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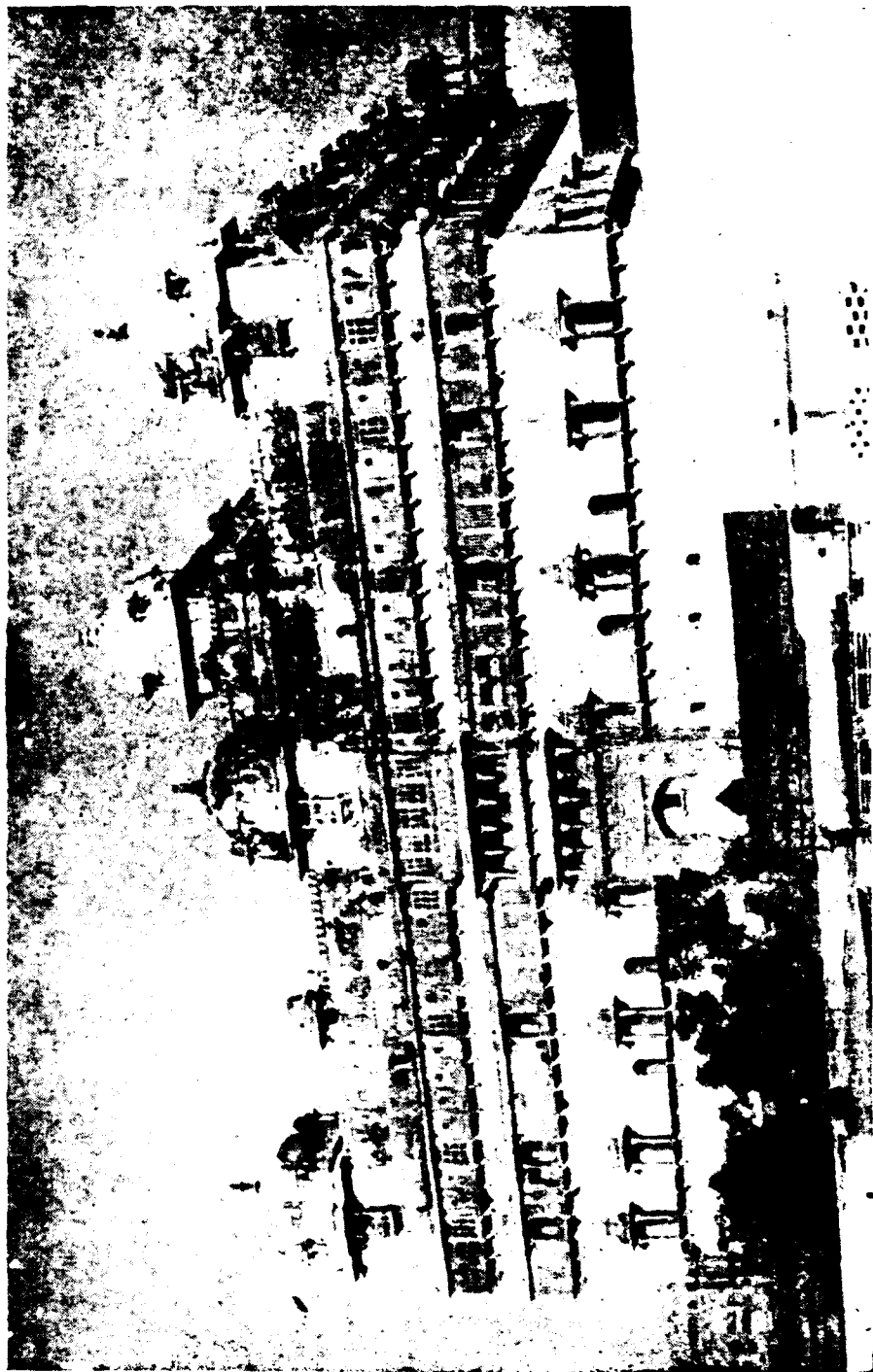
MADHYA PRADESH

DATIA

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DATIA

P. N. SHRIVASTAV
Formerly State Editor

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS DEPARTMENT
MADHYA PRADESH
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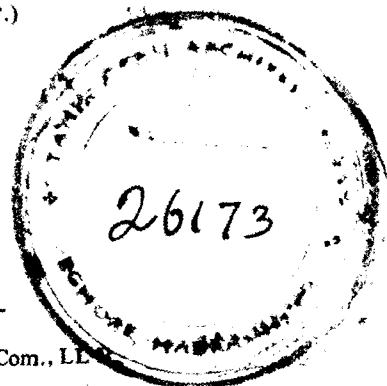
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PREFACE

The Datia Gazetteer is the thirteenth in the series of District Gazetteers published by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The draft of this Gazetteer was compiled, edited and finalised by my learned predecessor Prof. P. N. Shrivastav, in 1970-71. While preparing the press copy some changes and additions became necessary, particularly to bring the statistical data up-to-date. This has been done to the extent it was feasible.

Datia District was carved out of practically the whole of the former Princely State of Datia, in 1948, when it became a part of the former 'Vindhya Pradesh'. It is the smallest District of Madhya Pradesh in area as well as in population. The District is mainly rural and cultivation is the main prop of the economy. But agriculturally the District is poor. There are no major industries either. Thus, commercially and industrially, it has considerable leeway to make up. Most part of the District consists of level stretch of alluvial, dotted with isolated hills. The rivers are bordered by huge ravines which have provided good shelter to the dacoits.

The history of the area can be traced to ancient times. One of the early demon rulers of this area, it is said, some 5000 years ago was defeated by Lord Krishna. Datia is also known to the historians for the Ashokan rock inscription at Gujarra. Coming to more recent times one is reminded of the murder of Abul Fazl, Akbar's great favourite, for which Bir Singh Bundela was responsible. The rulers of Datia were always loyal to the Mughals and the British with whom they sided during India's war of Independence (1857).

The manuscript of Datia Gazetteer was sent to the press in May, 1975 and for reasons beyond our control it has taken more than two years to publish it.

The present Gazetteer is the result of the combined effort of the different categories of Officers, the Assistant State Editors, the Editors and the Compilers and also the office staff, of the Gazetteers Department of Madhya Pradesh. I acknowledge with thanks the creditable work done, in the preparation and editing of the drafts, by the following officers:

Shri S. D. Guru and Dr. R. K. Jain, Assistant State Editors, Messrs Vishnu Saran, M. M. Muley, P. K. Bhatnagar, R. R. Jain, R. K. Shrivastava, M. P. Dubey; Editors and Messrs K. A. S. Bais, Smt. Namita Sen, K. P.

R.C. Nair, Dr. R.C. Munje, S.M. Rastogi, N.P. Pandey, R.K. Nayak, Vijay Jain, Dr. K. S. Sharma and A.M. Sharma, Compilers. Shri Nawal Kishore, Compiler, rendered valuable help in updating the text and proof reading.

The learned members of the State Advisory Board also deserve our thanks for their valuable suggestions which have enabled us to improve the quality of our chapters.

To Dr. P.N. Chopra, M. A., Ph. D., Editor, Central Gazetteer Unit, Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi and to the editorial staff of the Unit go our grateful thanks for their help and guidance in the preparation of this Volume.

We are thankful to the Archaeological Survey of India, Northern Circle, Agra and Shri Harimohanlal Shrivastava of Datia for supplying some of the photographs for this Gazetteer.

Various departments of the State and Central Governments, Semi Government institutions, and other institutions have helped us by making the necessary material and information available. They also deserve our thanks.

1st May 1977

A. M. SINHA
State Editor

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Datia District takes its name from the District headquarters town, Datia. The town is popularly supposed to be named after Danta Vakra, the Danava king of Karush, who opposed Krishna and was killed by him. The place in those times was called Dant Nagar.

Area, Location, Boundaries and Population

Datia is the smallest district of Madhya Pradesh, the largest State in the country. It occupies only 2034.9 sq. km. out of 442,841 sq. km.¹ of Madhya Pradesh, and has 255,267 persons out of the State population of 41,654,119 according to the Census of 1971. The District lies into a main body of the land mostly on the Sind-Pahuj Doab and five enclaves² surrounded by the portions of Shivpuri district and the bordering Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh. In turn the main body of the District is also dotted with five pocket-territories of other districts.³

The main body of the District extends between the parallels of Latitude 25°33' and 26°18'N. and the meridians of Longitude 78°13' and 78°51'E. The farthest of the enclaves extends in the south upto 25°3'N., near Talbahat⁴. The District is bounded by Bhind and Gwalior (Main block) districts in the north, Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh and Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh in the south, Gwalior (Main block) and Shivpuri in the west, and Bhind district and Bhandar tahsil of Gwalior in the east. The District is located on the margins of the Ganga Valley and the Great Vindhyan Plateau.

The shape of the District is roughly triangular with its apex on the elongated side, i. e., the north-east, and a semicircular bulge in the South-east. It can also be compared with that of a *Tambura*, or Tanpura, a musical instrument. The greatest length of the District (Main land) from north-east to south-west is about 90 km. and the greatest width from east to west is about 48 km. Datia, the District headquarters is the only town with

1. Survey of India quoted in Distt. Statistical Hand Book 73, p. 3. and Census of India 1971, M. P. At A Glance, p. 1 (Final figures).
2. Kamrari, Katini, Hathlau, Basai, and Muria.
3. Malthana, Senthri and Ansuli of Bhandar tahsil of Gwalior district and Tigra and Rasulpura of Lahar tahsil of Bhind district.
4. The extent of Basai group of territories (Basai--Burdwar and Muria) is between 25°3'N and 25°13'N. and 78°27'E. The extent of Kamrari group (Kamrari, Katini and Hathlau) is between 25°25'N. and 25°32'N. and 78°18'E. and 78°26'E.

sufficient urban activities and is connected with Gwalior and Jhansi by the Delhi-Bombay or Delhi-Madras Main line of the Central Railway. It is also accessible by roads from Gwalior, Jhansi, Bhandar and Bhind.

The District is divided into two tahsils, viz., Datia and Seondha occupying the southern and the northern parts, respectively. Seondha, the Administrative headquarters of the northern tahsil, is still classed as a big Divisions developing village. The area according to the State Survey Department and population of each of these tahsils are given below.

Table No. I—1
Area and Population of Tahsils

Tahsil	Area in (1971) sq. km.	Population (1971)
Seondha	925.98	20,836
Datia	1,108.83	34,738
District	2,034.81	55,574

Source : Zila Jana Ganana Pustika, map¹ with table.

History of the District as an Administrative Unit

But for the Ashokan rock-inscriptions at Gujjarra¹ and the nearness of Pawaya, the capital of the Naga rulers, the old records of the extent of territories and administrative headquarters in the region leave the District as a subject-matter for further research or geographical interpolation amidst the oscillating powers of Vidisha, Gwalior, Kanauj and Mahoba.

During the early Mughal days Datia was only a small village situated in the *Kasba* of Shahjahanpura (now Bauhara village) in Bhandar *Mahal* of the Irich *Sarkar* of Agra *Subah*. Seondha, the tahsil headquarters, was included in the Akbarabad (Agra) *Subah*. It appears that the area around Indragarh was known as Uchhad *pargana*, from the village of Uchhad the then headquarters. This Uchhad is perhaps the Ruchhadeh *Mahal* of Irich *Sarkar* given in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. Datia was brought into prominence by Birsingh Deo, the Bundela Raja of Orchha who brought his camps time and again to Datia, killed Abul Fazl and built palaces, temples and tanks. He gave the jagir of Datia to his third son, Raja Bhagwan Rao in 1626 as his share of inheritance. In 1758 Raja Indrajit seized the area of Dardigaon (now Indragarh) from the Jats. This and the *Chaurasi Ilaka* granted to Parichhat were incorporated in the old Indragarh tahsil.²

1. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXXI, Pt. V, pp. 205-209.

2. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 32.

Under the rule of the Bundela rulers Datia was the headquarters of the State. It was divided into four tahsils, viz., Datia, Seondha, Indragarh and Nadigaon. After the merger of the States in the Union of India in 1948, the enclave of Nadigaon tahsil was incorporated in Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh and the rest of the old Datia State, with minor adjustments of the boundaries, was incorporated as a District in the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State. Indragarh tahsil was merged into Seondha tahsil, reducing the number of tahsils to two only, viz., Datia and Seondha. An enclave of the erstwhile Datia State, containing the villages of Kumharia Rai, Baindau Dalpatpur, etc., was transferred to Bhandar tahsil of Gwalior district. The south-western enclaves of Samdhauna--Tauriakhurd, Ronija, Kund, Pali and a village north-west of it were transferred to Shivpuri district. The village named Pargana and another pocket near it were transferred to Bhind district. Hathlau, Basai and Muria territories were added to Datia District as enclaves. Basai and Muria *tappas* lie to the south of the District about 43 km. and 56 km. away from the main portion of Datia District. Basai is also connected with Datia by rail and road, through Jhansi, and is about 64.4 km. from the District headquarters. The *tappas* of Kamrari group, only at distances of 6.4 to 24.1 km. from the main body of the District, are better accessible from Pichhore and Karera than from Datia under the present stage of road development.

Topography

The general level of the country is about 198 metres but the variations range from about 152 to 335 metres above the Mean Sea Level. The District can be studied under two physiographic divisions, viz., the Lower Extension of Bundelkhand Plateau and the Gangetic Plain. In fact, the second division is also an imperfect fringe of the Gangetic alluvial-belt. The whole District is uniformly sloping towards the north-east but the mounds and hillocks of otherwise concealed granite are also marked intermittently on the plain.

The southern part around Datia town lies in the granite area and forms a somewhat barren and rocky tract. The tract lies above 213 metres and the prominent hills lie to the south-east and west of Datia. The hill near Gharwa is 308 metres, Udnu-ki-toria 326 metres and Baroni hill 317 metres. The southern enclaves lie at about 305 metres above the Mean Sea Level and the highest point of the District, the peak of Burdwan, is 337 metres high in Basai Block. The hills show steep rise on their sides and a few rise to over 91 metres from their immediate neighbourhood. The tract is gradually covered by the alluvium and the hard masses reappear only across the Sind on its north-western side.

North-west of Seondha and on the left bank of the Sind, a low range of sandstone hills overlooks the river and extends up to its north-eastern bend in the District. The height of the scarp on its south-eastern face is 30 to 91

metres. These hills join the Gwalior range in the west and slope towards the north, where also the rocks beneath the alluvium disappear. Among these hills there are three peaks which rise above 244 metres, the highest of 263 metres being in south. Seondha hill on the northern bank of the Sind, opposite the village is over 183 metres.

The plateau area is either bare and stony on steep slopes or is covered with reddish soil or black cotton soil.

Most of the central and northern parts of the District lie in the Sind-Pahuj Doab which forms the southern margin of the Gangetic valley. The central part of the District is from 183 to 213 metres above the Mean Sea Level whereas the northern part and the area south-east of Maithana (Bhander tahsil) lie below 183 metres. Although dotted with hillocks and low mounds of granite the valley is flat, uniformly and gently sloping towards the north-east, and formed mostly of the river alluvium. Other types of soil are also met with near the mounds and on the upper reaches. Deeper alluvial deposits occur along the major rivers and streams of the District. The alluvial soil is loamy and fertile. Admixture of sand, in varying proportions and of various sizes of grains produces a number of soil types. Due to locational factor also, some sub-types are added. The soil in the low-lying flats with poor drainage is usually saline. It is generally brown in colour. The alkaline soil is grey, sticky on wetting and hard on drying acquiring a cloddy structure. Growth of crops or flora is difficult at places where undulating *Kankar* layer often comes up on the surface in any soil region. Due to alternate leaching and capillary rise of moisture the subordinate layer of calcium carbonate is also undesirable.

The alluvial tract is marked by the gullies along the major rivers and their tributary streams caused by the water-action on the loose soil. The banks of the deep streams and their upper reaches in the alluvial tracts are experiencing the rill-erosion which is the early stage of gully-formation. To some extent it is a natural process but is accelerated because of the removal of the natural flora, uncontrolled grazing, careless ploughing and unplanned management of field drainage. Gullies have developed in the alluvium all along the Sind, the Mahuar and the Parron. The *nala*-banks are also cut up around Imalia, Bauhara, Badora and Taga.

Drainage

The main body of the District is drained by the two important rivers, viz, the Sind and the Pahuj. The Sind flows along the western boundary for a con-

1. Working Scheme for Tikamgarh Division, 1966 to 1976, Vol. 1, Para 20.

siderable distance, whereas the Pahuj touches the eastern boundary only for about a kilometre and a half (1 mile). Thus the drainage of the District is divided into these two rivers. The water-parting line runs through the District from south-west to north-east. East of the water-parting line the tributary streams flow towards the north-east while those in the west flow in a north-westerly direction and join the Sind. Beyond the District boundary in the north, Pahuj, the eastern river, joins the Sind which itself joins the Yamuna. Thus the whole District falls into the Gangetic drainage system.

The character of the rivers is seasonal. Most of the streams and the span of the river-beds dry up in the winter and summer seasons. The run off in the rains is very large. The water potential has not been assessed so far.

The Sind

A river of considerable size, the Sind rises near Nurpur (24°16' 77°39') in Sironj Sub-Division of Vidisha district. It touches the District near 25°40' 78°17' and forms the western boundary twice, to the north and south of village Baraun Kalan. It flows due north-east and crosses the District in the extreme north and forms the north-eastern boundary beyond Seondha (Seora) which is an important settlement on its right bank. Mahuar is the only important tributary which flows in the western part of Datia tahsil and joins the Sind within the District on its right bank. Beyond the District-boundary the Pahuj joins it on the right bank and the Besuil or Vaisali joins it on the left bank before it joins the Yamuna. The Sind flows in the District along the boundaries for about 106 km. The river has not been assessed in the District for its water-potential and economic possibilities so far. During the rainy season the stream is of great volume and can be crossed only by boats. The railway line crosses the river 24 km. north-east of Datia but there is no high level bridge for the parallel road.

The Mahuar

It rises at 25°8' : 78°0' in Shivpuri district near Mianpur. It flows to the north for about 80.5 km. and joins the Sind in Datia tahsil. In Datia it flows only for about 14.5 km. including its length along the boundary. Karera is located on its right bank.

The Pahuj

It rises at 25°19' N. : 78°18' E. near the Jhansi-Shivpuri boundary and flows to the north-east, past Jhansi and Bhander towns. On the south-east it enters the District near Unnao for about two kilometres and again on its western bend it touches the District boundary for about 1.6 km. and flows to the north-east where it joins the Sind. The important streams joining it on its left bank from Datia District are the Angori, the Marwaya, the Setol, the Parron, the Oon and the Somain.

The Betwa

The Betwa is a major river of the region but it flows along the eastern and south-eastern boundaries of the enclaves Muria and Basai, respectively, only for about 9.7 km. Further it flows through the district of Jhansi and joins the Yamuna near Hamirpur.

Tanks

Baroni, Agora, and Ramsagar are the important tanks of the District. A canal from Ramsagar irrigates the lower fields upto a distance of five and a half kilometres. Other tanks of some significance are Sitasagar, Taran Tal, Lachhman Tal, Karan Sagar, Radha Sagar, Lala Ka Tal and Bir Sagar. On the edges of the bed of some tanks crops are sown as the water level sinks down with the advent of the dry season. A list of tanks in the District is given in Appendix A.

Geology

The main geological formations exposed in the District are the Bundelkhand granites, Gwalior and alluvium. The sequence of rock formations is shown below in order of increasing antiquity.

Table No. I-2
Sequence of Geological Formations

Recent	Unconformity	Alluvium and Kankar
Purana	Gwalior series	Morar shales Par quartzites
Archaean	Bundelkhand Granite	Granites and granite gneisses with associated schists, pegmatite veins, basic dykes and quartz reefs.

The Bundelkhand granite is regarded as a relic of old sea floor on which Dharwar sediments were laid down, though, in part, it may include reconstituted portions of the Dharwarian sediments. This tract has been protected in some way from the excessive metamorphism to which the Archaeans of other areas were subjected. It is sharply bounded by scarps several hundred metres in height, of Vindhyan rocks which, though ancient, are younger than the granites. North of the main tract the granite projects through the alluvium as inliers.

The chief characteristic features of these granites are their massive structure, obscurely developed foliation and scarcity of accessory minerals. It is a medium-to-coarse grained rock chiefly consisting of orthoclase quartz and biotite. Pink felspar is more common in the porphyritic granite that crops out in the

Sind river. The bulk of the granite exposed in the southern tract of the District or as inliers in the alluvium, hardly shows pink appearance. The prominent feldspars in these rocks are microcline and microcline microperthite. Plagioclase is present in subordinate quantity. Quartz rarely occurs in large quantity. A dark coloured hornblende is often present but is never abundant.

When discernible, the planes of foliation are more or less vertical and generally strike E. N. E.- W. S. W. with local variations to N. E. to S. W. and E. S. E., to W. N. W. There are two major systems of joints, striking between N. W.- S. E. and N. N. W.- S. S. E., and between N. E.- S. W. and E. N. E.- W. S. W., respectively. The rock weathers concentrically to large spheroidal masses.

Various forms of schistose bands are also observed within the granite, the most prominent being a hornblende rock consisting of an even mosaic of quartz and feldspar with hornblende and biotite. Sometimes other ferromagnesian minerals are also present as accessories. The chief difference between the pegmatite veins and schistose bands is the absence of ferromagnesian constituents in the case of the former.

The uniformity of the granite tract is interrupted by the long narrow serrated ridges of quartz reefs. They vary in thickness from 5 m. to 150 m. and in length from 15 m. to 2,000 m. In general the large reefs are discontinuous and lenticular. They have a predominant N. E.- S. W. trend, although a few trend N. N. E.- S. S. W., N.- S. and N. W.- S. E. The trend of the quartz reefs is parallel to the prominent joints in the granite. They are invariably sheared, brecciated and highly silicified. Secondary silicification veins traverse these sheared quartz reefs. These veins occur along fracture and joint planes which are parallel to and at an angle of 45° to the general trend of the reefs. They vary in thickness from a few centimetres to over one metre. Cavities filled with white, pink and amethystine quartz are present at places in the thicker veins. Sulphide mineralisation consisting of galena, pyrite, chalcopyrite, etc., are associated with some of these quartz veins. The reefs are almost entirely made up of quartz, though a little serpentine is also present at places. Under microscope the rock reveals porphyroclasts of quartz showing undulose extinction in a matrix of fine granulated quartz showing mortar texture. Cracks in the porphyroclasts are filled with serpentine.

The granite is extensively traversed by basic dykes, which are more numerous than the reefs. Their predominant trend is N. 35° W., making an angle of about 70° with the trend of the reefs. Commonest type of dyke rocks is a dolerite which under microscope reveals ophitic penetration of plagioclase with ferromagnesian minerals, mostly augite. Intersection of the dykes and the quartz reefs are rare.

The Gwalior rocks were deposited on the irregular denuded surface of the granite. The age of these rocks is still in doubt. According to M. K. Roy Chowdhury the relative age of these rocks to the Bijawars to which they bear some resemblance is as yet uncertain. According to V. S. Dubey the age of the trap that forms the upper portion of the Gwalior series (in the adjoining district of Gwalior) is 500 million years. They constitute the plateau range north of the Sind river in Seondha tahsil. The dip of the rocks is towards north and seldom exceeds 7.5 cm. A twofold sub-division of the Gwalior series, Par quartzite and Morar shale has been proposed.

The quartzite is a hard compact rock and breaks with a conchoidal fracture. The colour varies from pale grey to various shades of pink. Usually the rock shows fine grained texture with semivitreous lusture. Under microscope the rock shows an inter-locking mosaic of quartz with a few felspar and little chloritic cement. Towards the base the quartzite shows unaffected mechanical texture as well as current bedding and ripple mark. A few centimetre of the base is conglomerate, formed of small rounded pebbles in a ferruginous matrix. Thin intercalations of shale in the quartzite are noticed in the lower horizon.

The quartzite is intruded by numerous veins of quartz. Near Lagadhu a small quartz-galena load occupies a fracture in the intercalated quartzite and shale at the base of the Parquartzite. Near Ucher, there are two outcrops of red ferruginous quartzite which stand out from the alluvium. This is a hard compact rock with well developed vertical joints. The stratigraphic relation of these isolated blocks with the Par quartzite is uncertain. Locally, a compact calcilicate rock occurs on top of the Par quartzite.

Morar shale is represented by thin flaggy siliceous or ferruginous shales copiously interbedded with chert, both finely bedded and concretionary. Siliceous concretions occur as flattened ellipsoids, usually 4 cm. along the shorter and 6 cm. along the diameter, the latter being parallel to the bedding of the shales. Though foldings are quite common and the exposures, as a whole, exhibit a slight roll, at Gayara and Diroli, white clay underlies the shale. Bands of red ochre in the shales are noticed at many places between Gumanpara to the east and Lokendrapur to the west.

Nearly three fourth of the area of the District is covered by alluvium. Along the Sind river section the thickness of the alluvium often exceeds 15 m. The *nalas* and ravines are often thickly covered with *kankar* (calcareous concretions). The material is used locally for lime burning.

GENERAL

Economic Minerals

The District is not important from the mineral point of view. Only minor minerals such as sand, building-stone, road-metal and morrum are being extracted. The out-put and value of minerals from the permitted quarries during the years 1963 to 1969 is given in the following Table.

Table No. 1-3

Annual Output of Building Materials (in tons)

Year	Sand	Building Stones	Road Metal
1963	221	22,581	5,690
1964	1,946	13,106	..
1965	2,873	5,748	..
1966	6,563	14,964	13,535
1967	5,666	9,734	67,368
1968	8,321	12,171	32,432
1969	14,514	21,796	12,587

The rising trend of production indicates the increase in mineral activity. The production of the minerals during the years 1964 and 1965 increased due to the doubling of Bombay-Delhi railway line. Seondha is a good base for mining activities of sand and building-stone. Red-earth, locally known as *geru* also occurs in Seondha Forest Block. Geru is used for colouring houses and making dyes. Red, yellow and white clays are often quarried for local consumption in some of the forest blocks. Saline soil or *roo* is found at a number of places and is used for washing clothes. In the beginning, salt and saltpetre were exported from Datia state. The production of a coarse variety of salt, generally given to the cattle was limited to about 18,400 maunds and that of saltpetre to 4,000 maunds by the agreement of 1879. The saltpetre was sold chiefly for making fireworks.

Now, there are possibilities of the development of brick industry from clay due to constructional activities in Datia and Gwalior districts.

The District is deficient in underground water resources. Except the four rivers, viz., the Betwa, the Sind, the Pahuj and the Mahuar, none of the streams is perennial. Most of the settlements have to depend on the pools on the river-beds, tanks and wells. In the area occupied by the granite and Gwalior-rock formations the soil cover is very thin and sub-soil water is not available. Similarly, on the alluvium the water-table is lowered down to a great extent in the summers and sometimes the base rocks are struck in the bottom of the wells. Artesian conditions and underground streams fed through the fissures have neither been examined nor investigated.

Seismically the District is located in a safer zone with no epicentre of any major earthquake located in the neighbourhood. The District has been shown in seismic coefficient zone I for designing structures, by the Indian Standards Institution. An earthquake of local importance occurred on the 31st December, 1926 at 25°0' N. 77°5' E. near Guna. Some major earthquakes originating in the Great Himalayan Boundary Fault zone and the Rann of Kutch were felt in the District with their magnitude in Richter scale given below.

Table No 1-4
Magnitude of Major Earthquakes

S. No.	Date	Location	Remarks	Magnitude
1	16th June, 1819	Kutch	Felt moderately	8.0
2	12th June, 1897	Assam	Felt moderately	8.7
3	4th April, 1905	Kangra	Felt moderately	8.0
4	15th Jan. 1934	Bihar-Nepal	Felt moderately	8.25

There is no record to show that the earthquakes occurring in the Vindhya Satpura region on 2nd June, 1927 (24°0':82°3' Rewa-Singrauli), 14th March, 1938 (21°32' : 75°50' Satpura, at Kakora in West-Nimar), 17th January, 1957 (Jabalpur), 25th August, 1957 (22°0':80°0' in Balaghat) and 17th October, 1967 (21°30' : 79°0' near Nagalwadi in Nagpur district) were felt in the District. The intensity of earthquake-shocks can greatly vary locally at any given place due to variations in the soil conditions.

Flora

Main Forest Belts

The natural flora of the District has been disturbed everywhere and the floral species with longer life have been removed from almost the whole of level and cultivable area. The forest blocks are of small size, the smallest being Toda Pahar (16.2 hectare). Seondha and Datia tahsils cover 10,879.9 hectare and 3,977 hectare, respectively. The forest blocks exist in five groups. They are the blocks along the right bank of the Sind, on the banks of the Parron, on the Gwalior rock formations opposite Seondha on the left bank of the Sind, on the granitic rocks around Datia, and the forest-blocks on the granites in Basai enclave.

The Government forests of the District are divided into 40 blocks and have an area of 268.4 sq. km. Of these the forests of the main body of the District form the Datia range and the blocks located in Basai and Mudra enclaves (5.3 sq. km.) formed part of the Orchha Range. In the year 1969 the forests of Datia District were transferred from Tikamgarh Forest Division to Gwalior Forest Division. However,

the Mudra and Basi Blocks (Patwari Halkas 68 to 80) were transferred to Shivpuri district in 1970. All these forest blocks have a legal status of Protected Forests or *Ardh-raxit ban*². The forest area in Revenue records is 18,799 hectare in 1972-73.¹ Other than these some small areas have been shown on records as *Gaon-ka- Jungle* but have not been separately shown in Revenue maps. A few of these forests are known to exist in dilapidated conditions.

The forests of the District fall into two major types² (1) Group 5-Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-subdivision 5 E I *Kardhi (Anogeissus Pendula)* Forests, and (2) Group 6 B- Northern Tropical Thorn Forests-subdivision Composition C2 Ravine Thorn Forests. The predominant species in the whole and Condition of Datia District are *kardhai* and *khaia*. By occurrence *ghont*, *makor* and *babul* are the next to the above species. These forests provide a very small quantity of timber, which is generally of *kardhai*, *dhaora*, *seja*, *tendu*, etc. Minor forest-produces like fuel-wood, charcoal, *tendu* leaves, grasses, *mahua*-flowers, honey, wax, gum and fruits are extracted. Most of these products are consumed locally. The markets demanding a part of these products at higher prices are Jhansi and Gwalior.

Fruits of *tendu*, *aonla*, *ja nua* and *ber* are collected in marketable quantities. The kernel of the seeds of *achar* are also collected by the villagers and sold in the market. *Kardhai (Anogeissus pendula)* Forests occur on the Gwalior in the Seondha block to the west and north of Seondha, on the granitic hills around Datia and in Basai and Urdana enclaves. They also occur in the low-lying area on the right bank of the Sind in Toda Pahar block and parts of Ghughsi and Baraun-Kalan blocks. Except these three blocks all the forest-blocks in the lowlying areas, on the right bank of the Sind and on the banks of the Parron are Thorn Forests. On the left bank of the Sind they occur in a patch to the north-east of Seondha. More than 75 per cent of the total forest area bears *Kardhai* Forests.

Kardhai (Anogeissus pendula) is gregarious and forms pure extensive patches in these forests. If the species is protected well it grows dense, e. g., in portions of Datia, Ghughsi, Gharawa and Seondha blocks, where the forests enjoyed protection since the old state times. The density in better stocked areas varies from 0.5 to 1.0 and is highest in flat areas with deeper soil. It is less on hillocks. The general site quality is IV B. In Ghughsi and Datia blocks, one also finds clear-boled trees. Generally it does not grow beyond 9.1 metres in height and 0.9 metre in girth.

1. District Statistical Hand Book, Datia, 1973, p. 38.
2. H. G. Champion's Classification in the Forest Types of India.

Among the exceptions a *kardhai* tree of over 14.6 metres was also recorded during the enumeration for the working scheme of 1966.¹ If the forests are not effectively protected against grazing the *Kardhai* spreads on the ground like creepers, e. g., in Patara, Bhuta, Chandeva, Radhapur and Abada blocks and a portion of Datia block. In Seondha block the areas adjoining the villages are subject to illicit hacking and grazing. Where conditions are unfavourable due to biotic factors the trees are met with in association with coppice and pollards and this is so in a large part the forests. The trees commonly met with are young to middle-aged. The best protected forests in quality and quantity are in the depth of the large forest blocks. The canopy-differentiation is not well-marked but a classification into big and small trees is possible, due to various factors.

Reproduction by seedlings is good and rootsuckers are often plentiful. The *Kardhai* tends to regenerate in even-aged masses after several years of scanty rainfall and in a condition well-protected from browsing and grazing. The seedlings cannot stand the hot sun, the excess of moisture or an abnormally dry year. The phenomenon of dying back is generally not observed. Associated trees, small trees, shrubs, climbers, grasses, weeds and parasites found in *Kardhai* and Ravine Thorn forests are given in Appendix B.

Due to the formation of a large number of gullies and ravines and the presence of *Kankar* pan layers in the soil along the banks of the rivers Sind, the Mahuar and the Parron the forest blocks in the region, especially the blocks of Dhanauli, Kanjauli, Kedar, Khaurana, Uchad, Ujrela, Marseni and Gorakotra and parts of Ghughsi and Seondha blocks are dominated by the xerophytic trees and shrubs. Large portions of Ravine Thorn Forests are also understocked or blank. Good trees are rare and the growth is generally poor. Regeneration of *reunjha* and *kahir* is occasionally marked. Soil-conservation measures have been taken in most of these blocks and after a degree of restoration is achieved, a better forest stock is expected. Associate flora in this type of forests is also given in Appendix B.

Past System of Management and Results

Datia State Gazetteer records the system of management of forests in the State in 1907. Then the forests were divided into two classes, viz., *Bara* and *Chhota*. *Bara* jungles were sub-divided into Open and Reserved forests. In the case of *Bara* jungles no grass or wood was allowed to be cut without permission. In *Chhota* jungles cattle could graze but wood was not allowed to be cut. A small Duty was levied from people who collected dry-wood and sold it. In the

1. Working Scheme For Tikamgarh Division, 1966-67 to 1975-76.

famine years a reduction was made in the tax and the whole area was thrown open. On occasions of marriage and a few other celebrations wood, grass, etc., were allowed to villagers free of dues.

In the accounts of the tahsils, forests are further described in the Datia State Gazetteer. It is stated there that the prevailing forest-trees in Datia tahsil were *Khair* and *babul* amidst which Pilaji Gaikwar lost his nephew in the battle with the Bundela Chief in 1745. A local saying runs,—

“Datia ki dang men *khair* *babur*
Pilaji *dhundai bhatije ka mund*.”

Of the total area 39,538 hectare were under the forests. Of this one-fourth was “Open” and the rest “Reserved.” In Indragarh tahsil the forests are described to be along the Sind. About one-fourth of this was reserved. The area of forests in Seondha tahsil was 21,610.1 hectare. The forests on the Seondha hills were the best in the State and those in Indragarh tahsil, of little value.

In the old regime the working of the forests cannot be said to have been scientific but the result of protection enjoyed by the forest-crop is still visible in some areas, e. g., Datia block near Chaupara village where the density of *kardhai* is met with up to 1.0. These forests were also prohibited for *Shikar* which was the exclusive privilege of the Ruling Family.

With the formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948, the forests of Datia and Tikamgarh were formed into one Division. Subsequently, the applications of Vindhya Pradesh Forest Nistar, Grazing and Other Rules, 1954, had a very adverse effect on the forests with the increase in the grazing incidence and admission of goats and sheep on nominal grazing fees. The regeneration in particular suffered very badly and it is supposed that due to heavy browsing by cattle, goats and sheep the regeneration of *kardhai* assumed its bushy form in several areas. The forests also suffered due to heavy exploitation as mentioned in the Annual Administration Reports of Tikamgarh Forest Division, 1953-54 onwards. To check this exploitation the coupes were not auctioned for working by the contractors who were also habitually guilty of illicit cutting and extraction.

The forests of Datia District were to be constituted as Reserved forests in 1957. In the year 1959-60 the following felling series were found to be in operation.

- (i) Regular — Gharawa and Bhadaun.
- (ii) Adhoc — Ghughsi, Marseni and Buder.

Records of the occurrence of fire were not maintained but the incidence was negligible. Fire lines were maintained and several precautions of fire-protection

were taken by the subordinate staff of the Forest Department. Regular Fire Protection as defined in Forest Manual,¹ did not commence even up to March, 1966. Only the soil-conservation works in Gora Simari Block and near Gora-ghat were undertaken in 1953 and extended to Tiletha, Badon-Kotra, Uchad, Lanch-Tighra, Govind Nagar, Gora and Andora-Bilaspur blocks of Tikamgarh Division. Apart from contouring and gullyplugging, *babool* (*Acacia arabica*) was planted in all these blocks. *Khair* was planted in the first five blocks. Other species planted in these blocks were *nim* (*Melia indica*), *shisham* and *karanji*.

A new Working Scheme² has been introduced for the period 1966-67 to 1975-76 (Coupes to last upto 30-6-1986.). The Scheme envisages mainly regeneration of forests and checking the soil erosion. This is for the sustained yield of forest produce, providing pastures and a balanced land use. Felling on cycles of 20 years, selection-girth of 50 cms. and closure to grazing for 5 years after the main felling have been prescribed in the *Kardhai* forests. In the Ravine Thorn Forests the main prescriptions are limited to soil conservation and afforestation work.

Taking into consideration the silvicultural requirements and the demand of the people three Working Circles have been formed, viz., Selection-cum-Improvement, Soil-Conservation, and Grass and Fodder Working Circles. The last one includes under-stocked and blank areas. Apart from these, some area still remains unallotted.

Game Laws and Measures for the Preservation of Wild Life

The past history of management of game has a close correlation with forests. The ex-rulers of the State were very fond of *shikar*. The forests were also protected for this purpose. Heavy punishments were awarded to poachers and the game was almost plentiful. *Pucca machans* were built in Datia, Seondha and Uchad blocks for purposes of shooting at favourable sites. As in the case of forests the abolition of States and *jagirs* dealt a severe blow to game-preservation also. Wanton and indiscriminate shootings were resorted to by local villagers. They possessed a large number of muzzle-loading guns under licence for the protection of crops. Illicit destruction of game was frequently done by the people and poaching increased considerably. Poachers are often traders in skin and flesh and they find the business paying. The sense of adventure, outing, exercise, pastime or an appreciation for the beauty of the jungle and animal species is the least among most of such people. The importance of wild-life is seldom realised. The villagers look upon them as pests and usually connive at their destruction. Many Acts and rules for the protection of wild-life have

1. Vol. 1, paras 39 (2) and (3)

2. Proposed by R. K. Verma

been enforced which suffice the requirements but so far these have not proved very effective due to non-cooperation from the public and the difficulties in detection. Only a few cases of illicit shooting are detected every year.

The District is divided in to three Shooting Blocks, viz., Datia, Seondha and Basai. Since November 11, 1971 the Government of Madhya Pradesh imposed a total ban on Shikar of wild animals except virmins, scavengers, rats, etc., for two years. This was further extended for 2 years. Meanwhile an act on total prohibition of *Shikar* upto 31st October, 1976 has been passed.

Fauna

The fauna of the District has not been studied systematically and the only sources of information are the accounts of game animals and fishes in the records of the Forest Department and a list of fishes in the records of the District Fisheries office.

Langur or monkey (*Cemnopithecus entellus*) is very common. Among the graccous feline animals tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and panthers (*Panthera pardus*) exist in large forest blocks only. Locally the former is known as Mammals *sher* or *bagh* and the latter as *tendua* or *gulbagh*. In the area reserved for the *Shikar* by ex-princes about 10 tigers and 12 panthers were estimated in 1966. Elsewhere not more than 10 panthers and hardly any tiger can be seen. These and some other carnivorous animals are also noticed in Ravine Thorn Forests along the rivers and streams in the summer season. Fox and *Lomri* or jackal are very common but *Lakarbaggha* or hyaena (*Hyaena striata*) and *jangli kutta* or wilddogs (*Cuon alpinus*) are rarely observed.

Among the herbivorous animals *Chital* or spotted deer (*Axis axis*) and *nilgai* or blue bull (*Muntiacus muntjak*) are common in the forests. *Bherki* or barking deer (*Boselaphus tregocamelus*), *Chausingha* or fourhorned Herbivoral antelope (*Tetraceros quadricarnis*), *chinkara* or Indian gazell (*Gazella bennetti*), *sambhar* and *suar* or wild boar (*Sus cristatus*) are frequently met with. *Karina* or black buck (*Antelope cervicapra*) is rarely seen. *Khargosh* or hare (*Lepus ruficaudatus*) is a very common small animal.

Mor or peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), *titar* or grey partridge (*Francolinus ponicerianus*) and *bater* or bush quail (*Perdica asiatica*) are very common birds in the jungle. *Jangli murgi* or grey jungle fowl (*Gallus sonneratti*) and *hajial* or green pigeon (*Crocopus chlorigaster*) and hawks Birds are also met with in the forests. Among the water-birds duck (*Sarkidiornis Melanotos*), cotton teal (*Nettapus coromandelianus*), whistling teal (*Dendrocygna javanica*) and snipe (*Capella gallinago*) are common in the numerous rivers and tanks of the District. Dove (*Columba intermedia*), bulbul (*Malpastes Leamarrous pallidus*), *maina* (*Acridotherus tristis*) and parrots are the pet cage-birds found in the forests.

The rivers Sind, Pahuj, Betwa and Mahuar and larger tanks like Ramsagar, Karan-sagar, Lala-ka tal, Makrari, Baroni-khurd and Banda No. 5 are the perennial water-bodies of the District but the amount of water in these rivers and tanks is very small. The variety of fishes found in the water is great but the general size of the fishes is small. Pisciculture is done by Dhimars and other low caste people with their traditional skill. A Hydro-Biological and Physio-Chemical survey of Fishery Resources was undertaken by the Fishery Officer, Gwalior, in 1964. The fishes and other animals found in the waters are homogeneous to the Gangetic Drainage system. Rohu (*Labeo rohita*), bawas (*catla catla*) and mirgal (*Cirrhina mrigala*) are most numerous among the species found in the tanks as well as rivers. Cariat (*Lebeo calbasu*) is abundant in the tanks. In the running waters kursa (*Labeo gonius*), mahaseer (*Barbus tor*), Patela (*Notopterus notopterus*), singara or kitua (*Mystus seenghala*), loch or parheet (*Wallage attu*) and *Ophicephalous* species are abundant. A complete list of fish species found in the District is given in Appendix B.

Tortoises are occasionally seen. Crabs and frogs are seen on the banks and also in the rock holes holding water. Alligators and crocodiles are sometimes found in the rivers during the floods and may stay in a deep pool in the dry season.

Scorpions, lizards and snakes of common types are found in the District.

Twenty-four persons were reported dead due to snakebites during the years 1963, 1964 and 1965. The highest number of deaths occurred during the months of heavy rainfall, viz, July and August. These Reptiles and are followed by the contiguous months of September, October, June Wild Animals and May. In winter the snake-bite cases are almost ruled out. The highest number of human deaths by reptiles was reported from Drolipar Police Station. Seondha, Tharet and Baroni Police Stations have also recorded high figures as shown in the Appendices.

Climate

Except during the monsoon season the District has a dry climate. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season is from December to February. March to May is the summer season. The period from June to about the end of September is the monsoon season. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the District are available for 3 stations for periods ranging from 18 to 70 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for

the District as a whole are given in Appendix A. The average annual rainfall in the District is 760.4 mm. The rainfall in the District decreases from the south towards the north. About 91 per cent of the annual rainfall in the District is received during the monsoon months June to September, the rainiest months being July and August. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is appreciable. In the 50 year period 1901 to 1950 the highest annual rainfall in the District amounting to 167 per cent of the normal occurred in 1917. The lowest annual rainfall which was only 37 per cent of the normal occurred in 1905. In the same 50 year period the annual rainfall in the District was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 11 years out of 44 years for which annual rainfall data are available. Two and three consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once each in this period. It will be seen from Appendix A that the annual rainfall in the District was between 500 and 1,000 mm. in 30 years out of 44.

On an average there are about 35 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 32 at Seondha to 39 at Datia. The average rainfall recorded during the recent five years in each tahsil is given below.

Table No 1--5

Average Rainfall of Tahsils in recent years¹

Tahsil	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Seondha	53.14	69.18	35.34	46.03	50.46
Datia	62.80	94.17	34.08	109.77	69.40

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the District was 243.1 mm. on the 11th July, 1912 at Seondha.

Temperature

There is no meteorological observatory in the District. The description which follows is mainly based on the records of the observatories in the neighbouring districts where similar meteorological conditions prevail. From about the end of February the temperatures increase rapidly. May is the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at about 42° C. and mean daily minimum at about 28° C. On some days the day temperatures may go above 47° C. The heat is intense and the hot dust-laden winds blow to the discomfort of the people. Afternoon thundershowers which occur on some days bring welcome relief, though only temporarily. With the onset of the monsoon by about the third

¹ Source: District Statistical Handbook, 1973, p.1.

week of June there is an appreciable drop in temperature. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the end of September the day temperatures increase a little but the nights become progressively cooler. After October both the day and night temperatures decrease rapidly. January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at about 23°C. and a mean daily minimum at about 8°C. Cold waves affect the District in association with passing western disturbances and the minimum temperature occasionally drops down to about the freezing point of water and slight frosts may occur.

Humidity

Humidity is generally high during the south-west monsoon season, and decreases after the withdrawal of the monsoon. The driest part of the year is the summer season, when the afternoon relative humidities are less than 20 per cent.

Cloudiness

During the southwest monsoon season skies are moderately to heavily clouded. In the rest of the year the skies are generally clear or lightly clouded.

Winds

Winds are generally light with some strengthening in force in the summer and monsoon seasons. Winds are generally from the west or south-west during the south-west monsoon season. In the post-monsoon and cold seasons winds are generally light and variable in direction with the predominant direction being south-west in the mornings and between north-west and north-east in the afternoons. In summer winds are from directions between south-west and north-west.

Special Weather Phenomena

Depressions originating in the Bay of Bengal during the monsoon season which move across the central parts of the country reach the neighbourhood of the District and cause widespread heavy rain and gusty winds. Duststorms and dust raising winds occur during the summer season. Thunder-storms occur generally during the period from May to September. Occasional thunder-storms also occur in the cold season in association with the western disturbances.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

In ancient times Datia was included in the Chedi kingdom, which lay along the southern bank of the Jamuna from the Chambal on the north-west to the Tons river in the east. Its limits southwards may have been, according to Pargiter,¹ the plateau of Malwa. Chedi was closely connected with the Matsyas beyond the Chambal, the Kasis of Benaras, and the Karushas in the valley of the Son, and corresponded roughly to the modern Bundelkhand. The Chedis lived in the land lying between the Yamuna and the Vindhyas and their king named Kasu Chaidya (identified with Vasu of *Mahabharata*) is praised in a *Danastuti* (praise of gift) occurring in the *Rigveda*. The *puranic* literature represents the Chedis as an offshoot of the Yadus.²

According to the *puranic* tradition, Pururva, grandson of Manu, ruled from Prathishthana, near Allahabad, and extended his sway into the Gangetic Doab, Malwa and Eastern Rajasthan,³ evidently covering the Datia region. Pururva's great-grandson, Yayati, was a great Mythology conqueror, who not only reduced the whole of Madhyadesha to submission but also brought under his sway countries towards the south, south-east, and west of his territory.⁴ His eldest son, Yadu (founder of the Yadava line), inherited the territories towards the south-west, watered by the rivers Charmanvati (Chambal), Vetravati (Betwa) and Suktimati (Ken),⁵ which naturally included the area covered by the present Datia District. After some time the main Yadava line was eclipsed by the rise of a collateral branch of the Haihayas.⁶

A few generations later, however, taking advantage of the decline of the Haihaya power, as a result of the conquests of king Sagara of Ayodhya,⁷ the Yadavas of Vidarbha extended their authority northward and Kaishika, the

1. H. C. Raychaudhuri, *Political History of Ancient India*, p. 129 and note 2; N. L. Dey, *The Geographical Dictionary of Ancient India*, p. 48.
2. *The Vedic Age*, pp. 248 and 250; H. C. Raychaudhuri, op. cit., p. 130.
3. *The Vedic Age*, pp. 272-73.
4. *ibid.* p. 274.
5. F. E. Pargiter, *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, p. 259.
6. *The Vedic Age*, p. 278.
7. *ibid.* pp. 286-87.

second son of the Yadava king Vidarbha, founded the Chedi line. His son Chedi became king of the region, which came to be known as Chedidesh and which comprised the country lying south of the Jamuna and corresponding to modern Bundelkhand.¹ It was king Subahu of Chedi, under whose protection Damayanti, the queen of Raja Nala of the Nishadas, passed her days of adversity.

In the Mahabharata War, the Chedi king Dhrishtaketu, son and successor of Shishupala, together with his brother Sarabha fought on the side of the Pandavas.² The Chedi kingdom was one of the principal *Janapadas* of those times.³ Later, Chedi finds place in the sixteen *mahajanapadas* (premier states) of northern India, which flourished about 600 B. C. The Chedi country, which was now ruled probably by the Vitihotras who, like the Chedis, were a branch of the Yadavas, is also taken to correspond roughly with modern Bundelkhand⁴ including Datia District.

The mythological account connects Datia with demon Dantavakra of the epic notoriety. To be more precise, the District is said to have derived its name from this demon king, who was ruling over this area in the *Kaliyuga* period.⁵ He was defeated by Lord Krishna. The victory led to the development of an intimate contact between Saurashtra Janapada and the Kunti Janapada, representing roughly the area covered by Gwalior and Datia Districts. The river Kunwari (means unmarried), which flows across Datia is associated with Kunti, the mother of the Pandava brothers. She gave birth to Karna, while still unmarried and left the child on its current. Probably, the place used to be known as Kontwar in that age. After Dantavakra's defeat the name was changed into Gopal Kachh, after which the hill at Gwalior was called Gopalgiri.⁷

Nandas and Mauryas

In the fourth century B. C., a Nanda king, probably Mahapadma Nanda exterminated the Vitihotra dynasty and extended his rule over this region.⁸ After the Nandas, the District, like the greater part of the country, formed part of the vast Maurya empire. This is corroborated by the Gujarra Inscription of Asoka, the earliest historical record of the District. It is one of the Minor Rock

1. *ibid.* p. 284, F. E. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 272.

2. *Mahabharata, Vana-Parva*, Ch. 65, VV. 44—76.

3. *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. I, p. 245, H. C. Raychaudhuri, *op. cit.*, p. 130, *Mahabharat, Udyog-Parva*, Ch. 19, V. 7, *Bhishma-Parva*, Ch. 50, V. 47, *Vana-Parva* Ch. 22, V. 50.

4. *Mahabharata, Bhishma-parva*, Ch. 9, V. 40.

5. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, pp. 1 and 9, D. R. Bhandarkar, Carmichael Lectures, Vol. I, p. 52.

6. According to some scholars 3101 B. C. was the earlier portion of *Kaliyuga*.

7. V. S. Agarwal, *Datia Ki Yatra*, quoted in *Datia Darshan*, pp. 4-5.

8. Raychaudhuri, *op. cit.*, pp. 233-34, *The Age of Imperial Unity*, pp. 32-33 and 38.

Edicts of Asoka (c. 273-236 B.C.) and begins with the sentence "Of Devanampriya Priyadarsin Asokaraja."¹ The importance of the Gujarra version of the edict lies in the fact, that it is the second of his known epigraphic records which mentions him by his personal name Asokaraja. Before this inscription was brought to light, the Minor Rock Edict I at Maski alone mentioned him by his personal name, Asoka.

Sungas

The Sungas succeeded the Mauryas and though they ruled over a diminished empire, yet they held sway over the central portion of the Mauryan empire, which included Bundelkhand and Malwa.² The Vidisha branch of the Sungas continued to rule over this region more or less semi-independently, even after the overthrow of the main line in Magadh by the Kanvas.³

Nagas

During the first century A. D. Padmavati (modern Padam Pawaya in Gwalior) was the capital of a royal house of the Nagas. The place is less than 8 kilometres from the border of Datia District. Hence in all probability these Naga rulers held sway over this District. The evidence of the Naga rule in this region is provided by an inscription, on the pedestal of the image of Yaksha Manibhadra at Pawaya. It records dedication of the image by the members of an Assembly, devoted to the deity, in the 4th regnal year of king Sivanandin, one of the early Naga rulers.⁴

They seem to have been supplanted by the Kushanas, whose territory embraced nearly the whole of North India and extended as far as Central Asia. Thus, towards the end of the first century A. D. the District formed part of the extensive Kushana empire under Kanishka.⁵

The local Kushana governors in this region were dislodged by the Yaudheyas, the Arjunaijanas, the Kunindas, the Malavas and the Nagas. Padmavati and its surrounding region was thus occupied by the Nagas.⁶ A few coins, discovered at Padam Pawaya, are assigned to the Naga king Bhavanaga. He is mentioned in the Vakataka records as the maternal grandfather of Rudrasena

1. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXXI, Part V, p. 205. The epigraph was found in the hamlet of Gujarra at a distance of 17½ kilometres to the south-east of Datia, at the foot of a hillock, locally known as *Siddhon-ki-toriya*.

2. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 95.

3. *ibid.* pp. 98—99.

4. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report, 1915—16, pp. 105—106.

5. Raychaudhuri, *op. cit.*, p. 473, *The Age of Imperial unity*, pp. 142—43.

6. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 169.

Vakataka I, who himself was a contemporary of Chandragupta II (A. D. 376-414) Bhavanaga might, therefore, have come into power in the later part of the 3rd or the earlier part of the 4th century A. D.¹

Other Naga rulers of Padmavati, who are known from their coins are Bhima, Skanda, Vasu, Brihaspati, Vibhu, Ravi, Prabhakara, Deva, Vyaghra and Ganapati.² They are known to have performed ten *ashvamedha* (horse sacrifice) to commemorate their victory over the Kushanas. The Nagas of Padmavati, therefore, deserve honour for freeing major part of the country from the foreign yoke. Though they themselves originally came from a non-Aryan serpent-worshipping tribe, the Nagas adopted Siva as their supreme god³ and were known as the Bharasivas. Yet another member of this Naga dynasty of Padmavati was Maharaja Ganendra or Ganapa. His coins have been discovered at Padmavati, Vidisha and Mathura. Probably he was one of the two Naga rulers of Padmavati, Ganapatinaga and Nagasena, whom Samudragupta had vanquished during his empire-building conquest about the middle of the 4th century A. D. According to Samudragupta's Allahabad Pillar Inscription, these two kings, along with a few other rulers of Aryavarta, were extirpated by him.⁴

Guptas

After the conquest, Samudragupta appears to have retained friendly relation with the Naga monarchs, as is proved by the marriage of his son with the Naga princess, Kuberanaga.⁵ Again, a Naga chief, Sarvanaga, was appointed a *Vishaya pati* (provincial governor) under Skandagupta in 466 A.D. over the Antarvedi district (region between the Ganges and Yamuna and between Hardwar and Allahabad). Another possibility is, that after the overthrow of Ganapatinaga, Nagasena was given the monarchy of Padmavati as Samudragupta's vassal. Subsequently he might have lost his throne while making a bid to assert independence.

The natural conclusion from all these facts is, that the District came under the Gupta sway in the middle of the fourth century A. D. as a result of Samudragupta's conquests and remained thus, perhaps, till the advent of the Hunas. In spite of there being no direct evidence the district must have shared the brilliance of the Golden Age, the Guptas had ushered in the beginning of the sixth century. The Parvati temple at Nalcha, the Shiva temple at Bhumara and the Dasavatar Temple at Deogarh in the

1. *ibid.* Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, pp. 235-41.
2. H. V. Trivedi, *Catalogue of the Coins of the Naga Kings of Padmavati*, pp. XI-XXIII.
3. *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 168.
4. Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, p. 13.
5. R. C. Majumdar, *An Advanced History of India*, Pt. I, p. 149.

neighbouring Jhansi district, exhibiting significant stages in the evolution of Gupta architecture,¹ are all standing at close proximity from Datia, proving beyond doubt its close cultural association with these imperial monarchs. The spirit of renaissance continued in the region till at least the early years of the 8th century A. D., for it appears from Bhavabhuti's Sanskrit play *Malati-Madhava*, that at that time Padmavati was regarded as a famous seat of learning, where students from distant parts of the country used to gather.²

Hunas

The disintegration of the Gupta empire began during the closing years of the reign of Kumaragupta, continued to decline during Budhagupta's time and its authority nearly collapsed in the time of Narasimhagupta Baladitya, brother of Budhagupta. The challenge to the Gupta supremacy came from the Huna chief Toramana who, advancing from his base in Punjab conquered a large part of western and central India as far as Eran in Sagar district.³ This is proved by an epigraph incised on the chest of a colossal statue of Boar incarnation of Vishnu at Eran⁴. His son Mihirakula, who succeeded him about 515 A. D. overran a large part of north India. His dominion included the region between Gwalior and Eran,⁵ including Datia District. This is proved by an inscription, discovered in the fortress of Gwalior. The record refers itself to the reign of Mihirakula, when a sun temple was built by a Matricheta on the Gopa mountain⁶. The District might have remained under the Huna possession till about 533-34 A. D. when Mihirakula was defeated and killed by Yasodharman of Mandsaur.⁷ According to his Mandsaur pillar inscriptions he carried his victorious arms from the Himalayas in the north to the Mahendra mountains (in Ganjam district) in the south, and from the Arabian Sea in the west to the Brahmaputra river in the east.⁸ Hence in all probability the District was annexed in his vast empire.

According to a Jain tradition, however, Ama, the son and successor of Yasovarman of Kanauj held his court at Gopagiri (Gwalior).⁹ Some scholars believe he was none other than the Brahmin king whom Hiuen Tsang had referred to in his record. This ruler, as the Chinese traveller said, was reigning in Mo-la-po (Malava),

1. *Ancient India*, No. 15 (1959), p. 43. *Archaeological Survey of India*, Vol. X, pp. 104-10.
2. *Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report*, 1915-16, p. 100.
3. Raychaudhuri, *op. cit.*, pp. 595, 627-28.
4. Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, pp. 158-61.
5. *The Classical Age*, pp. 35-37.
6. Fleet, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, pp. 161-62.
7. According to some historians, Narasimha Baladitya of the Imperial Gupta house was the conqueror over Mihirakula, vide R. C. Majumdar, A.S. Altekar and K. Datta, *An Advanced History of India*, Part I, p. 151.
8. R. C. Majumdar, *Ancient India*, p. 311.
9. R. S. Tripathi, *History of Kanauj*, p. 311.

sixty years before his visit. There is no clear indication to show that the District was part of Harsha Vardhan's extensive empire. The Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II asserts that Lara, Malava and Gurjara formed a group of buffer states between the two vast dominions of himself and his northern opponent Harsha. They relied mainly on the southern king for protection against any imperialistic motive of the former.¹

The Pratiharas

The District came under the sway of the Pratihara dynasty in the second half of the eighth century. The Gwalior inscription describes Nagabhata I as the image of Narayan for having crushed the large armies of the Arabs. Nagabhata II, the fourth ruler of the Pratihara dynasty, was a great conqueror, who made Kanauj the capital of his mighty empire. In the east his empire extended upto Gwalior. On the evidence of two inscriptions² of illustrious Bhoja Pratihara, grandson of Nagabhata II (c. A.D. 805-833), dated A.D. 875 and 876 discovered in Gwalior in the north, and a third inscription at Deogarh³, in the south of Datia District, it is beyond dispute that Datia formed part of his empire.⁴ According to Hiuen Tsang the tract was known as Chin-Chi-to (Jejhoti or Jejhoti, corresponding to modern Bundelkhand and comprised 4000 *li*, with a capital of 15 *li* in circuit. The soil was fertile, producing abundant crop, mainly wheat and pulse. The king was a Brahmin no doubt, but he was a firm believer in Buddhism, patronising men of merit and scholarship even from outside. Majority of the people were non-Buddhists, but there were numerous Buddhist monasteries, in addition to more than ten Deva temples and 1000 adherents to other faiths. Usually Khajuraho is taken to be the unknown capital of Jejhoti, or otherwise, Eran might have been the capital, referred to by Hiuen Tsang in 641 A. D. when he visited the place.⁵

The traditions in Bundelkhand suggest the sovereignty of the Gaharwars and Gond in this region about the 5th century A.D. and their extinction by the Parihara Rajputs. A Mahoba tradition too states that the tract witnessed a Parihar dynasty before the advent of the Chandellas.⁶

Bhoja and Mahendrapala brought under their sway a vast empire extending from Kathiawar to North Bengal, which could rival the Gupta Empire. Their realm was decidedly more extensive, with a more stable and organized administration than the Empire of Harshavardhan⁷. That Mahendrapala's Empire

1. *The Classical Age*, pp. 104-5.

2. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. I, p. 195; Vol. XVII, pp. 101-103.

3. H. Hargreaves, *Antiquities of Deogarh*, pp. 13.

4. Thomas Watters, *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, p. 257.

5. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 180.

6. *ibid.* p. 187; *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, p. 5.

7. *Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. X, p. 337; *Journal of the Numismatic Society of India*, Vol. III, Pt. I, p. 69.

included Gwalior and the surrounding region including the territory constituting modern Datia District is proved by his inscriptions, dated V.S. 999 and 1,000.¹ At Masudi, a traveller from Bagdad, who visited India in 915-916 A.D. referred to the Pratihara king (probably Mahipala) as a very powerful monarch, whose dominion touched the Rashtrakuta Empire in the south and the Muslim principality of Multan in the west. He is also said to have been rich in horses and camels and maintained four divisions of armies, each numbering 700,000 to 900,000 at four directions². His poet laureate Rajshekhara rightly called him the "Maharajadhiraja of Aryavarta". It was during the rule of this monarch that the Rashtrakuta king Indra III crossed the Narmada, occupied the capital city of Kanauj and gave a shattering blow to the Pratihara Empire from which it never regained its old prestige. In the third quarter of the tenth century A. D. this region slipped out of their hands, mainly on account of the rising power of the Chandellas.

The Chandellas

The Chandellas were a Rajput clan, tracing their origin from the lunar sage Chandratreya, or from the union of Moon god and Hemavati the beautiful daughter of the priest of the Gaharwar king of Kasi, and are classed among the thirty-six Rajput clans³. According to tradition Maniyagarh (in Chhatarpur) was their original home and Barigarh, Kalanjara, Ajaygarh, Maniyagarh Marpha, Mandha, Garha and Mahiyar were their eight forts. But in the earlier history kings of this dynasty are referred to as rulers of Kharjtravahaka (modern Khajuraho) in their epigraphic records. Historically, however, Nannuka was the founder of the Chandella dynasty, who ruled over a land around Khajuraho in the earlier part of the 9th century A.D.,⁴ as a feudatory of the Imperial Pratiharas Kanauj. He was followed by his son Vakpatiraja. The latter's son was Jayashakti (Jejjaka or Jeja), who gave his name to this country, known as Jejakabhukti⁵. His brother Vijayashakti extended, according to his Khajuraho inscription, the Chandella kingdom by annexing some neighbouring tracts into his own. The next important king, Harshadeva (c.900-925 A.D.) effected the enhancement of the military prestige of his house by rendering ample help to his overlord Mahipala I, Pratihara of Kanauj against the Rashtrakutas⁶. Since then the Chandellas were counted among the greatest powers of North India.

The Khajuraho inscriptions of V. S. 1011 and 1059 eulogise Yasovarman (also known as Lakshavarman), the son and successor of Harsha as undertaking

1. H. C. Ray, *Dynastic History of Northern India*, p. 585.

2. *The Age of Imperial Kanauj*, p. 35.

3. N.S. Bose, *The History of the Chandellas*, pp. 1-3.

4. *ibid.* pp. 15-16 and 42-43.

5. *ibid.* pp. 13, 18-20; *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. I, p. 221.

6. R.S. Tripathi, *History of Kanauj*, p. 257, f. n. 1; Bose, *op. cit.*, pp. 22-28.

several campaigns over an area stretching from the Himalayas to Malava and from Kashmir to Bengal¹. According to these epigraphs, his conquests included the territories of Gauda, Kosala, Kashmir, Mithila, Chedi, Gurjara and the fort of Kalanjara. He was the first ruler of his dynasty to defy the supreme authority of the Pratiharas. From Devapala of Gauda he received an image of Vishnu (which the latter brought from Kashmir), for whose installation he built the Chaturbhuj temple at Khajuraho. He pushed the northern boundaries of his kingdom as far as the Yamuna.²

Dhanga (c. A.D. 950-1000), his son and successor, was the greatest king of the Chandella dynasty. In the beginning of his career he acknowledged the suzerainty of the Pratiharas, but rose against them and asserted independence before 954 A.D. The Pratihara king Vijayapala was defeated by him during this time³. He and his successors assumed the title *Kalanjaradhipati*. Like his father he too made extensive conquests in North India. He is credited in his Khajuraho Inscription of V. S. 1011 to have extended his kingdom as far as Gopadri (Gwalior) on the north-west and the Yamuna on the north⁴. This undoubtedly makes Datia a part of the Chandella kingdom.

Their rule never involved in the displacement of the contemporary principalities in Jejakabhukti. All the earlier possessors were left to their semi-independent feudal position on condition of paying tribute and supplying war force. One such dynasty was the family of Kachhapaghata, who, according to an epigraphic record at the Sas-Bahut temple of Gwalior, was in possession of the Gwalior fort in V. S. 1150.⁵ The Kachhapaghata belong to three distinct branches. The earliest known member of the Gwalior branch was Lakshmana. The extent of his territory is not known, but one of his descendants, viz., Maharajadhiraja Vajradaman definitely established his sway over this region, after defeating the king of Gandhinagara (probably Pratihara king Vijayapala of Kanauj) about A.D. 977⁶. In fact, in all probability, Vajradaman only assisted his overlord Dhanga, the Chandella ruler, who was till then a *de jure* feudatory of Pratihara emperor, to overthrow his own master.

Vajradaman was succeeded by Mangalaraja and Kirttiraja. The latter gave a crushing defeat to a ruler of Malava, probably Bhoja Paramara, but himself surrendered to Mahmud Ghazni, when he invaded Gwalior and Kalanjar in A.D. 1021, in retaliation to the help the Chandellas rendered to Anandapala in A. D. 1008.

1. S.K. Mitra, *The Early Rulers of Khajuraho*, pp. 42-44.
2. *ibid.* p. 55; *The Age of Imperial Kanauj*, p. 83.
3. Bose, *op. cit.*, p. 43.
4. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. I, pp. 129 and 134; Mitra, *op. cit.* pp. 2 and 57.
5. *Indian Antiquary*, Vol. XV, pp. 33-46.
6. *The Struggle for Empire*, p. 56.

Muladeva, Devapala, Padmapala, Suryapala, Mahipala, and Ratnapala were some of the known figures of the Kachhapaghata dynasty. Another prince of this line was Arjuna, who killed the Pratihara king Rajyapala during the reign of his overlord Vidyadhara.¹ As the Jain tradition goes, the last of them was Dulha-Rai, or Tejkaran, the hero of many a romantic folk song, who departed from Gwalior in A.D. 1128.²

Dhanga was a military genius. He was one of the few kings of Northern India who responded in A.D. 989 to the call of Jayapala, king of Punjab, to defend the country against the attacks of Subuktigin of Gazni.³ Later, in A.D. 1001 he again went to the help of Jayapala's son Anandpala against Subuktigin's son, Mahmud of Ghazni.

The next king Ganda, who succeeded his father in A. D. 1008 left to his son Vidyadhara the whole kingdom intact. Vidyadhara, whose known date is between c. A. D. 1017-29, came into conflict with Mahmud of Gazni in 1019 because Vidyadhara got Rajyapala, king of Kanauj, killed by his own feudatory, Arjuna of the Kachhapaghata dynasty of Gwalior.⁴ Mahmud again returned with a large force, marched through perhaps Datia and Jhansi territory and invested Kalinjar. Preferring diplomacy to war, Vidyadhara came into agreement with him. Mahmud, afraid of penetrating into the interior, went back without much gain. Vidyadhara thus achieved the distinction of being the only Indian ruler of those times who effectively checked Mahmud's triumphant march in India and who saved his kingdom from wanton destruction by that ruthless invader.⁵

Kirttivarman Chandella (c. A. D. 1060-1100) arrested for some time the declining glory of his family. A few gold coins of his reign have been discovered. From Vidyadhara onwards the Chandella rulers were entangled in protracted clashes with the Chedi and Paramara rulers. That kept their kingdom in constant turmoil. Among the later Chandellas the names of Sallakshanavarman (c. A. D. 1100-1115), Jayavarman (c. A. D. 1115-1120), Prithvivarman (c. A.D. 1120-1129) and Madanavarman (c. A. D. 1129-1163) stood out in various degrees of prominence. Of these the last named is known to have fought successfully with the Gahadavalas, the Chedis, and the Chaulukyas.

Madanavarman was succeeded by his grandson Paramardideva shortly before A.D. 1165. Though he assumed the title "the lord of Dasarna" he had to suffer defeat from Chahamanas Prithviraja III about A. D. 1182, when the empire

1. *ibid.* p. 58.
2. *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. XIII, pp. 384-85.
3. *The Age of Imperial Kanauj*, p. 85; *The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 3-4 and 8-9.
4. *The Struggle for Empire*, pp. 16 and 58.
5. H. C. Ray, *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, p. 693; Bose, *op. cit.*, p. 62.

Jejakabhukti mandala was overrun. Further, Paramardi had to conclude a humiliating treaty with Qutb-ud-din, when he invested the fort of Kalinjar in A. D. 1202 placing it under the command of Hasan Arnal.¹ His son Trailokyavarman, however, recovered from the Muslims not only the fort but all the territories lost by his father, as evidenced by his Garra grant dated V.S. 1262 (A.D. 1205).²

The territory seemed to have enjoyed respite from the attacks of the Turks for about a quarter of a century, but in December 1232 Iltutmish captured Gwalior and Bayana and left Malik Nusrat-ud-din in charge of the region. Malik Nusrat-ud-din began to make raids on the Chandella territory.³ In 1233 A.D., he led an army through the district to Kalinjar, devastated the area and carried a large booty although Trailokyavarman (probably Rana Chahar of Ajasi of the Muslim chroniclers) put the enemy to flight.⁴ At that time the western boundary of the Chandella kingdom extended to Narwar,⁵ about 20 miles west from the boundary of Datia District. Evidently, therefore, Datia was part of his kingdom.

Trailokyavarman was succeeded by his son, Viravarman (1250-1286), who is known to have been the master of an extensive territory, but in the absence of any direct reference it is difficult to say whether the entire District formed part of his extensive realm. According to his Charkhari plate of V.S. 1311 (A.D. 1254) he granted a village to his Military Commander Rauta Abhi for rendering meritorious service in the battle at Sondhi (identified by Hiralal with Seondha fort in the District, also called Kanhagarh, on the bank of the river Sind) against Dabhyuhadavarman. Who this Dabhyuhadavarman was is not definitely known. He might have been a western neighbour of the Chandella king or even might have been a prince of the same lineage. The broad fact is, at that time the Seondha fort, in Datia District, stood on the western boundary of the Chandella kingdom.⁶ All the region east of this fort, including at least a part of the District, was under the Chandella suzerainty till then. On the evidence of the Dahi grant it is known that Viravarman's officer Mallaya achieved victories over Hariraja of Gwalior, Gopala of Narwar and the ruler of Mathura. The last known rulers of this dynasty are Hamminavarman and Viravarman II, after whom nothing is heard of this royal house.

Sultanate Period

With the downfall of the Chandella dynasty in the extensive kingdom of

1. Hasan Nizami, *Taj-ul-Mahir (Adi Turk Kalin Bharat)*, p. 274.
2. Bose, op. cit., pp. 100-101.
3. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, tr. by H.G. Raverty, Vol. II, pp. 732-35.
4. *ibid.*
5. Bose, op. cit., pp. 107-108.
6. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol XX, Part VII., p. 132; Bose, op. cit., p. 110; Mitra, op. cit., p. 135; *The Struggle for Empire*, p. 60.

Jejakabhukti, all order was lost in this region. Soon independent chiefs established themselves at different centres and its conquest by Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1202 A. D.) had little lasting effect. In 1234 A. D. Iltutmish, therefore, sent Malik Tayasai with an army from Biana and Gwalior to reduce Kalinjar.

During the rule of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud, the son of Iltutmish, an invasion was launched on Kalinjar in December, 1247. The Baghela rulers, Dalkeshwar and Malkeswar, faced the Muslim army bravely, but were defeated. A great portion of the region was now again under Muslim domination. Kalinjar was, however, recaptured by the Hindus.¹ He, therefore, sent Ulugh Khan against Kalinjar with a large army in 1251 A.D.² The fort was, however, recaptured by the Hindus after a short period.

In 1290 and the following years, the Sultan Jalal-ud-din Khalji plundered Ujjain while his nephew Ala-ud-din, after taking permission from his uncle Jalal-ud-din in 1292 A. D., penetrated into Malwa, ravaged Bundelkhand, pillaged Bhilsa and obtained an immense booty at Devagiri. In the late years of Ala-ud-din's rule, the Hindus rose against the Sultan to regain their independence. They were, however, ruthlessly crushed by Ala-ud-din and his generals, and after Malik Kafur's march to the Deccan in 1303, the Muslim power was consolidated over the whole of northern India.³

This region was brought under the rule of the Khaljis in the first decade of the fourteenth century. In 1305 A.D. Malik Ain-ul-Mulk, the governor of Multan, brought Chanderi under subjection. Ala-ud-din, therefore, established effective control over this region and appointed Malik Tamar *muqta* (governor) of Chanderi and Erich.⁴ The latter, which is in the adjoining Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh, not very far from the borders of Datia District, became an important Muslim settlement and a number of famous religious persons hailed from this place. Malik Kafur stayed at Erich for four days while on his way to the Deccan in 1309.⁵

During the reign of Muhammad-bin Tughluq (1325-51 A. D.), the region, it seems, was governed from Chanderi which had become headquarters of a large province,⁶ and was governed by Izz-ud-din Al-Bantami. Later, it was held by the Sultan's brother-in-law, Amir Saif-ul-Mulk.⁷ Chanderi and Erich and surrounding area, which seem to have included Datia territory, remained a part of the Delhi Sultanate during the reign of Firoz Tughluq (1351-1388 A. D.)

1. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., p. 76.
2. Elliot & Dowson, *The History of India As Told By Its Own Historians*, Vol. II, pp. 351 and 368.
3. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 185.
4. *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. III, pp. 89 and 110-11.
5. Amir Khusrau, *Kaazain-ul-Futuh (Khalji Kalin Bharat)*, p. 136.
6. Ibn Battutah, *Rehla (Tughluq Kalin Bharat)*, pt. I, p. 270.
7. *ibid.* p. 229.

This is proved by the fact that in 1373-74, when Firoz laid seige to the fort of Thatta in Sindh, the troops of Erich and Chanderi were requisitioned to reinforce his army.¹ The troops of Orchha, Chanderi and Rath were placed under Malik Muhammad Shah Afghan, the governor of Tugluqpur,² and after his death under his son, Yalkhan.³ The immediate charge of the district around Erich was, however, held by Malik Daud Chap, who was succeeded by his son Sulaiman Khan.⁴

Some parts of this District seem to have been held by Sultan Nasir-ud-din of Kalpi, who set himself up as an independent ruler in 1389-90.⁵ Sulaiman Khan, who continued in the immediate charge of this region with his headquarters at Erich, also declared independence. But he was defeated by Nasir-ud-din in a battle that was fought near Erich and the territory of Orchha and the fort of Erich was incorporated in the Kalpi kingdom. Nasir-ud-din later conferred it on his own brother Azam Humayun Junaid Khan.⁶

Tomars

In the unsettled conditions following Timur's invasion in 1398, the Tomara Rajputs rose to power at Gwalior. They held the region round Gwalior, including, perhaps, parts of Datia District till the final victory of Ibrahim Lodi in 1518 A.D. The founder of this house was Bir Singh Deo, son of a petty zamindar. By acknowledging the suzerainty of Muhammadan kings he and his early successors were allowed to retain possession of the fort, and in course of time this small Tomara principality grew rapidly in strength.

In 1424 Dugar Singh ascended the throne at Gwalior. He was a ruler of extraordinary abilities and under him the kingdom attained a new eminence in the political life of northern India. In 1434-35 he attacked Erich and invested the fort of Bhandar, but peace was restored on receipt of presents from Mubarak Shah,⁷ who, though nominally owing allegiance to Ibrahim Shah Sharqi of Jaunpur, was practically an independent ruler of Erich and the surrounding territory.⁸

Mahmud Shah Sharqi, the ruler of Jaunpur, and Nasir Khan of Kalpi came into conflict and the opposing armies encamped near Erich. An agreement was arrived at after an indecisive battle, according to which Mahmud

1. Shams Siraj, *Tarikh-i-Firozshahi* (Tughluq Kalin Bharat, Pt. II, p. 103).
2. Mohammad Bihamad Khan, *Tarikh-i-Muhammadi* (Tughluq Kalin Bharat, Pt. II, p. 224).
3. *ibid.*
4. *ibid.* p. 27.
5. *Tarikh-i-Muhammadi* (Uttar Taimur Kalin Bharat, Pt. II, p. 27).
6. *ibid.* pp. 29-31.
7. *Tarikh-i-Muhammadi*, op. cit., pp. 41-42.
8. *ibid.* pp. 37-38.

Shah promised to restore the territory of Erich and some other places to Nasir Khan.¹

Khangars

For a considerable period about this time, the history of the District is obscure and rather confusing. According to one tradition, the Khangars rose in power and ruled Mahoba in subordination to the Delhi Court. They extended their power over a considerable tract of country establishing their headquarters at Kundar or Garh Kundar, a place about 20 miles east of Jhansi. The tradition ascribes eighty years as the duration of their domination over the region. We have, however, no particulars of their subordinate rule over the tract.²

Bundelas

The downfall of the Khangars is ascribed mostly due to the rising power of the Bundelas in the region. The Bundela ruler Sohanpal is said to have fought with the Khangars and acquired the tract round about Orchha.³ Sohanpal died in 1290 A.D. and was succeeded by his son, Sahjendra. The latter was succeeded by Nanak Deva and Prithviraj, respectively. Malkhan Singh, son of Arjun Deva and the fourth descendant of Prithviraj, succeeded to the *gaddi* in 1475 A.D. By this time the Bundelas had become a power in the land, 'but how far their dominion extended at this time it is impossible to say'.⁴ In 1482 Malkhan Singh is said to have been strong enough to oppose Bahlul Lodi, the Sultan of Delhi. After Sikandar Lodi's death in 1517 this region was thrown into confusion. The Rajputs captured Chanderi but it was recaptured by Ibrahim Lodi by stratagem and conferred on Husain Farmuli. Raja Malkhan Singh's son, Rudrapratap, who succeeded him in 1507 is however, reported to have annexed a portion of his territory to Sultan Ibrahim Lodi, yielding 1.25 crores.⁵ Babur, on his way to Chanderi against Medini Rai, who held it then, reached Erich on 10 January, 1528. At this time fort of Erich was held by Mulla Afaq, one of Babur's servants.⁷ After capturing Chanderi, Babur conferred it first on Ahmad Shah and later on Medini Rai's son. It is also stated that when Babur had reduced Chanderi, he succeeded in recovering only Kalpi from Rudra

1. Nizam-ud-din Ahmad, *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, (Uttar Taimur Kalin Bharat, Pt. II, pp. 8-10).
2. *ibid.* *Orchhha Gazetteer*, pp. 9 and 14; Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., pp. 115-16, B.D. Gupta, *Maharaja Chhatrasal Bundela*, p. 19 and f. n. 8.
3. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., pp. 115-16.
4. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 190.
5. *Waqiat-i-Mushtaqi* (Uttar Taimur Kalin Bharat, Pt. I, p. 66).
6. Abdul Fazl, *Akbarnama* (Mughal Kalin Bharat, p. 405).
7. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 190.

Partap, and allowed him to rule the rest of his possessions.¹

Thus, the descendants of Sohanpal continued to rule the region till 1531 A. D. from Garh Kunder.² In April of the same year, Raja Rudrapartap founded the town of Orchha as his new capital³ and made it a military station.⁴ He also laid the foundation of Orchha fort which was completed in Vikrama Samvat 1596 (1539 A. D.).⁵ The date (April, 1531) 'marks an epoch-making event in the history of Bundelkhand, and from it is certainly to be calculated the period during which Bundela rule spread' far and wide.⁶

Rudra Pratap had twelve sons from whom sprang, directly or indirectly, all the rulers of the States of Bundelkhand.⁷ Six large erstwhile States (Orchha, Datia, Panna, Bijawar, Charkhari and Ajaigarh) and nineteen erstwhile large jagirs were held by their descendants till the advent of Independence in 1947.⁸ Rudra Partap was killed in 1531 in a contest with a tiger, while saving a cow from it. He was succeeded by his two sons first by Bharat Chand⁹ (1531-45 A. D.) and later by Madhukar Shah (1554-92 A. D.). During the reign of Bharat Chand, Sher Shah led an expedition (1545 A. D.) into Bundelkhand in the course of which he experienced considerable opposition from the Bundelas. Sher Shah besieged the fort¹⁰ and captured it in 1545 A. D., but lost his life from an accidentally exploded shell under the walls of the fort.¹¹

During the reigns of Bharat Chand and Madhukar Shah the "Bundela power was extended over the whole tract of a country between the Sindh and Ken rivers south of a line drawn from Bharat Chand Gwalior to Kalinjar. On the south-west their dominions were bounded by the Sultanate of Malwa, and on the south merged,

with no definite dividing lines, in the wild region known as Gondwana.¹

Madhukar Shah became famous by his skill, diplomacy, courage and bravery and surpassed his ancestors. In course of time, he seized many places in the neighbourhood.² During the reign of Madhukar Shah, several battles took place between the Mughal forces and the Bundelas for the supremacy of the country which the latter had usurped. He had displeased Emperor Akbar by his expeditions in to the country round about Gwalior and Sironj. Emperor Akbar, therefore, frequently despatched armies against Madhukar Shah who was obliged to acknowledge the Mughal supremacy, sometimes, only to reassert himself again.³

Madhukar Shah died in 1592 and was succeeded by Ram Chand (Ram Shah), the eldest of his eight sons. Madhukar Shah's younger son, Bri Singh Deo, along with his other brothers Indrajit and Pratap Rao seized a number of jagirs including Erich.⁴ When Akbar attempted to arrest him, he was forced to vacate Erich and he went over to Salim, who had turned a rebel.

Salim's rebellion was causing much anxiety to Akbar, who recalled Abul Fazl from the Deccan for consultations. As Salim was highly prejudiced against Abul Fazl, he directed Bir Singh Deo Bundela of Orchha, who himself was in rebellion for sometime, to attack and slay him. The opportunity offered itself when Abul Fazl was passing through this territory, on his way to Agra. Bir Singh Deo attacked Abul Fazl on 9 August, 1602 near Antri, a village in the present Gwalior district, cut off the historian's head, and sent it to Salim,⁵ who received it with joy and treated it with insult.

Akbar was stunned by the blow. He took immediate steps to punish Bir Singh Deo, and ordered Rai Rayan (Tifur Das), the finance minister, "not to rest till he had severed his body." Bir Singh Deo fled first to the fort of Bhandar and later to the fort of Erich. One night, however, he was able to escape and reach Salim's camp at Allahabad. Early in 1604 Akbar again sent

1. Elliot & Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VI, p. 261.

2. Jhansi District Gazetteer, p. 190.

3. The town of Orchha was founded on Vaisakh Sudi 13, 1588 V.S. (Sunday, April 29, 1531). B.D. Gupta, op. cit., p. 19, f.n. 9. Some are of the opinion that Malkhan himself had transferred his capital from Garh Kunder to Orchha (Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., p. 124).

4. Jhansi District Gazetteer, p. 191.

5. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., p. 134.

6. Jhansi District Gazetteer, p. 191. See also: B.D. Gupta, op. cit., p. 10.

7. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., p. 125. Irvine has mentioned only nine sons of Rudra Pratap (Irvine, Later Mughals, Vol. II, p. 218.)

8. Irvine, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 218.

9. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., 126; Elliot & Dowson, op. cit., Vol. IV, p. 407.

10. Shah Nawaz Khan, *Maasir-ul-Umara*, tr. by H. Beveridge, Vol. II, p. 106.

11. K.R. Qanungo, *Sher Shah and His Times*, 339.

1. Jhansi District Gazetteer, pp. 191-92.

2. *Maasir-ul-Umara*, Vol. II, pp. 106-107.

3. *ibid.* Abul Fazl, *Akbarnama*, Tr. by Beveridge, Vol. III, pp. 294-95, 324-26, 379, 803, 923-24.

4. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, pp. 19 and 109.

5. *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, pp. 805-806. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, tr. by Rogers and Beveridge, Vol. I, pp. 24-25.

