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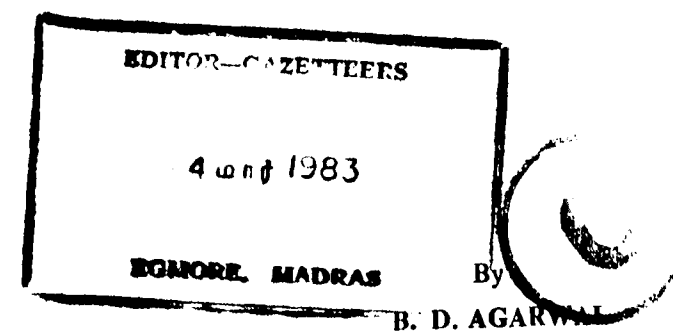
GAZETTEER OF INDIA
RAJASTHAN
SIKAR

no. 1100/43/23

RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



SIKAR

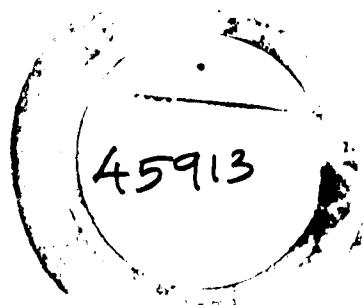


DIRECTORATE OF DISTRICT GAZETTEERS,
GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN,
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PREFACE

The gazetteer of Sikar is the twentieth in the series of the district gazetteers which are being brought out by the government of Rajasthan in collaboration with the Central Gazetteers Unit of the Government of India.

The district, situated in the Shaikhawati region, has had a history intertwined with exploits of its various chieftains in their constant bid to establish an identity separate from their parent liege-lord the House of Amber, or in their efforts to keep their principalities intact which were constantly threatened by internecine jealousies resulting into frequent warfares, unlicensed rapine, shifting loyalties and desertions, espousal of cause for ephemeral gains, dotted here and there with acts of heroism and chivalry. The region is also famous as the home of wealthy bankers and industrialists who have set up big business houses and industries at places other than the place of their origin to which they retire only for rest or recreation or on occasions of social or religious assemblage to keep themselves in the mainstream of social-milieu. The sprawling mansions built by them in this arid part bespeak of their prosperity.

The district can claim many places of antiquity as is known from the inscriptional evidence from Khandela, Harshanatha and other places. The recent archaeological excavations at Ganeshwar in the district yielding copper tools may prove a land mark in the proto-historic archaeology of the country.

No separate gazetteer of this area was ever written but this tract finds a mention in the Provincial Series of the Imperial Gazetteer of India (1908). The gazetteers are now being revised/written in accordance with the general pattern laid down by the Government of India. In case of district gazetteers of Rajasthan, the task is more of writing them afresh than revising them because the old gazetteers cover little ground for the districts created after formation of the State, besides the fact that much of what has been written, has become obsolete. The current series of gazetteers in Rajasthan give an eloquent commentary on political, social and economic reforms introduced after Independence and how these have made their impact in the respective fields and how district life has undergone a change in this context.

The material available in the old gazetteers has been freely utilised wherever relevant. The bulk of information had, however, to be collected from a number of publications, both official and non-official, and from other sources. The data included in this volume, unless specifically mentioned in the text otherwise, pertain to the period ending 1972-73. The climatological summary given in this gazetteer has been prepared by the Meteorological Department, Government of India.

The draft of this gazetteer was sent to the press for publication by my predecessor late Shri K. K. Sehgal and its printing was at an advanced stage when the department lost him in a railway accident. The onus of looking the remaining work through the press then devolved on me.

Various departments of the State and Central Government, semi-government institutions and individuals who have helped in various ways by extending their co-operation and making necessary material available in the compilation of this volume, deserve thanks. Thanks are also due to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M. A. Ph. D., Editor, Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Government of India. New Delhi and his staff for thorough scrutiny of the draft chapters and valuable suggestions. It would not be out of place to mention that the Central Gazetteers Unit gives grant-in-aid for the compilation and printing of district gazetteers.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Shri G. K. Bhanot, Chief Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan and Shri Arun Kumar, Special Secretary (Planning) who amidst their numerous occupations took keen interest and gave valuable advice to improve the quality of the publication. To the officers and staff of the Gazetteers Department who helped me in looking the volume through the press, I owe much and they all deserve appreciation for their team work.

1978

B. D. AGARWAL
DIRECTOR, DISTRICT GAZETTEERS
RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR.

GAZETTEER OF SIKAR DISTRICT

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CONVERSION TABLE

Length

- 1 inch=2.54 centimetres
- 1 foot=30.48 centimetres
- 1 yard=91.44 centimetres
- 1 mile=1.61 kilometres

Area

- 1 square foot=0.093 square metre
- 1 square yard=0.836 square metre
- 1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres
- 1 acre=0.405 hectare

Volume

- 1 cubic foot=0.028 cubic metre

Capacity

- 1 gallon (Imperial)=4.55 litres
- 1 seer (80 tola)=0.937 litre

Weight

- 1 tola=11.66 grams
- 1 chhatank=58.32 grams
- 1 seer=933.10 grams
- 1 maund=37.32 kilograms
- 1 seer (24 tolas)=279.93 grams
- 1 ounce=28.35 grams
- 1 pound=453.59 grams
- 1 ton=1,016.05 kilograms

Temperature

$$t^{\circ} \text{ Fahrenheit} = 9/5 (T^{\circ} \text{ centigrade}) + 32$$

Metric Weights & Measures

Length

- 10 millimetres=1 centimetre
- 100 centimetres=1 metre
- 1,000 metres=1 kilometre

Area

- 100 square millimetres=1 square centimetre
- 10,000 square centimetres=1 square metre or centiare
- 100 square metres=1 are
- 100 ares=1 hectare
- 100 hectares or 1,000,000 square metres=1 sq. kilometre

Volume

$$1,000,000 \text{ cubic centimetres} = 1 \text{ cubic metre}$$

Capacity

- 1,000 millilitres=1 litre
- 1,000 litres=1 kilolitre

Weight

- 1,000 milligrams=1 gram
- 1,000 grams=1 kilogram
- 100 kilograms=1 quintal
- 1,000 kilograms=1 tonne
- 200 milligrams=1 carat

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

INTRODUCTORY

Origin of the name

The district takes its name from the town of Sikar which is also the headquarters of the district administration. How the town acquired this name, is uncertain.

Location

This district lies in the north-eastern region of Rajasthan at an average altitude of 1,418.35 ft.¹ It stretches between 27°07' and 28°12' latitudes and 74°41' and 76°05' longitudes. It is bounded on the north by Churu and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan and Mahendragarh district of Haryana, on the west by Churu and Nagaur districts, on the south by Jaipur and Nagaur districts and on the east by Jaipur district of Rajasthan.²

Area and Population

According to the Central Statistical Organisation³, Government of India, the area of the district is 7,732 sq. km. (1971). In area, it stands nineteenth among the districts of Rajasthan. The total population of the district, according to the Census⁴ of 1971, was 10,42,648 (5,31,650 males and 5,10,998 females), of which the urban population was 1,77,548 and the rural 8,65,100. Ratio of females per thousand males was 961. The population of the district increased by 27.11 per cent between 1961-71. The total population of the district formed 4.05 per cent of the State population. In this regard it ranked twelfth among the districts of the State. The density of population⁵ was 135 persons per sq. km. in 1971.

Administrative history

Prior to the formation of Rajasthan, the territory now known as district Sikar comprised the *Thikana* of Sikar, 11 villages of the former

1. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. iii.
2. Source : The Office of the Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.
3. Provisional figures.
4. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. iijl-iv (Section II).
5. *ibid.*

Thikana of Shyamgarh and the tahsils of Danta Ramgarh (excluding 48 villages transferred to tahsil Phulera) and Neem-ka-Thana of the former Jaipur State¹. Consequent upon the merger of the State into the United States of Greater Rajasthan, in 1949, Sikar district was formed on October 15, 1949. The former Sikar *Thikana*, which constitutes the main portion of the district, was ruled over by a Rao Raja who functioned as a subordinate to and under the general superintendence and control of the erstwhile Jaipur State. For all executive purposes, the *Thikana* was administered by an officer designated as Senior Officer who was vested with both executive and judicial powers. However, he was responsible to the Prime Minister of the former Jaipur State through the Revenue Minister. Such of the laws of the former Jaipur State as were expressly made applicable to the whole State, were followed. In other respects, the principles of the Jaipur rules and regulations and in the absence of these, rules, laws and regulations obtaining in British India were taken as guide. In 1951, the district² was divided into three sub-divisions viz. Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. These sub-divisions were further sub-divided into tahsils. The Sikar sub-division had only one tahsil of the same name. The Fatehpur sub-division comprised tahsils of Fatehpur, Ramgarh and Lachhmangarh while the Neem-ka-Thana sub-division had tahsil of Neem-ka-Thana and Danta Ramgarh.

During the period 1951 to 1961, one village named Kot of Neem-ka-Thana tahsil and two villages viz., Buchara and Dudawas of Neem-ka-Thana tahsil were transferred to Udaipur Wati tahsil of Jhunjhunu district and Kotputli tahsil of Jaipur district respectively. The entire Ramgarh tahsil was merged into the Fatehpur tahsil and a new tahsil of Sri Madhopur was constituted³.

At present, the district is divided into three sub-divisions, Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. Each sub-division is under the administrative charge of a Sub-Divisional Magistrate/Officer who functions under the overall control of the District Collector. The sub-divisions are further sub-divided into six tahsils viz., Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur and Danta Ramgarh⁴. The details

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, General Description and Census Tables*, p. 1.

2. *ibid.*, p. VII.

3. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 63.

4. Source : Collectorate, Sikar.

relating to area¹, population and number of towns and villages contained in these sub-divisions are given in the following paragraphs :

SIKAR SUB-DIVISION—It is situated in the centre of the district and contains two tahsils of Sikar and Danta Ramgarh. Sikar tahsil is situated in between Lachhmangarh and Danta Ramgarh tahsil and had an area of 1,516 sq. km. and a population of 231,756 (117,847 males and 113,909 females) in 1971. The Danta Ramgarh tahsil is situated in the south of Sikar tahsil and west of Sri Madhopur tahsil. It had an area of 1378.2 sq. km. and a population of 163,905 (83,890 males and 80,015 females) persons. According to the 1971 Census, Sikar tahsil had only one town of the same name while there were 146 villages. Danta Ramgarh tahsil was completely rural and comprised 143 villages².

FATEHPUR SUB-DIVISION—This sub-division occupies the northern most portion of the district. It comprises two tahsils viz., Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh. Fatehpur tahsil is situated in the north-west portion of the district. According to the Census of 1971 it had an area of 1070.6 sq. km. and inhabited a population of 124,892 (62,497 males and 62,395 females) persons. There are two towns viz. Fatehpur and Ramgarh and 114 villages in this tahsil. Lachhmangarh tahsil is situated in the south of Fatehpur tahsil and north-west of Sikar tahsil. In 1971 it had an area of 1,220 sq. km., 145 villages, one town viz. Lachhmangarh, and population of 135,858 (67,981 males and 67,877 females) persons³.

