhabitants have also been recorded as Hindi speakers in 1961. Rural population of Raigarh speaks Chhattisgarhi which is a dialect of Hindi. The figures of Hindi and Chhattisgarhi taken together, along with the speakers of Sadon or Sadri constitute the real picture of the number of speakers of Chhattisgarhi dialect in the District. Sadon or Sadri, current in the District is, linguistically speaking, more a sub-dialect of Chhattisgarhi than a speech of Bhojpuri as will be examined. Thus taken together, the Chhattisgarhi speakers numbered 735,585, constituting 70.65 per cent of the total population.

It may be interesting to note that Raigarh District not only represents 'water shed' of ethnic groups but also a 'water shed' of languages/dialects belonging to three out of four main families of languages spoken in India. The main speeches of the District classified on this basis are :

Korwa and Kharia

Munda branch of Austro-Asiatic sub-family of Austric family.

Kurukh or Oraon

Dravidian family

Oriya

Indo-European family-Aryan sub-family-Indo-Aryan branch. Outer sub-branch-eastern group.

Chhattisgarhi
(including Sadon/Sadri)

Indo-European family-Aryan sub-family-mediate sub-branch, Mediate group-eastern Hindi.

Chhattisgarhi dialect which is the main vernacular of the District, is spoken by about 71 per cent of the population. It is grouped as a dialect of Eastern Hindi along with Awadhi and Baghelkhandi. Chhattisgarhi of Raigarh is bounded by Oriya on the east and south, Bhojpuri on the north-east, Surguja sub-dialect of Chhattisgarhi on the north and north-west, and standard Chhattisgarhi on the west. It has islands of many non-Aryan dialects in its midst. It is not unnatural that

1. Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. LIII.

Chhattisgarhi as spoken in the District, is influenced by all these linguo-geographical factors. It may be divided into the following sub-dialects:—

1. Standard Chhattisgarhi
2. Laria
3. Sadon or Sadri, and
4. Surgujia

Standard Chhattisgarhi is spoken in the western parts of Sarangarh and Raigarh Tahsils and Gharghoda Tahsil. It is the north-eastern extension of the central Chhattisgarhi, a name given to the standard form of Chhattisgarhi.¹ It has the same grammar, diction and phonetic tendencies as has the Chhattisgarhi spoken in Raipur and southern parts of Bilaspur districts. The termination of the past tense is as *kahis*, he said, *gais*, he went; the use of *o* instead of *e* for the genitive of the personal pronouns as *mor*, *tor*, *my*, *thy*; the formation of the plural in *man* as *laikaman*, boys; the instrumental in *an* as *bhukan*, by hunger, and the addition of *har* to a noun to give definition as *chhotakahar*, the younger one, are some of the main characteristics of the dialect spoken in the District, which are common to the standard form of Chhattisgarhi. But some of the phonetic changes and variations in the diction due to the influence of the neighbouring Aryan and non-Aryan languages and dialects may be noted thus: *na* for *nam* or *nawn*, name, *ye* for *have* or *ahe*, is; *nee* for *nai* or *nain*, no; *ghalo* for *ghalok*, even; *thokan* for *thorak* or *thorkun*, a bit; *luga* for *lugda* of *luga-saree*; *echch* or *ochch* for *ech* or *och*, even and also. In the standard Chhattisgarhi of Raigarh, some of the words differ from their counterpart prevalent in Raipur—the main seat of the standard Chhattisgarhi, for example:—

Words current in Raipur District	Words current in Raigarh District	English equivalent
<i>Balla</i>	<i>Badda</i>	ox
<i>Dhor</i>	<i>Bahan</i>	cattle
<i>Ghench</i>	<i>Tonta</i>	neck
<i>Habarna</i>	<i>Amarna</i>	to reach
<i>Kunwar</i> }	<i>Luddu</i>	soft
<i>Konwar</i> }		
<i>Yeti</i> }	<i>Ae-ang</i>	hither
<i>Yikoti</i> }		

1. Kanti Kumar, *Chhattisgarhi Ki Shabdawali* (thesis for the degree of Ph.D. of the Kurukshetra University, 1966), p. 50.

Chhattisgarhi prevalent in the eastern parts of Raigarh District (eastern parts of Sarangarh and Raigarh Tahsils), neighbouring the Sambalpur district of Orissa, is linguistically speaking, neither pure Oriya nor Laria or Eastern Chhattisgarhi but a mixture of the two. This cross speech between Chhattisgarhi and Oriya may be treated as a sub-dialect of Chhattisgarhi like Surgujia or Khaloti. This hybrid tongue is treated as synonymous with Chhattisgarhi by Grierson, Dharendra Verma, Udainarayan Tiwari and others¹. It is true that 'to the people of those parts (Oriya country of Sambalpur and the Oriya feudatory states), the Chhattisgarh country to the west is known as the Laria country², but this observation does not warrant our treating Chhattisgarhi as an equivalent to Laria. Laria or the eastern Chhattisgarhi is the vernacular restricted to the adjoining areas of Raigarh and Sambalpur districts belonging to Chhattisgarh (Madhya Pradesh) and Orissa, respectively. This Chhattisgarhi impregnated with Oriya is naturally somewhat different from the standard Chhattisgarhi spoken in Raipur, Bilaspur and in the western parts of Raigarh District³.

The word Laria is common both to Oriya and Chhattisgarhi and etymologically means imperfect, raw, undeveloped, unfinished, low or insipid as shall be borne by the following couplet:

Bigar bhajan ke ghuchha jiwan
*Bigar puthayemunaga laria*⁴

(Life is meaningless without prayer. Munga—a kind of bean hyper an-thera—moringa is tasteless unless fully developed).

Compared to Griya and Chhattisgarhi, this cocktail speech is naturally imperfect, undeveloped and of lower order. Hence the name *laria*. Only a few of its special peculiarities may be mentioned: the letter *e* is often substituted for *i*, e.g., *rahes* instead of *rahis*, he was; *dehes* instead of *dihis*, he gave. He went is sometimes spoken as *gis* or sometimes *gies*. The word for *is*, is *ahe* or *he*. *Har* the post-position of the nominative is pronounced as *ha*; *men*, the post-position of the locative as *man*. The word *apan* is used to mean *we*. *Apan* which includes the person addressing and the person addressed to both, is a loan word from Munda languages of the neighbourhood⁵.

1. (a) Grierson, *Linguistic Survey of India*, p. 24.
 (b) Dharendra Verma, *Hindi Bhasha-Ka-Itihas*, p. 66.
 (c) Udainarayan Tiwari, *Hindi Bhasha-Ka-Udgam aur Vikas*, p. 287. However, Kanti Kumar differs with these authorities and bestows on this mixed dialect the status of a distinct Sub-dialect.
2. Quoted by Lochan Prasad Pandey, *A grammar of Chhattisgarhi dialect of Hindi*, 1961, p. 8.
3. Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. LIV.
4. Vimal Kumar Pathak, *Gawain-Ke-Geet* p. 72.
5. *Prastawana Hindi Sahitya ka Brihat Itihas*, Vol. 2, p. 2.

Sadon or Sadri is spoken in the northern parts of Gharghoda, Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils. It is an Aryan speech, generally considered to be a sub-dialect of Bhojpuri, one of the constituents of Bihari, but Grierson himself has pointed out that Sadon or Sadri is more akin to Chhattisgarhi than to Bhojpuri.¹ The form of Sadon or Sadri spoken in and around Ranchi may be associated with Bhojpuri but the Sadon or Sadri, current in the above mentioned tahsils of the District is a sub-dialect of Chhattisgarhi.² Sadon/Sadri, also known as Nagpuria, may be considered to be the northern form of Chhattisgarhi, along with its sister-dialect Sargujia. As a matter of fact, Sadon or Sadri is south-eastern extension of Sargujia. Sadon or Sadri which is based in the main on Sargujia, means the form which the local Aryan dialect, in this case Sargujia, takes in the mouth of a Korwa. Many views have been expressed regarding the meaning of the word Sadon and Sadri. These words are not found in any dictionary and their use is limited to Chhota Nagpur only. In Nagpuria, Sadri is one who is a resident in one particular place and is not a nomad. The speech of such people is also known as Sadri.³ The word Sadon is sometimes conjectured to be a corruption of Sanskrit *Nishad*.⁴ Philologically Sadon may be derived from *nishad*; sometimes a Sadon is simply called a 'sad' for short.⁵ Whatever the origin of these words, they are not nicknames like 'DiKku', 'Kero', etc., given by the aboriginal tribes, since they are used by the Sadon themselves to distinguish them from their aboriginal neighbours. Some of the main features of Sadon or Sadri as spoken in the District are: if the original words (Sanskrit or Hindi) end in a short *i* preceded by a consonant, this *i* is thrown in before that consonant e. g., *jati*, *Jait*. Words beginning with a conjunct *s* add *a* or *i* before this consonant, e. g., *iskul*, school; *istuti*, *stuti*, prayer. Often at the beginning of a word *n* is changed to *l*, e. g., *langta* for *nantga*, naked, *leel* for *neel*, blue; in cases of anaptyxis *i* generally comes after the long *a*, e. g., *aainkh aainkh*, eye; *mulakait*, *mulakat*, meeting; the emphasis generally falls on the last syllable of the word, hence it has tendency to be lengthened, e. g., *rati*, night; *pakhna*, stone. *Man* or *mane* is added after the noun to form plural number and *raur* or *raure* to mean your noble self, like *ap* in Hindi, is peculiar to Sargujia and Sadon or Sadri only of all the forms of Chhattisgarhi. Verbs are conjugated both after the style of Chhattisgarhi and Bhojpuri.

Sargujia dialect of the Surguja district in the main, is spoken in the northern parts of Udaipur and eastern parts of Jashpur tahsils in the adjoining areas of Surguja district. The name Sargujia is derived from Surguja—one of the feudatory states in the erstwhile Eastern States Agency, and now a district in Madhya Pradesh. As a

matter of fact, the credit for christening the dialect spoken in the Surguja region by the name Sargujia has been given to the inhabitants of the erstwhile Jashpur State. "The people of Korea and Surguja have no name for their local dialect, but in Jashpur, which is bilingual or rather (for Oriya is also spoken in it) a trilingual State, a necessity has been found for a name to distinguish it from Nagpuria and it is called Sargujia."¹ Sargujia may be regarded as the vernacular of the region called Jharkhand in the ancient time.² Sargujia is the northern form of Chhattisgarhi and is influenced by Bhojpuri, Bagheli, Palmunhi, Munda and Kurukh or Oraon dialects. Sargujia as spoken in parts of Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils is much impregnated with words from Kurukh or Oraon in comparison to the rest of it.³

Kurukh or Oraon is the dialect of the tribe of the same name, and is current in the north-eastern part of the District, mostly in Jashpur, Kastura and Bagicha Revenue Inspectors circles of Jashpur Tahsil. It is considered to be the most important dialect of the Dravidian stock spoken in Chhattisgarh. The word Oraon belongs to the Oraon dialect itself and is used for a particular class of the tribe. It is pronounced as Argora—meaning a hawk. The word is an example of expansion of meaning and has come to mean the whole Oraon tribe instead of a particular clan of it. The Oraons call themselves, Kurukh and their language Kurukh Katha.⁴ The origin of the word *Kurukh* may be traced from *hodo* (man) of the Kolarian language or *Kuruk* (one who weeps) of the Sythio-Dravidian. Both derivations are possible phonetically.⁵ Kuruk and Kanarese are considered to be very close to each other, but with the passage of time the Kurukh, as spoken in Raigarh, has lost its contact with the Kanarese of the south and is much influenced by Mundari, Marathi, Chhattisgarhi and Oriya of the neighbourhood.⁶ Oraons of Raigarh, like their other brethren in Chhattisgarh are bilingual as it is through Chhattisgarhi only that they can communicate with their non-Aryan neighbours.

Korwa and Kharia, which are spoken in the northern parts of Gharghoda, Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils, like other dialects of the Austric family, are finding it difficult to hold their own in the face of Aryan speeches encircling them. These have been so much mixed with their neighbouring dialects that it has now become very difficult to trace their original form. These dialects may be said to be in the last phase of the process which Suniti Kumar Chatterjee has called 'Aryan-

1. G. A. Grierson, op. cit., Vol. V, pt. II, p. 277.

2. Kanti Kumar, op. cit., p. 62.

3. *Bhasha* (quarterly) March, 1963, Year 2, No. 3, p. 53.

4. P. S. Nowrangi, S. J. A Simple Sadari Grammar, Preface p. II.

5. *ibid.*

1. G. A. Grierson, op. cit., Vol. VI, p. 212.

2. Raghuvir Prasad, *Jharkhand Jhankar*, p. 1.

3. Kanti Kumar, op. cit., p. 59.

4. Ferd. Hon-Kurukh Grammar, p. 2.

5. *ibid.*

6. Vinaya Mohan Sharma, *Hindi Anushilan* (Dhirendra Verma Visheshank) p. 77.

sation' of the Austric languages.¹ Korwa, also called Korantawa sometime, is a sub-dialect of kherwaria and is divided between Diharia, spoken in villages and Pahadi, spoken in the hills.

It may be noted that the non-Aryan mother-tongues, i.e., Kurukh or Oraon, Korwa and Kharia are also the names of the tribes who inhabit parts of Raigarh District. Majority of the Kharias and Oraons returned their mother-tongue as Kharia and Kurukh or Oraons in Census 1961, while a vast majority of Korwas did not return Korwa as their mother-tongue. It may be inferred, therefore, that Kharia and Kurukh or Oraon speeches are still able to resist the external influences, while Korwa speech is slowly being displaced by its more dominant neighbours.

Religion and Caste

Hindus constituted about 90.56 per cent of the population in 1961 against 97.9 per cent a decade ago. The next largest group is that of Christians, who in 1961 constituted 8.68 per cent against 1.59 per cent a decade ago. The rest, 0.75 per cent of the population covers Muslims, Jains, Sikhs, Buddhists, etc.

The following Table presents the tahsil-wise population professing different religions according to Census 1961.

Table No. III-10

Religious Composition of the District 1961

Tahsils	Rural Urban	Hindus	Christians	Muslims	Jains	Sikhs	Budd- hists	Other religion
Udaipur	Rural	1,71,115	5,256	401	—	12	—	109
Jashpur	Rural	2,15,103	82,986	2,049	53	35	—	204
Gharghoda	Rural	1,35,124	1,107	388	2	13	—	117
Raigarh	Rural	1,91,113	97	289	19	110	—	59
Sarangarh	Rural	1,75,365	90	96	—	—	—	120
Total	Rural	8,87,820	89,446	3,223	74	170	—	608
Total	Urban	55,122	913	3,142	256	447	5	2
Distt. Total		9,42,942	90,359	6,365	330	617	5	608

Though the tahsil-wise religious composition of the District in 1971 is not yet available, it is interesting to mention the absolute population of the District according to religion along with the percentage of each to the total population.

1. S. K. Chatterjee, *Bharat Ki Bhashayen aur Bhasha Sambandhi Samasyayen*, p. 38.

Table No. III-11

District Population according to Religion, 1971

Religion	Male Female	Total	Rural	Urban	Percentage to total population
Hindus	M F	5,66,783 5,69,115	5,30,131 5,36,030	36,652 33,085	88.83
Muslims	M F	4,538 4,254	2,722 2,597	1,816 1,657	0.69
Christians	M F	64,607 67,593	63,663 66,795	944 798	10.34
Sikhs	M F	663 590	319 289	344 301	0.10
Buddhists	M F	26 33	7 6	19 27	N
Jains	M F	259 220	101 90	158 130	0.04
Other Religions & Persuasions	M F	7 4	4 3	3 1	N N
Religion Not Stated	M F	5 8	5 8	— —	N
Total	M F	6,36,888 6,41,817	5,96,952 6,05,818	39,936 35,999	100.00
Total Population		12,78,705	12,02,770	75,935	100.00

Source: Census of India 1971, Paper 2 of 1972.

It is obvious from the above tables that the percentage of Hindu population is gradually coming down from 97.9 per cent in 1951 to 90.56 per cent in 1961 and still further to 88.83 in 1971. As against this the percentage of Christian population has been rapidly increasing from a meagre 1.59 in 1951 to 8.68 in 1961 and still further up to 10.34 in 1971. This shows the work of Christian Missionaries, who have penetrated the tribal areas of the District and made some impact on the tribal population. This has consequently resulted in the loss of percentage of Hindus. There is no significant change in the District in the composition of other religious groups during the past two decades as far as the entire population is concerned, but individually each one of them have gained in number for example, Muslims who were 6,365 in 1961 increased to 8,792 in 1971; Jains rose from 330 in 1961 to 479 in 1971, Buddhists from only 5 to 59 and Sikhs from 617 to 1253.

The number of persons classified under other religions was 608 in 1961, which came down to only 11 in 1971.

Another fact worth mentioning is that Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains are concentrated in urban areas.

Persons professing Hindu faith also included the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, who numbered 1,15,719 or 11.11 per cent and 4,77,936 or 45.90 per cent, respectively, of the total population in the District in 1961. Their number in 1971 rose to 1,32,446 (10.36 per cent) and 6,04,578 (47.28 per cent) respectively. According to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956, 15 castes and 32 tribes have been Scheduled in the District. The synonymous groups of the same have not been mentioned separately and are clubbed into the main tribe or caste.

In the absence of latest Hindu caste composition in the District, the relative numerical strength of each in 1931 Census will be of interest. Since the present District is largely constituted of four feudatory states, the relevant figures of these may serve the purpose roughly. In 1931, Brahmans numbered 6,752, Chamars 23,665, Gandas 46,653, Ghasias 8,981, Gonds 48,821, Kalars 8,653, Kharias 8,860, Koltas 20,752, Oraons 20,988, Pankas 23,564, Sawars 17,769 and Telis 19,738. All these castes professed Hinduism.

In the year 1961, the largest among the Scheduled Castes were Gandas (43,772) followed by Chamars along with their synonymous groups (34,774) both the castes predominating in Sarangarh Tahsil. Other numerically important castes were Khatiks, Chikwa or Chikvis (16,256), and Ghasis or Ghasias (14,277).

The concentration of castes is more marked in Sarangarh town (14.99 per cent), Revenue Inspector's Circle of Hardi (34.00 per cent) and Baramkela (14.31 per cent). Other Revenue Inspectors' Circles, or towns with sizable part of its population as Scheduled Castes, were Tapkara (15.55 per cent), Lailunga (12.95 per cent), Raigarh town (13.03 per cent) Bhupdeopur (12.76 per cent) and Pusore (12.24 per cent) in the District.

Scheduled Tribes

There were 32 Scheduled Tribes in the District which numbered 4,77,936 in 1961. Of these, 88,364 or 18.5 per cent professed Christian religion and the rest, almost the entire tribal block, professed Hindu religion.

The Table below gives the Tahsil-wise distribution of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population according to Census 1961 and 1971.

Table No. III-12

'Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes, 1961 and 1971

Tahsils (Rural)	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Remarks
	1961	1971	1961	1971	
Udaipur	13,637	16,726	1,11,060	1,40,019	
Jashpur	19,950	17,265	2,04,032	2,62,375	
Gharghoda	11,582	14,229	72,511	94,398	
Raigarh	23,430	27,185	52,932	63,654	
Sarangarh	40,035	47,943	32,985	37,723	
Total Rural	1,08,634	1,23,348	4,73,520	5,98,169	
Total Urban	7,085	9,098	4,416	6,409	
District Total	1,15,719	1,32,446	4,77,936	6,04,578	

Source : Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961 and Census Report, 1971.

It may thus be seen that the Scheduled Tribes preponderate in northern half of the District. Amongst the tahsils, Jashpur Tahsil has the largest proportion of Tribal population in all the revenue inspector's circles. The rural parts of Jashpur Tahsil show largest concentration of tribal population. In other tahsils, the pockets of concentrations of tribals are Dharmjaigarh (62.27 per cent), Kapu (63.19 per cent) and Pathalgaon (62.81 per cent) in Udaipur Tahsil; Baramkela (22.93 per cent), Saria (18.14 per cent) and Hardi (12.07 per cent) in Sarangarh Tahsil; Tamnar (48.40 per cent) Lailunga (58.04 per cent) and Gharghoda (51.79 per cent) in Gharghoda Tahsil; Kharsia (34.82 per cent) Bhupdeopur (21.20 per cent) and Pusore (18.36 per cent) in Raigarh Tahsil according to 1961 census.

Amongst the numerically important Scheduled Tribes, Oraons including Dhanka and Dhangad were outstanding in the district with a population of 1,69,311 in Census 1961. The other numerous tribes were Kavar including Kanwar, Kaur, Cherwa, Rathia Tanwar or Chattri (1,21,763), Gond (68,630), Sawar or Sawara (23,629), and Korwa including Kodaku (19,024) in 1961.

Earlier, about a half-a-century back, goddess Mata, Thakurdeo and Kotrapat, apart from Dulha Deo and Maha Deo, were widely propitiated in the (erstwhile) Raigarh State tract.¹ Burha Deo, venerated by Gonds and Rawats, Banjari deity and Hanuman commanding veneration in Sarangarh tract, Maha Deo and a large number of godlings propitiated in Udaipur tract, and a widespread belief in spirits and witchcraft in Udaipur and Jashpur States, were the characteristic features of religious life in the District during the past².

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 171.

2. *ibid.* pp. 208, 263 and 282.

But owing to the process of acculturation and social ascendancy which is going on for a long time, it appears that the religious life of the people in the rural site seems considerably influenced by animism, on the one hand, and Hinduism on the other, imparting a smattering of knowledge of Hindu gods to the tribal folk. As a result of this in 1961, about 81.5 per cent of the tribes in the area returned under Hinduism. It may, however, be noted that their Hinduism is not of scriptures or religious texts, but is a quaint mixture of animism and Hinduism. Christianity has also influenced them particularly. Oraons embraced christianity in large number in the erstwhile Jashpur State, but their belief in spirit and witchcraft remained unaffected.

Religious or Social Movement

The District cannot claim to have been the cradle of any religious or social movement like its western neighbours, viz., Raipur and Bilaspur, which nursed Kabirpanth and Satnami Movements. But it has not been able to keep itself unaffected from the waves arising out of these, and there is an impact of the currents and cross currents of these Movements on the District populace in various ways.

In addition to these, the District has also experienced the impact of various Movements, viz., Bhakti Movement like the Rajmohini Devi Movement, Birsa Bhagat Movement, Mahua Dev Movement and Gahira Guru Movement. These are mainly located in the eastern parts of Madhya Pradesh State, especially in Raigarh and Surguja Districts.¹ The last named Movement is particularly sweeping through the neighbouring areas of Kusmi Tahsil of Surguja district.² Although no systematic study of these Movements has been made upto now, in Dr. Fuch's opinion "their origin lies in oppression which had been going on by money-lenders, overbearing or corrupt officials and autocratic rulers of States."³

Gahira Guru, hails from the village Gahira near Lailunga in Gharghoda Tahsil. Popularly known as 'Gahira Guru', his name is Rameshwar, and he belongs to Kanwar tribe. His influence and emphasis on Hinduism, it appears, has checked the advance of Christianity in the region. He has constructed a few Shiva temples at Gahira and Gaibuda villages. "Kailasnatheshwar "Gufa" at Gaibuda and Durga temple at Katsamri (in Orissa) were established by 'Gahira Guru', which are places of huge congregation at the time of Shivaratri and Ramnavami, respectively.

It is again interesting to note that Raigarh has been the seat of vigorous Christian Movement since the beginning of this century. The Roman Catholic

and Lutheran Christian Missions have mainly attracted Christian Mission members of Oraon and other tribes in Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils, who have embraced this faith in substantial numbers. This explains the sudden increase in the number of Christians, who numbered 90,359 in 1961 against 13,873 in 1951. It appears that these Missions have instead of displacing the tribal pantheon and social customs, have added their own to them.¹

The oldest existing Mission in the District is Kristopal Ashram, Ginababar, in Jaspur Tahsil, which was established in 1921. In 1967-68, eighteen missionary centres were functioning in the District under Raigarh-Ambikapur Diocese of the Catholic Church. A number of schools and charitable institutions are being run by them.

The two other religious sects which have considerably influenced the District in the past, and commanded large following were Kabirpanth and Satnami sects. Since the principal seats of these two sects Kabi panthis and were in Durg and Raipur districts, respectively, detailed Satnamis account of the same appears in the Gazetteers of respective districts. Chamars were major adherants of Satnami sects, whose number in 1961 was 25,540 while Kabirpanth attracted a host of other castes. The Teli adherants of Kabirpanth are divided in Kabirhas and Deotahas. The Pankas are nearly all Kabirpanthis, who probably were Gandas, and adopted this sect and formed a new caste with a view to raising their social status.²

Other Religions

Jainism, which commanded a following of 320 persons, Sikhs 617 persons and Islam, 6,365 persons were other religions, whose followers together formed a very insignificant proportion of the District population in 1961. The Buddhism with five adherants showed its insignificance in the District.

Scheduled Castes

Preponderating in Sarangarh, Raigarh and Gharghoda Tahsils, the Ganda or Gandhi, is traditionally a caste of village musicians and village watchmen. Their number was 43,772 in 1961, nearly 6.5 per cent less than Ganda or Gandhi their population (46,653) in 1931. The spread of Christianity might be a contributing factor to the declining tendency of Ganda population. In Census 1931, it may be noted, that 304 Ganda returned under Christian religion. With a large illiterate population (39,880), comprising 91 per cent of their total population in 1961, the Gandas are a backward caste mainly depending upon agriculture for their livelihood.

1. The Changing Tribes of Madhya Pradesh, (Department of Tribal Welfare), p. 44.
2. Raigarh District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. Lxiii.
3. The Changing Tribes of Madhya Pradesh (Department of Tribal Welfare), p. 44.

1. Bilaspur District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lxiii.
2. *ibid.* p. Lii.

The sub-castes among them are occupational in nature. Thus Bajna or Bajgari are musicians, Mang or Mangia make screens and mats, while their women serve as midwives. The Dholias make baskets, the Doms skin cattle, and Nagarchis play on *nakkaras* or drums.

The next more numerous Scheduled Caste is Chamars, who together with synonymous groups, viz., Chamari, Mochi, Nona, Rohidas, Ramnami, Satnami, Surjyabanshi or Suriyaramnami numbered 34,774 Chamar (Satnami) (17,198 males and 17,576 females) in 1961. A large concentration of Chamars is to be found in rural areas of Sarangarh Tahsil (21,786), which is a plain tract adjoining in the north-east of Raipur District, and is a plain tract. Satnami, originally a dissident religious tenet, started in about 1820 as a result of the teachings of Ghasidas, emerged as an endogamous caste by about 1927. In 1961, their population was 25,540. The history of this sect in Raigarh originates with the pilgrimage of Ghasidas, their *Guru* to the temple at Puri. Ghasidas was a poor farm servant in Girod village in Raipur district, near the Sonakan forests. While on his way to Puri, along with his brother, Ghasidas hardly "got as far as Sarangarh, whence they returned ejaculating '*Satnam, Satnam*: From this time Ghasidas began to adopt the life of an ascetic".¹ The Satnamis as a people, have fair complexion and sharp features. Another synonymous group of Chamars is Ramnami, whose population in 1961 was 3,071. It is conjectured that these are probably the same as Ramramiha Satnamis.²

Agriculture forms the main-stay of their economy, nearly half of their strength was engaged in agriculture as cultivators or 'agricultural labourers' in 1961. A very small number of them (497) were found engaged in 'household industry' which in their case is working in leather. With a slight preponderance of females, the majority of Chamars are still illiterate. Only 636 Chamars were found with education up to primary or junior basic levels, and 7 with matriculation and higher levels in 1961.

The other numerically important Scheduled Castes are Khatiks (16,256) and Ghasis or Ghasias (14,277). Khatiks are mainly concentrated in Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils, more so particularly in the former. It is a functional caste of Hindu mutton-butchers and vegetable sellers. The Ghasi or Ghasias, the caste of grass-cutters, numbered 14,277 in 1961 (7,137 males, 7,140 females). They were uniformly distributed all over the District, and were largely engaged in agricultural occupations. Educationally very backward, the Ghasias had 181 persons with primary and matriculation qualifications in 1961.³

1. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, *The Tribes and Castes of the Central Provinces of India*, Vol. I, p. 308.
2. Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lxii.

Other castes found in the District are Basors (1,717), Dewars (521), Doms (3,000), Katias or Patharias (20), Koris (10), Mahars (945), Mangs (1), Mehtars (361) and Sanhis (29).¹

Scheduled Tribes

Oraons including Dhanka and Dhangad, the synonymous groups, constitute the most preponderant tribe in the District. With a population of 1,69,311 (82,995 males and 86,316 females) in 1961, they formed 35.4 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population. In 1931, their population was 95,270 and has since then increased by 77.7 per cent during the period 1931-61. A large section of Oraons have embraced Christianity during the past, and their population in 1931 was 47,517. In 1961, the Christian Oraons were enumerated as 87,516, thus registering an increase of 84.1 per cent during the period 1931-61. Nearly 51.6 per cent of the Oraons in 1961 had returned Christianity as their religion.

The Oraons show concentration in rural parts of northern Jashpur Tahsil (1,19,422) followed by Udaipur Tahsil (34,002). As one moves south in the District, their number gradually goes down. With a higher proportion of females among them, the Oraon economy is predominantly agriculture-oriented. Nearly 89.40 per cent of the Oraon male workers and 92.94 per cent of their female workers in rural areas were engaged in cultivation. Only 6.17 per cent of the males and 4.46 per cent of the females in rural areas were found to be working as agricultural labourers in 1961.

The synonymous groups of Oraon in Raigarh, apart from those given in the President's Order, 1956, by which the Oraons are commonly known, are Orao, Uraon, Kurukh, Kuda and Kisan. With no proper sub-castes, the Kudas and Kisans, having a distinctive name and occupation, sometimes regard themselves as separate group, and decline inter-marriage with Oraons.

The Oraons mostly returned themselves under Hindu faith but a large number of them embraced Christianity in the past, as said earlier. Father Dehon observed that these people "worship a supreme god, who is known as 'Dharmes'".²

It has been surmised that "Oraons formed part of the *vanara* army that helped the Aryan hero Ramchandra in defeating the non-Aryan King Rawana of Lanka".³ Their great God 'Dharmes' was none else than Rama who in their own legend is used interchangeably with 'Dharmes' (God) himself.⁴ But

1. Figures in brackets show their 1961 population.
2. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 310.
3. S. C. Roy, *The Oraons of Chota Nagpur*, p. 19.
4. *ibid*, p. 20.

by 1931, the God 'Dharmes' (Dharmesha) was known only in certain villages of Udaipur State. In all other areas, the Oraons worshipped principally their ancestors, and Dulha Deo and Bara Deo (equivalent presumably to Dharmes).¹ "The Oraons who have come under the influence of Hindus have now started worshipping Hindu gods and goddesses like Vishnu, Parvati, Ganesh, Ram and Sita."²

In the erstwhile Jashpur State, which witnessed the conversion of about half of the total Oraon population (47,000) during the twenties of the present century they were said to be contented and fairly industrious cultivators and labourers. The non-Christians called themselves Sansars, and the principal difference between them was that the converts to Christianity cut off the pig-tail while the "Sansars" retained it.³ The Christians, both Catholics and Lutherans, had their missions in Jashpur. During the 'fifties, about 50,000 Oraon followers were claimed by Catholic Mission, while Lutherans claimed about 6,000 Oraons. The important centres of Catholic Mission were Gholenh, Ginabahar, Tapkara, Musgutari, and Ambakoni where they have magnificent churches and schools and hostels under the charge of a Belgian Father.⁴ The important centres of the Lutherans were at Sitonga, Ichkela and Saraipani.⁵

The only non-Christian association working for the Oraons during the 'fifties of the present century was Ramtirth Ashram, having been established in 1943 by Ghanshyam Vasistha. The Ashram was running a school at Ichkela village with the help of a few Oraon volunteers and followers.

The Oraons believe in education and they are most progressive among all the tribes of the State. The number of persons with primary or higher secondary or even higher qualifications was the highest among the Oraons according to Census 1961. They are also taking maximum benefit of the educational concessions and facilities provided to tribals by the Government.⁶ They speak Kurukh, an important dialect of the Dravidian stock.

Oraons are a medium-statured, thick black-skinned people. With inherently pleasure-seeking and optimistic outlook, they are now mixed in the general stream of life in the area. They began to cover their person more than a couple of decades back when Ghosal wrote about Oraons of Khurai Zamindari. He observed: "Both

1. Census of India, 1931, C. P. & Berar, Pt. I, p. 428.
2. B. K. Dubey and F. Bahadur, *A study of the Tribal People and Tribal States of Madhya Pradesh*, p. 72.
3. R. V. Russel and Hiralal, op. cit., p. 313.
4. Tribes in India, Bharatiya Adimjati Sewak Sangh, pp. 109-10.
5. ibid.
6. B. K. Dubey and F. Bahadur, op. cit., pp. 72-73.

males and females are very ill-clad. The women do not generally cover the upper part of their body when they move about among their fellow villagers but conceal their breasts when they see a stranger. They usually wear a cloth only from their waist to their knees."¹ During the 'fifties it was observed that except for children, till about the age of five or six years, all the people clad themselves with loin cloth. Adult women wear sari, big enough to cover their upper-part of the body with one end. The working women wrap their babies also at one end of the sari and tie it on the back.

Their staple food is rice and *dal*. They eat *usna*-rice (rice manufactured out of boiled paddy). They are also meat-eaters. They are extremely fond of *handia* (rice-beer).

Among Oraons the family is patrilineal and patrilocal.² In the performance of marriage, the Oraons follow their traditional social and religious beliefs and customs. Totemism forms the fundamental feature of the Oraon Family and Marriage Oraon social organisation in so far as kinship, marriage and relationship of sex are concerned. For the regulation of marriage, the tribe is divided into a number of exogamous totemic clans. Marriage generally takes place in the nearby villages. *Panbandhi*, betrothal, is the first ceremony of a marriage. The bride price is settled. The marriage takes place at girl's house. But it is a common custom among the Oraons of Surguja, that the bride's party goes to the house of the bridegroom, which seems peculiar. At *bhanwar* ceremony, the bride and bridegroom walk round the marriage-pole five times, known as *bichmadawa*.³ The course of marriage takes the usual Hindu form. Application of vermilion is essential part, which both boy and the girl perform by drawing three lines of vermilion on the forehead of each other.⁴

The traditional tribal institution of the *Dhumkuria* or bachelor's dormitory, which was widely practised has passed into history now.⁵ In 1931, it was, however, noted that "even among the Christians (Oraons) the old tribal institution of *Dhumkuria* is still retained. The painful ceremony of cicatrization of the forearm when a boy reaches the age of puberty is also continued."⁶ After this ritual, the young boys and girls were allowed to go to *Dhumkuria* to take part in folk-dances and music and to sleep there. They were, however, prohibited to relate the proceedings of *Dhumkuria* to anybody.

1. Census of India, 1931, C. P. & Berar, Pt. I, p. 429.
2. B. K. Dube and F. Bahadur, op. cit., p. 72.
3. *Tribes of India*, Ed. by A. V. Thakkar, p. 101.
4. Prayagdatta Shukla, *Madhya Pradesh-ki-Adi-Jatiyan*, 2nd Edition, p. 91.
5. ibid. p. 89.
6. Census 1931, Pt. I, p. 332.

The Oraons are great dancers and must be ranked with Marias, Murias and Parjas as the leading exponents of the art. Their dress remains colourful. *Kharisa* is an interesting and a vigorous dance, performed by a large number of persons in a big circle with the accompaniment of drums, and other musical instruments. At a stage, the instruments are kept aside and time is given by the voices alone.¹

According to Census 1931, the Kawars formed the second most preponderant tribe in the District. The population of Kawars, during the 30 years, of 1931-61, increased by 30.3 per cent and was recorded as 1,21,763 (60,994 males and 60,769 females) in 1961. Constituting 25.5 per cent of the total Scheduled Tribes population, the hilly areas of Chhattisgarh, north of the Mahanadi in Raigarh, Bilaspur and Surguja districts, constitute the home of the Kawars. Their synonymous groups found in the District are Kanwar, Kaur, Cherwa, etc. Udaipur Tahsil (rural) and Gharghoda Tahsil (rural) accounted for 67 per cent of their total rural population in the District in 1961. With a large section of them forming the working force (74,686), the Kawars are a prosperous, well-to-do tribe, largely depending on cultivation for their livelihood. Educationally a backward tribe, only 12,941 persons were enumerated as literate and educated in the rural areas of the District. Higher education is still largely a taboo for them. Except for a very few Christians (4) and Kabirpanthis (7), all the Kawars profess Hinduism.

The Kawars trace their origin from the "Kaurawas" of the *Mahabharata*. The important sub-divisions of Kawars are Dudharu-Kawar, Pakira and Rathia Kawar in the District. While the former two are largely met with in the plains, the Rathias are mostly to be found living in the hills. These are "in hunting and food gathering stage, and practise *bewar* cultivation".² *Bhagwan* is their supreme deity, and they identify it with Sun. They also revere a host of local and tribal deities.

Dudharu and Pakira Kawars drape themselves like Oraons. *Dhoti* is the common men's wear. Women also clad themselves in Sari. Married women, generally, cover their heads. The wild section of Rathias dress more like uncivilized Oraons. Their staple diet is rice and *dal*. Except for pork, the Dudharu and Pakira sub-divisions eat all kinds of meat. The Rathias, however, also take pork. The marriage among them is performed according to local Hindu pattern. *Kanya-puja* and *vara-puja* form important part of their marriage in which the bridegroom's party washes the feet of the girl and *vice-versa*.³ The system of bride-price is prevalent and is known as *sok*. Widow marriage is practised except in Tanwar group. This

1. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., Vol. IV, p. 318.
2. *ibid.* p. 114.

3. Tribes of India, Bhartiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, p. 114.

practice of serving for a wife is known as *gharjia*. Polygamy is permitted but is not common. Child marriage, an institution alien to tribals, is also in vogue among them.¹

The Dudharu Kawars are much less addicted to liquor, while others, more conservative in their beliefs, are amenable to the changing circumstances, and are willing to come under the influence of civilization. The Kawars have taken to the changed mode of life. Kawar boys are now seen wearing trousers in the school.

The third largest tribal group in the District is that of Gonds, who along with their 40 sub-tribes, numbered 68,630 (33,776 males and 34,854 females) according to Census 1961. Since 1931, when their population in the District was 48,821, an increase of 39.3 per cent during the span of 30 years was registered. Largest concentration of Gond population was in rural areas of Udaipur Tahsil (20,551), followed by Gharghoda (17,149) and Jashpur (12,924). With about 59 per cent forming the working-force, the Gonds were overwhelmingly dependent on cultivation for their livelihood. In urban areas, 'other services' attracted them most.

Gonds of Jashpur, particularly in Chetba and Chirora villages are largely immigrants from the erstwhile Phuljhar *Zamindari* in Raipur district. The six classes in which they are divided are Maharaj Gonds, Raj Gonds, Pachasi Gond, Badi Gonds, Thukel Gonds, and Dokhar Gonds. The first three of these were considered superior to others. Badi Gonds are professional tattooers. Thukel and Dhokar Gonds deal in cattle, and also do tattooing work.² *Marpachi*, *gaghat* or *gotha*, *kana*, *bagh*, *marai*, and *Baisia* are six exogamous septs found in Jashpur. Employment of Brahman in marriage indicates Hinduizing tendencies. Some of these Gonds wear the sacred thread also. The Census 1931 records the existence of separate bachelors' quarters for boys and girls in each village.³

Educationally a little more enlightened, the Gonds had in 1961 the largest number of matriculates among them, i. e. 15. About 1,567 persons were having primary school qualifications.

The entire bulk of the Gond population returned under Hindu religion. They principally speak Hindi (57,076) and Chhattisgarhi (4,356). Large section of their population is bilingual, speaking various dialects in vogue in the District. *Laria* or the eastern Chhattisgarhi is the vernacular restricted to the adjoining areas of this District and Sambalpur district in Orissa State.

1. Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. viii.

2. Censu 1931, Pt. I, p. 407.

3. "The Gonds in other parts of the province have not this custom, although Marias of Chanda and Bastar have. It is significant that the custom is common among the Oraons and Pandos of the tract". (Census 1931, p. 408).

Among the Gonds, marriage between the *bhaiband* is tabooed. Preferential marriage with cross-cousins (*dudhlautana*) is widely practised. With the growing contact with the Hindus, the Gond marriage today is not merely a matter of personal choice or a private affair between the two individuals, it is equally the concern of the family, and the village community.¹ Polygamy is permitted by Gonds. Burial of the dead had been the general custom in the past, but cremation is now becoming a common practice. The village gods are now generally common to Gonds and Hindus.

Besides the common gods, Gonds also have their special gods. These are sometimes kept in a *deokhulla*.

Constituting about 4.9 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population in 1961, the Sawars formed the third largest group amongst the tribal stock in the District. Since 1931, the population of Sawars had increased by about 30.0 per cent. Predominating in rural parts of Sarangarh (12,994) and Raigarh (9,506) Tahsils, the Sawars are mainly concentrated in plain areas below the 22°15' latitude in the District.²

The Sawars mostly inhabiting Sarangarh Tahsil, have larger proportion of agricultural labourers (males 36.77 per cent and females 36.41 per cent) than other tribes, and next to Sawars in this respect came Kharias with 28.39 per cent of males and 24.00 per cent of females in this category.

The Sawars, with eight per cent of literate and educated population according to Census 1961, are educationally a backward tribe. Whatever education they have received is confined to primary standard.

All the Sawars have returned their religion as Hindu in the Census 1961. While the majority of Sawars (14,748) spoke Hindi, a sizable section of them also returned under Oriya (8,474). Among the Oriya speakers, Hindi (2,116) was the most prevalent subsidiary language, as did Oriya (687) among the Hindi speaking Sawars.

Sawars are an ancient tribe, and various references to them are available in ancient Sanskrit literature. The story of Ramchandra tasting the plums offered by Sabari is well known. Sabari is supposed to have lived somewhere near the present Seorinarayan in Bilaspur district.³ "In the *Aitarey Brahmana*, they are spoken of as the descendants of Vishwamitra while in *Mahabharata*, they are said to have

1. Stephan Fuchs, *The Gonds and Bhumias of Eastern Mandla*, p. 259.

2. Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lix.

3. Russell and Hiralal, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 302.

been created by *Kamdhenu-Vasishtha's* wonder-working cow in order to repel the aggression of Vishwamitra."¹ Yet another reference "connecting them with the temple of Jagannath states that their ancestor was an old Bhil hermit called Sawar, who lived in Karod, two miles from Seorinarayan, and the old Sawar used to worship Him."²

The Sawars in the District are of Laria sub-division which was regarded as lowest sub-division among them. The marriage among them is regulated by exogamous septs or *bargas*. The union of firstcousins is sometimes forbidden among them. Marriage is usually adult, but at some places early marriages are also solemnized. After the wedding, it is interesting to note that the bride and bridegroom are carried on shoulders by their relatives from the bride's house to that of bridegrooms."³ The system of bride-price is prevalent. Widow marriage is also allowed among them. The Sawars worship Bhawani, Dulha Deo and God Jagannath.

Concentrated almost entirely in the rural areas of the hilly Tahsil of Jashpur (16,966), their population in 1961 was 19,024 (9,521 males and 9,503 females). The erstwhile *Khuria Zamindari* is the main habitat of Korwas in Jashpur. Two important sub-divisions among them in Jashpur are *Pahari* Korwas--those living in hills--and *Dehari* (Dihari) Korwas, those living in plains. With cultivation as the mainstay of their economy, the Korwas are still largely illiterate. Their principal vocation is food-gathering, hunting, and shifting cultivation. A few of them have adopted regular plough-cultivation. They are primitive largely and shrink to hill areas, shunning the civilized touch of the local population of plain areas in the District. Though temperamentally they are hospitable, they are good hunters with bows and arrows. They rarely use spears for hunting.

Being conservative in their religious and social beliefs, they blunted the advance of Christian missionaries in the area.

The tribe is divided in totemic exogamous septs, and marriage within the sept is forbidden. The practice of payment of bride-price is also prevalent among them. Polygamy, as also widow marriage and divorce are allowed. The Korwas worship Dulha Deo, and *Khuria* Rani, the titular goddess of the *Khuria* Plateau. The *Deothan*, *Nawakhana* (harvest festival) and *Faguwa* (Holi) are their principal festivals. The Dihari Korwas are not so primitive. Similar exogamous groups are also found in them but the *hansdwar goira* is regarded as superior to others. Dulha Deo and Maha Deo are propitiated through the village

1. *ibid.*

2. *ibid.* p. 503.

3. *The Tribes of Madhya Pradesh* (Department of Tribal Welfare, M. P.) p. 73.

Baiga. Their principal festival is Nawakhana. The dead are buried¹ as among the Pahari Korwas. Females are generally buried with their faces upward and males with their faces downward².

Other Tribes

Other numerically important tribes in the District are Nagesia or Nagasia (18,078), Kharia (15,793) and Bharia-Bhumia or Bhuinhar-Bhumia including Pando (12,128). All these tribes are predominant in Jashpur Tahsil and principally live by agriculture. All of them remain educationally backward. In Udaipur Tahsil, the Nagasias believe that "they came from Nagpur (presumably Chhota Nagpur) and that they are descendants of *Shesh-Nag*"³. They worship Nag Deo, the Sun, the Moon and Dulha Deo. Nagasias of Jashpur are locally known as *Kisans*, and have Senduria and Teliha sub-tribes. Dulha Deo is not venerated by them⁴. The dead among them are buried and sometimes cremated also. Like Dihari Korwas, the males are laid on the cremation pyre with face downward and females with face upward⁴. The Rautias of Jashpur have no bachelor's quarters, and are divided in Baraik, Naik and Parah sub-divisions. The Bhuinhars of Udaipur claim to have come from Garha Mandla. They stoutly deny that they are the same as Bhuiyas of Raigarh⁵. The Birhors of Udaipur, observed W. H. Shoobert in 1931, "still wear their hair long and matted, and often hanging over their faces"⁶. Maha Deo is specially venerated by them. Bachelors' quarters are known among them as *Derwa Ghar* meant for both the sexes. Pandos of Udaipur, who were amalgamated with Bhuinhars at the Census of 1921 have two sub-tribes, viz., Utarha and Surgujiha. They worship God Baraihan. Their bachelors' houses are known as *Bhaugra*. Unmarried girls also lived in separate *Bhaugra* or *Derwa-Kuria*. Men used to shave the front of their head and allowed the back hair to grow long. They carried with them bows and arrows made of bamboo.⁷ All of them still remain to be educationally backward.

Social Life

Property and Inheritance

Generally speaking, the *gaontia* of the village in Raigarh District largely owned most of the land of the village. There used to be a few other land-owners also owning a few acres of land. Customary convention is that the eldest son of the *gaontia* becomes chief on the death of his father, and naturally gets an

1. Census 1931, pt. I, p. 424.

2. *ibid.* p. 425.

3. *ibid.*

4. *ibid.*

5. *ibid.* p. 426.

6. *ibid.* p. 427.

7. *ibid.* p. 421.

extra share of the land, known as *jethangs*¹ among the Oraons and *jithai* among the Kawars. Other brother, if any, are allotted the use of some acres of lands for maintenance who after the death of the chief become the owners of the land they were tilling, and were in actual possession of. Formerly, the division of property among the sons from the first wife and from the rest was regulated by giving larger shares to sons from the first wife. But the provisions of the Succession Act are increasingly being invoked in cases of unequal distribution or against even *jethangs* (extra share to eldest brother).

Ghar-damad or *gharjian* among the Oraons and *lamsena* among the Gonds, who have been adopted into the house as prospective son-in-law, and since married to the daughter of the deceased and living in the house, were entitled to the property of the deceased owner, if there was no other male heir in the family.

The Hindu Succession Act, 1956, which legally governs the succession among the Hindus, Buddhists, Jains and Sikhs requires that the property of the Hindu dying intestate devolves on his sons, daughters, widow and mother.

The Muslims are governed by the Islamic Law in the matter and the mother, wife and daughters are also co-sharers in the inherited property. "The property of the deceased Muhammadan is applicable in the first place to the payment of his funeral expenses; secondly, to the discharge of his debts; and thirdly, to the payment of legacies upto one-third of the residue. The remainder of the property is distributed by complicated system of shares to those of the deceased's relatives who rank as sharers and residuaries."²

The family in the region continues to remain a biological, social, economic and functional unit. It is largely patrilocal and patrilineal in character, and represents unilateral social group consisting of parents and their unmarried sons. It appears that the presence of married children with the parents is also not uncommon. A common feature of family in which the widowed mother or widower father living with the son is also noticeable in the area. Thus joint family, though small, by and large, continues to exist in the District.

"In tribal society", the 1961 Census records "there is still persisting joint family system and joint ownership, whereas this type of family organisation has disintegrated in plains among the rural castes"³. The Census Report, however, admits that this conclusion needs further substantiation. The customary practice

1. S. C. Roy, *op. cit.*, p. 376.

2. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, 258.

3. Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lxxiii.

among the tribal families, building their own hut after marriage,¹ stands contrary to the above conclusion. There has been on the plains, fragmentation of holdings on a wide scale, resulting in adversely affecting the traditional joint family. Conjugal family is believed to be more important than lineal among the tribal society. However, the land remains in the name of the head of the family, though the separated sons may divide it into separate pieces and cultivate it. In practice, these pieces of land are transferred in the name of owners in Patwari records only after the death of the father.

If a "household" is taken as a family, then sample study of family composition according to Census 1961, will be of interest in the above context. There were on an average 5.12 persons per "census-house" in the District, receding to 4.76 in urban and increasing to 5.14 persons per 'census house' in rural areas. Of the 1,000 sample 'households' covering 4,891 'household population', the heads of the households constituted 1,000, spouses of the heads of the households 824, married relations (sons, other males and females) 702, never married, widowed, divorced or separated relations 2,327 and unrelated relations 38. This shows that 61.9 per cent of the members in an average "household" in the District were either married relations or widowed or divorced relations.

Marriage and Morals

The Hindu traditions and customs sanction polygamy when the first wife fails to beget children or a male heir. Polygamy was a common feature with the ruling families in the past. "Manu and Yajnavalkya both say that a husband may supersede wife (and marry another) if she drinks wine, suffers from a disease, speaks harsh words and even gives birth to female children only".²

Monogamy is the rule, and with the passing of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 polygamy has become illegal. Provisions of the Act extend to Jains and Sikhs also. In the tribal and less privileged classes in the District, the practice has been prevalent, though not as a rule. Not only is it not uncommon for a man to marry for second time in the event of the death of the first wife, but also while one is living. Generally in such cases, no sooner is the second marriage resorted to, the former wife deserts him and seeks a new husband. In a few cases, plurality of wife can be seen amongst the substantial persons belonging to the tribal stock or amongst the Scheduled Caste people. Amongst them, the spouse is given an economic value as an addition in the family to augment the family income. The wife's labour is considered as cheap and efficient. In the past, this practice was considered a sign of status and wealth also. Gonds, Kawars, Sawars, Oraons, Korwas, etc., freely permit *churi* marriage. It is a prevalent form of marriage in Telis, Chamars, etc., in which a male

keeps a widow or a divorced or separated girl and this has a social sanction in them. It is not very uncommon to find instances in which the married women live with their second or third husband, while the first one was still alive. The cases are also not wanting in the District in which a woman volunteers herself and enters the house of the male who allowed her to live with him. The practice is called *dhounku*. A larger number of married females than males among the Oraons, Kawars, Kharias and Nagesias among the Tribes, and Khatik and Ghasis among the Castes, enumerated in Census 1961, is not necessarily suggestive of persistent greater incidence of polygamous relationship among these classes. Emigration of male labour force to man the industries elsewhere in the region is the factor which has to be reckoned with. Islam permits polygamy to the extent of four wives, but it seems more to be a rule than a practice.

Polyandry is non-existent in the District. If liverate or the custom by which the younger brother takes as his wife his elder brother's widow is considered to be the survival of fraternal polyandry, then we find that many of the tribes do follow this practice even now. But Polyandry "this is really likely to lead to polygyny, as it may have done among the Telis, with whom the custom is usual".³

Traditional caste restrictions are still observed before a marriage alliance is considered. Generally, *got* or *gotra* exogamy is still widely adhered to among the Hindus. With the enactment of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, however, *sagotra* marriages have also been legalized. The Restrictions on Marriage Alliances Chhattisgarhi Brahmans, generally, prefer marriage within their own class. Traditionally, Gandas, the most numerous caste in Raigarh, are prohibited to marry the children of the sisters, though the children of brothers and sisters may marry. The Chamars, a large body of whom are Satnami, do not inter-marry with other Chamars who are not the adherents of Satnami sect⁴. In Korba during the past, the Paharia Korwas were said to marry their own sisters on occasion⁵. The Diharia Korwas and Paharia Korwas, the principal sub-divisions of Korwa in Udaipur and Jashpur Tahsils of the District will not inter-marry, nor will they marry in their own sept⁶. Besides the prohibition of marriage within the same *barga* or sept, as among other tribes, the union of first cousins is also sometimes forbidden among the Sawaras⁷. The Gonds avoid their own sept, nor will they marry in the sept worshipping the same number of gods. Traditionally the preferential form⁸ of marriage was between the first cousins, which was also known as

1. Census 1931, Pt. I, p. 184.
2. Kosa : A Village Survey, 1961, p. 12.
3. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., Vol. III, p. 574.
4. Census 1931, Pt. I, p. 423.
5. *ibid.* p. 505.

1. Raipur District Gazetteer, p. 117.

2. Vasudeva Upadhyay, *The Socio-Religious condition of North India*, p. 150.

dudh-lautana, or bringing back the milk. It appears that now marriage with the maternal uncle or his son is not very much common and the compulsory nature of this relationship is not recognised, nor the compensation is paid, generally, in the event of divorce.¹

In Raigarh District, as elsewhere in Chhattisgarh, the Hindus recognize two forms of marriage, viz., the *brahma* and *asura* as prescribed by Manu, the Hindu Law giver. The higher castes prefer the former, while Marriage Customs the backward castes the latter. In rural areas of Chhattisgarh and in remote parts of the District, apart from these forms of marriages mentioned above, *arsha*, *gandharva*, *prajapatya* and *rakshasa* forms of marriage as described by Manu, are also to be found. *Gurawat-bihav*, *choori-bihav*, *paithoo-bihav* and *bhaga-jana* forms of marriage, prevalent in Chhattisgarh area, can be, respectively, equated with these². *Bihav* or *bade-bihav* is the *brahma* form of marriage in which are performed all the traditional rituals prevalent in the castes or tribes. It is said that it can be performed only once. The Brahmans and other higher castes, follow this form of marriage. As elsewhere, *lagan* or *tika* is the confirmation of the settlement of a match which is also known as *faldan* elsewhere. The marriage is performed at the bride's house. The *barat*, marriage party, reaches the bride's village, and is received with great courtesy. Later, the bridegroom reaches the bride's house in conventional marriage dress, and then both are seated near the sacred fire, *vedi*. The *pandit*, after due recitation of sacred verses, ties the ends of the bride's sari and the bridegroom's upper-cloth together, and then the two together perform *hawan* ceremony. After this the pair take seven rounds of the sacred fire. This is known as *bhanwar*. They have also to take an oath that they will lead a healthy marital life. Other relations of the bride's side give presents to the bridegroom. Next day the bride's father calls the marriage party at his place for a feast. The *bida* or departure ceremony is the last rite, and the marriage party returns with the bride to the bridegroom's house.

Dowry is prevalent in some or the other form in all the upper-castes. It however, varies, according to the status of the family. Among the Chhattisgarh Brahmans, it is claimed that dowry system is not prevalent in the form in which it is practised in Uttar Pradesh, and even Dowry among the Kanyakubjas, elsewhere, in the State. However, the bride's father gives dowry according to his own means but no pre-condition is fixed.³ Certain sections do resort to cash settlement also which is principally made over to boy's parents at the time of *tika*, *dwarchar*, etc., during the course of the marriage.

1. Leela Dubey, *The Gond Women* (Thesis).

2. Tilaibhat, A Village Survey, Census 1961, p. 31.

3. Bendri : A Village Survey, p. 35.

Girls being at premium, the dowry amongst the tribes takes a different form and is given by the boy's parents to those of the girl's. This is known as the bride-price or *kharchi*, consisting of a fixed amount of silver coins (rupees) and rice, pulse, clothes, jewellery, etc.

In Raigarh District, the practice of giving *handia* or pot of rice-beer and *khassi-bakara* are on the wane. It is said that until full amount of bride-price is not paid, the date of marriage is not fixed among the Gonds.

Marriage among the Christians is solemnized in the church in a brief and simple manner. Among the Muslims, the marriage is known as *nikah*, and is a contract. *Magni* is the settlement of the match, followed by the principal ceremony of *nikah* at an appointed day. The Kazi performs the marriage ceremony in presence of witnesses. Consent of the bride and bridegroom is obtained before the witnesses, and *mehr* (alimony) is fixed. *Kutbah* is read by the Kazi. *Ruksat* or leave-taking is the last ceremony, which marks the departure of the bride with the marriage party. Jain marriage rites are generally similar to Hindu rites. The main rites are *vagdana*, promise, *Kanyadana* (giving of bride to the bridegroom, *panigrahana* (marriage) and *saptapadi*, (circumambulation).

Pre-puberty marriage is in vogue among many castes, and some of the more sophisticated tribes also. The Rawats, Satnamis, Telis, Sawars and Kawars marry their girls before they attain puberty-age. Among a Marital-Age section of the Oriya Sawars it is considered inauspicious if the girl attains puberty without getting married and after which she can only be married under widow marriage rules. In such cases, the girl is first married to an arrow in a formal way which is thrown into the river. This entitles her for marriage under widow marriage rules. Among the Nagwansis, who are grouped under Gonds, a married girl will not eat food cooked in vessels belonging to her parents¹. Among the Oraons and Korwas of Jashpur, the marriage, though settled earlier, is only solemnized when the boy and the girl reach the age of adolescence.

According to Census 1961, the girls generally got married in the age period 15-19, and of the total number of girls in the age-group 20-24, only 2.9 per cent remained unmarried. The average age of marriage for boys seems to be 20-24 years, and only 7 per cent of them in the age-group 25-29 still remained unmarried.

The law provides for this form of marriage in respect of persons belonging to different religions or sects. Such marriages are registered by the Marriage Registrar or Collector. The number of such Registered Marriages marriages registered under the Special Marriage Act, 1954 was four during the period 1960 to 1966. One marriage each was solemnized in the year 1966-67 and 1968-69. In 1969-70, two such marriages were performed.

The Hindu law prohibits divorce, though among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, the dissolution of marriage was possible with the sanction of caste-panchayat. The enactment of the Hindu marriage Act, 1955, provided for the divorce under certain circumstances and conditions. But during the period from 1960 to 1966, no divorce was granted in the District. Only one divorce was granted in the year 1969-70. This, however, does not mean that the cases of this type do not occur. It is recorded that the incidence of separation by running away is probably highest among the Satnamis in the whole of Chhattisgarh.¹ Chamars including Satnamis are numerically an important caste in the District. Among the Pahari Korwas of Jashpur and Udaipur, the divorce was very easy. "A man dissatisfied with his wife could say : "Go I will not keep you" . . . A woman, of course, has no power to divorce."²

Widows are commonly known as *brandi* or *randi*, the *randi* being a widow in ordinary sense of the term, while the *brandi* is a girl who had been married but has, in fact, not lived with her husband. The Telis, Chamars, etc., keep a widow or a divorced or separated girl through *churi* form of marriage, which has social sanction. But opinion is gaining ground in Chhattisgarh, disavowing the evil of *churi* form of marriage in the cases of separation among the Telis.³

The *churi* form of marriage in legal opinion is considered to be "a *Brahma* form of marriage, in view of its being regarded as valid by the caste." Generally, the cases of separation, divorce, etc., are referred to the caste panchayats, and the same are not taken to the court of law. As such, no cases were reported to have been registered in the District during the period 1960 to 1966. However, during the period 1966-67 to 1969-70, in all 12 cases were registered under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, in this connection.

Economic Dependence of Women

Lying in the zone characterized with higher sex-ratio, (higher proportion of females), Raigarh District consistently had a high proportion of females during the period from 1901 to 1971. The position of women, and the relationship between man and his wife, however, present a paradox. Though females predominate, yet the procurement of a wife is difficult, and is paid for. Her position is exalted and dominant. It is a socially accepted fact that females in Raigarh, and for that matter in the entire Chhattisgarh area, have comparatively greater degree of freedom than women in many other parts of the State. They play a

1. Bendri : A Village Survey, p. 63.

2. Census 1931, Pt. I. p. 423.

3. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., p. 33.

more prominent role in life than men. They go to the market to make purchases and sell things. In all economic pursuits they figure prominently. "She it is, who cares for the animates, the dwelling where the past is preserved, the future prefigured."¹

Nearly 50.7 per cent of the females in the District were economically active in 1961. The role played by women in the District in different spheres of economic activity is considerably large, particularly in cultivation, where 37.7 per cent of the workers were then enumerated to be females. A large number of them were also employed as 'agricultural labourers' (7.1 per cent). The category 'mining, quarrying, etc.', which employed 0.7 per cent of the female workers, showed greater concentration of females in Raigarh than in neighbouring Bilaspur district (0.5 per cent). Greater proportion of female workers were in the category of 'household industry' as compared to Bilaspur and Surguja districts which shows that this sector is most developed in this District. Weaving is the most important 'household industry' in the District, which had 4,051 establishments in 1961 in the District, the largest among the neighbouring districts of Bilaspur Division.

It may be of interest to see that Jashpur Tahsil accounted for the largest percentage of female workers (59), followed by Gharghoda (53), Sarangarh (51), Udaipur (46) and Raigarh (43). In this behalf, it was observed that "a higher participation rate, or that may also be called a lower dependency ratio, is more often than not, a fairly reliable index of economic backwardness rather than of a developed economy".² Thus a higher participation ratio of women in Jashpur can be termed as an indication of its comparatively more backward economy, being peopled by the tribes to the extent of 67.31 per cent of its total population. As against 372,819 working males in 1971, the number of working women was 105,422 in the District. Out of these, only 3,730 were working in the urban areas. Cultivation absorbed 50,211 and the number of female landless labourers was 42,645. Household industry engaged 5,889 of them. Transport and commerce engaged 3,114 and 1,445 of them, respectively, while 2,945 females were reported to be working in other services.

The absence of recognised prostitutes in the District has been reported, and those in Raigarh town are negligible. No cases have been registered under the Immoral Traffic Rules during the period 1951-71. Drinking Prostitution, is a common malady among the lower ranks, the tribals being drinkers and tipplers of the first water. The habit seems to have permeated Gambling in other castes living in proximity in rural areas. It forms an important part of their social life, and on festive occasions the drinks form a common mode of entertainment in which women and children

1. Simone de Beauvoir, (Four Square) ed., 1961, p. 302.

2. Census Handbook, 1961, p. 144.

also share liquor. The followers of Gahira Gura, Kabirpanthi Pankas, and Satnamis are seen avoiding the drinks. The Prohibition Act was not extended to Raigarh District, but in pursuance of the policy of prohibition, temperance and anti-drink programmes were organized in the District. Yearly, Prohibition Week is organised during the month of October, and propaganda is made against drinking.

Gambling is not open but *chaupad* and card games which are usually indulged in by the people, particularly at the time of festivities, or bazar days, are usual forms of gambling. Gambling during Diwali festival is very common. The number of offences registered in the District under the Gambling Act increased from 101 in 1960 to 121 in 1961, whenceforward, the cases of the type decreased to in 1966. The number again rose to 103 in 1967-68, came down to 76 in 1968-69 and increased to 98 in 1969-70.

Home Life

The decennial enumeration of 1961 recorded 2,03,370 (1,90,777 in rural and 12,593 in urban areas) occupied residential houses in Raigarh District against 1,55,139 a decade ago, sheltering 2,11,736 households (1,98,143 in rural and 13,593 in urban areas) in the District. This gave an average of 1.04 households per 'census-house' which consisted of 5.12 persons on an average. This shows that in comparison to Surguja and Bilaspur districts, the pressure on housing in Raigarh is lower than in Surguja (5.13 persons per 'census-house') and higher than Bilaspur (5.03).

A sample study of the households during the Census 1961 shows that about 51 per cent of the households lived in houses with one room, 32 per cent in houses with two rooms, 10 per cent in houses with three rooms, 4 per cent in houses with four rooms and 3 per cent in houses with five rooms. The total number of occupied residential houses increased further in 1971 to 204,912 (190,349 in rural and 14,563 in urban areas). It is obvious that actually their number decreased in rural areas whereas it increased at a speedier rate in urban areas. The number of households, however, increased in general to 244,762 (228,782 in rural and 15,980 in urban areas).

It seems that mud is the most commonly used material for walls both in rural and urban areas. About 89.8 per cent of the rural and 62.4 per cent of the urban houses had mud walls in 1961. The walls of the houses constructed of unburnt bricks are more seen in Sarangarh Tahsil (rural), while burnt bricks are more common in urban areas of the District (29.1 per cent), Jashpur Tahsil claiming the largest percentage of such houses (39.8 per cent). Stone walls are again preponderant in Sarangarh Tahsil (rural 9.7 per cent and urban 36.7 per cent in 1961) speaking of relative prosperity of this area. In Jashpur, Udaipur and Gharghoda Tahsils, there is a perceptible proportion of timber-wall houses. These timber-wall houses

are those constructed by the tribals by just pitching branches of *saja* or *sal* close together to give a semblance of a wall. The walls so made may or may not be plastered with mud and present a picture of very crude hut.

It appears that with increasing cultural contact and influence of Christian Missions, a desire for better housing in the form of mud-wall houses is manifest. Stone-walls are not common in these areas, though Udaipur, Jashpur and Gharghoda Tahsils are all very hilly. In Sarangarh, however, stone becomes an important housing material. The reason for this is that the rock formations in Jashpur and Gharghoda are mostly granites and gneiss which require thorough dressing, before they can be used, whereas in Sarangarh, the locally exposed rock formations of the Cuddapahs yield good building stones which can be used as such.¹

A large percentage (83.0) of the house in the District have roofs made of tiles, slates or shingle, particularly in Jashpur and Gharghoda Tahsils. The Gazetteer of Chhattisgarh Feudatory States observes about Sarangarh State: "the houses are mud-built with thatched roofs. These are cool and comfortable but dangerous in the event of a fire".² Even now, grass leaves, reeds or bamboos constitute next important roofing material (6.3 per cent) in the District, which is locally known as *khadar*. Peculiarly enough their percentage was high in rural parts of Raigarh Tahsil (27.00) and Sarangarh Tahsil (29.3 in 1961).

"The house is pre-eminently a status symbol in the District as in other areas of the State". "If a man is rich, he may employ burnt brick or stone; but if he is poor, he remains satisfied with either mud or wattle and *daub* or plain wicker-work walls set in wooden frames".³ In rural areas the *gaontia*, generally, has a big house in the centre of the *basti*, while others have the same of small-sizes with one entrance door. The house contains a number of small rooms, *kholis* which are used for variety of purposes. Usually there are no windows in a room. The cattle are herded in one of the rooms. Provision of separate bathrooms, latrines, etc., do not exist. In Jashpur area the houses are generally on a square plan, and residents, cattle, pig, poultry, etc., live side by side in them. It may be due to the fear of wild animals.

An average village in the District is still devoid of furniture or articles of luxury. Chairs are generally not seen. *Chowpais* or string cots are usually

1. Raipur District Census Hand book, 1961, p. Lxix.
2. Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer, 1909, p. 206.
3. Raigarh District Census Handbook 1961, p. Lxviii.
4. Memoir No. 8 : 1961, Anthropological Survey of India, p. 9.

Furniture and Decoration used for sleeping and sitting. In urban areas, a couple of iron boxes or wooden boxes are used for variety of purposes. The verandah of a house sometimes has wooden planks fixed on wooden poles just about two feet above the ground, which they use for sitting. Kerosene lamps, though available locally, are not common in rural areas.

For the decoration of their houses, the tribal people draw figures of animals, birds and humans on the walls. Sometimes triangular and circular patterns are drawn, which are tastefully painted in different colours. During marriage, the floral border designs are also drawn on the walls. Octagonal and square *chowk* designs are commonly seen in the houses in Chhattisgarh villages.

Cultural contacts have made an average Chhattisgarhi more conscious of his dress, and now he covers his person more than ever before. Among the Oraons of Jashpur and Udaipur, the children remain naked till about the age of five or six years. After this age the boys wear a piece of loin cloth round their waist "measuring about 10 inches in width and about one and a half yards in length exposing the buttocks¹". Adult Oraons now wear an improved form of *langoti* consisting of a cloth round the loin in order to cover their *ijjat*². It is about 14 inches in width and about five yards in length. From the age of about six, the girls begin to wear a loin cloth which is about one and-a-half yards in width and about the same in length. The adult woman wears a sari sufficiently big. But the actual portion worn round the "waist is so disproportionately small, that they find it most inconvenient to sit in the normal pose and that they have to sit with their knees contacted with the floor³. The unusually long part of the sari, that is left for the upper-part of the body, is for wrapping and tying down their small babies to their back. Generally, adult women are found with babies on their back while doing any kind of work. The Oraons, who have adopted Christianity in the District in large numbers, show a better sense to dress themselves with better cloth. Owing to cultural contact, a few of the Oraon women "have started wearing blouse, commonly known as *zula* or *bandi*, following the example of the more cultured as a fashion of the day and not as necessity⁴". The Korwas dress themselves like Oraons and Kawars in the area. They also wear *dhoti*, covering the body from the waist to about the knees. They do not generally expose the buttocks⁵. The adult Korwa women wear *sari* like Oraon women with the difference that the portion of cloth tied round

1. Tribes of India, Bharatiya Adimjati Sewak Sangh, p. 107.
2. *ibid.* p. 101.
3. *ibid.*
4. *ibid.* p. 101.
5. *ibid.* p. 114.

the waist is not disproportionately small¹. The married women generally cover their heads.

In urbanized areas, modern garments are increasingly being worn. The use of trousers and bush-shirts is a common sight. The immigrant Punjabis are no exception to general urban-wear. Colourful turban among the Sikh males is a distinguishing wear. Well-groomed beard is their proud possession. The women-folk in urban areas wear *sari* and blouse, and the use of brassiers is also being made by the ladies of the educated masses. The Punjabi women are distinguished by their traditional *kamiz*, which is a upper-garment and shalwar-a lower garment. In fact the young girls of all the sections are increasingly wearing these garments. The use of petticoat as an undergarment is largely restricted to urban elites who wear fine textured mill made *dhotis*.

Proverbial fondness of ornaments among women is universal and women of Raigarh are no exception to it. A large variety of ornaments are worn by them, depending of course upon the financial capacity of the persons. Largely, traditional ornaments are in vogue in the rural areas, and sophistication in this regard is somewhat absent.

Lalatpatti, *mathamani* or *bal-ka-fool* are worn on the forehead. While the upper portions of ears are decked with *bentala*, the *fansi-a-cen* and *jalka* generally adorn the middle portion of the ears. *Karnafool*, as elsewhere are ear rings worn in the lobes. Three types of ornaments which are locally known as *basuni*, *goni* and *nasika-fuli* are generally worn in the nose by the ladies, on the flaps of the nostrils. *Firfira* is worn in the central part of the nose. Similarly, a variety of ornaments are worn round the neck, arms, finger and feet. Glass bangles are generally not worn by Oraon women of Jashpur². *Kanthimala*, *dhanmala*, *charkhoklamala*, *gajband*, *poula-kanthi* and *goupa* are the ornaments of the neck; *bajuband*, *gajra*, *kalivari*, *churi*, those of arms; *anguthi*, *jhalar*, *mun-dri* of fingers; *kardhan* or *kamar-patta* of waist, and *toda*, *paijeb*, *ramjol*, *chutki-mundri* and *bichhwa*, the ornaments of the feet which are largely worn by the rural folk.

It is a common form of body-decoration among the ruralites. It is believed that "Lord Krishna himself tattooed his consort Radha, and as such, this is an ornament of God Himself³". Dewarnin, Godharin or Bhuminin--the professional women tattooers, visit the villages occasionally and tattoo people. They belong to nomadic caste of Dewars. The process of tattooing involves the pricking of skin with a needle soaked in tattooing compound made of the juice of *bhilausa* (*Semecarpus ana-*

1. *ibid.*
2. *ibid.* p. 97.
3. Tilalibhat: A Village Survey, 1961, p. 24.

cardium) and rubbing of soot upon it. The tattooing designs differ in case of married and unmarried girls.

As elsewhere in the rice-growing tract of Chhattisgarh, rice constitutes the staple food of the people in Raigarh District also. It is taken in different forms, *basi* being the most favoured and refereshing one. Coarse variety of rice is commonmen's food here, though for Oraons, food in remote areas is "limited to wild fruits or roots, meat got by hunting or some rice with a crystal of salt. On rare occasions and special functions like marriage they take *dal* or vegetable. *Chilli* and spices and varieties of food are altogether unknown to them".¹ But in plain areas, the Oraons are accustomed to what they call *usna* rice, i. e., rice manufactured out of boiled paddy. Vegetables, wherever available are eaten by the people. Fish and mutton are also taken by those who can afford it. The Kawars do not eat pork. Small fish, *zigri* are preferred by the people. Fruits of all types and eatable roots, viz., *pither-kand*, *nakava*, and *genth-kanda* are frequently eaten by the backward classes.

Usually, two meals a day are taken by the villagers, consisting of *bhat* and *dal* or vegetable. Sometimes salt and chillies serve the purpose of vegetable. The children usually take *murra* and *ukhara* (*lai* and jaggery) in the morning. The leftover of the previous night, *basi* forms the early morning breakfast of those who can afford it.

Some of the important festivals celebrated in the rural areas of Raigarh District are Hareli, Chherchhera or Chhachera and Karma. Hareli is celebrated on the 15th *badi* Sravana (July/August) on the new moon day. Festivals It appears to be an agricultural festival. Fuchs described Hareli as "something of a spring festival. After the dry months of the hot season, the monsoon sets in; every tree and bush is reviving; all vegetation begins to bloom and blossom. The peasants have ploughed their fields and sown their seeds. Now the brown nakedness of the fields assumes a green hue and soon the young plants will sprout". In this festival the cattle are fed with wheat flour made into dough and they are also given salt. The people also clean the agricultural implements and perform a ritual worship in the cattle-shed of their house.

Chherchhera, which is celebrated in the month of Pausa (December/January) is also known as *push-purni*. It is celebrated by all the ruralites. The children on this occasion go out dancing asking for paddy (*dhan*)-*chherchhera kothi-ke-dhan hera*, i. e., take out and give paddy from the store. On this day mutton and liquor are

1. Tribes of India, Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh, p. 101.
2. Stephan Fuchs, *Gonds and Bhumias of Eastern Mandla*, p. 470.

freely taken by the people. Chherchhera, which used to be an important festival in the past, is gradually losing its importance.

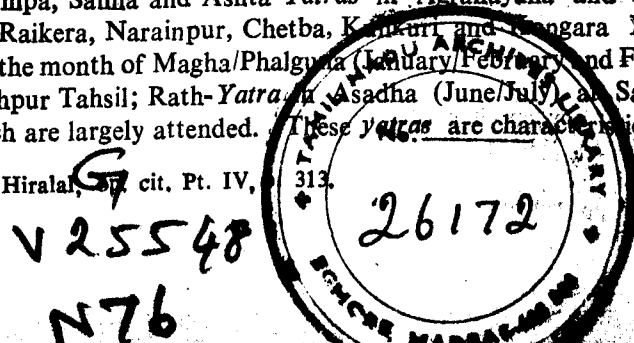
Karma or the 'May-Day' festival is an important Oraon festival. It is celebrated when the rice is ready for planting out. "At the Karma festival a party of young people of both sexes", says Colonel Dalton, Karma "proceed to the forest and cut a young *karma* tree (*Kauckea parvifolia*) or the branch of one; they bear this home in triumph and plant it in the centre of the *akhara* or wrestling ground".¹ The next day the village people assemble around the *akhara* and the youth of both the sexes, armlinked in a huge circle, dance round the decorated *karma* tree. The festival celebrates the renewal of vegetation.

Yet another important festival of the District is known as Sarhul, when the marriage of the sun-god and mother earth is celebrated. About the beginning of April, when *sal* tree flowers, this festival is celebrated by Oraon and other village people. While rock representing the Sun and black hen-the Earth are marked with vermilion, and married. Later they are sacrificed. The people accompany the *Pahan* or *Baiga*, the village priest, to *sarna* or a sacred grove where the village gods are worshipped. A general feast is arranged, and afterward the youth of both the sexes, gaily decked with the *sal* blossoms, proceed to *akhara* and dance all the night.² Other festivals which are also celebrated in Raigarh are Dussehra, Diwali, Janmashtami, Idul-Fitr, Muharram, Id-uz-Zuha, Christmas Day, etc. In Sarangarh, Dussehra festival is often an occasion of great enthusiasm, and is attended by about 10,000 persons. They assemble near the fort to witness *garh*-climbing competition. The winner is suitably rewarded by the ex-Ruler. In Jashpur-nagar, a procession of God Balaji and Goddess Durga Bhagwati is taken out. The palace of *Ravan*, the demon king of Lanka, is set on fire.

Christmas Day in December is celebrated with gaiety and enthusiasm by the local Christian population. Christians in large number gather at various Mission centres, viz., Gholeng, Ginabhar, Kunkuri, Tapkara, Musgutari and Ambakona, etc.

Among the important *yatras* in the District, mention may be made of *Vyapari-Yatra* at Bagbahar in the month of February in Udaipur Tahsil; *Champa*, *Sanna* and *Ashta-Yatras* in Aghrayana and Duldula, Raikera, Narainpur, Chetba, Kunkuri and Sangara *Yatras* in the month of Magha/Phalgun (January/February) and February/March) all in Jashpur Tahsil; *Rath-Yatra* at Asadha (June/July) at Sarangarh and Raigarh which are largely attended. These *yatras* are characteristic feature

1. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit. Pt. IV,
2. ibid, p. 314.



of Oraon social life, which in the past were a source of great attraction, for the bachelors and maidens of the village dormitory. The inter-*parha* dancing festivals, known as *jatra* or *yatra* festivals were eagerly awaited occasions where youths chose their partners in life¹.

S. C. Roy while describing the timings of the *jatras* stated that "The Oraon *jatras* are usually held once in Aswin (Desara Jatra) or *Kartik* (Sohorai Jatra), when the rainy season is over and the *karam* dances and songs are exchanged for the *chirdi kharia* dances and songs-again in Aghan, Pus or Magh when the low-land paddy crops have been harvested and the *Jadur* dances have to be exchanged for the *Karam* dances.....About a week before the date fixed for Jeth Jatra, rice-beer is set abrewing by every Oraon family of a village which intends joining the Jatra".² The day preceding the *Yatra*, the Oraons "take up their flags and other village badges and in the evening set them up on the *Jatra* ground. And the whole night is spent in singing and dancing either on the *Jatra* ground or at the village *akhara*".³ The village parties reach the *Jatra* village and display dancing and singing with utmost skill, clothed in colourful dresses. Rice-beer is served to different parties.

Sacred Places:

Amongst the sacred places, which witness large congregation of devotees are Kilkila in Udaipur Tahsil, Gahira in Gharghoda Tahsil and Raigarh. On the occasions, of Shivratri at Kilkila, and Janmashtami at Raigarh, a three day fair is held at each place, which is attended by 4,000 and 15,000 persons, respectively. Three day Madh-Purnima fair at Gahira is also attended by about 6,000 persons.

Communal Dances:

Some of the important dances in the tribal areas of the District are *Karma*, *Savana*, the *Domakach* and *Jathwali*. *Karma* is a mixed dance of both the sexes. Both men and women take part in the dance answering each other. Liquor flows freely and the accompanying songs are distinctly broad.

Savana is a kind of dance in which young girls of 10 to 14 years attired in their full dress go about from village to village and dance in two lines. One girl stands in between the two rows facing the party which sings one after the other. The principal dances of Oraons, described by S. C. Roy are *Jadur*, *khuddi* or *sarhul*, *Kharia* and *karam* while *chalibechna* or *angan*, *benia-natna*, *Jhumar*, *Jarga* and the *matha* dances are others, peculiar to this area.⁴

Public Games:

With the spread of education in the interior of the District, the schools have assumed the role of providing facilities for western games such as foot-ball, volley-ball etc. to their students in a limited way. By and large the traditional games are still largely played. Popular among the young people are *kabaddi*, *du-dua*, *kho-kho* and *gilli-danda*. *Pasa* is an indoor game and *kasari* is largely played by the ladies. On a wooden board 12 squares are drawn and *kasari* is played with seeds of some tree.

The urban areas have more facilities for the playing of foot-ball, hockey, etc., Cricket and tennis are also being encouraged in towns.

1. S. C. Roy, op. cit. p. 307.

2. *ibid.* pp. 313-314.

3. *ibid.* p. 315.

4. *ibid.* pp. 289-300.

CHAPTER—IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Economy of Raigarh District, like the vast majority of the districts of the State, is dominated by agriculture. Naturally the livelihood of the bulk of the population is derived from agricultural pursuits. Census of 1961 brings out the fact that out of the total workers, 85.2 per cent are engaged in agriculture (71.3 per cent as cultivators and 13.9 as agricultural labourers) in the District¹. Considered tahsilwise the position is : Udaipur 87.1, Jashpur 90.0, Gharghoda 90.0 ; Raigarh 72.7, and Sarangarh 85.9. Evidently, the lowest percentage in case of Raigarh Tahsil is due to the concentration of the industrial and professional population in and around Raigarh Town.

Though the percentage of workers dependent on agriculture is the same in the two tahsils of Jashpur and Gharghoda, there is a significant difference in the two tahsils—while in Gharghoda Tahsil 19.3 per cent workers are engaged as agricultural labourers, the same percentage is only 6.1 in Jashpur Tahsil. The plausible reason is that one goes from the closely cultivated areas to the sparsely cultivated ones the proportion of agricultural labourers goes on decreasing. This may suggest that the agricultural practices are primitive and do not necessitate operation like *biasi* and *nindi* which naturally involve use of agricultural labour. It may also mean that the agricultural holdings are so small that such agricultural assistance is not required so that the cultivator himself performs all operations pertaining to agriculture.

Overwhelming concentration of population in the calling of agriculture is also an index of the backwardness and poverty of the region.

Agricultural scene of the District is characterized by the preponderance of paddy cultivations. In 1971-72 paddy was responsible for 64 per cent of the total cropped area. Oilseed crops together accounted for 9 per cent of the area in the same year.

Land Utilization

The total area of the District, according to Land Records statistics for the year 1971-72, was 1,297 thousand hectares. Forest (both controlled by Forest

and Revenue Departments) accounted for 417 thousand hectares or 32.1 per cent. 'Land not available for cultivation', comprising 'land put to non-agricultural uses' and 'barren and unculturable land', was responsible for 182 thousand hectares (14 per cent). Another big chunk of land was classed under 'other uncultivated land excluding fallow lands'. This land use consists of 'permanent pastures and other grazing lands', 'land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves' and 'culturable waste'. These together totalled 126 thousand hectares being equivalent to 9.7 per cent of the total area. Fallow lands accounted for 66.8 thousand hectares which worked out to 5.2 per cent of the District area. Net area sown, the most important land use, claimed 506 thousand hectares or 39 per cent. The cropped area has shown continuous expansion, i. e., from 455 thousand hectares in 1950-51 to 506 thousand hectares in 1971-72 i. e., by 11 per cent. Though the progress is not very impressive, it is regular and steady. Naturally this rise has been caused by a decline under other land uses.

Double Cropping

Area under double cropping shows fluctuations from year to year. The double cropped area depends entirely upon the rainfall received during the latter half of September and beginning of October. When the rainfall is copious, it is possible to bring a larger area under crops. The system of double cropping is known as *utera* in Sarangarh and Raigarh. In *utera* system the land already sown under paddy is not re-ploughed to receive the seeds of a new crop, but the seed is scattered in the slush of the paddy fields while the plants are still standing. After the harvesting of paddy, the new crop emerges. Thus, the only expense incurred is the cost of seeds. The out-turn of *utera* crops is about half of that of similar crops taken as single crops in properly prepared fields. *Urad teora*, *lakhadi*, *alsi* and *batra* are the common *utera* crops.

Culturable Waste

From 43 thousand ha in 1955-56 to 15 thousand ha in 1971-72, culturable wastelands show marked decline. In 1971-72, out of the total wasteland, two thousand ha could be made cultivable after some improvement, another two thousand ha of land was divided into small patches and could be reclaimed only at a considerable cost to the Exchequer. The rest, i. e., 11 thousand ha of land could be brought under cultivation immediately.

The Wastelands Survey and Reclamation Committee of the Government of India, which was appointed in 1959 to make a survey of lands in large-sized blocks which have either gone out of cultivation or have never been brought under cultivation, in its Report for Madhya Pradesh Feb., 1961 had observed that the extent of the arable wastelands available in the State is much less than that reported in the revenue records, and that bulk of the wastelands is found in blocks smaller than 250 acres (101.2 ha) spread all over the State. This conclusion is further

1. At the subsequent Census of 1971, 85.5 per cent of the workers were deriving their livelihood from agriculture -60.7 per cent as cultivators and 25.8 per cent as agricultural labourers.

supported by the experience of the revenue authorities. Each village is required to set apart a certain proportion of the area as common land and this area is normally taken out of the area classified as culturable waste, thus reducing the actual area under culturable waste in the villages. Another feature of the wastelands is that wherever the pressure of population on land is heavy, there are hardly any large blocks of suitable wastelands which are not under cultivation. On the other hand, large blocks are also lying waste, where the pressure of population is not heavy, as most of the cultivators prefer allotment of wastelands near the village *abadis*¹.

The number and area of different blocks of culturable wastelands in Raigarh District in the year 1957-58 are presented in the table below :

Table No. IV—1
Distribution of Culturable Wasteland

			No. of Blocks	Area (Acres/hectares)
Below 15 acres	(	6.1 ha.)	7,622	24,156 (9,776 ha.)
15—30 acres	(	6.1—12.1 ha.)	558	10,530 (4,261 ha.)
30—50 acres	(	12.1—20.2 ha.)	197	7,032 (2,856 ha.)
50—100 acres	(	20.2—40.5 ha.)	124	8,911 (3,606 ha.)
Above 100 acres	(	40.5 ha.)	57	8,300 (3,359 ha.)
Total			8,558	58,929 (23,848 ha.)

However, in this District seven blocks, each of 250 acres (101.2 ha) or more, comprising a total area of 3,590 acres (1,452 ha) were available for reclamation. Some details of these blocks are as under.

One block consisting of 1,390 acres (562.5 ha) was situated in village Kudumkela in Gharghoda Tahsil. The area was infested with jungle growth and reclamation was possible only with heavy tractors. The soil was sandy, red and poor in texture, the rainfall ranged from 102 to 127 cm. The irrigation facilities could be developed by the construction of tanks and wells, the sub-soil water being available at a depth of only 3 metres from the surface. The cost of reclamation was estimated to be Rs. 200 per acres (0.4 ha). Four blocks, each of 300 acres (121 ha) were situated in Gharghoda Tahsil. The land was infested with jungle and could be reclaimed with tractors at an estimated cost of about Rs. 100 per acre (0.4 ha). The soil was reported to be red and sandy loam, the rainfall being about 127 cm confined to the period from June to October. Irrigation was not available.

¹ Report on Location and Utilization of Wastelands in India, Pt. VI—Madhya Pradesh p. 10.

The other two blocks measuring 700 acres (283 ha) and 800 acres (324 ha), respectively, were found to be infested with jungle but reclaimable by manual labour. The soil was red, light and sandy. The rainfall ranged between 127-178 cm. Irrigation was not available. These blocks involved the lowest cost of reclamation, about Rs. 60 per acre (0.4 ha).

For all the blocks additional food production was estimated as 10 mds. per acre (373 kg. per 0.4 ha), so that total additional food production of 35,900 mds. (1,340 tonnes) could be achieved per year. However, the main difficulties in the cultivation of these wastes are presented by lack of irrigation facilities, lack of capital and uneconomic cultivation. Some culturable waste is utilized for *nistar* purposes, viz., grazing, supply of small wood for agricultural implements fire wood, etc. A part of the waste is fit for allotment to persons interested in taking up cultivation.

In the Mahakoshal region, the work of the allotment of the culturable wastelands to landless persons on an organised basis was started only under the Second Plan. This work was given a fillip due to the pressing problems presented by the question of settlement of evacuees from Pakistan. With a view to rehabilitating 600 displaced families from East Pakistan about 5,000 acres (2,023 ha) of forest land near Dharamjaigarh was reclaimed by deforestation. The clearance work was mainly done by Central Tractor Organization, though a few hundred hectares were reclaimed by manual labour also. The lands were further improved by providing contour bunds and field bunds for demarcation of the (2.8 ha) plots allotted to each displaced family. Each family was given loans for seeds, bullocks, implements and manures in the first year. The cultivation of these lands is done by refugees themselves. It has been found that the yields of crops obtained from these lands are not satisfactory as the soil is light and does not retain moisture. Irrigation is most essential for stabilizing agriculture. The Rehabilitation Department of the Government of India agreed to provide irrigation facilities and the survey of Sariya nullah for storing water was taken up. The project has already been completed. It has an irrigation potential of about 2,025 ha of land. These operations lasted during the years 1958-60.

Under the Second Five Year Plan Scheme the Government intended to settle families in compact or scattered blocks of land of 100 acres (405 ha) each. Government land to the extent of being cultivated by one pair of bullocks was allotted to one family. The land was reclaimed at Government expense which generally did not exceed Rs. 80 per acre (0.4 ha) before it was allotted. Each allottee was also given a loan of Rs. 1,700 for purchase of bullocks, and agricultural implements and for building a house half the amount spent on building the house being treated as grant, provided it was properly and fully utilized. The amount of loan was recoverable in 10 annual instalments commencing from the second year. Land has also been allotted to landless persons on individual basis.

Settlement operations under the State Plan scheme for colonization and settlement of landless persons have been continued. Similarly a Centrally-sponsored scheme for resettlement of landless agricultural workers has been started from the year 1963-64. The progress of the colonization work under both the schemes is given in the following table:—

Table No. IV-2
Progress of Colonization

Year	Tahsil	No. of Families Settled			Area Type of	
		In Colonies	In Groups	On Individual Basis	Settled Hectares	Land Settled
State Scheme: Colonization and Settlement of Landless Persons						
1957-58	Raigarh	—	11	—	49	Government
1958-59	—do—	—	5	—	20	Wasteland
1959-60	Gharghoda	—	5	—	20	—do—
1964-65	Sarangarh	90	—	—	210	—do—
1965-66	Raigarh	50	—	—	202	—do—
Central Scheme : Re-Settlement of Landless Agricultural Workers						
1963-64	—	—	—	23	43	—do—
1964-65	—	—	—	15	40	—do—
1965-66	—	—	—	50	181	—do—

It will thus be seen that till 1965-66, an area of 765 ha of Government wasteland has been Settled.

Irrigation

From all available account it appears that irrigation development received scant attention till the beginning of the era of planning in Madhya Pradesh. In Raigarh State¹ irrigation was mostly from tanks which were about 1,811 in number. Irrigation tanks were mostly *katas* which were constructed by throwing a bund across depressions and extending banks at right angles from either end. Tanks and wells dried up in the hot season. In Jashpur State on the Khuria plateau the plough cultivation was often irrigated from pools formed in

¹ Chhattisgarh Feudatory State Gazetteer, p. 175.

depressions in the hill sides which in favourable seasons yielded a supply of water even in the hot weather. Wells of a permanent nature were rare.

Food shortages experienced during the Second War and in the Post-Independence period, have increasingly focussed public attention on the problem of irrigation as one of the chief means of increasing food. The responsibility for the construction of major, medium and minor schemes was entrusted to the Public Works Department while the implementation of petty schemes comprising sinking and repair of wells and installation of Persian wheels and pumping-sets fell within the ambit of the activities of Agriculture Department. Very soon several inducements were provided in the form of financial assistance (viz., loans and subsidies) for encouraging the farmers to take advantage of the schemes for the creation of irrigation facilities. A Village Project Division was sanctioned for taking up the construction of tanks irrigation upto 243 ha (600 acres). During the course of the Second Five Year Plan funds were also allotted to the Community Development Blocks as well as to the Collectors for development of minor irrigation works.