Rai Rayan, who was given the title of Raja Vikramajit and promoted to the rank of 5000, to hunt down Bir Singh Deo. The imperial forces captured Orchha and drove away the Bundela chief. After a few months it was reported that Bir Singh Deo had thrown poison into the wells of Orchha, the imperial forces, therefore, had to withdraw from there.¹

On Jahangir's accession, Bir Singh Deo was assigned Orchha as a reward for the murder of Abul Fazl. Bir Singh Deo carried on the administration of the State under the patronage of Emperor Jahangir. He was, moreover, successful in extending his dominions on account of the special favours granted to him by Jahangir.²

Ram Chand, on his return from Agra, prepared to contest the inheritance, aided by his grandson Bharat Shah. Jahangir soon ordered Abdulla Khan and other *amirs* in October, 1606 to assist Bir Singh Deo in the contest with Ram Shah. After some indecisive fighting near Orchha, he was treacherously seized by Abdulla Khan and sent to Agra under an escort. Jahangir pardoned him and conferred on him the jagirs of Chanderi and Banpur and bestowed a robe of honour on him.³ In the meanwhile, Bharat Shah took the lead and succeeded in capturing Dhamoni in 1607. After Ram Chand's death in 1612, Bharat was made a *mansabdar* in imperial service and his rank was raised from time to time. Such recognition continued in the reign of Shah Jahan.⁴ The same year Bir Singh Deo received a rank of 5000 horse.⁵

"Towards the end of the reign of Jahangir, Bir Singh Deo is said to have become disaffected and to have oppressed all the *Zamindars* in his neighbourhood. The reasons for the ill-feeling are unknown, but the imperial hold on the turbulent chieftain was retained by the detention of his son, Jujhar Singh, at his court".⁶

In 1625 Mahabat Khan seized Emperor Jahangir while he was proceeding to Kabul, and confined him.⁷ On hearing this Bir Singh Deo, 'who had not of late been on good terms with his patron', at once sent his son, Bhagwan Rao, to assist Jahangir. The Emperor recognised Bhagwan Rao's services for coming to his aid at this critical juncture,

1. *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, pp. 813-816, 819, 826, 838; Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VI, p. 108.

2. B.D. Gupta, op. cit., p. 20.

3. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, Vol. I, p. 87.

4. *ibid.* p. 88; *Maasir-ul-Umara*, Vol. I, pp. 407-408.

5. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, Vol. I, p. 204.

6. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, 1909, pp. 195-96.

7. Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VII, p. 420.

and bestowed upon him a rich *Khilat*. Later on, Bir Singh Deo is said to have sent his son again to the Imperial Court.¹

On his return to Orchha he found that his father, feeling the weight of years, had handed over the management of the State to Jujhar Singh, his elder brother. Bhagwan Rao was very angry at this, for he considered himself to be the successor of the *gaddi* as he was the son of the senior Rani. He, therefore, at once left for Agra to lay his case before Jahangir. Bir Singh Deo then made efforts to arrest him *enroute*, but all was in vain. Bir Singh Deo, however, soon assigned *jagirs* to all his sons. But, Bhagwan Rao's *jagir* of Palera had already been made over to his sons, Dhurmangad and Sakat Singh, during his absence.

Thus, Bhagwan Rao had no *jagir* at this time. Bir Singh Deo was, therefore, forced to grant him a separate *jagir*, which included the town of Datia with its palace and the tahsil of Baroni. He was allowed one hundred Madhukar Shahi lancers as a body-guard and one hundred attendants from among the Mahajaja's own servants. Besides, he got possession over three swords received from the Mughal Emperor and an image of Lakshmi Narain, which belonged to the late Maharaja Madhukar Shah.²

Bhagwan Rao had already returned to Orchha from Agra and made arrangements to take up his new assignment. Thus, Datia State was founded by Bhagwan Rao, son of Bir Singh Deo of Orchha, in 1628. He left Orchha on 20th October, 1628 and took up his residence at Datia. As a ruler of Datia also he served the Mughals in their several campaigns. When a Mughal army was sent to suppress the rebellion of Khan Jahan Lodi (1629-30), Bhagwan Rao joined the third division of the Mughal army under Shaista Khan. His three brothers—Pahad Singh, Chandrabhan and Nahar Singh³—also took active part in the campaign. Nahar Singh was killed in one of the battles of the campaign. After the defeat and death of Khan Jahan Lodi in 1630, Bhagwan Rao returned to Datia. Next year he assisted Asaf Khan in a campaign against Bijapur.⁴ During the second rebellion of Jujhar Singh of Orchha in 1635 A. D., he alongwith his kinsman Devi Singh of Chanderi, assisted the Mughal army against Orchha Chief.⁵

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, pp. 2-3.

2. *ibid.* p. 3.

3. Elliot & Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VII, pp. 13-14.

4. *ibid.* p. 28.

5. *ibid.* pp. 47 ff. The first revolt of Jujhar Singh had broken out in 1628 (pp. 6-7). See also: B.D. Gupta, *Maharaja Chhatrasal Bundela*, p. 23.

In 1639 he is said to have joined the Mughal army in an expedition and in return for his good services there, he was granted the *pargana* of *bhander* and a *mansab* besides many minor honours.¹

Bhagwan Rao died in 1639-40 at Datia, where a cenotaph, *Surahi Chhattri*, stands in his memory. His *mansab* at the time of his death was one *Hazari zat*-600 horsemen.² He had three wives, of whom the Subhakaran eldest Rani bore a son, Subhakaran, and a daughter, named Dharma Kunwar. Subhakaran, who now succeeded his principality of Datia, did not receive any imperial *mansab* forthwith, hence in about 1652 A. D. Aurangzeb, then the Viceroy of the Deccan, called Subhakaran there, and gave him a *mansab* of 1,000 *zat*-500 horsemen under himself. There Subhakaran contributed greatly in the conquest of the Baglana region. In 1658 A. D., he accompanied Aurangzeb to the North and fought bravely against Maharaja Jaswant Singh and was wounded in the battle of Dharmat. In the battle of Shamugarh too he fought bravely. He participated in the battle of Khajawah as well against Shuja where his brother Prithviraj is said to have been killed. For the services thus rendered by him, Subhakaran's *mansab* was increased to 2,000 *zat*-1000 horsemen in 1660 A. D.⁴

In 1661 A. D. Subhakaran was appointed alongwith Raja Indraman of Orchha and other Mughal commanders to subdue Champat Rai Bundela, who had lately been creating disturbances. Champat was then forced to retreat to the hills where he was finally defeated. Some time later, Subhakaran was appointed with the Mughal army in the Deccan under Mirza Raja Jai Singh, where he took part in the siege of Purandhar and later commanded the left wing of the Mughal army in Mirza Raja's campaign against Bijapur (1665 A. D.). But he could not pull on with Mirza Raja Jai Singh, and getting annoyed with him, Subhakaran returned to the Imperial Court.⁴

In 1667 A. D. Subhakaran's *mansab* was increased to 2,000 *zat*-1,500 horsemen, and soon after he was appointed with Amin Khan, the governor of Kabul. But as he could not pull on with Amin Khan, in the following

1. The statement of *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 3, that the expedition was against a rebellious governor of Lahore is wholly wrong and hence unacceptable. Bhagwan Rao was possibly then sent to Lahore enroute to Kabul.
2. Abdul Hamid Lahori, *Padshah Nama*, Vol. II, p. 734.
3. *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Eng. Trans. Vol. I, pp. 442-43.
4. *ibid.* pp. 442-43, 829, Vol. II, pp. 720-21, 882; *History of the Dekhan* Tr. by Scott, Vol. II, pp. 12-13; J.N. Sarkar, *Shivaji and his Times*, p. 115.

year he was summoned to the Imperial Court and was appointed to the Deccan army.¹ In the battle near the Antur pass (Oct.-Nov., 1672) against the Marathas, the Mughal victory was mainly due to Subhakaran and his Bundela contingent. Subhakaran's son, Dalpat, was wounded in the fight and consequently Dalpat's *mansab* was raised to 300 *zat*-300 horsemen for his faithful services.² Chhatrasal, the son of Champat Rai of Orchha, visited Subhakaran, while returning to north after staying with Shivaji at Poona for some time. During this visit he made efforts to persuade Subhakaran to join the fight against the Mughals, but he failed to enlist him.³

Subhakaran continued to be with Diler Khan's army in the Deccan till the beginning of 1679 A. D., when he fell seriously ill, and was obliged to retire to Bahadurgarh. His son Dalpat Rao then took the command of the Bundela forces. Subhakaran's illness proved fatal and he died at Bahadurgarh in A. H. 1090 (1679 A. D.) at the age of fifty-three.⁴ He left two sons, Dalpat Rao and Arjun Singh.

At the time of his death, Subhakaran's *mansab* was of 2,500 *zat*-2,000 horsemen. He was a soldier unequalled in battles. He was much lamented by all and Diler Khan and all his nobles condoled with his son Dalpat.⁵ Aurangzeb is said to have evinced great sorrow at the death of Subhakaran, for he had served him most faithfully.

Dalpat now succeeded his father. He had joined the Mughal service at an early age even during his father's life time, and in 1668 A.D. he had been given a *mansab* of 250 *zat*-80 horsemen, which was later raised after Dalpat Rao the battle of Antur pass as has been stated before. On his father's death his *mansab* was raised to 500 *zat*-500 horsemen. Subhakaran had always kept a numerous and gallant body of horsemen in his service and paid them munificently. The *mansab* now granted to Dalpat was only trifling, yet he consoled his father's soldiers and retained them all in his own service.⁶

1. *Almagir Nama*, p. 1034; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Eng. Trans., Vol. I, p. 443.
2. Ferishta, *History of the Dekhan*, Tr. by Scott, Vol. II, pp. 33-35; J. N. Sarkar, *Shivaji and his Times*, pp. 189-90.
3. For details, see :
B.D. Gupta, *op. cit.*, p. 37 and f.n. 22 and 23; Gorelal Tiwari, *op. cit.*, p. 178 and f.n.; *Chhatraprakash*, pp. 80-81.
4. Ferishta, *History of the Dekhan*, Tr. by Scott, Vol. I, p. 51; J. N. Sarkar, *Shivaji and his Times*, pp. 317-18. For the location of Bahadurgarh, See, Elliot & Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII, p. 383 f. n.
5. *History of the Dekhan*, Tr. by Scott, Vol. II, p. 52.
6. For the details of his life, See Ferishta, *op. cit.*; Vol. II, pp. 52-120; *Maasir-ul-umra*, Eng. Trans Vol. I, pp. 443-44.

Dalpat continued to serve in the Deccan under Diler Khan, then the general of the Mughal forces there and actively participated in the various Mughal campaigns in Deccan. After Dilerkhan's recall, he served under Khan Jahan Bahadur, who had been appointed the Viceroy of the Deccan for the second time.¹

But before very long there was a quarrel between Dalpat and Khan Jahan Bahadur. While he was at Aurangabad, an emissary of Shambhaji had managed to escape through an escort of Dalpat Rao. When the pursuing party reported the matter to Khan Jahan, he was furious and accused Dalpat Rao of conniving at his escape. This allegation was denied by Dalpat Rao, but the Mughal Viceroy refused to accept his explanation and proceeded to send a force to search his camp. On this the whole Bundela faction rose in arms and Khan Jahan was obliged to desist from this action. He, however, soon reported the matter to Aurangzeb, who declined to believe the tale, and to ease the situation merely transferred Dalpat Rao to another force.²

In November 1661 Dalpat Rao joined Hasan Ali Khan in the campaign of the Deccan. He received a wound during siege of Ramsaj.³ He next joined Ghazi-ud-din Khan on his march to Bijapur with the supplies from Ahmadnagar. On the way the Marathas attacked the Mughal army with a view to snatching supplies from them. The attack was, however, repulsed killing 4,000 of them. For this act of bravery Ghazi-ud-din Khan received the title Firoz-Jang, and Dalpat Rao that of Rao with permission to have an *alam*⁴ (royal standard) borne before him.⁵

Dalpat Rao fought bravely at Bijapur in 1686 and received a wound with an arrow while fighting there. He also participated in the siege of Adoni (1688) and was made the *killedur* of the fort afterwards. In 1692 he suddenly left Adoni and joined Prince Bedar Bakht, and thereby incurred the Emperor's displeasure, resulting in the reduction of his *mansab*. Later on, he was deputed to escort a Parsian ambassador to Aurangabad. On the way he repulsed an attack of the Marathas and captured their leader, Lakhoji (Lakhu) Sindhia. In 1694 A. D. he joined Zulfikar Khan at the siege of Jinji and distinguished himself by his resourcefulness. He was, therefore, rewarded with an increase in his *mansab* to 3,000 zat-1,500 horsemen. It is

1. Elliot and Dowson, op cit., Vol. VII, pp. 323, 330, 336 and 348; *History of the Dekhan*, Tr by Scott, Vol. II, pp. 52-53, 56.
2. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 6; Scott, *History of the Dekhan*, Vol. II, p. 58.
3. J. N. Sarkar, *History of Aurangzeb*, Vol. IV, pp. 294-95; Scott, *History of the Dekhan*, Vol. II, pp. 59-60; Elliot & Dowson, op. cit. Vol. VII, p. 312.
4. Abul Fazl, *Ain-i-Akbari*, tr. by H. Blochmann, Vol. I, p. 50.
5. *Datia State Gazetteer*, 1907, p. 6; Scott, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 70.

said that he was also given a pair of massive gates, which were preserved in the State on the gateway of the *Phul-bagh*.¹

In 1698, his son Ram Chandra was appointed the *Killedar* of Namunagarh. He, however, secretly left his post and made an attempt to seize Datia in his father's absence. His attempt was frustrated by Aurangzeb who sent his officials to intervene in the matter. Ram Chandra even went to Chhatrasal to seek his help in securing the *gaddi* of Datia State, but Chhatrasal declined to render him any assistance, except giving him an asylum for the time being. Ram Chandra, therefore, soon after joined Kherandesh Khan, the *Fauzdar* of Erich, and continued to conspire against his father, Dalpat Rao,² and consequently there was a temporary reduction too in Dalpat's *mansab* then.

In about 1700 A. D. Dalpat Rao became the commander of the advance guard in the army of Zulfikar Khan in place of Daud Khan Panni and his *mansab* was increased to 2,500 zat-2,500 horsemen. He then took active part during the sieges of the forts of Parnala and Wakinkhera. In 1750 Dalpat's *mansab* was finally raised to 3,000 zat-3,000 horsemen, and it continued to be so till his death.³ Dalpat Rao sided with Azam Shah in the disputes which arose between him and Shah Alam Bahadur Shah. Dalpat Rao and his bosom friend Raja Ram Singh of Kotah fought bravely in the battle of Jajau (19th July, 1707). He was mortally wounded in the battle-field and died soon after. His friend Raja Ram Singh was also killed.⁴ Dalpat Rao's cenotaph stands in a garden at Jajau.⁵

Dalpat Rao had three Rani. The first Rani Chandavali bore no children. The second Rani Chand Kunwar gave birth to Ram Chandra, and the third Rani Guman kunwar bore four sons namely Bharati Chandra, Prithi Singh⁶, Senapati, and Karanju. Prithi Singh received Seondha in jagir and Senapati was granted *khasgi* near Nadigaon, while the others lived at Datia.⁷

Prithi Singh of Seondha was a man of literary taste. He composed *Ratan Hazara* under the pen name of *Rasanidhi*. His adviser and guide, Akshar Ananya,

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 6; Scott, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 81-82; *Maasir-i-Alamgiri*, Eng. Tr., p. 238.
2. B. D. Gupta, op. cit., p. 140.
3. Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VII, pp. 370-71, 377-82; *Maasir-ul-Umra*, Eng. Tr., Vol. I, p. 444.
4. *ibid.* pp. 396-99; James Tod, *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan*, Vol. I, p. 370; Vol II, p. 462.
5. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 7.
6. Prithi Singh had distinguished himself in 1712 in the attack on Azam Shah's camp, and as the leader of Jahandar Shah's vanguard (*Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Vol. LXV, p. 148).
7. *Datia State Gazetteer*, 1907, p. 7.

was also a poet of great merit and repute. According to local tradition, Chhatrasal Bundeia had invited the famous philosopher poet, Akshar Ananya to his *darbar*. Ananya, however, refused to visit his court.¹ Dalpat Rao, a great warrior, won conspicuous renown for his principality.

On the death of Dalpat Rao, Bharati Chandra, the younger brother of Ram Chandra, disputed the succession to the *gaddi* of Datia State. Ram Chandra Rao then appealed to Maharaja Udot Singh of Orchha, who Bharti Chandra supported his claims. Ultimately Ram Chandra came out successful in the struggle that ensued. Bharti Chandra, however, continued to give trouble to his elder brother until he died in 1711 A.D.

Soon after his accession, Ram Chandra went to Lahore to pay his respects to Emperor Bahadur Shah. The Emperor is said to have given him a *Khilat* and the same *mansab* as his father had held, confirming him in his possessions.² In 1714, Ram Chandra Rao is said to have visited Delhi where he went to the court fully armed despite the Emperor's orders. The Emperor was, however, much pleased with his courage and praised him instead of blaming him.³ Ram Chandra Rao, like his predecessors, was a born soldier, and took part in the various military campaigns. He took part in a campaign in 1722 A.D. against the Jat Chief, Badan Singh.⁴ In the year 1728 he helped Jagat Singh Bundela (later of Jaitpur) in opposing Muhammad Khan Bangash.⁵ He joined Burhan-ul-Mulk Saadat Khan in his march on Kora-Jahanabad⁶ against Bhagawant Singh Khichi, whose father had killed the governor Janisar Khan. In the fight which ensued, Ram Chandra Rao died of a mortal wound. Later a cenotaph was erected in his memory at Kora.⁷

Ram Chandra had five wives. The first Rani, Sitaju, bore a son named Ram Singh. The fifth Rani, Bichitra Kunwar by name, bore three sons-Ajit Singh, Budh Singh and Raghunath Singh. These three brothers received Khasgibagra in *Jagir*. The eldest son, Ram Singh, died in the year 1730. His cenotaph stands at Gadipur. His eldest son, Guman Singh, died of small-pox in 1728.

1. Gorelal Tiwari, op. cit., p. 226; B.D. Gupta, op. cit., p. 112a.

2. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 7.

3. *ibid.*

4. Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VII, p. 532; Vol. VIII, p. 360.

5. Pogson, *The History of the Bundelas*, p. 107; Seid-Gholam-Hossein Khan, *Seir-Mutaqherin*, tr. by Nota-Manus, Vol. I, pp. 260-61.

6. Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. III, pp. 41 and 341.

7. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 8.

In the year 1736 A.D. Indrajit, the grandson of Ram Chandra, succeeded to the *gaddi*. This succession was not without a contest. Raghunath Singh, an illegitimate claimant, was brought on the scene to succeed to the *gaddi* but was unsuccessful due to the intervention of Indrajit Maharaja of Orchha. An amicable settlement was then reached by assigning Nadigaon in *Jagir* to Raghunath Singh.¹ Since Indrajit was a minor, the administration at the time was conducted by Rani Sitaju.

Meanwhile the Peshwa had already obtained a footing in the neighbouring tract and was in possession of Jhansi, Kalpi, Sironj and other places. Thus, Datia was exposed to incursions by the Marathas. In the year 1742 A.D. Naro Shanker the Maratha General, invaded Datia tract and occupied Daboh and other parts of Datia.² In 1742-43 a contribution of 4 lakhs and one thousand was levied by the Marathas on the Datia State.³ In the same year, Azam-ul-lah Khan, the new Governor of Malwa, proceeded to Datia and exacted a tribute of Rs. 7 lakhs from Indrajit in return for the renewal of this *Jagir*.⁴

The first success of Indrajit was against Bahadurju, son of Prithi Singh, Jagirdar of Seondha. When Bahadurju attempted to throw off the suzerainty of Datia, a force under Devi Singh Gujar was sent by Indrajit, which brought Bahadurju to order and forced him to evacuate Seondha.⁵ In the year 1746 A.D. Datia was invaded by Pilaji Jadhav. In the battle fought in the close proximity of Datia, Jadhav was repulsed and wounded, while his nephew Khanderao died in the field.⁶

During the rainy season of the year 1760 A.D. Shah Alam visited Bundelkhand and received the Datia Chief Indrajit at Banda, where the title of Raja was conferred upon him. A *takhtrawan* or portable throne, two royal standards and *Arabi bujas* or Mughal band instruments were also said to have been presented to him.⁷

Indrajit died at Datia in 1762 A.D. and was succeeded by his son Shatruijit. Shatruijit ruled Datia till 1801, when he died in the battle of Seondha against the force of Daulat Rao Sindhia. Before describing this main event of

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, pp. 8-9.

2. *ibid.* p. 9.

3. Wad and Parasnis, *Selections from the Peshwas Diaries*, Vol. III, p. 138.

4. Elliot and Dowson, op. cit., Vol. VIII, p. 68.

5. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, pp. 101 and 137.

6. Harimohanlal Shrivastava, *Datia Darshan*, p. 12; Rajwade, *Peshwanchi Shakavali*, p. 103.

7. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 9.

his life we may trace some other important events of his regime. In the year 1768 A.D. he was confronted with the succession problem of Orchha *gaddi*. Shatruijit helped Dulaju, the adopted son of late Raja of Orchha, by placing him on the *gaddi* and driving away an unrightful claimant for it.¹ Shatruijit thus returned the debt of obligation which the Datia House had incurred when the Raja of Orchha intervened in favour of Shatruijit's father Indrajit on the succession issue. In return for this service Shatruijit was given 17 villages by the Orchha Raja. Again, in the year 1771 A. D., help was stated to have been sought by the Orchha Raja on his being ousted from the *gaddi*, and necessary aid was given to him by Shatruijit. But this event has not been corroborated.²

Meanwhile, the foreign enemy appeared on the doorsteps of Bundelkhand. The British, who had already obtained a foothold in Bengal, determined upon a policy of war against the Maratha State at the beginning of the year 1778. This development was much welcomed by many chiefs of Bundelkhand, including the Datia Chief. Thus, when Col. Leslie set on his march from Calcutta to Bombay-Poona enroute Bundelkhand, in May 1778, he received *Vakil* from Raja of Datia also, professing amity and friendship with the British.³

However, Col. Leslie's march created an impression as if he wanted to reduce the whole of Bundelkhand and then triumphantly march against Poona. This put the local Chiefs on their guard and for once the Marathas and the Rajputs united in a common desire to oppose the English. The result was the death of Col. Leslie in October, 1778 near Rajgarh. In fact the Datia Raja was maintaining a double show. This is evident from the fact that in 1778 while Shatruijit sent a *Vakil* for entering into some kind of understanding with Mahadji Sindhia, he was on the other hand also in league with the English and had captured the *pargana* of Alampur from the Maratha district of Bhandar in collaboration with the Rana of Gohad.⁴

Shatruijit met his death on 3 May, 1801 A.D. fighting for the cause of the widows of Mahadji Sindhia. The whole event has been described by H. Compton, in his *European Military Adventures of Hindustan* thus: "Till January, 1801 Lakwa Dada proceeded to Datia with a large force taking the Bais (widows) with him. He took up his quarters before the fort of Seondha where he had collected an army of 6,000 horse, 3,000 Bundela troops and 2,000 sepoys, the latter being commanded by Colonel W.H. Tone, and 16 guns. The position was a strong one, a net work of ravines protecting the front for seven miles, while the fort was at his rear.

1. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, p. 102.

2. *ibid.* See foot-note and text for details.

3. Varma, S.P., *A Study in Maratha Diplomacy*, pp. 181-82.

4. *ibid.* p. 243.

Ambaji Inglia under orders from Sindhia prepared to attack him, and advanced with 5,000 horse and three brigades of regular infantry, one of the latter having been sent by Perron in command of Colonel Pedron, while a second was under James Shepherd and Joseph Bellasis, the third being under a native Kaleb Ali".

"In March 1801 the army moved on Seondha fort under Bala Rao, Ambaji's brother, while Ambaji returning to Gwalior. Lakwa Dada had also tried to enlist the support of Jaswant Rao Holkar and Ali Bahadur of Banda, but they held off. Perron learning of the serious turn events were taking proceeded personally to take command. Perron arrived in May with a battalion of infantry and 2000 Muhammadan horse. He found Pedron overawed by his difficulties. This dilatoriness enraged Perron who ordered a general assault on May 3rd at dawn, the troops attacked in three columns by passes leading to Lakwa Dada's position, Pedron was on the right with four battalions, Shepherd and Bellasis and Kaleb Ali in the centre, and Captain Symes on the left with four battalions and 2000 Muhammadans horse. Colonel Tone who held the pass which Pedron attacked, fought with consummate gallantry until overpowered and taken prisoner. Shepherd and Bellasis were opposed by Barar Singh whom they drove back. The left wing under Symes met with a severe defeat at the hands of the gallant Datia Chief and sustained heavy loss. On hearing this, Perron took two battalions from Pedron and placed himself at their head. After rallying and reforming the routed troops he led them back to the assault with the greatest personal daring and courage. Inspired by his presence and example, the men answered to his appeal and the position was now stormed with complete success. The old Raja of Datia fought until he was mortally wounded, having been recognized by the enemy from an umbrella held over his head by a servant while Perron was himself injured by a spear thrust during the attack. Barar Singh was killed and Lakwa Dada wounded, the Bais escaping. The camp was plundered on the flight of the troops. The severity of the fight may be gauged from the fact that Pedron had 1,000 men killed and wounded, including among the latter two European officers. In the centre Bellasis was killed and 1,500 men were killed and wounded, while Symes and another European were wounded. There is no doubt that but for Perron's gallantry, Sindhia's army would have been badly beaten, if not annihilated. Tradition states that Shatruijit himself gave Perron his spear wound and adds that he died from it. The last statement is not true as Perron retired in 1803, and died in France in 1834.¹

1. Quoted from the *Eastern States [Bundelkhand Gazetteer]*, pp. 102-103; H. Compton *European Military Adventurers of Hindustan*, pp. 244-46.

Raja Parichhat, the son of Shatrujit, succeeded in the year 1801 A. D. He made some attempts to recover his lost territory from Sindhia and other Marathas, and succeeded in taking Bhandar from them. As a matter of fact since the Marathas had come to power in the Bundelkhand region, they were constantly ravaging the State. Getting tired of them, Raja Parichhat decided to bring an end to the menace by a treaty between the British and himself in 1804.¹ Accordingly in March, 1804 when he received information that Captain Baillie, Agent to the Governor General in Bundelkhand, was touring in the neighbourhood, he at once proceeded to Nadiagaon where the Agent was in camp. A treaty of alliance was signed on 15 March, 1804 at Koonjan Ghat between the two.²

Under the terms of the treaty the possession of the Datia Raja was confirmed to him. The Article of the Treaty read, "The territory which from ancient times has descended to Rajah Pareechut Bahadur by inheritance is hereby confirmed to the Rajah, and to his heirs and successors, and they shall never be molested in the enjoyment of the said territory by the British Government, nor by any of their allies".³

Raja Parichhat had a constant dread of Ambaji Inglija who was the cause of death of his father Shatrujit. Therefore a specific provision was made under Article 9 of the Treaty which read, "If Rajah Ambaji Inglija at any time molest the possessions of the Rajah, the British Government shall interfere to prevent him."⁴ Thus Datia came under the British protection, although the Raja was free in the internal administration of the state.⁵

The relations between the Datia Raja and the British continued to be most cordial. Consequently, the Raja provided all possible assistance to the British in their Bharatpur Campaign and Pindaries Campaign. In recognition of these services the Raja was awarded *Chaurasi Ilaka*, including Indragarh,⁶ which was corroborated in an alliance concluded between the two on 31 July 1818 at Kalinjer, which also ratified the treaty of 1804. Under Article 4 of this treaty, the British Government specifically consented to protect the Datia territory against all foreign enemies. The Article read, "The British Government hereby agrees to protect the original territory of the Raja of Dutteeah, as well as the district now granted to the Rajah from the aggressions of all foreign powers".⁸

1. A. Vaidvelu, *The Ruling Chiefs, Nobles and Zamindars of India*, Vol. 1, p. 182.

2. *Datia Darshan*, p. 13.

3. C. U. Aitchison, *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, p. 89.

4. *ibid.*

5. Gorelal Tiwari, *Bundelkhand Ka Samkshipt Itihas*, p. 341.

6. *Datia Darshan*, p. 13.

7. C. U. Aitchison, *Collection of Treaties Engagements and Sanads*, Vol. IV, Pt. II, pp. 90-93.

8. *ibid.* Vol. V, p. 91.

Cordial relations of the Datia House with the British overlords is evidenced by the successive visits of the Governors-General to Datia and vice-versa. Thus in 1818 A. D. Lord Hastings visited Datia, where he was received by the Chief. The Raja visited Lord Amherst at Kanpur in 1824 and, in 1825 Lord Combermere stopped at Datia and a *darbar* was held in his honour.¹ In the year 1829 A. D., Lord William Bentinck held a *darbar* at Kaitha which was attended by Raja Parichhat also. In December, 1835 Colonel Sleeman visited the Chief while passing through Datia, and has left a vivid account of his visit in *Rambles and Recollections*. He describes the Raja as "a stout cheerful old gentleman (he was then 65) as careless, apparently about his own dress as about that of his soldiers". He was then suffering from an attack of sciatica which he had for 12 years, and which had deprived him of the use of one of his legs.

About the town of Datia Sleeman writes, "The Duteea contains a population of between forty and fifty thousand souls. The streets are narrow for in buildings, as in dress, the Raja allows every man to consult his own inclinations. There are however, a great many excellent houses in Duteea and appearance of the place is altogether good."²

Raja Parichhat died in 1839 A. D. at 70 years of age. As he had no sons, he had, before his death, adopted Vijai Bahadur as his son. There is an interesting story about Vijai Bahadur's adoption. Raja Parichhat found him one day lying on the grass, as he was shooting through one of his preserves. His elephant was very near treading upon the infant before he saw it. He brought home the boy, adopted him as son, and declared him his successor for having no son of his own,³ whose succession was recognized by the British.

The succession was, however, opposed by Diwan Madan Singh of Barauni, a collateral branch of Parichhat's family, on the ground of consanguinity and an old agreement that, in the event of the Datia Chief dying without male heirs the succession would be in the Barauni family, but as the British Government had already recognized the adoption of Vijai Bahadur, and the succession was agreeable to the people, the claims of Barauni family were set aside. The Thakur of Barauni endeavoured to obtain recognition of the district tenure of his Jagi in independence of the Chief of Datia, but in this too he did not succeed.⁴ Vijai Bahadur was of a religious disposition and he spent large sums of money at Banares, Vrindaban and other pilgrim centres.

1. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, pp. 103-104.

2. W. H. Sleeman, *Rambles and Recollections of an Indian Official*, Vol. I, p. 303.

3. *ibid.* p. 314.

4. C. U. Aitchison, *op. cit.*, Vol. V, p. 11.

The Great Revolt

On the eve of the Great Uprising, when the stormy clouds were gathering in the horizon, Raja Vijai Bahadur was on the horns of a dilemma. He was in the close neighbourhood of Jhansi, where Rani Laxmibai was preparing to fight against the British; at the same time the Orchha Rani was a strong ally of the British. In such a situation, Vijai Bahadur decided to keep aloof from their politics but maintain friendly relations with both, and watch.¹

On 5 June, 1857 the Revolt broke out at Jhansi which was only 17 miles away from Datia territory. Just before this Jhansi, along with Jalaun and Chandri were placed under the supervision of Captain Skene, to whom nearly the full powers of the Commissioner were given.² Finding themselves in a critical condition, while headquartered at Jhansi, Captain Skene wrote to Datia Chief, asking for assistance.³ Similar letters were written to other chiefs. The British were taking shelter in the Jhansi fort. And till no help was forthcoming, Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi supplied them with food for two days. Then she advised Skene and his colleagues to fly at once to Datia and place themselves under the Raja's protection. But before the follow on action could be taken in the afternoon of 8 June massacre of Europeans took place in circumstances which are still the subject of debate.⁵

On June 12 the rebels made for Delhi after extorting a large sum of money from the Rani of Jhansi. Thereafter, she assumed the administration of Jhansi, and wrote to the British clarifying her position and asking their help to send troops for the maintenance of law and order.⁶

The Raja of Datia was watching these developments carefully. He decided to take benefit of the confused situation and, in September, 1857 he annexed and assumed charge of four parganas of Mateel, Talgeum, Dohah and Kuren, adjoining the Datia territory in the Jhansi district, and reported having done so to the Lieutenant Governor of the North-Western Provinces, to the Agent of Governor General of Central India and to Major Erskine, Commissioner of Jabalpur.⁷

1. *1857 Ke Vidroh men Vindhya Pradesh Ka Yag* pp. 5-6.

2. W.C. Erskine, *Narrative of Events attending the outbreak of disturbances and the Restoration of authority in the Saugor and Nerbudda Territories in 1857-58*, p. 1.

3. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 210-11.

4. Letter Dated 20th August, 1889 from Martin to Damodar Rao, the adopted son of Rani Laxmi Bai quoted in G. L. Tiwari's *Bundelkhand Ka Samshipti Itihas*, pp. 361-52.

5. A.S. Misra, *Nana Saheb Peshwa*, p. 337.

6. Parliamentary Papers "Re" Mutinies in India, 1857, No. 4, Further Papers No. 6, p. 61.

7. *ibid.* No. 1, p. 271.

Subsequently in the report sent during the week ending 12 October, 1857 the British reported to London that the Raja of Datia and Rani of Tehree (Orchha) had attacked Jhansi district on both sides, and annexed portions of it.¹ By the month of November, 1857 the British had to report that Raja of Datia and Rani of Tehree, had seized much of the Jhansi territory, although their intentions towards the British Government did not seem clear.² By the month of January, 1858 the British received reports from the Rani of Jhansi complaining to them against the above annexations by Datia Raja and Tehree Rani. However, no help was to be sent to her by the British. Her harassment at the hands of the Datia and Orchha Chiefs professing their allegiance to the British, caused great apprehension to Rani Laxmibai.³

Meanwhile, Raja Vijai Bahadur had passed away at the outset of the Great Revolt and was succeeded by Phawari Singh who had been adopted from the Bhasnai family during the life time of Vijai Bahadur. The Bhasnai family were descendants of Har Singh Dev, a brother of Raja Birsingh Dev of Orchha. Datia State was lucky in having this adoption recognized by the British in 1857 itself, whereas Jhansi State and others had failed in the same attempt before. Bhawani Singh (born in 1845) being minor, the elder Rani took over Regency and gave whole-hearted support to the British.⁴

With the intention of capturing Jhansi, Sir H. Rose's forces reached there on the 22nd March, 1858. The Datia State sent 2,000 to 3,000 men to take post on the borders between Datia State and Jhansi.⁵ Subsequently, Jhansi fell and during the night of 4 April, 1858 Rani Laxmibai escaped to Kalpi in the disguise of a man.⁶ The Rani was accompanied by a faithful escort and with her was her father Mama Saheb alias Moropant. But later Mama Saheb got separated from the party when it became scattered. The Rani herself with a few *sawars* proceeded along the Kalpi Road in the direction of Bhandar where she had originally intended to go. But Mama Saheb had lost his way and in the morning found himself at the gates of Datia (near Unnao), faint and exhausted.⁷

Baldeo Modi, a *Kamdhar* of Datia State at first gave him shelter at Unnao. But later the host, out of fear, made Moropant over to Datia forces, which sent him to Jhansi where he was tried and hanged at Jokhan Bagh. For this service Baldeo Modi was rewarded with Rupees 2,000 and *Sanad* granted to him

1. *ibid.* p. 572.

2. *ibid.* p. 925.

3. *Nana Saheb Peshwa*, p. 338.

4. Agnihotri, *Vindhya Pradesh Ka Itihas*, p. 379, *Datia Darshan*, p. 14.

5. Parliamentary Papers "Re" Mutinies in India, 1857-58, No. 5, Further Papers No. 8, p. 131.

6. *Jhansi District Gazetteer*, p. 222.

7. *Nana Saheb Peshwa*, pp. 340-341.

by the British.¹ Subsequently, Rani Laxmibai, reaching Gwalior, wrote an angry letter to the Regent Rani of Datia warning her of consequences.

Whereas the Datia State threw its lot with the British, there were a number of patriots in Datia who decided to take part in the revolt against the British. Notable among them was Diwan Jawahar Singh Pawar. He was Diwan of Katela, a *Jagir* in Datia. During the time of Revolt he was Commander-in-Chief in the force of Maharani Laxmibai of Jhansi. He continued to serve the Rani till her death. After her funeral he escaped to forests. He continued to elude the British pursuers for fourteen long years when they gave up his cause due to efforts of Amatya Dada Khatkas of Gwalior.²

Quarrel over Succession Issue

The Elder Rani (Regent) died in 1858, and the second Rani, Pran Kunwar, was made the Regent. After the establishment of peace in India, disturbances arose in the State, since the Regent Rani began to support the pretensions of Arjun Singh, an illegitimate son of Vijai Bahadur, to the *gaddi*, in place of Bhawani Singh. At length matter reached an *impasse* when the Rani and her adherents seized the Seondha fort and defied authority. A British force was then sent into the State. The fort was taken and the Rani obliged to submit. Arjun Singh was exiled to Benaras, but he subsequently lived at Nowgaon, where he died in 1887. The Rani was placed under surveillance and other leaders were imprisoned in Chunar fort.³ The claims of Barauni branch of the family to the succession were again brought forward and rejected in 1861. In October 1861, Captain Thompson was deputed to Datia on special duty and Datia State was put under his superintendence, until May, 1865 when Bhawani Singh was invested with ruling powers.

In 1862 the ruler was granted a *sanad* guaranteeing him the right of adoption. In August, 1865 the British Government decided that in future the ruler of Datia should be addressed as Maharaja. A salute of 15 guns was approved for the Maharaja of Datia on 26 June, 1867.⁴ In January, 1877 hereditary title of "Lokendra" was bestowed upon him.

Datia's Relation with Barauni

An important question to the State, which had been pending for many years, was decided upon in 1882 A. D. It related to the devolution of shares

1. *1857 Ke Vidroh Men Vindhya Pradesh Ka Yog*, pp. 6-7; *Nana Saheb Peshwa*, p. 341.
2. Letter No. 324, Dated 19 July, 1958, from Agent to the Governor General-addressed to the Secretary to Govt. of India, quoted from *1857 Ke Vidroh Men Vindhya Pradesh Ka Yog*.
3. *Datia Darshan*, p. 54.
4. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, pp. 104-105.
5. *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, Vol. V. pp. 12-13.

in the Barauni Jagir. The main point involved was the origin of this estate, and it was decided that the Jagir was a grant, entirely independent of Datia, made from Delhi, and that the Maharaja could not therefore, claim to stand in the same relation to Barauni as he might to jagirdars holding under a grant from his State, though the Barauni Jagirdar must be considered as politically subordinate to Datia.¹ In the year 1902 the British Government re-affirmed its decision that in matters of succession Barauni was not subject to Datia, and that succession to shares in the Barauni estate must be according to the rules of prevalent Hindu law. This decision, however, in no way affected the general subordination of the Barauni *sardars* to Datia State.²

In 1888 the Maharaja ceded to the British Government civil and criminal jurisdiction in the lands which had been acquired in Datia State for the Indian Midland Railway (Central Railway). A question of compensation arose, but the Maharaja declined to receive any payment from the Government for the land he made over for the railway.³

In the year 1897 the Datia territory witnessed the most serious famine, in which the entire population suffered very severely. For handling this famine with marked success, the title of K. C. S. I. (Knight Commander of the Star of India) was bestowed on Maharaja Bhawani Singh in January, 1898 and the title of Rao Bahadur was conferred on Diwan Janki Prasad.⁴ The Datia Maharaja also attended the Coronation Darbar in January, 1903 and was present at the Darbar held on 16 November, 1905 at Indore by the Prince of Wales. On the 1st January, 1906 his salute was raised from 15 to 17 guns as a mark of personal distinction.⁵

The Growth of National Consciousness

Meanwhile, the policy of Lord Curzon to effect partition of Bengal in 1905, had greatly antagonized the national feeling of the people. The people of the country took it as a challenge and decided to countermand it. One of its results was a wide circulation of a number of publications, which were deemed of a revolutionary character by the British. Such circulation found its traces in the Datia region also. Alarmed at this, the circulation of the following publications was stopped in the year 1909-10, throughout Datia State.⁶

Om Bande Matram,
Talwar,

1. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, p. 105.
2. *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, p. 13.
3. *ibid.*
4. *ibid. Datia Darshan*, p. 15; *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, p. 117.
5. *Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, p. 13.
6. *Datia State Administration Report, 1909-10*, p. 14.

The Indian War of Independence, 1857,

The Bande Mataram of Geneva,

Swaraj,

Choose O' Indian Princess.

Raja Bhawani Singh died on 4 August, 1907 and was succeeded by his only son, Govind Singh. The salute of 15 guns was allowed to him with the title of His Highness Maharaja and "Lokendra".¹ Following his accession, administration started showing signs of declination and deterioration. On account of the atrocities committed by the Maharaja, life and property of the inhabitants became most insecure and oppressions or disgrace to them became appallingly common. During the period from 1907 to 1911 the name of Datia became a byword for corruption, inefficiency and general misrule, so much so that the state and the capital were being abandoned by their inhabitants. As a result, in the decade of 1901-11, while all the surrounding districts and States showed a great increase of population that of Datia fell off by one-seventh.² The streets were described to be empty and houses were giving a deserted look.

Due to these unsatisfactory affairs of the State, Maharaja Govind Singh was deprived of his powers on 19 November, 1911 and was required to live under certain conditions, outside the State, with Captain Tyndall as his guardian. Govind Singh left the State on 22 December, 1911. His counsellors were also turned out of the State.³

After a course of training in administrative work at Ajmer,⁴ the Maharaja was allowed to return to Datia on 31st July 1914.⁵ On the following day a Darbar was held in which the Political Agent restored to Govind Singh the powers of a Ruling Chief.⁶ On the restoration of authority, the Maharaja renewed his pledge of loyalty to the British in these words "I have never wavered much less digressed — from my duty and loyalty to the Supreme Government and will consider myself most happy, if ever an occasion arises, in which I am able to give my personal services to and place the full resources of my state at the disposal of that Government".⁷

1. *Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer*, p. 106.

2. *Datia State Administration Report*, 1912-13, p. 2.

3. *ibid.* 1911-12, p. 2.

4. *ibid.* 1912-13, p. 1.

5. *ibid.* 1914-15, p. 5.

6. *ibid.*

7. *ibid.* p. 9.

Such an occasion was not far to come. And to revive relation with the British and prove his worth, the First World War came as a boon in disguise to the Datia Raja. As soon as World War I was declared in 1914 the Maharaja offered his personal services and all the resources of his State to the British Government.¹

Arrangement for a War Hospital of 100 beds was made at Datia and the Maharaja allowed the use of his Radha Niwas Palace for the purpose. Thus, in due course a big and well-organised general hospital, named the Hardinge Hospital, came into existence. The State supplied a company which was named the "Datia State Company" to the Labour Corps. In addition the Maharaja decided to subscribe Rs. 25000 annually towards war efforts.² The contributions were regularly paid every year till the end of the War.

Thus the Datia Maharaja proved to be a sincere ally of the British. Probably that was one of the reasons that in the year 1921 when the wind of the change was sweeping the country following the launching of Non-co-operation Movement by Gandhiji, Datia remained unaffected.³ During the year 1930, however at the time of Diwan Azizuddin Ahmad, political consciousness in the District led to the formation of the Datia Prajamandal at Jhansi. Its aim was to achieve responsible government for the people. For a long time the leaders remained outside the State. Prominent amongst those who came forward to lead the Movement were Ram Charan Lal Verma and Diwan Kalika Prasad.

It was during those stirring years that the great revolutionary Chandra Shekhar Azad took shelter in Datia for some time. He was introduced to Nahar Singh, the Diwan of Datia by Master Rudranarayan Singh of Jhansi. Diwan Nahar Singh left Datia due to difference of opinion with the Datia Maharaja. And, therefore, Chandra Shekhar Azad also restricted his visits to Datia.

The appointment of Ain-ud-din was made in December, 1943 as the Diwan of the State. He was infamous for his maladministration, ill-temper and dictatorial methods. The people tolerated the atrocities committed by the Diwan for about two and half years. Then Datia Relief Committee was established by the people in the year 1946 with its headquarters at Jhansi.

The conference of the Datia Praja Mandal was held from 6 to 8 October, 1946 in which Pandit Parmanand, Swamy Swarajyanand, Maulvi Ali Mohammad of Bharatpur and many other leaders delivered powerful speeches

1. *Datia Darshan*, p. 15, *Datia Administration Report*, 1914-15, p. 30.

2. *Datia Administration Report*, 1914-15, p. 35.

3. *Datia Darshan*, p. 55.

criticising the Diwan and demanded a responsible government in the State. With a view to counteracting agitation, for responsible government, Diwan Ain-ud-din instigated communalists to oppose the demand for responsible government.

The result of this rapid communal propaganda was that some miscreants defiled and broke idols. When the Hindus and the Muslims demanded an enquiry into the defilement of idols, they were discourteously treated by the Diwan. Thereupon, people resorted to strike, and nearly 400 State employees resigned *en masse*. Consequently, Datia Maharaja intervened in the matter and promised to consider dismissal of the Diwan, on the arrival of the Political Agent. The strike was then called off. However, on 5 November, the Political Agent after arrival attempted to delay decision. The people of Datia raised their united voice for the dismissal of Ain-ud-din. A mass agitation was started under Mahant Dasarathidas and Baba Shyamdas. Head Master Keshav Rao Ram Chandra Rao Chikte joined the agitation by tendering resignation from his post.

To intensify the agitation, a Datia Peoples' Committee was formed with Mahant Dasrathidas as its Chairman. Almost all the employees tendered their resignations. Consequently, Datia Maharaja ordered the dismissal of Ain-ud-din and the strike was called off on 8 November, 1946. But this great victory of the people was short-lived. On the 11th November, Resident of Central India, Robert Campbell, arrived on the scene. He cancelled the order of the Ruler, deprived him of all his powers and entrusted the administration to the Political Agent.

Movement Intensified

The Political Agent adopted repressive measures to counteract the popular movement. The Diwan was reinstated. Section 144 was promulgated and a number of arrests were made. The people rose like one man against the intervention by the Political Department to impose an unwanted Diwan. The result was that all markets throughout the State suspended business and nearly 1300 state employees resigned. Thus, the entire administration was paralysed. Non-cooperation with the administration was so complete that Crown police and military, which had been rushed to quell the movement, could get food stuffs only from neighbouring British Indian territories. A unique feature of the struggle was that the Political Department openly accused the Ruler of instigating unrest and threatened him with deposition, if he failed to use his influence to put an end to the agitation.

The reaction of the Ruling House to the undue British pressure was indeed novel. The Maharani of Datia went on hunger strike, demanding that the Resident should stay the Maharaja's orders regarding dismissal of the

Diwan. Meanwhile, top leaders and a number of other persons were arrested for participating in the anti-Diwan movement. Inside the jail they started hunger strike unto death.

The agitation reached its climax when on 18 November, at a public meeting about 5,000 women of Datia threatened to leave the state 'en masse' and migrate to British Indian territory if Diwan Ain-ud-din was not immediately dismissed. On 23 November, the Datia Peoples' Committee decided in the presence of Syed Hamid Ali, representative of Madhya Bharat Deshi Rajya Praja Parishad, to affiliate itself with the All India States Peoples' Conference. With the efforts of Datia State Praja Mandal and Datia People's Committee a visit of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was arranged on 27 November to resolve the deadlock. Though his visit to Datia did not materialize, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, President of the All India States Peoples' Conference was authorised to take up the matter.

In the meanwhile, Campbell, the Resident, and the Political Agent were transferred. Later, on 4 December, 1946 as a result of direct intervention by the Political Adviser to the Crown Representative, the dispute was resolved. The Datia Ruler, Maharaja Govind Singh, made a midnight announcement giving out the decision of the Political Department. Accordingly Diwan Ain-ud-din was dismissed from service, political prisoners were released and state employees who had resigned were taken back.

According to competent political observers, Datia was the only place in the country where Gandhiji's technique of non-violent non-cooperation was adopted so faithfully and with such a singular success.

At the same time to meet the demand for a responsible government, a Council was set up with a popular minister, known as the General Member. However, the new set up did not work well as the Minister did not represent the people.

Independence came on 15 August, 1947. Datia with the other princely states signed the Instrument of Accession transferring to the Government of India the three subjects of Defence, Communications and Foreign Affairs, but the substance of responsible Government did not reach the people of the state. It, however, became increasingly clear to the discerning among the Rulers that it was impossible to resist the rising tide of political consciousness.

In the beginning of 1948, during the time of ministership of Rao Krishnapal Singh, a vigorous movement was launched by the Datia Praja Mandal. In this Movement the people of Seondha took more active part

than others. But the clamour did not yield much.¹ With the efforts of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, Datia, like other minor states in the country, together with other States of Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand region, was merged to form Vindhya Pradesh, which was inaugurated on 4 April, 1948.² Maharaja Rewa took the office of the Raj Pramukh of this new State. In the beginning, two Cabinets were formed, one for Rewa and the other for Bundelkhand. The system did not work well. In July, 1948, therefore, both the cabinets were merged into one with Kaptan Awadhesh Pratap Singh as Prime Minister.

This ministry resigned on 14 April, 1949 and on the 1st May, 1949 Shri Nath Mehta took over as Prime Minister. Later, on 25 January, 1950 there was transfer of enclaves by which villages were transferred to Uttar Pradesh, Old Madhya Pradesh and Madhya Bharat. The present boundaries of Datia District thus came into existence.⁴

Thereafter, Datia remained a district under Bundelkhand Commissioner's Division whose headquarters was at Nowgaon. On 1 November, 1956, due to Reorganization of States, Datia was merged into the present Madhya Pradesh.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

Population

With an area of 785.67 sq. miles¹ (2,034.88 sq. km.) and population 2,00,467 according to Census 1961, Datia ranked forty-third in descending order, both in respect of area and population. Even in the matter of population growth it ranked forty-third, (i. e. the last in the then existing 43 districts in the Province) having registered an increase of 24.46 per cent during 1901 and 1961. It also had the least number of inhabited villages i. e. 416 in 1961. Owing to the absence of forces leading to urbanization and change in criteria, the number of towns in the District had gone down from four in 1951 to one in 1961. The same position holds good in 1971 as well. The District is still last in descending order in area and population.

Occupying 0.46 per cent of the State's area amongst the districts of Gwalior Division, Datia with 255 persons per sq. mile ranked third in respect of population density, the first two being Bhind (373) and Gwalior (326) in 1961. The same position holds good in 1971 as well.

The population distribution amongst its two tahsils, namely Datia and Seondha is tilted in favour of the former, which also contains the only township in the District. The tahsilwise break up of population according to Census 1961 and 1971 is given in the following Table.

Table No. III—1

Area and Population, 1961, 1971

Tahsils	Area in sq. km.	Total population	Population 1971		
			Persons		
			1971	1961	
Datia	1108	1,16,404	146,911	77,514	69,397
Seondha	926	84,063	108,356	58,228	50,128
Datia District	2034.0	2,00,467	255,267	1,35,742	119,525

Source:—Datia District Census Hand Books, 1961, 1971.

1. According to the State Survey Department.

1. *Datta Darshan*, p. 58.

2. *Vindhya Bhoomi*, p. 77. The Date is shown as 23 April 1948 in *Datia Census Hand Book*, 1961, p. XXXVIII.

3. *Vindhya Bhoomi*, p. 77.

4. *ibid.* *Datia Census Hand Book*, 1961, p. XXXVIII.

The Proportion of Sexes

The northern districts of the State had returned lesser females than males, and Datia was exception with 898 females per 1,000 males.

During the period of sixty years since 1901, the sex-ratio has registered a steady and consistent decline, except for 1901-11 decade, when there was a slight increase from 925 to 928 females per 1,000 males. The variation in proportion of sexes is given in the following Table:—

Table No. III—2
Sex-Ratio

Census	Sex-Ratio (No. of females per 1,000 males)		
Year	Total	Rural	Urban
1901	923	913	968
1911	928	921	973
1921	925	921	945
1931	906	904	914
1941	906	903	922
1951	902	889	945
1961	898	895	914
1971	881	878	893

Source : Census Hand Book, 1961, Census Reports, 1971

Conspicuously enough, the pattern of sex-ratio in rural and urban areas in the District shows a unique trend. Urban sex-ratio, persistently keeping an edge over the rural sex-ratio during all these years, stands contrary to the general pattern where the rural sex-ratio maintains a wide edge over the urban sex-ratio. In all the districts of Gwalior Division, except for Morena and Datia, the general pattern of sex-ratio is reflected. In the absence of fuller data it is hazardous to assign reason to this tendency. Absence of forces leading to urbanization and predominantly an agro-oriented economy of the District has its own influence on the peculiar behaviour of urban sex-ratio. During the 1951-61 decade, the proportion further declined from 902 in 1951 to 898 in 1961. Datia Tahsil showed higher sex-ratio (915) than the entirely rural tahsil of Seondha (874).

Growth of Population

The first enumeration of population in Datia dates back to the year 1881, when 1,82,598 persons were returned. In the next decennial Census of 1891, an increase of 3,842 persons or 2.1 per cent was recorded.

The total population in that year was 1,86,440 which decreased to 1,73,759¹ in the next Census of 1901, representing a decrease of 7 per cent. The number of males was 90,350 and females 83,409 giving a ratio of 922 females to 1000 males. The average density of the then Datia State was 190 persons per sq. mile.

Of the total population in 1901 Census 1,36,328 or 78 per cent were born within the State and 1,44,944 or 83 per cent within Bundelkhand region. Of those coming from elsewhere, 17,130 came from other States in Central India and 11,680 from Rajputana and British India.

The growth of population between 1901 and 1971 is given in the following Table:—

Table No. III—3
Growth of Population (1901-71)

Year	Population	Decade Variation	Percentage decade Variation
1901	1 61,064	—	—
1911	143,220	—17,844	— 11.08
1921	137,714	— 5,506	— 3.84
1931	147,412	+ 9,698	+ 7.04
1941	163,336	+ 15,924	+ 10.80
1951	164,314	+ 978	+ 0.60
1961	200,467	+ 36,153	+ 22.00
1971	255,267	+ 54,800	+ 27.34

Source : Census Reports, 1961, 1971.

The decline of 11.08 per cent during the decade 1901-11 has been attributed to the poor land management, which forced many cultivators to leave the region and also to the effects of famines of 1903-04 and 1906-07 and the plague mortality of 1905. The then Ruler had admitted the fact of poor land management in his address. He said: ".....it would be seen that the cultivating classes had no chance of thriving in the State, a reason which accounts for the reduction of 25,000 souls in the population of the State when compared with the Census of 1901....."²

1. Unadjusted population.
2. Extract from the report of Maharaja Lokendra Govind Singh Bahadur regarding Administrative Reforms in Datia from 1.8.1914 to 31.7.1916 on the occasion of the visit of Agent to the Governor-General in Central India on 22.9.1916.

The 1911-21 decade was the period of influenza and plague and the District suffered a loss of 5,506 persons or 3.84 per cent over 1911 population. The ensuing decade of 1921-31 was characterized with conditions generally favourable for growth, and by 1931, the population of the then State increased to 1,47,412 representing an increase of 7.04 per cent. Datia, it appears, is not very much exposed to migration, and in 1931, it was enumerated that only 15.2 per cent of its total population consisted of immigrants. Gwalior in the north-west and Jhansi in the south are the principal places from where immigrants came.

About 10.80 per cent increase in the population of Datia, during 1931-41 decade, corresponds with the pattern of population growth of Gwalior Division and the State, which increased by 14.03 per cent and 12.34 per cent, respectively. In the 1941-51 decade, the growth rate of population falls off. In this respect, Datia resembles many other princely States where, as a result of political changes, if the population did not actually decline, atleast increase was not considerable.

The growth of population in the decade (1951-61), however, was in accordance with the general pattern registering an increase of 22.00 per cent. In view of these reasons, it is therefore, not surprising that the net variation in population during the sixty years since 1901 is only 24.46 per cent as against 55.27 per cent in the Gwalior Division and 92 per cent in the entire State of Madhya Pradesh.

The decadal variation of 27.34% during 1961-71 though highest so far is not surprising when it is compared with that of the surrounding districts. Similarly, the mean decennial growth rate which was 19.8 during 1951-61 has gone up to 24.1 in 1961-71 period.

Immigration

Lack of industrial and commercial development has perhaps been responsible for keeping the percentage of immigrants at almost static level during the decade 1951-61. In 1951, the immigrants numbered 22,755 or about 14 per cent of the total population. With 38,500 immigrants in 1961, constituting about 14 per cent of the population, the District showed more or less a static nature of economy. Among the sources of immigration, Gwalior District in the north-west, whose boundaries inter-mingle with those of Datia, and Jhansi, in the south, are significant. The former sent 6,994 persons (males 1,209 and females 5,785) and the latter 9,452 persons (males 1,541 and females 7,911) during 1951-61. An overwhelming predominance of females in both the cases is a significant feature. It may be noted that the bulk of the immigration was directed towards

rural areas. Other contiguous districts having immigration link with Datia were Shivpuri (3,728) in the south-west and Bhind (4,082) in the north.

The following Table gives the magnitude of immigration according to Census 1961:—

Table No. III—4
Immigration

Place where Born	Enumerated in the District		
	Persons	Males	Females
Datia District	1,61,967	96,890	65,067
Other districts of the State of Madhya Pradesh	22,066	4,293	17,773
States in India other than Madhya Pradesh	13,628	2,993	10,635
Beyond India	2,695	1,426	1,269
Unclassified	111	38	73

Source : Census Hand Book, 1961.

Density

The pressure of population has shown a slight increase during the inter censal periods. The following Table shows the gradual increase in the density of the District since 1921.

Table No. III—5
Density of Population

Year	Density (No. of persons per sq. mile.)
1921	188
1931	201
1941	223
1951	224
1961	255
1971	325

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

Amongst the districts of Gwalior Division, Datia with a density of 255 persons stood third in descending order, in 1961, the first two

being Bhind (373) and Gwalior (326). Of the total area in the District about 12 per cent was under forest, whereas in the low-density districts of Morena, Shivpuri and Guna, the total forest area is considerable, and thus appears sparsely populated.

Comparatively, Datia Tahsil with 272 persons per sq. mile was more densely populated than Seondha Tahsil, which had a density of 204 persons per sq. mile in 1961. The only town, namely, Datia, then showed a density of 14,715 persons per sq. mile.

Distribution between Rural and Urban Areas

Of the two tahsils, Seondha is entirely rural and Datia has the town of its own name. Datia town extended to about 5.18 sq. km. in area (5.3 sq. km. according to census 1971). Akin to some other districts of Bundelkhand area, Datia District has only one town, in the enumeration of 1971, which is in existence since 1901. In 1951, three villages, namely, Indergarh, Basai and Unnao were treated as towns for the first time, even though each had a population of less than 5,000 persons. But in 1961, these have ceased to be towns, leaving Datia alone as a town which sustained a population of 29,430 persons (15,376 males, 14,054 females) according to Census 1961. In 1971, it rose to 37,436 persons (19,780 males and 17,656 females) giving an urban density of 7,104.

The rural area extending over 2,029.70 sq. km. contained 452 villages, and sustained a population of 1,71,037 persons in 1961.

There has been little variation as regards the percentage of rural population. It was 85.32 in 1961 and 85.33 in 1971¹. Obviously the remaining 14.67% population resides in Datia town.

The following Table gives the number of villages and towns and tahsil-wise rural-urban population:—

Table No. III—6
Rural-Urban Distribution, 1961-1971

Tahsils	No. of villages				Population			
	Inhabited		Uninhabited		Rural		Urban	
	1961	1971	1961	1971	1961	1971	1961	1971
Datia	212	205	14	22	86,974	109,475	29,430	37,436
Seondha	204	196	22	30	84,063	108,356	—	—
District	416	401	36	52	171,037	217,831	29,430	37,436
Total								

Source : Datia District Census Hand Books, 1961, 1971

1. Districtwise Economic indicators of Madhya Pradesh, p. 1.

Urban population has shown a chequered growth during the initial decades. From 24,071 population in 1901, it declined by 6,742 or 28.01 per cent in 1911 and 2,108 or 12.16 per cent of Urban population during 1911-21 decade. In 1921, urban population was 15,221 which increased, hereafter rapidly, registering a growth of 20.18 per cent in 1931, about 20.74 per cent in 1941 and 19.75 per cent in 1951. The urban population in 1951 stood at 26,447 persons. During 1951-61 decade it further rose to 29,430 (males 15,376 and females 14,054), registering an increase of 2,983 or 11.28 per cent. During 1961-71 it shot up to 37,436 giving an unprecedented increase of 27.20 per cent.

The distribution of population in villages shows that 73.08 per cent of total number of villages with 500 or less persons, accounted for 36.93 per cent of the total population. Thus of Rural Population evidently a vast majority of the villages are small and accommodate the largest number of persons. Similarly, 19.95 per cent of villages, in 500 to 999 population-range, sustained 33.74 per cent of the total population and 5.29 per cent of total villages, in 1000-1999 population-range, accounted for 15.80 per cent of the population in 1961. Large villages, in population-range of 2,000 to 9,999 persons, accounted for 1.68 per cent of total villages and sustained a population of 13.53 per cent in 1961. However the rural density of the District has increased from 84 in 1961 to 107 per sq. km. in 1971.

The growth of rural and urban population during 1901-1971 is given in the following Table:—

Table No. III-7
Rural-Urban Percentage Decade Variation

Year	Rural	Percentage Decade Variation	Urban	Percentage Decade Variation
1901	1,36,953	..	24,071	..
1911	1,25,891	—8.10	17,329	—28.01
1921	1,22,493	—2.69	15,221	—12.16
1931	1,29,120	5.41	18,292	20.18
1941	1,41,250	9.39	22,086	20.74
1951	1,37,867	—2.39	26,447	19.75
1961	1,71,037	24.06	29,430	11.28
1971	2,17,831	27.36	37,436	27.20

Source—Census Hand Book, 1961 and Census Report 1971.

Note—Rural population has been derived by deducting adjusted urban population from the adjusted total population)

The decrease in rural and urban population during the first two decades is attributed to the effect of the famines of 1903-04 and 1906-07, and the plague mortality of 1905 during the first decade, and mortality owing to influenza epidemic and plague of 1918-19 during the second decade. Since then there has been a steady growth of population in rural (excepting during 1941-51 decade) and urban areas. In 1951, Unnao, Indergarh and Basai were classed as towns, which had a population of 2545, 1772 and 1775, respectively in that year. Seondha was a town since 1901, but in 1961 Census, all these towns were declassified. The effects of their classification as towns had its reflection on the rural population in 1951, which declined by 2.39 per cent, and an unparalleled increase in rural population in 1961, owing partly to their reclassification as villages. Increase in urban population, i. e., of Datia town was 11.28 per cent during 1951-61 decade and 27.20 per cent during 1961-71 decade.

Census 1971

The population of the District rose from 200,467 in 1961 to 255,267 in 1971, (Datia tahsil 146,911 and Seondha tahsil 108,356) giving an increase of 54,800, i.e. 27.34 per cent. The area of the District, however, remained practically the same as it was in 1961. The density of the District thus rose from 255 per sq. mile in 1961 to 325 in 1971 (Datia tahsil 342 and Seondha tahsil 303). Thus the density increased from 99 in 1961 to 126 in 1971 per sq. km.

Displaced Persons

After the partition of the country in 1947, considerable displacement of population occurred during the following years of the decade. The Table below gives a picture of the influx of displaced persons from the erstwhile East Pakistan and West Pakistan according to Census 1951:—

Table No. III—8
Influx of Displaced Persons

Place of Origin	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total Displaced Persons		
					Persons	Males	Females
West Pakistan	1,229	3,388	363	141	5,121	2,730	2,391
The then East Pakistan	23	4	—	—	27	27	—
District Total	1,252	3,392	363	141	5,148	2,757	2,391

Source—Census Hand Book, 1951.

It is clear from the above table that the year of partition and the subsequent years were important in respect of the problems of displacement. Majority of the displaced persons came from West Pakistan and settled in the urban areas (4,987), leaving 161 in the rural areas.

Classified according to their means of livelihood, it may be noted that 4,370 or about 85 per cent of the displaced persons earned their livelihood through 'commerce'. Only 222 persons were engaged in agricultural occupations as cultivators or cultivating labourers.

Language

With 97.2 per cent of its people speaking Hindi in 1961, Datia is predominantly a Hindi speaking tract where the Bundelkhandi dialect forms the *lingua franca*. Lying in the Bundelkhand area, the cultural affinities of the people are those found in other districts of the area, viz., Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur and Panna in Madhya Pradesh and Jhansi and Banda in Uttar Pradesh. In Census 1961, only 456 persons, however, returned Bundelkhandi and 776 Urdu as their mother-tongue, which are in fact dialects of Western Hindi.

As its name implies, Bundelkhandi is the language of Bundelkhand. Bundeli signifies the language spoken by the Bundelas, who were the principal inhabitants of the region. "Pawari is the dialect spoken in the north-east of the erstwhile State of Gwalior and in Datia and its neighbourhood, where the Pawar Rajputs are numerous."¹

"Bundeli has a large literature. There is in the first place the well-known epic cycle about Alha and Udal, still sung all over northern India and preserved by bards in the Banaphari dialect. These heroes lived in the latter half of the twelfth century A.D. and their exploits have been the subject of verse ever since. The poet Chand Bardai, who according to tradition was their contemporary, devoted a whole canto of his famous epic to Prithviraj's wars with the (erstwhile) State of Mahoba, whose champions they were"²

Both *Nagari* character and its congener, the *Kaithi* character are used in writing Bundeli.

1. G. A. Grierson, *Linguistic Survey of India*, Vol. IX, Pt. I, p. 87.
2. *ibid.* p. 89.

The Table below gives the details of languages spoken in the District as per Census 1961.

Table No. III—9
Important Mother Tongues

Mother-tongue	Mother-Tongue with 400 speakers or above considered				Total
	Total	Males	Females	Percentage to Population	
Hindi	1,94,872	1,02,725	92,147	97.2	
Sindhi	3,892	2,031	1,861	1.9	
Urdu	776	400	376	0.4	
Bundelkhandi	456	228	228	0.2	
Others	471	256	215	0.3	

Source—Census Hand Book, 1961

Next numerous were the speakers of Sindhi who were largely found in urban areas (3,608). Besides these, 20 other languages/dialects had been returned and only two, namely, Punjabi (211) speakers and Marathi (160) speakers had more than 100 speakers in 1961. It is interesting to observe that one person also returned Sanskrit as his mother-tongue.

Since 1951, the speakers of Hindi increased from 1,58,644 to 1,94,872 or 22.8 per cent in 1961. However, Sindhi declined by 16.2 per cent, Punjabi by 57.9 per cent and Marathi by 60.5 per cent during the decade 1951-61.

A significant development noted in Census 1961 is the complete linguistic assimilation of tribals in the District. The entire tribal population of 2,483 had returned under Hindi as their mother-tongue.

Bilingualism

With overwhelming number of Hindi speakers in the District the scope for bilingualism is rather limited. The exigencies of the situation, thus make Hindi the most important subsidiary language of persons having mother-tongue other than Hindi. The following Table gives the extent of Bilingualism prevalent in the District as per the Census of 1961:—

Table No. III—10
Bilingualism in the District

Mother-Tongue	Total Speakers	Total persons returned as speaking a language subsidiary to Mother tongue	Subsidiary Language
Hindi	1,94,872	2,392	English (1,753)
Marathi	160	103	Hindi (62) English (38)
Sindhi	3,892	915	Hindi (802)
Urdu	776	95	Hindi (75)
Bundelkhandi	456	257	Hindi (228), Sanskrit (21)
Punjabi	211	125	Hindi (99)

Source—Census Hand Book, 1961

(Note: Figures in brackets show the number of speakers)

Complete linguistic assimilation of tribals in Hindi has also led to a certain amount of bilingualism among them. In 1961 Census, six persons were returned as bilingual, speaking either Gujarati, Marathi, Marwari or Urdu.

Religion and Caste

In all 1,93,023 persons professed Hinduism according to Census 1961. They constituted about 96.3 per cent of the District population. During the decade 1951-61, the proportion of Hindus declined by 0.21 per cent. Next numerous were Muslims, who numbered 6,524, and constituted 3.25 per cent of the population in 1961. Registering an increase of 0.15 per cent during 1951-61 decade, Muslims were more concentrated in Seondha Tahsil (rural). Buddhism which has shown signs of resurgence recently is the next numerically important religious group. In 1961, Buddhists numbered 456, and constituted about 0.23 per cent of the population. Jainism which has a long history in the District was professed by 318 persons, and constituted about 0.16 per cent. *Shramangiri* of the early period, corrupted as *Sonagiri*, bears traces of penance sustained by Jain ascetics. Several of the images exhumed from earth were possibly enshrined in the 77 Jain temples on the hillock during the early part of the 17th century¹. Although, numerically Jains are inconsiderable in the District yet it is their famous *Siddha-Kshetra*².

The following Table gives the religious composition of the District population.

Table No. III—11
Religious Composition of the District

Religion	1961		1951	
	Persons	Percentage	Persons	Percentage
Hindu	1,93,023	96.3	1,58,520	96.5
Muslim	6,524	3.3	5,592	3.4
Buddhist	456	0.2	Nil	..
Jain	318	0.2	153	0.1
Sikh	114	0.1	22	..
Christian	32	..	17	..

Source : Census Hand Book, 1961

1. *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, (*Puratatwa Ank*), p. 30.
2. *ibid.*

Hindus being in overwhelming majority in the District, the social life and customs among the people of different shades take their complexion largely from the traditions of the majority community.

The Hindu temples are mostly dedicated to Shiva, Rama, Krishna and Hanuman. Goddess Kali is also worshipped. There is a Sun temple at Unnao, about 11 miles east of Datia, and is held in repute by the local people. "A circular stone image of the Sun stands inside the temple. The waters of a tank near the temple are supposed to cure leprosy and skin diseases generally¹. On Rangapanchami and Sankranti festivals, large number of worshippers converge here every year in Chaitra. The Hindu temples at Orchha in Tikamgarh district, about 27 miles away, have greatly influenced the architectural pattern of others in the region.

Lying in the Bundelkhand region, Datia experiences largely the projection of religious beliefs and social life widely prevalent in Bundelkhand region as a whole. Owing to the influence of Brij-bhasha and its literature, Lord Krishna is revered widely in Bundelkhand, and assumes special significance in the District's religious life.

In Bundelkhand, castes and sub-castes abound, and it was enumerated that Brahmans were sub-divided into 313 sub-castes. Castes and Subcastes Diwan Jitan Singh enumerated 111 divisions among the Brahmans, 63 among the Kshatriyas, 14 among the Koris and 24 among the Telis.² It is said that caste restrictions are more rigid here. Inter-caste marriages are looked down upon and caste panchayats impose fines which vary from caste-feast to declaring one an outcaste. Constituting 3.3 per cent of the District population, Muslims showed some increase in their population during 1951-61 decade. Bundelkhand region as a whole is more characterised with deep communal understanding and brotherhood. Mutual participation in each other's fairs and festivals and social life has been largely responsible for it.

"Those who were converted and embraced Islam during the Medieval period, excepting the observance of *namaz* and adopting chief principles of Islam, practised Hindu religious practices in other walks of life. Widows among them did not marry. They eat *roti* in *Chowka* (a marked out clean place). They wear *Dhoti* and follow Hindu law in matters of inheritance."³

1. *The Imperial Gazetteer of India*, Vol. XI, p. 107.

2. *Vindhya Bhoomi* (Pradesh Parichaya Ank) October, 1956 p. 101.

3. *Datia Darshan* Ed. by Hari Mohan Lal Shrivastava, p. 48.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

According to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) (Part C State) Order, 1951, ten castes were Scheduled in the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State. Their number, accordingly in Datia District was enumerated as 28,781 (males 15,069 and females 13,712) in 1951. Similarly, under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C State) Order, 1951, tribes numbering 14 were Scheduled in the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State. Their population in the District was enumerated as 1,540 in 1951. Since the list in this behalf was revised in the year 1956, the Census 1961 returned nine Scheduled Castes¹ and seven Scheduled Tribes in the District. Their Tahsil-wise 1961 and 1971 population is shown in the following Table:—

Table No. III—12
Religious Composition of the District

Tahsils	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes	
	1961	1971	1961	1971
Datia	23,355	28,848	2,336	4,483
Seondha	13,638	17,008	147	505
District Total	36,993	45,856	2,483	4,988

Source : Census Reports, 1961, 1971.

All the Scheduled Tribes² and Castes profess Hindu religion. The Scheduled Tribes, however, also worship Baghesur, Lachhnan Jati, Dulha-Baba, Maha Mai, Kalaka, Sharda, Chhotaki Chauboli, Mauki Barki and Bichki deities. In Vindhya Pradesh, as elsewhere, the tribals are a self-respecting people. Reverence towards Lord Rama is not considerable and a legend is current among them which shows their special, reverence towards Laxman, the brother of Lord Rama.

1. The Scheduled Castes are: Basor or Bansphor, Beldar or Sunkar, Chamar, Ahirwar, Chamar-Mangan, Mochi or Raidas, Dharkar or Lalbegi, Kuchbandhia, kumhar, Mehtar, Bhangi or Dhanuka Mogi, and Sansia or Bedia.

2. The Scheduled Tribes are: Bhil, Biar or Biyar, Kol (Dahait) Majhi, Nat, Navdigar, Saper, and Kabutar, Seharia and Sonr.

Agaria, Bhumiya, Gond, Kharirwar. Mawasi, Panika and Pao tribes are also inhabiting the District lately, though in small number. These tribes are not, however, scheduled, for the District, hence have not been enumerated along with other Scheduled Tribes.

Predominant among the Scheduled Castes are Chamar and their synonymous groups, Kumhar, Basor and Mehtar who largely inhabit the rural areas of Datia Tahsil. Among the Scheduled Tribes, Sehariya is the only important Tribe in the District.

The Chamar has been one of the village menials in the traditional village economy, entitled to his customary share in the harvest. Though his chief contribution to the economy was through his hide and leather-working, yet he played no mean part in it as a field-labourer. Along with the synonymous groups, namely, Ahirwar, Chamar-Mangan, Mochi or Raidas, the Chamars have been included as a Scheduled Caste in Datia District, and numbered 27,312 or 3.8 per cent of the total Scheduled Castes population in 1961. It seems that they have steadily given up their traditional occupation, for in 1961 Census, only 32 persons returned under this occupation of tanning and curing of hides and skin. Apart from these, 610 persons also returned as working at household industry, which in their case is working in leather. About 12,190 workers, constituting 80.8 per cent of their total 'working-force' were found to be engaged as cultivators or agricultural labourers.

Thus, it appears that Chamars have broken away from their traditional occupation of flaying, skinning and tanning, preferring cultivation or farm-labour. This in itself is a great social change, a revolt against a tradition. Obviously, "a contempt for the previous hierarchy of professional casteism makes them throw overboard, centuries of, if not honoured, but well tolerated and accepted pattern of being born into a profession."¹ Yet in religious places, the social hierarchy manifests its age-old stigma for them. The Chamars of village Richhari in the District can pay obeisance in Radha Kishan Temple only from the ground level². In other social pursuits also, other castes do not inter-dine with them.

Next in order of numerical strength are the Kumhars, the workers in clay and makers of earthen vessels. In 1961 they numbered 3,751 or 10.1 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste population. About one-third of the workers among them still work as potters, which is a household industry for them. They live mostly in rural areas, showing more concentration in Datia Tahsil (1,840). They are educationally a very backward caste. 'Cultivation' (46.7 per cent) followed by 'other services' (4.7 per cent) form their other main occupations. Kumhars, working as agricultural labourers (25 or 2.2 per cent) were few

and wholly confined to rural areas. Census records showed 565 persons as workers to 1,000 of their population. This was higher than the District figure of 486 in 1961.

The name Kumhar is derived from the Sanskrit *Kumbh*, a water-pot. They worship the ordinary Hindu deities and make an offering to the implements of their trade on the festival of *Deo-uthani Gyaras*.

Basor is the occupational caste of workers in bamboos and other wooden products, who in 1961 numbered 2,898. With 523 workers per 1,000 of population they were engaged mostly as cultivators. The household industry, i.e., making baskets and other bamboo products absorbed 34.3 per cent of its workers. Cultivation engaged about 45.5 per cent and agricultural labour 3.3 per cent of the total workers. They live mostly in rural areas, showing more concentration in Datia Tahsil. About 221 or 14.6 per cent of its workers were also found to be engaged in 'other services' in 1961. Basors are divided into a number of sub-castes. Deshwari or Bundelkhandi sub-caste resides in the *desh* or native place of Bundelkhand. The caste traces its origin from Raja Babu or Venu who ruled Singorgarh in Damoh¹. However, "The Balhar, Bansphor and Basor are all branches of the Dom-tribe that have settled down to regular occupations and have risen in social scale². They worship the ordinary Hindu deities, and also ghosts and spirits. They entertain special veneration for Devi.

Mehtar is the traditional caste of sweepers and the scavengers. There were 2,732 persons constituting 6.4 per cent of the total Scheduled Castes population in 1961. Out of these, 1,157 persons or 48.7 per cent were workers. The main occupation among the Mehtars is 'other services', in which about 53 per cent of their working-force was engaged. This is followed by 'cultivation'; which engaged about 34.3 per cent of its workers. In urban areas, they are exclusively engaged in 'other services'. Scavenging, however, engaged 421 workers in 1961, of whom 160 were in urban areas and 261 in rural. Thus 45.6 per cent of the total workers were engaged in scavenging.

Educationally still not awakened, the religion of sweepers centres round two saints--Lalbeg or Bale Shah and Balnek or Balmik, who is really the huntsman-Valmiki, the reputed author of the *Ramayana*. Balmik was originally a low-caste hunter called Ratnakar. The name of Rama cleansed

1. K. S. Bhatnagar, *Richhari-A Village Survey*, 1966, p. 03.

2. *ibid.* p. 50.

1. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 208.

2. E. A. H. Blunt, *The Caste System of Northern India*, p. 237.

away all his sins and Brahma gave him the name of Valimki. Lalbeg is believed to be Ghazi Miyan, the nephew of Sultan Muhammad of Ghazni, and a saint much worshipped in the Punjab¹. They are divided in seven sub-divisions of which Dom or Dumar, Dhanuk or bowmen, Bhangi and Mehtar are found in the District. Dharkar, Balmik or Lalbegi were separately shown in the list of Scheduled Castes in the Census of 1961.

Other Scheduled Castes in the District are Beldar or Sunkars (earth-diggers) with a population of 341, in 1961, Kuchbandhia (makers of weavers' brushes, a synonym and sub-caste of Kanjar) with a population of 174 persons, Moghia (synonym of Parhi, a caste of hunters and fowlers) with a population of 72 persons and Sansia or Bedia (mason and diggers) numbered 13 in the District in 1961. The percentage of scheduled castes to total population dropped from 18.45 in 1961 to 17.96 in 1971.

As stated earlier under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Part C States) Order, 1951, 14 Tribes were listed in the Schedule in Vindhya Pradesh State. Total tribal population of 1,540 was enumerated in Datia District in 1951. The list was revised in 1956, and seven Tribes were listed in Datia which together totalled 2,483 (1,308 males and 1,175 females) in 1961, and constituted 1.2 per cent of the total population of the District. The bulk of the tribal population lived in the rural area, and were found concentrated in Datia Tahsil. All the Scheduled Tribes returned under Hindu religion. Numerically, Sehariya is the main Tribe, and had a population of 2,016 persons in 1961, followed by Majhi (289); Nat, Navdigar, Spera and Kabutar (124), Sonr (46); Bhil (5) and Biar or Biyar and Kol (Dahait) and unclassifiable one each.

The Sehariyas are the principal inhabitants of Morena, Shivpuri and Guna districts. Not a Scheduled Tribe in 1951, they were classified as such in 1956. Constituting 2,016 persons or 81.2 per cent of the tribal population in 1961, the traditional occupation of Sehariyas was working in forest and living on forest produce. In the District, however, 270 persons or 22.6 per cent workers have now settled in more respectable occupation of cultivation. Of the rest, 13.8 per cent (165 persons) of the total workers are engaged as agricultural labourers; 7.3 per cent (87 persons) in forestry, fishing, hunting and logging, and 45.1 per cent (593 persons) the largest in 'other services', mostly as general labourers. The participation rate among them is 593 persons per 1,000.

1. Russel and Hiralal, op. cit., Vol. IV, p. 226.

Sehariya probably means inhabitants of the jungle from the Persian word *sher*, meaning a jungle. Those living in proximity of urban areas do not differ much from other castes but in interiors their condition is quite different. Their usual food mainly consists of lesser millets and inferior cereals. Their economic condition is appalling. They own practically no land. There are two systems of employing the Sehariyas as agricultural labourers. Under the first, the Sehariya is employed as *Hali-Batholi* or *Mahinder*, who is given an agreed amount of remuneration in lump sum at the time when he is employed. Some food is also given according to need, and for all this a very high rate of interest is charged. He goes on working, and his wages go towards the part-payment of the amount paid to him. He thus, virtually becomes a bond slave for the whole life.

Under the second system a Sehariya is employed as *Hali-Banta*, where no cash is given to him. He usually gets some grain in lieu of the daily wage, and one-fifth or one-sixth share in produce raised by him annually. His debit account always exceeds the share of the produce earned by him yearly. Hence in this system also he cannot emancipate himself and his family from dependence on the creditor. Sehariyas worship Hindu gods and goddesses, of whom Goddess Durga is revered most. They believe in occult practices, and take herbs, etc., in times of illness.¹

The Majhis numbered 289 (160 males and 129 females) in 1961, and constituted 11.6 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population. The Majhis in Raigarh are professional fishermen and derive their name from *Machh* meaning fish. They appear to be Kols.² The word *Manjhi* also, however, means headman of a tribal sub-division, apart from a boatman or a ferryman. They also constituted a Scheduled Tribe in the region of the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State. In the District, their main occupations are cultivation (150 persons) and 'agricultural labour' (13 persons), and had a participation rate of 519 workers per 1,000. Principally the inhabitants of Raigarh and Surguja districts of Madhya Pradesh, they are known as Majhwars in Mirzapur, where they migrated from Surguja and the Vindhyan and Satpura hills.³ They would appear to have migrated to Datia also from Garha in Jabalpur, where according to them their ancestors ruled. This point, however, to their probable origin from Gonds.⁴

Constituted as a Scheduled Tribe in the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh, the combined population of Nats etc., in 1961 was 124 (70 males and

1. The Tribes of Madhya Pradesh (Department of Tribal Welfare, Madhya Pradesh) p. 71.

2. R. V. Russel and Hiralal, op. cit., Vol. IV, p. 149.

3. *ibid.* 150.

4. *ibid.*

54 females), and constituted 5 per cent of the total tribal population in the District. The term Nat connotes a dancer, a tight-rope walker. Nat, Navdigar, They generally earn a living by acrobatic performances or Sapera and dancing, and move from place to place. With a participation Kabutar rate of 491 workers per 1,000, 'cultivation' engaged 36 persons, followed by 'other services' with 12 persons. Sepera is the name of a clan of Nats who exhibit snakes, and Kabutari is the name given to female dancers of the Nat tribe.¹ The Nats worship Devi and also Hanumana on account of the acrobatic powers of monkey. It is not uncommon to find a deified Nat, called Nat Baba as a village god. Saperas worship their cobras on the Nagpanchmi festival and offer them milk to drink.

Other Scheduled Tribes found in the District were numerically insignificant. Sonr, an independent tribe, Scheduled in Vindhya Pradesh had a population of 46 persons in 1961. The percentage of scheduled Tribes to total population has increased from 1.24 in 1961 to 1.95 in 1971.

Religious Beliefs, Manners and Customs

Predominantly an area with deep-seated faith in religion, the religious practices are still followed here in great details. The princes were also religious-minded and provision of *tulsigraha* in the historic forts of the area is evidence of the same. Keeping fast on week-days and on religious occasions is widely prevalent among the females. They believe in *swarg-narak*, evil spirits, etc. The *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharata*, the *Bhagavata* and other religious books are widely read, and legends connected with them, remembered. Mehtars, Sehariyas, Majhis, etc., worship in their pantheon a variety of deities, represented by stones. Devi is specially worshipped. During Navdurga festival, Dhimar, Kori, Lodhi, and Mehtar women ~~folk~~ take out a procession with pots on their head in which barley is ~~sprouted~~ sown. With an earthen lamp in a pot they chant vociferously, *Mai ho, hero hamari aur ho*. Formerly, buffaloes used to be sacrificed at the altar of 'Mahishasur Mardini' on the occasion of Dussehra festival of Datia. Hardaul is deified and is widely worshipped in this region and legends have grown around his personality.

¹ H. Risley gives Bazigar and Kabutari as groups of the Berias of Bengal, and states that these are closely akin to the Nats and Kanjars. (Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., p. 207.)

Jujhar Singh was the ruler of Orchha from 1627 to 1633 A.D., and Hardaul was his brother. Hardaul and Jujhar Singh's wife had long been good friends and there was nothing suspicious in their relationship. While Jujhar Singh was away, rumour-mongers started the mischief and stirred Jujhar Singh to extreme jealousy. He began to believe that there was immoral intimacy between the two. Jujhar Singh then ordered his wife to administer poison to Hardaul to prove her chastity. She gave it to Hardaul who without hesitation drank the poison and went to the temple at Orchha for prayers. After prayer he died peacefully. He became a deified hero and is worshipped in Bundelkhand. The story is well-known in other parts as well. A well-known British Officer in 1844 made the following observation about Hardaul.

"I made some inquiries about Hardaul Lala, the son of Birsingdeo, who built the fort of Dhumoree, one of the ancestors of the Duteah Rajah and found that he was as much worshipped here, at his birth place as upon the banks of the Nerbudda, as the supposed great originator of the cholera morbus. There is at Dutea a temple dedicated to him, and much frequented;.....and one of the priests brought me a flower in his nameand chanted something indicating that Hardaul Lala was now worshipped even so far as the British capital of Calcutta. I asked the old prince what he thought of the origin of the worship of this his ancestor; and he told me "that when the cholera broke out first in the camp of Lord Hastings, then pitched about three stages from his capital on the bank of the Sinde, at Chandpore Sonari, several people recovered from the disease immediately after making votive offerings in his name; and that he really thought the spirit of his great-grandfather had worked some wonderful cures upon people afflicted with this dreadful malady."

Practices and Beliefs Connected with Birth, Marriage and Death

"While pregnancy results from biological factors, the birth of a child is in God's hands'. This summarises the villagers' attitude towards birth. They are aware of the phenomenon resulting in pregnancy but the divine dispensation is their *ultima thule* on this subject". To ensure a safe and painless delivery, women keep a lamp at the temple of a goddess. This is also done to beget a son. A *Katha* is held towards the later stage of pregnancy. Two rituals, namely, *seemant* and *punsavan* are also performed.