NEEM-KA-THANA SUB-DIVISION—Neem-ka-Thana sub-division is situated in the eastern portion of the district. The sub-division comprises two tahsils, viz. Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. Tahsil Neem-ka-Thana occupies the eastern most portion of both the sub-division and the district and extends over an area of 1,191.9 sq. km. It has one town (Neem-ka-Thana) and 122 villages. The population of Neem-ka-Thana tahsil, according to the Census of 1971, was 158,891 (82,794 males and 76,097 females) persons. Sri Madhopur tahsil is situated in the east of Danta Ramgarh and west of Neem-ka-Thana tahsils. In 1971, it had a population of 227,346 (116,641 males and 110,705 females) and an area

1. The area of the district arrived at by adding up the areas of these tahsils, however, does not tally with the figure intimated by the Central Statistical Organisation due to adoption of different concepts in calculations. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Pt. II-A, General Population Tables*, p. (i).

2. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 18-19.

3. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 2 (Section II).

of 1377.2 sq. km. It comprised 169 villages and two towns (Khandela and Sri Madhopur)¹.

In 1973, there were 3 police circles in the district² namely, Sikar having six police stations and five out-posts, Neem-ka-Thana having five police stations and seven out-posts and Fatehpur having four police stations and five out-posts.

Towns

According to the Census of 1961, seven places in the district were classified as towns. The same number of towns viz., Ramgarh, Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana, Khandela and Sri Madhopur were listed in the 1971 Census. Their population is given in the following table:³

S.No.	Name	Population (1971)		
		Persons	Males	Females
1.	Ramgarh	15,068	7,386	7,682
2.	Fatehpur	34,929	17,169	17,760
3.	Lachhmangarh	22,158	11,042	11,116
4.	Sikar	70,987	36,912	34,075
5.	Neem-ka-Thana	11,612	6,292	5,320
6.	Khandela	12,500	6,236	6,264
7.	Sri Madhopur	10,294	5,294	5,000

TOPOGRAPHY

The general shape of the district is of an irregular crescent or a bowl. Its southern portion comprises Danta Ramgarh and Sri Madhopur tahsils which make an inward curve and protude slightly inside the district. The north-western horn ends between Churu and Jhunjhunu districts and the north-eastern horn ends between Jhunjhunu and Jaipur districts.

Natural divisions⁴

The district can be broadly divided into three natural divisions namely (i) the desert area in the north western portion, (ii) the semi-desert area with hillocks in the central portion and (iii) the undulating and hilly area in the north and north-eastern portion.

CONFIGURATION—The major part of the district is a sandy tract but it is more so towards the north of Sikar. The extreme northern area

1. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 2 (Section II).
2. Source : The Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sikar.
3. *Census 1971, op.clt.*, p. 3 (Section II).
4. Source : The Office of the Director, Survey of India, Western Circle Office, Jaipur.

around Ramgarh is a semi-desert. In the south of Sikar tahsil the soil is less sandy. The southern part of the district in the Danta Ramgarh and Neem-ka-Thana tahsils, has loamy fertile soil.

Hills¹

The hills in the district form part of the Aravalli ranges. A range of the Aravallis runs from south to north and divides the district almost into two equal parts. The hill system east of Sikar is locally known as Malkhet. The hills have steep slopes and are generally wooded. The common trees found on hills are *Dhok*, *Salar*, bushes and shrubs which are used as timber as well as fuel. The highest peak in the Malkhet hills falling in Sikar tahsil is 1,052 metres above sea level; those in the eastern hills, north-east of Neem-ka-Thana and in the southern hills east of Ramgarh being 798 metres and 619 metres respectively. The heights of the hills near Sri Madhopur in the central region and of Nachwa in the western region are nearly 502 and 361 metres above sea level respectively. The hill peaks, which have attained considerable height in the hill system of the district, are at Raghunathgarh, Harsh, Deogarh and Shyamgarh, all in Sikar tahsil. There is a small hill at Lachhmangarh on which the Lachhmangarh fort is situated. These hills in the district provide stones for building purposes which are of dull white colour².

Plateau and Plains

The area south of Khandela in Sri Madhopur tahsil in the central portion of the district can be classed as an undulating plain. No portion of the district comes under a plateau. The central portion of district can be called as watershed with streams and rivers in the north flowing towards north, those in the south towards south and those in the east towards east. In the desert area in the north-west, the height of the terrain goes on decreasing as one travels towards the west³.

Desert

The north-western portion of the district can be termed as a desert⁴. The layers of sand in this region are thicker than in the rest of the district. The north-western area forms part of the Great Indian Desert. The sand dunes in the area generally blow from south-west to north-east direction. Although water is scarce in the area, it is fully inhabited. The main occupation of the people in the desert area is sheep rearing⁵.

1. Source: The Office of the Director, Survey of India, Western Circle Office, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.*
4. A desert has been defined by the Survey of India as a tract generally desolated and barren or with little habitation and cultivation, full of sand and dunes and having scarcity of water.
5. Source : Office of the Director, Survey of India, Western Circle Office, Jaipur.

Rivers

There is no perennial river in the district. The area covered by the tahsils Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh is a sandy tract and whatever little rain falls, is absorbed in the sand. Consequently there is no river, stream or nullah in these tahsils.¹

In Danta Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana tahsils there are a few streams of some significance. These streams are named as Mendha, Kantli, Dohan, Krishnawati and Sabi. The Mendha flows in tahsils Danta Ramgarh and Sri Madhopur. The Kantli originates near Khandela in tahsil Sri Madhopur and flows out of the district in the north-easterly direction to district Jhunjhunu. The Dohan flows in the upper most north-eastern region of the district and covers an insignificant portion of it. The Krishnawati after originating from the hills in the south-east of Neem-ka-Thana flows out of the district in the north-eastern direction. The Sabi or Sahibi flows only in tahsil Neem-ka-Thana in village Ajmeri. There are streams named Raghunathgarh, Harsh and Kalakhet in tahsil Sikar. The streams Harsh and Kalakhet originate in tahsil Sikar and are 6 km. and 5 km. respectively in length. These streams flow during the rains to drain out the water. The stream Raghunathgarh is 15 km. long and joins the other important stream named Ranoli-ki-Nadi which flows in tahsil Danta Ramgarh and has an important village Ranoli situated on its bank.²

Lakes and tanks

There is only one lake in this district at Peethampuri in Neem-ka-Thana tahsil; this is insignificant from the irrigation point of view. It is a small depression where rain water accumulates and lasts for a few months. Similarly, there are no big tanks in the district. However, small tanks or pits are numerous in the area. Water accumulates in these pits during the rains for a few days and is used as drinking water for the cattle. However, under minor irrigation scheme, small irrigation tanks at Raipur, Rela upper, Rela lower, Bhodoli and Majipura have been constructed³.

Ground Water

The ground water shows large variation, both quantitatively and qualitatively. The water level varies from 5 metres to 60 metres in different parts of the district. The quality of water is fairly good and suitable for drinking as well as irrigation purpose except at a few places.

1. Source : Office of the Director, Survey of India, Western Circle Office, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. Source : The Office of the Assistant Engineer, Irrigation, Neem-ka-Thana.

GEOLOGY

Geological Antiquity

The major part of the land which is now district Sikar seems to have witnessed a storm in the ocean which washed this area and left its marks in the shape of sand layers visible every-where. This area is a semi-desert which formed the bed of an ocean extending from the present shore of the sea to the line of the Aravalli range. The southern and south-eastern part of the district is occupied by loamy soil and hills of the Aravalli range. The hills of Raghunathgarh, Harsh, Shyamgarh, Deogarh and those in tahsil Neem-ka-Thana belong to the same family.¹

Geological formation

The geological succession in Sikar district, as surveyed by the Geological Survey of India is as follows² :

The rock types exposed in the area belong exclusively to the Delhi group of metasediments which are separated from the older Aravallis by a conspicuous unconformity. The prominent rock exposures of the Delhi Group are seen in Neem-ka-Thana (Torawati) hills situated in the eastern and north-eastern parts of the district, along the continuation of the Khetri Copper belt upto Sangarwa in the central part and in the ridge from Bajor to Roopgarh in the south-central parts of the district. The Delhi group of rocks are divided into the Alwar and Ajabgarh formations.³

ALWAR FORMATION - This formation of metasediments is characterised by the dominance of arenaceous rocks consisting of quartzites of various types with subordinate proportion of argillaceous. The calcareous rocks are completely absent. These rock types are seen in the eastern part of the district along the continuation of the Khetri belt up to Roopgarh in the south-central part. Besides these, many isolated out-crops of the rocks of the Alwar Formation are present in Saledipura, Sevli, Khandela and Kotri. In the eastern part, the exposure is seen from Cheeplata to about 30 kms. in the north. It has a maximum width of 6 kms. The regional strike of these rocks is towards north-south. In the central part, the exposures cover a larger area extending over 18 sq. km.

In the adjoining Saledipura area, the major anticline exposes the amphibole quartzites, marbles and schists. Its core is occupied by basic intrusives, later metamorphosed to epidiorite and amphibolites. This

1. Source : Office of the Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.*

series can be traced from west of Kotri to west of north-west of Saledipura over a distance of 5 kms. A mineralised gossan zone follows the folded outline of amphibolites.

Along the eastern and the northern part of the Saledipura and Khandela anticline, well developed doubly plunging folds are noticed in Kotri hills. The trend of the axial trace of these folds varies from north east-south west to east north east-west south west (NE-SW to ENE-WSW). The exposures seen from Byor, Roopgarh and the surrounding areas in the south central part of the district consist of quartzites of various types with subordinate amount of mica schists occurring as thin bands and intalations within the quartzites. The general trend of the formations is north east-south west to north north east-south south west (NE-SW to NNE-SSW) with variable dips towards west. These rocks exhibit a folded sequence, the axial trace of folds trends in north north east-south south west (NNE-SSW) with moderate plunge towards south.

AJABGARH FORMATION—This formation is characterised by large portion of calcareous as compared to Alwar formation. The main rock types are marble, calc-gneisses, calc-silicate rocks, phyllites and mica schists. The rock types exposed along Torawati hill in the eastern part of the district comprise mainly grey soft quartz mica schists with subordinate proportion of intercalated quartzites and mica schists. The general trend of the rocks is in north east-south west (NE-SW) direction and the rocks dip at low angles towards west. In the Sakari folded belt the rocks of the Ajabgarh formation occupy the synclinal portion and occur from Udaipura to Sangarwa. The quartzites of Ajabgarh formation also occupy the Gurara and Khandela synclines. The Ajabgarh formation represented by quartzites, calcium, gneisses and amphibole marble are best exposed south of Kotri, Rampura and around Atheaga.