To begin with, a medium project Saraitola was included in the First Five Year Plan of the District as a Scarcity Area Scheme. When surveys and investigations were conducted, it was found to be unfeasible and was, therefore, dropped. During the Second Five Year Plan another medium project, Kedar-nala Irrigation Project was taken up. The project provided for the bunding of the Kedar Nala, a tributary of the Linar Nadi which joins the Mahanadi 16 kms to the west of Sarangarh of 6.4 kms on the left side from 10th km of Sarangarh Bilaspur road in the District. The dam site is near Kedar village in Sarangarh Tahsil. The project comprises the construction of a reservoir by throwing an earthen bund, 899 metres long with a maximum height of 19.4 metres across the *nala*. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 37.00 lakhs. It was designed to irrigate an area of 4,250 ha of *kharif* crops and 405 ha of *rabi* crops. The project has since been completed.

Another irrigation project proposed in the Second Plan was Phutka Nala Tank project in Sarangarh Tahsil. This project envisages the construction of an earthen bund across Phutka *nala* with a pick-up weir on the down-stream side. The irrigation potential of the project is estimated to be 1943 ha. Other irrigation projects are minor in nature and are in the Community Development Blocks and Revenue Sectors.

Area Irrigated

The intensity of irrigation is very low in the District. In 1951-52, which was apparently a favourable year, a small area of 6,245 ha was receiving irrigation which amounted to only 1.4 per cent of the net cropped area of the year. In 1960-61, the net area irrigated stood at 4,878 ha i. e., 1.0 per cent of the net cropped area of the year. In 1971-72, some improvement was noticeable when

the net area irrigated was recorded as 11,733 ha and the percentage worked out to 2.3

Sources of Irrigation

Tanks provided the bulk of the irrigation in the District but their share has since declined. In 1971-72, tanks were responsible for 30 per cent (3,498 ha) of the net irrigated area 11,733 ha. There were 5,486 tanks (1968-69) in all which were used for irrigation, out of which 84 were with ayacuts 100 acres and more. The rest were of lesser capacity. There were about 300 *ex-malguzari* tanks also. They are being renovated for restoring or augmenting their irrigation capacity. Irrigation from spillway water of low percentage tanks is practised. The spilled water is canalized to flow into the paddy fields.

As the statistics will show, canals were conspicuous by their absence as a source of irrigation till the year 1960-61. They irrigated barely 173 hectares in 1965-66. But they rapidly carved a place for themselves on the irrigation map of the District outstripping, tanks and wells, the traditional provider of water to the thirsty fields. In 1971-72, canals irrigated 3,950 ha of cultivated land, i. e., 34 per cent of the net irrigated area of the year.

Wells accounted for 13 per cent (1,535 ha) of the irrigated area in 1971-72. The number of wells used for irrigation was 12,162. A very small number of wells was Government-owned. In the erstwhile Jashpur State, all over Hetghat and on plateau round Jashpurnagar water could be obtained within a few feet of the surface. On the Khuria plateau the plough cultivation was often irrigated from pools formed in depressions in the hillsides which in favourable seasons yielded a supply of water even in the hot weather¹. Other sources irrigated 2,750 ha or 23 per cent of the total irrigated area in 1971-72.

Crops Irrigated

The major benefit of irrigation went to paddy which had 8540 irrigated hectares in 1971-72. The second largest irrigated area was held by fruits and vegetable crops with sugarcane 2,660 ha came next with 1,600 ha. The rest of the irrigated area, viz., 1,420 ha was distributed among a number of crops.

The entire District needs irrigation facilities. But the southern part, specially Baramkela area of Sarangarh Tahsil, is most thirsty.

1. *Ibid.* p. 287.

Soils

On the analogy of the soil-terminology current in Bilaspur and Raipur Districts, the soils of Raigarh District are also identified as *matasi*, *kanhar*, *dorsa bhata*, *pal kachhar*, *patpar kachhar* and *kap*.

Matasi is the prevailing soil of the District. *Matasi* is yellow in colour and also varies from brown to red. *Matasi* is paddy soil par excellence. It is not retentive of moisture, but with heavy rainfall gives a far better out-turn than any other soil. *Matasi* cannot grow a second crop and when unembanked is fit for little more than *kodon* and requires long resting fallows. There are several kinds of *matasi* depending upon their genesis. The best one is derived from a sandstone and the worst is nothing but the washed out portions of the *bhata*. In some places *matasi* contains an admixture of gravels. The *matasi* with an admixture of limestones is the worst soil for paddy cultivation. The best *matasi* is known as *dudhiya* because of its milky appearance. Best *matasi* is found in the Mahanadi and the Mand valleys.

The *Kanhar* is the black clay very retentive of moisture. As it is apt to suffer from water-logging, it is a good soil for wheat but not for paddy. It is, however, capable of growing a second crop and from this point of view is certainly the most valuable soil in the District. But this soil is not frequently met with. The *dorsa* is a mixture of *kanhar* and *matasi* as the name itself suggests (*do* meaning two and *rasa* meaning extracts). It is a good soil for paddy but gives only a moderate out-turn of wheat or second crop.

The *bhata* is a poor detritus of laterite, red in colour containing numerous little pebbles. It does not have much consistency and hardly retains any moisture. With a heavy rainfall, a crop of *kodon* can be grown over this but otherwise it is the poorest soil in the District. The *pal kachhar* is a rich brown silt found on the banks of rivers and large streams and is an excellent soil for garden crops. Another alluvial soil is *patpar kachhar* land by the side of big streams and rivers which has been partly spoilt by sand. It is a good soil for garden crops if facilities for irrigation are available. *Kap* is the name of silt in the backwaters of the Mahanadi and is a very fertile soil. When *kanhar* and *dorsa* contain limestone, they are known as *ghurri*. The soil containing a lot of pebbles and stones is known as *gotarri*.

The prevailing soil-type in Sarangarh, Raigarh, Gharghoda and Udaipur is *matasi* and the name for this type of soil in Jashpur Tahsil is *kariharman*. Black soil (*kanhar*) is on the whole rare and is found only in some of western villages of Udaipur and Raigarh tahsils and in the villages at the foot of hill ranges of Jashpur Tahsil.

In Jashpur Tahsil, the cultivation is divided broadly into *dhoi* or rice land and *tanr* or dry land. The soil on the elevated plateaus (*Pats*) is a grey clay only two to three feet deep above rock. The *tanr* lands are often red laterite and require very long fallows. The position classes are known by different names in different parts of the District. In Sarangarh Tahsil the terminology is *bahal*, *berua mal* or *at*. *Bahal* is a low-lying land which receives the drainage of a considerable area and thus corresponds to what is known as *bahara* elsewhere in Chhattisgarh. *Berua* is a low-lying land of small area; the corresponding term elsewhere in Chhattisgarh is *nar*; *mal* is the level land embanked on all sides and *at* is a high-lying land without an embankment corresponding to *tikra* land. In Raigarh the terms for different positions are *bahara*, *dhondhi*, *khar* and *tikra*. Of these *bahara* and *tikra* do not need any classification. *Dhondhi* is the land situated lower down on a slope and *khar* is the land higher up on the slope. For rice cultivation, the *matasi* or *kariharmati* soil and *bahal* or *bahara* position class are regarded as most suitable.

Crops

All kinds of crops are grown in Raigarh District, but the staple crop is paddy in comparison to which all the other crops pale into insignificance. Paddy is grown all over the District. Paddy covered an area of 323 thousand ha in 1950-51, or 66 per cent of the gross cropped area of the District. Subsequent eight years were not so favourable for paddy. In 1960-61 paddy had almost the same area. In 1971-72 acreage amounted to 344.6 thousand ha, i. e., 63 per cent of the total cropped area of the year. In 1971-72 the total out-turn of paddy (half-polished rice) was reckoned as 237 thousand tonnes. Average yield per hectare was 686 kg. as against 845 kg. of the previous year.

The most prevalent form of paddy sowing is by broadcast method. Transplantation is practised mostly by the Uriya cultivators, and in places of assured rainfall or wherever irrigation facilities exist. Broadly speaking, there are three methods of sowing locally known as *khurra*, *batar* or *batai* and *lehi* or *lei*. *Khurra* consists in sowing in land which has been ploughed once or twice before the monsoon breaks. The seed is thus sown in June and allowed to lie until the monsoon makes it sprout. *Batar* or *batai* is sowing in land which is ploughed for the first time when the monsoon breaks. The seed is sown broadcast after the first rain and ploughed in. The third method is called *lehi* or *lei*. It is adopted for late sowing when the ground has been well saturated by the first fall of the monsoon. The method consists in ploughing up the wet ground with an inch or two of water standing on and forming thick mud until all the water is absorbed in the soil. Then the seed, which has been made to germinate artificially by being soaked for twenty-four hours in a vessel full of water and then covered over inside the house with a heap of straw to exclude light and produce warmth, is sown broadcast. In

this case the seed is not ploughed in. This method ensures better growth of plants in comparison to broadcast sowing. In Sarangarh Tahsil there is also a fourth method—that of transplantation. Here the seed is sown in a nursery in June. The field is well ploughed and kept full of water for a month. It is then drained and ploughed again and the seedlings from the nursery are planted out. This system does not require thinning and weeding and yields the best results.

All methods of broadcast sowing require thinning and weeding operations known, respectively, as *biasi* and *nindai*. In the *biasi* the paddy plants, about four or five weeks after sowing, are thinned by driving a plough through the field at right angles to the lines which have been made by the ploughing prior to sowing. *Biasi* operations require a fairly large quantity of water in the field and are therefore usually carried on just after the second heavy fall of rain at the end of July or the beginning of August. The carrying on of *biasi* at the proper time is of critical importance to the paddy crop and its postponement owing to unseasonal want of rain is very detrimental. The benefits of *biasi* are: (1) Spacing of paddy plants is maintained. (2) Plants get vigorous growth. (3) Soil gets proper aeration, and (4) Weeds are destroyed. However, it gives rise to the problem of wild rice. Wild rice plants grow by themselves and like weeds have to be eliminated. If weeding is not done properly, wild rice plants will also remain. A few days after *biasi* when the plants are beginning to revive from uprooting, an implement known as *kopar* is dragged across the field to press back the roots exposed by *biasi* as well as to level the irregularities of the ground. After this a certain amount of water is allowed to run off and the field sluices are blocked for the reception of the mid-August fall. These are not reopened, except in case of heavy rain, till the last half of October. During this time paddy fields are weeded twice or even oftener. For this manual labour is required and usually women do the job. The term for weeding operations is *nindai*.

A good rainfall at the beginning of October is very essential for paddy and many a time a bumper looking crop is spoilt for want of this October rain. The critical periods in paddy cultivation are end of July, the later half of August and from the middle of September to the middle of October. At all these periods good rain is absolutely necessary and any diminution of the supply of water at once results in a diminished outturn.

Due to spread of irrigation, improved cultural methods are being taken up. Japanese method of paddy cultivation, transplantation of paddy as against broadcast method, and improved *biasi* system are some of the methods designed to increase production. The difference between local transplantation method and Japanese method is that whereas in the former no spacing of plants is maintained in the latter proper spacing is essential.

Cultivators, particularly the Agharias and Koltas among the Uriyas, are clever and industrious. They are always ready to spend money on tanks and

embankments for the benefit of their fields and show much ingenuity in collecting and distributing water.

Village sweepings are freely used for paddy and also cane fields.

Broadly speaking, two main varieties of paddy are recognised, *Harauna* or the paddy grown on light soils and *Garhuna* or the paddy grown in heavier soils. A number of different varieties of paddy are grown and the people in Jashpur recognised about one hundred and fifteen different varieties¹. Some of the good varieties of rice are *laksmibhog*, *raghubar makarkam doobrai*, *jhiliparagi*, *rankojar*, *kanakejar meghai*, *jhili*, and so on. Other important varieties are *parewa*, *kantha*, *sela*, *hasle*, *baikoni bhurkud* and *jhili*. Of these the commonest variety found in the western areas adjoining Bilaspur District is *parewa*. Cultivation of fine varieties of paddy has registered a setback during the last 25 years or so because in the opinion of cultivators their cultivation is more fraught with risks of failure.

The other important cereal crop which is also a *Kharif* crop is maize, which accounted for 6.3 thousand ha. in 1950-51 (1.3 per cent of the total cropped area). It has shown steady increase and in 1971-72 covered 9.2 thousand ha. (i. e., 1.7 per cent of the total cropped area). Like paddy it is also grown all over the District. Sowing lasts from 15th to 30th June and harvesting takes place from 15th to 31st September. In 1971-72, production of maize amounted to 8.5 thousand tonnes. It may be stated that during the preceding year 9 thousand ha. of maize area gave an outturn of 13.6 thousand tonnes. The average yield of the crop was 954 kg. per ha in 1971-72, against 1508 kg of the preceding year.

Amongst millets, *kodon-kutki* constitute the most important crop accounting for 47.8 thousand ha in 1971-72. This comes to nine percent of the total cropped area. With the aim of diversifying cropping pattern, *Rabi* Campaign was launched in 1958-59. Since then *rabi* crops have shown some advance. Sugarcane has never been an important crop in the District. However, expansion of irrigation has given stimulus to cane cultivation. Sugarcane is grown mostly in the plains in the south of Raigarh and Sarangarh tahsils. It is confined to small areas in all villages. In 1971-72, Sugarcane occupied 16 thousand ha.

Fruits and Vegetables

With the launching of Applied Nutrition Programme, greater emphasis on raising the nutritional standard of the diet and growing urbanisation, cultivation

¹ Ibid. p. 286.

of fruits and vegetables is gaining new grounds. Acreage under these crops, which was barely 2,207 ha in 1951-52 had doubled itself by 1960-61 and stood at 6,530 ha in 1971-72. Principal fruits are mango and jack fruit and are grown specially in Jashpur and Dharmjaigarh tahsils. Other fruits are banana, lemon, orange and *tichi*. Vegetables common to the District comprise potato, cabbage, cauliflower, chilli, tomato, pea, sweet potato onion and leafy vegetables.

Oil-Seed Crops

Oilseeds comprised an area of 48.4 thousand ha in 1971-72. The important crops are groundnut, *til*, rape and mustard. However, groundnut commands the pride of place amongst oilseed crops though in point of area it does not have any enviable rank. It had only 12.5 thousand ha in 1971-72 as against 5,943 in 1951-52. In 1971-72, *ramtil* with 24.4 thousand ha came at the top amongst oilseed crops.

Pulses

Pulses comprise an important group of crops occupying 14 per cent of the total cropped area in 1971-72. The pulse crops in order of importance were *kulthi* (25.1 thousand ha), *urad* (24.2 thousand ha), *teora* (9.0 thousand ha) and *mung and moth* (4.6 thousand ha). Gram and *tur* are of comparatively minor importance responsible for 3.5 thousand ha and 2.6 thousand ha, respectively.

Agricultural Implements

The number of agricultural implements by broad categories is shown in Table in Appendix-A.

The plough is the universal and the indispensable agricultural implement. It is possessed by all farmers. At the Census of 1961, the number of ploughs was enumerated as 1,54,719. Though the number showed an overall increase of five per cent during the decade 1951-61, actually there was a decline of six per cent during the quinquennium 1956-61. There number was recorded as 189,85 in 1971. Implement weights about 20 kg. and costs about Rs. ten. It is used for 30-40 days in a year.

As one crosses the closely cultivated areas in the south, which is an extension of the Chhattisgarh plain to the hilly country of Udaipur and Jashpur, the general pattern of plough changes in the sense that in the hilly areas of the north, the plough is lighter. The term for this light variety of plough is *churia hal* in Udaipur Tahsil. The plough in the north is made of *sal* wood and bamboo is not used in its making. Another characteristic feature is that the stock and the handle are in one piece. Another significant difference in the plough used in the south and in the northern areas is that the shape

of the share in the northern parts resembles a spearhead fitting into a correspondingly-shaped slot in the head of the plough stock. At the point of entrance an iron band passed over the slot in the stock and keeps the share in place. The position of the share which is exposed measures eight to nine inches. The plough in the southern areas is not in one piece and the share is larger, the general character being the same as an ordinary Chhattisgarhi plough.

Kopar is the puddling implement. It is owned by all cultivators. It consists of wood and is made and repaired locally. It costs about Rs. 15 and is 20 kg. in weight. *Kurri* is used for levelling. It is an indigenous implement made of wood. It weighs about half of *kopar* and costs one-third as much.

The agricultural implements by and large are primitive. The new and modern implements have made their appearance, but it is likely to take long before their impact is felt. For example, there were only 445 iron ploughs against 1,89,030 wooden ploughs in 1971. However, inversion ploughs, light iron ploughs, land-levellers, tractor-outfits, seed-drills, bund-formers and ridgers are being introduced. Gradually, big cultivators, each owing more than 20 ha of land, are purchasing tractors for mechanical cultivation. This tendency is particularly noticeable in Raigarh and Sarangarh tahsils where cultivators are going in for tractors and tractor-units for ploughing their own land. Neighbouring cultivators also avail themselves of the benefit of proximity of tractors and take them on hire. At the Census of 1961, 34 tractors were recorded, out of which 33 were owned by private persons. Their number increased to 56 in the year 1971. It is interesting to recall in this connection that in 1951, there were only four tractors in the District all Government owned.

Diesel pumps were introduced during the year 1959-60, whereas electric pumps came into use later in 1964-65. Their number was recorded as 19 and 4, respectively, at the Live-stock Census of 1961, against 4 and 1, respectively, at the Census of 1956. Their numbers in 1971, show comparatively impressive increase the numbers being 162 and 92, in case of diesel and electric pumps, respectively.

The reasons for the popularity of old implements are not far to seek. Scatteredness and small size of agricultural holding militate against mechanization on adoption of modern improved implements. Heavy bullocks are also not available. More over, the poor cultivators of the District are not in a position to purchase and maintain them. Paddy straw is the main fodder for livestock and this is poor in nutritional ingredients. Such poor quality fodder cannot sustain those bullocks and even if procured soon degenerate to the level of ordinary bullocks. The soil of the District is mostly sandy loam and does

not require deep tilling. This is also a factor which discourages use of improved implements.

Seeds

Improved seeds are the *sine qua non* for obtaining higher levels of agricultural production. So considerable attention has been given to the evolution of high yielding and pest and disease resistant seeds of the different crops.

The old varieties and new improved varieties of seeds introduced in respect of the principal crops of the District are shown below:—

As regards paddy there are atleast 115 varieties the principal of which have already been noted. The improved varieties include X116, No. S.L.O. 16, red luchai, white luchai, burma triple, sultu gurnatia, No. 17, Improved Varieties laloo, taichung native, F-8. and luchai gurnatia. Some of the improved varieties were introduced about 25 years ago. The latest introductions are T. N. I. and F. R. 8 which appeared in 1965-66 and 1967-68, respectively. Improved strains of paddy as then available first came to be distributed all over the District under the Grow More Food Scheme.

The local variety of wheat is *pissi*. An improved strain of wheat, viz., Hy-65 was introduced about 20 years before. Some improved varieties, namely, Wheat, *lerma rajo* and others from Punjab were introduced during Maize 1965-66.

Maize is another crop where improved varieties have been introduced. They are hybrid varieties under the name *deccan*.

With the beginning of National Extension Service and Community Development Programme the farmers became conversant with the efficacy of improved seeds, so much so that now the farmers are taking keen interest in the quality of seed and seedlings, and consequently their demand is rising rapidly. The farmers meet their requirements of seed to the extent of 90 percent with their own resources. They keep the seed from the harvested crop for the next crop. Rest of the demand is met by supplies from Block seed stores and big cultivators. However, quality seed is made available mainly by Government agencies. Taccavi facility has also been extended for the purchase of seed.

Rotation of Crops

There is no recognised system of rotation of crops followed in the District. Only in *tikra* and *bhata* types of land some system of rotation is adopted, where in one year paddy, *kodon kutki* or *til* are grown and the land is left fallow for two years. Paddy is raised as a single crop. If the rains are

favourable, paddy is followed by *teora*, gram or linseed. In some places, wheat is also taken after paddy. Since the introduction of groundnut, which replenishes the fertility of the soil, tendency to leave the land as fallow is less. Groundnut is followed by groundnut, *til* or maize.

Manures and Fertilizers

Manures and fertilizers constitute a very important agricultural input. Manures have been applied to agricultural fields but in recent years a new direction and shape has been imparted to their use. Cow dung has been the traditional manure, though sizeable quantities have been diverted to the kitchen. The primitive methods of conserving cow-dung are still in vogue but concerted efforts are being made to replace them with modern scientific techniques. Digging of compost pits of required size and their sectional filling are being advocated. Farmers are gradually realising the utility of compost and are taking to it. Use of town compost is also finding favour with the cultivators tilling the land adjacent to cities and towns.

A recent innovation for supplying nitrogen to the fields is the method of green manuring. Paddy crop is considerably benefited from the incorporation into the soil of large quantities of organic matter. As a result of decomposition of this material under the submerged conditions, nitrogen is liberated. Green manuring is the ready and handy answer for stepping up paddy yield. Generally, leguminous crops are preferred for this purpose but any other green material is also equally helpful. *Dhaincha* and sunn hemp are sown for green manuring. Use of wild vegetation from outside the fields for the same purpose, wherever possible and economical, is also advocated. However, green manuring has not become very popular due to the *biayi* method of paddy cultivation.

Tank silt is used for increasing the fertility of the soil. Wherever, feasible, it is applied at the rate of 20 to 40 cart loads per acre. Use of trash, leaves, seating of goats and sheep in the fields are rarely resorted to.

Fertilizers are the concentrated source of energy for boosting up agricultural productivity. However, for maximum benefit, their use is made in combination with other agricultural inputs. They were introduced in the year 1949. Both phosphatic and nitrogenous fertilizers are used. Their consumption has developed gradually and has shot up in recent years. Their use is mainly confined to paddy, maize and sugarcane fields. It is a matter of signal honour for Raigarh District that amongst all the districts of Madhya Pradesh, aerial spraying of urea solution on a standing crop was first inaugurated in Raigarh. This operation commenced on 1st October, 1968 in Dharmjaigarh Block of the District. The crop selected was ambari. This was the result of the joint efforts of the State Government and the Government of India.

Agricultural Pests and Diseases

A number of agricultural pests and diseases afflict the different crops. Wherever suitable environment is available, they prosper and do considerable damage to the crops at different stages of their growth. Agricultural landscape of the District is dominated by the monoculture of paddy. Hence, maladies of only paddy have been mentioned here.

Principal pests of paddy are rice *gundhy* bug, paddy stem-borer, rice case-worm/rice hispa and rice grass-hopper. The *gundhy* bug, case-worm and hispa are active during June to October while the stem-borer is active for a month longer. The grass-hopper is mainly active during August to December. Various methods from clean cultivation, deep ploughing to spraying and dusting of pesticides are advocated for extirpating these pests.

The principal diseases are helminthosporiose, blast, root-rot and stem-rot. As has been wisely said 'prevention is better than cure', the best method to combat the onslaught of the diseases is to grow disease resistant varieties of seeds and give pre sowing seed treatment so that vestiges of any diseases sticking to the seeds are destroyed and disease free and healthy growth of the plants is ensured. If the diseases appear in the growing stage of the plants, remedial measures deployed are spraying or dusting appropriate chemicals in the form of solution or powder.

For making available the modern scientific methods of pest and disease control, plant protection measures were started in the District since the year 1945. Various insecticides, pesticides and fungicides are distributed to the farmers on 50 per cent subsidy basis. Plant protection equipment is also stocked in all the Blocks for immediate use. The services of the Plant Protection Unit are being increasingly used by the farmers.

District Agricultural Office

The activities of the Department of Agriculture are projected in the District through the District Agricultural Office. This Office came into existence in 1948 just after the constitution of the present Raigarh District. The duties of this office pertain to the supervision and training of field staff employed in extension work, preparation and implementation of plans and arrangement of adequate and timely supplies of improved seeds, fertilizers, plant protection material, improved tools and equipment, dissemination of information on improved techniques of farming, viz., Japanese method of paddy cultivation, improved *biayi* system of paddy cultivation, introduction of green manures, soil conservation, contour-bunding, etc., all of which are designed to increase agricultural production.

It is an established fact that no measure is superior to visual demonstration to induce farmers to adopt improved practices of all types are laid out on the fields of cultivators and results demonstrated. Government Field Demonstrations & Seed Farms has also maintained seed and demonstration farms in the District. One farm was established at Boirdadar in Raigarh Tahsil in 1957-58 while the other was started at Beharmar in Dharmjaigarh Tahsil in 1959-60. Each of them comprises an area of 100 acres (40.5 ha). The Farms continue to serve the useful purposes of,—

(i) multiplication and distribution of improved varieties of seed. Improved seed of high purity percentage multiplied on these Farms is supplied to registered seed growers who further multiply and distribute them to other seed growers.

(ii) Demonstration of useful agricultural and horticultural practices to the cultivators, viz., use of improved seeds, fertilizers, compost, implements and modern farming methods are given.

There are over 400 seed farms in the District which grow improved strains of seeds of food crops. Improved paddy seed is spread through them in the entire District.

Government launched Grow More Food Campaign with a view to popularising use of improved practices and thereby achieve additional food production. Various concessions have been provided to induce cultivators to take advantage of the Scheme, viz., loans and subsidies for purchase of *rahats* and installation of pumping-sets for lifting water, distribution of seeds, fertilizers, green manure seeds, agricultural implements, construction of field embankments and small irrigation tanks, soil-conservation, expansion of the area under cultivation, etc. The Scheme has become popular and has achieved considerable success in spreading the message of improved agriculture. Farmers are taking lively interest in these measures and adopting them to augment farm output.

Animal Husbandary

In the year 1971, the entire livestock population of Raigarh District consisted of 10,03,088 heads. This shows a decline of 12 per cent over the livestock Census figures of 1961. At this Census 11,37,758 livestock heads were enumerated. This represented an increase of 11.7 per cent over the number of 1956 Census, which had recorded an increase of 12 per cent, over that of 1951. Thus, during the inter-census period 1951-61 the livestock numbers increased by 24.9 per cent, while during 1961 to 1971, the numbers decreased by 12 per cent.

In 1961 Census, cattle comprised 59.6 per cent of total livestock numbers. During the decade 1951-61, cattle increased by 23 per cent. During the subsequent decade 1961-71, cattle number declined by 60,717. The cattle-wealth is marked by their emaciated condition, short stature, ill-nourishment and low milk and draught power. This degeneration in livestock has been brought about by indiscriminate breeding over ages. The poorest cattle are to be found in Chhattisgarh. The backward state of cultivation in the District, as already noted, may be partly attributed to the want of a sufficient number of strong, virile cattle.

In 1961, buffaloes were responsible for 13 per cent of the livestock number. Their number increased from 1.30 lakhs in 1951 to 1.33 lakhs in 1956 and to 1.48 lakhs in 1961, i.e., by 14 per cent during the decade 1951-61. The ten year period 1961-71 showed a decline by a little more than ten thousand. Buffaloes are mainly kept for cultivation of paddy as only they can stand the slush of paddy fields.

The cattle are ill-fit to carry out agricultural operations. Therefore agricultural cattle have to be purchased from outside. Every year traders arrive with bullocks from Rajasthan and districts of the erstwhile Madhya Bharat. Buffaloes in addition to the above sources are also brought from Sambalpur District of Orissa and Ranchi and Palamau districts of Bihar. But as can be expected due to improper maintenance, degeneration soon sets in and their working life hardly lasts for three to four years after purchase.

Goats represent the second largest number of livestock, being 2.34 lakhs in 1961 or 20.6 per cent of total numbers. Their number increased by 28 per cent during the quinquennium 1951-56 and by another 7 per cent during the quinquennium 1956-61. In 1971, goats showed a sharp decline in number and were recorded as 1,79,064. Goats are mainly kept for mutton. Sheep numbered 31,637 in 1961 (or 2.8 per cent of the total livestock numbers and pigs were 39,722 (3.5 per cent). Houses and ponies were insignificant in number, viz., 5,441 while mules and donkeys were conspicuous by their absence. The different categories of the livestock are of non-descript type and do not conform to any particular breed.

Some interesting results in relation to the livestock numbers of the District, based on 1966 Livestock Census may be noted. There were 192 cows and cow-buffaloes per 1,000 of human population (based on 1961 Census). In this respect Raigarh was almost at the bottom amongst the Districts of Madhya Pradesh, occupying 40th position. The woeful state of availability of milk is heightened by the fact that the cattle wealth of Raigarh District is characterized by its poor quality. The number of plough cattle, (i.e., bulls, bullocks and male-buffaloes of over three years used for work) is in excess of requirements.

Their number worked out as 211 per 100 ploughs, since two animals are required to yoke one plough, there was an excess of 11 animals per 100 ploughs.

Fodder and Grazing

Fodder and grazing facilities to a very large extent determine the conditions of health and vigour of the animals. But these facilities are far from satisfactory and the result is the emaciated condition of the livestock. Grazing land is represented by culturable waste, permanent pasture and grazing land and forest areas open to grazing. Quinquennial average (1956-57 to 1960-61) for these three categories worked out to 14.92 lakh acres which was equivalent to 46 per cent of the total area of the District. This gave 1.81 acres of grazing land per head of bovine population and 1.31 acres per head of animal (livestock population). The average annual area available for grazing comprising culturable waste and permanent pastures and other grazing lands during the quinquennium 1961-62 to 1965-66 worked out to 3,10,402 acres (1.25,616 ha). This came to one-fifth of the total area of the District. Thus 0.36 acre of grazing land was available for head of livestock population. The area under fodder crops is too small (25 ha in 1968-69) to make any impact on the supply of fodder.

This is only a quantitative assessment. Coming to a qualitative appraisal, it may be seen that the village pasture lands, in many cases consist of the barren *bhata* soil on the margin of cultivation on which hardly a blade of grass is to be found after October. Cultivable wastes present an equally depressing picture. Except in forests, pasture lands are not properly conserved, protected or regulated. The livestock are also grazed after the crops have been cut.

Paddy straw is the main item of cattle feed but as rice is no match to wheat as an item of food for human beings, similarly paddy straw stands nowhere in comparison to wheat straw as cattle feed. Moreover, it is known to contain oxalates which are harmful to cattle. It needs treatment for the removal of these harmful substances. Milch and working animals get a better treatment in the matter of feed than other animals. Generally oilcake, rice bran, *jowar* and maize *kodbi* and pulse residues are fed to them. Other animals not currently of service are driven out to forage for themselves. Stall feeding is confined to animals maintained round about Raigarh, the simple reason being that Raigarh which has come up as a big consumer of milk and milk producers in the surrounding villages have learnt by experience that it pays to stall-feed the milch animals.

The woeful state of cattle feed is vividly brought out by the Table¹ given

1. Report on The Ninth Quinquennial Livestock Census in Madhya Pradesh in April 1961, Vol. I, p. 17.

below which shows availability of roughage through grazing and agricultural byproducts, concentrates per day cattle unit and the approximate weight of the cattle in the various crop zones of the State

Table No. IV-3

Availability of Cattle Feed

Feed Available per Cattle Unit per Day	Rice Zone	Rice Wheat Zone	Wheat Zone	Wheat Jowar Zone	Jowar Cotton Zone	Total Average for the State
1. Roughage						
(a) Grazing	2.6	4.2	6.4	6.9	6.5	3.9
(b) Agricultural bye-products	3.0	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.7	2.9
(c) Total	5.6	6.2	8.9	9.9	10.2	6.8
2. Concentrates (in Ozs)	0.87	1.93	2.80	3.58	4.56	2.62
3. Average Weight of Cattle (in lbs)	400	650	700	750	800	—

The availability of roughage and agricultural by products is the least in the rice-zone of the State and consequently average body-weight also.

Besides the large number of cattle, the cattle feeding problem is complicated by two factors, which pose a challenge of unsurmountable magnitude. The first is the existence of *bhata* plains, which with the commencement of cold wheather assume the spectacle more of exercising grounds than of grazing lands for the cattle. The second is the cultivation of paddy before which all other crops pale into insignificance. As already seen, paddy straw which forms the most important fodder in the District is of very low nutritive value as a cattle feed.

Besides, fallow lands which afforded some grazing to the cattle are gradually shrinking as they are progressively being brought under plough for raising cereal crops. The establishment of oil, pulse, wheat-flour and rice hulling factories is also gradually depriving farmers of the ready and cheap oilcakes, and pulse bye-products. Wheat bran and rice bran, are locally available in case these commodities are processed in the villages themselves.

However, the Veterinary Department alive to the problem of improvement of low grade cattle stock of the District, have introduced improved

grasses in the District since 1958-59: for rain-fed areas, Feed and Fodder Development G-73, *jowar* and maize, and for irrigated areas, *burseem*, *lucerne*, *napier* and *para*. In 1965-66, an area of 3,018 ha was covered by them. Further a Feed and Fodder Development scheme has been taken up which comprises the following:

construction of silo-pits, supply of chaff-cutters, development of pasture and cultivation of *jowar* and maize as fodder and *burseem*. Provision of subsidy exists for all these schemes. With the extension of irrigation facilities, double-cropping and diversification of cropping, the position of cattle feed is likely to improve.

Nomadic cattle breeders are mainly found in the forest areas of Jashpur Tahsil. Their operations are mainly concentrated in Sanna and Pandra *pat* area of Bagicha Block. During the rainy season, the animals are driven to forests where ample grazing becomes available. The herds come back to villages during winter when paddy threshing operations are over. The stock of these cattle breeders is of non-descript type. They are plying their trade undisturbed as the cattle development measures initiated by the Government have not so far percolated to every part of the District.

Milk Supply

Cow is not the milk-animal in the District. A cow hardly seems to produce sufficient milk even to feed the suckling calf. No milk remains available for the owner of the cow. Naturally, therefore, Buffaloes are used for milk. But for want of judicious breeding or feeding, the yield of milk is very low, the average being 1—2 liters. The buffaloes do not breed annually and the average lactation period is 120-150 days. Prior to the merger of States there was no organised system of the marketing of fluid milk. Milch cows mainly of *Hariana* breed were imported for the production of milk. When they became dry they were handed over to the two *goshalas* at Raigarh and Kharsia which were established by the Marwari Community which had migrated from Rajasthan during the Ruler's regime. Thus the *goshalas* acted as infirmaries.

Gradually cities and towns of the District, viz., Raigarh, Kharsia, Sarangarh, Gharghoda, Lailunga, Dharmjaigarh, Pathalgaon, Kunkuri, Tapkara and Jashpur grew in population and consequently concentrated demand for milk also developed at these places. This had its impact on areas within a radius of 16—24 kms. round these towns. They developed as milk pockets for the supply of milk to the towns. The villagers started purchasing *Hariana* cows and *murrah* buffaloes for the production of milk. As a further step to cater to the increased demand of milk private dairies have sprung up in Raigarh. Milk supply is not adequate or uniform throughout the whole year. It is not

sufficient to meet the demand of direct consumers, hotel-owners and confectioners and this has given rise to the evil of adulteration of milk.

During 1957-58, the *goshala* located at Raigarh was selected for development by the Government. For upgrading the stock 20 *Hariana* cows and one bull were purchased and supplied to the *goshala*, the expenditure being shared on 50:50 basis. The infirmary part of the *goshala* was transferred to the *gosadan* at Nawagaon. Thus, the institution has been developed into a centre for the production of milk for the town. Similar steps with regard to the *goshala* at Kharsia are also contemplated.

Fisheries

Raigarh District received an average rainfall of 152 cm. to 203 cm. annually. For irrigating paddy, the most extensive crop of the District, practically every village has a large number of tanks. Much of this water area has not been utilized for pisciculture.

The local fishes are not prolific breeders. The protein yielded by them is also not of the requisite standard. In order to raise the standard of fishing industry, Indian major carps, viz., *Labeo rohita* (*Rohu*), *Labeo Calbasu* (*Kalbasu*), *Catla catla* (*Bhakur*) and *Cirrhina mrigala* (*Mrigal*) were introduced in 1951. An exotic fish *Cyprinus carpio* was introduced in the District in 1961. Seed was obtained from Calcutta and made available to the private parties by sale. Simultaneously, other steps were also taken to strengthen the industry, viz., provision of technical guidance and financial assistance for repair and renovation of tanks, purchase of fish seed and acquisition of improved fishing equipment. Indigenous equipment consisted of hooks and line, rod, cages (*sidga*, *benodua*), handnets (*hathari*, *pilan*), (*thopi*) drag nets (*dolni*) mosquito nets (*machhardani jal*) and gill nets (*timarjal*). Now improved types of gill nets have been produced and recommended by the Fisheries Department of the State. They are gradually gaining the favour of the fisherfolk. Formation of fisherman's co-operative societies, to which facilities of loans and subsidies are extended is encouraged. This is also intended to raise the low standard of living of the fishermen. Gram Panchayats and Vikas Mandals are persuaded to extend pisciculture to tanks under their control and to adopt scientific methods of fishing.

As a result of these measures, the annual catch of fishes are growing in volume. In 1965-66, the position was that 5-10 metric tons of fish was obtained from Department tanks and 200-300 metric tons from private parties (including Gram Panchayats). Surplus supplies are despatched to markets in Jamshedpur, Durgapur and Bhilai.

For the evaluation of the breeding grounds of *mahaseer* in the Mahanadi river, a scheme Intensification of Pisciculture Survey of Mahanadi River is

being carried out. This will make it possible to locate the breeding grounds of these fishes and facilitate the collection of fish seed to meet the increasing demand.

Poultry Farming

Poultry population of the District shows steady growth. Poultry which numbered 3.45 lakhs at 1951 Census increased to 3.79 lakhs at 1956 Census, i.e., by 10 per cent and to 4.31 lakhs at the subsequent Census of 1961, i.e., by another 13 per cent. Thus, during the decade 1951-61, the increase was of the order of 24.9 per cent. The number further rose to 5.21 lakhs in 1966. Poultry consists of fowls, ducks and 'others', but the number of ducks and 'others' is so small in comparison to fowls, that it can be ignored.

Poultry keeping is mainly the industry of the aboriginal and backward segments of the population of the District and is carried on in an unscientific and primitive way. Poultry is kept both for domestic use and sale. The local hens which resemble jungle fowls in colour and conformation hardly lay 40 to 60 eggs per year of an average weight of not more than 30gms. They go broody after each lay of 10 to 12 eggs.

It was with a view to giving them the first lessons in improved and scientific ways of poultry farming that demonstration poultry units were first opened in Raigarh. Gharghoda, Dharamjaigarh, Bagicha, Poultry Units Jashpur and Saria Blocks and by Tribal Welfare Department at Pathalgaon and Kunkuri with *white leghorn* and *rhode island red* birds. They were found suitable for propagation in the District. Their egg-laying capacity is much higher in comparison to *deshi* birds, being 175 and 120, respectively. Other measures were also adopted to upgrade the local stock viz., supply of hatching eggs, one cockerel and two pullets to poultry keepers. *Deshi* cocks were exchanged for improved cocks. The scheme was further strengthened by encouraging the establishment of backyard poultry units. The intending persons are supplied fencing material, mineral feed, etc., at concessional rates. By the end of the year 1965, about 300 backyard poultry units had been established under the Applied Nutrition Programme. Under the Programme an amount of Rs. 109 as subsidy is given to each poultry keeper.

Assistance in various ways is made available to the private poultry farmers, viz., distribution of ready made balanced poultry feed, supply of breeding equipment, training of farmers supply of one-day chicks, improvement of poultry houses, etc. Loans are also made available. They amounted to about Rs. 30,000 till the close of the year 1965.

As an important step for the intensification of the Programme a Poultry Extension Centre was established at Raigarh in December, 1960. It is meant

Poultry	to meet the increasing demand of improved birds, hatching
Extension	eggs and exchange of improved cockerels for <i>deshi</i> stock. The
Centre	number of birds increased from 762 in 1960-61 to 9,910 in
	1965-66. The number of eggs increased from 6,756 in 1961-62
	to 24,355 in 1965-66. The number of eggs sold for table and
	hatching and set for hatching increased from 6,693 to 24,316 during the same
	period. Poultry diseases which were once the bane of the poultry keepers of
	the District have been completely controlled by undertaking precautionary
	measures, viz., periodical free vaccinations and supply of medicines.

For facilitating the marketing of eggs and feed a poultry cooperative society was established during 1965-66. It is located in village Dhanagar of Raigarh Block.

Cattle Diseases

The diseases which make annual appearance are rinderpest (*mata, mahamari*), haemorrhagic septicaemia (*galghontu* or *ghatsarp*), anthrax (*chhad*) and foot and mouth disease (*khur paka* or *munhpaka*). Out of these rinderpest is the most devastating contagious disease. The visitations of this epidemic are very common. Rinderpest is one of the most notorious cattle disease of the District. Though this scourge is prevalent all over the District, but Jashpur and Bagicha areas are particularly susceptible to it.

The ingress of the infection is made easier by the cattle coming from the bordering States of Bihar and Orissa and nomadic herds of cattle brought by cattle-breeders for sale from Rajasthan and districts comprised in the erstwhile Madhya Bharat. Haemorrhagic septicaemia is prevalent in sporadic form. Raigarh is one of those districts of Madhya Pradesh which have the highest incidence of anthrax. It is particularly endemic in Raigarh Tahsil. Haemorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax and black-quarter make their appearance with the onset of rains.

Foot and mouth disease is another formidable foe of the cattle-owners whose ingress is made possible through the movement of the herds of cattle. It is usually not fatal except in neglected cases, but the economic loss due to infection and subsequent emaciation of the affected cattle is enormous.

In the past there was much avoidable loss on account of imperfect system of reporting of cattle diseases. In fact, no such system existed under the princely order. In the absence of timely reporting of the outbreak of cattle diseases, effective measures for combating them could not be adopted. The agency of Patwari has now been charged with the responsibility of reporting occurrence of cattle diseases.

Control of Diseases

A scheme for the control of rinderpest was in operation in the District in 1961. However, the Centrally-sponsored Rinderpest Eradication Programme was enforced in the District only in 1966. One unit of the Rinderpest Programme started functioning at Jashpur with headquarters at Raigarh and mass vaccination was carried out in areas contiguous to Bihar and Orissa, i. e., in villages situated in a 16 kms. belt of Jashpur Tahsil bordering these two States. This Programme was completed during 1966-67. The total number of vaccination carried out upto the end of January, 1967, was 38,661 and total number of villages covered was 194. The Eradication Programme was scheduled to be completed in the District by March, 1969.

Side by side, mass rinderpest vaccination programme is also being continued by the normal field staff of the Veterinary Department and the mobile unit of Raigarh District. For controlling haemorrhagic septicaemia, prophylactic inoculations are administered every year before the rains set in. Anthrax is controlled by regular vaccination programme. Sanitation and use of disinfectants are resorted to for controlling foot and mouth disease.

The incidence of protozoan and parasitic diseases in Raigarh District is very little. However, whenever they raise their head, mobile unit staff and other field staff are pressed into service. They are supplied with all necessary medicines. Besides, rendering treatment to the diseased cattle, they also undertake control measures. By undertaking survey work pockets of the seasonal diseases have been located and by adopting control measures, the diseases are exterminated well within time.

Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

Regular veterinary departments did not exist in the erstwhile princely states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur. It was only in 1930 that a veterinary dispensary was set up at the headquarters of each of these States. In the beginning only one veterinary graduate was posted in charge of these institutions. It was only during 1940-45, that a veterinary compounder was provided at each of these dispensaries. The staff was further increased by addition of two stock assistants in Sarangarh and six in Jashpur state. Their sphere of work which was previously restricted to the treatment of the palace livestock was enlarged to the control of cattle epidemics. Sera and vaccines were obtained from Madhya Pradesh Government. The Divisional Officer, Chhattisgarh, used to pay visit to these dispensaries and give instructions and record remarks for the guidance of the staff and improvement of the working of the dispensaries. Further, one retired veterinary inspector from Bihar was appointed jointly by Jashpur and Udaipur States to supervise veterinary assistance works in the two States. His headquarters was at Jashpur.

After the merger of the Feudatory States constituting Raigarh District, the development of veterinary institutions made rapid strides. With the establishment of Development Blocks, such institutions witnessed further expansion when veterinary graduates were posted in each one of them who managed various veterinary and animal husbandry activities in their respective Blocks with the support of field staff.

A list of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries is given in the Appendix B.

Breeding.

Breeding policy recommended by the Department for this District consists of upgrading to local cattle and buffaloes with *Hariana* bulls and *murrah* buffalo bulls in and around towns. For other areas upgrading with *Malvi* bulls and *murrah* buffalo bulls has been recommended.

In order to upgrade breeds of local cattle and buffaloes, one artificial insemination centre with six key village blocks was established in Raigarh on 31st March, 1958. *Hariana* stock is maintained at the Centre.

Artificial Insemination To intensify this campaign artificial insemination units have been set up at Gharghoda, Pussore, Dharamjaigarh, Kharsia, Loing and Kudekela. In such areas where semen cannot be transported in a potent state due to long distances, cattle-breeding units have been started. The first three units were set up at Bagicha, Sanna and Sardapat on 10th November, 1959. Twelve such units were functioning in the District.

A scheme has been sponsored for the subsidized sale of pedigree bulls. A cattle-home, i. e., *gosadan* located at Nawagaon, is being financed by the Government. It is meant for housing the useless, old and uneconomic cattle.

Sheep-grading has little prospect in the District as they are small in number and are scattered. However, attempts are being made to upgrade them with improved rams, supplied on subsidy basis in the Development Blocks, Goat-grading operations are being pushed up in breeding pockets by introducing pedigree animals. The aim is to raise potentialities of both milk and meat. With a view to improving tribal economy, pig development measures have also been taken up.

Forestry

According to the Land Records statistics of 1971-72 forests comprise an area of 417 thousand ha which is equivalent to about 32 per cent of the total area of the District. Included in this forest area are both Revenue forests and forests controlled by the Forest Department.

Forests play a very important role in the economy of the District. The demand on forests in the District is very heavy. Poor people live mostly on forest produce available in the District, either by consuming it themselves or by purchasing their requirement through money obtained by their sale. Edible fruits and roots, viz., *mahua*, *achar tendu*, bamboo shoots are collected by the poor people for their own consumption. The surplus quantity is either exchanged for cash or bartered. They make bamboo mats, brooms of grass and sell them at the local markets or to the merchants. They sell timber poles and fuel also. Plates and cups made from leaves of *sal*, *palas* and *mahul* find a ready market in hotels and are much in demand during the marriage season.

Char is generally exchanged for salt. Myrobalan collected by the villagers is sold to the local dealers who in their turn send the same to Calcutta for export. *Lakh*, *palas* and *kusum* are not available in plenty but whatever produce is collected is sold in the market. *Bagai* grass is used for making strings for cots.

Forest Produce

Sal is the principal timber species and fetches the major part of forest revenue. Bamboos, *mahua* flowers and seeds and *tendu* leaves constitute the important minor forest produce. They are of good quality. *Tendu* leaves found in the Raigarh Forest Division rank among the best that are grown and produced in Madhya Pradesh.

Cocoons are grown on *saj* and *sal* trees and an area of 10 ha has been assigned to the State Directorate of Industries for the same purpose. Dhimars rear silk-worms in the trees in their holdings.

Other minor forest produce, viz., gum, honey, wax, etc., is rare and of little importance.

There is no forest produce-based industry in the District except some *bidi* manufacturing units which use *tendu* leaves. Therefore, the entire forest produce, major as well as minor, is exported. Jashpur Forest Division is not served by any Railway line. So produce is carried to the nearest Railway stations by road. The principal railway stations from which forest produce is exported are Kharsia and Raigarh in Madhya Pradesh Tori and Ranchi in Bihar and Jharkhand and Rourkela in Orissa from where it is despatched to Calcutta and Delhi. The prominent items which figure on the list are timber, *mahua* flower and seeds, bamboo, *tendu* leaves, firewood, *chironji*, gums and *mahul* leaves. Almost the entire production of *tendu* leaves is exported to Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The Orient Paper Mills, Amlai (District Shahdol) are supplied bamboo from the 12 commercial bamboo-felling series which have been specially constituted in the Raigarh Division for meeting the requirements of the Paper Mills. Bamboo is also exported by rail to O.P. Mills, Brijrajnagar (Orissa). There is little demand for forest produce within the District as also little import of forest produce except of teak wood.

The forests are exploited mostly through the contractor's agency. The annual coupes are marked. Some areas are worked departmentally also. Timber, fuel and bamboo coupes are sold annually by public auction. Small-sized timber is consumed locally by the villagers for the construction and repair of their houses. Big-sized timber, sawn or round, is transported to rail-heads for export. The same is the case with bamboo. Fuel is consumed in towns. *Tendu* leaf is exploited as per rules under the Tendu Patta, Vyapar Adhiniyam, 1964, whereby, the State Government has monopolized the trade. Trade in *tendu* leaf is a State-trading enterprise.

For the *nistar*, Departmental agency is used. Some coupes have been given to the Madhya Pradesh State Co-operative Development Corporation on fair price. Felling and logging is done mainly by axe and to a small extent by saw. The general practice is to remove logs. Transport is exclusively by trucks.

Nistar

The *Nistar* means the requirements of produce for bonafide domestic and agricultural purposes, and not for sale, barter gift, export or wasteful use. Forest *Nistar* generally includes timber of specified species for agricultural implements houses and cattle sheds, firewood, bamboos, thatching and fodder grass, fencing material, bark, fibre, minor minerals and paidawar that is edible fruits, flowers and roots, naturally exuded gum, honey and wax.

Nistar for the purpose of carrying on an occupation by village artisans and craftsmen, such as basors, charmkars, etc. is referred to as occupational *nistar*.

Nistar supplies are made to the villagers from December to June. For this purpose the coupes are laid out in the Protected forests and are worked departmentally. Every year *nistar patrak* is published wherein the details of *nistar* and from where it is made available are given. *Nistar putraks* are also distributed to the villagers for their guidance. The villagers are supplied with the fuel material and poles on forest produce passes issued on the basis of certificates by the Gram Panchayats of their villages. The rates for the supply of *nistar* material are fixed with the concurrence of the Collector.

No *nistar* rights exist in A class Reserved forests. However, some concessions are allowed, viz., tenants paying commutation charges may take, for

their personal consumption, reasonable quantities of edible fruits and roots, leaves, creepers and thatching grass. As regards B class Reserved forests, local population, having a right to obtain their requirements, are entitled to take from the annual coupes allotted to the village free of royalty (except felling charges) trees of all species upto and including 24 in. (0.61 metres) girth at breastheight over bark. Trees exceeding this girth limit are charged for at enhanced rates. They may pasture their cattle and buffaloes (but not sheep, goats and pigs) except in the coupes of less than five years, subject to the limit what the forest will support. The villagers are meeting bulk of their *nistar* requirement from the *kharcha* (Protected forests) on payment of commutation fees from year to year. The village craftsmen, viz., blacksmiths, potters and washermen, etc., pay professional tax and get their requirements of fuel and small timber from the village forests.

The following forest produce can be collected on payment of commutation fees, viz., fire-wood, other kinds of wood, bamboo, thatching grass and all other material for agricultural purposes and for the construction of their ordinary (0.61 metres) houses. It is not permissible to cut any tree over two feet (0.61 metres) in girth under commutation. For making ploughs, trees upto (1.8 metres) six feet (1.8 metres) in girth are allowed to be cut under a pass. Felling of fruit trees, *lakh-host* and timber trees like teak, *shisham bija* and *toon* are prohibited. *Sabai* grass for making ropes, roots, honey, herbs, fruits of *char. tendu*, *aonla harra*, *bahera* and flowers and fruits of *mahua* can be collected on payment of commutation. Export of these articles is not permitted.

The Revenue Department prepares a village wise list of all cattle and supplies it to the Forest Department annually. The enlisted cattle are allowed to graze in Protected (*kharcha*) forests and B class Reserved forests free of charge except she-buffaloes. Excess plough-buffaloes, sheep, goat and ponies are permitted to graze on the issue of a grazing licence. This is meant to effect some amount of control on grazing.

Ten Commercial depots were opened in 1967 to cater to the needs of the rural population from where the big-sized timber is supplied on commercial rates

Plantations

In order to increase the proportion of valuable species in the crop, experimental teak plantations are done annually. Usually areas proposed for plantation are selected in better quality mixed forests where the existing stand is not adequate to fully stock the area. Every year teak plantations are being raised in all the forest ranges since the year 1955-56. The area thus planted aggregated 1,991 ha till the year 1967. For raising these plantations forest

nurseries have been started for the supply of saplings. Greater emphasis was laid on the plantation programme during the Third Five Year Plan.

During the Third Five Year Plan in the year 1961-62, a brood lac farm was started near Dharamjaigarh. It is intended to supply brood to the villagers and to spread the cultivation of lac on *kusum* trees.

Brood Lac Farm The farm consisting of 1,100 *kusum* trees was selected mostly in Protected forests and six coupes were laid down for carrying out pruning and infection of *kusum* trees. The project is in the experimental stage.

Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests

This is an essential operation to rehabilitate Protected forests which were heavily burdened with *nistar* rights including commutation system. These forests required immediate attention to avoid ultimate disappearance, even extinction, on account of excessive exercise of *nistar* rights without any corresponding restraint and without serious efforts for their rehabilitation. Cultural operations carried out as part of rehabilitation programme included improvement felling, thinning, and cutting back operations. This work was continued during the Third Plan.

Farm Forestry

During the Third Plan a beginning was made for carrying out farm forestry plan on experimental basis near the villages. This scheme is meant to inculcate tree consciousness and to create a nucleus for spreading the idea of having extensive fuel-cum-fodder reserves in the waste lands of villages. This will meet the requirements of fodder, grass and firewood where forests are not conveniently situated. The scheme is implemented in village waste lands. Unfortunately it received an ill-start due to the hostile attitude of the villagers.

Famines

Raigarh State was the beneficiary of rainfall both from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal monsoons. Occurrence of the failure of both the monsoons was rare. In spite of this, utter lack of irrigation facilities resulted in occasional famines in the State although no account is available of the famines that infested the State prior to 1868. The effects of the famine of 1868 were most damaging and disastrous. The monsoon burst by the end of June with a down-pour of rain that continued with unabated ferocity for 13 days. The land turned into a huge sheet of water and paddy plants rotted completely. Then for the next three months, there was not a drop of rain. This resulted in the withering away of all crops standing in the fields.

There was mass unemployment amongst the agricultural labouring classes and prices began to shoot upwards. There were no railway or other communications for the transport of food grains which aggravated the scarcity conditions. Local supplies failed to meet the demand. The most remarkable feature was the swarms of beggar knocking from door to door. Private charity came to the succour of the famine-stricken people but there was no organized relief. Mortality was appalling.

Famine of 1896

The scarcity of 1896 was not so appalling for the out-turn was an eight-anna crop and there was an abundant *mahua* crop. The prices of grain rose high. The chief of the State opened relief works in the shape of tanks and roads, and advanced loans of seed grain of the value of Rs. 30,000 at a low rate of interest. Considerable loans in cash were also granted to *gaontias* for the repair of tanks and the purchase of cattle.

The scarcity of 1899-1900 was not acute throughout the State. Organisation of relief operations was necessitated only in the western part of the State. Advances were made in cash and kind to the tune of Rs. 84,900 at a low rate of interest.

In the Sarangarh State no record is available prior to 1895. The famine of 1897 which was severe throughout the Central Provinces did not affect the State greatly. Famine of 1900 was of a more severe type and the distress was aggravated by the epidemic of cholera. Various relief measures undertaken by the State at a cost of Rs. 21,000 and loans amounting to Rs. 19,000 advanced to the agriculturists, appear to have been sufficient to alleviate the calamity.

The earliest famine of which the people of Udaipur had any recollection was that of 1868. Its causes have already been noted in the account given in Raigarh. The people resorted to forest and lived on roots, fruits, leaves and bark. People had money derived from the sale of lac, but there was no grain. The Ruling Chief extended help by granting loans in cash and kind and selling foodgrains from his private granaries.

In 1876 the people did not feel much distress. In 1887 the crops were poor. The demand for export further raised the prices. The Ruling Chief opened public kitchens and public works on tanks, embankments and roads. Thousands of the junglefolk were employed on cutting and sowing wood for sleepers. Loans in cash and kind were freely advanced. But in spite of all these measures, mortality was said to be heavy.

Again in 1899-1900, there was failure of crops due to sudden cessation of rains and drying up of the fields before *biasi* operations could be carried out. However, with the aid of roots and fruits from State forests and the crops they

could harvest, the people managed to hold out and did not appear to have been severely distressed. In 1907 the rain again failed ceasing early in September, but crops were generally fair.

As regards Jashpur, no account is available but it appears that this State shared the fortunes of the neighbouring States.

State Assistance to Agriculture

The need for the provision of financial assistance to agriculture has always been realised and all possible assistance extended to the agriculturists. In the erstwhile Raigarh State loans were advanced by the State only in extreme cases and always for agricultural improvements and the purchase of cattle. The system of giving such loans had been introduced since the year 1886. Interest was levied at the rate of six per cent per annum. The people generally did not resort to the State since private loans could be had at any amount. The total sum advanced by the State up to 1907 was Rs. 21,428 of which amount Rs. 17,667 was advanced in the famine year of 1900. The entire amount was recovered¹.

In the erstwhile Sarangarh State, loans were given by the state to those who desired to effect improvements in their holdings, construction of irrigation tanks, channels or embankment, being most common improvements. Such loans, however, were not in great request, due to easy availability of loans from private sources. Loans were also given to cultivators for the purchase of seed and bullocks. The demand varied with the nature of the season and the state of credit.²

In the former Udaipur State, grain loans both for seed and food were freely granted to *gaontias* and tenants, repayable at harvest with 25 percent interest in kind and in famine times the interest was often remitted. The State had, however, done little in the way of granting cash loans for land improvement or purchase of seed or bullocks.³

Provision for assistance to the needy agriculturists exists in the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. Loans under the latter Act are intended mainly to relieve distress and to assist the cultivators in financing their agricultural operations. Loans under the former Act are intended to encourage the cultivators to undertake land improvement measures.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 176.

2. *ibid.* p. 214.

3. *ibid.*, p. 266.

Loans are granted for short or medium term according to the purpose of the loan. Short term loans are granted for maintenance weeding and purchase of seeds, fertilizers and manures and are repayable ordinarily within a year. Medium term loans are granted for making improvements on land; construction of bunds and purchase of bullocks, agricultural machinery, etc., and are repayable within five to seven years.

Failures of crops necessitate the grant of relief of some special nature in order to remove distress of the farming classes. During such periods, besides the grant of large amount as taccavi loans, remissions and suspensions in taccavi loans are also sanctioned by the State Government.

The table given below shows the quantum of agricultural credit advanced through co-operative societies in the District:—

Table No. IV-4
Agricultural Credit Advanced Through Co-operative Societies

Year	Amount (Rs. in '000)	
1962-63	1,689	
1965-66	2,398	
1966-67	4,074	
1967-68	1,493	
1968-69	2,942	Short-term
	259	Medium term
	193	Long term
1969-70	5,302	Short-term
	438	Medium term
	457	Long term
1970-71	5,739	Short term
	527	Medium term
	391	Long term

CHAPTER—V

INDUSTRIES

The nucleus of the economic activity in the District is agriculture; and taking a period of a decade from the year 1951 to 1961, one does not find any appreciable change or development of industrial activity in the District. A broad comparison of the 1951 and 1961 census data in respect of occupational distribution amply brings out this feature of the economy of the District.

Out of the total population of 5,91,142 “workers”¹ in the District at the time of 1951 Census, the “workers” in agriculture numbered 4,81,999, or in percentage terms 81.54. As against this, the total number of “workers” in all occupational classes at the time of 1961 Census numbered 5,92,009. Out of these, 5,03,964 “workers” i.e., cultivators and agricultural labourers, who formed 85.12 per cent of the total “workers” were engaged in agricultural activity.

Population Dependent on Industries

The percentages as above of the “workers” engaged in agriculture, highlight the fact that all occupational classes other than agriculture in the District, engaged about 19 and 15 per cent of “workers” in 1951 and 1961, respectively.

At Census 1951, the occupational division ‘production other than cultivation’ was the only division referring to the “workers” engaged in industries. About 45,661 or 7.2 per cent of the total “workers” were engaged in this Division. At Census 1961, Divisions, III, IV, and V, which roughly constitute the industrial workers numbered 45,244 or 7.64 per cent of the total workers.

Though, on account of territorial changes and conceptual differences in the occupational divisions and terms for the two censuses, exact comparison of figures is not possible, yet the percentages worked out as above indicate, that with the increase in population, dependence on agriculture for livelihood has

1. The number of “workers” is worked out as per note in Appendix I, Census of India, Paper No. I of 1962. The figure is exclusive of the whole of class IV—agricultural rent-receivers, and persons deriving their means of livelihood from non-agricultural non-productive occupations like beggars, pensioners etc., belonging to livelihood class VIII of 1951 Census. It includes earning dependents in respect of their (secondary) means of livelihood.

increased, while that on industries remained almost static. The percentage increase in "workers" in agriculture was 3.58 while percentage decrease in industries was 0.08 in the year 1961.

In absolute numbers, "workers" in industrial occupations were 45,661 out of the total of 5,91,142 in the year 1951, while in 1961, the "workers" in industries were 45,244 out of the total of 5,92,009. These figures indicate a decrease in the number of "workers" dependent on industries for livelihood during the decade 1951-1961.

According to Census 1971, the percentage of total workers to total population was 37.4. Agricultural occupations still dominated the occupational pattern of Raigarh. They constituted 4,14,663 or 74.6 per cent of the 'workers'. Workers engaged in industrial activities was 5,739 in livestock, foresting, fishing, etc; 512 in mining and quarrying, 18,552 in household industries and 6,177 in other manufacturing industries.

Old Time Industries

The District is an amalgam of the four erstwhile feudatory states—Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur. Hence, old-time industries in Raigarh District means such industries as were carried on in these four merging States. It is well known that barring some few erstwhile Princely States in Madhya Pradesh region, the old-time industrial activity in most of the States was at its minimum. Most of the industries existing in olden times were the auxiliaries or subsidiaries of agriculture. They catered to the unsophisticated wants of population engaged in agriculture. There were, doubtless certain superb arts and crafts flourishing in olden times, but these were concentrated in regions and places under the powerful rulers, nobles and courtiers. As a matter of fact, economic destinies of such arts and crafts depended on the fluctuating fortunes of the rulers.

The merging States of Raigarh District were small feudatories without much pretensions to power or prosperity. Moreover, predominant portion of population in these merging States was tribal; as such, there was no scope in these States for flourishing conspicuous arts and crafts. However, in two States viz., Raigarh and Sarangarh, tusser silk and Kosa cloth manufacture was the most important industry in olden times. As a matter of fact, tusser silk cloth manufactured in Raigarh State had a considerable market at Berhampur in Madras. Different varieties of tusser coating valued at Rs. 3 to Rs. 10 upwards per piece were exported from Raigarh. The tusser dhoti is and saris of excellent quality were manufactured, prices of which varied from Rs. 3 to 6, and Rs. 5 to 10, respectively.

Cotton cloth of coarse texture for daily wear of local population used to be woven by the Mehras. Cotton yarn manufactured in the mills was used in the production of cotton cloth. There is a reference to introduction of Japanese handloom weaving industry in Sarangarh State in the year 1911.¹ Pots and pans required by the population were manufactured by Kasars from bell-metal. Goldsmiths used to prepare gold and silver ornaments, but these were more substantial than artistic. Glass bangles were manufactured mostly by Mohamedans known as 'Turkaris'. Bamboo mats prepared in Raigarh had also an outside market. Earthen pots, bricks and tiles were prepared by Kumhars and shoes, leather yokestrings and water buckets were prepared by the Chamars. Rope-making was also carried on in Raigarh State.

The industrial activity as described above in all the four Feudatory States appears to have been confined to the satisfactions of the basic requirements, of the most unostentations, unsophisticated and self-sufficient rural population. Even now the vast stretches of our countryside do not boast of any major changes in this old time industrial vista, though gradual change is coming over,

Power

Prior to the merger of the four Feudatory States in 1948, from available records it appears, Raigarh, Jashpur and Sarangarh States had their small power stations at Raigarh, Jashpur and Sarangarh. The Raigarh power station was under the management of the erstwhile States Municipal Committee, Raigarh, while Jashpur power station was under the management of Jashpur State. In the year 1948, the installed capacity of Raigarh power station was 100 K.W., that of the Jashpur power station 37 K.W., and of Sarangarh power station 35 K.W. Earliest established power station amongst these three was the one at Sarangarh in the year 1924, Raigarh power station came up in 1931 and Jashpur power station was established in the year 1941, though it existed in the nascent form for two to three years earlier.

After merger of these states in Raigarh District the erstwhile Madhya Pradesh Government took over all the power generating stations in the merged States under its separately created Electricity Department which was organized in the year 1945. All these three power stations were later taken-over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1953.

In the year 1950, the installed capacity for Raigarh was 100 K.W., and the number of consumers of electricity was 273. The consumption of electricity

1. Feudatory States Administration Report, 1911, p. 14.

was confined to domestic light and fan, public water-works and sewage. It was in the year 1954 that electricity was being used for industrial power—low and medium voltages from Raigarh power station for the first time. In this year the sale of electricity for industrial use was of the order of 0.027 million K.W. hrs. By the 31st March, 1958 the extent of consumption in this category increased only to 0.129 million K.W. hrs., but remained confined to the category of low and medium voltage. The number of consumers of electricity from this power station was 223 by the end of March, 1958 as against 273 in the year 1950, though installed capacity had increased from 100 K.W. in 1950 to 350 K.W. in 1958.

By the year 1960-61, this Power House had an installed capacity of 500 A.C.K.W. and 100 D.C.K.W. The number of consumers in this year was 1,311 and total units sold for different uses was 10.44 lakhs. The number of consumers in the year 1961-62 was 1,321 with also a slight increase in the number of units sold, which was 10.66 lakhs.

In the year 1962-63 the installed capacity of the Power House in A.C. category was reduced from 500 K. W. to 325 K. W., while 100 K. W., D. C. capacity was abolished in the month of February, 1963. The number of consumers was 1,400 in this year with a reduced sale of units i. e., 9.94, lakhs.

In the following year i.e., 1963-64 the reduced installed capacity of A.C. power generation i. e., 325 K. W., was also abolished in July, 1963. In this year total number of consumers was 1,536 with 11.71 lakh units sold.

In the year 1950 this Power House had an installed capacity of 35 K. W., the number of consumers of electricity being 14 only. The consumption was only in the category of domestic light and fan. However, the number of consumers by 1958 increased to 123, though there was a decrease in the installed capacity from 35 K. W. in 1950 to 30 K. W. in 1958.

The details of installed capacity, number of consumers and segregation of demand for electricity from this power station for 1961-62 to 1966-67 was as under:—

Table No. V-1
Segregation of Demand for Electricity

Year	Installed Capacity K. W.	Number of Consumers	Sale of Electricity (in No of units)	
			Domestic Light and Fan	Industrial Power, Medium and Low Voltage
1	2	3	4	5
1961-62	39	162	33,229	2,370
1962-63	100	197	38,138	2,513

1	2	3	4	5
1963-64	—	220	52,168	4,355
1964-65	—	273	70,119	11,214
1965-66	—	410	1,02,496	21,404
1966-67	—	390	1,09,095	17,346
1967-68	—	479	1,36,956	66,603

The figures regarding number of consumers and demand for domestic light and fan as well as industrial low and medium voltage was constantly increasing during all the years from 1961-62 to 1965-66. There was, however, a slight fall in the number of consumers and demand for industrial power in the year 1966-67. In the year 1967-68, the number of consumers increased to 479. Consumption of electricity for domestic light and fan and industrial purposes also increased considerably.

Jashpur Power Station

This power station had an installed capacity of 37 K. W. in the year 1950. This was reduced to 13 K. W. by the year 1958. The number of consumers which was 70 in the year 1954 decreased to 66 in the year 1958.

For the year 1961-62 to 1964-65, the installed capacity at this power station remained at 25 K. W. However, by the year 1969-70, the installed capacity of the power house was increased to 125 K. W. The number of consumers, which was 65 in the year 1961-62 increased to 93 in the year 1964-65 and to 280 in 1969-70. The total number of units sold also increased from 15,502 in 1961-62 to 22,231 units in 1964-65 and to 96,531 units in the year 1969-70.

For the calendar year 1966, 1967 and 1968 the consumption of electricity in K. W. Hrs., was 69,953, 69,047 and 81,581, respectively. Consumption was confined to domestic light and fan, domestic heat and small power and street lighting. For the first time 1575 units of low and medium voltage power for industrial purposes was supplied in the year 1969-70.

For the period 1960-61 to 1964-65 this power station too had an installed capacity of 25 K. W. The number of consumers which was 96 in the year 1960-61, decreased slightly to 92 in the year 1964-65, and similarly, the total number of units sold dropped from 19,471 in 1960-61 to 17,985 in 1964-65.

It may be noted that there was a change over from power generation to grid supply system in the year 1964-65. Raigarh became a distribution centre since 1963. Data regarding segregation of demand for electricity for different purposes in Raigarh District from 1966-67 is given here under:—

Grid Supply System

Table No. V-2
Segregation of Demand for Electricity

S. No.	Category	(In units/sold)		
		1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
1.	Total No. of Consumers	3,704	4,330	5,204
2.	Domestic Light and Fan	14,60,264	17,19,106	19,43,705
3.	Domestic Small Power	59,685	69,053	94,460
4.	Commercial Light and Fan	78,141	70,048	53,483
5.	Commercial Small Power	15,938	4,655	29,754
6.	Industrial			
	(a) Low Voltage	7,48,734	10,86,969	15,28,017
	(b) High Voltage	16,73,700	18,06,825	19,60,100

The number of towns and villages in the District electrified under Rural Electrification programme during the First Five-year Plan was four. There was no progress in this connection during the Second Plan period, but during the Third Plan period, 11 places were electrified. During the year 1967-68 and 1968-69, additional seven and nine places, respectively, were electrified.

As on 31st March 1971, the number of towns and villages electrified increased to 55. The percentage of villages electrified in March, 1972, was 10.5. The number of pumps energised by 1960 was only 409, which number increased to 1959 in March, 1974.

Industries and Manufactures

Mining

In the Gazetteer of the Feudatory States, viz., Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur, there are references to the availability of important minerals like iron, coal, limestone, gold, etc., in these State territories. Minerals like mica and laterite were also found in these State territories.

Prospecting license for coal found in the Mand Valley of Raigarh State, about eight miles from Kharsia railway station, was reported to have been given to two Indian firms sometime in the first decade of this Century. There were limestone quarries in the State and iron was also manufactured by crude methods.

In the Sarangarh State, gold washing was reported to being carried on in the bed of Mahanadi, even earlier than the beginning of the present Century.

Mica of inferior quality and also good quality building stone was also reported to be available. Not very successful attempts were reported to have been made for exploitation of coal and iron in Udaipur State. Gold, mica, laterite and limestone were also reported to exist within the State territory.

Jhora Gonds from Jashpur State used to wash gold in small quantities from the banks and bed of the Ib river. They used to make over the gold to the Raja and were paid in paddy. Iron was found in the hilly tracts and was smelted by aboriginals for export. These earlier references about the minerals in the area comprising Raigarh District indicate possibilities of large scale exploitation of certain minerals like coal, iron, limestone, fire-clay, dolomite, etc.

The Mand river coalfield in the District is connected with the Korba coalfield to the west. It covers an area of 200 sq. miles. Near Domnara two quarries were opened. Domnara coal mine was started in the year 1939. Raigarh coal field lies in the north-west corner of the District. It covers an area of about 200 sq. miles. South Raigarh coal field is a narrow strip extending from the Kelo river near Laka to Bagadia near Bokhil. The total area is about 25 sq. miles. In all four coal mines have been working in the area near Domnara and Baroud villages in the District. The lease for Domnara area existed as early as in the year 1930, while that for Baroud area was from 1954.

The production and value of coal in the District from 1956 to 1972 was:—

Table No. V-3
Production and Value of Coal

Year	Production in Ton	(Value in '000 Rs.)
1956	3,617	—
1969	7,625	148
1965	9,403	253
1970	9,026	239
1971	8,089	212
1972	10,384	312

The coal mining in the District offered an employment to 85 workers in the District in the year 1962.

The limestone quarry is situated four miles south-east of Baraduar railway station on the Eastern Railway. The limestone reserves were estimated at

Limestone 4,06,500 tons in an area of 40 acres. In an adjoining area to the west, both the top and bottom layers were proved in an area 110 acres and the reserves of the order of 1,11,800 tons. A lease for a period of 20 years for quarrying limestone in an area of 10.72 acres, near Kalmipat village in Raigarh Tahsil, existed in the year 1966.

During the year 1961, the production of limestone was 341 tons, valued at Rs. 2016. Rapid stride for the production of limestone was made during the Third Plan period, and its production increased to 5897 tons, valued at Rs. 57,150. After a slack season till 1970, owing to depleted demand, its production again picked up to 2,800 tons, valued at Rs. 11,200. Since then it increased to 3,130 tons in 1971, valued at Rs. 15,650 to 3,075 tons valued at Rs. 15,375 in 1972.

Fire-clay is often found in the Indian coal measures associated with coal seams, frequently as an under-clay and is being obtained from the coalfields mentioned above. As a matter of fact, the two leases for exploitation of coal in the District also include those of fire-clay. Besides Fire-clay Dolemite Domnara and Baroud, agreements for working of fire-clay from Tumdih, Amapali, Pendarmuda in Raigarh Tahsil existed in the year 1964. A lease for working fire-clay at village Chintapani in Gharghoda Tahsil of the District over an area of 50 acres was also current in the year 1966. A lease over an area of 2.45 acres at Tureketa in Raigarh Tahsil for working out Dolemite deposits was current in the year 1966.

During the Sixties, the production of fire-clay increased from 2,500 tons, valued at Rs. 2.12 lakhs in 1960 to 4,221 tons in 1967. In the year 1969, its production further increased to 9,290 tons.

Besides the minerals as described above Bauxite, estimated to have a total reserve of 5.20 lakh tons is found in high-lands and Moral Plateau in the Jashpur sub-division of the District.

In spite of the fact that a large number of minerals are found in the District, not all are being worked because of the lack of transport facilities. The minerals located mostly in Gharghoda, Dharmjaigarh and Jashpur sub-divisions of the District are situated far from railway line. Even the condition of roads are not satisfactory. Coal which is found in the Gharghoda and Dharmjaigarh tahsils is difficult to be transported.

It appears therefore that mining industry which employs about 400 persons daily in the District can prosper with the availability of proper transport facilities.

The production and value of other minerals extracted in the District since 1965 is given below:—

Table No. V-4
Production and Value of Minerals

Year	Production in Tons			Value in Rs.		
	Building Stone	Brick Gitti	Sand	Building Stone	Brick Gitti	Sand
1965	11,083	24,359	2,047	98,171	9,589	8,050
1970	35,050	20,150	N. A.	10,515	40,300	59,120
1971	35,170	20,370	30,030	17,340	40,740	60,060
1972	21,035	27,695	22,735	42,070	55,390	45,470

Large Scale Manufacture

In the field of large-scale factory-industry the District has a Jute Mill which is the only one of its kind in the whole of Madhya Pradesh. Raigarh Jute Mill, situated at Sarangarh Road was established in the year 1935. The Mill had initially a fixed capital of Rs. 4,24,000 and working capital of Rs. 1,76,000, which rose to Rs. 65,42,000 and Rs. 69,00,000 respectively, in the year 1968. The average number of workers employed daily in the Mill was 620 in the year 1968. The wage-bill which was only Rs. 18,000 in the year of establishment, increased to Rs. 16,12,000 in the year 1968.

The production of jute goods which was 400 tons only in the year of establishment increased to 3,817 metric tonnes in 1956, to 2,918 metric tonnes in 1961 and to 4,268 metric tonnes in 1967.

The products of the Mill have a market not only inside the State, but gunny bags for packing cement are supplied to Rajasthan and Orissa States also.

In the year 1967, there were 48 other factories in the District registered under the Factories Act, 1948. All these factories were small-scale units; 20 out of these were rice mills, 22 bidi factories and 6 others.

Small Scale Industries

The number of registered factories, however, declined during the subsequent years and in December, 1970, their number remained 37. Nearly 1,900 workers were employed in these industries against 2,500 workers in 1967.

In the year of the reorganization of Madhya Pradesh i. e., in 1956, the number of rice mills registered under the Factories Act, 1948, was 22. By the

Rice-Milling year 1960, the number had increased to 24, but in that year 7 factories were reported closed. In 1967 the number of registered rice mills was decreased to 20 and out of these, 2 were reported closed during the year. It may, therefore, be seen that during the decade 1956-66, the rice milling industry could not make any headway in the District. The total number of workers engaged in rice-milling industry was 744 in the year 1967. From amongst all the rice mills registered under the Factories Act, 1948, Kisan Sahakari Rice Mill, Sarangarh was the largest unit licensed for employing 100 workers.

Bidi Manufacture Bidi manufacturing is another factory industry in the District under which there were 22 factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, in the year 1956. Even by the year 1967 there was neither any increase nor decrease in this number. The employment offered in these factories was of the order of 889 in that year which was little more than that offered in the rice-milling industry in the District. Harnamdas Jaidayal Bidi Factory, Raigarh, was the largest unit offering employment on an average to 100 workers daily.

Besides rice-milling and bidi factories, among the factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, there was one oil mill, one dal mill, one saw mill and one bone mill in the District in the year 1967. Thus, including Raigarh Jute Mill, there were 49 registered factories in the District in 1967, providing employment to 2,298 workers on an average daily. The industrial activity in the District thus bespeaks its redimentary level.

Besides the factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948 in the industries like rice-milling, bidi-making etc., there were a number of other small scale units registered with the Director of Industries.

From amongst the number of such small-scale units mention may be made here of four units engaged in the manufacture of *Gudakhu*. The product, *Gudakhu* is smoked in a specially prepared pipe with a large bowl to hold *Gudakhu* and one or two live ambers placed on the *Gudakhu*. It is smoked through a long pipe, and there is an arrangement for the smoke passing through a small jar-like attachment filled with water. Manufacture of this smoking material appears to be a speciality of Raigarh District. In the year 1967, there were four such units in the District, which provided employment to about 19 workers on an average daily. In the year 1969, these units were Agarwal *Gudakhu* Factory, Ashok *Gudakhu* Factory, Anand *Gudakhu* Factory and Laxmi *Gudakhu* Factory, all located at Kharsia in the District.

Industrial Units Registered with the Department

It has been stated while describing the old-time industries, that *kosa* cloth weaving was an important industry in practically all the four integrating

Kosa Cloth Weaving

States of Raigarh District. This industry is even now functioning in the District, but it appears to be organized on a co-operative basis, because all the units registered with the Director of Industries under this industry are co-operatives. There were two such co-operative societies of *kosa* cloth weavers in the District both at Raigarh, in the year 1967. These societies had a membership of 74. In addition, there was a society of *kosa* cocoon farmers, namely *Kosa Krimipalan*, Sahakari Sabha. This society was at Gharghoda in the District and had a membership of 21.

There were three other societies registered with the Director of Industries with a total membership of 52, which were engaged in weaving *saris* and different varieties of cotton cloth.

From amongst the other units registered with the Director of Industries, the largest number was of those engaged in the manufacture of buckets, steel-trunks, drums and repairs thereof. The number of such units in the year 1967 was 16, which on an average employed 220 workers daily. Numerically next in order were the soap manufacturing units. There were 13 such units in 1967, employing about 63 workers daily. Out of these 13 units, 8 were located at Raigarh town, one of which was manufacturing toilet soap; four units were located at Kharsia and one at Pathalgaon.

In the category of Iron and Steel, there were 8 units in the District manufacturing varied range of products from cast-iron pans, railway sleepers, G.I. pipes, manhole covers, blacksmithy articles to children's park equipment, etc. All these units together employed about 67 workers on an average. Most of them were located at Raigarh. There were three barbed-wire manufacturing units in the District, two at Raigarh and one at Kharsia. These units employed about 25 workers on an average daily.

There were two co-operatives manufacturing utensils. One of these, namely Swarnakar Aluminium Society at Raigarh was manufacturing aluminium utensils. This society had 14 members, while the other, Kasari Udyog co-operative society at Pussore manufacturing brass utensils had a membership of 122. There were 6 such units registered with the Director of Industries engaged in the manufacture and repair of agricultural implements. All these units provided employment to about 76 workers daily.

There were four such registered units and all the four were located at Raigarh proper. Two out of these four units were manufacturing *ayurvedic*

medicines, one was manufacturing plain-balm and the fourth one was a pharmaceutical works. All these four units employed 39 workers, 25 of whom were employed by the pharmaceutical works.

The old-time industries like making earthen pots, manufacture of baskets, leather goods, etc., are also being worked in the District on a co-operative basis. For example the two Kumhari Udyog co-operative societies, one located at Pathalgaon and the other at Gharghoda, were both engaged in the manufacture of bricks. These two societies had a membership of 53 in 1967.

Similarly, there were two Charmakar societies, one at Pathalgaon and the other at Rouni. Both of these manufactured shoes, *chappals* and sandles. They had 31 members in the year 1967. There was one Banskar Udyog Sahakari Sabha at Chintapani in the District, with a membership of 24, which manufactured bamboo baskets.

From among the other industries, mention may be made of wooden furniture making, manufacture of camphor tablets, dyeing of yarn, cement articles making of silver ornaments etc., which were registered with the Director of Industries as small-scale units.

Industrial Co-operative Societies

During the First Five-Year Plan period in the year 1955-56, there were 57 industrial co-operatives in the District, out of which 7 were weavers' societies and 50 others. The membership of all these societies was 7,711; with a share capital of Rs. 33,244 and working capital of Rs. 94,005.

In the Year 1961-62 the number of societies was 34, which included 9 weavers' societies and 25 others. The membership of weavers' societies was 398, with a share capital of Rs. 4,183 and working capital of Rs. 57,392.

In the year 1966-67, there were 93 societies in the District including 8 weavers societies. Total membership was 2,014, with a share capital of Rs. 62,462 and working capital of Rs. 33,012. In the subsequent year i.e., 1967-68 the number of societies was 86 with 6 weavers, societies and 80 others. The membership of these societies was 1,575, with a share capital of Rs. 17,600 and working capital of Rs. 2,27,472.

Industrial Potential and Development Plans

Industrial potential of particular region depends on the availability and exploitation of natural resources in the region like minerals and power development—thermal as well as hydro-electrical. In so far as the mineral resources are concerned it has been stated earlier that the District has mineral resources like

coal, iron, bauxite, limestone, etc. Though availability of these minerals can not be said to on a very extensive scale, yet they could not be considered too meagre either. As a matter of fact, after fully ascertaining the extent of the reserves in these important minerals exploitation thereof could be started.

As has been stated earlier the present difficulty in the exploitation of the available mineral resources is the inadequacy of transport facilities—both road and railway connecting the areas having these minerals. But any investment in the setting-up of the infrastructure for industrial development of a region depends on properly assessing the extent of the resources.

In respect of power generation also there are some six rivers with their tributaries and *nallas* as sources of water-supply in the District. Important among these are the Mahanadi, Mand and Kelo, which could be considered for generating hydel power. But the availability of power to the District from the nearby Korba Thermal power station and Hirakud Dam, may prove sufficient for setting up the pace of industrial development, as power supply from both these sources has already been started.

Against the background of the resources like coal and limestone that are available, and especially with estimated limestone reserves of 5,18,300 tons near about Baraduar, within an area of about 150 acres, it is possible to set up a cement manufacturing unit in the District. Just like the setting up of cement factory, without much difficulty, a fibre board manufacturing unit also can be set up easily. This is possible because of the existence of a Jute Mill. The waste in the form of clippings, which remains after cleaning jute in the mills, is at present being used as fuel in the boilers. By using these clippings after cleaning, fibre board can be manufactured. The third important industrial unit that can be set up in the District is the one for manufacture of paper. The forests in the region abound in the growth of bamboos and grass as well as other vegetation, useful in the manufacture of paper. As a matter of fact, licence for the manufacture of paper was given to a party—Messrs Madhya Pradesh Paper Allied Ltd., with an installed capacity of 3,600 tons, and an investment of Rs. 30 lakhs.

There are 20 rice mills in the District. After the milling of paddy, considerable quantity of bran remains as a by-product which is being used to feed the cattle. This bran can be used in the manufacture of oil by solvent extraction process. The soap manufacturing units in the District can utilize this oil in the manufacture of soap. With the availability of fire-clay in the coal measures associated with coal seams, a unit for the manufacture of refractories out of the fire-clay could also be set up in the District near about the coal mining areas.

A cotton spinning mill can also be set up in the District as there are a number of handlooms and dyeing units in the District. The capacity of the unit can be determined on the basis of demand of yarn from handloom weavers. Under different Five-Year-Plans, the State Government are also trying to set a pace of industrial development in the District. As has been stated earlier, the *kosa* cloth weaving is an old-time industry in the District and the *kosa* cloth woven in the District has also sufficiently extensive market outside. To develop this industry the State Government had made a provision of Rs. 1.69 lakhs during the Third Five-Year Plan period. In this scheme, the State Government had started a centre at Raigarh. Physical target fixed in this connection was to appoint staff, to purchase machinery and to construct building for the Centre. By the end of the Plan period, staff was appointed, machinery was also purchased and construction work was in progress. Expenditure incurred on the scheme was of the order of Rs. 0.94 lakhs.

There was a scheme for setting up an Industrial Estate at Raigarh during the Third Plan period for which a provision of Rs. 1.54 lakhs was made. This provision was for the requisition of land, construction of building and electrification of the Estate area. By the end of the Plan period, the land was acquired and two double-unit shed and one single-unit shed were constructed. Provision of Rs. 0.40 lakh was made in the Third Five-Year plan for Rural Work shed at Pussore in the District. The construction of this Work shed was in progress by the end of the Third Plan. The expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 35,000.

There was a scheme for Tusser Silk Farms at Gharghoda, Lailunga, Baramkela and Chhal in the District during the Third Plan period, for which a provision of Rs. 4.431 lakhs was made. An amount of Rs. 3 lakhs was spent in the construction of building for godowns at Lailunga and Baramkela and for the purchase of equipment of appointment of staff, etc. There was a scheme for Tusser Cocon Market at Chhal and Lailunga, for which a provision of Rs. 5 lakhs was made out of which Rs. 4 lakhs were spent.

State Aid to Industries Act

With a view to encouraging the setting up of small-scale industrial units, and assisting old-time industries like carpentry, blacksmithy, leather goods, brass and copper utensils making, etc., Government have started giving loans to individual units of different industries under the State Aid to Industries Act. The aid given during the First, Second and the Third Plan periods and onwards was as under:—

Table No. V-5

Amount given Under State Aid to Industries Act

Plan/Year	No. of Units	Amount Rs.
I	1	4,00
II	170	1,31,900
III	331	2,92,844
1966	16	42,650
1967	35	73,850
1968	19	70,360
1969	4	7,200

Labour and Employer's Organizations

From the foregoing account of the industrial activities in the District, it could easily be seen that for want of any large-scale organized industrial activity the corresponding labour union activity was also at its rudimentary level.

There were three labour unions in the District, namely—

1. Raigarh Jute Mill Labour Union, Raigarh
2. Rashtriya Trust Kamgar Sangh, Raigarh
3. Nagarpalika Karmchari Sangh, Sarangarh

The first two of these were registered in the year 1947 and 1960, respectively and the third in the year 1965. There was no organization of the employers in the District.

Labour Welfare

There are two aspects of the labour welfare activities one is statutory and the other voluntary. The labour class or the working class, forming as it does a sizeable portion of the total population, the government tries to promote welfare of the population in this class by introduction of legislation, the provisions of which become binding on the employers of labour. The voluntary labour welfare activities are those which are undertaken by the enlightened employers of labour of their own accord for the betterment of workers or such activities as are undertaken by organized labour unions for the benefit of their members.

Under the voluntary labour welfare activities, mention may be made of labour welfare centre run by the Raigarh Jute Mill Labour Union. The Union receives a grant-in-aid from the Labour Department of the State Government for the functioning of this centre. The welfare activities at the Centre were confined to the indoor and outdoor games, reading-room and library, a school for the children, adult education, celebrations on Independence Day, etc.

Under the statutory labour welfare activities, the Factories Act 1948, which is a Central legislation, stipulates for the provision of washing facilities, separately for male and female workers, storing and drying clothing, sitting arrangements and first aid appliances, for all the factories registered under the Act. In the factories employing more than 500 workers an ambulance room in charge of suitable medical and nursing staff has to be maintained. Provision of canteen is obligatory in a factory employing over 250 workers. Lunch rooms, shelters and rest-rooms have to be provided in the factories employing over 150 worker. Separate room or rooms have to be provided for the children of female workers by factories employing more than 50 women workers.

There also exists a provision for employing a Welfare Officer by the employers, in the factories employing 500 or more workers. Barring the washing, sitting arrangement and for drying clothes, etc., the other welfare provisions of the Factories Act, 1948, appear to lean heavily on the side of large-scale industrial unit which for Raigarh District is only one i.e., Raigarh Jute Mills.

This is another Central legislation, which makes it obligatory upon the employers to pay compensation for workers for accidents arising out of and in the course of employment. The workers covered under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, casual workers and those drawing monthly wages above Rs. 500 are excluded from the provisions of this Act. The compensation paid to workers under this Act from 1958 to 1961 was Rs. 987 Rs. 185 Rs. 475 Rs. 620 for respective years and Rs. 2,197 for 1962-63.

In view of the application of Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the factory workers were generally given after 1961 different cash and kind benefits under that Act.

This legislation provides for certain benefits to employees in case of sickness, maternity and employment injury. The Act applies to all factories worked with power and employing 20 or more persons. The benefits under this Act are in the form of medical treatment i. e., in kind and in cash. The Act and the scheme framed thereunder was made applicable at Raigarh centre by the year 1962. The working of the scheme may be seen from the following data:—

Workmen's
Compensation
Act, 1923

Employees' State
Insurance Act
1948

Table No. V-6

No. of Workers and the Members of Their Families Benefited

Year	Insured Persons		Families	
	New	Old	New	Old
1962	1,929	8,699	962	3,075
1963	2,374	14,635	2,142	6,175
1964	2,665	12,023	2,587	5,763
1965	2,807	12,400	2,566	5,284
1966	2,790	13,434	3,452	8,078
1967	2,238	12,227	2,843	6,565
1968	2,051	15,198	3,333	8,505
1969	2,420	10,984	3,505	9,221

Table No. V-7

Benefits in Cash

Year	Temporary Disablement Benefit	Sickness Benefit	Extended Sickness Benefit	Maternity Benefit	Permanent Partial Disablement Benefit
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
1963-64	2,942.87	9,672.77	133.25	92.50	—
1964-65	1,734.21	7,843.14	157.56	1,177.98	459.22
1965-66	1,791.33	10,228.81	667.65	—	260.56
1966-67	941.63	11,095.58	428.62	280.00	5,261.88
1967-68	2,063.02	12,763.60	691.06	497.00	850.28
1968-69	2,258.69	11,677.55	1,514.55	472.49	8,034.83
1969-70	1,641.05	8,564.63	1,840.00	—	8,528.76
(up to 31 Dec.)					

In the year 1966-67 "dependent's benefit" amounting to Rs. 2,219.25 was also given.

This is yet another Central legislation, the object of which is to make some provision for the future of the industrial worker. It provides for the institution of compulsory provident funds for employees in factories and establishments. The employer's contribution to the fund is fixed at $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of the basic wages, dearness allowance, etc. Employees are required to contribute the same amount as is contributed by employers in respect of them. If the employees so desire they may contribute more, subject to the maximum of $8\frac{1}{4}$ per cent of their basic wages and dearness allowance. By the year 1966, 21 establishments in the District were covered under the Act and the Scheme.

Under this State legislation, minimum wages have been fixed for different categories of workers in certain Scheduled Industries like rice, dal, oil and flour milling, bidi-making, employment under local authorities, employment in public motor transport, stone-breaking and stone crushing. For purposes of fixation of minimum wages, the State has been divided into four areas namely A. B. C. and D. Raigarh District comes under Area-B. For unskilled male and female workers the minimum wage-rates have been fixed at Rs. 1.50 and Rs. 1.25 per day in rice, dal and oil mills.