1. W.H. Sleeman, *Rambles and Recollections of an Indian Official*, Vol. I, p. 302-03.

The woman must deliver at her husband's house. Birth of a daughter is not looked upon with a happy eye, while that of a son is desired by all. A midwife, *dui* who is usually from Nai caste performs the function. Very few people perform *anushthan* for having issues these days, and those who do, usually do not publicise the fact.

The rejoicings begin by firing a few gun shots incase of a son where parents are rich. This is done, usually, by the father's younger brother. Those who call in the evening are distributed *batasas*. The proceedings begin by mass-singing to the accompaniment of *dholak* and *manjeera*. A *seedha* placed on a *thal*, comprising wheat-flour, rice, *gur*, turmeric and a coin, is sent to the house of the Brahman who begins his enquiries regarding the time of the birth of the child. He calculates whether the child is born under auspicious circumstances or under the influence of adverse planets i.e., *mool-nakshatra*. In latter case, two rituals are performed to ward off the evil effects of *mool*. They are *tula*, i.e., weighing *bachhiya* or calf. It takes place on 21st or 27th day, as advised by the *Pandit*. On *chhathi* or the sixth the mother and the child are bathed. The close associates are invited given roasted wheat (the local name is *Kaunhi*) to which some gram gious pr. also reli- area is. On the tenth day, a grand feast is given only for the first birth, irres- occa- ve of the sex of the child. The *Pandit* is invited to preside over the na- proceedings among Brahmans, Ahir, Bhats, etc. He suggests the name for the child. The *Pandit* recites the *shlokas* and of ashton the name for the child. The *Pandit* recites the *shlokas* and lights the purificating fire (*hawan*). A few days after *Ghat-pooja* is performed by the mother of the child, signifying her fitness to resume her normal routine.¹

Hindu boys are called by two names, the *Janama rashi nam*, or name used by *Jyotishi* in making out the horoscope, and the *bolta nam* or name for everyday use. These names are given after those of Nomenclature the deities such as Ramchandra, Govind, Narayan, etc., after heroes in the great epics, such as Bhim Singh, Arjun Singh, etc., and also mere fanciful names like Chhotelal and Mitthulal. Girls are, similarly, named as Subhadra, Lachhmi, Bichitra, etc. Among Mohammadans, names connected with the service of God and religion are commoner, such as Mauladad Khan, Abdullah, Sayad Karim etc.²

1. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., pp. 15-17.

2. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 16.

Barrenness is regarded as a matter of divine dispensation. The barren woman is taken to an important temple, e. g., Balaji Temple at Unnao to perform *pooja*. The *Devta* may be invoked and questions put to him. It is believed that often the *Devta* replies that feast to the community may be offered.

Brahmans, Thakurs, Vaishyas and Kayasthas specially perform the *mundan* by taking the child to a religious place for giving him a clean hair-cut. Relatives assemble on such ceremony. Thread ceremony is called *Yagyopaveet Sanskar* and is popular among Brahmans, Vaishyas and Kayasthas. The best age-group for this purpose is 5 to 16 years. In a few other castes, it is performed just before or after marriage in the form of *Guru Deeksha* in the age-group taken to 16 to 25 years. Assistance of a *Purohit* or *Pandit* is invariably there to give a secret teaching of *Gayatri-mantra* to the youth concerned. Marriage is regarded as a sacred duty. It is expected on people to marry and get their children married when the time for it is ripe. They have always thought that marriages are made in the heaven, and the bonds holding the two together after marriage are also absolute.

A man or woman must never die on cot because they say that a man came from the mother-earth and must return to it. They believe in reincarnation and the law of *karma*. For a very old man or woman's dead body, a more ceremonial funeral is arranged. Disposal of the Dead Body A *viman*, or square bier, is prepared. After being washed and handsomely attired, the dead body is made to sit upright in it. In other cases, a ladder is procured and grass is spread over it and the body laid supine on it. It is covered by white or red cloth for males and females, respectively. At the burning *ghat*, a pyre is prepared and body is placed on it. The eldest son lights up the pyre, who after sometime takes out a burning stick and touches the forehead of the deceased, known as *kapal-kriya*. After disposal, relations bath at the *ghat* or nearby well and return. The chief mourner chews the leaves of *neem* and gargles it out. He then appeals to all present to regard him as their ward. All assure him of help and support.

On the Third Day, the relations go to the cremation ground to collect the remaining bones and ashes. This is known as *phool chunana*. On return, the barber is called for shaving the moustaches and hair of the head if the deceased person is father or an elder brother. The bones and ashes are sent through some relations to Allahabad or Soro in District

Bulandshahar (U. P.) on the banks of the Ganges.¹ The poorest would scatter them in the river Pahuj nearby. Thirteenth Day ceremony known as *terhi*, is performed by presenting a turban to the chief mourner, when the *Karta* of the family dies. A big feast is arranged in which every member of the caste participates. Daily in the evening for 10 days continuously, an earthen lamp is lighted near a *peepal* tree by *Savarnas*. The period of mourning is reduced from 13 to 11 days in the case of death of a youth. No feast is given in such cases.

Where children die before the age of eight years, they are buried in jungle. Person dying of snake-bite, suicide or accident are also cremated. In case of infants, *jal-pravah*, (disposal through flowing water) is also adopted. If the death is due to leprosy or pox, the dead body is buried. *Pind-dan* is in vogue among *Savarna* Hindus, who perform it either on the 13th day after *shav-daah* or cremation, or on annual *shraddha* in the dark-half of the month Ashvina, on the *mrityu-tithi* of the deceased. *Tilanjali*, *shuddhi shodashi* *sapindi* etc., are some other connected rituals.

Muslims invariably bury their dead. *Kabir panthis*, *Sanyasis* and *Mehiars* too bury the dead.

Kachha food and water are the criteria for determining the ranking in the social hierarchy and *interse* relationship between the various castes.

Ahirs enjoy a better status and observe most of the Hindu Inter-Caste festivals along with Brahmans who enjoy a high ranking. Nai, Relationship Gadariya and Kachhi rank after each other in social hierarchy.

Bhats occupy somewhat dubious position. Whereas Bhats consider themselves like Brahmans others would not regard them so.

A certain amount of liberal views are sweeping through the fissures of the steel-frame that was caste system. A greater tolerance for scheduled castes is being shown. Chamars, fifteen years ago, were a much brow-beaten, down-trodden caste. Today, although The Caste Barriers they are not equated with the caste Hindus, yet they are sufficiently well-treated and tolerated. In Datia, the Ahirs were the former *Zamindars*, and as such they employed Chamars for *begar*, i.e., render personal services for no or very little payment. Forced labour was abolished by the Constitution, but it was quite sometime before the Chamars grew conscious of the Constitutional safeguards. It made them more bold, and the refusal to *begar* on their part angered Ahirs. In rep-

1. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., p. 23.

risal, Ahirs stopped inviting them, which in local parlance was known as *nyote band karna* (stopping invitations). But the initial anger frittered away. They started inviting the Chamars again to their feasts. So, today in Richhari village, the Chamars are invited at the feast, but are made to sit separately, as in the past.¹

When the Chamars announced their intention of giving up their traditional profession of skinning and flaying, the other castes, especially the Brahmans and Ahirs were not much pleased. Their reaction was that the Chamars are now trying to equal the other Hindus socially, a thing which appeared repugnant to them. Though prejudices linger, but their sharpness is blunted as time passes. The age-old pattern of being born in a caste, which determined the occupation appears to be changing. Chamars have shown some progress, both economically and socially. They have overthrown their centuries old and somewhat obnoxious profession, taken to agriculture, and have generally improved their economic lot.

"From these intercaste relationships, one may infer that though the village is unable to forget caste structure, yet the rigid wall of pride in one's own caste and prejudice against others are caving in, albeit very slowly."²

New Religious Leaders and Movements

Religious conferences were held under the auspices of Sanatan Dharma Sabha from time to time, and these had some impression on the general masses. Arya Samaj could not flourish here during the regime of some of the *Diwans*.

No social reform worth mention, took place as a general movement in the District. However, some awakening to eradicate the evil of untouchability came for the first time, when Thakkar Bapa and Rameshwari Nehru visited Datia State. In Richhari village of Datia District, a big caste-panchayat of Chamars decided to launch the movement to stop carrying on the profession of tanning and flaying of hides during the fifties of the present Century. The persons thus affected took to agriculture and changed their mode of life, radically. It has elevated them in society, though after much struggle with Ahirs, etc. They are now an integral part of the society. No stigma is attached to

1. *ibid.* p. 59.

2. *ibid.* p. 60.

them. The social pattern of community life has much changed. This movement was only a part of a wider movement sweeping this area. Abolition of *begar*, *Zamindari* and *Jagirdari* systems in the erstwhile Madhya Bharat was the beginning of some social awakening among the *Harijans*.

Social Life

Family Pattern

The family pattern, while exhibiting the traditional joint-family system is slowly disintegrating into individual units. Ahirs in the District seem to prefer the joint mode of family living, while among other communities, the single unit family appears to find more favour.¹

Joint-family is administered by the eldest male adult, and he is usually the chief of the family, called *Karta-Dharta*. He looks after the needs of the members of the family and receives all income emanating from joint efforts. He keeps the account and does not usually discriminate. It appears that, lately, owing to petty squabbles and a growth of individualistic tendencies, the joint-families are cracking up. But, most of villagers still regard joint-family as the best form of family life.

The property usually passes by division. Wills are not common. The eldest son does not get a better share than his remaining brothers.

In cases of dispute the arbitration by *panchas* of the society is mostly binding. Nowadays, provisions of law are also being invoked, though rarely. The property is shared equally among all the living sons to the complete exclusion of daughters. In case of a pre-deceased son, if he is survived by a male child, the appropriate share would be given to him. In case there is a female child, or no child, the widow would only get maintenance, and in case the widow goes away into another family, she would be deprived of that and even her ornaments would be snatched away.

Where a partition of the property takes place during the father's life time, all the shares of the sons are made out and the father takes one share equally with his sons for himself. The father, then, may live with one of the sons, and his share gets merged with that of son's share when the father dies. If all the brothers bear the funeral expenses, then his share is partitioned equally among them, but if only the brother with whom the father was living has to bear the expenditure, then that son

1. *ibid.* p. 44.

succeeds to the exclusion of others. Where there are no sons and only daughters, the property passes on to the nearest male surviving heirs, like brother or uncle. Thus the property does not go to the daughter. Only in cases where there are no males, the daughters inherit equally.

The villagers feel that whatever had to be given to the daughters was given away at the time of their wedding or by way of subsequent gifts. They do not favour daughters sharing the property with the sons. The villagers do not want their lands to pass away into other families, although the daughter-in-law will bring their share too under the same law.

Marriage and Morals

The people generally are monogamous although all castes permit polygamy. However, those persons who did not have any male or female issue at all from the first wife, out of necessity of having one, resort to polygamy.

The head of the family is usually responsible for the marriage of the sons, daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters etc., in a joint family. In other cases, father shoulders this responsibility. The marriages are settled by the relatives. In all the castes, the initiative is taken by the guardians of the girls in this regard. The consent of the boy and the girl is not essential. Usually, marriages are settled out of the *vansha* and out of the village. Only in some castes, settlement of marriage invariably depends on the *Kundalis* of both, being in accordance with the principles of astrology. Among the Muslims, certain relatives such as aunt's son, or maternal uncle's daughter are given preference over others in deciding the marriage relation.

As the District is situated on the borders of the State, marital relations are settled frequently on inter-State level with Uttar Pradesh. According to the Status, the average expenditure on marriage varies vastly. The marriage rituals are generally conducted by *Purohit* without whom a marriage cannot be performed. He is always a Brahman. Among Muslims, *Kazi* is his counterpart. No marriage can take place between persons of same *gotra* or lineage. The *gotras* of father, mother, father's sister and father's mother are generally avoided. The marriageable age varies from caste to caste. While among Ahirs, Brahmans, etc., the marriages are performed mostly after puberty, among Chamars and Kachhis, at pre-puberty age. The difference of at least 3-4 years in the age of bride and bridegroom is preferred in all marriages.

The ceremonies and customs observed at marriage do not differ much from those observed elsewhere in the region. On Ceremonies mutually reaching an agreement, the bride's father sends observed in a cocoanut, *teeka* (vermilion) along with some money. Marriages At the bridegroom's place the *teeka* is applied on the forehead of the boy and a sum generally varying from Rs. 11 to Rs. 101 is given to him. The ceremony of *god-bharna*, literally filling the lap, finally sets the seal on all negotiations. In it, the bridegroom's party take their presents, mostly clothing, and give them to the prospective bride and her mother. The village *pandit* then fixes an auspicious date. The bride's party proposes it and the other side approves it. Now the *peeli-chithi*, meaning the 'yellow letter' of *lagoun* is sent to the boy's home. With this the preparations start.

On either side, ceremonies begin three to seven days before the actual function. *Rata-jagga* or keeping awake at night, Rata Jaga is the first ceremony. On the *mandap* day, the boy is seated under a small canopy, and after applying *uptan* (turmeric paste), a head-wear of *Khajur* leaves is tied and then the *puja* is over. Before setting out with the marriage party, the boy is taken in a *palki* around the village to the Devi's temple for worship. He should not now return home without bringing his bride, so he stays anywhere else other than his own place.

For nearby villages, bullock-carts are preferred and 125 to 150 persons usually go in a *barat*. In some castes, females The Barat also accompany, e. g., among Kunjaras. For distances beyond 20 miles, buses or railways are used, and the number of *baratis* reduces to 60 or so. The party is courteously received and lodged at a place called *janawasa*. Every arrangement is made for their food, etc., at the expense of bride's the father.

On the arrival at bride's place the boy's father-in-law puts on a *gtalics* and offers presents of utensils, ornaments and cash, Marriage to the bridegroom. The boy touches with sword the frame Ceremony of the decorated doorway, signifying probably the victory of the bridegroom, a relic of the days of marriage by conquest. It is followed by a feast for the marriage party. The main ceremony, namely, *bhanwar* (Circumambulation of sacred fire) is now gone through. The bride's parents perform *kanyadan*, i. e., gifting the daughter. The *pandit* recites the *shlokas*, and the holy fire is lit up. Promise to keep wife happy and counter-promise of obedience are exchanged. The bride and groom sit near each other in *gath-joda* style i. e., united

by means of a knot in their upper loose garments. The couple then go around the fire seven times, which seals the marriage. A number of minor rituals then follow. *Pav-pakhariya* ceremony, i. e., washing the feet is solemnised. The bride's relatives bow to the couple and offer presents.

Next day at the *janwasa* both sides are sometimes entertained by the *nautch* girls, a system prevalent among the richer Palka-poojan types of people. It is a status symbol. The bride's clothes are then sent away by the groom's father which she should wear. This signifies the change in her status. She has passed into her husband's family by now. The *Palka poojan* and the *bela-dena* ceremonies are performed and small gifts, etc., are given to the bridegroom. After taking leave from the wailing female relatives, the bride sits in a *palki* and groom walks along unless another *palki* is also arranged for him. The *barat* thus departs with the bride.

On the return of the *barat* party *agvani* (reception) takes place. Some sweet is put in the mouth of the bride and the groom. In the evening, they feed each other with a morsel of rice and Agavani Gauna milk. Next day, a few ceremonies such as *kangan* etc., for creating a cordial get-together and atmosphere are gone through. *Gauna* is another ceremony which takes place in the first, third, fifth or seventh year of the marriage, and epitomises the commencement of married life, in case marriage is performed in early age.

Among certain castes the amount of dowry is decided while setting the marriage and the bride's father pays it in the pre-settled manner to the groom's father. In other castes, usually, it is not stipulated in advance but a general expectancy always exists. It Dowry is taken for granted that the bride's father would be giving appropriate gifts to his daughter. The word *haisiyat* or status conveys a correct meaning of their expectancy. It appears that qualified grooms and those in government service have greater dowry value. Bride-price is not paid in the villages, and is considered a shameful act among most of the castes. However, in circumstances where a boy is unable to get a bride owing to certain disqualifications, the boy's parents may offer bride-price secretly.

No civil marriage cases were registered in the District during the period 1960 to 1969.

Widow remarriage is permitted in all castes except *Savarna* Hindus, in which there is neither observation of *islabhyang-sanskas*, nor is a full fledged function arranged in such cases. If the widow is Widow Marriage minor, the initiative is taken by her parents to decide the issue of remarriage. In society, a widow is not looked upon with honour. Among *Savarna* Hindus, a widow passes the life of a spinster. In sacred and religious rituals, her presence and participation is avoided. She can be recognised by the absence of signs of *Suhag*, i. e., vermilion in hair-parting, *bindiya* on forehead and *bichhiya* on her feet. She is also not permitted to wear fancy dresses, not even bangles. She usually wears white or black dress. Brahmans are very orthodox in their outlook on widow marriage. A widow remarriage is not permitted by them. Among Ahirs, a widow is free to marry her deceased husband's younger brother, but not the elder one. Among Chamars, widows may take any person for their husband except their own relatives and husband's elder brother and ascendent relations.

Cases of legal divorce are very infrequent which is evident from the report that no divorces were granted during the years 1960 to 1969.

But as the tradition approves the practice among the Divorce Scheduled Castes and Tribes, the divorce is resorted to and is approved by the caste *panchayats*. The Ahirs also allow divorce at the instance of either partner. The woman is allowed to go to her new husband who has to pay compensation to the father-in-law, or other male relatives. This is known as *jhadga* or dispute money. They prefer to draw up the proceedings in writing with the help of a *Pandit*.

Economic Dependence of Women and their Place in Society

Of the total female population, about 1/3rd have been returned as economically active or 'workers'. The proportion of such females increases in rural areas and declines in urban. Compared with the corresponding figures of Gwalior Division, females in Datia District were more active economically. Apart from 'cultivation', 'household industry' and 'other services' attracted them most.

As elsewhere, women are dependent, economically and otherwise on father in the pre-marriage period, on husband thereafter, and on son in the old-age. Some women have started getting into services and supplementing the income of the family, but it is rare, and the money earned by them is not supposed to be used by the family generally. The Scheduled Castes and Tribes allow their females to work and earn some money. They, therefore, feel more independent and not utterly at the husband's

mercy. This however, has not made them belligerent and they live quietly with their husbands.¹ People in villages dislike their participation in social activities. The reaction of people towards a female birth is still unfavourable. There is no record of infanticide practised against the female children.²

Tradition prohibits Brahmans to drink liquor, nor do the Ahirs consume it. Majority of Kachhis and Gadariyas abstain from it. Chamars take it and drink locally available varieties namely *Rasi* and *Dubara*. Prohibition Act was not extended to the District. Drinking, However, with a view to minimising the consumption of Prohibition, liquor, various steps were taken, which included the increase in rates of duty, reduction in the number of shops, organisation of Prohibition Week every year in the month of October, etc. Gambling finds traditional sanction, and is indulged in at the time of Diwali festival. The offences against the Gambling Act registered during the past do not show that the evil is rampant in the society. From 3 cases involving 13 persons in 1957, the number of offences under the Act increased to 16 in 1960 involving 86 persons. Since then, the number has declined to 15 in 1967 and 2 in 1969, committing 24 and 9 persons, respectively.

Home Life

Dwellings

During the decades 1951-61, and 1961-71, the number of occupied residential houses increased from 33,729 to 38,112 and 38,407. The number of persons per occupied house thus showed an increase and was 5.26 in 1961. In urban areas, slightly more congestion was noticed where the proportion increased to 5.48 persons per occupied house. Compared with adjoining districts, Datia stood after Gwalior (6.86), Bhind (6.14) and Morena (5.82) in this behalf in 1961. About 47 per cent of the houses had unburnt bricks as the predominant material of walls, while 41 per cent had mud walls. A large number of mud wall houses were found in Seondha Tahsil, which was entirely rural. Majority of the houses in Datia Tahsil, however, were constructed with unburnt bricks.

Tiles, slate and shingle appear to be the vast favourite material for roof-laying. About 88.6 per cent of the houses were roofed with tiles. This is not only a predominant feature of rural houses, but in urban areas too, the majority of the houses were roofed with tiles, etc.

1. *ibid.* p. 45.

2. *ibid.* p. 41.

A good number of urban houses were also of brick and lime, asbestos, cement sheet, concrete and stone.

Classified by average number of occupied rooms, it was noted that 27.2 per cent of the houses had one room and 30.7 per cent two rooms. Only 20.4 per cent of the houses were with three rooms in 1961. Majority of the population thus lived in two-room tenement, constructed with unburnt bricks and roofed with tiles. A small number of persons lived in three-room tenements. Thus on an average there has been no substantial improvement in housing situation over the past half a century. The earlier Gazetteer observed that "The huts of the poor classes are of mud, with tiles or thatched roofs tiles being commonest except in the jungles. In towns and large villages substantial houses of brick are met with, often of two storeys in height."¹

"The pattern of houses is practically uniform. The main door opens into a covered room which is of a fairly big size and is used mainly by men for sitting. Following this room is *Chonk* (open space) on the sides of which are the living rooms for the family. Some space is also made available for cattle. As an embellishment to this type of house near the outer door two small *chabutaras* (platforms) are also made....."

"Living space is generally limited to about 400 to 450 sq. ft. In some house in the winter and rains cattle also are tethered within this living space....."

"Generally speaking Ahirs have more commodious houses than other castes. Thus they are able to observe some privacy. The married members sleep in the main room. The houses of Chamars have very little scope for privacy because there is very little living space....."²

From inside, the houses are not generally painted. The walls are normally coated with cowdung plaster. They are generally not very clean. The floor is usually *kaccha* but often smeared with cowdung. Bathing is normally done at the well.

A *muhurat* is usually sought for and *Vastudeo* or *Vishwakarma* (the god of architecture), worshipped before starting construction of a house. The proximity of *shmashan* or *kabristan*, *chabutra* of a Sayyad or Wali, the residing place of *Deota*, etc., are not supposed

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 16.

2. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., p. 7.

to be desirable and such lands are not used for house construction. The main gate of the house should not face south as per tradition. Similarly, the outer part of the house, if wider and higher than the inner part, is considered ominous. Generally, three rooms are provided in each house of medium size. They are called *paur*, *kotha* and *rasoi*. They are not provided with bath-room and latrine in the villages. A reference to architectural eminence of Datia seems pertinent here. More than a century back, it was observed that there were "great many excellent houses in Ducea; and the appearance of the place is altogether very good. Many of the feudatory chiefs reside occasionally in the city and have all their establishments with them. Some of the houses occupied by these barons are very pretty. They spend revenue of their distant estates in adorning and embellishing the capital."¹

Furniture and Decoration

Except in well-to-do houses, something in the name of a cot is the only furniture in almost all dwellings. In urban areas the people keep tables, chairs, almirahs, benches, stools, *takhat*, etc., commensurate with their status and requirement. The cots are made locally from cheap wood available from the nearby forest. It is then strung with rope made out of thick grass *kans*. A few householders also keep better types of cots. *Dari* or *Jajam* is used for sitting on the floor. Carving in wood and stone is not commonly found. No religious marks or figures specially auspicious for the family, are permanently painted on the outer walls of the houses. Temples and public institutions are decorated colourfully on religious and national functions and everybody contributes from his home in cash or kind.

Dress

"The normal dress of a man is *dhoti*. The *dhoti* is five yards long, of mill-made coarse-to-medium cotton cloth, costing about rupees four to six and up to Rs. 10 for superior cloth."² Sometimes Dress of Males the villagers split up five yards *dhoti* into two parts, calling it a *pancha*. It covers up to the knees only and is a useful dress for working.

The school-going children, however, wear shirts and *Pyjamas*. Mill-made cloth is used. The upper-garment for men is *Kurta*, also called *alpha*, costing about rupees five³ and made of cotton fibre. Ready-

1. W. H. Sleeman, op. cit., p. 313.

2. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., p. 8.

3. These are local rates prevailing during the early sixties of the present century.

made garments are also becoming popular. The poor people do not put on a *kurta* but use a *bandi* or a jacket from the shoulders to the waist made of thicker cotton material, costing about rupees three. In the winter months, the clothing is the same except that a blanket or shawl is used for covering the body.

Besides this, all elderly members of various communities put on a head-wear, which is an eight yard turban of cotton cloth. A head-wear is obligatory before going out. When going out, apart from these clothes a piece of thin cloth usually red, with squares, 4 feet by 1 foot is slung across the shoulders. It is an all-purpose towel, used in many ways, from wiping the forehead to bathing or collecting or buying articles and keeping them in it.

Some people wear a *banda* or a coat which is worn over *kurta*. The *Mirzai*, a short padded coat is also used in cold weather by a few persons who can afford it. Their *pagris* or *safas* are often ornamented with gold embroidery. The quality of cloth used in these garments varies with the position and wealth of the wearer.

The dress for festive occasions is not much different, excepting that new clothes are worn by all. *Achkan* (*Jama*), jackets and caps of various types and colours are also used. Even as it is, the old clothes described above are worn on a festive day after they have been carefully washed and cleaned before being put on.

The male children use shirts, bush-shirts and banyans as upper-garments. They usually have two or three dresses for themselves. In urban areas, shirts, bush-shirts and trousers are commonly worn by educated class of the society.

The lowest classes, and jungle tribes wear only one *dhoti* and a piece of cloth on the head.

The dress of women still goes by the caste to which they belong. In upper-castes women put on five to six yards mill-made cotton printed *Saris* with a petticoat underneath, the cloth ranging between coarse and fine. The women in other castes put on a *lehnga* or *ghagra* with a *choli* and a loose flowing garment, called *loongda*, which is tied over the *ghagra* in front and taken over the upper part through hips, covering them and a little piece of it is also left over for the covering of the head and face. The *loongda* is a cotton cloth usually of a dark colour, maroon, green, or yellow. A *lehnga* is a loose shirt, narrow at

the top and has a bigger circumference at the bottom. It is tied at the navel by means of a strong string called *nara* and is of a thick cotton cloth, gaudy colours being preferred, such as deep red, blue and green, as no under-garment is used. It consists of about 12 to 15 yards of cloth, and costs about Rs. 15 to Rs. 20. Usually, women have atleast two *lehngas*.

The *sari* is a loose flowing garment, usually worn over a petticoat. A petticoat is a loose skirt of about 2 to 2½ yards of coarse cloth which should be opaque, preferably matching with *sari* colour. It is tied near the navel by a string over which *sari* is worn. The *sari* covers the entire body, passing round the waist across the breasts over the shoulders. The *sari* lasts for about 6 to 9 months. The breasts are usually covered by *dhoti* or a blouse under which no brassiere or its local substitute is worn. The women-folk in some castes put on *angiya* which is a thin piece of cloth, tailored in the brassiere style and tied towards the back by means of strings. The entire back including the shoulders remains bare in *angia*. It is an ancient mode of dress but appears more modern than the upper piece of some of the Bikini swim suits. This is only worn with *lehnga* and is covered with the *loongda*.

On Gauripuja day, locally known as *Ghangaur*, women put on their best dress. Silken fabrics decorated with golden border called *gota* are used, silk being the imitation one and of a cheaper variety.

The female children put on *kachha* or underwear (shorts) till about the age of seven or eight. The upper-garment used is a loose shirt without a collar. When the girls begin to grow up, they put on women's clothing described above. There is no ceremony to mark the changeover from children's clothings to those of women's. Children of both sexes up to the age of three or four years wear only a loose shirt, from collar to the knees.

The impact of modern fashion has changed the age-old dress pattern, and here and there even the most fashionable up-to-date dress can be seen being worn by the gentry of either sex. The Punjabis and Sindhis can be distinguished from their dress pattern, more so the former ones. Colourful turban is the distinguishing head-gear of Sikhs. Silken loose trousers among the Sindhi women are a favourite lower-garment.

Foot Wear

The shoes worn by the Bundelkhand peasants are remarkable for their high heel piece and large flap over the instep. Females in general

prefer to wear *chappals*, and males shoes, both of which are as a rule locally made. Attraction for factory made shoes in peasant youths is also spreading. Sophisticated sections wear standard factory made shoes and sandals.

Ornaments

Well-to-do males wear gold chain around the neck, apart from the gold rings with or without jewels. Imitation jewellery is also popular these days. Females of poor classes use nickel or silver ornaments, while those of upper classes fancy gold ornaments. It is customary that ornaments to be worn on feet are of silver or any other inferior metal but never of gold. Also that virgin girls and widows are prohibited from wearing *bichhuva*, because it is a traditional sign for married women. The married women wear it in their feet, the first, second, third fingers being the favourite ones. All castes wear it and remove it only when the husband dies.

The use of ornaments was rare among the Harijans till recently, but now they wear ornaments according to their economic status. For this, the contempt of richer castes had to be faced, which has gradually lost its force. Various ornaments in use are described below:

Tops and ear-rings, the former of silver and the latter of gold or silver, are generally worn by the girls. *Long* adorns the nose and is of gold or silver. At the age of four or five years, the nostril is pricked and a *long* is put into it, to be worn throughout life, even during the widowhood. *Nuth* is another ornament of nose and is worn by married ladies on ceremonial occasions. Sometimes a gold chain is also attached with it, studded with precious stones, usually jades. Around the neck, the common ornaments are *tabeez*, locket, and *khangwari*. *Tabeez*, a small copper case containing some magic spell, promising success or for avoiding ill-luck, is either worn round the neck or tied around the arms. *Khangwari* is of solid silver and is the most favourite of the female ornaments. Sometimes it weighs about 20 tolas or so.

Ornaments of hand are *bara*, *chura* and *churi*, which are mostly of silver. *Bara* is worn just over the elbow, and in both the hands. *Chura* is a solid thick silver bangle and *churi* a lighter and refined form of *chura* made both of gold or silver. Glass bangles are also very popular among the ladies.

The fingers are adorned with rings made both of either gold or silver, depending upon the economic status of the person. Generally,

males wear one or no ring but females put on more. Silver rings are more common.

Kardhoni is worn round the waist over a *lehnga* or sari. Generally of silver, it weighs about 30-40 *tolas*, and proclaims the economic status of the wearer as also the traditional aesthetic sense.

Kada, *painjana* and *lachha* are ornaments worn above the ankle. *Kara* and *painjana* are bangle-like ornaments of solid silver. *Painjana* is a fine piece of workmanship, and remains fairly heavy, varying between 25 to 50 *tolas* each. It is a mark of status and a speciality of Bundelkhand region. *Lachhas* are ringlets worn by girls before marriage. As many as 8 to 10 pieces in each ankle are worn. A traditional sign for a married woman—*bichhuwa* is worn by all the castes in first, second and third finger of the feet.

A few other ornaments are *Karn fool*, *bali*, *pungaria*, *har*, *guli-band*, *thoosi*, *tidano*, *khagoria*, *hamel*, *pavjeb*, *payal*, *bajuband*, *kangan*, *bale* hair-clips, etc.

Other Decorations over the Body

Tattooing has been a common mode of decoration of the human body. The custom of getting the name, mole or some religious sign, such as moon or sun, flowers or birds, etc., tattooed on the hands or legs or any other convenient part of the body is not much popular now. Tattooing is done with the help of a small machine by the professional tattooers in a rural fair at a small charge in cash or kind. The justification for tattooing given by an old lady is remarkable. "When I die, I leave all my silver and gold decorations here, this is the only thing I can carry along with me and I need some ornaments, some decorative things to take. Are they not good to carry with me?"¹

Food

It was observed earlier in this century that "All classes live mainly on vegetables. The poorer people eat *kodon*, *saman* and the cheap pulses while the well-to-do eat rice, wheat and gram, etc. Meat is but little eaten except by the lower classes. As condiments various spices, *ghee* and butter-milk are used. Water is the ordinary drink, the only liquor being that distilled from the flowers of the *mahua* (*Basia latifolia*)².

1. *ibid.* p. 11.

2. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 16.

But now in the upper strata of society, the day starts with a glass of milk and *roti* (unleavened thin cake of wheat) in the morning. In the noon *roti* with *dal* (pulse) or a vegetable, forms the usual item of lunch. In the afternoon during the working season, the left over of lunch is generally consumed while still in fields. In the evening *roti* with *dal* and some vegetable is eaten.

The caste Hindus eat mostly wheat and *juar*. Gram is used for preparing *besan* or gram-flour. Rice is still rarely eaten and is reserved for better occasions, i. e. festivals or for cooking *khir*. Meat, eggs, fishes, are not eaten by Brahmans. Liquor is prohibited. For festivals, *poories*, *khir*, and vegetables are prepared. *Poories* are fried in *ghee*. *Pickles*, *Chutney* and *papad* are often taken by those who can afford them.

On special occasions, *halwa* in the morning, *kadi* in the afternoon and *gujia*, *mangoda*, *laddu*, *puri* and seasonal vegetables in the evening are the preparations in higher and upper-middle classes.

Lower and middle sections eat *juar-roti* with salt and molasses in breakfast and *roti* and pulse, locally known as *maheri*, in lunch and in evening meals. Meat is consumed but beef and peacock meat are tabooed. Pork is occasionally taken. Festival food consists of *poories*, *khir* and *halwa*. Liquor is not consumed by Ahirs but taken by other castes said earlier. Chamars do not eat carrion flesh. They are fond of liquor and as said earlier, take local *rasi* and *dubara* varieties. Tea is their favourite drink and is taken daily. Other castes take it, though not regularly. *Juar* is their staple food. *Arhar*, *moong* and *masoor* pulses are taken. Festival food consists of *kadi*, rice, *papad*, and pickles followed by *chapatis*. Sweet rice-pudding is also served. Muslims do not eat meat of pig and crow on religious grounds.

Amusements

Certain group of persons assemble at any temple and organise periodical *bhajan* on religious dates with local instrumental music. In winter, there are fire-side chats which relate to many subjects. It is here that scandals are discussed thread-bare and the village-founds germinate. The usual meeting place in the village is *chabutara* or the open verandah of some house.

Recently, the persons have started seeing movies. They prefer religious or social types to other pictures. Panchayat radio is also a good source of amusement as well as of knowledge. The choice of the listeners in villages is for film songs and *bhajans*. They have also started singing their own songs in accordance with some catchy cinema tunes in accom-

paniment of *dholak* and other musical instruments. A few villagers join in singing the *Alha*, an epic based on the heroism of Alha and Udal, the two brothers who fought valiantly in Bundelkhand. The epic is sung in Bundelkhandi dialect. The singing of *Alha* brings plenty of rain according of the belief held by villagers. *Alha* is, therefore, sung during the rainy season. The instruments that are used are *dholak*, *jhanjh*, *haryeea* and *damru*. The literates read over the *Ramayana* and the *Bhagawad Gita* to the assembled listeners. The women sing at a wedding or other religious function associated with the birth of a child. On such occasions, they rarely sing solo. One often hears housewives singing at dawn while grinding the flour or when a few of them return from the fields after some work.

Festivals

The festivals observed are numerous, and resemble in practically all aspects to those in surrounding districts. Hindus celebrate Raksha Bandhan, Dussehra, Diwali, Holi, etc., while among Musalmans, the principal festival is the Id-ul-fitr, which marks the conclusion of the fast of Ramzan.

Raksha Bandhan falls on the full-moon day of the Sravana. On this day sisters tie a small *rakhi* on the hands of their brothers seeking affection and brothers give some gift, usually in cash, or a present of wearing apparel.

After eight days of Raksha Bandhan comes Janmashtami, which commemorates the birth of Lord Krishna. The people celebrate the day in a big style. In the morning they go to the temple decked in new clothes and ornaments and offer their prayers. In the evening, people gather before the temple and sing *kirtans* (devotional songs) in praise of Lord Krishna. Legend has it that Lord Krishna was born at mid-night on this day, so a fast is observed for the whole day, and devotional singing goes on till mid-night when the birth of Lord Krishna is announced. *Khira* (a preparation of milk mixed with rice and sugar) and *puris* (fried *chapatis*) are distributed as *prasad*. Only the Brahmans and upper class of society observe fast, although others join in singing the *kirtans* and receiving the sweets.

Dussehra is celebrated by all communities with great gaiety and enthusiasm. In the evening they gather outside the village, sacrifice a ram or goat to signify the killing of Ravana, the demon king whom Rama killed. The meat is then distributed among the Chamars, Gadariya, Ahir and Kachhi. The *Brahmans* and *Nai* do not take meat. Next morning the people move around making social

calls and presenting *sauri* tree leaves. In mythology it is said that Lanka, the kingdom of Ravana, was of gold. When it was captured the gold was distributed by the conqueror, so today too, they follow the tradition in this way. In the olden days, the sacrifice of a goat was followed by a feast in which every one participated. Locally brewed liquor flowed freely and everybody had a good time.

Diwali is celebrated for three days by all the castes, but for four days by the *Brahmins*, business community and *Ahirs*. *Dhan-teras* is celebrated on the 13th day of *Kartika* month when silver and gold ornaments are worshipped. Usually some new utensils are purchased. On *Amavasya* or the moonless night, goddess of wealth, *Laxmi*, is worshipped. On this occasion houses are cleaned, decorated and lighted in the evening. The third day is celebrated as *Gordhan Puja* by all castes. They make a small figure from cow-dung and worship it. In the morning buffaloes and cows are worshipped. During the day bullocks are carefully washed, cleaned and decorated with colours and peacock feathers. They are then paraded in the village and taken outside. On the last day, i.e., two days after Diwali comes *Bhai-Dooj*. Sisters apply *teeka* on brothers' forehead and receive useful gifts from them. All communities observe this day. It is purely a family festival.

On full-moon day of *Phalguna*, *Holi* the festival of sprinkling of colour is observed. A few days prior to it a small tree is planted in the earth, along with other wood, timber, etc., lighted by the Patel or the village-headman on full-moon day. Next day, coloured water and *gulal* (a red coloured powder) are sprinkled on each other. Everybody joins in it to the accompaniment of singing and music. They carry *gulal* and coloured water and visit all houses of the village irrespective of caste or social standing. *Holi* at its worst is the festival of squirting dust, mud and other rubbish, drinking and exposing vulgarity and obscenity, freely and frankly. Drinking is much less common now owing to generally adverse public opinion against it. For next 3-4 days the merry-making mood manifests itself in singing and dancing and lasts till *Rang panchami*, when once again more colours and *gulal* are exchanged. Villagers also go to the Sun Temple at Unnao to offer worship.

The birth anniversary of Rama is celebrated by the people on *Ramnavmi*. They visit Rama Temple in midday, and all join in singing *bhajans* etc., and getting *panjiri* (*prasad*). Apart from these festivals *Ramnavmi* *Kajri Navmi* is a popular festival in this area. *Sravani-Kajri Navmi* *Purnima* is also known in some parts as *Kajri Purnima*

because on this day falls rather a lesser known festival of *Kajri*. *Kajri* festiveal is dwarfed by the more well known festivals of *Raksha Bandhan* and *Sravani*, which are also celebrated on this day. *Makar Sankranti*, *Ganesh Chaturthi* and *Sharad Purnima* are also celebrated with religious zeal.

Shab-i-Barat, *Id-ul-Fitr*, *Id-uz-Zuha*, *Muharram* and *Id-i-milad* or *Bara-Wafat* are important Muslim festivals. *Id-ul-Fitr* marks the end of the solemn month of *Ramzan*, a month of fasting for Muslims. *Muharram* is a ten-day observance of intense mourning to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Hussain *Tazias* or replicas of the martyr's tomb, are taken out in procession for immersion. *Tazias* attract the attention of all, irrespective of caste or community. Boys of other communities also take part in *tazia* procession and put on green *kurta*.¹

Communal Life

Pilgrim Centres and Jattras

In all about 16 to 18 small or big fairs are organised in the District at various places. A list of these fairs with necessary details regarding dates, duration, etc., is given in the Appendix. A few important pilgrim centres are described as under:

For the persons living in the region, the Sun Temple is a very holy and important place of worship. Situated on the river *Pahuj* (*Pushpawati*) in *Unnao* village, the temple contains a circular piece of stone, about six inches in diameter representing the sun. It is mounted on a brick platform with brass plates. Twenty-one triangles marked on the stone represent the phases of the Sun. The present temple was erected by a former ruler. In *Samvat* 1901 (A. D. 1844) the temple was enlarged by *Mama Sahib Jadhav*, then *Sindhia's* Minister of the State.²

Sunday is the special day on which the Sun is worshipped in the Temple. A *mela* (fair) is held here on the *Rang-Panchmi* day (the fifth-day after *Holi* festival) in *Phalguna* each year, and draws a large number of devotees. *Ramnavmi* and *Basant Panchami* fairs are also held at *Unnao*. The former is held on *Chaitra badi-5* and the latter on *Magha sudi-5* when a large number of devotees converge to this place. *Makar Sankrant* fair in the month of *Magha* is also held at *Unnao Balaji* and is attended by about 5,000 persons.

1. *Datia Darshan* Ed. by Hari Mohan Lal Shrivastava, p. 48.

2. K.C. Dube and M.C. Mohril, *Fairs and Festivals of Madhya Pradesh*, p. 52.

The worshippers first bathe in the river Pahuj and while still in wet clothes take a *lota* (mug) of river water along with other offerings to the Sun Temple and offer it there. The well-to-do ones offer a brass pot, *kalash* or even gold. The worship at the temple is believed to be specially efficacious in curing skin disease (*chhajan*). The blind, lepers and the childless come in great number. A verse in Hindi indicates the efficacy of worship here.

*Andhan ko ankh det, kodhan ko kaya,
Banjhan ko putra det, nirdhan ko maya.*

(Literally, to the blind it gives sight, and to the lepers the body. The barren beget a son, and the poor wealth.)

The statue of Brahma Balaji here is considered unique in the country.¹

Seondha water-fall is now known by the name of *San-Kumwa* which is a corrupt form of *Sant-Koop*, i.e., the well of the saints. It is a famous Hindu *teerth*. According to a legend in the early times *San-Kunwa* when Sanat-Kumars, the sons of Prajapati Brahma, could not obtain solace to their souls by performing *tapasya* at many places, they were guided to perform it at this place. Even today thousands of devotees rush up to this spot for a holy bath on selected festive dates. A fair, known as Sankowan fair and lasting for 15 days is held here every year on *Kartika sudi 15*.

Sonagir is a famous Jain *Siddha-kshetra*. There are 77 Jain temples situated atop a hill known as *Shramangiri* or *Swarngiri*. It is considered to be the abode of Jain ascetics who meditated here in the remote past. Grand temples of Bhagwan Chandra Prabhu and Bahubali Bhagwan are outstanding amongst all of them. Every year on *Phalguna sudi-15*, a big fair organised by the Gram Panchayat at Sonagir is held here and about 10,000 Jain pilgrims attend it.

The following couplet puts forth the importance of the place:-

*Nang, Anang Kumar sujan
Paanch kodī ru ardha praman
Mukti gae Sonagir sheesh
Te bandon tribhuvan ke sheesh"*

1. K.S. Bhatnagar op. cit., p. 52.

(Literally-"Bow to Nang Kumar, Anang Kumar and five and half crores of saints, revered in the three worlds, who attained *nirwan* (salvation) from the crest of Sonagir)".

Apart from these widely known *teerthsthans*, 15 days Sitala fair attended by about 1,000 pilgrims at Indergarh in *Chaitra*; one day Hardaul fair attended by 2,000 devotees at Basai on *Chaitra 10*; *Sankrant* fair at Basai attended by 8,000 devotees in the month of *Magha* and 15 days Govind fair at Datia in January, attended by about 2,000 devotees are also important fairs.

Communal Dances

In Bundelkhand region three types of folk-dances are popular. They are *Bedhi-ka naach*, *Jogiya* and *Langi*. The first one is popular only among women. It is famous by the name of *Jodani-ka-naach* in Datia and Seondha. It is performed with the accompaniment of instrumental music. In *jogiya dance* dramatics form the main features. Women at the bridegroom's house dance, sing and act on the day marriage party reaches the bride's place. Some people call this *jogida* too. *Langi* is a mixed dance and is usually performed during the Holi festival. In a fast rhythmic way the facing rows of girls and boys simultaneously advance and retreat synchronizing amorously their vigorous body movements. Apart from these, women dance in the accompaniment of *dhol* or *dholak* on various festive occasions with their faces duly veiled. On the occasion of Diwali the Ahirs dance *rai* and *jaguni naach*.

Public Games and Recreation

Maharaja Bhawani Singh of Datia (1857-1907) was reputed to be a great patron of art and sports. Wrestling found State patronage during his time. It is said that he graciously invited Irani *Pahalwan* Aziz from Kashmir, the father of Gama, the wrestler of world renown. Gama's mother hailed from Datia and was the daughter of *Rustame-Hind* Non-Pahalwan. Gama later migrated to Indore and Patiala and earned State patronage there.¹

Wrestling has been a popular pastime and sport not only among the people in general but among the Datia State Forces also. A number of *akhadas*, fighting arenas,² for wrestling are still run by experts in the villages. One of these has been constructed with the

1. *Datia Darshan*, Ed. by Harimohan Lal Shrivastava, p. 89.

2. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., p. 48.

help of the Developement Block at village Richhari¹. People here take delight in wrestling bouts for which a red *langot* (underwear) is the proper apparel. Their preference for red is due to its resistance to dirt and red is also the colour for the monkey-God Hanuman who is revered for such pursuits.

The children play with earthen utensils. *Aankh-michauni*, *gilli-danda*, *ghoda-ghodi*, *kabaddi*, *magartalla*, *gal jhap*, *chapete* are popular local games. The adults usually resort to indigenous sports like *kabaddi*, *gilli-danda*, and kite-flying during the *Makar Sankranti* festival and shooting, *chopad*, *shatranj*, *patte* (playing cards), etc., during their off-time. Games like hockey, foot-ball, volley-ball, etc., are popular in schools and colleges.

Economic and Professional Groups and Classes

The more marked economic and professional groups in the village economy are the former *Malguzars*, money-lenders, the tenant class and lastly the artisan class. The condition of the tenantry was pathetic during pre-Independence era. Their only hope lay in the past in being the yes-men of the *Zamindari*, who barring a few happy exceptions were, generally, capricious and had little interest in the welfare of the tenantry. The system of *theakedari* was abolished in 1914 and gradually the revenue administration was brought on the lines of *ryotwari* pattern. Today, the land is held directly by the tenant from the Government and he pays fixed rent to the Government. Thus, from capricious whims of a *Zamindar* to a settled pattern of land tenure has been a long journey, full of suffering and hardships. The present pattern of land tenure seems to satisfy the people, at least to the extent that there is fixity of rent and security of tenure.

Though modern tendencies have largely influenced the economic conditions and the social outlook of the people, yet the pattern of traditional social life still continues. However, functional groups no longer govern the occupations strictly.

The villagers now feel emancipated, both socially and economically. *Sarpanchas*, members of the village panchayats, and social and political workers have emerged on the horizon of the democratic pattern. And yet, position of the village money-lender has not been affected much. The landless labour class and artisan class have also improved their lot and widened their social outlook. But in the remote isolated

1. K. S. Bhatnagar, op. cit., p. 48.

villages, as elsewhere, functional groups are still more or less caste-groups.

The Changing Scene

The most important change that has come about is that old customs are now easily broken. The modern village bridegroom wears coat and trousers, avoids putting on ornaments and prefers to move in a car. In the olden days, cows, buffaloes and bulls were gifted, but today the groom asks for a cycle, radio and such other modern gifts. Expenditure on marriage has gone up, Loud-speakers to play on gramophone records or band to proclaim the marriage are now a necessity. Very high prices are paid to get them from bigger villages or towns. Lavish spending on marriages and deaths continues to be the cause for the indebtedness of peasants, though their capacity to repay the loans has definitely increased due to better prices of food grains. To sum up there is a general urge for economic and social betterment among all sections of the public owing to the impact of the abolition of *Zamindari* system and the multi-pronged developmental efforts of the Government and the people.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Introduction

The surface in the south of the District consists of rugged quartzite ridges covered mostly with scrub jungle. This surface as we proceed northwards levels off into vast expanse of plains chequered by every possible size of fields—predominantly of wheat. Gram, jowar, bajra and pulses like mung and arhar, alongwith the commercial crop of sugarcane are the other principal crops of the District.

About half of the soils of the District are of poor quality and among many types, recognised by the cultivators, *mar* and *kabar* the black soils are the best covering 15 per cent and 43 per cent of the total land area, respectively. Irrigation which thus becomes important is mainly carried on through wells and canals. The canals which are a recent innovation in the irrigation system of the District are likely to come into prominence with completion of the Sind river project, taken up by the Government of India and Bhandar canal under the Matatila project.

This smallest District of the State in consonance with the most other districts has a markedly agricultural basis in its occupational pattern. Of the total 'workers' comprising 97,468 persons at the Census of 1961 the District had 71,131 cultivators and 2,065 agricultural labourers, forming a little more than 75 per cent of the total 'workers.' At the census of 1971, out of the total 'workers' aggregating 82,276, those enumerated as cultivators or agricultural labourers came to 65,144 or 79.18 per cent of the total 'workers'. The proportion of 'workers' in these two categories worked out to 36 per cent of the total population of the District in 1961. This position has changed little through the last sixty years as 38 per cent of the population of the former Datia State directly derived its livelihood from agricultural and pastoral pursuits in the year 1901. However the 'workers' in two agricultural categories formed 26 per cent of the population of the District in 1971, due to classificational changes.

Principal communities in the District that follow the calling of agriculture are Brahmin, Gujar, Rawat, Kamaria, Kirar, Chamar and Lodhi among many others such as Thakur, Jat, Kanwre, Ahir, Kachhi, Kurmi, Sahariya, etc. Among the 73,196 Agricultural Communities farmers (1961) of the District (including agricultural labourers) the strength of scheduled Castes and Tribes is 14,454 and 648 respectively, with Chamars and Sahariyas leading in their respective classes. Sahariyas have only lately adopted agriculture as their occupation. Formerly they used to live in forests on forest produce. •

The spread of this agricultural population is, as expected, mostly in the rural areas and only 1.8 per cent of the farmers (including agricultural labourers) live in the urban areas. All of them with few exceptions have followed age-old traditional methods of cultivation due perhaps mainly to the comparatively small size of their holdings and non-availability of adequate *repairing* or maintenance facilities in the local markets, that are so very necessary for mechanized farming. Their economic condition though much improved in post-Independence era, on account of welfare activities by the State, planned development and also rising food prices, have not made any perceptible impact on their mode of living. Their habitats continue to consist mostly of old type mud-huts and their living rustic. But there are signs that soon pakka houses, which are being built at an increasing rate, and modern living will replace the old order.

Some idea of the ownership pattern of the cultivating households' holdings can be had from the tahsil-wise figures given in the Table below which is based on the 20 per cent sample of the total households in the District¹—

Table No. IV-1
Ownership Pattern of Household Holdings
Total Households : 5307

District/Tahsil	Owned or Held From Government	Held from Private Persons or Institutions for Payment in Money, or Share	Partly Held From Government and Partly From Private Persons for Payment in Money, Kind or Share.	Total
Datia District (Rural)	3,867	269	1,171	5,307
Seondha Tahsil (Rural)	1,872	118	561	2,551
Datia Tahsil (Rural)	1,995	151	610	2,756

1. Census of India, 1961, Vol. VIII, M. P., Part III (i) Table XI. p. 18.

It may be of interest to note in this connection that Seondha Tahsil had the largest number of villages having all their working population classified as cultivators. It had 22 such villages while Datia Tahsil had 12 villages which had all their working population consisting of cultivators. Among these five villages had only male cultivators to their credit all of whom were in Seondha Tahsil. Ram Sagar village of Datia Tahsil was the smallest village of the District with only three persons, all of whom worked as cultivators.

Land Utilization

Cultivable Waste and Reclamation

The area of the cultivable waste in the District has been lying unutilized for a very long time and only lately this condition has shown any improvement. The area of cultivable waste in 1901-02 was 24,644 ha. out of 2,34,364 ha. being the total area of the erstwhile Datia State, which was 10.5 per cent of the total land area. In 1951-52 when the State had acquired the status of a District such area was recorded as 27,749 ha. out of the then reduced District area of 1,94,685 ha. which came to 14 per cent of the total area. Afterwards, in the following decade (1951-61) there was an appreciable decrease in the area of cultivable waste which came down to 6,988 ha. in the year 1960-61 out of the then total District area of 204 thousand ha. and thus brought the percentage down to 3.4. In 1966-67 the cultivable wasteland was recorded as 15,774 ha. which worked out to 7.8 per cent of the total area of the District during the year. It was further recorded that out of this cultivable area 5,483 ha. could be brought under the plough immediately, 8,052 ha. could be used for cultivation after some improvement while the rest, i. e., 2,239 ha. comprised uneconomic small patches of land or large blocks of land which are not reclamable for cultivation at reasonable cost. In 1972-73, area under cultivable waste was recorded as 18.1 thousand ha.

The cultivable waste is scattered in small blocks of land. Survey made in 1957-58 brought forth the fact that each of the 6,688 blocks comprising 5,468 ha. were below 6.1 ha. and 43 blocks comprising 404 ha. were between 6.1 and 12.2 ha. None of the blocks belonged to a bigger size. Although there was no particular organized effort to cultivate these wastes sporadic individual action to bring such lands under plough seems to have caused their remarkable reduction. More accurate classification of such lands seems to be another reason for this steep decline.

Though lying mostly in the inferior *rankar* soil regions, in general they present little difficulty in the way of their recovery and utilization

for agricultural purposes and are in fact being reclaimed through conventional methods. In addition, in 1953-54 a 40.5 ha. piece of land was reclaimed by tractors for the establishment of State Mechanized Farm, Datia, in the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh. By the end of that year the total area reclaimed in the District by the tractor unit amounted to 420 ha.

The cultivable wastelands owned by the State Government are now being allotted regularly to the landless persons for cultivation under the relevant Tenancy Act. During the three years 1956-57 to 1958-59, cultivable area amounting to 2,719 ha. was allotted to agriculturists on individual basis. The area left out of cultivation is generally used for grazing purposes.

Land use

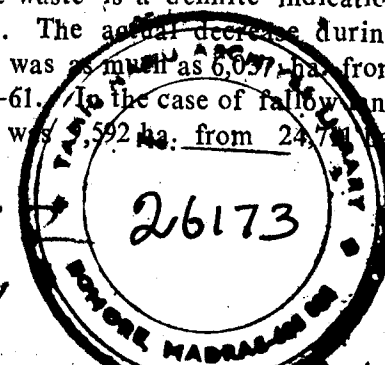
The net cropped area which in 1901 stood at 1,16,509 ha. increased to 1,18,552 ha. in 1960-61. These absolute figures in view of the territorial changes in the District may not present a true picture of the expansion area in agricultural area. However, in terms of percentage the net cropped area increased from 49 to 58 per cent of the then District during the aforesaid period. The cropped area has registered almost continuous increase since then. During the decade 1951-61, the area rose from 103,432 ha. to 1,18,552 ha. showing an increase of 14.6 per cent. In 1964-65, the net cropped area reached the highest figure of 1,22,822 ha. registered till then. In 1966-67, the net cropped area aggregated 95,500 ha. i. e., 47 per cent of the total area, which was an unfavourable year for agriculture. In 1972-73, the net sown area was recorded as 128.2 thousand ha.

The double-cropped area which almost tripled in the first half of the century has maintained a rising tendency in the first decade of the latter half, during which it also reached the record area figure of 3,118.5 ha. in the year 1958-59, i. e., 2.7 per cent of the net cropped area. In 1966-67 double cropped area was recorded as 1,451 ha. i. e., 1.5 per cent of the net cropped area of the year. The double-cropped area in 1972-73 had shown some increase when it stood as 2.5 thousand ha.

There has been a considerable decrease in the area of fallow land in the District in respect of both, current as well as other fallow lands, which along with reduction in cultivable waste is a definite indication of the expanding horizons of agriculture. The actual decrease during the last decade in the current fallow land was as much as 6,057 ha. from 10,094 ha. in 1951-52 to 4,037 ha. in 1960-61. In the case of fallow land other than current fallow, the decrease was 5,592 ha. from 24,744 ha.

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in 1951-52 to 20,822 ha. in 1960-61. A further steep decline is shown by the figures of 1964-65 when both the current and other fallow lands stood at 2,832 and 6,290 ha. respectively. In 1972-73 fallow land was recorded at 6.6 thousand ha. comprising 4.2 thousand ha. of old fallows and 2.4 thousand ha. of other fallows.

The forest area of the District showed steep decline when it came down to seven per cent of the District area in the year 1950-51 from about 30 per cent of the area of the former State in 1901. But it improved in subsequent years. In 1960-61 forest area was recorded as 24,734 ha. i. e., 12 per cent of the District area and in 1966-67 the figures were 21,235 ha. and 10 per cent, respectively. In 1972-73 area under forests, with 18.8 thousand ha. recorded a decrease.

Irrigation

The poor quality of the greater part of the soil, originating from the rocky nature of the gneissic formation, makes irrigation important for the agriculture of the District. It is mainly carried on from wells and nullahs in addition to the traditional source, tanks, which are formed by raising earthen dams in the frequent gaps which occur between the quartzite ridges commonly found in this region, water being led off by channels. Canals have recently come up as another important source of irrigation. Wells have overshadowed the tanks which were prominent in the past. Betwa canal, though traversing a part of the former State, was not then used for irrigation and at present lies outside the District boundary. Tanks and canals are totally dependent on rains and their water storage differs with the vagaries of the monsoon. This is not the case with wells to that extent and that may be one of the reasons of their popularity.

Area Irrigated

Net area irrigated in the District has not shown any remarkable increase right from the beginning of the century. The area was 2,792 ha. around the beginning of the century in Datia State, being equivalent to two per cent of the cultivated area. In the following 53 years this proportion did not change much. An increase of one per cent in the irrigated area in 1951-52 cannot be called flattering by any standard, when the irrigated area amounted to 3,119 ha. out of the net cropped area of 1,03,432 ha. the percentage being a little more than three.

However, the subsequent period has witnessed a rising trend in the irrigated area, though it is neither continuous nor spectacular. In

1960-61 the irrigated area was recorded as 3,857 ha. and percentage as 3.2. In 1972-73, the all time high record of 48,062 ha. was established which gave a percentage of 14.1.

The table given below shows the progress of irrigation in the District.

Table No. IV--3

Area Irrigated in Relation to Area Sown

(in .000 Hectares)

Year	Net Area Irrigated	Net Area Sown	Percentage of Net Area irrigated to Net Area Sown
1950-51	3.1	992	3.1
1955-56	3.7	112	3.3
1960-61	3.9	118	3.2
1965-66	5.0	122.3	4.0
1966-67	10.0	95.5	10.5
1967-68	7.0	125.9	5.4
1968-69	9.8	128.6	7.6
1969-70	11.4	128.3	8.9
1970-71	13.4	127.4	10.5
1971-72	15.4	128.4	12.0
1972-73	18.1	128.2	14.1

Sources of Irrigation

Wells, canals and tanks are the main sources of irrigation in the District in that order. By the end of 1963-64, there were 4,386 wells and 3 canals with a length of 34 km. The cultivators adopt the method of embanking their fields for retaining moisture which indirectly serves the purpose of irrigation. Government makes available funds for this purpose in the form of *taccavi*.

The Table given below shows the gross area irrigated by sources:

Table No. IV--3

Area Irrigated by Sources

Year	Canals	Tanks	Wells	Other Sources	Total
1950-51	—	—	2,793	298	3,091
1955-56	421	—	3,300	—	3,721
1960-61	475	42	3,340	—	3,857
1965-66	652	122	4,183	11	4,968
1966-67	4,118	14	5,840	41	10,013
1967-68	972	120	5,777	21	6,890
1968-69	1,090	54	8,546	63	9,753
1969-70	3,204	76	8,024	—	11,355
1970-71	5,545	27	8,080	9	13,661
1971-72	5,717	43	9,580	44	15,384
1972-73	7,989	261	9,687	125	18,062
1973-74	—	—	—	—	—
Tahsil Datia	435	39	6,599	124	7,197
Tahsil Seondha	7,554	222	3,088	1	10,865

Irrigated Crops

More than half of the total irrigated area is claimed by wheat but when we relate the area irrigated to the total area under a particular crop, first is claimed by sugarcane, as it is almost a wholly irrigated crop.

In the year 1966-67 wheat had an irrigated area of 6,147 hectares which was 30 per cent of the total cropped area of 20,472 ha. under wheat in that year. Next important irrigated crop was gram with 1,873 hectares i.e., 6 per cent of gram was raised as an irrigated crop during the year. Barley had an irrigated area of 738 hectares which came to 59 per cent of the total area of 1,244 hectares under that crop. Next came fruits and vegetables with 206 hectares. Compared to that, sugarcane had an irrigated area of 180 hectares against the total area of 183 hectares which amounted almost to 100 per cent. Another important irrigated crop was paddy of which 114 hectares out of an area of 1,126 hectares i.e., 10 per cent, were irrigated. Other crops held only a small portion both in area and percentage of the irrigated land.

Development of Irrigation

Before the First Plan was launched the total irrigation under Public Works Department in Datia District was confined to 559 hectares. No progress could be achieved during the First and Second Five Year Plans. In the Third Plan, five works were undertaken to irrigate 939 hectares involving a total outlay of Rs. 5,05,100. Besides, five more works were taken up in Collector's Sector costing Rs. 75,170 to irrigate 139 ha. Two works were proposed from C.D.N.E.S. funds costing Rs. 37,652 with a designed irrigation of 61 ha. But the works had to be postponed as the tanks involved clearance from Railways which was awaited. Commissioning of the Mata Tila Project was a landmark in the history of irrigation of the District. This project has been constructed by Uttar Pradesh Government, but Bhandar canal, a part of the project also brings irrigation benefits to Datia District. This canal was commissioned for the first time in 1966 and 636 ha. of land was irrigated in the District. Thus the total potential created by the end of the Third Plan was 2,274 ha. against which 1,603 ha. were irrigated. During the Annual Plan period, Bhandar canal system was further developed and 5,779 ha. were irrigated in the year 1966-67. It was proposed to irrigate 8,069 ha. in the rabi season of 1967-68.

Seven irrigation schemes were taken up under Scarcity Funds with a total capital outlay of Rs. 302 lakhs and irrigation potential of

707 ha. The total outlay for Fourth Plan for the development of irrigation was Rs. 3.70 lakhs and it is proposed to undertake two works costing Rs. 4 lakhs to irrigate 202 ha.

Sonagir tank project has already been surveyed and cost estimates are ready. This project, expected to cost Rs. 8 lakhs, can be taken up for implementation subject to availability of funds. Besides, when the Sind Project Stage-II comes up, its Right Bank Canal will command 769 ha. of land.

Responsibility for the construction of minor irrigation works, viz., installation of *rahats* and pumping-sets, deepening and boring of wells lies with the Agriculture Department.

The rivers Sind, Mahuar and Aghari and Garaghat nullah represent unutilized potential for irrigation. However, the Sind has been covered under Sind River Project.

Soil Erosion

The problem of soil erosion mainly exists in the northern region where the Gangetic alluvium is prone to be cut along the banks of the Sind and Mahuar rivers, their tributaries and the fast moving nullahs of the region.

Throughout the length of the above two rivers falling within the forest area, i.e., nearly 21 km. along the eastern and southern and 24 km. on either banks of the river Sind and 11 km. on either banks of the Mahuar a belt ranging in breadth from 0.2 to 1.6 km. at places is badly cut up and eroded. The erosion is due to both natural and human factors like water, wind, fires and dessication, shifting cultivation, uncontrolled, indiscriminate grazing and destruction of forests, etc.

Some check-walls already exist on the Seondha nullah which traverses the town of Seondha presenting the problem of soil erosion to the lay-out area of the town. In addition to the 13 check walls already existing for all the nullahs, in 1959-60 three more such walls were constructed under the Flood Protection Scheme. One protective bund at Begampur village is also being constructed. As regards forest areas, initially the soil conservation work was started on the banks of the Sind and a 16 km. stretch was covered with forest vegetation. This afforestation work, started in the year 1953-54, consisted of moisture conservation, i. e., creation of bunds, digging trenches along contours and gully plugg-

ing. More area was taken up in the coming years and the entire area was covered under the plantations till 1962. The species tried were *neem*, *babul khair*, *shisham*, *karanji*, and *prosopis juliflora*. All species have done well though *neem* is seen scattered. Teak has also been experimented but the results were not encouraging.

It was, however, only since the year 1964-65 that projects like contour bunding and dry-farming under the Soil Conservation scheme received exclusive attention, when a separate sub-division under an Assistant Soil Conservation Officer was formed. This sub-division also included the Bhandar tahsil of Gwalior district besides the whole of Datia District. Under the Scheme during the Third Plan period, contour bunding covered 4,678 ha., bunding of cropped area 14,940 ha. and dry-farming 73,982 ha.

Soils

The best type of the soil in the District is highly calcareous and resembles the black cotton soil. This is very fertile and can be classified into two variants locally known as *mar* and *kabar*.

Black in its hue, this soil contains a fine mixture of small calcareous stones and shell. It has a remarkable capacity of absorbing and retaining water for a long duration of time. Even with very little of water this soil becomes sticky but in the sun its surface dries up quickly and causes fissures in summer. Another local name for *mar* is given as *manta* in the Datia State Gazetteer. But it appears to have become obsolete. *Mar* is usually found in pockets where the intrusive dykes of trap have disintegrated. It produces best quality wheat in the District. Going to a depth of 0.3 to 0.6 metres from the surface it needs very little of manure and the crop is brought forth without irrigation. Its inferior type is also used for growing *jowar*.

This is somewhat lighter in hue than *mar*. It is more stiff in character. It does not contain calcareous stones or shells. Its depth from the surface also goes from 0.3 to 0.6 metres. It is suitable for the cultivation of gram, *jowar* and linseed in addition to wheat. It occupies second place after *mar* and as in the case of the latter, also does not require irrigation.

Occupying the third rank amongst the soils from the fertility point of view in the District, *parwa* is brown or yellowish in appearance and requires manure and irrigation for the production of wheat. But gram or *jowar* is produced even without irrigation on this type of soil.

A very inferior type of soil, found in hilly regions, consists mostly of stones with very small portion of soil and goes only to a depth of 0.15 mm. to 0.30 mm. from the surface. It cannot grow crops year after year and has to be left fallow once in two years or twice in three years. *Jowar kodon til* and such other crops are the main crops on this type of land and the *pathari* or more hilly regions are used for grazing purposes.

Fields in the vicinity of villages which receive all their filth through the local drains, serving as manure, become very fertile and are classed under this name. Found along the banks of rivers or streams and beds of tanks, *Kachhar* is the most fertile soil and grows wheat or garden crops. It forms a very small portion of the total cropped area. Other types of soils found in the District are sandy and *usar*, the latter of which is completely unsuitable for cultivation whereas the former sustains an occasional crop of groundnut.

The proportion occupied by different types of soils is as follows. *mar* 15 per cent, *kabar* 33 per cent, *parwa* 27 per cent, *rankar* including *pathari* 13 per cent, *gothan* 1 per cent, *tir* and *kachhar* 0.70 per cent and *talabi* 0.30 per cent. The soils of the District are different in nitrogen and phosphorus, also organic matter and lime.

Crops

The two recognized growing seasons of autumn (*kharif*) and spring (*rabi*) crops are locally known as *siari* and *unhari*, respectively. Crops grown in the *rabi* season include wheat, gram, barley, *masoor* (lentil), *alsi* (linseed) *sarson* (mustard) and *sunni*. Crops of *kharif* season in the District are *jowar*, *bajra*, paddy, *urad*, *moong*, *arhar*, *kodon*, *kutki til*, *maize*, cotton, and *patsan*. Wheat has always been the major staple crop of the District. Other important food crops are gram, barley, *jowar* and *bajra* which are more consumed by the poorer sections of the population.

Cultivation of *rabi* crops like wheat and gram is carried out by constant preparation of the fields during the rains and by sowing the seed with a drill-plough whereas *kharif* cultivation is carried out with the seeds being thrown broadcast into the field and then left to thrive as best as they can with the help of an occasional weeding. Cropped area is fairly distributed in both tahsils and no particular area can be assigned to any one crop.

Cultivation of wheat has made considerable progress in the District, from 27,110 ha. in 1950-51, the area has gradually increased to 43,297 ha. in 1964-65, though in 1961-62, it was as high as 49,819 ha. In 1966-67, the area was recorded as 20,473 ha. The year 1971-72 again gave a high record of 49.7 thousand ha. The area slumped to 46.1 thousand ha. during the next year. About 30 per cent of crop was raised as an irrigated crop. The unirrigated land consisted of the first two superior types of soils which are retentive of moisture. All the irrigated wheat was *pisli*, which is the small, soft and yellow wheat of ordinary quality.

To prepare the land for wheat the field is gone over two or three times with the *bakhar* or surface-plough between June and October. The seed is sown towards the end of October or in November if the rains come late. It is sown with the *nari*. After that nothing is required until the harvest time in March and April. Sometimes wheat is grown mixed with gram, as it helps to keep up the productive power of the soil, for the plants of the pea tribe increase the fertility of the soil by assimilating, nitrogen through their roots. Moreover, the cultivator can expect a fair outturn from at least one of the crops. The grains of the two crops are separated at the harvest time.

Jowar is the major cereal of the *kharif* season and ranks next to wheat as a cereal crop in the District. The area fluctuates within wide limits, i.e., in 1950-51, it was 14,637 ha. and in 1964-65 it was 21,556 ha. But as the statistics show it will be wrong to conclude that the area has registered an increasing trend. In 1966-67, the area under *jowar* came to 23,409 ha. and in 1972-73 to 19.7 thousand ha. It is raised as an unirrigated crop. *Jowar* is the staple food crop of the people belonging to low income groups, as it is cheaper in comparison to wheat. Unlike wheat, it does not need careful cultivation. Preparation of land is confined to one ploughing before sowing is done after the first rains have soaked the earth. It is sown broadcast and is raised either as a pure crop or as a mixture with gram.

Paddy does not constitute a major crop of the District. Paddy area has remained constant during the last twenty years. It amounted to 1,126 ha. in 1966-67 out of which only 114 ha. were irrigated. Transplantation method is not applied in the District and it is sown broadcast after the first shower of rain. Rice produced is of poor quality. The area remained unchanged even in 1972-73. Other cereal crops of lesser importance include *bajra* (1,814 ha. in 1966-67), maize, (875 ha.), barley (1,244 ha.) *kodon* and *kutki*.

Pulses

In 1966-67, pulses were responsible for 41 per cent of the total cropped area of the District. This shows the significant position occupied by pulses in the cropping pattern of the District. Gram, *tur* and *masur* are the important pulse crops.

From the point of view of area, gram occupies second rank, after wheat, among the crops of the District and the first among the pulse crops, i.e., 31 per cent of the total cropped area and 77 per cent of the total area grown under pulses. But the area under gram has not fluctuated within wide limits. In 1951-52, the acreage was 34,508 ha. and in 1964-65, it was 35,235 ha. In 1966-67, the area figure was 30,480 ha. The area increased to 37.0 thousand ha. in 1968-69 and 37.2 thousand ha. in 1970-71, but slumped to 34.0 thousand ha. in 1972-73. Although preparation of land for gram is similar to that of wheat, it can be grown in somewhat inferior soils with not so careful cultivation as required for wheat. It is generally sown and reaped somewhat earlier than wheat and is grown either mixed or in rotation with wheat.

The crop is sown and reaped at the same time as gram and requires a heavy soil retentive of moisture and needs a more careful tilth than gram. It had an area of 2,640 ha. in the year 1965-66 out of which 161 ha. were irrigated. Lentil occupied about two per cent of the total cropped area in the District. In 1971-72 this pulse occupied 3.00 thousand hectares. *Tur* (*Cajanus indicus*) etc. covered 4.2 thousand ha. in 1971-72. It is sown in June July and reaped in March-April. It is always grown as a mixed crop and requires very little seed. *Moong*, *moth* and *urad* are other pulse crops of some importance.

Condiments and Spices

These crops covered only 197 ha. in 1966-67, out of which chillies claimed 165 ha. The respective figures for 1971-72 were 214 and 191 hectares.

Fruits and Vegetables

Fruits covered only 97 ha. in 1966-67. Guava is the principal fruit of the District. Vegetables both *kharif* and *rabi*, though commanding a larger area than fruits were confined only to 206 ha. in 1966-67. The main vegetables grown in the District are potato and onion. In 1971-72 the combined area under two groups of crops was 3.2 thousand hectares.

Oilseeds

A little more than six per cent of the total cropped area was attributed to oilseed crops in 1966-67. *Til* among edible oilseeds and linseed among non-edible oilseeds are the most important crops in this category. Cultivation of groundnut is emerging as a competitor to oilseed crops.

Grown in *Kharif*, it is sown in June and July and reaped in October and November. Its flowers are mostly white or pink in colour. It is sown in porous soil in rotation with *kodon-kutki*. It is sown sparsely over the field. It requires very little seed and grows without any particular irrigation. The cultivation of *til* has fallen off. The acreage which was 5,959 ha. in 1951-52 declined to 2,475 ha. in 1964-65. It was 2,455 ha. in 1966-67. The area declined by one half in 1972-73.

It is a valuable crop although undependable and exhausting to the soil. It is very much liable to rust and is seldom cultivated over more than a small area because of the risks involved. In recent years broadcast system of sowing has gradually been replaced by the drilling system. The land is prepared in very much the same manner as wheat though with less care. Seed is sown at the same time but ripens a little before wheat. In 1966-67, the area was 1,386 ha. The area gradually increased to 5.0 thousand ha. by 1972-73.

Reports of the erstwhile Datia State reveal that cotton was once grown round about Datia, but at present and specially in the last decade very little cotton has been grown. In 1914-15 cotton was sown in 6,448 ha. while the area in 1964-65 was less than a hectare. Thus there has been a progressive decline in the cultivation of cotton. A ginning factory once established near the Railway station is now in ruins.

The cultivation of Sugarcane is gradually declining, though it has never been an important crop in the District. In 1966-67 it was grown in 183 ha. The quinquennial figure was somewhat higher with 212 ha. In 1971-72 the area further declined to 150 hectares.

*Progress of Scientific Agriculture**Agricultural Implements*

Farmers in Datia still find it worth their while to use age-old implements and methods of cultivation partly due to the force of habit and

partly due to comparatively small size of fields rendering them unfit for mechanized farming, and lack of a well-furnished market in modern improved implements and repair facilities.

Among the older types of agricultural implements yet in vogue, principal one is *bakhar* or surface plough which has a long iron blade some four inches in breadth and goes two or three inches deep into the earth. It is used in preparing the land for the reception of seed. After sowing, a heavy beam of wood is dragged across the land to cover the seeds and break the clods. It is locally known as *patda* or *pata* and costs about 25 rupees. The price of *bakhar* in the local market is near about 18 rupees. Plough (*desi*) used at the time of sowing consists of a wooden body with an iron spike, penetrating six to nine inches and costs about 30 rupees. *Nari* or seed-drill, another useful implement, consists of a sowing tube attached behind a plough. Weeding is done with a *khurna* or *khurpi*, which consists of a small and straight or crooked blade or iron with a wooden handle and costs about three rupees in the local markets. Then, there is the *pharoona*, with a broad iron blade and *kudara* with a long pointed iron goad to remove or dig up earth, which costs nearly 10 rupees. Sickles or *hansiya* is used in harvesting the crops.

The older types of implements described above are preferred by the cultivators to the modern tools which need for their desired efficiency in performance a bigger capital expenditure, a larger field area of operation and a greater technical knowledge which are all lacking at present in this typically rural District. In contradistinction to the mechanized farming, the old traditional system, the base of which is the age-old bullock-driven plough or *bakhar*, is much cheaper and its components can be easily provided locally requiring no particularly skilled labour for operation.

Even the District headquarters Datia does not have a sufficiently developed sales and repair facility in regard to modern agricultural implements and one has to run sometime to Jhansi, the adjacent district of Uttar Pradesh for one's requirements. Only a few big farmers with large tracts of land have tried mechanization in varying degrees. Moreover, quite a large area in the District is uneven rendering it unsuitable for mechanized agriculture.

Tractor farming was introduced in the District at the beginning of the Plan era in 1951. In 1972-73 the number of tractors in operation

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DATA

was recorded as 19. Some improved models of local implements have also come into use and their popularity is now on the increase. These improved versions pertain to various implements like plough, cultivator hand-hoe and chaff-cutter, all of which are indigenously manufactured but on small scale. Other modern implements include oil engines, electric pumps and sugarcane-crushers which in 1972-73 numbered 53,213 and 58, respectively.

Table showing the number of agricultural implements, in use in the District appears in Appendix A.

Seeds

Once convinced of their utility, improved seeds of crops are readily adopted by the farmer. Arrangements are made by the Government for making available improved seeds of different crops. The seeds distributed include mainly those of wheat, gram, *jowar*, and *tur*, among others. Some quantity of seeds has also been distributed free of cost by the Government.

Rotation of Crops

The cultivator is very well aware of the exhausting nature of some crops, and the recuperative powers of others. Therefore, with a view to maintaining the fertility of the soil, the traditional practice of rotation of crops is followed, but not very systematically. The commonest series are *jowar arhar* and *ward* with wheat, or wheat and gram or cotton. The series vary with local conditions such as, manuring and the supply of water, etc.

Another method to increase fertility is to leave the land fallow for one full season of *rabi* before sowing it again with wheat or wheat and gram in the next. But this method also is not followed systematically.

Manure

No particular attention is paid by the cultivator to the use of manure. Only a little manure is used by some of the cultivators in fields adjacent to the village *abadi* on irrigable lands. Village sweepings, cow-dung or dung of sheep and goats are the more popular and commonly used types of manure. In the fields nearby the village *abadi* compost is used as manure, whereas synthetic manure is used with some reluctance on the part of the cultivator.

In more recent times, however, the use of manures and, improved seeds and fertilizers has received a great fillip on account of the development activities initiated by the Government during the Plan periods. This is clear from the statistics given below.

Table No. IV-4

Distribution of Improved Seeds, Manures and Fertilizers

Scheme	Unit	Achievement	
		1961-62 to 1965-66	1966-67 to 1969-70
I Improved Seed	Hectares		
Improved seeds other than paddy	„	15,357	5,047
Improved paddy seed	„	652	16,734
Improved <i>rabi</i> seed other than wheat	„	31,722	29,894
Improved wheat seed	„	19,051	19,416
II Fertilizer	Tonnes		
Nitrogenous fertilizer	„	803	3,687
Phosphatic fertilizer	„	254	563
III Green Manuring	Hectares		
Departmental	„	3,129	13,983
Private sources	„	2,420	..
IV Compost	Tonnes		
Rural compost	„	98,969	73,934
Night soil compost	„	152	188
Urban compost	„	396	1,911

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

Among the diseases which largely affect the outturn of the crops and area commonly existent in the District are rust and smut. Wheat and the related crops are much liable to suffer from rust owing to the moisture retaining nature of the black soil of the District which bear these crops. Smut is also a prevalent disease and turns the ears black.

The chief pests are insects, blight and weeds. The insects include flies, borers and caterpillars which often do considerable damage. Borers are especially prone to attack sugarcane. Rats invariably appear after a year of deficient rainfall. Deer were once upon a time a major threat

to the crops in Datia¹ but they are almost extinct now and do not seem to pose a problem.

Kans grass (*Imperata spontanea*) at times entirely covered large areas of land when left fallow, particularly where the soil is rich. Its growth may render the field uncultivable owing both to the difficulty of ploughing and to the absorption of moisture from the soil by its thick, deep and succulent roots. The period for which a field may be rendered uncultivable differs with the richness of the soil, the better the land the longer will the *kans* flourish.

There are no traditional methods, worth mentioning to remedy the harmful effects of diseases and insects, etc. The practice of spraying kerosene oil over stored grains for extirpating white ants and weevils was in vogue. But that is only an after-remedy and cannot check the onslaught of various diseases arising from unfavourable weather when the crops are still standing in the fields.

The scientific remedies made available by the Agriculture Department have been very popular and successful in combating the insects, pests and diseases.

Activities of the Agriculture Department

Agriculture Department has been active in the multipronged planned advancement of scientific methods of agriculture right from its inception. It aims at the promotion of all measures amongst the cultivators for increased agricultural production on improved and right lines. This includes use of improved seeds, manures and fertilizers, green manure, improved tools, implements and other machines, plant protection measures and the dissemination of practical and fruitful results of research through field demonstrations.

Most of the cultivators have adopted the improved method of turning cow-dung, the indigenous source of manure, into a more effective type of manure. Similarly, demonstrations are held to acquaint farmers with the use of chemical fertilizers.

As to the various achievements in the field of agriculture, they have been given in the appropriate sections of this Chapter. However, some of the items not included elsewhere are given below:-

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 19.

Table No. IV-5
Improved Agricultural Practices

Scheme	Unit	Achievement	
		1961-62 to 1965-66	1966-67 to 1969-70
Improved practices	Hectares	7,116	N.A.
Plant protection	"	106,046	65,222
Horticulture development	"	355	42
Japanese method of paddy cultivation	"	185	168
Improved implement	No.	1,530	..
Double cropped area	Hectares	4,895	7,232

Agricultural Co-operative Societies

Co-operation in cultivation, though advantageous due to its enlarged capital base and increased scope for mechanisation and pooling of resources, is of comparatively recent origin in the District. The various co-operatives functioning in the District can be categorised into co-operative farming societies and better farming societies. Details regarding establishment, activities and structure, etc., of the two types of these co-operatives have been shown in the Table given below. The information relates to the year 1965-66.

Table No. IV-6
Agriculture Co-operative

	Joint Farming Societies		Collective Farming Societies		
	Harijan Joint Farming Society	Joint Farming Society	Ambedkar Harijan collective Farming society	Collective Farming Society	Ex-service men's collective farming Society
1 Location					
Village	Sersa	Chirol	Chhallapura	Kumharra	Datia
Tahsil	Datia	Datia	Datia	Datia	Datia
2 Date of Establishment	11-11-1963	12-2-1964	26-7-1963	15-6-1963	18-11-1959
3 Area (Hectares)					
Total	39	50	14	45	49
Under crops	32	34	Nil	24	Nil
4 Crops raised	Oilseeds	Oilseeds	Nil	Oilseeds	Nil
	Foodgrains	Foodgrains		Foodgrains	
5 Members' No.	14	16	30	12	18
6 Capital structure	2,026	16,210	712	11,252	9,013
7 Profit loss	+ 162	+ 3,761	+ 32	+ 399	-2,216

Better farming societies whose function is to provide credit facilities for agricultural and other related purposes to the agricultural population for improving their capacity as farmers, were started first at Nandai and Gadi in the District, in the month of July, 1958, when two such

societies were established on 7th of the month. The number gradually grew to 10 by the year 1966. Six of them were located in Datia Tahsil at Nandai, Gadi, Ikara, Murera, Sitapur and Sirol. The remaining four were set up in Seondha Tahsil at Kharibhat, Chhikan, Seondha and Saimai.

As to the achievements of these societies, they had till the year 1966 distributed short and medium term loans to the agriculturists to the tune of Rs. 1,34,855 and fertilizers and seeds of the value of Rs. 25,675. In addition, they had provided consumer goods to their members worth Rs. 77,030.

Agricultural Farms

There were two agricultural farms and one garden in Datia in the year 1966. Both the farms were owned by the State and served as seed multiplication and demonstration farms. One of them, Datia Farm is situated on Datia-Gwalior road while the other Indergarh Farm is located near the village of Indergarh in Seondha Tahsil. Datia Farm was established in the year 1965 and covers an area of 137 ha. Indergarh Farm came into being in 1959-60 and extends over an area of 44 ha.

The District Garden known as Gulab Bag is located on the outskirts of Datia town, on a street named, *Thandi Sarak* meaning The Cold Street. Besides serving as recreation resort to the public, it also serves as demonstration and supply centre of fruit plants, vegetable seedlings and seed. However, the utility of the Garden has been adversely affected on account of seepage from the nearby tank resulting in excessive moisture all the year round. The area of the Garden is 7 ha.

Animal Husbandry

There was a time when wild growth of grass was fairly widespread covering all fallow and uncultivated areas and the farmers countered no difficulty in feeding their cattle. This self-sufficiency in respect of grass, found all over the country in abundance, perhaps explains the lack of conscious effort at raising planned pastures in the past. The utility of well maintained pastures needs no emphasis in an area where agriculture is the main vocation and bullocks and cattle the mainstay of that vocation. Raising of luxuriant and succulent fodders becomes all the more important, as concentrates in the livestock feeds are not available in sufficient quantity. Fodder, silage, *kadbi*, hay and straw constitute another class of livestock feeds, namely, the roughage category, which have a high fibre content and comparatively low nutritive value.

Fodder and Grazing

A variety of improved fodder known as berseem has been given particular attention by the Government and has been recommended for

planned cultivation under Fodder Cultivation Programme taken up in the year 1966-67. This scheme has covered, to begin with, 13 ha. acres of land in the District. A cow-rearing institution in Datia, i.e., Govind Goshala has been persuaded to grow berseem for the cattle maintained by it. Important among the indigenous grasses of spontaneous growth are locally known as *gudda*, *machoria* and *gunaria*. There are numerous other varieties of lesser importance growing over the plains and forests. Alongwith these, farm residues and leaves of herbs and shrubs are fed to cattle. These together comprise the major part of fodder resources and explain the poor quality feed of cattle.

The general practice for feeding is to let the cattle go over the plains and forage for themselves, while stall-feeding is followed only to a limited extent.

Livestock and Dairy Farming

The bovine animals in the District are generally medium-sized and not well looked after. As elsewhere in the country, they abound in numbers, and are mainly used for cultivation and milk supply. Total bovine population of the District, according to 1961 Census was 1,82,015. Among these 46,501 were buffaloes (with 263 males, 25,217 females and 21,021 young stock). Cattle numbered 1,35,514 in all, (with 51,752 males, 40,184 females and 43,578 young stock). Bullocks are the main source of motive power for cultivation. Male buffaloes are of little use to the farmer. Their rearing is a matter of common neglect, which fact is clearly indicated by the figures which show only 263 male buffaloes as against 25,217 females. In 1971-72, 131,561 cattle and 46,562 buffaloes were enumerated in the District.