In addition to the Alwar and Ajabgarh formations, some igneous intrusives and sand dunes are also found in the district.

IGNEOUS INTRUSIVES—These intrusives both of basic and acidic rock types are exposed throughout the district. The basic intrusives include epidiorites and amphibolites in the form of veins and sheets. These are fine grained, massive and melanochroic. A large body of such basic intrusives is located about 2 km. south-west of Saledipura and small and isolated outcrops occur near Guhala, Sirohi, Chinchraoli, Khor and Roopgarh. The acid igneous intrusives are granite and pegmatite occurring as sills and dykes. The granite and pegmatite intrusives belong to the post-Delhi age. The main bodies are seen emplaced along the cores of Sevli anticline and Khandela syncline. The pegmatite

intrusive bodies have cross cutting relationship with granites. These generally occur near granite bodies as dykes and sills and are located in Sirohi, Atheaga Salwari, Ganeri and south of Dheejpura to Ramgarh.

SAND DUNES—The sand dunes cover a considerable area in the western as well as central part of Sikar district but these are of low altitudes and support scanty vegetation¹.

The important mineral deposits of the district are described as follows:

Metallic minerals²

COPPER—According to the exploration being conducted by the Geological Survey of India, substantial copper resources exist in Sikar district and in the adjoining districts of Jhunjhunu and Alwar. The Khetri Copper belt in Rajasthan extends over a strike length of about 80 km. commencing from Singhana in the north in Jhunjhunu district to Raghunathgarh in the south in Sikar district. Detailed investigations have proved copper mineralisation in the northern part of the belt and extensive exploratory work is in progress at Madhan, Kudan, Koliha, Alwali and Satuki areas in Jhunjhunu district, while in Sikar district, these have evidenced occasional existence of copper mineralisation. The various copper occurrences and allied old workings of Sikar district are as follows:

DAREEBA-NEEM-KA-THANA—It occurs within a silicified and recrystallised brecciated quartzite of Ajabgarh Formation of Delhi group. It is localised along the limbs of north-south to north of north east-south of south west. (N-S to NNE-SSW) trending Dareeba anticline. Along the western limb of anticline, gossan zone extends for about 6 km. and along the eastern limb for about 0.5 km. A number of shallow old workings exist in the area. Exploratory drilling operations are in progress in order to prove mineralisation in this zone.

MOTHOOKA—This mineralised zone is located about 0.5 km. south-west of Mooka. Evidence of copper mineralisation is offered by gossan out-crops and by the dissemination of pyrite, pyrrhotite and chalcopyrite associated with a series of major and minor fault zones trending north-south. These evidences occur within massive brecciated quartzites, sericite-quartz schist and carbonaceous phyllite of the Ajabgarh Formation of Delhi group. The narrow mineralised zone extends over a distance of 300 metres. A number of shallow shafts and pits occur within the

1. Source : Office of the Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*

main mineralised zone. Out of four exploratory commissioned drills, only one drill hole has shown some significant sulphide mineralisation¹.

BIHAR—It is situated about 1.5 km. north of Mothooka village. Existence of a band of ferruginous brecciated quartzite is located here. It appears to have been mineralised previously as indicated by extensive limonitisation gossanisation and old working pits.

BALESWAR—At Baleswar a number of old workings mostly of narrow vertical shafts 3 to 10 metres in depth occur, within sericitic quartzites belonging to Alwar formation of Delhi group, over a strike length of 2 km. trending north-east to south-west. Limonite and malachite stains are developed within the gossanised zone².

Copper workings are also found at Khorī and Salwari. At Khorī the copper encrustations occur within the amphibolites and quartz tourmaline rocks. At Salwari a few old workings for copper are seen in the form of shafts on the southern flank of a hill.

IRON—Iron deposits in the district are located at Raipur, Bagoli-Sirohi and Pachlongi-Sirohi. About two km. west of Raipur, two bands of massive hematite varying from 5 metres to one metre in thickness extend over a strike length of 3 km. The deposits at Bagoli-Sirohi are located in low hills about 10 km. west-north-west of Neem-ka-Thana. There are five major bands of iron ore and some of these have been extensively quarried. At Pachlongi-Sirohi a band of iron ore extends over a strike length of about 1.8 km. and occurs within the feldspathic quartzites on the eastern slope of the hill³.

Non-metallic minerals

Sikar district occupies a prominent place in the production of non-metallic minerals namely apatite, fluorite, pyrite-pyrrhotite, mica, marble, dolomite, talc, clays etc. The important non-metallic mineral deposits are described in the following paragraphs⁴:

APATITE—It occurs near Goriwali, north-west of Salwari in close association with quartz veins which range in thickness from a few cm. to 20 cm. The veins are irregular and erratic in behaviour but greenish in colour and massive in form. Apatite is used in the manufacture of fertilisers since it contains phosphorous contents.

FLUORITE—It occurs as stringers, thin veins and zoned crystals in pink gneiss and quartz veins in the Salwari hills and in the feldspathised

1. Source : Office of the Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.* 3. *ibid.* 4. *ibid.*

calc-gneisses exposed to the south of Kotri. The fluorite is violet, green, yellowish green and white in colour.

PYRITE-PYRRHOTITE—These deposits are located about 1.5 km. north west of Saledipura occurring along shear zones in the rocks of Delhi System and extend over a distance of 7 km. in two zones. The average width of the ore body is 5 metres and its depth persistence has been established down to 300 metres from the surface. The total reserves of pyrite-pyrrhotite ore have been estimated to be about 111.62 million tonnes. It contains 21.63 per cent sulphur. Preliminary metallurgical tests have shown that the ore of Saledipura is amenable to beneficiation so as to obtain the required concentrate having 35 to 40 per cent sulphur.

MICA—It occurs near Patan in the large pegmatite veins. It is full of flaws, mostly spotted, fractured and crenulated. Mica is used as an insulating material in electronic goods. Its powder is used in rubber goods, paints, lubricants and also in plastic goods.

DOLOMITE—It is exposed in two bands each varying in thickness from 5 to 7 metres, in a large quarry situated in south-west of Mawanda-Tarla. The bands of dolomite strike in a north-east-south-west direction. Dolomite is utilised in the glass industry and in the form of chips and powder for flooring purposes. It is chiefly used in steel blast furnace operation in secondary steel and ferrow manganese manufacture.

TALC—It is found in north-west of Heerawas in a few thin bands of schists extending hardly a few metres in length. The talc is greenish grey in colour. It is sometimes worked out locally.

In addition to above, building stones are found all over the district. These are usually found in the flaggy micaceous beds of Alwar and Ajabgarh Formations in prominent places such as Raghunathgarh, Khorī and Bhowa.

Earthquakes¹

The district falls in the seismic zone where earthquake can cause seismic intensity of not more than IV M.M.² According to the Earthquake Zoning Map of India prepared by the Indian Standards Institute, the Sikar district lies in zone II.

The history of the area reveals that no earthquake of any significance has been located in the Sikar district in the past. However, a few shocks

1. Source : Office of the Director General of Observatories, New Delhi.
2. IV M.M. (as per Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale of 1931)—During the day felt indoors by many, outdoors by few. At night, some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy lorry striking building felt. Standing motor cars, rocked noticeably.

of moderate to great intensity, originating in Hindukush and the Great Himalayan Boundary Fault Zone, had been felt in Sikar district in the past. The district lay in the belt of effects of the earthquakes which occurred on the following dates (till the end of 1972-73) and as such these might have been experienced in the district:

S.No.	Date	Epicentre	Magnitude	Location of epicentre
1.	May 20, 1885	34°6' N 74°38' E	7.0	Felt over an area of 110,000 sq. miles
2.	April 4, 1905	32½° N, 76½° E	8.0	Felt over an area of 1,625,000 sq. miles
3.	February 28, 1906	32°N, 77° E	7.0	Felt severely in Seraj tahsil (Kangra H.P.)
4.	July 4, 1911	36°N, 70½° E	7.6	Hindukush Earthquake
5.	August 28, 1916	30°N, 51° E	7.5	Kumaon Earthquake
6.	November 15, 1921	36.5°N, 51° E	7.7	Hindukush Earthquake
7.	December 6, 1922	36°5'N, 70°5' E	7.5	Hindukush Earthquake
8.	January 15, 1934	26°6'N, 70°5' E	8.2	Bihar-Nepal Earthquake felt over an area of 1,900,000 sq. miles
9.	November 14, 1937	36°3'N, 71° E	7.2	Hindukush Earthquake
10.	February 28, 1943	36°3'N, 71° E	7.0	-do-
11.	March 14, 1949	36.7°N, 70.5° E	7.5	-do-
12.	January 28, 1955	33.3°N, 82.4° E	7.25	-do-
13.	August 27, 1960	28.2°N, 74.4° E	6.0	Minor property damaged at New Delhi. Also felt at Kanpur, Jaipur and Churu.
14.	July 6, 1962	37°N, 72° E	7.25	Hindukush region
15.	August 15, 1966	28.6°N, 79.0° E	5.3	30 persons injured in Moradabad, some well built houses damaged near epicentre.
16.	May 11, 1967	300 km. south west of Delhi	4.4	Felt at Jaipur
17.	August 20, 1969	27.0°N, 75.0° E	4.5	Near Sambhar lake, felt at Jaipur also.

1	2	3	4	5
18. November 18, 1969	240 km. south-west of Delhi	—	—	Felt at Jaipur
19. January 26, 1973	230 km. away from Delhi.	—	—	Felt at Jaipur

FLORA

The flora¹ of the district consists of a considerable variety. In 1972-73, 1.46 per cent of the total area of the district was classified as forests.

The forest area in Sikar district may be broadly divided into four botanical divisions, some details of which are as follows :

ANOGEISSUS PENDULA TYPE—In this type *Anogeissus pendula* (Dhok) usually occurs as pure stands. Its common associates are *Acacia senegal* (Kumtha), *Holoptelia integrifolia* (Chalel/Papri), *Boswellia serrata* (Salar), *Butea monosperma* (Chhila) and *Dichrostachys cinerea* (Buiya) etc.

ANOGEISSUS PENDULA DEGRADED TYPE—The *Anogeissus pendula* degraded type is most commonly found on the hill slopes. Due to continuous biotic interferences, this has been reduced to a spreading and creeping form. The *Anogeissus pendula* in such areas have been replaced to a large extent by miscellaneous shrubs viz., *Euphorbia parvifolia* (Thor) and *Rhus mysorensis* (Dasran). Other species found here are the sprinklings of *Holoptelia integrifolia*, *Azadirachta indica* (Neem) and *Wrightia tinctoria* (Khirna) etc.