The rates of minimum wages fixed for all the different categories of workers in the bidi-manufacturing industry in 1959 have been revised in the year 1966. Raigarh comes under Zone III for purposes of fixation of minimum wages. The wage-rate for rolling 1,000 bidis has been fixed at Rs. 2.10

Under this State legislation no benefits were given to female employees in the District. However, maternity benefits have been paid as mentioned earlier under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

Madhya Pradesh
Minimum Wages
Fixation Act,
1962

Madhya Pradesh
Maternity Bene-
fits Act, 1958

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Banking and Finance

The feudatory states constituting Raigarh District were so remote and backward, prior to the advent of railways, that very little attention was paid on their industrial development until Independence. Except the manufacture of course cloth and tussar silk, there was no other indigenous industry of importance in the District. The economy of the District is mainly agriculture centred and not blessed by nature as the other two neighbouring districts of the Bilaspur Division.

Rapid and planned progress of agriculture, industry and trade mainly depends upon the successful functioning of the various financial institutions and credit organisations. However, the paucity of old records during the periods of erstwhile feudatory states makes it difficult to trace precisely the emergence, growth, and decline of the various credit and financial agencies of the District. However, attempt has been made in the following lines to describe, and whenever possible, a comparative study, of different financial agencies catering credit to the District, sources and total amount of credit available, different sources of investment of available credit, and returns on different types of investment.

History of Indigenous Banking in the District

Banking on individual basis has been prevalent in the District from very old days though it is very difficult to trace its origin. In the rural areas of the District its origin is traceable in the lending of paddy by well-to-do agriculturists and *gaontias* (malguzars) to cultivators having uneconomic land-holdings. Apart from this the money was needed for meeting expenditure relating primarily to agricultural requirements, and sometimes to meet customary and ritual type of expenditure.

To meet out the short and middle term credit needs of the cultivators, principal agencies during the olden days were the professional money lenders or *sowkars* and *gaontias*. Several Rajputs from the Gaya District of Bihar were also settled in Udaipur State as tenants and as petty money-lenders. Generally money lenders charged high rates of interest for cash loan varying from two to five per cent per month¹.

¹ Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer, p. 263.

The Kawars and Gonds who were addicted to drink and careless in money matters were easy prey to these people. Loans could be had from these persons on exorbitant rate of interest. Loans were usually advanced to cultivators for improvements in their holdings for purchase of seeds and bullocks, and other family expenses of daily life. The demand varied with the nature of the season and availability of government credit. As a rule cultivators preferred to borrow from their *gaontias* or money lenders at a higher rate of interest and keep in touch with them, rather than to go to the State Treasury for a loan at 6½ per cent.

Although *gaontias* did not have proprietary rights, they had great goodwill in village life. In Raigarh District, farm servants generally received advances of money or grain without interest, repayable at the termination of their services. Remission in whole or part of the principal amount was made in the case of old servants, according to length of their services. The system of taking advances in lieu of services and labour was also prevalent in the other states of the District. The *bura-kamiyas* were consisted mainly of those who had taken cash loans on interest and could not repay their debts. In lieu of this, they had to render farm or other services to the money-lenders. When a man repayed his loan, only then he could be relieved of services rendered by him.

Apart from the private money-lenders, loans were also given by the feudatory States to those who desired to effect improvements in holdings, to purchase cattle or in the famine years. In Raigarh State the system of giving such loans was introduced in 1886 when the State was under the management of the British Government. The rate of interest charged was 6 per cent per annum, but the people generally did not depend on the State loans.

The geographical situation of the District is such that it enjoyed the benefit of both the monsoons, but when both failed the grip of famines become very severe. During these famine years, former feudatory States of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur tried to alleviate the suffering by providing financial assistance. In Raigarh State, loans of seed-grain to the value of Rs. 30,000 at a low rate of interest were made during the famine of 1886. Considerable loans in cash were also granted to *gaontias* (malguzars) for the repairs of, tanks and purchase of cattle. At the time of scarcity of 1900, Raigarh State advanced loans both in cash and kind to the tune of Rs. 84,900 at a low rate of interest.

In Udaipur State, at the time of 1886 famine, Raja Bindeshri Prasad, advanced loans freely, which were easily repaid at the time of next harvest. (Again in 1900, when crops failed, Udaipur State advanced seed-grain loans free of interest, to needy cultivators.) However, grants of cash loans for land improvements, for purchase of seeds or bullocks were not made in this State. In Sarangarh State loans were given by the State to those who desired to effect

agricultural improvements but such loans were, however, not in great demand. In the famine year of 1900, the Sarangarh State advanced loans to cultivators amounting to Rs. 19,000. These States thus played an effective role in providing the credit facilities of village economy of the Raigarh District.

However, inspite of all these efforts of the former States of the District, the influence of the age-old institution of money-lenders remained supreme and traditionally it was the main agency in meeting out the credit requirements of the Raigarh District in the past, and it continues to enjoy even to day more or less the same effective position in this field. Such a predominant position would have meant no harm to the rural economy of the District, had the money lenders refrained from indulging in unhealthy practices and levying exorbitant charges for their services.

Efforts were made by the Government to regulate the business activities of money-lenders by various legislative measures. The changing socio-economic conditions in the District and the rapid spread of commercial banking, progress of co-operative credit movement, spread of education and the general awakening in the rural public, after Independence, had done much to regulate the activities of money-lenders in the District,

General Credit Facilities in the District

The general credit facilities available in Raigarh District at present include the village *sowkars* and *gaontias*, registered money-lenders, joint stock banks, co-operative credit societies and banks, loans from the Government, public trusts and charitable institution, The urban credit agencies in the District consist of the joint stock banks and the indigenous bankers, These agencies operate mainly to meet the requirement of trade and commerce in the District. The organised institutional agency, namely, joint stock banks meet the money requirements of traders against the security of pledged imports or exports, or by giving clean credit to business houses of established reputation. The individual agency, mainly consisting of well-to-do commercial concerns, lend money to reputed trade circles either clean or against security of immovable property. Some public trusts and charitable institutions have also entered in the field of money lending in the urban areas of the District.

The most important credit agency in the rural area of the District today is the individual money-lender or *sowkar* and *gaontias*. These persons advance mostly in kind, and a minor part in cash, against the security of gold and silver ornaments, immovable property, and even household utensils. Apart from these, co-operative credit societies are also playing an important role in the credit organisation of the District. Both the urban and rural agencies meet only the short and middle term demand of the people.

Thus, the agencies which supply credit in the District may be grouped into five categories. First, agriculturist money-lenders, professional money-

lenders and commission agents or non-institutional private individual agencies or indigenous bankers, second, Co-operative Credit Societies and Banks, third, Joint Stock Banks and other organised financial institutions, fourth, Public Trusts and Charitable Institutions, and fifth, Government. An attempt has been made in the following lines to assess the present position and the role of these agencies in supplying credit in urban and rural areas of Raigarh District,

As appears from the foregoing description, the most important credit agency in the rural and urban areas in Raigarh District is the individual money-lender. Private money lending is not a hereditary system in spite of fact that it has continued to be followed by large number of families for generations. These families were the monopoly holders of all trade and commerce and always had huge surplus of money to lend to small traders. It can thus, be seen that money lending business in Raigarh District did not come down traditionally from father to son, but was allowed to remain a preserve of the trusted few by the states of the day. In rural areas of the District some ex-malguzars or *gaontias* were under the former feudal system of Governments the centre of all powers, social political and economic and, therefore, they emerged to be money-lenders. Even today, a vast number of money-lenders are those who own huge acreage of land and holdings.

Most of the lending by the money-lenders in rural area in the District is still in kind, and only a minor part in cash against security of gold and silver ornaments, immovable property and house-hold utensils. In urban areas, these money lenders operate mainly in meeting the requirements of trade and commerce. The individual agency, generally consisting of well to-do commercial firms lend money to reputed traders either clean or against security of fixed assets.

Interest is generally calculated at simple rate per unit of one or a hundred of the capital for cash loans. This, however, tends to grow into compound interest, if the borrower fails to repay the dues within the specified time. The rate of interest on cash transactions varied from 24 to 75 per cent per annum. This practice of charging compound interest is largely and almost invariably adopted by the post-partition period evacuees, who have settled in this District and with whom money-lending is well established profession. Their rates of interest vary from 25 to 50 per cent. Factory labourers and other classes of labourers are the established borrowers from this class of lenders.

In kind, interest is also generally calculated at compound interest. This system of lending in Raigarh District is called *Badhi* system. Prevalent rates of interest in kind are *Sawai* and *Dedha* system, the former means 25 per cent and the latter 50 per cent. *Badhi* system of interest generally prevails in the

rural areas of the District. The period of realisation is immediately after the harvesting of crops. The rate of interest by the money-lenders varies from 25 to 50 per cent, according to class of secured or unsecured debts in rural areas.

Private money lenders in Raigarh District still continue to play their important role of financing the short and middle term agricultural and business requirements of the cultivators and traders in the rural and urban areas and the daily living needs of labourers in urban areas.

Now, registration and licensing of money-lenders and maintenance of accounts in prescribed forms was made compulsory. Moreover, furnishing periodical statement of accounts to debtors and issue of receipts to them for every payment received is made necessary for money-lenders. The Acts also specify the maximum rate of interest allowed on secured and unsecured loan. It is 12 per cent as simple and 10 per cent compound rate of interest on secured loans, and 18 per cent and 10 per cent simple and compound, respectively, on unsecured loan. The number of registered money lenders on tahsil basis was as under:—

Table No. VI-1

Registered Money-lenders in the District

Year	Raigarh	Gharghoda	Dharamjaigarh
1957	64	6	—
1960	67	8	1
1965	74	—	—
1966	103	—	—
1967	88	12	8
1968	93	—	3
1969	96	18	12

(Figures for Jashpur and Sarangarh tahsils are not available.)

Co-operative Credit

The co-operative credit movement was started in the District only after the attainment of the Independence, with the establishment of the Raigarh Co-operative Central and Land Mortgage Bank at Raigarh. The movement, however, gained momentum with the beginning of the Plan-era. The District is now

being served with all the four branches of co-operative credit viz., (1) District Co-operative Central Bank, (2) Land Mortgage Bank, (3) Agricultural Credit (primary) Societies and (4) Non-agricultural Credit Societies. A Brief description of these various co-operative agencies catering to credit needs of the District is as follows:—

There is one Central Co-operative Bank in the District named as the 'Raigarh Co-operative Central Bank Ltd.' with its headquarters at Raigarh. The Bank was registered in March, 1949 with an initial share capital of Rs. 40,000, and had 53 societies and 300 individual affiliated to it in the beginning. The area of operation of the Bank is whole of the Raigarh District. It had ten branches at Kharsia, Sarangarh, Dharmjaigarh, Jashpurnagar, Gharghoda, Baramkale, Bagicha, Kunkari, Pathalgaon, and Lelunga by the end of 1966-67. The progress of the Bank can be seen from the Table given below:—

Table No. VI-2

Progress of the Central Co-operative Bank, Raigarh

Year	No. of Societies.	No. of members.	Owned Fund (Rs.)	Working Capital (Rs.)	Loans advanced (Rs.)
1951-52	40	324	42,500	1,12,667	89,599
1956-67	191	365	1,10,940	12,31,590	10,40,356
1961-62	510	377	4,72,460	30,03,108	19,30,053
1966-67	496	2,217	15,11,692	80,17,773	37,46,945
1969-70	402	2,127	24,08,812	99,92,848	74,59,571

The Bank transacts commercial and banking business also. The volume of business for the years 1965, 1977, and 1969 was as under:—

	1965	1967	1969
1. Advances			
(a) Agricultural	54,55,002	37,46,945	52,43,000
(b) Commercial	9,88,708	—	—
2. Deposits	14,71,233	11,37,515	13,14,710

The Scheme of 'linking the credit with marketing' was introduced by the Bank in the District from the year 1964-65. The members of 148 societies paid their debts in rice amounting to Rs. 1,76,256. Apart from this, the Bank distributed loans for fertilisers amounting to Rs. 5,32,520, and for seed a loan of Rs. 27,416 to the members of co-operative societies in the year 1964-65.

This Bank was established in the District on 16th June, 1963 with a view to provide long-term credit for the permanent improvement in land. The Bank grants loan to its member for the period of 10 to 15 years. The progress of the Bank for the years from 1963-64 to 1972-73 is as under:—

Table No. VI-3

Progress of the Land Mortgage Bank, Raigarh

Year	Membership.	Share Capital	Working Capital.	Loans advanced.
1963-64	399	7,117	—	19,100
1965-66	1,156	19,485	—	1,13,525
1970-71	4,051	1,11,829	12,84,085	10,95,350
1971-72	8,638	1,51,670	18,32,391	16,15,434
1972-73	13,769	1,79,682	23,75,199	19,76,025

The outstanding loans of the Bank in the year 1965-66 and 1966-67 were Rs. 2,34,349, and Rs. 2,70,940, respectively.

Agricultural Credit Societies

The details of the working of agricultural co-operative credit societies in the District was as under:—

Table No. VI-4

Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies in the District

Year	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	Owned Fund (in Rs.)	Working Capital (in Rs.)	Loans advanced (in Rs.)
1951-52	72	1,080	5,400	5,400	46,715
1956-57	461	4,256	53,656	6,81,979	5,50,657
1961-62	327	13,574	4,28,360	—	14,39,288
1966-67	386	47,150	16,31,435	85,06,916	29,12,852
1971-72	375	61,024	—	2,02,46,000	—
1972-73	375	64,260	—	2,26,89,000	—

Non-agricultural Credit Societies.

Apart from this, non-agricultural co-operative credit societies are also playing important role in providing credit facilities through cooperative sector in the field of production and marketing. The Table given below shows number, membership and working capital of non-agricultural cooperative credit societies in Raigarh District.

Table No. VI-5

Non-agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies in the District

(Amount in thousands Rs.)

Year	Number of Societies	Membership	Working Capital
1965-66	3	144	1
1966-67	2	—	—
1967-68	2	151	1
1968-69	2	151	1
1969-70	2	151	1
1970-71	4	264	4
1972-72	6	284	4

Joint Stock Banks

The commercial bank are the main component of modern financing system. Their interest mainly lies in financing the industrial and business sectors of economy. The location of these banks is generally guided by the large concentration of places of agricultural produce, industry and trade, which are the main characteristics of urban centres. Since the Raigarh was one of the financially backward and remote areas, the Joint Stock Banks came into existence in the District only in 1943-44. The first Bank to open its branch was a non-scheduled bank, known by the name of the Calcutta Standard Bank Ltd., having its head office at Calcutta. It was followed by the Bharti Central Bank the another non-scheduled bank. The Laxmi Bank Ltd. Akola, which opened its branch office at Raigarh, was a well known scheduled bank in the area. The next three banks which came into existence were the Hindustan Industrial Bank, the Imperial Bank of India and the Central Bank of India. The former being a non-scheduled one, while the latter two were scheduled banks. The Central Bank of India Ltd., and the State Bank of India, established their branches at Raigarh in the year 1948 and 1949, respectively. The Raigarh Co-operative Central and Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Raigarh, established in the District in 1949, with the object of assisting agricultural operations, under the

co-operative sector. Later, in 1964, a branch of the State Bank of India was also established at Sarangarh.

The Calcutta-Standard Bank, the Bharti Central Bank and the Hindustan Industrial Bank, all went into liquidation as a result of the repartition run on banks in Calcutta. Thus, by the end of 1967, the State Bank of India with its two branches at Raigarh and Sarangarh and Central Bank of India with its branch at Raigarh were operating in the District. The banking activities increased rapidly after the nationalisation of leading commercial banks, in August, 1969 and the number of bank offices increased from 3 in 1967 to 11 by the end of September 1972. The centrewise list of commercial bank offices in Raigarh District as at the end of September, 1972 is given under:—

Table No. VI-6

Commercial Banks in Raigarh District

S. No.	Name of the Bank	Place of banking office.
1.	State Bank of India.	Dharamjaigarh, Jashpur Nagar, Kharsia, Kunkuri, Lailunga, Sarangarh,
2.	Central Bank of India.	Gharghoda, Pathalgaon, Raigarh.
3.	Punjab National Bank.	Raigarh.

Source : Reserve Bank of India, Bulletins.

Thus, in this District, there were 7 banking offices of State Bank of India, 3 offices of Central Bank of India and one office of Punjab National Bank, of these 11 offices, 8 were in rural areas and 3 were in Semi-urban area. Gharghoda, Kunkuri, Lailunga and Pathalgaon centres were unbanked on the eve of nationalisation. Apart from these, the Central Cooperative Bank, Raigarh is also transacting the banking business in the District.

Apart from the general banking activities namely, acceptance of deposits from public and granting of loans to approved borrowers against the security of goods, and alike, these banks are also granting advances to agriculturists, small scale industries and other priority sectors. After nationalisation improved performance of banks in their operations is also reflected in spread of banking in rural areas of the District. Deposits and advances reported by the Commercial banks in the District are given in the Table below.

Table No. VI-7
Deposits and Advances of Banks in the District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)		
Year (31st December)	Deposits (reported)	Advances (reported)
1966	76	1,40
1968	96	53
1970	98	55
1972 (June)	1,22	53

It is evident from the Table given above that the banking business in the District is gradually progressing and organised banking system is penetrating in the credit and financial system of the District.

Government Finance

Of late government also participated in financing the credit needs of the rural area of Raigarh District under the Agriculturists Loans Act and Land Improvement Loans Act, besides the distribution of taccavi loans. Loans under Agriculturists Loans Act are provided to cultivators for the purchase of seed, cattle and other objects connected with agricultural operations. Under Land Improvement Loans Act, advances are made for the construction of wells and tanks, land, irrigation, protection from floods and for other permanent improvements of land for agricultural purposes. Since 1963-64, the distribution of taccavi loans in the District is undertaken by the Cooperative Central Bank, Raigarh. The financial assistance provided by the Government under various schemes and Acts in the District for the year from 1963-64 to 1969-70 was as under:—

Table No. VI-8
Government Finance in the District

(Amount in Rs.)		
Year	Land Improvement Loans Act	Agriculturists Loans Act
1963-64	2,20,939	1,95,000
1964-65	8,04,952	40,156
1965-66	3,79,104	81,849
1966-67	4,62,754	—
1967-68	6,52,007	—
1968-69	1,28,918	—
1969-70	34,400	—

Financing by Public Trusts

The important public charity trust in the District is the Kirodimal Charity Trust, Raigarh, established in the year 1945 by donation from Seth Kirodimal. Besides other activities, the trust funds are also utilised for advancing the loans to traders and merchants within and outside Raigarh District. Trust funds inclusive of investments are expected to be Rs. 100 lakhs.

From the foregoing account of main purveyors of credit in the old financial set-up as well as of new agencies which have come into existence in comparatively recent times, and of Government efforts in providing the financial assistance in the District, clearly reveals the fact that looking to the credit needs in the field of production and distribution during the gestation period of their operation, the assistance given is still not sufficient. It should particularly be viewed in the context of subsistence level of living of the masses in the District. This reflects on the ability of savings from the current income. The short account of organisations and institutions engaged in mobilising saving is as follows:—

Small Saving Schemes

The organisations attracting and mobilising the savings in the District may be grouped under two heads, (1) Post Office Saving Schemes, and (2) Life Insurance. There are five Post-Office Small Saving Schemes in operation in the District namely, Post Office Saving Bank, 12 Year National Plan Certificates, 10 year Treasury Savings Deposits, 15 Year Annuity Certificates, and Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme. The gross and net receipts as well as the targets fixed for the District were as under:—

Table No. VI-9
Small Saving Schemes in the District

(Amount in lakh Rs.)			
Year	Gross	Net	Target
1963-64	33.48	9.92	4
1965-66	30.08	6.65	5
1967-68	27.88	2.86	7
1969-70	29.47	1.71	9
1971-72	36.64	4.30	10

Source : Regional Director, National Savings, Indore.

Life Insurance

Insurance business is the best source of attracting the savings while at the same time covering the risks. In Raigarh District, there is a branch of Life

Insurance Corporation of India located at Raigarh. The following figures gives an idea of volume of business completed by the branch of the Corporation in the year 1961 and from 1962-63 to 1969-70,

Table No. VI-10
Life Insurance in the District

Year	Volume of Business Completed (Rs.)
1960-61	70,18,125
1962-63	1,03,60,250
1963-64	1,10,43,500
1964-65	44,44,750
1965-66	1,06,64,250
1966-67	53,60,250
1967-68	77,62,000
1968-69	1,25,36,000
1969-70	1,30,60,000

General Insurance

Apart from the life insurance business the Corporation has now also undertaken fire, marine and other general insurance business with effect from First April, 1964. There is no branch office of any other general insurance company in the District but the general insurance business is carried on by the Inspectors and Agents of various general insurance companies, who periodically visit Raigarh.

Other Financial Institutions

There is no stock exchange in Raigarh District. The District is, however, being served by the Madhya Pradesh Financial Corporation (Indore). As on 31st March, 1972, the Corporation sanctioned loans of Rs. 0.20 lakh to one small scale industry and Rs. 20 lakhs to two other industries. The amount disbursed on this date was Rs. 0.20 lakh and Rs. 19.50 lakhs, respectively.

Currency and Coinage

The Raigarh District was remote and backward prior to the advent of the Railway. Coin was virtually unknown in the interior of the ex-feudatory states. Even in 1909, in Udaipur State dues were paid either in kind in the shape of ropes, baskets, fish and rice, or in *cowries* (at two hundred cowries to the *doganis* and 36 *doganis* to a Nagpuri rupee).

Generally, there was no local currency or any other coinage system in the former states of the District. When the region was added to British it seems that coins prevalent in British India were extended to these states also. Decimal system of currency is in operation since 1957 and all transaction are now being made in new currency.

Trade and Commerce

Before 1890, communication facilities in the feudatory states of the District were extremely poor. There were no railways or metalled roads in the District. Generally surface roads of fair-weather tracks with wooden bridges were radiating to trade centres. Considerable portion of the traffic used to be carried on in boats on the Mahanadi and the rest on pack-bullocks or carts. In Raigarh State, Bengal-Nagpur Railway was opened in 1891, with a length of 35 miles in the State. With four railway stations at Raigarh, Naharpali, Kharsia and Jamangaon, the State had grown in importance as a commercial place. Apart from this some important roads in Raigarh state were those that led to Sarangarh from Raigarh, from Dhobra to Kharsia and from Kharsia to Udaipur state borders.

The Sarangarh State was cut off from the railway by the Mahanadi river and the traffic was also hampered by the Mand river which had to be crossed by the road to Raigarh. From Sarangarh only second class roads radiated to Raigarh, Bilaspur, Saraipali, and Sheola. Raigarh, was the nearest railway station, 32 miles from Sarangarh and the rest of the state sent produce to Raigarh or Kharsia stations. Udaipur state that time maintained a large number of roads but most of the roads were fair-weather tracks, except for a surface road from Dharamjaigarh to Raigarh and to the Sakti state. The principal roads in Jashpur state were also fair-weather tracks connecting Jashpur-nagar with Ranchi District in Bihar and Gangpur, Udaipur and Sarangarh State in the District.

In the absence of good and proper means of transport and communications, the trading and commercial activities of the area remained deficient in all respects and most of the transactions were carried on in kind. Wages were paid in grains and beyond rent and purchase of certain articles of clothing and jewellery, there were few purposes for which money was used. Agriculturists kept with them sufficient quantity of grain for their food and other requirements, and usually sold grain in small quantities, when money was required to local petty traders. In other words, marketable surplus of produce was negligible and the economic system had only just emerged from the state of barter. Thus, exchange economy on which trade and commercial activities depend was insignificant.

The chief trading classes in the area were the *marwaris*, *baniyas* and the *cutchis*. Messers John Miller and Company, Calcutta was exporting hemp in

1909, which was grown at Sarangarh and find a ready market at Raigarh. The *tasar* and *kosa* silk was largely exported to Berhampur in Madras from Raigarh. *Tasar dhotis* and bamboo mat also exported from Raigarh in 1909. Among imports, cattle was common in all the states, because of the fact that the locally bred bullocks were small in size, miserably poor and were unsuited for heavy work in rice fields. Trolling bullocks were imported at the cost of Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 per pair. Following were the commodities of export and import, before 1909, in the feudatory states of Raigarh District,

Name of the State	Name of commodities	
	Export	Import
1. Raigarh	rice, til, kosa & tasar cloth	salt, sugar, hard-ware Manchester cloth, wheat cuttack silk and cattle.
2. Sarangarh	rice, gram, hemp-tasar, silk, betelpeares, mahua and other forest produce	sugar, salt, oil, spices, kerosene oil, hardware and metal-untensils.
3. Udaipur	rice, mahua, chironji, horns, hides, wax, lac, ghi, and cotton.	salt tobacco, cloth, gur, spices, kerosene oil, hard- ware and metal-untensils.
4. Jashpur	rice, oil, seeds, cotton, ghi, lac, hides and salslee- pers and timber.	cloth, salt, gur, tobacco, wollen cloth & brass- vassel, sugar, yarns and spices,

It is not possible to give accurate trade figures for the later years. In the begining of the twentieth century, however, imports into the District consisted of consumer goods viz., cloth, sugar, kerosene, edible oil, ghee, wheat and pulses, and other articles of necessity. The exports consisted of rice, paddy, timber, bamboo and minor forest produces including tendu leaves, gunny bags urad, kosa etc.

The clear picture of the trade and commercial activities of the District, however, emerged only after the attainment of the Independence, particularly with the beginning of the Five Year Plans. In the beginning of the First Five Year Plan, only 3,500 persons or 0.4 per cent of the total population were reported to be engaged in trade and commerce. By the end of the Second Plan, more than cent per cent increase was evident in trade and commercial activities in the District. As per 1961 census, 7,458 persons were engaged in this activity. Even then share of trade and commerce in the economy of the District remained very insignificant, being only 1.3 per cent. The tahsil-wise break-up of persons engaged in trade and commerce in the District in 1961, was as follows:—

Table No. VI-11
Persons Engaged in Trade and Commerce

Name of the Tahsil	Male	Female	Total
1. Udaipur	413	154	567
2. Jashpur	917	242	1,159
3. Gharghoda	439	208	647
4. Raigarh	3,058	773	3,831
5. Sarangarh	710	484	1,194

The number of persons engaged in wholesale trade, retail trade, and miscellaneous trade and commercial activities in 1961 was 1,459, 5734, and 265 respectively. The trade and commercial activities are still concentrated mainly in urban and semi-urban places. About 3,800 persons or more than 50 per cent engaged in these activities were more or less classified as 'single worker', and 'family numbers' about 1800 or about 25 per cent. In other words, big concerns of trade and commerce were conspicuous by their absence in the District. The wholesale and retail trade and commercial activities in the District mostly confined to cereals and *kirana*, vegetables and textiles.

Course of Trade

Agriculture is still the mainstay of the economy of Raigarh District and Paddy is the main crop grown. Processing of paddy into rice and its by-products provide employment to significant proportion of population in Raigarh and Kharsia. Similarly, forests play important role in the economy and timber, *tendu* leaves and other forests products are exported outside the District. Thus, the structure of economy being based on agriculture and forest, the trade and commerce activities of the District almost follow the same pattern and direction. The exports from the District consist, mainly of rice, paddy, timber, bamboo, minor forest products like *harra*, gum, and resin, *tendu* leaves, minerals, gunny bags, etc. The imports consists of consumer goods viz., cloth, sugar, kerosene oil, edible oil, ghee, wheat, pulses, general merchandice, and raw jute for Raigarh jute mills, petrol, mineral oil, medicines etc.

Since the individual economic entity of the District and places is fast disappearing, it is difficult to mention in absolute terms the out flow or exports, and in flow or import of commodities. However, to have an idea, the Tables showing the outward and inward transmission of some important commodities in Raigarh Municipal limits and at the main rail-heads of the District are given in Appendix.

Marketing

Marketing is a necessary part of economic activities and its efficient organisation is vital for the well being of a region. In Raigarh District,

generally principal wholesale markets are at the railhead towns or at the places connected by roads with railways. These wholesale markets are known in the District namely *ganjs* or *mandies*. The amount of agricultural produce carried to these *ganjs* or *mandies* for sale is practically confined to requirements of the consumers in urban area. The ordinary cultivator, in fact, only sells the surplus amount of produce, not required for local consumption in food grains, seed etc.

In rural areas, normally, most of the cultivators have their own carts and inspite of this, they prefer to sell their produce in the village rather than carry it to the *mandi* because the amount of agricultural produce which the ordinary cultivator has for sale is often not sufficient to induce him to carry it in person to the *mandi*, unless he resides in its vicinity. Under these circumstances the retail purchasers of agricultural produce played an important role in the life of the agricultural community in the District.

System of marketing prevalent in the Raigarh District is that the merchants purchase the agricultural produce directly from the producer to the village or established market centre or in the *mandi* wherever in existence. Intermediaries or middleman called '*dalal*' and commission agents are also active in marketing organisation of the District. Besides this, in most of the cases, transactions are by way of 'forward contracts'. Under this system an agriculturist takes some loan from the local merchant or *sowkars* and *gaontias*, and in lieu of the principal and interest, he agrees to sell his produce at the rate already settled at the time of taking the loan by him, which is usually sufficiently below of the market rates.

It is seen that the prices in rural areas are, of necessity some-what lower than those in the whole-sale markets, but the difference in prices obtained on the spot by the cultivators does not as a rule exceed the expenses of transportation and the remuneration of petty dealer for his service. The transport charges mainly depend upon the distance of the village from the rail head, and in the cases for where villages are at a long distance and where communications are bad, the local prices are generally considerably lower. In *mandies* or whole sale markets certain deductions are also made compulsorily by the middle man or commission agent, as remuneration of his service. Amazing differences were found in local units of weights and measures in Raigarh District. In some places of the District different measures were in use for purchase and sale of agricultural commodities. These variations in weights and measures from village to village, from market to market and for different commodities were found to prejudice the interests of the agriculturists and to hamper trade and commerce in Raigarh District. Lack of communications and transport facilities also proved bottel-necks in this regard. Another difficulty which hampered successful marketing in the District was the habit of mixing superior and inferior produce when taking it to market. Lack of temporary storage facilities for producers and information in rural areas regarding market conditions

was also paralysing the marketing organisation in the District. The system of 'Forward Contract' was playing a havoc in the marketing of the Raigarh District.

Though rapid developments are taking place, the District suffered from various aforesaid drawbacks. Moreover the presence of large number of middle men or *dalal*, influence of village *sowkars* or *gaontias*, and the weak bargaining capacity of the cultivators were main drawbacks of the marketing organisation of the District. With all these shortcomings, the poor producers are easy prey of a variety of malpractices at the hands of traders. The efforts to regulate the business transactions at important centres remained ineffective in the absence of any regulated *mandi* in the District even as late as in 1967.

Important whole-sale marketing centres

The principal wholesale business centres in the District are Raigarh, Bhupdeopur, Kharsia, Jharadih, Dharamjaigarh, Pathalgaon, Lailunga, Gharghoda, Surajgarh, Sarangarh, Baramkela and Jashpurnagar.

In the absence of regulated markets no systematic record of arrival and despatch in maintained by any agency in the District and practically it is not possible to furnish figures regarding the volume and value of commodities traded. It is quite evident that that the principal commodities traded in *mandies* consist of agricultural produce and forest products. Main commodities for which transactions usually take place in the district *mandies* are paddy, rice, oilseeds, pulses, hemp, and other forest products, e. g, timber, shallac, gum, resin and *tendu* leaves.

Important Retail Marketing Centres

In all parts of the District mostly weekly markets take place. Some of them are of permanent nature while others are of temporary nature. In all there are about 90 places where markets or *hats* take place. In all these markets, transaction of the commodities of daily needs take place. Small traders from nearby villages and towns come to these places and business is carried on through out the day. The farmers of the nearby villages come to meet their requirement from these markets. Agricultural and forest produces are collected by petty traders here and transfer them for sale to wholesale trade centres. The important retail marketing centres of the District are Surajgarh, Rangalpali, Baramkela, Chikhali, Jamangaon, Kotra Godam, Kirodimal nagar, Gharghoda, Tamnar, Lalilunga, Pathalgaon, Kunhuri, Jashpur, Ludog, Gersa, Dharamjaigarh, Kudekela, Kharsia, Mura.

Fairs

At present, though District has no fair or *mela* of all India or State wide importance, a number of fairs are being held in the District. Mostly they are of religious character, and articles of daily use are sold in them. The names

and other details of the important fairs and *melas* weekly markets held in the Raigarh District are given in the Appendix.

Co-operative marketing

The idea of co-operation in the field of marketing was primarily introduced with the hope that it would bring prosperity to the agricultural classes. It is significant that co-operative form of organisation can play an effective role in improving the system of marketing of agricultural produces. Government policy of undertaking the large scale programme of procurement of foodgrains and putting emergency levy on producers, added importance to the movement of co-operative marketing in the District.

Till the end of the First Plan, Co-operative marketing did not exist in the District. It was only during the Second Plan period that the organisation of marketing societies was taken in hand and since then some progress had been made in this sphere. In the year 1959, the Raigarh Agricultural Association Ltd., Raigarh was converted as Marketing Co-operative Society. In 1972-73, there were 5 co-operative marketing societies in Raigarh District, of these 2 were in Raigarh Tahsil and one each in Udaipur, Jashpur, Gharghoda and Sarangarh tahsils. The progress of these societies is given in the Table below—

Table No. VI-12
Cooperative Marketing Societies in the District

(Amount in thousands Rs.)

Year	Number of Societies	Membership	Working Capital
1960-61	4	84	478
1966-66	4	348	789
1970-71	5	1,412	98
1971-72	5	1,547	594
1972-73	5	1,547	1,223

These societies deal in controlled and other important commodities like fertilisers seeds etc., for the benefit of their members, arrange marketing of their produce and provide financial assistance to them.

Ware-Housing

Apart from providing storage facilities ware-houses play a prominent role in financing the agriculturists and traders in developing economies. Agriculturists and traders can deposit their goods in the ware-houses and can take loan up to the tune of 70 to 75 per cent from State Bank of India or any other scheduled bank against ware-house receipts. The Raigarh Ware-housing Centre was established in the November, 1958 by the Madhya Pradesh State

Ware-housing Corporation. The Government, co-operative societies, producers and merchants are the main depositors of Raigarh Ware-housing Centre, and food grains, pulses, oilseeds, spices and fertilizers were the commodities stored in the recent years in the Centre.

The capacity of Ware-housing Centre was raised from 10,600 standard bags in 1959-60 to 25,000 standard bags in 1965-66. Number of Ware-house receipts and advances made by banks against these receipts were raised from 30 and Rs. 2,23,706 in 1959-60, to 122 and Rs. 7,78,158 in 1965-66, respectively. In 1961-62, Rs. 11,49,291 were the highest advances made by banks against 144 Ware-house receipts. Storage capacity and occupancy of the Raigarh Ware-housing Centre in the month of May, 1967, was 23,130 and 10,240 bags, respectively. Progress of the Raigarh Ware-housing Centre is given in the Table below—

Table No. VI-13
Ware-housing in Raigarh Centre

Particulars	1960-61	1965-66	1969-70
1. Capacity of Warehouse Centre (in Std. Bag's)	10,000	25,000	44,486
2. Opening Stock as on 1st April (in Bag's)	5,946	3,650	1,524
weight in quintals	5,310	3,370	1,523
3. Stock Offered for Storage during the year (in Bag's)	8,482	34,277	65,441
weight in quintals	7,624	24,689	43,058
4. No. of depositors.	19	10	8
5. No. of Warehouse receipts issued	69	122	103
6. Bank Advances against W. H. Receipt (Rs.)	1,96,872	7,78,158	6,000

State Trading

In Raigarh District there is nothing like State Trading Corporation or any other trading corporation owned by the Government. But with a view to distributing food grains at reasonable prices to consumers and to maintain their regular flow in the market a number of Fair Price Shops both in rural and urban areas have been opened by the State Government. Apart from selling food grains at these fair-price shops they also deal in other essential commodities like sugar, kerosene etc. By the end of 1967 there were 242 fair price shops in the District. Among these, 203 shops were in rural areas and 39 shops were in

urban areas. Through these shops generally wheat, rice, jowar, sugar, etc. are distributed according to prefixed quota, for each month on ration cards. The Table below gives an idea about the functioning of fair price shops in Raigarh District.

Table No. VI-14
Fair Price Shops in the District

Name of the Tahsil	Number of Fair Price Shops		
	Rural area	Urban area	Total
1. Raigarh	40	13	53
2. Gharghoda	59	—	59
3. Sarangarh	46	13	59
4. Dharamjaigarh	18	—	18
5. Jashpur	33	5	38
6. Kharsia	7	8	15
Total	203	39	242

Merchant's Organisation

The Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce, Raigarh is the only merchant organisation in the District. The Forest Contractors Association is also a registered body. Other similar associations are formed for specific purposes and disappear after the objects have been achieved.

Consumer's Association

A consumers' whole sale store and eleven primary consumers stores were working in the District by the end of 1967. They mainly dealt in controlled commodities.

Weights and Measures

As Raigarh District was constituted by the merger of four Feudatory States, the names of local units of weights and measures varied a little in different States and for different articles in the District. *Naraja* (weighing scale having graduations, with one pao only) was the old weights and measures unit prevalent in the District. Standard weights of *seer* and *maund* were used at the headquarters towns. Elsewhere local weight like *tambi*, *Khandi* and *gona* etc., local weights were used. Generally grain was weighted by these local units. *Tambi*, *man* and *paila*, were used in rice transactions. Local weights and measures generally used in the former State of the Raigarh District were as follows:—

- 1 *burki* or *churki* or *bhurkhars* — 20 *tolas*
- 2 *burkis* or *churki* or *bhurkhars* — 1 *man* (40 *tolas*)— $\frac{1}{2}$ *Seer*

4 <i>mans</i>	—	1 <i>tami</i> or <i>Tambi</i> or <i>Katha</i> (160 <i>tolas</i> or 2 <i>seers</i>)
20 <i>tamis</i> or <i>tambis</i>	—	1 <i>Khandi</i> (1 <i>maund</i>)
4 <i>khandis</i>	—	1 <i>gona</i>
8 <i>gona</i>	—	1 <i>rudug</i>

The usual measure, the *tambi* or, *tami*, was supposed to contain 160 *tolas* or two *seers* of rice. A *katcha* *seer* of 48 *tolas* and a standard *seer* of 80 *tolas* were also used. A *katcha* *maund* of rice was supposed to sow one acre land.

In Jashpur State, the *paila* was supposed to hold fourteen *chittacks* of rice. The usual measures were:—

1 <i>Paila</i>	—	14 <i>chittaks</i>
20 <i>paila</i>	—	1 <i>khandi</i>
3 <i>khandis</i>	—	1 <i>pachhi</i>

In Raigarh State, molasses, cotton and metals were weighed differently as:

1 <i>par</i>	—	4 <i>tolas</i>
5 <i>pars</i>	—	1 <i>phuli</i>
4 <i>phuli</i>	—	1 <i>bisa</i> or <i>Seer</i>

The scale used in measuring articles consist of an iron bar one cubic long tapering at one of its ends with a brass pan suspended. It was marked in to *pars*, and *bisas*. A *khandi* of land was equal to the area which can be sown with one *khandi* of rice or about half an acres. Earth work was measured by the *dagni* which was equivalent to 40 cubic feet.

In Sarangarh State, a *khandi* when used in payment of wages was equal to 20 *seers* and for other purposes it was of 40 *seers*. The measures for *ghi* were as follows:—

40 <i>tolas</i>	—	1 <i>charu</i>
10 <i>charu</i>	—	1 <i>khandi</i>

Different measures were used for oil, as for instance the *athali* which was equivalent to two *seers*, and the *adheli* was equal to one *seer*. The weight of 2 *tolas* was equal to one *karsi*, two *karsis* made one *pav*, 5 *pavs* made one *phuli* and 12 *phulis* made one *paseri* and a *paseri* was equal to 3 *seers*.

It is clear from the above description that there was amazing differences in the local units of weights and measures in the District. Different measures were used for measuring the different commodities. In Sarangarh State, a *khandi* when used in payment of wages was of 20 *seers* and for other purposes it was of 40 *seers*. These variations in weights and measures from village to village and from one State to another were found to prejudice the interests of sellers and hemper trade and commerce of the District.

Though standard weights of maund, seer, *chhattac* and *tola* were in use at main marketing centres of Raigarh District, the introduction of Madhya Pradesh Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1959, made a landmark in the history of weights and measures. According to the provision of this Act, metric weights were made compulsory with effect from the 1st, April, 1962. Metric length measures (Metre) and metric capacity measures (Litre) were also enforced in this District with effect from 1st Oct., 1962, and 1st April 1963, respectively.

The relationship of the main local measures to the metric measures is following:—

<i>Tambi</i>	— 1.850 Kg. (approx).
(Dry measures)	
<i>Maan</i>	— 465 grams „
<i>Paila</i>	— 933 grams „

The brass and tin made *tambi*, *maan* and *paila* etc., have been replaced by metric weights and measures upto a great extent. This has put an end to the variety of weights and measures adopted at different places and markets of the District. Due to lack of education in the interior of Raigarh district a number of difficulties were experienced to make the people understand with the metric-system and after a constant efforts the enforcement have been made and now the majority of traders are making their transactions in metric system only.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

Ancient Modes of Conveyance

Before the advent of the railway through Raigarh District a considerable portion of the traffic used to be carried on in boats on the Mahanadi, the rest on packbullocks and carts. Although other rivers of the District are not navigable for long distances due to numerous rapids in their course and their dry character in summer, small boats were used on the Ib river also near Sanna¹.

The southern part of the District has always provided routes for the pilgrims of Chhattisgarh, Berar and Rewa for Jagannathpuri and for trade between those parts on one hand and Calcutta and Sambulpur on the other hand².

The princely state of Raigarh had 32 miles of roads of which 3 miles were metalled. The cost of construction was Rs. 50,000 and of maintenance Rs. 3,000. The important feeder Roads were from Raigarh to Roads at the End Sarangarh, from Dhobra to Kharsia and from Kharsia to of 19th Century Udaipur (borders of Udaipur State). In the hilly tracts goods were transported on pack bullocks and the northern portions of Raigarh State were land locked so far as means of communication were concerned³.

In the erstwhile Sarangarh State, there were no first class roads. From Sarangarh, however, second class roads radiated to Raigarh, Bilaspur, Sarapali and Sohela. The whole state was cut off from the railway by the Mahanadi River and traffic was also hampered by the Mand River which had to be crossed on the road to Raigarh. In the open season a track and a bridge across the Mahanadi River were maintained in addition to the existing boat ferry⁴.

The erstwhile state of Udaipur maintained 215 miles (346.15 Km.) of Roads but most of these were fair weather tracks. A well metalled road with

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 332.
2. *Bilaspur District Gazetteer*, pp. 175-176 and 179, *Raipur District Gazetteer*, p. 308.
3. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 179.
4. *ibid.* p. 216.

wooden bridges, ran from Dharamjaigarh to Ero on the Raigarh boundary 52.30 Km. Fair weather tracks led from Dharamjaigarh to Sakti on the South-West, to Surguja on the south and to Tamta on the east¹.

The principal roads of Jashpur State were only fair weather tracks which crossed over the small nullahs on wooden bridges. They connected Jashpur-nagar with the Ranchi District and the Gangpur, Udaipur and Surguja States and were sufficient to meet the traffic needs of the State².

The road length as well as the surface wise break ups have recorded remarkable improvements during the Three Five Year Plan periods (beginning from 1951). The length of metalled roads which was only 70.75 miles (114.30 Km.) in 1950-51 increased to 239.00 miles (389.80 km.) in 1955-56; and to 315.75 miles (507.15 km.) in 1965-66. The total maintenance charges also went up from Rs. 2,64,587 in 1950-51 to Rs. 3,21,487 in 1955-56 and to Rs. 3,96,240 in 1965-66. The table below shows the details regarding road length and expenditure for a few selected years.—

Table No. VII-1
Road Development

Year	Total mileage		Total expenditure (Rs.)
	metalled	Un-metalled	
1950-51	70.75 (114.263)	429.83 (682.02)	2,64,587
1955-56	239.00 (384.633)	308.00 (495.678)	3,21,487
1961-62	294.25 (473.147)	256.75 (413.601)	3,50,869
1962-63	304.25 (489.241)	253.00 (407.164)	3,56,840
1963-64	302.50 (486.02)	257.25 (413.00)	3,63,412
1964-65	316.75 (510.16)	295.62 (474.756)	3,73,010
1965-66	316.75 (510.16)	452.50 (772.42)	3,96,240
1968-69	—	—	11,61,393

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D (B & R) Raigarh.

1. *ibid.* pp. 268-69.

2. *ibid.* p. 289.

Categorywise Road length

The classification of roads in the District was changed from time to time due to improvement in surface, linking with important towns or making them all time roads, etc. The improvement in surface are from gravelled to water bound mecadum, or to black topped, etc. The following table shows the category-wise roads in the District from the year 1950-51 onwards.

Table No. VII-2

Categorywise Road length

Year	State Highway	Major District Roads	Minor District Roads	Village Roads
1	2	3	4	5
1950-51		245.25 (394.989)	205.25 (329.916)	23.00 (37.014)
1955-56		254.25 (408.773)	250.62 (403.255)	23.83 (38.624)
1960-61		264.00 (424.867)	256.00 (411.992)	23.83 (38.624)
1961-62		264.00 (424.867)	254.25 (408.773)	23.83 (38.624)
1962-63		262.25 (421.648)	251.75 (405.555)	32.83 (53.108)
1963-64		262.25 (421.648)	251.75 (405.555)	32.83 (53.108)
1964-65		262.25 (421.648)	271.83 (437.742)	32.83 (53.108)
1965-66	177.25 (282.95)	68.50 (111.045)	381.75 (614.77)	32.83 (53.108)
1968-69	279.25 (449.80)	68.50 (111.045)	428.60 (690.41)	31.30 (51.499)

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D. (B & R) Raigarh.
(km. are given in brackets).

Surface wise Road lengths

The road surfaces in the District were bituminous, concrete, water bound mecadum (gravelled), natural soil (fair weather and motorable) and natural soil (unmotorable). The table below shows the year wise break-ups of the road surface in the District.

Table No. VII-3
Surfacewise Road Length

(In miles)				
Year	Bituminous	Water Bound Mecadum	Gravelled	Natural soil fair weather
1	2	3	4	5
1950	—	48.00 (78.858)	390.25 (627.64)	92.00 (148.050)
1951	—	70.75 (114.263)	339.25 (545.57)	111.00 (178.637)
1952	4.00 (6.437)	101.25 (162.544)	304.75 (490.850)	111.00 (178.637)
1960	32.36 (51.499)	238.020 (383.024)	162.87 (262.323)	111.37 (178.637)
1961	34.00 (54.718)	243.25 (391.071)	161.37 (259.104)	108.00 (173.809)
1962	24.00 (38.694)	242.25 (389.461)	156.87 (252.667)	103.00 (165.762)
1963	25.00 (40.233)	204.25 (328.306)	155.25 (249.448)	142.00 (228.527)
1964	93.00 (149.669)	205.25 (329.916)	148.25 (239.792)	108.00 (173.809)
1965	186.75 (300.947)	150.50 (243.011)	145.25 (233.355)	150.25 (241.402)
1966	221.75 (357.274)	122.26 (196.340)	145.25 (233.355)	308.25 (495.678)
1968	238.00 (383.024)	118.7 (191.512)	N. A.	N. A.

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D. (B & R) Raigarh.

Note—Figures in brackets are in km.

Classwise Road Length

The roads in the year 1950 were classified into class I class II and class III according to the nature of surface, etc. The table below shows tahsilwise break-ups of roads in 1950.

Table No. VII-4
Classwise Road Length

(In miles)				
Name of Tehsil	Class I Road	Class II Road	Class III Road	Total
Sarangarh	11.00 (17.702)	64.50 (104.607)	—	75.50 (120.701)
Raigarh and Gharghoda	37.00 (59.546)	86.00 (138.404)	—	123.00 (197.940)
Jashpur	Nil	116.50 (186.684)	55.00 (88.514)	171.50 (276.807)
Dharamjaigarh	48.00 (77.249)	390.25 (627.64)	92.00 (148.060)	530.25 (852.95)

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D. (B&R), Raigarh.

Note—Figures in brackets are in km.

The details regarding the present class I roads are as follows.—

1. Dharamjaigarh-Kharsia Road	38.75 miles	(62.764 km.)
2. Raigarh-Jashpurnagar Road	133.00 miles	(214.043 „)
3. Kharsia-Dhara-Chandrapur Road	27.50 miles	(45.061 „)
4. Sarangarh-Saraipali Road	14.75 miles	(24.140 „)
5. Sarangarh-Sani-Nadalgaon Road	21.00 miles	(33.796 „)
6. Raigarh-Sarangarh Road	31.75 miles	(51.499 „)
7. Sarangarh-Sheorinarayan Road	7.37 miles	(11.265 „)
8. Jashpur-Gumla Road	20.50 miles	(33.726 „)
9. Kelo-Chakrad-Harnagar Road	075. miles	(1.206 „)
10. Sakti-Masamia-Kharsia Road	10.37 miles	(16.093 „)

In 1956 there were 10 class I roads with a total mileage of 290 miles (466.90 km.) 11 class II roads with a mileage of 179 miles, (289.80 km.) and 9 class III roads, with a length of 175 miles (281.75 km.).

Road Construction During Five Year Plans

The Five Year Plans have, as stated before quickened the pace of development and resulted in tremendous improvements in the sphere of constructional activities. The various schemes for improvement as well as for new construction of roads were taken up during the period. The following table shows

the expenditure on the road building activities during the Plan periods in the District.—

Expenditure up to March 1957	First Plan	Second Plan	Third Plan
23,00,304	85,06,952	53,17,288	25,46,192

In the First Five Year Plan Raigarh-Sarangarh, Chandrapur road and Sarangarh-Saraipalli road were constructed. The important roads constructed during the Second Five Year Plan period were the Raigarh-Jashpur road, Kharsia-Dharamjaigarh road, and Raigarh-Sarangarh Surajgarh road. In the Third Five Year Plan the Sakti-Kharsia Road and Sarangarh-Sheorinarayan road were some of the important roads that were constructed,

The table below shows the length of the roads as on 31st March, 1969.—

Table No. VII-5
Length of Roads

Category of Road	Length	
	Miles	km.
1. State Highways	279.25	(449.007)
2. Major District Roads	68.50	(111.045)
3. Other District Roads	428.60	(690.41)
4. Village Roads	31.50	(51.499)
5. Forest Roads	792.59	(1115.28)

Source : Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B&R), Raigarh.

State Highways

There is no National Highway in the District. The following are the important roads under the State Highways in the District.—

Table No. VII-6
State Highways

Road	Length	
	Miles	km.
1. Saraipalli—Pathalgaon via Raigarh via Gumla	114.37	183.465
2. Botoli—Bagicha Kodarma	0.25	
3. Hati-Dharamjaigarh-Lawkera	60.10	112.75
4. Sakti-Kharsia	35.25	69.60
		56.35

Source : Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B&R), Raigarh.

These roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department. The surface wise length of these roads was as black-topped 124.87 miles (201.25 km.) water bound mecadum 59.87 miles (96.60 km.) unsurfaced 90.87 miles (146.50 km.).

Major District Roads

These roads had a total length of 68.50 miles (111.04 Km.), on 31st March 1969 out of which 47.25 miles (71.67 km.) were black-topped and 21.25 miles (33.80 km.) were water bound mecadum. These roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department.

The following are the important roads falling under this category.—

Table No. VII-7
Major District Roads

Name of Road	Miles	Km.
1. Raigarh-Jashpur Road	36.00	(57.936)
2. Dharamjaigarh-Kharsia Road	23.75	(38.624)
3. Sarangarh-Seorinarayan Road	7.62	(12.874)

Source : Executive Engineer P.W.D. (B&R) Raigarh.

Other District Roads

The total length of the roads under this category was 428.60 miles (690.70 km.) in 1968-69. These roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department. The following are some of the important roads under this category.—

Table No. VII-8
Other District Roads

Name of the Road	Miles	km.
1. Sarangarh—Saria—Nadigaon Road	21.37	33.796
2. Kausabel—Bagicha Road	28.37	45.061
3. Gharghoda Lailunga Road	27.50	45.361
4. Jashpur Sanna Road	33.00	53.108
5. Raigarh—Hamirpur Road	8.50	14.484

Source : Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B & R), Raigarh.

Village Roads

These roads had a total length of 31.50 miles (51.50 km.) in the District, on 31st March 1969. They are not available for utilization during rainy season due to earthen surface.

Public Transport

In this District the privately operated transport services are transporting a larger share of the goods and passenger traffic of the District as the Madhya Pradesh Government has not yet nationalised the various routes. The buses of the following transport companies are plying their buses on different routes.—

1. The Mahamaya Transport Company

Its buses ply on the routes (1) Raigarh-Sarangarh and back (2) Raigarh-Jashpur *Via* Pathalgaon (3) Jashpur-Sanna.

2. Surguja-Raigarh Roadways Company Limited.

Its buses ply over the routes- (1) Raigarh-Ambikapur *Via* Pathalgaon (2) Kharsia-Ambikapur *Via* Pathalgaon and Dharamjaigarh.

3. Janta Transport Corporation.

The buses of this company run from Raigarh to Sarangarh and Sarangarh to Saria.

4. Combined Transport Services

The Company operates its buses on Raigarh-Sarangarh and Sarangarh Saria Routes.

5. Kuman Bus Services.

The buses of this company operate on Kankuri-Lawakera and Jashpur to Gural (border of Orissa).

6. Jai Hind Transport Company.

The company plies its buses from Raigarh to Sarangarh and from Jashpur to Ranchi *Via* Gumla Road.

7. Jai Balaji Bus Services.

The buses of the company run from Kankori to Lawakera and Jashpur, Jharasguda and Rourkela, Dharamjaigarh to Bagbahari, Jashpur to Tori.

8. Chowdhari Transport Company.

The company operates its buses from Shank to Pathalgaon.

9. Punjab Sikh Railway Mail Service.

The buses of the company run from Raigarh to Ambikapur; Raigarh to Pathalgaon; Dharamjaigarh to Kharsia.

10. Shaffic Bus Service.

The buses of the company operate from Jashpur to Sanna.

11. Shamim Bus Service.

The buses of the company ply from Jashpur to Bagicha *Via* Kanashel a distance of 70 miles. Recently some of the routes have been nationalised and buses of the Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation run over.

Transport By Air

There is no airport and consequently no regular air service in the District. There is a landing ground near Sarangarh town which is occasionally used when necessary for landing planes.

Travel and Tourist Facilities

There are a number of *dharmshalas* in the District, four being at Raigarh, two at Sarangarh and one at Dharamjaigarh. There is a circuit house and rest house at Raigarh and rest houses at Gharghoda Lailunga, Sarangarh, Chandrapur, Dharamjaigarh, Kharsia, Pathalgaon, Bandar Chuka, Lawakera, Sanna and Jashpur.

The table in APPENDIX gives the details regarding the location of rest houses in the District.

Railways

The Broad Gauge main line of the South Eastern Railway (formerly Bengal Nagpur Railway) runs through Raigarh connecting Howrah with Bombay. While going from Howrah to Bombay, Jamgaon is the first railway station of the District on the line. The total length of the railway line within the District is 37 miles (59.60 km). Jharradih is the last railway station on the same line which falls within the District. The intermediate stations towards Bombay are Kotarlia, Raigarh, Kirodimalnagar, Bhupdeopur, Robertson and Kharsia.

The railway line was opened in this District on 10th February 1890¹. The following interesting description regarding the history of its construction is worth mentioning.

"In the year 1890 the Chief (of Raigarh State) transferred to the British Government certain lands with the jurisdiction therein required for the Bengal

1. *History of Indian Railways*, 1955 p. 68.

Nagpur Railway Company the railway now runs through the southern half of the State from west to east. Within a length of 35 miles there are 4 railway stations at Raigarh, Naharpali, Kharsia and Jamgaon.¹

Waterways, Ferries and Bridges

There is no waterway in the District at present.

Ferries

There are two rivers and some rivulets in the District. Ferries are run on some rivers or streams. Notable ferries are at present maintained near Orissa border i.e., at Nadiagaonghat on Raigarh-Sarangarh Road, via Surajgarh, at Chandrapur on Raigarh-Sarangarh road, at Kilkilghat on Pathalgaon-Kapure Road Sankh ferry on Jashpur-Gumla Road, etc.

The Mahanadi River, crosses Raigarh-Sarangarh road at Chandrapur and Surajgarh. The ferries at Surajgarh and Chandrapur are available from June to December each year and temporary bridges are constructed from January to May each year. The Nadiagaonghat-Surajgarh ferry is a Government ferry. In addition to the above mentioned ferries, there are some minor ferries in the District. Details of location of ferries have been given in the Appendix

Bridges

All the main roads of Raigarh District cross a number of streams, rivers and rivulets. Bridges and culverts have been constructed at the crossing points of these roads with the rivers. The important bridges of the District are the following:—

The Kelo Bridge is a high level bridge with 4 spans of 80 ft. each. The bridge connects Chakradharnagar an important village in the eastern part of Raigarh District with Raigarh town. It also connects the road leading to Orissa border. At a distance of 31 miles from Jashpurnagar on this Jashpurnagar-Pathalgaon road, there is a high level bridge with a length of five hundred and forty four feet and six inches. It was completed in the year 1952. The total cost on its construction was Rs. 3,20,000. The Maini Bridge is situated in mile 47 of Jashpur-Pathalgaon road. It is a high level bridge with a length of 330 ft. The bridge was constructed in 1952 at a cost of Rs. 2,34,415.2. The Ghogri Bridge is situated in mile 47 of Jashpur-Pathalgaon road at a distance of 42 miles from Jashpurnagar. It is a high level bridge with a length of 213 ft., the cost of construction being Rs. 1,28,801.

Bendu Bridge is situated on Dharamjaigarh Kharsia Road. It is a high level bridge with a length of 178 ft. It was constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,21,000.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, pp. 179.

Kanji Bridge is situated in mile 2nd of Dharamjaigarh-Pathalgaon Road. There are other bridges over the important roads in the District.

Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones

The precise details regarding the Postal system prevailing in the District during the princely regime are not available. However, the postal system is known to have been run and maintained almost on the same lines as in British India.

Present Working and set-up

The total number of Post Offices on 31st March, 1961 was as follows:—

Raigarh Tahsil	—	39
Sarangarh „	—	25
Gharghoda „	—	32
Jashpur „	—	64
Udaipur „	—	33
		193

Telegraph Offices

There were (in 1961) five Telegraph offices at Raigarh, Kharsia, Sarangarh, Jashpurnagar and Dharamjaigarh, while public call offices are situated at Raigarh, Kharsia, Sarangarh and Dharamjaigarh.

Telephones

Raigarh, the district headquarters, is well served by telephone connections. The table belows shows the yearwise progress in respect of Telephone connections during the last seven years.—

Table No. VII-9
Number of Telephones

Yearwise Number of Telephones						
1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
141	147	131	141	174	185	187

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The remaining categories of the occupational super-structure, which do not fall in the major groups of economic activity, viz., agriculture, mining, industries, trade, commerce, transportation, etc., form the subject matter of this chapter. As per Indian Standard Industrial Classification, the major division dealing with 'services' largely covers in its fold the miscellany of such services and occupations, viz., public administration including local and municipal services, learned professions such as teachers, doctors, lawyers, engineers and domestic and personal services. The last of these categories includes servants, barbers, washermen, etc. According to Census 1961, as large as 85.2 per cent of the total workers in the District were engaged in agriculture, and the rest 14.8 per cent in other categories. It is interesting to note that Raigarh District occupies the foremost place among the districts of Bilaspur Division, as far as percentage of workers engaged in 'other services' is concerned. Nearly 5.2 per cent (31,125) of its workers were found in this category in the District in 1961. Raigarh Tahsil alone accounting for 10.3 per cent (12,856) of its working population in this category. "Large employment in the various undertakings by the Kirorimal Charitable Trust and educational sector may be the cause of this."¹ Tahsilwise break up of working population in 'Other Services' is given in the following Table—

Table No. VIII-1
No. of Workers in Other Services

District/Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females	Rural	Urban
Udaipur	5,113	4,052	1,061	5,113	Nil
Jashpur	5,228	3,493	1,735	4,451	777
Gharghoda	2,002	1,344	658	2,002	Nil
Raigarh	12,856	8,903	3,953	7,489	5,367
Sarangarh	5,926	3,331	2,595	4,789	1,137
Distt. Total	31,125	21,123	10,002	23,844	7,281

1. Raigarh District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lxxi.

The period following the Independence of the Country has been characterised by the adoption of planning as a creed for economic development. The launching of three successive Five Year Plans has mobilised the resources, man and material at all stages and sectors of economy. With the growing industrialization and mechanisation, and the consequent quickening of life-processes, the nature and composition of various occupations have changed. The traditional *varna vyavastha* of the Hindus has to some extent yielded place to competition, and consequent 'survival of the fittest' in the field. With the spread of modern scientific knowledge, the quacks and witch doctors and sorcerers have receded in the background in urban areas, and modern medical profession has gained prominence. An attempt is made here to give a broad picture of some of the important occupations and services, falling under category IX "Other Services" mainly based on Census Reports and Employment Market Reports.

Public Administration

The usual set-up of public and local administration, as in other districts, is current in Raigarh also, and the services under them form the scaffold for the entire administrative super-structure. Playing a pivotal role in the 'law and order' oriented administration of the past, the administration has now been called upon to shoulder the intricate and varied responsibilities of a welfare-oriented administration. With this, there has been appreciable spurt in the ranks of public services at all stages of administration. According to Census 1961, the number of persons engaged in public services in administrative departments of the Central Government, State Government, Quasi-Government and Local Bodies' offices in Raigarh District is given in the following table:

Table No. VIII-2
No. of Persons in Administrative Services

	Total Workers			Total Urban
	Persons	Males	Females	
1. Public Service in administrative departments and offices of Central Government.	76	76	—	13
2. Public service in administrative departments and offices of State Government.	3,122	3,088	34	810
3. Public service in administrative departments and offices of Quasi-Government organization, municipalities, local bodies, etc.	297	277	20	150

According to Employment Market Report for the year ending March, 1966, there were 21,877 persons, against 919 a year ago in the employ of public services in offices of the State Government. The reason for the sudden spurt in the employment figures of State Government is mainly the opening of relief and scarcity works at various centres in the District, because of the failure of crop during the year 1965-66.¹ Similarly, there were 800 persons in the public service in municipalities in the District, in the year 1966, against 789 a year ago, thereby registering an increase of 1.4 per cent during the period. Detailed category-wise employment in local bodies in Raigarh for the year 1956 and 1965 may be seen in the Appendix.

As elsewhere, the Central and State Government, and also the local bodies provide various amenities to their employees in the District in the form of dearness allowance, provident fund, medical reimbursement, housing, loans for a variety of purposes, pension, gratuity, educational benefits, family pension, etc. From time to time the rates of dearness allowance are revised in view of the rising cost of living.

The rules regarding old-age pension have been liberalized, and the age of compulsory retirement of the Government servants, other than class IV, which was 58 years since 1st March 1963, has been reduced to 55 years with effect from the 15th December, 1967.² The framing of Family Pension Scheme is a great advance in the sphere of social security to the family of a Government Servant. The scheme ensures liberal rates of pension for life to the widow/widower children of the deceased Government employee who have completed minimum of one year of continuous service. The rates vary between 30 per cent of the pay, subject to a minimum of Rs. 20 to persons getting below Rs. 200 to 12 per cent of the pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 150 to persons drawing Rs. 800 and above. The scheme is applicable to all the regular employees on the pensionable establishment-temporary or permanent-who were in the service of the State Government on the 17th August, 1966.³

The educational concessions are also conferred on the employees of class III and IV Government servants with effect from the 1st October, 1966. The children of such employees studying in the schools are exempted from paying tuition fees up to the 1st degree standard. Fifty per cent of the fees is also exempted in respect of technical education.

The Madhya Pradesh General Provident Fund (Extension and Amendment) Rules, 1965,⁴ which came into force from the 1st May, 1965 requires that

General Provident Fund Government servants (temporary or permanent) who have put in not less than one year's service should contribute to General Provident Fund. The rates of deposit vary from three per cent by those who are getting pay below 100 per month to six per cent of the pay beyond it. As a matter of fact since 1967, it has also been made compulsory to divert certain percentage of additional raise in the dearness allowance of the employees to their respective General Provident Fund accounts.¹

The facility of medical reimbursement of the expenses on medical treatment of self and the family is also being enjoyed by the Government employees.

Medical Reimbursement The scope of the term "family" which hitherto was restricted to wife and children of the employees has now been extended to include the wholly dependent parents, legally adopted children and step children. Government employees are free to form associations or unions to safe-guard their service interests as recognised by the authorities.

Learned Professions

Among the occupations in the nature of learned professions and services a place of primary importance goes to educational and scientific services. Efforts during the three Plan periods in the sphere of education has created vast potentialities for technical and non technical teachers at different stages of education. Since 1951, the number of non-technical educational institutions in the District has increased manifold.

According to Census 1961, the number of persons engaged in educational services such as those rendered by colleges, schools and similar other institutions of non-technical type was 2,743 (2,459 males and 84 females). About a fifth of these were centered in urban areas of the District. Similarly, persons engaged in services rendered by technical colleges, technical schools and similar other technical and vocational institutions was 220 (198 males and 22 females) almost the entire bulk of them being centered in urban areas.

According to Employment Market Report, in March, 1966 the number of persons in educational services of non technical type was 2,584 against 2,470 a year ago, thereby registering an increase of 4.6 per cent. Similarly, the persons in educational service of technical type also increased to 219 in March, 1966 from 203 a year ago.

The State Government have also been trying to improve the service conditions of the persons in this occupation. All the Government servants in

1. Annual Employment Market Report, March, 1966, p. 5.
2. Government Order No. 1253-IV-R-II-1/67, dated the 5th October, 1967.
3. ibid No. 1963/CR/903/IV-R-II, dt. the 17th August, 1966.
4. Notification No. 1027-R-1224-IV-R-II, dt. the 26th April, 1965.

1. Government Order No. 1466/IV-R-II, dt. the 19th July, 1967.

these services enjoy the usual facilities and amenities extended to other employees. From the 1st October, 1963 for the purposes of pay and allowances, the Government have also taken over the services of primary and middle school teachers who were under the employ of local bodies.

Medicine

With increased emphasis on the improvement of public health and popularizing family planning programme, etc., in the successive Plan periods, the medical and public health services have assumed a key position in the occupational structure in the District. The Census 1961 enumerated 582 persons (413 males and 169 females) in these services. Of these, 525 persons were enumerated in public health and medical services rendered by organisations and individuals such as hospitals, sanatoria, nursing homes, maternity and child welfare clinics as also by *hakimi*, *unani*, *ayurvedic* allopathic and homeopathic dispensaries. A substantially large number of them i. e. 301 were enumerated in urban areas of the District. The remaining 57 persons were enumerated in veterinary services rendered by organisations and individuals. Classified by occupation, there were 37 allopathic physicians and surgeons, 56 ayurvedic physicians; 8 homeopathic physicians, 1 dentist and 30 others.

There were 629 persons engaged in various public health and medical services in March, 1966 against 417 a year ago, thereby registering an increase of 50.8 per cent during the period.

Legal Services

The Census 1961 enumerated 67 persons in the District who were pursuing legal services. These included the services rendered by barristers, advocates, solicitors, *mukteers*, pleader, *mukurie*, *mnushis*, etc. Classified by occupation, there were 11 judges and magistrates, 48 legal practitioners and advisors and 31 jurists and legal technicians, including petition writers in the District in 1961.

According to Employment Market Report of the District, there were 143 persons in legal services in 1966 against 112 in 1965, thus registering an increase of 27.7 per cent during the period.

Engineers, Architects and Surveyors

According to Census 1961, the persons in these occupations numbered 36, comprising of 47 civil engineers including overseers, 7 mechanical engineers, 3 electrical engineers, 18 surveyors and 11 others not classified in the above categories.

Besides a host of other avenues are also open to the people to seek employment. The number of professional technical and related "workers" in a few other occupations as per Census 1961 is given in the following Table:-

Table No. VIII-3
Workers in Other Learned Professions

	Persons	Males	Females
1. Chemists, physicists, geologists and other physical scientist.	3	3	—
2. Biologist, veterinarians, agronomists and related workers.	38	38	—
3. Social scientists and other related workers.	42	41	1
4. Artists, writers and related workers.	115	115	—
5. Other professional technical and related workers such as religious workers, astrologers, geographers, etc.	474	436	38

The Employment Market Report for the year ending March, 1966 revealed that the "shortages are experienced in overseer (civil) medical officers, nurses, compounder, typist, stenographers, draughtsman (civil), primary school teachers and sweepers occupations"¹ in the District.

Personal Services

Under the category of 'services' most numerous were the workers in 'personal services' according to Census 1961. Contributing about 30 per cent of the working population in this category, their number was 8,327 (6,250 males and 2,077 females) in 1961. Urban share in this working force was only about 19 per cent, the rest being enumerated in rural sector. The categories of services classified under personal services are those rendered by domestic servants, cooks, governess, tutors, private secretaries, hotels, boarding-houses, laundries, hair-dressing and photographic studios to the households.

The services rendered to the households such as those by domestic servants, cooks, etc., comprised the bulk of the workers in the category of 'personal services'. Forming about 81 per cent of the entire working force in 'personal services', these consisted of 5,070 males and 1,636 females. About one-sixth (999) to the total workers in this category were enumerated in urban areas, bulk of them (675) being females. Being a backward tract, only 60 persons were found in this category of services

1. Employment Market Report, March, 1966, p. 58.

manned by 54 males and 6 females. It is interesting to note that only 18 of them were found in urban areas while, the majority were returned from rural areas.

With the growing impact of urbanization, the emergence of services under this category is a natural corollary. Hotels, including eating-houses, cafes and similar other organisations providing lodging and boarding facilities, accounted for 231 workers (216 males and 15 females) in 1961. In 1951, their number was 181. The number of waiters, bartenders and related workers (institutional) numbered 43 in 1961, including 3 women. In Raigarh town, the number of restaurants and hotels was 72 in 1968, which were registered under the Madhya Pradesh Shops and Establishment Act, 1958. Tea shops, which are commonly known as *tea-gumtees* in rural areas are a normal sight close to bus stands, railway stations, construction sites, etc.

Forming about 8.7 percent of the total workers engaged in 'personal services' the laundry services rendered by organisations and individuals including all types of cleaning, dyeing, bleaching and dry-cleaning services accounted for 727 workers (313 males and 414 females).

The urban areas returned 216 workers. In 1951, the workers engaged in laundries and laundry services was 645, nearly one-half (344) of them working as independent workers. The traditional washerman, *dhobi* carries the occupation in an indigenous way, and provides home service. In urban areas, the commercialization has resulted in the emergence of laundry and drycleaning shops which some time employ, a few hands.

Traditionally, the persons engaged in these services belong to Nai caste who enjoyed a place of distinction and ritual and functional importance in the social and religious life of the Hindus. With the growing impact of urbanization and commercialization, the occupation now does not necessarily conform to traditional caste-pattern, and includes others in its fold. Forming more than 590 or 7 per cent of the working-force in 'personal services,' an overwhelming majority of these were males (585). The urban areas returned 136 persons in these services which include the services rendered by organisations and individuals such as those by barbers, hair-dressing saloon and beauty shops. The occupation has witnessed considerable modernization in urban areas in recent years.

Only 10 persons were enumerated in the services of photographic studios in 1961 of whom 6 were enumerated in urban areas. Being an indispensable unit of the society, the workers under the category of tailors, cutters, etc. can broadly be classified as tailors, dress-makers and garment-makers (851), upholsterers (10), sewers, embroiderers and darners, textile and fur products (23) and other related workers (15) according to Census 1961. Since the year 1951 when 799 persons were enumerated in the District under the corresponding group 'wearing apparel', their number increased to 899 (749 males and 150 females) in 1961.

CHAPTER IX*

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Pattern of Livelihood

Raigarh District was constituted in the year 1948 after the merger of four feudatory States of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur. In view of this fact, the delineation of the topic in this Chapter has necessarily to be bereft of the background prior to the year 1950. As a matter of fact, the first population Census for the District as such was of the year 1951. Even between 1951 and 1961, there were inter-district territorial changes.

As a result of these inter-district territorial changes, comparison between 1951 and 1961 pattern of livelihood based on the population Census data becomes merely an exercise in figure work. However, without entering into comparison and trying to draw conclusions therefrom, the two Census data regarding occupational pattern are being given for the District as it was constituted in the year 1951 and 1961, respectively.

In the year 1951, the total population of the District was 9,19,520 and at 1961 Census it was 10,41,226. Out of the 1951 population, the number of "workers"¹ was 5,91,142. The "workers" in agriculture numbered 4,81,999 which was 81.54 per cent of the "workers" in all occupations. Broadly, the 1951 Census occupational class "production other than cultivation" may be taken as consisting of persons engaged in industries. The number of "workers" in this class was 45,661. In percentage terms this was 7.72 per cent of the total population of "workers". The number of "workers" in commercial activity was 10,866, which was only 1.84 per cent of the total population of "workers". There were 1,770 "workers" in transport. The percentage to total "workers" was only 0.29. The "workers" engaged in other services numbered 50,846, and this formed 8.60 per cent of the total "workers" in all occupational classes.

The number of "workers" in all occupational classes in the year 1961 was 5,92,009. From among these, 5,03,964 were cultivators and agricultural

1. The number of "workers" is worked out as per note in Appendix I, Census of India Paper No. I of 1962. The figure is exclusive of the whole of class IV-agricultural rent-receivers, and persons deriving their means of livelihood from non-agricultural non-productive occupations, like beggars, pensioners belonging to livelihood class VIII of 1951 Census. It includes earning dependants in respect of their (secondary) means of livelihood.

labourers, forming the "agricultural class" of 1961 Census. This means the agricultural class was 85.12 per cent of the total "workers" in all occupations. Taking the number of "workers" in mining, quarrying, livestock, plantation, etc., plus "workers" in household industries, as industrial workers, the number was 45,244. This formed 7.64 per cent of the "workers" in all occupational classes in 1961.

The proportion of "workers" in construction activity was 2,246- or 0.38 per cent of the total "workers" from all classes in 1961. This activity at the time of 1951 Census formed part of occupational class "miscellaneous and services". The "workers" in trade and commerce numbering 7,458 was 1.26 per cent of the total "workers" in all classes. Transport, storage and communication activities provided livelihood to 1972, i. e., 0.33 per cent of the total "workers". The proportion of "workers" in other services was 5.26 per cent, the number being 31,125.

From the above percentages for the year 1951 and 1961, it becomes obvious that agriculture was the predominant occupation on which 81.54 per cent and 85.12 per cent of the total workers in the years 1951 and 1961, respectively, were dependent for their livelihood. It appears that with the increase in population in the year 1961, the proportion of "workers" in agriculture also increased in 1961 as compared to 1951.

Later, according to 1971 Census also, the agricultural class of cultivators and agricultural labourers taken together, claimed as much as 86.71 per cent of the total "workers". The number of "workers" in all occupational classes in 1971 was 4,78,241 which actually amounted to a reduction by over a lakh from 1961 while the population had, during the same period, increased by over two lakhs. But this was due to classificational changes and did not indicate any real down-fall in the scope of livelihood resources. From among all the "workers" 2,90,462 cultivators and 124, 201 agricultural labourers constituted, respectively 60.74 and 25.97 per cent to complete the agricultural sector. Of the remaining 13.29 per cent of the "workers" the largest section was that of household industry with 18,552 persons while manufacturing other than household industry claimed 6,177 persons. In 'Other Service' there were 18,029 persons which in proportionate terms was almost equal to the household industries with each of them forming about 3.7 per cent of the working force. The field of trade and commerce which came next, with 9,291 persons, however, showed a certain buoyancy claiming 1.9 per cent of the total workers as against 1.26 of 1961. Then in the category of livestock, forestry and fishing, etc., there were 5,739 "workers" followed, respectively, by transport and communications and construction activities with 3,232 and 2,046 persons in them. Mining and quarrying with 512 formed the smallest section of all the "workers" categories.

While there is no strict comparison between the occupational classes of different Censuses, broadly it can be said that industrial and other occupational activities in the District have not been able to provide sufficient livelihood to the increasing population in the District, and that agriculture still remains the main source of livelihood for the masses.

Prices

This District as has been stated in the beginning is a composite of the four Feudatory States and came into existence in the year 1948. The history of prices in the District earlier to the year 1948 has, therefore, to be the one of the prices prevalent in each of the four separate States. In these days of skyrocketing prices of all commodities, an account of prices of rice, wheat, *mung*, *urad*, *gur*, firewood, etc., prevailing in these States in the 19th and early decades of the current Century, gives one a feeling of being in a wonderland.

In Raigarh State, for example, out of the main crops of rice, *mung*, *urad* and *til*, rice was selling at 128 *seers* a rupee and other crops at 60 *seers* a rupee by the end of 1870's. However, the construction of Bengal-Nagpur railway passing through the State sent up the prices considerably. This was about the year 1890. By the first decade of the present Century the rice was selling at 12 *seers* a rupee in the State.

In Sarangarh State, rice was selling at one *maund* per rupee before the advent of the railway while in Upaipur State husked rice was sold at four *maunds* a rupee and unhusked rice at ten *maunds* a rupee. *Urad* and *mung* were sold at three and three and half *maunds* a rupee, respectively. On account of the famine in the year 1887, the price of rice and *mung* rose to six *seers*, of *urad* to ten and that of *til* to five *seers* a rupee. In Jashpur State prices were fairly lower even after the opening of the railway because of the distance from the railway. Rice in Jashpur State was sold at 16 to 21 *seers* a rupee, according to the nature of the harvest.

Besides the prices of foodgrains indicated above, *gur* was selling at eight *seers* a rupee in Sarangarh, and a cart-load of firewood cost *annas* two only. Milk in Sarangarh State was sold at 16 *seers* a rupee in town and was not for sale at all in villages. Cotton in Jashpur State was bartered for its weight in salt or twice its weight in *gur*.

Since these happy times, the course of prices had run through many a vicissitude. In the year 1948, all the four States were merged and District was formed, but prices of principal crops in the District as such became first available in the year 1949-50. In this year, the whole-sale price of rice was Rs. 11 per *maund* and retail price was 3.65 *seers* a rupee, whereas it has been stated earlier that

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Period

the price of rice even in the famine year of 1887 was 6 *seers* a rupee. It may be noted here that rice is a staple food crop of the District. Price of wheat in the same year was 2 *seers* a rupee, gram was 3.5 and *til* was 1.4 *seers* a rupee, the last of which at one time was selling 12 *seers* a rupee in Raigarh State.

In the year 1951-52 the nation had entered into an era of planned economic development. The experience of the the War-time shortages of essential commodities, especially that of the foodgrains, was quite fresh in the minds of the planners for economic development. As a matter of fact, efforts in augmenting the foodgrains production were already being made through the Grow More Food Scheme evolved during the war years. War-time control measures of foodgrains, viz., procurement and distribution thereof were still being retained. For example, in the year 1950-51 with a view to preventing hoarding and profiteering and to make surplus foodgrains available to consumers and for procurement by the State, maximum limits on possession of stocks of rice, wheat, *jowar* which a consumer, trader and purchaser could stock at any one time, were prescribed with the prior sanction of the Government of India. District bans on the movement of rice, wheat and *jowar* were also imposed. To prevent traders from obtaining export permits in the name of cultivators, a 60 per cent levy was introduced for cultivators who made requests for permits to export controlled foodgrains for sale outside their home districts. The policy of partial control evolved by the State Government fully justified itself as the Government have not only been able to stabilize prices within the State, but have also contributed substantially to the all-India pool of controlled foodgrains.

Against this background in the State, the first Five Year Plan of the economic development was launched in the year 1950-51, in which in keeping with the policy evolved for the Country as a whole, emphasis was laid on increase in the production of foodgrains. The production of important foodgrains in the District during the First Five Year Plan was as under:—

Table No. IX-1
Production of Foodgrains

(In '000 Tons)				
Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum
1951-52	181.1	0.2	0.9	1.3
1952-53	216.2	0.3	1.5	1.1
1953-54	273.4	0.2	0.9	1.0
1954-55	230.4	0.2	0.8	1.1
1955-56	252.3	0.2	1.3	1.3

Production of rice which is a staple foodgrain of the District increased considerably during the Plan period as compared to the year immediately preceding, i. e., the year 1950-51 in which production of rice was only 147.2 thousand tons. Production of wheat and gram was less throughout the five years is compared to the year 1950-51, in which production of wheat was 0.4 thousand tons and gram 1.8 thousand tons. Improvement in the production of sesamum was also slight during the Plan period as compared to the preceding year 1950-51. As may be seen from the Table above, the production of rice was the highest in the year 1953-54 during the whole of the five year period. Success of the First Five Year Plan in raising the production of foodgrains all over the Country was attributed to the effective planning and favourable monsoons and climatic conditions. The average farm harvest prices of the above foodgrains during the Five Year period were as shown below:

Table No. IX-2
Prices of Foodgrains

(In Rs. per maund)				
Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum
1951-52	17.56	19.75	11.69	32.00
1952-53	11.57	18.00	18.56	18.75
1953-54	13.00	16.00	16.69	18.00
1954-55	10.00	12.94	9.31	16.87
1955-56	10.44	15.00	13.31	12.37

From the figures given above, the general trend in prices during the Plan period appears to be low. Prices of sesamum maintained a continually downward trend. In case of rice and wheat prices generally remained at a lower level for all the four years, as compared to the first year of the Plan. The lowest prices for rice, wheat and gram were obtained in the year 1954-55. In case of rice the lowest price in 1954-55 might be attributed to the highest production in the year 1953-54, though in that year the rice crop in the District was attacked by rice bugs.

From the year 1956-57 begins the Second Five Year Plan in the Country. As is well-known during the Second Five Year Plan period emphasis was shifted from agricultural development to industrial development of basic or key industries and creation of Infra-structure for future industrial development. For this purpose, quantum of investment was also considerably increased. During the Second Plan, trend in production of foodgrains was as under:

Table No. IX-3
Production of Foodgrains

(In '000 Tons)				
Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum
1956-57	251.1	0.3	1.1	1.2
1957-58	205.9	0.1	0.2	0.5
1958-59	256.8	0.4	0.7	0.9
1959-60	225.9	0.3	0.8	0.6
1960-61	291.1	0.4	0.7	0.6

Comparing the production of rice in the District during the First and the Second Five Year Plans, it has been found that the production of rice during the second, third and the fourth years of the Second Plan was lower than the corresponding years of the First Plan. It was only in the first and last years of the Second Plan that production was higher than the corresponding years of the First Plan. Production of sesamum was generally at the lower level all through the Second Plan period as compared to the First. Production of gram was also at a lower level for three years in the Second Plan as compared to the First. As a result of this trend in production of foodgrains combined with other factors like higher investment in planned effort and increasing population, the general trend in the prices was higher in the Second Plan period as compared to the First Plan. This can be seen from the following:

Table No. IX-4
Prices of Foodgrains

(Rs. per maund)				
Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum
1956-57	15.19	19.06	14.50	13.00
1957-58	18.28	18.75	10.75	25.87
1958-59	19.01	—	19.50	23.08
1959-60	13.41	15.18	12.55	22.49
1960-61	10.98	14.76	13.09	25.43

It is easy to find that while lowest price of rice during the First Plan period in the District was Rs. 10 per maund, the lowest price during Second

Plan period was Rs. 10.98. Similarly, the lowest price of wheat during the First Plan was Rs. 12.94 while during the Second Plan, the lowest price was Rs. 14.76. Lowest price of gram was Rs. 9.31 in the First, but during the Second Plan period the lowest price was Rs. 12.55. Prices of sesamum remained generally at a higher level all through the Second Plan period as compared to the First, except for the first year of the Second Plan.

From the year 1961-62 begins the Third Five Year Plan period. The production of selected foodgrains as above during the period was:

Table No. IX-5
Production of Foodgrains

(In Tons)				
Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Sesamum
1961-62	2,69,605	581	944	634
1962-63	1,67,927	580	915	862
1963-64	2,74,691	629	1,321	722
1964-65	2,69,206	726	1,290	591
1965-66	1,89,656	682	1,442	694

For three out of the five years, the production of rice was higher than during the Second Plan period. Production of wheat and gram was also high and that of sesamum remained more or less the same. Prices of these foodgrains were, however, constantly rising during the Third Plan period. In spite of the higher production of rice in 1963-64 as compared to the previous year, the price of rice¹ increased from Rs. 46.51 per quintal in 1962-63 to Rs. 52.85 per quintal in the year 1963-64. In the year 1964-65 there was a further increase in the price to Rs. 54.38 per quintal, and 1965-66, the price was Rs. 61.66 per quintal. Quotations of prices of wheat as available for two years 1963-64 and 1964-65 also show an increase from Rs. 51.62 to Rs. 65.05 per quintal during the two years respectively. As a matter of fact production of wheat in the year 1964-65 was higher than that in the year 1963-64. Prices of gram as available for these two years only, also show an increase from Rs. 52.16 per quintal in 1963-64 to Rs. 61.76 per quintal in 1964-65. Prices of sesamum were also continually rising. The price of sesamum which was Rs. 69.20 per quintal in 1962-63, increased to Rs. 71.26 per quintal in the year 1963-64. Next year the

1. Prices of rice are for the medium variety.

price further increased to Rs. 85.11 per quintal and in 1965-66, it was Rs. 126.61 per quintal.

The years 1965-66 and 1966-67 were very difficult for whole of the Country. Because of scanty and ill-distributed rainfall, the production of foodgrains and other crops throughout the Country was meagre. The Government had to take resort to compulsory procurement and distribution of foodgrains through fair price shops to tide over the difficult period. Prices of foodgrains ruled high everywhere not excepting those of the imported foodgrains distributed through fair price shops. Thus, the price of rice in 1966-67 had risen to Rs. 87.67 per quintal and was still rising in the following years with the 1968-69 price being Rs. 91.69 per quintal. The price of sesamum which had also risen in 1966-67 to Rs. 153.08 per quintal, however, had a respite and for the time being went down to Rs. 121.05 per quintal in 1968-69.

Wages

During the first decade of the present Century, payment of wages in kind was generally prevalent in all the four constituent States of the present Raigarh District. Especially in Udaipur State it appears that cash payment of wages was not in vogue. In Sarangarh State, prior to the opening of the Bengal Nagpur railway, wages were used to be paid in kind but payment in cash was necessitated on account of the rise in the prices of foodgrains consequent upon the opening of the railway. In Raigarh State, however, payment of wages in cash was generally prevalent. Monthly wage-rate of an ordinary labourer was Rs. five. Daily wages of field labourers were three annas or two *seers* of cleaned rice for a male and ten pice or two *seers* of uncleaned rice for a female. These wage-rates were reportedly increased rates on account of the rise in the prices of foodgrains. In Sarangarh State a labourer got from 2 to 2½ annas a day during weeding and harvesting seasons. The wage-rate of a carpenter was Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 a month and that of a mason Rs. 3 to Rs. 8 a month. Charges of a local carpenter in out-lying villages were from two to four annas a day for his services.

Coming to the fifties of the present Century, i.e., after the constitution of Raigarh District in the year 1948, the wage-rate of a common labourer in the year 1950 was annas 12-0 to Re. 1 per day. Thus, it may be found that between the years 1910 and 1950, the increase in the wage-rate of an ordinary or common labourer was from three to five times. Wage-rate of a mason in the year 1950 was from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3 per day; of a carpenter from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per day and the wage-rate of a worker in iron and hardware was Rs. 2

per day. The rates of wages for these four categories of workers in the District from the year 1951 to 1955 were as under:

Table No. IX-6
Average Daily Wage Rates

(In Rs. and As. per day)

Year	Common Labourer	Mason	Carpenter	Worker in Iron and Hardware
1951	1-0-0 to 1-14-0	3-0-0 to 6-0-0	3-0-0 to 5-0-0	2-8-0
1952	0-14-0 to 1-0-0	3-0-0 to 6-0-0	3-0-0 to 5-0-0	3-4-0
1953	0-14-0 to 1-2-0	3-0-0 to 6-0-0	3-8-0 to 5-12-0	3-12-0
1954	0-14-0 to 1-2-0	3-0-0 to 5-0-0	3-0-0 to 4-0-0	3-0-0
1955	0-14-0 to 1-4-0	3-0-0 to 5-0-0	3-0-0 to 5-0-0	2-8-0 to 4-0-0

Taking the wage-rates prevalent in the year 1950, it may be found that in the year immediately following, there was a general increase in the rates of wages for all categories of workers. With minor variations from year to year and from one category of worker to another, during the five year period as above the average wage-rate of a common labourer was Re. 1 per day and that for skilled workers in the categories as above the average was Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per day. It may, however, be noted here that the rates of wages as above were urban wages in the District for all categories of the workers. These urban wage-rates series being not available for the years after 1955, the agricultural wage-rates series have been used.

For the agricultural year 1956-57 the wage rates were not available for Raigarh District. The agricultural wage-rates as prevailing in the District in the month of June every year were as under:

Table No. IX-7
Average Daily Wages

Year	Other Agricultural Labour (Rs.)	Carpenter (Rs.)	Blacksmith (Rs.)
1957-58	2.00	2.75	2.00
1958-59	1.25	2.88	2.38
1959-60	1.25	2.50	2.38

Because of the change of series, there can be no strict comparison between the wage-rates given for the years 1951 to 1955 and those in the Table above. Moreover, the 1951 to 1955 wage-rates were average rates for the year, while the wage rates given above are for a particular month in the year. However, it may be seen that the wage-rates for unskilled workers in rural as well as urban areas were nearly the same, though the wage-rates for skilled workers like carpenters and blacksmiths in urban areas were definitely higher than their counterparts in rural areas.

During the agricultural season 1961-62, the wage-rate of other agricultural labour was Rs. 1.06, those of a carpenter and blacksmith were Rs. 2.81 and Rs. 2.43, respectively. As compared to the wage-rates for 1959-60 in the Table above, wage-rates for carpenter and blacksmith registered an increase, while there was a decline in the wage-rate of an ordinary agricultural labour. The rates of wages for the subsequent years were:—

Table No. IX-8
Average Daily Wages

Year	Other Agricultural Labour (Rs.)	Carpenter (Rs.)	Blacksmith (Rs.)
1962-63	1.18	2.75	2.12
1963-64	1.46	2.88	2.12
1964-65	1.46	1.62	1.88

It may be stated that even by 1964-65, the wage-rates of skilled workers like carpenters and blacksmiths in rural areas happened to be below the level of wages obtained in the year 1951, for the same categories of workers in urban

areas. On the contrary, the wage-rates of workers in the unskilled category in rural areas were definitely on a higher level in the sixties as compared to the similar category of workers in urban areas in the fifties of the Century.

The wages for the later years, though slightly wavering as usual, showed a definitely higher level than in the early sixties for both the skilled and unskilled labour and are given below:

Table No. IX-9
Average Daily Wages

Year	Ploughman (Rs.)	Carpenter (Rs.)	Blacksmith (Rs.)
1968-69	1.72	3.62	2.94
1969-70	1.89	3.52	2.75
1970-71	2.41	3.50	2.79

Standard of Living

The standard or level of living is the sizing up of the total life situation but no data are available regarding income and expenditure either of the masses or classes in the District. Under the circumstances some population census data are being utilized to describe the economic conditions of the people in the District.

Major portion of the population in the District, i. e., 94.03 per cent of the total in the year 1951 and 94.25 per cent of the total in the year 1961, was rural. From amongst different occupations also, the largest sector was agriculture in which the proportion of workers to the total had increased even further since 1951. Thus, the level of living or economic condition of this major portion of rural and agricultural population would be representative for the population of the whole of the District.

The Census of 1951 gives the classification of agricultural holdings according to size, which in a way indicates the economic condition of cultivating owners of land in the year 1951. There were a total of 97,702 agricultural holdings in the District. Out of these the holdings not exceeding one acre were 9,548. Taking the agricultural holdings of five acres as an economic holding, the number of holdings not exceeding five acres were 35,924. This gives about 36.7 per cent of uneconomic holdings from the total. Highest number of holdings were in a single group of 10 acres but not exceeding 20

acres. The number of holdings in this group was 21,534. Though what constitutes an economic holding does not depend exclusively on the acreage of the holding, because in determining the uneconomic and economic type of holding, viz., irrigated-unirrigated, double-single cropping pattern, commercial crops or foodgrain growing, etc., have also to be taken into consideration. Yet ignoring these niceties and broadly taking a five acre holding as economic holding, it appears that well over one third of the total agricultural holdings were in an uneconomic category. Rest of the land holding class in the District might be said to be economically better.