Ahirs as a community follow the profession of rearing the cattle for milk production but almost every household, in the rural area, rears cows or buffaloes for milk. In urban areas, of course, milk is produced commercially on small scale. But well-organised dairy farming involving proper cattle upbringing and pasteurisation of milk is lacking. There is only one organisation, called Govind Goshala at Datia which has contributed to some extent to collective rearing and upbringing of cattle on a planned basis. Government has also organised milk yield competitions from time to time in the District to stimulate proper upkeep and care of the milch cattle. The maximum yield determined thereby is 4 kilograms of milk at a time from a cow and 7 kilograms of milk at a time from a buffalo.

Datia comes in that almost exclusive region of Madhya Pradesh in which sheep rearing is followed to some extent, and sheep alongwith goats form a substantial part of the total livestock population. Sheep numbered 28,206 according to 1961 Census, while the number of goats was 56,187. In 1972-73

Sheep
B reeding .

sheep fall in their number was seen when 20,864 heads of sheep and 46,299 heads of goats were counted.

The sheep are maintained for both wool and mutton and are reared by the local rural inhabitants, as well as by the itinerant shepherd class locally known as *gadaria*, who have got the experience of generations behind them. The habit of this class is particularly suitable for the proper feeding of the sheep as monotony of diet or maintaining them continuously on the same pasture are not desirable for sheep-rearing. The system of changing the feeding ground daily during winter is followed by the more experienced of breeders. In the summer the sheep are generally taken to the hilly areas wherever pods of the acacia (*babul*) trees are available and to the lands where hardy grasses like *dub* and *kunda* abound. Though found all over the District, majority of the sheep are reared in areas surrounding Datia, Unnao and Ekara. Most of them are of a non-descript type and are not included in the recognized standard breeds. But a few of them are of superior *bikaneri* and *chokla* type which yield superior fleece. Apart from the *chokla*, the fleece of all the other sheep is coarse with more hair in it. Sheep are left to feed themselves on country grass and other wild growth. They are shut in temporary and small enclosures during the night. Their night-pens leave much to be desired. They are surrounded by a fencing of thorny branches of *babul* which is a useful protection for flocks against marauding men or beast.

Recently, there has been much conscious effort for improving the local breed and people are being informed of the necessity and benefits of a good breed which yields better and more wool. With this end in view, improved rams have been distributed since 1962. The methods usually adopted are grading and cross-breeding.

Goats

Goats, whose number is almost double that of sheep, are found well-spread all over the District and are reared by the same shepherd class, *gadaria*, in addition to a number of sections of rural and urban population. *Jamnapari* breed of goats is among the more distinct breeds found in the District. They are almost exclusively maintained on grazing and browsing. Concentrates are used occasionally and only when goats are in milk. Flocks are sent out daily to pick up whatever they can from the ground or trees or bushes in grazing areas. A goat or two are, however, kept at home for milk. But a goat shepherd generally does not apply necessary care in coppicing of trees to provide leaves for the goats, as a result of which the growth of trees is adversely affected. Due to treading by goats, fertile lands become prone to soil erosion.

Jamnapari is large-sized goat with convex face line. The type commonly met with has a white body with chestnut or light brown neck and face, although goats with patches of tan or black are not uncommon. They are tall and leggy, with large folded pendulous ears and prominent Roman nose. They carry long and thick hair on their hind quarters and have a glossy coat while their horns are short and flat.

Goats whose meat is relished more than mutton are also used for their meat by a considerable section of the population. Their droppings are also prized for their rich manure, so they are often left in the fields to forage on the stubble and thus getting them manured.

Poultry Farming

As per Livestock Census 1961 there were 6,848 fowls in Datia District. There were only 100 ducks and 'others'. In 1971-72 poultry number had risen to 7,063. Poultry farming has been traditional profession of economically backward section of the community and also the Mohammedans. But of late, poultry farming is getting popular with the people in general. In the year 1954-55 an improved bird White-Leghorn was introduced to improve the commonly found *desi* breed.

Then in 1958 a poultry farm-cum-hatching centre was established at Datia. With the adoption of these twin measures, there has been a distinct spurt in poultry development and improvement in the quality of the breed. This poultry farm has an average strength of 30 laying birds and distributes eggs for hatching and birds for breeding purposes. They are mostly reared for table. Lack of quick transport facilities and efficient marketing organization for eggs retard poultry development. Egg-laying capacity of the *desi* type is about 100 eggs per year as against 200 of White Leghorn.

Poultry keeping is predominantly a village occupation and large modern poultry farms as maintained in advanced countries are unknown. Generally only a small number of fowls is kept by a family on its own and more or less primitive conditions in regard to housing, feeding and management prevail. However, after Independence with Government efforts realisation and enlightenment are gradually coming to the people to take up poultry farming on improved and scientific lines. They are offered loans by the Government for poultry development on liberal terms. An example of the advantage taken by the people of this facility is the Mahendra Poultry Farm located at Uprain. Besides, the Government also provides day-old chicks, poultry feed and other related poultry products on subsidized rates and technical guidance.

As for poultry disease spirochaetosis and other diseases are found in the District but the fear of epidemics which once pestered the poultry-keepers on account of highly insanitary conditions in which poultry was maintained is almost non-existent due to availability of highly efficient preventive vaccine for virus diseases, as also specific parasiticides.

Fisheries

Major fish catches of the District come from tanks and small rivers, where fish breed in their natural uncontrolled condition. Tanks contain the local varieties, such as, *patola*, *bam* and *khekri* and the rivers Pahuj and the Sind with their tributaries contain generally the major carp varieties. Four species, viz., *Labeo rohita*, *Catla catla*, *Cirrhina mrigal* and *Labeo calbasu* are among the more recent arrivals and were introduced in the tanks of Datia in the year 1965. Previously, *Cirrhina mrigal*, out of the four, was the dominant species found in the rivers of the District. A detailed list of various kinds of fishes found in the District is given in Appendix.

The fishing season starts from October and ends in the month of June. From July to September the close season is observed. During the fishing season the peak periods of good catches are usually from December to February and from May to June. In these two peak periods the catches of all varieties of fish are quite substantial. A rough estimate puts the annual catches at about 12 to 15 tonnes per year.

Till recently, as already stated, the fishermen were plying their trade with the age-old equipment, viz., hooks, spears, and small drag nets and also used poison, but now are gradually renovating traditional methods and adopting better means in the shape of Rangoon nets, chondi net, chipni net, etc. Small wooden boats have replaced the more primitive floats. More and more of the fishermen are anxious to adopt the new improved types of nets.

Most of the fishes breed during the monsoon season. At that time the fertilized eggs of *Labeo rohita*, *Cirrhina mrigal*, *Catla catla* and *Labeo Calbasu* are collected either from natural sources, i.e., from rivers and nullahs or from bund type tanks. Fishes are also sometimes induced to breed by injecting the pituitary hormones. The fertilized eggs are put into hatchery and after 18 to 20 hours hatchlings come out of the eggs. Hatchlings are then released in nursery ponds where they feed on natural food called as zooplankton and phytoplankton. When the natural food is not sufficient in the nursery pond the artificial feeding of rice bran mixed with oilcake is given. The hatchlings when grown

somewhat bigger in a matter of 15 to 20 days are called fry. They are taken out from the nursery pond and again released into a rearing pond, which is usually bigger in size than a nursery pond. When fry attain a still bigger size of about four to six cm. they are transferred and stocked in the tanks. In tanks, fingerlings, as they are called at this stage, feed on natural food available there, and acquire full size in about two years' time. They are then extracted for marketing.

To improve the economic condition of the fishermen in the District following measures have been taken.

1. Provision of exclusive fishing rights by the introduction of licensing system in the rivers at a nominal licence fee.
2. Formation of the fishermen's co-operative societies.
3. Provision of loans, subsidies, sale of fishing equipment, etc., on concessional rates to these societies.

A fishermen's co-operative society with 12 members is in the making.

As a measure of the development of pisciculture work has been started in the tanks and rivers of the District. Largest area among the tanks covered by the scheme is that of Ramsagar with 167.5 ha. followed by Karansagar and Lal Katai each with 15 ha. Among rivers the Sind has the longest tract of 64 km. on which fisheries development has been started, the main centres being Baronkalan, Chandpur, Uchhad, Lanch, Kulenth, Todapahar, Berchha and Seondha. The Pahuj and the Betwa have small tracts of 3 and 6 km. each forming boundary with Uttar Pradesh. Then there are many small village tanks which are silted and have become seasonal. With small repairs and desilting they will offer considerable potential for increasing the fisheries resources of the District. In areas surrounding Basai and Indergarh where paddy crop is raised, paddy-cum-fish culture can be done with advantage. The District has an additional advantage of the proximity of Mata Tila Dam where a big nursery of carp varieties of fish has been developed. It can meet the local demand.

However, the daily total catch is generally not much and whenever there is a surplus, it is immediately taken by the local fishermen to the nearby Gwalior or Jhansi markets. Therefore, the necessity of cold storage facilities, absent at present, has never been keenly felt.

Since 1965 an Assistant Fishery Officer has been posted at Datia for promoting and guiding the work of fishery development in the District

viz., formation of nurseries, ponds and fishermen co-operative societies, provision of latest knowledge on fishing techniques, etc. These measures will also help to raise standard of living of the fisherfolk. Since the establishment of the above office till 1968 (February) the stocking of fish seed amounted to 3,50,500 fingerlings and extraction of fish to 1.2 quintal.

Under the pisciculture development programme of the District it has been decided to set up nurseries at Datia, which in the years to come will supply the fries and fingerlings as per requirements. The project is expected to cost Rs. 15,000.

Veterinary Hospitals

The Veterinary institutions in this District are of a recent origin and have been mostly established during the Five Year Plans. However, the oldest veterinary institution of the District is at Datia which was established as early as 1914. It is now located in a modern hospital building and is in A class. Besides this, there are 10 more veterinary hospitals and dispensaries in the District which have been established during the course of the three Plans. Of these two are class B hospitals, one at Seondha, the other Tahsil headquarters of the District; and the other at Badoni. The former was started in 1951 while the latter came into existence in 1967. Between these two extremes were started other 8 in class C veterinary dispensaries one each at Semai (1954) Unnao (1955), Kuseli (1957) Basai (1956), Tharet (1956), Indergarh (1954), Silori (1956) and Gyara (1956).

There are two artificial insemination units, one each at Datia and Unnao and one cattle-breeding unit at Basai. The Datia Unit was opened in 1960 while the Unit at Unnao was opened exactly five years later, i.e., 1965. The cattle-breeding unit came into existence in 1964-65. There is also a cow-rearing unit by the name of Govind Goshala.

Livestock Diseases

Animal diseases common to the District can be divided into two categories, viz., Endemic diseases in which come the haemorrhagic septicaemia and epidemics which include rinderpest. Protozoan diseases are found among the poultry birds and buffaloes. Concerted efforts have been made in the direction of removing the diseases. Opening of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries is an example of these efforts. Rinderpest Eradication Scheme was adopted in the year 1961-62, i.e., at the beginning of the Third Plan and 91,000 vaccinations were administered, giving protection to 70 per cent of the cattle numbers in the District. The

scourge of rinderpest locally known as *mata* has almost completely disappeared from the face of the District. Haemorrhagic septicaemia, locally known as *galaghotu* occurs generally in low-lying areas periodically inundated by rain water. This is an acute septicaemic disease of cattle and buffaloes. It is amenable to treatment in early stages, but on account of its short course and sudden termination in death, it is rather difficult to give timely treatment. It can be prevented by vaccination for one year if it is carried out about one month before the onset of rains. In endemic areas such vaccination is carried out every year.

Other diseases common in the District are black quarter, anthrax and foot and mouth disease which are controlled through appropriate vaccinations as and when they occur.

Thus, the cattle diseases at present are much under control through the establishment of veterinary hospitals and availability of modern scientific remedies. The present happy situation thus is in sharp contrast with the past dismal situation pictured in the old Gazetteer of Datia State. It runs thus: "The commonest cattle disease is foot and mouth disease in which the hoofs become affected. The usual remedy resorted to in such cases is to stand the animal in the mud of a tank. Another common remedy is to describe a *jantra* (symbolical figure) for the prevention of the diseases and exorcism of the evil eye. Incantation or the quoting of *mantras* is also used as a means of destroying germs. Kerosene oil and tobacco and *bach* (aconite) are sometimes put into the ulcers. Other diseases are smallpox in which butter-milk and gram-flour are mixed together and given to the animal, or it is made to eat *ghee*; *bhonra*, in which the animal is seized with giddiness, falls down and dies; *girra*, when an animal remains in a standing position and is unable to move or use its limbs, in which case country liquor is given to it; *ilai kurana*, which affects the tongue and is cured by cauterising the affected part with a red hot iron; and *tila* in which the animal coughs and country liquor is given and powdered iron stone mixed with flour.¹ This description makes it clear that the application of scientific measures in the District has played a great part in the healing of animal ailments and has made significant advances in this field. However, this is not to suggest that the country methods of yore were useless or ineffective.

Measures to Improve Quality of Breed

For improving the cattle breed in the District *Hariana* breed has been found to be suitable and is being introduced by following schemes—

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, pp. 20-21.

1. Distribution of approved bulls at subsidised rates.

2. Establishment of Key Village Centres.¹ A Centre was started at Silori in 1958. The method of artificial insemination is fully utilized in the work and thus the shortage of high class bulls is made up. This key village at Silori has been taken over by the Veterinary Department.

3. Stationary Breeding Centres—Such centres are running at Lilia, Silori, Indergarh, Seondha, Kusoli, Unnao and Basai with *Hariana* bulls provided at each of them. Similarly, local buffaloes are crossed with *murrah* from Punjab.

4. Artificial Insemination Unit.—One Unit is functioning at Datia since 22nd March, 1960. Another Unit was set up at Unnao on 22nd January, 1965. Their smooth operation has been hindered due to lack of sufficient transport facilities. Routine castration of scrub bulls is also carried out.

A small cattle fair has been started at village Indergarh. A cattle show is also held there every year.

Forestry

Datia District lies within the ambit of dry zone forests of Madhya Pradesh. There are no real forests in the District though in 1900-01 thirty per cent of the area of the erstwhile Datia State was shown as under forests, and in 1966-67, the percentage had declined to barely 10.4. This reduction in forest area brings into bold relief the recklessness with which the forests have been exploited by the local population for timber, fuel-wood and other purposes. The per acre production of timber is much less. With the increased Departmental activity in afforestation and soil-conservation, it is hoped, the situation would improve.

The forests are heavily burdened with rights and grazing is unrestricted. Even goats, sheep, camels and elephants are permitted on licences. This compares rather unfavourably with the position in the erstwhile Datia State, where, of the two classes of forests, in one namely *bara* (Principal) no grass or wood could be cut without permission, while in the other *chhotta* (subordinate) cattle were allowed to graze, but no wood was allowed to be cut. A small duty was levied from people who collected dry wood.

1. A key village is defined as an area or part of a village or a whole village or a group of contiguous villages containing a population of 500 cows and buffaloes

Forest Produce

As already seen the forest area of the District is small and of little commercial consequence. Though the forests yield some quantity of timber, especially of *kordhai*, but the main produce comprises fuel-wood and grass. Fuel wood is consumed within the District itself, mainly in towns. Looking to the increasing demand of fuel-wood it is feared that the supplies may fall short of the demand. Grass is available in some compact blocks. It is collected mostly for stall-feeding of the cattle. Some varieties of grass, viz., *kushal* and *gunher* are used for thatching also. *Tarwar* grows in Seondha Block in fairly good quantity and is a good tanning material.

The District does not export any forest produce. In fact, *tendu* leaves in some quantity are imported from Gwalior district by the *bidi* manufacturers of the District.

Major portion of forest revenue comes from grass *birs*¹ which fetches from Rs. 13,00 to 16,000 per year.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Nistar Committee *nistar* facilities are made available to cultivators and about 1,000 to 1,500 quintals of fuel wood and nearly 1,000 timber pieces are sold from *nistar* depots at Datia and Seondha.

With a view to making up the deficiency of forest wealth, plantation work has been launched. The work is confined to the banks of the Sind.

State Assistance to Agriculture

Regular State assistance for the advancement of agriculture in the District was available in the form of *taccavi* loans which were granted under Agriculturist's Loans Act, 1884, and Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883. Now provision also exists for giving loans under the Grow More Food Scheme. They are granted under the two appropriate Act.

As clear from the names of the Acts these loans are given for various agricultural and land improvement purposes and include purchase of seed, tractors, fertilizers, bullocks, setting up of *rahats*, pumping-sets, digging of wells and land improvement purposes like soil-conservation, contour-bunding, etc.

1. An area set apart for growth of grass.

Taccavi has long been the mainstay of the State efforts in assisting the cultivators. In State times *takkavi* advances were freely granted to the cultivators for the construction of wells. Interest was charged at 12 per cent per annum, the loans being repayable in 5 years. Grain was also given for sowing and was repaid on the *Sawain* system, the amount lent plus 1/4 being recovered at the harvest.¹ This system of State assistance to agriculturists was particularly resorted to during famine or scarcity periods, the details of which will be found in the following section, "Famines, and droughts".

The Plan periods after Independence saw a marked increase in the *taccavi* loans and introduction of a new type of incentive promoting help under Grow More Food Scheme. During the Second Plan period, (1956-57 to 1960-61) *taccavi* loans totalling Rs. 12,85,596 were granted for various agricultural purposes.

Famines and Droughts

Famine or scarcity struck the erstwhile State of Datia in the years 1812, 1837 and 1897 for nearly a two year period around 1905 and in the year 1913-14. Lately, due to the increased government efforts in planned agricultural development and expanded communication facilities there has been a marked disappearance in famine conditions all over the country which has been well reflected in case of Datia also. But there have been quite a few droughts and among these that of 1954 was of some consequence.

The most serious famine was that of 1897, in which the whole population suffered very severely. Relief works were opened and charitable aid given to all who needed it. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining grain, but it was not always easy to reach those who were suffering. The cost to the State was about Rs. 7 lakhs.²

The famine of 1905-06, though not so acute as that of 1897 was continuous, prolonged and widespread in its effect. Signs of imminent disaster were already in the offing when untimely and scanty rainfall continued for the second year in succession in 1905-06. This aggravated water shortage, apart from causing a crop and fodder failure. Tanks did not fill up and the wells

were getting dry, making irrigation highly difficult. The jungles stood bare and grassless. Men and cattle suffered alike in this distress which had begun to tell since October, 1905, when prospects of *kharif* crop looked bleak and hopeless, consequent upon the failure of September rains.

The Darbar took up the task of helping the distressed and distributed *taccavi* loans to the tune of Rs. 41,032 alongwith 2,259 quintals of grain. The local *Mahajans* also came forward and advanced loans worth Rs. 42,914 and grain weighing 3,582 quintals. Some relief works, such as, construction of roads, the most important of which was Datia-Seondha road, and repairs of tanks, etc., were started.

This condition of untimely and insufficient rains continued for about two years and relief measures had to be kept up till the end of 1907-08. In the end of August 1907, the rains stopped abruptly, the rainfall being 685 mm. as compared with an average for the past ten years of 890 mm. Though early *Kharif* crops were returned as normal, but *jowar* the staple food crop was a total failure in some parts while in others it yielded a return of 4-8 annas only. Little *rabi* could be sown and the State was face to face with another famine. In the month of January timely rain and the absence of frost and other deleterious influences relieved the situation to some extent and the outturn of *rabi* in places was twice as much as was anticipated. Further relief measures taken up within this period, amongst others, included excavation of a 6.4 km long canal with an irrigation capacity of 486 ha. A sum of Rs. 11,000 was given from Famine Fund for purchase of plough, cattle and seed grain besides the usual *taccavi* loans. The total disbursements on account of famine till the end of 1907-08 excluding the sums expended during 1905-06 were of the tune of Rs. 53,022. The famine operations which had been started in the cold weather of 1907-08 were closed on the 1st July with the advent of the rain in the end of June 1908. There used to be an independent officer-in-charge of famine operations.

The next decade saw another famine in the year 1913-14, when *taccavi* worth Rs. 1,91,739 was distributed which sufficiently and successfully counterbalanced the miserable conditions born out of that famine. The amount covered loans for bunds and tanks, sinking of new wells, repairs of old wells, purchase of bullocks, seed, manure, etc.. Gratuitous relief was also extended to the disabled and *pardanashin* ladies (ladies using veils). This was in addition to the remission of a portion of land revenue which remained after a meagre recovery of 12½ per cent that year.

1. *ibid.* p. 21.

2. *ibid.* p. 25.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

On the industrial map of Madhya Pradesh, Datia District has practically no place. This becomes obvious from the fact that even so late as in the year 1966, there were only two manufacturing units in the District registered under the Factories Act 1948. One of these was registered as a factory using power while the other was a non-power using unit. This fact is indicative of the insignificance of the industrial activity in the District.

As per 1961 Census Classification the "workers" in manufacturing other than household industry numbered only 887 males and females. The "workers", both males and females in household industry numbered 6,204. The "workers" engaged in household industry and manufacturing industry other than household numbered 7,091. The total number of "workers" in all the nine occupational classes of 1961 Census was 97,468. This number works out to 7.27 per cent of the total "workers" engaged in different occupational classes.¹

Mining and quarrying which is an extractive industry, for purposes of 1961 Census classification, has been combined with livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities. The number of "workers" both male and female in this combined occupational class in the year 1961 was 1,548. Practically all the "workers" in this occupational class were engaged in livestock, forestry and allied activities rather than in mining and quarrying proper. Thus the number of "workers" dependent for their livelihood on industries proper has not been more than 7.27 per cent of the total "workers" in all occupations. The majority of the "workers" dependent on industrial activity for livelihood was in the household industries and these household industries were no other than the traditional ones like cloth-weaving, making of wooden agricultural implements, rearing of livestock for milk and milk-products, making of leather goods like shoes and repairing manufacture of earthenware, etc.

¹ According to Census 1971, total number of workers in all categories was 82,276. Workers in livestock and foresting, fishing industry was 1598; in mining & quarrying 38; in household industry 3,470; and in other than household industry 1288.

Old-Time Industries

As might be expected of the purely agricultural and rural tract, the District had practically all the old-time industries devoted to the satisfaction of unsophisticated needs of rural population. As a matter of fact, the old industries like handloom weaving, carpentry, blacksmithy, tanning of hides and skins, leather-shoes making and repairing, pottery (clay) making, rope and basket making, are even now existing in the District, a number of them having been organised on a co-operative basis. However, as in olden times the products of these industries have nothing but a local market, and, as such the population dependent on these industries for their livelihood could not but be getting bare subsistence return from its activities.

In the earlier Gazetteer of the District there is a reference that "A little opium is manufactured in Datia town from locally grown poppy"¹. Such an activity at a single place in the District, however, could not be properly termed as an industrial activity, neither could it have provided employment to the number of workers deserving mention. Similarly there is also a mention in the Gazetteer of manufacturing of swords which was a speciality of the District. This may rightly be taken as an indication of an excellence in craftsmanship of the blacksmiths in the District and sword-making could hardly be treated as a specific industry.

It, therefore, becomes apparent that the District had no old-time industries other than traditional rural industries connected with agricultural economy found everywhere all over the country.

Power

The power-generating station was started at Datia proper in the year 1915 when a power-house was established by H. H. the Maharaja of Datia. The power-house was taken over by the Government of Vindhya Pradesh in the year 1947. By the year 1950, the installed capacity of the three generating-sets was 80 K. W. The number of consumers of electricity in the same year was 276. The consumption of electricity in the year 1950 was confined to domestic light and fans, commercial light and fans and public lighting. Apparently upto the year 1950, there was no consumption of electricity for industrial purposes.

From the year 1950 to 1953, there was no change in the installed capacity of the power-station. In the year 1954, however, the power-gene-

¹ *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 23.

ration capacity was enhanced to 120 K. W. The number of consumers of electricity in the year 1954 was 336, as compared to 276 of the year 1950.

After the reorganization of the States in the year 1956, the power-generation station was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1957. There was, however, no change in the installed capacity which remained at 120 K. W. The number of consumers of electricity in the year 1956 was 334, thus showing a fall in the number by 2 as compared with the figure in the year 1954. It is worth noting here that during all these years there was no consumption of power for industrial purposes.

By the beginning of the Third Five Year Plan the installed capacity of the power-house was doubled from 120 K. W. in the year 1957-58 to 250 K. W. in the year 1961-62. There was also an increase in the number of consumers of electricity in the year 1961-62, the number in this year being 866. By the year 1965-66, the number had increased to 1,748. Then again, the beginning of the Third Plan period marks the beginning of the consumption of power for industrial purposes under the category of low and medium voltage. During the five years from 1961-62 to 1965-66 the use of power for industrial purposes, low and medium voltage, was continually on the increase. The position regarding the total number of consumers of electricity for all purposes and use of power for industrial purposes since 1966-67 to 1969-70 is given as under.—

Table No. V—1

*Consumption of Industrial Power
1966-1970*

Year	Total No. of Consumers	Industrial Power	
		No. of Consumers	Units sold (in '000)
1966—67	1,780	3	12,777
1967—68	1,845	3	14,501
1968—69	2,056	3	14,681
1969—70	2,302	3	16,222

There was no consumption of electricity for industrial power high voltage. However, it appears that from the year 1963-64 onwards the use of electricity for industrial purposes has increased considerably. In the meanwhile, the power-station began to draw its power-supply from the Chambal

Hydel Project power-generation station. Later in the year 1965, the Datia Power Station was being fed from the Matatila Dam.

The consumption of electricity for purposes like domestic light and fan, commercial heat and small power, commercial light and fans, public lighting and irrigation during the period 1966-67 to 1969-70 was as under:—

Table No. V—2

*Segregation of Demand for Electricity
1966-70 (In '000 Units)*

Year	Domestic power		Domestic Light & Fan		Commercial Light		Irrigation		Street Lights	
	Consumers	Units Sold	Consumers	Units Sold	Consumers	Units Sold	Consumers	Units Sold	Consumers	Units Sold
1966—67	3	1,195	1,185	270	490	179	29	30	3	91
1967—68	3	1,251	1,230	281	503	189	25	33	3	90
1968—69	3	1,120	1,366	291	569	204	29	35	3	99
1969—70	3	1,320	1,525	320	639	220	35	38	8	131

It may be found from the figures above that consumption of electricity, practically for all the different uses was on the increase for all these years. The number of irrigation pumps energised increased from 194 in 1960 to 841 by the end of 1973-74.

Under the Rural Electrification Scheme, it was during the Third Five Year Plan period that two places, namely Badoni and Sonagir were electrified in the year 1963 and 1964, respectively. In the year 1966 Seondha in the District was also electrified. Total number of towns and villages electrified by the year ending 1967-68 was 10, which number increased to 51 by March 1971 and to 72 in 1972-73.

Industries and Manufactures

Mining

The District has no mineral resources except sand, clay, *murram* and stone which are being quarried. The total number of such quarries by the year 1966 was 33. These quarries are spread all over the District. Out of these 33 quarries, 24 were stone quarries which covered an area of 245.644

ha. (607 acres) in the District. The largest stone quarry covered an area of 54.632 ha. (135 acres) at Bijapur Richari in Datia Tahsil. The quarries of sand numbering 7 were spread over an area of 25.899 ha. (63.59 acres). Largest of these with an area of 4.451 ha. (11.03 acres) is at a place named Chikhla, in Datia Tahsil.

Two quarries of *murram* had an area of 12.140 hect. (30 acres), one of these with an area of 8.498 hect. (21 acres) at Datia Gird is also in Datia Tahsil. The estimated production of all these quarries together, for the year 1966-67 was 30,578 tons.

Manufactures

It has already been mentioned earlier that by the year 1966 there were only two factories in the District registered under the Factories Act, 1948. One of these two was a unit under the *dal* milling industry while another was a unit under the chemical and chemical products industry. The latter was the non-power using unit. Both the units were located at Datia proper.

The *dal* milling factory originally known as Gorakhram Hariram and Co., Ltd., was later in the year 1963 renamed as Sakseria Dal and Oil Mill. The Mill was established in the year 1954-55. On an average eight workers were employed in the factory daily. Besides manufacturing *dal* the factory manufactured oil and ice also.

The second registered factory unit known as Sharma Ayurved Mandir was engaged in the preparation of *ayurvedic* medicines. The factory did not use power in the manufacturing process. The factory was established in the year 1960. The investment at the time of establishment of the factory was Rs. 1 lakh. By the year 1967 the factory had fixed assets worth Rs. 2 lakhs and also working capital of the same magnitude. The factory has its own building which was constructed in the year 1963-64. About 80 to 85 workers were daily employed in the factory, whose monthly wage-rates varied from Rs. 51 to Rs. 65. The value of medicines prepared by the factory in the year 1960-61 was about Rs. 3.50 lakhs. The maximum production was in the year 1963-64, which was valued at Rs. 8 lakhs. In the following two years i.e., 1964-65 and 1965-66, the production was of the value of Rs. 7.50 and Rs. 7 lakhs, respectively.

These two factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948 might be said to be the only small scale factory units. But this could not be

supposed to exhaust the whole of the industrial activity in the District. The total number of workers as engaged in manufacturing industries other than household industries is given as under:—

Table No. V—3
No. of Workers in Household Industries, 1961

Industry	No. of Workers	
	Persons	
(a) Production and rearing of Livestock. (large heads only) mainly for milk and animal power such as cow, buffalo and goat	1,043	16.9
(b) Production of edible oils and fats (other than hydrogenated)	366	5.8
(c) Manufacture of textile garment including raincoats and headgear	399	6.2
(d) Manufacture of structural wooden goods	598	9.6
(e) Manufacture of materials from cork, bamboo, cane, leaves, etc.	1,066	17.2
(f) Repair of shoe and leather wear	435	7.0
(g) Manufacture of earthenware and pottery.	666	10.7

As has been referred to earlier, practically all the old time industries like handloom weaving, blacksmithy, carpentry, pottery-making, leather foot-wear making, bamboo-work, etc., are even now working as household industries or cottage industries. Practically all these are organized on a co-operative basis, and are working as industrial co-operatives. The number of "workers" in household industry, as per 1961 Census was 6,204. The industry-wise break-up is given in the following table:—

Table No. V—4
No. of Workers in Other Manufacturing Industries—1961

Industry	No. of Workers	
	Persons	
(1) Production of rice, <i>atta</i> , flour, etc., by milling or dehusking, etc.	87	9.8
(2) Production of Sugar and syrup from Sugarcane in mills	85	9.5
(3) Marking of textile garments including rain-coats and headgear	160	18.0
(4) Manufacture of Jewellery, silverware, wares using gold and other precious metals	121	13.6

Small Scale Industries

Besides two registered factories some other small-scale manufacturing establishments working in the District are mentioned below.—

Bulb manufacturing unit employed only three workers. It is located at Datia proper and manufactured small bulbs for torches, brake lights for cars and for lighting radio dials. The unit is the only one of its kind in Gwalior Division of the State. A & Weaving of unit is also located at Datia and is working under the management of Madhya Pradesh Khadi and Gramodyog Parishad. Besides spinning of wool, weaving of blankets has been carried on in this establishment. About 250 workers derive their livelihood from this activity. Granite slabs available around Datia town are used in two Stone crushing units which employ about 250 workers. The slabs are given a square shape and are used in the manufacture of ovens for cooking purposes.

A Bone crushing unit is located at Datia proper. Crushing of bones for the manufacture of manure is carried on in this unit, which employs about 20 workers. Manufacturing of household utensils, trunks, etc., out of the steel sheet is carried on in five establishments in the District. All these units together employed about 14 workers. Two establishments employing on an average 5 workers daily are engaged in the manufacture of cycle handles, plastic toys and plastic bouquets, etc.

In addition to the manufacturing establishments mentioned above there were about 3 saw mills and 10 bidi-making establishments working in the District. Saw mills provided employment to 7 workers, while 194 workers were employed in bidi-making units. There were two units manufacturing washing soap and provided employment to 10 workers. One establishment employing five workers was preparing lattice work of cement. Five workers were engaged in this activity.

Co-operative and Cottage Industries

As has been stated earlier, the cottage or what may be called household industries in the District formed a major part of the industrial activity. The cottage or household industries besides being worked by the individual householders with the help of their families are also being organised on a co-operative basis. Information given below about co-operative societies is as in the year 1968.

Handloom Weaving

There were two co-operative societies of weavers, one at Seondha and another at Badoni Khurd. Datia proper and Wadonkalan are other two handloom weaving centres in the District. Society at Seondha had 14 members with 14 looms out of which only 10 were working in the year 1968. Society at Badoni Khurd had 30 members with 30 looms but only 20 of these were working. The weavers generally use yarn of 20 counts and manufacture bed covers, *dhotis*, etc., catering to the requirements of rural population.

Leather goods

Tanning of leather preparation of leather goods like shoes and repairs thereof for the requirements of rural population has also been organised on a co-operative basis. Four such societies existed in the District, one each at Seondha, Badoni Khurd, Karari Khurd and Tharet in the year 1967-68. These four societies together had a membership of 63. With the help from the Khadi Gramodyog Parishad improved methods of tanning hides and skins are being introduced. Besides ordinary leather shoes, chrome-leather shoes are manufactured at Datia, Badoni, Seondha and Unao.

Carpentry

There was one carpenters' co-operative society at Bhagua Pura in Seondha Tahsil, which had a membership of 10 only.

Blacksmithy

There was no co-operative society of blacksmiths, but about 293 persons were engaged in blacksmithy as a cottage industry.

Pottery, Bricks and Tile Making

In this industry there were five co-operative societies, two at Datia, one at Badoni and one at Tharet. In the rural areas the posts and pans required for cooking purposes and for storing water etc., are mostly prepared by the village potter and he also prepares bricks and tiles which are used in the construction of dwellings in rural areas. The membership of the societies of potters and brick-makers was 106.

Oil Manufacturing

In the rural areas, crushing of oil-seeds in *ghanis* for supplying the local requirements of edible and non-edible oils is a cottage industry of long

standing. The industry still survives, but mostly in a co-operative form. There was only one such co-operative society in the District at Datia proper. It had a membership of 87.

It may thus be seen that practically all the old time industries which were being carried on by individual craftsmen and their families as cottage establishments have been brought under the co-operative fold in a bid to survive against competition.

The District thus had 13 co-operative societies with a membership of 310 in the year 1968. The total number of "workers" in household industries in the District was 6,204 at the time of 1961 Census. This means that only 4.9 per cent of the "workers" in the household industries were covered by the co-operative movement in the industrial field.

Making of Jewellery

Manufacturing ornaments out of the precious metals like gold and silver was an important household or cottage industry till the middle of the 20th century. Thereafter, the prices of these precious metals have been continually rising as a result of which the activity in this industry began to slow down. However, it was in the sixties of the present century, when the Central Government in its bid to conserve foreign exchange resources for economic development of the country passed the Gold Control Order in the year 1963, that a severe set-back was received by this industry.

The Gold Control Order affected 219 goldsmiths in the District. The Government tried to relieve the distress of unemployed goldsmiths by offering loans, training them for alternative jobs and providing other concessions. Loans amounting to Rs. 13,440 were given to 48 affected goldsmiths and Rs. 3,900 were distributed as relief to 26 others. Employment in Government service was given to five goldsmiths. The goldsmiths desirous of carrying on their business under the stipulations of the Gold Control Order were required to take licences for the purpose. Applications for licences were received from 94 goldsmiths out of whom 77 were issued necessary licences.

Some other cottage industries like making of baskets, brooms, winnowing-fans etc., out of bamboos, and rope-making also exist in the District as elsewhere.

State Aid to Industries

Under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1958 applications for the grant of State aid are considered by the Committee appointed for the pur-

pose under the Act. Since 1967-68, the amount of aid given to different industries in the District till the end of March 1970 was as under:-

Industry	Amount of aid Rs.
1. Tailoring	1,150
2. Leather goods	5,900
3. Carpentry	750
4. Book-binding	5,750
5. Soap making	3,000

An account of the factory industries, co-operatives and cottage industries given in the foregoing pages brings out the agro-rural set-up in the District. Industries common to all the rural areas all over the country are the only industries in the District with an exception of one plastic goods manufacturing establishment and another manufacturing bulbs. Against this sombre industrial background, it is but natural that in the District there is nothing in the nature of industrial arts. A reference has been made earlier to the manufacture of swords in the District, but swords have long since been turned into ploughshares alongwith it the skill in making swords too was soiled.

Industrial Potential

Potentialities depend upon the mineral resources, raw material, power and availability of labour. For industrial development of a tract or a region, mineral resources and availability of power for industrial purposes are of prime importance. As has been seen earlier, the District has practically no minerals which can be of help in industrial uses. Among the agricultural products in the District there is no prominence of commercial crops like cotton, sugar-cane, jute, oil-seeds, etc., which form the raw materials in the consumer goods industries. Position regarding availability of power has become easier only recently, when the Chambal and Matatila Dam power schemes started working. Because of these circumstances, there are no possibilities in the District for the development of industries on a large scale manufacturing. There are no forest resources either. It is, therefore, the consumer goods industries based on agricultural and livestock products that could be developed, as the power for industrial use is already available.

In view of the fact that the staple foodgrain product of the District is wheat and as it is generally surplus to local requirements, a roller flour mill could be established for the manufacture of wheat products like *suji*, *maida*, etc. These products could be conveniently marketed in the urban

centres of the adjoining districts like Gwalior, Shivpuri etc., as rail and road transport facilities are already available.

Tanning of leather and manufacturing of leather products which are now confined to cottage and co-operative industrial activities could also be developed into factory industries. Capacity of the existing single bone crushing mill could also be increased. On the basis of the available resources, possibility of setting up a paint and varnish manufacturing unit could also be explored. Already existing stone crushing units could be developed so as to manufacture granite chips for road construction work.

Factories could also be established for the manufacture of hosiery goods, furniture—wooden and steel, stationery articles, etc. Capacities of the small existing establishments engaged in the manufacture of bulbs and plastic goods, could also be increased. With the increase in the scale of manufacture, the products will become cheaper and could be marketed outside the District as well. Under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, licence for the establishment of spinning mill in the District with an installed capacity of 12,000 spindles has already been given.

Industrial Estate

Under the planned economic development through industrialization, establishment of industrial estates has been assigned a role of promoting small-scale industries on the easy availability of raw materials. The Government undertakes construction of sheds for location of small units, provides water, lighting, and approach roads.

Industrial Estate at Datia was established on the 27th December, 1965 at a cost of Rs. 1,48,788 and eleven sheds were allotted to the different manufacturing units. However, in the absence of water and light facilities the units were not functioning even upto January, 1968.

A Rural Workshed was also established at Indergarh in Seondha Tahsil of the District. The shed was completed by October, 1965 at a cost of Rs. 78,981. For the same difficulties of water and light connection as at Datia Estate, the manufacturing activity at the shed could not be undertaken till January, 1968.

The industrial activity being at such a low level, as has been delineated heretofore, there are no organizations in the District either of employees or employers.

Labour Welfare

The welfare provisions under the Factories Act, 1948 are applicable to the factories registered under the Act. Such factories in the

Factories District were only two. The welfare provisions under the Act and rules framed thereunder include provision of canteens, rest-sheds, creche for women employees, washing and bathing facilities, appointment of Labour Welfare Officer etc. The Factories Act, 1948 is a Central legislation with rule making and administrative powers given to the State Government. Chief Inspector of Factories, Madhya Pradesh, is the administrative authority under the Act.

Another welfare legislation of the Central Government is the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. The Employees' State Insurance Scheme framed under the Act was not made applicable to the industries in the District upto the year 1968.

Yet another Central legislation in the field of labour welfare is the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952. The employees' Provident Fund Scheme has been framed under the provisions of the Act. In the District only two establishments, viz., Sharma Ayurved Mandir and Anand Talkies, both at Datia proper were covered under the Scheme.

The Madhya Pradesh Minimum wages Act, 1962, under which minimum wages for workers in different Scheduled Industries are fixed from time to time was applicable to *dal* and flour mills, oil mills, Local Bodies, *bidi*-making, public motor transport, construction or maintenance of roads, buildings, etc., stone-breaking and stone-crushing, shops and commercial establishments including restaurants, eating-houses, places of public amusement and entertainment and saw mills. As a matter of fact, minimum wages legislation could not appropriately be taken as a welfare legislation, because guaranteeing the minimum rates of wages to workers is a protective legislation. But in so far as protection from exploitation and preventing sweating of labour has been guaranteed, the legislation might be taken as an act of welfare, an economic welfare as distinguished from social welfare.

The Madhya Pradesh Maternity Benefits Act, 1958 provides pre-natal and post-natal benefits in cash and medical facilities to the women employees in the factories, registered under the Factories Act, 1948. The very insignificance of the number of registered factories in the District, as well as the low level of employment in these factories made this Act more or less incorporative in the absence of cases and claiming maternity benefits.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Rapid and planned progress of agriculture, industry, and trade mainly depends upon the successful functioning of the various financial institutions and credit organisations. The outstanding characteristic of the money market in the District was its dichotomy; it comprised various organised and unorganised markets with a divergence in the structure of interest rates. The organised and unorganised sectors were not wholly unconnected with each other, but there was no complete integration of the two into a single system. In money market there was no effective leadership; unorganised sector was neither controlled nor did it control. Even today, the financial machinery in the District is composed of many diverse, often overlapping agencies, adopting themselves to the shifting patterns of commerce and industry.

History of Indigenous Banking

The paucity of old records of the period of the erstwhile Datta State are so obscure that it is very difficult to trace precisely the emergence, growth or decline of the various credit and financial agencies in the District. However, it appears certain that the local money market remained purely indigenous in character and was unorganised. This market consisted of a group of various indigenous agencies, each with different business practices and a different structure of interest rates. Until recently this market was more imperfect and it was much less homogeneous than the organised market. Existence of a large unorganised money market is one of the main characteristics of the undeveloped economy of the District. The indigenous agencies in this unorganised market were scattered in numerous villages and there was no adequate organisation in that market for the mobilization of all surplus short-term liquid funds. Finance in this sector was personalized i. e., loans were granted rather on personal basis. While lending, most of the agencies insisted on good collateral or credit worthiness of the borrower. It was only in the case of petty loans that the indigenous money-lenders did not demand any security from the borrowers.

The age-old institution of money-lenders had traditionally been the main agency meeting the credit requirements of the rural sector in the past and it continues to enjoy a prominent position even today. The data from Reserve Bank of India survey reports point out that over the decade 1951-52 to 1961-62, the total of annual loans to the rural sector has perhaps

grown at the same rate as gross income of sector, and that the relative share of money-lenders and of traders as suppliers of credit has shrunk only from about three-fourths and two-thirds. Any way the relative role of the unorganised agencies is still high and significant, and may continue to be so for quite many years to come.

The borrowers are small traders, merchants, agriculturists and others. There is considerably higher rate of interest and lower turn over in the market because of smaller resources. In this sector there is a larger fringe of unsatisfied borrowers. The indigenous bankers in the District lend only short-term loans and in a few cases medium term loans. Since the funds do not flow from one agency to another, or from one centre to another, there is always an imbalance in the demand for and supply of finance. There is no free flow of information regarding the conditions of lending and borrowing. Merchants and traders appeared generally to be left alone to carry on their business according to the old-fashioned methods, in which their financial position with regard to their other business activities remained shrouded in mystery. Loans are often contracted and paid for not in money but in commodities, especially in rural areas and the size of the average loan is very small. These agencies advance, normally, loans of small size in order to fortify themselves against risk of losses and also to obtain greater returns.

General Credit Facilities

The tempo of economic development is largely governed by the mechanism of money market, i.e., the rate of economic growth is influenced by the pattern and structure of financial institutions that exist in that market. The efficiency of the money market primarily depends on the extent to which it can mobilize surplus resources of the community and transfer these into the hands of those who can use them most effectively in agriculture, industry and trade. A well developed money market is the basis of an effective monetary policy. It helps the channelling of funds into the uses most needed for the expansion of the economy, and facilitates the most efficient utilization of domestic savings.

As indicated previously, the pre-Independence period presents a gloomy picture of credit and financial structure of the District. There were various methods by which credit was extended to the borrowers. Different agencies adopted different methods. With the commencement of planning era, it can be expected that dichotomy or plurality of money market would tend to disappear, and efforts will be made to organise well-knit financial institutions in the District. At present the general credit facilities available in the District include the money-lenders (*Sahukars*), cooperative credit societies and banks, commercial banks and other organised financial insti-

tutions and loans from the Government. Before dealing with these credit agencies in general and the relative role played by them in the District, it will be better to have a brief review of need for credit prevailing in the District. In other words, rural and urban indebtedness and the extent to which usury is prevalent in the District shall be dealt first so that the present position and the relative role of different credit agencies and need for supplying funds to right persons in right time in right manner could be studied in a clear perspective.

Indebtedness

The setting of the District is mainly rural with agriculture as the mainstay of the District economy. About 75.71 per cent of the District population lives either in small towns or villages having a population of less than 2,000. There is little urbanisation. Commercially and economically the District is underdeveloped. Under the circumstances, some financial agency is necessary to provide credit facilities for the continuance of productive operation and for consumption purposes in adverse periods. As elsewhere, the age-old institution of moneylenders has traditionally been the main agency meeting the credit requirement of the rural sector of the District in the past and it continues to enjoy even today, more or less the same important position in that field.

Non-interference in economic matters and the indifferent attitude towards the welfare measures of the erstwhile State of Datia, caused the poor cultivators much harm and made them an easy prey of moneylenders. The tide of adversity often pushed the poor cultivators into the hands of usurious moneylenders, who never failed to squeeze them completely. "The *Sahukar* in the State continued to help the cultivators with one hand and fleece them with the other till such time as he could get anything out of them, but as he is the bird of prosperity only, and does not like to associate with adversity, he had to leave his *Aasamis* to their fate. In this way the cultivator's means have reached a stage at which either the State should extend a helping hand to save him or to let him be crushed under the heavy load of misery and poverty."¹

It is clear from the report mentioned above, that the condition of the cultivators in the District was very bad and indebtedness to a considerable extent prevailed in the District in the beginning of this century. To regulate the activities of the moneylenders and to safeguard the interests of cultivators, rules were framed in 1914-15 in the erstwhile State of Datia.

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1914-15 pp. 45-46.

Moreover, the pattern and time for realisation of land revenue, which was the main source of income of the State and was a basis for loans, was changed so that a cultivator could sell his produce first and then make payment. These measures of remission and settlement of old debts brought considerable relief to the cultivators. As many as 342 cases of cash loans and 615 cases of grain loans were registered, out of which 149 for cash and 278 for grains were settled in the year 1914-15. However, since the cultivators were not self-supporting, and the agricultural operations were affected mostly by exogenous factors, the majority of cultivators remained in debt and continued to be indebted, during the period between the post First World War and the Planning era.

There had been no systematic study of the problem of indebtedness in the District since then. We can, however, have an idea of Richhari Village this problem only from a village survey. The survey reveals that out of 71 families in the village 53 were in debt. The caste-wise details of the indebtedness were as follows.

Table No. VI—

Caste-wise Indebtedness

S. No.	Caste	Total No. of Families	No. of Indebted families	Amount in Rupees
1.	Ahir	42	27	21,639
2.	Gadariya	12	10	3,500
3.	Chamar	11	11	3,958
4.	Brahmin	2	1	2,000
5.	Kachhi	2	2	1,800
6.	Bhat	1	1	700
7.	Nai	1	1	400

The statistics given above reveal that about three-fourths of the families were in debt and average debt for an indebted family was about Rs. 640. Most of the lower-caste families were in debt, and the source of borrowing was the moneylenders. The whole amount of Rs. 33,967, excepting Rs. 1,515, borrowed from Block, had been obtained from the moneylenders. The amount borrowed from Block was for bullocks; although bullocks were purchased, yet a substantial portion of the amount had been diverted to other uses.

The purpose of loans borrowed was social obligations to cover expenditures on marriages including *gauna* and feasts for dead relatives. It means that most of loans were obtained neither for productive purposes nor for meeting current consumption or exigencies.

The money was borrowed from the moneylender, and the repayment of debt was extremely difficult if not exactly impossible. The money-lenders are unscrupulous and take the fullest possible advantage of the ignorance and dire need of the villagers even by falsification of accounts. They charged 24 per cent interest and this augmented indebtedness rapidly.

The results of the survey mentioned above in brief are self explanatory and the maxim 'Once in debt, always in debt' holds good literally. The rural indebtedness of the village Richhari more or less represents the conditions prevailing in the District, since most of the persons are living on a marginal subsistence level and their ability to save is almost negligible. If bad times occur, or the persons are under the pressure of conventional social necessities or obligations, a lot of difficulties may spring up for meeting such eventualities. The above description presents a case for strengthening the credit and financial institutions in this District.

Moneylenders

As evident from the foregoing description, moneylenders had a prominent position in the rural economy of the District. Private money-lending was not a hereditary system inspite of the fact that it had continued to be followed by a large number of families for generations. In the villages either big landlords or village merchants, who were non-professional money-lenders, were the only major source of credit. There were also other money-lenders belonging to 'rich agriculturists' class. The remaining individuals included rich widows, retired government personnel who mostly advanced petty loans to restricted clients. In most of the villages there were hardly any money-lenders. Generally trading class was engaged in this profession in the District. The merchants were mostly Banias of the Agrawal community and the medium of exchange was the rupee coin and *hundies*. The currency notes were used very little and were unpopular.

In the District at present, most of the village money-lenders advance kind loans. In case of cash loans the size of the loan remains small, lent on tangible or non-tangible securities for the purpose of family expenditure of the agriculturists and have to be repaid within a period of one year, though in some cases such stipulation is not insisted upon. The agencies are not particular about the purpose of the loans and hence do not watch the actual utilization if such loans are secured by good collateral. These village money-lenders have hardly any deposit business. The landlords also advance mostly kind loans to tenants without demanding any security since they have a stronghold on the tenants. They also advance cash loans on some security such as land or gold.

The village merchant-cum-moneylenders do not lend cash on a large scale; they accommodate the customers with "credit purchase" system. This facility is given only to long established customers. Some of the village merchants cum-moneylenders are commission agents to the town merchants-cum-moneylenders. Merchant moneylenders not only recover the interest and principal from the borrowers but also try to exploit them in matters of price and measurement of the goods.

The 'other' class of moneylenders are very harsh in their business methods in the villages of the District. They charge high interest rates for their petty loans.

In brief, large number of moneylenders were found indulging in certain questionable practices, especially with the agriculturists who were in the grip of poverty and starvation. With the attainment of Independence, various legislative measures were promulgated to regulate the business of moneylenders. Now, registration and licencing of moneylenders and maintenance of accounts in prescribed form has been made compulsory. Furnishing of periodical statement of accounts to debtors and issue of receipts to them for every payment received was made necessary for the moneylenders. The rate of interest on secured loans was fixed to 12 per cent simple and 10 per cent compound, and on unsecured loans, it was 18 per cent simple and 10 per cent compound.

These money-lending regulations were viewed with alarm by private money-lenders. They took a gloomy picture of their risks and hesitated in providing loan facilities to cultivators. More so, very few of them got themselves registered, which is evident in the following Table giving the number of Registered Moneylenders in the District.

Table No. VI-2

Number of Registered Moneylenders

Year	No. of Registered moneylenders
1959-60	3
1960-61	8
1961-62	17
1962-63	17
1963-64	9
1964-65	12
1965-66	15
1966-67	15
1967-68	12
1968-69	6
1969-70 (Up to 21-1-70)	5

Anyway, as the relative role of the indigenous bankers or the money lenders is still high and significant, and may continue to be so for quite many years to come in the District, the question of planned integration must be faced. Links have to be developed between these persons and the institutional agencies, and there is no reason why the borrowers from the unorganised agencies should be deprived of the facility of indirect accessibility to the lender of the last resort. It is general expectation that with the nationalisation of major commercial banks in the country, integration of unorganised and organised agencies will take place in the District.

Joint Stock Banks

Many of the present malpractices of the money-lenders are, to a large extent, due to the absence of strong institutional financial agencies like joint stock banks, financial corporations, commercial banks and others in the District. The District was not served by any commercial bank as late as 1944, when Hindustan Commercial Bank Ltd., opened its branch at Datia. The Central Bank of India branch, though opened in 1948-49, closed in that very year. The next in succession was State Bank of India, which opened its branch in May, 1955 at Datia. The normal commercial banking transactions were also done by the Central Co-operative Bank from the year 1962-63 in Datia town. Thus, by the end of 1968, the District was served by three banks, viz., Hindustan Commercial Bank, State Bank of India and Central Co-operative Bank. All these banks had branches in Datia town only.

The role that any banking system has to play is to mobilise the savings of the Nation, provide cheap means of payment and allocate credit in such a way as to produce optimum productivity in all sectors. The banks thus control the strings of economic life of the community. The small turn-over of banking business of the commercial banks in the District, which is given below, indicates that the District is deprived of this purposeful action in this sector.

Table No. VI—3

Figures Regarding Banking Business

Year	Deposits	Advances	Advances against warehouse Receipts
1963	1,16,52,937	55,78,023	3,64,000
1964	1,13,61,539	45,51,960	2,93,900
1965	1,24,38,943	49,48,560	2,68,700
1966	1,80,13,029	27,25,115	2,02,500

The facts given above reveal that there is inverse relation in the trends of deposits and advances. While deposits increased nearly by 50 per cent, advances decreased by that proportion. It is a strange phenomenon, and peculiar to the backward economy of the District. Moreover advances against Ware-house receipts reduced by one-third, and no advances were made to small-scale industries in the District during this period. This reflects on the inability of the banking system to broaden its credit operations in the District. Datia has a rural-based economy and the fact remains that the agricultural sector of the District did not derive any substantial benefit—hardly one per cent from the financial resources of the commercial banks.

The nationalisation of leading commercial banks appear to have raised the expectations of the cultivators in regard to the availability of credit on reasonable terms in the District. The nationalised banks are expected to play very important and more active role in the economic rejuvenation of the District. As a catalytic agent they have to function by making differential contribution to those sectors which have been accorded priority in the development strategy. A more purposeful regulation of credit is the first thing that can be expected of them. To be more effective in this direction, trade and marketing centres in the rural areas of the District, which are not being served by any financial institutions for all these years, should be chosen for location of the branches of these banks. The centres chosen should have the potential of ultimately emerging as 'growth centres'. The branches operating in such a centre should cater to the needs of the farmers and artisans from the surrounding villages. Contacts with the villagers will have to be established and credit will have to be followed by technical advice.

Co-operative Credit

Co-operative banks and credit societies are emerging out as an adequate agricultural substitute for the commercial joint stock method of providing finance to industry, trade and commerce on which depends the entire success of agricultural finance. This movement was started in the District only after the attainment of Independence, and gained momentum with the beginning of the Plan era. Today, the Co-operative Credit Organisation has its definite place in the organised banking structure of the District. It has shouldered the most onerous responsibility of providing banking facilities on a widely extended basis to a vast majority of rural population of the District. The Five Year Plans have ushered in a new era of co-operative development and the movement has begun to spread in diversified fields of economic activity.

Consequently, with the beginning of Second Plan, great stress has been laid on strengthening the credit structure which has to be successfully linked with production requirements of the farmers on the one hand and with marketing of agricultural produce on the other. In the District Co-operative Bank has been assigned the most difficult role of keeping the wolf away from the doors of the poor peasants. They have to set free the farmers from the grip of the *mahajan* and diminish toil and poverty from the villages.

The District is being served with all the branches of Co-operative credit, viz., (i) Co-operative Central Bank, (ii) Land Mortgage Bank (Land Development Bank-new nomenclature) and (iii) Primary Credit Societies. A brief description of these various co-operative credit agencies is given in the following lines.

The District was served by a Central Co-operative Bank in the period of the erstwhile State of Datia, which was closed in 1948, following the merger of the State with Vindhya Pradesh. Central Co-operative Bank The bank was taken over by the Rewa Co-operative Bank in 1957 and subsequently placed under the State Central Co-operative Bank, Jabalpur, from 1958. Since 1963, the Central Co-operative Bank is working under the name of Datia Central Co-operative Bank Ltd.

The bank provides short-term and mid-term loans to cultivators through their member-societies numbering 94 by the end of June, 1969. It had three branches at Datia, Sewada and Indergarh in 1967. The details regarding the working of the Bank have been given in Appendix.

The bank also transacts normal banking business in the District and accepts deposits at a very lucrative interest rate to mobilise rural savings. The interest rates for deposits in Current Accounts, Saving Accounts and Fixed Deposit Accounts are one, 4½ and 6 to 7 per cent, respectively. It is the Cooperative Bank in the District which connects the isolated villages with the rest of the monetary world. In other words, while the commercial banks confine themselves to the monetised sectors, the co-operative bank shoulders the responsibility of covering the unmonetised sector by developing institutional credit and providing banking facilities.

With the advent of co-operative banking in the District, the hold of moneylenders over the rural masses has been loosened and gradually the people are becoming free from the grip of the *mahajans*. In many cases the *mahajans* have been forced by circumstances created by the expansion of cooperative credit to reduce their lending rates considerably and the malpractices, and rigours of their methods have been somewhat lessened.

The ultimate aim of cooperative bank lendings is to help people to do away with borrowing altogether in due courses of time, and substitute savings for debts among the former victims of moneylenders. The progress achieved by the bank during the two Five Year Plans under review, appears to be encouraging. Advances of loans increased from a paltry sum of Rs. 64,500 in 1956-57 to Rs. 27,75,165 in 1965-66, and the total deposits rose from about Rs. 33,145 in 1956-57 to Rs. 8,88,788 in 1965-66.

The committee on *Taccavi* Loans and Co-operative Credit (1961-62) has suggested that co-operatives should be accepted as the institutional agency for providing all types of credit to agriculturists for normal production and land improvements and that the Government should confine itself to distress *taccavi* only. Thus, with a view to providing medium and long-term credit for the redemption of past debts and permanent development of land, this Bank was established in 1963. The Bank provides medium-term loans for a period from 3 to 5 years for purchase of bullocks, cattle, agricultural implements, for sinking wells, etc., and also for marriages and funerals which are expected to be repaid out of annual savings. The bank also extends facility for long-term loans, which are made for periods exceeding 5 years, for permanent development and improvement of land and agriculture.

By the end of 1968-69, the bank had 4336 members with a share capital of Rs. 1,00,275. The total deposits were Rs. 1,94,019 in that year. The Table given below indicates the purposes of loans advanced by the bank during the period from 1963-64 to 1969-70.

Table No. VI—4

Loans Advance

Purpose of Loans advance	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1. Land Improvement	82,594	1,75,710	1,12,930	—	—	3,450	2,900
2. Repayment of previous debts	20,156	53,705	42,470	—	—	—	—
3. New Well	—	—	32,460	—	—	—	—
4. Repairing of old wells	—	—	14,490	2,36,500	62,850	2,73,646	2,56,800
5. Others	23,350	84,735	26,200	44,46,048	49,82,398	50,45,669	1,43,700

The primary co-operative credit societies have been functioning in the District mainly as agencies to provide short-term credit to their producer-members for productive purposes. Some of them distributed fertilisers and manure mixtures on agency

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basis. Thus borrowing and lending constitute the primary functions of the co-operative societies. In addition, following the recommendations of the Working Group on Co-operative Policy, appointed by the Government of India in 1959, they render certain other services in the field of production and marketing of agricultural produce and encourage the habit of self-help through mutual help and thrift. These societies may be agricultural or non-agricultural or rural or urban credit societies.

The number and membership of agricultural and non-agricultural credit societies in the District during the Plan periods were as under:—

Table No. VI—5
Agricultural & Non-Agricultural Credit Societies

	Agricultural		Non-agricultural	
	Number	Member-ship	Number	Member-ship
At the beginning of I Plan (1951—52)	98	1406	—	—
At the end of I Plan (1955—56)	99	2283	—	—
At the end of II Plan (1960—61)	163	7,775	1	45
III Plan Period				
1961—62	178	9,646	1	45
1962—63	183	10,406	1	45
1963—64	184	12,099	1	45
1964—65	184	13,959	2	76
1965—66	181	14,965	2	79
Annual Plan Period				
1966—67	62	15,639	30	2,322
1967—68	60	16,573	31	2,591
1968—69	60	17,184	35	1,783
1969—70	60	17,800	60	2,089

The facts given above indicate that co-operative credit movement made considerable progress in the District during the Third Plan period. The Co-operative credit societies are achieving the objects of promoting, mobilising and pooling rural savings and providing bulk of funds needed by agriculturists for productive purposes. To make them more effective in operation, efforts were made to reorganise these societies by amalgamating the weaker societies with better, sizable and strongly organised societies after the Third Plan period. This had resulted in reducing the number of agricultural societies from 181 in 1965-66 to 62 in 1966-67 but with increased membership of 15,639. In the case of non-agricultural societies, both the number and membership increased to 30 and 2,322 in 1966-67 from 2 and 79 respectively in 1965-66.

Under the present system and structure the work of financing agriculturists on behalf of the Government has been undertaken by the Central Co-operative Bank through primary credit societies. The Government provides financial assistance under Land Improvement Loans Act, Agriculturists Loans Act, *taccavi* loans, etc.

The short descriptive account of the 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 government efforts in providing the financial assistance in the District, reveals the fact that looking to the credit needs in the field of production, consumption and distribution as well as during the gestation period of their operations, the credit facilities available in the District are hardly satisfactory. This fact should be viewed particularly in the context of subsistence level of living which leaves no savings from the current income. The following brief account of organisations and institutions, which mobilise the savings of the masses in the District will testify to the realities of the situation.

Other Financial Institutions

The organisations attracting, mobilising, and canalising the small savings in the District are Post Office Saving Schemes and Life Insurance. All the small saving schemes of Post Offices such as Savings Bank Account, National Plan Certificates, Cumulative Time Deposit Schemes, etc. were in vogue in the District. The targets as well as the gross and net receipts in the above said schemes in the District for the years from 1963-64 to 1971-72 were as under:—

Table No. VI—5

Receipts from Saving Schemes

Year	Target	Gross Receipts	Net Receipts
1963—64	2 lakhs	3,33,467	19,535
1964—65	2 lakhs	6,80,535	3,08,597
1965—66	3 lakhs	5,07,435	1,31,409
1966—67	3 lakhs	5,24,614	94,179
1967—68	3 lakhs	6,80,639	1,66,320
1968—69	4 lakhs	14,45,473	3,55,452
1969—70	4 lakhs	8,77,441	2,05,866
1970—71	4 lakhs	10,03,984	3,09,572
1971—72	5 lakhs	7,65,117	15,063

Source—Head Post office, Datia.

A wide gulf between the gross and net receipts reflects on the potentiality of savings and indicates the meagre rate of savings in the District.

Datia District is working under the Gwalior branch of Life Insurance Corporation of India. The volume of life insurance business transacted in the District for the years from 1961 to 1966 was as under:—

Table No. VI—6
Life Insurance Business

Year	No. of Policies	Volumes of business completed (Rs.)	Total Premium amount Collected (Rs.)
1961	149	4,33,000	18,221
1962	321	9,71,400	34,171
1963	224	7,36,450	32,472
1964	228	7,54,500	40,995
1965	178	6,03,250	27,210
1966	153	9,02,500	29,827

The general insurance business is done by Life Insurance Corporation and Orient Life and General Insurance Co., in the District with their branch offices at Gwalior. There are neither any institution of high finances nor stock exchange in the District.

Currency and Coinage

In Datia State, the medium of exchange was the rupee coins and *hundis*. Currency notes were in little use and were unpopular. Till the year 1903, the local *Rajashahi* rupee or 9 *mashas* and 7 *rattis* in weight minted at Datia was the chief currency, though Orchha rupee *Gatashahi* and Gwalior rupee *Balashahi* were also in circulation. Lord Curzon visited the State in 1902, and the British currency was introduced in the State from 1903. The conversion into British rupee was effected at a premium of Rs. 6-4-0 per cent on the *Balashahi*, Rs. 16 on the *Gatashahi*. (mainly current in the Indergarh tahsil) and Rs. 25 to 34 on the local *Rajashahi*. One rupee pure silver coins of Datia and Tikamgarh States, eight-annas pure silver coin of Tikamgarh State, and one pice copper coins of Gwalior State, were in circulation in the District in the pre-Independence period. With the attainment of Independence, uniformity in coins and currency was introduced throughout the country and decimal system of currency is in operation since 1957.

Trade and Commerce

In the pre-Independence era most of the transactions in the District were carried on in grain, which shows that the economic system had only emerged from the state of barter. Agricultural labourers were paid in grain, and beyond sale and purchase of certain articles of clothing and jewellery, there were few purposes for which money was used. Peasants kept with them sufficient supply of grain for their food and other requirements, and usually sold grain in small quantities to the local petty traders when money was required. In other words, marketable surplus of their produce was negligible, and thus exchange economy was insignificant. Though the main trunk rail route, Bombay-Delhi, passes through the District and the erstwhile State of Datia made efforts to organise market at Datia town as early as in 1912-13, the trade and commerce of the District remained stagnant in the pre-Independence era. In this period, the trade of the District consisted in the out-flow or export of the agricultural produce chiefly wheat, gram, cotton, *tilli*, *ghi*, hides and bones, sugar and gur besides a small quantity of opium and *ganja*. The imports were piece-goods, grain, leather, kerosene oil, salt, clothes, metal wares and certain other necessities of life. Trade was carried on mainly with Jhansi, Gwalior, Agra, Delhi, Kanpur and Mirzapur. The merchants were mostly of Agrawal community.

The census statistics of 1951 and 1961 reveal that trade and commerce provided a primary source of livelihood to 3,597 and 3,464 persons, respectively. It means that during the first two Plan period there was no substantial change in the pattern of workers engaged in this occupation group in the decade between 1951 and 1961. The trade in the District is mostly confined to the retail type and is very limited in scope. A greater number of 1,924 persons ply the profession in the urban areas. The total workers under this category, accounts 3,151 males and 313 females, were 3.5 per cent of the total workers in the District in 1961. The main categories of workers were :

Table No. VI—8

Workers in Different Trades

	Total Workers			Percentage of total workers
	Male	Female	Total	
1. Wholesale trade in cereals and pulses	209	4	213	6.1
2. Retail trade in cereals, pulses, vegetables, etc.	1497	189	1686	48.6
3. Retail trade in yarns, fabrics and readymade goods	401	1	402	11.6
4. Retail trade in goods unspecified	237	59	296	8.5

According to 1971 census, there were 3363 persons (1514 Rural, 1849 Urban) engaged in Trade and Commerce in the District. Of these 2594 were in Datia tahsil and 769 in Seondha tahsil.

Course of Trade

Since the individual economic entity of the District vis-a-vis the other places is fast disappearing with the rapid increase of means of transport and communications, particularly of road transportation, it is difficult to mention in absolute terms the volume and value of out-flow or exports and inflow or imports of the commodities from and to the District. However, commodities exported by Marketing Federation of Datia in 1965-66, provide us some idea of the fact.

Table No. VI—9

Commodities Exported by Marketing Federation

	Name of Commodities	States (goods sent)	Quantity (Quintals)
1.	Tuar	Tamilnadu	1013
2.	Masoor	Maharashtra	1108
3.	Bajra	"	230
4.	Gram	Bihar	3,990
		Maharashtra	1,379
		and Gujrat	5,776
5.	Gram-dal	Maharashtra	660
		Gujarat	818
		Tamilnadu	1,322

The picture of the imports may be seen from the goods entered in the municipal limits of the District headquarters. The Table given below indicates the volume and value of main commodities imported in Datia town for the years 1964-65 and 1965-66.

Table No. VI—10

Volume and Value of Imported Commodities

Name of the Commodities		1964—65	1965—66
1. Rice. Paddy etc.	(kg.)	1,20,894	3,42,752
2. Oilseeds	(kg.)	1,37,215	5,75,684
3. Kerosene oil	(Gallons)	1,48,288	6,64,044 litre
4. Sugar	(kg.)	1,29,217	4,35,602
5. Gur	(mds)	1,13,185	9,22,806
6. Vegetable oil	(Rs.)	9,65,365	12,35,906
7. Kirana goods	(Rs.)	4,74,282	6,65,226
8. Cotton, Cloths, etc.	(Rs.)	41,20,978	70,14,157
9. Medicines	(Rs.)	1,44,773	1,11,188
10. Metal goods	(Rs.)	1,87,332	2,89,982
11. Iron and Steel, etc.	(Rs.)	1,68,775	3,29,748
12. Plastic, rubber, etc.	(Rs.)	8,39,815	1,42,889
13. Cement	(Rs.)	1,02,391	1,31,280
14. Tobacco goods	(Rs.)	3,28,249	5,24,656

Trade Centres

Marketing is of tremendous significance to the economy of the region. Its efficient organisation is vital to the health and well-being of a community. The whole programme of production with all individual or collective efforts would be of no value if it is not followed by a safe and sound marketing system. Unless means could be found to move goods from the producer to the consumer at a price which represents a fair remuneration to the producer and is within the consumers' ability to pay, all other efforts in the field of production are nullified. Till the beginning of the Plan-era, the problem of marketing was not a serious one in the District, as the economy was largely a subsistence economy, and farmers produced crops for their own consumption rather than with a view to selling them in the market. Life was simple, calm and contented. No complicated problems of marketing were involved in the economy. But the entire fabric has since undergone a great change, almost revolutionary in character, and marketing has come to the forefront and recognised as the crux of the economic problem.

Till late, as usual in the region, the District suffered from a variety of weights, measures and currency, paucity of good and efficient means of transportation and communications, sub-standardisation of produce or mixing superior and inferior produce, want of storage facilities, and a general lack of information in rural areas with regard to market conditions. Moreover, the existence of a large number of middle-men, influence of village moneylenders and weak bargaining capacity of the farmers, was the main reason, which came in the way of efficient working of market organisations in the District. With all these conditions, traders indulged in fraudulent malpractices of varied kind and exploited the poor peasants.

Regulated mandis

Though efforts were made to regulate the business transacted at important places of the District as early as in 1914, results were not very effective. Sincere efforts had, however, been made when in 1964, Datia and Seondha mandis were regulated under the Madhya Pradesh Produce Markets Act, 1960. Out of these two regulated markets in the District, Datia regulated market is a well-constructed *mandi*.

The business transacted in these two regulated *mandis* for the years from 1964-65 to 1966-67 was as under.

Table No. VI—11

Figures of Business Transacted in Two Mandis

Year	Main Agricultural Produce Approx. (in Quintals)	
	Datia	Seondha
1964—65	51,785	46,850
1965—66	49,830	40,930
1966—67	20,990	19,160

Note—Figures of year relate to period from November to October. The year 1966-67 was of drought year, hence less arrivals.

These are the wholesale markets also in the District. Seondha *mandi* has its two sub-centres at Tharet and Indergarh. The important retail centres in the District are Datia, Seondha, Tharet, Indergarh, Digwan, Chhikan, Baron, Kalan, Baroni Khurd, Hasampur, Basai, Unao and others. In these places weekly and fortnightly markets are also held.

Fairs and Melas

Fairs and *melas* play an important role in the business transactions. Though there is no fair of all-India or State-wide importance, quite a good number of them of local importance are being held in the District. The names of the important *melas* held in the District alongwith other details are given in Appendix.

Co-operative Marketing

It is increasingly recognised that the co-operative form of organisation can play a significant and predominant rôle in improving the system of agricultural 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. Government policy of undertaking the large scale programme of procurement of foodgrains and putting emergency levy on producers, added more importance to the movement of co-operative marketing in the District.

Co-operative marketing is of recent origin in the District. It was only during the Second Plan period that the organisation of marketing society was taken in hand with the establishment of Govind Co-operative Marketing Society at Datia in 1957. A branch of this society was opened

in 1965 at Seondha. In the beginning, it was started with 16 members and a share capital of Rs. 22,200, of which Government's share was Rs. 20,000. By the end of 1965-66, the membership increased to 380, and the share capital was Rs. 1,49,645, the Government's share being Rs. 63,000. In the year 1968-69, the share capital of the Co-operative Marketing Society was Rs. 3,27,892 and the Government share was Rs. 2,36,000.

The Society deals with the purchase and sale of agricultural produce and consumers' goods. The working of the society during the Second Plan period was as under:—

Table No. VI—12

Work Done During Second Plan Period

Year	Value of Agricultural Commodities		(in Rs.) Value of Consumer goods	
	Purchased	Sold	Purchased	Sold
1958—59	1,75,613	1,65,757	—	—
1959—60	11,729	22,294	1,28,738	1,19,004
1960—61	1,47,921	1,38,864	56,396	87,062

The society made much headway during the Third Plan period and extended its activities to sell fertilisers and agricultural implements in the District. It also followed the policy recommended by Rural Credit Enquiry Committee (1961), by 'linking credit with marketing, with the beginning of Third Plan. The working of the marketing society during the Third Plan period was as under.

Table No. VI—13
Working of Marketing Society

Activity	(in Rs.)						
	1961—62	1962—63	1963—64	1964—65	1965—66	1966—67	1967—68 1968—69 1969—70
1. Purchase of agricultural produce	2,09,631	5,76,811	6,23,144	9,27,830	46,74,439	5,76,638	4,58,895 3,71,237 3,21,196
2. Sale of agricultural produce	2,13,284	5,82,004	6,17,290	10,58,156	47,13,771	8,95,965	2,74,166 6,10,195 4,87,974
3. Credit Facility extended to members	248	3,197	11,254	78,799	69,165	..	.. 29,137
4. Fertilizers Sold	1,684	1,968	3,240	93,900	11,175	1,228	16,491 20,211 105
5. Sale of Agricultural implements	..	17,827	2,680	11,175	363	168	210 546 28,982
6. Purchase of Consumers' goods	2,939	22,297	2,62,341	99,857	4,79,247	5,58,383	96,108 231 2,19,536
7. Sale of Consumers' goods	12,224	21,525	2,63,044	1,00,128	4,57,240	5,57,295	1,60,726 1,758 ..

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It is evident from the facts given above that the marketing society is pioneering the work of 'green revolution' in the District. It can be expected that the activities of the society will be sustained in future. In 1966-67, a *Dal* mill was started by the society and the Government granted loans totalling to Rs. 80,000 for extents godowns (Rs. 26,250), Godown loan (Rs. 12,500), Workers' loan (Rs. 3,750), and *Dal* mill loan (Rs. 37,500).

State Trading

In accordance with the Madhya Pradesh Wheat Procurement (Levy) Order, 1965, wheat was procured through levy from the licensees dealing in food grains at the rate of 40 per cent of the stock held by them, and from marketing society in 1965. The wheat was also purchased directly from the cultivators. A quantity of wheat weighing 5,490 quintals and amounting to Rs. 1,93,852 was procured in 1965. In the same year, wheat was distributed through the two fair-price shops in Datia town. The wholesale and retail prices of wheat fixed under the Madhya Pradesh Wheat (wholesale and retail prices) Control Order, 1965 was:—

Table No. VI—14

Wholesale & Retail Prices of Wheat

Grade	(in Rs.)	
	Maximum prices of Wheat Per Quintal	
	Wholesale	Retail
I	65.00	67.00
II	61.00	63.00
III	57.00	59.00
IV	52.00	54.00

The State Government promulgated the Juar Procurement (Levy and Monopoly Purchase) Order, 1965. This order was in force in the District with effect from 1st December, 1965. The Food Corporation of India was entrusted with the work of procurement for all-India pool. The wholesale and retail prices of Juar were fixed as under:—

Table No. VI—15

Wholesale & Retail Prices of Jowar

Grade	(Per Qnt.)	
	Maximum whole sale price	Maximum retail price
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
F. A. Q.	47.00	49.00
One grade below F. A. Q.	46.00	48.00
Two grades below F. A. Q.	44.00	47.00

Rice was made available in the District in the open market at controlled rate as mentioned below:—

Table No. VI—16

Wholesale & Retail Prices of Rice

Grade	Maximum wholesale price	(in Qnt.) Maximum retail price
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
I	58.23	61.00
II	60.93	64.00
F.III	79.33	83.00
F.I	83.65	87.00

Sugar was a controlled commodity for a long period and was distributed at the rate of one kilo per adult and 800 grams per child per month in urban areas through co-operative societies and retail dealers. In rural areas, the rate of distribution was 1 kilo per family per month through *gram panchayats* and co-operative societies.

Though rationing was not in vogue in the District, during lean months and in times of scarcity, foodgrains were made available at fair-price shops. In the scarcity year of 1966, besides two shops at Datia town, two more fair-price shops were opened at Basai and Kamrari villages.

Ware-houses

Apart from providing storage facilities ware-houses and godowns play a prominent role in financing the agriculturists and traders in developing economy. Agriculturists and traders can deposit their produce and goods in the ware-houses and can take loans upto the limit of 70 to 75 per cent from Banks against ware-house receipts. This facility strengthens the bargaining capacity of the agriculturists.

Ware-housing system is not a new one in the District. In 1914-15, two ware-houses were established at Seondha and Nadigaon for wine merchants. Opium and other hemp-drugs were also kept in these ware-houses. However, the facilities in the real sense came into existence in the District with the establishment of Datia Ware-housing Centre in 1959. This ware-house provides facility for storing agricultural produce and fertilizers to agriculturists, co-operative societies, traders, and Government. The commodities stored through co-operative societies get a special discount of 10 per cent in storage charges. The details of the working of the Datia Ware-

housing Centre for the period from 1959 to 1970 have been given in Appendix.

Merchants' and Consumers' Associations

There is no registered organisation of merchants and traders in the District. However, one merchants' association and one gram-dealers association was functioning in Datia regulated market in 1967. As regards consumers' association, the Consumers' Co-operative Societies are working in the District, since the beginning of Third Five Year Plan. In 1961-62, there were three societies with total membership of 156 and share capital of Rs. 4,366. By the end of 1965-66, the number increased to five with 1,384 members and share capital of Rs. 15,859. The purchases and sales of these consumers' societies during the Third Plan period and Annual Plan period were as under:—

Table No. VI—17

Purchase and Sale by Societies

Year	Purchase (Rs.)	Sale (Rs.)
1962—63	24,879	25,021
1963—64	2,74,961	2,82,255
1964—65	3,62,027	3,71,499
1965—66	5,28,502	5,29,933
1966—67	8,34,036	8,44,027
1967—68	5,47,159	5,60,534
1968—69	2,60,856	2,50,016
1969—70	2,56,146	2,61,802

Weights and Measures

There were amazing differences in the local Weights and Measures. It was found that measures varied in size and weight from one village to another. Such variations in weights and measures from village to village and market to market were bound to prejudice the interests of sellers and to hamper trade and commerce. In many villages, different measures were used for measuring the grain supplied on loan, the grain taken back in repayment and all complications of this kind created conditions for duping the innocent villagers.

In the erstwhile State of Datia, precious stones and metals were weighed by *ratti*, the highest weight being *tanka*. One *ratti* was equi-

valent to 20 *Biswa*, whereas one *Biswa* was equal to one grain of linseed. Similarly for precious stones, *gaungachi* was equal to 8 *dhani* (rice grain), and 8 *gaungachi* was equal to one *masha*. In case of silver and gold *tola* equivalent to one rupee coin of British India was commonly taken as a standard.

The other articles generally were weighed by the *seer* and *maund*, the lowest measure being one-half *chhatak*, which was equivalent to 2 *lalashahi* pice or 14 *mashas* in weight. In villages, the capacity measures were called *Varaiya* and *pice*. Pice was more in use. They were made of wood or brass and were used in measuring grain. One pice was equal to 61 *seers*, while 1/10 of pice was equal to one *Varaiya*. One *Panaeri* was equal to one-half of *Varaiya* or 5 *seers*.

Oil and *ghee* were measured in vessels of two kinds, the *pakka* and *kacha*, the latter was being used in villages. The measures were brass or earthen pots. A *pakka seer* was equal to 30 *takkas* or 60 pice of *gajashahi*. Liquor was sold by the bottle. The yard of 33 inches was generally used in piece-goods, while one chain of 39 inches was used in measuring land, masonry work, etc. The *bigha* (1.96 acre) was standard.

Though the standard weights of *maund*, *seer* and *tola* were in use at the main marketing centres of the District, it was only with the introduction of Madhya Pradesh Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1959, that metric system of weights and measures became popular in the District. Metric Weights were made compulsory with effect from 1st April, 1962, while metric length measures and capacity measures were made compulsory with effect from 1st October, 1962, and 1st April, 1963, respectively. Though the change was met with initial difficulties, gradually the new standard measures of exchange became standard in the District.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

No precise accounts regarding roads in the District in the ancient time are available, but because of the fact that Datia State was exporting¹ its goods to Karachi, Madras, Agra, Kanpur, Dehli, etc., the highly developed cities of that time, it may be assumed that some roads must have existed in good condition to serve the needs of the State.

The necessity of developing the roads in a systematic way was realised by the State in the middle of the nineteenth century. "The total mileage of metalled road in the State was 66. The first History of road opened was the Jhansi-Gwalior, of which 36 miles Road lies in the State. It was constructed by the Durbar in Construction 1885 and afterwards taken over by the British Government, other metalled roads are those to Baroni (4 miles), to Unao (10) and to Jhansi (16)".²

During the year³ 1907-08, the Datia-Seondha and Nadigaon-Sadhupura roads which were partly finished during the famine of 1906-07 were again taken in hand. In the same year, some alterations were made in the survey that had been previously made of the Datia-Seondha Road. Estimates for the repairs of the Datia-Unao and Datia-Baroni roads were also made during the year. In the year 1906-07, total mileage of roads in Datia State was 137 (220.45 km.) out of which 66 miles (106.22 km.) were metalled and 71 miles (114.26 km.) were unmetalled. The length of metalled roads constructed and maintained by British Government and Datia State was 19 miles (30.58 km.) and 47 miles (75.64 km.) respectively. But no metalled road traversed the tahsils of Indergarh, Nadigaon, Seondha and here the goods were carried by country tracks to Sonagir, Ait, Kunch and Datia stations. In 1912-13, the projects for the metalled communications with the tahsils were prepared. During the year 1914-15, "provision was made in the Budget for the construction of a road through the State from Datia to Seondha at an estimated cost of Rs. 57,820. But the Darbar, to their regret, issued orders for stopping the work, for after spending Rs. 51,695 they found to their dismay, that not a mile of it was fit for use by

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 24.

2. *ibid.*

3. *Datia State Administration Report*, 1907-08, p. 5.

the least convenience or facility for traffic, the metal which was consolidated, last year up to a distance of seven miles has all disappeared, culverts have been broken, breaches have been made in the road". Further, Rs. 1,000 were sanctioned for repairs of roads. All the town roads in spite of large recurring expenses provided for their repairs were in bad condition and only Rs. 1,086 were spent for repairs during 1914-15.

Present Road System

The roads of the District fall in the following three categories according to the Road Classification pattern adopted by the Indian Roads Congress. The following table shows the Length as on 31st March, 1968.

Table No. VII-1

Length of Roads

	(in km).
State Highways	114.26
Major District Roads	62.76
Other District Roads	50.15
Village Roads	57.94
Community Development Block Roads	276.00
Forest Roads	60.80

State Highways

Gwalior-Jhansi Road, a State Highway is all weather first class and black-topped from Jhansi to Gwalior with a length of 19.60 miles (31.5 km.) in the District, from mile no. 34 to 53.5. All culverts on the road are in good condition. The second State Highway is the Dinara-Datia Seondha Road State Highway No. 19.

Major District Roads

These roads connect principal markets and business places in the District. They are maintained by the State Public Works Department. The following roads in the District fall in the above category. These are all weather class I roads with black topped surface.

Name	Length km.
1. Datia-Seondha Road	64.40
2. Datia-Unao Koad	17.70
3. Datia-Baroni	4.85

Other District Roads

The total length of these roads on 31st March, 1968 was 57.94 km. They are maintained by the State Public Works Department.

Municipal Roads

All the roads within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Council are maintained by the Public Works Department. Only 12.80 km. bitumenous and 4.80 km. water bound macadam surface, totalling to 17.60 km. roads were in possession of Municipal Council Datia on 31st March, 1968.

Forest Roads

Following table shows the names and length of forest roads in the District which are all fair-weather roads.

Table No. VII-2

Forest Roads

	Name of the Road	Length in km.
1.	Datia to Chopara	8.00
2.	Datia—Chorava	8.00
3.	Sanch—Gharava	8.00
4.	Sanch—Indergarh	4.80
5.	Gilwar—Surran	3.20
6.	Chopara—Govindpur	8.00
7.	Sevada—Lokendrapur	20.80

Vehicles and Conveyances

Elephants and palanquins were used as means of conveyance in the early half of the 19th century. "On the way his Rani's elephant became troublesome while crossing a river and could not be got over. Dalpat Rao, fearing that his Rani's pardah would be broken, determined to kill her. The begam however, hearing of this at once sent her own *Chondel* (closed paliki) in which the Rani was able to escape off the elephant. In remembrance of this event the Ranis of Datia still travel in a *chondel* when proceeding in State".¹ Except in Datia town springed carts were not often used in rest of the State. But in the present time bullock-carts, horses and bicycles are

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 5.

used in rural areas of the District. In urban areas, automobiles, tongas and tempos are the prevalent means of conveyance in the District.

Motor Vehicles

The total number of automobiles in the District registered with the Regional Transport Officer, Gwalior during the different period was as follows.

Table No. VII—3

Vehicles Registered

Year	Cars	Buses	Lorries	Motor-Cycles	Taxis	Others
1950—51	67	30	33	7	—	1
1955—56	71	45	117	29	1	12
1960—61	83	58	123	32	3	16
1965—66	88	66	132	68	4	21
1966—67	90	68	133	117	4	22
1967—68	92	70	133	152	4	27

Source—Regional Transport Officer, Gwalior.