THORNY TYPE—These forests are found on the marginal lands, foothills and consolidated sandy plains or sand-dunes and ravine lands. The main species of this type found in the area are *Acacia leucophloea*, *Acacia senegal*, *Acacia arabica*, *Prosopis spicigera* (Khejra), *Balanites aegyptica* (Hingot), *Capparis aphylla* (Khair) and *Gymnosportia spinosa*.

TREE SAVANNAH TYPE—This type of botany is found in plains which are sandy or which contain sandy loam soils. The specie is specially managed for grass production. It contains an open canopy of trees and fairly tall grasses. The tree layer is composed of *Acacia leucophloea* (Ronjh), *Prosopis spicigera* (Khejra) and *Acacia senegal* (Kumtha) etc.

The forest area in Sikar district is not significant from the point of view of forest produce. However, the area of forests (1971-72) found in different tahsils of the district is as follows² :

1. Source : Office of the Regional Forest Officer, Sikar.
2. Source : Board of Revenue (Land Records), Rajasthan, Ajmer.

S. No.	Name of the tahsil	(Hectares)
		Forest area
1.	Fatehpur	4,267
2.	Lachhmangarh	1,632
3.	Sikar	826
4.	Neem-ka-Thana	3,217
5.	Sri Madhopur	1,056
6.	Danta Ramgarh	264
Total		11,262

There are some grass *Birs* in the district located in Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and Sikar tahsils. The main types of the grasses found in these grass *Birs* are¹ : *Cenchrus catharticus* (Bharut), *Cyaodon dactylon* (Doob), *Sorghum halepense* (Baru), *Cenchrus setigerus* (Kala Dhaman), *Aristida species* (Lapla), *Erianthus munin* (Muni).

FAUNA

Animals²

The Sikar district, like other districts of Rajasthan, has witnessed a gradual decline in the incidence of wild life in the forest lands of the area. Previously the area had abundance of big game like tigers and panthers. Other animals such as sambhars and chitals were also found in good numbers. The increase in population, clearance of forest land and destruction of natural vegetation by over-grazing and poor forest growth have resulted in extinction of these animals. However, wild animals like the hyaena, wolf, jackal, fox and porcupine, bush rat, hare, striped squirrel and the langur are found in the hilly tract of Neem-ka-Thana sub-division and in Jeen Mata hills. The common mongoose and the hedge hog are seen in the entire area of the district due to their adaptability to varied surroundings. Besides, domesticated animals such as cows, oxen, horses, buffaloes and camels are found everywhere in the district.

Birds commonly found in the district may be listed as house sparrow, house crow, jungle crow, redvented bulbul, jungle babbler, blue rock pigeon, ring dove, common weaver bird, blue jay, rose ringed parakeet, wood pecker, golden oride, common myna, jungle owlet, pea fowl, grey jungle fowl, grey partridge, black headed myna, painted partridge, common sandgrouse, white scavenger vulture, tawny eagle, shikra, Indian moorhen, red walted lapwing, saras crane, white ibis, white stork, common teal and brahminy duck.

1. Source : The Office of the Regional Forest Officer, Sikar.

2. *ibid.*

Reptiles¹

Snakes, both poisonous and non-poisonous are found in the district. However, no definite information about their types is available. Crocodiles are not found in the tanks or streams in the area.

Preservation of wild life

In order to preserve wild life and check the dwindling number of wild animals, some rules and regulations have been enforced by the State Government. In 1950, prohibition on the killing of pea fowls or pigeons was imposed under the Rajasthan Preservation of Certain Animals Act, 1950. In 1952, the Rajasthan Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act, 1951 came into force. The Act declared some close periods for certain wild animals and birds and prohibition was imposed on killing, selling or buying such animals during the close periods. Some areas were declared as reserved in which killing or trapping of wild animals or birds was declared as an offence. It was declared compulsory to obtain a licence for shooting of animals and birds and such a licence was only granted for scientific research or preservation of crops and property. In 1957, the Forest (Hunting, Shooting, Firing and Water Poisoning) Rules, were enforced in order to protect wild life in forest areas of the district. Under these rules, shooting, setting of traps and snares and fishing was prohibited except for a person holding a permit to do so. Poisoning and dynamiting of rivers was also prohibited. It is expected that all these enactments would result not only in protection of existing wild life but also in its steady growth.

Forest Management²

During the administration of former Sikar *Thikana*, no scientific system of maintaining forests was in force. Forests were subjected to unsystematic and unregulated fellings and indiscriminate cattle grazing. These harmful practices resulted in failure of regeneration and mass destruction of forest wealth. In addition, forest areas were lopped and over-grazed, and small timber and firewood was removed. Forest produce was worked and extracted through short leases. Big grass *Birs* were managed primarily for supply of grass but in other forest areas grazing was allowed free of charge. Good forest areas were leased out to contractors for nominal amounts. These areas were completely felled resulting in lack of any rejuvenation.

After the formation of Rajasthan, the forest areas in the district were taken under the control of the State Forest Department and grouped

1. Source : Office of the Regional Forest Officer, Sikar.

2. *ibid.*

into a Forest Division under the charge of a Divisional Forest Officer with headquarters at Jaipur. The Forest Department undertook a number of administrative measures to protect forest wealth. Notable among such measures were the following :

1. Afforestation of those areas which were subjected to wind erosion.
2. Rehabilitation of degraded and ex-jagir forests.
3. Creation of paddocks.
4. Raising of plantations.
5. Soil Conservation measures in different forest tracts.
6. Establishment of forest nurseries.

The work of settlement and demarcation of forest areas was also taken up and it still continues. In 1965, preparation of a Working Plan for Jaipur Forest Division was undertaken. The working Plan was completed in 1967 and enforced in the year 1967-68 for a period of ten years. The forest areas in the Sikar district were divided into blocks of compartments for the first time and their boundaries marked on maps and in the fields.

At present (1972-73) the forests of Sikar district are placed under the control of the Forest Division, Jaipur. For purposes of district forest administration, two ranges at Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana have been established. Each of the Forest Range is divided into a number of forest *Nakas* (check-posts) which function under foresters. The Sikar Range and Neem-ka-Thana Range were divided into four and three forest *Nakas* respectively. Forest *Nakas* are sub-divided into beats which function under the charge of forest guards. The district forest office is headed by a Regional Forest Officer, who functions under the Divisional Forest Officer, headquartered at Jaipur.

For forest improvement, development schemes have been undertaken by the Regional Office at Sikar. Plantation schemes were executed at 13 places between 1957 and 1965. During the period 1963-64 to 1971-72, forest enclosures at eight places and forest nurseries at Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana were started. The nursery at Neem-ka-Thana was later closed.

The following table reveals the revenue of the Forest Department in the district from the sale of forest produce during the period 1966-67 to 1972-73¹ :

1. Source : Office of the Regional Forest Officer, Sikar.

('000 Rs.)			
Year	Sikar Range	Neem-ka-Thana Range	Total (Sikar District)
1966-67	27.5	10.0	37.5
1967-68	31.8	9.0	40.8
1968-69	40.4	8.5	48.9
1969-70	39.4	9.0	48.4
1970-71	36.1	7.5	43.6
1971-72	36.8	8.0	44.8
1972-73	37.0	7.0	44.0

CLIMATE

The climate¹ of this district is characterised by a hot summer, scanty rainfall, a cool winter season and general dryness of the air except in the brief monsoon season. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February is the cold season, after which the hot season commences and lasts till about the end of June. The south-west monsoon season which follows, continues till about the middle of September. The next one month may be termed the post-monsoon or retreating monsoon season.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall are available for only four rain gauge stations in the district for period ranging from 17 to 76 years. Tables 1 and 2 give the details of rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole. The average annual rainfall in the district is 460.9 mm. The rainfall generally increases from the north-west towards the south-east, and varies from 504.7 mm. at Neem-ka-Thana near the north-eastern border of the district to 407.8 mm. at Danta Ramgarh near the south-west border. The rainfall during the south-west monsoon season constitutes about 79 per cent of the annual rainfall. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is very large. In the fifty-year period from 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall which amounted to 230 per cent of the normal occurred in 1917. The lowest annual rainfall was in 1905 when it was only 31 per cent of the normal. The rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 13 years out of fifty. Two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred thrice in the district during this fifty-year period. It will be seen from Table 2 that in 36 years out of fifty the annual rainfall in the district was between 300 and 600 mm.

1. Source : Office of the Deputy Director General of Observatories (Climatology and Geophysics), Poona.

On an average there are 30 rainy days (i. e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm.) in a year. This number varies from 28 at Danta Ramgarh to 33 at Neem-ka-Thana.

The highest rainfall recorded in 24 hours at any station in the district was 188.0 mm. at Sri Madhopur on July 12, 1912.

Temperature

The only meteorological observatory in the district is located at Sikar. The period from March to June is one of continuous increase in temperature, May and June being the hottest part of the year. The mean daily maximum temperature in May is 39.7° C and the mean daily minimum is 24.3° C. The night temperature in June is higher than in May. In the summer season, scorching dust raising winds add to the discomfort and the heat is intense. The maximum temperature may go up to 44° C or 45° C on some days. The arrival of the south-west monsoon by about the end of June, lowers the temperature somewhat but the relief from the heat is not marked because of the added discomfort from the increase in humidity. After the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon by about mid-September, days become hotter, but the nights become progressively cooler. After mid-November both day and night temperatures drop rapidly till January, which is the coldest month, with the mean daily maximum temperature at 22.0°C and the mean daily minimum at 5.8°C. In association with cold waves affecting the district in the wake of western disturbances which pass across north India during the cold season, minimum temperature may go down to two or three degrees below the freezing point of water.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Sikar was 47.8°C on May 31, 1956 and the lowest minimum was (-)3.9°C on December 28, 1950.

Humidity

During the brief south-west monsoon season the relative humidities are generally high. In the rest of the year the air is dry. In the summer season, which is the driest part of the year, the afternoon humidity is generally below 30 per cent.

Cloudiness

During the south-west monsoon season, the sky is moderately to heavily clouded generally and overcast on some days. In the rest of the year clear or lightly clouded sky prevails. But on a few days in the winter season, the sky becomes cloudy when the district is affected by passing western disturbances.

Winds

Winds are generally light to moderate, with a little strengthening in the summer and the early south-west monsoon season. Westerly to south-westerly winds prevail in the south-west monsoon season. In the post-monsoon and winter months winds are mostly from directions between west and north. In the summer season, the winds blow from directions between south-west and north-west.

Special Weather phenomena

During the south-west monsoon season, the district is sometimes affected by depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal and move across the central parts of the country, causing widespread heavy rainfall. Thunderstorms occur nearly all the year round, but they are more frequent in the latter half of the summer season and the south-west monsoon season. In the hot season, dust storms and dust raising winds occur.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and the frequency of special weather phenomena respectively for Sikar.