According to the 1961 Census, there were 503,964 "workers" in agriculture. Out of this a majority, i.e., 421,810 were cultivators and only 82,154 agricultural labourers. Economic condition of cultivators is always presumed to be better than that of agricultural labourers.

Agricultural labour inquiry of 1951 which covered the whole of Chhattisgarh and conducted intensive survey of some selected labour families showed an average annual income of Rs. 324 against the annual expenditure of Rs. 340 per family. This included only necessary articles of consumption of which more than 90 per cent, was spent on food. Thus, despite the fact that it could apply to this District only in a very general sense, it showed very precarious economic conditions of the agricultural labourers in the area. Though schemes of general welfare have been implemented their individual standards could not be said to have improved significantly in the context of rising prices in the later years.

The 1961 Census has taken a rapid survey of the housing conditions so as to depict some aspect of the material culture in the District. Housing has no doubt a definite bearing on the living conditions. However the data collected in the survey refers to the use of wall material and roof-material only. In the construction of the house, there are three factors which decisively influence the type of house one builds, viz., the economic status of the person, the nature of locally available building material and the climate of the region. The last two factors increase in importance as the economic status of the persons becomes lower in which case again the factor of locally available material becomes all the more important. In this connection, it was found that throughout the District, both in rural and urban areas mud was mostly used for walls. In the rural areas proportion of mud-wall houses was 89.8 of the total, but even in urban areas the percentage was 62.4 of total houses. Percentage of walls of burnt bricks was 29.1 per cent in urban areas, but 1.4 per cent in rural areas. House walls of C. I. or metal sheets as well as of cement concrete were totally absent in rural areas which might be considered natural, but even in urban areas the use of these material was only 0.1 per cent for C. I. and metal sheets and 0.2 per cent for cement concrete.

In so far as the use of roofing-material in the construction of houses is concerned 83.0 per cent of houses had roofs of tiles, slates and shingle in rural areas, and 77.5 per cent in urban areas. In rural areas 16.3 per cent of the roofs were of grass leaves and reeds. Even in urban areas roofs of C. I. and other metal sheets were used only in 2.9 per cent of the houses; asbestos cement sheets were used in 3.3 per cent of houses; concrete or stone slabs were used in 3.3 per cent of houses while concrete or stone slabs were used in 11.8 per cent of houses in urban areas. Use of these modern roofing materials in rural areas was 0.1 per cent for each of the three categories of roofing material, respectively.

Thus one may conclude that in whole of the District in urban and rural areas, it was the locally available building material that was used in construction of walls and roofs, i.e., mud, grass leaves, reeds and stone, etc. As has been observed earlier, this may be linked with the lower economic status of the people in general, both in rural and urban areas.

General Level of Employment

Earlier in this Chapter while dealing with the pattern of livelihood in the District, it was noticed that in the year 1961 out of the total of 5,92,009 "workers" from all occupational classes, 5,03,964 "workers" or 85.12 per cent of the total "workers" were engaged in agricultural activities, either as cultivators or agricultural labourers. This leaves a bare 14.88 per cent of total "workers" engaged in all other occupational classes like industries, construction, transport, trade and services. It was further seen that percentage of "workers" in agricultural activities had slightly increased even in the 1971 Census. This means that with the increase in population the level of employment has gone up in agriculture. However, the data collected by the Employment Exchange, through the Employment Market Information Scheme both for the public and private sector undertakings has been as under.—

Table No. IX-10

Industry-wise Employment (in Establishments)

Divisions	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
1. Agriculture, Livestock Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	606	859	752	878	948
2. Mining and Quarrying	—	154	78	189	385
3. Manufacturing	1,966	1,447	1,981	2,738	2,343
4. Construction	416	2,502	2,420	1,586	2,877
5. Electricity and Gas	—	—	107	105	91
6. Trade and Commerce	68	79	125	210	300
7. Transport, Storage and Communications	135	150	148	203	192
8. Services	5,530	6,400	6,416	7,372	29,146

It is difficult to enter into comparison of the yearly employment figures given above in view of the differences in the coverage, the number of establishments submitting returns under the Employment Market Information Scheme, etc. The increase in employment might be the result of better coverage and greater response to the Scheme, as it came to be implemented from year to year. However, continually rising trend in employment has been observed in services division. This was attributed to the opening of Relief or Scarcity Works in the drought affected areas of the District. Bearing in mind the limitations of the data, it may be said that except for electricity and gas, the employment in all other divisions had increased over a period from 1962 to 1966. With the implementation of Five Year Plan Schemes, as well as increasing population of the District, it is also not unlikely that the employment level in general might have increased in the District in different sectors of the economy and their occupational divisions.

Employment Exchange

A separate Employment Exchange office was set up at Raigarh with the jurisdiction exclusively for the District on 1st January, 1962. Prior to this, Raigarh District was under the jurisdiction of Raipur Sub-Divisional Employment Exchange.

Employment Market Information Scheme was implemented in the public sector from the month of March, 1962. Later on, the State Government's decision to extend the Scheme to the private sector establishments as well, an intensive scheme in private sector was launched in the District from the quarter ending 31st March, 1965.

Under the Scheme employment information has been collected at quarterly and biennial intervals, as prescribed under the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959 from all establishments in the public sector irrespective of their size and those employing 25 and more workers in the private sector. Information has also been collected on voluntary basis from the private sector establishments employing 10 to 24 workers on quarterly biennial basis and from those employing 5 to 9 workers only biennially. The coverage of the Scheme is limited to non-agricultural establishments including plantations, and establishment reporting system has been adopted to collect data.

The major work of the Employment Exchange is to register the employment seekers and find out employment for them suited to their qualifications. The work done in this connection by the Exchange in the year of its inception and for some later years was as under:—

Table No. IX-11
Employment Position at the Exchange

Year Ending March	Registrations	Placements	No. on Live Register
1962	596	52	459
1965	4,212	1,182	1,602
1970	4,534	564	3,767
1971	4,954	667	4,431
1972	5,726	764	5,211

It is obvious from the figures as above that the number of employment seekers has been increasing from year to year, but not so the number of those placed in employment as might be expected, the number of those remaining on the Live Register of the Exchange has been steadily increasing.

National Planning and Community Development

Along with the rest of the Country, the Community Development Programme was started in the different integrating units of Madhya Pradesh in the month of October, 1952. In so far as Raigarh District was concerned the first Development Block was started on 2nd October, 1953 at Sarialendhra in Saranggarh Tahsil of the District. There were 201 villages within this Block with a population of 71,901. The area of this Block was 396.26 sq. kms. In the year 1954, two more Blocks were started one at Raigarh and another at Gharghoda. Both these Blocks were established on 1st April, 1954. Raigarh Block had 155 villages with an area of 771.81 sq.kms., and population of 79,222 persons. Gharghoda Block had 141 villages, an area of 699.29 sq. kms., and 53,888 persons. After 1954, it was in the year 1956, that three additional Blocks were started in the District, one at Jashpur on the 1st April, 1956, the second at Bagicha in Jashpur Tahsil and the third at Dharamjaigarh in Udaypur Tahsil. The last two Blocks were established on the 2nd October, 1956. The Block at Bagicha was Special Multi-purpose Block. Jashpur Block had 201 villages with a population of 73,116 persons and an area of 1,269.09 sq. kms., Bagicha Block had 142 villages having an area of 1,429.67 sq. kms., and a population of 65,962 persons. Dharamjaigarh Block had 182 villages, an area of 1,072.25 sq. kms., and a population of 67,305 persons. Thus, by the end of First Five Year Plan period there were six Blocks in the District covering a population of 4,11,394 persons.

Corresponding to the Second Five Year Plan period up to the year 1961, five more Blocks were established in the District as under:—

Table No. IX-12
Blocks Established

Name of the Block	Year of Establishment	No. of Villages	Area in Sq. Kms.	Population
Pathalgaon	2.10.57	108	683.75	66,036
Sarangarh	1. 4.59	331	398.28	93,052
Lailunga	2.10.59	177	634.54	57,787
Pussore	2.19.60	147	398.85	61,278
Kunkari	2.10.61	170	1,116.28	84,866

These Blocks covered an additional population of 3,63,019 in the District.

In the year 1962, two more Blocks were started one at Kharsia in Raigarh Tahsil and another at Tapkara in Jashpur Tahsil. Both these Blocks were started on the 2nd October, 1962. There were 139 villages in Kharsia Block, having a population of 58,411 and an area of 336.69 sq.kms. Tapkara Block had 139 villages with a population of 70,850 and an area of 753.83 sq.kms. Thus, by the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan, there were in all 13 Community Development Blocks in the District, covering a little over 86 per cent of the District population under their socio-economic development activities. The Jashpur Block was converted as Tribal Development Block on the 2nd October, 1962, while Bagicha Block was a Special Multipurpose Tribal Block since its inception.

Important Block Development activities may be classified under agricultural improvement, health and sanitation, education, co-operation and communications, etc.

Improvement in agriculture took the form of distribution of improved seeds and fertilizers to the farmers, demonstrations of improved methods of agriculture, and provision of minor irrigation facilities, etc.

Agriculture In this connection the work done by the authorities might be seen from the fact, that during the whole of the Second Plan period in all the Blocks then existing, a total of 20,504.07 quintals of improved seeds were distributed. The quantity of chemical fertilizers distributed was of the order of 20,031.85 quintals. The number of agricultural demonstrations held was 7,311.

By the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan there were 13 Development Blocks in the District. In the year 1961-62, the quantity of improved seeds

distributed in all these Blocks was 5,591.11 quintals and in the year 1962-63, it was 6,381.85 quintals. Distribution of improved seeds other than cereals in these two years was 1,369.25 and 94.44 quintals, respectively. The quantity of chemical fertilizers distributed in 1961-62 was 11,347.40, while distribution of other fertilizers was of the order of 623.70 quintals. In the following year, i.e., 1962-63, the quantities were 15,797.08 and 815.78, respectively. The number of agricultural demonstrations given was 2,970 in 1961-62 and 2,075 in 1962-63.

In the matter of irrigation facilities, Block development activities were concentrated on providing minor irrigation, viz., wells and tanks. In this respect during the Second Plan period, 406 new wells were constructed in all the Blocks working during the period, and 293 old wells were repaired and renovated. The number of new irrigation tanks constructed during the period was 19.

The record of work in the construction of new wells and repairing or renovating of old ones during 1961-62 was 399 and 203, respectively. During the year 1962-63, the new wells constructed numbered 469 while old wells repaired or renovated numbered 190. There were 22 new irrigation tanks constructed in the Block areas during 1961-62, but in the following year only 5 new tanks were constructed. Repairing and renovating of 34 tanks was carried on in the year 1961-62, while the number of tanks repaired and renovated in the year 1962-63 was 43.

Land reclamation work was also carried on under the Block Development activities. This aspect of the agricultural improvement work was, however, emphasized upon during the Third Plan period. As a result, during the first two years of the Plan, i.e., 1961-62 and 1962-63, 5,235.01 and 2,256.93 hectares of land was reclaimed in the Block areas, respectively.

Other minor activities carried on in the Blocks in connection with improvements in agriculture are, bunding and terracing the area, construction of field channels, installation of pump sets, etc.

Rural areas in the Country are notorious for want of pure drinking water facilities as a result of which diseases like cholera, malaria, etc., have been a bane of the rural population. As such, in the improvement of rural health and sanitation, provision of pure drinking water facilities in the Block Development areas was given a prime importance. The facilities to be provided in this connection were, however, confined to the construction and renovation of new and old drinking water wells, respectively. Record of work during the Second Five Year Plan period was the construction of 608 new drinking water wells and repairing of 160 old wells.

In the year 1961-62, 135 new wells were constructed and 139 old wells were renovated. In the following year, i.e., 1962-63 new wells constructed numbered 157, and the number of old ones repaired was 69.

In order to provide medical facilities to the population in the rural areas, Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres were also started under Block Development activities. During the Second Five Year Plan period, the number of Primary and Sub-Centres started was 19 for all the Blocks then functioning.

During the Third Five Year Plan period in the year 1961-62, seven Primary Health Centres were functioning in the Block areas, and nine centres were functioning in the year 1962-63. In addition, there were nine rural dispensaries functioning in the year 1961-62 and 18 in the year 1962-63. Maternity and Child Welfare Centres were also functioning in the Block Development areas in these years. The number of such centres functioning in the year 1961-62 was 15 and in the year 1962-63, the number was 21.

Minor type of activities in this field consisted of provision of soakage pits, construction of drainage, etc.

Under the Block Development activities, during the Second Five Year Plan period emphasis was given on the promotion of adult literacy. To this end in all the Block areas 302 adult literacy centres were started and 3,626 adults were made literate. Literacy work was also supplemented by providing reading-rooms and libraries in the Block areas, which numbered 170 during the whole of the Second Plan period.

In the year 1961-62 and 1962-63, the number of adult literacy centres started was 33 and 51, respectively. The number of adults that were made literate through these centres was 329 in 1961-62 and 439 in the year 1962-63. Reading-rooms were also started in the Block areas, which numbered 41 in 1961-62 and 26 in the year 1962-63. In addition to these during the Third Plan period functioning of ordinary and basic type schools was also looked after under the educational programme. The number of such ordinary and basic type schools functioning in Block areas was 630 in 1961-62 as well as in 1962-63. Total enrolment in these schools, however, was 35,846 in 1961-62 and 36,019 in the year following.

Co-operative movement has received an impetus under the Block Development Programme. Cottage industries in the Block areas came to be organized on a co-operative basis. Co-operative credit activities have also been stepped up considerably. During the Second Plan period in all the Blocks then functioning 365 co-operative societies were started. The number of co-operative societies started in the

year 1961-62 was 138, while in the year 1962-63 the number was 37. This was however, in addition to the 387 societies already functioning in the year 1961-62 and 459 in the year 1962-63.

The work on construction of roads and culverts in the Block areas remained confined to the Second Five Year Plan period. During the period 1,392.06 kms., of new *kutchha* roads and 253 culverts were Communications constructed in the Block areas.

Social activities were mainly being stepped up in the Block areas during the Third Five Year Plan period in the form of recreation centres functioning in and outside schools, starting of Youth Clubs, Farmers' Unions, holding of Youth Camps, Children's Camps, and Women's Camps, starting of *Muhila Samities* and *Balwadis*, etc.

For the Second Five Year Plan period the Government expenditure on all the different Block Development activities was Rs. 54.01 lakhs and people's contribution in the form of voluntary labour, etc., was valued at Rs. 9.96 lakhs. During the first two years of the Third Plan period, Government expenditure was Rs. 28.05 lakhs, while people's participation was valued at Rs. 8.57 lakhs.

While qualitative and quantitative assessment of the effects of these manifold activities on the socio-economic conditions of the rural population covered becomes a work for the separate evaluation agencies, it will be difficult to deny that Community Development Programme has made the rural masses conscious that their economic and social development could be achieved by their own efforts. The Programme has also demonstrated that the rural masses are neither ignorant nor inert so as not to follow the lead given in right direction for improvement of their socio-economic conditions.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The district is the basic territorial unit of administration in India. The Collector, as the head of the district administration, is the key-functionary of the Government, having large powers and wide responsibilities. In many ways he is the link between the State Government and the people. He is the custodian of law and order and the pivot of local administration. He is the Chief Executive Officer of the district and as such he exercises general supervision over various departments in regard to their non-technical work. Co-ordination of the activities of various Departments, control over local self governing bodies, execution of Government schemes and miscellaneous functions, such as panchayats, census, election and relief measures in time of emergencies like floods, famine and epidemics, etc. also come within his perview.

Collectorate

The Collector of Raigarh had nine Deputy Collectors including the two probationers in the year 1968 to assist him. Five of the Deputy Collectors were each incharge of the sub-division of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Gharghoda, Dharamjaigarh, and Jashpur. The remaining assist the Collector in the work relating to law and order, development, food and civil supplies, election, land-records, consolidation of land, etc. The narrative on the organisational set up of the Collectorate may be divided into three main groups, viz., (i) Land revenue, land records including consolidation of land and other allied matters. (ii) Law and order and (iii) Development.

Land Revenue and Land Records

For the administration of the first group of subjects, Raigarh District is divided into five tahsils, each tahsil constituting a sub-division. Each sub-division as stated before is put incharge of a Sub-Divisional Officer of the rank of a Deputy Collector. They are also the Sub-Divisional Magistrates, excepting the Probationer incharge of Gharghoda tahsil. Each Sub-Divisional Officer is incharge of the Janapad Shabha of the tahsil and is styled its Chief Executive Officer.

For the collection of land revenue, each tahsil is placed in the charge of a Tahsildar. The Tahsildars are assisted by Naib Tahsildars, who number four at Raigarh, four at Jashpur and one each at Sarangarh, Dharamjaigarh and Gharghoda tahsil. At the village level the work is carried on by the Patwari.

There are in all 323 Patwari circles, embracing 2228 villages in the District. Supervising their work are 20 Revenue Inspectors, while one Revenue Inspector is attached for the office work in the Land Records section of the Collectorate. The following table gives details of the Patwari circles and Revenue Inspectors' circle in the District.—

Tahsils	No. of R. I. Circles	No. of Patwari Circles
1. Raigarh	4	60
2. Gharghoda	3	43
3. Dharamjaigarh	3	54
4. Sarangarh	4	51
5. Jashpur	6	115

At the district level, a Superintendent of Land Record, assisted by 3 Assistant Superintendents, supervises the work of Revenue Inspectors and Patwaries.

Law and Order

In the maintenance of law and order the Collector, as District Magistrate, is assisted by the Additional District Magistrate and Sub-Divisional Magistrates and the Superintendent of Police. In addition, there are magistrates having class II and class III magisterial powers. For petty offences under the Indian Penal Code and Civil code, Nyaya-Panchayats have been established at important centres in the District. By the end of September, 1967 the Judiciary had been separated from the Executive in the District, except in Jashpur and Dharamjaigarh tahsils.

Development

The Collector is assisted by a Deputy Collector in to the Development work. There are 18 development blocks in the District. Out of these 6 are non-tribal and 12 tribal blocks. The non-tribal blocks are Sarangarh, Seria, Pussore, Raigarh, Kharsia, and Dharamjaigarh, and the tribal blocks are Gharghoda, Tamnar, Lailunga, Pathalgaon, Tapkera, Kansabel, Bagicha, Kunkuri, Jashpurnagar, Duldula, Manora and Berra. Each block is provided with a team of Extension Officers¹ drawn from various departments including Agriculture, Veteri-

1. Prior to 1st January, 1966, each block was headed by a Block Development Officer, but the post has since been abolished.

nary and Animal Husbandary, Co-operation, Industry, Panchayats and Social Welfare and Education. Further down there are village level workers-both men and women known as Gram Sevaks and Gram Sevikas, respectively. In each block 10 to 11 Gram Sevaks and 2 Gram Sevikas are posted. Their services have been placed at the disposal of Agriculture Department and under the Administrative control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture.

In order to ensure effective participation of people in planning and execution of development programmes, a Block Advisory Committee is constituted at each block, the pattern of which is uniform throughout the state. Headed by the Collector or an officer representing him, the committee consists of Members of the Parliament and the Vidhan Sabha elected from the District, Chairmen of the Janapad Sabhas, Members of Gram Panchayats, etc. The Committee advises the formulation of Working Plans and development programmes of the block, reviews the progress made, and promotes people's participation and Co-operation, especially in such programmes as are oriented towards increased agricultural production.

The Collector is also associated with a number of other Committees in the District. The most important among them is the District Advisory Committee, constituted in 1958 in every District, in pursuance of the policy of the Government. The Collector is the Chairman of this Committee which consists of several non-officials, such as, local M.L.As., M.Ps., Chairmen of Janpad Sabhas, President of Municipal Committees and the President of the District Co-operative Bank as members. The functions of this Committee are advisory in nature. Problems of local importance are discussed by this committee. The other important Committees with which the Collector is associated are District Development Committee, District Employment Committee and District Officers Committee.

Statutory Powers of the Collector

The Collector is also vested with statutory powers under Excise Act, so as to enable him to implement the excise and prohibition policy of the Government. In this work the Collector is helped by an Excise Officer, who in turn is assisted by 2 Excise Inspectors, 12 Excise Sub-Inspectors and Warehouse Officers, 2 Head Constables and 18 Constables. The Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors inspect the Excise shops and cinema houses and detect Excise cases in their respective circles. One of the Excise Sub-Inspectors is in charge of prosecution work also. The work of assessment and recovery of property tax in urban areas is also entrusted to the Excise Officer.

The control of the District Treasury and Sub-Treasuries is vested in the Collector. There is one District Treasury at Raigarh and four Sub-Treasuries at other tahsil headquarters, viz., Sarangarh, Gharghoda, Dharamjaigarh, and Jashpur. Out of the above five treasuries three have banking facilities while the

remaining two have no banking facilities. Non-banking treasuries are looked after by the Tahsildar of the respective tahsil. Banking treasuries are looked after by the local Agents of the State Bank of India.

The Collector is also charged with authority under the Registration Act. In this work he is assisted by a Deputy Collector. The District Registrar's Office is located at Raigarh along with other offices of the Collector. The District Registrar is assisted by five Sub-Registrars, each posted at the tahsil headquarters, viz., Raigarh, Gharghoda, Sarangarh, Dharamjaigarh and Jashpurangar.

The Collector is also assigned work relating to many other miscellaneous subjects, such as, Elections, Food and Civil Supplies, Consolidation of land and Rehabilitation, etc. The work relating to Food and Civil Supplies is looked after by a Deputy Collector. For assisting the Food Officer in his day to day work nine Food Inspectors are posted in the District.

For the purpose of consolidation of land one of the Deputy Collectors, known as Consolidation Officer is made officer-incharge of this work. This Consolidation Officer, is assisted by 2 Assistant Superintendents of Land Records and usual staff. The work of consolidation has been taken up in almost all the tahsils of the District; and the area consolidated during the past years 1962 to 1966 is as follows.—

Year		Consolidated area in acres
1962	—	40,394.96
1963	—	41,329.69
1964	—	7,935.23
1965	—	3,571.17
1966	—	6,651.30

The Collector works as an agent of the State Government in the District and is the chief co-ordinating authority at the district level. In order to strengthen his position as the chief administrator of the District, the State Government have, during the year 1965, conferred upon him various powers. Accordingly, the Collector has been authorised to issue instructions to any district officer, excluding those in the Judiciary, and Labour and Sales Tax departments, almost of mandatory nature. But in the event of district officer concerned feeling that the instructions issued are either wrong or impracticable, he could refer the matter to the Commissioner of the Division, the Commissioner having been authorised to take the final decision in consultation with the Head of the Department concerned. Beside the supervisory power, the Collector has also been empowered to inspect the district offices, excluding

Labour and Sels Tax Offices. Further, every important scheme to be implemented in the District has to be brought to the notice of the Collector, so that he could keep an eye on the progress of the work being done.

Other District Level Offices

The following list of other district level officers, who are administratively under the control of their own heads of departments, gives an idea of the different departments functioning in the District.

1. District and Sessions Judge
2. Superintendent of Police
3. Civil Surgeon.
4. Divisional Forest Officer, Raigarh Division
5. Divisional Forest Officer, Jashpur Division, Jashpur
6. Divisional Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Division, Raigarh
7. Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B & R)
8. Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division
9. Sub-Divisional Officer, Public Health Engineering, Raigarh
10. Deputy Director of Agriculture
11. District Livestock Officer
12. District Welfare and Panchayat Officer
13. District Publicity Officer
14. District Excise Officer
15. Sales Tax Officer.
16. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies
17. District Statistical Officer
18. Assistant Director of Industries
19. Employment Officer
20. District Education Officer
21. Company Commandant, Home guards.

Office of the Union Government

The following are some of the offices of the Government of India located in Raigarh District. The organisational set-up of these is briefly as follows.—

Central Excise

For the purpose of collecting central excise duty on commodities like gold, drugs, etc., an office of the Inspector, Central Excise, is functioning in the District. He works under the control of the Assistant Collector, Central Excise, Raipur. In his work, the Inspector is assisted by a Sub-Inspector of Central Excise. The Inspector has jurisdiction over the whole of Raigarh District.

Small Savings

For the purpose of propagating the Small Savings scheme, and for inculcating the habit of saving among the people, an office of the District Organiser, National Saving was established in the year 1959. The District Organiser has jurisdiction over Raigarh District. He functions under the administrative control of the Assistant Regional Director, National Savings, Government of India, Bilaspur.

The District has 24 Pay Roll Savings Groups with a leading group of Bilaspur Division which has 1204 members with their collection of Rs. 7,320 per month. There are 23 Agents apart from the District Organiser to inculcate frugality.

Income Tax

For the purpose of levy and collection of Income tax an office of the Income Tax Officer, Raigarh Circle, Raigarh, is functioning in the District. The Income Tax Officer has jurisdiction over Raigarh and Surguja Districts and Sakti and Janjgir tahsils of Bilaspur District. In his work the Income Tax Officer is assisted by one Inspector and the usual staff.

Telephone Exchange

A Telephone Exchange is functioning at Raigarh since February, 1952. The Exchange is under the charge of an Engineering Supervisor, Phones, who is under the administrative control of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Telephone, Bilaspur. The Engineering Supervisor, in his work is assisted by one Phone Inspector and one Monitor with the usual staff. He has jurisdiction over Raigarh, Dharamjaigarh, Gharghoda and Sarangarh, Kharsia, Sakti (Bilaspur) and Saraipali (Raipur District). Raigarh is going to be converted into a bigger system in future alongwith trunk facilities.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

From a review the land revenue assessment and management system of the four component states of the District, it would be obvious that these states were affected by the *gaontia* system of Maratha period. A detailed review of the land revenue system of these states is being given below.

Raigarh State

This State may be described as the strong-hold of the *gaontia* system more than any other in the Chhattisgarh Agency. The revenue of each village used to be settled in a lump sum, roughly estimated by a Panchayat consisting of *gaontias* and a State official.¹ The whole of the *ryoti* lands were split up into holdings called *khuntis* for the fair distribution of the State demand. Each holding was given a relative value based upon its seed capacity. The *bhogra* land of the *gaontia* was held revenue-free and there was no rule placing any limitation upon its area.

Annual settlements, originally, seem to have been made with the *gaontias*, but later, leases were extended to three years and *nazrana* was recovered on renewal of leases. *Nazranas* were levied from *gaontias* on account of their *bhogra*, but the greater part of this was recovered by the *gaontias* from the *ryots*. This led to many abuses. It was, therefore, abolished in 1882. Revenue was originally payable in *cowries*, *Tandkhars* were appointed to collect revenue and were responsible for reporting to the Raja the condition of the villages under their jurisdiction for the purpose of enhancing or reducing the revenue demand, a cess at Re. one per village being levied for their remuneration. One-fourth of the total revenue of each village was paid in kind for the use of the Raja's family. Various other cesses were also recovered.

In 1885, after the State was taken under Government management, a settlement based upon the Cuttack system was made. Under this system lands were measured with a bamboo 10 ft 5½ inches long. Work of the demarcation of village boundaries was taken up. Steps were also taken for the conservation of the forests. Villages were divided into four classes according to their fertility and general condition. Soils were classified into four folds. The

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1. Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer, pp. 181-185.

average rent-rate per *puri* or eight *khandis* of seed capacity of land was adopted for each class of village and the rate for the whole State averaged Re. 0-1-8 per *khandi*.

Assessment was made according to the rent rate fixed and village papers were prepared showing for each tenant the area of his land in *mans* and *ganthas* and the quality and position of the land. *Parchas* or certificates were given to each tenant showing the number of his fields with the areas recorded and the total rental payable by him. There was a definite rule for assessing *bhogra* land. All miscellaneous cesses were abolished, the only cess payable being the *patwari*, road and school cess at the rate of 1½ annas per rupee of revenue. This was included in the total *jama*. The result of this Settlement was to raise the revenue from Rs. 23,495 to Rs. 42,627 or by 81 per cent. The *takoli* payable by the *zamindars* was not disturbed. The Settlement was made for 5 years with effect from 1st March, 1888.

In 1891, a cadastral survey and settlement were begun. The classification of soil was carefully made and the assessment was made on the soil unit system.

The increase of cultivation was 14 per cent and the increase in the State demand was 48 per cent. This Settlement was made for 10 years with effect from 1st January, 1895. The *gaontias* were allowed 20 to 30 per cent of the village assets for their remuneration. The next settlement was in a summary form and an allround enhancement of 23 per cent secured for Raigarh and Bargarh *parganas* and 32 per cent for Tamnar *pargana*. The increase of cultivation was 45 per cent. The Settlement was made for 12 years with effect from 1st January, 1906, in the case of Raigarh and Bargarh and from first January, 1909, in case of Tamnar. The revised revenue amounted to about Rs. 53,400 and the incidence of assessment was 5 annas per acre. Out of the nine *zamindaris* regular settlement were made with two, and summary settlements with the rest.

Upto the Settlement of 1895, protected status was granted to 364 *gaontias*. For each village a *wajib-ul-arz* (village administration paper) was prepared. In the *zamindaris* the protected status was conferred on the lessees of 60 villages. The most important *muafis* maintenance was an estate of eight villages held on quit-rent. Other *muafis* comprised 73 villages. Sixteen villages were held rent free by the members of the Raj family. Cesses were levied in all *muafis* except those held by members of the Raj family.

The last Settlement was made in 1924-26 by *parganas*, the term being 15 years. This was later extended to the year 1945. It was made on the soil-unit system, used in the 1891 Settlement. The whole State was surveyed by plane table and chain except 69 villages in the forest area which was settled on the *masahat* system. The 1924-26 Settlement does not mention the *zamindaris* though

1924-26
Settlement

these were also settled at the same time. There was no *siwai* income and the village assets consisted only of rents and rental value of home-farm. The *gaontias* got about 25 per cent of the village assets as remuneration. For *uasahat* villages rough maps were prepared. New cultivation since Settlement was indicated roughly in red ink. Traverse was made in these villages, but no cadastral survey. Stones were said to have been fixed on the spot.

There was seven *zamindaris* in the State. They were not compact areas, but consisted mostly of scattered villages. The *zamindari* villages were settled by the State and the cost was recovered from the zamindars.

Zamindari System In all the *zamindaris*, the *gaontiahi patta* was issued by the Ruling Chief at settlement and was the same *patta* as in the *khalsa* portion, the only difference being that the *gaontia* was required to pay the rent to the *zamindar*. The *zamindars* fixed up the *theka* of a *zamindari* village if during a settlement a village was surrendered by a *gaontia* or fell vacant for other reasons by a registered agreement. The *nazarana* levied on this occasion was appropriated by the *zamindar*.

The *zamindars* paid *takali* which was determined at settlement and liable to alteration, but it was not a definite percentage of the income of the *zamindaris*. They had right to minerals. Apart from the *zamindaris*, there were 40 villages granted for the maintenance of various temples in the State and some outside at Allahabad and Puri. Some villages were granted for the maintenance of individuals and other purposes. The villages were managed by the *gaontias* recognised by the State. They realised rent from the *ryots* and paid the *kamil jama* fixed at settlement to the grantee.

There were certain villages held by the Ruler and Rani Sahiba as *khamar* for which there was no *sanad* or deed of grant. They were recorded in the village *jama bandi* with the name of the ruler. Five such villages were made *khamar* since the last Settlement between 1933 and 1939. The *sir* lands of such villages were usually leased out to cultivators on temporary leases. All the *muafi* villages, including the temple grants, paid cess to the State which practically amounted to the levy of a rent. In *muafi* villages there were *thekadars* appointed by the State and vacancies were filled by auction. In some villages, the *muafidar* himself held the village as *gaontia*. The *muafi* villages yielded an income of nearly Rs. 9,000 from the land revenue to the *muafidars*, and the *khamar* villages showed an income of Rs. 4,300.

Sarangarh State

Maratha system of land revenue assessment also existed in this State. Until 1858, villages were settled with *gaontias* annually and this period was

later extended to a period from three to five years. For the Maratha System purpose of assessment, the *khandi* or seed capacity of the of Land Revenue field was the unit. From time immemorial, Sarangarh villages had been divided up by the cultivators among themselves for the purposes of distribution of land and assessment of rent into blocks of land of similar class called *khars*.

Each tenant used to hold as far as possible an amount of land of each class proportionate to the size of his holding. This was the system known as *lakhbata* as prevalent in the rest of Chhattisgarh. The *lakhbata* involved a periodical redistribution of land so as to eliminate inequalities produced by fluvial action or by alteration in fertility. This ancient system had long disappeared and it is not clear how and when it disappeared. It is likely that the introduction of regular settlements after the decline of the Maratha power resulted in the disappearance of this custom. The officials appointed by the State to supervise *ryots* assessment and the payment of *jama* by the *gaontias* were called *pandkhars*, and were remunerated by a cess called *pandkhari*.

The *ryoti* rents constituted as a rule the revenue of the village. At one time the *gaontia* fixed the *ryoti* rentals and paid the Government what he had agreed to, but in later years, when the *ryoti* rents were fixed, he held the *bhogra* lands of the village as his remuneration. The *gaontia* enjoyed his *bhogra* land in return for his services in managing the village and collecting rents for the State. When his *bhogra* was insufficient he received a drawback upon the *ryoti* rents. The *gaontia* paid down a lump sum for his *bhogra* at the commencement of his lease called *nazrana*. When the idea of a fixed *bhogro* or fixed remuneration arose, the *gaontia* came to be regarded more as a collector of revenue than as a person given the sole right of settling *ryots* and managing the village in return for a certain annual payment.

The enhancement of rents in a particular village was made by the Ruler in consultation with a panchayat of neighbouring *gaontias*. The enhancement was fixed in a lump-sum for the whole land of the village and even the initial assessment of the village must have been fixed in a similar manner. The tenants distributed the fresh assessments among themselves without difficulty through the system of *khutis* or shares into which the cultivation was divided. A considerable portion of the rents used to be paid in kind the actual amount being regulated by the Raja's requirements. Payment in cash, upto 1869, was in *cowries*.

In 1885, when the State was under Government management a summary settlement was ordered. The villages were divided into five classes each class representing a degree of general excellence and fertility. For the purpose of this classification, the Settlement Officer considered each village from the point of view of its situation, soils, crops, existing rents and rents in neighbouring villages. Lands were roughly classified according to position and soil. The

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average rent rate per acre was then fixed for each class of villages, the villages of each class were not grouped together into blocks, but were scattered throughout the State. Assessment was according to the rent-rate and village papers showing the area, the quality of the land and the rent paid by each tenant were prepared. The *nazrana* of the *gaontia* was commuted into annual payments and thus made practically as assessment on the home-farm.

For *bhogra* land, which did not exceed one-fifth of the cultivated area, the *gaontia* paid rent at one-fourth the *ryoti*-rate, for land in excess of this, but below half the cultivated area, he paid at half the *ryoti*-rate and for areas in excess of this, full *ryoti*-rates. Limitation of the *bhogra* was found necessary as the tenants of the *bhogra* land were practically tenants-at-will. *Bhogra* land sub-let to tenants was termed as *chhiral*. Measurement of land at the Settlement of 1885 was roughly made by a standard rod of 6 feet length. The survey as well as settlement were thus very much on the lines common in Orissa. The total cesses fixed at the Settlement amounted to three annas in the rupee, and were levied for purposes of school, dispensary, and patwari *bhandar* (or payment in kind). They were included in the total *jama* proposed and thus were cesses only in name. *Muafidars* were exempted from the payment of the *bhandar*.

This Settlement was for 10 years, but re-assessment was postponed till 1904, owing to famines of 1897-1899. In 1894-96 a settlement, based on a regular cadastral survey was completed and the actual valuation of land was calculated in detail according to the soil-unit system of the Central Provinces. The principal feature of the new system was that it was much more elaborate in determining a tenant's rental, each village being considered separately and rated on its own circumstances and not with reference to the particular circumstances of other villages falling within the group of which it formed a part. The rates were village rates and not rates for the group. The *bhogra* lands of the *gaontia* were assessed in the same manner as *ryoti* lands and it was proposed to give them 20 to 30 per cent of the village assets as remuneration.

The area held in tenant right at the previous Settlement was 80,959 acres and at the Settlement of 1904. It was 96,180 acres, the rental collection was Rs. 41,030 in 1888 and in 1904, Rs. 46,207, the general increase in the rental being 16 per cent. In 1888 the *bhogra* area was 42,460 acres, but by 1904, the *gaontias* were holding 51,292 acres as *bhogra*, besides 8,288 acres as *ryoti* lands. The land revenue was raised from Rs. 48,610 to Rs. 59,587, the incidence being about five annas on each acre of land in cultivation. Protected status was conferred on almost all the *gaontias*, which was a protection against summary ejectment and was much valued. In *muafi* villages, the *muafidar* was considered the superior lessee.

There were two *zamindaris* subordinate to the State, viz, (1) Dongripalli with 18 villages and (2) Karanpali with 12 villages. The *zamindars* collected

the land revenue and paid it into the State Treasury. The *Zamindaris' Position* could not alter the demand fixed at the Settlement. Besides there were several *muafi* villages and plots. In addition to this, 26 villages and 36 plots granted in perpetuity, 22 villages and 21 plots granted for life and 23 villages and 26 plots held on conditional grants. Service grants covered only one village and 20 plots. Ten years later, this Settlement was revised and the previous revenue, which had been enhanced by about 24 per cent over the revenue of the 1885 Settlement, was now enhanced by 42 per cent. This Settlement was also on the same system.

In 1924, a summary settlement effecting an arbitrary enhancement was made by the Ruler on the ground that his illness had cost the State much and it was not desirable to make a settlement on an elaborate system. There was practically no increase in area between 1914 and 1924 Settlements and little between the 1904 and 1914 Settlements. The average rental was enhanced from 9.17 annas per acre to 12.23 annas. The period of the Settlement was fixed as ten years, but a revised settlement was not effected subsequently.

The settlement of the *zamindaris* was made by the State. The *takoli* was enhanced at the various settlements and at the Settlement of 1924, it was fixed at about 42 per cent of the total revenue of both *zamindaris*. The *wajib-ul-arz* of the State was also applied to *zamindaris*. The *gaontias* of *zamindari* villages were appointed by the State and the *zamindars* were not consulted. *Zamindars* had also no right over minerals.

There were only two whole village grants. *Muafidars* who held whole villages were also spoken as *gaontias*. There were a few charitable grants in the shape of plots granted to individuals, mostly Brahmins. The grantees paid cesses. Among the service grants, there was one for the supply of earthen pots.

There were eight *kham* villages or those held by the Ruler. Of these, two were made *kham* since the last Settlement when the *gaontias* died heirless.

Udaipur State

This State, populated to a considerable extent by aboriginals, was formerly a part of Surguja State. It was remote and backward till the advent of the railways. Its past political history is similar to that of Jashpur Maratha System and the revenue system has been influenced in the past by Maratha practices and later, by the British administrative system prevalent in the Central Provinces.

Formerly, in the time of Raja Sheoraj Singh, the land revenue was fixed by arbitrators selected from the *gaontias* who were State Servants, appointed one in each village, with the approval of the general body of ryots, to supervise village affairs. Paddy growing land alone was assessed, and the uplands were left out of account, because the tenants gave their labour without payment for State purposes in return for the crops raised on these lands. When the revenue payable by a village had been determined, another arbitration board consisting of the *gaontia* and leading tenants distributed it between the holdings. For this purpose, each holding was split up into *khuntis* or units according to its seed capacity. A *khunti* was the area which could be sown broadcast by one *khandi* of paddy and this area differed considerably according to the soil and position of the field.

The *gaontia* was allowed to cultivate, free of payment, an area equal to one-tenth of the occupied area of the village and his land was usually the best available. The net result of the assessment, therefore, was that the revenue was borne entirely by the tenants, and the *gaontia* paid only a *nazrana* at each settlement, even this *nazrana* being, if possible, levied from the tenants. The land revenue, however, was trifling and averaging only about Rs. five for a village. Most of the payments were in commodities like ropes, baskets, fish and rice or *cowries* as coin was virtually unknown.

The system continued as before till 1876 except that the land revenue was practically doubled. After 1876, Raja Dharamjit Singh began to collect revenue in cash and raised the average assessment of each village to Rs. 50, a *khunti* of the best rice land paid Re. 1, second class land about 10 annas and third class 8 annas. In practice, the incidences were lower than this because newly cultivated areas escaped assessment for long periods. Raja Dharamjit Singh appointed *thekedars* who were responsible for reporting to him the condition and revenue-paying capacity of the villages under their jurisdiction and he paid them by levying a cess of Re. 1 from each village. At the same time he imposed a very large number of taxes—some 30 in all in addition to the land revenue proper. Of course no single individual was liable to pay all the thirty taxes, but the net was caste-wise and even beggars were made to contribute something to the State. The State came under the management of the British Government in 1900 owing to the death of the ruler and the minority of the heir. Nearly all the miscellaneous taxes current were abolished.

The first settlement based upon measurement took place between 1909 and 1912. No proper survey was made and measurements were very rough. Between 1916 and 1921 a re-settlement was made (*zamindaris* 1925-26), but was not much different in character from its predecessor as there was no survey. Between 1931 and 1934, in the *khalsa* and in 1934-35 in the *zamindaris*, the new cultivation and land unassessed at the Settlement was assessed and

revised *pattas* were issued. There was no traverse survey of villages and the measurement of fields was done by means of a standard rod.

The current Settlement was to expire in 1939, but was extended for five years, till the end of December, 1944. No settlement reports were prepared and details of the settlements are not available except by reference to scattered records. The settlement seems to have followed the practice in vogue in the Central Provinces. Classification of soils was not made, but fields were graded according to levels only, i. e., ability to retain moisture.

There were two *zamindaris* in the State, viz., Bagbahar and Sur. Another *zamindari*, named, Chhal the *zamindar* of which died intestate in 1940 and the *zamindari* was resumed. The *zamindars* had no special rights over minerals and forests, but they had the right to nominate their *thekedars* (*gaontias*). There were some *khorporshdars* of the *zamindars* who held the village in the same manner as the *zamindar*. At the time of settlement, the *takoli* of the *zamindars* was fixed. The *zamindar* of Sur, who held only one village, paid Rs. 166-6-0 out of a total revenue of Rs. 466-6-0; the Bagbahar *zamindar* paid Rs. 2,049-2-0 out of Rs. 5,379-2-0. The Chhal *zamindari*, which had been resumed, used to pay Rs. 1,497-8-0 out of Rs. 3,922-8-0.

Apart from the *zamindaris*, grants of whole villages were few in number. Two whole villages were granted in 1924, on a written *sanad* to the Rajguru and his male descendents. But such villages could not be sold, mortgaged or leased out. One village was granted in 1916 to Ramsharan Singh in consideration of his services as the guardian of the Ruling Chief on an annual payment of Rs. five only. Another grant of a village was made in 1918 as a religious grant on no payment. All these villages were to be held in the same manner as a *gaontia* held his village and no separate *gaontias* were appointed in these villages.

Except for some lands held by the Rani of the State in ordinary *ryoti* right, there were no lands held by the Ruler or any of his other relations. Similarly, no other lands were held as *muafi* except village service lands.

Jashpur State

Jashpur was till 1818 a tributary State of Nagpur. After it came under British control, it was attached to the Bengal Government till 1906 when it was transferred to the Central Provinces and Berar. For revenue purposes, Jashpur State was divided into two sub-divisions, one consisting of lands held by the Raja (known as the *khalsa* portion) and the lands held by the five under-tenure holders known as *ilakadars*. With the exception of the estate held by the *ilakadar* of Khuria, there was no compact block of the country held by the *ilakadars*. Their villages were scattered about amongst the *khalsa* villages and their estates were small.

Formerly, the majority of the *khalsa* villages used to be farmed out to lease-holders called *thekedars*. The leases were invariably for three years and only in one or two cases for five years. On the renewal of a lease the *thekedars*, paid a *salami* of one-fourth of the rental and during the currency of the lease only three-fourths of the estimated rental per annum. The *thekedars* enjoyed a certain area of land according to the size of the village which was held rent-free and known as *manwar* or *majhia*. The lease of a village was generally renewed on succession and no *nazrana* was levied. The *thekedars* had no rights beyond the term of the *theka* and could not transfer, mortgage or sub-let their rights. In the *ilakadari* villages the *ilakadars* followed the same system as in *khalsa* villages.

Measurement of land was done by means of a *laggi* of six *haths* (cubits). Area of 20x20 *laggis* was known as one *katchia*. The people had no idea of land measurement. When asked the amount of land held by them, thus either stated the amount of rent paid or the quantity of paddy expended by them in sowing it. The latter kind of measurement varied necessarily with the nature of the soil sown. When estimating their land according to rent paid, they spoke of *katchias*, annas and rupees. This was probably the Marathi system of *ain*, or a factor rather than the actual rent.

The ryots paid rent on wet lands, but uplands or *tanr* were exempted. The rentals of *dhoin* lands were assessed at the rate of Rc. 1-0-0, Re. 0-12-0 and Re. 0-8-0 for first, second and third classes *dhoin* lands, respectively. Rentals as a rule were not increased at the renewal of the leases. Besides the rents numerous cesses were realised. Of these, the *chaukidari*, dak, hospital, school, and tonga cesses were annually paid by the ryots. Certain imposts were payable by the villages and not by individuals and their incidence was light.

There were in all 598 villages in the State of which 145 were held by *ilakadars* and 64 were the private estates of the Chief, the Rani, the heir-apparent and his wife. The remaining villages were *khalsa*. The *takoli* payable by *ilakadars* was revisable at the end of 20 years and was liable to enhancement to the extent of 33 per cent of the *takoli*. The *ilakadars* had no right to the forests contained in their *ilakas*.

An account of earlier settlement is not available. Measurement, in the first settlements based on measurement rather than eye estimation, seems to have been done with bamboo poles in a manner yielding little better results than estimation of seed capacity. The first regular survey and settlement of the State was started in 1924. A cadastral survey of the fields was made by chain measurement. The flat-rate system was adopted as the local people were cognisant, in view of the previous history of assessment, of only flat rates. This system, though defective in some respects, was found to be very suitable for Jashpur. The classification of lands was made mostly according to levels and not according to soils.

The flat rates were not followed rigidly but were regarded as 'deduced rents' and in assessing a village the Settlement Officer first decided what enhancement it would reasonably bear and then distributed the land revenue over the holdings within the deduced rents. The land revenue of the villages was taken a percentage (75 to 80) of the village assets, the rest being the drawback of the *thekedar*. The enhancement was 33 to 40 per cent for the various tracts and 37 per cent for the State as a whole. The assets of the village consisted of the rentals of land only and no *siwai* or miscellaneous income was included. The settlement of 1924-28 was sanctioned for 7 years and should have expired in all the areas by 1934, but re-settlement was not taken up.

There were four *zamindaris* in the State, namely, Khudia, Ara, Keradih and Pharsabahar. Khudia and Pharsabahar were compact blocks, but the other two *zamindaris* consisted of scattered villages. The Khudia *Zamindaris zamindari* was not settled along with the rest of the State in 1928; its settlement was completed in 1940 and the average enhancement for the whole area was 22 per cent. This Settlement was for 10 years. At the 1923-28 Settlement of other three *zamindaris*, the revised *takoli* was fixed as about 10 per cent of the assets of the villages. *Takoli* in all the *zamindaris* of the State could be revised. In all the *zamindaris* of the State there were maintenance grants and *muafis* created by the *zamindars*. But it was laid down that in future the *zamindaris* will not be permitted to make these grants. In the Khudia *zamindari* the position till Settlement was that the *zamindar* had powers to make his own rent-free grants. None of the *zamindars* had any rights in minerals and forests except the right of taking fuel and timber, etc., for their own personal domestic consumption and not for sale.

A peculiar tenure of this State was that of the group of 34 villages known as the Bhandarchua group. The holder of these villages was known locally as *sirdar* who was little more than an ordinary *thekedar*. He had assigned some of the villages under him to *khorphoshdars* or maintenance grantees and others were leased out by him to *thekedars*. The total assets of the group were estimated as Rs. 9,400 and the revenue of the State was fixed at Rs. 800.

The settlement of the *zamindaris* was made by the State and *zamindars* were liable to bear the cost.

Other tenures in this State were *debottar*, service, *ranivas*, etc. The temple *muafi* known as Balaji's estate consisted of 10 villages without *thekedars* under *kham* cultivation and 6 *thekedari* villages were dedicated to God Balaji. There were also 23 whole villages granted as *muafi* for maintenance. Charity or in recognition of services or for the performance of worship, offering prayers, or for attendance at the palace, and so on. The settlement record of *muafi* villages did not contain a *thekedari kabuliat*. The *muafidar* himself was treated as the *thekedar* and *patta* of a *thekedar* was issued to him with the word *thekedar*

substituted by the word *muafidar*. In addition to the whole village *muafis*, there were plots of land given rent-free or purposes similar to the village *muafis*.

The present Raigarh District came into existence after the merger of the above States. Sakti State, which in the beginning formed part of the then Raigarh District, was separated and merged with Bilaspur District consequent upon the re-organisation of States in 1956.

Present position

Since no fresh settlement operations were undertaken, land revenue continued to be paid at the old rates till its abolition in 1968. However, as regards the new land which was freshly brought under the plough, the Collector had the authority under the provisions of the Land Revenue Code, 1959, to fix land revenue.

Collection of Land Revenue

The following Table shows the annual demand and collections of land revenue in the District, during the recent period, from 1957-58 to 1969-70:

Table No. XI-1
Collection of Land Revenue

Year	Demand	(In Rupees)
		Collections
1957-58	6,77,116	5,67,442
1958-59	8,67,350	8,68,957
1959-60	8,36,911	7,69,436
1960-61	6,62,884	6,26,881
1961-62	7,51,651	8,15,842
1962-63	6,53,557	4,96,303
1963-64	7,76,453	6,90,949
1964-65	6,92,310	6,16,528
1965-66	5,84,763	4,92,882
1966-67	6,54,516	3,68,114
1967-68	8,08,361	6,52,685
1968-69	2,87,579	2,11,038
1969-70	4,45,404	3,30,673

Some landmarks affecting collection of land revenue may be noted here.

1. During the year 1947, two Acts, viz., the Central Provinces Revision of Land Revenue of Mahals Act and the Central Provinces Revision of Land Revenue of Estates Act were passed by the Legislature whereby a provision was made for enhancing the land revenue of the *mahals* to 75 per cent of the *malguzari* assets and land revenue of the estates (*takoli*) between 50 to 60 per cent of the *malguzari* assets. The Acts were extended to the newly-constituted Raigarh District.

2. The Central Provinces and Berar Revocation of Land Revenue Exemptions Act, 1948, empowered the Provincial Government to recover full land revenue from *mahals* and plots in Central Provinces and Berar hitherto exempted wholly or partly from its payment. As a result all *muafis* were resumed and cash grants sanctioned in lieu thereof. In the District there were 86 *muafi*-holders with a total area of 1,90,000005 acres.

3. Abolition of proprietary rights, whereby all intermediaries were done away with and tiller of the soil was brought in direct touch with the State, netted on an average a sizable additional revenue of Rs. 1.20 lakhs. *Siwai* income which was previously appropriated by the *zamindars* also accrued to the State Government. The entire assessment of rents on the tenancy lands became realizable direct by the State. The home farm lands owned by the ex-proprietors were assessed to land revenue. All the *bila lagan* lands and the lands given out on favourable terms without any rent were made liable to the payment of rent to the State. Tanks and groves left with the ex-proprietors were also assessed. Lands which were being diverted to non-agricultural purposes after settlements came to be re-assessed at the enhanced rates.

4. By the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act, 1967 (No. 6 of 1967), land revenue on all uneconomic holdings, meaning all agricultural holdings not exceeding 7.5 acres or holdings with a land revenue not exceeding Rs. five, was abolished.

5. As a further measure of relief, Madhya Pradesh Government by promulgating the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968 (No. 10 of 1968), abolished Land Revenue with effect from the 1st July, 1968. However, simultaneously it also promulgated the Madhya Pradesh Krishi Bhoomi Vikas Kar Adhyadesh, 1968 (No. 11 of 1968), under the provisions of which Agricultural Land Development Tax has been levied. It is payable in respect of each holding used for purpose of agriculture which is in excess of ten acres. The rate of the Tax is the same as that of the Land Revenue.

Subsequent to the abolition of proprietary rights, Patels were appointed in all the villages for the collection of land revenue and other Government dues.

For their labours they were remunerated by a commission at a rate fixed by the Government. The commission amounted to as much as Rs. 94,771 in 1957-58, Rs. 79,810 in 1962-63, Rs. 69,768 in 1966-67, and Rs. 55,292 in 1967-68.

In some places, some selected Gram Panchayats have also been entrusted with this work as an experimental measure. At the end of 1967, the number of Gram Panchayats doing this work was 40.

The land revenue is recovered in two instalments in the District. The first instalment falls due on the 15th January and the second on the 15th April. A month after these dates, a defaulters' list is prepared and sent to the Tahsildar for recovery.

Cesses and Siwai income

Various cesses were payable by the tenants in all the four Feudatory States. They have already been described. Here it will suffice to say that now under the Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Act, 1960, a cess at the rate of 10 paise per rupee is leviable at the Panchayat level.

The *siwai* or miscellaneous income is derived as *jalkar* (water tax), *phalkar* (tax on fruit trees) and *bankar* (tax on forest trees). The receipts under this head during the last thirteen years are indicated in the Table below:

Table No. XI-2
Collection of Siwai

Year	Income (Rs.)
1957-58	2,95,740
1958-59	97,141
1959-60	80,948
1960-61	69,584
1961-62	58,336
1962-63	81,879
1963-64	95,819
1964-65	1,75,910
1965-66	2,13,809
1966-67	1,93,906
1967-68	—
1968-69	1,366
1969-70	1,645

Relation Between Landlord and Tenants

It is evident from the history of land revenue assessment as given in the first part of this chapter that there had been no regular system of revenue law in any of the merged States and the rights and liabilities of ryots and other interests in land were prescribed only by the *wajib-ul-arz*. In these States, tenants' rights were few and they were liable to be ejected under the *wajib-ul-arz* on the ground of failure to pay rent on the due date, converting the holdings or any part thereof for building or other non-agricultural purposes wilful breach of any condition of the *wajib-ul-arz* and disloyalty. With settlements the ryot seems to have enjoyed considerable security.

Rules regarding transfer and sub-letting were also the same with minor variations. In Sarangarh a tenant could transfer his holding by sale or mortgage or otherwise, but only with the consent of the *thekedar*, who took ten per cent of the consideration when he gave his consent to a transfer and this was prescribed by *wajib-ul-arz*. Transfers to persons outside the State needed the sanction of the Ruler. In Udaipur transfer of land required the consent of the *gaontia* and the permission of the State. In Raigarh transfer of land took place freely by the farcical process of surrender and re-allotment by the *gaontia*. For his connivance of the transfer the *gaontia* levied a fee which was generally 25 per cent of the consideration.

In Jashpur there was no right of transfer except by exchange or by annual lease. An illegal transfer might result in ejectment, or the *thekedar* or a person entitled to inherit, might claim to be placed in possession. Surrender and re-allotment by the *thekedar* was also possible. Under all these systems, the *begar* for cultivation was prevalent in *ryoti* as well as *zamindari* villages.

As a matter of fact, in all the States, under the *wajib-ul-arz*, ryots were required to give *begar* according to the customs and conventions of the Rulers and Chiefs of the States.

System of rank-renting prevailed to a great extent in these States. There was restriction on inheritance and transfer of land under the terms of the *wajib-ul-arz*. The tenants had no right in the usufruct or timber of trees in their holdings.

Since the integration of the States into Madhya Pradesh the Provincial Government gave careful consideration to the system of land tenure of the ryots and tenants of the Chhattisgarh States.

As already noted at the time of merger in 1948 it was found that diverse systems of land tenure were prevalent in the merging State. The tillers of the

C.P. Land Tenure Order soil in those territories had very little rights in the land held by them; the rights were nominal in most cases and the tenants could be ejected at the sweet will of the landlord from their land. In 1949, the State Government enacted the Central Provinces Land Tenure Order which all persons holding land directly from the Government were declared as ryots and all other persons holding land from the land-holders were declared as tenants of such lands. Heritable and transferable rights were conferred on the ryots and tenants in their holdings. The tenants were given fixity of tenure and it was provided that they could be ejected only for specific reasons.

In order to improve the lot of cultivating classes and liberalise the rights of tenants in these areas, they were given rights in the same year on the lines of occupancy tenants in the Central Provinces. The position of service holdings was also regulated on the lines of service holdings in the Central Provinces and in case service was no longer required, the persons holding the land could be declared tenants of the holdings under which heritable and transferable rights were conferred on the ryots and tenants in their holdings. They were given rights to make improvements in their lands. Under the Order, all kinds of *begar* was abolished. Notwithstanding anything contained in *wazib-ul-arz*, the ryots were given the same rights in trees, as they had in the holding itself. They were free to collect tendu leaves and propagate *lac* on the trees in any area specified by Government. To safeguard the interest of the aboriginals, transfer of land in favour of a non-aboriginal was prohibited unless with the approval of the Collector. Now a ryot could transfer his holding by sale or lease for a period of five years.

The year 1951 will stand out as a landmark in the history of land revenue. During the year, an epoch-making measure was adopted by the Government for the abolition of *zamindari* and *malguzari* system in the State by the enactment of Madhya Pradesh Abolition of Proprietary Rights Act, 1950 (I of 1951). Under a notification issued under section 3 of the Act, all proprietary rights in estates and *mahals* vested in the State Government on the 31st March, 1951. Barring home-farm land, homestead, private wells and tanks and occupied land held by proprietors and tenants, all rights and title and interest vesting in the proprietor or any person having interest in such proprietary rights through the proprietor, are vested in the State Government. The home-farm or other lands under the cultivation of proprietors were settled with them.

For the loss of proprietary rights, the proprietors were entitled to compensation in accordance with the scales prescribed in the Act. Further, petty proprietors were entitled to rehabilitation grant, payable immediately. The amount of compensation was payable in instalments not exceeding eight. The amount of debts or liabilities due by the outgoing proprietors, except the excluded debts,

were to be scaled down by the Claims Officers appointed under the Act. Tenants were allowed to hold lands in their previous rights as tenants of the State and pay rent to Government as payable to the ex-proprietors. The tenants were further given facilities to acquire plot-proprietary rights in the lands held by them on payment of a nominal premium. The village administration was to be run on the lines of the *ryotwari* villages through a Patel.

A special department namely Land Reforms Department, was constituted for implementing the scheme under the Act.

The change brought cultivators in direct contact with Government and paved the way for a more vigorous village life and adoption of improved methods of farming. Apart from the ideological satisfaction, this measure was expected to land in the long run to the economic betterment of the people in the rural areas of the District.

Consequent on the abolition of the proprietary rights, the tenants were given free rights of transfer of land. Restrictions over the exercise of *nistar* rights and grazing in the village forests were removed and concessions of free picking of *mahua* flowers and taking of limited quantity of timber for the repairs of houses and agricultural implements of the cultivators were further extended. Thus, the year 1951 brought about revolutionary changes in the tenancy system in the District, as elsewhere in the State.

However, the Madhya Pradesh Agricultural Raiyats and Tenants (Acquisition of Privileges) Act, 1950, had already been enacted for facilitating the abolition of proprietary rights, by affording protection to tenants from ejectment, etc. As a result of the abolition of proprietary rights, a total area of 23,45,934.96 acres was vested in the State, out of which 5,66,431.91 acres were cultivable and the remaining area of 17,79,503.05 acres were fallow lands. Total amount of compensation payable was fixed at Rs. 9,16,880 and the entire amount was actually paid to ex-proprietors upto the year 1961-62. Besides this, a sum of Rs. 410 was paid to the ex-proprietors as rehabilitation grant upto 1961-62.

Thereafter steps were taken for the consolidation of land laws and simplification of land tenure system. These steps were embodied in the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1954 (II of 1955) and enforced from the 1st October, 1955. The Code recognized two classes of tenure holders, viz., *bhumiswami* and *bhumidhari*. The *bhumiswami* status was given to all those who were previously known as *malikmakbujas* or plot-proprietors or were holders of *abadi* site, held land as ryot *malik* and as absolute occupancy tenants.

The *bhumidharis* were those who previously held land as occupancy tenants as ryot or ryot *Sarkar*. Both the types of tenures were identical in nature with the difference that a *bhumidhari* could not mortgage his interest in the land nor could such interest be attached or sold in execution of any decree or order. A *bhumidhari* had the option to acquire *bhumiswami* rights by paying three times the land revenue to the State Government. Moreover, an occupancy tenant of a *bhumiswami* and a *bhumidhari* could acquire ownership rights on payment of premium at 10 to 7 times of the rent, respectively.

The position of land tenures and tenancy reforms was again reviewed after the new State of Madhya Pradesh was constituted in 1956. The result was the enactment of a unified Land Revenue Code, 1959 (XX of 1959) and came into force from the 2nd October, 1959. It is an important step towards providing a uniform legislation in the State composed of five regions and multiplicity of legislation of land revenue and tenures. In keeping with their historical backgrounds, there were different sets of laws regarding land revenue, agricultural tenures, village management and other ancillary matters. This Code incorporates almost all the important features of land reforms as envisaged in the Second Five Year Plan in regard to the uniformity of tenures, protection of tenants against arbitrary ejectment, rack-renting and conferring rights of *bhumiswami* on them.

The Code provides for only one class of tenure, viz., *bhumiswami* for all those who hold land for agricultural purposes from the State, in place of existing multiple tenures with varying incidences. *Bhumiswami* shall have rights of transfer subject only to one restriction that such transfer does not either augment the holding of the transferee above a prescribed ceiling limit or make the holding of the transferor an uneconomic holding below ten acres. They shall also, subject to certain rules in respect of cutting of certain species of trees, have full rights over all kinds of trees in their holdings.

All persons holding land from *bhumiswamis* as lessees, sub-tenants or *shikmis* on the date of coming into force of the Code will now be termed as occupancy tenants. On them the Code confers the rights of a *bhumiswami* subject, however, to the right of resumption of the original *bhumiswami* in certain cases for personal cultivation. The amount of compensation payable to an original *bhumiswami* for the land over which his occupancy claims the right of *bhumiswami* shall be equal to 15 times the land revenue of the land which will be recovered and paid to the original *bhumiswami*.

To provide land to the tiller of the soil, lease or sub-letting has been prohibited in future except by certain types of disabled persons and in very emergent cases. In the case of an unauthorised lease, the rights of an occupancy tenant shall accrue to the lessee in such land.

The Code aims at the ultimate transfer of village management including recovery of land revenue, control of *nistar* rights, etc., to an elected gram pan-

chayat till it is formed to an elected Gram Sabha as a stop-gap measure, in place of a Patel.

Provisions have also been made for *shramdan* for maintenance of works of public utility; for the encouragement of planting of fruit-bearing trees on Government unoccupied land so as to keep alive principles of *vanmahotsav* and for vesting tanks in the State Government to restore *nistar* rights which the residents of a village exercised on the day the rights of intermediaries were abolished.

Rural Wages

Some details of rural wage rates prevailing in the four States in the opening years of the 20th Century are available in Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer. In Raigarh State the custom of payment of wages in kind was prevalent in case of farm-servants and field labourers. The farm-servants were generally engaged for the year and paid 18 mds. of clean rice besides dresses. In some cases, about half an acre of land was tilled by the master at his own cost and the harvest went to the farm-servant. Overtime payment of three seers of cleaned rice was made to a servant for every night he kept watch. The female farm-servants worked as casual labourers and were often paid in kind. A common grazier got about five seers of uncleaned rice per plough per month besides the milk of a cow or a she-buffalo from his herd every third day. He also received four seers of uncleaned rice from each tenant at the end of the harvest season. The daily wages of field labourers were three annas or two seers of cleaned rice for a male and ten pice or two seers of uncleaned rice for a female.

In the erstwhile Sarangarh State, payment of wages in kind was still in force to some extent among farm-servants. Farm-servants were usually paid from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per annum. Their services were specially requisitioned in April and May. Labourers got from 2 to 2½ annas a day during the weeding and harvest seasons. In the off-season *gaontias* and the bigger tenants employed them in excavating tanks and making embankments.

In Udaipur State a grazier received a small quantity of grain every night from each man whose cattle he watched, besides the milk of all the milch cattle every fourth day. He also had a little land rent-free. The wives of the labourers (locally known as *kamiyas*) generally cleaned the cattle-stalls, receiving in return two *saris* or *lugaras*.

In Jashpur State, a farm-labourer employed on yearly basis was paid 12 mds. of paddy and 6 rupees in cash and received a warm clothing for the cold weather and also another piece of cloth. Servants employed on monthly basis received from one to two rupees in cash, food, warm clothing in winter and a *dhoti* at Dashehra time. In small villages common graziers were appointed. In large villages different groups of householders engaged their own grazier and a wealthy tenant often had a grazier in his exclusive employ. The usual rate of wage was one maund of paddy for each pair of bullocks and five to ten *pailas* (a *paila* was seven-eighth of a seer) for a cow and a calf. A private grazier got one rupee a month and his food with one warm clothing and one *dhoti* yearly.

These wage rates only excite curiosity and amazement today. They bear no comparison to the prevailing rates. Clearly the wage rates are affected by the trend in prices and cost of living. The trend in rural wages during the last 10 years is reflected in the Table given in Appendix 'A'.

Consolidation of Holdings

The origin of the extreme fragmentation and scatteredness of agricultural holdings in Chhattisgarh lies in the ancient system of *lakhabatta* which entailed the periodic redistribution of land of each type of soil and position amongst all the tillers of the soils of a village, so as to ensure that each tiller got each type of land. Though the system has long died out, but agriculture still continues to suffer from the evil effects of this malady. So steps were taken in the direction of consolidation of holdings to do away with this pernicious system which being wasteful militates against the adoption of improved and scientific farming practices.

The progress recorded in consolidation of holdings during the years 1956-57 to 1966-67 is shown in the following table:—

Table No. XI-3

Progress of Consolidation

Year	No. of villages for which schemes were prepared & confirmed	Area Consolidated (Acres)	Khasara No. before chakbandi	Khasara Nos. excluded for chakbandi, i. e., baris, kothars	Net Khasara Nos. after chakbandi	Percentage reduction of column (6) on column (4)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1956-57	10	4,012	4,283	428	2,157	50
1957-58	16	6,722	10,706	1,070	5,051	53
1958-59	12	6,070	8,141	814	4,713	42
1959-60	31	14,687	21,605	2,160	11,292	48
1960-61	33	17,544	14,283	1,428	8,113	43
1961-62	10	4,134	4,848	480	2,721	44
1962-63	62	40,395	35,697	3,569	19,172	46
1963-64	58	41,330	40,673	4,673	16,370	60
1964-65	16	8,564	5,657	565	2,987	47
1965-66	8	3,735	4,265	426	2,213	48
1966-67	22	13,178	15,126	1,512	8,625	43

Bhoodan Movement

The *Bhoodan Yagna* or land gift movement initiated in the country in 1951 by Acharya Vinoba Bhave with the aim of solving the problems of landless labourers, has been extremely helpful in creating a healthy and congenial atmosphere. It had its impact on the district of Madhya Pradesh also as on the rest of the country. It is a unique and novel way of revolutionizing the organisation of land through goodwill, persuasion and cooperation. In old Madhya Pradesh, a legislation known as the Madhya Pradesh Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1953 was enacted to facilitate the activities in connection with Bhoodan Yagna movement. It was followed by establishing Madhya Pradesh Bhoodan Yagna Board with headquarters at Nagpur. The Board has been empowered to constitute Tahsil Committees which distributed the land to landless persons who are capable of cultivating them personally. After the reorganisation of States, its office was shifted to Narsimhapur for Mahakoshal region and now it is at Bhopal. Till the end of 31st March, 1971, in all 1,936.25 acres of land was received in Raigarh District from 766 donors as *bhoodan*. Out of this, 648 acres were distributed among 256 landless families. About 1,129 acres of land are still to be distributed.

Other Sources of Revenue—Central and State

The fiscal systems of the four States were different from the one obtaining now. These States being independent entities in financial matters, all their sources of revenue were only 'State' subjects. The Reports on the Administration of the Feudatory States of the Central Provinces depict the details of the different sources of revenue, viz., land revenue, State excise, forests and taxes like *Pandhri*, and registration fee current in the different States. *Pandhri* Tax, though levied in Raigarh State only, was also subsequently abolished from the 1st January, 1904. Registration fee was also not applicable in all the States. However, the income from the land revenue, forests and excise was common in all these State.

The table given in Appendix-A shows the receipts from different sources of these States from 1900 to 1930.

The total receipts of Raigarh State, Rs. 1,31,119 in the year 1900, increased to Rs. 6,43,783 in the 1930. Similarly, the total receipt of Sarangarh State increased to Rs. 2,79,606 in 1930 from Rs. 68,733 in 1900. The total receipt of Jashpur State increased to Rs. 3,73,820 from Rs. 1,10,467 and of Udaipur State to Rs. 1,96,833 from Rs. 1,05,904 for the respective years.

Since the merger of these States in the year 1948 into Raigarh District, the pattern of revenue receipts has changed into 'Central' and 'State' subjects.

At present, the important items of Central revenues are the Union Excise Duties, Income Tax and Estate Duty. Some particulars about these revenues, so far as they concern Raigarh District are given below:—

Union Excise Duty

The main excisable commodities in the District are vegetable non-essential oils, cotton fabrics, package tea electric-fans, electric motors, china-ware, etc. Receipts from Union Excise Duties topped the figures of receipt from all sources of revenue Central and State, during 1966-67 and stood at Rs. 52.27 lakhs.

Income Tax

At present, the assessment and collection of Income Tax in the District is the duty of the Income Tax Officer, Raigarh. He has also been entrusted with the assessment and collection of three more taxes, viz., Wealth Tax, Gift Tax and Expenditure Tax. He also collects the Estate Duty. Receipts from Income Tax aggregated Rs. 13.72 lakhs during 1966-67. The total number of Income Tax payers in the District was 2,023 in the year 1969.

State Revenue

Certain important sources of the State revenues, not already covered, are State Excise, Forests Sales Tax, Stamps, Taxes on Motor Vehicles and Registration.

State Excise

The State Excise Duty was imposed even in the former States. However, at present it is levied on country liquor, opium, *ganja*, etc., The revenue from this source amounted to Rs. 44.69 lakhs, the highest figure reached during the year 1968-69.

Sales Tax

This Tax was introduced in the District after the merger of the States in 1948, under the Central Provinces and Berar Sales Tax Act, 1947 (XXI of 1947), which was replaced by the Madhya Pradesh General Sales Tax Act, 1958 (II of 1959). The Central Sales Tax has also been introduced in the District from the 1st July, 1957 under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956. The third Tax is levied on the sale of motor spirits under the Motor Spirit and Lubricants Taxation Act. These Acts are administered by the Sales Tax Officer. Professional Tax has also come within the purview of the Sales Tax authorities with effect

from the 1st April, 1967. This Tax is collected where the income is Rs. 4,200 per annum or above under the Madhya Pradesh Vritti Vyapar Ajivika aur Sevayojan Kar Adhiniyam.

Receipts from Sales Tax increased from Rs. 4.33 lakhs in 1955-56 to Rs. 30.70 lakhs in 1969-70. They further increased from Rs. 13.80 lakhs in 1959-60 to Rs. 21.55 lakhs in 1967-68. The increase in Sales Tax receipts from 1959-60 onwards is due to the introduction of first point taxation.

Forests

The forests are generally sold by auction and the responsibility for collection of revenue is with the Forest Department. The sources of forest revenue are Departmental agencies, vendors and Nistar Panchayats. Revenue accruing from forests was Rs. 30.27 lakhs in 1966-67.

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

The income under this head is derived from the registration of motor vehicles, issuing of licenses to drivers, conductors, etc. The receipts from this source of revenue totalled about Rs. two lakhs during 1965-66 and 1966-67.

Electricity Duty

Electricity duty is realised on the consumption of electricity and is levied per unit. This is a growing source of revenue. However, the receipts were only Rs. 72,694 during 1966-67.

Stamps

The income under this head is from the sale of stamps of various denominations both judicial and non-judicial. The revenue from this source increased from Rs. 2.39 lakhs in 1956-57 to Rs. 8.81 lakhs, during 1969-70.

Registration

The income under this head is derived from registration fee, copying fee, etc., which are levied under the Indian Registration Act. The following Table shows the revenue realised, number of documents registered and the value of the property transferred from 1959-60 to 1967-68:—

Table No. XI-4
Receipts from Registration

Year	Receipts (Rs.)	Documents Registered (No.)	Value of Property Transferred (Rs.)
1959-60	66,746	—	—
1960-61	56,976	6,415	96,28,268
1961-62	68,109	7,839	75,15,737
1962-63	65,993	7,805	74,63,718
1963-64	74,703	8,764	93,63,769
1964-65	91,482	11,377	88,32,527
1965-66	1,22,585	11,840	1,97,32,384
1966-67	1,17,942	11,411	1,00,35,615
1967-68	—	15,966	1,32,09,402

Entertainment Tax

This tax is managed by the District Excise Officer, Seoni. It is a simple tax and charged at prescribed rates on the value of tickets to places of entertainment. The tax is confined to entertainment to which admission is by tickets, i.e. sold for money, it is charged for the entertainment programmes, like cinema shows, drama programmes, *kabaddi* and other shows arranged on ticket basis. The receipts from this tax are increasing year by year as they were Rs. 1,98,107 in 1967-68, Rs. 2,20,071 in 1968-69 and Rs. 2,40,266 in 1969-70.

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

Prior to the formation of Raigarh District in 1948, the administration of Justice rested with the Chiefs and their Assistants of the covenanting feudatory states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur. However, these princely states having been under the general control of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division through the Political Agent, the civil and criminal judiciary was in many respects, similar in texture though the set-up was different.

In Raigarh the civil and criminal Judicial powers were vested in the Chief of the State, his Diwan, a Tahsildar and a Naib Tahsildar. The Chief had the powers of the Sessions and High Court in civil and criminal matters and was supreme in revenue matters. All the same, according to the *Sanad*¹ of 1867 any sentence of capital punishment before execution, required the confirmation by the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division, Raipur, or any other officer nominated by the British Government. On the civil side, the Tahsildar tried original suits upto Rs. 500 and heard appeals from the lower courts. The court of the Naib-Tahsildar and a Bench of Honorary Judges constituted the lower courts. The court of the Naib-Tahsildar was abolished in 1910. The opening of new courts, appointment of Honorary Judges and Magistrates, constitution of Benches of such officers and conferring of judicial powers on them were subjected to frequent changes according to administrative exigencies. Thus in 1910 the Medical Officer in the State was specially appointed as a 1st Class Magistrate to try cases under section 211 of the Indian Penal Code. The spirit of British Laws as prevalent in British India was observed in the disposal of judicial and revenue business of the state. The Acts in general used elsewhere in the Central Provinces were introduced here besides the Indian Penal Code, Criminal and Civil Procedure Codes and the Indian Evidence Act.

In Sarangarh State administrative, judicial and revenue powers rested with the Chief in accordance with the Sanad of 1867. But the State was taken under direct management by the British Government in 1878 and was managed by a Superintendent under the direct control of the Political Agent, Chhattisgarh Feudatories, Raipur, during the

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 186.

minority of the ruling Chief. The Superintendent exercised the powers of a District Magistrate and Civil Judge and disposed of Sessions cases. He was assisted by a Tahsildar with Second Class magisterial powers. Here also the spirit of British Laws was followed. In accordance with the Chief Commissioner's orders the Limitation Act, XV of 1867; the Stamp Act, I of 1879; the Excise Act, XII of 1881; the Civil Procedure Code; the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Penal Code were also introduced here as in other States. In 1912 one court each of an Honorary Magistrate and an Honorary Munsiff were opened. In 1921 a Naib-Tahsildar's court was also opened.

Under a *Sanad* originally granted in 1899 and re-issued in 1905 with the transfer of the State of Udaipur to the Central Provinces, the Chief of the State was empowered to pass sentences of imprisonment upto five years and of fine to the extent of Rs. 200. But sentences of imprisonment for more than two years and of fines exceeding Rs. 50 required the confirmation of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division. However, heinous crimes warranting heavier punishment were dealt with by the Political Agent, Chhattisgarh Feudatories, who exercised the powers of a District Magistrate and Sessions Judge in respect of such cases. The Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division performed the functions of a High Court subject to the proviso that all sentences of death should be submitted to the Chief Commissioner for confirmation and that appeals against such cases should also be disposed of by the Chief Commissioner. The sentences of imprisonment for more than seven years, imposed by the Political Agent, also required confirmation by the Commissioner.

In accordance with the practice established in respect of administration of these princely states, the State of Udaipur also was administered by a Manager or Superintendent assisted by two Assistants during the minority of the Chief. The Superintendent had powers of a District Magistrate while one of his Assistants exercised powers of a First Class Magistrate and District Judge. Appeals from their decisions lay to the Political Agent. The second Assistant, however, had no judicial powers. The spirit of British Laws and Acts was followed in Udaipur State as well, important among them being Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes, the Evidence Act and Arms Act which were in force. In 1915 the Police Act, Gambling Act, Excise Act and other local Acts were also introduced.

Till 1906 the civil and criminal judicial powers were vested in the Chief of Jashpur State alone, when an officer was appointed who exercised Civil and Second Class Magisterial powers, the Chief's court functioning as an appellate Court. In subsequent years this officer was invested with powers of a First Class Magistrate. On the civil side he functioned as a Civil Judge. In civil suits the Chief had the powers of

High Court. Though his decisions in civil matters were not normally appealable, the Political Agent could advise the Chief to modify or alter his decision in any case that obviously warranted a revision. The power to pass death sentences enjoyed by the Chief prior to 1857 was withdrawn in 1867. But after the transfer of this state to the Central Provinces and Berar followed by the appointment of a magistrate in 1906, the Chief was empowered to impose sentences of imprisonment up to 5 years and of fine upto Rs. 200. Sentences exceeding two years' imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 50 had to be referred to the Commissioner for confirmation. In all cases of heinous offences warranting heavier punishments, the Chief exercised the powers of a committing Magistrate, the Political Agent acting as the District Magistrate and Sessions Judge in such cases. However, any sentence of imprisonment for more than seven years required the confirmation by the Commissioner, while death sentences were to be confirmed by the Chief Commissioner. Though the State was divided into two tahsils the Tahsildar never exercised judicial powers. The Laws and Acts enforced in other States from time to time were made applicable here also.

In 1948 when these feudatory states merged to form the present Raigarh District the set-up of civil and criminal judiciary in the District was brought on par with that of adjacent districts. It has already been observed that the spirit of British Laws and Acts was followed in these States, and that the various local laws were extended to these areas as and when they came into force.

Consequent on the merger of Chhattisgarh States in 1948 and the formation of the district of Raigarh, two more civil Districts had to be created in addition to the existing nine civil districts in the Central Provinces and Berar each under a District and Session Judge. Raigarh thus became the headquarters of one of the newly constituted civil districts. The merger of these States also necessitated the opening of new courts of Civil Judges, Class I and II, for the Civil Judiciary in Central Provinces and Berar had already been separated from the Executive during the early years of the present century. The Criminal Judiciary, however, continued to be one with the Executive as elsewhere in the Central Provinces and Berar.

Meanwhile the court of the Judicial Commissioner at Nagpur became a chartered High Court with effect from 9th January 1936. But consequent on the Reorganization of States in 1956 the High Court was shifted to Jabalpur and the Central Provinces Courts Act 1917, was replaced by the Madhya Pradesh Civil Courts Act, 1958.

Incidence of Crimes

Statistics regarding the various crimes in the District show that there has not been any abnormal increase in their number during the recent years. At

the same time the fact that the total number of crimes in the District, having an area of 4969 sq. miles and a population of 10, 41, 226, has never exceeded 2000, during this period of seven years (1960-1966), speaks for the strict measures with which the crimes were dealt with. Crimes of an organised nature do not pose grave concern though they are not uncommon in the District. Such crimes are also found to be influenced by criminals from outside District. Natural calamities, such as crop failure, famine conditions also contribute to the incidence of crimes in a sizable number.

Table No. XII-1

No. of Crimes

Year	Dacoity	Rob- bery	Murder	Riot	Burg- lary	Cattle theft	Theft ordi- nary	Kid- napp- ing	Misc. IPC crimes	Total
1960	1	9	37	37	268	68	658	10	427	1515
1961	2	9	39	33	237	70	593	18	433	1434
1962	—	5	32	24	276	74	695	8	458	1572
1963	—	11	38	17	286	94	821	7	386	1660
1964	3	14	57	24	311	85	632	6	451	1583
1965	1	15	28	26	342	87	721	10	374	1604
1966	—	6	57	26	405	102	916	11	437	1960
1967	7	16	44	25	547	111	886	7	380	2023
1968	2	7	45	17	342	94	666	7	450	1630
1969	2	12	56	29	371	62	602	4	518	1656

Source : Superintendent of Police, Raigarh

Dacoity

The highest number of such crimes (3) occurred in 1964, followed by 2 in 1961 and one each in 1960 and 1965. In 1966 there was no dacoity in the District.

Robbery

The number of such crimes varied from 6 in 1966 to 15 in 1965 during this period, i. e. 1960 to 1966. It appears that from 1962 to 1965 this crime was on the increase, the trend now being downward.

Murder

The highest number of murders occurred in 1964 and 1966 (57 each) followed by 39 in 1961, 38 in 1963 and 37 in 1960. However, looking to the population of the district the figures do not appear to be abnormal specially during the course of one year when compared with such figures pertaining to other districts in the State.

Riot

Crimes under this head numbered 37 in 1960 the highest. As against this subsequent years, i. e., 1961 to 1966 registered 33, 24, 17, 24, 26 and 26, respectively.

Burglary

Starting with 268 in 1960 this branch of crime appears to have shown a rise in subsequent year, till it reached 405 in 1966. However, the lowest record was in 1961 when the number stood at 237.

Cattle Theft

The highest number of crimes under this head was 102 recorded in 1966. The years from 1960 to 1965 registered 68, 70, 74, 94, 85, and 87 crimes, respectively.

Ordinary Thefts

This branch constitutes the highest number of crimes in the District. During years from 1960 to 1966 their number varied from 593 in 1961 to 916 in 1966. As mentioned earlier, natural calamities, such as crop failure, famine conditions, etc., are chiefly responsible for the increased number.

Other offences, such as kidnapping, miscellaneous I.P.C. crimes, etc., though not negligible in number, have no special features to offer.

The investigation, trial and conviction of cognizable crimes in the District for the years from 1960 to 1969 will present the following statistics.

Table No. XII-2
Cognizable Crimes

Year	Number of Cases		Cases sent up for trial	Persons tried	Persons acquitted or discharged	Persons convicted
	Reported	Investigated				
1960	1515	1368	631	1035	381	654
1961	1434	1309	604	974	385	569
1962	1572	1418	651	1059	371	688
1963	1660	1508	849	1604	379	1062
1964	1583	1479	617	1276	442	834
1965	1604	1519	995	1640	394	1246
1966	1960	1868	863	1594	356	1130
1967	886	819	225	318	20	298
1968	666	631	273	442	31	333
1969	602	575	520	366	105	244

Source : Superintendent of Police, Raigarh

It has to be mentioned here that in the process of investigation many unreported cases were also unearthed. Most of these have resulted in conviction.

The yearwise number of ordinary thefts from 1960 to 1966 have already been mentioned. The amount of property involved in these ordinary theft cases was to the tune of Rs. 51,155, Rs. 38,128, Rs. 41,462, Rs. 44,376, Rs. 62,211, Rs. 43,274 and Rs. 64,590, respectively. The following table will show the number of cases of all classes involving property and the recovery effected thereof.

Table No. XII-3
Property Stolen and Recovered

Year	Number of cases in which property was		Total Value of Property	
	Stolen	Recovered	Stolen	Recovered
1	2	3	4	5
1960	997	394 (39.5)	1,40,359	37,130 (26.4)
1961	908	370 (40.74)	1,10,453	30,140 (27.28)

1	2	3	4	5
1962	1,025	364 (35.51)	1,55,449	29,006 (18.65)
1963	1,178	513 (43.54)	1,35,811	47,886 (35.25)
1964	974	435 (44.6)	1,91,667	44,281 (23.05)
1965	1,150	498 (43.3)	1,45,193	43,437 (27.1)
1966	1,353	724 (53.3)	1,94,140	44,143 (22.7)
1967	1,487	637	1,52,587	62,426
1968	1,111	514	93,127	56,877
1969	984	399	2,23,755	51,012

Source : Superintendent of Police, Raigarh.

The theft cases involving property tabulated above include thefts of cattle, copper-wire, cycles, motor vehicles and accessories, fire arms, etc.

The crime situation discussed so far chiefly relates to serious offences under the general laws. Apart from this there are certain other offences against the special and local laws which include Excise Act, Gambling Act, Prohibition Act, etc. Number of cases and number of persons committing such offences present the following statistics.

Table No. XII-4
Cases under Special Acts

Year	Excise Act		Gambling Act		Prohibition Act	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
1960	515	529	101	515	—	—
1961	327	347	121	598	—	—
1962	446	463	87	421	—	—
1963	326	348	44	236	237	259
1964	295	310	66	406	240	245
1965	262	273	82	414	250	260
1966	251	260	41	222	258	361
1967	183	173	71	390	—	—
1968	166	177	103	610	—	—
1969	150	104	76	412	—	—

Source : Superintendent of Police, Raigarh

Organisation of the Police Force

Before the merger of four States of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur every princely State was maintaining its own police-force. In the first decade of the present century the police staff in Raigarh State consisted of one Inspector, three Head Constables and 107 Constables in 1909.¹ There were three Station-Houses at Raigarh, Kharsia and Gharghoda and eight outposts. In Sarangarh State, the police force consisted of a Sub-Inspector and 46 Police men and there were 2 Station House at Saria and Sarangarh and 4 outposts. In Udaipur, the sanctioned strength of the force was a Inspector, 5 Head Constables and 30 Constables distributed between Dharamjaigarh and three outposts at Tamta, Sonpur and Chhal. In Jashpur State, the police force consisted of an Inspector, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 6 Head-Constables and 51 Constables distributed among three Police station-houses.

But after the merger of these States, the position of police force changed and they directly came under the head of the police force of the Central Provinces and Berar where the Inspector-General was the head assisted by the Deputy Inspectors General and the District Superintendent of Police at the District level.

In 1966, there were 19 Police Stations in the District. The District Superintendent of Police, Raigarh is in charge of the whole District to supervise the department work and maintain law and order. Under him, there are two Sub-Divisional Officers, one in charge of the whole of Jashpur Sub-Division comprising 2 circles and 10 Police Stations and another incharge of Gharghoda Circle comprising three Police Stations. They are of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police having their head headquarters at Jashpurnagar and Raigarh, respectively. There are five Circle Inspectors, in charge of the Police Stations located at Raigarh, Kharsia and Pussour under Raigarh Circle, Sarangarh, Baram Kela and Saria under Sarangarh Circle, Ghagri Lailunga and Tamnar under Gharghoda Circle, Dharamjaigarh, Pathalgaon, Bagbahara, Kapu and Chhal under Dharamjaigarh Circle and Jashpurnagar, Kunk Bagicha, Sanna and Pharsabahar under Jashpurnagar Circle.

Besides these Circles, one Reserve Inspector is incharge of supervising the work of the Subedar at the Headquarters Police-lines, Raigarh. One Subedar at Jashpur Headquarters is in charge of Sub-Divisional Police-lines at Jashpurnagar. The Sub-Inspectors are in charge of each Police Station and they are assisted by Assistant Sub-Inspectors in important Police Stations like Raigarh, Kharsia, Sarangarh and Jashpurnagar. Their main duties are to maintain law and order; prevention and detection of crimes. The number of Police Stations rose to 20 in 1972.

Besides these personnel, there are three branches namely (i) Prosecution Branch (ii) District Crime Branch and (iii) District Special Branch.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 189.

Prosecution Branch

The Prosecution Branch consists of one Police Prosecutor assisted by three Assistant Police Prosecutors at Raigarh, Sarangarh and Jashpurnagar headquarters for conducting Police cases in different courts located in the District.

Crime Branch

The Crime Branch consists of one Sub-Inspector of Criminal Investigation Department assisted by *Modus Operandi* Branch Assistant Sub-Inspector to help the local police in detection and prevention of professional crimes.

Special Branch

The District Special Branch consists of one Sub-Inspector and two Assistant Sub-Inspectors.

The following Table shows the sanctioned strength and cost of the police force from 1960 to 1972.

Table No. XII-5
Strength and Cost of Police

Year	Supdt., Asstt., Supdt. and Dy. Supdts.	Inspectors and Sub- Inspectors	Sergants and Head- Constables	Consta- bles	Total	Cost of Police (in Rs.)
1960	3	40	87	449	579	7,80,495
1961	3	40	85	458	586	7,65,919
1962	3	40	85	458	586	7,80,887
1963	3	40	100	464	607	6,29,351
1964	3	40	103	471	617	8,65,190
1965	3	40	103	471	617	10,94,253
1966	3	40	103	471	617	10,97,355
1967	3	47	84	450	584	13,33,263
1968	3	47	84	450	584	13,51,890
1969	3	47	84	450	584	15,33,400
1971	3	48	94	461	606	—
1972	3	46	84	457	590	—

Source : Superintendent of Police, Raigarh.

The Headquarters of the Superintendent of Police is at Raigarh. At present, there is neither any constable training school, nor traffic and special armed force in Raigarh District.

Home Guards

The Home Guards Organisation was started from the month of November 1948, when the first training centre was established and fourth Urban Home Guards Training was conducted in the District from 5th November, 1948 to 5th February, 1949 at Raigarh, Kharsia, Jashpur and Sarangarh. Up to the end of March, 1963, 14 more different courses of Rural Home Guards Training were conducted in the District. In addition to this, the *Sainiks* were also trained as Non-Commissioned Officers in different 18 Non-Commissioned courses conducted at the Madhya Pradesh Home Guards Training Centre at Nagpur, Karera and Khamaria in Jabalpur.

The following Table gives the year-wise strength of the Home Guards in the District:—

Table No. XII-6
No. of Home Guards

Year	N. C. Os.	Sainiks
1960-61	39	
1961-62	44	237
1962-63	63	233
1963-64	61	216
1964-65	52	231
1965-66	49	202
1966-67	58	219
		251

Source : Company Commandant, Home Guards, Raigarh

Jails and Lock-ups

In Raigarh Jail, in 1909¹ accommodation was for 126 prisoners including 6 females and the cost of maintenance per head was about Rs. 122 annually. The principal Jail industries at that time were carpet manufacture, oil-pressing and rice-cleaning. In Sarangarh Jail, the accommodation was for 35 males and 6 female prisoners. The annual cost of maintenance per head averaged Rs. 19 per month and Jail industries were oil-pressing, weaving and gardening. The Jail building of Udaipur State was washed away by the Mand river in 1906, but it is reported that there

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 189.

had been an accommodation for 24 prisoners in a portion of the remaining buildings. In Jashpur State, the Jail had a fine building with an accommodation for 150 prisoners.

In 1966 Raigarh Jail was classified the District Jail of Class II where the Civil Surgeon acts as the *Ex-Officio* Superintendent and Medical Officer. He is assisted by one Deputy Jailor, one Assistant Jailor, one Assistant Medical Officer (part time) one Compounder, three Head Warders, 15 Warders and 2 Sweepers. The daily average lock-up of the prisoners throughout the year was 121.27 in the year 1965 as against 134.52 in the previous year and 128.36 in 1963.

Besides the District Jail, there is one Sub-Jail at Jashpur and three Judicial or Magisterial lock-ups at Sarangarh, Dharamjaigarh and Gharghoda.

Welfare of Prisoners

Under the provisions of the Prisoners Act 1900, long-term prisoners (sentence not less than three years) are being given temporary release for 10 days, beside remissions they earn every year, excluding the time required for journeys and the days of departure from and arrival at the prison. The prisoners of exemplary conduct receive concessions like visit from friends, exemption from fetters, good conduct badge, promotion to some prison office, money gratuities, remission of sentence and presents of tools, etc. on release. Extra labour added to good conduct fetches remission of sentence. Deserving prisoners are given facilities to pursue their studies further. They are provided with various sports articles and good books, tools and facility to hear radio news, etc. Under Jail reforms, various steps are being taken to enforce reformatory theory which maintains that a crime is committed either because the temptation of motive is stronger or the restraint imposed by the character is weaker. It regards both of these weaknesses as disease and wants punishments to perform the function of medicine by strengthening the character of man so that he may not become an easy victim of his own temptations. These jails are governed by the Madhya Pradesh Jail Manual, which contains provisions regarding the establishment and management of Jail confinements and treatment of prisoners and maintenance of discipline, etc. Besides this, following Acts have been extended to apply in the Jails of Madhya Pradesh.