The bullock-cart is still the basic means of transport especially in rural areas where the roads are few and their condition poor. Besides this, the bullock-cart fits in to the rural economy of the District. For moving out in bigger number bullock-carts are the chief means of transport. On festival occasions the carts are fairly and well decorated. The same carts are also used for carrying goods and passengers. A correct enumeration of the number of carts is not available, but it is estimated that the number of carts increased from 220 in 1947-48 to 282 in 1959-60 as registered by local bodies in Datia District.

The bicycle is a faster and most popular means of transport and used by well to do persons in rural areas of the District. In urban areas these are predominantly used by the people belonging to middle class. The Table ahead gives details regarding cycles registered with Datia Municipality. Horse-driven Tongas are important means of transport in the towns of the District. The details regarding tongas are given in the Table below:—

Table No. VII—4

Number of other Vehicles Registered

Year	Cycles	Horse driven Tongas	Bullock-Carts	Total
1947—48	127	66	220	413
1950—51	136	59	183	378
1951—52	135	67	173	375
1952—53	84	43	68	195
1953—54	407	54	215	686
1954—55	506	62	256	814
1955—56	515	66	246	827
1956—57	662	71	163	896
1957—58	1021	68	204	1293
1958—59	965	74	282	1321
1965—66	—	139	—	139
1966—67	—	75	—	75
1967—68	1046	67	—	1113

Public Transport

Public transport by buses in the District is being managed both in the public sector and partly in private sector. The following table gives details regarding the buses run by the State Road Transport Corporation in the District.

Table No. VII—5

Buses Run by MPSRTC

Name of the route	Date of opening	Route mileage	No. of buses in operation
Jhansi I	24—12—57	100 kilometre	10 return trips
Jhansi II	1—9—58	100 „	5 „ „
Rewa	24—12—63	425 „	N.A.
Datia	21—2—57	78 „	N.A.
Sagar	1961	130 „	N.A.

The table below shows the details regarding the operation of routes in the District during the period 1950-51 to 1967-68.

Table No. VII—6

Routes Operated

S. No. 1	Period 2	No. of routes 3	Total Mileage 4
A			
Private	1955—56	5	605 kilometre
	1965—66	17	2330 ..
	1966—67	8	1037 ..
	1967—68	2	233 ..
B			
State Owned	1955—56	1	149 kilometre
	1965—66	3	716 ..
	1966—67	1	50 ..
	1967—68	1	173 ..

Railways

The chief town of the District, Datia, is situated on the Central Railway Delhi-Bombay main line. It stands on the Central Railway, 1153 kilometre from Bombay and also on the Jhansi-Gwalior highway road, 25 kilometre from the former place. All trains bound for Delhi pass through Datia station from Bombay to Delhi. The Central Railway was formed on 5 November 1951 by reorganising various railways including the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway, one of the six trunk-lines guaranteed railways formed at the commencement of railway development in India, was the first to open a railway in the country for public traffic. At present this line is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Central Railways.

The history of the laying of the railway line in Datia District may be traced back to the latter half of the 19th century. Jhansi-Gwalior railway line of 60.10 miles (96.56 km.) was opened on the 1st March, 1889 for traffic, both goods and passengers. In 1884 land was given for railway construction by the State and it was opened in 1888, in Datia State. During the year 1907, "the Mid-land section of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway passed for 21 miles (33.79 km.) through the State with stations at Datia and Sonagir". The opening of this line at once had a marked effect on the commerce of the State and in years of scarcity and famine proved of incalculable benefit.

able benefit. During the year 1907-08 land was given to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway for the new railway station on the Baroni Road."¹

In 1912-13, Datia exported its goods to outside stations of great commercial importance in India, such as Cawnpur, Mirzapore, Madras, Calcutta, Karachi and Bombay. According to the Administration Report of Datia State, 1912-13, "export trade by railway which had been in a moribund condition for many years, had made fresh start, and 90 wagons of grain were sent out to Madras and other places during the months of December and January". The Report further states "The demand for rolling-stock for export grain rose so high that the Railway Department in spite of repeated requests, found it difficult to meet the full requirements but still about 300 wagons of grain were exported from Datia up to the close of the year."

Railborne Traffic

One of the major consequences of the opening of the railways in the District was the rapid increase in the movement of goods by rail. The principal commodities exported through railway were grain pulses, skin, leather, hides, etc. The articles imported through railway were sugar, shoes, soap, oil agricultural implements, cloth, etc.

Rail Road Competition

There is not much competition between railways and road transport in the District as most of the interior places of the District are not situated on the railway line. Road transport has different areas of operation in the District.

Water-ways and Ferries

The important rivers of the District are the Sind and the Pahuj. Use of ferries for crossing the river is not a new thing for the District. According to the old Datia State Gazetteer, compiled in 1907, "The Sind river is of considerable size flows through the state for about fifty miles along the western border, passing by the town of Seondha and the Pahuj also traverses the State for the same distance. In rains the Sind can only be crossed by boats the stream being then of great volume". It further describes, "eight ferries are maintained on the Sind river at Ghoraghat, Sunari, Uchad,

¹ Datia State Administration Report, 1907-08, p. 6.

Lanch, Kanjol, Berchha, Bedarghat and Kanharghat. At Nadigaon the Pahuj is crossed by a ferry". At present at all the places ferries are available for crossing the river. Bridges of the roads cross and recross the stream and rivers at several places. There were in all, 253 bridges and culverts in 1965. Out of these 98 bridges were on State High-ways, 77 on major District Roads, 71 on minor District Roads and 7 on other roads. These bridges are repaired and maintained by the State Public Works Department.

Air Transport

There is no facility for Air Transport in the District. Hence the District is not linked by air with other places.

Travel and Tourist Facilities

The primary purpose of maintaining these resthouses is to provide facilities regarding boarding and lodging to touring Government officials coming to the District on duty. But they are made available to members of the public also at prescribed rates, if accommodation is available. The Circuit House is intended for V. I. Ps., Secretaries, Heads of Departments and other Class I Officers of the State and Central Governments. The Collector of the District is the controlling authority for allotting accommodation in the Circuit House, while the Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B. & R.) is the controlling authority for allotting accommodation in the rest houses. A list of Rest Houses and Circuit Houses maintained by Public Works Department in the District is given in the Appendix.

Post and Telegraphs and Telephones

During the year 1907 an Imperial Combined Post and Telegraph office was opened in Datia town with branch offices at Seondha and Sonagir. A State Post office system was also working in the State which was established in 1893. Before that all letters were sent from the British Post Office to the nearest *thana* or tahsil office. Three postal lines linked Datia to Nadigaon (90.16 km.), Kanad (25.76 km.) and Ronga (22.54 km.). Ten village offices were opened besides the headquarters offices. About 2,000 State letters and 2,500 from British Offices were carried yearly. The stamps used were issued by Datia State bearing the the effigy of the god Ganesh and inscription in Hindi. The revenue from this source was short of the expenditure as a rule. Apart from this, during the famine period camel and horse riders were employed in addition to runners and when His Highness the Maharaja or the special Political Agent was on tour the State *sowars* carried the dak.

Till 1907, there were nine State Post Offices in Datia State and an Imperial Post Office at Datia town and a branch office at Seondha. They were situated at Datia, Seondha, Nadigaon, Indergarh, Baroni, Unao, Ronija, Basai, Tharet and Sonagir. But there was no telegraph office upto 1907 in the State and the necessity of telegraphic link was felt during this year. "At present there is no Telegraph Office, and the State and the public have recourse to the Railway for the despatch of telegraphic messages. In order to afford facilities and convenience in telegraphic communications the Durbar moved through Political Agent for the establishment of a combined Post and Telegraph office in the town of Datia and have as desired by the Telegraph Department, agreed to make up the deficiency in the income, should there be any, for the next five years"¹. During the year 1909, telegraph service was opened in the Imperial Post Office and proved a great boon to the State and the people.

In 1961, there were 44 Post Offices in Datia District. Datia and Seondha were the only Main Post Office with Telegraph and Public Call Offices. Rest 42 Post Offices were merely Branch Offices. In 1965-66 the total number of Post Offices was 52 out of which 3 were sub-offices, 20 permanent branch offices and 29 experimental branch offices. The appendix gives detailed account of Post and Telegraph Offices in Datia District.

Telephones

In Datia there were two telephone exchanges in 1968. The Datia Telephone Exchange was manually worked. There is a Public Call Office at Datia. The growth of Telephone connections in the District is shown in the table below :

Table No. VII—7

Number of Telephone Connections

1950	29	1966	47
1964	38	1967	60
1965	42	1968	67

Radio and Wireless Stations

There is no radio station of licensed wireless sets in Datia District. It is served by the Gwalior and Bhopal stations which are the nearest to the District. According to the latest available figures up to 1965-66, there were about 129 licensed wireless receiving sets in the District.

¹ Datia State Administration Report, 1908-09, p. 17.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The agricultural sector, employing the largest number of persons occupies the dominant position among the occupations pursued by the people in the District. 'Other services', the category of workers which included almost all the miscellaneous occupations, came second only to this dominant agricultural sector in the District and relegated all other workers' sectors like industry, trade and commerce etc., to a secondary position.

Public Services

Starting with services under State and Central Government and quasi-government institutions concerned with public administration, the total number of employees according to Employment Market Report was 1,478 at the end of March, 1966. According to Census 1961, this number was 1,276. Thus 202 more persons were employed in these services during a period roughly corresponding to the Third Plan. Dividing them further 413 persons were employed in the police, 40 in administrative departments and offices of the Central Government, and 403 under quasi-government organisations. Municipal Council of Datia and other local bodies, etc., and the rest 622 persons were in administrative departments and offices of the State Government. Compared with the corresponding figures of the Census 1961, the Employment in Central Government offices increased by 110.5 per cent while in State Government Offices it only increased by 5.3 per cent during this period. A large increase of 114.3 per cent occurred in the administrative offices of the quasi-government and local bodies in the District. However, by March, 1966 the persons on administrative side in police decreased by 13.6 per cent.

The general amenities accruing to the public servants on the State-wide plane apply to the service personnel of this District also. Every State Government employee gets a pension after the retirement age of 55 years (reduced from 58 years with effect from 15-12-1967) at the rate of three-eighths of his pay if he has completed 30 years of service. If he has served less, the rate differs slightly to the extent of difference in the years of service. Apart from this main substantial support in the old age, other facilities available to the government servants include gratuity, general provident fund, leave and medical reimbursement while in service, and dearness allowance, the rates of which were revised from time to time.

The State Government employees are free to form their lawful association, and a number of District branches of the State-wide Organisation are extant in Datia. The District branches of the Madhya Pradesh Ministerial Services Association (which is now affiliated to the All India Organisation), Madhya Pradesh Gazetted Officers' Association, Madhya Pradesh Civil Service Association, Madhya Pradesh Subordinate Services Association, etc., are championing the cause of their respective members.

Learned Professions

The occupations in the nature of learned professions include the persons engaged in educational and scientific services, medical and health services, legal services, engineering services, etc., which are severally discussed in the following narration.

According to Census 1961, educational and scientific services accounted for 1,018 persons in the District. About one-half of them Educational Services were enumerated in urban area. These included 50 persons engaged in services such as those rendered by technical colleges, schools, and similar other technical and vocational institutions and 968 persons in services rendered by colleges, schools and similar other institutions of non-technical type. Since 1961 in a period roughly confirming to Third Plan duration, their number (non-technical educational) increased to 1,260 in March, 1966¹, thereby registering an increase of about 30.2 per cent.

The Census 1961 recorded 340 persons (267 males and 73 females) in these services. These included 313 persons in public health Medical and Health Services and medical services rendered by organisations and individuals such as by hospitals, nursing homes, maternity and child welfare clinics and also by *unani*, *ayurvedic*, allopathic and homeopathic practitioners. The rest of the 27 persons (all males) were enumerated in veterinary services.

In 1961, the Census recorded 33 persons (all males) in these services which included barristers, advocates, solicitors, *mukteer*, Legal Services *munshi*, etc.

These included the category of civil engineers, electric engineers architects, etc., and the Census 1961 enumerated 14 Professional, Technical persons (all males) in the District in the category, and related Workers including overseers.

Apart from these, 170 persons were categorised as artists, writers and other related workers, which included 160 musicians, 8 dancers, 5 editors and journalists, 3 authors and Painters and other related workers.

1. Datia Employment Market Report, March, 1966, p. 8.

Personal Services

Almost equally numerous with workers in 'Public services' were workers in 'personal services', contributing about 25.2 per cent of the working force in the category of 'services'. The Census 1961 enumerated 1,106 workers (759 males 347 females) in this category which included the services rendered by domestic servants, cooks, tutors, hotels, laundry, barbers, etc. The previous Gazetteer records that about seven per cent of the population was engaged in domestic services.¹

The services rendered to households by domestic servants, cooks, etc., form the next most numerous group after laundry services. Census 1961 enumerated 341 workers (235 males 106 females) in this District under the category, forming about 30.8 per cent of the total workers in 'personal services'. More than half of these (213) were enumerated in urban areas.

According to Census 1961, the services rendered to households by tutors, private secretaries, etc., numbered 32 (all males). Majority of them (18) were returned from rural area.

Governors,
Tutors, etc.

Services rendered by these, as also by eating houses, and restaurants providing lodging and boarding facilities in Datia, engaged a working force of 32 persons (all males) in 1961. Majority of them were found in urban areas. The small number of workers also indicated largely owner run small units. In 1966, there were 77 registered hotels in Datia town, which number increased to 92 in the year 1969.

Contributing about 39 per cent working force engaged in personal services, 'the laundry services rendered by organisations and individuals (including all types of cleaning, dyeing, bleaching, dry-cleaning) accounted for 420 persons (179 males and 241 females). It may be noted that only about one-fourth of the workers (115) in these services were enumerated in urban area which is confined to Datia township. In 1966, there was only one laundry in Datia township.

Traditionally, the persons engaged in these services belong to *Nai* caste who enjoyed a place of distinction in the marriage nego-

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 15.

Hair-Dressing tations and of functional importance in social and religious life of Caste Hindus. Owing to fast modernization in urban tracts, the occupation now does not necessarily confirm to the caste-pattern and includes others also in its fold. Forming the third most numerous group in the category of 'personal services', the Census 1961 enumerated 271 persons (all males) in services rendered by organisations, individuals such as those by barbers, hair-dressing saloons, etc. Of these 94 persons were enumerated in Datia town. In Datia Town, the number of hair-cutting saloons falling within the purview of shops and Establishment Act was 23 in 1966.

The number of persons engaged in services rendered by portrait and commercial photographic studios was 10 in 1961.

Photographers
etc.

Workers in this category of occupation numbered 571 (415 males and 156 females) in 1961, the majority of whom were enumerated in Datia township (321) where they form an essential part of occupational structure. Of these, 560 were tailors, dress and garment makers who largely pursued their occupation in a humble way.

In the foregoing occupational study of the District under the various categories which among themselves comprise most of the miscellaneous occupations not elsewhere covered, it may be noticed that the participation of women is quite insignificant. The exception, however, is the category of 'personal services', where women contributed about 31 per cent to the total working-force. Here, they in fact exceeded males in one occupation, namely laundry services. Low female participation is more conspicuous in Gwalior Division, where the northern districts of Morena and Bhind returned very few females as workers. Datia, however, in comparison stands slightly better. In the menial services too they are totally absent from the occupations of barbers and hair-dressers. *Nain*, as their women-folk are known, usually performing the functions of a midwife to the households. The small proportion of females in the other categories indicates the prevalent belief in the upper strata of the society, that it is undesirable for women to go out and earn a living. It appears that this already fading social belief is on the contrary more prominently reflected in this District, perhaps because of its being mainly a rural District, unaffected by urbanization.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Pattern of Livelihood

Datia District has only one town, i. e., Datia. From this it naturally follows that the pattern of livelihood in the District is essentially rural and agricultural.

This District is the smallest in the State. Rural population in the District as per 1961 Census was 1,71,037 out of 2,00,467 of the total population. Population of workers, i.e., economically active Census 1961 population engaged in all the nine occupational categories of the 1961 Census, was 97,468, while remaining 1,02,999 persons were non-workers. This gives a proportion of 1.05 non-workers against one worker. Such a low proportion of dependents to economically active persons is generally found in the predominantly agricultural regions where scope for employment though not full-time, for women, children and even old persons in agricultural operations is higher. Thus, the low proportion of non-workers signifies the predominantly agricultural pattern of livelihood in the District.

The percentage of workers in agriculture, cultivators and agricultural labourers, to the total workers in all occupational groups, was 75.09 as per 1961 Census. The cultivators of land, as against the agricultural labourers, were numerically much more.

The workers in the mining or quarrying, livestock, forestry, household industry, manufacturing other than household industry, etc., together formed 8.86 per cent of the total workers. Broadly, this group signifies the extent of industrial activities in the District. It may be noted here that the majority of the workers in the group was engaged in household industry. Manufacturing other than household, which might be equated with factory industry, provided livelihood to 887 or less than one per cent of the workers only.

Workers in construction activities formed 1.37 per cent of the total workers, while trade and commerce engaged 3.55 per cent. Transport, storage and communications could provide livelihood to only 0.81 per cent. The workers in other services, however, formed a substantial number being 10.31 per cent of total workers.

The percentages of workers in different occupational groups shown as above highlight all the characteristics of economically backward tract. Though percentage of workers in industrial group, compares well with other industrially advanced districts in the State, yet it may be remembered that, in the first instance, in the composition of this group activities like livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards, etc., are also included. These activities are more akin to the agricultural rather than industrial activities. Secondly, percentage happens to be higher because of the preponderance of household industrial workers. Economic significance of the household industry lies in its relation with agriculture. Household industry is not a source of additional employment but in a way it is a measure of agricultural under-employment. With more persons engaged in household industry agricultural under-employment might be reduced, rather than fresh employment opportunities created. Thus, preponderance of employment in household industry in the occupational group of industries is more of a pointer toward agro-economic status of the District rather than its industrial character.

According to 1971 Census also the preponderance of agricultural and related activities in the livelihood pattern remained much the same. The number of total workers was actually reduced and the somewhat enlarged agricultural sector claimed much larger share of agricultural labourers. But this was due to classificational changes. Thus, of the District population of 2,55,267 in 1971 the total number of workers was 82,276. Of these, the cultivators with 49,226 and the agricultural labourers with 15,918 together claimed as much as 79 per cent. Then, like 1961 Census, other services with 5,450 persons came next followed by the household industries with 3,470 persons in them. Together they made for more than half of the remaining 21 per cent of the workers. The strength of other constituents, in their respective order, in the occupational structure was, trade and commerce (3,363), livestock, fishery and forestry, etc., (1,598); manufacturing other than household industry (1,298), construction (1,133), transport and communications (782) and mining and quarrying (38).

Prices

The prices of essential commodities, especially those of foodgrains affect the different sections of the society to a varying degree. In the higher income brackets the proportion of income spent on foodgrains is less and hence any rise in foodgrain prices affects them less severely, than those in lower income level groups. As a major part of the population is usually in the lower income group, trends in the prices of foodgrains have a great significance from the point of view of economic well-being. Though high

prices of foodgrains bring more money to the producers, yet they affect the prices of a number of other necessities of life, for which the producers themselves, as consumers, have to pay more. High prices of foodgrains also mean high cost of labour, not only in industrial and services sectors of the economy but also in agriculture itself. Thus, continually rising prices though increase the monetary profits also raise the cost of production and make a vicious inflationary circle.

Looking back, however, the past prices stood nowhere near the present levels. Thus, the old State Gazetteer gave the average prices of *jowar* gram and *kodon* for the last decade of the 19th century at 38, 30 and 32 *seers* per rupee, respectively. Year to year they showed greater variance according to seasons. In 1901-02 wheat, *jowar*, gram and *kodon* sold at 17, 20, 23 and 20 *seers* to the rupee all of which had, respectively, fallen to 19, 30, 28 and 31 *seers* per rupee the very next year in 1902-03. Still the Gazetteer admitted a slight rise in both the prices and wages in the then State in general and a marked rise in Datia town itself. Though not to be compared with the present high rises this indicated a slightly rising trend as more or less of common occurrence barring a few exceptions the greatest of which was the Depression of 1929.

Price level of foodgrains as well as other necessities of life was generally higher during the period of the Second World War due to scarcity conditions and higher demand for foodgrains to feed the armies. But even after the War was over, price situation had not eased. In order to meet the scarcity conditions, the Government had not only undertaken foodgrain control measures like procurement and regulated distribution through Government shops, but measures to step up foodgrains production through Grow More Food Campaign were also taken up all over the country.

After attainment of Independence, Government through their Five Year Plans for economic development began to lay stress on more production of foodgrains. As a matter of fact, in the First Five Year Plan investment in agriculture and related activities had the largest share. It will, therefore, be of interest to know the production and price trends in the District, during the First Five Year Plan.

Table No. IX—1
Production of Foodgrains

(In '000 tons)					
Year	Wheat	Jowar	Rice	Gram	Sesamum
1951—52	10.0	2.7	0.5	15.2	0.8
1952—53	11.0	9.4	0.3	13.1	1.1
1953—54	9.3	8.8	0.2	11.5	1.0
1954—55	12.1	14.1	0.2	10.3	1.5
1955—56	19.0	3.7	0.4	19.4	0.7

The figures given above bring out the fact that wheat and gram are the two main food crops in the District, and production of both these was highest in the closing year of the First Plan. There was no obvious trend, either rising or falling, in the production of any of the other foodgrains during the Plan period. The trend, if any, in production appears to have been erratic as might be expected when agricultural production is solely dependent on the vagaries of the monsoonic and weather conditions.

The farm harvest prices of these foodgrains in the District during the First Five Year Plan period were:—

Table No. IX—2

Prices of Foodgrains

(Rs. per maund)					
Year	Wheat	Jowar	Rice (cleaned)	Gram	Sesamum
1951—52	17.00	10.00	26.00	16.00	26.00
1952—53	15.00	10.00	25.14	14.00	25.00
1953—54	13.00	9.00	23.00	13.00	25.00
1954—55	8.00	5.00	15.00	8.00	16.00
1955—56	13.00	10.00	16.00	10.00	27.00

Comparing the figures of production and prices, it may be found, that there is no perfect co-relation between the quantity of foodgrain produced in a particular year and price thereof obtaining in the year. Thus, though the highest production of wheat in the District was in the year 1955-56 the price of wheat registered an increase of Rs. 5 per *maund* over price in the year 1954-55. Of course, it could be pointed out that production of wheat increased in the year 1954-55 as compared to that in the year 1953-54 and as such price of wheat in the year 1954-55 had decreased by Rs. 5 per *maund*, i.e., Rs. 8 per *maund* as against Rs. 13 per *maund* of the previous year. On this basis the price of wheat in the year 1955-56, should have further declined but instead it rose again to the level of 1953-54 in which year the production happened to be the lowest compared to all other years of the Plan period. It might, however, be noted from the figures of production and prices, that the year 1954-55 was an year of general increase in the production of foodgrains as compared to the year 1953-54. In the year 1954-55, the production of wheat, *jowar*, and sesamum was higher than the previous year, production of rice remained unchanged while production of gram declined slightly. Thus the year 1954-55 was a good agricultural year and there was a general decline in the prices of all the foodgrains in

this year. In spite of the decline in the production of gram its price too had declined by about Rs. 5 per *maund* as compared to the previous year. This brings out the fact that the price of a single commodity in a particular group cannot be higher, even though its production is lower, when prices of other commodities in the group decline. From the Table of prices of foodgrains it becomes clear that while the First Five Year Plan in the District started with a note of high prices of all foodgrains it ended with a general decline in their prices.

During the Second Five Year Plan period, the production of the foodgrains in the District was as under:—

Table No. IX—3

Production of Foodgrains

Year	(In '000 tons)				
	Wheat	Jowar	Rice	Gram	Sesamum
1956-57	36.5	8.7	0.4	21.1	0.6
1957-58	18.5	11.5	0.4	14.8	0.5
1958-59	51.2	11.3	0.5	24.9	0.7
1959-60	37.3	17.5	0.4	19.6	0.4
1960-61	26.5	20.8	0.9	14.6	0.3

Comparing the production figures during the First Five Year Plan period with those during the Second Five Year Plan, it is striking that production of all foodgrains generally, except sesamum an oil-seed, was on the increase. With an exception of one or two foodgrains in a single year there was increase in production. In the first year of the Second Plan wheat production in the District increased to 36.5 thousand tons as compared to 19.0 thousand tons in the last year of the First Plan. Production of *jowar* had increased from 3.7 thousand tons in the year 1955-56 to 8.7 thousand tons in the year 1956-57. Production of gram too had increased, that of rice remained unchanged and there was a decline in the production of sesamum. The position regarding production of sesamum and wheat, during the two Plan periods attracts special attention, the wheat production being higher all along the Plan years while production of sesamum was lower. It is a common knowledge that position of wheat in the consumption pattern has substantially changed for the better during the Plan period. There was a general tendency for diversion of cultivable area from other crops to food crops and especially for

wheat cultivation. This was because of increase in demand for wheat and higher prices.

During the Second Plan period itself production of wheat in the year 1957-58 was only half that of the preceding year, but during the following year not only the loss in production was made up, but about equal quantity was added to the total production bringing the total to 51.2 thousand tons in 1958-59. But during the subsequent two years of the Plan this trend was not maintained and by the last year of the Plan, wheat production was less by 10 thousand tons as compared to first year of the Plan. Rising trend in the production of *jowar* was sustained, except for a slight reversal in the year 1958-59 as compared to the preceding year. Production of rice remained more or less constant with a marked increase in the last year of the Second Plan. Production of gram and sesamum varied from year to year, the highest production for both these crops being in the year 1958-59. This was also the year of highest production of wheat. Thus, as has been observed earlier, the production of foodgrains in the District during the Second Plan period was much higher than during the First Plan period.

The prices of these foodgrains during the Second Plan period were:—

Table No. IX-4

Prices of Foodgrains

Year	(Rs. per maund)				
	Wheat	Jowar	Rice	Gram	Sesamum
1956-57	N.R.	11.00	16.00	11.75	32.00
1957-58	11.82	8.91	N.R.	9.25	30.32
1958-59	15.69	12.07	N.R.	17.42	24.13
1959-60	12.40	9.74	N.R.	11.06	25.10
1960-61	13.41	10.43	20.00	13.70	32.93

Taking the First and the Second Five Year Plan period prices of wheat it may be found that the prices were more or less the same during both Plan periods. The highest price of wheat during the First Plan period was Rs. 17 per *maund* and the lowest was Rs. 8. As against this, during the Second Plan period, the highest price was Rs. 15.69 per *maund*, but the lowest was Rs. 11.82 per *maund*. *Jowar* prices were generally higher while those of gram were definitely higher. Upward trend in prices, inspite of

the improvement in production of the foodgrains, happens to be the feature of the Second Five Year Plan. Reasons for this upward trend in prices might be sought in the increased demand as a result of changing pattern in consumption of cereals, increasing population, stepping up of investment and expenditure for planned development as well as fiscal measures.

Price of wheat in the first year of the Third Plan had increased over that of the previous year. There was also an increase in the Third Plan price of sesamum. Thus, price of wheat was Rs. 15.37 per *maund* in 1961-62 against Rs. 13.41 per *maund* in 1960-61. Prices of sesamum were Rs. 32.93 and Rs. 33.25 per *maund* for the years 1960-61 and 1961-62, respectively. There was marginal decline in the prices of *jowar*, and gram, so also there was a decline in the price of rice,¹ from Rs. 20.00 per *maund* in 1960-61 to Rs. 18.50 per *maund* in 1961-62.

The production and prices of the foodgrains after the year 1961-62 to the end of the Third Plan period were as under:—

Table No. IX—5

Production and Prices of Foodgrains

Year	Wheat	Jowar	Rice	Gram	Sesamum
Production					(In '000 tons)
1962-63	19.89	12.33	0.37	14.62	0.32
1963-64	22.46	17.85	0.88	15.94	0.46
1964-65	27.66	16.41	0.84	20.57	0.26
1965-66	19.22	18.61	0.57	21.39	0.30
Prices					(In Rs. per quintal)
1962-63	33.42	27.19	N.R.	32.32	81.47
1963-64	N.R.	29.14	51.75	48.20	85.09
1964-65	53.17	41.36	71.62	43.75	122.67
1965-66	54.87	40.84	N.R.	52.06	151.87

It may be found from the figures of production that during the Third Five Year Plan period, there was a substantial decline in the production of wheat in the District as compared to the Second Five Year Plan period. Produ-

¹ Price of rice of 1960-61 was for cleaned variety while price of rice in 1961-62 was for medium variety.

ction of *jowar*, and sesamum too declined over the Third Plan period as compared to the Second; the production of sesamum declined substantially and there was also a decline in the production of gram. There was, however, a marginal increase in the production of rice during the Third Plan period as compared to the Second Plan period. Thus, production of four out of the five foodgrains selected was lower in the District during the Third Plan.

The condition of reduced production has been amply reflected in the prices of these commodities, which were virtually on the run. It was not only the lower production in the District itself which could have contributed to the increase in prices, but also the economic stress and strain through which the country was passing during this period that had resulted in an increase in prices. Thus, from the First Five Year Plan to the end of the Third Plan, the prices were on the run and might be said to have been on the gallop during the Third Plan period. Even so, the crucial years were yet to follow.

As is well-known the years 1965-66 and 1966-67, were very bad years in the country as a whole from the point of view of agricultural production. Controlled distribution of wheat, rice, *jowar*, etc., mostly imported, sustained the population through these two difficult years. Prices of all commodities and more so of essential ones dwarfed those obtaining prior to and during the Five Year Plans. In 1967-68 wheat sold at Rs. 80.01 per quintal and gram and *jowar* at Rs. 73.40 and Rs. 51.92 per quintal, respectively. There was no appreciable change in the prices of gram and *jowar* but wheat, however, fell to Rs. 67.98 per quintal in 1968-69. These being farm harvest prices it could be imagined that actual market prices were even higher.

Wages

The setting of the District is essentially rural with agriculture as the main economic activity. It is the trend in wage-rates of rural and agricultural workers in the District that is being discussed here.

It will be interesting here in retrospect to note the wage-rates in the year 1915-16, i.e., more than 50 years before in the erstwhile Datia State.

The Administration Report for the year mentions "with the return of prosperity due to revival of trade and industry and the increase in cultivation, labour is daily becoming scarce and a coolie who but 2 or 3 years back considered himself lucky if he succeeded in earning 2 annas a day, is now hardly to be had on 5

or 6 annas. Rates for skilled labour have similarly increased from 5 to 14 annas or even a rupee per day, and even on this a sufficient supply is not available."¹ This statement read in the context of the wage-rates for unskilled and skilled workers, prevailing in the District in the present, brings out by contrast the change that has taken place in the economic situation in general and in the District in particular during the period of last 50 years. Five or six annas per day for an unskilled labour and Re. 1 per day for a skilled worker were then considered a limit. In the now prevailing economic climate and after the experience of successive economic development plans, thinking in terms of limits to the prices and rates of wages would be an anachronism.

Prior to the introduction of the First Five Year Plan, the wage-rate in the year 1949-50 for skilled workers like carpenters and blacksmiths was Rs. 2 per day. For field labour and other agricultural labour, the rate was Rs. 1.50 per day. In the first year of the First Five Year Plan, i.e., in the year 1951-52, there was an increase in the wage-rate of skilled workers by Re. 1 per day as the carpenters and blacksmiths got Rs. 3 per day as their wage. There was also an increase in wage-rate for field labour from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2 per day, but wage-rate for other agricultural labour remained unchanged as Rs. 1.50 per day. In the year 1954-55, there was no change in the wage-rates for either skilled or farm labour and other agricultural labour. In a District like Datia where there are no industries worth the name as an alternative source of employment, unchanging level of wages over a period of a few years is not unusual. Unchanging wage-rates in Datia District over a period of years, however, can only be attributed to the stagnant economic conditions, characteristic of a purely agricultural region.

During the Second Five Year Plan period in the month of May, 1957, the wage-rate for carpenters was again Rs. 3 per day, but there was a substantial increase in the wage-rate of blacksmiths, the rate being Rs. 5 per day. The wage-rate for field labour and other agricultural labour was Re. 1, which means that as compared to the wage-rates in the year 1954-55 the wage-rates of field labour declined by Re. 1 and that of other agricultural labour by 50 paise. Such changes in the wage-rates for specific categories of workers can only be explained as being due to the local conditions of demand and supply of a particular type of labour at a point of time.

1. Datia State Administration Report 1915-16, p. 58.

Datia District comes under the wheat-fowar zone of the State. Taking the year 1957-58, during the Second Five Year Plan period as a base year, the index of agricultural wages for Datia District was 129.6 in the year 1961-62. This year was also the first year of the Third Five Year Plan. In the second year of the Third Plan, i.e., 1962-63, the index was 115.9. This means a drop in the index number by about 13 points. Taking the wage-rates in the month of May, 1962 in the District it is found that the skilled workers, viz., carpenters and blacksmiths got Rs. 3 per day while wage-rate for other agricultural labour was Rs. 1.50 per day. As against this in the month of May, 1963 the wage-rates for blacksmiths and for other agricultural labour declined and were Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 1.38 per day, respectively. There was no change in the wage-rate of carpenter from Rs. 3 per day. In the month of May, 1964 the wage-rate of carpenter increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4, while that of blacksmith from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 3 per day. The wage-rate for other agricultural labour for April, 1964 was quoted at Rs. 1.50 per day.¹ These rates remained unchanged in May, 1965 as well.

In the year 1966, there was a general increase in the rates of wages for all categories of workers. The carpenters and blacksmiths got Rs. 3.50 and Rs. 3.00 while other agricultural labour got Rs. 2 per day. This shows that by the end of the Third Five Year Plan, in keeping with trends in prices, wages also registered an upward trend.

They had gone higher still by the end of the sixties and the following table which includes the wages of cobblers as well, shows the latest position.

Table No. IX--6

Average Daily Wage Rates

Year	Carpenter	Blacksmith	Cobbler	Ploughman
1968-69	4.63	4.77	4.29	2.95
1969-70	4.32	4.34	4.59	3.00
1970-71	4.67	4.41	4.67	3.50

Standard of Living

The District is mainly rural in its composition and agricultural in

1. Wage-rate for other agricultural labour for the month of May, 1964, was not reported.

its occupational pattern. Thus, economic conditions of most of the people here, are dependent on and affected by the activities, connected with cultivation and to some extent forest related industries like trade in timber. The cultivation, however, being largely dependent on rains and supporting more than 75 per cent of the working population could offer little more than a mere economic sustenance to most of the people.

The lack of data relating to the living conditions of the families in the various strata of the society hampered a factual analysis of the standards

Yet some idea could be had from the report of Agricultural Labour Inquiry held in 1950-51. Related to a large section of the agricultural sector, it gave a fair idea of their conditions. According to this survey, Zone III of former Vindhya Pradesh consisted of Datia, Chhatarpur and Tikamgarh districts. In this Zone an average agricultural labourer's family consisted of 4.2 persons of whom 2.3 were earners. Their average annual income amounted to Rs. 431 while the expenditure was estimated to Rs. 412. Though this showed a saving of Rs. 19 it did not reflect the savings as the details of percentage expenditure on various consumption groups showed 89.1 per cent of their expenditure on food alone. This was an indication of their poverty which left them with little money to spend on other items of necessity. Thus, clothing and footwear, fuel and lighting and services and miscellaneous expenditure claimed 6.2; 0.8 and 3.9 per cent, respectively, of their total spending¹.

Thus, the area could not be said to enjoy even a viable standard of living while talking in terms of welfare economics. However, certain sections of the society could relatively be termed as better-off or even well-off. These belonged to the commercial and trading sector, the old ruling or landlord families, the farmers with larger holdings of land and certain sections of the private and public sector of which there were very few in the District. Most of the service class also found themselves financially hard-up. The general picture that emerged was of poor economic conditions as compared to the neighbouring industrial region of Gwalior.

General Level of Employment

As has been stated in the earlier section regarding pattern of livelihood, there is no other important economic activity in the District except

that of agriculture. Agriculture, however, as is well known, is already a crowded economic activity and though there is absolutely no scope for employment in agriculture, yet job seekers, failing to get employment in non-agricultural activities fall back upon agriculture, swelling the ranks of the under-employed. In Datia District agriculture is the main source of employment, as more than 75 per cent of the workers were engaged in this activity as per 1961 Census.

Next to agriculture the other substantial source of employment was other services providing employment to 10.31 per cent of the total workers.

Taking recourse to the employment data collected by the Employment Exchange organization under the Employment Market Scheme both for public and private sector undertakings in the District it has been found that the services under State Government were the single important source of employment. By the end of 31st March, 1964, there were 28 State Government reporting establishments in the District, which employed 2,671 persons. In the next year the number of establishments increased to 36 in which 2,978 persons were employed. In the year 1966, the number of establishments under State Government increased to 38 employing 3,002 persons. In the following year, i.e., 1967 the number of establishments remained unchanged, though there was a decline in the number of persons employed from 3,002 of the preceding year to 2,981. Except for this, there was no other source of employment in the public sector of any significance. There were no public or private sector establishments in the District under the industrial categories in mining and quarrying, manufacturing and construction in the year 1964 covered under the scheme. Under the occupational group of trade and commerce in public sector there were 3 establishments employing 71 persons in 1964. By 1965 the number of establishments increased to 7, but number employed was 72 only. By 1967 the number of establishments in trade and commerce group was 9, employing 112 workers.

Under the manufacturing activity in private sector, only one establishment manufacturing medicines was reported from the year 1965 onwards. Employment in this establishment remained constant at 47 from 1965 to 1967. Upto the year 1966 there were no establishments covered under other occupational groups in private sector. By 1967, under the occupational group, transport, storage and communications, there was one establishment employing 21 persons. There were no reporting establishments under the Employment Market Scheme from private sector, from other categories of occupations.

1. Report of the Agricultural Labour Inquiry, Vol. VI.

The data given above, collected under the Employment Market Information Scheme, brings out the fact that the District is devoid of any substantial economic activity except agriculture. The only important source of employment besides agriculture appears to be State Government Services, but these cannot offer increasing scope of employment, because of the very nature of the services and conditions of employment, etc.

Employment Exchange

Establishment of Employment Exchange at Datia was proposed under the Second Five Year Plan Scheme of the erstwhile Vindhya Pradesh State. It was in the year 1957-58 that this Employment Exchange was to be established. Office of the Employment Exchange was actually started at Datia on the 15th March, 1963. Registration of employment seekers, submission of candidates for suitable vacancies reported to the Exchange by the employers, and placement of the candidates are some of the regular functions of the Exchange.

Employment Market Information Scheme for the District was introduced by the Employment Exchange from 31st March, 1965. Collection of employment statistics and occupational data was started by the Exchange from all the public sector establishments and all private sector establishments employing 10 or more workers. Employment statistics from private sector establishments employing 5 to 9 workers are also collected periodically. Occupational data are collected annually from public and private sectors alternately.

In addition to the Employment Exchange at Datia proper, there is an Employment Information and Assistance Bureau in the District at Seondha, which is a Block headquarters. This Bureau was established on 20th January, 1965. Its jurisdiction extends over the Block area and it works under the supervision and guidance of the Employment Exchange. Besides registering the candidates seeking employment and helping to place them in suitable vacancies the Bureau disseminates information to students and others in the area about job opportunities and training facilities available for them. Ad hoc surveys are also conducted by the Bureau for collection of manpower statistics.

The work done by the Exchange in connection with the regis-

tration and placement of employment seekers from 1963 onwards is as under:—

Table No. IX—7

Employment Situation at the Exchange

Year	Registration		Placements		No. on Live Register	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1963	1,664	100	91	7	646	48
1964	1,750	110	216	5	812	64
1965	1,605	103	120	26	791	25
1966	1,703	59	150	7	756	26
1967	1,071	55	143	4	910	49
1968	1,675	58	173	1	626	33
1969	1,669	76	82	9	771	26
1970	1,535	76	138	5	842	50
1971	2,619	183	176	9	1,297	70

Note:—The figures for 1963 are from March to December and for 1967 from January to June

Placement of females was the highest in the year 1965 which stands quite apart from the rest of the years. The dearth of job opportunities and increasing unemployment which is general all over the country also exists in the District.

National Planning and Community Development

Community Development is an integrated programme for the development of rural community in the country. The programme forms part of the country's Five Year Plans for economic development. Prior to the introduction of Community Development Programme, each department sought to approach the villagers through its own hierarchy. In most cases there was no official at the village level to contact the villagers directly. The lowest official representing most of the departments was stationed at tahsil or sub-divisional headquarters. He had to cover such an extensive area that the villagers hardly felt his presence. This agency was in most cases inadequate, untrained and incapable of providing guidance to the villagers. The activities of these departments were also not linked up with the revenue officers of the area or with the Local Bodies which under the law were responsible for some of the welfare services like communications, water-supply, etc. The result of all this was that there was no concentrated programme to improve all aspects of village life to change the outlook of the farmers and to mobilize local officials and resources for the betterment

of the rural areas. Hence it was decided by the Government of India in May, 1952 to launch a nationwide Community Development Programme with a view to establishing in every State some Centrally supported extension organisations which would intensify rural work and assist in co-operative development of rural life as a whole.

In so far as Datia District is concerned the first Development Block was started at Datia proper on the 2nd October, 1953. This Block covered an area of 707 sq. km. (273 sq. miles) with 211 villages, the population of which was 1,16,000. The second Block in the District was started seven years later at Seondha, a Tahsil place. The Block was established on the 1st October, 1960 covering an area of 924.62 sq. km. (327 sq. miles) with 198 villages and a population of 82,000.

According to 1961 Census, there were 452 villages in the District, of which 416 were inhabited and 36 uninhabited. The total number of villages covered under the two Blocks was 409. This means practically all the inhabited villages were covered under the Block Development Programme.

The Block Development activities broadly consist of agricultural development, health and sanitation, education, communications and co-operation. As the Second Block at Seondha in the District was opened in the year 1960, the Second Five Year Plan programmes were limited to Datia Block only.

In the Third Plan, however, whole of the District was fully covered under the various schemes. Since 1966 upto the Fourth Plan, sufficient level of activities was kept up as reflected in the following figures of a few important sectors.

In the sphere of agricultural improvement stress was laid on the distribution of improved seeds and fertilizers which was 6,709 quintals and 3,076 quintals, respectively, during the period from 1966-67 to 1969-70. Besides this, during the same period 148 agricultural demonstrations were arranged for the benefit of cultivators in the two Blocks of the District.

Connected with agriculture, provision for well and tank irrigation facilities was also undertaken in the Block areas. Under minor irrigation, 1,554 new wells were constructed and 835 wells were repaired.

Under the health and sanitation programme, provision for medical facilities, pucca drains and drinking water in the Block areas was undertaken. In this connection, during the years from 1966-67 to 1969-70, 24 drinking water wells were constructed and 11 old drinking water wells were renovated. There were also 5 rural dispensaries and 2 maternity and child welfare centres functioning in the year 1969-70.

Block Development activities in this sphere were directed mainly to the provision of adult education, library and reading-room facilities.

During the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 a total of 53 literacy centres and 18 reading-rooms and libraries were opened in the Block areas.

As regards the effects of these activities on the socio-economic conditions of the rural population, it might be stated that constructional or organizational activities contributed in some measure towards increasing amenities in the villages.

The agricultural extension work brought about some changes in the attitude of individual farmers towards increasing the production and has shown them some ways of such increase. Consequently, in agriculture sector, the production generally increased.

Though there has been a slow progress in regard to the change in the social attitude of the villagers and their readiness to maintain community works, yet there has been an increase in rural consciousness towards economic and to some extent social needs.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

District is the basic territorial unit of administration. 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 district administration. Being the chief executive officer of the district, he exercises general supervision over various departments in regard to their non-technical work. Co-ordination of activities of various departments, control over local-self governing bodies with powers to intervene, if necessary, contact with the public in committees or during interviews with visitors, execution of Government schemes and miscellaneous items such as panchayats, census, elections and relief measures in time of emergencies like floods, epidemics etc., also come within his purview. In recent years the position of Collector, as the head of district administration, has become one of the expanding responsibilities. In brief, he is responsible for the maintenance of law and order, revenue administration, and development in the district.

Collectorate

The Collector of Datia has four Deputy Collectors who assist him in the work relating to law and order, development, treasury, food and civil supplies, election, land records, etc. Two of the Deputy Collectors, each in charge of the Sub-Divisions of Datia and Seondha, are having their headquarters at Datia. Thus, all the four of them are posted at the District headquarters.

The narrative on the organisational set-up of the Collectorate may be divided into three main groups, viz.,

(i) Land Revenue, land records and other allied matters, (ii) Law and Order and (iii) Development.

Land Revenue and Land Records

For the administration of land revenue and land records, Datia

District is divided into two tahsils, each tahsil constituting a sub-division. Each sub-division is in the charge of a Sub-Divisional officer of the rank of a Deputy Collector. The Sub-Divisional Officer is also the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. The Sub-Divisional Officer is incharge of the Janpad Sabha of the tahsil, and is styled as Chief Executive Officer while discharging duties pertaining thereto. For the collection of land revenue and other purposes assigned, each tahsil is in the charge of a Tahsildar. For assistance, five Naib-Tahsildars are attached to the Tahsildar, Datia and one to the Tahsildar, Seondha. At the village level, revenue and land records work is carried on by the Patwari whose office, until 1956 was hereditary and non-pensionary. There are 147 Patwaries in the District looking after the 145 Patwari Circles, and one each is attached to the Kanoongo (land-records-clerk) under the work-load scheme in the two Tahsil Offices. Supervising their work, there are 7 Revenue Inspectors. Besides, one Revenue Inspector is also provided at Tahsil Office, Datia, under the work load scheme. The following table gives details of the Patwari Circles and Revenue Inspectors' Circles in the District:—

	Tahsil	No. of R. I. Circles	No. of Patwari Circles
1.	Datia	4	78
2.	Seondha	3	67
	Total	7	145

At the district level, the Superintendent of Land Records, assisted by an Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, 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 Magistracy and the Police. There is an Additional District Magistrate and two Sub-Divisional Magistrates among the Deputy Collectors in the District. The Police force of the District is headed by the Superintendent of Police. The Revenue Officers of the District enjoy such magisterial powers under the Criminal Procedure Code as are necessary for effective maintenance of law and order, and prevention and suppression of crime. The District Magistrate and the Deputy Collectors under him are styled as Executive Magistrates.

Development

The Collector is assisted by a Deputy Collector in the work relating

to the Development Section of the Collectorate. There are two Development Blocks in the District, viz., Datia and Seondha. Each Block¹ is provided with a team of five Executive Officers drawn from various departments including Agriculture, Veterinary, Co-operation, Panchayat and Social Welfare and Public Works Department (Building and Roads). Further down, there are village-level workers, both men and women known as Gram Sevaks and Gram Sevikas, respectively. Eleven Gram Sevaks and two Gram Sevikas are posted in each block.

In order to ensure effective participation of people in planning and execution of development programme, a Block Advisory Committee is constituted in each block, the pattern of which is uniform throughout the State. Headed by the Collector the Committee consists of local members of the Parliament and the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha), Chairman of the Janpad 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.

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. He is the Chairman of this committee which consists of several non-officials, such as local M.L.As., one representative of each tahsil elected by the Chairman of Gram Panchayats, the President of the Municipal Committee, and the President of the District Co-operative Bank. The functions of this Committee are advisory in nature. The Committee meets at least once in two months and problems purely of local importance are discussed.

The following are some of the important Committees with which the Collector is associated:—

1. District Relief Work Committee,
2. Irrigation Potential Committee,
3. Small Savings Sub-Committee,
4. District Gazetteers Committee, and
5. National Defence Committee.

Statutory powers of the Collector

The Collector is also vested with statutory powers under Excise Act,

1. Prior to 1st January, 1966, each block was headed by a Block Development Officer, but the post has since been abolished.

so as to enable him to implement the excise and prohibition policy of the Government. For this purpose, the District is divided into two circles. A team of five Excise sub-Inspectors, one Head Constable and eight Constables has been earmarked by the Government for the purpose. Supervising their work is the District Excise Officer.

The control of the District Treasury and Sub-Treasuries is vested in the Collector. Prior to 1st May, 1957, a Deputy Collector was working as the Treasury Officer of the District Treasury at Datia. Now, an officer of the Madhya Pradesh Accounts Services has taken over as the Treasury Officer, Datia. The Tahsildar, Seondha, discharges the duties of the Sub-Treasury Officer, Seondha.

The Collector is also charged with authority under the Registration Act. In this work he is assisted by a Deputy Collector, who functions as *ex-officio* District Registrar. There are two Sub-Registrars, one each working at Datia and Seondha for the two tahsils.

The Collector is also assigned work relating to many other miscellaneous subjects, such as election, food and civil supplies, agriculture, etc. To prepare and revise Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) electoral rolls every year and to conduct the elections of Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly, a District Election Office is functioning in the District. A Deputy collector looks after the work of elections. He is assisted by one Election Supervisor and other subordinate staff.

In the work relating to food and civil supplies, a separate Food and Civil Supplies Office is functioning in the District. A Deputy Collector designated as Food Officer looks after this work, in which he is assisted by one Assistant Food Officer, two Food Inspectors and one Assistant Food Inspector, with usual staff.

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 during the year 1965 conferred upon him various powers. The Collector has been authorised to issue instructions to any district-level officer, excepting those in the Judiciary and Labour and Sales Tax Departments, almost of mandatory nature. But in the event of the district officer concerned feeling that the instructions issued are either wrong or impra-

eticable, 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. Besides the supervisory powers, the Collector has also been empowered to inspect the district 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 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 Department, gives an idea of the different departments functioning in Datia:—

1. Additional District and Sessions Judge
2. Superintendent of Police
3. Civil Surgeon
4. Assistant Director of Industries
5. Assistant Director of Agriculture
6. Assistant Sales Tax Officer
7. District Excise Officer
8. Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B & R)
9. Assistant Engineer, Irrigation
10. Assistant Engineer, Public Health Engineering
11. Employment Officer
12. District Publicity Officer
13. District Panchayat and Welfare Officer
14. District Live-Stock Officer
15. Assistant Fisheries Officer
16. Land Diversion Officer
17. Assistant Soil Conservation Officer
18. Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies
19. District Education Officer
20. District Inspector, Weights & Measures
21. Tribal Welfare Assistant

22. Commandant, Home Guards
23. Superintendent of Land Records
24. Forest Range Officer
25. District Supervisor, Small Savings
26. District Inspector
27. District Marketing Officer, State Co-operative Marketing Federation, Ltd.
28. Assistant Engineer, M. P. Electricity Board
29. Executive Engineer, Bhandar Canal Project, Datia

Offices of the Union Government

The following are some of the offices of the Government of India located in Datia District. The organisational set-up of these is briefly as follows.

Posts and Telegraphs Department

To provide Postal, telegraph and telephone facilities to the people, 3 post-offices and a telephone exchange are functioning in the District.

The Post-Offices headed by Sub-Post-Masters are located at Datia, Bara Banger and Seondha. The Sub-Post Master, Datia, looks after the work of Datia township. He is assisted by 9 Clerks, 4 Postmen, 2 Boy Messengers, and 4 Class IV staff. The Sub-Post-master, Bara Banger looks after the work of Bara Banger area and is assisted by Mail Peon in his work. The Sub-Post-Master, Seondha, has jurisdiction over Seondha proper and its ten Branch Post-offices. In this work he is assisted by one Inspector of Post-Offices and 3 clerks with usual staff.

All the three post-offices work under the control of the Post-Master, Head Post Office, Lashkar, Gwalior.

Central Excise

For having control over commodities like tobacco, gold, etc., excisable by the Central Government, an Office of the Inspector, Central Excise, is functioning in the District since 1950. The Inspector works under the administrative control of the Superintendent, Central Excise, Gwalior. The Inspector has jurisdiction over the whole of Datia District, Bhandar

Tahsil of Gwalior district and Dabra. He is assisted by one Sepoy in this work.

Food Corporation of India

For procurement, proper storage and distribution of food-grains an office of the Quality Inspector, Food Corporation of India, with headquarters at Datia, is functioning since December, 1966. The Quality Inspector works under the immediate control of the District Manager, Food Corporation of India, Gwalior, and has jurisdiction over the whole of Datia District and Bhandar Tahsil of Gwalior district. In his work the Quality-Inspector is assisted by three Assistants, one each of Grades II, III and IV.

Telephone Exchange

To provide telephone facilities to the people a Telephone Exchange is functioning at Datia. The Exchange In-charge is a Head Telephone Operator, who in his work is assisted by 4 Telephone Operators, 2 Linemen, 1 Sub-Inspector, and usual staff. The Exchange functions under the administrative control of the Central Engineering Supervisor, Telegraphs, Jhansi. The Exchange has jurisdiction over Datia town including Jail and Civil lines. There are also Public Call Offices at Seondha and Bhandar (District Gwalior) with dial for Datia Exchange.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

The history of land revenue assessment and management in the princely State of Datia had been mostly influenced by the system prevalent in the adjacent States like Gwalior, Dholpur and Tikamgarh where, the Maratha revenue system was more or less common. In this matter, the authentic document available is the old Datia State Gazetteer, published in the year 1907. The Gazetteer reports that at that time, the administration of the State was directly in the charge of a Dewan or the President of the Council who was assisted by a revenue officer called *Shikhdar*. Below him were Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars the former being the chief revenue officer of the Tahsil. Under them were a number of untrained Patwaris and a few Kanungos to look after the work of Patwaris. The *nambardar* (similar to a *gaontia* under Maratha system) was the principal village official. When there were several *nambardars* in a village, one was recognized as the head or *mukhia nambardar* to assist the Patwari in collecting the revenue and also settle all local disputes through the Panchayat, of which he was the leading member. The Patwari maintained the village records and accounts and collected and forwarded the revenue to the Tahsildar.

In early days, the Tahsils and villages were given out on farm to *ijardars* and practically no control was being exercised by the *Darbar* so long as the contract price was regularly paid up. Land revenue was collected four times a year after valuation of the standing crop called *dharot*. The collections were made in kind, and the share of the State was one half to one-third of the gross produce.

The system obtaining in the beginning of the century was that the cultivators were granted yearly leases or *pattas* which fixed the demand for that year. The amount was paid in by then to the Tahsil in two instalments on *Aghan* (November) *sudi* 15th and *Chait* (March) *sudi* 15th. The land was broadly divided into *khalsa* and alienated. In the former, two classes of tenure existed: (i) *zamindari* and (ii) *ryotwari*. In *zamindari* tenure system a *zamindar* was responsible for the revenue demand of a part of a village, a whole village, or even two or more villages. In the *ryotwari* system, the cultivator dealt directly with the Tahsildar. The *jagirdars* held under the different terms, but all paid a certain sum to the *Darbar* and were expected to attend the Chief with their retainers if called on to do so.

In *zamindari* holdings, the revenue was often paid to the zamindar in kind, the share given to the cultivator being usually one-third. In these cases the value of the standing crop was appraised by eye, a system called *dharot*. This was always a private arrangement between the zamindar and the cultivators as the State did not receive revenue in kind. Suspensions and remissions were freely given in bad years.

The then current rates for the principal classes of soil were: for *mauta* soil in Datia Tahsil Rs. 2-7-0 per *bigha*, in Indargarh and Nadigaon Rs. 2-8-0 and in Seondha Rs. 3-6-0; for *kawar* in Indargarh Rs. 2-5-0, in Datia and Nadigaon Rs. 2-4-0 and in Seondha Rs. 2; for *parwa* in Nandigaon and Seondha Rs. 1-15-0, and elsewhere Rs. 1-14-0.

According to the old custom of the country in each village land was assigned to village servants (such as, Patwaris, *chowkidars*, etc.), menials and artisans for services they were called upon to render. The area of such grants which were called *gaontis* was 47,609 local *bighas* representing about 9 per cent of the total arable area. Besides these *gaontis*, land was assigned to Maharanis, Thakurs, military and civil servants and in charity as *jagirs*, *mafis* and *padarakhs* and also for service. The total of these grants in 1908-09 was 1,72,548 *bighas* and their income was roughly Rs. 2,30,788. The remaining land which was held in *khalsa* yielded revenues.

Besides, the differences in soil-fertility, and facilities for irrigation in different villages were also taken into consideration in fixing rates of rent and by application of these rates to culturable area the maximum rent roll, locally called the *kamal* of each village was fixed. Rates were liable to enhancement if improvements were effected, such as, the construction of dams for irrigation, etc. The Patwari prepared annually the actual rent roll of the villages and this paper formed the basis of lease of the village for the ensuing year.

The *thekadari* or monopolistic system was prevalent. The village was auctioned and the highest bidder was given the right to collect the rents. Every village was given out on *theka* annually though in a few cases the *theka* was given for a term of years. The *theka* was put up to auction, the reserve price was the amount of previous year's *jama* plus the evaluation of any *nautor*¹ and minus any new *muafi*² grants that might have been made. A deduction on account of village expenses at rates varying from Rs. 3-2-0 to Rs. 5-0-0 was made by the Dur-

1. 'Nautor' means lands newly brought under cultivation.

2. 'Muafi' means land exempted from paying land revenue usually in return for services of personal nature.

bar. A certain area of land was also assigned to them in lieu of the service they rendered to the State as manager of the village and collectors of rent. As a general rule, the hereditary *nambardars* were allowed to take the village at the resultant figure. But there was nothing to prevent an outsider making an offer of higher figure. The *thekadars*, thus forming an intermediary, used to recover the amount in a callous manner and the burden of their harshness was felt by the tenantry. As already noted, every year the old leases were renewed on the existing terms by the revenue officials. But in order to keep a check on such proposals of the subordinates and to have useful statistics for guidance in determining the value of the new lease a statement was prescribed in 1912-13 for reporting proposals for each village which proved of great assistance.

As per available records, the Settlement was done in the State in about the year 1864-65 and it continued till 1909-10 without any change.

Owing to the non-revision of the survey during such a long period of 45 years and the incompetence of the Patwaris and Kanungos, it was almost impossible to enforce punctuality and accuracy in the compilation of village records of even a simple nature. In order to remove all such difficulties in the way of proper and equitable administration of the land, the Maharaja sanctioned in 1909-10 a fresh survey and this work was first taken up in the smallest tahsil of Nandigaon. The work was commenced in the month of January, 1910, and cadastral maps and *khassas* were prepared. The survey of Indargarh and Nandigaon Tahsils was completed in 1910-11 though the entries of area, calculation of fields and careful spot-checking of measurement records remained to be completed. Leases of 170 villages of the State were also renewed during the year. In the year 1911-12, as a preparatory step to the starting of settlement operations in the State, a Patwari School was opened at the headquarters of each tahsil and Kanungos were selected from Dholpur for teaching principles of land measurement to the local Patwaris who numbered 157.

The settlement operations were started from 1st October 1913, and with the help of the locally trained element and some settlement staff engaged from Dholpur and Gwalior, the maps of villages in Indargarh and Nandigaon Tahsils were revised, their areas were worked out and the names of occupants and classes of soils were entered in the records of which after the attestation of the Deputy Superintendents fair copies were made and copies of maps were prepared on cloth. The settlement operations in the State were completed in the year 1915-16 at a total cost of Rs. 61,054 against an estimate of Rs. 2,08,123 or a decrease of Rs. 47,169. The increase of revenue from this settlement came only to, Rs. 82,485.

The biggest landmark of the settlement was the abolition of *zamindari* system and the conferment of proprietary rights of the tenants over their holdings. During the course of operation it was found that there were no *zamindari* rights in the State and the rights exercised by the *zamindars* in their capacity as *zamindars* and contractors were found to have been assumed by them without their ever having been conferred by the State. This system had become pernicious and had given rise to many abuses in village administration. In fact, towards the latter part of the year 1914 as soon as the State administration got breathing time on the conclusion of the famine, proposals were made for the abolition of the combined *zamindari* and *thekedari* system and the complete removal of the *zamindars* from their office. The matter was fully investigated and the existing *zamindars* in lieu of their so called rights, were allowed the concession of 25 per cent in the land revenue of their *bhondar* lands (lands enjoyed by the *zamindars* in lieu of the *zamindari* rights) for the 15 years' period of settlement. The so-called *zamindars* did not submit timely to these reforms which practically took away all their powers and strong measures, including recourse to criminal courts, had to be taken to curb their opposition.

In the place of *zamindari*, the *Pateji* system was introduced by which the Patel of each village was elected by the villagers and *Punchas* from each leading community were elected to help the Patel in his work. His duties were strictly defined and he was to look after the general well-being of the village and was responsible for the collection and payment of the land revenue and other dues. During the year 1915-16, the land revenue increased to Rs. 6,80,000 against Rs. 6,50,000 in 1914-15.

The amount due from each tenant was fixed for 15 years and the time for realisation of revenue was so conveniently arranged that each cultivator could pay his rent after selling his produce to the best advantage without having recourse to the greedy moneylender.

Besides the above, the most important results accruing from this settlement were mainly :

- Results of the Settlement
- (i) fair rent rates were fixed
 - (ii) the rights of cultivators and the area of each holding were defined, and
 - (iii) an efficient system of land records was established.

Liberal concessions were given for the cultivation of about 1,62,000 acres of land which had fallen out of cultivation owing to mal-administration and a succession of bad seasons in past years. About 40,000 acres were brought under the plough and a large number of State wells were repaired during

the year 1915-16. Liberal *taccavi* grants were given to the cultivators for repairing their private wells and tanks. The forest rules were revised and the cultivator was given all rights over the trees standing on his holding or on his borders and forests which had grown up around villages were cut down and lands brought under cultivation. Forest growth was allowed where it was most needed or where the land was suited for it.

The last Settlement was made by H. Bomford in 1912. This was subsequently revised by Maj. Thomson in the year 1922, under which, only *khasra, khatoni* (ledger) and measurements were prepared. Fresh settlement operations have not been taken up subsequently. However, the Collector is authorized to fix revenue on the lands newly brought under cultivation under the Land Revenue Code, 1959.

Collection of Land Revenue

Under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1959 for collecting land revenue and other Government dues, Patels have been appointed by election in all the villages. For this work they are remunerated by a commission at the following scale:—

For the first Rs. 1,500 for land revenue	6 ⁰ / ₀
For the next Rs. 1,500 of land revenue	4 ⁰ / ₀
For the next Rs. 1,500 of land revenue	3 ⁰ / ₀
For the next Rs. 1,500 of land revenue	2 ⁰ / ₀
For the rest	1 ⁰ / ₀

The amount of this commission, which amounted to Rs. 29,971 in 1956-57, increased to Rs. 38,564 in 1959-60, to Rs. 44,728 in 1961-62, went down to Rs. 20,624 in 1963-64, and then again shot up to Rs. 41,631 in 1964-65.

In some places Gram Panchayats have been entrusted with the work of collection of land revenue, as an experimental measure. In 1965-66, as many as 20 Panchayats in both the tahsils were realising land revenue.

Land Revenue is recoverable in two instalments. the first instalment falls due on 15th January and the second on 15th May. A month after the set dates a defaulters' list is prepared by the Patwari and is sent to the Tahsildar for recovery.

Muafi

It is gathered that formerly 85,386 acres of land was held free from land revenue. Such lands were held in *muafi* tenure for maintenance or up-keep of religious institutions or service purposes. The former were termed as *pada-rakha* or *punyat*. The land granted for creditable services to the persons were

treated as *jagirs* and all the Sardars or prominent persons in the State were mostly *jagirdars*. Besides these *jagirdars* there were certain *mahaldars* who used to collect cash from the *thekedars*. The free-hold lands were also granted to *chowkidars*, barbers and Patwaris in the State.

The *muafi* lands granted for religious purposes, i. e., *padarakhs* were of two types, (i) *sanadi* and (ii) *Asanadi*. The *Asanadi muafis* were granted by the *jagirdars*, but with the ostensible sanction of the State.

Rights of such *jagirdars* having free hold land were not clearly defined or enumerated, but according to prevailing systems, they used to administer their villages. They could eject tenant or increase his land revenue, though, as a rule, most of the *jagirdars* did not enhance the rent without the prior sanction of the *darbar*. They could lease out their *khudkasht* or fallow lands. Similarly, *mahaldar* had a right to eject the sub-tenants and the land revenue could be increased.

The *muafi* grants were discontinued by the State Government and instead annual grant of money were sanctioned for the maintenance of religious, charitable and public institutions.

Income from Land Revenue

In 1908-09 land held in *khalsa* yielded a revenue of Rs. 4,85,701. The income from *muafis* was estimated as Rs. 2,81,548 exclusive of the above figure.

However, due to deficiency of crops, the land revenue could not be realised in full. In 1916-17, demand and collection of land revenue were Rs. 6.44 lakhs and Rs. 6.24 lakhs, respectively. The estimate for the year 1916-17 was framed for Rs. 8.50 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 4.20 lakhs over the income of Rs. 4.30 lakhs in 1906-07.

The following Table shows the annual demand and collections of land revenue in the District, in some selected years.

Table No. XI-1

Demand and Collection of Land Revenue

Year	Demand	Collection
1956-57	10,44,945	10,11,389
1961-62	10,49,371	10,24,617
1966-67	10,46,206	1,63,036
1967-68	9,22,535	2,70,611
1968-69	7,28,374	6,21,648
1969-70	6,54,936	4,80,189

Drought conditions necessitated the suspension of land revenue which amounted to Rs. 4,17,140 and Rs. 33,251, respectively, during 1967-68 and 1968-69. As a 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 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.

As regards *siwai* (miscellaneous) income, the main sources of revenue are *jalkar* (water tax), *phalkar* (tax on trees) and *bankar* (tax on forest trees). The following Table shows the receipts from such miscellaneous sources in some selected years.

Table No. XI-2

Receipts from Siwai

Year	Collection (Rs.)
1956-57	16,854
1961-62	19,113
1966-67	47,297
1967-68	23,384
1968-69	59,713
1969-70	80,922

Land Reforms

Relation between Landlord and Tenant

It appears that originally the State created in each village one *zamindar* who was given certain rights and privileges for looking after and contributing to its prosperity but as time went on and the family multiplied, divisions of the village were made, the number of divisions being in proportion to the number of participators in, the rights of *zamindari*. In this way every village came to have a number of *patties* (branches), each *patti* being owned by a *zamindar*. As the family increased, naturally other classes of good tenants had to make room for the members thereof and so had to leave the village and find occupation elsewhere leaving their fields, wells, tanks and other landed properties. The owner of a *patti* was considered the undisputed master of the houses occupied by the tenants of his *patti* as also of the fields owned by these

tenants, and the wells and tanks, the forests, trees, shrubs, brambles and grass growing within the boundaries of his *patti*. A shepherd living in a village was bound to give one *kambal* (blanket) and some cash by way of *nazar* to each *zamindar* before he could be allowed to graze his goats and sheep in the fields or forests of the village.

The State concerned itself merely with the realisation of its revenue and did not trouble itself about the difficulties with which the villagers had to contend. On the contrary it placed its irregular military at the disposal of the *zamindars* to help them in realising the revenue. 'Might is Right' was the rule and the cultivators left the land of their forefathers with the result that over a third of the area of culturable land lay fallow. Efforts of the *Darbar* to bring it under plough were opposed. Full revenue was never paid into Government treasury and as much of it as possible was pocketed by the *zamindars* on various pretences of non-recovery.

In the former Datia State, it is evident from the available records about the relation between landlord and tenants that the tenants had no secure position regarding their lands. It is reported :

"The administration of the village was entrusted to a *zamindar* or in fact a number of *zamindars* who, as *Thekedurs* or *Ijardars* of the village, were responsible to the State for payment of its land revenue and other *Babs* or taxes; they were at liberty to enhance or reduce the demand on each holding, or deprive any *Khatedar* of his *Khata*; virtually the tenants of the whole village were the sub-tenants of the *Zamindar*, the former enjoying no rights or privileges of any kind.

"The lower classes were not much better than slaves to the *Zamindars* and had to do all their work in *Begar* with only a nominal remuneration; the *Zamindars* possessed the power of inflicting any punishment on these people short of death or grievous hurt in case they disobeyed orders however wicked or unreasonable they might have been or showed the slightest reluctance to blindly follow *Zamindar* authority. Even the fields of these people could not be tilled or their crops gathered unless and until the large areas in possession of the *zamindars* had been ploughed, sown or their crops gathered by the lower classes. The fallow land of each village was the property of the *Zamindars* and land for grazing was not available to the other cultivators except on payment of dues demanded by them; not only this, but any good holding in possession of a cultivator, whatever may be the period of his possession, could very easily be snatched by the *Zamindars*, and if the man had the courage to seek redress in any State court, his ruin was easy, since he could get no support either from the village community or from the official class as a whole; thus it came to pass that the best land in each village had passed into the hands of *Zamindars* and no better class of cultivators except *Chamars* and other low classes could thrive in any village.

"The *Zamindars* as the *Ijaradars* of the village gradually usurped the powers and rights of the State; they commenced to realise all *Babs* or taxes such as the *Natra* tax, the *Chamar* tax, the *Gadarya* tax, etc. Even the *Gadaryas* were not allowed the benefit of the manure of their sheep and goat which is the property of the *Zamindar* who, with the direct or indirect connivance of the authorities concerned, mastered the situation so well that the right of the *zamindari* became exceedingly valuable and gradually passed into the hands of rich people irrespective of the class of population that inhabited the village with the result that no sympathy existed between the grasping Rulers and the degraded peasantry who were practically treated as serfs and villains."¹

The *Patwari* though almost illiterate and utterly incompetent, exercised great influence over the destiny of the village. As there was no suitable agency to check and verify revenue papers prepared by *Patwaris*, he had full power to decrease or increase the revenue of the village. Even the proprietors would not take a lease in his absence or without consulting him.²

Another and a most tangible difficulty for the cultivators was the system of *begar* (forced labour) in the State. Every village contained a number of *zamindars* with their relations in proportion. All these were exempt from *begar* which fell on the shoulder of the few remaining rack-rented people in the village. They had to leave their holdings in despair or to groan under the yoke of tyranny and consequent misery. The political Agent had issued orders in 1913 to abolish the pernicious *begar* system but the order remained a dead letter in the face of the combined opposition of the official and the ruling village community.

The cultivators already groaning under the wheels of oppression of *zamindars*, were further hit by the recurring famines or scarcities during the two decades commencing from the closing years of the last century. Their resisting power was reduced to a nullity and they became victims of despair. The State came forward to protect him and to extend a helping hand to lift him out of misery and degradation. With this aim in view, some necessary reforms were introduced, the principal amongst them being:³

- (1) Rules regulating the transactions of the *asami* and *sahukara*.
- (2) Confirmation of hereditary rights of the cultivators on his holding.
- (3) Power to mortgage or sell so long as the alienation was made by one professional cultivator to another.
- (4) *taccavi* advance without interest for land improvements.

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1914-15, pp. 40-41.

2. *ibid.* 1909-10, pp. 4-5.

3. *ibid.* 1914-15, p. 46.

- (5) Rules for concession in the cultivation of fallow land.
- (6) Change of time for the payment of land revenue so as to enable the cultivator to gather his crop and sell it to his best advantage and then pay land revenue to the State, and
- (7) Abolition of obnoxious taxes.

Cultivator could not, however, take sufficient advantage of these reforms due to their ignorance and illiteracy. Some other reforms were also under contemplation.

It is obvious that the prevalent system at that time was quite pernicious and gave rise to many abuses in village administration. Consequently, this system was done away with and the Pateli system was introduced in the year 1915-16 by the State.

In later years the land revenue system was governed by the Datia State Revenue Act, 1933. In the Post-Independence era, after merger the District first came under the operations of the Bundelkhand Agriculturists' Act and then under Vindhya Pradesh Land Revenue and Tenancy Act, 1953.

In order to save the peasantry from exploitation by *jagirdars* and to recognise the claims of the tillers of the soil, Vindhya Pradesh Abolition of Jagirs and Land Reforms Act, 1952 (No. XI of 1952) was passed. V. P. Abolition It received the assent of the President on June 29, 1953 and was of Jagirs and enforced from July, 1953. The *jagirdari* system was abolished Land Reforms, and from the date of resumption: (i) the rights, title and interest Act, 1952 of *jagirdars*, *pawaidars* and persons claiming through them in respect of excise revenue, forests, trees, fisheries, wells, tanks, ponds, water channels, ferries, pathways, village sites, *hats*, bazars, *mela* grounds, mines and minerals, vested in the State Government free from all encumbrances;

(ii) the rights, titles and interests if created by *jagirdars* against the State were extinguished; and

(iii) all rents and cesses payable to the *jagirdars* were payable to the State Government.

But certain properties of the *jagirdars* were saved. Private wells, trees in *abadi* and buildings belonging to a *jagirdar* or a tenant continued in his possession. A *jagirdar* was also entitled to retain possession of groves, or orchards as were planted by him or his predecessors provided they were in his possession at the time of resumption.

The Act provided that a *jagirdar* shall be allotted *sir* (permanent home-farm land) or *khud-kasht* (self cultivated land) lands which were under his

personal cultivation for a continuous period of three years. If the *jagirdar* had no such lands or if he had less than 250 acres he could be allotted such lands out of the *jagir* to the extent of 250 acres, if available.

Every person who was entered as an occupant of any *jagir* land was recognised as a *pattedar* tenant and such land was assessed at village rate. Except in the case of *sir* or *khud-kasht* lands or grove lands allowed to continue in possession of the *jagirdars*, other tenants were recognised as *pattedars*.

The *jagirdars* were paid compensation in annual instalment not exceeding ten. Rewa Land Revenue and Tenancy Code, a progressive and more liberal piece of legislation in advantages to the tenants, was extended to Vindhya Pradesh. Naturally, its provisions also became operative in Datia District. It recognised the following tenants: (i) *pachpan-paintalis* tenants, (ii) *Pattedar*, tenants, and (iii) *Gairhaqdar* tenants.

A *pachpan-paintalis* tenant enjoyed a concession in rent of 45 per cent. His interests were heritable according to his personal laws and also transferable.

A tenant who was in possession of a *patta* was a *pattedar* tenant. He could transfer his interests, which were also heritable, according to the provisions of the Code. He enjoyed possession over a State *bandh* with full rights except that he could not transfer it or alienate it.

A tenant who was neither *pachpan paintalis* tenant nor a *pattedar* one was *gairhaqdar*. He was entitled to be recorded as a *pattedar* tenant if he had occupied the land with the express or implied consent of a *Tahsildar*. His interests were heritable according to section 48 of the Code unless there was anything to the contrary in the contract.

Any tenant could become a *pachpan-paintalis* tenant if he constructed a *bandh* with the permission of a competent revenue officer.

A *jagirdar* or a *pawaidar* used to get a subtenant of *sir* ejected at his will and exploit such sub-tenants. In order to stop this evil practice, the State Government passed the Vindhya Pradesh Sir Lands (Stay of Ejectment Proceedings) Act, 1952. Under the provisions of this Act no civil or revenue court could entertain any proceedings for the ejectment of any tenant or sub-tenant from any *sir* land.

Proceedings for ejectment from a *bandh* on *sir* land could only be entertained if the Deputy Commissioner granted a certificate to the *jagirdar* or *pawaidar* after having satisfied himself thoroughly. If a tenant was ejected but the *jagirdar* failed to cultivate the *bandh* personally, it was restored to the original tenants or co-tenants.

Settlement of fallow land with any person was also regularised. First preference was given to a landless tenant and then to those who possessed land less than 15 acres. Block of land of 100 acres or more were settled under a prescribed lease and the lessees were required to deposit a sum of money at the rate of Rs. 50 per acre, this amount being utilized for the improvement of the land or purchase of tractor, etc.

In the year 1953, the Vindhya Pradesh Land Revenue and Tenancy Act was enacted, which also improved the status of the cultivators and provided greater security and additional rights to the tenants. V. P. Land Revenue and Tenancy Act 1953 They could acquire plot-proprietary rights in the land held by them. Besides this, the restrictions over the enjoyment of *nistar* rights and grazing in the village forests were removed. This enabled them to take lively interest in effecting permanent improvements in their holdings. A good number of wells were dug out and farmers took to the use of the fertilizers and improved seeds.

The position of land tenures and tenants was again reviewed after the new State of Madhya Pradesh was constituted. The result was the enactment of a unified Land Revenue Code 1959 (No. XX of 1959). The unified Land Revenue Code came into force from 2nd October, 1959. It provides for only one class of tenure holders of land to be known as a *bhumiswami*. A *bhumiswami* has the right of transfer subject only to one restriction that such transfer does not either create a holding above a prescribed limit or an uneconomic holding below 10 acres. Subject to certain restrictions, he has full right over all kinds of trees in the holding. A *bhumiswami* has also a right to mortgage his land both by simple or usufructuary mortgage. Thus, the Code aims at eliminating tenancy and bringing into existence peasant proprietorship based on owner cultivation.

The Code also protects the rights of sub-tenants, who are given status of occupancy tenants. An occupancy tenant can be conferred *bhumiswami* rights on his paying 15 times the land revenue in five equal instalments. To protect the existing occupancy tenants of *bhumiswami* from being rackrented, it has been laid down that the maximum rent payable by an occupancy tenant shall not exceed four times the land revenue in the case of irrigated land, three times the land revenue in the case of land under *bandhas* and twice the land revenue in other cases. No sub-letting or leasing of land is now permitted, except in very emergent cases once in three years or by certain classes of persons, such as, widows, unmarried women, minors, etc.

Bhoodan

The *Bhoodan Yagna* (land gift) movement was initiated in the country in 1951 by Acharya Vinoba Bhave to solve the problem of landless labourers.

Bhoodan work was started in this District, when Vinobaji visited Datia on 19th October, 1951. The following Table shows the land received and distributed under *Bhoodan* movement in the District:-

Table No. XI—3

Land Received and Distributed under Bhoodan

Year	Land Received in Donation	Land Distributed
1951	202.71	—
1952	38.87	30.14
1953	237.55	—
1954	240.34	185.58
1955	184.02	147.54
1956	99.58	2.00
1957	6.06	9.66
1959	—	2.32
1960	—	2.62

Rural Wages and Condition of Agricultural Labour

As the available records show, the condition of agricultural labour was not satisfactory in the erstwhile Datia State. The system of *begar* was prevalent and the *zamindars* were the sole masters of their villages and they treated their peasantry as slaves. For agricultural operations wages were paid in kind, a man getting from four to five seers of grain for a day's labour. As regards skilled labour, during 1881-90, a carpenter, blacksmith or mason each got five annas a day. In 1906-07 wages of a carpenter increased by three annas, that of a blacksmith by one anna while that of the mason remained the same. During the period 1914-1918, mason, Kumhars (Potters) and blacksmiths were getting 8 seers, of grain. During the period 1918-1935, the rates of wages in grain increased to one and a half times, which became double between 1935 and 1942. This system of giving wages in kind was abolished during the period from 1942 to 1948. Since 1948, the wages are given in cash. At present, the unskilled labourer gets between Rs. 2 to 3 and a skilled labourer like kumhar, blacksmith and carpenter gets between Rs. 4 and 5.

The average rates prevalent in the District for the periods as per the available records of the Directorate of Land Records, Madhya Pradesh are

given below:—

Table No. XI—4

Average Rates of Wages for Skilled and Agricultural Labour

Month	Year	Skilled Labourer			Field Labourer	Other Agricultural Labour			
		Carpenter	Black-smith	Cobbler		Man	Woman	Non-adults	Herdsmen
June	1958	3—25	3—50	3—25	1—25	1—25	1—00	—	1—50
June	1959	3—00	3—00	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	1960	2—87	3—00	3—00	1—00	1—12	—	—	—
July	1961	3—00	3—00	3—50	1—25	1—25	1—00	0—75	1—50
June	1962	3—00	3—00	3—00	—	1—37	—	—	—
June	1963	3—00	2—50	3—00	2—00	1—75	—	—	1—50
„	1964	4—00	3—00	3—50	—	—	—	—	1—25
„	1965	3—00	3—00	3—00	—	2—00	1—50	1—25	—

Other Sources of Revenue—Central & State

The fiscal system in the former Datia State was different from what obtains today. The State being an independent entity, all its sources of revenue were State's own sources and there was no source of revenue which could be called 'Central'. The old Gazetteer of Datia State reports that the total normal revenue of the State in 1902-03 was Rs. 5.5 lakhs of which Rs. 4.8 lakh or 86 per cent was derived from land revenue. Opium, of which a small quantity was manufactured, paid a duty of Rs. 1-2-0 per seer and together with other excisable articles brought in Rs. 21,500 a year. A yearly sum of Rs. 10,000 was received from the British Government in compensation for salt dues formerly levied. Besides this, the assignments of land to *jagirdars* for the upkeep of feudal levies amounted to Rs. 4 lakhs making the total gross income of the State Rs. 9.6 lakhs. During the year 1915-16, receipts from principal sources of revenue were: Land revenue Rs. 7,21,527; *Sayer* dues and assessed taxes, Rs. 93,399, Registration and Stamps, Rs. 12,865, Excise, Rs. 23,563, Forest Rs. 39,623, sale of liquor Rs. 6,021 and sale of drugs Rs. 2,335.

Since the merger of the State, previously in Vindhya Pradesh and later on in Madhya Pradesh, the pattern of revenue receipts has changed into 'Central' and 'State' heads. At present, the important items of Central revenues are the Union Excise Duties, Income Tax and Estate Duty. State Excise, Forests, Sales Tax, Stamps and Taxes on motor vehicles constitute important sources of State revenues. The statistics of receipt can be seen in Appendix A. Some particulars about these revenues, as far as they concern Datia 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, Chinaware, etc.

The annual receipts in the District from this source which were only Rs. 11,000 in the year 1950-51, increased to Rs. 52,300 in 1955-56 and Rs. 35,600 in 1960-61. The receipts from this source were Rs. 35,200 in 1965-66 and Rs. 53,275 in 1969-70.

Income Tax

The assessment and collection of Income Tax in the District is the duty of the Income Tax Officer, Gwalior. He has also been entrusted with the assessment and collection of three more taxes, namely, Wealth Tax, Gift Tax and Expenditure Tax. He also collects the Estate Duty. The receipts from Income Tax show progressive increase. From Rs. 4,800 in 1951-52 they increased to Rs. 36,200 in 1961-62 and Rs. 1,72,880 in 1969-70.

State Excise

The State Excise Duty was imposed even in the former Datia State. As reported in the old Gazetteer, poppy was cultivated in about 100 acres of Seondha Tahsil and the revenue derived amounted to about Rs. 200 a year. The liquor was prepared from *mahua* (*Bassia latifolia*) flowers and the contract for distillation was sold out separately for each village and town in the State. The revenue from this source was about Rs. 6,400. In lieu of the duty formerly levied on salt, the British Government used to make a compensatory payment of Rs. 10,000 yearly. However, at present, it is levied on country liquor, opium, *ganja*, etc. It is a source of substantial income for the State, the annual receipts from this item were Rs. 2.93 lakhs in 1950-51 and Rs. 3.47 lakhs in 1960-61. The receipt was Rs. 4,50,300 in the year 1969-70.

Sales Tax

This Tax was first introduced in the District after the merger of the States in 1948 in Vindhya Pradesh. Later, on the formation of Madhya Pradesh, the Tax came within the Purview of the Madhya Pradesh General Sales Tax Act, 1958 (II of 1959). The Central Sales Tax has also been introduced in the District from 1st July, 1957 under Sales Tax Act, 1956. The third component of this tax is levied under Motor Spirit Tax Act and is charged on the sales of motor spirit. These Acts are administered by the Sales Tax Officer. With an expanding volume of business and increasing mechanisation of transport, this is a promising source of revenue. In 1951-52, the receipts

had amounted to Rs. 96,600 which increased to Rs. 1.65 lakhs in 1956-57 and to Rs. 90,000 in 1961-62. In 1966-67 and 1969-70, the receipts increased to Rs. 3.8 lakhs and Rs 5.4 lakhs respectively.

Forests

Receipts from this source have never been substantial as the District has no real forests. The State levied a small duty on people who collected dry wood and sold it. In famine time the whole area was thrown open. However, the total revenue derived from this source amounted to about Rs. 10,000 yearly (1905-06). The importance of forests as a source of revenue has increased in Post-Independence period and in the year 1969-70, the revenue derived from this source was Rs. 91,035.

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

The income under this head is derived from the registration of motor vehicles and issue of licences to drivers, conductors, etc. The annual receipts under this head which amounted to Rs. 16,700 in pre-Plan period, i. e., in 1950-51, aggregated Rs. 64,200 at the end of Third Plan, i. e., in 1965-66 and to Rs. 1,02,851 in 1969-70.

Registration

The income under this head is derived from registration fees, copying fees, etc., which are levied under the Indian Registration Act. Revenue receipts from registration amounted to Rs. 2,000 in 1953-54 and increased to Rs. 54,771 in 1969-70.

Stamps

The old Gazetteer of the State reports that from the sale of stamps a sum of Rs. 17,400 was realised yearly of which Rs. 10,500 were derived from judicial stamps. At present the income under this head is derived from the sale of stamps of various denominations both judicial and non-judicial. Receipts under this head which amounted to Rs. 37,100 in 1950-51 and to Rs. 71,100 in 1960-61 increased to Rs. 1.80 lakhs in 1966-67 and Rs. 2.83 in 1969-70.

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

History of Judiciary Organisation

In the earlier days of the erstwhile Datia State the forms of judicial procedure were very primitive. Customs and usage took the place of law. There were naturally no written laws. The ruler of the State administered justice in person. The subordinate officers had powers of judicial decision to a limited extent. The supreme authority in Datia State in civil as well as in criminal cases was the *Ijlas khas* to which all final appeals and references were made.