TABLE 1
Normals and extremes of rainfall (Sikar)

Station	No. of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & year*	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & year*	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours**	Date
Sikar	50 a	9.4	9.4	8.1	3.8	15.2	42.9	134.4	146.6	56.9	5.3	3.3	6.1	441.4	196	41	184.4	Aug. 25, 1964
	b	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	1.7	3.1	7.8	8.3	3.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	29.7	(1942)	(1918)		
Neem-ka-Thana	50 a	14.5	9.7	8.9	6.1	13.2	57.4	154.4	150.6	72.4	8.9	2.5	6.1	504.7	245	17	166.6	July 14, 1908
	b	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.6	1.5	3.7	9.1	9.0	4.4	0.7	0.2	0.6	33.1	(1917)	(1905)		
Sri Madhopur	50 a	12.5	8.9	7.4	4.3	12.2	53.3	149.3	145.8	78.2	8.9	2.0	6.9	489.7	229	27	188.0	July 12, 1912
	b	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.6	1.3	2.7	7.9	7.6	3.8	0.6	0.2	0.6	28.2	(1917)	(1918)		
Danta Ramgarh	10 a	12.5	3.1	4.6	5.8	8.1	32.3	165.1	126.2	47.5	0.3	0.8	1.5	407.8	140	58	156.0	Sept. 1, 1964
	b	1.4	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.2	8.9	9.1	3.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	28.0	(1950)	(1951)		
Sikar (District)	a	12.2	7.8	7.3	5.0	12.2	46.5	150.8	142.3	63.7	5.9	2.1	5.1	460.9	230	31		
	b	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.3	2.9	8.4	8.5	3.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	29.8	(1917)	(1905)		

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

* Years given in brackets.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

** Based on all available data upto 1970.

Source : The Office of the Deputy Director General of Observatories (Climatology and Geophysics), Poona.

TABLE 2
Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District Sikar¹
(Data 1901-50)

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
101-200	2	601-700	4
201-300	4	701-800	3
301-400	11	801-900	0
401-500	11	901-1000	0
501-600	14	1001-1100	1

TABLE 3
Normals of Temperature and Relative Humidity²
(Sikar)

Month	Mean daily maximum temperature	Mean daily minimum temperature	Highest Maximum ever recorded	Lowest Minimum ever recorded	Relative Humidity
	°C	°C	°C Date	°C Date	0830 1730*
January	22.0	5.8	30.6 1949 Jan 22	-2.2 1955 Jan 5	75 50
February	26.2	8.2	36.1 1953 Feb 28	-2.8 1951 Feb 3	67 45
March	31.5	14.5	39.4 1949 Mar 30	3.3 1954 Mar 6	56 43
April	36.4	19.0	44.4 1958 Apr 28	7.2 1953 Apr 2	50 37
May	39.7	24.3	47.8 1956 May 31	15.6 1955 May 12	49 38
June	39.1	27.5	43.9 1948 Jun 24	18.6 1965 Jun 6	60 42
July	34.7	26.0	44.4 1947 Jul 15	20.6 1962 Jul 19	76 57
August	33.1	24.7	41.1 1965 Aug 20	20.0 1964 Aug 1	83 67
September	33.7	23.1	39.4 1954 Sep 2	31.1 1963 Sep 28	77 64
October	33.1	17.1	40.6 1951 Oct 3	5.4 1964 Oct 31	64 53
November	29.1	10.4	34.2 1957 Nov 2	0.0 1962 Nov 30	64 53
December	24.8	6.7	31.3 1963 Dec 12	-3.9 1950 Dec 28	72 54
Annual	31.9	17.3			66 50

1. Source: The Office of the Deputy Director General of Observatories (Climatology and Geophysics), Poona.

2. *Ibid.*

*Hours 1.8, T.

TABLE 4
Mean Wind Speed in km./hr.¹
(Sikar)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
6.1	6.2	7.9	8.0	9.4	11.6	9.2	7.8	7.3	5.1	4.3	4.9	7.3

TABLE 5
Special Weather Phenomena²
(Sikar)

Mean No. of days with*	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Thunder	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.9	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.1	10.0
Hail	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dust storm	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Squall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fog	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1

* No. of days 2 and above are given in whole numbers.

1. Source : The Office of the Deputy Director General of Observatories (Climatology and Geophysics), Poona.

2. *Ibid.*

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

The territories comprising the present district of Sikar formerly constituted a part of the erstwhile princely State of Jaipur. As such the history of the region is more or less the history of the Jaipur State. The chiefs of the Shaikhawati region endeavoured to assert for a separate identity for a long time but they were finally subjugated by the Kachhawahs of Jaipur.

The pre-history and proto-history of the area can not be attempted in the absence of archaeological explorations but the proximity of a salt line in the south-west of the district, from Sambhar to Didwana and Tal Chhapar, which is said to be the resultant of a receding sea¹, may allude to a remote geological antiquity assignable to this region.

Khandela, a town in the district is a place of great antiquity². An inscription of the third century B. C. of this place records that somebody was killed by Mula with a poisoned arrow and his memorial was set up by Mahisa, one of his pupils. The old name of this place had been Khandilla and Khandelapura. It appears to have been a great centre of Shaivism and Jainism in the past. The Khandelwal Jains and Khandelwal Brahmins take their names from this place. The Shiva temple³ on the top of the Harshanatha hill in the district built during the regime of the Imperial Chauhans during the tenth century A. D. throws a flood of light on contemporary art and iconography. The sculpture consists of decorative panels depicting scenes of fight. There are profusely carved pillars depicting dancers and musicians.

MEDIAEVAL PERIOD

The Harsha inscription of v. s. 1030 (A. D. 973) belonging to the reign of Vignaraja II, the Chauhan ruler of Sapadalaksha, is one of the earliest evidence of historical value found in the district. It suggests that Ananta province was none else than the tract situated near Sikar which

1. *Proceedings of the Symposium on the Rajputana Desert*, National Institute of Sciences of India, New Delhi (September 1952), pp. 89 & 93.
2. Jain, K. C.: *Ancient Cities and Towns of Rajasthan*, Delhi (1972), pp. 261-263.
3. Article by R.C. Agarwal in the *Marg*, Vol. XII (1959), No. 2, p. 69-71.

was the old seat of power¹ of the Chauhans. It refers to Vakpati, the grandfather of Vigraharaja II, and alludes that one Kshmapala tried to attack him. It was here at Harsha that the Chauhans had the temple of their family deity, Harshadeva or Harshanatha, representing Shiva in the Pashupata form. The tract extending approximately from Pushkar in the south to Harsha in the north was the cradle² of the original Chauhans and formed a part of *Jangaladesha*.

It is said that during the eleventh century A. D., Dulha Rai the Kachhawah ruler of Narwar, when forced to abandon his patrimony, subjugated Dhundhar region (parts of present Jaipur and Alwar districts) which was then in the occupation³ of petty Rajput chiefs and Minas. Amber was seized by the Kachhawahs from the Minas and they soon acquired prominence, so much so that they contracted matrimonial alliance with the Chauhans of Shakambhari and espoused the cause of Prithviraj Chauhan in the first battle of Tarain against Mohammad Ghori.

In the line of Dulha Rai, there was one Udaikaran whose son Bar Singh received the fief of Barwara and founded the Naruka branch of the Kachhawah clan which ruled over Alwar, Uniara and Lawa territories. Another son of Udaikaran named Baloji or Balaji received Amarsar as his appanage and became a progenitor of the Shaikhawats. Since a portion of the present district formed a part of the Shaikhawati, it will be worthwhile to give a description of this clan.

The Shaikhawat chieftains claim their descent⁴ from Balaji, the son of Raja Udaikaran, who succeeded to the throne of Amber in S. 1445 (A. D. 1389). At that period, nearly whole of the tract, which later on was included in the Shaikhawati region, was under numerous Rajput chieftains belonging to the Chauhan and the Tanwar septs.

Balaji, who had received Amarsar, now a village in district Jaipur, as his appanage, had three sons : Mokalji, Khemraj, and Kharad. Mokalji succeeded to the patrimony of Amarsar after Balaji. Mokalji remained childless for a long time when at last he came across a Muslim saint, Shaikh Burhan by name, who was known for miracles, and expressed his desire for a child. Consequently when a son was born to Mokal, he

1. Sharma, Dr. Dasharatha: *Early Chauhan Dynasties*, Delhi (1959), p. 11.

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 11, 230-231.

3. Sharma, Dr. M.L.: *History of Jaipur State*, Jaipur (1969), pp. 22, 25

4. Tod, James: *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan*, Vol. III, edited by W. Crook (1920), p. 1378.

was named Shaikha after the saint and his descendants came to be known as Shaikhawats.

Shaikha was a valiant chief who not only augmented his patrimony by conquest but is said to have consolidated three hundred and sixty villages under his sway. His exploits attracted the jealous notice of his liege-lord, the ruler of Amber and was consequently attacked repeatedly by him (the ruler of Amber) but by the aid of the Panni Pathans (a tribe of Durranis), Shaikha successfully withstood the assaults. Upto this period, the Amber princes were accepted as liege-lords, and in token of alliance all the colts reared on the original estate were paid as tribute¹. A dispute on this point caused a total separation of the Shaikhawat colonies from the parent State, until the reign of Sawai Jai Singh who with his might as lieutenant of the Mughal empire, compelled homage, submission, and pecuniary relief from them.

Shaikha was succeeded by his son, Raimal and then by Suja who had three sons, namely, Nunkaran, Raesal and Gopal. The elder succeeded to the patrimony of Amarsar and its three hundred and sixty villages, while Raesal was assigned the fiefs of Lambi and Gopal that of Jharli.

Nunkaran, the chief of the Shaikhawats, developed differences with his minister named Devidas and dismissed him. The latter proceeded with his family and property to Lambi where he was received with the usual hospitality. But the means of Raesal were too meagre and evincing this, Devidas determined to proceed to the imperial court and advised Raesal to accompany him and try his luck there. Raesal could only equip twenty horses, with which he arrived at Delhi just when an army was forming to oppose one of the Afghan invasions. In the action which ensued, Raesal distinguished himself by cutting down a leader of the enemy and was later introduced to the emperor Akbar, who bestowed upon him the title of Raesal Darbari, and granted the districts of Rewasa and Khasali, then belonging to the Chandela Rajputs. He was again summoned to the court to participate in an expedition against Bhatner. In lieu of the services rendered he received a grant of Khandela and Udaipur (in Shaikhawati) then belonging to the Nirwan Rajputs, who unwilling to accept the imperial suzerainty, took to unlicensed rapine.

It will be worthwhile to digress for the time being from the main currents of history and study the political developments in the neighbouring tracts. The adjoining regions of this district were occupied by the Mohil and Chayal Rajput chieftains, some of whom succumbed to the assaults

1. Tod, *ibid.*, p. 1382.

of the Muslim invaders especially to one Kayamkhan (whose descendants were known as Kayamkhanis after him) who and whose descendants established themselves in this region and the territories now occupied by Jhunjhunu district. Fatehpur was in the possession of Fateh Khan, a grandson of Kayamkhan¹. Rao Bika of Bikaner had started augmenting his domain by encroaching on the lands of Ridmal, the Thakur of Khandela. The Thakur sought the assistance of the Sultan of Delhi and advanced against Bika with the imperial troops under Nawab Hindal but was defeated. Bika² exercised power over this tract till his death in 1504.