1. The Prisoners Act (III of 1900) with effect from 1st January 1919.
2. The Madhya Pradesh Borstal Act, 1928 with effect from 1st January, 1919.
3. The Madhya Pradesh Prisoners Release on Probation Act, 1954 with effect from 2nd October, 1964.
4. Prisoners Act 1894 with effect from 1st February, 1962.
5. Probation of Offenders Act 1958 with effect from 2nd October, 1962.
6. Prisoners (Attendance in Courts) Act 1955 and the rules there under.

In the District Jail, Raigarh, there are educational arrangements for the prisoners. The reformist preacher also regularly visits the Jail to deliver ethical lectures. The prisoners are being provided with library books, newspapers, volley-ball, carrom-board, radio-set, text books, etc. In the year 1965; 65 convicts were released under the remission system as against 59 of the previous year. The average remission that was gained by the prisoners sentenced from 6 months to 5 years was 79.92 days in the year 1965 as against 77.04 days in the previous year and the gratuity paid to a prisoner was Rs. 3.50.

There is a Jail garden, where the different kinds of vegetables are grown. During the last three years no vegetables were purchased from the market and thus, a sum of Rs. 1200 in the year 1965 and Rs. 925 in the year 1963 was saved by production of paddy and onions.

No prisoners were classed as A or B during the year 1964 and 1965, but in practice, the prisoners are allotted classes in view of their social life, education and status. Juvenile delinquents are not mixed up with habitual criminals and are given better treatment.

The details regarding the population of prisoners are given in Appendix.

Separation of Judiciary from the Executive

Raigarh is one of the few districts of Madhya Pradesh where Judiciary has not been completely separated from the Executive. The separation was introduced from 14th June 1965 in Raigarh tahsil of the District and in Gharghoda and Sarangarh tahsils with effect from 15th November, 1965. It has not been extended to the remaining tahsils of the District so far.

Nature and Number of Cases Handled

The various courts in the District handled both civil and criminal cases of a general nature. Offences under the Indian Penal Code, Special and Local Laws and under the Criminal Procedure Code constituted the criminal cases in the District, where as suits for money and movable property, title and other suits constituted the civil cases.

Criminal Cases Disposed of

Criminal offences reported under the Indian Penal Code, Special and Local Laws and the Criminal Procedure Code numbered 5670 in 1960. As against this there were, in all, 3803 offences in 1961; 6913 in 1962; 5692 in 1963; 5106 in 1964 and 2450 in 1965. It will be seen that the total number of offences reported show a decreasing trend from 1960 to 1965 except in 1962 when there was an abnormal rise over the figures of the previous year.

Under offences defined in Chapter XVI of the Indian Penal Code, i. e., offences against human body, the highest number of convictions (62) was recorded

in 1962 followed by 58 in 1963, 53 in 1960 and 50 in 1965. The minimum number of such convictions was 22 in 1964 and 38 in 1961. Offences against property resulted in the conviction of 104 persons in 1960; 94 in 1961; 91 in 1962; 118 in 1963; 137 in 1964 and 83 in 1965. So also convictions under offences relating to public health generally varied from 18 in 1963 to 38 in 1960. The only year which recorded a considerable increase in their number was 1961 when 61 convictions took place. Generally speaking, there was no conviction under offences relating to religion during this period, i.e. from 1960 to 1966 except in 1960 when 2 convictions took place under the Untouchability Offences Act.

The number of persons sentenced for imprisonment was 1570 in 1960; 986 in 1961; 865 in 1962; 745 in 1963; 868 in 1964 and 738 in 1965 while fines were imposed on 4762, 3932, 6584, 6382, 5389 and 4147 persons, respectively during this period.

Civil Cases disposed of

The number of cases disposed of by various courts in the District during the period 1960 to 1969 is tabulated below:—

Table No. XII-7
No. of Cases Disposed of

Year	By District Court	By Subordinate Civil Courts	By Court of Small Causes
1960	28	627	367
1961	10	715	705
1962	16	934	764
1963	19	711	595
1964	14	731	558
1965	18	651	481
1966	9	309	352
1967	14	336	404
1968	13	422	411
1969	4	355	426

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Raigarh.

The total number of suits for money and movable property was 1012 in 1960. As against this it registered 986 in 1961; 952 in 1962; 745 in 1963; 735 in 1964; 881 in 1965. So also the total number of title and other suits numbered 328 in 1960, 286 in 1961; 287 in 1962; 298 in 1963; 344 in 1964 and 351 in 1965.

Table No. XII-8

Pending Suits and their Disposal

Year	Suits pending at the end of the year	Instituted during the year	Revived during the year	Other-wise received	Total for disposal	Dis-posed by trans-fer	Other-wise dispos- ed of	Pending at the close of the year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1960	1098	1340	60	144	2642	137	1277	1228
1961	1228	1272	70	62	2632	59	1371	1202
1962	1202	1239	72	383	2896	367	1347	1182
1963	1182	1043	99	214	2538	211	1325	1002
1964	1002	1079	88	195	2174	—	1303	871
1965	871	1232	97	395	2595	390	1150	1055
1966	651	653	37	86	1427	85	670	672
1967	672	646	39	31	1388	30	754	604
1968	604	786	53	197	1640	182	846	612
1969	612	809	65	369	1855	360	785	710

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Raigarh.

The following table shows the details regarding the number of cases decided during the period 1963-1969.

Table No. XII-9

No. of Cases Decided

Year	Civil Cases				Criminal			
	Original		Appellate		Original		Appellate	
	Regular	Misce-llaneous	Regular	Misce-llaneous	Regular	Misce-llaneous	Regu- lar	Miscella- neous
1963	1325	273	44	40	107	15	277	39
1964	1303	368	58	37	103	28	273	48
1965	1150	367	77	26	1755	697	232	—
1966	318	109	15	9	4669	956	123	24
1967	350	117	61	28	3872	761	189	89
1968	435	147	128	28	5725	1071	235	74
1969	359	169	89	22	4345	1084	84	58

Source : District and Sessions Judge, Raigarh.

Legal Profession and Bar Association

No substantial details are available as regards the position of legal profession in the former States of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur. However, at present after the merger of these States, all the rules and regulation are applicable as were prevalent in former Central Provinces and Berar. At present, the Bar is constituted of law graduates of Indian Universities, who are granted *Sanads* without requiring any other test of proficiency. In order for binding the members of the bar to the faithful discharge of their duties, a form of oath was prescribed by the government to which all pleaders and advocates are asked to subscribe.

Raigarh Bar Association

The Association was established in the year 1926-27 with only six members. In 1968 the total membership was 28. It has no written constitution.

Every new member has to pay an admission fee of Rs. 25/- only and a monthly subscription of Rs. 4/- only.

Jashpur Bar Association

This Association was established in 1949. It had just one member. This membership gradually increased and in 1953 the Association had different office bearers. In 1968 the membership had increased to seven.

Dharamjaigarh Bar Association

The Association was established in 1963 with only five members. There is no written constitution of the Association but the body follows the rules and principles formed by the Bar Council of Madhya Pradesh and the Advocates Act. For purposes of admission any person who has been enrolled as an advocate or a pleader can be admitted to the membership of the Association.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Some of the State Government departments having office-establishment in the District have been narrated in the relevant Chapters. The set-up, functions and achievements of most of the remaining departments are described below.

Forest Department

There are two Forest Divisions with territorial charges and one Soil Conservation (Functionary) Division in the District. One is the Raigarh Division with headquarters at Raigarh and the other is Jashpur Division with headquarters at Jashpur. The Divisional Forest Officers are responsible for protection, exploitation, regeneration and maintenance of forests under their control.

The Divisional Forest Office, Raigarh Division, Raigarh, was established in the year 1948. It functions under the administrative control of the Conservator of Forests, Bilaspur Circle, Bilaspur, who in his turn is under the control of the Conservator In-Chief of Forests, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Divisional Forest Officer, Raigarh, has jurisdiction over the tahsils of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Gharghoda and Dharamjaigarh, i. e., the whole of the Raigarh District excepting Jashpur Tahsil. In his work the Divisional Forest Officer is assisted by 2 Assistant Conservators of Forest, 8 Forest Rangers, each in charge of a Forest Range, and 4 Forest Rangers on Special Duty, 11 Deputy Rangers, 27 Foresters and 193 Forest Guards.

The Division is divided into ranges, and the ranges are further divided into range assistant circles. The later is sub-divided into Forest Guard beats, The following table gives details of these divisions:—

S. No.	Range	Headquarters of Range	No. of Range Assistant Circles	No. of beats
1.	Raigarh	Raigarh	5	20
2.	Kharsia	Kharsia	3	11
3.	Chhal	Kudekela	2	10
4.	Sarangarh	Sarangarh	5	26
5.	Udaipur	Dharamjaigarh	3	17
6.	Pathalgao	Pathalgaon	2	12
7.	Gharghoda	Gharghoda	4	16
8.	Lailunga	Lailunga	2	8
Total..			26	120

The Divisional Forest Office, Jashpur, is functioning since 1950. This office also works under the control of the Conservator of Forests, Bilaspur Circle Bilaspur.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Jashpur, has jurisdiction over Jashpur Tahsil and in his work he is assisted by an Assistant Conservator of Forests, 9 Forest Rangers (including 4 on special duty), 8 Deputy Rangers (3 on special duty), 17 Foresters (12 on special duty), and 128 Forest Guards (including 48 on special duty).

The Division is divided into 5 ranges, 10 assistant range circles and 80 beats as detailed below:—

S. No.	Name of Range	Headquarters	No. of Assistant Range Circle	No. of beats
1.	Nagar	Jashpurnagar	3	17
2.	Khudia	Sanna	1	14
3.	Narainpur	Narainpur	2	21
4.	Tapkara	Tapkara	2	16
5.	Kunjara	Kunkuri	2	12
Total..			10	80

The Divisional Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Division, Raigarh, execute soil conservation work in the Forest area of Raigarh District with steep slope exposed to soil erosion. He too is subordinate to the Conservator of Forests, Bilaspur Circle, Bilaspur, and is assisted by 5 Forest Rangers, 20 Foresters, 80 Forest Guards and complement of ministerial and class IV staff.

Veterinary

The District Livestock Officer is incharge of the activities of the Department in the District. The office was established in the year 1956 and has jurisdiction over the whole of Raigarh District. The Office functions under the administrative control of the Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, Bilaspur Division, Bilaspur.

The Livestock Officer in his work is assisted by 12 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 4 Sub-Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, 3 Stock Supervisors, 1 Poultry Supervisor, and 43 Stockmen, who are posted at different blocks. There are 26 veterinary hospitals and dispensaries located in the blocks. The staff posted at block headquarters are responsible for organising the Veterinary and Animal Husbandary activities and controlling diseases in their respective jurisdictions.

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department is bifurcated into two distinct branches, viz., (i) Roads and Buildings, and (ii) Irrigation.

The Roads and Buildings branch in the District is placed in charge of the Executive Engineer, Raigarh Division, whose jurisdiction extends over the whole of Raigarh District and south-eastern part of Bilaspur District. The office is functioning since 1949 and is subordinate to the Superintending Engineer, P. W. D. (B & R), Bilaspur Circle, Bilaspur. In his work, i. e., for the purpose of construction and maintenance of roads and buildings in the District, the Executive Engineer is assisted by four Sub-Divisional Officers with their headquarters at Raigarh, Jashpur, Dharamjaigarh and Sarangarh, respectively. In addition to this, there is the subordinate executive and usual office staff assisting the Executive Engineer.

Irrigation

To conduct the work of this branch in the District an office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Raigarh, is functioning with headquarters at Raigarh. The Executive Engineer has jurisdiction over the whole of Raigarh District. The office is subordinate to the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, Bilaspur.

In his work the Executive Engineer is assisted by 6 Assistant Engineers, 5 Junior Engineers, 32 Overseers, 9 Sub-Overseers and usual staff. There are 3 Assistant Engineers, designated as Sub-Divisional Officers, at Raigarh, 2 at Jash-

pur and 1 at Sarangarh. At Raigarh, one Sub-Divisional Officer is incharge of the Kelo Dam Project, the second one is incharge of minor irrigation works and the third one is incharge of the Irrigation Survey Sub-Division. Of the two officers posted at Jashpur one is incharge of Minor Irrigation Sub-Division and the other is incharge of Scarcity Sub-Division. The officer stationed at Sarangarh is incharge of the Kedar Nala Project. The only notable point is that Scarcity Sub-Division, Jashpur, comes under the establishment of Hasdeo Project Division, Korba.

Public Health Engineering

For the purpose of water supply in rural and urban areas in the District an office of the Assistant Engineer, Public Health Engineering, is functioning at Raigarh since 1954. He is subordinate to the Executive Engineer, Public Health Division, Bilaspur.

The Assistant Engineer has jurisdiction over the whole of Raigarh District and in his work he is assisted by 1 Electrical Overseer, 5 Overseers, 1 Mechanic and usual staff.

Industries

The District Industries Office, Raigarh, was established on the 1st May, 1959. The Officer holding charge of the Department in the District is designated Assistant Director of Industries, Raigarh, who works under the overall control of the Director of Industries, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. However, his office is under the immediate control of the Deputy Director of Industries, Divisional Industries office, Bilaspur, and the Additional Director of Industries, Zonal Industries Office, Durg.

The Assistant Director of Industries, Raigarh, is assisted by an Inspector of Industries attached to his office and by seven Extension Officers (Industries) posted at various development blocks of the District. The main functions of the department in the District are to promote industrial activities, help in the creation of new industries, to advise, guide and advance loans and controlled commodities to the intending industrialists.

The following are the important achievements of the department during the Third Five Year Plan.

(1) Development of Tussar Silk Industries Centre, Raigarh.

A provision of about Rs. 1.687 lakhs was made against which Rs. 0.94 lakhs were spent. This centre was being run by Industries Department.

The physical targets were to appoint staff to purchase machine and to construct a building for the purpose. The staff was appointed, machines purchased and the construction of building was in progress at the end of the 3rd Plan.

(2) Industrial Estate at Raigarh

Rs. 1.54 lakhs were allocated for requisition of land, construction of building and electrification, etc. Against this allocation land was acquired and two double unit sheds and one single unit shed was constructed.

(3) Rural Workshed at Pussore

Rs. 0.40 lakh was allocated for requisition of land and construction of workshed. The construction work of the building was in progress at the end of third plan.

(4) Tussar Silk Farms Gharghoda, Lailunga, Baramkela and Chhal

Rs. 4.431 lakhs were allocated for these farms against which Rs. 3.586 lakhs were spent. The physical targets were to appoint staff, to purchase equipments, to construct godown buildings and to purchase cocoons. Against this, staff was appointed, equipments purchased, land acquired, and godown building were constructed at Lailunga and Baramkela.

(5) Tussar Cocoon Market at Chhal and Lailuga

Rs. 5.596 lakhs were allocated against which Rs. 4.531 lakhs were spent in the Third Plan. The physical targets were to appoint staff, purchase equipments, construct godowns and purchase cocoons. All these physical targets were achieved.

In addition to this Rs. 2,51,744 were disbursed under the Plan budget and Rs. 33,100/- under Non-Plan budget as loans under M.P. State Aid to Industries Act.

In the 3rd Plan 112 new Industrial units were set up.

Co-operation

The work of the Co-operative Department in Raigarh District is in charge of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Raigarh. The Assistant Registrar works under the administrative control of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bilaspur, who in his turn is under the administrative control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Assistant Registrar in his work is assisted by one Audit Officer, 4 Senior Co-operative Inspectors, 3 Co-operative Inspectors and Valuers, 15 Sub-Auditors, 6 Managers and usual staff.

The functions of the Department are to promote co-operation activities and to undertake registration, amalgamation, audit, inspection and liquidation of Co-operative Societies.

Weights and Measures

An office of the Inspector, Weights and Measures was opened at Raigarh in 1961, under the supervision of Assistant Controller, Weights and Measures, Bilaspur. The Inspector, Raigarh carries out the Departmental work in the three tahsils of Raigarh, Sarangarh and Gharghoda. The other two tahsils, namely, Jashpur and Udaipur are in charge of another Inspector. The Inspectors maintain the use of correct Metric weights, measures and Beam scales in the shops, Registered factories and patrol pumps. They seize the defaulter's weights and measures and Beam scales, stamp the new weights, re-check them after every two years and collect the stamping fees from the traders concerned.

Education

The District Education Officer looks after the expansion and promotion of education upto Middle School stage in the District. He inspects all such schools and provides personnel and material requirements in the Government schools. As regards the Private Aided or Recognised schools, he reports his findings to the higher authorities and recommends recognition and grants-in-aid or withdrawal thereof, in case of serious default. The District Educational Officer works under the supervision of the Divisional Superintendent of Education, Bilaspur Division, Bilaspur. He is assisted by 29 Assistant District Inspectors of Schools in charge of a circle each, in the District.

Panchayats and Social Welfare

There is a district level office of the department located at Raigarh. This office is headed by the District Panchayats and Welfare Officer, Raigarh, who is subordinate to the Divisional Panchayats and Welfare Officer, Bilaspur. The overall control lies with the Director of Panchayats and Social Welfare, Madhya Pradesh. In the routine work the Collector, Raigarh, is also vested with supervisory powers. The department carries on three fold activities relating to panchayats, social education and social welfare.

Supervision of the activities and accounts of the village panchayats with the help of the subordinate staff, posted at the various block headquarters, is the primary concern of the District panchayats and Welfare Officer. In the District Office he is assisted by a District Auditor and the usual office staff. At the block level there are 12 male and 3 lady Panchayats and Social Education Organisers. At the village level there are Village Assistants 27 Gram Sevaks (males) and 25 Gram Sevikas (females) in the District. There is a separate audit machinery at the block level under which 6 Sub-Auditors audit the accounts of panchayats. The Sub-Auditors are guided by the District Auditor.

For the publicity work there are 7 *kalakars* who perform and organise drama, dance, music and other media of mass education. In addition, there is a mobile cinema unit for exhibiting films. To repair the radio receiving sets pro-

vided to the village panchayats, there is a radio-mechanic who moves under the instructions of the District Panchayats and Welfare Office.

Tribal and Harijan Welfare

The Department is represented by the Tribal Welfare section of the Collectorate in Raigarh District. The Collector is the head of the office, and the final authority in local matters rests with him. He is assisted by the District Organiser, Tribal Welfare, Raigarh, who looks after the Tribal Welfare work of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Gharghoda and Udaipur tahsils. There is another District Organiser with his office at Jashpurnagar, who assists the Collector in the Departmental work in Jashpur tahsil. The District Organisers have been given powers over the Tribal Primary and Middle Schools in their respective jurisdictions. There are 13 Area Organisers and 15 Circle Organisers to assist the two District Organisers in general matters. In addition, there are four Overseers, one Sub-Overseer, one Assistant Draftman and one Tracer for construction work, six Hostel Superintendents, four Debt Relief Inspectors, four *Dais* for Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and other class III and IV staff for other jobs.

Employment Exchange, Raigarh

To render help and guidance to employment seekers in obtaining employment on the one hand and assisting the Employers in procuring the required qualified manpower for their establishments, and to collect information relating to the occupational shortages and surpluses in the District, an Employment Exchange headed by an Employment Officer is functioning in the District since 1962 with headquarters at Raigarh.

The Employment Officer has jurisdiction over the whole District and in his work he is assisted by one Statistical Assistant and usual staff. There is also an Employment Information and Assistance Bureau with headquarters at Dharamjaigarh, which is headed by a Junior Employment Officer. His jurisdiction extends over Dharamjaigarh block and he is responsible to the Employment Officer, Raigarh. The Employment Officer is under the administrative control of the Director of Employment and Training, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur.

Economics and Statistics

A District Statistical Office headed by a Statistical Officer is functioning in the District since March, 1957. The Statistical Officer has jurisdiction over the whole of Raigarh District and he functions under the administrative control of the Director of Economics and Statistics, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

In his work the Statistical Officer is assisted by 2 Statistical Assistants and usual staff. The office is mainly engaged in collecting statistical data from various departments undertaking on the spot investigation for collection of data and maintaining a record of progress of the various schemes under the Five

Years Plans. The office also prepares economic reports of the District, compiles statistical abstract, monthly reviews, annual progress of the Five Year Plans, etc.

Publicity and Information

The District Publicity Office under the charge of a District Publicity Officer started functioning at Raigarh from August 1954. Its main function is to publicise Governmental activities and to popularise the various schemes carried on under the Five Year Plans. The District Publicity Officer is under the overall charge of the Director of Information and Publicity, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Sales Tax

To collect the sales tax from the dealers, an office of the Sales Tax Officer, Raigarh Circle, Raigarh, is functioning in the District since 1947. The Officer has jurisdiction over Raigarh and Surguja district. He is under the overall administrative control of the Sales Tax Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh, Indore.

In his work the Sales Tax Officer is assisted by 4 Assistant Sales Tax Officers and 2 Sales Tax Inspectors with the usual staff.

Home Guards, Raigarh

The Home Guards unit in Raigarh, which is in the charge of a Company Commandant imparts training for three months to villagers who are physically fit and keeps them in reserve for three years for any emergency duty.

The Company Commandant, Home Guards, Raigarh, works under the immediate control of the Divisional Commandant, Home Guards, Bilaspur, who in his turn is subordinate to the Commandant-General, Home Guards, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur.

In his work the Company Commandant is assisted by 4 Instructors, Home Guards and usual staff.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

During the early Hindu period the villages enjoyed autonomy under the Panchayats, which were self-governing units. These panchayats had full administrative and judicial powers. This type of self-contained and self-governing village community did not, however, last long. Larger political units were evolved and the villages soon became their constituent. The democratic sense which had so long been prevailing in the society in the Vedic age, was obliterated.

Subsequently, due to the indifference of the administration, these village organisations lost their influence. The judicial machinery of the villages continued to function while the administrative units vanished. The work of dispensing justice was transferred from the control of the village elders to that of agency of the State. Thus, we see that the village communities, which flourished during the Hindu period suffered a set back under Muslim rule and then disappeared under the Britishers.

The excessive centralisation of executive and judicial powers in the hands of the Government officials during the British Rule deprived the village functionaries of their age-long powers and influence. The new policy of administrative centralisation and the tendency towards replacing the old Indian political institutions by the new western ones, dealt a fatal blow to the village self-government. Local Self-Government in the legally constituted form in which it now prevails in Raigarh District is essentially a product of British rule. The existing system of municipal administration is thus of comparatively recent introduction, while the local institutions in rural areas are of still later origin, and also of slower growth.

Lord Mayo's Resolution of 1870, emphasised the principle of developing local bodies as training agencies of Self-Government. Accordingly, the first Municipal Act in the Central Provinces was passed in 1873 (II of 1873) and remained in force till 1883, when the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act I of that year was introduced. As per provisions of the Act of 1883, municipalities were reconstituted and the area was divided into wards and the number of members to be elected was fixed. The District Council and Local

Boards were constituted under the provisions of Local Self-Government Act of 1883, while in 1923 first steps were taken for establishing village panchayats. Lord Ripon's Resolution of Local Self-Government of 18th May, 1882, marks the beginning of a new chapter in the history of Local Self-Government. Following this Resolution the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act (I of 1883) and Central Provinces Municipal Act XVIII of 1889 were passed providing wider extension of municipal administration. Both the District Council and Local Boards had elected, nominated and *ex-officio* members.

Lord Elgin's Government laid down further conditions of progress in Local Self-Government in its Resolution of 1896 and 1897. This led to the passage of Municipalities Act of 1903 which was more specific in regard to the powers of Municipal Committees.

In 1907-09 the Royal Commission of Decentralisation recommended that the village should be the basic unit of democracy, with an elective *Panchayat* for every village. In 1918 the Government of India laid down a broad pattern upon which the local Government was to move in order to achieve complete Local Self-Government. The Montford Report suggested certain reforms for further democratisation of municipal bodies. The Government of India Act of 1919 transferred the subject of Self-Government to the control of popular ministers. The principles enunciated in these enactments and resolutions were accepted by the Government of Central Provinces and Berar and embodied in Local Self-Government Act of 1920, the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities Act of 1922 and the Panchayat Act of 1920. The Act of 1920 was implemented in 1922 and the Act of 1922, in July, 1923. In 1927 the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities (First Amendment Act IV of 1927) was passed which prescribed that the number of nominated members should not exceed that of selected members. During the era of provincial autonomy the years 1939 witnessed the enactment and enforcement of Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities (Second Amendment) Act 1939. It provided election of the president by adult franchise. The Third Amendment Act of 1939 provided for adult franchise while the Fourth Amendment of 1939 abolished the system of nomination.

In 1946 Central Provinces and Berar Panchayat Act of 1946 was passed which renovated the old system. Later on comprehensive amending Act, the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1947 was passed. It was enacted to implement some of the recommendations of the Local Self-Government Enquiry Committee, 1935. Under the Act, president was provided with the power to perform all the duties and exercise all the executive powers conferred on him for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the above Act. In 1948 the Janapada Act was passed according to which the District Councils and Local Boards were replaced by Janapada Sabhas. To incorporate the recommenda-

tions of the Rural Local Self-Government Enquiry Committee 1957, Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act of 1961, and Madhya Pradesh Panchayats Act of 1962 were passed. They aimed at lowering the franchise and increasing the elected element in local bodies to the extent of making it the unquestioned immediate arbiter of policy in local affairs and passing executive direction into non-official hands.

The Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Act of 1962 seeks to establish a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj in the District, a Village Panchayat at village level, Janapada Panchayat at Block level and a Zila Panchayat at District level.

Municipalities

The beginning of municipal administration in this District dates back to 1901, when Raigarh town was constituted into a municipality under the Central Provinces Municipal Act of 1873 by the Ruling Chief of Raigarh State, for stepping up state revenue. At that time Raigarh was a small commercial town and a municipality already existed in adjacent Bilaspur town. In the beginning there was a direct control of the State over the affairs of municipal committee. The Diwan acted as the head of the committee and five officers of the State as nominated *ex-officio* members. This arrangement continued till 1915 and thereafter the Ruler nominated four to five non-official members from the public. From the year 1930 onwards the people elected their representatives in the committee, but the Diwan and Assistant Diwan functioned as President and Vice-Presidents, respectively, although Chairman of sub-committees were selected from the public. In March 1933, the Durbar allowed selection of a non-official Vice-President from amongst the members of the committee. From April, 1941 the President began to be selected from amongst the members of the committee, and after the merger of States into Madhya Pradesh, the first election of the President took place in January 1951. All the provisions of Central Provinces and Berar Municipality Act were also applied to the Municipality.

The second municipality was established in 1919 at Sarangarh town. It was constituted under the provisions of the Central Provinces Municipal Act of 1903. In the beginning 13 members were nominated by the Durbar. The third Municipality was established at Kharsia town by the Ruling Chief of Raigarh State. Prior to the formation of Municipality a notified area committee was functioning in this town. Then Jashpurnagar was constituted into a municipality in 1941. In 1948 the state of Raigarh was merged into the District.

In 1956 the new Madhya Pradesh was formed. Provisions of laws differed basically in the four constituent regions in regard to municipal constitution, functions, measures of Government control and grant-in-aid. Accordingly, Urban Local Self-Government Committee was appointed in 1957 to investigate

into the whole question and to suggest modifications for achieving an overall uniformity. On the recommendation of this Committee, the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act of 1961 was passed and implemented in all the municipalities in 1962.

Some of the main changes introduced by the new Municipalities Act of 1961 were:—

1. Municipalities, which had hitherto been grouped on income basis into six categories, were to be grouped into four categories—Class I, Class II, Class III and IV and on population basis.
2. Among the selected councillors one seat was reserved for a woman, to be selected by the elected members from the whole body of electors.
3. The term of the committee was extended from three years to four years.
4. Every committee was empowered to constitute out of its own body such executive sub-committees as Finance, Public Works, Public Health and Education.
5. After every election each committee was to elect its president from amongst the electors and two vice-presidents from among the councillors for a term of two years.

The Act further classified the existing municipalities into a number of categories depending upon the population. The Table below shows the details regarding the classification of the municipalities in the District.

Table No. XIV-1
Classification of Municipalities

Name of Municipality	Category	Number of members
1. Raigarh	Second Class	27
2. Sarangarh	Fourth Class	12
3. Jashpurnagar	Fourth Class	7
4. Kharsia	Fourth Class	10

Raigarh Municipality

The number of wards in Raigarh municipality was increased from 9 to 11 in the year 1910 and thus 11 members were elected and 4 members were nominated by the State. The Diwan of the State was appointed the president of Municipality. The population of the town increased from 8,041 persons in 1911 to 36,933 in 1961.

Till 1933 the Vice-President also continued to be a Durbar official when he was replaced by non-official. In the year 1941 the Chairman of the committee, was replaced by a non-official member. In 1944 all the provisions of Central Provinces and Berar Municipal Act, 1922 were enforced with immediate effect. But the provisions under section 18-A of the Act were not enforced immediately. This section related to the election of the President directly by voters. So the President was selected from amongst the members or from outside. This state of affairs remained in force till 1951 when all the provisions of the Central Provinces and Berar Municipal Act, 1922 were applied.

The area of the municipal committee was increased by including adjoining villages on 22nd October, 1946, and the number of wards increased to 15 and the first regular election was held in the municipality. There was no reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and women prior to the merger of the states. The system of election of president directly from the public was also introduced from January, 1951. In the year 1955 the Municipal Committee was dissolved and again reconstituted in 1958. The number of wards were increased to 22 in 1965.

In 1966-67 the strength of councillors was 27, of these 22 were elected from different wards and 5 selected. As per provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act, 1961, the President and two Vice-Presidents were also elected by the councillors either from amongst the elected and selected members or from outside. In 1971 the population of the Municipal town was 46,745 persons while its area was 18.26 sq. Km. This Municipality is providing ample Civic amenities. Electricity was first switched on into the palace in the year 1910 but it was extended to the whole town in 1931. A Water Works was also constructed and tap water is being supplied since the year 1930. The Municipality is managing 13 primary schools, 2 middle schools, 2 higher secondary schools, a Sanskrit school.

Sarangarh Municipality

At Sarangarh town a Municipality was constituted in the year 1919 under the provisions of the Central Provinces Municipal Act of 1903. It was composed of 13 nominated members; of these five members were Durbar officials, two ex-officio and six non-officials. The overall supervision on the committee was vested

in the State Officials, which included Diwan, Naib-Diwan, Chief Medical Officer and State Ministers. In December, 1923 the Municipal Committee was reconstituted with 15 members: of these 3 members were official, 3 *ex-officio* and 9 non-official. The election was held for the first time in the year 1937 and the Municipal area was divided into five wards. In the election five members were elected unopposed from each ward and the posts of the President and Vice-President were to be held by Diwan and Naib-Diwan, respectively. The power of nomination was vested with the Durbar. From 1940 to 1946 no changes were marked except the election of the vice-presidents by the public.

The provisions of Central Provinces and Berar Municipal Act 1922 were applied to the municipality in the year 1947 and first regular election under this Act was held on 12th June 1947. Since then the President and Vice-Presidents are elected from amongst the elected members of the Council. In 1947 the composition of members was 5 elected, 2 selected and 3 nominated. After the merger of the state into Raigarh District, the elections for the municipality were held on adult franchise basis in the month of June, 1952. The number of wards were increased to 9. The constitution of committee was one President, two Vice-Presidents, 9 elected members, 2 selected and one nominated members.

The population of municipal town also increased from 7,721 persons in 1951 to 9,252 in 1961 and to 9,317 persons in 1971. In the year 1951 it was classified as fifth class municipality. After the enforcement of Madhya Pradesh Municipal Act 1961, this municipality has been classified into the fourth class municipality and number of councillors has been fixed at 12. The area of the municipality in 1971 was 2.67 sq. km.

Electricity was supplied to the town in the year 1930 and 130 street lights were managed by the committee. Drinking water is supplied from wells and 8 tube wells constructed by the committee. The municipality is managing 3 primary schools and one middle school.

Jashpurnagar Municipality

A municipality was first constituted at Jashpurnagar in the year 1941 under the order of the Jashpur State. The provisions of the Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities Act, 1922 were applied in the municipal area in the year 1948. In 1941 the number of wards were only three and this number has been increased to 7 from 1957 as indicated below.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Nawatoli ward | 5. Balajee ward |
| 2. Bazarang ward | 6. Bartoli ward |
| 3. Sarnatoli ward | 7. Naya mahal ward. |
| 4. Puranitoli ward | |

The second elections were held in 1947 when 8 members were elected and 3 nominated. In the year 1959 the committee was composed of 12 members of

these 7 were elected and 5 selected. The population of the town has also increased from 4,388 persons in 1951 to 5,765 in 1961 and to 7,973 persons in 1971. In 1971 the area of the Municipality was 7.61 sq. km. This Municipality has been classified into the fourth class under the provisions of Municipal Act of 1961. The town was supplied electricity from the year 1942 and 29 street lights were provided in the beginning, and the number of Street lamps has increased to 214. The Municipality is managing a Homeopathic dispensary, two middle schools and one *Bal Mandir* in the town.

Kharsia Municipality

In Kharsia town a municipality was established in the year 1928 by the Ruling Chief of the erstwhile Raigarh State. Till 1928, a Notified Area Committee was functioning in the town. In the beginning the Naib-Diwan of the State acted as the ex-officio President of the Municipality and the President nominated the Vice-President and other members. The first election was held in 1951 and 11 members were elected and 3 selected.

In 1959 some changes were made in the constitution of the Municipality. The committee consisted of the President, two Vice-Presidents, twelve elected members, three selected and one Harijan member.

The population of the town in the year 1931 was 2,805 persons which increased to 3,657 in 1941, 5,539 in 1951, 7,737 persons in 1961 and to 9,753 persons in 1971. The committee had 8 wards as follows.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Hamalpara ward | 5. Ganj Chowk north ward |
| 2. Purani Basti North ward | 6. Ganj Pichhe ward |
| 3. Purani Basti South ward | 7. Ganj Chowk south ward |
| 4. Townhall ward | 8. Thakurdia ward. |

In 1971, the area of the Kharsia Municipality was 3.24 sq. km. The Municipality is managing one higher secondary, one middle school and one girls school and Rs. 11,83,694 were spent on education in 1969-70. The expenditure and receipts of the Committee from 1951-52 to 1969-70 are shown in the Appendix.

A number of financial resources are necessary to provide money to municipalities to meet the cost of the local services. In the earlier period, octroi was the chief source of revenue of municipalities. Police expenditure was the first charge and only surplus could be spent on drainage, conservancy, dispensaries, education, etc. At present the main sources of revenue of the Municipalities are octroi tax, latrine tax, lighting, conservancy tax and water rate. Among the heads of expenditure important items are public health and convenience, public works, and education. The Municipalities of Raigarh District registered a spectacular

rise in total receipts and expenditure during some recent years as is evident from the Table given in the Appendix.

The Municipalities are charged with the various obligatory and Discretionary functions as are provided under the Act of 1961 within the Municipal area.

Function and Duties	Briefly and generally they are construction and maintenance of roads and culverts and their cleaning; street lighting; water supply; drainage, maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries vaccination; construction and maintenance of public market slaughter house and sanitary convenience, establishing and maintaining primary schools, prevention of fire; regulation of dangerous and offensive trades, registering births and deaths; establishment of pounds; maintaining and regulating places for disposal of dead; registration of cattle, carrying out census of agricultural cattle; naming streets and numbering houses, etc. Besides, there are a number of discretionary functions which the municipalities are expected to perform, like reclaiming of unhealthy localities, construction and maintenance of parks, playgrounds, gardens, libraries, museums, conducting Census and survey, holding of fairs measures to promote trade and industry, etc.
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The State Government may entrust any other function, conditionally or unconditionally, to the municipalities. For efficient performance of these functions the municipalities have a number of sub-committees and special consultative committees. They deal with matters relating to public works, public health, water-supply and the like.

Of the various functions performed by the municipal committees, education, public safety, and public health need elucidation.

The municipalities of this District have played an important role in the growth of Education. Raigarh Municipality was managing six primary schools, two middle schools and one Sanskrit school in 1947-48. In that year 1835; 151 and 3 scholars, respectively, were on rolls and Rs. 37,681 were spent. This number since increased to 10 primary schools, 2 middle schools, a higher secondary school in 1951 and 13 primary schools, 2 middle schools and 2 higher secondary schools in 1960-61. Sarangarh Municipality was maintaining one primary school in 1930-31, but it increased to the number 3 in 1955-56. Kharsia Municipality was managing one primary school in 1930-31 but this number increased to two middle schools and two primary schools in 1947-48.

The Table Appendix gives the amount spent under various heads by the Municipalities.

Public Safety is a very important function but only minor expenditure is incurred over it by the municipalities. Public Safety comprises fire protection,

lighting at public streets and destruction of wild and dangerous animals. Lighting in public streets is one of the important functions of the municipalities, the aim being to guard the public against dangers lurking in darkness and against accidents due to traffic. The oldest method of street lighting is the kerosene-oil street lighting.

In all the municipal towns in the District the streets are lighted with electricity. The following Table gives an idea of expenditure incurred on it by the municipalities of the District.

Table No. XIV-2
Expenditure on Public Safety

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpurnagar	Kharsia
1960-61	25,723	1,535	1,234	6,972
1961-62	28,105	8,587	1,287	8,413
1962-63	25,084	10,784	1,024	8,079
1963-64	22,112	9,980	1,253	7,039
1964-65	24,367	9,729	1,256	12,008
1965-66	56,310	7,135	6,181	11,938
1966-67	27,932	—	—	16,427

Public Health activity of the municipalities comprises preventing disease, increasing longevity and promoting physical health through organised community efforts for the sanitation of the environment, the control of infectious diseases, the organisation of medical services preventive treatment of diseases and the education of individuals in the principles of personal hygiene. It is clear from the table of expenditure in the Appendix that the municipalities of this District are spending a sizeable amount under this head.

One of the most important public health services of the municipality is the adequate provision for supply of pure and clean water for maintaining a high standard of personal and public hygiene. A water works was constructed in Raigarh town in the year 1915 and in the beginning supply was made only to the Palace and State Officials. Later on, in the year 1922, a water works was constructed at the request of public with a capacity of 75,000 gallons of water supply per day. For adequate

supply of water a modern water works was constructed in the year 1930 at the cost of Rs. 1,75,000. The water-supply to the town was made from 1931. The capacity of this reservoir is 72,000 gallons of water per day. As the population to the town has also increased, recently a scheme for increasing the water supply capacity was sanctioned by the State Government. Accordingly a water works is being constructed with the estimated cost of Rs. 7,55,000 with a capacity of one million gallons of water per day. This will serve the needs of 40,000 persons and will provide 30 gallons of water per day per head. The main source of water is the Kolo river. There is a scheme for the construction of water works at Jashpurnagar with a estimated cost of Rs. 10,000. Other municipalities of the District are providing water from wells and tanks. The expenditure incurred by the municipalities on water-supply is shown below.

Table No. XIV-3
Expenditure on Water Supply

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpurnagar	Kharsia
1955-56	50,812	55,830	2,260	N. A.
1960-61	82,742	55,639	—	24,281
1961-62	76,830	77,331	—	99,115
1962-63	93,383	87,232	4,000	11,299
1963-64	55,086	2,044	300	11,603
1964-65	39,817	5,485	964	8,017
1965-66	53,389	55,641	4,069	4,663
1966-67	68,867	—	—	10,005

Town Planning

Raigarh town, originally, was the headquarters of the native State of Raigarh in the group of the Eastern States Agencies but after the merger of states it has become the District headquarters. The present density of population in the town is about 73 persons per acre to 150 per acre. This is appreciably higher than the desirable limit of 50 per gross acre. Taking into consideration the fact that majority of the houses are of single-storeyed type it will be clear that ground covered by houses in the built up areas is much more than the desirable standard and this has resulted in the lack of open spaces. The percentage of road area is also very meagre, being about 8% of the total area, whereas in a good layout it should be about 20%. Another feature of the town is the existence of a large number of tanks

and low lands which are the breeding centres of mosquitoes. Unfortunately, Malaria accounts for a large number of deaths every year.

For providing modern amenities to the civic population a Master Plan on the modern lines has been prepared by the Town Planning Department of Madhya Pradesh. The Master Plan is intended to provide a frame-work for expansion of the town for the next forty years.

Improvement in the Existing Town

As regards open spaces, the total area in the existing town at present is 7 acres which include children's parks, public town-hall and playgrounds. The following tanks and lowlands are proposed to be reserved as public open spaces.

1. In Ward No. 11 the area, opposite town hall (area about 5 acres of the existing tank) to be converted into a park.
2. In Ward No. 9 lowland between women's hospital and wireless station (area of about 3 acres) to be converted into a park.
3. In Ward No. 8 the seriously congested area on palace road (area about 1 acre) to be converted into a park. This may have to be postponed for the present, as it will need demolition of huts.
4. In Ward No. 4 near Municipal High School, lowland (area about 4 acres) to be converted into a play-ground. These measures will cover about 13 acres and will bring up the total to 20 acres of open space.

Altogether six new residential neighbourhoods, one administrative and one industrial neighbourhood, have been proposed within the green belt area.

The area of residential neighbourhoods comes to approximately 2000 acres. The new lay-outs will, therefore, provide for about 57,000 population which can be regarded as the optimum population 40 to 50 years hence, each neighbourhood having primary schools, shopping centre, a high school and some open space for recreation. Hospitals and Community Centres if not present in any particular neighbourhood, are to be formed at a convenient distance in the adjacent neighbourhood. This arrangement will make the residential areas self-sufficient for their daily necessities. The areas proposed to be constructed under this Scheme are (1) Baikunthpur (2) Darogamunda (3) Jagatpur (4) Bala-dulla (5) Chakradharnagar (6) Mithumunda and (7) Amil Bhouna.

District Council and Boards

The Local Self-Government institutions, which had jurisdiction extending over both the rural and urban areas of the District, were the District Council and Local Boards. In the erstwhile Raigarh State a District Council and Three

Local Boards were constituted in 1905¹. The main duties of these bodies were with regard to Primary education, cattle pounds and village sanitation. In the Council 23 members were elected and 54 members nominated by the Government. The President used to be the official member, In 1909, total receipts and expenditure were Rs. 17,740 and Rs. 25,515. After functioning for four or five years these bodies lost their existence and were renewed in the year 1939 when in erstwhile Raigarh State a Council was reconstituted. Three types of local bodies were constituted, viz., Gram Panchayats, Local Boards and District Council. The Local Boards were established at Raigarh, Gharghoda and Kharsia. In every Local Board the numbers was fifteen, of whom 10 were elected and 5 nominated, For District Council five members were selected from each Local Board and five were nominated. Thus the total number of members was twenty. The Diwan was the president of Council and Vice-President was a non-official member. These bodies continued to function till 1946 on the lines of Central Provinces and Berar Local Self-Government Acts.

In the same way in Sarangarh State, a District Council was established in 1942 and nominated members were representing the body.

The District Council and Local Boards derived only those functions and powers which were expressly given to them by law. The Acts giving power to the Councils were of two kinds, general and adoptive. In brief, subject to exceptions imposed by the Provincial Government, the functions of a District Council or independent Local Board comprised the construction, repair and maintenance of means of communication, roads, building and other Government works, the establishment, management, maintenance and inspection of schools, hospitals, dispensaries, slaughter-houses, markets, rest houses, and *serias*; construction and repair of public wells, tanks and water-works, establishment and management of pounds and any other local works or measures likely to promote the health, comfort or convenience of the public.

The powers and duties of the Local Boards, within their areas, were the same as those of the District Council, with the exception that all original works and repairs, costing more than Rs. 2,500 each, required the sanction of the District Council. But the Act authorised the District Council to delegate its powers to the Local Boards within its area. The powers and duties so delegated were exercised under the general supervision of the District Council which was free to lay down a general policy for the guidance of Local Boards.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, p. 188.

Previously, when the District Council had no power of taxation, it was entitled to receive certain prescribed cess and rates. Under the Central Provinces and Berar, Local Self-Government Act of 1920, the local bodies began to impose and realise taxes. The Grants-in-Aid to Local Bodies Act XXXII, 1939, provided for the payment of grants to local bodies approximately equal to the sums realised by them in the shape of certain fees and fines which were credited into the Provincial revenues.

The Princely States of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur were merged into the Central Provinces with effect from 1st January, 1948 and Raigarh District with headquarters at Raigarh was constituted. It consisted of the tahsils of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur. In the year 1948, a scheme in a modified form was, however, embodied in Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act (No. XXXVIII) of 1948, according to which District Council and Local Boards were abolished and instead Janapada Sabhas were established at tahsil level in Raigarh District.

Janapada Sabhas

The Janapada Sabha Scheme was introduced with the object of effecting decentralisation of powers and functions and the promotion of real local self government on wider basis. The Local Self-Government Act, 1948 which is popularly known as the Janapada Act, was enforced in the District. Consequence of this measure was that the tahsil became the primary unit of administration and constituted a centre of local self-government in which the local officials and the representatives of the area were closely associated.

According to the provisions of the Act of 1948, in Raigarh District four Janapada Sabhas, one each at Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur were constituted. These Janapada Sabhas came into existence from 1st August, 1948. In the beginning the members of Janapada Sabhas were nominated by the Government. The number of nominated members of Udaipur, Sarangarh and Jashpur Janapada Sabhas were 20, 21 and 22, respectively, including the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. These nominated members were representing rural and urban areas. These nominated bodies continued to function till 31st March, 1954, when elections were held.

The composition of Janapada Sabhas of Raigarh District was under the provisions of the Central Provinces and Berar Local Self-Government Act, 1948¹ fixed as follows.

1. M. P. Janapada Manual, Pt. I, 1955, p. 118.

Table No. XIV-4
Composition of Janapada Sabha

Name of Janapada Sabha	Number of members		
	Urban	Rural	Total
Raigarh	3	26	29
Sarangarh	1	19	20
Jashpur	1	19	20
Udaipur	—	20	20

A Janapada area was divided into urban and rural circles. The urban area consists of the municipal and notified areas. The number of rural circles of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur and Udaipur Janapada Sabhas was 26, 19, 19 and 20, respectively. The following table gives the number of members represented from urban areas.¹

Table No. XIV-5
Urban Representation

Name of Janapada Sabha	Name of Municipality	Number of Members
Raigarh	1. Raigarh	2
	2. Kharsia	1
Sarangarh	Sarangarh	1
Jashpur	Jashpur	1

Thus, the membership of the Janapada Sabha is of two kinds, elected and selected. Elected members again are of two kinds—those representing rural circles and the other representing urban circles. From rural circles, members were elected directly from the constituencies, while in urban circles, they were elected by the elected members of the municipal bodies. Under the Act, there is a provision according to which

1. *ibid.* p. 121.

elected members have to select one Harijan and Scheduled Tribe member, if the same is not already included amongst the elected members. The life of the Sabha is for five years from the date of its first meeting and the term of the office of every councillor co-terminates with it. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, who are elected by the Councillors from amongst themselves or from outside, hold office for the life time of the Sabha. The following table gives the size, population and composition of members of Janapada Sabhas of the District.

Table No. XIV-6
Composition of Janapada Sabhas

Janapada Sabha	Area in sq. km.	Population (1961)	Number of Members		
			Elected	Selected	Total
1. Raigarh	—	—	—	—	—
2. Sarangarh	—	1,85,123	26	—	26
3. Jashpurnagar	5674.66	3,06,105	20	2	22
4. Udaipur	2330.99	1,76,893	20	3	23

In pursuance of the Act of 1948, every Sabha in the District appointed, out of its own body, the Standing Committee on Finance, Public Works, Public Health, Education Agriculture and Development. The last mentioned standing committee was, however, abolished in accordance with the recommendations of the Janapada Enquiry Committee, 1952, and instead, an Administrative Committee comprising eleven or nearly equal to one-third of the total number of councillors, whichever was greater, was constituted in each Sabha. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Janapada Sabha were to be the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Administrative Committee. The Administrative Committee deals with the co-ordination of the other standing committees and looks to the implementation of their decisions and appointment of Janapada staff.

The Chief Executive Officer is the *ex-officio* Secretary of every standing committee. The Sub-Divisional Officers act as the Chief Executive Officers of these Janapada Sabhas and Tahsildars function as Deputy Chief Executive Officers of the Janapada Sabhas.

The Janapada Sabhas have been vested with larger authority and wider power than the old District Councils possessed. The functions allotted to the

Functions

Janapada Sabhas can be divided into three categories-obligatory, discretionary and entrusted. Obligatory duties, which were 16 in number in the original Act and reduced almost to its half by the Amendment Act of 1953, comprise-establishment, management, and maintenance of rural schools, hospitals, dispensaries, markets, *serais*, transferred buildings and roads, cattle-pounds vaccination and other public health centres, village uplift, control of epidemics, registration of births and deaths, provision and control of relief work, provision for pure drinking water by constructing wells and tanks, and management of ferries. Discretionary functions were ten in number but subsequently increased to seventeen. Some of these optional duties are development of cottage industries, management of agricultural shows, fairs and industrial exhibitions. Entrusted functions are mentioned in section 52 of the Act itself, which can be gradually handed over to the Sabha by the Government. While performing these entrusted functions, the Sabha acts as an agent of the State Government and works strictly according to the policy and instructions laid down for it. In respect of these functions the extra expenditure incurred by the Sabha is reimbursed by the Government. Besides these duties, the Sabhas have been authorised to exercise general power of inspection, supervision and control over the *Gram Panchayats* within their respective areas.

According to the Janapada Act of 1948 the source of income of Janapada Sabhas are: the proceeds of taxes, fees, tolls, cesses and rates imposed under the Act; all such rents and profits from *nazul* property in the Janapada area, such percentage of land revenue as the Government may fix; all sums contributed by the Government to local bodies or Government to the Sabha to meet expenses for the performance of agency functions; all sums recovered on account of composition under section 176, and all sums received by the Sabha in the execution of the Act. Thus the sources of income of Janapada Sabhas have continued to be more or less the same as those of the former District Councils except that the scope and the rate of compulsory cess have been enlarged. The only appreciable change is that a percentage of land revenue is to be paid to the Sabha. The income and expenditure figures for the period 1948-49 to 1965-66 of all Janapada Sabhas of Raigarh District has been given in Appendix.

Where there was a gap between the income and expenditure of Janapada Sabhas the State Government granted loans to the concerned Sabhas to enable them to perform their duties. The grant-in-aid is also given by the Government. Besides, Government grants, under section 76 of the Local Government Act, 1948, the municipalities can be required to make contributions to the Janapada Funds.

On the recommendation of the Janapada Enquiry Committee, Government decided to abolish additional cess and raise the rate of Compulsory Cess.

In respect of educational grant it was decided that 75 per cent of the approved expenditure on Primary education should be met by Government. In backward areas this percentage would be up to 90 per cent. The Government, also decided that the Janapada Sabha would be given a share of land revenue at 5 per cent of the annual demand in each year.

Of the various functions which the Sabha performs, those relating to education, medical and public health, veterinary services and public works are most important.

Imparting education is an important function of Janapada Sabhas. Sarangarh Janapada Sabha was maintaining only 34 primary schools in 1948, which subsequently increased to 2 middle schools and 40 primary schools in 1950-51; and 3 middle schools and 89 primary schools in 1955-56, and 13 middle schools and 139 primary schools in 1960-61. Udaipur Janapada Sabha was managing 27 primary schools in 1948-49, which subsequently increased to 2 middle schools, 50 primary schools in 1950-51; 6 middle schools, 107 primary schools in 1955-56, and 7 middle schools, 140 primary schools in 1960-61, and 7 middle schools and 141 primary schools in 1966-67. Similarly Jashpur Janapada Sabha was managing 34 primary schools in 1948-49, which subsequently increased to 10 middle schools, 34 primary schools in 1950-51; and 10 middle schools and 97 primary schools in 1955-56; 10 middle schools and 97 primary schools in 1955-56, 8 middle schools and 157 primary schools in 1960-61 and reduced to 8 middle schools and 155 primary schools in 1966-67.

The following table gives the amount spent by the Janapada Sabhas under this head during the period 1948-49 to 1969-70.

Table No. XIV-7
Expenditure on Education

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpur	Udaipur
1948-49	19,363	29,235	11,483	10,955
1950-51	1,41,197	70,152	72,140	81,226
1955-56	2,30,657	1,45,655	1,55,564	1,55,617
1960-61	5,57,791	3,00,328	2,66,516	2,52,177
1965-66	98,894	17,610	6,964	17,540
1966-67	1,06,991	18,345	3,630	20,032
1967-68	1,55,226	22,219	4,130	17,302
1968-69	1,33,421	11,381	9,308	19,323
1969-70	85,143	25,000	7,547	19,776

From the above table, it is clear that there has been rapid increase in expenditure under this head owing to the ever-increasing demand of schools in rural areas. The services of teachers of schools run by the Janapada Sabhas of the District have been transferred to the Government with effect from October 1963.

The main activities under this head are management of dispensaries, provision for pure drinking water, measure for prevention of epidemic vaccination and inoculation. Jashpur and Udaipur Janapada Sabhas are maintaining four, five and one Ayurvedic dispensaries respectively. The amount spent on public health activity by the Janapada Sabhas of the District shows a gradual rise as is evident from the below table.

Table No. XIV-8
Expenditure on Public Health

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpur	Udaipur
1948-49	675	864	866	1,581
1950-51	22,091	1,525	21,699	7,549
1955-56	26,708	1,942	17,252	16,822
1960-61	27,973	2,606	24,283	6,538
1965-66	28,564	2,475	17,696	8,369
1966-67	28,822	2,102	18,870	8,571
1967-68	31,087	11,233	N. A.	7,796
1968-69	27,756	18,340	N. A.	7,353
1969-70	26,961	20,152	N. A.	8,114

The development of rural communication and construction of buildings for Panchayat Bhawans, Schools, and dispensaries, construction and repairs of wells and tanks are important functions of the Janapada Sabhas. Under this head, Raigarh Janapada Sabha has constructed 65 well, one primary health centre building and some primary and middle school buildings. The following table gives the amount spent under this head from the year 1948-49.

Table No. XIV-9
Expenditure on Public Works

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpur	Udaipur
1948-49	1,219	172		930
1950-51	53,940	229	10,659	533
1955-56	27,457	31,545	36,946	25,475
1960-61	17,802	8,122	15,603	20,059
1965-66	15,919	22,498	15,308	12,856

Year	Raigarh	Sarangarh	Jashpur	Udaipur
1966-67	17,654	10,082	15,920	10,266
1967-68	22,850	6,548	N.A.	8,807
1968-69	9,022	5,537	N.A.	10,349
1969-70	6,669	6,523	N.A.	8,597

Panchayats

The village Panchayats formed an integral part of our national life and preserved our culture and traditions against all political upheaval from the times immemorial. The importance of these bodies was noted by Lord Morley, the Secretary of State for India in council in the year 1908, to consider the best way of carrying out a policy that would make a village, the starting point of public life. The recommendations of the Decentralisation Commission set up in 1907 mainly aimed at the development of corporate life amongst the villagers and creating in them an interest in local village affairs. The Commission proposed that in each village there should be one village Panchayat to serve as a basic unit of local democracy and a primary unit of local government. It also recommended certain functions for these local bodies including management of village schools, jurisdiction in small civil and criminal cases, village sanitation, management of village cattle pounds and markets. In the year 1918, following the Montford report it was felt that a beginning be made where possible with a view to establishing panchayats. Accordingly the Central Provinces and Berar Local Self-Government Act of 1920 was passed. In 1925, the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Assembly requested the Government to take active steps for the establishment of village panchayats.

This led to appointment of the an enquiry committee in 1936 in the Provinces. The committee recommended that Panchayats should be endowed with civic and criminal powers. The recommendations of the committee were embodied in the Central Provinces and Berar Panchayat Act of 1946, which came into force in 1947. The progress of village Panchayats remained slow and the results achieved by them were unimpressive.

According to the provision of the Act of 1946, the formation of panchayats was split up into three stages, first for every village with a population of 1,000 or above, second for villages with a population of not less than 500 and third for villages with a population below 500.

Under the Act of the village panchayats were entrusted with administrative functions alone, the judicial functions being given to new functionary body

known as the Nyaya Panchayat. A Gram Panchayat was composed of 5 to 15 *Panchas*, who were chosen by a secret ballot by qualified voters for a period of 5 years on adult franchise basis. The *Patel* was an *ex-officio* member over and above the authorised strength. The *Sarpanch* of a gram panchayat was elected while the *Up-Sarpancha* was nominated by the *Sarpanch*. Their term of office co-extensive with the term of the panchayat. The village Assistant or the *Gram Sahayak* acts as *ex-officio* Secretary of gram panchayat. In the year 1951-52 there were 59 *gram panchayats* in Raigarh District which number increased to 100 in 1954-55, 105 in 1956-57, 151 in 1958-59 and 714 in 1960-61 and reduced to 318 in 1965-66.

Functions

The functions entrusted to the village panchayats under the Act of 1946 were multifarious. In short, these cover the entire field of civic administration and social and economic development of the villages. The long list of their duties as enumerated in the Act, has been described under two heads, optional and discretionary. The first category includes sanitation, medical relief, supply of drinking water, and construction and maintenance of village roads.

Discretionary functions, assigned to the Panchayats may be treated as compulsory in certain cases if the Government so desire. Some of these duties are construction and maintenance of slaughter house; improvement of agriculture, village libraries and reading-rooms; measures to relieve rural indebtedness; eradication of corruption and untouchability; lighting of village streets.

Financial Resources

The main sources of income of the Gram Panchayat in the District include a compulsory cess on land revenue at the rate of three paise per rupee, house tax, professional tax and licenses for practising as a token within the panchayat area. In addition there are a few optional taxes e. g., light tax, animal tax, toll on vehicles, water rate, conservancy, etc.

Expenditure

The major heads of expenditure of the Gram Panchayats are Public Health, Public Works, Street Lighting and Education.

The following table gives the income and expenditure of Gram Panchayats of Raigarh District from 1953-54 to 1972-73.

Table No. XIV-10
Income and Expenditure

Year	Gram Panchayats	
	Receipts (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1960-61	1,17,849	51,117
1965-66	3,97,339	1,88,568
1970-71	4,17,561	3,62,401
1971-72	10,85,206	6,05,198
1972-73	18,84,454	11,98,769

Special Achievements

The village panchayats of the District have also carried on considerable developmental activities in their respective areas. In this District construction work has been done on various items like Roads, Wells, Tanks, Panchayat Bhawans and maintenance of School. Till 1962 the Panchayats had constructed 34 Road, 61 Wells, 20 Tanks and 46 Panchayat Bhawans. In addition, they were maintaining 37 schools. The table below shows the details of their recent work:—

Table No. XIV-11
Achievements of Gram Panchayats

Year	Number of Roads	Number of Wells	Number of Tanks	Number of Schools.	Number of Panchayat Bhawans.
1962	34	61	20	37	46
1963-64	—	—	—	—	60
1964-65	—	—	—	—	29
1965-66	—	—	—	—	6
1966-67	—	—	—	—	5
1967-68	—	—	—	—	Nil
1968-69	—	—	—	—	3
1969-70	—	—	—	—	Nil
1970-71	—	—	—	—	8
Total...	34	61	20	37	167

Nyaya Panchayats

The Nyaya Panchayats aimed at providing village folk with cheaper, speedier and simpler justice. The Nyaya Panchayats are purely judicial bodies with powers to try minor offences and settle disputes of ordinary nature. Under Central Provinces and Berar Act of 1946, Nyaya Panchayats were constituted, one each for a group of villages. Nyaya Panchayats consisted of at least five members. The Panchas of this body were at first nominated by the Government for three years but later they were selected from amongst the elected members of the Gram Panchayat concerned for a five year term. In 1951-52, there were 16 Nyaya Panchayats functioning in this District which increased to 21, 22, and 23 in 1952-53, 1955-56 and 1956-57, respectively. Since then the number has remained at 23. The detailed functions and working of Nyaya Panchayats have been discussed in Chapter XII—Law and Order and Justice of this District.

In the first phase of its implementation, the Balwant Rai Mehta Commission was appointed by the Central Government in 1957, which recommended democratic diffusion of the centripetal power. The National Panchayati Raj Development Council endorsed this recommendation in its meeting on January 12, 1958, and finally the Central Council of Local Self-Government, in its fifth meeting at Hyderabad in 1959, enunciated certain broad principles on which the existing panchayats were advised to be reconstituted so that they could form the base of the entire community development programme and supply it with necessary vitality and vigour. Some of these basic principles were:—

- The Panchayati Raj should be three-tier structure of the Local Bodies from the village to the district being organically linked up.
- There should be genuine transfer of power and responsibility, with adequate resources transferred to them.
- All development programmes at these three levels should be handled through these bodies.

The Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Act VII, comprising 392 sections was passed in 1962. This Act brought new vision and responsibilities to the Panchayats ushering in what is popularly known as the Panchayati Raj.

The new Act envisages introduction of three tier system of Panchayats; Gram Panchayat at the village, the Janapada Panchayat at the Development Block level and the zila Panchayat at the district level. Each gram sabha shall be divided into such number of wards and the number of members of a gram panchayat to be elected from each ward shall be such, as may be determined by the Collector.

The State Government may establish an Adivasi Panchayat for any village or group of villages if the majority of inhabitants in that area belong to the member of Scheduled Tribes.

The Janapada Panchayat shall consist of, in addition to the elected Panchas varying from 15 to 20, one member from the co-operative marketing societies, one from each municipal body, one from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, two women and the local M. L. As. The zila Panchayat, extending its jurisdiction over the whole District, shall include Sarpanchas of all Janapada Panchayats, M. L. A's from the district and all the District Officers, representing Public Health, Education, Agriculture and other Development Departments, one woman, one member of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes member representing the co-operative societies. The official members, however, have no right of voting. Every gram panchayat, having an annual income of at least Rs. 5000/- can have a full time Secretary and the Janapada Panchayat, a Chief Executive Officer, while the Zila Panchayat is empowered to have the services of District Panchayat Officer.

In order to execute the scheme, the elections for village Panchayats were held in May 1970. The total number of wards was 4628 out of which elections in 2642 wards were held unanimously while elections were held in the remaining 1986 wards. In 1425, towards all nomination papers were rejected being invalid while elections were held in 561 wards. In 1425 wards nomination of members was done as laid down in section II (7) of the 1962 Act. In 19 village Panchayats the Co-option of one women member each was done while in 299 village Panchayats, co-option of women members was done at the rate of 2 women for each Panchayat. In 147 Panchayats the president of the co-operative society was co-opted as a member of the Panchayat. Similarly, 96 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and 188 persons of Scheduled Tribes were co-opted as members of the Panchayats. The total number of co-opted women members was 622.

There are 17 Development Blocks out of which Janapada Panchayats have been established in 9 Blocks which had a total membership of 180 members. The elections of Janapada members took place in December 1970 out of these members, 22 belong to Scheduled Castes and 71 to Scheduled Tribes.

The steps for the establishment of Zila Panchayat are being taken.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Historical Background

The ancient cave-paintings of Chauwardhal Hills near Singhanpur village, and that of Kabara Pahar, about ten miles from Raigarh, speak of the region enjoying rich cultural heritage, in the pre-historic period.

In the historic period, however, it is probable that the Khuria Devi temple might have been the abode of Buddhist saints and scholars.¹ Pujaripali stone inscription of Gopaladeva, found 35.4 km. north-east of Sarangarh town, was composed by poet Narayana, the author of the *Kavva Ramabhyudaya*. The poet Narayana seems to have flourished during the twelfth century A. D.² Written in Sanskrit, the book testifies to the intellectual attainment of its author. Usually the chiefs, priests and enlightened persons in the royal services, used to make arrangements for the education of their wards privately. One is to wonder how the Agarias prepared the quality steel and the Koshtas the Kosa-silk.

Beginning of Western Education

The educational history of the District during the early twentieth century was shaped by the policies of the then rulers of the erstwhile states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur, and Udaipur. The latter two states were not within the Central Provinces and Berar. In the year 1905, the territorial adjustments made them a part of the erstwhile Central Provinces and Berar.

The states were advised to appoint their own Inspectors for the supervision of education after the Education Commission Report, 1884. But owing to tardy growth of education in these areas, the Government appointed in 1895 a separate Agency Inspector who was to supervise education in the Feudatory States.

It appears that during the first decade of the present century, comparatively more attention was given to the education in Raigarh State, where 27 schools in 1906 against 22 in 1905 were recorded with a strength of Progress in 3,560 students against 1854 in 1905. Raigarh State obtained Feudatory States its first high school in that year, Owing to the attachment of a number of feeder-classes in the village schools in the neighbouring areas, there had been such a spurt in the number of students during the year 1906. The State expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 8,642. Sarangarh State led the remaining states with 17 schools, followed by Jashpur (16) and Udaipur (11) States. The strength of students was 2,050 in Sarangarh State, 474 in Jash-

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, pp. 280-281.

2. V. V. Mirashi, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. IV, Pt. II, pp. 589-90.

pur State and 724 in Udaipur State. The burden to the State exchequer was Rs. 4,872 in Sarangarh and Rs. 2,279 in Udaipur in the year 1906.

A little more than a decade after Sarangarh took over the lead with 58 schools in 1919, maintained at the cost of Rs. 19,150 to the State exchequer. Raigarh with 39, Jashpur with 17 and Udaipur with 8 schools in that year showed little growth. The attendance in schools dwindled considerably, owing largely to the ravages of influenza epidemic and the scarcity conditions prevailing during the period.

Considerable revival was noticed when during the late 'twenties, the number of schools in Udaipur and Jashpur States increased to 19 and 28, respectively, with a strength of 1,400 and 1,650 students. Apart from these, 83 schools with 2,150 students were recorded in Jashpur State during the 'twenties which were maintained by the Catholic Mission.¹ By the year 1931, there was a school of special category in Raigarh State alongwith one high school and two middle schools. Sarangarh too had a high school, and Udaipur and Jashpur, one middle school each. This was the position of secondary education at the beginning of the 'thirties of the present century.

In the history of these states, the ensuing decade of the 'forties was eventful, witnessing the merger of states and the emergence of Raigarh as a District on the 1st January, 1948. It will be interesting to see the level at which all stages of education stood in the District at this significant time. Of the 189 primary schools in the year 1947-48, 148 were Government schools, 33 Janapada schools and 8 Municipal schools. The number of students in these schools was 14,609. Government institutions were staffed with 374 teachers and Janapada and Municipal schools with 102 and 52 teachers, respectively, in that year.

The growth of secondary education remained stagnant during this period. Two municipal middle schools and three Government high schools were extant in the District with a combined strength of 179 students in the former and 848 in the latter schools. Of the 49 teachers in these schools, 40 were in high schools and 9 in middle schools. The progress of education during the various Plan periods will be discussed in the relevant sections in the following pages.

The pattern of administrative set-up of Education Department in the District is largely the projection of State machinery.

Literacy and Educational Standards

Literacy in the erstwhile states, constituting the present Raigarh District, steadily advanced during the last half-a-century. Raigarh and Sarangarh States were somewhat advanced in regard to male-literacy. From 29 literate males per mille in 1891, in ages from 10 years and above, their number increased to 47 in the following decade and then, by 1931, to 85 literate males per mille in Raigarh State. Sarangarh State, similarly, made much progress in regard to education which is reflected in its literacy rate. The male-literacy rate per mille in

1. Raghuvir Prasad, *Jharkhand Jhankar*, pp. 81 and 109-10.

ages 10 years and above increased from 56 in 1891 to 84 in the following decade, and to 92 in the year 1931. The other two States, viz., Udaipur and Jashpur had male-literacy rates of 29 and 42 persons in the age-group of 10 years and over in 1931.

The male literacy, if analysed by religion, makes an interesting reading. In 1931, Jains with 1,000 literate males per mille of population above 5 years in age led the list in Sarangarh State followed by Muslims (234) and Christians (150). In Raigarh also the same trend is reflected. Jains led with 652 male literates per mille aged 5 and over, followed by Muslims (377) and Christians (245). Considerable male literacy (200) among the Muslims was conspicuous in Jashpur and Udaipur States.

Since 1931, over a span of 30 years which witnessed the emergence of Raigarh as a District on the 1st January, 1948, the growth of literacy presents a picture of concerted and planned efforts undertaken for the spread of education in these areas. In 1961, the number of literates per 1000 of population in Raigarh District increased from 207 (178 males and 29 females) in 1951 to 298 (249 males and 49 females) in 1961.

The following table shows the literate population in the District according to Census 1961 and 1971.

Table No. XV-1

Literate Population and Their Percentage

District	Literate and Educated Population			Literacy Percentage		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Raigarh District (1961)	1,54,658	1,28,831	25,827	14.85	24.8	4.9
Rural	1,29,895	1,10,838	19,057	13.24	22.78	3.85
Urban	24,763	17,993	6,770	41.35	57.11	23.85
Raigarh District (1971)	—	—	—	20.1	31.2	9.2
Rural	—	—	—	—	18.2	—
Urban	—	—	—	—	50.2	—

Raigarh stands 20th in descending order of rural literacy-rate in the State with 13.24 per cent of its ruralites as literate in 1961.

During the decade (1951-61), the general literacy rate in the District advanced from 6.5 per cent in 1951 to 14.85 per cent in 1961. Although the

two figures are not strictly comparable owing to the territorial changes effected after the year 1951, yet the general picture that emerges shows a faster pace of progress in literacy during this period. The pace had been still faster in urban areas where urban literacy advanced from 13.1 per cent in 1951 to 41.35 per cent in 1961. While male-literacy (24.8 per cent) was at a fair level, the female literacy continued to be subnormal (4.9 per cent).

Amongst the tahsils, Raigarh Tahsil with 18.1 per cent rural-literacy stood out significantly, whereas Udaipur Tahsil trailed the last with 9.9 per cent rural-literacy. In regard to urban-literacy, Jashpur Tahsil with 44.5 per cent was credited with the largest proportions of literate and educated mass, closely followed by Raigarh Tahsil (41.7 per cent) and Sarangarh Tahsil (37.3 per cent). Udaipur Tahsil was the most backward tract in regard to literacy.

Educational Standards

The literates include a large number of persons without any educational qualifications. The following table, however, gives the classification of literate and educated persons who have attained different educational standards.

Table No. XV-2
Population by Educational Standards, 1961

Educational Standards	Total	Rural	Urban
Literate without educational standard	1,06,229	94,865	11,364
Primary or Junior Basic	44,539	33,842	10,697
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	3,385	1,188*	2,197
Technical Diploma not equal to degree	81	—	81
Non-Technical diploma not equal to degree	1	—	1
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	383	—	383
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree	40	—	40
Total literate and educated persons	1,54,658	1,29,895	25,763

(Note:—*Includes persons with Matriculation Certificate and higher qualifications)

Although there has been a rapid growth of general literacy but much lee-way has to be made up in regard to higher education. Among males, 67.8 per cent of the literates were without having attained any educational qualification. This proportion moved to 72.6 per cent in regard to females. Amongst the educated, 29.6 per cent of the total males and 25.6 per cent of the total female literates possessed Primary School Certificate or had studied up to Matriculation and above qualification holders reached a paltry 2.5 per cent of the total literate and educated persons.

Growth of Education among Women

Educationally a backward tract, Raigarh had been still more backward in the past, as far as femal education was concerned. Sarangarh State which showed some silver lining in this behalf, had three literate females per mille in the year 1891, which increased to four during the following decade. At this time, other states comprising the present District could hardly break the ice. Pathetically low female literacy reflects the indifferent and, at times, hostile attitude of the people inhabiting the area on the one hand, and a natural corollary to it, the absence of proper facilities in keeping with the social and economic conditions prevalent at that time, or the other. Except for two girls' schools in Raigarh in 1901, there was no other institution catering to the needs of the area in respect of girls' education. Sarangarh State established a girls' school during the second decade of the present century. Jashpur State, where a host of Oraon embraced Christianity had a girls' school in 1921, which marked the advance of girls' education in the region. In that year, Sarangarh had 684 girls and Raigarh 238 girls in their respective schools.

The position of girls' education in these States, as it stood in the year 1931, is given in the following table.

Table No. XV-3
Girls Schools and Attendance

State	Primary Schools for Girls	Attendance
Raigarh	2	184
Sarangarh	2	438
Udaipur	—	—
Jashpur	—	—

After the merger of states in the year 1948, the educational progress in these states was merged into the general stream of educational progress of the State as a whole. The problems of education, more particularly female

education in the backward areas, began to attract the attention of the Government. At primary stage, encouragement to co-education was given in all areas, and hence emphasis was not laid on the opening of separate schools for girls, barring the areas where much resistance to co-education was noted. In order to promote girls' education in the State, the State Council of Women's Education was established in the year 1960. On its recommendations, special incentives were being given to women to attract them to teaching profession, the dearth of female teachers being felt in all areas.

The post-Independence period has witnessed the launching of three Five Year Plans. From 7 primary girls' schools with 876 students and 43 teachers in the year 1951-52, their number increased to 48 schools with 25,868 girls and 194 teachers in the year 1967-68. In that year, 22 middle and 7 higher secondary schools for girls were also functioning in the District with 3,116 and 2,605 students. The number of teachers was 60 in the former category and 85 in the latter one.

Education of Backward Classes and Tribes

With 57.01 per cent of its population belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes Raigarh predominantly is a backward tract in general, and in education in particular. Depressingly low literacy among them, not only attracted the attention of the popular Government, but a few other organisations working towards this end. In post-Independence period, especially during the Five Year Plan periods, the Government has undertaken measures for the educational, economic and physical welfare of these classes. Some of the important measures adopted by the Government in regard to the educational emancipation of these classes are described below.

Educational Institutions and Scholars

Education was given the first priority in the tribal development of this District. During the Three Plan periods, considerable educational facilities were provided in the District which are depicted in the following table.

Table No. XV-4
Progress of Education among Backward Classes and Tribes

Period	Primary Schools		Middle Schools		High Schools	
	Number	Students	No.	Students	No.	Students
By the end of						
I Plan	97	5,987	12	589	Nil	—
II Plan	99	7,195	12	852	Nil	—
III Plan	291	19,264	32	3,057	12	2,629

The table given above indicates the progress made in the field of education in the District. Simultaneously, school buildings, numbering about 100, and residential quarters for teachers were also constructed. The rapid increase in the number of schools during the third Plan period was due transfer of general schools of Education Department, numbering to 114 primary schools, 15 middle schools and 6 higher secondary schools to the Tribal Department in the year 1964. By the end of the year 1968, there were 299 primary, 59 middle and 13 higher secondary schools in the District.

During the First Plan period, the State Government constructed 12 hostels, each providing accommodation to 30 Scheduled Tribe students, studying in middle schools. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, six more hostels were established in Raigarh District during the Second Plan period. Thus by the end of the Second Plan period, there were 18 hostels accommodating 480 students of Backward Classes and Tribes. The number of hostels increased to 28 (including four for girls and one for 25 Harijan scholars) by the end of the Third Plan period. These provided accommodation to 1,175 scholars, including 80 seats for girls. By the end of 1967-68, one more hostel for the Harijan scholars, and seven more, including one for girls, for the *Adivasi* scholars were opened with an additional accommodation for 190 scholars. Thus, by the end 1967-68, the District had 36 hostels providing accommodation for 1,395 scholars. By the end of Third Plan an amount of Rs. 2,52,860 was spent on the hostels by the Government.

Of the five girls' hostels in 1967-68, the first girls' hostel at Raigarh came into being in the year 1962-63, with a provision of 20 seats. During the remaining years of the Third Plan period, three more girls' hostels were opened in the District with an over all provision of 160 seats. Of the total 155 inmates in 1965-66, 141 were *Adivasi* girls. With an addition of a 20 seater girls' hostel in 1967-68 the total number of inmates in five hostels increased to 175 in that year, 159 of them being *Adivasi* girls.

The scheme of starting residential schools for boys and girls of the Backward Classes and Tribes was introduced in Raigarh District in 1964-65. Two *Ashrams* (one each for boys and girls) having accommodation and teaching arrangements for 50 primary school students were started. Two more girls' *Ashrams* for 20 students each were started for the *Adivasi* girls by the year 1967-68. At the end of the Third Plan period (1965-66), 179 students were studying in these *Ashrams*.

With a view to creating interest for education among the students of the Backward Classes and Tribes, the State Government in the year 1959-60 introduced a scheme of awarding scholarships to the students studying in middle and higher secondary schools. The post-matric scholarships were granted by the Central Government. The table below gives the number of scholars benefited by the State Scholarship Scheme and the total amount distributed during the years 1959-60 to 1969-70.

Table No. XV-5

Progress of Scholarships to Backward Classes and Tribes

Year	No. of Students			Amount awarded (in Rs.) to			Total
	Adivasi	Harijan	Other Backward Classes	Adivasi	Harijan	Other Backward Classes	
1959-60	257	14	9	29,239	1,270	840	31,349
1960-61	257	14	16	29,000	1,350	1,475	31,825
1961-62	19,416	113	21	4,26,000	13,155	2,220	4,41,375
1962-63	14,370	126	10	4,29,780	12,203	1,134	4,43,117
1963-64	39,009	539	3	5,93,080	40,481	371	6,33,932
1964-65	5,533	793	—	6,64,511	61,158	—	7,25,669
1965-66	7,059	2,048	—	7,09,413	62,660	—	7,72,073
1966-67	8,674	1,234	36	9,06,000	9,06,456	4,020	18,16,476
*1967-68	2,175	1,197	52	5,03,720	1,15,878	2,425	6,22,023
1968-69	1,907	1,014	56	3,03,125	84,096	1,010	3,88,231
1969-70	2,304	1,170	97	2,54,408	1,16,044	17,870	3,88,322

*(Figures for 1967-68 are exclusive of Jashpur Tahsil)

Thus, during the nine years under review more than one lakh scholars of Adivasi, Harijan and Other Backward Classes received about Rs. 55.18 lakhs in the form of scholarships.

The number of post-matric scholars and amount spent under the centrally sponsored scheme during the years 1964-65 to 1967-68 are as follows:

Table No. XV-6

No. of Students and Amount Spent on Post-Matric Scholarships

Year	No. of Students				Amount spent (in Rs.)			
	Adivasi	Harijan	Other Backward Classes	Vimukta Jatis	Adivasi	Harijan	Other Backward Classes	Vimukta Jatis
1964-65	175	19	15	1	81,721	8,543	8,831	411
1965-66	252	27	23	3	1,09,704	10,487	12,016	1,337
1966-67	8,675	1,235	—	36	9,06,000	9,06,456	—	4,020
1967-68	2,175	1,197	—	52	5,03,720	1,15,878	—	2,425

Thus, since 1964-65 till the year 1967-68, 13,885 students of these classes enjoyed post-matric scholarships worth Rs. 26,71,549.

The scheme of awarding scholarships in cash to the scholars of primary schools continued till 1962-63. From 1963-64, this scheme was replaced by a new scheme of free distribution of school text-books, slates and pencils among the tribal students of primary classes. On this new scheme Rs. 99,192 were spent by the Government in 1963-64, and 275 Adivasi boys and girls were benefited by it. In the years 1964-65 and 1965-66 Rs. 76,760 and Rs. 83,000 were, respectively, spent, benefiting 28,540 and 38,017 students, respectively.

In the year 1964-65 a sum of Rs. 3,968 was spent on the purchase of books for the libraries of primary schools of the Tribal Development Blocks in the District. In addition to this, in 1964-65, Rs. 4,160 were spent for the first time on libraries opened in hostels. The expenditure on this head increased to Rs. 10,800 in 1965-66.

With the co-operation of 'Cooperative for American Relief Every where' (Care) an American co-operative organisation, a scheme of free distribution of milk, etc., among the students of primary schools was introduced in 1965-66. Primary schools under the Tribal Welfare Department received free of cost about 284 quintals of milk powder as a quota for three months. The Department expended Rs. 6,433 on the transport of milk powder and purchase of utensils required for preparing milk. The milk was distributed among the scholars of all primary schools. In subsequent years, i. e., 1966-67 and 1967-68, following articles were received free of charge and their preparations were supplied to the children of primary schools as mid-day meals.

Table No. XV-7

Progress of Scheme for Mid-Day Meals

Year	Approximate Quantity (in qtls.)				Amount spent on services (in Rs.)
	Milk powder	Dalia	Maize powder	Soyabin oil (in quarts)	
1966-66	425	750	—	—	17,568
1967-68	—	1,600	1,400	611	17,613

Adivasi and Harijan students taking education in Government schools are not required to give any tuition-fee. In other recognised schools, which do not provide this facility, the Government adopted a scheme of reimbursing the amount of tuition fees to the management. The table below gives the amount thus given as grant-in-aid.

Table No. XV-8
Reimbursement of Tuition Fees

Year	No. of students benefited		Total	Grant-in-aid in Rs.		Total
	Adivasi	Harijans		Adivasi	Harijans	
1964-65	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	21,600	1,115	22,715
1965-66	4,023	233	4,256	99,867	10,781	1,10,648
1966-67	1,177	71	1,248	1,28,797	10,339	1,39,136
*1967-68	191	—	191	10,634	—	10,634

(*Figures of 1967-68 are exclusive of Jashpur Tahsil. No. amount was allotted for Harijan students in this year.)

Besides Government, a few voluntary social service organisations are also taking keen interest in the educational emancipation of Backward Classes and Tribes of Raigarh District. Among these organisations, Raigarh-Ambikapur Catholic Diocese, Kunkuri, Zonal Office of the Vanvasi Sewa Mandal, Pathalgaon, and Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar are prominent.

General Education

The peculiar socio-economic conditions of the District played their own part in slowing down the progress of education. The successive waves of immigration, to which the District was subjected during the past, had been responsible for driving its original inhabitants to more inaccessible forests and hill areas where they form a considerable proportion of the population. Prominent amongst the tribals are Oraons, Gonds and Kanwars. It is in this background, coupled with the social and economic habits of the people, that the progress of education should be viewed in the District.

Pre-Primary Education

Pre-primary education is a recent innovation. It seeks to inculcate among children age-group 3-6 years proper habits of health, behaviour and social sense. It is preparatory to primary education. It appears that the first school for pre-primary education at Raigarh was opened through an individual effort in the year 1960-61. The other two schools were opened in 1963-64, both in urban areas. These schools were staffed by three trained and an equal number of untrained women teachers. There were 311 children on the roll in that year. Though the number of schools has not increased since then, yet the enrolment increased to 332 in the year 1966-67, of which 161 were girls. The number of women teachers also increased to eight in that year. The backward classes people

have started showing inclination for sending their young children for pre-primary education. Only 8 children belonging to Scheduled Castes and 16 to Scheduled Tribes were recorded in the year 1966-67

Primary Education

The growth of primary and general education in the District till the year 1947-48 has already been dealt with earlier. To take up the trail, it may be observed that post-Independence efforts, particularly during the three Plan periods, have recorded tremendous expansion in the sphere of primary and junior basic education. The primary education involves in instructions upto V class. After the Re-organisation of States in 1956, steps were taken to adopt uniformly five-years' primary course throughout the State. Hitherto, it was for four years' duration in certain parts. An integrated syllabus was introduced uniformly in all primary schools, which included craft-work and other activities.

The following table depicts the progress of primary education from 1951-52 to 1972-73.

Table No. XV-9
Progress of Primary Education

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1951-52	350	31,284	1,029
1956-57	615	41,306	1,172
1961-62	855	55,839	1,743
1966-67	1,218	84,289	2,832
1967-68	1,225	83,418	2,739
1968-69	1,227	79,800	2,508
1969-70	1,230	77,582	2,681
1970-71	1,257	80,357	2,680
1971-72	1,466	92,697	3,212
1972-73	1,651	1,43,612	3,517

Thus, roughly during the three Plan periods, the number of junior basic/primary schools, students, and teachers have increased by 544 per cent, 248 per cent and 175 per cent, respectively. In the year 1966-67, out of the total of 1,218 primary schools about 4 per cent (48 schools) were girls primary schools.

It is also remarkable that about 98 per cent [1,192 schools] were located in villages. Nearly 56 per cent of the schools (684) were under the management of local bodies, 40 per cent (483) under the Government management and the rest were private aided or unaided institutions. There is also one Central Government school in the District.

The number of girl students in 1966-67 was 25,868 or 32.6 per cent. Many of the primary schools in the villages do not have their own buildings, and most of the buildings which they have are inadequate. The conditions of *Guri-Ghars* (village Rest-Houses), which were occupied as school buildings are most unsatisfactory. In a few schools, there is a provision for annual or half-yearly medical check-up. These are mostly located in urban areas. Physical exercise, systematized traditional games and European games form integral part of the general education. Inter-school and District tournaments are held annually.

About 78 per cent of the primary school teachers in 1966-67 were trained. However, the percentage of lady teachers to the total was less than 7 per cent. Terminal and annual examinations are conducted by local teachers under the supervision of the headmasters but the Primary School Certificate Examinations are conducted by the District Board under the guidance of the District Educational Officer.

Compulsory Primary Education

Compulsory primary education was introduced in the Municipal limits of Raigarh town with effect from the 1st July, 1952. Four years later, i. e., in 1956-57, compulsion was also extended to the Municipal limit of Kharsia town. The number of students on the rolls of these schools was 503. In 1961-62, their number spurted to 3,103 as against 2,829 in the previous year, largely owing to the introduction of compulsion. A number of schools were opened under the universal, free and compulsory Primary Education Scheme launched during the Third Plan period. In the year 1961-62, 27 primary schools were started in the villages of Gharghoda Block by the State Government under the scheme of compulsion. Though these were not under the provisions of the Act, yet efforts were made to persuade all children in ages 6-11 years to enroll as students in these schools. During the year 1963-64, the number of students enrolled under the compulsion scheme was 3340, which number increased to 3,607 in the year 1966-67.

The Mission authorities are also running a number of schools in Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils of this District. Prior to the merger of states, 37 primary schools run by the Catholic Mission, Jashpur Sub-Division, were recognised for a period of three years commencing from the year 1943. In the year 1964-65, the Mission authorities owned 140 schools, which were held in Chaples. There were

mostly situated in Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils. Out of these 140 schools, the State Government, by 1964-65, granted recognition to only 16 middle schools and 35 primary schools, of which 7 and 6 respectively, were for girls. However, the students of unrecognised schools are also permitted to appear in Primary Certificate Examination as private candidates.

Basic Education

Basic Education gave a strong vocational bias to the education in middle stages. Its curriculum afforded an opportunity to the students to discover their aptitude for vocational as against purely literary courses. It was recognised that middle schools should provide education which is unity in itself, and which would enable students to select some vocation at the end of their middle school career. It was sought to banish the prejudices against the rough manual work.

The scheme of conversion of primary schools to junior basic schools (class I to V) and middle schools to senior basic schools (class VI to VIII) was already started in the old Madhya Pradesh. The scheme continued in the succeeding Five Year Plans. In fact, the roots of the basic education can be traced to the introduction of Vidya Mandir Scheme in the year 1937. In the year 1956-57, there were 20 junior basic schools in the District with a strength of 1,778 students. These schools were staffed with 96 teachers. As many as 19 of these schools were managed by the Janapada Sabhas, which were paid grants in - aid by the Government for the purchase of equipment, etc. After the introduction of intergrated syllabus which is added to the basic pattern, in primary and middle stages from the academic year 1957-58, much stress is not being given to the scheme of conversion now. Hence, the number of such schools during the Second and Third Plan periods remained static with 22. The enrolment, however, increased to 2,234 in 1961-62, and to 2,654 in the year 1966-67.

Secondary School Education

Forming an important link between the primary education on the one hand and collegiate education on the other, the secondary school education consists of two stages, viz., middle or senior basic schools (class VI to VIII) and high/higher secondary or multipurpose higher secondary schools (class IX to XI). Most of the institutions imparting higher secondary education have come up by upgradation of middle schools, the sections of which are still attached to them.

Middle Schools

The following table shows the progress of middle and senior basic education during the four Plan periods :—

1. The new syllabus was based on the syllabus formulated by the Hindustan Talim Sangh, Sewagram.

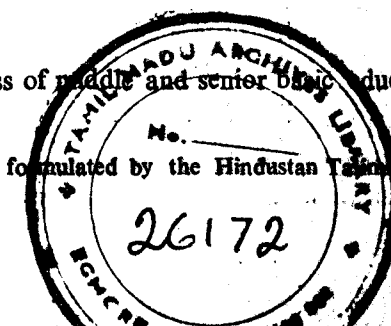


Table No. XV-10

Progress of Middle & Senior Basic Education

Year	School	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1951-52	Senior Basic	—	—	—
	Middle	28	2,980	109
1956-57	Senior Basic	15	2,350	95
	Middle	47	5,355	199
1961-62	Senior Basic	13	2,324	86
	Middle	59	6,823	244
1966-67	Senior Basic	14	13,559	692
	Middle	128	3,112	—
1967-68	Middle & Sr. Basic	153	18,219	742
1968-69	"	157	18,367	700
1969-70	"	156	17,719	724
1970-71	"	158	16,576	706
1971-72	"	193	13,005	615
1972-73	"	247	13,122	694

As said earlier, not much emphasis is laid on the conversion of middle schools into basic type. It may be seen that the number of senior basic schools, in fact, remained almost static during the Second and Third Plan periods. A significant increase, however, was registered in the number of middle schools, students and teachers during these Plan periods. Both middle and senior basic schools together increased roughly by 121.5 per cent over the First Plan period, 1.6 per cent over the Second Plan period and by about 97 per cent over the Third Plan period. The number of students also swelled by about 4½ times during this period. Of these, the girls schools were 22 in number in the year 1966-67, with a strength of 3,116 girls and staffed by 60 lady teachers. About 67 per cent of the teachers were trained.

Of the 142 schools in this stage, 73 were controlled and financed by the Government, 50 by the Janapada Sabhas and 19 by the private bodies. That only five of these are located in urban areas, testifies to the spread of the same in rural areas. While Janapada schools are, generally, the extension of primary schools (I to VIII class), the rest consist of classes VI to VIII. All the schools are subject to inspection by Range Assistant District Inspector of Schools. The examinations are conducted by the local Board, which is headed by the District Educational Officer, but the paper setting part of the same is performed by the Divisional Educational Board. Education in Government schools is free, while in others, exemption from

payment of tuition-fees to the students exists under several schemes, the amount of which is reimbursed to the management in the shape of grant-in-aid.

The Mission authorities are also running a number of middle schools in Jashpur and Udaipur Tahsils of the District. Nine of these were for boys and seven for girls in the year 1964-65. Conditions set forth for earning Government recognition were not fulfilled by these institutions.

Higher Secondary Education

In pursuance of the policy of the Government during the 'fifties, all the high schools in the District were gradually upgraded to the standard of higher secondary schools in due course of time. These consisted of classes from IX to XI. During the year 1966-67, there were 34 higher secondary schools, of which 7 were for girls. The control of 21 of these schools was in the hands of the Government, while that of 7 schools was in the hands of local bodies, and that of 6 with the private bodies.

The following table shows the growth of high/higher secondary education during the four plan periods:—

Table No. XV-11

Progress of Higher Secondary Education

Year	School	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1951-52	High	7	1,593	85
	Higher Secondary	—	—	—
1956-57	High	6	2,140	96
	Higher Secondary	2	870	51
1961-62	High	—	—	—
	Higher Secondary	17	5,579	250
1966-67	High	—	—	—
	Higher Secondary	34	13,298	498
1967-68	Higher Secondary	38	13,818	523
1968-69	" "	43	14,159	564
1969-70	" "	45	13,836	593
1970-71	" "	48	14,500	640
1971-72	" "	48	15,109	640
1972-73	" "	50	16,198	712

Earlier at the time of welding of erstwhile states into Raigarh as a District, there were three high schools, which number increased to nine in the year 1955-56. Owing to their gradual conversion into basic type during the succeeding years, their number reduced to one in 1959-60, when the last school was also upgraded into higher secondary school, bringing their total to 12 in that year. The percentage increase in the number of schools during the three plan periods works out to 386 per cent. The increase in the number of students was over seven times and that of teachers about six times during the same period.

The expansion of educational facilities at this stage seems considerable in the villages, where the number of institutions, students and teachers was 22, 6,608 and 248, respectively, in 1966-67. It is interesting to note that about 65 per cent of the total institutions which are located in villages, muster up 49.7 per cent of the total strength of the students, the remaining preferring an urban school. About 54 per cent of the teachers were trained. The number of lady teachers (85) was very small at this stage. There is a great disparity in the provisions of buildings, library, sports and medical examination facilities in these institutions, depending upon the financial resources.