In the year 1907 the *Diwan* of the State was the principal executive officer who was functioning by delegated powers from the ruling chief. The *Diwan* in consultation with the ruler, issued such local regulation from time to time as were deemed necessary. In criminal cases the Indian Penal Code was followed generally and in civil suits the old panchayat system was largely used. The courts decided cases in accordance with local customs. In civil matters the lowest court was that of the tahsildar, who was also acting as the revenue officer and magistrate. Superior to tahsildar's courts were the courts of *Munsif* at Datia and Seondha. The jurisdiction of *Munsif's* Court at Seondha also extended over Nadigaon tahsil. In criminal cases, the Magistrate at Datia heard the cases of five *thanas*, that is, of Unao, Padri, Ronija, Indargarh and Datia Town while Seondha Magistrate entertained the cases of Nadigaon, Tharait and Seondha *thana*. A separate court existed at Baroni *thana* to deal with the cases of that *thana* only. First appeal was made to the *Diwan* while the final appeal was made to the ruling chief. This system was continued till the dawn of Independence. In 1949 Datia State was merged in Vindhya Pradesh and a separate district was constituted and in 1956 again it was merged in new Madhya Pradesh. The judicial pattern was then modified to suit the requirements of the changed administration.

Incidence of Crimes

The crimes prevalent in Datia District are mainly in respect of offences against the public tranquility, affecting decency and morals, murder, attempt at murder, offences affecting life, hurt, wrongful restraint and wrongful confinement, kidnapping and forcible abduction, theft, criminal breach of trust, cheating, simple trespass, counterfeiting of notes and coins, offences relating to special and local laws, offences against contempt of lawful authority of public servants, offence affecting public health, safety and convenience, criminal force and assault and offences relating to documents and falsification of accounts.

* *Crime Situation*

The details regarding the various crimes is shown in the Table given below.

Table No. XII-1

Crime Situation

Year	No. of offences Reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of cases detected	No. of cases in which conviction was obtained	Percentage of cases investigated to reported	Percentage of cases investigated to detected	Percentage of cases resulting in conviction to cases decided
1957	306	301	142	76	90	47	53
1965	457	453	174	52	99.12	39	29
1966	453	451	202	65	99.19	44	32
1967	475	470	201	71	98.95	43	35

Source :—Superintendent of Police, Datia.

Incidence of Crimes

The following table shows the details of important crimes during recent years from 1955.

Table No. XII-2

Incidence of Crimes

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	Riot	Burglary	Cattle Theft	Thefts (ordinary)	Kidnaping	Miscellaneous IPC Crimes
1955	7	13	1	1	58	5	20	2	69
1965	12	20	12	15	138	31	88	2	142
1966	14	19	14	14	133	33	78	6	149
1967	2	12	15	11	133	39	108	10	146
1968	5	13	20	13	109	46	117	12	185
1969	4	13	11	16	127	41	93	19	175
1970	15	19	19	19	130	75	160	25	229

Source :— Superintendent of Police, Datia.

Taking account of the total number of crimes it is clear from the above table that the highest number of crimes was committed in 1964. The details of some crimes are given below.

1. Dacoity:— The problem of dacoity which had menaced the District in past has engaged the attention of the Government now. To put an end to his menace, Government has adopted special measures by deputing special officers and special police force to this District. Seondha tahsil of this District which is nearer to the Chambal ravines is supposed to be the main seat of criminal gangs. The criminal gangs from Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and other parts of Madhya Pradesh which roam about in the District commit crime in collaboration with the local people. The Police have to be on constant vigil to curb the activities of these criminals. It is generally observed that whenever there were scarcity conditions and high prices of grain there was increase in crimes. The police and the people began to take more and more interest in reporting crimes, and by experience police force has made considerable improvements in its efficiency.

The type of thefts falling under the category of ordinary thefts are cycle thefts, bazar thefts, ghat and fair thefts, etc. All these thefts are quite common in the District and are attributed to local criminals. The following table elucidates the details of the crime under this head.

Table No. XII-3

Ordinary Thefts

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of persons convicted	Total value of property Stolen
1957	306	301	113	92,720
1960	400	393	56	1,13,195
1965	86	82	20	6,015
1966	74	72	16	11,667
1967	107	102	5	26,570
1968	111	107	18	40,429
1969	93	91	7	22,253
1970	160	153	17	40,001

Source :— Superintendent of Police, Datia.

The following table shows the classification of miscellaneous thefts into various categories for the period 1957 to 1970,

Table No. XII—4

Miscellaneous Thefts

Year	Cattle thefts	Cycles	Motor Cycles and Accessories	Fire Arms
1957	17	3	1	—
1960	20	3	—	—
1965	31	9	—	1
1966	33	11	—	1
1967	40	15	—	2
1968	46	8	—	—
1969	41	17	—	—
1970	75	19	—	—

Source :— Superintendent of Police, Datia.

Apart from the cases of ordinary and miscellaneous thefts there are other cases involving offences against property. Details of such cases and amount of property stolen and recovered during the past few years are given in the table below.

Table No. XII—5

Property Stolen and Recovered

Year	No. of cases in which property stolen	No. of cases in which property recovered	Total value of property stolen	Total value of property recovered	Percentage of property reco- vered to pro- perty stolen
1957	162	33	92,729	5,910	6.37
1960	246	81	99,992	12,762	12.76
1965	274	44	116,660	3,883	2.64
1966	259	53	203,644	9,197	4.52
1967	268	62	160,923	22,102	13.73
1968	273	61	1,64,047	29,002	17.67
1969	272	54	1,38,991	15,676	11.28
1970	377	94	1,79,949	32,085	18.38

The crime situation hitherto discussed relates to the offences against property, human body and public tranquillity. Other crimes common in the District are those against Acts of Excise, Gambling, etc. Some important offences among them are tabulated below.

Table No. XII - 6

Crimes under Other Acts

	1957	1960	1967	1968	1969	1970
1. Excise Act cases	10	4	6	5	2	2
2. Excise Act Persons Committing Crimes	12	9	5	3	2	6
3. Gambling Act cases	3	16	5	3	2	7
4. Gambling Act Persons Committing Crimes	13	86	24	15	9	45

Source :—Superintendent of Police, Datia.

The following table shows the details regarding the number and investigation of the crimes in the District from 1957 to 1967.

Table No. XII—7

Cognisable Crimes

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of cases sent up for trial	No. of persons tried	No. of persons acquitted or discharged	Number of persons convicted
1957	305	301	142	156	40	113
1960	400	393	184	224	103	56
1965	457	453	179	432	214	94
1966	453	451	202	436	165	106
1967	475	470	201	309	192	95
1968	506	502	222	169	37	103
1969	489	487	210	132	23	635
1970	679	672	278	1170	318	29

Source:—Superintendent of Police, Datia.

Organisation of the Police Force

The primary functions of Police are the prevention and detection of crimes, maintenance of order; apprehension of offenders, escorting and guarding prisoners, treasure, private or public property of which they may be placed in charge and the prosecution of criminals. They have, however, various other duties also to perform such as control of traffic, censorship of plays and other

performances, service of summons in criminal cases etc., imposed upon them by law. Duties such as aid to refugees and pilgrims and passport and naturalisation enquiries are entrusted to them for administrative reasons.

In the early period of erstwhile Datia State Police force was part of the State Army which was charged with the duty of maintaining law and order. The State forces were composed of a regular and irregular force of 5,165 infantry and 925 cavalry exclusive of officers.¹ It also included a force which was known as the *Rajkumar Risala* formed of the sons of local Sardars and *Thakurs*. The regular infantry consisted of 240 personnel and the State owned 124 guns out of which 48 were serviceable.² Two famous brass cannon, known as '*Latbakh*' or Lord's (Viceroy's) gift, were presented to Maharaja Parichhat by Lord Hastings in 1818. The irregular army included the *bilanias* and *pargirs*, who formed the personal body guard of the ruling chief and consisted of all hereditary servants and the *Khasbardar* who acted as palace guards. The expenditure on army was about 5 lakhs and some land grants were also made for the servants. In the early days of Datia State Army a considerable number of *Gusains* were also engaged. Anupgir Himmat Bahadur, the famous *Gusain* leader of the early 19th century and the partner of Ali Bahadur was a member of this community.

Datia State was divided into *Thanas* or Police Stations, viz., Datia town, Unao, Padri, Ronija, Baroni, Indargarh, Seondha, Pathrait and Nadigaon. The Police force consisted of 264 Constables of all grades, under one *Mumtazim* 6 Inspectors and 7 Sub-Inspectors. Villages were watched by *Chaukidars* who were 894 in number. These men used to report the cases to the nearest *Thana*.

The Police department underwent a change in 1948 when Datia State was merged in newly created Vindhya Pradesh and Datia District was constituted. In 1956 new Madhya Pradesh was formed and Datia was reconstituted. The police force formed a unit which was directed, regulated and controlled by the District Superintendent of Police.

Present Organisation of Force

At present the District police is headed by the Superintendent of Police of the cadre of Indian Police Service with headquarters at Datia. He is assisted by a Deputy Superintendent of Police. In addition there is the subordinate staff of Circle Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. The table below shows the details regarding strength and cost of subordinate staff of the police.

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 29.

2. *ibid.*

Table No. XII 8

Strength and Cost of Civil Police

Year	Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and A. S. I.	Head Constables	Constables	Total	Expenditure (in Rs.)
1951	14	41	195	250	—
1955	19	41	219	279	2,38,282
1960	22	44	260	326	3,87,236
1965	32	56	292	380	6,26,338
1966	32	56	292	380	6,91,625
1967	31	54	284	369	6,65,573
1968	31	53	276	360	—
1969	31	53	276	360	7,48,918
1970	32	53	276	361	9,02,717
1971-72	31	53	276	362	—
1972-73	32	56	288	378	—

Source—(1) Superintendent of Police, Datia.

(2) District Statistical Handbook, Datia, 1973 for figures of 1971-72 and 1972-73.

For the purpose of police investigation the District is divided into circles, each in charge of an Inspector, and each circle into Station-House areas in the charge of a senior Sub-Inspector. At present the District is divided into 10 Police Stations at Datia, Baroni, Unao, Seondha, Biroli Par, Indergarh, Dursada, Basai, Pathrait and Antrera. Village crime is reported at station house by village watchman, known as *Kotwar* and if of sufficient importance investigated by the station house staff under the supervision of the Circle Inspector. The District has a Prosecuting Inspector who conducts prosecutions in magisterial courts, assisted by a Prosecuting Sub-Inspector. The District Magistrate exercises a general control over the activities of the police of this District, but has no power to inflict departmental punishments or to interfere directly in its internal administration. For the efficient working the force has been divided into the following categories.

1. *District Executive Force*

The District Executive Force is the most important part of the police as it deals with the daily problems relating to law and order and comes into close contact with people whom it is expected to help in all matters of security and peace. It is utilised for duty at the police stations. Each of the 10 police-stations is under the charge of a Sub-Inspector assisted by Head Constables, Moherrirs or station writers and a number of Constables. Their main duty relates to maintenance of law and order and prevention and detection of crimes in their areas.

Reserve Police

There is a District Reserve Police line at Datia. The Reserve Inspector is in charge of headquarters line and he is assisted by a Reserve Sub-Inspector. The Reserve Inspector is responsible for the proper custody of stores. He works under the general control of Superintendent of Police and maintains discipline among the Policemen posted in lines.

Prosecution Branch

The prosecution branch is headed by Police Prosecutor and some assistants. The Police Prosecutor looks after the office work and gives guidance to his assistants to deal with the prosecution cases in courts. In addition to these there is a unit of District Crime Branch of Investigation which deals with matters of general intelligence.

Home Guards

The scheme of Home Guards forms a well disciplined corps of social workers, actively assisting in the promotion of public security, public health, sanitation, education and social uplift in villages and towns. This force is a voluntary one on a quasi-military footing and is intended to supplement civil power and generally to assist the Police in the discharge of their lawful duties in times of emergency. The recruitment and training of Home Guards in the District started from April 1963.

The administration of the force throughout Madhya Pradesh vests in the Commandant-General with headquarters at Jabalpur, and in this District the Company Commandant is the head.

On enrolment every *nagar-sainik* undergoes a course of training for a period of not more than 2 months in (a) Foot Drill (b) Arms Drill (c) Weapon Training (d) Fire Fighting (e) Field Craft (f) First Aid (g) Lathi Training (h) Social Service, etc. The total number of *sainiks* trained during the period 1-4-63 to 17-2-68 was 355.

Jails and Lockups

In the former Datia State there were two Jails, a Central Jail at Datia and a District Jail at Seondha¹.

In the new set-up of the Jail Department since 1956, Datia Jail has been classified as Class II District Jail. The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bhopal, is the chief supervising officer and the District Medical Officer, Datia, is the *ex-officio* Superintendent of this Jail. He is assisted by one Assistant Medical

1. *ibid.*

Officer (part-time) one Compounder (part-time) one Deputy Jailor, one Assistant Jailor, two head warders and fifteen warders. Persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment are engaged in different working of trades. The table below shows the details regarding the number of prisoners according to the length of sentence from 1951.

Table No. XII—9

Number of Prisoners

Length of sentences	Number of Prisoners					
	1957	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1. Below 1 month	3	7	—	5	33	38
2. 1-3 Months	3	21	12	12	12	16
3. 3-6 Months	7	34	19	25	15	35
4. 6 Months to 1 Year	5	20	17	10	13	19
5. 1-2 Years	3	7	6	6	9	6
6. 2-5 Years	6	1	10	4	2	1
7. 5-10 Years	2	7	14	7	1	—
8. Above 10 Years	..	1	2	..	4	7
9. Transportation for life.	...	...	...	6	4	...
10. Death sentence	...	...	1	..	...	...

The prisoners are mainly divided into four classes, namely, the casuals, the habituals, the adolescents and juveniles. The adolescent prisoners are transferred to Borstal Institute, Narsimhapur and the Juveniles to the Classification Reformatory School, Seoni. There they are given educational and vocational training to suit their ages and at the same time, are segregated from each other and the adult prisoners.

The table in Appendix shows details regarding the number of prisoners released and admitted since 1951. The highest number of prisoners was 136 in 1952 followed by 77 in 1953. Similarly the highest number of prisoners received was in 1951 when 362 convicts, including one female, were added to the prison population. Most of these prisoners as usual were under trial. The number of prisoners discharged in the year 1952 takes first place when 317 including one female were discharged from all cause. The number of prisoners remaining in jails at the close of every year shows a gradual decrease in general, as shown in the table given in Appendix A.

Under the provisions of the Prisoners Act, 1900, Section 31-A, long term prisoners (not less than three years) are being given temporary release for 10 days besides 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 are entitled to receive concessions like visit from friends, exemption from fetters, good conduct badge and promotion to some prison office, money gratuities, remission of sentence, present 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, radio news, etc. Under Jail reforms, various steps are being taken to enforce reformatory theory and 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, the following Acts have been extended to apply in the Jails:-

- (1) The Prisoners Act (III of 1900) with effect from 1st January, 1959.
- (2) The M. P. Borstal Act 1923, with effect from 1st January, 1959.
- (3) The M.P. Prisoners Release on Probation Act 1954 with effect from 2nd October, 1964.
- (4) Prisoners Act 1894, with effect from 1st February 1960.
- (5) Probation of Offenders Act 1958 with effect from 2nd October 1962.
- (6) Prisoners (Attendance in Courts) Act 1956 and the Rules thereunder.

In the District Jail, there are educational arrangements for the prisoners. The reformist preacher also regularly visits the Jail to deliver moral lectures. In Datia Jail a teacher and a Reformist has been appointed for this work.

The prisoners are allowed the facilities of outdoor and indoor recreation. The outdoor games are mainly Volleyball, *Kabaddi*, etc. Indoor games are carrom and chess. Cultural programmes are now and then organised in which eminent persons are invited to give lectures on religious, moral and spiritual subjects.

A Board of Visitors has been appointed by the State Government, the members of which inspect the jail from the point of view of general welfare of the prisoners. The Board of Visitors consists of three members and the Collector as the Chairman.

The prisoners are imparted training in various vocations during the term of sentence so as to improve their future prospects after release. The training is imparted in carpentry, printing press, weaving Ambar Charkha, etc.

The prisoners are provided with library books, newspapers, volley-ball, carrom board, Radio-set and text books, etc. Prisoners are also being benefited by early release under different provisions.

Organisation of the Courts

The lowest grades of civil courts in the former Datia State were those of tahsildars who were empowered to hear suits of which the subject matter did not exceed Rs. 100 in value. Datia State was divided into four tahsils with headquarters at Datia, Indergarh, Nadigaon and Seondha. Each tahsil was put in the charge of a tahsildar who was the chief revenue officer as well as the magistrate. In addition there was a court of *Munsif* each at Datia and Seondha. The *Munsif* at Datia was empowered to hear civil cases upto the value of Rs. 5,000 while the *Munsif* at Seondha was empowered to hear the cases upto the value of Rs. 1,000. The *Diwan* used to hear the cases beyond the power of Datia and Seondha *Munsif* and all appeals were preferred to him. Final appeals were preferred to the Chief. In the court of *Munsif* at Seondha the cases of Seondha and Nadigaon tahsils could be dealt with.¹

In criminal cases the Datia Magistrate was empowered to hear the cases for *thanas* at Unao, Padri, Ronija, Indergarh and Datia Town. He was empowered to award imprisonment upto six months and fines of Rs. 50. The Seondha Court entertained the cases for Nadigaon, to award fines up to Rs. 25 and three months' imprisonment. The Magistrate at Baroni was dealing with the cases of only Baroni *thana*. All appeals were made to the *Diwan* and final appeals to the chief. Heinous cases were tried by the *Diwan* and his decisions were submitted to the Chief for confirmation.

The Chief was the High Court or *Ijlas Khas* where all appeals from *Diwan*'s decision could be referred to both in civil and criminal cases, while all sentences of death and transportation for life required its confirmation. No appeals could be made from the decision of the Chief. The Judicial establishment was costing about Rs. 14,000 a year and fees were charged in suits at the rate of 7½ per cent on the property under adjudication, the realisation amounting to Rs. 18,000.

Present Organisation of Civil and Criminal Courts

After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh and merger of the old Vindhya Pradesh State in it in 1956, the Civil Courts Act of Madhya Pradesh was enacted. Datia District was merged in the Civil District of Gwalior with effect from November, 1961. Thus the head of this Civil District is the

1, *ibid.* 1907, p. 27.

District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior, who had a link court at Datia. The number of Civil and Criminal Courts in Datia District is given below—

1. The Additional District and Sessions Judge Court, Datia. It is a linked Court and the 3rd Additional District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior, visits Datia for a week's time in every month.
2. The Civil Judge Class I and Additional District Magistrate (Judicial).
3. The Civil Judge Class II and Magistrate, First Class. This is also a linked Court for 14 days in every month with the additional charge of court at Bhandar, District Gwalior.

Nyaya Panchayat

The establishment of Nyaya Panchayat aimed at providing the rural population with cheaper, speedier and simpler justice. Thus with the association of people for the administration of justice, Nyaya Panchayats were established in the District. Nyaya Panchayats function within the frame-work of ordinary laws and enable the representatives of the people to participate in the administration of justice in civil and criminal cases of petty nature. According to the Vindhya Pradesh Gram Panchayat Ordinance, 1949 the District was divided into circles and Nyaya Panchayats were established for each such circle. There were fourteen Nyaya Panchayats in the District in 1967.

A Nyaya Panchayat has not less than five members called *panchas* selected from amongst the members of the Gram Panchayats established within the area over which the Nyaya Panchayat has jurisdiction. Every Nyaya Panchayat elects from amongst the *panchas*, *sarpanch* and *up-sarpanch* who preside over the panchayat.

The Nyaya Panchayats take up both civil and criminal case work. Their jurisdiction has been defined in sections 228, 229 and 248 of the Madhya Pradesh Panchayats Act, 1962. In civil cases they take up suits for money and moveables upto the value of Rs. 100. No legal practitioner can plead in the cases lying with Nyaya Panchayats. The judgements, decree and orders of Nyaya Panchayats are not appealable, though the District Judge in civil cases and the Sessions Judge in criminal cases have been empowered to call for and examine the records of such a case and pass such orders as they deem fit.

Separation of Judiciary from the Executive

The Civil Judiciary of the District was separated from the Executive in the period 1901-1909, at the dawn of the present century. But the Criminal Judiciary continued to be one with the Executive. Though the necessity of com-

plete separation was felt many a time nothing could be done till Independence. The first step taken in this direction was the appointment of some of the executive officers as Judge-Magistrates in 1948. These officers were set apart for whole-time magisterial work. This separation was further ensured when the State Government decided to have a separate class of service named 'Judicial Service' in accordance with the provision of Chapter VI of the Constitution of India. Then the District Judge began to be appointed by the Governor in consultation with the High Court, and other posts subordinate to the District Judge, through recruitment by the Public Service Commission according to rules framed by Governor in consultation with the High Court. The control over District Court and Courts subordinate to them is vested in the High Court. The control includes the power of posting and promotion and grant of leave to officers other than the District Judges, in the manner laid down in Article 235 of the Constitution.

A complete separation was, however, effected on the 1st January 1962. Now the Executive Officers exercise magisterial powers only for the prevention of crimes. The Collector is thus the District Magistrate and the Deputy Collectors, Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars are vested with Magisterial powers. But all these officers are 'Executive Magistrates' and are prohibited from exercising powers other than those related to the prevention of crimes.

Nature of cases Handled by the Courts

The Courts in the District handled both civil and criminal cases. The criminal cases mainly related to Indian Penal Code, Special and Local Laws, offences affecting human body, offences against property, those affecting public health and relating to religion, etc. The civil cases mainly related to suits for money and moveable property, title and other suits.

Criminal Cases

The statement given below shows the total number of criminal cases, instituted, disposed of and pending from the year 1961 onwards for all the courts of the District. These include the offences reported under Indian Penal Code, Special and Local Laws, Criminal Procedure Code, etc.

Table No. XII—10

Criminal Cases Handled

Year	Total No. of offences reported	Number of Cases		Number of persons	
		Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending
1961	744	861	506	1057	524
1965	..	..	..	..	..
1966	628	626	537	1623	1517
1967	724	878	773	2680	2150

Civil Cases

The table below shows the details of civil cases disposed during the recent period.

Table No. XII—11

Civil Cases Handled

Item	Year						
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1. Suits pending at beginning of year.	128	203	18	188	206	252	346
2. Received during the year	7	16	19	1	15	1	3
3. Instituted during the year	160	176	223	225	202	195	347
4. Revived during the year	131	36	..	..	..	9	..
5. Total for disposal	426	431	385	394	423	457	596
6. Disposed by transfer	2	35	..	..	..	..	..
7. Otherwise disposed	221	257	237	27	22	15	373
8. Pending at the close of year	103	139	163	236	252	217	223

Civil Revisions and Appeals

The following table shows the details regarding the disposal of appeals and revisions in civil cases in the District :-

Table No. XII—12

Revisions and Appeals

Item	Year						
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1. Pending at beginning of year	22	37	22	3	20	37	30
2. Instituted and re-instituted during the year.	47	19	14	55	75	92	21

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The set-up, functions and achievements of some of the State Government Offices located in the District have been described in the relevant Chapters. The set-up of the remaining important Departments is dealt with here.

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 is placed in the charge of the Sub-Divisional Officer, P.W.D. (B & R), Datia District. His jurisdiction extends over the whole of Datia District except Basai area. He works under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B. & R.) Construction Division, Gwalior, and is assisted in his work by 6 Sub-Engineers, 3 works Assistants and usual staff.

For the purpose of survey, investigations, construction and maintenance of all irrigation works in Datia District, and Bhandar Tahsil of Gwalior District, an Irrigation Sub-Division, headed by an Assistant Engineer is functioning in the District. The office was established in the year 1960 with its headquarters at Datia. The Assistant Engineer or the Sub-Divisional Officer works under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Gwalior and is assisted by 6 Sub-Engineers and usual staff.

Before the Five Year Plans were launched the total irrigated area in Datia District was 1,382 acres. No irrigation work was undertaken in the first two Five Year Plans. In the Third Plan, five medium sized works to irrigate 344 acres were undertaken. Besides, seven irrigation schemes were also taken up to benefit 1,774 acres of land.

Agriculture

To look after the programme related to agricultural production in the District an office of the Assistant Director, Agriculture, is functioning in the District. The jurisdiction of the Assistant Director also extends over Bhandar Development Block of Gwalior District.

The office is under the immediate control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gwalior who in his turn is subordinate to the Joint Director of Agriculture, Gwalior. The whole Department functions under the over-all control of the Director of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The Assistant Director in his work is assisted by two Farm Superintendents with their headquarters each at Datia and Indergarh and two Agriculture Extension Officers for Development Blocks with their headquarters at Datia and Seondha, respectively. In addition there is the field staff including 3 Demonstrators, 1 Agricultural Overseer, 3 Fieldmen, 1 Compost Inspector, 22 Village Level workers and 1 Tractor Driver.

Veterinary

To control and supervise veterinary and animal husbandry activities in the District the office of the District Live-Stock Officer was established on 1st April 1962. The office is under the immediate administrative control of the Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, Gwalior, who in his turn is subordinate to the Director of Veterinary Services, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal. The Live-Stock Officer is assisted by three Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, fifteen Stockmen, six Compounders, and nine Dressers, with usual staff. There are three veterinary hospitals situated at Datia, Seondha and Badoni, each under the charge of a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. The area of service under each hospital is further served by the location of veterinary dispensaries, each in the charge of a stockman. These dispensaries are situated at Indergarh, Semai, Sillosi, Tharet, Gyara, Unao, Kusol and Basai.

In addition, there is a Mobile Unit with headquarters at Datia to control the outbreak of diseases and providing veterinary aid.

Fisheries

To develop the various fishery resources in the District an office of the Assistant Fishery Officer is functioning in the District since 1965 with headquarters at Datia. The Assistant Fishery Officer is administratively subordinate to the Assistant Director of Fisheries with headquarters at Gwalior. The Assistant Fishery Officer, in his work, is assisted by one Fishery Inspector and two Fishery Jamadars and usual staff.

Electricity Board

For the purpose of distribution of electricity for meeting the public demand in the District an office of the Assistant Engineer, Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, is functioning with its headquarters at Datia. The Assistant

Engineer has jurisdiction over Datia, Dabra and Seondha distribution centres. He works under the administrative control of the Divisional Engineer, Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, Gwalior.

In his work the Assistant Engineer is assisted by 3 officers in charge of Datia, Dabra and Seondha distribution centres, respectively, who in their turn are assisted by a number of subordinate technical staff.

At Datia there are 3 Meter Readers, 4 Linemen, 5 Assistant Linemen, one Driver, 13 Helpers and usual staff.

At Dabra there are 4 Linemen, 8 Assistant Linemen, 16 Helpers and usual staff, while the distribution centre at Seondha is manned by one Lineman two Assistant Linemen, 4 Helpers and usual staff.

Industries

For the purpose of rendering assistance for setting up new industries and for the expansion of existing industries in Datia District an Office of the Assistant Director of Industries is functioning at Datia since 1964. The Assistant Director is administratively under the immediate control of the Deputy Director of Industries, Gwalior. In his work he is assisted by one Inspector of Industries, usual staff and two Extension Officers of Industries attached to the two Development Blocks with headquarters at Datia and Seondha. In addition there is one District Inspector for Khadi and Gramodyog working under the control of the Assistant Director.

Co-operation

The work of the Co-operative Department in Datia District is carried out by a district level office in the charge of an Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The office was established on the 14th February, 1962. The Assistant Registrar works under the administrative control of the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Gwalior, 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 executive staff numbering 16, which includes three Senior Co-operative Inspectors, three Co-operative Inspectors, one Valuer, one Statistical Assistant, one Circle Auditor, one Handloom Inspector, four Sub-Auditors and two Co-operative Extension Officers, one each being posted at Datia and Seondha. The main function of the Co-operation Department is to promote co-operation activities and to undertake registration, amalgamation, audit, inspection and liquidation of Co-operative Societies.

State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd.

For the purpose of providing agricultural implements, fertilisers, pumping-sets and seeds to the agriculturists a district level office of the District Marketing Officer, Madhya Pradesh State Co-operative Marketing Federation, Ltd., is functioning at Datia since December 1965. The Marketing Officer works under the control of the Madhya Pradesh State Co-operative Marketing Federation, Bhopal.

The Marketing Officer has jurisdiction over the whole District and in his work he is assisted by one Field Assistant, one Marketing Organiser, one Grader and usual clerical staff.

The office also functions as a Government agent in connection with the procurement of food grains and provides controlled commodities like sugar on fair price to the consumer.

Weights and Measures

The offices of the Inspectors of Weights and Measures were established with a view to introducing Metric weights and measure in the District. There are two offices of Inspectors, Weights and Measures, in the District with headquarters at Datia and Seondha respectively. The jurisdiction of the Inspector, Datia, is Datia Tahsil and that of the Inspector, Seondha, is Seondha Tahsil and Bhandar Tahsil of Gwalior district.

These Inspectors, Weights and Measures, are subordinate to the Assistant Controller, Weights and Measures, Gwalior, who in his turn is subordinate to the Controller of Weights and Measures, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Panchayat and Social Welfare

The District Panchayat and Welfare Office is responsible for the supervision of Social Welfare and Social Education Programmes launched in the District. He works under the administrative control of the Divisional Panchayats and Welfare Officer, Gwalior.

In his day-to-day work the District Panchayats and Welfare Officer is assisted by two Panchayat Extension Officers, two Lady Social Education Organisers, one Sub-Auditor, Panchayats, one Radio Mechanic, one Operator, forty-one Village Assistants, a Driver, a Battery Attendant and usual staff. By the middle of 1967, the office organised 246 film shows, two dramas, and two exhibitions. It has 106 radio-sets for various centres and a running library for mass education.

Tribal and Harijan Welfare

To develop progressive outlook among the people of Scheduled Tribes, Harijans and Other Backward Classes in the field of education, agriculture, etc., and to implement various other schemes of the Tribal and Harijan Welfare Department, an office of the District Tribal Welfare Assistant is functioning at Datia since 1953.

The District Tribal Welfare Assistant works under the administrative control of the Collector, Datia, and helps the Collector in the implementation of the above schemes. In his work the Tribal Welfare Assistant is assisted by the usual staff.

During the period of the Third Five Year Plan, 1888 Harijan students were given financial help totalling Rs. 149,436 in addition to thirty scholarships worth Rs. 8,699. Financial aid of Rs. 6,500 was also provided to Harijan families.

Subsequently, upto the 31st March, 1967 a sum of Rs. 40,000 was distributed to 499 Harijan students and an aid of Rs. 4989 was provided to 19 students of low income group.

Employment Exchange

To render help to employment seekers in obtaining employment on the one hand and assisting the employers in procuring the required qualified manpower for their establishments on the other, 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 the 15th March 1963, with its headquarters at Datia.

There is also an Employment Information and Assistance Bureau with headquarters at Seondha which is headed by a Junior Employment Officer, who is responsible to the Employment Officer, Datia.

The Employment Officer is under the control of the Director of Employment, Directorate of Employment and Training, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur.

Information and Publicity

To give maximum publicity to the Government policies and development activities of various departments functioning in the District through the press and other media of publicity available, a publicity office headed by a Public Relations Assistant is functioning since 1956 with headquarters at Datia.

The Public Relation Assistant works under the overall departmental control of the Director, Publicity and Information Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal and under the immediate control of the Collector, Datia.

In the preceding five years, i. e., from 1962 to 1967 this office released 1,469 news items to the press. Also 1,23,395 copies of publicity literature were either distributed or displayed. During the period under review, the office organized 76 exhibitions. In addition, an Information Centre is also run by this office in co-ordination with the Education Department.

Sales Tax

For the purpose of assessment, and recovery of arrears of Sales Tax an office of the Assistant Sales Tax Officer, Datia, is functioning since 1957. It has jurisdiction over whole of Datia District and the officer works under the control of the Sales Tax Officer, Gwalior, Circle I.

In his work the Assistant Sales Tax Officer is assisted by one Sales Tax Inspector who inspects the sales accounts of shops.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

The history of Local Self Government in Datia District may be traced back to the year 1907, when a municipal committee was established in Datia town. The Municipal Committee thus established began to tackle for the first time, the civic problems. The town was divided into different wards from each of which one member was nominated. In the beginning no taxes were levied and the expense was borne by Datia State Government and the Municipal Officer worked under the guidance of the Dewan. Thereafter from each ward one member was elected but the Chairman continued to be nominated. The work entrusted to the Municipality was mostly of the nature of conservancy and a few tasks as were assigned by the ruler. In the year 1915-16 the number of members in Municipal Council was 16 and Wheel Tax on carts and tongas and slaughter house tax were levied. All these yielded a total revenue of Rs.4,931 while the expenditure during the same year amounted to Rs. 8,883.

Prior to 1947 indirect elections were held for the Municipality in which only males were entitled to cast their votes. Upto the year 1944, the President was always a Government nominee but thereafter the elected members chose their own President. Gradually more and more duties were assigned to the Municipal Committee.

After Independence, in 1947, important legislation for reorganising Local Self-Government was passed. On the formation of Vindhya Pradesh, the Rewa State Municipalities Act of 1946 was extended to Datia and the first elections under the new Act were held in July, 1951. The candidates for councillorship contested on a non-party basis. The Committee had a term of three years but the period was extended for another six months. Thereafter, elections were held in 1955 and 1958 on party basis. The composition of membership of Datia Municipality from 1950 onwards is shown below.

Composition of Datia Municipality

Table No. XIV-1

Year	Number of Members		Total
	Elected	Selected	
1950	10	1	11
1951-1954	10	3	13
1955-1958	10	3	13
1959-1961	10	1	11
1961-1964	10	2	12

The Rewa State Municipalities Act 1946 which was amended by Ordinance XXI of 1949 and Ordinance XXXVIII of 1949, provided for election to the office of Chairman of the Board. All members and persons qualified to become members of the Board were eligible for election to the office of the Chairman. Vice-Chairman was appointed by the Chairman from among the members of the Board. The term of office of the Committee was fixed for three years.

In order to bring uniformity in the pattern of urban Local Self-Government institutions throughout Madhya Pradesh, the Urban Local Self-Government Committee was appointed in 1957 to examine the whole question. In pursuance of its recommendations the Municipal Act of 1961 was enacted. Under this Act, the system of indirect election of the president either from among the elected or selected members in or from outside by Councillors has been provided. According to the Act each municipal council shall consist of (a) elected councillors (b) selected councillors not exceeding one-fourth of the total number of elected Councillors, of whom at least one shall be a woman, to be selected by single transferable vote by the elected members of a new council from amongst persons residing in the municipal areas and who are electors and not otherwise disqualified to be councillors by or under this Act. Further, the State Government, from time to time, fixed the number of seats to be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Every Council has a term of four years from the date of election and the term of office of every Councillor is co-terminus with the term of Council of which he is the Councillor. After every general election the council elects, at its first meeting, President and the Vice-President, who shall hold office for a period of two years from the date on which they assume their offices. Every Committee has been empowered to constitute out of its own body executive sub-committees on Finance, Public works, Public Health and Education. The new Act has empowered the State Government to determine the total number of Councillors for each municipality and to divide the municipal area into wards and define their limits, to fix the number of reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and allot them to various Wards from time to time. Municipalities, which had hitherto been grouped on income basis into six categories have now been grouped into four categories on population basis:-

Class I, With a population exceeding 50,000 persons.

Class II, With a population between 20,000 and 50,000 persons.

Class III, Between 10,000 and 20,000 persons.

Class IV, With a population not exceeding 10,000 persons.

According to the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act 1961, Datia Municipality has been classified into Class II and the number

of Councillors has been fixed as 22. The Municipality was dissolved in December 1964 and since then an Officer-in-charge has been looking after its administration. The present area of the municipality is 41.4 sq. km. The Municipal area has been divided into the following six wards.

- (1) Rajgarh Ward
- (2) Mahal Ward
- (3) Suryan Ward
- (4) Holipura Ward
- (5) Bharatgarh Ward
- (6) Govind Niwas Ward

In 1921 the population of Datia town was 15,221 persons which increased to 18,292 in 1931, to 22,086 in 1941, to 26,447 in 1951, to 29,430 in 1961 and to 36,439 in 1971.

The municipal finance is necessary to provide money to meet the cost of the local services. In the earlier period, octroi was the chief source of revenue of municipalities. From the beginning of present century financial resources of the municipalities included octroi, taxes on houses and lands, taxes on profession and trades, water rate, conservancy, vehicle tax and rates and fees from markets, pounds and slaughter houses. At present the main sources of revenue of Datia Municipality are toll tax, octroi tax, *Baitihki*, conservancy tax and water rate. Among the heads of expenditure important items are public health and convenience, public safety and others. The following Table gives an idea of total receipts and expenditure of Datia Municipality.

Table No. XIV—2
Receipts and Expenditure

Year (1)	Receipts (Rs.) (2)	Expenditure (Rs.) (3)
1952-53	1,38,772	80,814
1956-57	1,02,657	1,31,881
1961-62	3,66,498	3,57,834
1962-63	7,20,869	7,10,139
1963-64	5,81,216	5,81,446
1964-65	5,12,161	4,04,965
1965-66	3,54,579	2,83,145
1966-67	3,65,242	3,72,513
1967-68	3,82,611	4,01,862
1968-69	5,11,917	4,71,970
1969-70	5,56,707	5,75,110
1970-71	6,75,200	5,05,100

The municipalities are charged with the various obligatory and discretionary functions as provided under the Act of 1961 within the municipal area. Briefly and generally they are construction, maintenance of roads and culverts, their cleaning and watering, street lighting, water supply, drainage, maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries, vaccination, construction and maintenance of public markets, slaughter houses 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 and carrying out census of agricultural cattle, naming streets and numbering houses, etc. Besides these there are a number of discretionary function which the municipalities are expected to perform, like reclaiming of unhealthy localities, construction and maintenance of parks, play-grounds, gardens, libraries and museums, conducting census and survey, holding of fairs, measure to promote trade and industry, etc.

The most important functions of the Municipality are

- (1) Public Health
- (2) Public Works
- (3) Street lighting and
- (4) Water Supply.

At present the streets of Datia town are lighted with electricity. Datia Municipality was having 415 street lights in 1961-62 which increased to 440 in 1962-63, to 467 in 1963-64, to 565 in 1964-65 and Street Lighting to 600 in 1965-66. The following table gives an idea of expenditure incurred by Datia Municipality under various heads for selected years.

Table No. XIV—3

Expenditure on various heads

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Lighting
1951-52	61,226	..	1,300
1956-57	32,319	5,493	1,464
1961-62	27,946	948	12,694
1962-63	59,146	1,997	..
1963-64	52,376	2,865	35,329
1964-65	41,095	27,638	25,415
1965-66	50,538	2,440	23,285
1966-67	35,808	..	22,507
1967-68	16,549	9,101	24,465
1968-69	16,614	6,232	26,257
1969-70	16,069	4,404	32,653
1970-71	18,100	11,500	31,600

Lighting the public streets is included in public safety and it is one of the important functions of the Municipality to guard the public against danger in darkness and against accidents due to traffic.

For the control of rabies, the municipality has to arrange for the destruction of stray dogs and other animals.

Public Health

In the field of public health the activities of the Municipality generally comprise preventing disease, prolonging life, promoting physical health through the community efforts for the sanitation of the environment, control of infectious diseases, organisation of medical services and preventive treatment of disease. It is clear from the foregoing Table that the largest amount is expended under this head.

Water-Supply

One of the most important public health services of a municipality is the adequate provision of pure and clean water for a high standard of personal and public hygiene. Only a moderate progress has been achieved towards solving the problem of water scarcity in the District. All the wells inside the town are having brackish water with the exception of a few wells on the outskirts of Datia town which have got sweet water. A water supply scheme for Datia town was drawn up in the year 1966 and the Municipal Board Datia has contributed Rs. 21,000 for the purpose. The Government has sanctioned Rs. 12,01,000 as loan and Rs. 5,24,000 as grant-in-aid. Thus original estimated expenditure over the scheme was Rs. 17.46 lakhs but the revised expenditure is planned at Rs. 21.70 lakhs. A filter plant has been constructed and supply of water started from 10th April, 1966. At present about 900 unmetered connections and 75 metered connections have been given for the supply of water. The water rates are Rs. 5 per tap per month for unmetered connection and 0.28 n.p. per 1000 litres for metered connections. The scheme has been designed for 65,000 population at the rate of 30 gallons per head per day. The present consumption of water is two to three lakhs gallons of water per day. In the year 1959-60 expenditure on water-supply by Datia Municipal Committee was Rs. 2,11,429 which increased to Rs. 4,12,550 in 1960-61, to Rs. 200,000 in 1961-62, to Rs. 400,000 in 1962-63, to Rs. 312,300 in 1963-64, to Rs. 203,500 in 1964-65 and to Rs. 19,268 in 1965-66. The total receipt on water supply for the year 1965-66 was Rs. 43,906 and in 1966-67 Rs. 71,812.

Panchayats

* The Local Self-Government in the shape of village assembly, where the local problems and the needs for sanitation, communication, judiciary

and the police were served, was an old institution of the land. Village administration was more or less entrusted to the village headman, commonly known as *Mukhiya*. During the early British regime heavy executive and judicial power were conferred on the Government officials and when *Ryotwari* system was introduced against the village tenure system, these Panchayats gradually ceased to exist. But soon the administration realised their mistake and endeavour was made to revive this institution of village corporate life. Till 1907 no appreciable progress was made in this direction. It was the Decentralization Commission which proposed that in each village there should be one Village Panchayat to serve as a basic Unit of local democracy and primary unit of local Government. The Commission recommended certain function for these local bodies including management of village schools and summary jurisdiction in small civil and criminal cases. In the year 1918, following the Mont-Ford report it was felt that an effective and essential beginning should be made where possible with a view to calling these Panchayats into existence.

In the former Datia State 47 Panchayats were constituted under the State Panchayat Court Act. These were under the supervision of Tahsildars. The *Nambardar* used to be the principal village official. Where there were several *Nambardars* in a village, one was always recognised as the head or *Mukhia Nambardar*. The *Mukhia Nambardar* was bound to assist the Patwari in collecting the revenue and also settled all local disputes through the Panchayat of which he was the leading member. The Panchayats were established for the trial of petty civil and criminal cases but were, on the whole, ineffective.

With the coming of Independence the important step of extending the benefits of Local Self-Government to the villages was taken by the passing of the Vindhya Pradesh Gram Panchayat Ordinance 1949 (No. XXIV of 1949) which was enforced in this District from 13th May 1949. The Panchayats were established for a village or group of villages. Under the Act the Gram Panchayats were entrusted with the administrative functions alone, the Judicial function being given to a newly created institution known as the Nyaya Panchayat. A Gram Panchayat was composed of 5 to 15 *Panchas* in addition to the *Sarpanch* and the *up-sarpanch* of the Committee. The term of office of a member of a Gram Panchayat other than the *Sarpanch* or *up-sarpanch* or a member chosen to fill a casual vacancy used to be three years, and one-third of the members used to retire annually. The area of a Gram Panchayat was divided into such number of constituencies as may be convenient for the purpose of election. It was also provided that where there is a minority community, each constituency shall be so formed as to elect at least one member of the minority. The number of seats assigned to the minority and non-minority communities used to be in proportion of their respective population in the area of the Gram Sabha. Every

Gram Sabha used to hold two general meetings in each year, one soon after harvesting the *Kharif* crop called *Agahni* meeting and the other soon after harvesting of the *rabi* crop called the *Baisakhi* meeting.

Under the Act, 133 Panchayats were constituted in Datia District out of which 65 were in Seondha tahsil and 68 in Datia Tahsil. They continued to function till 1965. In December 1964 elections of Panchayats were held and 74 Gram Panchayats were constituted in this District.

The functions entrusted to the Village Panchayats under the Act of 1949 were multifarious. In short, these cover the entire field of civic administration and economic development of the villages. The main duties include sanitation, medical relief, Public lighting, supply of water, registration of births, deaths and marriages, construction and maintenance of village roads, assisting the development of agriculture, commerce and industry, and fulfilling any other obligation imposed by any other law for the time being in force. Discretionary functions assigned to the Panchayats were planting and maintaining trees on road sides and other public places, prevention of cattle diseases, relief against famine or other calamity, public libraries, and establishing and developing co-operative societies, seeds and implements stores, etc.

Financial resources admissible to these Panchayats may be classified as (a) self earned or independent income like compulsory and optional taxes, fees, rates, etc., and receipts from Panchayat property, (b) Government Grants, both regular and adhoc and (c) Adhoc public contribution for specified development work.

The Gram Sabha at each *Agahni* meeting used to consider and pass the budget for the following year and its *Baisakhi* meeting considers the accounts of the preceding year. The following table giving the income and expenditure figures of the Gram Panchayats of Datia District would convey an idea of their financial position as well as their sphere of activities.

Table No. XIV—4
Receipts and Expenditure of Gram Panchayats

Year	Datia Tahsil	
	Receipt	Expenditure
1962—63	89,805	73,846
1963—64	1,53,473	85,529
1964—65	1,94,433	1,22,107
1965—66	1,52,267	85,875
1966—67	1,65,411	1,26,886
1967—68	1,08,766	1,13,321
1968—69	1,48,633	1,59,609
1969—70	2,00,499	1,65,393

Table No. XIV—5

Seondha Tahsil

Year	Gram Panchayat	
	Receipt	Expenditure
1960-61	84,335	44,786
1961-62	1,05,046	37,267
1962-63	1,69,312	61,703
1963-64	1,42,613	71,174
1964-65	1,45,144	74,062
1965-66	1,85,104	75,343
1966-67	1,34,953	79,572
1967-68	1,19,351	90,763
1968-69	1,76,520	1,43,241
1969-70	1,82,268	1,13,815

The village panchayats of the District have also carried on considerable development activities in their respective areas. They have constructed 130 wells, 59 *Panchayat Bhawans*, 108 schools, 4 dispensaries, 5 libraries and 9 Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in this District. Villages of Baroni, Khurd, Pachokhara, Sidawal and Seondha have been electrified. Basai, Baroni Khurd, Seondha and Kuholi have got water supply.

Nyaya Panchayats

From the ancient times village panchayats have played a very important role in the settlement of village disputes. With the advent of Independence the judicial functions in the rural areas were entrusted to the village panchayats. Thus the establishment of Nyaya Panchayats in 1949 aimed at the cheaper, speedier and simpler justice for the village folk. According to the Vindhya Pradesh Gram Panchayat Ordinance, 1949, the District was divided into circles. Each circle comprised as many areas subject to the jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat as may be expedient, and Nyaya Panchayats were established for each such circle. Every Gram Sabha in a circle elects five adults of prescribed qualification permanently residing within its jurisdiction to act as *Panchas* in the Nyaya Panchayat of that circle. All the *Panchas* elected under section 43 elect from among themselves a person who is able to record proceedings and to act as *Sarpanch* of the Nyaya Panchayat, and the term of office of every *Panch* is three years from the date of his election. At present there are 23 Nyaya Panchayats in Datia tahsil and 21 Nyaya Panchayats in Seondha tahsil.

Under this Act the Gram Sabha, consisting of all the adults of the village, has been recognised as a statutory body, which shall meet at least twice in a year to consider programme of work and the Panchayat budget at the village level. Gram Sabhas are also to elect the members of the Gram Panchayat at the ratio of 10 *panchas* for population of 1000 and one extra *Panch* for each additional 200 persons. Reserve Seats have been provided for two co-opted women members, one representative of the co-operative society, one from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Janapada Panchayat consists of, in addition to the elected *Panchas* varying from 13 to 30, 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. A. The Zila Panchayat extending its jurisdiction over the whole District, includes *Sarpanchas* of all Janapada Panchayats, M. L. A.s from the District and all District Officers, representing Public Health, Education, Agriculture and other Development Departments, one woman, one member of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and one 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 service of the District Panchayat Officer.

The elections for Gram Panchayats according to the new Act were held in December 1954 and 1116 *Panchas* were elected for the Panchayats.

Functions assigned to the Gram Panchayats are promotion of agriculture, co-operation, cottage industries, sanitation, conservancy, minor irrigation works, water-supply and organizing collective farming and credit societies. The sphere of Municipal functions and Duties has been much widened as compared with the Panchayats under the old Act.

The real break-through has come up assigning many revenue functions to the gram Panchayats. The Government have decided to entrust duties of *Patels* and *Mukadams* to the gram Panchayats. It means that these gram panchayats, which are entrusted with the duties of *Patels* shall collect land revenue and are entitled to the commission which is payable under the rules to *Patels*. Under the Act, the gram panchayat is authorised to constitute a Reconciliation Board for the Settlement of disputes, before the Nyaya Panchayats takes cognizance of any case triable by it. The Janapada Panchayats are to execute Community Development programme in association with Gram Panchayats, co-operative societies, voluntary organisations and the public. This would include improvement of agriculture,

animal husbandry and fisheries, education, communication and public works, health and sanitation, co-operation, emergency relief work, social welfare, collection of statistics, self-help programme, etc. The Zila Panchayat's main duty is to supervise and guide the Gram Panchayats, co-ordinate their activities and distribute Government funds among Janapada Panchayats. For efficient functioning the Gram Panchayats have been empowered to form seven functional sub-committees, Janapada Panchayats seven standing committees, and the Zila Panchayat five standing committees.

As regards financial resources no major change has been made in the Gram Panchayat fund. But one provision has been made to allot suitable amount to the Janapada Panchayats for carrying out Community Development Programme. It has also been authorised to levy a tax on new bridges constructed by itself and an entertainment tax on theatre and other public shows. The Zila Panchayat will get forest revenue, and contribution from the State Government and other bodies, besides a share from the general revenue. The budget of the Gram Panchayats would be approved by the Zila Panchayat, the last named being authorised to sanction its own budget.

According to the Act of 1962, 94 Village Panchayats were created for Datia District and the total number of Wards was 1108. The elections were held in the year 1970. In all 148 women and 15 members belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were co-opted as members according to the instructions laid down in the Act.

The elections for the Janapada Panchayats at Datia and Seondha were held in December 1970, and 21 members were elected for each Janapada Panchayat.

Steps were also being taken for the establishment of Zila Panchayat in the District.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

During the Mahabharata times, the Kunti Janapada, the present Kontwar region, seems to have enjoyed considerable educational and cultural eminence. The temple of Balaji at Unnao, Nand Nandanji temple at Seondha and the famous Jain temples at Sonagir indicate an era of art and civilization in the area during the remote past.

At the time of Ashok, the region formed a part of his kingdom. The recent outstanding epigraphical discovery of a new version of Minor Rock Edict of Ashok in village Gujara of the District,¹ lent weight to the existence of widespread popular education in the region. It has been held that these edicts in Vernacular were a proof of the same.²

For next about two thousand years, no record is available to show the state of education in the tract. "In 1828.....M. Ainsle recorded the establishment of a school at Hamirpur, and that the Raja of Datia had asked to be allowed to subscribe Rs. 1,000 towards it".³ During this period Raja Parikshit ruled over Datia, and was succeeded in 1839 by Bijay Bahadur who was a great patron of *pandits*.⁴

The history of modern education in Datia dates back to the times of Bhawani Singh (1857-1907) when one English School and three rural *madarasa* were recorded in Datia. '*Angrezi madarassa*', as it was called later was opened in the year 1858, soon after the Great Uprising.⁵ It was the first and the only institution in the State, which was established by the ruling power during the minority reign of Raja Bhawani Singh. With 55 students in the beginning, the instruction was imparted in Persian, Hindi, Urdu and Sanskrit. English was introduced in the *madarasa* in the year 1864, and later, in 1888, it was raised to the status of a High School, teaching upto the Entrance standard of Allahabad University. It was housed in Diwan Garibdas

Gusain's mansion, and Keshava Ramchandra Rao Chikte was its much revered Head Master. Its venue was shifted to Nazarbagg and then finally to its own new premises in the year 1941. Earlier in 1922 it was rechristened as Lord Reading High School.

In 1861, this school had a strength of 98 students. The teaching staff consisted of three teachers and a Head Master. English was taught by Krishna Dass of Agra who was also a private tutor to Arjun Singh, the half-brother of the Ruling Prince. The monthly expenditure of the school amounted to Rs. 128 (Rajshahi).

Alongwith this institution, three other branch schools were also started during this period at village Seondha and Indergarh, now in Seondha Tahsil, and Nadia in Datia Tahsil of the State¹.

Whereas there were 6 State schools and 15 private schools with a strength of 336 and 195 students, respectively, in the year 1891, their number rose to 9 State schools and 20 private schools in the year 1891. The strength of students also increased to 415 and 250, respectively. The State incurred an expenditure of Rs. 3,348 on education during this year. During the closing decade of the last century, the progress of education was more or less static, the number of schools remaining the same as in 1891. The State expenditure on education declined to Rs. 2,995 in 1901. This stagnation was largely due to the famine conditions prevailing during the year 1897.

The District Education Officer looks after the school education in Datia District. He is assisted by a number of inspectional staff.

Literacy and Educational Standards

In 1961, the total number of literate and educated persons in the District was 29,836, divided into 25,786 males and 4,050 females. Approximately, they constituted 14.88 per cent of the District population. Standing fourth in descending order amongst the districts of Gwalior Division, Datia with 149 literates per 1,000 persons is preceded by Guna (138), Bhind (174) and Gwalior (279). Morena (149) stands at par with Datia in this respect. There has been a great variance between the rural and urban literacy rates on the one hand and male and female literacy rates on the other. While in the former case, rural literacy rate was 11.2 per cent, the urban literacy rate was 33.04 per cent. Similarly, in the latter case, while the male literacy stood at 24.4 per cent, the female literacy rate was 4.3 per cent.

1. *ibid.*

1. Indian Archaeology — A Review, 1954-55, p. 27.

2. F. E. Keay, *Ancient Indian Education*, p. 158.

3. H. Sharp, *Selections from Educational Records (1781-1839)*, Pt I, p. 190.

4. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 12.

5. *Datia Darshan*, p. 93.

The following table gives the literate population according to Census of 1961:—

Table No. XV—1

Literate Population

	Illiterate	Literate (without Educational Level)	Primary or Junior Basic	Matriculate or Higher Secondary & above
District				
Total	1,70,631	27,081	1,337	1,418
Urban	19,709	8,127	648	948
Rural	1,50,922	18,954	691	470

Growth of Literacy

In 1931, Datia had a literate population of 8,114 persons, 7,903 males and 211 females. The literacy rate was 0.51 per cent of total population in that year. The twenty years' period that followed transformed the spectrum of literacy in the State, and in 1951, Datia had 8.2 per cent literate population. Though much below the State average (9.84), yet it can not be denied that the District was marching hand in hand with other districts of the State. The following decade (1951-61), which witnessed the implementation of two Five Year Plans, generated enthusiasm for education. This is reflected in the literacy rate, which increased to 14.88 per cent in 1961 from 8.2 per cent a decade ago. Yet it was much below the State average of 17.1 per cent. The total literate population recorded in 1961 was 29,836, constituted of 25,786 males and 4,050 females. A bulk of these were returned from rural areas as is clear from the foregoing table. In 1971, the total literate population was 54,482, consisting of 44,795 males and 9,687 females. The literacy rate was then 21 per cent, which was not much below the State average of 22 per cent.

Literacy by Educational Standards

Of the 2,755 literates having educational proficiency upto different standards in 1961, about 58 per cent (1,594) inhabited urban tracts and the remaining rural areas. A host of the literate population who attained some level of proficiency belong to primary or secondary stage. It seems that education in the District is heavily biased in favour of academic subjects as against technical, which may be owing to inadequate facilities of the same in this area. Whereas there were 146 University degree-holders in non-technical subjects, the number was a paltry 24 in technical subjects. Teaching (13) and medicine (7) seem to share most of educated in this field.

The following table gives the break-up of literate population attaining proficiency at different levels.

Table No. XV—2

Number of Literates

Educational Standards	Persons	Literates		Rural	Urban
		Males	Females		
Literates (without educational level)	27,081	23,322	3,759	18,954	8,127
Primary or Junior Basic	1,337	1,167	170	691	646
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	1,418	1,297	121	648	770
Technical diploma not equal to degree	8	7	1	—	8
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	146	132	14	—	146
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree					
Engineering	1	1	—	—	1
Medicine	7	7	—	—	7
Agriculture	2	2	—	—	2
Veterinary and Dairying	1	1	—	—	1
Teaching	13	10	3	—	13

Note—The number of matriculates or higher secondary in rural areas include persons with higher qualifications also.

Spread of Education among Women

Though educational history in the State dates back to 1828 when Raja Parikshit ruled over it, yet it was not till 1912-13 that we see the beginning of female education in the modern sense. A reference in the address delivered by the *Diwan* of the State at the inaugural ceremony of Lady O'Dwyer Girls School, Datia, however, points to the literary eminence of the ladies of the palace in the past. He said : "The advantages of teaching their girls both for reasons of domestic economy and spiritual advancement, have always been appreciated even in this conservative town of orthodox beliefs, and the cause of female education was promoted and encouraged in the past by the establishment of girls' school, and the eminence which study and culture in Hindi gradually attained may be judged from the fact that contributions to religious literature by way of composition of devotional hymns and verses were made by the pen of the ladies of the Palace.

"Unfortunately, in the wave of general decline that overtook the whole administration, the existence of the girls' school was swept away many years ago. Now, so to speak, in the period of renaissance which has dawned

upon the State the advisability of the revival of the girls school was considered in May, 1912 and on feeling that it was needed the suggestion met with the approval of the members of Council and the citizens".¹

Thus in that year (1912-13), a thorough reorganisation of education was undertaken, which not only proved a turning point in the advancement of general education, but of female education too. The State assumed the responsibility of promoting female education, or the training of Datia town girls upto the primary standard and needle work. Consequently, as referred to earlier, a beginning was made with the establishment of Lady O'Dwyer Girls School at Datia, named after the wife of M. F. O'Dwyer, Agent to the Governor-General, Central India. Started with an attendance of 50 girls, the school earned the patronage of some of the enlightened officials of the State, such as the Secretary, *Durbar* and Chief Judicial Officer, the Assistant Accountant-General, and the Forest Officer, who agreed to send their daughters to the school. The mistress was a local *Brahmin* whose appointment was generally approved. Arrangements for teaching in Hindi were made and Urdu classes also were to be added later on.

Four years later in 1916-17, the syllabus for female education was considerably modified in consonance with the avowed objective of turning out enlightened housewives and mothers. Sewing was given extra importance in teaching. The institution grew as years rolled on and in 1933, it was upgraded into a middle school and was rechristened after the name of Lady Willingdon with various modifications and attractions added. During the 'fifties of this century the school achieved the status of a High School in 1953, and of Higher Secondary School by the close of the decade (1960).

Till the year 1933, the above institution fought a lone battle for the education of girls, when it was joined in this task by another girls school which was started at Seondha, a tahsil headquarters in Datia District.

The development of female education after the merger of States and formation of Vindhya Pradesh in 1948, blended with the general stream of planned educational development in the new State, and since 1951-52 Datia has witnessed the execution of three successive Five Year Plans.

For the emancipation of ruralites in general and women in particular, the State Social Welfare Advisory Board was also formed in the year 1954. It was affiliated to the Central Social Welfare Advisory Board, Delhi. The Board appointed Shrimati Leelawati Dosaj to look after the activities². The

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1912-13, p. 21.

2. Vindhya Bhoomi (Pradesh Parichaya Ank), 1956, p. 139.

Board established five centres at Chirula, Unnao, Sonagir, Saroni and Sar-sari for training adult women in tailoring and knitting, carpet, druppets and *niwar* weaving, toys and basket-making, etc.

It was the policy of the erstwhile State to encourage education among its subjects for which education upto high school was made free to all. The scheme of co-education, scholarship to poor and meritorious students, etc., was also in vogue. The high school and middle school examinees were granted journey and boarding and lodging expenses to attend the examination at Jhansi or Gwalior centres.

The following table shows the progress of female education during the various Plan periods.

Table No. XV—3

Progress of Female Education

Year	No. of Primary and Junior Basic Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1951	4	172	12
1955	6	880	22
1960	10	2,040	56
1965-66	19	2,120	21
1966-67	19	1,818	21
1967-68	25	1,846	30
1968-69	25	1,895	31

Facilities for secondary and higher education were also extended to girls. Whereas there was 1 middle school with 128 girls in 1951, the number increased to 3 middle schools with 628 girls and one higher secondary school with 216 students in 1961-62. During the Third Plan period, the number of middle schools increased to 6 with 1,350 girls, while the number of higher secondary schools for girls remained one till 1965-66. The enrolment, however, improved to 259 in that year.

In order to promote coordinated development of female education, the new State of Madhya Pradesh established the State Council for Women's Education in the year 1960. On its recommendations, the Government provided some special incentives for attracting women to teaching profess-

ion in rural areas. These included the provision of advance increments, relaxation in age-limit, provision of residential quarters, etc.

Spread of Education among Backward Classes and Tribes

According to Census of 1961, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population in Datia numbered 36,993 and 2,483, respectively. The predominant amongst the former were Chamars, Kumhars and Basors, and amongst the latter Sahariyas.

The manifestation of Government interest towards the education of these classes, in a way, dates back to the second decade of the present century when in 1912-13, a thorough reorganisation of the Education Department was undertaken and education in rural areas was given some importance. The village schools during this period were 11 in number. It is reported that, "the great majority of the students attending these schools were the sons of agriculturists".

But after the emergence of Vindhya Pradesh State in 1948, the Government interest manifested itself overwhelmingly when a separate Department was established in 1952 for the emancipation of these Classes in Vindhya Pradesh. Various steps were taken by the department to ameliorate their condition educationally and socially. Ten per cent reservation of seats in educational institutions; supply of books and stationery etc., upto 8th standard free of cost; scholarships at varying rates and free boarding and clothings to hostel in mates are a few facilities to mention. Students in all the schools of the District were exempted from tuition-fees upto matriculation standard. Night classes were also started for them, so that working Harijan adults also could be covered under the scheme for their uplift. During the Second Plan period a sum of Rs. 9,711 was spent over the night classes for Harijans and Rs. 804 on night classes for Tribals.

Harijan Sewak Sangh started Gardhi Ashram at Datia in the year 1952-53, which was later taken over by the Government in the year 1956. It had 25 students, on whom Government spent about Rs. 4,839 in the year 1955-57. The expenditure on the *Ashram* increased to Rs. 9,291 in the year 1959-60. But in subsequent years, the expenditure declined and it was Rs. 6,350 in 1961-62. A Harijan hostel was also opened at Seondha during the First Plan period on which Rs. 5,000 were spent.

As a result of aforesaid steps, there was a vast improvement in the education of these people at primary and secondary stages of education. Whereas there were 893 students of these classes in 1953-54 at primary stage and 8 at secondary stage, the number increased to 1,170 at the former and to 103 at the latter stage in the year 1956-57. By the end of the Second Plan period (1960-61), the number of Scheduled Caste students further in-

creased to 1,372 in primary and to 237 in the secondary stage. During this period liberal scholarships amounting to Rs. 33,798 were awarded to 543 pupils of these Classes. At the secondary education stage, 15 boys were granted scholarships amounting to Rs. 575 in the year 1956-57. This number increased to 514 students getting scholarship amounting to Rs. 17,545 in the year 1960-61. During the Third Plan period a sum of Rs. 149,437 was spent on the stipends or scholarships for the Scheduled Castes and Rs. 2,140 for Scheduled Tribe students. Similarly, post-matric scholarships to 29 scholars amounting to Rs. 6,755 were also awarded during the Third Plan period.

The progress of education amongst them during the Third Plan period can be seen from the following table which shows the number of Scheduled Caste students in primary and secondary stages, as also the amount of scholarships distributed amongst them.

Table No. XV--4

Progress of Education Amongst Scheduled Castes

Year	No. of Students		Scholarship			
	Primary	Secondary	Primary		Secondary	
			Students	Amount (Rs.)	Students	Amount (Rs.)
1961-62	2,553	619	32	150	..	..
1962-63	1,628	456	68	2,015	210	23,472
1963-64	1,790	524	—	..	446	33,584
1964-65	2,481	742	25	5,809	475	34,374
1966-67	2,222	777	20	3,949	512	39,667
1967-68	2,108	902	..	..	581	55,833
1968-69	2,188	683	..	..	587	41,299

The literacy percentage amongst these Classes, which was about 5.4 per cent in 1961, seems to have improved considerably since then. But educationally, the Tribes are still very backward. The Census of 1961 returned only 24 of the 2,483 Tribals as literate or educated.

General Education

Primary School Education

The growth of primary education during the last century has already been traced in earlier pages of this Chapter. Much of the educational history during this century revolved round the *Angrezi Madarasa*, which, as said earlier, was raised to the status of high school before this century dawned. Tahsil schools carried forth the torch of primary school education, which in 1907-08 numbered 4, and had a combined strength of 139 pupils. These were situated at Seondha, Nadigaon, Indergarh and Unnao Bhawaniganj. The

State expenditure on education during this year amounted to Rs. 2,666. By the year 1910-11, except for the addition of one *Patwari* School with 12 students, no new institution was added. The strength of pupils remained much the same but the expenditure mounted to Rs. 3,691 in that year. In the following year (1911-12), at the request of local people, two village schools were opened at Tharet and Digwan. Two private *pathshalas* were also in existence during this period in which elementary instruction was given. The strength in these schools was about 200 students.

During this period, in Datia School, there were two sections: Anglo-Vernacular in which boys taking up English were taught the course prescribed by the Allahabad University and the Oriental in which Persian was taught on the old *Maktab* system, and in Sanskrit the boys were prepared for the Benares Examinations.¹

The need was felt in the year 1912-13 to reorganize the Department of Public Instruction, and the course of education was divided into the following sections:—

- “(a) Rural Education or free Primary Education in reading, writing and arithmetic, both in Hindi and Urdu, imparted in village schools.
- (b) Urban Education or training of the boys of the town upto Anglo-Vernacular Middle Standard.
- (c) Education of the Nobles' sons, or teaching of the sons of the State nobility in a special class, apart from common boys of the schools. The Sirdars' boys' class is attended by scholars in prescribed uniform.
- (b) Technical and Industrial Education, or the training of the boys of the trading or professional class in the State Workshop or by sending candidates to special institutions for training in special departments.
- (e) Sanskrit *Pathshala* in which scholars, chiefly from priestly class, are prepared for Benaras College examinations.
- (f) Female education, or the training of the Datia town girls up to the primary standard and in needle-work and domestic economy”.²

In this year, the private *pathshalas* in Datia town were converted into aided branch schools. In this year, the number of students in primary standard increased to 30, apart from 26 in Sanskrit *Pathshala*. A girls

school was also established at Datia during this year. In addition to five existing village schools, six more schools were opened at Unnao, Baroni, Kanasi, Aknewa, Basith and Rai Kumaria in the year 1912-13. With all this reorganization, the expenditure on education increased to Rs. 4,668 or 0.7 per cent of the total land revenue of the State.

In the year 1915-16, the Primary Department was separated from the High School and was placed under the supervision of an Inspector directly responsible to the *Darbar*.¹ The post of an honorary Director of Hindi Schools also came into being in that year. In the year 1917, some 33 schools existed in Datia State with a strength of 1,400 boys on the rolls. The expenditure was Rs. 7,320 in the year 1915-16.²

The year 1916-17 was eventful for the Department of primary education in many respects. Suitable provisions were made for opening new schools to attract competent personnel from outside. The Zamindars were made responsible for the regular attendance of their wards. With a view to encouraging education, it was decided to ensure appointments in clerical line to the local candidates of the State who passed vernacular middle examination. A spirit of healthy competition manifested itself, but the poorer classes still preferred to keep their boys in blissful ignorance because they could not compromise with the consequences of their being deprived of their children's labour.

Not much progress could be achieved in the realm of education till the formation of Vindhya Pradesh State in the year 1948, when Datia State lost its separate entity. During the intervening period, most of the laurels in this field were shared by Datia High School and Lady O'Dwyer Girls School. The former school was renamed as Lord Reading School and was remodelled in the light of the University requirements in the year 1926. The latter school was also renamed as Lady Willingdon Girls Middle School in the year 1933, and necessary modifications and alterations were made.

In January, 1949 the Department of Education in Vindhya Pradesh was reorganized and Divisional level machinery was organised at Naogaon and Satna. Datia schools were placed under *Naogaon* Division. An Inspector of Schools was also posted in the District for the control and supervision of primary and middle education in Datia. Girls' education in the State was, however, placed under the supervision of two Inspectresses.

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1911-12, p. 11.

2. *ibid.* 1912-13, pp. 20-21.

1. *Datia Darshan*, p. 73.

2. *Datia State Administration Report*, 1915-16, pp. 78-90.

The year 1951-52 ushered in an era of planned development in the country, and Datia District also witnessed the launching of its First Five Year Plan. It was followed by Second and Third Plans by the year 1965-66. The growth of primary and junior basic education in the District during the first two Plan periods is given in the following table.

Table No. XV—6
Progress of Education during Plans

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Students		No. of Teachers	
		Boys	Girls	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6
1951	86	3,492	172	98	12
1955	184	6,676	880	255	22
1960	235	8,849	2,040	493	56

During the First Plan period, a number of educational schemes sponsored by the Government of India were implemented in Vindhya Pradesh State. This included the raising of primary and basic schools, opening of village schools, etc. The passing of Vindhya Pradesh Primary Education Act 1952 (IV of 1952) was a landmark in the history of primary education. In July, 1953, compulsion was extended in one school of each of two tahsils of Datia District, and necessary staff and equipment was made available to them. In the following year the headquarters of each *Kanungo* circle was also brought under the purview of this Act. The Act also covered the Block headquarters, and compulsory primary education was enforced.¹ The results of all these steps are adequately reflected in the foregoing table, whereby the number of schools increased by 173 per cent and students by about 143 per cent during the decade 1951-61.

The duration of primary course was already five years in this District when in 1957-58, it was uniformly accepted and extended by the new Government of Madhya Pradesh in all areas. Integrated syllabus prepared on the basic pattern was also adopted throughout the State in the year 1957-58. Till the year 1962, the primary education in Datia District was governed by the provisions of the Act mentioned earlier. But with the passing of primary Education Act of new Madhya Pradesh in 1962, the provisions of earlier Act stood replaced.

1. *Vindhya Bhoomi (Pradesh Parichaya Ank)*, 1956, p. 157.

During the Third Plan period (1961-62 to 1965-66), there had been no spectacular expansion of primary education in this District. The following table gives the yearwise number of schools, students and teachers during the Third Plan period and onwards:—

Table No. XV—6

Year	No. of Schools		Students		No. of Teachers	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males	Females
1961-62	191	11	7,032	1,658	366	72
1962-63	198	10	7,068	1,391	418	30
1963-64	225	13	8,578	1,577	438	21
1964-65	224	19	8,384	2,362	366	25
1965-66	224	19	8,083	2,120	367	21
1966-67	232	19	8,021	1,818	361	21
1967-68	253	25	9,228	2,715	459	47
1968-69	253	25	9,328	2,807	446	38

Under the compulsory primary education scheme, the District had about 70 schools with a strength of 5,104 pupils and 166 teachers in the year 1963-64. Since then there had not been much progress in this regard.

Basic Education

Basic education, which is an adaptation of the "Wardha Scheme", put forward by Gandhiji in 1937, was accepted by the Government of India as the approved pattern of primary education throughout the country. It sets out an activity curriculum in which learning is correlated with productive activities like spinning and weaving, gardening, carpentry, leather-work, book-craft and domestic crafts including cooking, serving and house management, etc.¹ But in the erstwhile State of Vindhya Pradesh till the year 1951-52, there was complete absence of the same. In the year 1952, steps were taken to start one Model Basic School in each district of the State, and thus Datia got its first taste of basic education. In the following year (1953), 30 primary schools in Datia District were converted into Basic Schools. This scheme of conversion continued during the Second Plan period also. Trained teachers were provided and necessary equipment was also supplied to each converted school. Thus we see that the conversion scheme (primary into junior basic and middle into senior basic) was already started

1. T. N. Siquier, *Modern Indian Education*, p. 126.

in this area when the new State of Madhya Pradesh emerged in 1956. In order to have a speedy change from traditional type of education to the basic type of education, the new integrated syllabi were prepared on basic pattern and was introduced in all primary and middle schools of the State from the year 1957-58.

During the first year of the Second Plan period, the number of junior basic schools increased to 45, which number continued till the end, i. e., 1960-61. The strength of students and teachers, however, increased from 3,137 and 109, respectively, in 1956-57 to 3,216 and 167, respectively, in 1960-61. Till this time there was no senior basic school in the District. In 1961-62 Datia received its first senior basic school, which had a strength of 150 students and 8 teachers. A significant feature of these schools was that all the teachers were trained teachers.

The progress of basic education, both junior and senior, during the Third Plan period and onwards may be seen from the following table.

Table No. XV-7

Year	Junior Basic Schools			Senior Basic Schools		
	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1961-62	45	3,226	180	1	160	8
1962-63	43	3,064	176	2	291	17
1963-64	42	4,092	194	2	308	23
1964-65	40	4,248	188	2	330	19
1965-66	40	3,931	168	2	330	19
1966-67	37	3,776	164	1	163	6
1967-68	40	3,870	156	1	62	5
1968-69	40	3,942	155	1	59	5

As said earlier, integrated syllabi were introduced in all primary and middle schools from the year 1957-58, and hence the scheme of conversion of schools into basic type was not given much stress during the Third Five Year Plan. This is the reason why the number of junior basic schools gradually decreased during the Third Plan period.

Secondary School Education

Forming an important link between the primary education on the one hand and University education on the other, the secondary education is

required to play a vital role in the system of education. It consists of two stages, viz., middle schools (classes VI to VIII) and higher secondary schools (classes IX to XI). Most of the middle schools have primary sections attached to them, as also higher secondary schools have middle sections.

Datia District claims to have about a century's history to the credit of secondary education. *Angrezi Madarsa*, as it was known, was started as a primary school in the year 1858. In 1861, it appears that it was raised as a middle school, and three years later English was introduced in it. It was, however, not before 1888¹ that it was raised to a full-fledged high school and won the distinction of being one of the oldest English schools in Bundelkhand area, imparting secondary education. The Head Master of this school was *ex-officio* Deputy Inspector who supervised education in the State. Much of the later history of secondary education during the 20th century revolved round the *Angrezi Madarsa* which became famous as High School, Datia. There was a dark period in the history of secondary education from 1900 to 1915, during which, the reputation of Datia High School lapsed into oblivion. Not a single student came out for University education. The reorganisation of primary education, effected in 1912-13, did not do much good to secondary education. But two years later, deteriorating condition of Datia High School compelled the authorities to take effective steps for its improvement. The services of qualified teachers were procured in 1915 and the staff was strengthened by fresh appointments. Sardar Boarding house was opened to educate the boys of nobility in the High School. In the year 1915-16, the Department of Primary Education was also separated from the High School Department, which continued under the control of the qualified Head Master of High School, Datia. As a result of all this, higher standard of discipline and teaching was enforced in the schools which became manifest, subsequently, when the strength of the students increased to 131 in 1915-16. School library was developed on a sound basis, and special grants were sanctioned to the school for the purpose. In 1915-16, eleven boys appeared at the Matriculation Examination, of whom one passed.

Again the twenties of the century manifested further improvement in the School which was named after Lord Reading and remodelled in the light of the University requirements. The number of students and pass-percentage went considerably high. To popularize higher education, the *Darbar* awarded scholarships to the poor and deserving students of the High School and sent them to Victoria College, Gwalior, Medical School, Indore, Forest School, Balaghat, and State Engineer's Office, Nayagaon for further

1. *Datia Darshan*, p. 14.

education and technical training. In the meanwhile in the year 1933, the Lady O'Dwyer Girls School was also raised to a middle school. It was renamed as Lady Willingdon Girls Middle School with necessary modification and added attraction.

The Boys High School again witnessed a change in its venue and, in 1941, it came to be housed in a splendid building (formerly known as Lokendra Club) on Private Road. Three years before the merger of the States the State Government, in the year 1945, sanctioned a separate post of Inspector of Schools. The onward progress of secondary education in Datia District was merged with the general stream of planned development of Vindhya Pradesh State, and later of the newly emerged Madhya Pradesh State in 1956. During the First Plan period, in the year 1954, the Boys High School was raised as an Intermediate Arts College. By the year 1951 there were 6 junior high schools (5 for boys and 1 for girls) with a combined strength of 1,012 students (including 28 girls) and 2 high schools with a strength of 329 students. With this ushered in the planned development of secondary education in the District. Government assumed the responsibility of running the institutions, both in rural and urban areas. The scheme of expansion was chalked out which envisaged the provision of at least one high school in each tahsil. With this end, wherever private cooperation was lagging behind, Government came forward to open new high schools for boys and girls. Consequently, the number of middle schools, high schools and higher secondary schools shot up considerably in 1956. In that year, the number was 14 middle and 5 high/higher secondary schools with a strength of 2,027 and 831 students, respectively.

The policy of expansion also continued during the Second Plan period. It also witnessed the introduction of new syllabus in middle schools from the year 1957-58 which was inspired by the basic pattern. From class V, the three language formula comes in force. Accordingly, the students in middle schools are required to study their mother-tongue, English and Hindi. Those whose mother-tongue is Hindi, learn Sanskrit as a third language. The annual examination of class VIII is conducted by the Board at the District level constituted for the purpose. The Chairman of the Board is the District Education Officer of Datia. In the sphere of high school education, Vindhya Pradesh had two years' course, recognized by the Central Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer. This pattern continued till the year 1958-59, when the Secondary Education Act of New Madhya Pradesh came into force. The Act envisaged the establishment of a new integrated Board of Higher Secondary Education at Bhopal, and provided for three years' instead of two years' course for the higher secondary education. New curriculum was enforced which provided adequate facilities for diver-

sification at this stage. During the Second Plan period, conversion of high schools into higher secondary schools was continued, and by the end of the Plan period (1960-61), the number of higher secondary schools increased to 7 with a strength of 1,797 students. The number of teachers was 87 in that year.

The progress of secondary education in Datia District during the Third Plan period and onward is given in the following table:—

Table No. XV—8

Year	Middle Schools			High and Higher Secondary Schools		
	No. of Institutions	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	No. of Institutions	No. of Students	No. of Teachers
1961-62	19	2,994	263	7	1,917	109
1962-63	24	3,699	288	7	2,192	105
1963-64	26	4,074	296	7	2,600	101
1964-65	31	3,571	299	7	2,836	103
1965-66	31	4,680	263	8	3,100	119
1966-67	35	5,557	281	9*	3,439	153
1967-68	46	4,279	260	9	2,363	121
1968-69	46	4,389	275	9	2,919	130
1969-70	47	4,384	283	9	2,779	120
1970-71	48	4,541	295	9	2,822	121
1971-72	53	4,742	326	9	2,759	123
1972-73	59	6,864	358	19	3,007	133

Note—*Includes Government Multipurpose Higher Secondary Schools.

Till the year 1966-67 there was no multipurpose higher secondary school in the District. In that year, Government Higher Secondary School, Datia, the oldest in the District, was converted into a multipurpose higher secondary school. The earlier history of this School has already been traced in the foregoing pages. In that year the School had a strength of 407 students on the rolls and 21 teachers on the staff.

Another important higher secondary school was Maharani Laxmi Bai Girls Higher Secondary School, Datia, which was founded in the year 1912-13. Earlier history of the same has already been traced in the relevant section. Started as Lady O'Dwyer Girls School, it was raised to middle school in 1933 when its name was also changed to Lady Willingdon

Girls Middle School. In 1953 the school was again upgraded as a high school and, finally in 1960-61, it was converted into Maharani Laxmi Bai Higher Secondary School, Datia. In the year 1961-62, it had a strength of 195 girls with a teaching staff of 12. The number of students and teachers rose to 265 and 13 respectively in the year 1968-69.

Other higher secondary schools in the District are at Unnao, Tharet, Basai, Seondha, Indergarh, Chhoti-Baroni and Datia. Government Higher Secondary School, Unnao, was upgraded as middle school in 1921, and as high school in the year 1953. In 1959 it was converted into a higher secondary school. Government Higher Secondary School, Tharet was upgraded in 1960 from a junior high school. The Government Higher Secondary School, Basai was upgraded as middle school in 1946 and as higher secondary school in 1961. Government Higher Secondary School, Seondha was upgraded as a high school in 1952 and as a higher secondary school in 1959. The Indergarh Higher Secondary School, upgraded in 1961, had a strength of 17 students (only in classes IX to XI) and 11 teachers in the year 1969-70. Chhoti-Baroni was a high school which was started in the year 1966. It had a strength of 417 students and 20 teachers in the year 1966-67.

Colleges

Government Degree College, Datia

Precisely after a century's history of education in Datia, which started with *Angrezi Madarsa* in 1858, we see the establishment of the first degree college at Datia. The needs of the same were, so far, catered by Jhansi and Gwalior colleges, where students of Datia used to go. In fact it is interesting to note that the steady growth of this *Angrezi Madarsa* through all these years realised the dream in 1954, when it was upgraded as an Intermediate College. Again, four years later, one more feather in its cap was added, when Government raised it to degree status, and courses leading to a bachelor's degree in Arts and Science were introduced. At this stage it was affiliated to Saugar University. But after the establishment of Jiwaji University at Gwalior, in 1964, its affiliation was transferred to this University.

That the College has grown to popularity can be seen from the strength of students which swelled from year to year. From 44 in the year 1958, the number increased to 193 (83 in Science and 110 in Arts) in 1961, and then feverishly to 370 (135 in Science and 235 in Arts) in the year

1968-69. The strength of teachers too increased hand in hand with the students. From 9 in 1958, the number increased to 20 in 1961 and to 26 in 1968-69.

Equipped with a rich library containing about 6,026 books in the year 1967-68, the College started post-graduate classes in English from the year 1966. The library was originally started with 2,054 books at a cost of Rs. 12,000. A separate departmental library was also established in English Department after the introduction of facilities for post-graduation in the subject. M. A. classes in Hindi and Sanskrit were also started.

Situated near Hardinge Hospital, the College caters no hostel facility. The College provides freeships and half freeship facilities to its students from Backward Classes and Tribes, etc. The National Cadet Corps was introduced in the College in the year 1958, and has since developed into two full-fledged companies. For all able-bodied students it was made compulsory.

Professional and Technical Education

Law College

The Law College Society, which was formed in the year 1961, started a Law College at Datia. Initially it was affiliated to Saugar University but after the establishment of Jiwaji University at Gwalior in 1964, its affiliation was transferred to this University. In the beginning it had a strength of 46 students.

Basic Training Institute, Datia

Started in July, 1956 to impart training to teachers, this institution has conducted 12 batches since its inception. The Institute was closed during the session 1967-68, when its 11 teacher-trainees, who received training upto 6th January, 1968 were sent to some other institute.

The following table gives the number of teachers trained since its inception:—

Table No. XV-6

Year	No. of Trainees	Year	No. of Trainees
1956-57	117	1962-63	91
1957-58	99	1963-64	22
1958-59	99	1964-65	107
1959-60	99	1965-66	71
1960-61	100	1966-67	71
1961-62	99	1967-68	11

Schools For The Cultivation of Fine Arts

In the past, arts and letters flourished under the patronage of princes, whose courts used to adore them profusely. Datia was no exception to this, and the names of Raja Vijaya Bahadur (1839 to 1857) and Raja Bhawani Singh (1857 to 1907) are more noted amongst the galaxy of Datia princes. Their courts were adorned with the *Navratna Sabha* in which eminent and distinguished personalities of wide fame were patronized. A few to mention were, Ramtej Sarwaria (*Vyakarani*), Bihari Lal Shastri (*Sahitya Pandit*), Shree Fanishwar Gunishwar (*Jyotishi*), etc. Datia has also nursed a galaxy of famous musicians, poets, saints, wrestlers, etc. Amongst them was the famous *pakhawaji* Kuddosingh, whose eminence manifested itself, when it is said that he captivated a wild elephant by playing *gajpan pakhawaj*. During the times of the Great Revolt of 1857 he lived in Jhansi, from where he migrated and settled at Datia. He adequately met the challenge of Amritsen, the descendant of the famous musician Tansen.¹ He died of full years at the age of 95. His fame still lives in his famous disciples—Madan Mohan *Sitare-Hind'*, who is a noted *mridang* player of Ajamgarh and Harcharanlal 'Jhalli', noted *harmonium* player. Ganapatirao has also adorned Datia by his fame as a musician. Jatapati, *Sangeetacharya* Kohal, Narayandas and Punjabi Baba were the persons who made a mark for themselves in various fields of fine arts. Lala Pandaram, born in *Samvat* 1928, was a promising musician in his early years. He made a mark for himself, and was later the disciple of the famous musician of Gwalior, namely, Ganapati Rao Bhayya Saheb. Amongst the musicians of fame Panjabi Baba had his own place of distinction. His association with Datia was occasional, but his excellence in music, both vocal and instrumental, left an indelible mark on the people here. Famous for *Malkosh Rag*, Panjabi Baba had Gohar, the famous singer of Calcutta, as his disciple. Balwantrao Bhaiya was distinguished for his playing *meend* on the harmonium. Amongst other noted musicians, the names of Mohammad Hussain Khan, Gwaria Baba, Pyare Khan, Rajju Khan, Bhikan Khan, and Mannu ustad also deserve a mention.²

Amongst the famous disciples of Panjabi Baba was Priyadatt Pastore. Lala Tiwari instilled in him the talent of a musician which was refined by Ustad Maulabux (the descendant of much famous Bahram Khan and Abdulrahim Khankhana) of Datia. Later he also came into contact with Panjabi Baba and Priyadas Jasondhi. He died at the age of 46 years in *Samvat* 1974.

Though still awaiting wide recognition and appreciation, Datia has also contributed a unique style, known as *Led-paripati* to the classical vocal music.

1. *Datia Darshan*, p. 88.

2. *Bherati* (weekly), 22 October, 1967, pp 29—30.

Two brothers, Lala Gulla and Chukku were the State dancers of *Kathakali* style. Chukku used to coach in dancing. His fame transcended the territories of the State and the Holkar of Indore became a great admirer of his talent.

Having such a rich heritage in different fields of fine arts, it is a little surprising that there existed no recognised coaching institution for vocal or instrumental music in Datia, perhaps because of the traditional practice of learning the art at the feet of *Ustads*. The princes used to be the chief patrons under whose nourishing care these traditions developed and were perfected in Datia. Thus originated the long lines of disciples and pupils whose carefully cultivated capabilities and preferences bestowed on them unparalleled attainment in classical and instrumental music. They introduced unique and distinct trends in styles of music.