However, reverting back to the main currents, Raesal, finding it difficult to expel the brave Nirwan Rajputs from their patrimony, had recourse to a stratagem. Previous to the expedition to Bhatner, Raesal had espoused the daughter of the chief of Khandela, and it is said, had desired to obtain it (Khandela) for himself. Being dissatisfied with the dower given with his bride, he insisted for more but was dejected. Watching his opportunity, and now strengthened by the imperial grant, he marched against the place, and occupied it. Immediately after the occupation of Khandela, Raesal obtained possession of Udaipur, formerly called Kausambi, also belonging to the Nirwan Rajputs³.

Raesal accompanied Raja Mansingh of Amber against Rana Pratap of Mewar⁴. He was also in the expedition to Kabul, against the Afghans of Kohistan. In all these enterprises he obtained fresh distinctions. Raesal had seven⁵ sons, namely, Ladkhan, Tajkhan, Bhojraj, Tirmal, Parasram, Hariram and Girdhar to whom he assigned appanages as follows: (1) Girdhar—Khandela and Rewasa; (2) Ladkhan—Kachriawas; (3) Bhojraj—Udaipur; (4) Tirmal Rao—Kasli and eighty four villages; (5) Parasram—Bar; (6) Hariram—Mundari; and (7) Tajkhan—No appanage.

Girdhar, although the youngest, succeeded to his father and obtained from the emperor the title of Raja of Khandela for a gallant action. He was a *Mansabdar*⁶ of 800 *Jat* and 800 *Sawar* and was afterwards raised to 2000 *Jat* with 800 *Sawar*. At this period the mountainous region called Mewat, which was inhabited by a plundering race called

1. For details of this dynasty and various views about the date of founding of Fatehpur by Fateh Khan, see the *Maru Bharati*, Vol. 1 No.3, Pilani (S. 2010) pp. 2-15 and Vol. 24, No. 5 of March 1977, pp. 37-40; *Valchariki*, Vol. I, No. 4, 1976 (Bikaner), pp. 8-12.

2. Sehgal, K.K.: *Rajasthan District Gazetteers—Churu*, Jaipur (1970), p. 25.

3. The Nirwan is said to be a *Sakha*, or ramification of the Chauhan race. They possessed these regions, with Kes or Kausambi, now Udaipur, as the capital, vide Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1385.

4. Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1385.

5. *The Jaipur Album*, Jaipur (1935), Chapter XIV, p. 11.

6. *ibid.*

Meos, was a source of constant trouble to Delhi. The task of taking, dead or alive, the leader of this banditti, was assigned to Girdhar who performed it with signal gallantry and success. Girdhar was assassinated by some Sayyads in 1623 A. D.

Girdhar was succeeded by his eldest son, Dwarakadas. He was a *Mansabdar* of 1500 *Jat* and 800 *Sawar*. During the reign of Shahjahan, when Khan Jahan Lodi rose in open revolt, Mirza Raja Jai Singh of Amber was sent to subdue him. In a baffling assault, the imperial army was routed and Dwarakadas who accompanied this expedition (1630 A. D.) was also killed¹.

Dwarakadas was succeeded by his son Bar Singh or Bir Singh Deo, who served the Mughal court with his contingent and participated in many expeditions and attained distinctions. Bir Singh Deo had seven sons, of whom the heir apparent Bahadur Singh, remained at Khandela while estates were assigned to his brothers. While the Raja was performing his duties in the Deccan, intelligence reached him that Bahadur Singh had usurped his title and authority. At this, with only four horsemen, he left the army and marched for his capital. When within two *Coss* of Khandela, he alighted at the house of a Jatni, to whom he requested for refreshment. He begged her for special care of his wearied steed, lest they should be stolen, to which she sharply replied "Is not Bahadur Singh ruler here? You may leave gold in the high way, and no one dare touch it". The old chieftain was so delighted with this testimony to his son's discharge of a prince's duties, that, without disclosing himself or his suspicions, he immediately returned to the Deccan, where he died².

Bahadur Singh succeeded his father and joined the army in south, commanded by Aurangzeb in person. Being insulted by a Muslim chief and obtaining no redress, he left the army in disgust. His name was thereupon dropped from the list of *Mansabdars*.

Soon the royal troops were sent to Khandela to exact the tribute and to demolish the temples. The army arrived within two *Coss* of Khandela without meeting opposition. The news spread that Bahadur Singh had fled from Khandela, and that the Mughal army was bent on the destruction of its shrines. Surjan Singh, the chieftain of Chapauli, a descendant of Bhojraj, the second son of Raesal, who was solemnizing his nuptials on the Marwar frontier, hastened home with his bride when news reached him, and decided to give a fight to the enemy not withstanding

1. *The Jaipur Album*, Jaipur (1935), Chapter XIV, p. 11. However Dr. M.L. Sharma (*op. cit.*, p. 96), mentions that Girdhar Raja was killed in this battle.

2. Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1388.

the entreaties and persuasion of his followers and the overtures of the enemy. Since Khandela town had no fortifications, a party was stationed in the gateway leading to the residence of the chieftain on the ascent while Surjan Singh reserved for himself the defence of the temple, in which he took post with his kinsmen. When the Mughal army advanced, the defenders of the gateway perished in fight. The enemy pushed on, Surjan Singh also fell with his kinsmen. The temple was razed to the ground, the idol broken to pieces, and the fragments thrown into the foundation of a mosque erected on its ruins¹.

An imperial garrison was stationed at Khandela. Bahadur Singh continued to reside in an adjacent township, and through his Dewan obtained a share of the crops and transit duties, namely, a *Ser* out of every maund of the former, and one pice in every rupee of the latter. In the wake of time, the family residence and gardens were restored to him, and when the Sayyed brothers usurped power at Delhi, Bahadur Singh regained his country, though a garrison of the royal troops was retained, whose expenses he paid. He left three sons, namely, Kesari Singh, Fateh Singh and Udai Singh. Kesari Singh succeeded to the *Gadi* after his father's death.

Kesari Singh with his second brother Fateh Singh and his adherents departed for the imperial camp, to serve the Mughal court. The Manoharpur chief, the elder branch of the family, who was in the royal camp and jealous of the Khandela Chief, intrigued with Fateh Singh, to whom he proposed a division of the lands. Fateh Singh lent himself to the intrigue, and the Dewan, forboding that a family quarrel would destroy them all, repaired to Khandela, and through the mother, a Gaur Rajputani, advocated the partition of the country. A census was accordingly taken, and a measurement of the lands made, of which two portions were assigned to Fateh Singh, and the three remaining to Kesari Singh. The town of Khandela itself was partitioned in the same manner. Kesari Singh preferred Khatu as his residence, though whenever he came to Khandela, Fateh Singh withdrew. Tired of this situation the Dewan prompted his master to get rid of the agreement which had resulted ascendancy of Manoharpur House in the Shaikhawat federation, by destroying his brother. The Dewan arranged a friendly meeting at Khatu between the two brothers apparently for reconciliation. Fateh Singh was assassinated; but the instigator to the crime also met his death when a splinter² of the sword which slew Fateh Singh entered his neck too.

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, p. 1390.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 1391.

Kesari Singh, having thus regained all his authority now refused to pay the tribute of Rewasa and Khandela to the Mughal treasury. Sayyad Abdulla Khan, the wazir of Farrukhsiyar, sent a force against Khandela. The kinsmen assembled to resist the attack and even the Manoharpur House sent its quota, to aid the cause. Thus strengthened, Kesari Singh encountered the enemy at the border town of Deoli. While the victory was on the side of the Shaikhawats, the old jealousies of Manoharpur House revived who withdrew his quota from the field. At the same time other defections also began. The Kasli chief, on whom much depended, was slain; the Ladkhani chief of Danta, who harboured the evil designs to take possession of Rewasa, abandoned the field. Apprehending reverses due to these defections, Kesari Singh urged his youngest brother, Udai Singh, to save himself to perpetuate the line of the House. Udai Singh reluctantly obeyed. In the fight that ensued Kesari Singh was slain, the town was taken, and Udai Singh was carried as a captive to Ajmer. At this time, the chiefs of Udaipur (Shaikhawati) and Kasli determined to cut off the royal garrison in Khandela; the intimation of which they sent to the Mughal subedar at Ajmer through a special messenger to prevent Udai Singh being implicated. Meanwhile Khandela was attacked and garrison was put to the sword. The subedar desirous to recover the place, consulted Udai Singh, who promised the restoration of the place if he was set free. This was done and Udai Singh fulfilled his agreement. The subedar was so much pleased with his frank and loyal conduct, that on paying a large *Nazarana*, he restored Khandela to Udai Singh.

Udai Singh's first act was to invest Manoharpur in order to punish its chieftain. The chieftain took to a stratagem and fomented Dip Singh of Kasli, the principal advisor of the young Raja of Khandela, and warned that no sooner should Manoharpur fall than he would be deprived of Kasli also. Dip Singh thereupon defected Udai Singh and left the field for his estate. Udai Singh pursued Dip Singh who, aware of his weak position, fled to Jaipur for help. Jai Singh, the ruler of Jaipur promised him help, on his swearing to become his vassal and tributary, Dip Singh swore allegiance to the *Gadi* of Jai Singh, and signed a tributary engagement of four thousand rupees annually¹.

SUPREMACY OF JAIPUR STATE OVER SHAIKHAWATI—This was the beginning of the renewed supremacy of Amber over the confederated Shaikhawats, which had been thrown off long back. Dip Singh who swore allegiance to Sawai Jai Singh persuaded the latter to intercede in

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, p. 1393.

the restoration of the share of late Fateh Singh's son in his patrimony of Khandela. Jai Singh was a powerful ruler of his age and was instrumental in promoting the imperial cause. At this time, the Jats were creating trouble and Farrukhsiyar desired Jai Singh to suppress this turbulent race. Jai Singh, to combat the Jats, summoned his Jagirdars and chieftains such as the princes of Karauli, Bhadauria, Sheopur, Udai Singh of Khandela and many others. During the siege of Thun, the Shaikhawat chief was reprimanded for neglect of duty. He, therefore, indignantly withdrew from the siege. Taking this as a challenge to his authority, Jai Singh determined that the Khandela chief should suffer for his audacity and peace between the Jats and Mughals having concluded, he laid siege to the citadel called Udaigarh. Udai Singh held out for a month in this castle but fled to Naru in Marwar and his son, Sawai Singh, submitted and became a tributary to Amber. He signed an engagement to pay annually one lakh of rupees to Jai Singh. "From this a deduction of fifteen thousand was subsequently made, and in time being reduced twenty thousand more, sixtyfive thousand continued to be the tribute of Khandela, until the decay of both the parent State and its scion, when the weakness of the former, and the merciless outrages of the predatory powers, Pathan and Mahratta, rendered its amount uncertain and difficult to realize"¹. In consonance with his promise to Dip Singh, Jai Singh divided Khandela in two² parts, three-fifth bestowing upon Sawai Singh, with the title of chief of the Shaikhawats, and two-fifth to Dhiraj Singh, son of Fateh Singh. Meanwhile, Udai Singh, taking advantage of the absence of the young chieftains of Khandela, who were in attendance of their liege lord, took possession of Khandela. But he was soon expelled by his son Sawai Singh who then again fled to Naru. He, however, outlived Sawai Singh, who left three sons; Bindraban, who succeeded to Khandela; Shambhu, who had the appanage of Ranauli; and Kusal, who had Piprauli.