The revised syllabus laid down by the Board of Secondary Education, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, is followed in all institutions. The medium of instruction is Hindi. The quarterly and annual examinations of all lower secondary institutions are held locally by the school staff under the supervision of their head masters or principals. The Higher Secondary Certificate Examination, i. e., of Class XI is conducted by the Board of Secondary Education.

In pursuance of the policy of the State Government, two higher secondary schools at Raigarh and Sarangarh were converted into Multipurpose Higher Secondary Schools. Additional diversified educational facilities were offered to the students in these schools, which catered for 1,740 students in the year 1962-63. Their number was 1,394 in 1964-65, against 1,750 in the previous year.

Degree Colleges

There are three colleges in the District, imparting instructions upto degree standard in Arts, Science and Commerce faculties. These are affiliated to Ravi Shankar University, Raipur, and had a combined strength of 1,019 students during the year 1966-67. The faculty-wise strength was 682 students in Arts, 274 in Science and 93 in Commerce, and were staffed by 40 teachers during the same year.

Opened with a handsome donation from the Kirodimal Charity Trust, Raigarh, the College was the first to appear on the horizon of higher education

in the District in the year 1958. Controlled and financed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the College had its humble beginning in the building of the Government Polytechnic, Raigarh, with 109 students on the rolls in the faculties of Arts and Science. That the institution grew to immediate popularity can be evidenced from the strength of students who flocked the campus in huge numbers from year to year. From 222 students in 1959-60, the number increased to 391 in the year 1962-63, and to 548 in 1965-66. An year later, it further went upto 623, with 349 in Arts faculty and 274 in Science faculty. Staffed with 24 teachers, the College imparts instructions in Arts faculty upto post-graduate standard and in Science upto degree standard. Equipped as it is with a rich library, the College spent Rs. 52,000 during the year 1966-67 for its further enrichment.

Opened in the year 1963, with a strength of 22 students in Arts, the College had a strength of 246 students in Arts and 29 in Commerce faculty during the year 1966-67. The teaching staff consistst of nine lecturers, one Physical Training Instructor, apart from the Principal. About 80 per cent of the students in the College belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The medium of instruction is Hindi. Controlled and financed by the New Education Society, Jabalpur, the management got the recognition of the Ravishankar University, Raipur, for the introduction of Commerce faculty in the year 1966-67.

With an expenditure of Rs. 98,017 against an income of Rs. 97,301 during the year 1966-67, the College was accorded grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 14,176 for maintenance and Rs. 5,294 for equipment during that year. Equipped with a library containing books worth Rs. 30,000 and two hostels, one each for boys and girls, the College largely caters for the students of Backward Classes.

Recognised by and affiliated to Ravishankar University, Raipur, the College at Kharsia was opened in the year 1964 owing to the enlightened interest of the Municipal Committee of Kharsia, which runs a number of other institutions. Imparting instruction upto graduate level in the faculties of Arts and Commerce, the strength of students on its rolls increased from 41 in 1964-65 to 121 in the year 1966-67. Staffed with eight teachers in that year, the College also provides for National Cadet Corps training to its students. The proud possession of the College is a Shooting Range, which was constructed out of the grants received from the University Grants Commission. Against an income of Rs. 15,217, the College was committed to an expenditure of Rs. 46,408 in the year 1966-67. The Government grant-in-aid to the extent of Rs. 25,860 was given to it during that year.

Professional and Technical Education

There is no trace of any specialized institution that existed in the District in the past. During the 'fifties of this century, owing to adoption of an integrated syllabus, crafts formed integral part of the primary and secondary stage curricula. But it was not before 1955-56, that the courses for specialisation in one particular technical job were institutionalized in Raigarh District, and the Government Polytechnic at Raigarh came into being. Now there are two more technical institutions in the District, viz., the Government Secondary Technical School, Raigarh, and the Pre-Vocational Training Centre, attached to the Government Higher Secondary School, Jashpurnagar.

The education of Commerce and Law as professional subjects, has been introduced in the Municipal Arts and Commerce College, Kharsia, and Law College, Raigarh, respectively. The training institutions for general and science teachers were also opened in the District. The fact that the scholars passing the technical courses have a greater dependence on one particular job, and are rendered helplessly unemployed in the event of slow industrial development, has given a set back to the development of technical education in the recent years.

The Institution was started by the Government in the year 1955-56, with an in-take capacity of 120 students, later raised to 180 in the year 1964-65. The Polytechnic offers three years' Diploma courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. The students passing Higher Secondary School Examinations with Mathematics and Physics, are eligible for admission. The total number of students on the rolls of the Polytechnic increased from 104 in 1955-56 to 258 in the year 1961-62. In the year 1966-67, the number of students was 167 in the yearly courses, and 169 and 109 in the First (July to December) and Second (January to May) Semesters, respectively. These included 18 Scheduled Caste and 17 Scheduled Tribe students. The strength of teaching staff, including the teachers of science and humanities was 25 in the year 1966-67 as against 23 in 1961-62 and 2 in 1955-56. A library with 4,562 books, branch-wise laboratories, workshop, two hostels and a playground are attached to the institution.

The Institution was opened in November, 1962 and is accommodated in the Government Polytechnic buildings. It imparts training for two courses, namely, the Secondary Technical Certificate course, of which the examination is conducted by the Board of Technical Education, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, and the Higher Secondary Technical Certificate course of which the examination, called the Technical Stream Course Examination, is conducted by the Board of Secondary Education, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The School does not charge any tuition-fees from the students, and provides free

hostel facilities to 100 students. In addition, 50 per cent of the students are awarded stipends at the rate of Rs. 20.00 per month for I and II year, and Rs. 30.00 per month for the III year.

The School is equipped with a library, a workshop and a hostel. Sport facilities are also available to the students. The number of students in the Secondary Technical Certificate course and Technical Stream Course was 115 and 64, respectively. These include 19 Scheduled Caste and 16 Scheduled Tribe students. The strength of teachers, including those of science and humanities and workshop staff was 12 and 14, respectively, in that year.

Jashpurnagar is one of the five centres where Government of India in collaboration with the International Agency, the United Nations International Childrens' Emergency Fund, started pilot project in the form of Pre-Vocational Training Centre attached to the Government Higher Secondary School, Jashpurnagar pre-vocational training centres for children between the age-group of 11-14 years. Jashpur Centre was opened in the year 1965 under the State Education Department. The Centre provides pre-vocational course to the left-outs of middle standard and imparts education and training upto VIII Class. With a strength of 50 students in the year 1966-67, including 6 Scheduled Caste and 14 Scheduled Tribe candidates, the Centre had a strength of 5 teachers during that year. These include general education teachers, Career Master, Craft Instructors, etc.

Teachers' Training

Since 1954-55, a Normal School (Basic Training School) is functioning at Dharamjaigarh in the District to train teachers for primary and middle schools. One Basic Training Centre, which was functioning at Kirodimalnagar was also converted as Basic Training School during the year 1960-61. To meet the demand of trained teachers for higher secondary schools, the Government in 1959-60 also opened a Basic Training College at Raigarh. The minimum qualification for admission to the College is Matriculation Certificate, relaxable in case of Scheduled Castes and Tribes and also for lady candidates. The training schools admit candidates who have passed VIII class. The admissions from among the teachers are generally restricted by seniority, whereas direct recruitment is also done for the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. For them, provision of reservation of seats exists.

All these institutions are controlled by the State Education Department. The trainees are awarded stipend at Rs. 25/- per month. During the year 1961-62, there were 339 pupil-teachers in these training institutions, with 33 staff members,

A reference to the existence of this specialized institution may not be out of place here. Started on the 2nd October, 1948, the Birth day of Gandhiji,

Loksala,
Gharghoda

the school aims at imbibing the spirit for which Gandhiji stood. The special feature of the school was to impart instruction in different crafts, viz., spinning, tailoring, carpentry, agriculture, etc., along with other useful subjects, such as Hindi, mathematics, dietetics, village economics based on survey work, music and constructive work, etc.

The aim behind this residential type of institution was to prepare village leaders from its soil with an enlightened out-look, and awakening in them a sense of duty and responsibility towards the society.

During the year 1948-49, the two years' course had an enrolment of 30 students which number increased to 57 in the following year. Each student was awarded a stipend of Rs. 20 per month. But the succeeding years witnessed helplessly the languishing interest of the people, and consequently less enrolment. Ultimately it had 47 students and 5 teachers in 1954-55, which year also saw its closure.

Oriental Schools

Sanskrit is taught as a compulsory subject from class VI to VIII to all those students whose mother-tongue is Hindi. At higher secondary stage, provision for the teaching of Sanskrit exists for all Hindi speaking students. Other students offer their mother-tongue instead of Sanskrit at this stage. Besides, there also exists a Sanskrit *Pathshala* at Raigarh, which is functioning ever since the merger of states. The students are prepared for *Praveshika Pragma*, *Visharad-I*, *Visharad II*, *Shastri I* and *Shastri-II* examinations.

The institution is residential in nature, and is administered by the Municipal Council, Raigarh. It is housed in its own building. The number of students in the *Pathshala* increased from 12 in the year 1962-63 to 24 in 1965-66 and declined to 8 in the following year. All through these years, there was one teacher on the staff.

Social Education

After its formation, the Social Welfare Department introduced a scheme of mass education through social education centres for adults, reading-rooms, village libraries and mobile audio-visual units. The social education centres are controlled by the Government, and the workers are paid monthly honorarium.

The adult centres are provided with books and slates free of cost. In the year 1960-61, there were 67 social education centres for adults with 1,259 students on roll, including 124 females. The popularity of the centres gradually waned by 1966-67, when their number declined to 32 with 634 adult students on

roll. All these centres were located in the villages, including eight exclusively for women. The total number of women students was 176 in that year.

Cultural, Literary and Scientific Societies

With its zonal headquarters at Pathalgoan in the District, the Vanvasi Sewa Mandal, Mandla, established three centres, two at Mahadeodand and Kesra in Jashpur Tahsil, and one at Ila in Udaipur Tahsil in the District. These centres strive for the eradication of illiteracy among the tribal-folk of the District, besides undertaking various other welfare measures for their social and economic emancipation. These three centres are running two middle schools, three girls' primary schools, three hostels and three *Balmandirs*. In the year 1967, there were 56 boys and 8 girls in middle schools, 80 boys and 50 girls in primary schools, and 76 boys and 8 girls in *Balmandirs*. All the institutions, controlled by these Centres were started on the 2nd October, 1964.

A few other voluntary social service organisations are also taking keen interest in the education of Backward Classes and Tribes in Raigarh District. Among these organisations, Raigarh-Ambikapur Catholic Diocese, Kunkuri and Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar are prominent. Shri Chakradhar Anathalaya, Raigarh and Baikunthpur Tarun Mandal, Baikunthpur, are also working in the same direction. The cultural societies, viz., Dramatic Society, Reda, Dramatic Society and Ramayan Mandali, Lodhiya, and Jeewan Kala Samiti, Raigarh are striving for the cultural advancement of the masses in the area.

The Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar, runs three institutions and a hostel at Jashpurnagar, while the Catholic Diocese, which was established in 1951 as a Regional Unit of Catholic Church, controlled 107 preprimary, 63 primary, 20 middle and 4 high schools and 48 hostels in the year 1966-67. All these institutions are recognised by the Education Department. Eleven Home Management Centres are also being maintained by the Diocese in the region, which train the students in various crafts for six months. It is claimed that about 15,000 students have been benefited from these schools.

Detailed account of all the societies-literary or cultural-as also the literary and other types of periodicals published in Raigarh District are comprehensively discussed in Chapter XVIII-Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations.

Libraries

Libraries were built up in the past by the Chiefs of the States and scholars of Raigarh District, mostly on account of their personal interest. Being private libraries these were, however, not accessible to the common people. The college libraries grew up later which catered for the needs of student community only.

In the establishment of public libraries, the municipalities have been pioneers in Raigarh District. With small funds at their disposal, they were able to build up, though slowly, moderate-sized libraries in their respective towns. To these may be added the libraries opened by the social organisations devoted to the cause of education. In these behalf, the names of the Kalyan Ashram, Jashpurnagar, Labour Welfare Centre, Baikunthpur and Tarun Mandal at Raigarh may be mentioned. The six important public libraries of Raigarh District are:

1. Municipal Library, Kharsia
2. Municipal Library, Sarangarh
3. Club Library, Dharamjaigarh
4. Mahatma Gandhi Library, Jashpurnagar
5. Kalyan Ashram Library, Jashpurnagar, and
6. The Government Library, Raigarh.

The Municipal Library, Kharsia was established in the year 1928, and had over 3,000 books on its shelves in 1967. It had 186 regular members in that year. Three years later, Municipal Library, Raigarh, came into being (1931) and had 5,857 books and 25 regular members in the year 1967-68.

Under the District Library Scheme of the State Education Department, the Government Library, Raigarh was established in 1955. Besides, small village-libraries were also opened at eight centres in the District in 1955. Government Library at Raigarh had about 7,000 books on its shelves and 281 members in the year 1964-65. Soon this Scheme covered 22 centres in the District and efforts to improve the quality and efficiency of its services continued. In 1964-65, the Scheme covered 55 centres in the District. The books are changed in these centres periodically. The approved public libraries are given grants-in-aid by the Education Department.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

In the absence of authentic references to any system of medicine prevalent in this area in early times, it can only be presumed that *Ayurveda* and, later, *Unani* systems of medicine might have been in vogue in the District as elsewhere in the Central Provinces. Records available from the beginning of the present century indicate that the western or allopathic system of medicine was introduced in the former princely states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur, which merged to form the present district of Raigarh in 1948, as and when each of them came under the sway of the British, either politically or administratively, during the last century. The medical and public health facilities that existed in these princely states can be described thus:

At the beginning of the present century the feudatory states of Raigarh had the privilege of having a state-owned allopathic dispensary at the State headquarters. Another charitable dispensary was opened at Kharsia in 1906 in honour of Womack, former Political Agent of the Chhattisgarh Feudatories. The dispensary was named as Womack Charitable Dispensary. These dispensaries had no facilities for treatment of indoor patients though 669 surgical operations were performed here on an average annually. The state had an Assistant Surgeon as its Chief Medical Officer assisted by Hospital Assistants and compounders. Two more dispensaries were opened at Gharghoda and Lailunga in 1919 and 1921, respectively.

An Inspector for vaccination was appointed in 1901 and vaccination was made compulsory in the State. By 1907 the state had a vaccination staff consisting of one Inspector and four vaccinators. And in that year 4,459 persons were vaccinated at an expenditure of Rs. 671. Dispensary vaccination also was in vogue. Sanitation in the town of Raigarh also received considerable attention. In Kharsia, Pusaur and Padigaon the sanitation rules framed by the Chief Commissioner of Central Provinces and Berar were in force.¹ In other villages sanitation was looked after by the village headmen. Epidemics were not uncommon. Cholera and smallpox occasionally visited the state. Malarial fever was also found to be of common occurrence in this area. In 1916 Malaria alone claimed 3,085 lives.

1. *Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer*, 188.

The Sarangarh state also had a state-owned dispensary at its headquarters under a Hospital Assistant assisted by a compounder. The dispensary was periodically visited by the Civil Surgeon, Sambalpur. But when
 In Sarangarh the state came to be managed by the Government subsequently, the Medical Department of the state was placed under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon, Bilaspur. The dispensary appears to have been quite popular as it is reported that in 1907 as many as 14,963 persons received medical relief from this dispensary.

In 1919 a branch dispensary was opened on the Peace Celebration Day at Baremkela to 'commemorate the great victory over Germany'. The state had employed two vaccinators. The vaccination work was not very successful for want of proper supervision and systematic control. Subsequently, the vaccination staff was placed under the supervision of the Hospital Assistant. Dispensary vaccination was also being done. The state authorities gave due attention to sanitation of Sarangarh town. Sanitation in the interior of the state also was attended to in subsequent years. Epidemics like cholera and smallpox visited the state occasionally. As elsewhere, these diseases were more prevalent when preceded by famine and other natural calamities. Malaria was another disease generally prevalent in the state. The Sarangarh dispensary distributed quinine free of cost.

When Jashpur state was transferred to the general control of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division in 1905, it had a state-owned dispensary at Jashpurnagar, the head-quarters of the state, with a Hospital
 In Jashpur Assistant attached to it. This institution treated about 5,000 patients annually at a cost of Rs. 2,676. In 1915 a charitable memorial dispensary, named after the late King Emperor Edward VII, was tentatively opened at Bandarchua. Vaccination was compulsory in the state. The staff consisted of one head vaccinator and four vaccinators. It was estimated that on an average about 4,000 persons were successfully vaccinated annually. This state also was not free from epidemics like cholera and smallpox.

Udaipur state maintained at Dharamjaigarh, the head-quarters of the State, a dispensary in charge of a Hospital Assistant, assisted by a compounder, at a cost of Rs. 1,591 annually. In 1905, the year in which
 In Udaipur this state was transferred to the general control of the Commissioner of Chhattisgarh Division, the state dispensary treated 5,537 patients. In 1908, this institution is reported to have treated 5,681 outdoor and 23 indoor patients, besides conducting 19 major and minor operations. Besides this, there was also a State *Vaid* (physician) whose services were chiefly utilised by the Raj-family and its immediate attendants¹.

1. Administration Report of Feudatory States, p. 48.

The state had employed two vaccinators. Dispensary vaccination was also being done. The state experienced some difficulty in procuring vaccinators immediately after its transfer from the Chhota Nagpur states of Bengal to the Central Provinces in 1905. Prior to this transfer, the vaccinators employed in the state levied a fee of two annas for each child vaccinated. This system was, however, stopped and a regularly paid establishment was introduced. As in other states that composed this District, vaccination was compulsory in Udaipur state also and it was carried out by two vaccinators under the supervision of the Hospital Assistant. In 1908 as many as 647 persons were vaccinated successfully at a cost of Rs. 340.

There were no municipalities in the state to look after sanitation. The position regarding sanitation known from a contemporary account is given thus: "At Dharamjaigarh and in the villages sanitation is a simple affair. The people of Dharamjaigarh subscribe among themselves to maintain a staff of sweepers, and the State assists by a contribution. In the villages the *gaontias* are responsible for the cleanliness of their villages."¹

In 1948 when these feudatory states merged to form the present Raigarh District, the set-up of the medical and public health administration prevalent elsewhere in the Central Provinces was adopted for this District as well. Under this set-up the medical institutions in the District were maintained by the various local bodies of the respective areas.

Vital Statistics

There are no specific references to the method of collection of vital statistics that was followed in the erstwhile princely states of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Udaipur and Jashpur. However, in the administration report of the feudatory states for 1908 there is a mention that the feudatory chief of Jashpur proposed to appoint *chowkidars* in every village to ensure correct registration of vital statistics. In Udaipur vital statistics were regularly reported by the *Gurahits* in the *Korwar's* books to police posts. It was from 1905 that vital statistics were being maintained at the state headquarters, so as to ensure accuracy thereof. However, it appears that as a rule the village headmen and village police were responsible for the registration of vital events in all the princely states².

After the constitution of Raigarh District comprising the four princely states in 1948, the system of registration of vital statistics that existed elsewhere in the Central Provinces and Berar was made applicable in the District. Under this system, which was started in 1920, besides registering all vital

1. Gazetteer of Chhattisgarh Feudatory States, p. 742.

2. Administration Report of Feudatory States, 1907, p. 8.

occurrences in a District, the towns were required to publish weekly returns showing deaths and their causes separately, including infant mortality. Deaths under one year were sub-divided into (1) upto one week (2) between one week and one month (3) one month to six months and (4) seven to twelve months. In respect of rural areas the *Mukaddams*, *Patels* and *Kotwars* reported births and deaths to the nearest station-house. Vital events that occurred within railway limits were reported by the railway authorities. The registers maintained were periodically inspected by revenue, medical and police officers, and by the vaccination staff.

Under the current system the municipal committees record births and deaths in respect of urban areas and submit a statement to the Civil Surgeon. The vital events are also reported to the nearest police stations and the statement is forwarded to the Civil Surgeon. The *Kotwar* is responsible for the reporting of such cases in the rural areas to the Civil Surgeon through the station-houses. The Civil Surgeon compiles separate figures for urban and rural areas and transmits the same to the Director of Health Services, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. Systematic collection and compilation of vital statistics in respect of Raigarh District became effective within a year or two of its formation in 1948.

The general standard of health of the population of the District is reported to be poor owing to malnutrition. The people are mainly rice eaters. For want of sufficient vegetables, fruits, and diets rich in protein, the inhabitants are reported to be mostly underweight and are prone to all sorts of infections.

The following Table will show the number of births and deaths and their rates in the District from 1958 to 1968.

Table No. XVI-1
Births, Deaths and their Rates

Year	Births (Total)	Rate per mille	Deaths (Total)	Rate per mille
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1958	27,547	24.43	18,450	17.69
1959	33,997	32.61	17,159	16.47
1960	29,119	27.94	16,485	15.72
1961	29,046	27.86	15,237	14.62
1962	29,050	27.86	12,408	11.90
1963	36,326	34.85	13,867	13.30

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1964	33,821	32.40	16,561	15.89
1965	31,903	30.60	13,402	12.85
1966	34,290	32.89	15,441	14.81
1967	31,801	25.28	15,450	12.28
1968	33,458	26.52	14,175	11.25
1969	—	28.76	—	11.97
1970	—	27.42	—	12.01

It will be seen that birth and death rates in the District during 1958 to 1966 have not shown any striking increase or decrease so as to warrant comments.

Causes of Mortality

The causes of mortality in general are fever, which includes malaria and enteric fever, cholera, smallpox, complications in delivery, bowel complaints, such as diarrhoea, dysentery, etc., tuberculosis, injuries, suicides and others. Plague has also been a cause of mortality in certain years of the present century, but in recent years the District appears to have been free from its attack. The number of deaths caused by various diseases in recent years is given in the Table below.

Table No. XVI-2
Deaths and their Causes

Year	Cholera	Smallpox	Fever	Diarrhoea, Dysentery and others	Tuberculosis	Injuries and suicides	Delivery	All others	Total
1960	—	2,536	10,065	727	208	326	109	2,514	16,485
1961	—	216	10,518	1,331	726	312	142	1,992	15,237
1962	—	63	7,001	669	19	230	104	4,322	12,408
1963	5	83	8,737	601	602	230	154	3,455	13,867
1964	19	—	12,471	845	511	240	163	2,312	16,561
1965	—	6	8,710	1,135	908	255	147	2,241	13,402
1966	—	9	10,594	582	19	—	132	4,105	15,441
1967	—	21	10,408	805	85	—	157	3,974	15,450
1968	—	3	9,496	1,042	506	268	117	2,743	14,175

Note—Figures for 1968 are provisional

Causes of infant mortality in the District include prematurity, malnutrition chiefly owing to want of mother's milk, diarrhoea, respiratory causes and fevers. Smallpox also has been a cause whenever it occurred. Infant Mortality in the District in an epidemic form. The infant and maternal mortality rates in recent years are given in the Table below.

Table No. XVI-3
Infant and Maternal Mortality

Year (1)	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (2)	Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births (3)
1958	149.3	5.69
1959	96.36	1.5
1960	149.62	3.74
1961	115.33	4.88
1962	91.7	3.58
1963	82.86	4.23
1964	109.6	4.81
1965	101.24	4.6
1966	104.54	3.88
1967	84.30	—
1968	89.60	—
1969	83.63	—
1970	90.85	—

Diseases Common to the District

Cholera, smallpox, fever which includes malaria, tuberculosis, leprosy, bowel complaints, eye diseases and venereal diseases are common to the District. As mentioned earlier plague has also visited the District in certain years in the past, but in recent years it has become a rare visitor.

Cholera

From the statistics relating to mortality it is found that cholera has been taking toll of human lives in the District practically every year. The number of deaths registered due to cholera for each year from 1953 to 1957 was 24, 8, 102, 92 and 91, respectively. The highest number of deaths, i. e., 328 occurred in 1958. After this, there was a gap of four years, as cholera visited the District in 1963, resulting in five deaths. In the following year, i. e., in 1964 also there were 19 deaths due to cholera in the District.

Water being the main source of infection, disinfectants like permanganate of potash is one of the anti-cholera measures. At the time of serious outbreaks anti-cholera medicines are distributed and mass inoculation campaign is conducted. The inoculation work is generally carried out by the vaccination staff. They are also assisted by the *vaidyas* of *Ayurvedic* dispensaries in the District. Emergency Cholera Regulations are enforced during serious outbreaks. The preventive measures, whenever undertaken, are extended to the adjoining-villages in order to arrest the spread of the disease. Yet another measure is to isolate the patients and treat them at convenient places.

Smallpox

This dreadful disease visited the District practically every year, mostly in an epidemic form. The severest attack was in 1960 when it took a toll of 2,536 lives. The other two years that witnessed the incidence of this disease in a more or less severe form were 1958 and 1959 when 840 and 853 deaths were recorded. The number of deaths was 216, 59 and 83 for 1961, 1962 and 1963, respectively.

The only effective measure to eradicate smallpox is vaccination. The arrangements for vaccination that existed in the erstwhile princely states have been discussed earlier. Since the formation of the District in 1948 vaccination work is being looked after by the medical and public health department in the District and the local bodies. However, intensive activities in this direction gained momentum only recently. With a view to rooting out the disease from the District the National Smallpox Eradication Programme was launched on the 1st of June 1965. The specially trained staff includes one para-medical assistant, 8 Sanitary Inspectors, 34 vaccinators and others. The table below will show the vaccination work done prior to and after the inauguration of the National Smallpox Eradication Programme in the District.

Table No. XVI-4
Vaccination

Year	Primary Vaccinations	Re-Vaccinations
(1)	(2)	(3)
1960	2,36,241	51,590
1961	89,114	1,05,693
1962	81,691	8,34,134
1963	1,25,887	4,68,996
1964	15,556	49,452
1965	65,822	2,76,253
1966	52,690	1,18,354
1967	58,017	1,89,201
1968	45,972	1,24,592

Malaria

The number of deaths annually caused by this disease during the period 1953 to 1963 was, 2,337; 2,710; 1,841; 3,034; 2,150; 2,506; 3,325; 2,303; 1,11; 1,606 and 985, respectively. All that was done for the prevention and cure of this disease during early years was the free distribution of quinine and other anti-malaria drugs through different medical institutions in the District.

Activities to eradicate malaria in the District gained momentum only with the establishment of an Anti-malaria Unit at Dharamjaigarh in 1949. As an anti-malaria unit its activities were originally limited to only some portions of Dharamjaigarh and Jashpur tahsils. This Unit was converted into a National Malaria Control Unit in 1954. Subsequently, in 1955-56 its activities were extended to the whole of Raigarh District including Sarangarh Tahsil which is at present under the Raipur Unit. There are four sub-units, at Raigarh, Dharamjaigarh, Jashpur and Sakti. Four tahsils of Raigarh are covered by the three sub-units, while one tahsil of Bilaspur is covered under the fourth sub-unit.

The epidemiological, entomological and parasitological surveys conducted by this unit subsequently revealed that topographical and climatic factors played

an important part in the spreading of malaria. Raigarh District with the exception of certain portions of Raigarh Tahsil, is completely hilly and forest-clad, traversed by the Mand, Maini, Kelu and Ib rivers and a good number of streams and brooks—a favourable haunt for malaria breeding mosquitoes. The rain-fall in the District varies from 60 to 80 inches per annum. The area is mainly rice producing and for that reason there are many natural and man-made breeding places for mosquitoes. After the surveys it was observed that the District was hyperendemic for malaria. The transmission season is from July to November, being at its peak in the months of August and September.

In order to further intensify the activities of different units the Government of India decided in the late 'fifties to replace the Control Programme by the National Malaria Eradication Programme. Accordingly the Control Unit of Raigarh District at Dharamjaigarh switched over to the Eradication Programme in 1959. The National Malaria Eradication Programme aims at the reduction of the reservoir of malarial parasites in human body to a negligible degree. The Programme, broadly speaking, envisaged a six-year scheme commencing from 1958-59, which included intensified D.D.T. spraying operations in all endemic areas, extension of D.D.T. spraying to all hyperendemic areas and surveillance operations. The N.M.E.P. has sufficient staff headed by the Malaria Medical Officer at district level. His staff includes Senior and Junior Malaria Inspectors, Field Workers and Surveillance Inspectors, besides others.

Spraying and drugging are two important aspects of the malaria eradication scheme. After every spraying, data are collected, and if satisfactory results are not forthcoming a second round of spraying is done.

Under drugging or mass radical treatment, the Malaria Officer prepares a six-day programme for a selected village. The Malaria Inspectors are then deployed in groups to cover a population of 100 to 150 and the whole village is drugged in a period of five days. In 1964-65 and 1965-66 this Unit drugged 44 and 49 villages, respectively.

There are two kinds of surveillance operations, Active and Passive. Under the former, the specially appointed staff of the Malaria Eradication Programme visits every house at periodical intervals, enquires about cases of fever, takes blood smears and gets them examined under the microscope. If the results are found positive for malaria the staff will supply a complete course of anti-malaria drugs to cure the disease. Under the latter type of surveillance (Passive) the Government and private agencies connected with medical and public health and the voluntary social service organisations in the District report suspected cases of malaria to the authorities. Here also blood smears are collected and examined.

and proper treatment given. The active surveillance is mainly meant for rural areas and passive surveillance for urban areas.

As mentioned earlier, the Unit has its headquarters at Dharamjaigarh. The Malaria Officer is responsible for the working of the Unit to the zonal officer (Assistant Director of Health Services) at Ambikapur. At the headquarters, i. e., in the Directorate of Health Services, Bhopal, there is one Deputy Director functioning as State Malariologist, assisted by one Assistant Director, one Entomologist and one Epidemiologist. There are 14 zonal officers in the State.

The table below will show the work relating to D.D.T. spraying and surveillance operations done in the District.

Table No. XVI-5

D. D. T. Spraying

	No. of Towns and Villages in which D. D. T. spraying was done			
	First Round		Second Round	
	Town	Villages	Town	Villages
1958	5	2,165	5	2,165
1959	5	2,181	5	2,181
1960	5	2,181	5	2,181
1961	5	2,181	5	2,181
1962	5	2,191	5	2,191
1963	2	1,270	1	944
1964	1	2,079	—	1,180
1965	3	2,079	1	1,463
1966	—	1,235	—	—
1967	4	2,079	4	2,079
1968	3	2,079	1	442

Surveillance Operations (Active and Passive)

Year	No. of fever cases			No. of cases in which blood smear collected			Total	Total positive cases
	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive	Mass contact		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1961	25,304	Nil	25,304	25,005	Nil	Nil	25,005	312
1962	49,644	12,183	61,827	44,604	2,718	—	47,322	970
1963	57,594	10,706	68,300	53,476	2,906	7,048	63,430	419
1964	87,877	9,251	97,128	85,896	5,083	24,115	1,15,094	244
1965	83,430	10,180	93,610	10,810	80,844	6,493	98,147	326
1966	87,801	10,082	97,883	79,120	12,843	18,172	1,10,135	231

Tuberculosis

The incidence of tuberculosis is considerable though not very high in the District. From 1953 to 1963 the lowest number of deaths caused by this disease was 19 in 1962 and highest 45 in 1963.

For the treatment of tuberculosis a 25 bedded (20 for males and 5 for females) T.B. Ward was opened at the civil hospital, Jashpurnagar in August, 1954. The staff consisted of one Assistant Surgeon, one Medical Officer, one nurse, one compounder and one dresser. There are laboratory and X-ray facilities and all kinds of routine examinations are also being done. This was followed by the launching of B.C.G. campaign in the District in 1956 as a preventive measure. The B.C.G. team did intensive work and as many as 31,172 persons were tested with tuberculin and 12,400 persons were vaccinated with B.C.G.

In August, 1963 a 10 bedded T.B. clinic was opened at Raigarh. In June, 1964 it was staffed by hands trained at National Tuberculosis Institute (Bangalore) so that it could undertake the District Tuberculosis Programme which was launched in January, 1965. The District Tuberculosis Programme is functioning on the lines of the National T.B. Control Programme with U.N. I.C.E.F. assistance, equipments and drugs. The T.B. clinic, Raigarh and the T.B. ward at Jashpur are the centres of activities of the District Tuberculosis

Programme. Under the programme the trained Medical Officer who heads the team acts as a District Tuberculosis Officer and a Health Visitor as Treatment Organiser. The clinic has a well-equipped laboratory staffed with trained technical personnel besides X-ray and other facilities. With the launching of the District Tuberculosis Programme the B.C.G. vaccination work has also been intensified. The B.C.G. team started door to door vaccination in July, 1964. Direct vaccination is now being given to persons upto the age of 20. From July, 1964 to 31st December, 1966 as many as 39,081 persons were tested and 21,563 were vaccinated with B.C.G. The number of persons directly vaccinated during this period was 40,100.

Leprosy

The incidence of leprosy is reported to be low in the District.

For the control of leprosy six Survey Education and Treatment Centres (S.E.T.) were established in the District during the Third Plan period under the National Leprosy Control Programme. These S.E.T. centres are located at Raigarh (1964), Sarangarh (1963), Dharamjaigarh (1964), Passore (1964), Baramkela (1964) and Gharghoda (1964), and are attached to the existing primary health centres. A specially trained non-medical Assistant is posted to each S.E.T. centre. There is a trained non-medical Supervisor also for the District who supervises the work of the 6 non-medical assistants.

In 1966 there were 743 cases under treatment and 3,114 healthy contacts under observation at these centres.

In addition to the S.E.T. centres there are 10 Government dispensaries which offer treatment to leprosy patients at their outpatient departments. The Medical Officers in charge of these dispensaries are specially trained in leprosy work. About 90 leprosy cases are being treated annually at these dispensaries.

Influenza

Influenza in an epidemic form visited the District in the years 1917-18 and 1957. While mortality figures for these are not available, seizures in 1957 were reported as 1,359. The precautionary measures taken in time in the light of the experience of 1917-18 might have prevented deaths from this disease then. The preventive measures include active working of mobile dispensaries, enforcement of emergency influenza regulations and closure of public institutions, besides health education and propaganda.

Eye Diseases

Trachoma and cataract are the two eye diseases generally prevalent in the District. The percentage of incidence of trachoma in the District is reported to be 96.6.

The eye diseases are generally treated in the District and civil hospitals and dispensaries. There is also a fullfledged private eye hospital in the District, which will be dealt with in details later. Large-scale and mass eye treatment is also offered to the public by organising eye camps. Such an eye camp was organised at Pathalgaon in 1959 which offered treatment to 500 patients and operations to 100. Another eye camp was conducted at Sarangarh in 1962. At this camp as many as 81 extracapsular and 146 intracapsular operations were performed, besides removal of several other eye defects.

Venereal Diseases

The incidence of venereal diseases was one time supposed to be high in the District, but has reduced considerably in recent years. A V.D. clinic was started at Pathalgaon in 1955, which was later closed in November, 1966.

Plague

The only year in which plague assumed an epidemic form in the District was reported to be in 1953 when 47 deaths occurred. In subsequent three years also one death in each year was recorded. The District is reported to have been free from this deadly disease since then.

The anti-plague measures include inoculation, evacuation, isolation, disinfection and rat destruction. Cynogassing of rat-burrows is also resorted to. Enforcement of plague regulations temporarily, health education lectures and distribution of anti-plague drugs are the other measures usually undertaken during serious outbreaks.

Public Hospitals and Dispensaries

Organisation of the Medical Department

The Civil Surgeon is the head of the medical and public health organisation at district level. He exercises supervisory and administrative control over all Government medical institutions and supervisory control on Janapad and municipal dispensaries. As mentioned earlier, the National Malaria Eradication Programme with its headquarters at Dharamjaigarh is being controlled by the Director of Health Services through the Assistant Director of Health stationed at Ambikapur. The Civil Surgeon is assisted by the Assistant Surgeons and Medical Officers at headquarters and at tahsil places in the District. On the public health side the Civil Surgeon acts as a Health Officer for the District, assisted by the subordinate staff of the Public Health Department such as, Health Visitors, Block Extension Educators, Sanitary Inspectors and others. The Medical Officers of the various primary health centres also act as Health Officers on the public health side in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

Hospitals and Dispensaries

The position regarding medical institutions in the District in 1967 was as shown below.

1. Hospitals (District and Civil)	5
2. Dispensaries	8
3. Ayurvedic Dispensaries	3
4. T. B. Clinic and Ward	2
5. Leprosy Survey Education and Treatment Centres	6
6. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	1
7. Primary Health Centres	17
8. Family Planning Centres	18

The categorywise distribution of beds among these institutions is given below.

	Category of Beds	
	Male	Female
(a) District Hospital	50	25
(b) Civil Hospitals	80	41
(c) Dispensaries	21	13
(d) *T. B. Clinic and Ward	30	5
(e) Primary Health Centres	43	29
Total ..	224	113
Grand Total ..	337	

This is the district headquarters hospital of Raigarh. It was inaugurated in the month of April, 1954 by the Chief Minister, Ravishankar Shukla. There were 75 beds in this hospital, 50 for male and 25 for female patients. There were 5 Assistant Surgeons on the staff of the hospital including pathologist, anaesthetist and lady assistant surgeon. The other staff included 5 Assistant Medical Officers, 5 nurses, 5 compounders, 1 laboratory technician, 1 steward and 22 others. Maternity cases are treated at the hospital, but there is no separate ward for such cases. There was no isolation ward either, for the treatment of infectious cases, till the year 1966. The

* The ten beds in the T. B. Clinic at Raigarh are general beds.

number of indoor and outdoor patients treated at the hospital during 1958-68 is given below.

Table No. XVI-6
Number of Patients Treated in the District Hospital

Year	Indoor	Outdoor
1958	26,052	70,715
1959	26,001	75,366
1960	26,761	74,452
1965	36,224	79,623
1966	34,984	83,060
1967	38,326	78,059
1968	35,510	70,389

In addition to being a District and referral hospital, this institution is also a training centre for Auxiliary Nurses-cum-Midwives. The training centre was opened on 1st January, 1959 and, in all, 50 candidates have been trained from 1960 to 1966.

Civil Hospitals

The beginning of this institution can be traced back to the year 1906, a reference to which has been made in the opening pages of this Chapter. In March 1959 the Government of Madhya Pradesh took over this Government hospital from the Municipal Committee, Kharsia. Situated about two furlongs from the Kharsia railway station on the *thana* road, this 12 bedded (10 general and 2 isolation) hospital is staffed by one Assistant Surgeon, one Assistant Medical Officer, one Woman Assistant Medical Officer, 2 compounders, 3 midwives, one dresser and others. In addition, certain para-medical personnel, including a male social worker, drawn from the primary health centre and establishments of the local bodies also work here. Other facilities include arrangements for ante-natal and post-natal care, diagnosis for T.B. and malaria out-patients and treatment for anti-rabics. The Malaria-Passive Surveillance Unit and T.B. out-patient section were opened in 1964, while anti-rabic and family planning centres were opened

in 1965. During the period 1958 to 1965 on an average 1,568 indoor and 34,322 outdoor patients were treated at this hospital, annually.

That there was a hospital at the state headquarters of Sarangarh has been referred to earlier. Facilities for indoor treatment were provided in about 1900, with four beds to begin with. The hospital building was constructed sometime in 1939 on the Jail road and was inaugurated in 1943. During the years that followed the number of beds in the hospital increased to 18 (12 for males and 6 for females). The hospital staff consists of one Assistant Surgeon, one Assistant Medical Officer, one Woman Assistant Medical Officer, one staff nurse and 3 compounders. Facilities for the diagnosis and general treatment of tuberculosis and leprosy also exist at the out-patient department. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients treated annually was 716 and 32,658, respectively during the period from 1958 to 1965.

Established in 1916 as a state hospital in the erstwhile princely state of Udaipur, this institution remained as a grade three hospital till 1958 when Government converted it into a 'B' grade hospital. There are 29 beds (27 general and 2 maternity beds) in the hospital. The staff consists of one Assistant Surgeon, one Assistant Medical Officer, one Woman Assistant Surgeon, 3 staff nurses, 3 compounders, one midwife, 2 social workers and others. There are no facilities for treatment of special diseases. On an average 5,032 and 22,858 indoor and outdoor patients, respectively, were treated at this Hospital during the period 1958-65.

This institution was originally started sometime about 1901 by the Chief of the former princely state of Jashpur as a small 6 bedded hospital with outdoor and vaccination departments attached to it. The number of beds was raised to 12 in 1925 and to 62 in 1938 in which year a pathological laboratory was also attached to it. Of the 62 beds (46 for males, 12 for females and 4 isolation beds) 25 were earmarked for the T. B. ward in 1954. This reduced the number of general beds for male patients from 46 to 21. The staff consists of one Assistant Surgeon, one Assistant Surgeon for T. B., one Assistant Medical Officer, one Woman Assistant Medical Officer, 3 nurses, 3 compounders, 2 midwives, one dresser and others. A family planning centre, staffed by one social worker, one *ayah* and one peon, is also functioning at the hospital. On an average 368 indoor and 13,008 outdoor patients were treated at the hospital during the period 1958 to 1965.

Civil Dispensaries

There are eight allopathic dispensaries in the District. Their location, years of establishment and staff position are given below.

Table No. XVI-7
Civil Dispensaries in the District

Name of the Dispensary	Year of establishment	Tahsil	Staff
1. Dongripali	1963	Sarangarh	One Assistant Medical Officer, one compounder, one dresser, one waterman, one sweeper and one <i>dhobi</i>
2. Loing	1962	Raigarh	—do—
3. Nawrangpur	1963	Raigarh	—do—
4. Libra	1960	Gharghoda	—do—
5. Kotba	1961	Udaipur	—do—
6. Bagbahar	1950	Udaipur	—do—
7. Sanna	N.A.	Jashpur	—do—
8. Tapkara	1945	Jashpur	—do—

There is yet another allopathic dispensary at Dharamjaigarh Refugee Camp, opened in 1957. The staff pattern is the same, but for the addition of one midwife.

Maternity and Child Welfare

The facilities for the treatment of maternity cases have been referred to while giving details of the various hospitals and dispensaries in the District. The District Hospital, i. e., Kirodimal Government Hospital, Raigarh, has no separate maternity ward, but there is one Child Welfare Centre attached to the hospital with a staff of four midwives. A private women's hospital is functioning in the District. There is no maternity home as such in the District. Other maternity facilities in the District include the provision of two maternity beds in each of the primary health centres.

Departmental Hospitals and Dispensaries

The exact year of establishment is not known. It was taken over by the Government soon after the merger of princely states in 1948. There are 11 general beds, and the hospital is under the charge of an Assistant Medical Officer. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients treated in this hospital was 80 and 5,056, respectively, for the period from 1960 to 1966.

Primary Health Centres

A primary health centre is an organisation providing or making available under the direct supervision of at least one physician, the basic health services for a community. The primary health centres were originally functioning alongwith the Community Development and National Extension Service Blocks in rural areas. The centres were usually established during the intensive phase of the working of Blocks and were taken over by the Public Health Department whenever Blocks entered the post-intensive phase. The first primary health centre to be opened in the District was that at Baramkela in Sarangarh tahsil in 1954.

In subsequent years several centres were established in different Block areas of the District. Each primary health centre has normally on its staff, one doctor, one compounder, one dresser, one sanitary inspector, one lady health visitor, four midwives, two peons and four others. Under each primary health centre there are not more than three sub-centres in the Block area. There sub-centres extend medical facilities to the interior areas in the Blocks. A midwife is attached to each sub-centre. The Medical Officer in charge of the primary health centre visits each sub-centre once a week. In 1965 there were 13 primary health centres and 30 sub-centres in the District. Raigarh, Sarangarh, Gharghoda and Udaipur tahsils had two centres each, while Jashpur tahsil had five centres. Four more centres—one each in Raigarh and Gharghoda tahsils and two in Jashpur tahsil were established subsequently, thus making a total of 17 centres in the District.

Expenditure on Medical and Public Health

The expenditure incurred annually on medical and public health activities in the District during the period 1960-61 to 1967-68 is tabulated below.

Table No. XVI-8
Expenditure on Medical & Public Health Activities

Year	Medical	Public Health
	(Rs.)	Rs.
1960-61	1,82,829.27	54,838.76
1961-62	N.A.	N.A.
1962-63	2,71,821.20	1,84,449.19
1963-64	2,46,458.83	1,96,117.66
1964-65	4,77,274.58	2,53,167.99
1965-66	5,08,688.57	4,22,735.34
1966-67	4,33,846	5,44,827
1967-68	5,41,334	9,91,184

Private Hospitals and Dispensaries

Established under the Seth Kirodimal Charity Trust, this eye hospital was inaugurated on 19th January, 1951. It has indoor and outdoor departments for the treatment of eye patients from and outside the District. Its bed-strength was 100 (50 general and 50 paying beds) till 1963, in which year owing to the fall in the number of indoor patients from the important urban areas outside, caused by the establishment of special institutions there, it was reduced to the present number of 75. The reduction was effected in respect of paying wards from 50 to 19, but six more free beds were added to the existing 50. The institution is well equipped and well staffed. Free diet is given to the poor and needy patients. During the period from 1958 to 1965 the average number of indoor and outdoor patients treated annually was, 1,756 and 9,916, respectively. Average annual number of operations during the same period was 1,090.

This is the only institution in the District exclusively meant for women. It was established under Seth Kirodimal Charity Trust in 1948. In the year of its establishment there were 20 beds in the hospital and, by 1968, the bed-strength increased to 80. Impressed by the efficient working of the hospital, the State Government granted free land for its expansion besides sanctioning an annual grant.

There is a Nurses' Training Centre attached to this hospital with hostel arrangements. This centre was originally run under the Social Welfare Board in 1956, but later it was transferred to the community development programme. The training capacity of the centre is 10 nurses, every two years. This hospital has also been giving *Dai* training to poor and needy girls.

The number of outdoor and indoor patients treated at the hospital during the five year period ending January, 1968, was 1,82,315 and 19,249, respectively. Total number of deliveries during the same period at the hospital was 4,298. As many as 6,074 operations were performed during this period. The staff consisted of one lady doctor in charge, one assistant doctor, one tutor sister, 9 staff nurses, 4 *ayas* and 12 others.

Ambikapur Catholic Diocese had under its management one hospital and 13 dispensaries in Raigarh District in 1967. The Holy Cross Hospital, Kunkuri, was started as a dispensary in 1958. By 1961 it developed into a small hospital with 25 beds under the charge of a resident doctor. The hospital shifted into the new building, in 1962, which is located on the Raigarh-Jashpurnagar road, 26 miles from Jashpurnagar in village Kunkuri. In 1967 the bed-strength of this hospital increased to 130. The number

of resident doctors also increased to three. Besides the doctors, there were one X-ray technician, 3 laboratory technicians, 10 trained nurses, 6 midwives and 6 untrained nurses. The average number of outdoor and indoor patients treated during the period 1960-66 was 10,000 and 1,500, respectively. The hospital has infectious disease and T.B. wards.

Out of the 13 dispensaries run by the Mission one is located in Raigarh proper. It was started in 1963. There are two Leper Centres under this dispensary and one mobile dispensary. Outdoor treatment to about 13,000 patients is provided at this dispensary, annually. Mobile dispensary covers 65 villages, attending about 400 lepers annually.

Nine dispensaries are located in Jashpur tahsil of the District at Ambakona, P. O. Asta (Ambachuan, as per District Census Handbook), Duldula, Gholeng, Ginabhar, Jokbahla, Musgutri (Muskuti as per District Census Handbook) and Tapkara. Besides these there are two more dispensaries at Tamamunda, P.O. Pharsa-bahar. and Tongo-Ghagra, P.O. Ghagra.

Two other dispensaries are at Pathalgaon in Udaipur tahsil and Ludeg in Gharghoda tahsil. One dispensary is at Kunkuri where the Mission Hospital is also located.

The dispensary at Gholeng has indoor facilities with 10 beds. Jokbahla dispensary has also indoor facilities with 6 beds. Musgutri dispensary has 15 beds. Except for Musgutri dispensary where there are two trained nurses, all other dispensaries have one trained nurse each. The largest number of patients treated in one year recently at Musgutri dispensary was 21,000. At Jokbahla and Raigarh, the number of patients treated annually was 12,000. At Kunkuri and Gholeng the average number of patients treated annually was 10,000. At other dispensaries the number of patients treated annually on an average ranged from 800 to 6,000.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries

Except for a mention that the ruling chief of Udaipur patronised the services of a *Vaidya* during the early years of the present century, there is no reference what ever to the steps taken by the former princely states in encouraging this branch of medicine. It was only after the formation of the District in 1948 that development of *Ayurveda* received attention. The policy of the Government then was to encourage the opening of *ayurvedic* and *unani* dispensaries by local bodies in the interior of the District, so that the population of the rural areas could get increased medical attention. Several *ayurvedic* dispensaries were thus opened since then, some of them aided by the Government. The Government also opened three *ayurvedic* dispensaries at Urba in Gharghoda tahsil, Sankara in Sarangarh tahsil and Dokda in Jashpur tahsil, in 1962, 1962 and 1964, respectively. Each dispensary is staffed by a *Vaidya*, one

compounder, one *dai*, one waterman and one sweeper. The remaining *ayurvedic* dispensaries in the District are managed by the different Janapada Sabhas.

Janapada Sabha, Jashpur, has within the area of its jurisdiction, five dispensaries at Ankira (1953), Bandarchua (1951), Ranpur (1958), Pandrapath (1958) and Duldula (1953).

The first dispensary to be started was in 1951 at Bandarchua. One out of the five dispensaries, i.e., Ankira receives Government aid. The Janapada Sabha of Dharamjaigarh has one dispensary at Kudekela, which was started in 1953. This dispensary has also been aided by the Government. The Janapada Sabha of Sarangarh has four dispensaries at Ulkhar (1951), Saria (1953), Lendhra (1955), and Madhopali (1956). Three out of the four dispensaries are aided by the Government.

Janapada Sabha, Raigarh has three *ayurvedic* dispensaries under it, at Rengalpali, established in 1948, Temnar, established in 1949 and at Tarpur, established in 1953. All these dispensaries provide outdoor treatment. The average number of patients treated annually at these dispensaries from 1960-61 to 1965-66 was 64871, 60813, 70943, 86397, 83329 and 84821, respectively.

Each Janapada Sabha dispensary is under the charge of a qualified *Vaidya*. The Government grant-in-aid is in the form of payment of salaries to *Vaidyas* and cost of medicines. The only *ayurvedic* dispensary that provides facility for indoor treatment is the one at Kudekela under the Dharamjaigarh Janapada Sabha. There are three beds here. Medicines are supplied free of cost. It is located about 17 miles away from Kharsia on the Kharsia-Ambikapur road. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients annually treated during the period 1962-63 to 1965-66 was 3,429.

Homoeopathic Dispensaries

There are three Government homoeopathic dispensaries in the District at Raigarh, Sarangarh and Jashpur, each under an Assistant Medical Officer of homoeopathy. The Jashpur and Raigarh dispensaries were opened in 1963 and 1964, respectively. Besides these, the municipal committees of Raigarh and Jashpur maintain a homoeopathic dispensary each at Raigarh and Jashpur for outdoor patients.

Established in October, 1964, this dispensary is located at Nayaganj, Raigarh. It is staffed by one Assistant Medical Officer (homoeopathic) appointed by the Government and one peon, appointed by the Municipal Homoeopathic Dispensary, Raigarh council. On an average 45 patients are being treated here daily. Government granted an aid of Rs. 100 for the year 1966-67.

This dispensary was established in March, 1964. The staff consists of one Assistant Medical Officer (homoeopathic), one compounder and one peon. The total number of patients treated in 1964-65 and 65-66 was 13,425 and 14,071, respectively. The municipal committee received a grant of Rs. 200 per annum for the maintenance of this dispensary, Jashpurnagar dispensary in 1964-65 and 1965-66.

Medical Facilities under the Employees' State Insurance

With a view to providing adequate medical facilities to industrial workers in the District, the Employees' State Insurance Scheme was launched in 1962. The following table will speak for the medical facilities provided to persons and their families under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme during recent years.

Table No. XVI-9
Medical Aid under ESI Scheme

Year	No. of insured persons	No. of Patients attended	No. of operations performed	No. of injections given	Specialist service	Cases admitted to hospital
1962	2,071	1,342	—	3,747	13	4
1963	2,071	1,920	—	7,963	—	—
1964	2,071	2,687	10	6,037	43	9
1965	2,071	2,708	19	5,451	112	38
1966	2,071	2,793	33	5,762	190	40
1967	673	23,908	107	7,806	299	38
1968	673	28,593	86	16,081	225	23
No. of Patients treated		1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
(a) New		951	2,136	1,424	1,963	2,933
(b) Old (Repeat)		2,350	4,057	2,857	4,210	6,843
(c) Total		3,801	6,193	4,281	6,173	9,776
2. No. of injections given		1,399	2,290	3,221	2,423	3,045

There are no medical and public health research centres and institutions in the District exclusively for disseminating knowledge on public health.

However, disseminating of knowledge on public health matters such as birth control, nutrition, personal hygiene, health education, etc., is being carried out by the various family planning centres and primary health centres in the District.

Health Publicity

The Health Film Library of the Directorate of Health Services distributes films on health education to the Development Blocks, family planning centres and other voluntary social welfare organisations. Pamphlets and leaflets on public health and hygiene are also distributed through these agencies. These activities are, however, intensified during serious outbreaks of epidemics.

The Indian Medical Association, Raigarh Branch

There is a branch of the Indian Medical Association in the District. Members of the Association hold monthly meeting to discuss medical and public health problems and other allied subjects. They also visit neighbouring villages and do health education work. Other activities of the association include holding of Baby-shows, launching of inoculation and vaccination campaigns, family planning education, observance of health week, etc.

Indian Red Cross Society

There is a branch of the Indian Red Cross Society in the District with the Collector and Civil Surgeon as its President and Honorary Secretary, respectively. The activities, in general, of this international body include assistance to civil hospitals for blood transfusion services, organising mother and child welfare schemes, contributions for disaster reliefs such as floods, famine, etc., supply of comforts to poor and needy patients, medical after-care to ex-servicemen, assistance to welfare activities for the deaf, dumb, blind and crippled, and supply of skimmed milk powder to needy and poor children and expectant mothers.

A branch of the St. Johns Ambulance Association is also functioning in the District.

Family Planning

On the basis of the Government of India's new proposals and looking to the need of the State, a revised and modified family planning programme was chalked out in 1957. The new scheme envisaged arrangements for greater attention to the training of medical and auxiliary staff in the methods of family planning and the opening of more family planning centres in the District. The family planning centres in Raigarh were opened in the 'sixties. There are four urban and 14 rural family planning centres in the District. The urban

centres are mostly attached to the District and civil hospitals, while the rural centres are attached either to the primary health centres and sub-centres or to the dispensaries in that locality. The following is a list of family planning centres in the District alongwith their dates of opening.

	Name of Central	Date of Establishment
Urban	1. Jashpur hospital	1-1-1963
	2. Sarangarh hospital	1-10-1963
	3. Raigarh hospital	1-10-1963
	4. Gharghoda (P. H. C.)	1-5-1964
Rural	1. Nawrangpur dispensary	October 1963
	2. Madhopali dispensary	1-10-1963
	3. Saria (P. H. C. Baramkela)	1-10-1963
	4. Amlidih (P. H. C.)	1-10-1963
	5. Kudumkela (P. H. C. Gharghoda)	1-10-1963
	6. Konpara (P. H. C.)	1-10-1963
	7. Pathalgaon (P. H. C.)	1-9-1964
	8. Dharamjaigarh hospital	1-9-1964
	9. Kharsia hospital	1-9-1964
	10. Vijainagar (P. H. C.)	—do—
	11. Lodam (P. H. C.)	—do—
	12. Bagicha (P. H. C.)	—do—
	13. Kunkuri (P. H. C.)	—do—
	14. Tapkara dispensary	—do—

Sanitation

Arrangements for sanitation and conservancy that existed in the erstwhile princely states have been referred to earlier. In 1948 when the gram panchayats replaced the existing village panchayats, village sanitation and conservancy arrangements became the responsibility of the gram panchayats. In the urban areas this responsibility rested with the respective municipal committees. Currently the sanitation of rural areas is being looked after by the respective gram panchayats and by the janapada sabhas. The Development Blocks take up this responsibility in respect of areas under their jurisdiction with the help of the Medical Officers, Health Visitors, Sanitary Inspectors and other staff of the primary health centres. The janapada sabhas in the rural and municipal

committees in the urban areas have separate staff for this work. The staff appointed by these agencies generally include Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors and vaccinators. The sanitation work done by various Blocks in the District upto 1966 is tabulated below.

Table No. XVI-10
Sanitation in Development Blocks

Name of the Development Block	Surface drainage	Latrines constructed	Soakage pits provided	Urinals constructed	Cattle sheds constructed
1. Sarangarh	—	—	886	—	—
2. Bagicha	700	129	5,071	27	83
3. Tamnar	—	—	386	—	9
4. Kunkuri	—	5	262	—	—
5. Jashpur	15,767	143	4,768	17	48
6. Kharsia	—	—	298	—	39
7. Tapkara	—	42	232	22	5
8. Dharamjaigarh	—	137	1,019	33	194
9. Gharghoda	—	100	2,574	—	123
10. Raigarh	1,215	226	2,745	719	273
11. Kansabel	—	—	—	—	—
12. Pathalgaon	—	50	100	—	30
13. Baramkela	—	—	—	—	—
14. Manora	—	—	400	—	—
15. Duldula	—	—	—	—	6
16. Lailunga	—	—	—	—	—
17. Pussore	—	2	764	36	—

The main function of the sanitation staff is to advise people on matters connected with personal hygiene, vaccination, inoculation and precautions to prevent the incidence of epidemics.

Water Supply

Arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water is primarily the responsibility of the municipal committees in the urban areas and the janapada sabhas in the rural areas.

The Raigarh Municipal Council has made adequate arrangements for the supply of drinking water through pipes, tube-wells and wells. Till 1966 as many

as 25 tube-wells and 133 ordinary wells have been provided. Urban The Municipal Committee of Jashpur has provided 12 wells for the supply of drinking water. Arrangements for the supply of tap water is being made in collaboration with the Public Health Department. The Municipal Council of Sarangarh maintains one water-works for the supply of drinking water besides a tank, well-protected from pollution. A tube-well boring plant has been acquired by the council and arrangements for the construction of five tube-wells were in progress in 1967. An extensive water supply scheme was also being contemplated. The Public Health Department has already completed the preliminary survey work in this regard. In Kharsia the municipal council has provided 52 public deep wells, 2 tanks and 41 deep tube-wells for the supply of drinking water in the municipal area.

In respect of rural areas the janapada sabha, gram panchayats and development blocks look after this work. The work done in this regard by various

Blocks in the District upto 31st March, 1966, is shown in the table below.

Table No. XVI-11
Water Supply in Block Areas

Name of Block	New wells constructed	Existing wells repaired	Step wells closed
1. Sarangarh	122	6	—
2. Bagicha	151	—	—
3. Tamnar	5	—	—
4. Kunkuri	55	—	—
5. Jashpur	183	87	—
6. Kharsia	51	5	—
7. Tapkara	48	5	—
8. Dharamjaigarh	140	—	—
9. Gharghoda	94	8	—
10. Raigarh	117	107	—
11. Kansabel	25	—	—
12. Baramkela	—	—	—
13. Manora	43	—	—
14. Duldula	33	—	—
15. Lailunga	—	—	—
16. Pussore	22	6	—
17. Pathalgaon	17	—	—

Drainage and Slum Clearance

The municipal committees look after this work in respect of urban areas while the janapada sabhas attend to this in rural areas. For slum clearance the Municipal Council of Raigarh has employed 140 sweepers. They carry out their work with the help of one truck, 2 tractors, 8 refuse-carts and 5 night soil carts. There is no drainage system. The Kharsia Municipal Council has constructed superficial *pukka* drains along the roads in five thickly populated wards under its jurisdiction. In Jashpur the municipal committee has engaged the services of 8 sweepers for the roads and 4 for latrines. No special arrangement appears to have been made by the Municipal Council of Sarangarh, for this work.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Prohibition

Prohibition Act of 1938 of the Provincial Government was not extended to cover the present Raigarh District. In case of liquor, *ganja* and *bhang*, the District has always remained wet. The consumption of opium, in general, has been prohibited in this District from 1st April, 1959 and this article is being supplied on permits to opium addicts on medical grounds only. *Charas*, consumption of which is strictly prohibited in all the other districts of Madhya Pradesh, is also prohibited here.

Temperance or Anti-drink Movements

Government Departments like Excise, Publicity, Panchayat and Social Welfare, Development and Tribal Welfare are carrying out anti-drink movements normally exhibiting films on Prohibition from time to time. Prohibition Week is annually observed in the District as in other parts of the State, from 2nd to 8th of October. During the week, prohibition propaganda is carried out through organising processions, exhibition of posters, variety entertainment programmes and exhibiting films depicting the evils of drinks and other intoxicant articles.

Voluntary social service organisations, like Vanvasi Sewa Mandal Kalyan Ashram (Jashpurnagar), Harijan Sewak Sangh (Raigarh), Raigarh-Ambikapur Catholic Diocese (Kunkuri), etc., are also interested in propagating the cause of Prohibition and temperance among the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes of the District.

Measures adopted by the State Government

Following measures were adopted in Raigarh District in pursuance of the General Policy of Prohibition, declared by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, during the years 1948 to 1967.

- (1) Liquor shops in the District were kept compulsorily closed on the days of festivals and the number of such days was progressively increased to 18.
- (2) Number of liquor shops in the District was 130 in 1951. In subsequent years this number was gradually reduced by closing down 35 shops by 1963.

- (3) Restrictions on the limit of possession and sale of foreign liquor were imposed. The limit of sale was decreased to two units from that of two imperial gallons at a time.
- (4) Excise Duty on country liquor was considerably increased.
- (5) Oral consumption of denatured spirit was prohibited. Possession of denatured spirit, which was rendered fit for human consumption, was also declared a crime, punishable with three months imprisonment and or with a fine upto Rs. 1,000.
- (6) With a view to diverting the attention of liquor addicts, a *neera* centre was opened in 1958 at Kharsia, to provide healthy and refreshing light drink i. e. *neera*.
- (7) From first August 1959 possession of liquor in hotels and aerated water shops, having no licence for the sale of foreign liquor, was declared a punishable offence.
- (8) To put a check on illicit distillation, control on the possession, import, export and sale of *mahua* was imposed from 26th June, 1959.
- (9) Shopless zones in the areas within a radius of 16 kilometres and bordering the dry areas of Raipur district were created to check the flow of liquor from these wet areas to the dry areas.

An Ordinance No. 9 of 1967, the Madhya Pradesh Madya Nishedha Vidhi Nirasan Adhyadesh was promulgated to repeal the Prohibition Act of 1938 and the Ordinance came into force with effect from 1st September, 1967.

Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes

The District contains 15 Castes and 32 Tribes, which are 'Scheduled' by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes List (Modification) Order, 1956. According to the Census of 1961, the population of these Castes and Tribes, enumerated in the District, was as given below.

		Percentage to total population
1. Total Population of the District	10,41,226	—
2. Population of Scheduled Castes	1,15,719	11.11
3. Population of Scheduled Tribes	4,77,936	45.90

According to the Census of 1972 the total population of the District was 12,78,705 out of which 1,32,446, (10.36 per cent) and 6,04,578 (47.28 per cent) persons were of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, respectively.

On the basis of these population figures it was found that Raigarh District was the seventh biggest in the State in respect of the population of Scheduled Tribes and twenty sixth in respect of the population of Scheduled Castes.

Government of the State and some non-Government agencies have carried out some schemes for the all round welfare of these Castes and Tribes. In post Independence period, especially during the various Five Year Plan periods, the Government has done many things for the educational, economic and physical welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Activities of the Government in these fields are summarised below.

Cultural Welfare

Under the centrally sponsored scheme, grant is annually received for the cultural upliftment of *Adiwas*i students. In the year 1964-65, the Tribal Welfare Department Organised an *Adiwas*i Youth Gathering of the middle school students of Bilaspur Division, at village Kunkuri. It was attended by 40 selected *Adiwas*i youths of the Division. From among these 40 youths, a batch of 11 youths was selected to participate in State level *Adiwas*i Youth Gathering subsequently held at Sarangarh in January, 1965. This was attended by 100 *Adiwas*i youths including 11 of this District. From among these 100 youths, 38 youths were selected for being sent on tour of India and the rest 62 were selected for the tour of Madhya Pradesh. On this Rs. 10,417 were spent.

In the year 1965-66, Rs. 3,500 were spent on constructing a theatre at village Kunkuri for the performance of cultural programmes of *Adiwas*i, with a view to encouraging their cultural heritage. Similarly, every year a batch of selected *Adiwas*i youths adept in their customary folk dance, is sent to New Delhi to participate in the cultural programmes organised on the occasion of Republic Day.

Building and Construction Works

During the three Five Year Plan periods, the Government had spent Rs. 15,69,988 on the building and construction works carried out for the welfare of Backward Classes and Tribes of the District. The Table below gives details of these works,

Table No. XVII-1
Construction Works done during Plan Period

Work	No. in I Plan 1951-52 to 1955-56)	II Plan (1956-57 to 1960-61)	III Plan (1961-62 to 1965-66)
Construction			
1. School buildings (Including Teachers Quarters)	108	12	79
2. Hostels	3	7	17
3. Houses	13	301	135 Teachers Quarters
4. Sheds	8	1	—
5. Wells for <i>Adiwas</i> i	—	37	39
Harijans	—	8	—
6. Road	—	About 5 km.	About 10 km.
7. Culverts	—	4	8
8. Bunds	—	1	—
9. Nursery Plant	—	—	1 (in 1965-66)
10. Canal	—	—	1 (Do)
11. Science Laboratory	—	—	1 (Do)
12. Theatre	—	—	1 (Do)
Total Expenditure in Rs.			
	2,42,419	5,15,572	8,11,997

In the year 1966-67 and 1967-68, Rs. 1,85,000 and Rs. 1,66,000 were spent, respectively, on the construction works which included school buildings, teachers quarters, shed, etc.

Economic Welfare

For the economic welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes of the District a few co-operative societies were established during the days of First World War by the efforts of Co-operation, Catholic Mission, working in the then Jashpur State, predominantly inhabited by the Tribes. During the years 1949-50 to 1960-61 some 11 multipurpose co-operative societies and two Charmakar

co-operative societies were organised and registered from time to time in the District for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The Government extended economic and other facilities to them.

Economic Structure of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes

Census of 1961 provided figures for industrial classification of males and females at work and non-workers in rural and urban break-ups of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of Raigarh District. The classification revealed the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Table given below shows the classification, excluding certain categories, which do not engage more than 1,500 males or females either in rural or in urban areas.

Table No. XVII-2
Industrial Classification—Rural and Urban

	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Population in District,	1,08,634	7,085	4,73,520	4,416
Males,	53,594	3,526	2,33,430	2,331
Females,	55,040	3,559	2,40,090	2,085
No. of Workers,				
Males,	35,111	2,074	1,47,522	1,257
Females,	30,872	1,137	1,33,450	841
No. of Non-Workers,				
Males	18,483	1,452	85,908	1,074
Females,	24,168	2,422	1,06,640	1,244
No. of Cultivators,				
Males	18,246	241	1,18,012	295
Females	17,313	193	1,11,277	269
No. of Agricultural Labourers,				
Males,	9,224	43	20,313	51
Females,	8,419	28	15,799	14
No. in House-hold Industries,				
Males,	3,056	45	1,967	10
Females,	2,431	25	1,610	12
No. in Other Services,				
Males,	2,974	684	5,004	454
Females,	1,860	561	2,788	248

The figures given above show that among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the District, about 60 and 59 per cent were workers, respectively, while the percentage of non-workers among them was about 40 and 41, respectively. Among the Scheduled Castes about 31 per cent and 15 per cent were cultivators and agricultural labourers respectively. Of the Scheduled Tribes, about 48 per cent were cultivators, while the proportion of agricultural labourers was about 7.5 per cent. Thus the economy of both of them was predominantly agricultural.

Welfare Measures

With a view to improving the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the District, more efforts for organising co-operative societies continued. By the end of 1962-63, there were four forest labourers co-operative societies, 14 multi-purpose co-operative societies and 16 village service co-operative societies. These societies received financial assistance from the Government during this period. Thus 14 multi-purpose societies were given Rs. 1,67,736. Village service societies, numbering 16, were given Rs. 2,880 and four forest labourers co-operative societies were in receipt of Rs. 54,000. The multi-purpose co-operative societies provided the essential consumers' goods to the tribals at reasonably cheap rates. Village service co-operative societies advanced loans to the needy for agricultural purposes and thereby saved them from the moneylenders, who advanced loans generally on high interest. The forest labourers co-operative societies tried to obtain work of forest coups for their members on standard rates. The working of these co-operative societies in 1962-63 was satisfactory as would be seen from the following financial structure of these societies.

	No. of Members	Paid up capital in Rs.	Working capital in Rs.
Charmakar Societies	29	437.00	3,575
Multi-Purpose Societies	2,345	89,386.00	4,12,265
Forest Labourer Societies	173	1,230.00	55,675
Village Service Societies	577	3,575.00	7,455
	3,124	44,628.00	4,78,970

During the First Five Year Plan period (1951-52 to 1955-56) the number of multi-purpose co-operative societies, organised by the Tribal Welfare Department, was four and they received the financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1,15,000. The number of these societies increased to 10 by the end of the Third Plan period (1961-62 to 1965-66). Each of the four societies, established

during the First Plan period received Rs. 20,000, while each of the remaining six received Rs. 17,500 as financial assistance during the Third Plan period. Thus 10 multipurpose co-operative societies were in receipt of Rs. 1,85,000 as financial assistance. The number of forest labourers co-operative societies, working under the Tribal Welfare Department, was nine by the end of Third Plan period and these were given financial assistance of Rs. 1,57,500. During the same period the Tribal Welfare Department spent Rs. 21,700 in organising 31 grain *golas* or stores.

Community Development Department also organised 23 multipurpose co-operative societies, receiving financial assistance of Rs. 4,02,500 and one forest labourers co-operative society, receiving Rs. 17,500. Besides, it also established 31 grain *golas* or stores. Community Development Department transferred all these organisations to the Tribal Welfare Department by the end of Third Plan period (1961-62 to 1965-66).

The financial assistance to the above mentioned co-operative societies was given by Raigarh branch office of the Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Co-operative Development Corporation Ltd., Bhopal, opened in February, 1964. In all 69 primary multi-purpose co-operative societies and 14 primary labourers co-operative societies, organised in the twelve Tribal Development Blocks of Raigarh District were affiliated with the Corporation.

Activities of Raigarh branch of the Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Co-operative Development Corporation, Ltd., Bhopal.

This branch of the Corporation is working in the District for the economic welfare of the Tribes. Its activities in this regard are narrated here in brief.

The Corporation, through primary co-operative societies purchases the agricultural produce of the *Adiwasi* cultivators at reasonable rates and then primary societies sell them to the consumers on rates fixed by the Government. Thus the *Adiwasi* cultivators easily get a reasonable amount for their produce and the consumers, get goods at a cheap rate. The corporation also purchases *tilli* from the *Adiwasi* cultivators and gets it crushed in the oil-mill working at Kunkuri.

Similarly, the Corporation succeeded in taking contracts for minor forest products like gum, mahua etc., in the forest divisions of Raigarh and Jashpur. These products too were purchased by the Corporation during the year 1964-65 to 1966-67 from *Adiwasis* through primary co-operative societies. These societies received commission at the rate of 10 per cent for collecting gum, etc., and one per cent on some other minor forest products. Besides this, the societies were given 50 per cent of the profit earned by the Corporation.

Contracts of forest coups for producing timber are obtained by the Corporation in forest divisions of Raigarh and Jashpur. Some of these contracts were also reserved in the name of primary forest labourers co-operative societies and all these were completed by the Corporation in partnership with the societies. Details of these contracts are given below.—

Year	Amount of Lease in Rs.	No. of Coups	Particulars
1965-66	59,000	4	(Besides these, four more coups, lease amount of which was Rs. 53,500, were completed by Corporation, independently.)
1966-67	2,11,950	5	—
1967-68	2,06,000 (Estimated)	5	(One of these was taken in auction and others were reserved)

The local branch of the Corporation provides facilities like house, medical treatment, recreation, education, etc., to the members of its affiliated primary forest labourers co-operative societies. Any member, if injured while on duty receives his full wages, till his recovery.

With the permission of Collector, the Corporation purchases timber from *Bhumi-swami-Adiwasis*, at reasonable rates. No sooner is the permission of Collector obtained for the purchase of timber in *malik-makbuza* land of *Bhumi-swami Adiwasis*, than the Corporation pays in advance, one third of the total amount of the deal, entered with those *Adiwasis*. The remaining amount is given, when the work of cutting the timber is over.

Prior to the establishment of the branch of Corporation in this District, the villagers in general and *Adiwasis* in particular, residing in the interior had to face a great difficulty in obtaining consumers' goods of daily use at reasonable rates. Controlled commodities too were not available to them in time. This scarcity made exploitation of *Adiwasis* by the traders easy. Raigarh branch of the Corporation is now supplying all essential consumers' goods and controlled commodities in time and in a planned manner to them through the primary multi-purpose co-operative societies and to some primary forest labourers co-operative societies. These societies have started consumers' stores in many places. Fair price shops are also

established by these societies. This measure helped in lessening the proportion of exploitation of villagers including *Adiwasis*.

With a view to providing employment to the *Adiwasis*, the Corporation has started industrial centres at Kunkuri and Dharamjaigrah in the District. The Corporation not only manages and controls these centres but also purchases their products. The industrial centre Kunkuri has soap and *bidi* factories and *dal*, oil and saw mills, while at Dharamjaigarh centre saw-mill and *bidi* and chicken food manufacturing factories are located.

Besides, the Corporation has become an authorised local dealer for the products of the Indian Oil Corporation, Ltd., and it started a petrol pump at Raigarh under the name of Triwaypex Service Station.

The details of the business done by the Corporation's Raigarh branch for the years 1964-65 to 1966-67 are as below.

Table No. XVII-3
Business Transacted by the Corporation, Raigarh Branch

Name of the Commodity	1964-65		Year 1965-66		1966-67	
	Purchase	Sale	Purchase	Sale	Purchase	Sale
(Figures in lakhs of Rs.)						
1. Minor Forest Products	3.64	3.94	5.86	3.97	4.54	2.72
2. Agricultural Products	4.62	4.77	9.16	8.68	4.96	9.53
3. Consumers' Goods	2.95	3.31	12.15	11.64	17.16	17.06
4. Timber	0.91	1.05	1.97	1.29	1.79	1.25
5. Timber from <i>Malik-makbuza</i> land	0.86	0.87	0.22	0.39	0.49	0.58
6. Petroleum	0.94	0.96	3.76	3.39	6.96	8.04
7. Saw mills	—	—	3.60	1.88	3.86	3.16
8. Other Mills and Factories	—	—	0.31	0.07	4.28	1.90
Total	13.12	14.10	37.03	31.31	44.04	44.24

It is clear from the statistics given above that Corporation has made considerable progress in the District.

With a view to strengthening the base for co-operative movement the Tribal Welfare Department has started a training centre at Sarangarh in the year 1965-66 for the managers working in the co-operative societies of the Department. The Department of Industries for Managers; also introduced certain schemes and extended facilities for the Activities of Industries Department uplift of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes of Raigarh District. During the Second Five Year Plan period (1956-57 to 1960-61), the Department started a Leather Centre from 1st July, 1960, at village Churela. In August, 1960, there were 10 trainees. After completing one year course, the Centre was shifted to Pathalgaon. In April, 1961 a Hand-Loom Weaving Centre was started at village Saria for the trainees of Scheduled Castes in general and Ganda Tribe in particular. Two batches, one of eight and the other of nine trainees were trained and the third one of 10 trainees was under training during 1963-64.

The Training cum Production Centre started at Raipur for the candidates of the Scheduled Castes, was transferred to Sarangarh in March, 1962. There is a provision of training of artisans in 10 different trades. In the beginning, batches for training in four trades, viz., carpentry, leather, cane and bamboo and weaving, alone were recruited. In the year 1962-63, there were 46 trainees of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the Centre. Subsequently, a batch of another 46 trainees was admitted for training.

The above mentioned Training-cum-Production Centre of the Industries Department, working at Sarangarh, was transferred to the Tribal Welfare Department in 1965-66. The Centre gives training in the Training Centres of Tribal Welfare Department trades of carpentry, cane and bamboo work, leather, weaving and rope-making. Training in machine-mechanism then remained to be started. The centre has a capacity of 60 trainees in one session. The Centre gives Rs. 25 as monthly stipend to each trainee during his training period and after the completion of training it provides to him the instruments and raw material required for his independent establishment. One branch of this Centre is functioning at Jashpurnagar and it is also a Training-cum-Production Centre. Here the trainees receive training in the trades of carpentry, leather and tailoring. The articles produced in the Training cum Production Centre are sold. By the end of 1965-66, the Centre sold articles worth Rs. 17,036.

The Centre was taken over by the Tribal Welfare Department from Industries Department in 1965-66. This Centre, which was originally started for training the trainees belonging to Ganda community in Scheduled Castes, now admits trainees of all the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Centre has the capacity of 12 trainees at a time and Rs. 25 as monthly stipend is given to each of the trainees, during the training period. In 1965-66, there were

only four trainees. The products of the Centre are sold and the amount received by sale is also deposited in the treasury. By the end of 1965-66 such deposited amount was about Rs. 2,025.

In the year 1964-65, the Department sent 28 *Adiwasi* candidates for two years training in Industrial Training Institute, Korba. In 1965-66 also 28 *Adiwasis* were sent to the Institute for training.

Training of *Adi-*
wasis in Industrial
Training Institute
Korba

There are twelve Tribal Development Blocks in the District as mentioned below.

S. No.	Name of the Tribal Development Block	The date of Beginning	Total Population	Population of <i>Adiwasis</i>
1.	Ghargoda	7th December, 1963	28,115	18,524
2.	Tamnar	1st April, 1965	52,716	26,817
3.	Lailunga	1st April, 1965	47,957	27,170
4.	Pathalgaon	2nd October, 1963	88,085	54,340
5.	Kansawel	1st April, 1967	37,642	25,195
6.	Kunkuri	1st October, 1962	42,474	25,053
7.	Bagicha	1st April, 1963	77,537	59,896
8.	Jashpur	15th August, 1962	40,153	27,543
9.	Bhanora	2nd December, 1963	32,712	27,070
10.	Tapkara	2nd October, 1963	47,120	29,231
11.	Duldula	1st April, 1965	28,674	14,722
12.	Kharsia	1st April, 1967	59,697	28,595

Industrial Training

For the economic advancement of the *Adiwasis*, Harijans and other Backward Classes all the Tribal Development Blocks of the District introduced schemes of industrial training in following trades.

1. Carpentry, 2. Black-smithy, 3. Leather, 4. Tailoring, Cutting and Weaving, 5. Cane-work.

Each of the trained workers received an aid of Rs. 50 for starting their independent business. Besides, these Blocks advanced loans to other untrained but experienced artisans for purchasing instruments required for carrying out their own business. These schemes continued till the year 1966-67. From 1st March, 1967, these were discontinued by the State Government.

Efforts have been made in other spheres for economic advancement of Other Backward Classes. Some of the important steps taken in this direction are described below.

From the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan period, the State Government introduced schemes for the welfare of cultivators belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Under one scheme, subsidy is given to these cultivators for purchasing plough, seeds and other agricultural implements. Each one of them receives Rs. 500 as agricultural subsidy. Details of the working of this scheme for the Third Plan period are given below.

Table No. XVII-4

Industrial Subsidy

Year	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	No. of Families Benefited	Total Amount in Rs. Received as Subsidy	No. of Families Benefited	Total Amount in Rs. Received as Subsidy
1961-62	11	5,500	33	15,500
1962-63	6	3,000	33	16,500
1963-64	2	1,000	32	16,000
1964-65	5	2,500	29	14,500
1965-66	5	2,500	26	13,000
Total	29	14,500	153	76,500

This scheme of advancing soil conservation subsidy was also introduced in the Third Five Year Plan period. Benefits of it are given to *Adiwas* cultivators alone. Needy *Adiwasi* cultivator receives Rs. 40 per acre of Subsidy for Soil land for the purpose of conservation of his agricultural land. Conservation In this District, cultivators of Korba Tribe, who are more backward and poor, received priority in the allotment of soil conservation subsidy. Details of the allotment are given below.

Table No. XVII-5
Subsidy for Soil Conservation

Year	No. of Cultivators Benefited	Soil in Acres to be Conserved	Allotment in Rs.
1961-62	233	560	22,400
1962-63	362	613	24,500
1963-64	No allotment was made		
1964-65	164	498.50	19,940
1965-66	No allotment was made		
Total	759	1671.50	66,840

With a view to rehabilitating *Adiwas*i and Harijan families, the scheme of allotting land was introduced in Raigarh District, during the Third Five Year Plan period. Under this scheme 267.10 acres of land was distributed among 103 *Adiwas*i families, while the number of Harijan families, receiving 186.41 acres of land, was 43.

At village Kunkuri, the Government has established a nursery plant to create interest in *Adiwas*i cultivators for plantation of fruit trees, yield of which would fetch more money to them for their economic upliftment. This plant also serves the purpose of giving training in plantation to the students of highschool of the village. In the year 1965-66, an amount of Rs. 8,630 was allotted for the establishment of this nursey plant.

The Tribal Development Blocks of the District also tried to help the *Adiwas*i in increasing their agricultural produce. The Agricultural Extension Officers of the Block distribute *taccavi* in the form of improved seeds, received from the Deputy Director, Agriculture. Co-operative Societies of the Blocks distribute fertilisers. In Jashpur Block some land is irrigated by providing canal water. At some places *rahats* are given to *Adiwas*i cultivators for irrigating their land. Irrigation facilities help the *Adiwas*i in improving their economic condition through producing vegetable, sugarcane, etc. In the year 1967-68, the Government allotted Rs. 3,39,500 for constructing wells for irrigating 3,400 acres of land, Rs. 14,400 for irrigating 360 acres with the water of the Med river, Rs. 12,300 for gardening in 41 acres, Rs. 1,500 for producing vegetables in 100 acres of land and Rs. 5,520 for oil pumps. The Government also fixed a target of constructing 10 compost pits in each of the 12 Tribal Blocks.

Besides this, steps were taken to give economic relief to these Tribes, Castes and Other Backward Classes. They are briefly narrated below.

Economic Relief

1. For providing economic relief to the *Adiwas*i and Harijans, the Government introduced certain measures. One of them is to give them legal aid. In the year 1964-65 Rs. 100 were given to a *Adiwas*i in the form of legal aid. No Harijan applied for the aid. In subsequent year also neither *Adiwas*i nor Harijans demanded any such aid.

2. The Government imposed regulations of the Debt Relief Act in this District. Under this Act a Debt Relief Court was established at Jashpur. It is presided over by the Revenue Sub-Divisional Officer. The Court hears the cases of forced realisation of debt, given by money-lenders to *Adiwas*i. Till the year 1965-66, the number of such cases registered was 11 involving Rs. 241. The Court disposed of 10 such cases.

3. With a view to providing loan facilities to *Adiwas*i, who would experience difficulty in getting debt from money-lenders on account of the Debt Relief Act, the Government introduced a scheme of advancing loans to them for their unproductive necessities. In the year 1964-65, Rs. 50,000 were handed over to the Raigarh Branch of the Madhya Pradesh State Tribal Development Corporation for proper distribution.

4. For the economic welfare of *Adiwas*i and Harijans the Government has introduced pisciculture in the District. About five lakh fish-seeds were scattered in the tanks covering an area of about 242 acres of land. By this industry 43 *gram-panchayats* were benefited. The programme for developing this industry in 1967-68 included repairs of 27 tanks for pisciculture.

5. The Government also created interest to the *Adiwas*i in poultry farms and pigs breeding. In 1967-68 five poultry farms were to be opened in all the 12 Blocks. Economic facilities were provided for them. In all villages of four Tribal Development Blocks, where there are *grampanchayats* the Government provided a Pedigree bull for producing animals of good breed.

6. Veterinary dispensaries are established at all the headquarters of Tribal Development Blocks for curing diseases of animals and protecting them from diseases. The Government has also supplied to the *Adiwas*i cultivators, grass cutting machine at half rate. In the year 1967-68, the Government decided to distribute 35 such machines and 29 water taps for feeding animals in Raigarh District.

Other Upliftment Measures

1. The scheme of giving house building subsidy for sweepers and scavengers was introduced in the District during the Third Five Year Plan period.

Under this scheme, 30 sweepers and scavengers' families were given Rs. 19,400, as house building subsidy.

2. Another scheme of constructing houses for the families of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was taken into hand in the Second Five Year Plan period and Rs. 25,500 were spent in constructing 34 houses and Rs. 1,95,000 were spent on 260 houses, respectively, for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively. In the Second Plan period Rs. 16,000 for sinking 8 drinking water wells for the Scheduled Castes and Rs. 58,000 on the construction of 29 drinking water wells for the Scheduled Tribes, were spent in this District. In the Third Plan period 39 such wells were built at the cost of Rs. 76,980 for the Scheduled Tribes. In the year 1967-68, Rs. 68,000 were allotted for constructing wells for drinking water.

3. For the physical welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, the Government has established a primary health centre each in all the Tribal Development Blocks of the District. Four maternity and child welfare centres were opened in the tribal areas of Raigarh District during the First Plan period. During the Third Plan period under the scheme of allotting medicine chests to various centres for primary aid of the patients, 308 chests were allotted. The target fixed for the year 1967-68 for all the Tribal Development Blocks included establishment of sub-health centres in all the areas occupied by more than 10,000 persons. With a view to providing trained personnel, the Government has established Auxiliary Nurses-cum-Midwives Training Centre in the Main Hospital at Raigarh. Survey cum Education cum Training Centres under the Health Services are working at five Centres in the District. One Venereal Diseases Centre is working from 1959 at Pathalgaon and a Laboratory was attached to it in 1962.

Charitable Endowments

There is no Charitable Endowment in Raigarh District. As regards Public Trusts, registered with the Collector, who is also the Registrar of Public Trusts, under the Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951, their number is very limited.

The Anathalaya, as a Public Trust, was registered with the Registrar, in 1954, under the Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951. The value of assets, which include the value of movable and immovable property of the Trust, was Rs. 2,07,645, in 1966. The accounts are annually audited by the chartered accountants. Details of the activities of Anathalaya are given in subsequent chapter of this volume.

Shri Chakradhar
Anathalay Trust
Raigarh

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Representation in Union Legislature

Raigarh District came into being as a result of merger of four erstwhile princely States. As such the history of representation of Raigarh District, which was first constituted in 1948, begins with the First Lok Sabha General Elections, held in 1951-52, for electing representatives to Union and State Legislatures. The Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Madhya Pradesh) Order, 1951, made under the Representation of the People Act, 1950 distributed the areas of this District into a Double-Member Surguja Raigarh and Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituencies for electing three representatives to the House of People. One of the two seats of Surguja-Raigarh Constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.

At the time of Reorganisation of States in 1956, the boundaries of Raigarh and Bilaspur districts were changed. A few territorial exchanges between Raigarh and Bilaspur districts occurred and the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1956, readjusted the territorial constituencies into which the areas of these districts had been divided or distributed formerly, in 1951. In the Second General Elections of 1957, the areas of Raigarh District were divided into Double-Member Baloda Bazar and Double-Member Surguja Parliamentary Constituencies. Of these four seats, one seat of Baloda-Bazar constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Castes, while one seat of Surguja constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. These four members represented the District in Parliament.

The Delimitation of Parliamentary and Legislative Assembly Constituencies Order, 1961, under Two-Member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961, again brought about changes in the name, extent, etc., of the territorial constituencies for the purpose of elections to the House of People. Two-Member constituencies were abolished and the areas of the District were distributed in Raigarh and Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituencies. Sitapur Legislative Assembly Constituency of Ambikapur Tahsil of Surguja District was included in Raigarh Constituency, while Pussour and Sarangarh Legislative Assembly Constituencies of Raigarh District were attached to Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituency. Thus the

In 1962

District was represented in the House of People by two members elected from these constituencies in the Third General Elections in 1962. Both these seats were general.

The extent of above mentioned Parliamentary constituencies representing the District was changed by the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Legislative Assembly Constituencies Order, 1964, for the Fourth General Elections of 1967. Sarangarh Legislative Assembly Constituency alone remained in Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituency, while in place of Sitapur Legislative Assembly Constituency of Surguja District, Pussour Legislative Assembly Constituency of Raigarh District was attached to Raigarh Parliamentary Constituency and this Constituency was declared as reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. Members elected from these two constituencies represented the District in Lok Sabha. This Delimitation of Parliamentary Constituencies remained valid during the Parliamentary Elections held in 1971.

Representation in the State Legislature

The District was divided into six territorial constituencies for the purpose of First General Elections, held in 1951-52, to the Madhya Pradesh State Legislative Assembly. All relevant details, viz., names of Vidhan Sabha constituencies, number of seats allotted to each of them, number of seats, if any, reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as the case may be, total number of electors, total number of votes, total number of valid votes polled and the percentage of total number of valid votes to total number of votes polled are shown below.

Table No. XVIII-1
Vidhan Sabha Elections 1951-52

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats Allotted	Total No. of Electors	Total No. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Percentage of Column 5 to 4
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Jhashpurnagar (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	94,756	1,89,512	1,19,697	63.1
2. Dharamjaigarh (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	95,108	1,90,216	1,09,076	53.3
3. Gharghoda (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	1,02,629	2,05,258	66,627	32.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Sakti	1	50,517	50,517	22,123	43.8
5. Raigarh	1	52,266	52,266	16,781	32.1
6. Sarangarh (One reserved for the Scheduled Castes)	2	97,698	1,95,396	63,846	32.6

These ten members elected from six constituencies represented the District in the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

As stated earlier the boundaries of the District underwent a change in 1956. Extent, etc., of the Legislative Assembly Constituencies also witnessed the change. The table below shows all relevant details of these readjusted constituencies as they existed during the Second General Elections held in 1957, for electing nine members to Vidhan Sabha.

Table No. XVIII-2
The Vidhan Sabha Elections 1957

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats Allotted	Total No. of Electors	Total No. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Percentage of Col. 5 to 4
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Sarangarh (One reserved for the Scheduled Castes)	2	1,23,350	2,46,700	65,447	26.52
2. Raigarh	1	59,303	59,303	16,827	28.38
3. Dharmjaigarh (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	99,703	1,99,406	73,705	37.01
4. Gharghoda (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	95,491	1,90,982	65,990	34.55
5. Jashpur (One reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	2	89,528	1,79,056	95,232	53.19

Thus during these elections the number of constituencies was reduced from six to five electing in all nine members to represent the District in Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. The number of reserved seats remained unchanged.

In pursuance of the Two-Member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961, the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Legislative Assembly Constituencies Order, 1961, abolished all the four Two-Member constituencies of the District that were in existence during the previous elections of 1951-52 and 1957. All Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District were reconstituted for the Third General Elections of 1962. In spite of these changes, the total number of seats allotted to the District and the number of reserved seats remained undisturbed. Details of these constituencies as they existed during the Third General Elections of 1962 to Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha, are given below.

Table No. XVIII-3
Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1962

Name of the Constituency	Total No. of Electors	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Percentage of Col. 3 to 2
1	2	3	4
1. Jashpur (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	47,919	23,284	48.58
2. Bagicha	52,739	29,094	55.16
3. Lailunga	45,609	23,271	51.02
4. Gharghoda (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	61,293	18,120	29.52
5. Pathalgaon (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes)	60,472	22,098	36.54
6. Dharamjaigarh	52,740	20,380	38.64
7. Raigarh	68,552	29,174	42.55
8. Pussour	70,211	31,133	44.34
9. Sarangarh (Reserved for the Scheduled Castes)	67,656	10,832	16.01

Nine Members, including four elected from reserved seats, represented Raigarh District in Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha after the Third General Elections of 1962. Five seats, those of Bagicha, Lailunga, Dharamjaigarh, Pussour and Raigarh were general.

The Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituency Order, 1964, changed the extent of some of the Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District for the General Elections of 1967. In place of Lailunga, a new constituency of Tapkara was constituted. In spite of these changes the total number of constituencies and seats allotted to District remained unchanged. The number of reserved constituencies increased from four to six. Thus of the nine constituencies three, viz., Dharamjaigarh, Raigarh and Pussour were General constituencies while the following six were Reserved constituencies, (1) Bagicha, (2) Jashpur, (3) Tapkara, (4) Pathalgaon, (5) Gharghoda and (6) Sarangarh.