A few enthusiastic hands of artists of old tradition have laid the foundation of an institution for music learning, namely, Kalamandir, in which instruction was imparted in music on old and modern lines for music examinations. It ceased to exist in the year 1936. Alongwith them were also the famous saints, namely, Mohammed Khan Sauthwar, Asgarali, Isabshah, Yasafshah, etc., who were associated with Datia.

Wrestling

Here it will also be interesting to make a reference to Gama, the world famous wrestler of outstanding distinction. He was born at Datia and alongwith his brother Imam Baksha, who was also a renowned wrestler, earned State patronage during the times of Maharaja Bhawani Singh. His father, Irani *Pahalwan* whose wife belonged to Datia, and was the daughter of Non *Pahalwan*. '*Rustame Hind'* was invited by Raja Bhawani Singh from Kashmir. After the death of Bhawani Singh, Gama migrated to Indore and then to Patiala State. In 1910 he joined the party of wrestlers which went to Britain and established his supremacy over American Champion Rollar by defeating him in all the three bouts. Stanislas Zibusco's challenge was also met by him triumphantly in Dalbourn Empire Theatre, London, and cemented it later, after 18 years, at Patiala, when Gama again humbled him in no time.

Adult Literacy and Social Education

The principles of adult franchise were enshrined in the Indian Constitution, which made an adult an important factor in the fabric of India's political life. But the widespread illiteracy bred some confusion in the minds of the people who looked upon freedom as a kind of Santa Claus. Thus to clear up the cobweb of confusion from the minds of the people, the

Vindhya Pradesh Government in 1952 launched social education scheme in the State. A separate Social Education Unit was started in the Education Department, which looked after the programme of social education. Consequently, night classes, social education centres, community centres, etc., were started in the State. In Datia two literacy classes were opened in that year and 65 adults were made literate. Two part-time teachers were engaged and Rs. 316 were spent by the Government on the scheme. The number of literacy classes increased to 38 in the year 1955-56 in which 1,178 adults were made literate. The number of part-time teachers also increased to 38 in that year. The Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5,383. During the Second Plan period, more and more emphasis was laid on the adult education scheme, and the number of literacy classes run by the Education Department varied from 44 in 1959-60 to 59 in 1957-58. Similarly, the number of adults made literate varied from 522 in 1959-60 to 1,354 in 1957-58. Government spent Rs. 9,455 and 9,360 on the scheme in these years, respectively.

Consequent upon the transfer of Social Education Scheme from the Education Department to the Panchayat and Social Welfare Department in the year 1961-62, it appears that not much emphasis was given to this scheme. From 13 literacy classes with equal number of teachers, the number increased to 25 in the following year but then went down to 10 in 1964-65 and to 9 in 1965-66. The number of adults made literate also went down from 505 in 1963-64 to 102 in 1965-66. During the year 1965-66, the Government spent Rs. 1,512 over the scheme in Datia.

In 1968-69, 26 literacy classes enrolled 464 adults. About 275 of them were made literate. Apart from these, 10 cinema shows were organised and 41 *Kalapathak* programmes were given during the year by 8 parties.

Cultural, Literary and Scientific Societies

Lokendra Sahitya Mandal, Datia

Late Fauzdar Parvat Singh established this *Mandal* in association with Yeshwant Shankar Samaj. It staged many dramas of which was *Krishnarjun Yuddha* under the direction Harimohanlal Shrivastava. It also arranged for the various examinations in Hindi.

Sahvogi Prakashan Mandir, Datia

It was established in 1951 for bringing to light the unpublished literary works, etc., of local and other writers. A few publications which the

Prakashan Mandir has published are *Hindi-Ki-Yogyata Kaise Sadhaven*, *Bharat-Bhakti*, *Virangana Laxmi Bai*, etc. Since 1961, the Prakashan Mandir is defunct.

Sahitya Mandal, Seondha

Social workers and litterateurs of Seondha founded a Sahitya Mandal in July, 1945. It provided a meeting place for the literary persons. It conducted regular examinations of Prayag Mahila Vidyapith for a few years. Its aims and objectives were to inspire the enthusiasts to participate in cultural activities by way of organizing cultural programmes. Its average membership had been 300.

Datia Zila Sahitya Parishad, Datia

Established in August, 1966, the Parishad aims at promoting literary activities in Datia. Occasionally literary meets were organised by the Parishad with Durga Prasad 'Durgesh' as president. In February, 1970, the Parishad was reorganised, and an elective executive body of 21 members was installed. It has opened its branches at various places in the District.

A number of literary and cultural publications are being published from Datia. A detailed reference to such items will be found in Chapter XVII of this Volume.

Library and Museum

A number of libraries exist in the District, but only five of them were registered and recognised by the Department of Education. From one such library in 1951-52, the number increased to two in 1952-53, three in 1956-57, four in 1960-61 and to five in 1962-63. The number of books in these libraries also increased from 120 in 1951-52 to 8801 in 1965-66. Consequently, the Government expenditure on these libraries also increased from Rs. 438 in 1951-52 to Rs. 3,128 in 1965-66.

Below are mentioned a few important aided and unaided libraries in the District.

Rajkiya Pustakalaya, Datia

Received as a legacy of the ruling princes of Datia, the library contained a number of manuscripts from eminent writers. As the practice goes, in the absence of printing presses, these manuscripts were got written by expert calligraphists, who were paid handsome amount for the same. In the year 1956, there were 651 manuscripts of Hindi, 1,100 of Sanskrit, 124 of Urdu and 126 of Persian language. Of these, the bulkiest is *Sursagar*, containing 2,056 pages and the smallest is *Shrimadbhagwat*, containing 17 beautifully written pages.¹

A few more important of Sanskrit manuscripts, found in the library, are *Geet-Govind* of Jaideva, *Shrimadbhagawata*, *Shrimahabharat*, *Puran*, etc.

1. *Datia Darshan*, p. 40.

Among the Hindi manuscripts, more important are *Natyadeepika* of Saran-gadev, *Ramcharitmanas* of Tulsidas, *Veersinghcharita*, *Kavipriya* of Keshav-das and Bihari's *Satsaiya*. Persian manuscripts include *Gulistan* and *Bostan* of Sheikh Sadi, *Kuranmajeed*, *Khatikwarj* and *Shahnama* of Firdausi¹.

This library is housed in the fort area and is popularly known as Kutubkhana. It contained about 7,042 printed and manuscript books in the year 1956. Though in a decayed condition, the library contains enough research material which dates back to about 200 years and needs careful attention. The Nagari Pracharini Sabha, Benares, Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Prayag, and eminent writers have occasionally made use of the rare manuscripts and books available in this library. So far as the rare manuscripts are concerned, this library ranks amongst a few leading ones in the country. The library, under the charge of the Education Department, is in a neglected state. A Committee of Officials and the intelligentsia had decided long ago for the transfer of the library to the Degree College but to no purpose. Thus, this rich treasure for research is facing ruin.

Gandhi Pustakalaya, Datia

Started in June, 1948 the library got itself registered only in the year 1965. Owing to lack of grants, etc., the library ran into financial difficulties and was almost inactive for quite sometime during the sixties of the century. In 1962-63, it had about 3,500 books on its shelves with an average attendance of 21 persons. In 1961-62, the library got Rs. 1,000 as grants-in-aid from the Government against an expenditure of Rs. 1,084. Again the library received a grant of Rs. 750 in the year 1965-66, against an expenditure of Rs. 568. In this year the number of books on stock register was 6,174 but about 2,000 more books were also lying in soiled and torn condition. The library used to bring out a bi-annual magazine from 1951 to 1953. It was edited by Harimohan Lal Shrivastava, who as president took pains to get the library's own building erected in 1955-56. Against an expenditure of Rs. 158 in the year 1968-69, the receipts totalled Rs. 174, including Rs. 66 as grants-in-aid received from the State Government.

Gandhi Pustakalaya, Seondha

Founded by Sahitya Mandal, Seondha, in the year 1948, this library is situated in the heart of the town. It provided a common meeting place to the local litterateurs. For some time, it conducted regular examinations of Prayag Mahila Vidhyapith. In the year 1963-64 there were 2,515 books in the library.

1. *ibid.* pp. 40-41.

District Library, Datia

Established by the Education Department in the year 1955, the District Library contained 4,462 books in the year 1963-64.

Ambedkar Pustakalaya, Datia

Established in the year 1951, Ambedkar Library had a humble beginning with 145 books on its shelves. The number of books in subsequent years increased to 266 in 1955-56 and to 703 in 1960-61. The expenses also mounted from Rs. 184 in 1955-56 to Rs. 518 in 1960-61. By the year 1964-65, the number of books increased to 753 with an average attendance of 31 members.

Babu Jagjiwanram Pustakalaya, Datia

It was established in April, 1961, and was registered two years later. It was located near Mahadeo temple, Bada Bazar, Datia. Founded by Ramdas Chaudhari, an eminent citizen of Datia, the library aimed at providing reading and library facilities to the weaker section of the town population. In the year 1961-62, the library had a regular membership of 30 persons. Besides, it also catered to the needs of a host of general readers.

From 1,065 books in the year 1962-63, the number increased to 2,140 in the year 1964-65. Against an expenditure of Rs. 1,542 in the year 1963-64, it received grants totalling Rs. 1,125 from the State Government in that year. With an average attendance of 45, the library seems to have been very popular. Now it is defunct more or less from 1966.

Sahitya Pustakalaya, Datia

Harimohan Lal Shrivastava, a noted litterateur of the place, founded this library in 1966 for the benefit of the intelligentsia.

Museum

The State Armoury

There are various types of arms and ammunitions stored in the *Silakhkhana*, the State Armoury, situated in the old Palace.

A depiction on one of the huge cannons reveals that during the period of Parikshit Maharaj in *Vikram Samvat* 1888, who was a contemporary of Akbar, a blacksmith named Mahiuddin of 'Dilipnagar' (old name of Datia), manufactured this gigantic cannon. It is a matter of surprise, how an ordinary artisan could achieve success in moulding it. The size of the cannon length-wise is 8 feet, and diameter 2 feet¹.

1. *ibid.* p. 90.

There are various types of swords, bows, arrows, armours, shields, goads, etc., in the Armoury. It may be interesting to note that each soldier used to be decked with twelve types of arms, namely, *talwar*, *tamancha*, *bichhwa*, *jaudahiya*, *katar*, *chakra*, *kaman*, *sang*, *dhal*, *ban*, rifle and *bakhtar*, the specimens of which are kept in this Armoury. Some of the samples were selected and taken over to National Museum.

The personal painting collection of Datia princes contain pieces which have been widely acclaimed. Each of the couplet of Bihari's *Satsaiya* has been depicted in the paintings, besides about 300 paintings, drawn from the *Bhagwat*. The art of painting was probably at the peak during the time of Raja Shatrugit (1762 to 1801).

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

The systems of medicine prevalent in the princely state of Datia in early days were the *Ayurveda* and the *Unani*. The *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* were mostly patronised by the State and were paid in cash and land. Even after the introduction of western medicines in the State during the last quarter of the last century, the *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* continued to enjoy such privileges, for the public reposed great confidence in these local physicians. The fact that the personal physician of the Maharaja of Datia State was a *Hakim* drawing a salary of Rs. 150 per month during the early years of the present century, bears sufficient testimony to the popularity of indigenous drugs.

The State had realised the responsibilities to provide medical relief to its subjects, especially to the poor, and started a hospital in 1874 on recognised principles with the consideration that it would meet the demands of the suffering public. In the beginning the number of patients was not considerable due to old customs and prejudices. But from 1895, the people realised the efficacy of the system and overcame their objections, real and imaginary, so effectively that the number of patients increased from 753 to 3,139 with 120 inpatients and 271 operations, the State contributing Rs. 3,159.¹

The dispensary became popular in subsequent years. The response from the public was so encouraging that, in 1913, a branch dispensary with a compounder in charge was built at Seondha. The establishment of this branch dispensary having proved successful, it was decided to appoint a Sub-Assistant Surgeon there with adequate dispensary and equipment.

In 1912-13 the dispensary at Datia was equipped with surgical instruments, aseptic appliances and medical stores, besides necessary facilities for indoor treatment. A separate house was also built outside the town for *Postmortem* examination. The hospital was under the charge of a compounder until 1912, when the services of a properly qualified Doctor-graduate from Lahore University were secured by the State. He was placed in charge of the Medical Department, and functioned as the State Surgeon. Such an arrangement promoted the development and extension of the

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1914-15, p.12.

Department considerably and the number of patients receiving medical care stood at 10,015 in 1912 as against 492 in 1875 and 829 in 1880. In December, 1914 a 4th grade Sub-Assistant Surgeon was added to the existing staff of the Medical Department, which consisted of the State Surgeon and his compounders.

The increasing demand for medical care could not be met by the still insufficient accommodation in the Datia dispensary. It was, therefore, proposed to build a new hospital on modern lines on a site selected and approved outside the town. The 22 bedded hospital building when completed and furnished at an estimated cost of one lakh of rupees was to be named after Lord Hardinge. The *Vaidyas*, *Hakims* and *Jarrahs* continued to practise in their systems of medicine as before.

As regards the general standard of health during the early years, the Datia State Gazetteer (1907) reports that "The health of the State has been excellent during the last 20 years, except for the sickness which always accompanies famine, from which the State suffered in 1897 and 1905". The famine of 1914-15, however, did not create any health problem though cholera appeared in some villages of the State. Smallpox also visited the State occasionally in an epidemic form. Its visitation during the hot weather of 1969 induced the chief of Datia State to employ a few vaccinators.

Vital Statistics

From available records one does not get definite idea of any system of collection and compilation of vital statistics in the erstwhile Datia State.

Under the existing set-up, as elsewhere in the State, the Municipal Committee records births and deaths in respect of urban areas and submits 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 police station. The Civil Surgeon compiles separate figures for urban and rural areas and transmit the same to the Director of Health Services, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The following Table shows the number of births and deaths and their rates in Datia District in recent years.

Table No. XVI—1

Births, Deaths and their Rates

Year	Births	Rate Per mille	Deaths	Rate per mille
1957	2,738	16	830	5
1958	1,983	12	931	5
1959	2,030	12	492	1
1960	2,487	12.43	631	3.15
1961	2,111	10.00	604	3.02
1962	2,056	10.28	768	3.84
1963	2,329	11.64	946	4.78
1964	2,574	12.87	538	2.69
1965	1,655	8.27	441	2.20
1966	2,757	13.70	1,997	4.90
1967	2,763	13.31	703	5.40
1968	1,637	—	672	—
1971	1,989	—	867	—
1972	1,707	7.03	—	303

The birth and death rates in the District have not shown any striking increase or decrease.

Causes of Mortality

The causes of mortality in general are fever, which include malaria and enteric fever, cholera, smallpox, complications in child births, bowel complaints, such as diarrhoea, dysentery, etc., tuberculosis, injuries, suicides and others. The mortality caused by various diseases in recent years is given below.

Table No. XVI—2

Deaths and their Causes

Year	Cholera	Smallpox	Fever	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Tuber-culosis	Injuries and suicides	All others	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1957	—	2	470	43	—	—	—	515
1958	—	—	462	6	31	—	—	499
1959	—	18	162	8	12	—	—	200
1960	—	—	25	—	22	—	—	47
1961	2	54	105	22	—	—	421	604
1962	—	81	199	21	21	—	446	768
1963	—	10	358	83	60	—	433	946
1964	—	—	92	58	53	—	335	538
1965	—	—	147	59	117	116	2	441
1966	—	—	547	—	—	—	450	997
1967	—	2	528	243	122	2	89	986
1968	8	52	301	122	154	20	56	703
1971	—	30	324	26	194	—	98	672
1972	17	44	394	37	192	—	183	867

Infant Mortality

The causes of infant mortality in the District include premature birth, malnutrition (chiefly owing to want of mother's milk), diarrhoea, respiratory troubles and fevers. The infant mortality rates in recent years were as under.

Table No. XVI—5

Infant Mortality Rate

Year	Birth rate per mille	Death rate per mille	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births
1960	12.43	3.15	16.4
1961	10.00	3.02	18.1
1962	10.28	3.84	43.7
1963	11.64	4.78	37.7
1964	12.87	2.69	18.2
1965	8.27	2.20	21.7
1966	13.70	4.90	7.7
1967	13.30	5.40	N.A.
1971	—	—	—
1972	7.3	3.3	35.7

Diseases Common to the District

The common diseases include cholera, smallpox, fever that includes malaria, tuberculosis, bowel complaints and others. However, none of these diseases appears to have created a serious health problem.

Cholera

In the absence of authentic records it is difficult to assess the magnitude of its incidence at any time. Cholera visited the District in 1912 and 1914, the latter visitation being in an epidemic form. It broke out in May 1914 resulting in 426 attacks and 241 deaths. The affected areas were mostly rural. The preventive measures undertaken were so effective that Datia proper was practically free from its attack. One Sub-Assistant Surgeon with a stock of medicines was at once deputed on special duty. Water supply was disinfected and general cleanliness enforced, besides other sanitary measures. But "owing to the superstitious habits of the people, difficulty was experienced in enforcing sanitary measures and the slackness of the Revenue and Police staff together with the backwardness or rather the apathy of the people in following advice have chiefly led to the lingering of the disease for some time".¹ In recent years the incidence of cholera in the District has been sporadic. The year 1961 recorded two deaths from cholera.

1. *ibid.* p. 69.

Whenever there is an outbreak of cholera, preventive measures, such as inoculation, disinfection of wells and other sources of water supply, isolation and treatment of patients, etc., are taken. The precautionary measures include distribution of drugs (Sulphaguanidine tablets, Tomb's Cholera mixture, etc.) and disinfectants (Potassium permanganate, Bleaching powder, etc.). Emergency cholera Regulations are also enforced if situation so warrants. In 1960 as many as 3,288 inoculations were performed in the District as a preventive measure. The inoculation work is generally carried out by the vaccination staff. They are also assisted by *Vaidyas* of *Ayurvedic* dispensaries in the District.

Smallpox

Mention has been made that this frightful disease visited the erstwhile Datia State in an epidemic form in 1869. The vaccination staff appointed then to prevent its further occurrence had considerably checked its onslaught in subsequent years. In recent years smallpox visited the District in 1956, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1962 and 1963 causing 14, 2, 18, 54, 81 and 10 deaths, respectively.

The only effective preventive measure to stamp out this disease is vaccination. Consequent on the outbreak of this disease in 1869, the chief of the erstwhile Datia State had employed a few vaccinators. Since then vaccination has been effectively carried out annually with response from the public. The staff for vaccination swelled in number in subsequent years and in 1908-09 there were six vaccinators and one supervisor employed by the State. As many as 2,815 children were vaccinated during that year. In 1912-13 the vaccination department was reorganised on a better scale. The scheme of vaccinating children by fixed circles was also introduced with success. In 1912-13 as many as 11,882 children received vaccination, of which 10,499 were reported to be successful. The vaccination operations continued effectively since then.

In order to root out this disease the National Smallpox Eradication Programme was launched in the District in December, 1962. It was staffed by one Block Extension Educator, five Sanitary Inspectors and eleven vaccinators. They conduct vaccination campaigns periodically. The hospitals and dispensaries in the District also provide facilities for vaccination. The work of vaccination in the District is supervised by a Para-medical Assistant and a Health Educator whose headquarters is at Gwalior. The following figures give an idea of the work done recently.

Work done under NSEP

Table No. XVI--3

Year	Primary Vaccination	Revaccination
1957	29,802	9,149
1958	7,542	12,512
1959	5,628	5,029
1960	7,292	72,98
1961	N.A.	N.A.
1962	5,547	11,552
1963	5,088	39,032
1964	5,965	32,574
1965	5,150	24,163
1966	6,348	16,352
1967	9,960	32,565
1968	10,631	14,163
1969	14,610	6,056
1970 (upto 31-3-70)	3,554	628

Malaria

Fever has primarily been responsible for thinning the population of the District. A sizable number of fever cases pertained to malaria though a classification like this is of recent origin. Malaria caused 470 deaths in 1957; 462 in 1958; 162 in 1959; 25 in 1960 and 105 in 1961.

In order to intensify the anti-malaria activities the Government of India decided in the late 1950's to replace the Malaria Control programme by the National Malaria Eradication programme (NMEP).

The National Malaria Eradication Programme aims at the reduction of the reservoir of malaria parasites in human body to a negligible degree. The programme, broadly speaking, envisaged a six year scheme commencing from 1958-59 which included intensified DDT spraying operations in all endemic areas, extension of DDT spraying to all hypoendemic areas and surveillance operations. The headquarters of the NMEP Unit is at Gwalior. The staff for NMEP work in Datia District include 1 senior Malaria Inspector, 1 Junior Malaria Inspector, 5 Surveillance Inspectors, 21 Surveillance Workers, 1 Field Worker and others.

These operations are of two types—Active and Passive. Under the former the specially appointed staff for Malaria Eradication Programme visits every house at periodical intervals, enquires about Surveillance cases of fever, takes blood smears and gets them examined Operations 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 the rural and passive for urban areas.

As stated earlier, the headquarters of the NMEP unit is at Gwalior. The Malaria Unit Officer is responsible for the working of the Unit to the Zonal Officer (Assistant Director of Health Services), also at Gwalior. At the headquarters, i.e., the Directorate of Health Services at Bhopal, there is one Deputy Director of Health Services functioning as State Malariologist, assisted by one Assistant Director of Health Services, one Entomologist and one Epidemiologist. There are 14 zonal officers in the State.

The work done by the NMEP Unit in the District by way of D.D.T. spraying and surveillance operations is given below.

Table No. XVI—5
Work done by the NMEP Unit
(a) D.D.T. Spraying

Years	No. of villages in which D.D.T. Spraying was done						No. of smears examined	No. of positive cases
	1st round			2nd round				
	V.	T.	H.	V.	T.	H.		
1959	389	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
1960	390	2	40	419	2	42	..	..
1961	428	2	..	23	2	..	..	..
1962	416	2	..	416	2	..	3,179	..
1963	Spraying was not done						21,973	..
1964							16,160	..
1965							24,593	60
1966							26,790	972
1967	384	1	34	213	..	22	18,427	681
1968	383	1	36	No Second round			13,496	280
1969	378	1	46	378	1	46	18,880	143

(b) Active & Passive Surveillance Operations

Year	No. of fever cases detected		No. of cases in which blood smears collected			Result
	Active	Passive	Active	Passive	Mass	
1962	3,179	..	3,179	..	..	..
1963	10,090	1,062	10,090	1,062	10,821	..
1964	13,343	2,817	13,343	2,817	..	6 positive cases detected
1965	16,572	3,787	16,536	3,787	4,270	60 ..
1966	16,246	11,001	16,170	8,820	1,800	972 ..
1967	15,996	9,321	622	392	78	..
1968	18,021	8,927	97	102	8	..
1969	10,654	8,226	73	67	3	..
1970	2,147	1,042	Nil	2	Nil	..
(upto 31.3.70)						

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis is one of the diseases that defied detection until recently. The mortality caused by this disease in the District is considerable. From 1962 to 1965 tuberculosis caused 21, 60, 53 and 117 deaths, respectively. There is a special ward in the District hospital with 8 beds for the treatment of T. B. patients. Facilities for X-ray are available in the hospital. There is separate provision for T. B. drugs in the budget. A BCG team visited the District in 1958 and launched a mass vaccination campaign. As many as 63,507 persons were tested and 25,245 vaccinations performed by the team.

Leprosy

The incidence of leprosy is not high in the District. A leprosy clinic was established at Unao in 1958. It is staffed by one Assistant Surgeon who is specially trained in leprosy, one staff nurse, one laboratory technician and one dresser. In 1966 as many as 73 leprosy cases were treated at this special leprosy clinic. Treatment for leprosy is also offered at the out-patient department of certain Government dispensaries in the District. On an average 825 leprosy cases are treated here annually. There are 4 general beds for leprosy cases.

Venereal Diseases

There is one V. D. clinic in the District. Established in 1955, it is staffed by one Medical Officer, one staff nurse, one laboratory technician and one laboratory assistant. No special indoor facilities are available.

Eye Diseases

Trachoma and cataract are the two eye diseases found in the District. In order to assess the incidence of trachoma in the District, a pilot project survey under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, was conducted sometime in 1959. The survey revealed that the percentage of incidence of trachoma in Datia District was 35.2.

The eye diseases are generally treated in the District hospital, civil hospitals and dispensaries. Eye camps are also organised to check their incidence. Government had encouraged the organising of eye camps by private agencies as well. One such eye camp was organised in 1955 by Sant Parmanand Blind Relief Mission, Delhi, when the District was a part of the former Vindhya Pradesh. Another eye camp was organised by Government agencies at Seondha from 4th to 17th January, 1961. As many as 697 patients were examined, 104 given in-patient treatment and 166 operations (98 major and 68 minor) performed.

Plague

Though the District had been free from plague for many years, it had appeared in an epidemic form in 1911-12. The first symptoms of infection came to the notice in January, 1911 which could be traced to the influx of a large number of residents of Jhansi which was then a plague infected area. Suitable preventive measures were taken, including the constitution of a plague committee. The epidemic lasted upto the middle of May, 1912, but timely evacuation helped in reducing mortality, which did not exceed 100. Details regarding its further occurrence at any time are, however, not available.

Hospitals & Dispensaries

The number of hospitals and dispensaries in the District as well as the number of beds are given below.

Table No: XVI—6

Hospitals & Dispensaries in the District

Name of Institution	No. of institution	Beds for	
		Male	Female
a) Hospitals (District & Civil)	2	36	28
b) Dispensaries (Civil, graded, ungraded and subsidised)	4	15	General beds
c) Ayurvedic dispensaries	7	Nil	Nil
d) T. B. Clinic and Hospital	Nil	Nil	Nil
e) Leprosy clinic	2	4	General beds
f) Maternity Home and Child Welfare Centres	2	Nil	Nil
g) Primary Health Centres	2	Nil	Nil
h) V. D. Clinic	1	Nil	Nil
i) Family Planning Clinics	9	Nil	Nil

The two hospitals, namely, the Hardinge Hospital (District Hospital) and the Female Hospital are at Datia.

Hardinge Hospital

This medical institution was built by Maharaja Govind Singh of Datia and was inaugurated by Lord Hardinge in 1918. It is located about two miles from Datia town near the palace of the Maharaja of Datia. In 1967 this 44 bedded hospital was staffed by the Civil Surgeon who functioned as the Superintendent of this hospital, six compounders, four nurses, two midwives, three *dais*, one laboratory assistant, two dressers and others, besides a Medical Officer incharge of the V.D. Clinic. The hospital provides, besides other facilities, treatment for cases of rabies.

The number of indoor and outdoor patients treated here annually during 1962 to 1970 is given in the table below :

Table No. XVI—7

Number of Patients treated in Hardinge Hospital

Year	Indoor	Outdoor
1962	10,007	22,359
1963	9,052	20,103
1964	9,990	19,020
1965	1,266	31,513
1966	12,354	55,597
1967	4,045	88,898
1968	2,119	76,086
1969	2,436	57,482
1970 (upto 31.3.70)	311	13,024

Female Hospital, Datia

The Maharani Mohamkumari Hospital, popularly known as the Female Hospital, was established sometime about 1912. This 20 bedded medical institution, in 1966, was staffed by one Lady Assistant Surgeon, one Assistant Medical Officer, two staff nurses, three compounders, two *dais*, one dresser, one midwife and others. The hospital functions round the clock. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients treated here annually during 1960 to 1965 was 6,243 and 45,456, respectively.

Civil Dispensaries

There are four civil dispensaries in the District, namely, city dispensary, Datia, and civil dispensaries at Basai, Seondha and Baroni. The city dispensary, Datia, was established in 1931.

This dispensary of the State Khaniadhana was started in 1930 in a local temple building. Its present building was constructed and inaugurated in 1956. Located at village Basai, it is about 46 miles from Datia town and is connected by rail, the Civil Dispensary, Bombay-Delhi line. It is also connected by Sagar-Jhansi Basai road on the bifurcation of Borora-Khaniadhana, four miles off Borora village. In 1966 this 10 bedded (6 male and 4 female) dispensary was staffed by one Assistant Medical Officer, one compounder, one midwife, one *dai*, one vaccinator and one male social worker, besides others. The dispensary provides facilities for maternity cases. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients annually treated during 1958 to 1965 was 44 and 5,949, respectively.

Maharaja Govind Singh had established this dispensary in 1937. This 4 bedded (general) dispensary is located about 65 km. away from the District headquarters. The staff, in 1967, consisted of one Doctor (Assistant Surgeon), one compounder and one nurse, besides those connected with the public health and sanitation, maternity and child welfare and family planning. One Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is functioning here. The average number of indoor and outdoor patients annually treated here from 1958 to 1966 was 40 and 8,800, respectively.

It started functioning in 1946 as a dispensary of the erstwhile Datia State. The dispensary is located 6 miles away from Datia town and is connected by road. In 1966 it was staffed by one Assistant Civil Medical Officer, one compounder, one midwife and other Dispensary, usual staff. On an average 24,578 patients were treated here Baroni annually from 1958 to 1965.

Maternity and Child Welfare

There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the District. Established in 1958, they are located at Datia and Seondha. Each Centre is staffed by a Lady Health Visitor and four auxiliary nurse-cum-midwives, besides others. They look after the welfare of mothers and infants, besides providing prenatal and post-natal care and distribution of milk.

Departmental Hospitals and Dispensaries

There is one Police Hospital in the District located at Datia. It is staffed by one Assistant Surgeon and one compounder. This hospital started functioning only in 1966 when the part-time services of an Assistant Surgeon could be procured. The Police Hospital offers only outdoor treatment. A full-time compounder has also been posted to this hospital recently. The treatment of

prisoners is looked after by the Civil Surgeon who is also the Superintendent of jails. As such, there is no separate jail hospital or dispensary. However, for the treatment of prisoners the part-time services of an Assistant Medical Officer and a compounder are also utilised.

Mobile Dispensary

There is one mobile dispensary in the District. The posts of one Assistant Surgeon and one compounder have been sanctioned for its working. There is no epidemic dispensary in the District.

Primary Health Centres

In order to extend medical facilities to the rural areas, especially to places in the interior, a primary health centre was established at Indergarh in 1958 with three sub-centres at Sindhwari, Silori and Chikau. A primary health centre is an organisation providing or making accessible, under the direct supervision of at least one physician, the basic health services for a community. A primary health centre is normally staffed by one doctor, one compounder, one dresser, one Sanitary Inspector, one Lady Health Visitor, four midwives, two peons and four ancillary staff. The sub-centres extend medical facilities to the places further in the interior of the Blocks. A midwife is attached to each sub-centre. The Medical Officer incharge of the primary health centre visits each sub-centre once in a week.

In 1966 the Civil Dispensary at Unao was upgraded to a primary health centre. However, the full complement of staff, equipment and building for the sub-centres were not provided even by the end of 1966.

The following Table shows tahsil-wise figures of the number of indoor and outdoor patients treated by the various medical institutions in the District annually and number of beds available during 1960-1969.

Table No. XVI—8

Number of Indoor and Outdoor Patients treated in the District

Year	Datia Tahsil			Seondha Tahsil		
	Indoor patients	Outdoor patients	No. of beds available	Indoor patients	Outdoor patients	No. of beds available
1960	1,812	15,728	79	1,855	34,115	14
1961	2,277	1,80,412	79	233	47,388	14
1962	2,533	1,40,715	79	156	35,091	14
1963	2,923	1,26,379	79	192	21,618	14
1964	2,612	1,00,573	79	186	18,655	14
1965	2,945	1,90,362	79	N.A.	37,024	14
1967	3,763	70,424	78	282	18,474	14
1968	1,890	60,265	78	229	15,821	14
1969	3,184	1,76,585	78	347	36,911	14

There are no private hospitals and nursing homes in the District.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries

There are 7 Government Ayurvedic dispensaries in the District. Their location and year of establishment are given below.

Place	Year
Datia	1955
Baronkala	1954
Tharet	Not available (a very old dispensary)
Ruhera	1956
Silori	1955
Sindhwari	1955
Wardhwan	1967

Each dispensary is under the charge of a qualified *vaidya*.

There are no public health research centres or institutions for disseminating information on public health in the District.

The Indian Red Cross Society

There is a branch of the Indian Red Cross Society at Datia with the Collector as its Chairman and the Civil Surgeon as its honorary Secretary. It has no separate office. The activities in general include assistance in cash and kind to the disabled, destitutes and invalids.

Family Planning

In 1957 a revised and modified Family Planning Programme was chalked out on the basis of Government of India's new proposals and the needs of the State. This Scheme laid emphasis on the training of medical and auxiliary staff in the methods of family planning. The new scheme was approved by the State Government, and urban and rural clinics were established at many places in the State in 1958-59. The first urban clinic was thus established at Datia on 8th November, 1958. This was followed by the opening of another urban clinic at Seondha on 13th December, 1963. The rural clinics were, however, opened only in 1964. By the end of 1968 the District had two urban clinics, one mobile family planning unit and six rural family planning clinics. Their location and dates of opening are given below.

Table No. XVI—9

Family Planning Clinics in the District

(1)	Urban clinic, Datia	8.11.1958
(2)	.. Seondha	13.12.1973
(3)	Mobile Family Planning Unit, Datia	16.1.1964
(4)	Rural Family Planning Clinic, Unao	30.9.1964
(5)	 Basai	30.9.1964
(6)	 Baroni	30.9.1964
(7)	 Chikau	30.9.1964
(8)	 Silori	30.9.1964
(9)	 Sindhware	30.9.1964

Each urban clinic is staffed by one male Social Worker, one female Social Worker, one *aya* and one peon, while each rural clinic has one male Social Worker and one clinic attendant. The staff of the mobile unit includes one male Social Worker, one female Social Worker, one *aya*, one peon and one driver.

Sanitation

The condition of sanitation on modern lines were unknown in the erstwhile Datia State. There were no privies, no urinals of any kind. Even in Datia town, hardly one-third houses had some kind of privies, but they were such that half of the filth was absorbed in the ground, while the other half was removed by the sweeper and thrown into the unoccupied and dilapidated houses in the neighbourhood. The inhabitants of other two-third portion of the city were also using the empty houses and open places for their privies. Such insanitary conditions could not be improved and the result was that there had been annual occurrence of cholera lasting for months in the city.¹

The visitation of cholera in 1914 was an eye-opener in this regard and the question of sanitation of the city was immediately taken up. Considerable sums were spent to remove the heaps of filth and rubbish that had accumulated in the city. A municipality was constituted as its necessity was felt more than ever before, and the people were induced to take interest in its management. The pay of the sweepers was raised from 12 annas to 4 and 5 rupees per month. Other activities included the construction of public latrines, removal and entrenchment of filth at a safe distance from

1. Datia State Administration Report, 1914-15, p. 114.

the city and disinfection of water-supply. Municipalities were also established in the towns of Indergarh, Seondha and Nadigaon. Arrangements for sanitation were gradually extended to the important villages in the State.

Now the sanitation of rural areas is looked after by the respective gram panchayats. The Development Blocks take up this responsibility in respect of areas under their jurisdiction. The staff appointed by these agencies in the urban and rural areas include Sanitary Inspector, Health Visitors and vaccinators. The primary health centres located in Block areas undertake this work. The Sanitary Inspector and the Health Visitor of the primary health centre are chiefly responsible for the work of sanitation in that area under the supervision of the Medical Officer who also functions as Health Officer there. The main function of the sanitary organisation in the rural areas is to advise people on matters connected with personal hygiene, vaccination, inoculation and precautions to prevent the incidence of epidemics.

Water Supply¹

Arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water is the responsibility of the municipal committee in the urban area and the panchayats in the rural area.

The Municipal Committee, Datia, maintains a water works and provides pipe water in the town. All other areas in the District mostly depend upon water drawn from wells and tanks.

Drainage and Slum Clearance

The Municipal Committee looks after this work in respect of urban areas. However, a good drainage system is yet to be developed. The sweepers employed by the Municipal Committee do the work of slum clearance and removal of night soil. No special arrangement exists in the rural area.

2. For details regarding water supply see Chapter XIV.

the same were raised to Rs. 9.10 and Rs. 7.40 in 1965-66 and to Rs. 9.50 and 7.60 in 1967-68, respectively.

Since 1953 the Government gradually imposed a cut of 10 per cent in the quota of import of opium with a view to bringing about total prohibition of opium and it was totally prohibited in November, 1960. In other respects, the District remained wet.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Prohibition

Prohibition was never introduced in Datia District. However, with a view to minimising the consumption of liquor and other intoxicants, the rates of duty on them were enhanced in 1953. The increase over the previous rates was to the tune of Rs. 20 per L.F. gallon-foreign liquor, Rs. 2.50 per L. F. gallon of *masala* liquor and Rupee one per L.F. gallon of country liquor. Issue prices (including duty) for *ganja* and opium were fixed at Rs. 146 and Rs. 215 per seer, respectively. Similarly, the Government decided to introduce total prohibition of opium from 1959 and as preliminary steps towards it the Government stopped issuing permits for free sale of opium from 1st October, 1953.

In the case of liquor, the Government decided to reduce the number of liquor shops in the District and accordingly their number was progressively reduced. The number of liquor shops in 1954-55 was 126, while it came down to only 22 in 1959-60. In 1968-69 the number of liquor shops in the thickly populated areas were removed to the outskirts of the locality. Every effort was made to educate public opinion against the evils of intoxicants. Prohibition Week was celebrated every year in the first week of October. The State Government declared 25 days of religious and National importance as 'dry' days in a year. On all these days, all liquor shops in the District were required to be compulsorily closed. Moreover, in 1959, restrictions were imposed on possession of quantity of all kinds of liquor and other intoxicants.

The issue price of liquor was raised with a view to minimising the consumption of it. In 1961-62, the rates (for per bulk gallon were increased to Rs. 33.00 for *Masala*, Rs. 18.15 for *Dubara* and Rs. 13.20 for *Rasi* liquors from Rs. 20.00, Rs. 16.17 and Rs. 11.76, respectively, prevailing in 1960-61. The subsequent period too witnessed the gradual increase in the issue price of *Masala* and *Dubara* liquors. In 1962-63, plain L.F. gallon of *Masala* and *Dubara* liquors were sold at Rs. 8.80 and Rs. 7.26 while the prices of

Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes

According to the census of 1961, the District contained a Scheduled Caste population of 36,993 persons and a Scheduled Tribes population of 2,483 persons. Thus the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes formed 18.45 and 1.24 per cent of the total population of the District, respectively. It may be mentioned that only nine of the castes and seven of the tribes of the District were scheduled by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes List (Modification Order, 1956, as corrected in 1957. According to the census of 1971 population of the Scheduled Castes was 45,856 and that of the Scheduled Tribes was 4,988. Their number to total population of the District was about 18 and 2 per cent, respectively.

Efforts to ameliorate the condition of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes were started in post-Independence period. Details of facilities given to them in the sphere of education have already been described in the chapter on Education and Culture of this volume. Not only educationally, but economically, socially and culturally also these Castes and Tribes are backward.

Economic and Other Welfare

For the economic advancement of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes of the District the State Government have taken various measures from time to time. Details of such measures are given below.

(1) During the First Five Year Plan period (1951-52 to 1955-56) the State Government gave Rs. 2,000 as *taccavi* to eight *Harijan* families for purchasing bullocks for agricultural purposes. Similarly, Rs. 1,000 were given to four *Adiwasi* families for the same purpose. (2) In the same period, the Government colonised 16 *Harijan* families in model village Pathara. These families were given Rs. 4,000 for purchasing bullocks. Further Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 1,000 were spent for constructing a *panchayat* house and a well, respectively, in the village.

Similarly, Rs. 38,050 were spent on constructing 96 hutments for the *Harijans* of the District. These were completed by the end of First Five Year plan period (1956-57 to 1961-62). Ten hutments for *Adiwasis* were constructed at a cost of Rs. 5,000. Rs. 15,000 were spent on constructing 20 hutments for *Harijans*. (3) Co-operative movement among these Castes and Tribes proved useful, popular and beneficial. In the year 1952-53, there were two co-operative societies exclusively for them. Their membership was 76. Their share capital and deposit stood at Rs. 2,745 and Rs. 188, respectively. Figures for production and purchase and sale were Rs. 192 and Rs. 46 only. Gradually, the number of such societies increased in the District. By the end of First Five Year Plan period (1955-56), there were four such societies having 141 members, Rs. 4,891 as their share capital, Rs. 395 as deposit and Rs. 1,500 as loan. Figures for production and purchase, sale and loan advance were Rs. 5,797, Rs. 6,051, and Rs. 1,551, respectively. This indicates the growth of co-operative movement in the First Plan period. In the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan period (1956-57), the number of co-operative societies organized for these Castes and Tribes increased to five and by the end of the Plan period (1960-61), it was seven. All these societies were doing credit business and Government had spent Rs. 16,568.38 on them, in the period under review. For the economic advancement of *Adiwasis* one co-operative society working in the District received Rs. 1,768. Government provided seven managers to all the co-operative societies. The Government of Vindhya Pradesh advanced Rs. 3,900 and also gave subsidy of Rs. 3,500 to these societies in 1954. By the end of Second Plan period the number of members of these societies increased to 436, while the amount of share capital increased to Rs. 14,877. Loan outstanding was Rs. 56,358. The profit of these societies stood at Rs. 1,115.

(4) The State Government spent Rs. 725 over the 30 acres of land of the *Harijans* and brought it under cultivation during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(5) A leather-tanning centre was established at village Chhallapura of the District during the First Plan period. The Government spent Rs. 4,000 and provided work at the centre to 16 Scheduled Castes in the Plan period. (6) Though there were no schemes specifically for the economic uplift of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, persons of these Castes, Tribes and Classes derived benefit of the general scheme, i.e. training scheme and the scheme of giving financial assistance under the State Aid to Industries Act. Thus in the Second Plan period under the first scheme, eight persons of the Other Backward Classes received training at the handloom weaving centres started in the District by the Industries Department.

Similarly three trainees of the same Classes were benefited by the wool-weaving centres started in the District by the Community Development Blocks. Under the second scheme, 136 persons of the Scheduled Castes and 17 persons of Other Backward Classes received loan of Rs. 1,04,125 and Rs. 11,900, respectively, in two plan periods, either from the budget of Industries Department or from the Department of Development Blocks.

(7) For the benefit of the *Harijans* 38 wells were constructed and repaired in the First Plan period at a cost of Rs. 22,000. One well was built at a cost of Rs. 1,000 for *Adiwasis*. In the Second Plan period, seven wells were sunk for the *Harijans* at a cost of Rs. 10,500 under the scheme of removal of untouchability, besides three wells for the benefit of *Adiwasis* constructed at a cost of Rs. 4,500. In the same period Rs. 8,000 were spent in building eight wells for *Harijans* under the centrally-sponsored scheme.

(8) For the physical, mental and intellectual welfare of the *Harijans*, a community welfare centre was built and organised in the locality of *Harijans* at Datia. In the First Plan period Rs. 6,979 were spent on building the centre and purchasing equipments for the centre. In the Second Plan period about Rs. 9,087 were spent on the centre. The centre was closed in July 1963.

The economic condition of the Scheduled Castes of the District can be studied from the figures provided by the Census of 1961, given below.

Table No. XVII—1

Economic Condition of the Scheduled Castes in the District

Category	Total	Urban	Rural
1	2	3	4
1. All Scheduled Castes Population	36,993	34,578	2,415
2. Workers	20,097	19,168	929
3. Non-Workers	16,396	15,410	1,486
4. Cultivators	13,618	13,554	64
5. Agricultural Labourers	836	836	..
6. In Mining and Quarrying	242	208	34
7. In Household Industry	1,874	1,557	317
8. In Manufacturing other than Household Industry	138	55	83
9. In construction	520	383	137
10. In Trade and Commerce	58	37	21
11. In Transport, etc.	116	102	14
12. In Other Services	2,695	2,436	259
13. In Tanning, etc.	32	32	..
14. In Scavenging	433	262	171

The figures given above show that most of the Scheduled Caste people lived in urban area of the District. Among them, about 54 per cent and 46 per cent were workers and non-workers, respectively. Proportion of non-workers among them was higher in rural area. About 37 per cent of their population was engaged in cultivation and this was more true in respect of their urban population. Next, other services engaged seven per cent of their population, the third being household industry in which about five per cent of their population was busy. Among them, percentage of agricultural labourers was two and that too was totally restricted to urban area. Thus about 51 per cent of their population was in all these occupations.

As regards the economic condition of the Scheduled Tribes of the District in 1961, it may be said that out of their total population of 2,483 persons, only two were in urban area. About 58 per cent of their population was of workers. Majority of them were engaged in other services, claiming 662 persons, followed by cultivation, which provided work to 462 persons. Only 186 persons were working as agricultural labourers.

With a view to improving the condition of these Castes and Tribes still more, in the Third Five Year Plan period (1961-62 to 1965-66) the Government continued its schemes of allotment of lands to landless persons among them, industrial training, co-operative societies, etc.

(1) In this plan period too, some cultivable land was allotted to landless persons among them. Thus in all the three Plan periods, landless persons of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes received 1,232 and 291.17 acres of land, respectively. An expenditure of Rs. 10,000 was incurred by the Government on development of their lands and purchase of bullocks, manure, etc. The scheme was discontinued after the Third Plan period.

(2) Besides, Rs. 15,000 for 30 *Harijan* families were sanctioned as agricultural subsidy. Out of this Rs. 6,500 only were distributed among *Harijan* families. No agricultural subsidy was given after the Third Plan.

(3) For the Scheduled Tribes, the restriction continued as regards transfer of holding of land to persons who does not belong to the Tribes. There is no such restriction in the case of land owned by the *Harijans*.

(4) An amount of Rs. 100 was to be annually distributed as legal aid but no application for it was received and the amount had to be surrendered.

(5) In the first three years of the Third Plan period, 15 and 11 persons, trained in the Training Centre of the Scheduled Castes and Other Back-

ward Classes, received Rs. 8,900 and Rs. 6,900 as loan or/and subsidy, respectively, from the budgets of the Department of Industries and Development for starting their own industries. In the year 1963-64 the Training Centre imparted training to 10 trainees belonging to the Scheduled Castes in the trade of leather goods manufacturing. In the year 1961-62 eleven students of other Backward Classes received training at Handloom Weaving Centre of the District. In the years 1964-65 and 1965-66 13 persons of Scheduled Castes and 20 Other Backward Classes persons received loans under the State Aid to Industries Act worth Rs. 5,600 and Rs. 8,050, respectively. During the years from 1966-67 to 1969-70 Rs. 6,100 and Rs. 4,900 were given as loan to 13 and 6 trained persons of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes.

(6) The number of co-operative societies of these Castes and Tribes increased to 29 in the second year of the Third Five Year Plan from 25 in the first year. The number again increased to 36 in the third year and decreased to 33 and 28 in subsequent years. The numbers fluctuated, while the share capital of these societies continuously increased. The number of such societies decreased to 14 in 1966-67 and remained undisturbed till 1968-69. The same again increased to 31 in 1969-70 when their share capital amounted to Rs. 30,499. The Government loan to them stood at Rs. 36,881.

(7) In the Third Plan period allotment of Rs. 10,000 was made for constructing five wells for the *Harijans* but only two wells at a cost of Rs. 6,500 were built.

(8) In the year 1968-69, the Government granted Rs. 9,000 to Datia Municipal Committee, for constructing 10 houses for its *Harijan* employees.

Social Welfare

In the year 1951, the Uttar Pradesh Removal of Social Disability Act, 1947, was made applicable to Vindhya Pradesh of which Datia was one of the districts. Intensive propaganda work was done to create public opinion in favour of removal of untouchability. Punishments to be given for observing untouchability were brought to the notice of the public. Many inter-caste dinners were arranged and barbers and washermen were persuaded to serve the *Harijans* as well without any discrimination. Students of these castes were given admission in all the schools. Efforts were made to throw the doors of temples open for the entry of *Harijans*. Many public wells were also thrown open for the use of *Harijans*.

A branch of the Harijan Sewak Sangh, organised in 1960 at Datia, also tried to remove untouchability through propaganda among the Caste

Hindus. The Sangh succeeded in securing the entry of *Harijans* in four temples. By its efforts 13 wells were thrown open for the use of *Harijans*. Services of one barber were also made available to them.

Charitable Endowments

Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951 governs the management of the Trusts in the District. Collector is the Registrar of Public Trusts. Till June, 1970, no Public Trust was registered.

There is no Charitable Endowment in the District.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Representation of the District in Union and State Legislatures

For the First General Elections (1951-52) to House of the People, Datia District formed a part of Two-Member Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh Parliamentary Constituency, having 5,87,455 electors and Lok Sabha 11,74,910 votes. Of these two seats one was reserved for the 1951-52 Scheduled Castes. These two members represented the District in House of the People. The number of valid votes Elections cast in the Constituency was 3,47,010, i.e. 29.5 per cent of the total number of votes.

At the time of the Second General Elections, held in 1957, the District was included in Khajuraho (Double-Member) Parliamentary Constituency, electing two members of Parliament to represent it. Lok Sabha Of these two seats one was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. 1957 Elections The constituency comprised 7,71,940 electors, having 15,43,880 total number of votes. The number of valid votes polled was 5,36,011, i.e. 34.71 per cent of the total votes.

Subsequently, by the Two-Member Constituencies (Abolition) Act 1961, all two - member constituencies were replaced by single-member constituencies. For the General Elections of 1962 to Lok Sabha Sabha, Datia District was attached to Tikamgarh Parliamentary Constituency, reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The 1962 Elections total number of electors in the constituency was 4,50,882, while the number of valid votes cast in the constituency was 2,28,568.

For the General Elections held in 1967 Datia District was included in Bhind Parliamentary Constituency consisting of 5,86,364 Lok Sabha voters to elect a representative to Lok Sabha. The number 1967 Elections of valid votes polled was 3,08,340 i.e. 61.49 per cent.

The extent of the constituency for Fifth General Elections held in 1971 as Mid-Term Poll, was the same i.e., the District Lok Sabha was included in Bhind Parliamentary Constituency having 1971 Elections 5,48,963 voters. The number of valid votes polled was 3,51,178 i.e., 67.93 per cent.

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DATIA

In Vindhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly the District was represented by three members after the First General Elections of 1951-52. These three members were elected by Two-Member Seondha Constituency (one seat reserved for Scheduled Castes), and Datia Constituency. Two-Member Seondha Constituency had 50,298 electors having 1,00,596 votes, while Datia Constituency comprised 31454 electors. Total number of valid votes polled in Seondha and Datia constituencies was 32,692 (35.6 per cent) and 9,421 (29.9 per cent), respectively.

For the subsequent General Elections of 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1972 the District was divided into two Single-Member Vidhan Sabha Constituencies. Details of these constituencies as they stood during these three General Elections are given below:—

Table No. VIII — 1

Position of the Vidhan Sabha Constituency

Name of the Constituency	No. of Electors	Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Percentage of Col. 3 to 2	Year of Election
1	2	3	4	5
Datia	43,188	17,928	41.28	1957
Seondha	46,976	15,794	33.62	1957
Datia	47,212	24,676	58.22	1962
Seondha	56,795	23,688	41.70	1962
Datia	60,880	32,569	53.50	1967
Seondha	60,353	35,441	58.72	1967
Datia	66,082	41,495	62.79	1972
Seondha	68,217	43,816	64.23	1972

*Political Parties**Congress*

Datia Rajya Praja Mandal, established in 1935, was transformed in to Datia District Congress Committee in 1948, when the princely State of Datia, alongwith other princely States around it, decided to merge and form a Union of States, called Vindhya Pradesh.

The Congress party in the General Elections of 1951-52 set up its two candidates in the Two-Member Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh Parliamentary

Constituency, one seat of which was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Both the candidates of the party succeeded in defeating their eight other rivals including three Independent candidates. The Congress candidates received 82,104 and 80,767 valid votes, respectively. The party candidates also contested all the three Legislative Assembly seats of both the constituencies of the District and captured them. In Datia Legislative Assembly Constituency the candidate of the Congress defeated his three rivals by securing 4,719 valid votes. In the Two-Member Seondha Assembly Constituency (one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes) the party candidates secured 6,260 and 5,580 valid votes and defeated six other rivals in the field. In subsequent by-elections held in Two-Member Seondha Assembly Constituency, the Congress lost both the seats getting only 4,423 and 4,002 valid votes out of 32,692 total valid votes cast in the constituency.

In the General Elections of 1957, the District was included in Khajuraho Double-Member parliamentary constituency having one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Two candidates of the Congress party won the election by securing 1,44,834 and 1,22,970 valid votes and defeating four other contestants.

The party also captured both the Vidhan Sabha seats viz., Seondha and Datia of the District in 1957. The party candidate got 8521 valid votes in Seondha Assembly Constituency, in which there were three more contestants in the field. In Datia Assembly Constituency Congress candidate got 9,542 valid votes and thus defeated his three rivals.

Datia District was included in Tikamgarh Parliamentary reserved for the Scheduled Castes for the General Election of 1962. The Congress candidates lost this election. The party candidates could get 57,555 valid votes.

The Congress captured the Legislative Assembly seat of Seondha and lost that of Datia to an Independent candidate in the elections of 1962. The party candidate received 11,692 valid votes in the former constituency as against 7,558 secured by his immediate next rival, an Independent while in the latter constituency the victorious Independent candidate got 12,287 as against 7421 valid votes received by the Congress nominee.

For the purposes of General Elections to Lok Sabha in 1967, Datia District was included in Bhind Lok Sabha constituency. The Congress party lost the seat securing 66,377 valid votes. It also lost the seat in the fifth General Elections to Lok Sabha, held in 1971 and secured 1,22,533 valid votes. As regards Vidhan Sabha Elections held in 1972, the party candidate

won Seondha seat by securing 18,847 valid votes, but its candidate could not succeed in Datia Constituency. He polled 14,299 valid votes.

In Legislative Assembly Elections of the same year Congress party lost both the seats of the District, i. e. Datia and Seondha. The party candidates respectively got 10,443 and 9,570 valid votes as against 11,458 and 18,594 respectively secured by the victorious candidates, both Independents.

Krishak Mazdoor Praja Party

For elections to the Parliament in 1951-52, the party set up one candidate in Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh Double-Member Parliament Constituency and he lost the seat by securing 30,042 valid votes. Similarly, the party failed to win seats in both the Legislative Assembly constituencies of the District. In Datia constituency its candidate could get 2,268 valid votes, while for one of the two seats of Seondha Constituency its contesting candidate could obtain 5,035 valid votes.

Hindu Mahasabha

Two candidates of this party were in the field for fighting the First General Elections of 1951-52 to the Vindhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly. They contested both the seats of Two-Member Seondha Constituency and lost them by getting 3,050 and 2,476 valid votes. For subsequent bye-elections in the same constituency the party again set up two candidates of whom one was victorious. He got 5,212 valid votes, while the other one lost the seat securing 4,323 valid votes. In the General Elections of 1957 to the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha the party put up two candidates for contesting both the seats of the District, viz., Datia and Seondha (both Single-Member). The candidate in the former constituency could get 6,853 valid votes and lost the seat. In the latter constituency too its candidate failed to win the seat, as he could secure 5,830 valid votes.

Socialist Party

The party set up a candidate to fight one of the two seats of Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh Parliamentary Constituency in the First General Elections of 1951-52, and lost the seat as only 31,819 valid votes were secured by its candidate.

Scheduled Castes Federation

One seat which was reserved for the Scheduled Castes in Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh Parliamentary Constituency (Double-Member),

was contested and lost by the candidate of the party, who got 24,859 valid votes in the General Elections of 1951-52. In the same elections, the party unsuccessfully contested one Legislative Assembly seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes in Two-Member Seondha Constituency. It received 4,070 valid votes. It also contested for the Seondha Vidhan Sabha seat in 1972, but lost having secured 968 valid votes.

Bharatiya Jana Sangh

In 1951-52, one member of the party contested and lost the reserved seat of Parliament from Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh (Two-Member) Parliamentary Constituency. He could secure 27,593 valid votes. Similarly, one of the two seats of Legislative Assembly from Two-Member Seondha and one seat from Datia Constituencies was also contested by candidates of this party. In the former constituency the candidate secured 2,024 while in the latter the contestant of the party could get 1,694 valid votes.

In 1957, both the seats of Khajuraho Two-Member Parliamentary Constituency were unsuccessfully contested by Jana Sangh candidates. They could get 73,024 and 50,674 valid votes. As regards the elections to the Vidhan Sabha in 1957, the party contested the seat only in Datia Constituency and lost it by getting 703 votes. The party remained conspicuous by its absence in the General Elections of 1962.

Jana Sangh candidate contested Bhind Parliamentary Constituency in 1967 and captured it by securing 1,37,546 valid votes. In Datia Vidhan Sabha Constituency, the party was absent and in Seondha it contested unsuccessfully, as it got only 771 valid votes.

In the Fifth General Elections, party candidate for Lok Sabha won the seat by securing 2,13,771 valid votes. As regards Datia and Seondha Vidhan Sabha Constituencies, party candidate won Datia seat and secured 18,099 valid votes. The Jana Sangh lost Seondha seat, securing 15,576 valid votes.

Praja Socialist Party

Two candidates of this party entered the field of bye-elections, held in Two-Member Seondha Vidhan Sabha Constituency, subsequent to the General Elections of 1951-52. One of them getting 5,203 valid votes was declared elected, while the second, securing 5,025 valid votes was defeated. In Khajuraho Two-Member Parliamentary Constituency two seats were contested and lost by the candidates of the party in 1957. They secured 2,962 and 71,547 valid votes. In the same year, the party candidate contested only Seondha Vidhan Sabha seat and lost it getting only 770 valid votes. In

1962, the candidate of the party came out successful in a fight for the Parliamentary seat of Tikamgarh Constituency but both the candidates of the party in the same year lost both the Vidhan Sabha seats of the District, viz. Datia and Seondha in which they could get only 514 and 615 valid votes, respectively. In the General Elections of 1967, the party abstained from contesting.

Swatantra Party

A candidate of this party contested the Vidhan Sabha seat of Seondha only in 1962 and lost it by getting 701 valid votes.

Republican Party

The party set up its three candidates in 1967, one for contesting Bhind Paliamentary Constituency, while one each for two Vidhan Sabha seats of the District, viz., Datia and Seondha. All the three failed as they could secure 24,424: 686 and 4,836 valid votes, respectively.

Newspapers

A State-owned printing press, installed at Datia in the year 1920 started the printing of Datia State Gazette, a Hindi fortnightly. It was a State publication and gave official information to the public. It continued its publications till the merger of the State in Vindhya Pradesh in 1948. Publication of *Datia State Gazette* can be said to be the humble beginning of journalism in the District.

In the early decades of the 20th century the people of erstwhile Datia State did not enjoy much freedom to read newspapers published in different parts of the country. The Minister of the State, called the Dewan, kept a strict watch over the persons who got newspapers from outside the State. Some moderate newspapers like *Shri Venkateshwar Samachar* (Hindi), and *The Leader* (English) could be seen with the people of the State. In such circumstances journalism could not possibly flourish in the District.

In the year 1940 *Lokendra*, a Hindi weekly, commenced publication from the District. The weekly received some financial aid from the ruler of the State. It, therefore, published certain news in praise of the ruler alongwith the literary articles. However, it could not survive long and ceased publication sometime in 1943. During World War II, the State War Office published a fortnightly, the *Vijay* in 1944. This periodical continued its publication upto 1948, the year of integration of Datia State into Vindhya Pradesh.

After Independence a marked rise in the number of journal is noticed. A number of persons took interest in bringing out newspapers in the District. In 1948, a Hindi monthly, called the *Uday* started its publication. It was an organ of Karmachari Sangh of the District. The monthly, however, ceased publication after one issue. This very year saw *Gram Hitkari*, a monthly magazine, commencing its publication from Datia. The magazine, however, soon ceased its publication after two or three issues.

Adhunik Kavi, a Hindi weekly, commenced publication from Datia in 1951. Soon after publishing a few issues, it was renamed as *Adhunik*, and continued its publication upto 1954. It ceased its publication due to financial crisis. A Hindi fortnightly *Pravah* started its publication from Datia in 1951, and ceased to exist in 1952. *Gandhi Pustakalaya Patrika*, a half-yearly, also deserves mention. It was an organ of Gandhi Pustakalaya of Datia. It was published on the 15th of August and 26th of January. But after three years, in 1954, this ceased. A Hindi weekly, called the *Jan Vijay*, commenced its publication in 1952 from Datia. After two-and-a-half years, its publication ceased due to the death of its editor. In 1956, a Hindi weekly, called the *Udey* started publication from Datia. It however, ceased after three issues. Another Hindi weekly that commenced its publication in the year 1956, from Datia, was *Amar-Vani*. *Adhunik* commenced its publication in 1957. Another Hindi weekly, called the *Anjam* started its publication in 1964. These two weeklies are continuing though quite irregularly. *Amar Alok*, a Hindi weekly, commencing publication from Datia in 1960, continued for a year only. Again started in January, 1964, this weekly was published from Datia. *Lok path*, a Hindi weekly, continued regularly during the years 1964 to 1966. *Shyam's Weekly* was published from Datia during the years 1966-67.

In the year 1967 a Hindi monthly called the *Swasthya Sandesh* was started.

Voluntary Social Service Organizations

The voluntary social service organisations of the District are of recent origin. They have, however, done some significant work with the object of seeing the community in the various spheres of life. The activities of some important organisations of the District are being given below.

1. Dalit Varga Sangh, Datia

A branch of Dalit Varga Sangh was established at Datia in 1953. It aimed at promoting the social and economic standard of the backward classes.

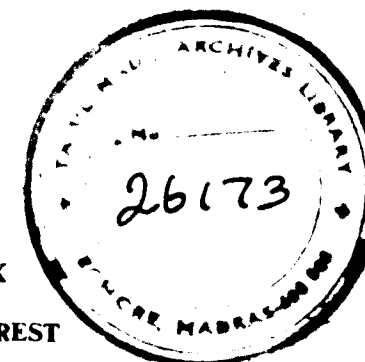
2. *Mahila Samiti, Datia*

The Mahila Samiti was founded in Datia in January, 1953. It aimed at improving the lot of the women in the District. It organised training classes to improve their social and economic conditions. The Samiti also launched the prohibition campaign and made efforts to collect the National Defence Fund to the maximum.

3. *Harijan Sevak Sangh, Datia*

A branch of the Madhya Pradesh Harijan Sevak Sangh was established at Datia in 1960. The main object of the Sangh is to eradicate untouchability in Hindu Society with all its incidental evils and disabilities suffered by the so called untouchables in all walks of life and to secure for them absolute equality of status with the rest of the Hindus. To fulfil these objects, the programme of the Sangh is as follows.

- (a) To go from village to village and propagate among the caste Hindus not to practice untouchability.
- (b) To mingle among Harijans and prepare them to resist peacefully all restrictions imposed on them.
- (c) To try to remove all the disabilities, which are imposed upon Harijans, viz., to get opened wells, temples, making available to them the services of barbers and washermen, etc. The Sangh has started intensive work in Datia Tahsil of the District, covering nearly 200 villages. A Sanskara Kendra was established at Datia in the year 1964, which worked in the surrounding villages to fulfil the objects of the Sangh. A Batwadi was also established here for the welfare of Harijan children.



CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Baroni Khurd (25° 41' N; 78° 24' E)

It is an important large village of Datia Tahsil, lying about 6.4 km. north-east of the tahsil headquarters with which it is connected by a good road.

Location and Distance

Baroni Thakurs, who are the nearest kinsmen of the ex-ruling family of Datia, had their headquarters here. These Thakurs are descendants of Chhatarsal, a son of Maharaja Subhakaran of Datia. It was then the headquarters of a *jagir*, named after it. The village contains an old ruined fort. Baroni has two primary and one middle school, post-office, police-station, allopathic dispensary, family planning clinic and *gram panchayat*. Weekly market is held at the village on Sundays. The village is electrified. It covers an area of about 3,442.50 acres. Its population, which was 3,414 persons in 1901, increased to 4,680 in 1971. In between Baroni and Datia there is a large lake called Ram Sagar after Raja Ramchandra of Datia (1707-36), who constructed it.

Basai (25° 10' N; 78° 24' E)

This small village in Datia Tahsil is situated to the south of Datia at a distance of about 63 km. by rail. It is a small railway station on Jhansi-Itarsi section of the Central Railway. From here, Mata Tila Dam on the river Betwa in Uttar Pradesh is easily approached by a good road.

Formerly Basai was the headquarters of a *jagir*, named after it. The history of the *jagir* dates back to the year 1724, when Raja Udot Singh of Orchha State gave it to his son Amar Singh as *jagir*. Subsequently, it remained a part of a tiny principality of Khaniadhana, which in turn, was a part of Orchha till about A.D. 1751. The tiny Khaniadhana State merged in Vindhya Pradesh in 1948. In January, 1950, some territorial exchanges between Madhya Bharat and Vindhya Pradesh were brought about. As a result only *Basi Pargana* remained in Datia District of Vindhya Pradesh.

History

At a short distance from Basai, there are two natural rock-shelters at a place called Bhorar, which is situated on the river Betwa. There is also a Siva temple, where an annual Makar Sankranti fair, attended by about 8,000 persons, is held in Magha (January-February). It lasts for seven days and is managed by the local *gram panchayat*. The same agency manages another one-day annual fair, called Hardaul Mela held on Chaitra 10 (March/April). It is attended by about 2,000 persons.

The village has two primary, two middle and a higher secondary school, an allopathic dispensary, village post office *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*, police-station, outlying veterinary dispensary and cattle breeding extension unit. It covers an area of about 2,042.59 acres. In 1961 Basai had a population of 2,590 persons.

Datia (25° 4' N; 78° 30' E)

The chief town of the former princely State of the same name, Datia is the headquarters of the District, called after it. It lies slightly to the north-east of Bhopal and south-west of Gwalior, the State capital and the Divisional headquarters, respectively. It is a railway station on the Jhansi-Delhi main line of the Central Railway. Datia is situated at a distance of about 316 km. from Bhopal and about 80 km. from Gwalior by rail. The town is connected by roads with Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh and Gwalior, and a few other places of the District.

The town cannot boast of its antiquity, though the tradition associates the derivation of its names from one Danava king. The tradition speaks of this place and tract as being held by Dant Vakra, the Danava king of Karusha, killed by Krishna. The *Puranas* place Karusha on the "back of the Vindhya". Datia is thus supposed locally to be a corrupt form of Data or Danta-nagar. Another version derives the name from Danti or Ganesha, the one-toothed god.¹

Under Muhammadan rule Datia was only a small village situated in the *kasba* of Shahjahanpura (Bauhara village) in Bhandar *mahal* of Irich *sarkar* of Agra *subah*. This small place received some importance during the reign of Bir Singh Dev, the Maharaja of Orchha. King Bir Singh Dev granted Bhagwan Rao, one of his sons, a *jagir*, which included Datia town and the revenue of Baroni. On the 20th October, 1626, Bhagwan Rao left

1. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 1.

Orchha and settled at Datia and thereby led to the foundation of Datia State, of which Datia remained the headquarters till 1948. Bhagwan Rao died in 1656 and his *Samadhi* is known as *Surahi Chhatra*.

The second ruler of Datia was Subhakaran (1656-83), the third Son of Bhagwan Rao. He constructed a large tank, named after him as Karnasagar and a palace known as Rajgarh, standing on a small hillock, situated in the eastern part of Datia. Dalpat Rao, the third ruler of this line (1683-1707) developed Datia in a new form and this modern part of the town is called Dalipnagar. Datia town is picturesquely situated in a hilly region. The five hillocks, which are at the outskirts of the town are called Rajgarh, Patahpura, Purana Mahal, Bharatgarh and Bankghar. The town wall was built during the reign of raja Parichhat (1801-39). This wall of the height of 14 metres had no ditch or protection against canon.¹ It had four gates and a few windows. Subsequently, when the scheme for laying down highways in the State was sanctioned, the wall was demolished by the order of the *Diwan* of the State.

The main interest of the town lies in its palaces of Bir Singh Dev of Orchha and Subhakaran of Datia and several cenotaphs of the members of the ex-ruling family.

On one of the low hills over which the town is built, stands the magnificent palace of Bir Singh Dev, the massive pile towering above the town at its feet. This palace is one of the finest examples of Bir Singh Dev's domestic architecture of our country. It is said that Maharaja Palace Bir Singh Dev, while on his visit to Mathura in 1614, got himself weighed with gold and subsequently started construction work of this gigantic palace, which was completed in nine years.² It is built purely in stone and bricks and no trace either of wood or iron is there. This multistoreyed palace is known as Nrising Dev palace, or old palace, "It is built in the form of a square, the monotony being relieved by four octagonal towers one at each corner, and string courses of stone lattice work defining the five storeys.³ The summit is ornamented by numerous *chhatris* crowned with ribbed domes, while many of the ceilings in its chambers are finely carved. The southern face looks over a large lake of which the waters are held up by stone retaining walls".⁴ This lake is called

1. Sleeman, *Rambles and Recollections*, Vol. I, p. 312.

2. Local version gives this period as four years.

3. Local belief is that it has seven or nine storeys as Maharaja Bir Singh Deo was generally called Narsingh Deo by the Mughal historians, of which only five are seen and the remaining are underground.

Datia State Gazetteer, p. 35.

Karna Sagar, already referred to. It seems that the palace was never occupied for human habitation. In December, 1835 Sleeman visited the palace and inquired why it was not used. The Maharaja's servant replied, "No price in these degenerate days could muster a family and court worthy of such a palace, the family and court of the largest of them would, within the walls of such a building feel as if they were in a desert. Such palaces were made for princes of the older times, who were quite different from those of the present day".¹

Till the year 1924, this palace of considerable archaeological importance was in a neglected condition. Considerable damage done to it in 1925 by lightning, attracted the attention of the Datia Darbar.² Efforts to repair and preserve it were started with the help of grant-in-aid of the Central Archaeology Department. During the fifties this building was occupied by the refugees from Pakistan, who effected several alterations and additions to it. These accretions were dismantled when in about 1956-57 the refugees vacated the palace. The Government of India have declared it as a protected monument. Another palace known as Rajgarh, and built by Subhakaran is a handsome structure but cannot be compared with the old palace. Rajgarh is situated to the west of the old palace and now accommodates the Collectorate and a few government offices of other departments. There are a few other palaces such as Govind Niwas, Bhawani Vilas, etc., and they are specimens of modern architecture. Of them Radha Niwas palace houses a hospital. The town hall of the place is now known as Gandhi Bhawan.

There are many temples, mostly built in the 17th or 18th century. Though they are held sacred and visited by devotees, architecturally they are of very little interest. Similar temples are situated on hillocks in the neighbourhood of Datia, but most of them are modern. On the bank of the Karnasagar tank stands the Chhattiskoti-Devata Mandir, containing images representing gods, goddesses and sages like Haradeva, Baladeva, Gayatri, Savitri, Valmiki, etc. These bear label inscriptions in late Nagari characters.

The town has made some progress in the field of industry in general and cottage industries in particular in recent years. A large *Ayurvedic* pharmacy was established here in 1960 for preparing *Ayurvedic* medicine on a large scale. Small bulbs for torches, plastic commodities, wooden goods, confectionary, etc., are also manufactured here as items of minor cottage industry. It is the largest whole-sale and retail trading centre of the District, having

1. Sleeman, op. cit., p. 301.

2. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report, 1928-29, p. 50; 1929-30, p. 52.

branch offices of the State Bank of India, Madhya Pradesh Co-operative Bank, etc. Brisk trade in grains is carried out at the town.

This municipal town contains eleven primary, four middle and three higher secondary schools, degree college, four libraries, head post-office, telegraph office with public call facility, police-station, hospitals for males and females, family planning clinic, circuit house, *Ayurvedic* hospital, artificial insemination unit, *goshala* and usual tahsil and district offices. The town covers an area of about 5.3 sq. km. and in 1971 it had a population of 37436 persons (including those of non-municipal area), as against 24,071 in 1901.

About eight km. away from Datia stands the village Sirol, known for its old step well. The well appears to date from the same period as the old palace of Datia and recalls the general plan and design of the famous step wells of Ahmedabad in Gujarat.¹ Another monument in the same village is also of archaeological interest. It is a small building resembling Maharaja Bir Singh Dev's palace at Datia in general outline. It is stated that this small structure was erected with a part of the material prepared for the larger palace of Datia. It is a two storeyed building about 40 metres square. It consists of an open court in the middle and is strengthened with four ribbed domed towers at the corners, three of which have unfortunately disappeared. The whole structure is, in fact, in a very dilapidated condition.²

Gujarra (25° 39' N; 78° 35' E)

Gujarra, a hamlet in Datia Tahsil, is situated about 16 km. south-east of Datia and about 20 km. north of Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh. The nearest road to the village is Datia-Unnao road, which touches the Location and village Parasari (13 km. from Datia), lying near Gujarra.
Distance

This apparently insignificant village has become known to the Indologists in general and to the Epigraphists in particular, as in 1954 it yielded an important Rock Edict of the celebrated Maurya Asokan Emperor Asoka (c. 269-232 B.C.).³ The inscription, engraved on a boulder, was found lying at the foot of a hill, locally known as *Siddhon-ki-turiya* or the hillock of 'the Perfect Ones'.

The Central Archaeology Department has declared it as a protected monument and constructed a shed over it with a view to protecting it from the ravages of nature. The area occupied by the writing on the face of

1. Archaeological Survey of India Report, 1929-30, p. 53.

2. *ibid.* pp. 52-53.

3. *Epigraphia Indica*, Vol. XXXI, part V, pp. 205.06.

the boulder measures about one metre in length and half a metre in height, and the writing in Brahmi characters and in Magadha dialect is of five lines. This inscription is the second of the many records of Ashok, so far discovered, that mentions Asoka in the 'personal name of the emperor, the first being the Rock Edict found at Maski. In all other inscriptions of Asoka, he is called 'King Devanampriya Priyadarshin' or 'Devanampriya' or 'King Priyadarsin'.¹

Village Gujarra, having a primary school, covers an area of about 1380 acres and in 1971 it had a population of 653 persons.

Indergarh (25° 55' N; 78° 36' E)

The important large village of Seondha Tahsil, lying about 35 km. south-west of Seondha and 29 km. north-east of Datia, the District headquarters, it is connected by road with both the places. Regular buses ply on the road. The importance of this village dates back to the year 1758, when it was occupied by Maharaja Indrajit (1736-62) of Datia. It is said that formerly the village was known as Dardgaon. Indergarh was formerly the headquarters of a tahsil of the same name containing 58 villages.

The Maharaja Indrajit built a fort here, which is in ruins, after seizing the place from the Jats. It appears that this region was known as Uchhad after the name of its headquarters, in Mughal days.

The *Gram Panchayat* of the place manages a local fair, the Sitala mela in March/April every year which attracts about 1,000 persons and continues for 15 days. A weekly market is held at this retail-marketing centre on every Thursday. The village has three primary, two middle and a higher secondary school, primary health centre, family planning clinic, outlying veterinary dispensary, police-station, post-office, credit co-operative society, rest-house, *gram* and *nyaya panchayats* and a public reading-room. The village covers an area of 3,035.20 acres and in 1971, it had a population of 3,488 persons as against 1,819 in 1901.

Seondha (26° 9' N; 78° 49' E)

This headquarters of a Tahsil and Community Development Block, both of the same name, is 64 km. to the north-east of Datia, the district headquarters, with which it is connected by road on which buses ply regularly. It is said that, Seondha takes its name from its position on the bank of the river Sindh. Locally it is also known as Prithvinagar, apparently from its founder.

1. Text and translation of the Edict is given in Appendix.

Seondha is certainly an old place, as remains of earlier settlement can be traced near the present day town. In Mughal days it was included in Akbarabad (Agra) *subah*. There is an old fort, called Kanhar-garh on the bank of the river. It is suggested that this is the Sarua fort, seized by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1018, when he pursued Chand Rai. On 2 June 1801, a fierce fighting took place beneath its wall between the forces of Sindhia led by Perron and those of the widows of the ruler of Datia. The fort had witnessed several battles and withstood the ravages caused by them. It is enclosed by three walls. The fort contains ruins of palaces, which were formerly known as Raniwas, Deewan Aam and Phoolbag. Inside the first wall Maharaja Govind Singh (1907-56) constructed a seven storeyed building called Kothi. It gives a picturesque view of Seondha, which has become a sacred place for the Hindus.

The sacred place is popularly called Sankua. It is locally believed that when Sanat-Kumar and brothers, the sons of Prajapati Brahma failed to get peace even after severe penance practiced elsewhere, they were advised to visit Seondha and accordingly here they succeeded in getting peace. There are many temples built on the bank of the Sindh and in the fort. Nandnandan temple in the fort and Siva temple on the bank of the Sindh are held very sacred. An important local fair, called Sankowan is annually held at the place in October/November and continues for a fortnight. Another, called the Baradwara religious fair is held at old Seondha for a day in June/July.

Seondha is mainly known for the beautiful water fall called Sankua. The mighty flow of the river Sindh runs near the bridge on the road through comparatively high rocks and takes a jump in a low-lying region. This has created a scenic beauty of great charm. Here the rocks in the basin and under the fall are carved by human efforts. In the dense forests around Seondha a good game can be found.

Besides usual tahsil offices, the offices of Community Development Block, *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*, branch of the co-operative bank and post and telegraph office with public call facilities are at this place. It is a retail-marketing centre, where weekly market is held on every Monday. Seondha has three primary, two middle and one higher secondary school and public library, reading-room, carpentry training centre, police-station, hospital, family planning clinic, rural health centre and rest house. It covers an area of 1,698 acres and in 1971, it had a population of 8,534 as against 5,542 in 1901.

Sonagir (25° 43' N; 78° 30' E)

This sacred Jain hill is lying 9 km. to the north-west of Datia, its Tahsil and District headquarters town. The hill is about 5 km. from the railway station of the same name on Jhansi-Delhi section of the Central Railway and is connected by road.

Location and Distance

Sonagir is referred to as one of the *Nirvankshetras* (Places of Salvation) in an old Jain Prakrit work. The passage runs "Bow to Anga and Ananga Kumars and four and a half crores of *sharmanas* of Jain saints, who attained *Nirvan* on the crest of the good hill Suvarnagiri".¹ The other name *Suvarna giri* (hill of the gold) is Shramanagiri, probably because of its long association with the Jain saints.²

The hill is seen from a distance. There are 77 Jain temples, built in rows on the hill and its slopes and they present a picturesque appearance.

Some of the temples are indeed beautiful specimens of architecture.³ But architecturally most of them are of degraded modern type and none, as they stand, dates back to later than the end of the 17th century. They are deprived of the purity and homogeneity of older temples. They are built in brick with "inelegant stuccoed white rectangular bodies, bulbous-ribbed Muhammadan domes and pine-cone spires, the doors and windows ornamented with the foliated Muhammadan arch and carved Bengali cave and roof".⁴ All these temples are of different size and they contain images and foot prints of Jain *Tirthankaras*. Of these the temple dedicated to Chandranatha, the 8th of the 24 *Tirthankaras* is quite a large one and beautiful. A large image of Bahubali and *manastambha*-a small four faced shrine on a high pillar, are lately erected and they add to attraction of the hill. On the hill, one more large temple is under construction. Besides there are two more objects worth seeing. One of them is Narjal Kund (pool of a cocoanut shape) carved in a large stone. The other Vajini sheela, a huge isolated rock, which if struck, produces a sound of metal. At the foot of the hill also there are many large Jain temples and a number of *dharmashalas*.

1. *Angananga kumara kodipanchaddha muniwara sahiya Suvanagiriwarshihare nivvana gaya namo tesim Nivvui Kandam Gatha*.

2. Datia District Census Handbook, 1961, p. Lv.

3. *ibid.* p. XVII.

4. *Datia State Gazetteer*, p. 37.

Many of the images bear inscriptions of the period ranging from 7th to 20th century¹ recording the names of the chiefs ruling over the region and the devotees, who installed those images. Jains from all over India visit this sacred place in open season. A large annual fair is held in the dark half of Chaitra (April) for the first five days and it is attended by thousands of Digambar Jains from distant places. The Digambar Jain community looks after the whole management of this sacred place. The hill is situated in the revenue village called Sinwal, having a primary school and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. The hill and the village is electrified. It covers an area of 1262.78 acres and in 1971, it had a population of 649 persons.

Unnao (25° 35' N; 78° 38' E)

It is one of the large important villages of Datia Tahsil, lying about 17 km. south-east of Datia and about 11 km. to the north-east of Jhansi. It is connected with Jhansi and Datia by roads on which buses ply regularly. The river Pahuj flows by this place.

Location and Distance

The main interest of the village lies in a famous temple dedicated to the Sun that has a great reputation for sanctity. It contains a circular stone of about one seventh metre in diameter representing the Sun. The deity is surrounded by the Navagraha or nine planets. On the edge of the stone are engraved twentyone triangles, representing twenty one phases of the Sun. The stone is installed on a brick platform covered with brass plates. There is a protective brass cover or *gilhaf*, which is used for covering the stone and is taken off only when large crowds come to visit the temple. Thus the stone is protected. The temple faces due east and stands 15 paces from the river Pahuj, which flows before it. The deity is known by various names like Balaji, Brahma Balaji, Brahmanya Deo, Raramju, etc.

The temple is held most sacred and the blind, childless and lepers especially resort to here for relief. The belief, in the power to cure skin disease possessed by the deity, is so deep-rooted that immense crowds visit the place, especially on Sundays (the special day of worship) and in Magh (February/March). Large and important fairs are held thrice in a year at this place when it is attended by huge crowds. Sankranti (January), Vasant Panchami (February-March) and Rang Panchami (March/April) are the occasions when these fairs are held. Bath in the river Pahuj or in one of the three *kunds*, waters of which are supposed to have power of curing leprosy and other skin affections, is taken and offerings are made to the deity.

1. For details see Appendix.

The legend about the deity and the temple is like that, there was a very rich Kachhi named Baramji living in the village and having an immense wealth of cattle. While grazing near the river Pahuj once, at a certain spot on the bank of the river, the cows gave milk without being milked. Hearing this the Kachhi reached the spot and prayed that if it was the resting place of any deity, he should manifest himself. The god appeared and advised the Kachhi to search for an image of the deity. He did find an image (now in the temple) and he set it up. The present temple was erected by a former ruler of Datia. Subsequently in 1844, the temple was enlarged by Mama Sahib Jadhav the then minister of the State of Sindhia. The temple having a length of about 10 metres has a breadth of about three metres. The temple is an ordinary modern structure facing the east. In front of it there is a spacious place covered by corrugated tins.

Village Unnao is electrified. It has one primary and two middle schools, public-library, dispensary, family planning centre, veterinary dispensary, artificial insemination unit, police-station, post-office and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. It covers an area of about 2,228.88 acres and the population of the village was 3800 in 1971, as against 2,276 in 1901.

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TABLE—I
Normals and Extremes of Rainfall (mm.)

Station	No. of years of data	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual rainfall as of normal year**	Highest annual rainfall as of normal year**	Lowest annual rainfall as of normal year**	Heaviest Rain in 24 hours.*	Date
Datia	50	a 10.2	9.7	8.1	3.6	6.3	67.6	247.1	258.1	144.8	24.6	8.4	5.3	793.8	168	40	190.5	1954 Sep.7
	b	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.6	3.7	11.8	11.4	6.1	1.0	0.4	0.4	38.5	(1917)	(1905)		
Seondha	47	a 9.4	9.1	5.6	7.4	5.3	42.7	283.9	219.7	129.0	12.9	5.3	5.6	685.9	180	25	243.1	1912, Jul.11
	b	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	2.5	10.3	10.0	5.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	32.2	(1919)	(1905)		
Indragarh	18	a 10.4	10.7	5.3	7.6	9.9	70.4	277.6	260.9	131.8	7.6	6.3	3.1	801.6	184	44	161.3	1912, Sep.7
	b	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.8	3.7	10.8	10.6	5.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	35.0	(1919)	(1905)		
Datia		a 10.0	9.8	6.3	6.2	7.2	60.2	252.9	248.2	135.2	15.0	6.7	4.7	760.4	167	37		
(District)	b	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.6	3.3	11.0	10.7	5.6	0.7	0.4	0.3	35.3	(1917)	(1905)		

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more.
* Based on all available data upto 1950. ** Years given in brackets.

DATIA
TABLE—II

Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District (1901-1950)

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
201-300	1	801-900	7
301-400	0	901-1000	2
401-500	4	1,001-1,100	6
501-600	6	1,101-1,200	1
601-700	8	1,201-1,300	2
701-800	7		

*Data available for 44 years only.

TABLE—III

Annual Rainfall from 1951 to 1960 (mm.)

Year	Datia	Seondha
1951	269.5	1,075.0
1952	887.2	763.2
1953	461.6	545.5
1954	882.7	733.6
1955	724.9	1,031.8
1956	1,040.4	1,306.2
1957	734.2	900.5
1958	1,065.4	982.3
1959	967.1	1,013.2
1960	953.5	922.2

TABLE—IV
Tanks in the District

Name of the tank	Nature of tank	Area of the tank in Hectare	Depth in metres
1. Ram Sagar	Pereinnil	167.6	8.1
2. Karan Sagar	"	14.6	5.0
3. Lala Ka Tal	"	14.7	5.4
4. Makrari	"	9.4	2.4
5. Baroni Khurd	"	13.4	2.7
6. Banda No. 5	"	40.5	3.0
7. Bardhab	Seasonal	2.4	The depth of seasonal tank is variable
8. Basai	"	2.4	
9. Siral	"	6.5	
10. Kamar	"	1.6	
11. Dhursera	"	1.6	
12. Chergara	"	0.8	
13. Pachora	"	4.0	
14. Radha Sagar	"	2.0	
15. Laxman Tal	"	1.6	
16. Taran taran	"	1.2	
17. Sita Sagar	"	3.6	
18. Sena Bal	"	0.8	
19. Ashar Tank	"	2.4	
20. Naya Tal	"	8.1	
21. Parasari	"	6.1	
22. Sunar	"	2.0	

TABLE—V

Total Thanawise Monthly Number of Deaths Caused By Reptiles (1963-65)

Thana	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Drolipar	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	1	2	..	..
Indergarh	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Dursada	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Tharet	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
Seondha	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..
Datia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Baroni	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..
Basai	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Unoa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Total 1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	..	..	..
.. 1964	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	3	1	2	..	..
.. 1965	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	1	1	1	..	..
Grand Total 1963-65	..	..	1	..	2	2	6	7	3	3	..	..