Bindrabandas sided Madho Singh in the civil wars, which ensued after the death of Isri Singh for the throne of Jaipur. Madho Singh, when successfully saddled, rewarded Bindrabandas for his services by annulling the earlier dictum of partition of Khandela and consented that Bindrabandas should alone rule over Khandela. A contingent was sent with him for the expulsion of the minor, Indar Singh, grandson of Deo Singh, who fled to Parsoli.

Bindrabandas had inherited a depleted treasury and had to support the mercenary bands sent by the Jaipur ruler for his aid, on a

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, p. 1395.

2. *The Jaipur Album*, Jaipur (1935), Chapter XIV, p. 12.

contribution called *Dand* from his subjects not even exempting the Brahmins. Some of the wealthiest Brahmins remonstrated the Raja on this indignity but when their appeals failed, they resorted to *Chandni* or self-immolation¹. The sin was so heinous that Madho Singh, the ruler of Jaipur in order to expiate his indirect share in the guilt, withdrew his troops, and distributed twenty thousand rupees to the Brahmins of his own capital. Indar Singh, who had fled to Parsoli, had a respite due to these developments and collecting his retainers joined the Jaipur army ready to chastise the Rao of Macheri. Indar Singh so much distinguished himself in this expedition that, on the payment of a *Nazarana* of fifty thousand rupees, his lost share of Khandela was restored to him by a regular *Patta* or grant of the Raja.

But Indar Singh was not destined to live in peace. Tribal feuds soon developed between the two chiefs of Khandela, each calling his own adherents and Khandela and its environs became a scene of day to day fighting. Tired of the unhappy situation a compromise was at last reached between the two.

At this time Najaf Kuli Khan at the head of the imperialists, led the royal army into Shaikhawati to raise contributions. Nawal Singh of Nawalgarh, Bagh Singh of Khetri, Surajmal of Baswa, all Sadhani chieftains (descendants of Sadhu Shaikhawat) unable to pay the contributions were made captive till ransomed for many lakhs of rupees.

The sinful Bindrabandas in order to expiate, granted the best lands of Khandela to the Brahmins. The extravagance was resented by Govind Singh the heir-apparent, who remonstrated him. Therefore, Bindrabandas, appropriating five townships and the impost duties of Khandela for his support abdicated leaving reins of government to his sons. But Govind Singh who succeeded his father Bindrabandas, was soon murdered by one of his attendants while on an excursion. Govind Singh left five sons, Narsinghdas, Surajmal, Bagh Singh, Jawan Singh and Ranjit.

Narsinghdas, the eldest son, succeeded his father. By this time the inroads of Marathas had increased. After the battle of Merta (1790 A. D.) they first attacked and stormed the village of Bai and then proceeded to Khandela. When within two *Coss* of the town, the horde halted at Hodigon and negotiations were made with Indar Singh to settle the contribution, which was fixed at twenty thousand rupees, besides three thousand in *Ghus* (bribe), for the Maratha Brahmin negotiator. The two chiefs Nawal and Dalil, who negotiated on the part of the joint Rajas of Khandela, proceeded with the Brahmin to the

1. Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1396.

Maratha camp, accompanied by the joint revenue officers of Khandela as hostage as it was beyond their power to realize such a large sum from the ryots. The Maratha commander however, demanded that they themselves must remain as hostage which enraged them and in the skirmish which ensued, most of the Rajputs were slain. Indar Singh, who left Khandela to find out the result of the negotiations, to his dismay learnt about the sad episode and dismounting from his horse, roused his adherents to avenge the slaughter of their kinsmen. They rushed on the assassins and were killed. Indar Singh too, met his death and Dalil was the only survivor.

Partap Singh, who succeeded his father Indar Singh, was with his mother at Sikrai, a strong fort in the hills not far from Khandela. To save the town and to release their minor chief from further trouble, the principal men sold all they had. Having obtained all they could, the Marathas proceeded to the lands of the Sadhanis. Udaipur (Shaikhawati) was sacked and they marched against the chieftains of Singhana Jhunjunu and Khetri. On their departure, young Partap and his kinsmen, took up their residence in Khandela. But troubles arose again. The Jaipur ruler sent demands for the tribute, Partap made his peace by assigning a fourth of the harvest, but Narsinghdas, the co-sharer of Khandela, despised this arrangement.

Devi Singh, the chieftain of Sikar, a descendant of Rao Tirmal of Kasli, had enlarged his estate by adding no less than twenty-five large villages, as Lohagarh, Koh, etc. He now planned to attack Rewasa. But his plans were cut short by his death. Having no issue, he had adopted Lachhman Singh, son of the Shahpura Thakur; but the Jaipur court did not like this and commanded¹ Nandram Haldia, the brother of the prime minister Daulat Ram, collector of the Shaikhawat tribute, to attack and humble him. The expatriated chieftains lent their support to Nandram. The Khandela chief, the Pattawats of Kasli, Bilara and even the Sadhanis, joined the camp of the Jaipur commander, against the Sikar chief, who was rapidly rising over them all. Devi Singh had cultivated the minister's friendship and now a deputation, consisting of the representatives of the Sikar chief was despatched to Haldia, and implored him in the name of the deceased Devi Singh not to put his infant son in the hands of the *Barwattas* (outlawed). Haldia told the deputation in confidence that he could not disobey the command of the ruler but suggested that they should congregate a large force to oppose him as he approaches the place. This was done and on his approach to Sikar ten

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, pp. 1400-1401.

thousand men appeared to oppose him. Having made a show of investing Sikar, and spent a good deal of ammunition, he informed the court, where his brother was minister that Sikar would not be taken without great loss of time, men and money. He advised acceptance of the proffered submission and without waiting a reply, he took two lakhs as fine for his sovereign, and a present of one for himself. The siege was lifted.

Reverting to Khandela affairs, Partap Singh taking advantage of Narsinghdas's refractory attitude towards the liege-lord, proposed to Haldia that he was prepared to pay the tribute of both the portions of Khandela if he was allowed to take possession of Nar Singh's share. He was also ready to serve the court with his troops and pay handsome *Nazarana* or investiture. The Haldia acquiesced but meanwhile Rawal Indar Singh of Samod, summoned Narsinghdas and acquainted him with the designs of his rival Partap Singh. But the counsel of the Samod chief to Narsinghdas to comply with the orders of the Jaipur court was ignored. This not only proved detrimental to the interests of Narsinghdas but jeopardised the position of the Samod chief when the facts were reported to the Jaipur Court.

Partap Singh having thus adjusted affairs, reduced Rewasa and proceeded to Govindgarh, helped by a contingent of Haldia. But Haldia now played a double game and allowed the adherents of Narsinghdas to march against Khandela. At last a treaty was concluded between Partap Singh and Narsinghdas by which Rewasa was left to Partap Singh and Narsinghdas obtained his share of Khandela. Occasional broils however, continued between the joint-chieftains of Khandela.

Such internecine feuds invited constant interference from the Jaipur court. The Sadhanis (the chieftains of northern Shaikhawati) expressed their concern at the increasing influence of the Jaipur court in the affairs of this federation. Till now they had not entered into any tributary engagements with the Jaipur ruler. The superiority of the Jaipur House was acknowledged only on the basis of common bondage of ancestry. But as the armies of the court were now frequenting the frontiers, they decided to take measures for their defence. Consequently all the Sadhani chieftains as well as those Raesalots who chose to participate, assembled at Udaipur (Shaikhawati) and decided¹ in this grand council that all internal strife should cease and that in future there should be no appeal to the Jaipur court for arbitration but on such occasions they should assemble together for peaceful deliberations and above all, if

1. Tod, James, *op.cit.*, p. 1405.

occasion so demanded, should repel, by force of arms, the further encroachment of the Jaipur court.

Treaty between the Shaikhawats and Jaipur

Rora Ram, the new commander of Jaipur forces, was keen to obtain the services of the assembled Shaikhawats against the denigrated Haldias. The Shaikhawats who had become wiser by experience not only sought stipulations for this assistance but also regulated their future connection with the liege-lord under the following conditions¹:

(1) The townships which the Haldia had seized upon, such as Tui, Gwala, etc. must be immediately restored. (2) The court should disavow all pretensions to exact tribute beyond what they had voluntarily stipulated, and which they would remit to the capital. (3) On no account should the armies of the court enter the lands of the confederation, the consequences of which had so strongly marked in the atrocities at Khandela. (4) The confederacy would furnish a contingent for the service of the court, which should be paid by the court while so employed.

The treaty was ratified and a sum was paid to the confederates for summoning them for active service with their retainers. The Haldia faction, as desired by the court, was broken and dispossessed of their estates. But the confederated chieftains received none of the advantages for which they had agreed to serve the court. Having thus disillusioned they raided the towns occupied by the troops of Rora Ram, drove them out and restored them to their original proprietors.

Jaipur Asserts Supremacy

The court now despatched an agent to collect tribute from Narsinghdas. The latter had the audacity to stone the agent, which invited the wrath of the court. The sequestration of Khandela and the capture of Narsinghdas were ordered. Narsingh stayed at his castle of Govindgarh. The Jaipur troops under Asaram encamped near the place in order to effect the sequestration of Khandela. Partap Singh was present at Khandela but Asaram wished to seize both the partners of Khandela. He therefore, laid a plot and invited Narsinghdas on a pledge of safety. Narsingh was thus entrapped and the crafty Asaram betraying his pledge, made both of them, Partap and Narsingh, captive and sent them to the state prison at Amber. Khandela was declared *Khalsa* (fiscal), and garrisoned by five hundred men from the camp, while the smaller feudatories, holding estates detached from Jaipur, were received on various terms and even allowed to hold their fiefs provided they did not disturb the sequestrated lands.