Of these six constituencies first five were declared as Scheduled Tribe constituencies leaving Sarangarh, reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The same position continued till the General Elections to Vidhan Sabha held in 1972. Details of these elections held in 1967 and 1972 which elected nine members for Vidhan Sabha on both occasions are given below.

Table No. XVIII-4
Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1967 and 1972

Name of the Constituency	1967		1972	
	No. of Electors	No. of Valid Votes polled	No. of Electors	No. of Valid Votes polled
1. Bagicha	52,456	26,487	62,215	37,588
2. Jashpur	56,554	32,475	66,678	40,570
3. Tapkara	57,704	26,512	65,704	33,847
4. Pathalgaon	55,421	20,817	63,854	30,458
5. Dharamjaigarh	68,472	30,064	75,666	35,021
6. Gharghoda	70,319	24,116	78,146	34,813
7. Raigarh	73,262	38,051	78,987	41,541
8. Pussour	70,159	32,415	76,446	30,314
9. Sarangarh	72,133	24,531	78,612	23,877

*Political Parties**Congress*

In the General Elections of 1951-52 the Congress Party set up two candidates for Two-Member Surguja-Raigarh Parliamentary Constituency of which one seat was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. The reserved seat was won by the candidate of the Congress Party, securing 1,48,487 valid votes while the General seat was captured by an Independent candidate, who secured 1,01,178 votes as against 90,788 valid votes, won by the Congress candidate. In Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituency the Congress Party succeeded in capturing the seat by getting 1,10,886 votes. In subsequent Bye-Election, that took place in this constituency, the Congress Party candidate was defeated. He secured 42,770 votes as against 49,938 votes obtained by the victorious candidate of the Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party. The number of valid votes was 91,708.

In the General Elections of 1951-52 to the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly Constituencies, the candidates of the Congress Party lost both the seats (including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) of Two-Member Jashpurnagar Constituency. In Two-Member Gharghoda Constituency the candidates of the Congress won both the seats including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. Both the seats including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes were captured by the candidates of the Congress in Two-Member Dharamjaigarh Constituency. Of the General seats, namely Raigarh and Sakti the Congress succeeded in winning the former seat, while it was defeated in Sakti constituency at the hands of an Independent candidate. In Two-Member Sarangarh Constituency, of which one seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes, Congress proved successful. In all, the Congress candidates succeeded in getting seven out of ten seats for Vidhan Sabha.

In the Second General Elections of 1957 to Lok Sabha, the Congress Party won all the four seats of the Two-Member constituencies of Baloda Bazar and Surguja of which one of the former was reserved for the Scheduled Castes and one of the latter for the Scheduled Tribes. At the time of Second General Elections of 1957 to Vidhan Sabha, the candidates of the Congress Party succeeded in capturing all the seats in Two-Member constituencies of Jashpur, Gharghoda, Dharamjaigarh and Sarangarh of which one each of the first three was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes and one of the last for the Scheduled Castes. In Raigarh General Constituency, the Party candidate received a defeat. Thus the Party got eight seats out of nine.

In Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituency the candidate of the Congress Party won the seat during the Third General Elections of 1962. He

secured 86,229 votes out of 1,57,995 valid votes polled in that Constituency. However, in Raigarh Parliamentary Constituency, the party candidate was defeated. He secured 47,874 valid votes as against 56,991 secured by the candidate of Ram Rajya Parishad, out of 183,038 valid votes polled in that Constituency. In Bye-Election, held in this Constituency in 1964, the Congress succeeded by getting 46,671 votes out of 86,920 valid votes polled.

In elections to Vidhan Sabha in 1962, the Congress could capture seats in Sarangarh (reserved for the Scheduled Castes), Pussour, Raigarh Dharamjaigarh, and Gharghoda (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) constituencies. The candidates of the Party were defeated in the constituencies of Bagicha, Jashpur (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Lailunga, and Pathalgaon (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes). In all, the Congress succeeded in getting five seats out of nine.

The Congress candidates were successful in capturing both Raigarh (Reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) and Mahasamund Parliamentary constituencies. Thus both Parliamentary seats representing the District went to the Congress during the Fourth General Elections of 1967 to the Lok Sabha. During these Fourth General Elections to Vidhan Sabha the Congress candidate succeeded in seats of Bagicha, Jashpur, Pathalgaon, all the three reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, Dharamjaigarh, Pussour and Sarangarh (reserved for the Scheduled Castes). In constituencies of Raigarh, Gharghoda and Tapkara (last two reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), the Congress candidates were defeated. In all, the Congress gained six seats out of nine.

In the Fifth General Elections to Lok Sabha held in 1971 the Congress Party won both the Lok Sabha seats representing the District. Fifth General Elections to Vidhan Sabha were held in 1972. The Congress Party contested all the nine Vidhan Sabha seats attached to the District and captured the following six of them: (1) Jashpur (2) Dharamjaigarh (3) Gharghoda (4) Raigarh (5) Pussour and (6) Sarangarh.

Janasangh

The Party did not participate in the First General Elections of 1951-52. It did not participate in the Second General Election of 1957 to Lok Sabha, but it set up its candidates to Vidhan Sabha seats of Two-Member Gharghoda Constituency (one seat reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Two-Member Sarangarh (one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes) and Raigarh constituencies, and all of them lost the seats.

In the Third General Elections of 1962, the Janasangh candidate unsuccessfully contested Mahasamund Parliamentary constituency only. In the Third General Elections of 1962, the Party participated in the In 1962 Elections contest for Vidhan Sabha seats in Dharamjaigarh, Raigarh, Pussour and Gharghoda (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) constituencies only and lost all of them.

During the Fourth General Elections of 1967, Janasangh candidates fought both the Parliamentary constituencies, representing Raigarh District, but they were defeated. As regards the Elections to Vidhan In 1967 Elections Sabha seats the Janasangh set up nine candidates for all the nine seats of Raigarh District. The party candidates in Tapkara (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) and Gharghoda (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) constituencies alone were successful.

In the Fifth General Elections to Lok Sabha which were held in 1971 the Janasangh contested elections in both constituencies representing the District. Both candidates were, however, defeated. As regards the In 1971 & 72 Vidhan Sabha Elections of 1972, the party candidates contested elections in eight of the nine constituencies of the District and succeeded in Bagicha, Tapkara and Pathalgaon constituencies, all reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.

Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party

The Party contested both the seats of Two-Member Surguja-Raigarh Parliamentary constituency (one reserved for Scheduled Castes) and one seat of Mahasamund Parliamentary constituency and lost all the In 1951-52 three seats in 1951-52. In subsequent Bye-Election for the seat of Mahasamund, the Party candidate obtained 49,938 votes out of 91,708 valid votes as against 41,770 received by his only rival standing on the ticket of the Congress Party, and he came out victorious.

Candidates of Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party were in the field for Vidhan Sabha seats of Two-Member Jashpurnagar (both) Two-Member Gharghoda (one), Two-Member Dharamjaigarh (both), Raigarh (one) and Two-Member Sarangarh (one) constituencies. Out of these seven candidates only one from Jashpurnagar was declared successful in 1951-52.

Socialist Party

During the First General Elections of 1951-52 the Party absented from the elections to the House of People but it participated in Vidhan Sabha elections from Sakti (one seat), Two-Member Sarangarh (one seat), In 1951-52. Raigarh (one seat), and Two-Member Gharghoda (both seats) constituencies, but all of them were defeated. The Party set up its candidates for Vidhan Sabha elections of 1972 only in three of the nine

constituencies of the District. They gained only 712 valid votes in Pathalgaon, 562 in Dharamjaigarh and 739 in Sarangarh constituencies and lost all the seats.

Praja Socialist Party

The merger of Socialist Party and Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party prior to 1957 gave birth to a party, subsequently came to be known as Praja Socialist Party. This Party contested Lok Sabha seats of Two-Member In 1957 Surguja and Two-Member Baloda Bazar constituencies representing Raigarh District and lost all the four seats during the Second General Elections of 1957. One seat of each of these two was reserved for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, respectively. In case of Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District, the Party contested both seats (including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) of Two-Member Gharghoda, Two-Member Dharamjaigarh, one seat of Raigarh and both the seats (including one reserved for the Scheduled Castes) of Two-Member Sarangarh constituencies. All the party candidates lost the seats except that of Raigarh, where the party candidate defeated his nearest rival of the Congress Party. The candidate of the Congress received only 4,946 votes as against 8,104 obtained by the candidate of Praja Socialist Party.

In the Third General Elections of 1962 candidates of this Party were defeated in both the Parliamentary constituencies of Raigarh and Mahasamund representing the District. The Party set up its candidates for In 1962 elections to Vidhan Sabha from seven constituencies of the District, namely, Lailunga, Pathalgaon (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Dharamjaigarh, Gharghoda (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Raigarh, Pussour and Sarangarh (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes). All the seven candidates were defeated.

The Party candidates during the Fourth General Elections of 1967, were not in the field of elections to Lok Sabha from the two constituencies of Raigarh and Mahasamund, representing the District. The candidates of the Party during these elections were active in Vidhan In 1967 & 1971 Sabha constituencies of Pathalgaon (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Dharamjaigarh, Gharghoda (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) and Raigarh constituencies. The candidate in Raigarh seat alone succeeded in winning the election. In 1971 the Party contested only Raigarh Lok Sabha seat and lost it.

Ram Rajya Parishad

In the First General Elections of 1951-52 the party candidates contested both the seats (including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) of Two-Member

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In 1951-52 Surguja-Raigarh Parliamentary constituency and they were defeated. In Mahasamund Parliamentary constituency the Party was not in the field. As regards the Legislative Assembly seats the Party set up its two candidates for Two-Member Jashpurnagar constituency including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes. Loosing the Reserved seat, it succeeded in capturing General seat of the constituency. Both the seats of Two-Member Gharghoda (one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) were fought in vain by the candidates of the Party. Similar was the fate of its two candidates, who contested both the seats of Dharamjaigarh constituency (one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes). The party candidate also lost the seat of Raigarh constituency.

During the Second General Elections of 1957 to Lok Sabha the Party remained absent in both Two-Member Surguja (including one reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) and Two-Member Baloda-Bazar (including one reserved for the Scheduled Castes) constituencies representing the District. The Party was not in the field for elections to Vidhan Sabha. In the Third General Elections of 1962 to the House of People, the Party contested both Raigarh and Mahasamund seats, representing Raigarh District and won the former seat alone securing 56,991 valid votes out of 1,83,038. The nearest rival, belonging to the Congress, got 47,874 valid votes. In all the Vidhan Sabha constituencies of the District, the Party set up candidates and out of these nine candidates, only four from Jashpur (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes), Bagicha, Lailunga and Pathalgaon were declared successful. In the Fourth General Elections of 1967, the Party did not participate.

Forward Block

Ruikar Group of the Party unsuccessfully contested only Raigarh Legislative Assembly Constituency during the First General Elections of 1951-52. Subsequently the Party did not participate in any elections either to Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha.

Communist Party

The party, for the first time, entered in the field of elections during the Second General Elections of 1957 when the party candidate contested only Raigarh Legislative Assembly Constituency and lost it. During the Third General Elections of 1962 to Vidhan Sabha, only one candidate of the Party fought and lost the Vidhan Sabha Constituency of Pussour.

Swatantra Party

Swatantra Party, for the first time, fought and lost only Pathalgaon (reserved for the Scheduled Tribes) and Dharamjaigarh Vidhan Sabha constituencies during the Third General Elections of 1962.

Scheduled Castes Federation

During the Second General Elections of 1957, only two candidates of the Party contested two seats (including one reserved for the Scheduled Castes) of Two-Member Baloda-Bazar Parliamentary Constituency and lost them. Besides this, no elections either to Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha were fought by the Party.

Republican Party

In the Third General Elections of 1962 alone, only one candidate of this Party was in the field to contest election to Lok Sabha from Mahasamund also partially representing Raigarh District. He proved unsuccessful.

Position of the Political Parties, which were in the field of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha General Elections, held during the years 1951-52 to 1971 and 1972 is shown in statements given in Appendices.

Newspapers

According to the available information *Chhattisgarh*, a Hindi monthly, edited by Manohar Prasad Mishra, seems to be the earliest known periodical commenced at Raigarh in 1923. Nothing more is known about vicissitudes through which the monthly passed or the year in which it ceased publication. After a long interval, a weekly called *Adhikar* started its publication in 1950 from Raigarh for a short period. In 1951 *Bapu*, a Hindi monthly appeared from Raigarh. In subsequent period, a Hindi weekly, *Rashtra Kesari* also started publication from Raigarh. In January, 1956, both these papers were incorporated in a new Hindi weekly, called *Nai Baat*. It ceased its publication in November, 1958. In 1953 a Hindi monthly called *Bhuchal* appeared from Raigarh and continued till the year 1954. *Mahabharat*, a Hindi monthly, appeared in 1957. *Nai Baat*, which ceased its publication in 1958, again appeared from Raigarh in 1959. It was a weekly devoted to news and current affairs. It appears to have continued till the year 1965.

The reading public of the District mostly depend on the papers published outside the District within or without the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Voluntary Social Service Organisations

There are a few voluntary social service organisations in Raigarh District and they are rendering social service to the society. Information regarding some of these organisations of the District is given below in brief.

Prominent citizens, interested in social work, felt the necessity of establishing an orphanage at Raigarh, as early as in 1935. They expressed their feelings to the then ruling Chief of erstwhile Raigarh State, late Raja Chakradhar Singh. The Raja in appreciation of those feelings donated a spacious plot of land for establishing the orphanage. The famous litterateur and social worker, Baldeo Prasad Mishra, the then Diwan of the State, lent his full and active support to the cause. Contributions to the fund were collected. Foundation-stone of the building of orphanage was laid by the late Raja Chakradhar Singh and the building was soon constructed. The orphanage started functioning in June, 1936.

The aim of the orphanage is to prepare self-supporting citizens by offering boarding, lodging, clothings, education and training in arts and crafts free of cost, to the orphans, handicapped and destitute children irrespective of their caste, colour and creed. In the year 1966 about 90 inmates, including two girls, were taking advantage of this orphanage, which has an accommodation for 94. It is worth mentioning that majority of inmates belong to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In addition to school education, the inmates receive industrial training like weaving on handlooms and powerlooms, caning of chairs, cutting and stitching of clothes and weaving of *niwar*. Instruction in classical music is also given to the candidates who have a taste for music. A small dispensary and a small library are run for the inmates by the Orphanage. Attention is paid to their physical welfare by providing facilities of medical check-up and games.

The Department of Industries of Madhya Pradesh Government subsidized two powerlooms to the institution and these have proved to be the source of permanent income to the orphanage. The institution also receives recurring grants-in-aid from the Madhya Pradesh State Panchayat and Social Welfare Department and Central Social Welfare Board. There is a separate girls' section in the Orphanage. It was constructed at a cost of Rs. 44,000. Out of this, Rs. 20,000 were received as non-recurring grant from the Central Social Welfare Board.

The value of all assets including movable and immovable property of the Orphanage, in 1966, amounted to Rs. 2,07,645. The Orphanage was registered in 1954 under the Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act. In all there are 907 members of the institution, of whom 59 are life-patrons, 34 life-members 166 associated members and 648 ordinary members.

The Mahila Mandal, the first of its kind in Raigarh District was organised in November, 1954 by some enthusiastic ladies of Raigarh. Its aim is to carry

out welfare activities in society in general and women and children in particular. Since its inception the mandal is taking keen interest and active part in the activities sponsored by the Social Welfare Board. The Mandal started a *Balwadi* and a craft class at Kondtarai, a village about 13 kilometres from Raigarh. Members of the Mandal regularly visit and undertake activities of child welfare, teaching of handicrafts to girls and women, adult education for women, Harijan welfare and social hygiene. The *Balwadi* is attended by 20 students while the attendance in craft class is of ten women and girls.

The Mandal was registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860, in July, 1956, when it started a *Balmandir*, a fully equipped Montessorie school, at Raigarh. The Mandir is known as Seth Kirodimal Balmandir and is attended by about 250 students of the age group of three to six years. It is recognised by the Education Department. The Mandal is also conducting a dance class for the girls and a sewing class, both at Raigarh. Benefit of the former is taken by 25 candidates, while of the latter by 7 girls and women. The Mandal also organise cultural programmes and stages drama. The number of members is 34. The members of the Mandal are also interested in organising Family Planning camps and loop camps. One such camp was held in 1965.

The Mandal is run by a duly elected body. The income of the Mandal during the years 1960-61 and 1965-66 ranged from about Rs. 3,650 to Rs. 7,200 while expenditure during the same period ranged from Rs. 2,300 to Rs. 6,100. The income of *Balmandir* in the years 1960-61 to 1965-66 ranged from Rs. 5,300 to Rs. 13,000 while expenditure during that period ranged from Rs. 7,200 to Rs. 12,300.

Gram Sewa Samiti was first organised at village Kensara in July, 1949. Its aim was to help people of the village in achieving their all-round welfare. Later on, the field of Samiti's activities was extended and the name was changed to Samaj Sewa Samiti with its headquarters at Kensara. This has increased the number of its active members from 9 to 34. The Society runs a night school for the illiterates. A small food bank is established by the society and it gives grains from its store to the needy charging nominal interest. The Society bank had one hundred quintals of rice in store in October, 1967.

To give financial help to the needy, the Society has established a small money-lending firm. It gives aid to the needy on nominal interest. These two are run with the co-operation of villagers. The Samiti has its own small library containing 500 books. It distributes medicines free of charge. Social and religious dramas are played by the drama wing of the Society. Debates and lectures are also arranged from time to time and propaganda against drinks and

untouchability is carried out. Annually about 1,000 persons are benefited by its activities. In 1960-61, the Government gave a grant of Rs. 450 to the Samiti. During the years 1962-63 to 1966-67, the income and expenditure of the Society ranged from about Rs. 2,000 to 2,600 and Rs. 2,000 to 2,500, respectively.

The organisation was established at Raigarh in 1928, with the consent of the then Darbar of Raigarh State. It aims at teaching the students serve the country and humanity selflessly. It has trained nearly one thousand students and cub-masters in the District. The organisation is affiliated to the Bharat Scouts and Guides Association, Madhya Pradesh, with headquarters at Gwalior. It has been registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. It has 117 members and nearly 1200 students are being benefited by it annually. The organisation is confined to the schools of the District.

Bharat Scouts
and Guides
Association,
Raigarh

A Tarun Mandal affiliated to Bharat Sewak Samaj was established at the place in the year 1953. It aimed at training the youth in the work of rural reconstruction. It had a library and a club at the place. It organised cultural and rural reconstruction programmes off and on. The Mandal received grants-in-aid from the Publicity Department and the Bharat Sewak Samaj. The sources of its income also included membership fee and donations. The number of its members was nearly 50. In 1967, the Mandal was renamed as Saraswati Kala Mandir.

Saraswati
Kala Mandir
Baikunthpur,
Raigarh

The Society was established in 1948 with the object of educating the masses through cultural programmes. It organised mythological plays, dramas and *Ramayanpath* from time to time. Its annual income was nearly Rs. 300, which was mainly through donations. The number of its members was nearly 25.

Dramatic
Society, Reda

The Organisation was established at village Lodhiya in 1948. It educates and entertains the public through dramas and *bhajans*. It therefore, organises mythological dramas, *Ramayan Path*, *Bhajans* and *Kirtans*. It is not a registered body and receives Rs. 300 per annum through donations. The number of its members is nearly 40.

Dramatic Society
and Ramayan
Mandli, Lodhiya

The Samiti was established at Raigarh in the year 1952. It promotes social, cultural and educational activities among the people of the District through cultural and social programmes. The annual income of the institution is nearly Rs. 3,000, which is procured mainly through donations and membership fee. The number of its members is nearly 50.

Jeevan Kala
Samiti, Raigarh

Social workers of the District established this Sangh at Raigarh in 1950, with a view to achieving all-round welfare of the Harijans, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The Sangh is independently working under the frame-work of the constitution of All India Harijan Sewak Sangh, New Delhi. The Sangh aims at removing the feeling of untouchability. It also takes interest in education of the boys and girls of Harijans. The Sangh propagates against the habit of drinking and tries to cultivate healthy habits and bring social reforms in Harijans. It also attends to the interests of the Harijans, who are in Government service or employed in local bodies. The Sangh received a small grant in the years from 1964 to 1966 from the Collectorate, Raigarh, for celebrating Prohibition Week. The source of its income is mainly donations and subscriptions from members whose number is about 200. Its branches are working at Kharsia and Gharghoda in the District.

This Organisation, established as the Regional Unit of the Roman Catholic Church, was first organised in December, 1951, with its headquarters at village Kunkari and was registered in 1953-54. Its aim is to serve all in general, and the Christian Tribals in particular, among whom Roman Catholic Church started its work as early as the beginning of this century. It is affiliated to the above-mentioned Church. About 12 Christian organisations are affiliated to it. It works for the promotion of education among the tribals of this region. In 1966, there were as many as 107 pre-primary, 63 primary, 20 middle and four high schools run by it in the region. For students there were 48 hostels having boarding facilities also. For women's education the Diocese established 11 home management centres. About 15,000 students benefited from the schools. In home management centres training in crafts is given for six months.

In the field of public health, the Organisation runs one of the most outstanding hospitals, having surgical, X-ray and pathological facilities. There is also a T.B. ward. Specialists from abroad are on the staff of this hospital at Kunkari. Besides this, the Organisation runs dispensaries at Ginabahar, Ghoeeng, Tongo Ghaghra, Ambakona, Pathalgaon, Tapkara, Jokbahla, Luldula and Lureg. About 25,000 patients annually take advantage of these medical and public health facilities. The Organisation also manages social welfare centres, number of which was about 25 in 1966.

The Organisation is also looking after the co-operative societies, first organised during the World War I, by the Church. It also increased their number and about 6,000 members are on the roll of these societies. Propaganda in favour of prohibition and temperance is carried on by Tapsangh Society among the tribals and efforts are made to develop thrift habit among them. It also tried for the abolition of *betbegar* (forced labour).

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Bagbahar (22°32' N; 83°45' E)

About 77 km. to the north-east of Dharamjaigarh, this large village of Udaipur tahsil is situated on its eastern boundary, and about 18 km. from the east of Ludeg, another village of the tahsil. Buses ply on the road leading to this place.

Formerly it was the headquarters of the zamindar of Bagbahar. Cotton handloom weaving is carried on here on small scale and weekly market is held on Wednesdays. The village contains primary and middle schools, dispensary, post-office, police-station and *gram panchayat* and *nyaya panchayat*.

An annual *vyapari mela* is held here in February. It lasts for two or three days and attracts about 4,000 persons. The area of the village is about 817.06 hectares and in 1961 its population was 1,826 persons.

Bagicha (22°55' N; 83°35' E)

This small village in Jashpur Tahsil is situated on an elevated plateau, called Pandrapat. The plateau is the highest in the District and its climate is very cold in winter and cool and pleasant in summer. Bagicha is connected with Jashpurnagar, the tahsil headquarters, lying to its south-east by a road of the length of 112 km., running via Bataikela, Kasabel and Kunkuri. Buses ply on this road.

This headquarters village of the Community Development Block (Special Multi-Purpose Tribal Block) of the same name was once a seat of an *ilakadar*, who lost his estate by his alleged disloyalty towards the ruling Chief of Jashpur State. The village has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, primary health centre, post-office, police-station, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, cattle breeding unit, rest-house and Deputy Ranger's office. Weekly market is held here on every Sunday. The village, having a population of 286 persons in 1961, covers an area of 360.17 hectares.

Baramkela (21°15' N; 83°40' E)

Baramkela is a small village in Sarangarh Tahsil, about 27 km. to the south-east of Sarangarh, the tahsil headquarters town. An all weather road, on which buses ply, connects this village with Sarangarh.

The village has a big rice-mill. It is the headquarters of the Community Development Block of the same name. An annual fair, called *Gahira Mela*, attended by about 5,000 persons is held here on the 11th day of bright half of Kartika. Cotton handloom weaving on a small scale is done in the village. It contains schools for primary and middle education, primary health centre, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, cattle-breeding unit, police-station, a sub-post office with telegraph facilities and *gram panchayat* and *nyaya panchayat*. Occupying an area of about 325 hectares the village contained a population of 818 persons in 1961.

Bataikela (22°44' N; 83°44' E)

This important large village of Jashpur Tahsil lies to the south-west of Jashpurnagar on the road connecting Bagicha with Kasabel, etc. Buses ply on the road.

Once the village was a gold-collecting centre and a private estate of the heir apparent who had his granary here. Now it is one of the small-scale handloom cotton weaving centres of the tahsil. Weekly market is held here on every Saturday. There are primary and middle schools, *gram panchayat*, post-office, etc. It occupies an area of 2,504.20 hectares and in 1961 it had a population of 2,387 persons.

Bene

A small village in Jashpur Tahsil, it is about 16 km. to the north-west of Jashpurnagar, the tahsil headquarters. It is situated near the bank of the Ib river.

The village, though now a small one, once enjoyed a glory when it was the capital of the Dom Chiefs. There is a beautiful water-fall known as *Beneghog* on the Ib river, near this village. The water-fall is formed by the rush of waters of the river Ib over a square mass of trap rock. The river here rushes from the heights of the Uparghat to the flat region of the Hetghat.

The village covers an area of about 388 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 its population was 276 persons.

Bulga (21°43' N; 83°20' E)

One of the large villages of Raigarh Tahsil, Bulga lies to the south-west of Raigarh Town, on the southern boundary line of the tahsil, demarcated by the Mahanadi.

Originally, it was the headquarters of the erstwhile Raigarh State. For some reasons the headquarters was shifted from Bulga to Raigarh. The head of the erstwhile ruling family continued to observe the old custom of not setting foot on the soil of Bulga. The belief is that any violation of the customary observance is sure to invite a death in the family due to the vengeance of its family goddess, enshrined in this village. Though the deity was regularly worshipped, the then chiefs neither visited the temple nor entered within the precincts of the village. Bulga contained a large number of tanks, water of which was used for irrigation purposes.

The village having a primary school covers an area of 589.22 hectares and in 1961 its population was 1,527 persons.

Dharamjaigarh (22°30' N; 83°15' E)

It is the headquarters of Udaipur tahsil and has a picturesque setting on the bend of the river Mand. Prior to 1948 it was the headquarters of the princely State of Udaipur. It is about 77 km. to the north-west of Raigarh, the District headquarters, with which it is linked by road on which buses ply. It is also joined by roads with other important places of the District such as Kharsia, Kapoo, etc.

Dharamjaigarh is of some commercial and industrial importance, being a centre of saw-mills run by the Tribal Welfare Department, and a production centre of rice, oil and handloom cloth on small scale. A branch office of the Mortgage Bank is located here. Biweekly markets are held on every Sunday and Wednesday. It is the headquarters of the Community Development Block of the same name. Besides usual tahsil offices, it contains schools for primary to higher secondary education, rest-house, public library, public reading-room, hospital, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit, police station, post-office with telegraph and telephone exchange facilities, and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. Dharamjaigarh is electrified and power is available here for domestic purposes.

Raigarh-Ambikapur Diocese of the Catholic Church has one of its centres here, which runs a few charitable and educational institutions such as hospital, dispensary, schools, etc. The area covered by Dharamjaigarh is about 2,923

hectares and according to the Census of 1961, the population of the place was 5,466 persons.

This erstwhile princely State, of which Dharamjaigarh was the headquarters from the year 1876-77 to 1947-48, covered an area of about 2,738 square km. It was bounded by Surguja State in the north, History of Jashpur and Raigarh States in the east, Bilaspur district in the Udaipur State west and Raigarh State in the south. The State was situated between 22°03' and 22°47' N. and 83°02' and 83°48' E. According to legends the area was ruled by petty local chieftains prior to its invasion and occupation by the Rajputs of Raksel family of Palamu district. The descendants of this family ruled over Surguja State which included the area covered by Udaipur State. It is said that, subsequently, Surguja ruler granted the Udaipur territory to his younger brother, whose descendants ruled over Udaipur State. In 1758 these territories accepted the sovereignty of the Bhonslas of Nagpur. By the Treaty of 1818 between the British and the Bhonslas the sovereignty over the region was transferred to the former. The ruler of Udaipur State used to pay his tribute to his sovereign through the ruler of Surguja. In the year 1852, the ruler of Udaipur, Kalyan Singh and his two brothers were imprisoned on the charge of homicide and the State was administered by the British. During the period of the Great Revolt of 1857, the three brothers managed to escape from jail and reaching Udaipur State they again captured power. Subsequently two brothers died and the third one was convicted on charges of revolt and homicide and sentenced to life-term in 1859. In 1860 the State was conferred on Lal Vindhreshwari Prasad Singh Deo, a younger brother of the then Chief of Surguja State, as a reward for the help he rendered to the British during the Great Revolt. Since then Udaipur State was conferred with the status of a distinct Feudatory State and its Chief was authorised to pay his tribute direct to the British. His son Dharmjit Singh Deo, who succeeded his father after the latter's death in 1876, shifted the headquarters of the State to Rabkoba, changing its name to Dharamjaigarh. The family continued to rule the State till its merger with Madhya Pradesh in 1948.

Gharghoda (22°10' N; 83°20' E)

The headquarters village of the tahsil of the same name, it is situated to the north of Raigarh, the District headquarters, at a distance of about 34 km. Regular buses ply on the road connecting these two places.

Industrially the place is of some importance, as a few ricemills are working and kosaweaving is done. At this retail marketing centre a weekly market is held on every Wednesday. It is the headquarters of a Community Development Block. The village contains primary, middle and higher secondary

schools, public library, public reading-room, primary health centre, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit, police-station and post-office with telegraph facilities. Besides all usual tahsil offices, the place has the offices of *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*, co-operative credit society and forest range. Electricity is available in this village for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes. It covers an area of about 842 hectares and had a population of 3,020 persons as per Census of 1961.

Jashpurnagar (22°53' N; 84°08' E)

This headquarters town of Jashpur tahsil, prior to the merger of princely States in the Union of India, was the headquarters of Jashpur State, extending over an area of about 5,045 square km. It is about 211 km. north-east of Raigarh, the District headquarters, with which it is connected by an all weather road on which buses ply. The town is about 144 km. from Ranchi, the summer capital of Bihar.

The Municipal town of Jashpurnagar, being the tahsil headquarters, has usual tahsil offices. Besides those there are offices of Jashpur Development Block, Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil and police), and of post and telegraph. It is an important retail marketing centre, where biweekly markets are held on every Sunday and Tuesday. A branch office of the Central Co-operative and Land Mortgage Bank is functioning here.

The educational institutions of the town include a degree college, run by the New Education Society, Jabalpur, Government Pre-Vocational Training Centre, three primary, two middle and two higher secondary schools, including those run by the Christian Mission Centre of the town. There are two public reading-rooms and a public library. Among medical and public health facilities of the town figure a hospital, a homoeopathic dispensary and a family planning clinic, besides hospital and dispensary run by the Christian Mission Centre. A veterinary hospital, a cattle-breeding unit and a police station are also located here. The town is electrified and covers an area of about 761 hectares. As per Census of 1961 its population was 5,765 persons. A few km. from Jashpurnagar, there is an *ashram* of Rameshwar Kanwar, popularly known as Gohira-guru. He has a large following. Four caves and a motorable road have been built by his disciples through voluntary labour by cutting a long stretch of hill.

This old princely State, lying between 22°17' and 23°15' N and 83°30' and 84°24' E, with an area of about 5,045 square km. was bounded by Surguja

State in the north and west, Ranchi District in the east and Gangpur and Udaipur and Raigarh States in the south. History of Jashpur State Broadly speaking, Jashpur State consisted of almost equal proportions of highland and lowland, which are locally known as Uparghat and Hetghat, respectively.

Early history, if any, of the State is obscure. Legends current locally narrate that the region was ruled by the family of Dom rulers till the middle of the 18th century, when Ray Bhan, the Dom ruler was defeated and killed by Sujan Rai, the founder of a new royal family of Jashpur State. Sujan Rai is said to have belonged to the solar race of Banswada in Rajasthan, governing Sonpur. Sujan Rai was the heir-apparent to the throne of Sonpur. Once, while he was on a hunting expedition, his father died. Sujan Rai's younger brother, in the absence of the former, was enthroned. No sooner did Sujan Rai returned from hunting his brother requested him to accept the throne, but Sujan Rai preferred to be an ascetic. When Sujan Rai happened to reach this part of the country, he found people in revolt against their Dom king, Ray Bhan. Sujan Rai became the leader of the people and defeated and killed the Dom king. Sujan Rai was made the king, and thus he founded the new royal family, which ruled Jashpur State till 1947-48.

Kharsia (22°0' N; 83°S' E)

This municipal town of Raigarh tahsil lies to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters at a distance of about 34 km. by rail. It is the railway station on the Howrah-Nagpur broad gauge railway line of the South Eastern Railway. Prior to the States Reorganisation Kharsia was the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name in the erstwhile State.

Kharsia is now an important industrial and commercial centre of Raigarh District. It has a few big rice mills, bidi factories, *dal* and oil mills and a bone-crushing factory. A weekly market is held at this place on every Thursday.

The town contains several educational institutions which includes three primary, one middle and one higher secondary schools and an arts and commerce college, run by the local municipality, public library, public call-office, post and telegraph offices, police-station, hospital, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit, branch office of the Central Co-operative and Mortgage Bank and a cinema house.

The town covers an area of about 316 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 its population was 7,737 persons.

Kunkuri (22°45' N; 83°42' E)

One of the large and important villages of Jashpur tahsil, Kunkuri, lying about 42 km. to the south-west of Jashpurnagar, is on the road connecting Jashpurnagar with Lawakeda. Buses ply on the road.

It is the headquarters of the Community Development Block of the same name and the centre of educational and charitable activities of the Roman Catholic Mission. Being a retail marketing centre, a weekly market is held here on every Wednesday. It contains schools for boys and girls of primary, middle and higher secondary standards, hospital, veterinary hospital, public health centre, family planning centre, post-office, police-station, *gram panchayat*, etc. A small annual fair is held here in Magha/Phalguna for a day and attracts about 1,000 persons. The village covers an area of about 755 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population was 2,031 persons.

Lailunga (22°25' N; 83°30' E)

Lailunga is a large village in Gharghoda Tahsil of Raigarh District. It lies to the north-east of Gharghoda, the tahsil headquarters, at a distance of about 43 km. Both these places are linked by a road on which buses ply. Formerly it was one of the 34 villages included in the Zamindari of the same name. Lailunga has a pleasant climate even in the hottest days of summer.

Lailunga is the headquarters of a Community Development Block of the same name. Kosa industry is carried on here on a small scale. A large weekly market is held at Lailunga on every Saturday. The village has two primary, two middle and a higher secondary school, public health centre, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, cattle breeding unit, post-office, police-station, rest-house and *gram panchayat*. According to the Census of 1961, the village had a population of 2,068 persons, while its area is about 1,088 hectares.

Lodam

It is a small but important village of Jashpur Tahsil, lying about 26 km. to the north-east of Jashpurnagar, the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by *kutchha* road. It is about five km. to the west of the border of Ranchi district of Bihar.

The village contains ruins either of a small fort or of a palace of a king the dynasty of whom is not known with certainty. Cotton handloom industry on a small scale is functioning here. Weekly market is held in the village on

every Sunday and an annual fair, attended by about 4,000 persons and lasting for three days, is managed by the *gram panchayat* on Magh Purnima (January/February).

The village has primary and middle schools, dispensary, rural health centre, maternity and child welfare centre *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*, branch post-office, etc. According to the Census of 1961 its population was 1,006 persons and the area about 1,405 hectares.

Milupara (21°10' N; 83° 30' E)

It is a small village lying on the river Kelo about 25 km. east of Gharghoda, the tahsil headquarters.

The importance of the place lies in its being the seat of Murgapat, one of the principal deities of the ruling family of erstwhile Raigarh State. It has a primary school and a post-office. The village covers an area of 452.43 hectares and its population in 1961 was 640 persons.

Pgthalgaon (22°25' N; 83°30' E)

It is one of the important large villages of Udaipur tahsil of the District. The village is situated about 34 km. to the north-east of Dharamjaigarh, the tahsil headquarters and about 110 km. north of Raigarh town, on Raigarh Ambikapur road. A road branches off from here to Jashpurnagar. Buses are available to reach Pathalgaon in all seasons.

A weekly market is held at this important retail marketing centre on every Monday. A Community Development Block of the same name has its headquarters here. The village has two primary, two middle and a higher secondary school, primary health centre, clinics for family planning and venereal diseases, post-office with telegraph facilities, police-station, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit, multipurpose co-operative society, a centre of Christian Mission and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. It covers an area of about 1,282 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population was 3,167 persons.

About 11 kilometres away from Pathalgaon is situated the village Kilkila, having a temple of Siva, in whose honour an annual fair, attended by about 4,000 persons and lasting for four days is held during Sivaratri (February/March).

Pujaripali (21°38' N; 83°22' E)

A small village in Sarangarh Tahsil, lying to the north-east of Sarangarh, the tahsil headquarters and a short distance of about one and a half km. to the west of Saria, Pujaripali is quite an ancient place as is clear from the archaeological remains found at the place. A *kutchha* road connects Pujaripali with Saria.

There are three noteworthy temples, now in ruins, which were originally built in large-sized bricks. Two of these temples are still retaining their masonry door-frames. They were built on raised platforms with cell foundations and traces of *chaitya* arch ornamentations at their back and side walls. The *chaitya* roof-like mouldings, which are noticed at Sirpur and Kharod are present here in the plain, heavy convex mouldings of the plinths and cornices. The exterior angles of these temples are ornamented in ribbed design like the *amulaka* (top stone) of a shrine. All these buildings had brick porches with stone door-ways and small dormer windows for lighting up the sanctum. The architraves of these shrines were once supported by carved stone pillars, one of which contained probably the figures of Ganga and Yamuna with umbrellas overhead.¹

The village has yielded an inscription referring to one Gopaldev's itinerary to the various pilgrimages. Pujaripali covers an area of 72.44 hectares and in 1961, it had a population of 229 persons.

Pusaur (21°45' N; and 83°20' E)

One of the important large villages of Raigarh tahsil, Pusaur is situated to the south of the tahsil headquarters at a distance of about 19 km. Both the places are connected by road on which buses regularly ply.

The village, containing a temple of Jagannatha has a number of irrigation tanks. At this important retail marketing centre, a weekly market is held on every Tuesday. Manufacture of brass and bell metal products and cotton handloom cloth are the important local cottage industries of Pusaur. There are co-operative credit society, industrial co-operative society and multi-purpose co-operative society in the village. Besides Development Block office, the village contains schools for primary and middle education, public library, post-office, police-station, etc. It occupies an area of 819 hectares and in 1961, its population was 2,412 persons.

1. Archaeological Survey of India (Annual) Report, 1909-10, p. 16.

Raigarh (21°50' N; 83°20' E)

This headquarters town of the Tahsil and District, both of same name, was also the headquarters of the princely State of Raigarh, prior to 1948. Situated on the river Kelo it is one of the important railway stations on the Nagpur-Howrah main line of the South Eastern Railway. Raigarh is 116 km. from Bilaspur and it is connected by bus routes with other tahsil headquarters of the District.

The town is an important industrial and commercial centre. Among the industrial concerns mention may be made of a few rice mills, saw mills, oil and flour mills, a large jute mill, soap and bidi factories, etc. Small scale industries of the place include cotton handloom and *tasar* silk weaving. It is a flourishing wholesale and retail marketing centre. Cement pipes, camphor tablets, glass bangles and *ayurvedic* medicines are also manufactured at the town. The State Bank of India and the Central Bank of India have opened their branches here while the Central Co-operative and Land Mortgage Bank's head office is functioning at Raigarh. Bi-weekly markets are held at Raigarh on Sundays and Thursdays.

This municipal town has a few important buildings which include Badal Mahal of the ex-ruling chief, circuit house, town hall, which once housed the High Court of Chhattisgarh States, a temple and *Sewakunj* (guest house), the latter two built by the Kirodimal Charity Trust. A beautiful temple is situated in the compound of an orphanage run by the said Trust. The Janmashtami fair, lasting for 10 days and attracting about 15,000 persons is annually organised in August/September by the Trust. The Local *gaushala* too annually manages one-day *gopashami* fair in the month of October/November. It is attended by about 8,000 persons. The *rath yatra* (chariot fair) is held every year in June/July at Raigarh. It lasts for two days and is attended by about 10,000 persons.

Raigarh is electrified and electricity is available for industrial and domestic purposes also. The town contains a number of educational institutions such as primary, middle and higher secondary schools, secondary technical school, polytechnic, Government degree college, Kirodimal Arts and Science college, law college, three public libraries and two public reading-rooms. It has six hospitals, viz., the Kirodimal Government Hospital, police hospital, jail hospital, railway hospital, Ashrafi Bai Maternity Hospital and the Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital. The last two are run by the Kirodimal Charity Trust. Other facilities include a homoeopathic hospital, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, poultry unit, artificial insemination centre, head post office, branch and sub-post-offices, telegraph and public call offices, cinema houses, several printing presses and police station. Being the headquarters town

of the Tahsil and the District, besides usual tahsil and District offices, there are several offices of other departments of the State Government. It is also the headquarters of the Development Block of the same name.

The town covers an area of about 1,668 hectares and had a population of about 36,933 persons, according to 1961 Census.

The Feudatory State of Raigarh extending between 21°42' and 22°23' N and 82°57' and 83°52' E was merged in Madhya Pradesh in 1948. It covered an area of about 3,849 square km. It was bounded in the north by Udaipur and Jashpur States, in the east by Orissa, in the Raigarh State south by Mahanadi and in the west by Bilaspur district.

We have proud records indicating that beyond the historical past, some parts of the State provided shelters to the early man, who left those records of remote antiquity in the form of rock-paintings in the caves of Singhapur and Kabra Pahar (both to be described subsequently).

However, tradition preserved by the ruling family of the erstwhile State narrates, that the Raj Gond family migrated to this region from Wairagarh in Chanda district of Maharashtra State, about the beginning of the eighteenth century and first stayed at Phuljhar in Raipur district. From there, Madan Singh, the head of the family, migrated to Banga of the present day Raigarh District and obtained some villages. From Banga he moved to Raigarh (Rai meaning thorny tree and garh fort) and established this ruling family there. Raigarh was then one of the Garhjat States under Sambalpur. About 1800, Jujhar Singh, the fifth Raja of Raigarh, concluded a subsidiary treaty of alliance with the East India Company on the annexation of Sambalpur by the Marathas. In the year 1833, his son and successor Deonath Singh received in grant the *pargana* in recognition of his services to his overlord, the British, in the form of crushing a rebellion against the British by Ajit Singh, the chief of Baragarh.

The ruling family of Raigarh continued to be loyal and faithful to the British. It rendered a service to them during the Great Revolt of 1857 by helping in capturing rebels like Sundar Sai of Sambalpur and Seoraj Singh of Udaipur and their followers who revolted against the British. In 1867 Raja Ghanshyam Singh, who succeeded his father, was made a feudatory chief. His younger grandson Lal Chakradhar Singh came to power in 1935. This Chief was an authority on music and *Kathak* dance and wrote books on these subjects. His successor and son Lalitkumar Singh agreed to merge his feudatory state in the Union of India in 1948.

Sanna (23°05' N; 83°45' E)

Sanna is one of the important villages of Jashpur Tahsil. It is situated to the north-west of Jashpurnagar, the tahsil headquarters, at a distance of about 51 km. A fair weather road links these two places.

Near the village there is an architecturally beautiful and ancient temple built on a rock which is very difficult to ascend. Though the temple is popularly known as that of Khuria Rani in this locality, the idol installed in the temple, strangely enough, resembles that of the Buddha. The temple, on the ground of its art and architecture, appears to be of hoary antiquity and of Buddhist origin. Sanna was the headquarters of the erstwhile *Zamindari* of Khuria in later period. Whenever a new *Ilakadar* or Diwan succeeded he used to perform worship in the above temple once in his life.

A small local fair, lasting for five days in November/December and attended by about 600 to 1,000 persons is annually held in the village. The weekly market meets here on Wednesdays. The village has schools for primary and middle education, post-office, dispensary, rural health centre, hospital, public library, public readingroom, police station and multipurpose co-operative society. Its area is about 2,593 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 the village had a population of 1,936 persons.

Sarangarh (21°35' N; 83°05' E)

Sarangarh town, situated at a distance of about 46 km. to the south-west of Raigarh, the District headquarters, is the headquarters of a tahsil called after it. Till the year 1948, it was the headquarters town of a feudatory state of the same name. It is linked with Raigarh by road.

The town contains an old temple, dedicated to Samleshwari Devi, said to have been built in A. D. 1692 by a Diwan of Sarangarh State, a palace belonging to the ex-ruling family and a group of temples built on the northern bank of Kheraband tank. Close to the town there is Mura tank, the water of which is used for irrigation purposes. Although situated on the other bank of the Mahanadi and Mand rivers, and not connected with a railway line the town enjoys certain amount of commercial and industrial importance. It is the centre of a bidi factory, two rice mills, cotton handloom spinning and weaving, etc. About three km. from the town, there is a quarry of building stones of dark blue colour, slabs of which are obtained from here for flooring. The State Bank of India and the Central Co-operative and Land Mortgage Bank of the District have opened their branches here. It is one of the important wholesale and retail marketing centres of the District. Weekly market is held here on every Sunday. Sarangarh has a municipality.

As many as four important fairs are annually held at the place. Rathayatra fair is held in Ashadha (June/July), lasting for two days and attended by about 5,000 to 7,000 persons. Dasehra fair, (September/October) attracts about 8,000 to 10,000 persons. Vishnu Yajna Mela held in January continues for six days and is visited by about 1,000 persons. An *urs* managed by Muhammadan community lasts for two days.

The town is electrified. It has three primary and three higher secondary schools, two public libraries and reading rooms, post, telegraph and public call-offices, sub-post office, police station, hospital, primary health centre, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital and cattle breeding unit. Being the headquarters of the Community Development Block and tahsil, it contains Development office and usual tahsil offices. The town covers an area of about 266 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 its population was 9,452.

Extending over an area of about 1,399 square km. between 21°04' and 21°45' N and 32°56' and 33°28' E, Sarangarh was a feudatory state before its merger in the Union of India in 1948. It was bounded on the Sarangarh State north by the Mahanadi and Chandrapur *Zamindari* (now in Bilaspur district), in the east by Orissa, in the south by phuljhar *Zamindari* and in the west by Bhatgaon and Bilaigarh *Zamindaris*, (now part of Raipur district).

A manuscript report of Phuljhar *Zamindari* mentions its name as Sarangpur, which was subsequently changed to Sarangarh after its occupation by the Gond's. The name Sarangarh signifies a bamboo fort, that is Sarang (bamboo) and Garh (fort).

Historical researches, especially plates found at Lodbia, Sarangarh and Thakurdiya¹, go to prove that this region was included in the kingdoms of Mahashivagupta, Sudevaraja and Pravararaja II of Sarabhapura dynasty.² Another inscription of Jagapaladeva, the able minister of Ratnadeva II of the Ratanpur branch of the Kalachuris, testifies that the minister won the fort of Sarangarh for his lord in the 12th century³ A.D. How long it remained with them is not known.

According to a tradition of doubtful authenticity, the Raj Gond ruling family of the erstwhile Sarangarh Feudatory State had migrated to this part from Lanji in Balaghat district. However, in subsequent period Sarangarh was a dependency of Ratanpur Raj in return for assistance rendered to the ruler of

1. Thakuriya plates are in the possession of the last ruling family of Sarangarh Feudatory State.
2. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXVII, part V, p. 267 and Vol. XXII, p. 15; *Journal of the Indian History*, Vol. XIV, pt-II, pp. 465-66.
3. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXIX, pt-VI, p. 150.

Nagpur, Raghuji Bhonsla, when the latter was attacked on his way to Cuttack by the residents of phuljhar at the Singora pass. Afterwards Sarangarh became one of the eighteen Garhajat States subordinate to Sambalpur. Kalyan Sai, the chief of Sarangarh, was recognised as a Raja by the Marathas. Kalyan Sai was succeeded in 1777 by his son Vishwanath Sai a brave and noble minded administrator.

It may, however, be mentioned here that Sangram Singh of this family was the first to be recognised by the British as a Feudatory Chief since 1865.

Saria (21°35' N; 83°20' E)

Saria, an important village of Sarangarh Tahsil, was once a *pargana* headquarters. It is at a distance of about 35 km. to the north-east of Sarangarh and is linked by roads with important places of the tahsil. Buses ply on these roads.

This large village has a cottage industry of cotton handloom weaving. Weekly market is held here on every Friday. It contains two primary, a middle and a higher secondary school, public library and reading-room, branch post-office, handloom training centre, police station, primary health sub-centre family planning clinic, outlying veterinary dispensary and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. The village cover an area of 888 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population was 2,488 persons.

Singhanpur (22°88' N; 83°14' E)

This important centre of unique rock-paintings of prehistoric period is situated about 19 km. north of Bhupdeopur (formerly Naharpali), the nearest railway station on the Nagpur-Howrah main line of the South Eastern Railway. It is now a small village,¹ nestled immediately at the foot of Chanwardhal hill in which a number of caves have been excavated. Some of these were first discovered by C. W. Anderson of Bengal Nagpur Railway, in 1910.

One cave containing paintings of more than ordinary interest, has almost entirely collapsed. The great rocks, which originally formed its facade, has fallen at the entrance. This debris in obstructing the openings has preserved some of the designs. Thus, it is not in the cave but on a part of the surface of the rock, now thoroughly exposed to the sun, that numerous figures occur. Unfortunately the majority of the paintings have been washed off irreparably. Evidently all the scenes depicted were connected with some sort of magic or totemistic rites.²

1. P. Mitra, *Prehistoric India*, p. 460.
2. *ibid.* p. 197.

The paintings resolve themselves into three groups, viz., (a) those on the wall of the cave proper, (b) those on the side of a deep fissure and (c) those on a completely exposed rock surface. The paintings seem to be in two distinct styles and are also possibly of two periods. Those which are presumed to be older are more direct in their drawing and of firmer brush forms. The pigment used for them seems to have been obtained by more careful preparation.

It seems that the rock surface was not specially prepared for the reception of the paintings and the painter according to his fancy seems to have selected portions of the cave, which were fairly smooth by nature. The presumably older paintings appear to have sunk into the surface of the rock more than the other but at the same time, it has not penetrated far into the texture of the rock. The pigment used here is haematite (iron oxide) and it was probably applied by means of bamboo or reed brushes, the implement used being a stiff blunt point. All these drawings are executed in flat washes of one colour, although very indistinct and barely discernible traces of shading and modelling are there.¹

The subjects are (a) hunting scenes, (b) groups of figures, (c) picture writing or hieroglyphics and (d) drawings of animals, reptiles, etc. Hunting scenes depict the chase, probably of bison, and in one drawing, possibly elephants or mammoths. One scene depicts a spirited encounter. Here the hunters are attacking the bison with spears. 'The artist has not graphically drawn one individual in the act of being Oressed, while others may also be regarded as either injured or dead. A small inset indicates the animal severely wounded with spears. Several of the people in such drawings are depicted in "ladder" treatment, some of the men may be armed with bow.' One of the scenes is depicting a hunting tragedy. A man is hugged here by a bear, while with a view to rescue the victim another hunter is shown as attacking the animal in the rear with a club. This drawing is said to be most remarkably similar to a prehistoric painting from a rock shelter at Cogul in Spain.²

There is one perfectly preserved scene depicting a bull or *sambar*-hunting in which people, probably dressed in masks, are seen. Remains of a scene are also there which are very important and interesting prehistorically as these are the outlines of an anthropomorphic figure in a Kangaroo-pose and just beneath probably the faded outlines of a still bigger one. The fact that the painters in Europe have given quite life-like reproduction of Kangaroo-poses in palaeolithic times is of great importance.³

Groups of figures mostly depict people either in the pose of dancing or performing some rituals. A large figure about 10 inches in height, which is of

1. *ibid.* p. 465.

2. *ibid.* p. 196.

3. *ibid.* p. 197.

a gesticulating man, is spirited in action. Some of the picture-writing or hieroglyphics are very intricate in shape, but are largely based on the zig-zag running, generally identified with the Egyptian hieroglyphic for water. The most interesting picture writing of the place is probably of the water-fall. The drawings of animals are life-like and animated. The lizards are distinctly good.

Artistically, though the paintings are not of high quality, spirited expression and spontaneity of treatment are the chief artistic features of the Singhanpur paintings. These are highly interesting, suggesting Australian affinities on the one hand and connections with Eastern Spanish art on the other.

The village Singhanpur covers an area of 179.68 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, the population of the village was 378 persons.

There are other rock-shelters containing paintings of about the same period in the vicinity. They are at Kabra¹ pahar, about 16 km. to the south-east of Raigarh. The paintings depict men in rows; animals, reptiles and beasts in the red colour.

Tapkara (22°30' N; 83°57' E)

Situated near the river Ib this large village is in Jashpur tahsil, on Jashpur Lawakeda road about 15 km. to the north of Lawakeda and to the south-west of Jashpurnagar, the tahsil headquarters. Buses ply on the road. In old days, it was one of the gold-collecting centres of this region.

Tapkara is the headquarters of the Community Development Block of the same name. A weekly market is held here on every Saturday. It has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, sub-post office, dispensary, family planning clinic, *gram panchayat* and *nyaya panchayat*. The village covers an area of 710.22 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 its population was 1,442 persons.

Another village, named Dokda, lying a few km. to the north of Tapkara was once a gold-washing centre. It is also a large village, having primary and middle schools, post-office, a weekly market meeting on Fridays and a population of 2,092 souls as per the Census of 1961. It covers an area of about 2,451 hectares.

2. V. S. Agrawal, *Indian Art*, p. 12.

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TABLE—I

Number of Wild Animals (approximate) as on 1st May, 1966

Range	Tiger	Panther	Sambhar	Spotted Deer	Sloth Bear	Blue Bull	Barking Deer
1. Sarangarh	3	8	20	—	20	8	25
2. Raigarh	1	4	—	8	25	—	15
3. Kharsia	—	4	—	—	10	—	15
4. Chhal	—	3	—	—	10	—	8
5. Gharghoda	—	2	—	—	5	—	4
6. Lailunga	—	5	—	—	4	—	4
7. Udaipur	2	6	—	—	15	6	15
8. Pathalgaon	1	4	—	—	10	4	12
9. Khudia	3	4	Data of deer not available				
10. Nagar	—	4	„	„	„	„	„
11. Narainpur	2	4	„	„	„	„	„
12. Kunjara	10	4	„	„	„	„	„
13. Tapkara	—	—	„	„	„	„	„
Total	22	52	20	8	99	18	98

TABLE—III

Thanawise Monthly Mortality from Wild Beasts
during the years 1963, 1964 and 1965

Thana	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Passaur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gharghoda	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Tamnar	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lailunga	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Sarangarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Baranmkela	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Saria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Jashpur	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sanna	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	5
Bagicha	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pharsabahar	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Kunkuri	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dharamjai- garh	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Kapur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Pathalgaon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Bagbahar	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chhal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Raigarh	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Kharsia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Total	0	1	2	1	3	2	1	3	3	3	1	0	20

RAIGARH

TABLE—II

Thanawise Monthly Mortality from Reptiles
during the years 1963, 1964 and 1965

Thana	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Raigarh	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	1	—	—	—	8
Kharsia	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	4	1	—	—	7
Pussaur	—	1	—	1	2	1	1	1	4	—	—	—	7
Gharghoda	—	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Tamnar	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
Lailunga	—	—	—	1	2	3	4	7	—	—	—	—	17
Sarangarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
Barankela	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	4
Saria	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	4
Jashpur	—	—	—	—	4	3	2	2	2	—	—	—	13
Sanna	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	4	2	2	3	—	16
Bagicha	—	—	—	1	2	3	9	7	2	2	3	—	29
Pharsibahar	—	—	1	3	7	4	14	10	4	2	1	—	46
Kunkuri	—	—	—	1	4	7	6	8	2	—	—	—	28
Dharamjai- garh	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	4
Kapur	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	1	—	—	—	8
Pathalgaon	—	—	—	2	1	8	10	10	2	—	—	—	33
Bagbahar	—	—	—	—	1	4	11	3	—	—	—	—	19
Chhal	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	4
Total	—	2	1	10	26	36	70	62	34	10	7	1	259

TABLE—IV

Normals and Extremes of Rainfall

Station	No. of years of data	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.
Raigarh	50 a	16.3	31.7	20.1	14.2	19.6	229.1	511.3	469.9	258.3
	b	1.2	2.3	1.7	1.2	1.5	10.2	19.5	19.2	11.6
Sarangarh	50 a	15.0	29.0	18.3	20.8	25.7	216.4	434.3	402.6	216.4
	b	1.1	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.8	9.6	17.5	16.9	11.0
Dharamjaigarh	45 a	21.6	36.6	20.6	14.2	17.8	232.7	514.6	492.8	225.0
	b	1.6	2.6	1.8	1.3	1.7	10.8	21.1	20.7	12.2
Jashpurnagar	50 a	27.4	35.8	27.2	19.3	46.2	245.4	490.0	455.7	258.1
	b	2.1	2.7	2.1	1.9	3.8	12.8	22.5	22.1	14.4
Raigarh (District)	a	20.1	23.3	21.5	17.1	27.3	230.9	487.5	455.3	239.5
	b	1.5	2.5	1.8	1.5	2.2	10.9	20.1	19.7	12.3

Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & year**	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & year**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours* Amount (mm.)	Year	Date
54.9	10.2	3.6	1639.2	134(1921)	69(1921)	360.9	1958,	July, 10
3.5	0.6	0.3	72.8					
51.3	13.2	2.8	1445.8	150(1947)	66(1902)	308.9	1937,	Jun. 28
3.5	0.9	0.3	68.1					
64.8	20.1	6.1	1666.9	132(1917)	72(1928)	254.0	1923,	Aug., 22
3.7	0.9	0.5	78.9					
95.0	19.6	6.9	1726.6	153(1946)	77(1910)	209.5	1941,	Oct., 9
5.4	1.3	0.5	91.6					
66.5	15.8	4.9	1619.7	132(1946)	74(1905)			
4.9	0.9	0.4	77.8					

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

* Based on all available data up to 1961.

** Years given in brackets.

TABLE—V

Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District
(Data 1901—1950)

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
1101—1200	1	1701—1800	6
1201—1300	1	1801—1900	5
1301—1400	5	1901—2000	3
1401—1500	11	2001—2100	2
1501—1600	8	2101—2200	1
1601—1700	7		

TABLE—VI

Normals of Temperature and Relative Humidity

Month	Mean Daily Maximum Temperature °C	Mean Daily Minimum Temperature °C	Highest Maximum ever recorded		Lowest Minimum ever recorded		Relative Humidity	
			°C	Date	°C	Date	0830 %	1730* %
January	28.4	13.6	32.8	1955, Jan., 31	7.0	1960, Jan., 25	65	39
February	31.9	15.9	37.2	1955, Feb., 20	9.4	1956, Feb., 10	53	28
March	35.7	20.2	42.2	1955, Mar., 31	13.0	1960, Mar., 7	43	23
April	40.3	25.4	45.0	1961, Apr., 24	18.5	1961, Apr., 2	38	19
May	42.8	28.9	46.7	1956, May, 6	22.8	1956, May, 29	41	20
June	38.6	27.7	47.2	1953, Jun., 3	21.5	1961, Jun., 12	61	48
July	31.5	25.0	38.4	1958, Jul., 8	22.2	1955, Jul., 1	85	75
August	31.0	24.9	35.1	1957, Aug., 22	22.2	1953, Aug., 28	86	78
September	31.8	24.7	35.7	1957, Sep., 1	21.1	1950, Sep., 30	83	74
October	31.9	22.3	36.2	1957, Oct., 12	14.6	1960, Oct., 29	74	62
November	29.8	16.4	33.3	1951, Nov., 1	10.0	1950, Nov., 29	62	44
December	28.4	13.4	31.8	1957, Dec., 13	6.4	1959, Dec., 24	64	41
Annual	33.5	21.5					63	46

* Hours I. S. T.

TABLE—VII

Mean Wind Speed in km/hr.

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
4.0	4.4	4.8	5.3	6.3	7.3	7.0	6.5	5.3	4.4	3.8	3.2	5.2

TABLE—VIII

Special Weather Phenomena

Mean No. of days with	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann- ual
Thunder	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.5	1.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	4
Hail	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Dust-Storm	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1
Squall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Fog	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0

TABLE—IX

Amount of Average Annual Rainfall (mm) and No. of Rainy Days in Raigarh District (1952-1960)

Year	Rainfall (mm)	No. of Rainy Days
1952	1875.7	74
1953	1526.2	72
1954	1213.2	61
1955	1593.0	70
1956	1591.4	79
1957	1134.9	60
1958	1593.7	79
1959	1459.1	70
1960	1537.8	67

TABLE—X

Export and Import of some Important Commodities at the main Rail-heads of Raigarh District

Exports

Name of Rly. Station	1964-65		1965-66		1966-67	
	Quantity (Qunt.)	Amount (Rs.)	Quantity (Qunt.)	Amount (Rs.)	Quantity (Qunt.)	Amount (Rs.)
1. Jharradih	12,929	29,709	10,102	20,325	5,977	10,239
2. Kharsia	4,03,754	13,99,862	3,16,915	8,00,141	2,94,351	6,43,327
3. Robertson	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Bhupdeopur	6,882	32,422	3,222	7,965	2,931	5,966
5. Kirodimalnagar	2,24,364	4,21,722	1,87,762	3,37,270	1,47,620	2,11,902
6. Raigarh	5,62,976	26,09,123	3,48,248	15,85,684	2,36,481	11,24,635
7. Kotarlia	2,709	25,860	1,361	12,437	14,940	65,585
8. Jamga (Jamgaon)	57,105	1,32,542	14,771	38,419	69,658	1,27,230

Imports

1. Jharradih	94	428	101	265	125	218
2. Kharsia	1,38,347	5,23,427	1,21,981	4,28,568	1,74,772	4,40,485
3. Robertson	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Bhupdeopur	3,572	11,470	1,724	5,019	2,138	7,668
5. Kirodimalnagar	27,869	5,241	22,866	4,431	10,540	20,321
6. Raigarh	3,16,952	13,38,363	3,34,771	13,90,579	3,85,144	14,96,354
7. Kotarlia	57	190	255	1,088	350	229
8. Jamga (Jamgaon)	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE—XI

Main Commodities Imported and Exported from Raigarh Municipal area for the years from 1959 to 1965

Imports	(Quant.)						
	Year						
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Salt	39,554	21,420	33,101	36,649	39,094	19,521	42,811
Gram-dal	33,761	1,928	13,642	5,539	5,973	—	—
Bidi leaves	28,009	497	—	—	—	—	7,288
Cement	11,899	30,621	22,602	22,914	12,315	27,864	34,039
Patua (raw)	22,750	19,623	18,449	62,123	23,834	15,558	26,496
Oil	14,355	10,659	10,452	19,061	7,714	5,289	7,903
Potatoes	12,255	17,869	11,519	11,519	10,510	8,782	14,106
Sugar	12,450	6,355	12,095	14,410	8,719	8,576	7,115
Timber-Sleeper	17,022	3,601	11,020	16,209	4,341	7,780	4,319
<i>Exports</i>							
Bardana	19,569	39,530	15,396	13,504	29,971	32,934	22,129
Paddy	32,537	30,280	1,58,036	15,941	—	1,825	3,408
Rice	2,32,770	1,89,832	8,94,863	2,25,155	63,157	2,87,183	1,86,951
Timber-sleeper	30,424	38,778	3,11,647	23,292	25,879	33,727	34,329
Mahua	33,800	16,641	17,248	30,687	34,320	20,864	30,862
Bidi leaves	20,684	77,740	40,462	21,359	28,272	44,839	31,165
Bamboo	14,146	13,439	68,665	1,499	—	—	—

TABLE—XII

Category-wise Employment Position in local Bodies of Raigarh District

Municipality/ Janapad Sabha	Year	Categories									
		Engineers	Overseers	Doctors	Compu- nders	Nurses	Mid- wives	Tea- chers	Office (Admn)	Minist- erial	Menials and Class IV
Municipal Council, Kharsia	1956	—	1	1	3	1	—	34	5	26	65
	1965	—	1	—	2	—	—	21	3	34	68
Municipal council, Raigarh	1956	1	1	1	—	2	2	106	2	22	274
	1965	—	1	—	—	—	—	133	2	32	287
Municipal council, Jashpurnagar	1956	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	10	29
	1965	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	15	29
Municipal Council, Savangarh	1956	—	1	—	—	—	—	22	1	8	53
	1965	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	1	12	59
Janapada Sabha, Raigarh	1956	—	1	3	3	—	—	294	1	9	16
	1965	—	1	3	3	—	—	24	1	9	16
Janapada Sabha, Savangarh	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1965	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	13	12
Janapada Sabha, Dharmjaigarh	1956	—	1	1	2	—	—	220	—	6	23
	1965	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	—	7	23
Janapada Sabha, Jashpurnagar	1956	—	1	3	3	3	—	194	—	8	18
	1965	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	7	18

Source—Respective Municipality and Janapada Sabhas.

TABLE—XIII

Sources of Revenue of Raigarh, Sarangarh, Jashpur, Udaipur States

(In Rupees)				
Year	Total Receipts	Land Revenue	Forests	Excise
<i>Raigarh</i>				
1900	1,31,119	61,874	22,368	11,049
1901	1,10,006	63,145	25,067	16,335
1902	1,50,563	62,791	26,114	18,980
1903	1,21,353	62,818	28,934	25,016
1904	1,54,172	63,066	33,883	29,814
1905	1,60,632	62,805	34,866	34,963
1906	1,70,819	66,382	36,482	39,239
1907	1,79,505	66,454	36,707	43,755
1908	1,81,394	66,469	43,593	46,729
1909	1,95,597	68,703	44,826	51,768
1910	2,38,007	68,803	44,692	60,256
1911	2,58,842	68,853	39,940	62,030
1912	2,81,885	68,891	47,394	69,136
1915	2,19,163	69,125	40,791	65,795
1916	2,34,589	69,348	39,831	69,057
1917	2,65,491	69,410	67,155	76,669
1918	4,01,773	69,309	81,561	77,375
1920	4,90,310	—	93,635	1,26,526
1921	4,55,114	82,828	99,708	1,33,886
1925	5,93,791	1,11,107	1,44,668	1,43,822
1930	6,43,793	1,15,895	1,69,579	1,66,805
<i>Sarangarh</i>				
1900	68,733	32,973	6,039	5,641
1901	—	41,257	6,957	5,326
1902	—	41,646	7,582	6,072
1903	68,320	40,613	7,155	5,823
1904	79,787	49,859	7,812	8,926
1905	85,383	—	8,626	10,029

(In Rupees)

Year	Total Receipts	Land Revenue	Forests	Excise
1906	98,058	50,675	10,017	15,550
1907	1,31,656	51,990	12,410	18,176
1908	1,42,738	53,476	15,663	24,159
1909	1,49,145	—	16,713	18,240
1910	1,33,589	53,466	17,113	17,837
1911	1,32,788	53,064	18,428	17,458
1912	1,29,976	52,968	18,899	16,572
1915	1,68,926	88,407	20,166	17,050
1916	2,05,756	96,841	20,167	20,669
1917	1,94,353	21,095	20,897	19,515
1918	2,11,569	99,131	22,419	22,993
1920	2,63,341	1,05,015	30,155	39,443
1921	2,13,998	96,225	30,873	37,865
1925	2,60,489	1,08,701	25,972	40,085
1930	2,79,606	1,09,649	29,041	38,712
<i>Jashpur</i>				
1905	1,10,467	—	—	—
1906	84,493	38,103	12,025	13,975
1907	1,17,551	38,000	20,280	16,296
1908	96,687	49,456	15,153	16,093
1909	1,22,178	69,876	12,789	16,798
1910	1,27,970	73,935	16,360	19,431
1911	1,47,403	72,968	16,493	26,233
1912	1,63,812	77,386	20,187	30,582
1915	1,51,979	70,547	13,971	49,027
1916	1,79,543	80,029	19,780	52,726
1917	1,96,283	93,184	19,057	59,088
1918	1,85,848	71,658	27,630	42,217
1920	2,28,409	88,127	22,964	57,561
1921	1,65,009	87,439	17,221	31,601
1925	3,44,028	1,06,648	1,06,197	60,803
1930	3,73,820	1,56,062	71,941	82,410

(In Rupees)

Year	Total Receipts	Land Revenue	Forests	Excise
<i>Udaipur</i>				
1905	1,05,904	—	—	—
1906	1,08,085	—	30,000	5,600
1907	1,08,129	49,787	36,932	3,404
1908	1,08,317	46,409	28,269	5,847
1909	1,09,293	46,236	42,795	4,610
1910	1,92,044	46,009	48,193	4,262
1911	1,25,036	46,855	52,494	5,638
1912	1,41,223	55,173	44,218	8,106
1915	1,84,173	21,379	71,181	10,156
1916	2,33,997	21,288	70,287	11,142
1917	2,85,423	21,109	49,853	11,917
1918	1,66,344	21,470	1,17,626	12,690
1920	1,40,203	—	49,382	16,254
1921	1,16,962	43,980	94,780	18,222
1925	1,62,605	40,208	66,704	30,083
1930	1,96,883	47,189	77,116	46,411

Source—The Administration Reports of the Feudatory States for the respective years.

TABLE—XIV
Receipt Under Some Important Sources of Revenue

Year	Union Excise	Income Tax	Estate Duty	State Excise	State Sales Taxes	Central Sales Tax
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1951-52				13,72,736		—
1952-53				15,50,121		—
1953-54				13,10,217		68,387
1954-55				9,67,538	4,32,677	1,68,789
1955-56				10,69,456	5,98,907	3,45,582
1956-57				11,82,913	9,32,984	6,87,806
1957-58				11,75,712	8,55,015	5,12,268
1958-59				12,96,565	13,79,549	5,26,295
1959-60				12,37,984	19,01,578	9,50,726
1960-61	24,42,905	3,03,437	1,000	12,90,443	11,32,264	5,52,768
1961-62	5,98,639	4,39,874	21,047	20,05,397	17,10,008	3,47,241
1962-63	10,56,462	5,85,155	14,100	21,92,225	18,01,785	5,43,577
1963-64	13,31,151	8,19,473	2,335	20,77,139	21,55,008	5,57,737
1964-65	14,70,233	10,32,436	27,480	24,92,046	33,34,593	—
1965-66	13,17,222	10,94,932	4,136	31,88,901	30,70,074	—
1966-67	52,27,180	13,72,411	17,764	32,50,139		
1967-68	—	—	—	41,82,407		
1968-69	—	—	—	44,68,245		
1969-70	—	—	—	43,74,372		

(Contd....)

(Contd.....)	Year	Motor Spirit Tax	Forests	Motor Vehicles Tax	Electricity Duty*	Stamps
	7	8	9	10	11	12
1951-52	95,931	16,26,291				
1952-53	1,02,508	12,07,569				
1953-54	1,07,570	8,41,120				
1954-55	95,206	5,58,547				
1955-56	66,790	6,26,883				2,38,712
1956-57	1,35,494	7,04,858				2,83,245
1957-58	1,37,395	9,65,377		1,10,371		2,83,650
1958-59	2,33,943	11,81,105		1,25,216		3,11,770
1959-60	2,75,422	8,50,782		1,39,406		3,02,198
1960-61	2,38,089	7,29,622		72,356	31,771	—
1961-62	1,82,051	13,98,791		1,71,482	31,036	3,37,817
1962-63	1,85,487	18,32,905		1,86,670	34,823	4,02,106
1963-64	19,121	18,91,420		1,74,644	35,829	4,58,841
1964-65	36,517	20,98,812		1,31,476	45,405	4,83,261
1965-66	1,64,329	40,73,075		1,99,883	55,129	4,95,410
1966-67	2,30,656	30,26,539		1,98,130	65,038	8,20,218
1967-68	1,89,929				72,694	8,88,597
1968-69						8,81,494
1969-70						

* Covers Raigarh, Dharamjaigarh and Sarangarh only.

TABLE—XV

Rural Wages

Year/Month	Plough Men	Sowers & Transplanters	Weeders	Reapers & Harvesters	Herdsmen	Other Agricultural Labourers
June '55	1.00	—	—	—	0.68	1.00
" '56	—	—	—	—	—	—
" '57	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bhaikela	1.00	1.50	—	—	0.75	2.00
Lendra	1.00	1.00	—	—	0.75	2.00
" '58	1.50	1.50	—	—	—	1.25
" '59	1.50	1.50	—	—	—	1.25
" '60	1.50	—	—	—	0.75	1.00
" '61	—	—	—	—	0.75	1.50
" '62	1.00	1.00	—	—	—	1.00
" '63	—	—	—	—	—	—
" '64	1.50	1.21	—	—	1.46	1.46
" '65	1.15	1.21	—	—	1.31	1.46

TABLE—XVI

Number of Prisoners

Year	Prisoners at the beginning of the year	Received during the year	Total	Discharged from all causes	Remaining at the end of year	Total Daily average of Prisoners
1951	92	918	1010	935	75	102.71
1952	75	1425	1500	1335	165	136.75
1953	165	1348	1513	1374	139	143.47
1954	139	931	1070	964	106	102.59
1955	106	862	968	870	98	100.52
1956	98	921	1019	904	115	110.42
1957	115	752	867	754	113	96.46
1958	113	725	838	703	133	111.56
1959	133	910	1043	935	108	116.46
1960	108	1047	1155	1028	127	129.04
1961	127	1088	1215	1090	125	117.25
1962	125	1111	1236	1125	111	109.66
1963						
1964						
1965	142	1244	1386	1293	93	121.27
1966	93	1566	1659	1502	147	128.18
1967	152	1888	2040	1914	126	180.59

TABLE—XVII

Income and Expenditure of Municipalities

Year	Raigarh Municipality		Sarangarh Municipality	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5
1950-51	4,75,614	4,59,943	67,278	57,319
1955-56	7,62,267	4,96,774	1,10,598	1,29,598
1960-61	8,18,146	7,42,064	1,54,721	1,45,255
1964-65	8,47,802	7,68,464	1,69,073	1,44,903
1965-66	8,96,587	10,18,635	—	—
1970-71	9,65,772	10,72,432	3,32,647	3,47,527
1971-72	15,83,067	15,83,067	3,59,750	3,63,013
1972-73	13,66,047	13,55,999	3,99,298	4,65,748

	Jashpurnagar Municipality		Kharsia Municipality	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
6	7	8	9	
1950-51	9,775	17,866	N.A.	1,18,372
1955-56	28,489	26,193	1,89,087	1,51,843
1960-61	35,158	29,915	2,71,411	2,58,060
1970-71	88,321	87,216	5,00,230	5,35,949
1971-72	1,12,713	1,26,752	5,21,553	5,35,372
1972-73	1,53,770	1,31,444	5,15,282	5,34,680

TABLE—XVIII
Expenditure of Municipalities

Year	Raigarh Municipality			Sarangarh Municipality			Jashpur Municipality			Kharsia Municipality		
	Public Health	Public Works	Education	Public Health	Public Works	Education	Public Health	Public Works	Education	Public Health	Public Works	Education
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1950-51	70,040	94,371	1,04,953	25,270	16,309	—	5,504	4,657	—	—	—	42,640
1955-56	85,287	18,190	1,38,407	55,203	9,932	—	5,174	460	—	31,515	25,516	—
1960-61	1,28,488	76,272	2,38,729	55,639	16,390	—	5,595	1,100	—	56,009	29,720	61,943
1961-62	2,12,564	97,415	2,75,361	77,331	28,500	—	5,998	—	9,978	42,205	31,901	86,102
1962-63	2,46,128	50,767	3,20,237	87,232	21,468	—	5,239	936	15,462	44,831	62,282	93,887
1963-64	2,10,542	49,258	2,07,743	2,044	9,210	—	5,872	—	7,069	39,906	46,941	76,291
1964-65	2,22,743	67,397	1,36,490	5,485	8,059	—	8,725	—	1,902	30,705	36,458	90,200
1965-66	2,61,716	68,565	1,36,034	49,201	4,381	—	8,662	1,253	1,532	25,595	85,386	92,718
1966-67	2,74,892	1,03,221	1,11,725	—	—	—	74,300	24	1,540	30,453	47,509	1,20,247
1967-68	2,82,478	1,69,209	1,40,783	66,201	37,643	40,159	10,712	4,277	5,592	41,295	46,021	1,49,857
1968-69	2,61,991	1,27,723	1,62,505	67,277	47,974	35,789	11,316	4,578	4,669	59,515	66,417	1,51,413
1969-70	2,95,190	1,68,720	1,66,968	60,438	16,852	45,892	14,175	5,450	5,551	55,971	41,279	1,83,694

TABLE—XIX

Income and Expenditure of Janapada Sabhas

Year	Raigarh		Sarangarh		Jashpur		Udaipur	
	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1948-49	—	2,27,197	—	38,608	1,00,597	21,760	1,10,233	16,756
1950-51	—	2,58,347	—	2,29,172	1,49,634	1,34,475	1,55,307	1,27,505
1955-56	—	4,21,645	—	3,11,650	3,60,325	3,14,488	2,96,600	2,93,570
1960-61	—	6,73,841	—	3,59,876	4,74,645	3,94,048	3,60,187	3,52,490
1961-62	—	7,55,134	—	4,14,719	5,19,057	4,60,139	3,81,698	3,74,953
1962-63	—	12,04,641	—	3,52,423	6,09,850	5,12,577	6,36,680	3,73,485
1963-64	—	5,66,981	—	5,65,483	3,88,550	5,91,712	3,00,719	5,55,283
1964-65	—	1,49,169	—	89,782	1,73,105	2,90,522	1,14,678	2,50,870
1965-66	—	1,76,999	—	1,78,827	2,14,285	1,85,263	1,24,645	1,19,573
1966-67	—	1,48,437	—	1,15,194	5,22,766	3,35,459	1,03,113	1,17,825
1967-68	2,84,449	3,32,381	1,03,422	1,12,070	2,93,748	3,93,603	2,25,526	1,90,783
1968-69	2,59,622	2,67,883	1,34,742	94,209	3,50,977	3,27,373	1,28,271	1,23,777
1969-70	3,04,699	2,81,973	1,93,832	1,68,057	2,52,275	1,63,298	1,52,861	1,19,923

TABLE—XX

Progress of Girls Education 1951-52 to 1966-67

Year	Category of schools	No. of girls schools	No. of girl students	No. of woman teachers
1951-52	Primary	7	876	43
	Middle	—	—	—
	High/Higher Secondary School	1	57	10
1955-56	Primary	10	1,054	42
	Middle	—	—	—
	High/Higher Secondary School	1	45	12
1960-61	Primary	14	2,406	71
	Middle	1	45	4
	High/Higher Secondary School	3	599	35
1964-65	Primary	39	26,092	212
	Middle	17	1,869	40
	High/Higher Secondary School	6	1,691	67
1966-67	Primary	48	25,868	194
	Middle	22	3,116	60
	High/Higher Secondary School	7	2,605	85

TABLE—XXI

Results of the First General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1951-52 and 1957

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats Allotted	Total No. of Electors	Total No. of Valid Votes polled	No. of Valid Votes Polled by				
				Congress	*KMPP	R.R.P.	PSP	SCF Independents
1951-52								
1. Surguja-Raigarh	2	8,04,512	6,24,338	+	1,48,487	75,074	88,282	—
2. Mahasamund	1	3,92,827	1,59,178	+	90,788	64,341	56,188	—
3. Bye-Elections	1	3,92,827	91,708	+	1,10,886	48,292	—	—
				+	41,770	49,938	—	—
1957								
1. Surguja	2	7,80,916	4,62,295	+	1,51,100	—	33,143	35,122; 39,925
	—	—	—	+	1,28,227	—	36,170	38,608
2. Baloda Bazar	2	8,22,256	5,30,385	+	1,38,872	—	98,520	27,099
	—	—	—	+	1,16,755	—	1,03,867	45,272

* KMPP stands for Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party.
 RRP for Ram Rajya Parishad.
 P.S.P. for Praja-Socialist Party.
 S.C.F. for Scheduled Castes Federation.

+ These candidates won the elections.

TABLE—XXIV
Results of the Second General Elections, 1957
Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha

Name of the Constituency	Total No. of seats Allotted	Total No. of valid votes Polled	Valid votes polled by					Reserved seats
			Congress	Jan Sangh	P. S. P.	C. P. I.	Independents	
Jashpur	2	95,232	41,676+	—	—	—	9,888	1 Scheduled Tribes
Ghargoda	2	65,990	43,665+	—	—	—	—	1 Scheduled Tribes
			19,056+	4,972	6,927	—	—	
Dharamjaigarh	2	73,705	13,850+	4,891	7,685	—	7,608	1 Scheduled Tribes
			16,578+	—	6,496	—	5,466	
Raigarh	1	16,827	25,227+	—	9,633	—	5,158;5,466;5,147	1 Scheduled Tribes
			4,946	1,873	8,104*	1,904	—	
Sarangarh	2	65,447	16,402+	3,065	7,285	—	5,147	1 Scheduled Castes
			24,811+	—	6,149	—	2,318	
Total No. of successful candidates	9	—	8	—	1	—	—	—

+ These candidates won the election.
P. S. P. Stands for Praja Socialist Party.
C. P. I. Stands for Communist Party of India.

TABLE—XXV
Results of the Third General Elections, 1962
Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha

Name of the Constituency (All Single Member)	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	congress	Valid votes polled by					seats Reserved for
			P. S. P. and Socialist	Jan Sangh	R. R. P.	C. P. I. and Swatantra	Independents	
Bagicha	29,094	2,904	—	—	13,842+	—	9,569;2,779	—
Jashpur	23,284	7,754	—	—	10,469+	—	5,061	Scheduled Tribes
Lailunga	23,271	2,881	1,104(PSP)	—	14,005+	—	4,354;927	—
Pathalgaon	22,098	5,073	3,573(PSP)	—	5,692+	1,060(Swa)	3,735;2,965	Scheduled Tribes
Dharamjaigarh	20,380	5,890+	3,071(PSP)	2,962	1,419	862(Swa)	638;1,083;4,449	—
Ghargoda	18,120	6,232+	5,103(PSP)	2,586	4,199	—	—	Scheduled Tribes
Raigarh	29,174	10,327+	7,405(PSP)	802	1,183	—	4,498;2,784;748;515	—
Pussour	31,133	18,301+	2,928(PSP)	1,228	3,036	1,411 (CPI)	2,131;1,033;378	—
Sarangarh	10,832	4,676+	1,180(PSP)	—	2,231	—	2,745	Scheduled Castes
Total No of Successful Candidates	—	5	—	—	4	—	—	—

+ These are successful candidates
Soc. stands for the Socialist Party.
PSP Stands for Praja Socialist Party.
RRP Stands for Ram Raja Parishad.
CPI Stands for Communist Party of India.
Swa stands for Swatantra Party.

TABLE—XXVI

Results of the Fourth General Elections, 1967
Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha

Name of Constituency (All Single-Member)	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Valid Votes polled by				Reserved seat
		Congress	Jan Sangh	P.S.P.	Independents	
Bagicha	26,487	10,413 +	9,704	—	1,666;1,759;2,945	Scheduled Tribes
Jashpur	32,475	14,980 +	10,942	—	1,840;4,713	Scheduled Tribes
Tapkara	26,512	11,011	13,117 +	—	2,384	Scheduled Tribes
Pathalgaon	20,817	12,157 +	3,996	4,664	—	Scheduled Tribes
Dharamjaigarh	30,064	18,031 +	5,563	1,772	403;991;3,804	—
Ghargoda	24,116	6,707	9,406 +	8,003	—	Scheduled Tribes
Raigarh	38,051	11,233	8,487	15,812 +	2,099;420	—
Pussaur	32,415	19,670 +	2,959	—	3,803;5,933	—
Sarangarh	24,531	19,094 +	2,601	—	1,944;892	Scheduled Castes
No. of Successful Candidates		6	2	1	—	

+ These are successful candidates
PSP stands for Praja Socialist Party.

RAIGARH

APPENDICES

TABLE—XXVII

Results of Vidhan Sabha Elections, 1972

Name of the Constituency	Total No. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	No. of Valid Votes Polled by			Independents	No. of contestants
			Congress	Jansangh	Socialist		
1. Bagicha	62,215	37,588	5,359	+15,086	—	11,373;2,165;3,605	5
2. Jashpur	66,678	40,570	+17,685	15,910	—	2,036;658;2,829;1,452	6
3. Tapakara	65,704	33,847	11,223	+17,891	—	1,538;3,195	4
4. Pathalgaon	63,854	30,458	12,806	+13,785	712	825;1,408;922	6
5. Dharamjaigarh	75,666	35,021	+14,688	10,289	562	5,960;1,737;1,785	6
6. Gharghoda	78,146	34,813	+16,992	8,808	—	7,776;1,237	4
7. Raigarh	78,987	41,541	+22,217	—	—	5,269;796;784;10;927	6
8. Pussaur	76,446	30,314	+15,067	12,107	—	1,110;1,245;785	5
9. Sarangarh	78,612	23,877	+8,117	5,267	739	6,808;1,946	5

+ Successful Party Candidates.

APPENDIX—B—1

List of Trees, Shrubs, Climbers and Bamboos

Local Name	Standardised Hindi Name	Botanical Name
1	2	3
Am	Am	<i>Mangifera indica</i> , Linn.
Amaltas	Amaltas	<i>Cassia, fistula</i> , Linn.
Amera	Amra	<i>Spondias pinnata</i> , (Linn. F.) Kutz.
Aonra	Aonla	<i>Embllica officianalis</i> , Gaertn.
Bahera	Bahera	<i>Terminalia belerica</i> , Roxb.
Bandhaa	Tinsa	<i>Ougenia cojeicens is</i> , (Roxb.) Hochreut.
Bar	Bar	<i>Ficus bengalensis</i> , Linn.
Baranga	Pula	<i>Kydia calycina</i> Roxb.
Bel	Bel	<i>Aegle marmelos</i> , Correa.
Ber	Ber	<i>Zizyphus mauratiana</i> , Link.
Bhilwan	Bhiwa	<i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> , Linn.
Bhiwa	Bhitra	<i>Chloroxylon swietenia</i> , D.C.
Bija	Bijasal	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> , Roxb.
Burju	Sehra	<i>Bauhinia retusa</i> , Roxb.
Bikhtendu	Bistendu	<i>Diospyros montana</i> , Roxb.
Champa	....	<i>Michelia champaca</i> , Linn.
Char	Achar	<i>Buchnanania lanzan</i> , Spreng.
Charaigoda	....	<i>Vitex Leucoxyton</i> , L. F.
Chour	....	<i>Salix tetrasporma</i> , Roxb.
Chordhuwan	Jamrasi	<i>Elaeodendron glaucum</i> , Pers.
Chilho	Tondri	<i>Caseari tomentosa</i> , Roxb.
Dagdua	....	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> ,
Deogumhar	....	<i>Premna flavescent</i> , Ham.
Dhanbor	Amaltas	See Amaltas.
Dhaora	Dhaora	<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> , Wall.
Dhoban	Dhoban	<i>Dalbergia paniculata</i> , Roxb.
Dumar	Gular	<i>Ficus glomerata</i> , Roxb.
Galgala	Galgai	<i>Cochlospermum religionum</i> , (Linn) Alston.
Gamhar	Gamari	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> , Roxb.

1	2	3
Ghanto	Mokha	<i>Schrehera swietenoides</i> , Roxb.
Ghont	Ghont	<i>Zizyphus xylopyra</i> , Willd.
Ghui	.....	<i>Ficus cuni</i> , Ham.
Gular	Gular	See Dumer.
Haldu	Haldu	<i>Adina cordifolia</i> , Hook, F.
Harra	Harra	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> , Retz.
Jamunn	Jamun	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> (Linn) Skeels.
Jhingan	Jhingan	<i>Lannea coromandelica</i> , (Hout) Merr.
Jamrasi	Jamrasi	See Chordhuwan.
Kandam	....	<i>Anthocephalus cadamba</i> , Miq.
Kalasisa	Kalasisis	<i>Albizia lebbek</i> , Benth.
Karmi	Kaim	<i>Mitragyna parvifolia</i> (Roxb) Korth
Kamlagundi	Roli	<i>Mallotus philippinensis</i> , Muell.
Karam	Haldu	See Haldu.
Karanj	Karanj	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> , (Linn) Pierre.
Kari	Kari	<i>Millusa tomentosa</i> , (Roxb) J. Sincla.
Karra	Garari	<i>Cleistanthus collinus</i> , Benth.
Kasai	Kasai	<i>Bridelia retusa</i> , Spreng.
Kathal	....	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> , Lamk.
Kathmohli	Asta	<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i> , Lamk.
Kekat	Kekad	<i>Garuga pinnata</i> , Roxb.
Kendu	Tendu	<i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> , Roxb.
Kainth	Kaith	<i>Feronia limonia</i> , (Linn.) Swingke.
Khair	Khair	<i>Acacia catechu</i> , Willd.
Khairi	....	<i>Acacia lenticular is</i> , Ham.
Kharhar	Phetra	<i>Gardenia turgida</i> , Roxb.
Khurlu	....	<i>Gardenia gummifera</i> , Linn. f. t.
Khurdi	....	<i>Trewia nudiflora</i> , L.
Koha	Arjun	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> , Bedd.
Koinar	Koolan	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> , Linn.
Korkut	....	<i>Dillnia aurea</i> , Smith.
Kauagundra	Kulu	<i>Sterculia urens</i> , Roxb.
Kumbhi	Kumbhi	<i>Careya arborea</i> , Roxb.
Kusum	Kusum	<i>Schleichera oleosa</i> .

1	2	3
Laphua	....	<i>Albizzia chinensis</i> , (Osbeck) Merr.
Loou	....	<i>Sumploces racemosa</i> , Roxb.
Machkenda	....	<i>Pterospermum heyneanum</i> , Wall.
Mahua	Mahua	<i>Madhuca, indica</i> Gmel.
Maida	Maidalakri	<i>Litsaea sebifera</i> , Pers.
Makorkeadu	....	<i>Diospyros peregrina</i> , (Gaertn.) Gurke.
Makerkusum	....	<i>Protium serratum</i> , Engl.
Mauna	Mainphal	<i>Randia dumetorum</i> , Lamk.
Mundi	Kaim	See Karmi.
Okharjam	....	<i>Eugenia operculata</i> , Roxb.
Pader	Padar	<i>Steroospermum personatum</i> , (Hask) Chatt.
Padli	....	<i>Radermachera cylocarpa</i> , (Roxb.) Sehum.
Palas	Palas	<i>Butea monosperma</i> , (Lamk.) Taub.
Paker	Pakar	<i>Ficus lacor</i> , Buch, Ham.
Papda	Papra	<i>Gardenia latifolia</i> , Ait.
Pendra	Katul	<i>Randia uliginosa</i> , DC.
Pharhad	Pangar	<i>Erythrina Suberosa</i> , Roxb.
Pipul	Pipul	<i>Ficus religiosa</i> , Linn.
Poyabaranga	....	See Baranga.
Potei	Bhonrsal	<i>Hymenodictyon exvelsum</i> , Wall.
Putri	....	<i>Croton oblongifolius</i> , Roxb.
Rali	Kalla	<i>Dillenia pentagyna</i> , Roxb.
Ratangaura	....	See Chordhuwan.
Rahina	Rohna	<i>Soymida febrifaga</i> , Juss.
Sagon	Sagon	<i>Tectona grandis</i> , Linn.
Saja	Saj	<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> , W. & A.
Saliha	Salai	<i>Boswellia serrata</i> , Roxb.
Salosihar	Cilchi	<i>Casearia graveolens</i> , Dilz.
Sarai	Sal	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , Gaertn.
Semal	Semal	<i>Salmalia malabarica</i> , (DC) Schott & Endl.
Senha	Seja	<i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> , Roxb.
Siras	Safedsiris	<i>Albizzia procera</i> , Benth.
Sishum	Shisham	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> , Roxb.
Tawar	Amta	<i>Bauhinia malabarica</i> , Roxb.