DATIA
TABLE--V
Mortality from Reptiles and Wild Animals During
the years 1966-1969

Name of P.S.	Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Datia	1966	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Baroni	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Basai	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unao	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dursada	1966	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Indergarh	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Tharet	1966	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Seondha	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	1968	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Dirolipar	1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1967	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1968	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	1	..
	1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..

TABLE—VII

(In 1000 Hectares)

Land Utilization

APPENDICES

Year	Area Accor- ding to village papers	Area under Fore- sts	Area not Available for culti- vation	Area put to Non-Agri- cultural uses	Area under Barren and un- culturable land	Area under perma- nent Land Exclu- ding Fallow lands	Area under Misc. Tree crops waste	Area under Cultura- ble waste	Area Old Fallow Lands	Current Fallow	Net Area Sown	Area sown More than once	Gross crop- ped Area		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1950-51	196	1	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.0	99	2	101
1955-66	203	20	21	14	8	20	7	.4	12	31	21	9.9	112	2	114
1960-61	204	25	23	15	8	13	5	.2	7	25	21	4.1	118	3	121
1965-66	204	21	28	20	7	22	7	..	14	11	7	3.5	122	2	124
1966-67	204	21	27	20	6	23	8	..	15	37	7	29.9	96	2	97
1967-68	204	19	25	21	4	25	8	1.4	16	9	6	2.3	126	2	128
1968-69	204	19.2	24.5	21.0	3.5	24.0	6.0	1.9	15.3	7.2	4.6	2.6	128.6	2.2	130.8
1969-70															
1970-71															
1971-72	204	18.7	23.6	20.3	3.3	27.0	6.7	1.7	18.6	5.8	4.0	1.8	128.4	2.4	130.8
1972-73	204	18.8	23.7	20.4	3.3	26.2	6.4	1.7	18.1	6.6	4.2	2.4	128.2	2.5	130.7

APPENDICES

TABLE—VIII
Area Under Principal Crops

(In '000 Hectares)						
Year	Paddy	Wheat	Jowar	Gram	Linseed	Til
1950-51	2	27	15	34	2.4	6.1
1955-56	1	37	21	31	2.2	3.8
1960-61	2	42	23	31	2.2	2.4
1965-66	1.5	37.8	24.4	36.7	2.3	2.3
1966-67	1.1	20.4	23.4	30.5	1.4	3.5
1967-68	1.2	33.9	32.2	30.7	3.4	2.6
1968-69	1.2	45.7	17.9	37.0	2.8	2.2
1969-70	1.2	47.0	16.1	36.4	4.3	1.9
1970-71	1.1	47.3	15.7	37.2	5.6	3.2
1971-72	1.2	49.7	19.2	34.6	3.9	1.8
1972-73	1.1	46.1	19.7	34.0	5.0	1.8

TABLE—IX

Outturn of Principal Crops

(In Thousand Tonnes)						
Year	Paddy	Wheat	Jowar	Gram	Linseed	Til
1950-51	..	11.2	3.0	18.3	0.5	0.8
1955-56	0.4	19.3	3.7	19.7	0.5	0.7
1960-61	0.9	26.9	21.1	14.8	0.8	0.3
1965-66	0.6	19.2	18.6	21.4	0.5	0.3
1966-67	0.3	7.0	12.0	6.6	0.2	0.2
1967-68	0.6	24.6	24.4	18.2	1.1	0.3
1968-69	0.5	31.7	9.0	15.3	0.7	0.4
1969-70	0.4	23.0	6.6	14.7	1.0	0.2
1970-71	0.4	34.8	7.6	15.9	1.2	0.2
1971-72	0.9	47.4	8.4	21.8	1.4	0.2

TABLE-X
Number of Livestock and Agricultural Implements

Year	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep	Goats	Ploughs		Tractor	Oil Engines	Electric Pumps	Sugarcane Crushers	Ghanis
					Wooden	Iron					
1951	1,29,616	37,747	21,919	37,153	19,046	..	1	13	..	33	385
1956	1,25,958	39,815	35,214	61,454	20,155	14	12	58	2	31	351
1961	1,35,514	46,501	18,906	56,187	29,980	57	14	37	19	40	258
1965-66	1,30,124	44,669	26,879	58,855	22,988	257	17	89	24	44	197
1970-71	1,23,425	41,138	32,833	55,229	21,659	338	21	192	155	45	135
1971-72	1,31,561	46,562	18,893	48,641	22,275	455	25	349	590	30	74
1972-73	1,22,384	45,340	20,854	46,999	22,926	441	24	304	590	99	71
Tahsil	73,242	23,024	13,471	29,787	12,962	351	5	251	377	41	29
Datia											
Seonda	49,142	23,316	7,383	17,212	9,964	90	19	53	213	58	42

TABLE—XI

Taccavi Loans Distributed (1956-57 to 1960-61)

(In Rs.)

Type of Taccavi	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
1. Seeds	..	..	2,16,209	61,582	64,318
2. Bullocks	26,350	1,06,503	35,520	24,844	30,146
3. Wells	28,048	1,64,462	80,584	84,381	69,073
4. Rahats	5,000	15,474	150	7,000	4,485
5. Pumping Sets	28,000	24,000	11,500	15,000	7,500
6. Tractors	..	32,000	8,000	8,400	..
7. Horticulture Development	..	..	..	300	2,300
8. Soil Conservation	1,050	490	4,500	1,500	..
9. Bunding of fields	23,220	75,652	8,845	..	8,790
10. Paddy Bunds	420	..	..	..	..
Total	1,12,088	4,18,581	3,65,308	2,03,007	1,86,612

TABLE—XII

Progress of Working of the Datia Central Cooperative Bank, Datia

(Amount in Rs.)

Year	Member-ship	Share Capital		Loans advanced	Loans out-standing	Deposits		
		Government	Societies and others			Suspense Account	Savings Account	Current Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10								
II Plan								
1956-57	83	..	4,204	64,500	18,766	29,404	3,741	..
1957-58	90	..	59,077	3,96,582	3,86,017	1,06,933	5,419	26,256
1958-59	102	..	95,635	7,53,133	4,10,019	38,597	24,010	23,821
1959-60	132	..	1,41,850	10,48,370	9,64,574	27,806	36,719	40,471
1960-61	151	..	1,73,345	14,01,607	13,32,787	2,27,616	1,08,212	15,787
III Plan								
1961-62	165	..	1,95,095	9,38,796	13,20,002	2,882	1,46,492	24,426
1962-63	170	1,00,000	2,11,195	16,01,381	16,50,295	17,160	1,75,177	29,672
1963-64	175	1,00,000	2,31,600	23,88,966	23,52,893	8,102	4,10,410	64,975
1964-65	184	3,00,000	2,61,300	25,29,628	27,93,008	25,114	5,40,801	1,49,932
1965-66	181	3,60,000	3,69,050	27,75,165	21,42,063	62,220	5,41,134	1,97,534
Annual Plans period								
1966-67	89	3,60,000	4,10,200	46,82,548	47,79,652	1,13,526	6,04,954	4,35,730
1967-68	89	4,60,000	4,36,500	50,45,248	53,22,766	2,29,091	4,82,040	2,54,057
1968-69	89	5,60,000	4,98,800	53,22,765	57,07,916	4,58,417	6,76,224	7,31,897
								87,900
								25,400
								26,000
								30,200
								57,700
								78,300
								84,150
								99,050

TABLE—XIII

Progress of the Datia District Co-operative Land Development Bank, Datia

(Amount in Rs.)

Year	No. of Societies	Member-ship	Share Capital		Pledge loan	Godown loan	Godown subsidy	Staff sub-sidy	Deposits
			Govt.	Individual and others					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1957-58	1	10	20,000	2,200	..	15,000	5,000	2,500	..
1958-59	1	20	20,000	2,325	..	..	..	1,650	400
1959-60	1	53	20,000	3,375	4,960	..	..	850	..
1960-61	1	84	18,000	5,150	5,555	..	..	..	6,525
1961-62	1	111	16,000	7,700	62,984	7,500	2,500	..	3,304
1962-63	1	126	14,000	9,125	71,563	..	..	..	271
1963-64	1	140	12,000	9,350	35,233	..	..	1,500	115
1964-65	1	204	40,000	10,740	8,307	..	..	1,000	115
1965-66	2	380	63,000	86,645	7,166	18,750	6,250	2,750	2,984

TABLE—XIV

Statement Regarding the Warehousing in Datia District

(In Qnts.)

Period	Opening	Deposit	Withdrawal	Closing Balance
1.10.59 to 31.12.59	..	1874	175	1699
1.1.60 to 30.3.60	1699	18289	14752	5236
1.4.60 to 30.6.60	5236	20970	8024	18182
1.7.60 to 30.9.60	18162	5627	14292	9517
1.10.60 to 31.12.60	9517	15543	7835	17225
1.1.61 to 31.3.61	17225	4673	17950	3950
1.4.61 to 30.6.61	3950	40575	9575	34950
1.7.61 to 30.9.61	34950	6357	20602	20705
1.10.61 to 31.12.61	20705	8146	11180	17671
1.1.62 to 31.3.62	17671	11448	19304	9815
1.4.62 to 30.6.62	9815	6107	4365	11057
1.7.62 to 30.9.62	11057	706	4949	6814
1.10.62 to 31.12.62	6814	1553	1640	6727
1.1.63 to 31.3.63	6727	302	5654	1375
1.4.63 to 30.6.63	1375	3004	2515	2464
1.7.63 to 30.9.63	2464	189	2066	587
1.10.63 to 31.12.63	587	824	587	824
1.1.64 to 31.3.64	824	3173	1911	2086
1.4.64 to 31.6.64	2086	2297	2747	1336
1.7.64 to 30.9.64	1636	1008	1939	705
1.10.64 to 31.12.64	705	970	418	1257
1.1.65 to 31.3.65	1257	2307	1609	1955
1.4.65 to 30.6.65	1955	11765	2427	11293
1.7.65 to 30.9.65	11293	11222	9008	3407
1.10.65 to 31.12.65	3407	31618	10857	24168
1.1.66 to 31.3.66	24168	42448	39471	27145
1.4.66 to 30.6.66	27145	16927	12805	31267
1.7.66 to 30.9.66	31267	3455	22493	12229
1.10.66 to 31.12.66	12229	5299	6775	10752
10.10.67 to 31.3.67	10752	2460	7184	6028

TABLE—XV

Receipts From Different Sources of Revenue

(Amount in Rs.)

Year	Union Excise Duty	Income Tax	State Excise	Sales Tax		Motor Spirit Act	Forests	Taxes on Motor Vehicles	Registration	Stamps
				General Sales Tax Act	General Sales Tax Act					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1950-51	11,000	650	2,93,000	1,19,200	..	..	1,25,100	16,700	..	37,100
1951-52	54,600	4,800	2,90,300	96,600	..	..	1,16,400	19,800	..	44,200
1952-53	48,700	3,700	2,65,300	92,900	..	..	1,33,700	26,400	..	50,200
1953-54	47,200	22,900	2,46,100	1,07,400	..	1,900	1,63,300	29,800	2,000	60,800
1954-55	49,900	3,600	2,40,900	1,02,200	..	2,700	..	30,500	5,900	41,600
1955-56	52,300	19,500	2,65,700	1,27,700	..	16,900	1,05,400	44,400	7,700	49,500
1956-57	45,900	23,200	3,03,800	1,65,300	..	24,400	1,59,700	54,000	11,500	53,400
1957-58	45,600	16,400	2,96,700	2,69,700	..	14,300	1,43,600	45,300	11,100	62,300
1958-59	44,600	19,100	2,71,500	1,13,350	2,400	13,850	1,76,000	36,000	11,900	70,200
1959-60	39,600	75,100	2,87,100	1,02,600	7,900	14,400	1,33,000	46,000	16,300	79,700
1960-61	35,600	36,200	3,47,500	82,300	8,000	11,800	2,11,100	55,000	11,500	71,100
1961-62	64,400	25,800	1,98,200	79,000	6,900	4,000	2,60,500	58,400	10,900	92,600
1962-63	54,600	60,800	1,77,400	1,10,700	9,800	15,300	3,23,700	69,000	13,700	1,03,000
1963-64	22,200	63,200	2,00,700	1,67,400	15,700	19,000	1,36,700	69,400	24,000	1,20,600
1964-65	30,100	75,900	2,54,400	2,37,400	30,800	14,800	1,43,900	56,700	18,500	1,20,600
1965-66	35,200	85,500	2,52,700	2,92,800	66,900	5,200	1,39,400	64,200	32,800	1,55,100
1966-67	33,009	62,220	2,99,733	3,13,993	41,765	244,552	1,35,764	86,574	35,531	1,75,449
1967-68	26,277	81,811	3,53,261	2,35,206	32,706	9,127	92,484	79,601	44,286	1,85,517
1968-69	41,659	64,452	4,05,764	4,07,637	32,783	140	64,743	80,660	46,747	2,32,634
1969-70	53,275	1,72,880	4,50,300	4,85,885	54,122	20	91,035	1,02,851	54,771	2,83,470

TABLE—XVI

Criminal Justice—Cases Disposed of

Name	Year							
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
1. Number of Persons convicted under various offences.								
(i) Affecting human body	29	34	32	49	..	27	19	39
(ii) Against Property	47	51	49	56	..	44	35	53
(iii) Affecting Public Health	5	1	3	..	..	10	14	21
(iv) Relating to Religion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Number of Persons Punished.								
(i) Imprisonment	52	58	80	48	..	56	64	116
(ii) Fines	385	346	22	138	..	190	392	412
(iii) Whipping	52	58	..	..	..	5	32	112
(iv) Security taken	385	346	..	..	..	..	..	..
(v) Persons dealt with under Berstal	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..
(vi) Death sentence	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..

TABLE—XVII

Civil Justice—Cases Disposed of

	Year							
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
1. Total number suits for money and movable property.	25	52	56	65	91	237	194	152
2. Total number of title and other suits.	107	73	104	211	135	42	25	9
3. Disposal of suits by various courts								
(i) District Courts	4	11	5	4	9	..	..	..
(ii) Subordinate Courts	130	336	218	288	208	227	171	240
(iii) Courts of small Causes	187	148	96	135	131	135	114	88
4. Duration of Cases :—(Number of days)								
(i) Without Trial	504	133	230	382	180	3532	4007	6733
(ii) Exparte	224	..	60	90	101	1487	2119	18897
(iii) Admission	..	..	344	138	118	314	523	657
(iv) Compromised	92	255	147	235	195	13454	18997	41335
(v) After full trial	593	78	98	381	254	..	..	..
(vi) Referred to arbitration	..	..	..	362	..	..	..	..

TABLE—XVIII

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 the year			Total daily average of prisoners		
	Male	Female	Total	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1951	66	1	67	361	1	362	427	2	429	291	2	239	136	..	136	114.11	.16	114.27
1952	136	..	136	257	1	258	393	1	394	316	1	317	77	..	77	97.12	.08	97.20
1953	77	..	77	212	3	215	239	3	292	233	3	236	56	..	56	57.38	.09	57.47
1954	56	..	56	151	..	151	207	..	207	158	..	158	49	..	49	67.2	..	67.2
1955	49	..	49	96	..	96	145	..	145	106	..	106	39	..	39	49.48	..	49.48
1956	39	..	39	159	1	160	198	1	199	150	1	151	48	..	48	49.5	..	49.5
1957	48	..	48	168	..	168	216	..	216	178	..	178	38	..	38	39.89	..	39.89
1958	38	..	38	222	..	222	260	..	260	201	..	201	59	..	59	39.10	..	39.10
1959	59	..	59	247	2	249	306	2	308	265	2	267	41	..	41	42.66	.7	42.73
1960	41	..	41	253	6	259	294	6	300	245	6	251	49	..	49	50.00	.6	50.6
1961	49	..	49	271	1	272	320	1	321	286	1	287	34	..	34	52.80	.03	52.83
1962	34	..	34	231	4	235	265	4	269	239	4	243	26	..	26	33.37	.05	33.42
1963	26	..	26	250	6	256	276	6	282	237	6	243	39	..	39	29.71	.43	30.14
1964	39	..	39	339	13	352	378	13	391	334	9	343	44	4	48	50.54	1.07	51.61
1965	44	4	48	368	7	375	412	11	423	357	11	368	55	..	55	53.22	1.02	54.24
1966	55	..	55	441	8	449	469	8	504	443	7	450	53	..	54	58.22	1.04	59.26

TABLE—XIX
Income and Expenditure of Panchayats of Datia District 1951 to 1966-67

Year	INCOME			EXPENDITURE				
	Tax Revenue	Non-Tax Revenue	Other Income	Public Safety inclusive of lighting	Public Health	Education	Public works	Others
1951-52	..	3,207	5,046	..	1,533	524	..	..
1952-53	..	3,207	5,046	..	1,533	524	..	..
1953-54	..	11,803	15,636	..	4,323	475	..	..
1954-55	..	4,577	6,489	..	5,433	476	..	..
1955-56	..	6,476	13,085	..	6,728	1,254	..	..
1956-57	..	8,115	25,966	..	13,828	1,302	..	..
1957-58	..	11,613	29,468	..	8,819	657	..	..
1958-59	..	8,816	53,647	..	10,599	1,636	..	..
1959-60	..	12,253	49,493	..	10,226	1,359	..	..
1960-61	5,608	23,796	29,703	..	4,900	2,425	..	..
1961-62	5,828	27,108	27,039	1,499	5,674	1,881	716	9,347
1962-63	20,675	47,724	1,12,414	3,622	8,727	6,347	3,624	22,148
1963-64	15,276	65,434	80,265	7,631	8,122	5,930	79,452	76,980
1964-65	23,710	93,858	82,345	6,474	12,382	7,358	61,883	47,943
1965-66	43,946	1,93,003	86,872	8,544	8,086	7,304	60,681	1,31,723
1966-67	1,22,587	55,131	16,797	3,835	11,928	10,897	55,832	241
							67,811	1,08,853

TABLE—XX

Representation of the District in State Legislature

(a) Election Year (b) Constituency	(a) Total No. of Votes (b) Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Names of the Successful Party and its Candidate	Valid Votes Received
a 1951-52	a 50,298	1 Congress, Ram Das	6,260
b Seondha(Double Member)	b 32,692	2 Congress, Laxmi Narain	5,880
By-Election	a 50,298	1 Praja-Socialist, Jwala Prasad	5,203
Seondha	b 28,358	2 Hindu Maha Sabha Surya Deo Sharma	5,232
a 1951-52	a 31,454	1 Congress, Shyam Sunder	4,719
b Datia	b 9,421	Das Shyam	
a 1957	a 46,978	Congress	
b Seondha	b 15,794	Kamta Prasad	8,521
a 1957	a 43,189	Congress	
b Datia	b 19,988	Shyam Sunder Das Shyam	9,452
a 1962	a 56,795	Congress	
b Seondha	b 23,688	Kamta Prasad	11,692
a 1962	a 47,212	Independent	
b Datia	b 24,676	Surya Deo Sharma	12,287
a 1967	a 60,358	Independent	
b Seondha	b 35,441	Surya Deo Sharma	18,594
a 1967	a 60,880	Independent	
b Datia	b 32,569	Shyam Sunder Shyam	11,458

TABLE—XXI

Representation of the District in the Union Legislature

(a) Election Year (b) Constituency	(a) Total No. of Votes (b) Total No. of Valid Votes Polled	Name of the Successful Party and its candi- dates	Valid Vote Received
a 1951-52	a 5,87,455	1. Congress	82,104
b Chhatarpur-Datia-Tikamgarh (Double Member)	b 3,47,010	2. Congress Motilal Malvi	80,767
a 1957	a 7,71,940	1. Congress Ram Sahai	1,22,970
b Khajuraho (Double-Member)	b 5,36,011	2. Congress Motilal Malvi	1,44,834
a 1962	a 4,50,112	Praja Socialist	97,647
b Tikamgarh	b 2,21,561	Kure Mate	
a 1967	a 5,16,364	Jan Sangh	
b Bhind	b 3,01,340	Yeshwant Singh Kushwah	1,37,586

APPENDIX—B—I

Associate Floral Species in the Kardhai Forests

Trees

Associate trees frequently met with in Kardhai Forests are *seja* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *patas* (*Butea monosperma*), *reunjha* (*Acacia leucophloea*), and *ashla* (*Bauhinia racemosa*). Occasionally met with are *ghont* (*Zizyphus xylophyra*) and *her* (*Zizyphus jujuba*) and rarely, *bel* (*Aegle marmelos*), *tendu* (*Diopyros melanoxylon*), *chiroi* (*Holoptelea integrifolia*), *karadi* or *kullu* (*Sterculia urens*), *salai* (*Boswellia serrata*), *dudhi* (*Wrightia tinctoria*), *kaim* (*Mitragyna parvifolia*), *kala siris* (*Albizia lebbek*), *dhadra* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *mahua* (*Madhuca latifolia*), *kasai* (*Briestia retusa*), *arjun* (*Terminalia arjuna*), and *bahera* (*Terminalia bellerica*). *Lasora* or *labheda* (*Cordia mixa*), *jamun* (*Syzygium cumini*), *bargañ*, (*Ficus species*), etc. *Aonla* (*Embilic officinalis*), *bija-sal* (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), *kusum* (*Schleichera oleosa*) and *padar* (*Stereospermum suaveolens*) are very rare in the stock.

Small Trees

Among the small trees *hingot* (*Balanites roxburghii*) and *kakai* (*Flacourtia ramontchii*) are frequently met with, *velati* (*Buchanania lanzan*), *madhsing* (*Dolichandrone salcata*), *datranga* (*Ehretia laevis*), *sehind* (*Euphorbia nuyellia*) and *malaphal* (*Randia dumetorum*) are rare. *Bulasena* (*Limonia crenulata*) is very rare.

Shrubs and Undershrubs

Chapar (*Grewia flavescens*), *tarwar* (*Cassia tora*) and *raimunia* (*Lantana camara*) are the most abundant. *Karonda* (*Cassia spianum*), *baikal* (*Gymnosporia montana*) and *hibarber* (*Zizyphus rotundifolia*) are quite frequent. Occasionally, *akol* (*Alangium lamarockii*), *aak* (*Calotropis gigantea*), *inni* (*Clerodendron phlomidis*), *marorphali* (*Helicieris isora*) and *harsingar* (*Nyctanthes arbor-tristis*) are noted in this type of forests. *Apamarga* (*Achyranthes aspera*), *karil* (*Capparis aphylla*), *ulatkanta* (*Capparis horrida*), *chipti* (*Desmodium pulchella*), *neel* (*Indigofera pulchella*), *nagphani* (*Opuntia dillenii*) and *Strobilanthes* species are rarely met with.

Climbers

Amarbel (*Cuscuta reflexa*), *kewanch* (*Miconia pruriens*), *makoy* (*Zizyphus oenoides*) and *phagbel* (*Rosa hyparateriformis*) are the common climbers. *Nagbel* (*Cryptolepis buchanani*) is frequent at favourable places. *raoni* (*Acacia pinnata*), *sagargoti* (*Colostrops paniculata*), *gudmar* (*Gymnema sylvestris*), *chimarbel* (*Lehnocarpus frutescens*), *ramdaton* (*Smilax macrophylla*) and *kzoi* (*Ventilago calyculata*) are less common among the climbers.

Grasses

The common grasses of the District are *gunher* (*Themeda quadrivalvis*), *kusul* (*Heteropogon contortus*), *doob* (*Cynodon dactylon*) and *sama* (*Echinochloa colanum*), *puli* (*Apluda ziria*), *chikua* (*Chrysopogon manthanus*), *sabai* (*Eulaliopsis binata*), *chhir* (*Imperata cylindrica*) and *pannia* (*Setim sulcata*) are met with lesser frequency.

APPENDIX—B—II

Associate Floral Species in the Ravine Thorn Forests

The common species in these forests are *chenkur* (*Prosopis specigera*), *reunjha* (*Acacia leucophloea*), *babul* (*Acacia arabica*) and *khair* (*Acacia catechu*). *Chiroi* (*Holoptelea integrifolia*) is occasionally met with and *karani* (*Pongamia globosa*) is rare.

Among the small trees *hingot* (*Balanites roxburghii*), *velati* (*Dichrostachys cinerea*) and *pitar* (*Salvadora oleoides*) are common and *aal* (*Morita tinctoria*) is rare.

Karil (*Capparis aphylla*) is the commonest shrub. *Agusa* (*Adhatoda vasica*), *aak* (*Calotropis procera*), *ulatkanta* (*Capparis horrida*), and *tarwar* (*Cassia auriculata*), are common. *Panwar* (*Cassia tora*), *inni* (*Clerodendron phlomidis*), *zizyphus rotundifolia*, *Strobilanthes* and *Grewia* species are rare.

Nagbel (*Cryptolepis buchanani*) is the most frequently seen climber. *Gunja* (*Abrus precatorius*), *kewanch* (*Miconia pruriens*) and *makoy* (*Zizyphus oenoides*) are seen less commonly.

Kush (*Desmostachya pluvata*) is the most prevalent grass. It is followed by *kusul* (*Heteropogon contortus*), *Doob* (*Cynodon dactylon*), *sama* (*Echinochloa colanum*) *kans* (*Sachharum spontaneum*) and *gunher* (*Themeda quadrivalvis*) are rare grass species.

Weeds and Parasites

Among the weeds of the forests of all types *raimunia* (*Lantana camara*), *gokkur* (*Tribulus terrestris*), *panwar* (*Cassia tora*) and *ulat kanta* (*Capparis horrida*) are most notorious. *Bandha* (*Loranthus longiflorus*) and *amarbel* (*Cuscuta reflexa*) live upon other species. They are known to cause damage to *achar*, *mahua*, *salai*, *tendu* and *seja*.

APPENDIX—B—III

List of Fish Species (Standard and Local Names)

1. Ambassis nama
2. Ambassis ranga
3. Bagarius bagarius (Lamra, Gonch)
4. Barbus tor (Mahaseer)
5. Channa marulius (Sore)
6. C. Punctatus (Derka)
7. Chlarius magur (Magur)
8. Chlarius batrachus (Magur)
9. Cirrhina reba (Natain, Bisar)
10. C. mrigala (Mirgal)
11. Catla catla (Bawas)
12. Glosogobius giuris
13. Heteropneustis fossilis (Singi)
14. Labeo rohita (Rohu)
15. L. calbasu Kriat)
16. L. gonius (Kursa)
17. L. bata
18. L. boga
19. Mystus seenghala (Singara, Kitua)
20. M. aor (Digra)
21. M. Chana
22. Mastacembelus armatus (Baam, Baanu, Ger)
23. M. punctatus (Baam)
24. M. armatus
25. Notopterus notopterus (Patela)
26. N. ohitala chitala (Chitala)
27. Onigastor bacaila (chal)
28. O. Striatus
29. Punctius sarana (Serti)
30. P. saphore
31. Tor tor
32. Tor Khuddica
33. Wallago attu
34. Xenontodon eacila
35. Punlues lecto
36. Ambely phasyngodon mora
37. Chania striatus
38. Chamia gachua
39. hogi attu

APPENDIX—B—IV

List of Important Fairs

Name of the Place where Fair is held	Time when Fair is held		Local Religious or other occasion of the fair	Duration of the Fair (No. of days)	Average total attendance	Who manages the Fair
	Hindi Manth	English Month				
Seondha Tahsil						
Nehla	Agrahayana sudi 14	November/ December	Nehla Fair	1	500	Gram Panchayat
Datia Tahsil						
Unnao	Chaitra badi 5	March/ April	Rang- panchami	1	5,000	Committee Balaji Temple
Basai	Chaitra 10	March/ April	Hardaul	1	2,000	Gram Panchayat
Unnao	Magh sudi 5	January/ February	Basant Panchami	1	5,000	Committee Balaji Temple
Basai	Magha	January/ February	Sankrant	4	8,000	Gram Panchayat
Datia	Magha	January	Govind Fair	15	2,000	Municipal Committee
Sonagir	Phagrna sudi 15	February/ March	Holi	5	10,000	Gram Panchayat

APPENDIX B—V

The Legend Regarding the Sun Temple

Maharaja Marut performed a *yagna* near Varanasi and invited all the Gods to it. The God of fire or Sun could not attend due to some skin disease. The Maharaja then told the assembled Brahmins that the presence of the Sun was necessary and so the Brahmins recited *mantras* to call the Sun God. The sun is stated to have told the Brahmins that they may go ahead with the *yagna* and make out a stone statue for him in which he would enter. This was done and the *yagna* completed. All the gods were dispersed but the Sun remained there.

After a long while, during the period of Jagat Guru Shankaracharya, one Amarsingh Seonra, who was extremely well versed in '*tantric*' sciences, was, along with other *pandits*, called by the *Raja* of Kashi (Varanasi). The *Raja* asked, as to what was the *tithi* (the date of Hindu month) or day of the moon? All replied that it was *Amavasya* or moonless day but Seonra said it was *poornima* or the full moon day. When asked to prove, he did it by means of the stone statue left earlier. He placed the statue in the brass plate or *thali*, lifted it in the air and gave it a swirl. This caused light, something like moonlight and everybody was bewildered. The *Raja* thereupon called the other *pandits* to tell them that Seonra was right. They protested and said that this was only an artificial light standing up to 12 *kos* or about 24 miles only. A check was made and the protest found to be true. Seonra, thereupon, returned and carried along with him this statue. He now came to Unnao and left it near the village on the river bank.

Near Unnao in Kunhecha village of Mau tahsil in Jhansi district, there lived Sadaram and Bhanuprakash (a family of Jijhotia Brahmins) who were great devotees of Sun. Then one night in a dream, they were told that they should visit the village of Unnao to see and be confronted with Sun God. So they (two of the n 'brothers') came to Unnao and stayed with a Kachhi who treated them hospitably.

Now in the village it so happened that the cow of a Lodhi milked itself at a particular spot. The Lodhi after observing it for a few days was so annoyed with it that he struck her a blow with a stick. The cow collapsed and died. The Lodhi was told in a dream that he should leave the village, failing which he and his family would come to grief. The Lodhi left accordingly. The spot where the cow milked itself was a hallowed one as was revealed later.

The Brahmins having reached the Kachhi's place again dreamt that they would see the Sun God underneath a big *peepal* (*ficus religiosa*) tree. Underneath this tree was the spot and the Brahmins dug the statue, they found it buried and restored it. Soon the news spread around and pilgrims started pouring in and offered money, sweets and other things at the spot. The Brahmins became the *pujaris* (priests) and the Kachhi with whom they stayed did the cleaning. This went on for sometime.

It is said that Peshwa's skin disease was cured and in gratitude he wanted to construct a temple costing Rs. 1,25,000 on the bank of the river. The work was started but the ruler of Datia grew suspicious about the intentions of the Peshwa. The work was, therefore, stopped. After sometime Datia ruler got it completed. The Peshwa, however, got the temple constructed at Bithoor on the Ganges. It was later decided to apportion some income for maintenance and up-keep. The Brahmin's family had multiplied itself and there were seven male members doing the *pooja*. They all got one share, another share was given to Kachhi for his services and two shares were set aside for defraying maintenance costs. Thus, ten shares in all were made. This arrangement continued. Some additions were made from time to time by various partners.

Today, there is a registered trust which looks after the temple. There are about Rs. 36,000 held as assets.¹

1. C.E. Luard, Eastern States (Bundelkhand) Gazetteer, Vol VI-A—in 'Fairs and Festivals in Madhya Pradesh', pp. 50-51.

APPENDIX—B—VI
List of Fairs and Melas

S. No.	Name of the Place where Mela or Fair is held	Time when Mela is held		Local Religions or other occasion of the Mela	Duration of the Mela or Fair (No. of days)	Average total attendance	Who manages the Fair
		Hindi month	English Month				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Seondha Tahsil							
1.	Chhena	Chaitra	March/April	Chhena Fair	8	200	Gram Panchayat
2.	Sengowal	Chaitra	March/April	Sengowal Fair	1	50	"
3.	Indergarh	Chaitra	1 March/April	Sitala Fair	15	1,000	"
4.	Old Seondha	Asadha	11 June/July	Baradwari Fair	1	200	"
5.	Seondha	Kartika sudi 15	October/November	Sankwan Fair	15	500	"
6.	Nehla	Agrahayana Sudi 14	November/December	Nehla Fair	1	500	"
7.	Shala	Pausa	December/January	Shala Fair	1	50	"
8.	Pahra	Pausa	December/January	Phahara Fair	1	50	"
Datia Tahsil							
9.	Unnao	Chaitra Badi 5	March/April	Rang Panchami	1	5,000	Committee Balaji Temple
10.	Unnao	Chaitra Sudi 9	March/April	Ram Navmi	1	100	Gram Panchayat
11.	Basai	Chaitra	10 March/April	Hardaul	1	2,000	"
12.	Unnao Balaji	Magha	January/February	Sankrant Fair	1	500	Committee Balaji Temple
13.	Unnao	Magha Sudi 5	January/February	Basant Panchami	1	5,000	"
14.	Basai	Magha	January	Govind Fair	4	8,000	Gram Panchayat
15.	Datia	..	January	Holi	15	2,000	Municipal Committee
16.	Sonagir	Phalguna Sudi 15	February/March		5	10,000	Gram Panchayat

DATIA

APPENDIX—B—VII

Rest Houses, etc.

S. No.	House of the Tahsil	Situation of the Rest / Circuit Houses	Category and accomodation	Situation on the road	Department responsible for maintenance
1.	Datia	Gwalior-Jhansi road	2 Suits (Rest house)	Mile No. 34	Public works Department (B&R)
2.	Datia	..	2 Suits (Circuit House)	Mile No. 48	..
3.	Datia	..	Suits (Circuit House)	Mile No. 48	..
4.	Seondha	Datia-Seondha Road	2 Suits (Rest House)	Mile No. 28	..
5.	Seondha	..	2 Suits (Rest House)	Mile No. 40	..

Source:—Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B&R) Construction Division, Gwalior.

APPENDIX—B—VIII

List of Post and Telegraph Offices

S. No.	Name	Type of office	Whether telegraph and telephone facilities also exist.	S. No.	Name	Type of office	Whether telegraph and telephone facilities also exist.
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.	Datia	Main Office	T.O., P.C.O.	2.	Seodha	Main Office	T.O., P.C.O.
3.	Basai	Branch Post Office		4.	Bardhwan	Branch Post Office	
5.	Nayakhera	-do-		6.	Imeliya	-do-	
7.	Aser	-do-		8.	Chirula	-do-	
9.	Sonagir	-do-		10.	Baroni Khurd	-do-	
11.	Johuhar	-do-		12.	Kusoli	-do-	
13.	Kamad	-do-		14.	Semai	-do-	
15.	Karkhara	-do-		16.	Buhara	-do-	
17.	Bargaon	-do-		18.	Baron Kalan	-do-	
19.	Raori	-do-		20.	Uprain	-do-	
21.	Hinotiya	-do-		22.	Arai	-do-	
23.	Panasri	-do-		24.	Unnao	-do-	
25.	Sitapur	-do-		26.	Baldevpur	-do-	
27.	Renda	-do-		28.	Kamrari	-do-	
29.	Neeжданla	-do-		30.	Berchha	-do-	
31.	Sirsa	-do-		32.	Bhagva Pura	-do-	
33.	Tharet	-do-		34.	Indergarh	-do-	
35.	Karowa Bai	-do-		36.	Dhirpura	-do-	
37.	Silori	-do-		38.	Undiya	-do-	
39.	Digowan	-do-		40.	Padri	-do-	
41.	Giyara	-do-		42.	Lanch	-do-	
43.	Injharpur	-do-		44.	Uchad	-do-	

Note :—T.O. Telegraph Office; P.C.O. :—Public Call Office.
B.P.O. :—Branch Post Office.

APPENDIX—B—IX

Gujarra Inscription of Asoka¹

TEXT

1. (I) Dev (anam) piya (sa) Piyadasino Asokarajasa (*) (II) a (dha) tiyani sa (m) vachharani² upasak (e)=(m) i (*) (III) sadhike sa(m) vachha (re) ya cha me Sanghey (a) to ti (aha) m ba—

2. dha (m) cha parakanite ti (a) he (*) (IV) entena antarena Jambudipasi Devana (m) piya (saa) misam-deva samto³ munisa misam-deva kaia (*) parakamasa iyam phale (*) (VI) no (chai) yam mahatena tiva

3. chakiye papotave (*) (VII) khudakena pi parakamaminena dhammam charami-nena panesu samyatena vipule pi swage chakiya oradhayitava (*) (VIII) s (e) etaye.

4. atha (ye) iyam savane (*) (IX) khudake cha udare cha dhammam charamtu (y) gam yumjamttu (*) (X) amta pi cha janamtu kinti cha⁴ chilath (iti) ke dhammacha

5. (si) ti⁶ (cha) enam (va) dha (m) mam chara (m)⁷ ati(yo) (*) (XI) iyam (cha) savana vivuthe vivuthe (na 200) 50-6 (*)

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XXXI, Part V, pp. 209-10.
2. In the place of ni, no seems to have been originally engraved.
3. This akshara had been originally omitted and was later inserted in the small space between the preceding and following aksharas.
4. This akshara should better be read after chilathitike.
5. The intended reading of the sentence may be chilathitike cha dhammacharan hotu (Sanskrit: chirasthitikam cha dharma charanam bhavatu). Of, e.g., chilathitike cha palakame hotu (Sanskrit: chirasthitikah cha parakramah bhavatu) in the Sahasram version.
6. The intended reading may be vadhisi (Sanskrit: vardhise) yate. As suggested by other versions of the edict, the lost words before vadhisi may be iyam athe (Sanskrit: ayam arthah).
7. This Participle in the Nominative Singular has to be taken with a word like jane (Sanskrit: janah.) Of. he van ve kalamtam (Sanskrit: evam yuyam kurvanta) in the Maski version.

Translation

- (I) (This is a proclamation) of Devanampriya Priyadarsin Asokaraja.
- (II) I have been (now) an upasaka (i.e., a lay follower of the Buddha) for two and half years.
- (III) Saith he, "It is (now) more than a year that the Sangha i.e., the Buddhist Church) has been intimately associated with me and that I have been exerting myself (in the cause of Dharma)".
- (IV) Devanampriya's men (i.e., subjects) in Jambudvipa, who had been unmingled with the gods during this period, were made (by him) mingled with the gods.
- (V) This is result of (his) exertion (in the cause of Dharma).
- (VI) It is not that this (result) can be obtained by the rich man alone. (VII) Even the poor man, if he exerts himself (in the cause of Dharma), practises (the duties associated with) Dharma and observes restraint in respect of living beings, can attain even the great heaven.
- (VII) Therefore this proclamation is (issued by me) for this (following) purpose.
- (VIII) Let (both) the poor and the rich practise (the duties associated with) Dharma (and) effect (thereby their) association (with the gods).
- (IX) Let the peoples living beyond the borders (of my empire) also know that.....
.....if (one) practises (the duties associated with) this Dharma alone to a considerable extent.
- (X) And this proclamation (is issued by me when I have been on tour (for) 256 (days).

APPENDIX—B—X

Inscriptions on Jain Images at Sonagir

1. Image, bearing inscription in the script of seventh century A.D., is in temple No. 76. The image was installed by Vadak, the son of Sinhadeva. (Annual Report of Indian Epigraphy, 1962-63, Inscription No. 381).
2. In temple No. 34 there is an image installed in Samvat 1236 (Ibid, Inscription No. 362).
3. Temple No. 76 contains an image installed by Sadhu Sivaraja in Samvat 1248 (Ibid, Inscription No. 386).
4. The same temple again has an image installed by Keso the son of Abhayadeva in Samvat 1388 (Ibid, Inscription No. 398).
5. Four images of temple No. 76 bear Samvats 1545, 1558, 1599 (installed by Bhattaraka Jayasena), and 1647 (installed by Bhattaraka Chandra Deva), (Ibid, Inscription Nos. 394, 384, 391 (189) 395).
6. The same temple again has an image installed by Bhattaraka Yashonidhi in Samvat 1663 (Ibid, Inscription No. 386).
7. Bhattaraka Lakshmi Sena installed an image in Samvat 1670 (Ibid, Inscription No. 374).
8. In Samvat 1680 when Jugraj the son of Virsing was ruling at Orchha, Bhattaraka Dharmakirti installed an image (Ibid, Inscription No. 390).
9. In front of temple No. 34 three pairs of footprints of Mandalacharya Keshava Sena, Mandalacharya Vishvakirti and Mangaladasa were installed in Samvat 1701 (Ibid, Inscription No. 363).
10. Bhattaraka Vishva Bhushana installed an image in Samvat 1707 (Ibid, Inscription No. 383).
11. Temple No. 9 was constructed by Bhattaraka Vishva Bhushan in Samvat 1747 when Udit Singh, the son of Chhatarsal was on the throne. (Ibid, Inscription No. 408).
12. Bhattarakas Kumar Sena and Deva Sena constructed temple No. 51 in Samvat 1760 (Ibid, Inscription No. 368).
13. Temple No. 46 was constructed by Pandit Balkrishna, a disciple of Vasudeva Kirti in Samvat 1812 (Ibid, Inscription No. 366).
14. Devesh installed an image in Samvat 1828 (Ibid, Inscription No. 382).
15. During the reign Chhatrajit son of Indrajit of Dilipnagar (Datia) Bhattaraka Devendra Bhushan installed an image in Samvat 1836 (Ibid, Inscription No. 367).
16. During the reign of Chhatrajit of Datia Bhattaraka Mahendra Kirti constructed temple No. 58 in Samvat 1855 (Ibid, Inscription No. 375).

17. During the reign of Rao Raja Parichhat foundation stone of temple No. 9 was laid in Samvat 1863. Charriot procession was organised in Samvat 1866. Construction of temple was completed in Samvat 1868. All these were done by Bhattaraka Devendra Bhushan.
18. Temple No. 34 was constructed and temple No. 57 was renovated in Samvat 1873 and 1883, respectively, During the rule of Raja Parichhat (Ibid, Inscriptions No. 364 and 371).
19. Temple No. 13 was constructed during the reign of Raja Vijay Bahadur in Samvat 1899 (Ibid, Inscription No. 412).
20. In Samvat 1745 an image was installed in temple No. 17 (Ibid, 1963-64, Inscription No. 141).
21. During the years 1873 to 1878 Raja Bhawani Singh delivered his judgement in a dispute between Bhattarakas Sheelendra Bhushan and Charuchandra Bhushan in connection with..... of temple No. 9 (Ibid 1962-63, Inscription No. 410).

APPENDIX—B—XI

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 = 0.984 ton

II. LENGTH

Table

10 millimetres (mm)	= 1 centimetre (cm)
10 centimetres	= 1 decimetre
10 decimetres	= 1 metre (1m = 100 cms = 1000mm)

10 metres
10 dekametres
10 hectometres

=1 dekametre
=1 hectometre
=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
 =1.000028 cubic decimetres
 =1.000028 cubic metres

1 kilolitre

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
 { =28.4132 cubic centimetres
 { =142.066 cubic centimetres
1 ounce { =568.2440 cubic centimetres
 { =0.56825 litre
 { =1.1365 litres
1 quart { =1000.028 cubic centimetres
 { =1.000028 cubic decimetres
1 litre

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

100 square millimetres
100 square cm.
100 square decimetres
100 sq. metres
100 acres
100 hectares

=1 square centimetre
=1 square decimetre
=1 sq. metre (1 sq. m.=10000 sq. cm.)
=1 acre or 1 sq. dekametre
=1 hectare of 1 sq. hectometre
(1 hectare (ha)=10000 sq. m)
=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 { =0.404686 hectare
 or 10 sq. chains) { =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

APPENDIX—B—XII

List of Freedom Fighters of Datia District

1. Shri Narayan Singh *alias* Swarn Singh, S/o Shri Bhawani Singh, resident of Basai, Datia.
2. Shri Ram Charan Lal Verma, Pitambara Pith, Datia.
3. Shri Shyantlal Pandey, S/o Shri Gajadhar Pandey, resident of Urdana, Datia.
4. Shri Ramcharan Mishra, S/o Shri Bhagirath Mishra, R/o Basai, Datia.
5. Shri Mahant Dasrahi Das, Datia.
6. Late Shri Kalika Prasad, S/o Shri Gopal Singh, Datia.
7. Shri Raghubar Dayal, S/o Shri Gajadhar Prasad Gupta, R/o Basai, Datia.
8. Shri Ram Sewak Shukla, S/o Shri Lakshman Prasad Shukla, Datia.
9. Shri Jagannath Prasad, S/o Shri Bhagirath Prasad Mishra, R/o Basai, Datia.
10. Shri Narayan Das, S/o Shri Jwala Prasad Shrivastava, R/o Datia (at present residing at Jhansi),
11. Shri Narayan Das, S/o Shri Durga Prasad, R/o village Kamad, Datia.
12. Late Shri Nirbhay Lodhi, R/o village Sankuli, Datia.
13. Shri Bhagwan Das, S/o Shri Pyarelal Goswami, R/o Basai, Datia.
14. Shri Jagannath, S/o Shri Daulat Khengar, R/o Basai, Datia.
15. Shri Balchand Gupta, S/o Shri Baijnath Gupta, R/o Basai, Datia.
16. Shri Raghubar Dayal Kankane, S/o Shri Gaya Prasad, R/o Basai, Datia.

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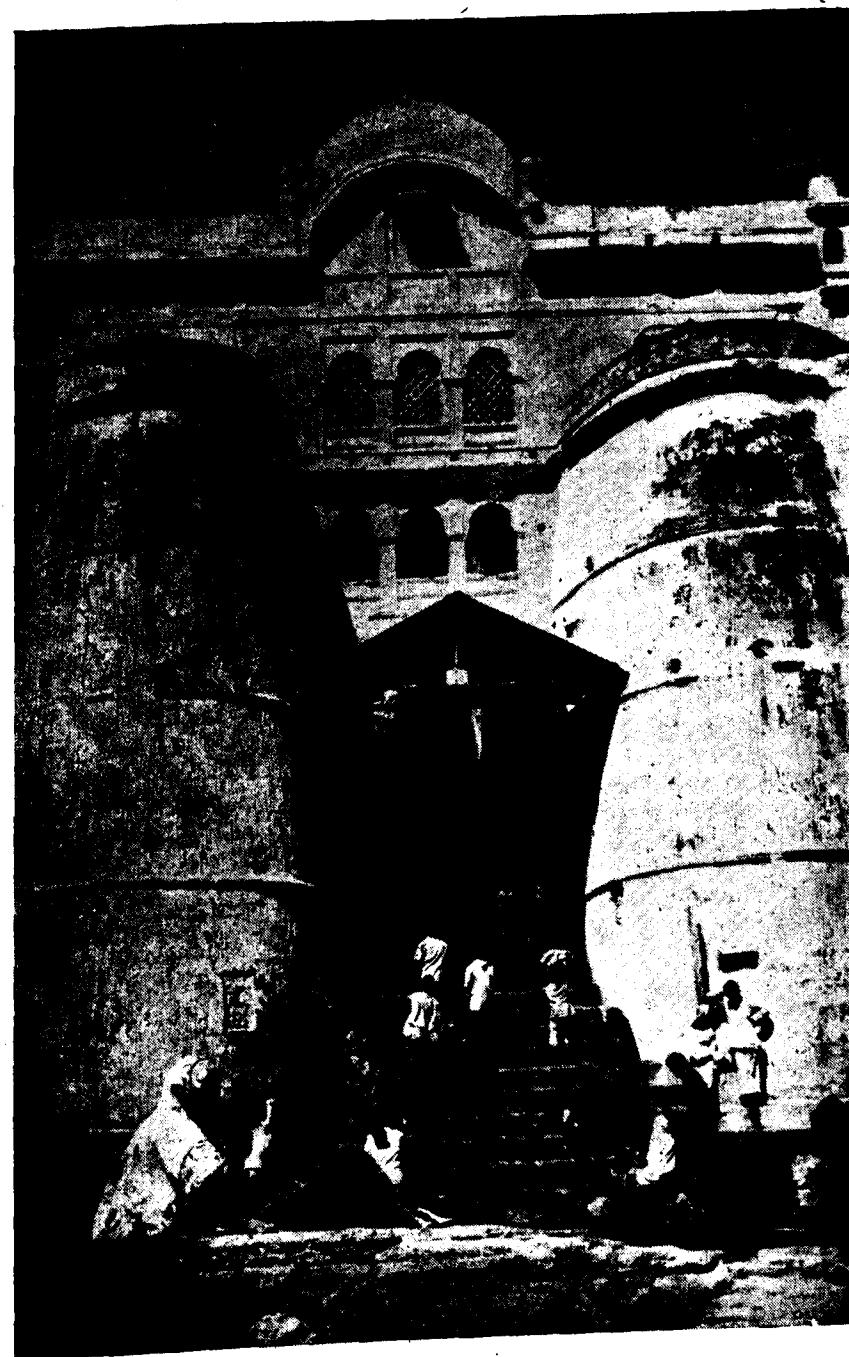
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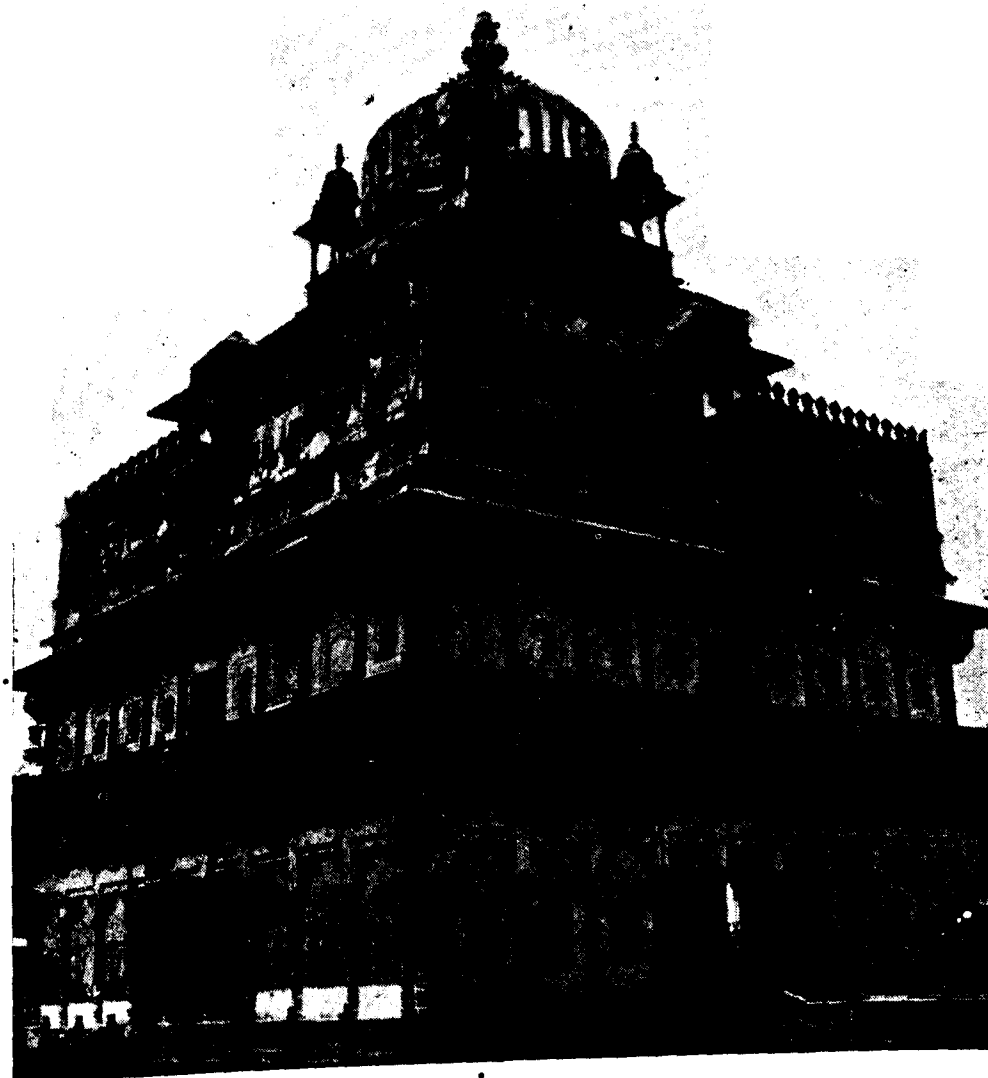
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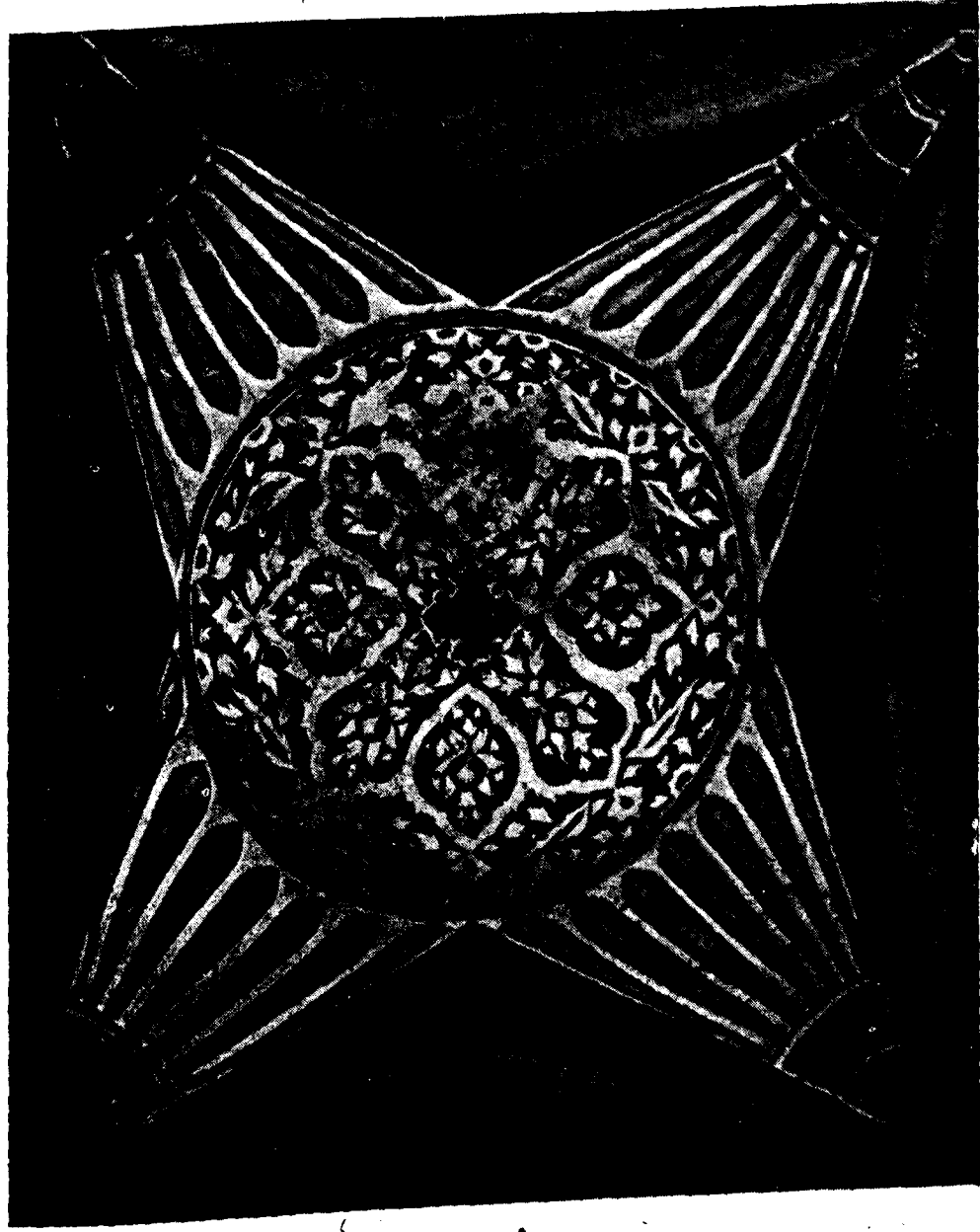
Sun temple, Unao



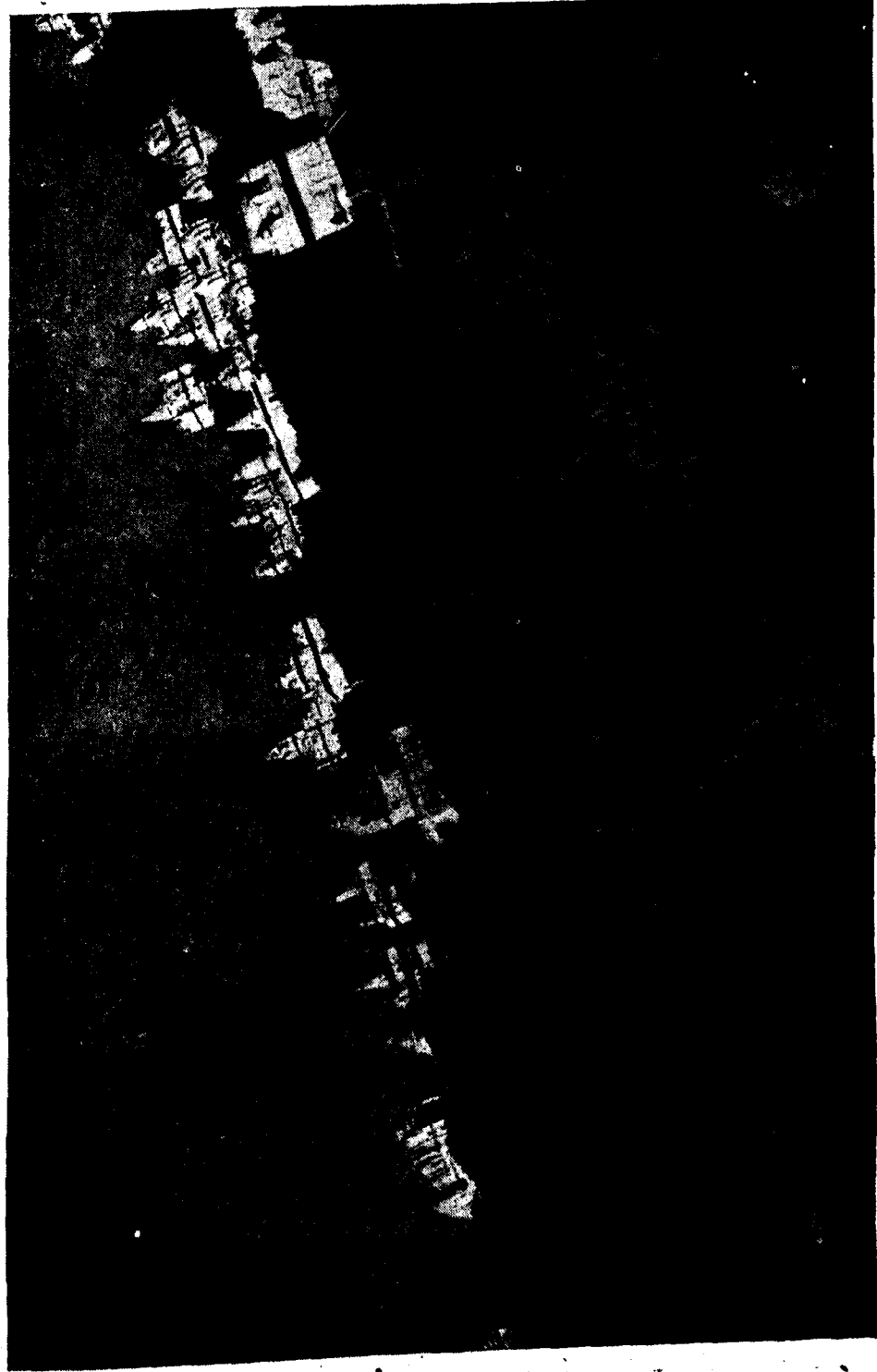
Rirsingh Deo Palace (interior view), Datia



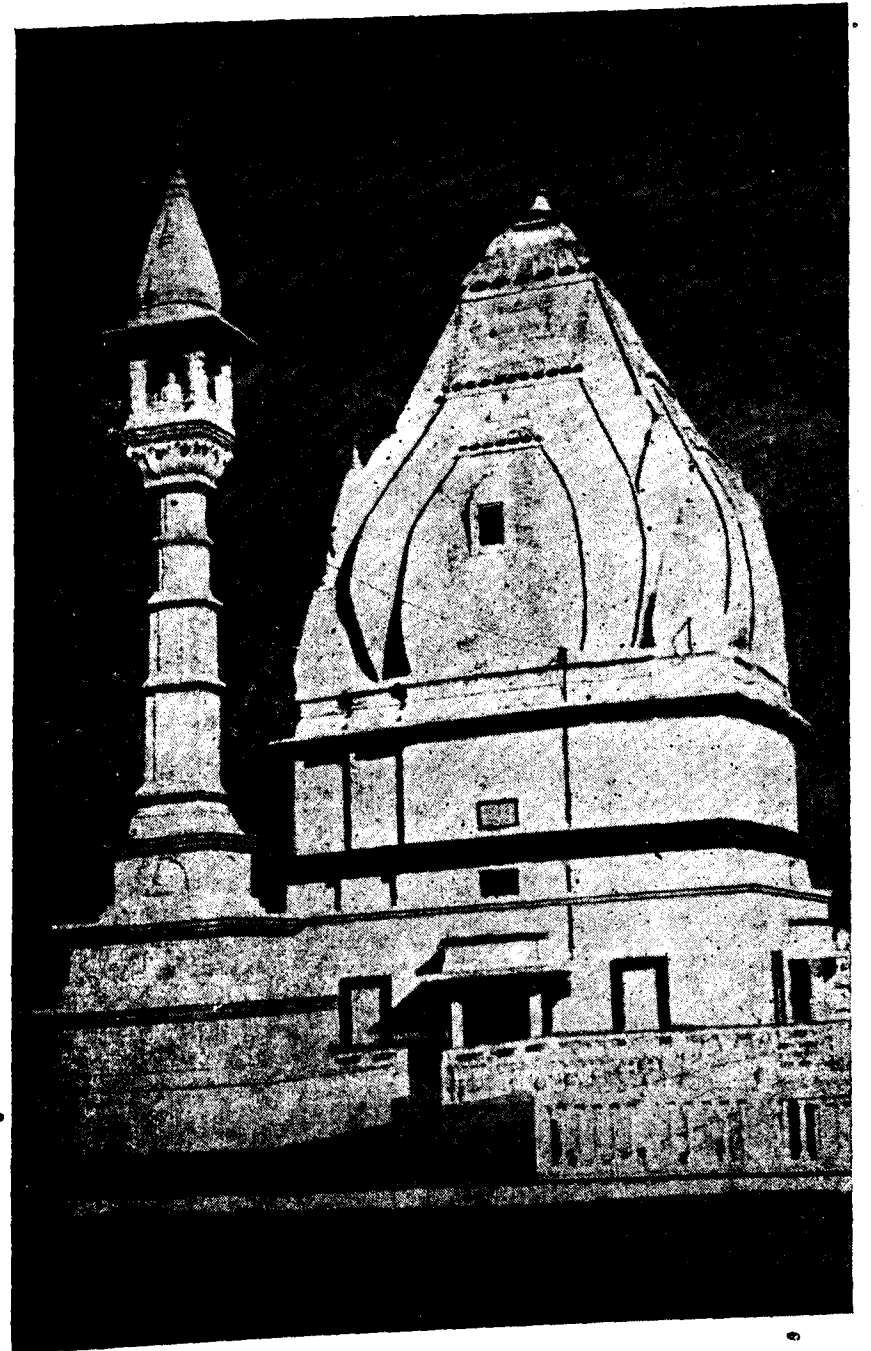
Birsingh Deo Palace-- a view of painted ceiling with carved pillar, Datia



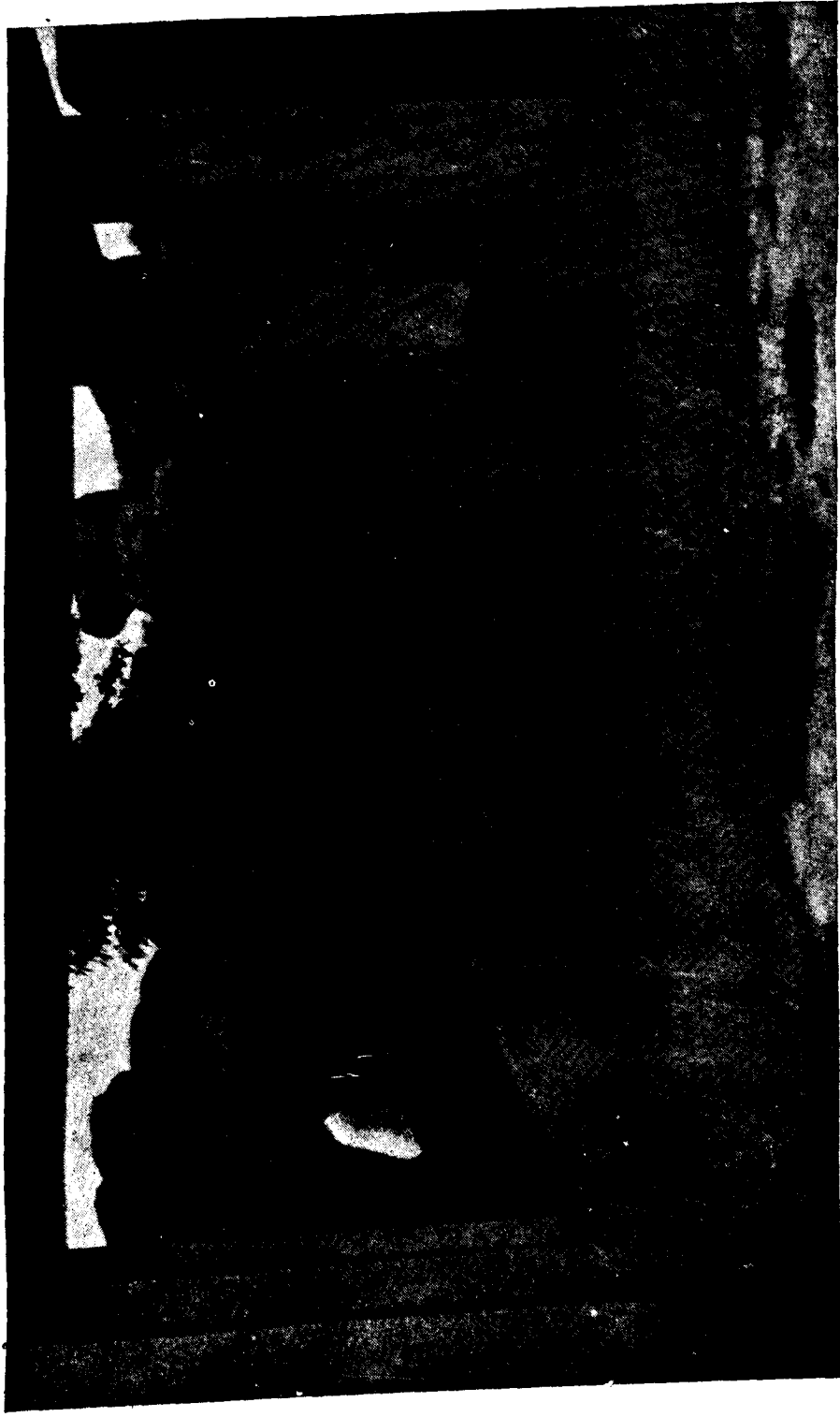
Birsingh Deo Palace, details of Painting in the ceiling, Datia



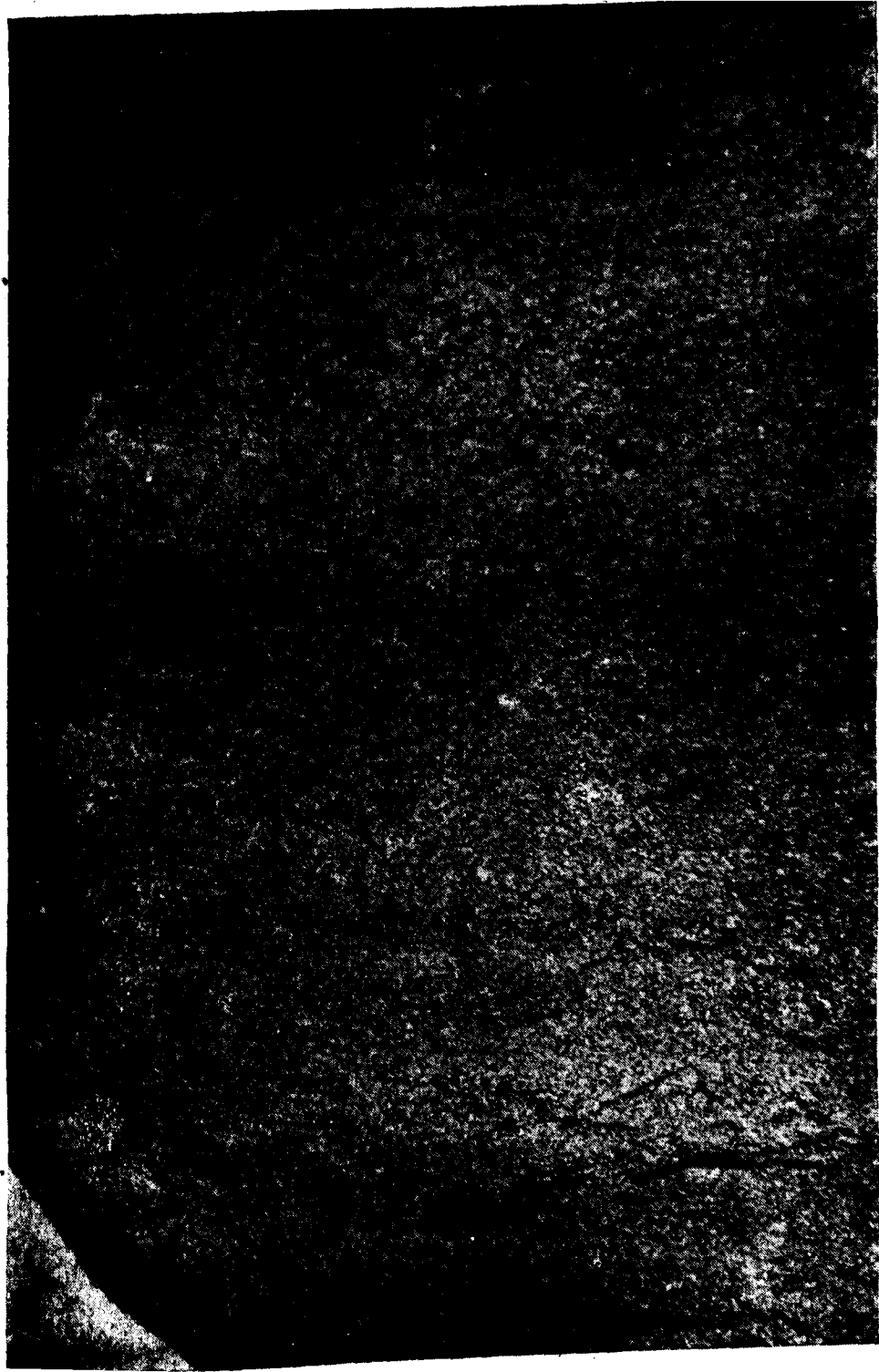
Bird's eye view of Jain Temples, Sonagir



Manstambha with new temple, Sonagir



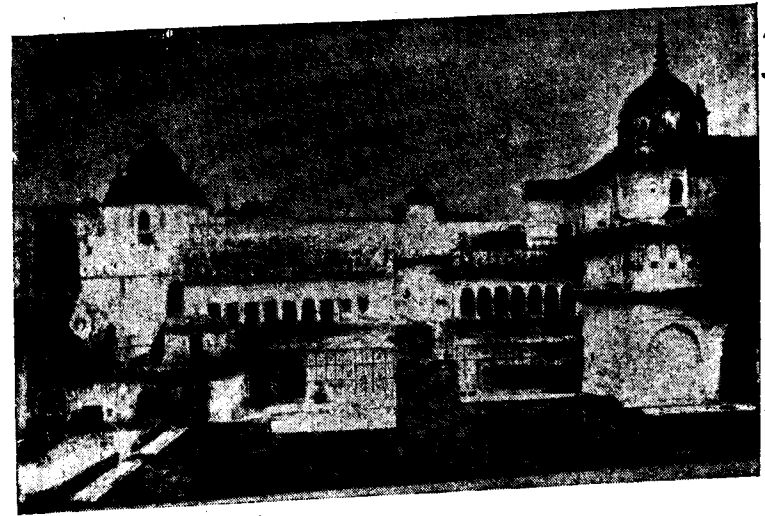
General view of the rock containing Ashoka's edict at Gujjarra



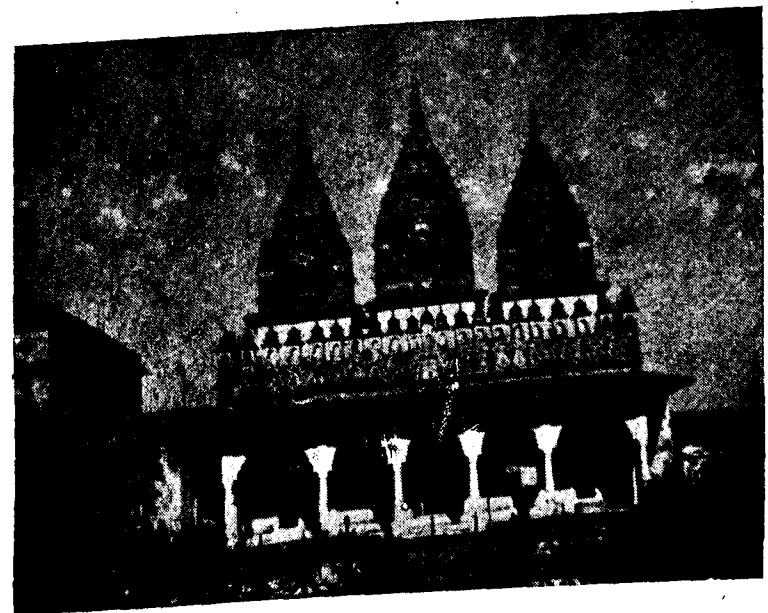
Close-up of Ashoka's rock-edict, Gujjarra



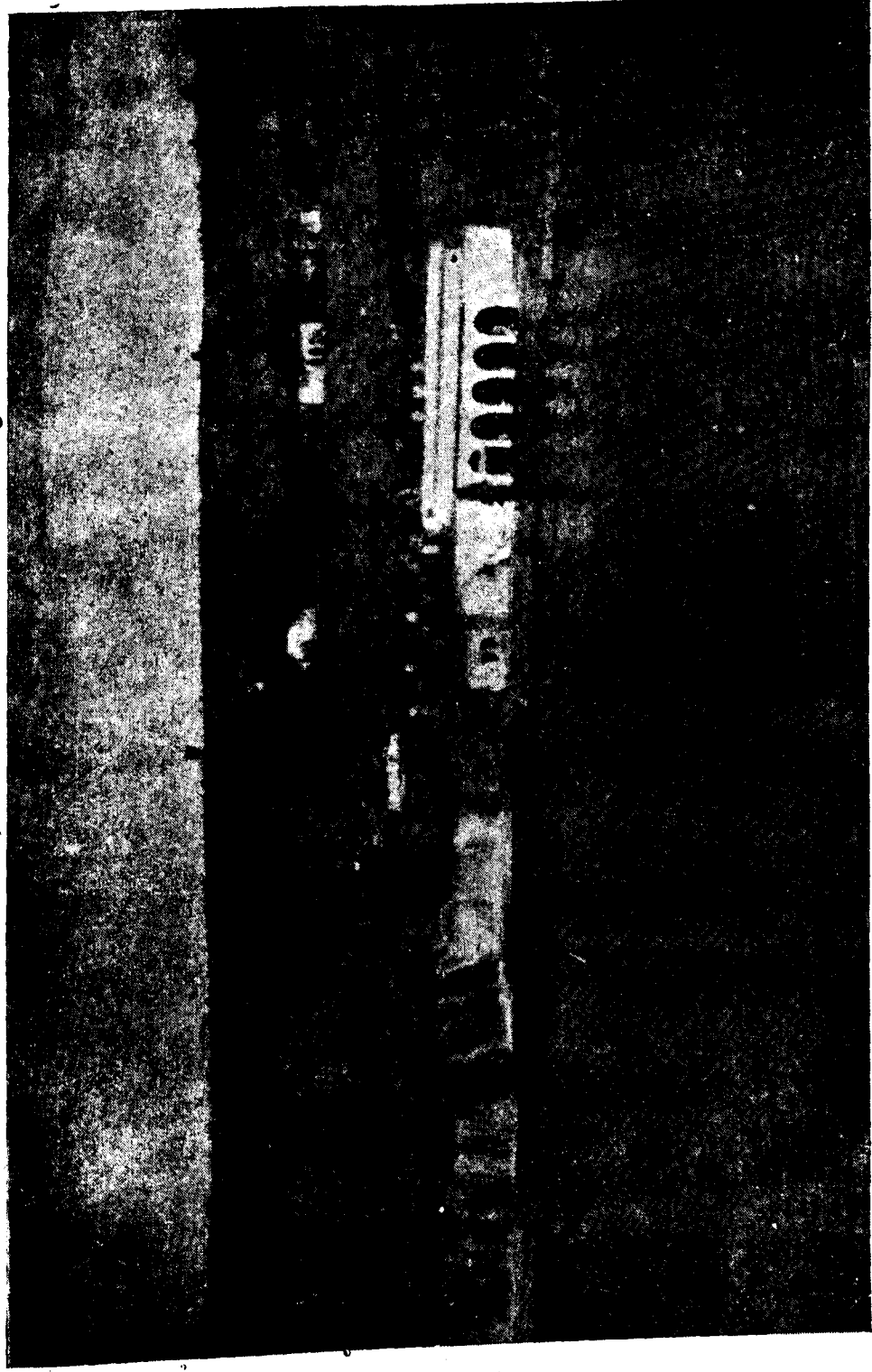
A Bird's eyevew of Datia City



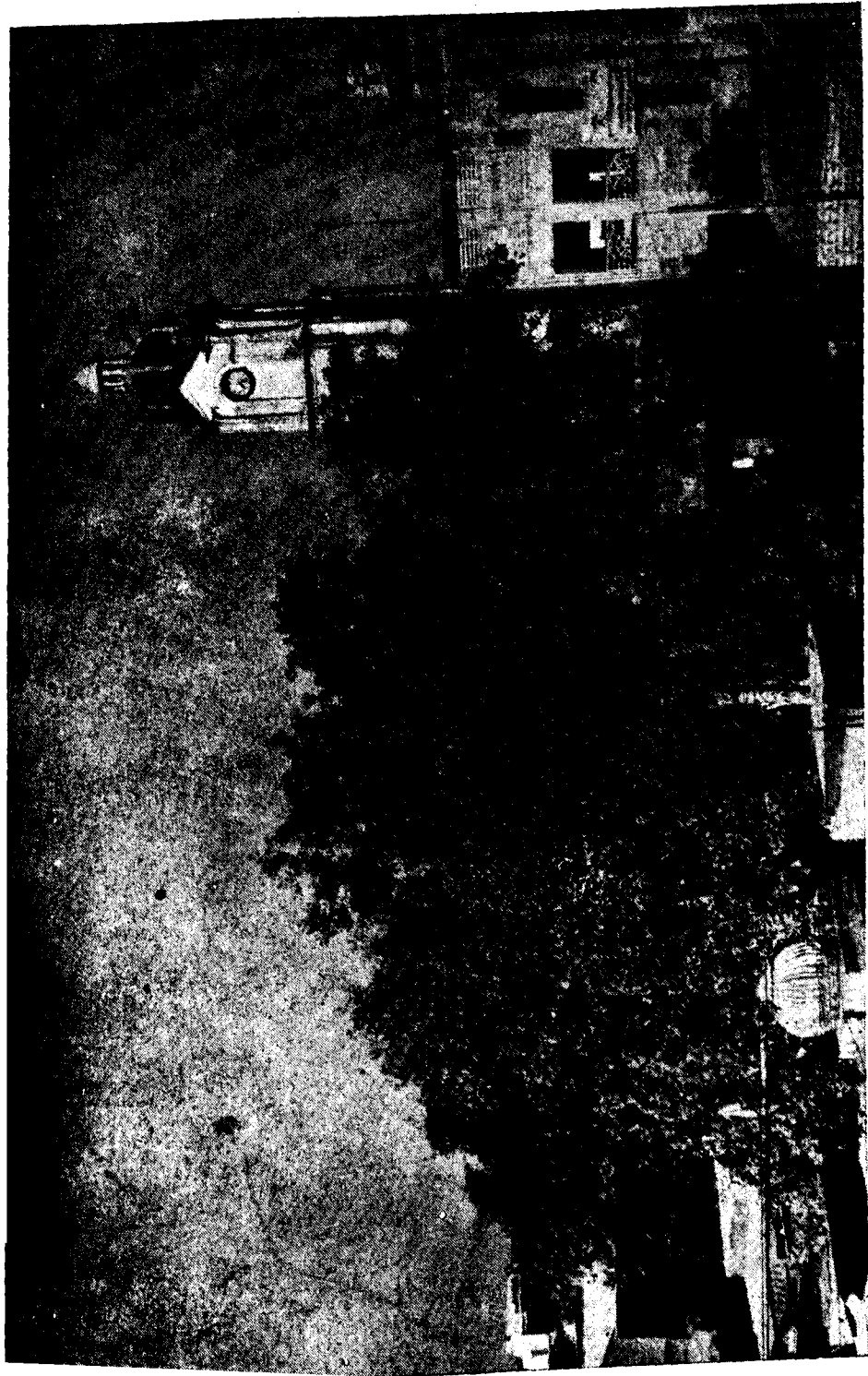
Pratapgarh Fort, Datia



Vijaya Govind Temple, Datia



Sankua Water-fall, Seondha



Town Hall, Datia



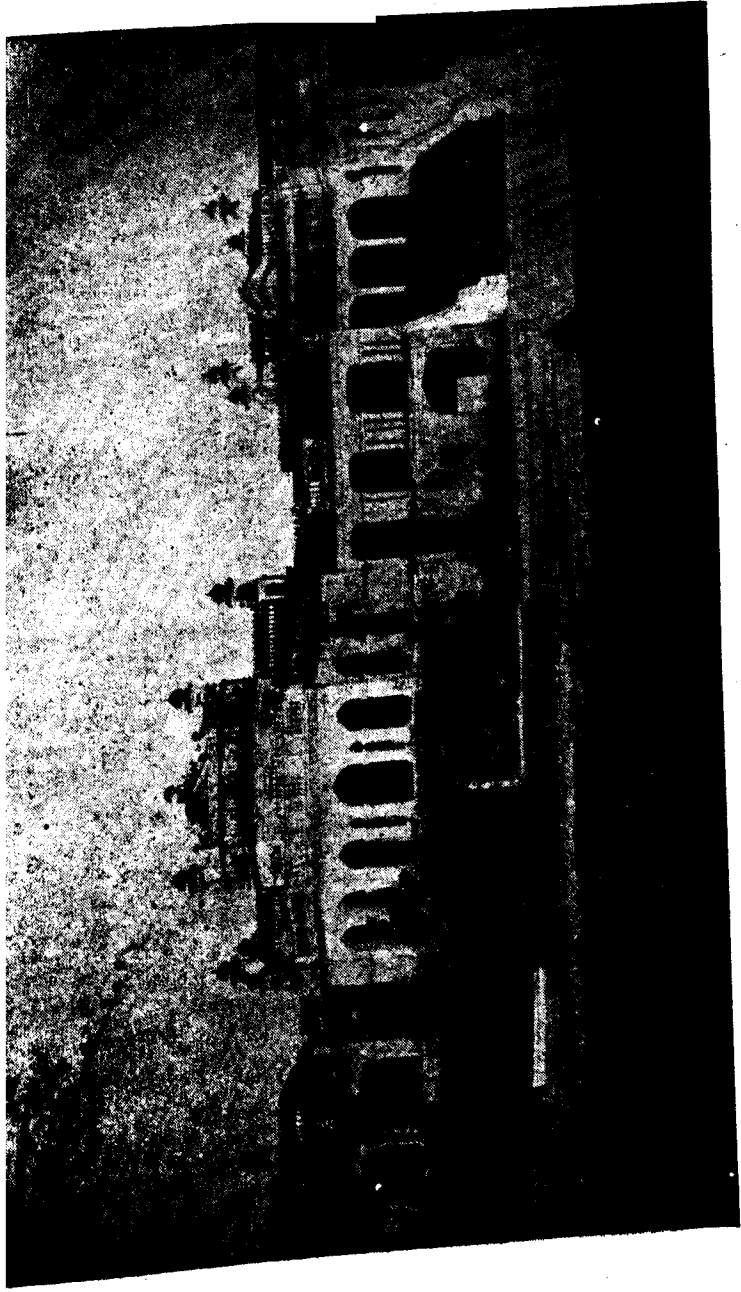
Group of Images on Chanvardevi-ka-Chabutara, Keolari



Sitting Jain Image, Guraiya, Chhoti Badoni



Collectorate (old Rajgarh Palace) Datia



Building inside the Kanbargarh fort, Seondha

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