1	2	3
Tend	....	See Kendu.
Tetra	Chichwa	<i>Albizzia odoratissima</i> , Benth.
Tilai	Tilwan	<i>Wendlandia exserta</i> , DC.
Tinsa	....	See Bandhan.
Tun	Toon	<i>Cedrella toona</i> , Roxb.
S H R U B S		
Ainth	Marorphali	<i>Helicteres isora</i> , Linn.
Baranga	....	
Akwan	Aak	<i>Calatropis gigantea</i> , R. Br.
Amat-samant	....	<i>Cayratia auriculata</i> , (DC) Gamble.
Baghmuta	....	<i>Pittosporum floribundum</i> .
Bankapas	....	<i>Thespesia lampas</i> , (Cav.) Daiz. et Gibs.
Bantulsi	....	<i>Daedalacanthus montana</i> , T. Anders.
Barier	....	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> , L.
Bhainsa dahurax	Bhant	<i>Clerodendron viscosum</i> , Vent.
Bhuineem	Chiraita	<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> , Nees.
Bokrakanta	Chotagokhru	<i>Acanthospermum hispidum</i> , DC.
Chukra	Panwar	<i>Cassia tora</i> , Linn.
Chhind	....	<i>Phoeni acarlis</i> , Buch Ham.
Dhawai	Dhawai	<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i> , Linn. Kurz.
Gokhru	Gokhru	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> , L.
Jirhul	Neel	<i>Indigofera palchella</i> , Roxb.
Hundru	....	<i>Wendlandia tinctoria</i> , DC.
Karonda	Karonda	<i>Carssa spinarum</i> , A.DC.
Kharkhich Kanta	....	<i>Minosa himalayana</i> , Gamble.
Korya	Karchi	<i>Holarrhena antidysenterica</i> , Wall.
Patwa	....	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> , L.
Sesapoda	Baibirang	<i>Embelia jeriam-kottam</i> , (R&S) A. DC.
Sindwair	Nirgudi	<i>Vitex negundo</i> , Linn.

1	2	3
CLIMBERS		
Amarbel	Amarbel	<i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> , Roxb.
Bauda	Bandha	<i>Scurrula philipensis</i> , G. Don. (Chan & Schlecht.)
Bendo	....	<i>Butea parviflora</i> , Roxb.
Chahur	....	<i>Tinospora</i> sp.
Dhote	....	<i>Ampelocissus tomentosa</i> , Planch.
Dodrange	Palasbel	<i>Butea superba</i> , Roxb.
Dudhmogra	Nagbel	<i>Cryptolopis buchmani</i> , R. & S.
Garanj	Gurar	<i>Acacia caesia</i> , W. & A.
Gurar	Gauj	<i>Milletia auriculata</i> , Baker.
Kargikanta	....	<i>Asparagus</i> , spp.
Kimach	Kewach	<i>Mucuna pruri</i> , Hook.
Kujuri	Malkangni	<i>Celastrus paniculata</i> , Willd.
Patakumhra	....	<i>Ipomea digitata</i> , L.
Palasbel	Palasbet	See Dodrange.
Panila	....	<i>Vitis repanda</i> , W. & A.
Parhi	....	<i>Cissampelos pareira</i> , L.
Pitharoo	....	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> , L.
Raidaton	....	<i>Scheffera venulosa</i> , Herms.
Rampawan	Ramdaton	<i>Smilax macrophylla</i> , Roxb.
Sihar	Mahul	<i>Banbinia vahlii</i> , W. & A.
Keonti	....	<i>Ventilago calyculata</i> , Tul.

GRASSES

Badopunchi	....	<i>Echinochloa crus-galli</i> , Beauv.
Basnatati	Rusa	<i>Cymbopogon martini</i> , Wats.
Chero	....	<i>Imperata arundinacea</i> , Cyrill.
Chorkanta	....	<i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i> , Trin.
Damra	....	<i>Setaria glauca</i> , Beauv.
Dinarghas	....	<i>Chloris incompleta</i> , Roth.
Dub	Dooh	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> , Pers.
Ghada-punchi	....	<i>Aristida setacea</i> , Retz.

1	2	3
Jheepa	Sama	<i>Echinochloa colona</i> , Link.
Kakai	Phulbahri	<i>Thysanolaena maxima</i> , O. Kuntz.
Kansi	Kans	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i> , Linn.
Kodo	....	<i>Paspalidium flavidum</i> , Stapf.
Marbel	Marwel	<i>Dicanthium annulatum</i> , Stapf.
Phulbahari	Phulbahari	See Kakai.
Pudlasi	Bhurbhusi	<i>Eragrostis tenella</i> , Link.
Rantha	Gunhar	<i>Themeda quadrivalvis</i> , O. Kuntz.
Rusa	Rusa	See Basnatati.
Sabai	Sabai	<i>Eulaliopsis binata</i> , C. E. Rubb.
Sukra	Kusul	<i>Heteropogon contortus</i> , Beauv.

BAMBOOS

Desibans	.....	<i>Bambusa tulda</i> , Roxb.
Paharibans	Bans	<i>Dendrocalamus strictus</i> , Nees.

APPENDIX—B—II

List of Fishes and Watery Animals

1. Carps—

(A) Major carps,

1. Catla catla.
2. Labio rohita.
3. Cirrhina mrigala
4. Labio calbasu
5. Barbus tor

(B) Minor carps

1. Barbus ticto
2. „ stigma
3. Chela bacaila
4. Rasbora daniconius

2. Cat Fishes—

1. Wallagonia attu
2. Mystus seenghala
3. Silonia silundia
4. Mystus blekeril

3. Feather backs—

1. Notopterus notopterus
2. „ „ chitala

4. Murels—

1. Ophicephalus striatus
2. „ „ merulius
3. „ „ gachua
4. „ „ punctatus

5. Live fishes—

1. Heteropneustes fossilis
2. Clarius magur

6. Others—

(b) Shell fishes—

(c) Prawn & Crabs

(d) Amphibia—

Frogs & Toads—

(e) Reptiles—

(f) Aves—

1. Glassogobius girus

1. Bivalves Species not specified

2. Lnails „ „ „

„ „ „

„ „ „

„ „ „

1. Water snakes „ „

2. Turtles „ „ „

3. Crocodiles not recorded

1. Starks, oromanuts.

2. King fishers, ducks,
Black fowl...

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Kedar Nalla Project	Sarangarh	9/59	6/68	95.75	11,500
Minor Irrigation Works						
26.	Dedki Div. Scheme	Kashpur	1/61	6/67	1.81	900
Irrid Plan Work Spilled Over To IVth Plan						
27.	Tiwari Nalla Div. Sch.	Jashpur	1/63	6/67	2.50	1,300
28.	Khutitoli Div. Scheme	"	3/63	6/67	1.84	250
29.	Dewarpali tank	Sarangarh	2/65	6/67	0.90	120
30.	Ameri tank	"	11/65	6/67	1.00	255
31.	Chhal tank	Dharamjaigarh	2/63	4/67	4.25	300
32.	Purena tank	Raigarh	1/63	6/67	0.80	68
33.	Guljharia Div. Sch.	"	3/63	3/69	2.42	1,200
34.	Kolanga Div. Scheme	"	3/63	3/69	2.54	680
35.	Ghoghara Nalla Div. Sch.	Sarangarh	12/66	3/69	1.75	680
36.	Jhampi Nalla Div. Sch.	Dharamjaigarh	3/66	3/69	2.35	375
37.	Raidih Div. Scheme	Jashpur	2/62	3/69	0.70	225
Scarcity Works						
38.	Gudihari tank	Sarangarh	2/66	6/67	0.31	165
39.	Loong tank	Raigarh	2/66	6/66	0.13	60
40.	Pukapuri tank	Raigarh	2/66	5/66	0.06	15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
41.	Tinmini tank	Raigarh	4/66	4/67	0.17	200
42.	Rani Sagar tank	Sarangarh	2/66	4/67	0.15	55
43.	Banjari tank	"	2/66	2/67	0.39	120
44.	Rewapara tank	"	2/66	2/67	0.37	175
45.	Reda tank	"	2/66	3/67	0.49	100
46.	Kosir tank	"	2/66	2/67	0.31	120
47.	Amurah tank	"	2/66	6/67	0.36	262
48.	Kasturnal tank	"	2/66	6/69	0.30	60
49.	Kalmi tank	"	2/66	2/68	0.18	60
50.	Chichour Umaria tank	Raigarh	4/66	5/67	0.29	160
51.	Ruchida tank	"	4/66	3/68	0.22	150
52.	Sonbala tank	Sarangarh	1/67	6/69	0.36	70
53.	Dulapali tank	"	1/67	6/68	0.46	70
54.	Amethi tank	"	1/67	6/68	0.37	96
55.	Bardula tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.46	95
56.	Girihapali tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.46	70
57.	Kankasagar tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.50	50
58.	Munglipali tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.44	75
59.	Manikpur tank	"	2/67	3/69	0.41	78
60.	Deogaon tank	"	2/67	6/69	0.35	90
61.	Sorro Div. Scheme	Jashpur	5/67	6/69	0.35	180
62.	Binjora Div. Scheme	"	5/67	10/66	0.98	300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
63.	Lakha Div. Scheme	Raigarh	5/67	3/69	0.94	170
64.	Katangi Div. Scheme	Sarangarh	2/67	3/70	2.36	3,340
65.	Ghogri Div. Scheme	Jashpur	5/67	3/70	3.33	1,200
66.	Rajpuri Extension Sch.	Jashpur	2/67	3/70	3.23	1,500
Grant in-Aid Works						
67.	Tarkela tank	1. Raigarh	2/67	6/68	0.50	1,120
68.	Lara tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.19	140
69.	Mansatar tank	"	2/67	3/68	0.40	1,350
70.	Kondapali tank	"	2/67	6/68	0.13	230
71.	Paraskil tank	2. Sarangarh	5/67	3/68	0.40	92
72.	Kharri tank	"	1/67	6/68	0.22	149
73.	Uchibhatti tank	"	2/67	3/69	0.33	86
74.	Jangaon tank	1. Raigarh	1/72	1972	0.22	140
75.	Chirbhawna tank	Sarangarh	1/72	1972	0.20	330
76.	Kasaiya tank	"	1/72	1972	0.25	140
77.	Narayanpura tank	Jashpur	1/72	1972	0.04	220
78.	Gadnurua tank	1. Raigarh	1/73	1973	0.42	5050
79.	Kensara tank	"	1/73	1973	0.41	5150
80.	Kotasura tank	"	1/72	1973	1.03	95
81.	Kotamara tank	"	1/72	1973	0.95	95
82.	Bandhawan tank	"	1/73	1973	0.28	50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
83.	Gidha tank	"	1973	1973	0.80	85
84.	Bansajhar tank	Raigarh	1973	1973	0.80	95
85.	Chhipali tank	Sarangarh	1972	1973	1.03	80
86.	Selhebhawna tank	"	1972	1973	0.72	70
87.	Kanchanpur (Saria) tank	"	1973	1973	0.59	55
88.	Kanchanpur (Barankela) tank	"	1973	1973	0.80	70
89.	Sakka tank	"	1972	1973	0.08	95
90.	Linjhir tank	"	1973	1973	0.38	62
91.	Jashpur tank	"	1973	1973	0.54	80
92.	Munund tank	"	1973	1973	0.35	50
93.	Bipatpur tank	Dharanjigarh	1973	1973	0.25	50
94.	Manora Div. Scheme	Jashpur	1973	1973	0.50	96
95.	Itasilli Div. Sch.	Jashpur	1973	1974	0.30	60
96.	Ticket Ganj tank	"	1972	1974	1.07	70
97.	Kumkuri Div. Scheme	"	1972	1974	1.97	300
98.	Kantabel Div. Scheme	"	1974	1974	0.50	100
99.	Sajbahar tank	"	1974	1974	0.48	150
100.	Banki Div. Scheme	"	1973	1974	1.66	200
101.	Sangul Div. Scheme	"	1970	1973	5.75	1,700
102.	Bharari Div. Scheme	"	1971	1974	4.43	900
103.	Tipakhet tank	Raigarh	1/67	1975	22.93	1700
104.	Nawapara Div. Scheme	Gharghoda	3/73	1975	2.58	250

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
105.	Chini Div. Sch.	Dharamjaigarh	1970	1975	3.91	900
106.	Ibb Div. Scheme	Jashpur	1971	1975	16.93	8210
107.	Binjot Div. Scheme	Raigarh	3/74	1975	1.07	250
108.	Deepapara tank	"	3/75	10/75	0.71	70
109.	Pusalda tank	"	1/75	10/75	1.10	100
110.	Panikhet Div. Scheme	Dharamjaigarh	2/75	9/75	2.00	750
111.	Saria tank	Sarangarh	3/73	1973	0.63	100
112.	Tosir tank	"	3/73	1974	0.87	195
113.	Bhalumunda tank	"	3/72	1974	0.62	150
114.	Patharipalia Div. Scheme	"	3/74	1975	1.20	200
115.	Katoli Div. Scheme	"	4/74	1975	1.47	200
116.	Jabalpur Div. Scheme	Raigarh	9/72	1974	1.10	150
Work Under Construction Medium						
1.	Putka tank Project	Sarangarh	1973	—	82.25	5500
2.	Kinkari Nalla tank Proj.	"	1973	—	115.83	10000
Minor						
1.	Bilaspur tank	Raigarh	10/75	3/76	22.98	1935
2.	Gindola tank	"	1/75	6/76	2.00	200
3.	Kokanitarai tank	"	2/75	6/78	23.81	1650
4.	Rhagora tank	"	2/73	3/76	2.96	210

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Jhalmala tank	"	4/75	6/76	0.55	50
6.	Krishnapur tank	"	2/75	5/76	2.00	180
7.	Maini Div. Scheme	Sitapur	2/73	6/77	24.00	2500
8.	Mahua Div. Scheme	Jashpur	2/73	6/76	6.11	650
9.	Tumbajore Div. Scheme	"	11/75	6/79	7.69	1000
10.	Bala Div. Scheme	"	4/74	—	3.03	850
11.	Panchdhar Div. Scheme	Sarangarh	2/75	—	1.60	150
12.	Balachhapar tank	Jashpur	2/75	—	1.93	150
13.	Dongilhiran Div. Scheme	Jashpur	2/75	3/77	1.93	203

APPENDIX—B—IV

Situation of Rest Houses and Circuit House

S/ No.	Name of Tahsil	Situation of Rest Houses, etc.	Category of Accommodation	Situation on the road	Department responsible for maintenance
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Raigarh	Raigarh (Circuit House) Raigarh (Rest House) Kharsia (-do-)	7 Room 6 " 3 "	Chandmani Raigarh Jashpur Dharamjaigarh-Kharsia	P.W.D. (B&R)
3.	Ghargoda	Ghargoda Lailunga	2 " 2 "	Raigarh-Jashpur Ghanghoda Lailunga	
3.	Dharamjaigarh	Dharamjaigarh Patralgaon	2 " 2 "	Raigarh-Jashpur —do—	
4.	Jashpurnagar	Jashpurnagar Sanna Lodam Lawakera Kurkuri Kansabel Bandarchera Bagicha	4 " 2 " 2 " 2 " 2 " 2 " 2 " 2 "	—do— Jashpur Sanna Jashpur-Gumla Kunkrni-Lawakera —do— & Raigarh-Jashpur Raigarh-Jashpur II —do— Kansable-Bagicha Road	
4.	Sarangarh	Sarangarh	2 " 2 " 2 "	Raigarh-Sarangarh-rd. to Chandpur	

RAIGARH

APPENDIX—B—V

Situation of Ferries

S. No.	Tahsil	Place of Ferry (name)	Name of road on which situated	Remarks
1.	Raigarh and Sarangarh	Surajgarh	M. 17 F. 5 of Raigarh-Surangarh road	All weather ferry
2.	Raigarh & Sakti	Nadiagaon Mandi Ghat		
3.	Raigarh and Sakti	Brilaigarh Mand River Ghat	M. 17 F. 5 of Raigarh Sarangarh road	Ferry from June to December
4.	Sakti and Sarangarh	Chandanpur Mahanadi Ghat	M. 19 F. 8 to 8 of Raigarh-Sarangarh Road	—do—
5.	Dharamjaigarh	Donga Ghat (Mand River) Dharamjaigarh	M. 1 Dharamjaigarh Kapur Road	—do—
6.	Dharamjaigarh	Kilkila Ghat Mand River	Pathalgaon-Kapur road	—do—
7.	Jashpur and Gumla	Sankh river	M. 20F 4 of Jashpur-Gumla road	—do—

APPENDICES

APPENDIX—B—VI

Conversion Table

I. WEIGHTS

Table

10 milligrams (mg)	=1 centigram
10 centigrams	=1 decigram
10 decigrams	=1 gram (1 g=1000 mg)
10 grams	=1 dekagram
10 dekagrams	=1 hectogram
10 hectograms	=1 kilogram (1 kg=1000 g)
10 kilograms	=1 myriogram
10 myriograms	=1 quintal
10 quintals	=1 metric tonne (1 tonne=1000 kg)

From old units to new units:

1 Tola	=11.66 grams
1 Chhatak	=58.32 grams
1 Seer	=933.10 grams
1 Maund	=37.32 Kg.
1 Grain	=0.0648 gram
1 Ounce	=28.35 grams
1 Pound	{ =453.59 grams =453.59 Kg.
1 Quarter	=12.706 kg.
1 Handerweight	=50.80 kg.
1 Ton	=1016.05 kg.

From new units to old units:

1 Gram	{ =0.085735 tola =15.4324 grams =0.0352740 ounce
1 Kilogram	{ =1.07169 Seer =2.20462 lbs.
1 Quintal	{ =2.67923 maunds =220.46 lbs.
1 Metric tonne	{ =26.7923 maunds =0.9842 ton

II. LENGTH

Table

10 millimetres (mm)	=1 centimetre (cm)
10 centimetres	=1 decimetre
10 decimetres	=1 metre (1m=100cm=1000mm)

10 metres	=1 dekametre
10 dekametres	=1 hectometre
10 hectometres	=1 kilometre (1 km=1000 m)

From old units to new units:

1 inch	{ =2.54 cms. =25.4 mms. =0.0254 m.
1 foot	{ =30.48 cms. =0.3048 m.
1 yard	{ =91.44 cms. =0.9144 m
1 furlong	=201.168 m.
1 mile	{ =1.609344 km. =1609.344 m.
1 chain	=20.1168 m.

From new units to old units:

1 mm.	=0.0394 inch
1 cm.	=0.393701 inch
1 decimetre	=3.937 inch
1 m.	{ =1.09361 yds. =3.28084 feet =39.3701 inches =0.0497097 chain =0.00497097 furlong
1 hectometre	=0.06173 mile
1 kilometre (km)	=0.62137 mile

III. CAPACITY

Table

10 Millilitres (ml)	=1 centilitre
10 centilitres	=1 decilitre
10 decilitres	=1 litre (1 L=1000 ml.)
10 litres	=1 dekalitre
10 dekalitres	=1 hectolitre
10 hectolitres	=1 kilolitre

From old units to new units:

1 Ounce	=28 ml (to the nearest ml.)
1 gill	=142 ml. (to the nearest ml.)
1 pint	{ =568 ml (to the nearest ml.) =0.56825 L
1 quart	{ =1 litre and 136 ml. (do) =1.13649 L
1 gallon	=4.54596 L
1 liquid seer	=940 ml. (to the nearest 10 ml.)

From new units to old units:

1 litre	=1.75980 pints
	=0.87990 quart
	=0.219975 gallon
	=1.1 liquid seer—(Approx)
	=35 liquid ounces (do)
	=1000.028 cubic centimetres
	=85.735 tolas of pure water
	=61.025 cubic inches
1 kilolitre	=1.000028 cubic decimetres
	=1.000028 cubic metres

IV VOLUME

Table

1000 cubic millimetres	=1 cubic centimetre
1000 cubic centimetres	=1 cubic decimetre
1000 cubic decimetres	=1 cubic metre

From old units to new units

1 cubic inch	=16.3871 cubic centimetres
1 cubic foot	{ =28.3168 cubic decimetres =28.316 litres
1 cubic yard	=0.76455 cubic metre
1 gallon	{ =0.00454609 cubic metre =4.5496 litres =4.54609 cubic decimetres
1 ounce	=28.4132 cubic centimetres
1 gill	=142.066 cubic centimetres
1 pint	{ =568.2440 cubic centimetres =0.56825 litre
1 quart	=1.1365 litres
1 litre	{ =1000.028 cubic centimetres =1.000028 cubic decimetres

From new units to old units:

1 cubic centimetre	{ =0.061024 cubic inch =0.0070390 gill =0.0351949 ounce
1 cubic decimetre	{ =0.0353147 cubic foot =0.219969 gallon =0.99997 litre
1 cubic metre	{ =35.315 cubic foot =1.30795 cubic yard =219.969 gallon =0.99997 kilolitre

V AREA

Table

100 square millimetres	=1 square centimetre
100 square cm.	=1 square decimetre
100 square decimetres	=1 sq. metre (1 sq. m.=10000 sq. cm.)
100 sq. metres	=1 acre or 1 sq. dekametre
100 acres	=1 hectare of 1 sq. hectometre (1 hectare (ha)=10000 sq. m)
100 hectares	=1 square kilometre

From old units to new units:

1 sq. inch	{ =6.4516 sq. cm. =0.00064516 sq. m.
1 sq. foot	{ =929.03 sq. cm. =0.092903 sq. m. =9.2903 sq. decimetr
1 sq. yard	{ =0.83613 sq. metre =0.00831613 acre
1 cent	=40.4686 sq. metres
1 sq. chain	=404.686 sq. metres
1 acre (4840 sq. Yds or 10 sq. chains)	{ =0.404686 hectare =40.4686 acres
1 sq. mile (640 acres)	{ =258.999 hectares =2.58999 sq. kilometres

From new units to old units:

1 square cm.	=0.155000 sq. inch
1 sq. metre	{ =1550.00 sq. inch =10.7639 sq. foot =1.19599 sq. yard
1 acre	{ =119.599 sq. yard =0.0247105 acres
1 hectare	=2.47105 acres
1 sq. kilometre	=0.386101 sq. mile

List of Freedom Fighters

Sl. No.	Name of Freedom Fighter	Term of Imprisonment
1.	Shri Amarnath Tiwari S/o Shri Makhan Lal Tiwari, Raigarh	4-11-1941 to 6-5-1944
2.	Shri Bharat Chandra Kabra S/o Shri Prabhulal Kabra, Jashpur Nagar	10-9-1942 to 22-1-1944
3.	Shri Ayodhya Prasad Jain S/o Shri Mohanlal Jain, Raigarh	7-10-1930 to 19-2-1931
4.	Shri Daya Shankar Mishra S/o Shri Mitthulal Mishra, Daripara, Raigarh	18-9-1933 to Feby 1934
5.	Shri Bande Ali Fatmi, S/o Shri Seth Mulla Fakruddin, Ramgudipara, Raigarh	Not available
6.	Shri Bora S/o Shri Sakhi Ram Gada village-Laldhua, Tahsil Sarangarh	—do—

List of Freedom Fighters who participated in
the Goa Movement in 1955.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Shri Banarsi Lal Tiwari S/o Shri Murari Lal
Tiwari, Raigarh | — |
| 2. | Shri Ram Kishan Luteriya S/o Shri Parsadi Lal,
Kevdawadi, Raigarh. | — |

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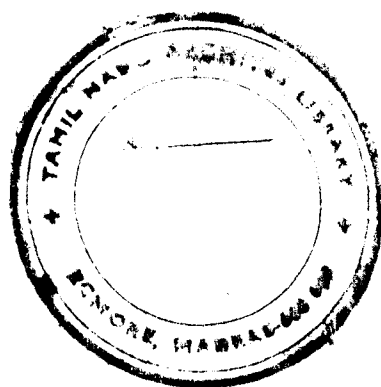
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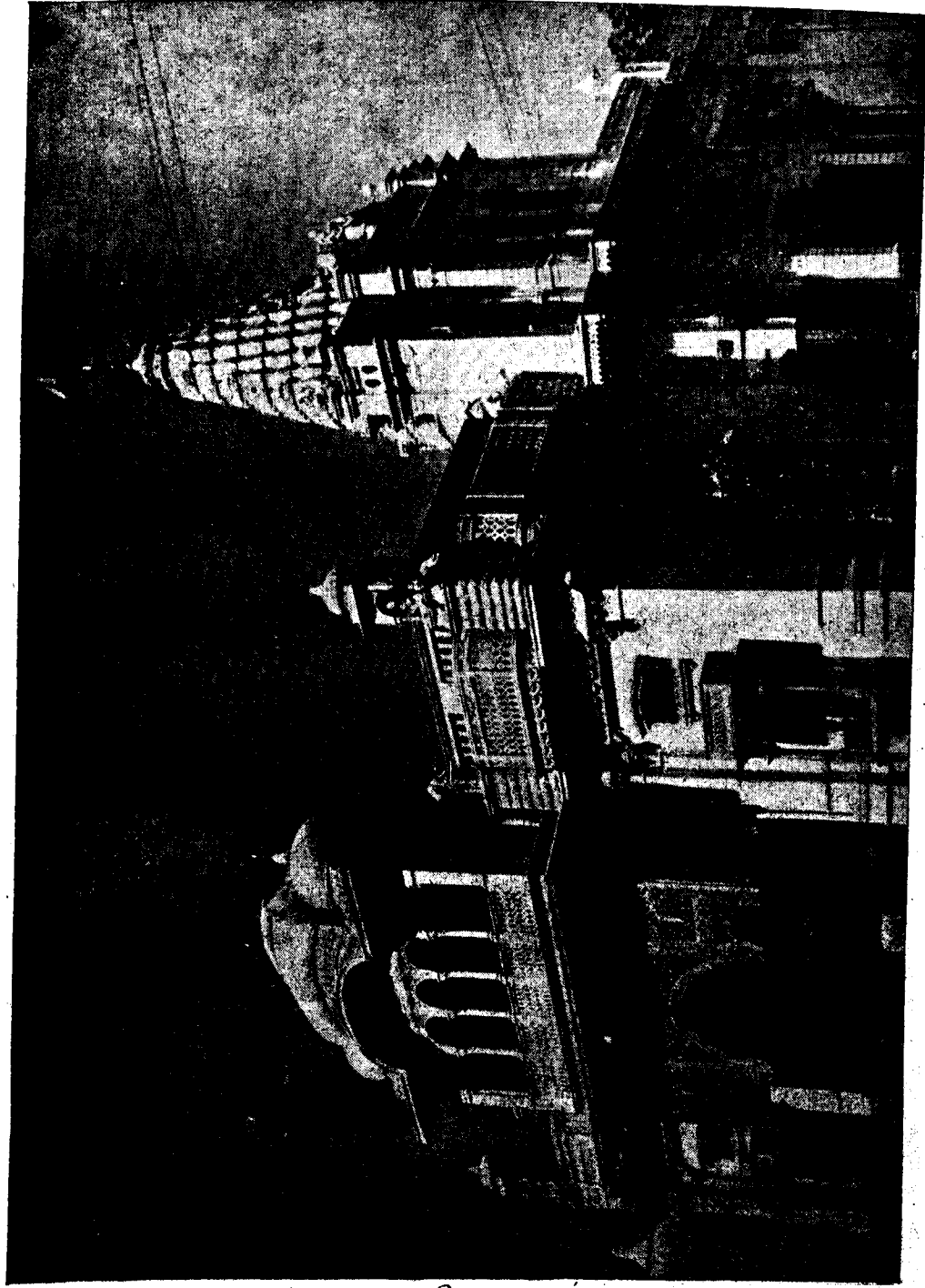
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52	F. N. 5	1	p.01	p. 301
53	last	last	she	the
55	4	4	Harijan	Ayodhya Prasad Jain, Bora Harijan
	5	3	leaders	leaders, including Amarnath Tiwari and Bharat Chandra Kabra.
63	1	11	Assia	Asia
71	3	1	Griya	Oriya
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101	3	4	rock	cock
104	2	4	that one	that as one
105	1	1	hectares acres	hectares
110	5	3	Sugarcane 2, 660ha	2, 660 ha and sugarcane
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120	1	2	types are	types which are
122	2	14	for head	per head
127	3	3	rindersest	rinderpest
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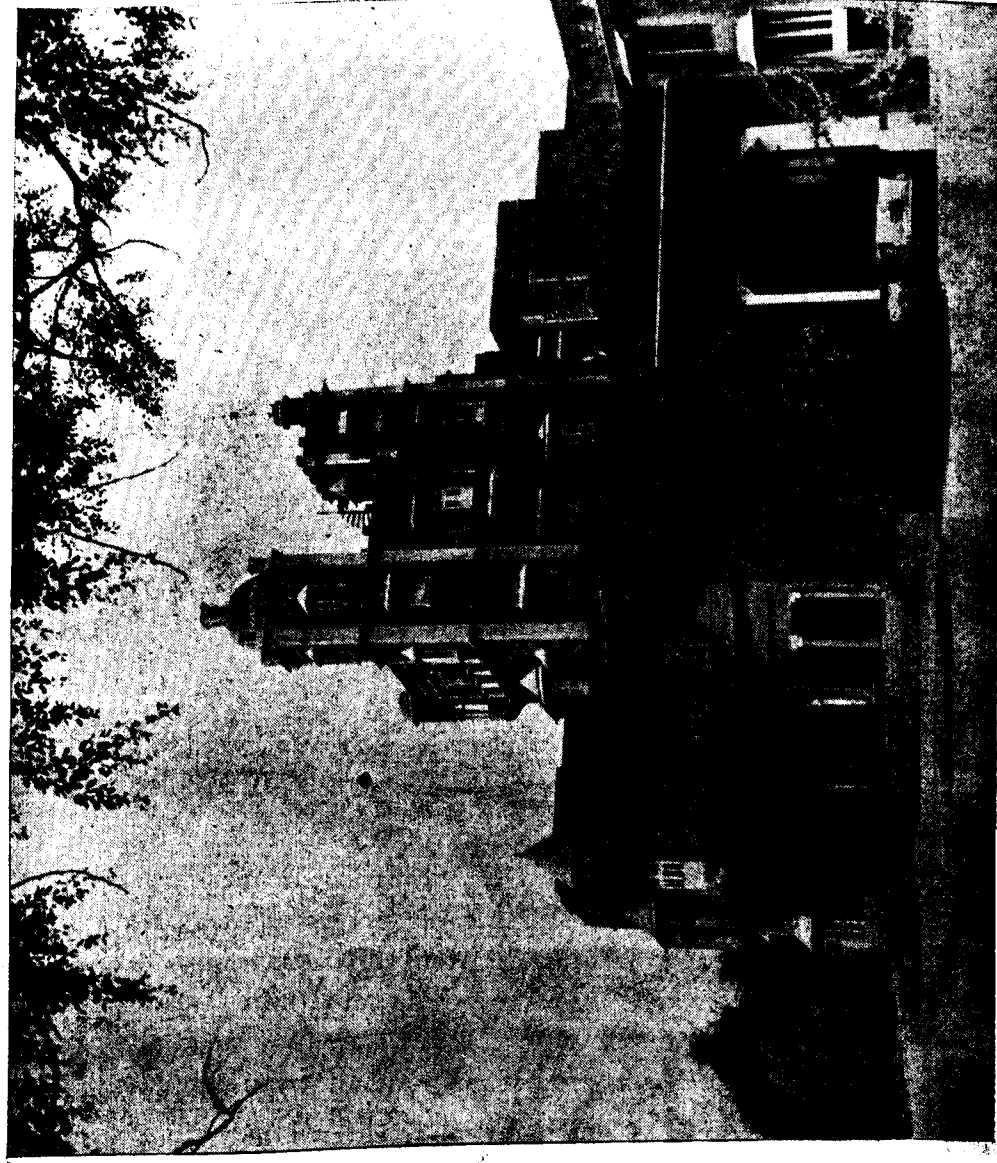
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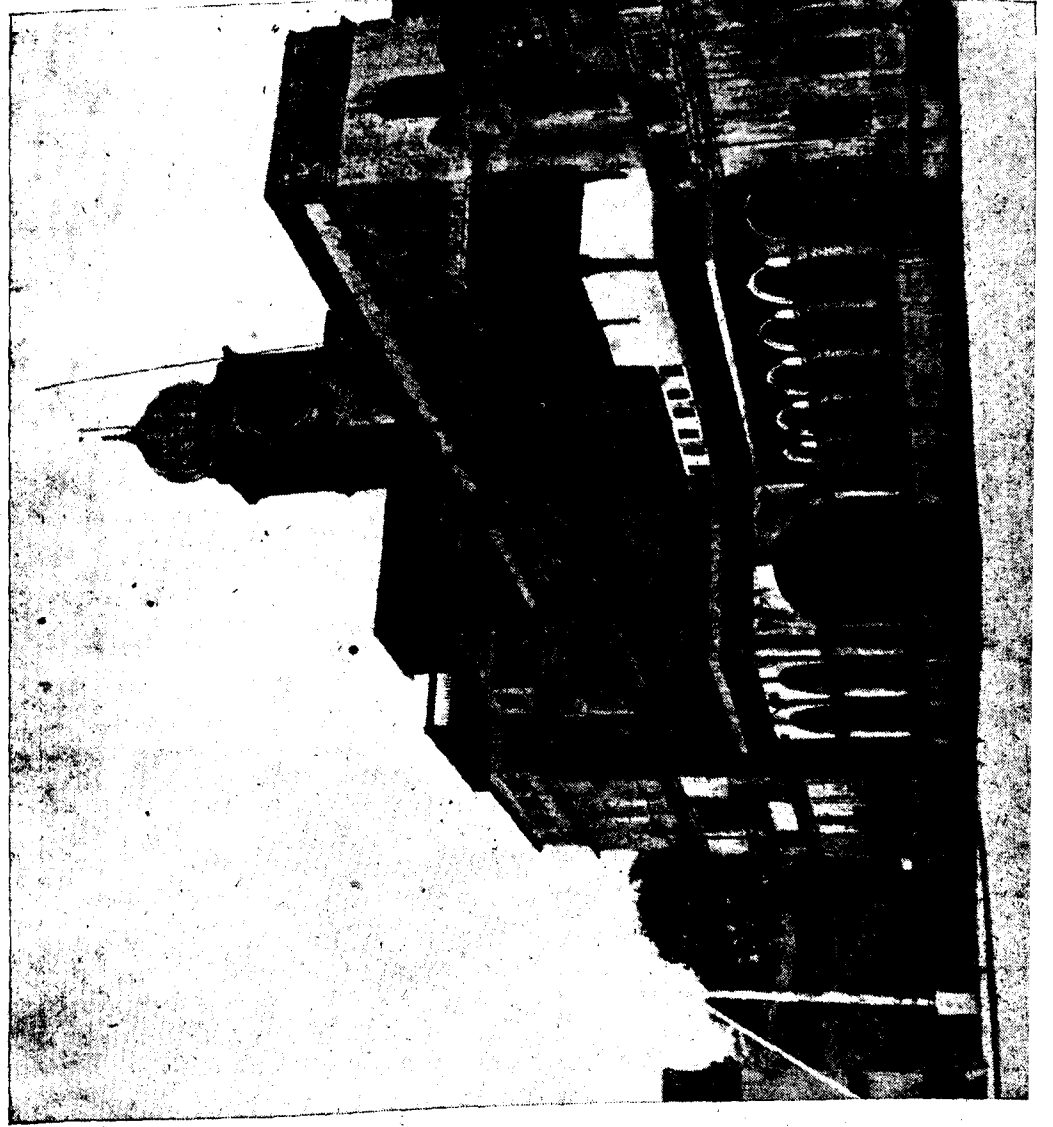
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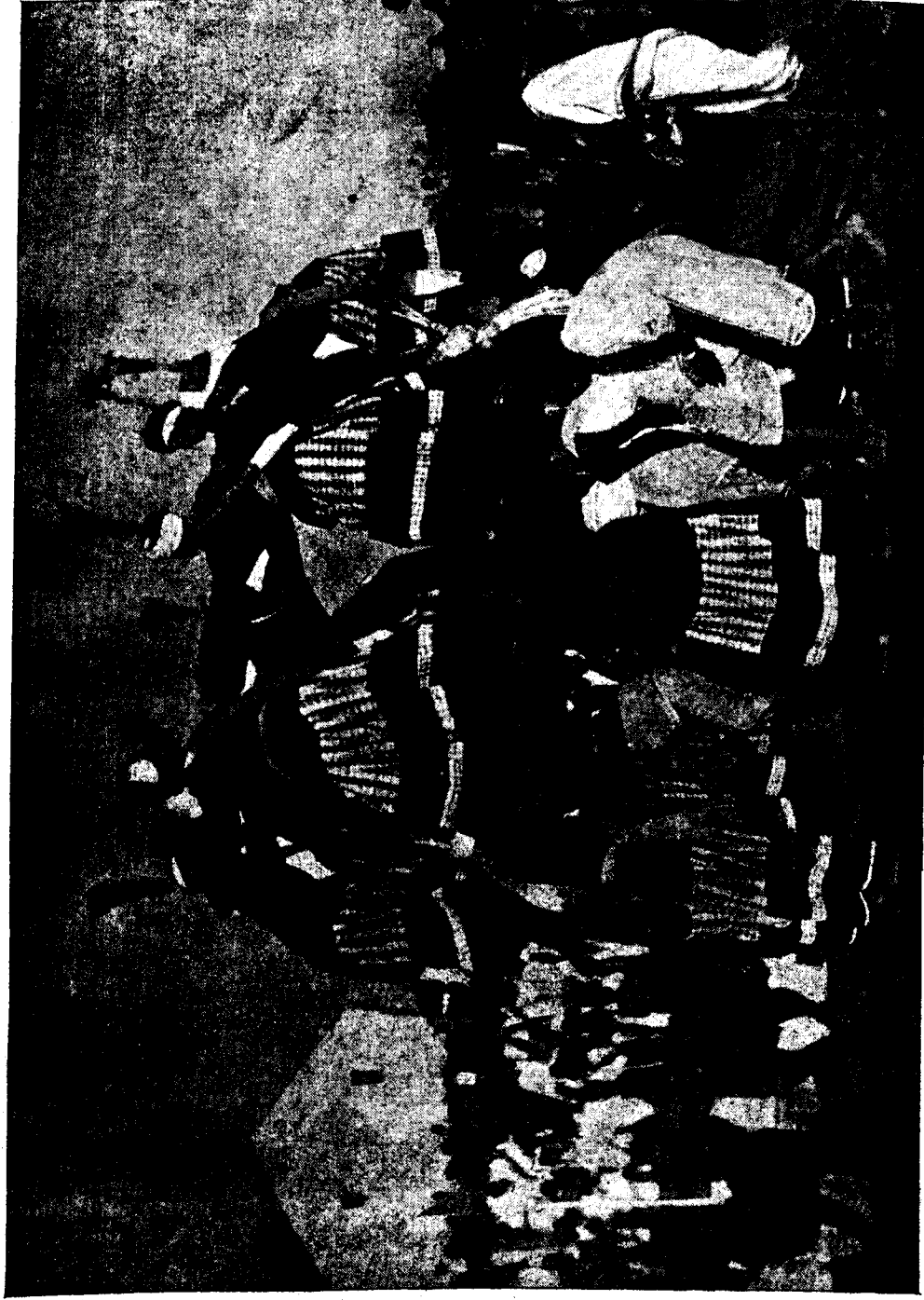


Gauri Shankar Mandir, Raigarh

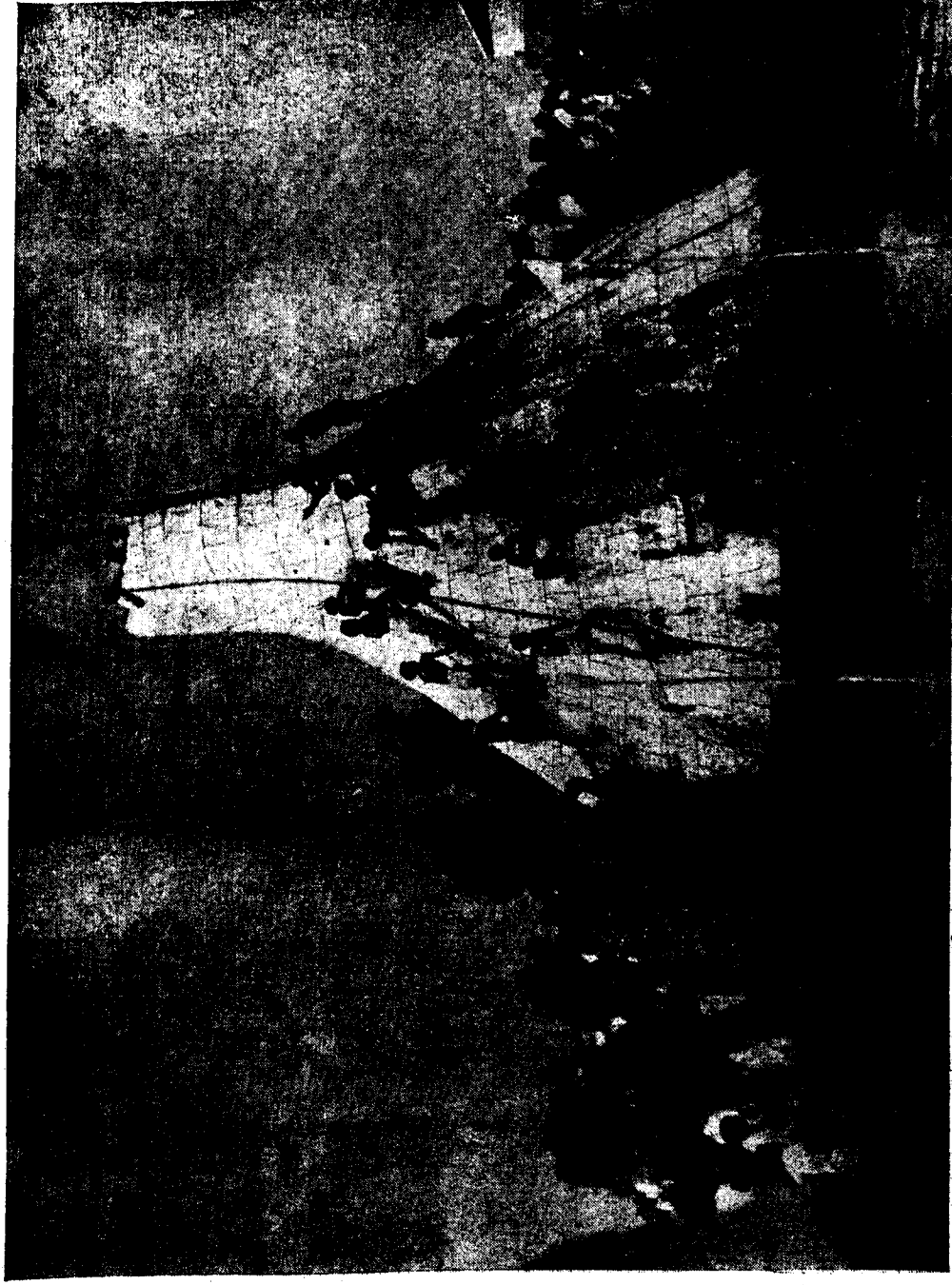


Raj Mahal (Chit V. Jais), Serwada

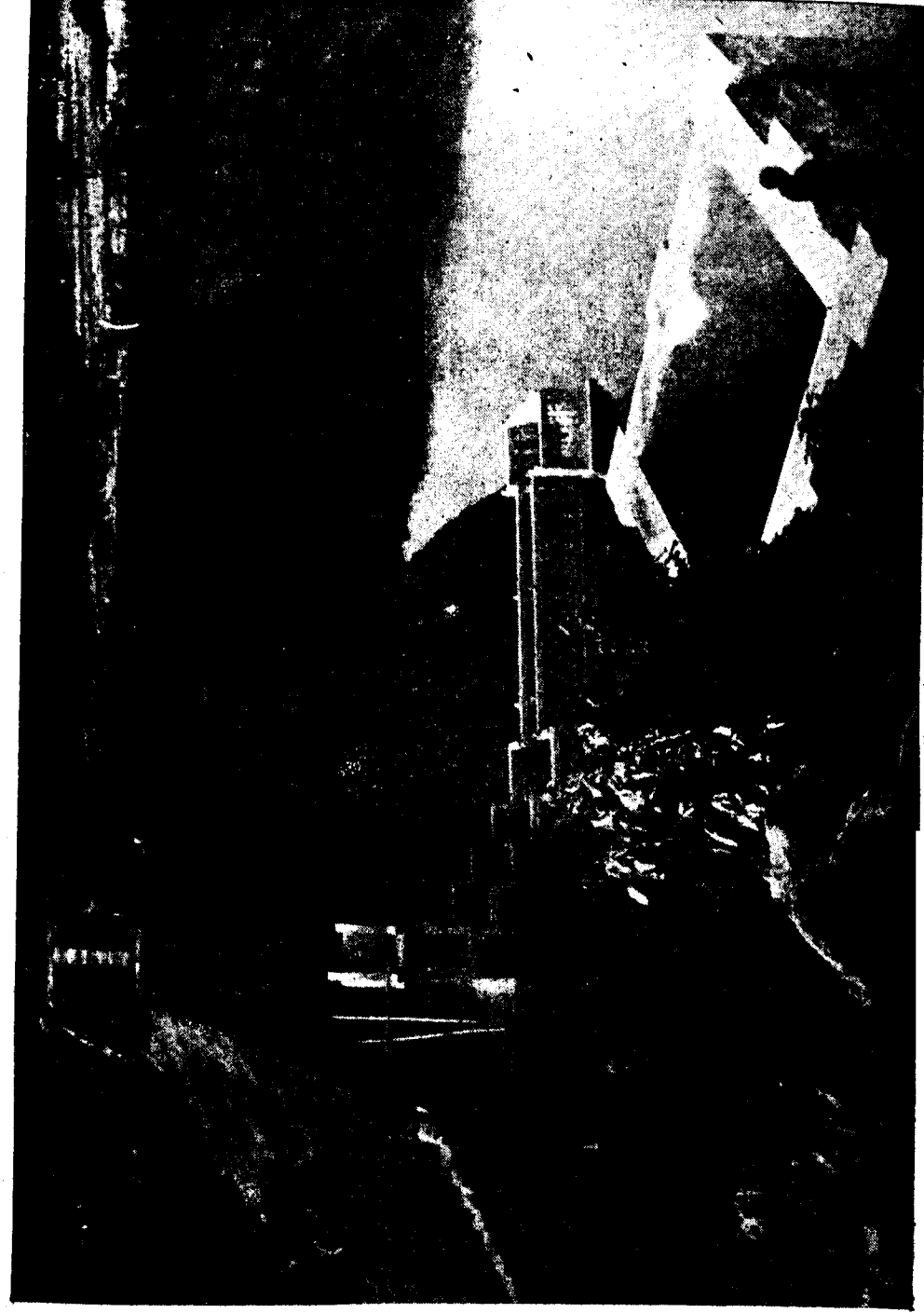




Tribal Dance on the Occasion of Dussehra



Scaling the Fort-Wall—Dussehra Festival, Sarangarh



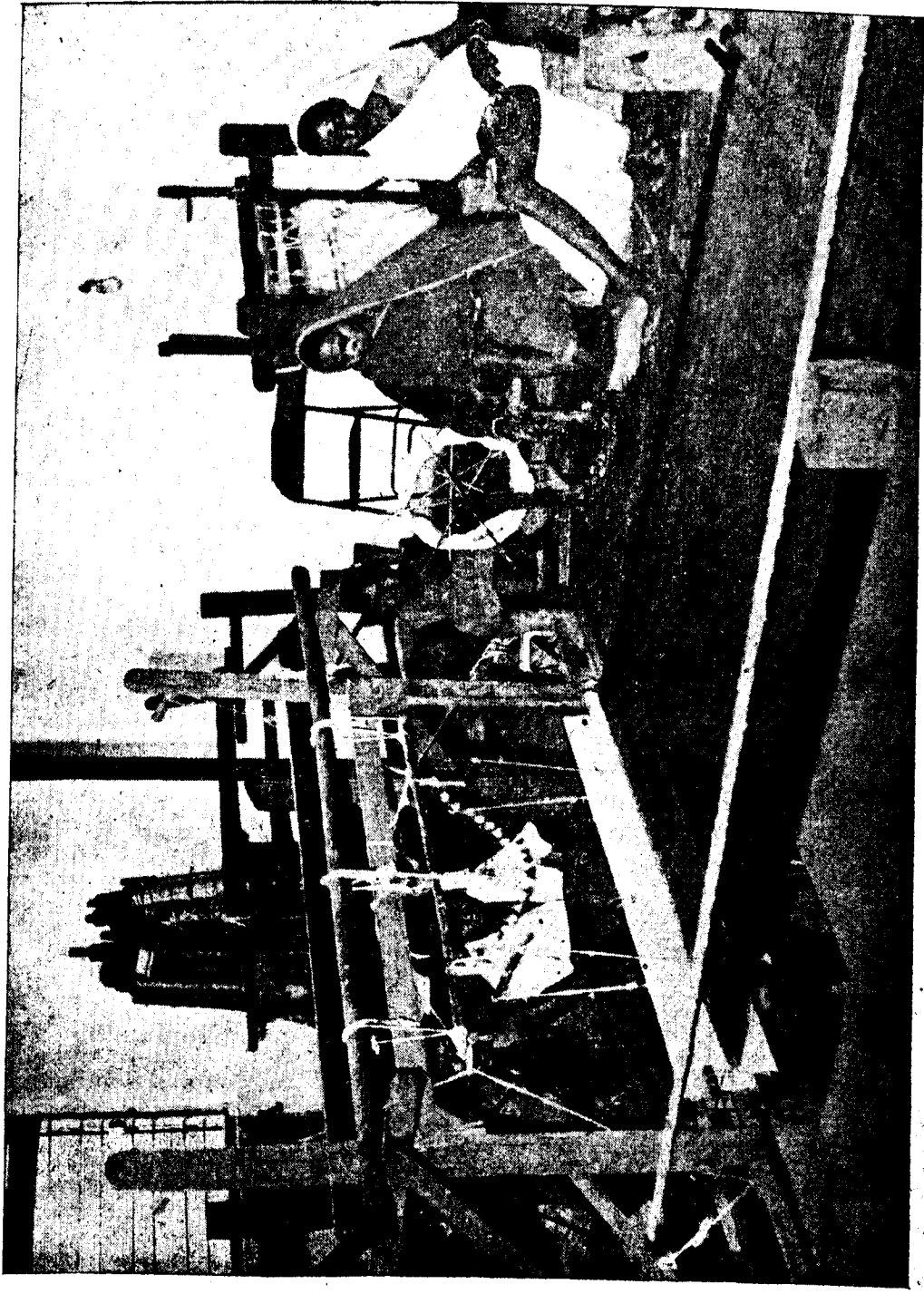
Bilaspur Tank, Raigarh Tahsil



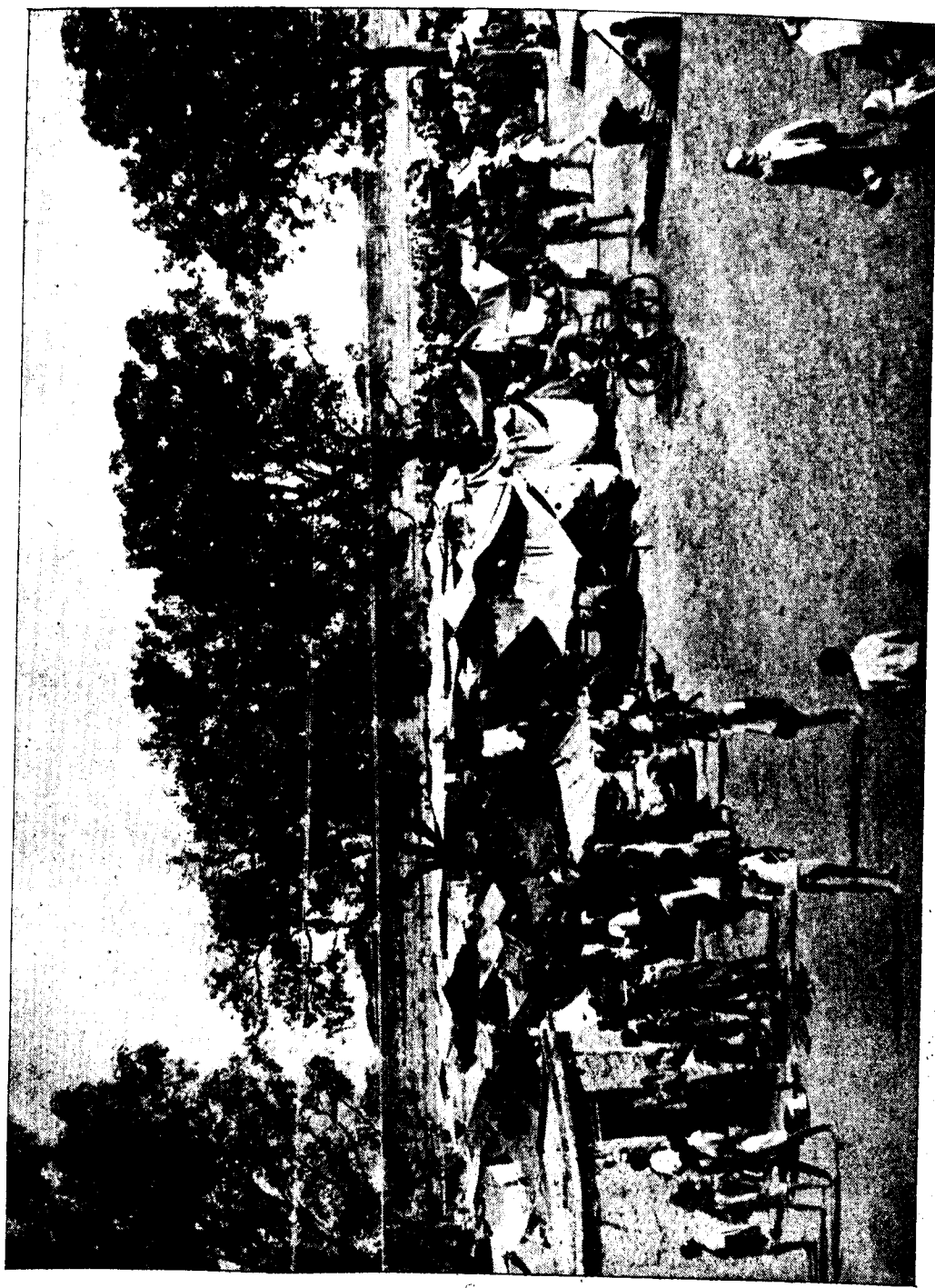
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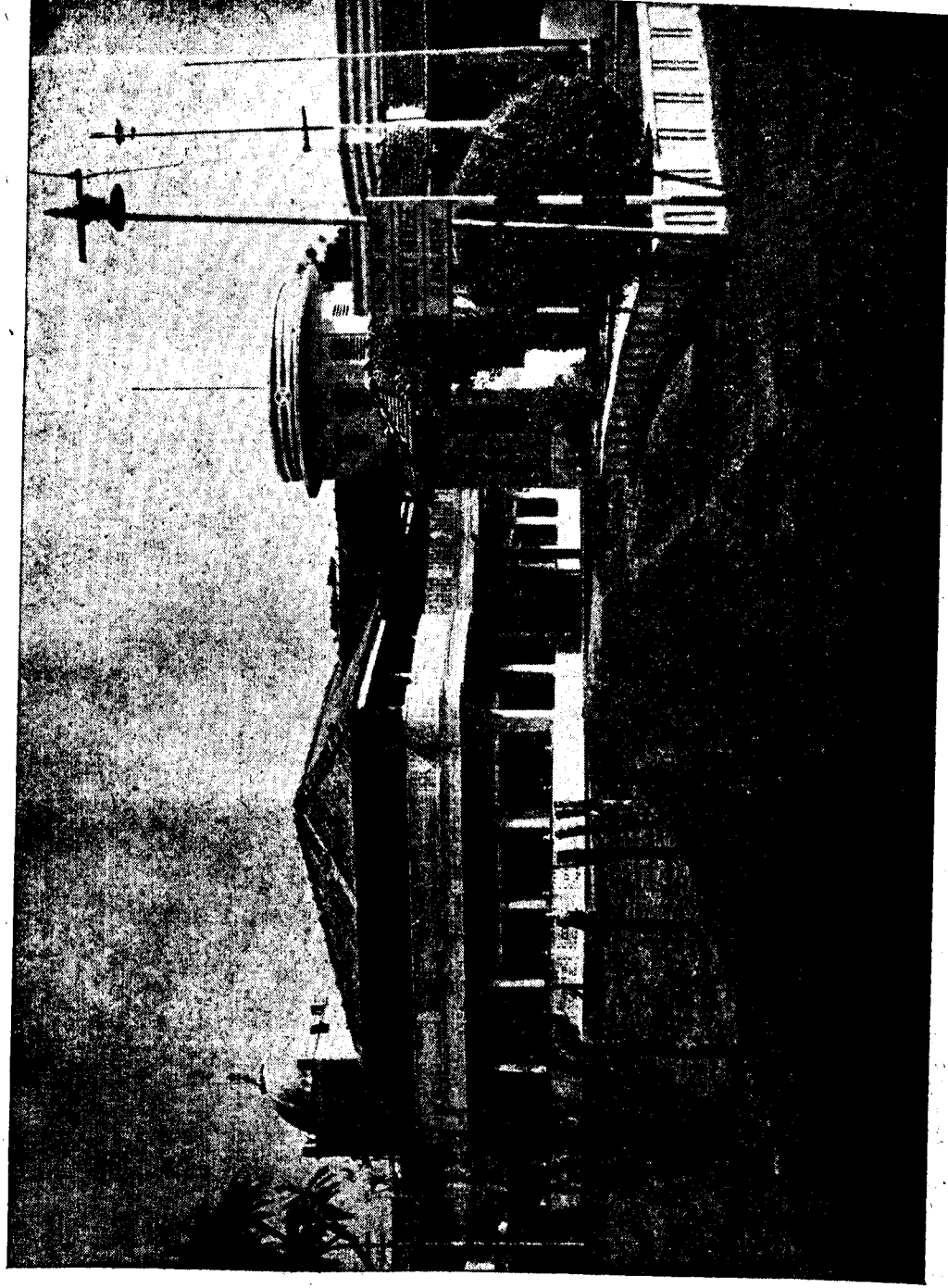
Jute Mill, Raigarh



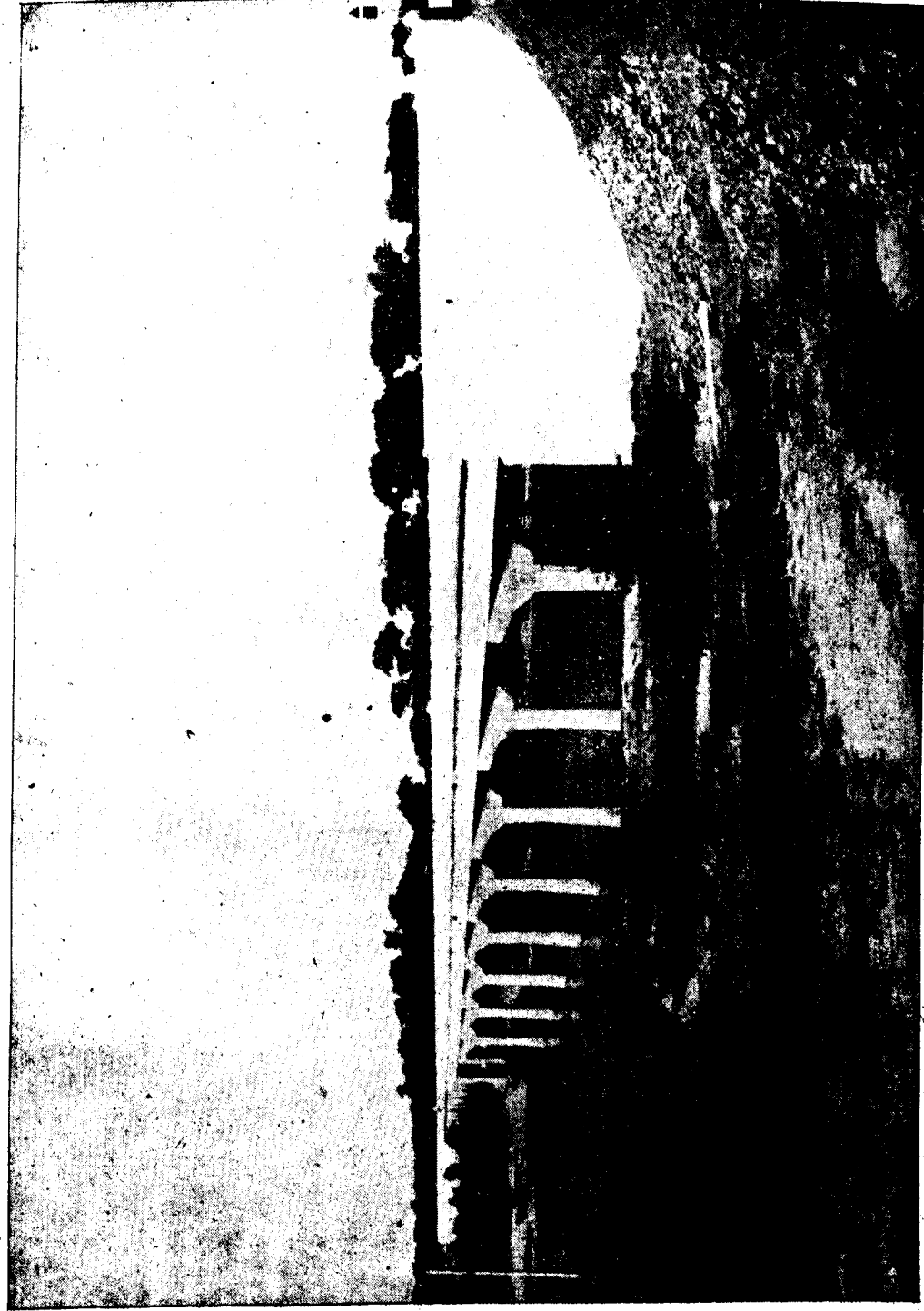
Kosi Weaving



Bazar Day at Chikhli Village on Raigarh-Sarangarh Road



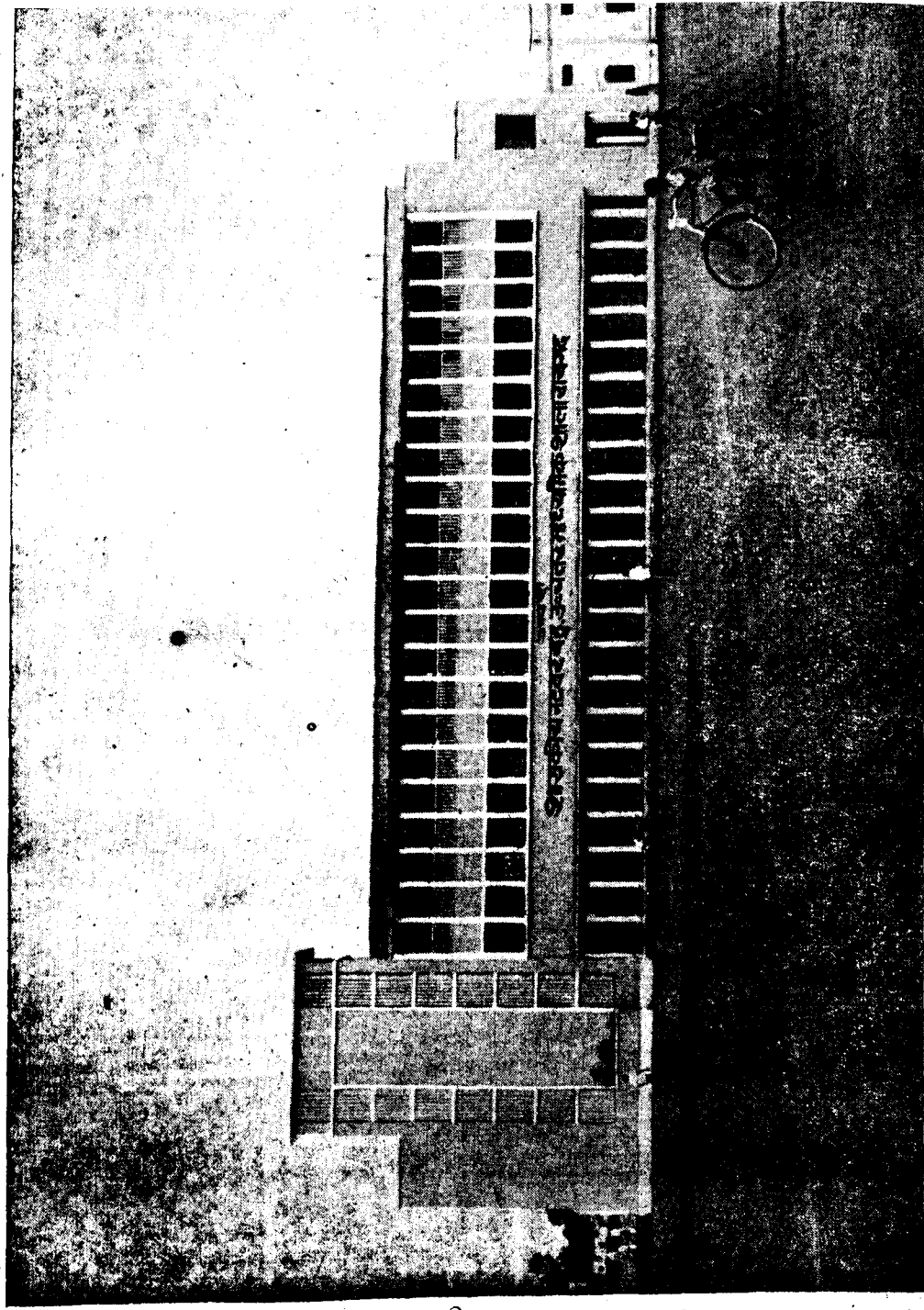
Circuit House, Raigarh



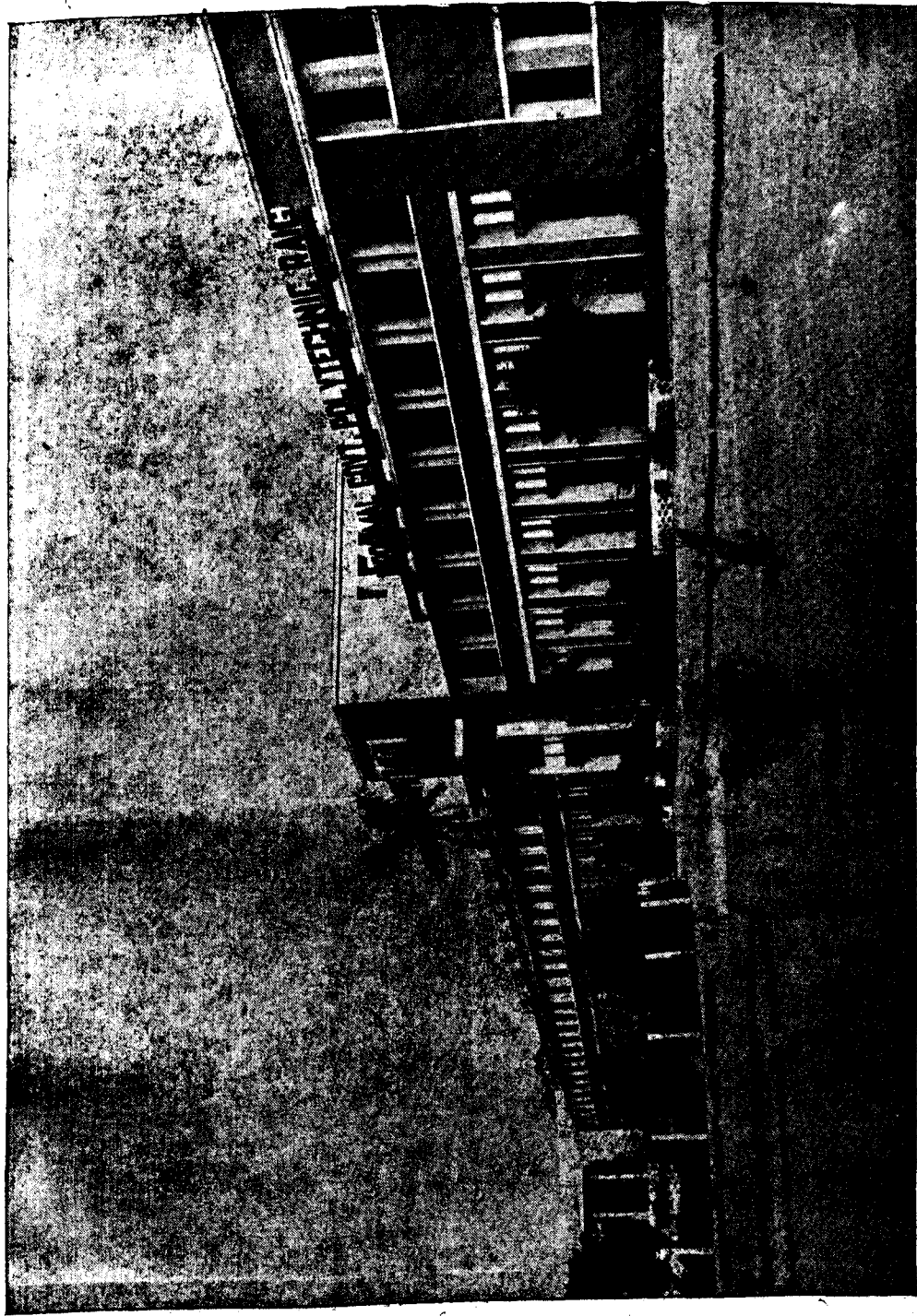
Bridge on Mahanadi (Jawahar Setu), Raigarh-Sarangarh Road



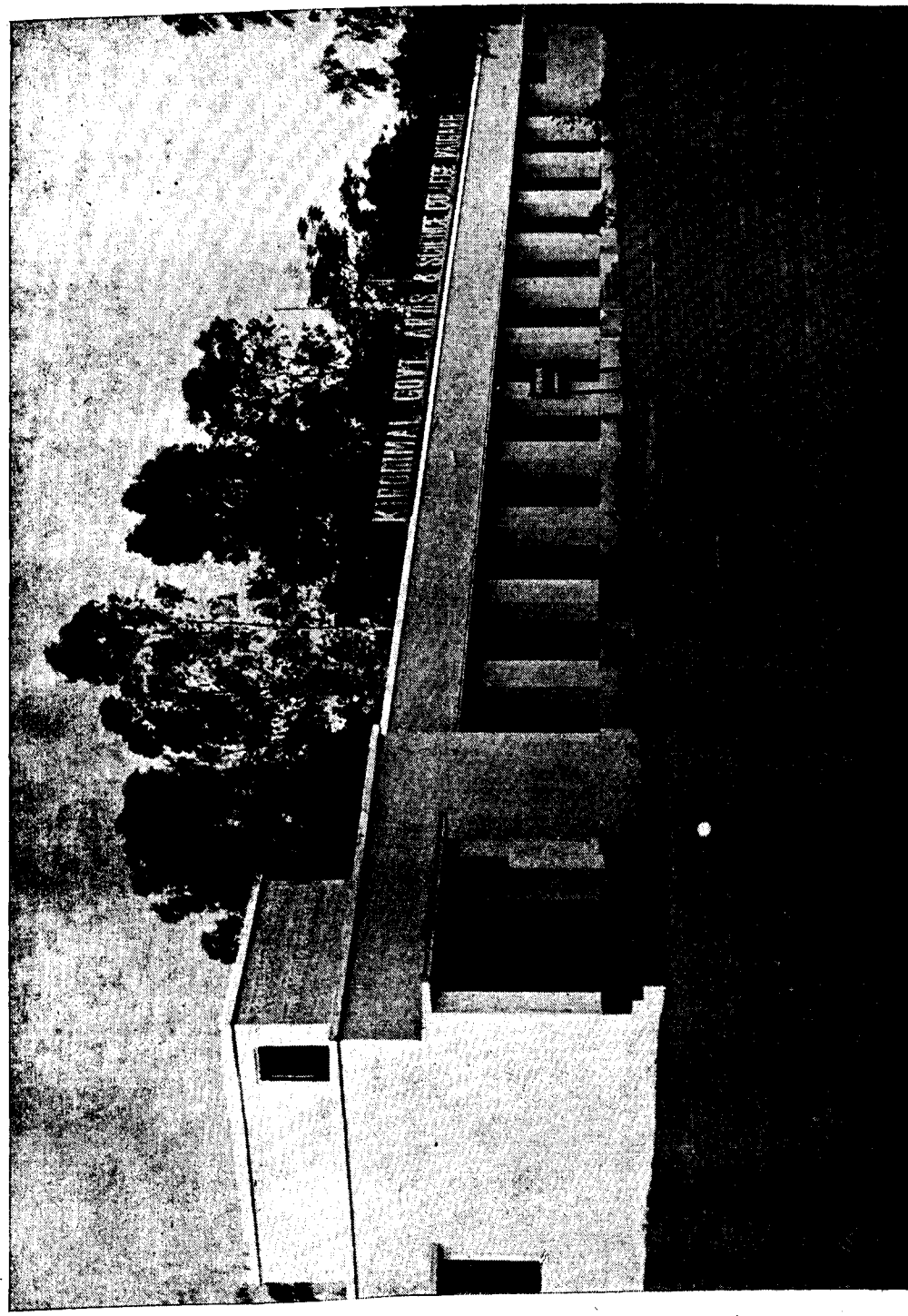
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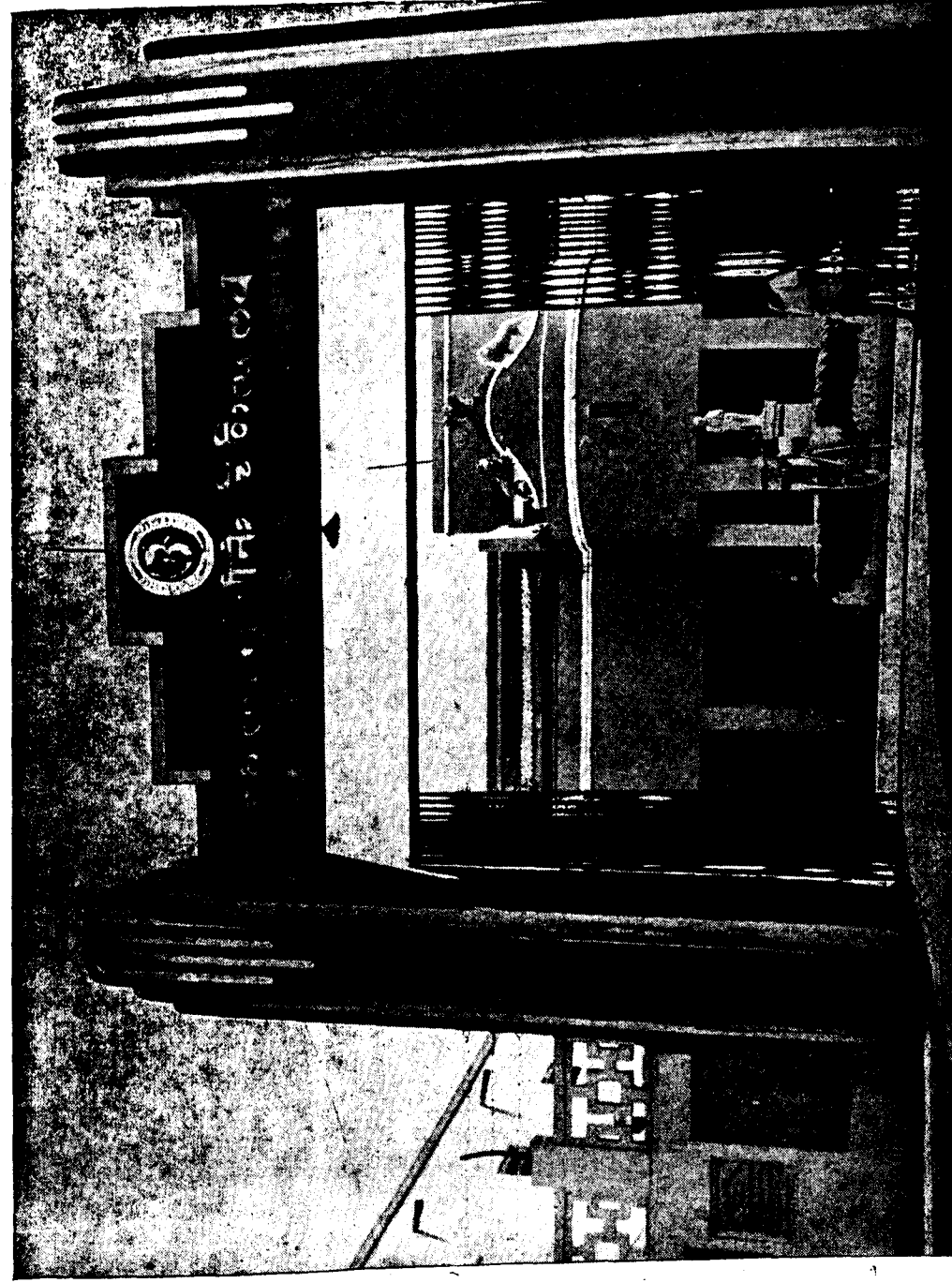
Model Government Nalwar Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Raigarh



Kirodimal Government Polytechnic, Raigarh



Kirodimal Government Arts and Science College, Raigarh



Mahatma Gandhi Eye Hospital Raigarh



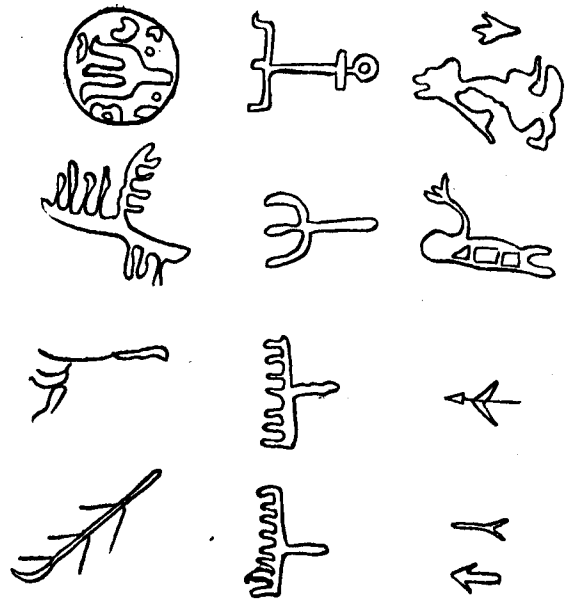
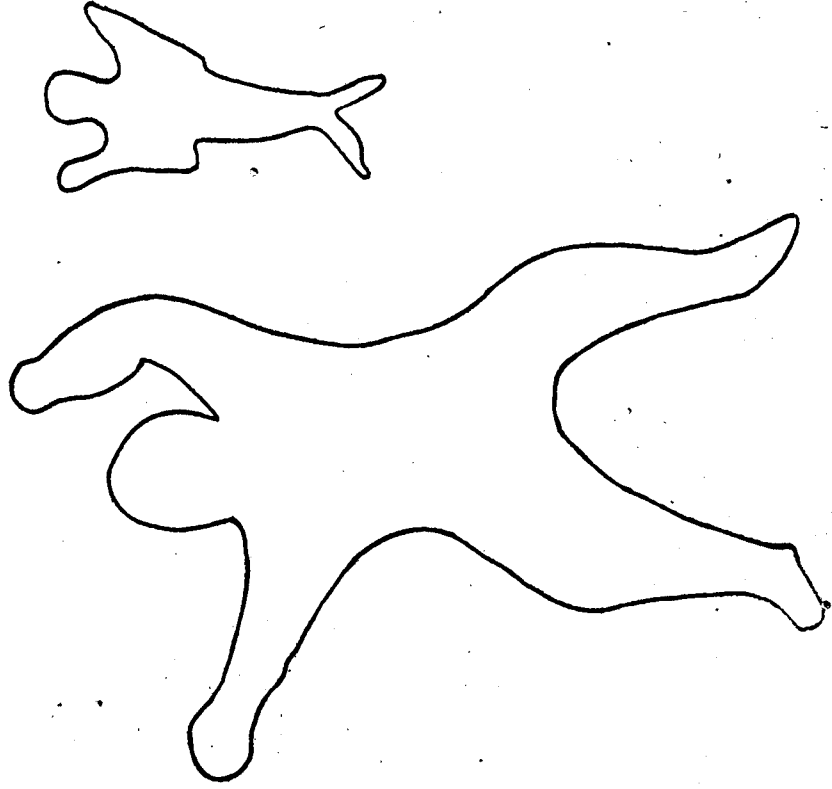
Samleshwari Devi Temple, Sarangarh



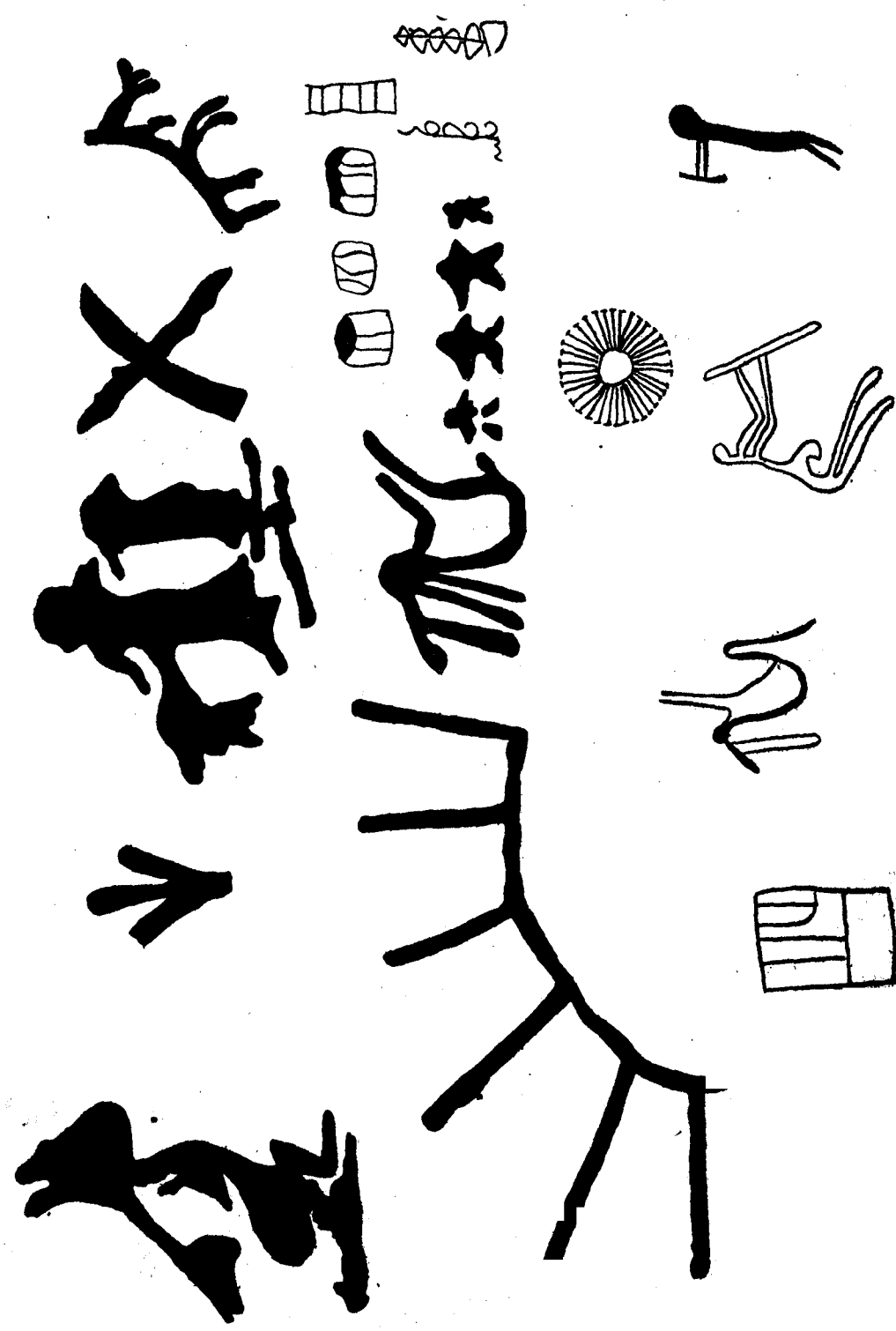
Women of the Korwa Tribe



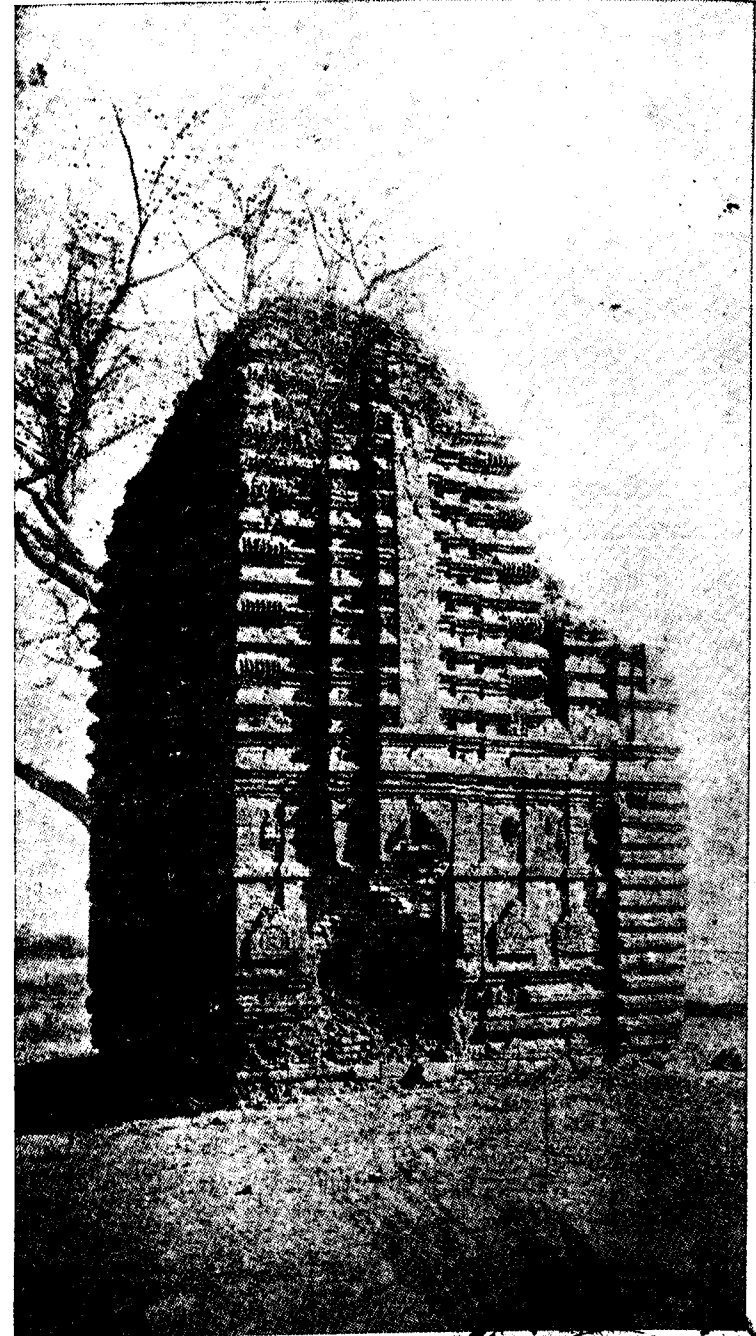
Rock painting depicting a hunting scene, Singhanpur



Rock painting showing a massive human figure and some symbols, Singhanpur



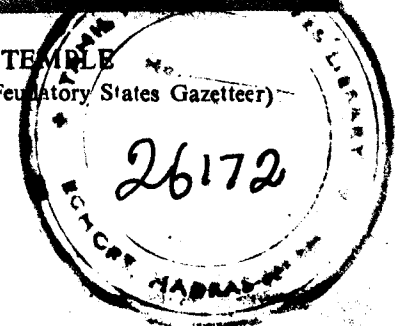
Animal and human figures and some symbols, Singhanpur

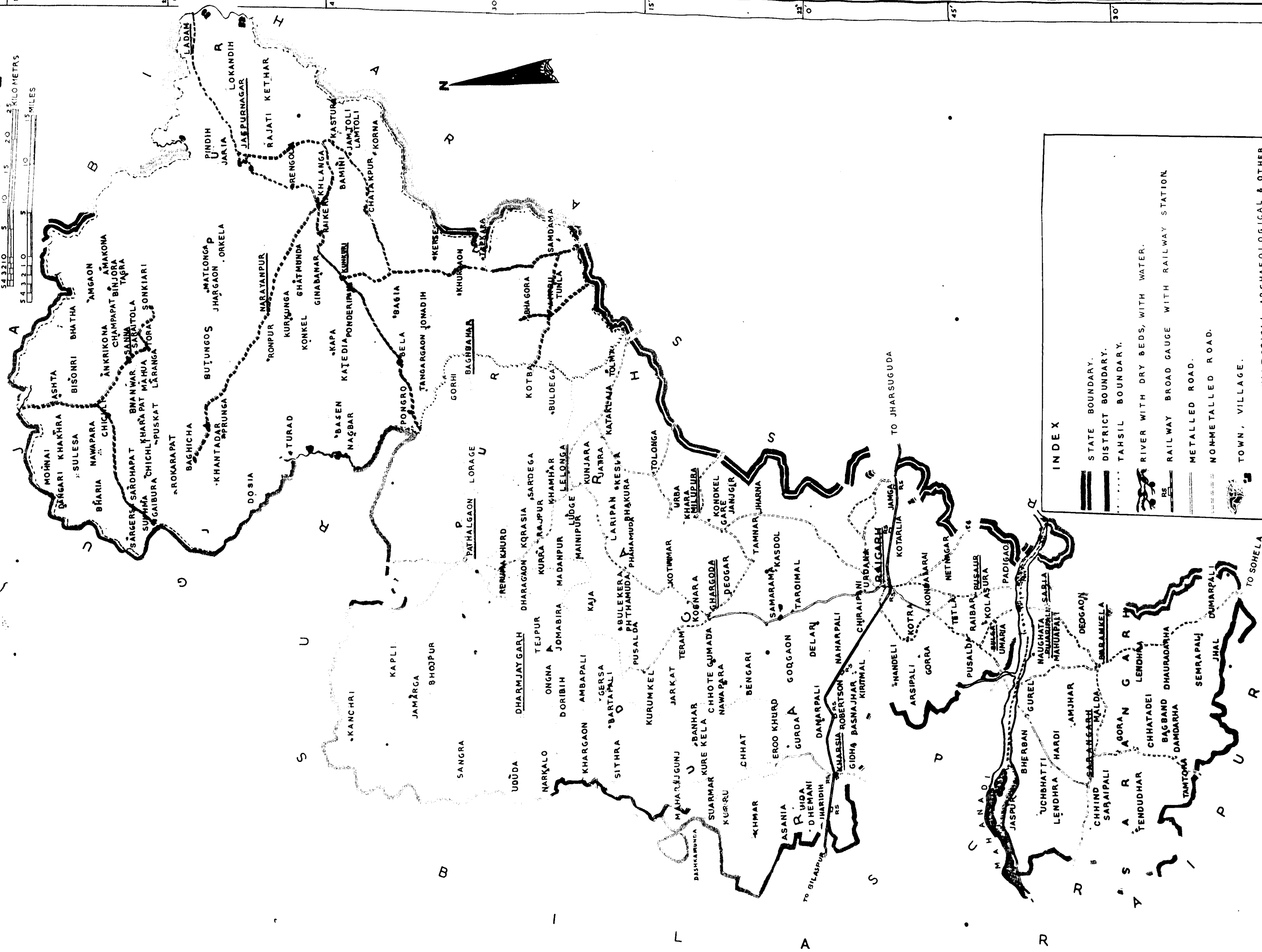
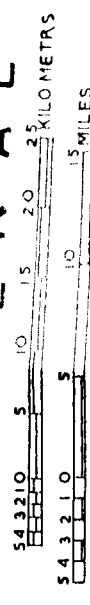


PUJARIPALI TEMPLE
(Reproduced from Chhattisgarh Feudatory States Gazetteer)

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RAIGARH DISTRICT
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SARANGARH PLACES OF HISTORICAL, ARCHAEOLOGICAL & OTHER INTEREST.

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MADHYA PRADESH GAZETTEERS