1. Tod, James, *op.cit.*, p. 1406.

Dinaram Bohra who was the Prime Minister of Jaipur (A. D. 1798-99) now joined Asaram at Udaipur (Shaikhawati) to collect the tribute from the Sadhani chiefs. They marched to Parasurampur, wherefrom they issued orders for the tribute to be brought and sent forth the troops to expedite the collection. This enraged the Sadhanis who demanded Dinaram to withdraw his parties instantly and return to Jhunjhunu. If he did so, they said, the collective tribute, or of which ten thousand was then ready, would be sent¹. This arrangement was approved by all. But Bagh Singh, brother of the captive prince of Khandela, was so much incensed at the treacherous conduct of the Jaipur court, that he determined to oppose the betrayal of their agreement, which declared the inviolability of the territory of the confederation so long as the tribute was paid. He was joined by five hundred men of Khetri. They levied contributions at Singhana and Fatehpur from the chieftain of Sikar and invited George Thomas, the Irish military adventurer to their aid.

George Thomas was an Irish sailor who had served as a mercenary² captain under some Indian chiefs and was now designing an independent principality for himself. He had attacked some frontier parganas of Jaipur in 1798 A.D. and joined the service under Vaman Rao in the following year who was collecting the arrears of contribution in the Shaikhawati. He made Fatehpur as his base and commenced military operations.

BATTLE OF FATEHPUR (1799 A.D.)—A large army was sent on this occasion by the Jaipur ruler under the command of Rodji Khawas to oppose the confederation. Although inferior in number, the confederates had Thomas and his regulars well equipped in arms and tactics which compensated for their numerical inferiority. The Jaipur army lost several pieces of artillery and was about to flee when the chieftain of Chomu showed great alacrity and performed a feat of dashing bravery against the brigade of Thomas. Although the casualty among Jaipur forces was very heavy, the intrepid action ultimately made Thomas to retreat.

The captive chiefs of Khandela considered this opportunity favourable for their liberation, and addressed their kinsmen to this effect. Rodji (Rora Ram) was also approached who promised his influence, provided an efficient body of Raesalots joined his camp. Bagh Singh, a man venerated by both the parties, was selected to head this body with the court commander and he left his younger brother Lachhman Singh as his deputy at Khandela. But when this news reached Hanwant Singh of Saledi, son of

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, p. 1408.

2. Sharma, Dr. M. L.: *op.cit.*, pp. 215-216.

the captive Partap Singh, he detesting Bagh Singh determined to take the castle of Khandela himself and put to sword the unprepared garrison which was stationed to guard it. He occupied the castle. Bagh Singh learning this at Ranoli countermarched, and commenced the assault. The castle was scaled by Bagh Singh and Hanwant Singh fled away.

Rodji, who continued to be the collector of the Shaikhawat tribute even during the ministership of Mangidas (successor of Dinaram) farmed the fiscal lands of Khandela to a Brahmin for twenty thousand rupees annually. The Shaikhawat chieftains were so much oppressed by this Brahmin who not only levied contributions on the yet independent feudatories, but attacked those who resisted, that they started indiscriminate vengeance especially when they received intimation from the captive chiefs that there was no hope of their liberty. They at once attacked Khandela, and in spite of the resistance of a force of seven thousand Dadupanthis, sacked it. They advanced within the Jaipur domains and spread terror and destruction. They were overpowered and subdued through reinforcements and at last the confederacy was broken up. The Ranoli chief and others of the elder branches sought peace, but the younger branches sought shelter elsewhere. Sangram Singh of Sujawas (cousin of Partap Singh) received protection in Marwar while Bagh Singh and Suraj Singh in Bikaner State. Having exhausted their patience in the hope of meeting justice from their liege-lord, they took to highway robbery.

Sangram Singh headed¹ the band of exiles, which spread terror by surprising the *Thana* (garrison) of their liege lord, and sacking villages in the vicinity of Jaipur town. The atrocities of this desperado increased so much that the Jaipur court at length, made overtures with him through Shyam Singh Sadhani, the chief of Baswa, on whose pledge Sangram Singh arrived under the walls of the Jaipur town. But treachery and foul play was suspected and confirmed and Shyam Singh who had heard of the plot, warned Sangram who thereupon fled to Tuarvati (Torawati), and joined by the Tuars and Ladkhanis, he was at the head of one thousand horse. His depredations increased, he attacked large fiscal towns of the State; contributions were demanded failing which he carried off the chief citizens as hostage who were afterwards ransomed. His career however came to an end when a ball struck him in the head while surrounding the town of Madhopur, the estate of one of the queens. The son of Sangram Singh took the command and continued the same daring course, until the Jaipur court restored his patrimony of Sujawas.

The triangular conflict between Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur rulers

1. Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1411.

on account of Krishna Kumari, the Mewar princess, had now begun and Rai Chand the prime minister of Jaipur, sent his nephew Kirparam, to obtain the aid of the Shaikhawats in this conflict, who appointed Kishan Singh to negotiate the terms of the aid. A new treaty was formed, which stipulated the liberation of their chieftains (Partap Singh and Narsinghdas), the joint Rajas of Khandela. Non-interference of the court in their internal arrangements, so long as they paid the regulated tribute was also insisted. These clauses were confirmed by the Jaipur court and a body of 10,000 Shaikhawats was put at the disposal of Jaipur which took the field whenever directed. The Khandela chiefs were subsequently released from the prison. But Narsinghdas was killed while leading an expedition and his son Abhai Singh succeeded to the patrimony.

Abhai Singh commanded his troops till the triangular conflict came to an end. They then returned to Khandela. But the Jaipur court had no intention of restoring to him the lands of Khandela. In desperation Abhai Singh and his followers left the place. Partap Singh and his son repaired to the Maratha leader Bapu Sindhia at Dausa near Jaipur while Hanwant captured Govindgarh and with a large body of followers, took offensive against Jaipur. He captured Khandela and the adjacent territories. The Jaipur army which was sent to recover Khandela ultimately entered into alliance with Hanwant Singh and offered five townships to him which he accepted.

With the coming of Khushhaliram as prime minister of Jaipur, the Shaikhawats found in him a willing sympathiser to their cause. A deputation of the principal Shaikhawat chieftains met him and sought his help for restoring to them the lands of their forefathers. Consequently an engagement was made by which the future tribute of the Raesalots was fixed at sixty thousand rupees annually, and the immediate payment of a *Nazarana* of forty thousand, fresh *Pattas* of investiture were made out for Khandela and its dependencies. But the Naga garrison of Khandela did not comply the orders of the Jaipur court whereupon Hanwant Singh led a surprise and occupied Udaigarh. Abhai Singh and Partap Singh then also occupied their ancestral seat.

Shortly after this restoration, the Shaikhawat contingents were summoned by Jaipur court against Amir Khan Pindari, whose General Muhammad Shah Khan, was blockaded in the fortress of Bhumgarh near Tonk, by the army of Jaipur commanded by Rao Chand Singh of Dhani. The Shaikhawats, during this blockade sacked one of the townships of Tonk, in which a Gugawat inhabitant was slain and his property plundered. The son of the Gugawat complained to the General, Chand Singh,

the head of his clan, about the incident and appealed for restoration of the property. Aided by a body of troops from the General he tried to recover the property resulting in dividing the army in two camps, one led by Chand Singh and another by the Shaikhawati contingent with the exception of Sikar. But somehow, peace was restored between the two factions.

Lachhman Singh, the chief of Sikar, the only Shaikhawat who kept aloof from the faction, entertained designs to secure Khandela for himself. After the siege of Bhumgarh, the confederated Shaikhawats moved to their estates by the circuitous route via Jaipur. But Lachhman Singh marched directly to Sikar, attacked Sisa and secured it through a stratagem. He then obtained a mercenary force from the Pindari general for two lakhs of rupees under their leaders Manu and Mahtab Khan. It is worthy of note that Mahtab Khan had entered into a solemn engagement with Hanwant Singh only a few days back and undertook to manage the affairs of the minor princes. He had received fifty thousand rupees to abstain from molesting their estates. This episode is mentioned only to show that such betrayals were very common during those days.

Such a move by the Sikar chief was resisted by Hanwant Singh because Rewasa and other fiefs were soon taken by Lachhman Singh and the town of Khandela excepting the castle soon passed into his hands. Some of those who had adhered to Hanwant Singh were bribed while others were threatened of retaliation by the detachments of Amir Khan, sent by Sikar to neutralize their efforts. In the final sortie of attack Hanwant Singh received a shot which ended his career. Subsequently an armistice for the removal of the wounded and obsequies of the dead was agreed to, during which terms were offered, and refused by the garrison. When the death of Hanwant was known to the Udaipur (Shaikhawati) chief, he sent reinforcements. The garrison held out for some more time and ultimately when an offer was made of ten townships, they surrendered. Partap Singh¹ took his share but his co-heir Abhai Singh despised the arrangements. But even Partap Singh was not destined to retain whatever he was allowed, for, Lachhman Singh soon expelled and dispossessed him of his share. Both the co-heirs, Abhai Singh and Partap Singh then went to Jhunjhunu, where they resided receiving five rupees a day, from a joint purse made for them by the Sadhanis.

In 1814, when Misr Sheonarayan, the then minister of Jaipur, faced great financial stringency to meet the demands of Amir Khan, he turned to the Sikar Chief, who was desirous of regularising his usurpation by the Jaipur court. The minister demanded a payment of nine lakhs of

1. Tod, *op.cit.*, p. 1419.

rupees in lieu of the *Patta* of Khandela. This was complied with and Lachhman Singh received the *Patta* for Khandela. Soon after he proceeded to the court and paid in advance the amount of the annual tribute (Rs. 57,000). He gained influence at the court and received a *Khillat* from Jagat Singh, the ruler of Jaipur. But the growing influence of Lachhman Singh in the court soon created an opposition against him and the new minister who had ousted Misr Sheonarayan was also determined to get rid of Lachhman Singh. Hence an attack on Khandela was planned and the Sadhanis were also invited to join the army of the Jaipur court. The combined forces of Jaipur and the Sadhanis besieged Khandela. But the superior tact displayed by Lachhman Singh while remaining in the court on this occasion and his measures to protect Khandela through bribe, foiled the attempt of the minister who abandoned the project and returned to the court, where he tried to capture Lachhman Singh who, however, narrowly escaped to Khandela. He was hotly pursued but in vain. The Sadhanis, led by the chiefs of Khetri and Baswa, made a bold attempt to capture Khandela for Abhai Singh but were unsuccessful.

It will not be out of context to trace in brief, the ancestry of Lachhman Singh. We have earlier mentioned about Raesal, one of the descendants of Shaikhaji. He had seven sons, the fourth of whom, Tirmal (who obtained the title of Rao), held Kasli and its eighty-four villages in Jagir. His son, Hari Singh, wrested from the Kayamkhanis of Fatehpur, the district of Bilara, with its one hundred and twenty-five villages and shortly after, twenty-five more from Rewasa. Sheo Singh, the son of Hari Singh captured Fatehpur itself, which was the chief abode of the Kayamkhanis and established himself there. His son Chand Singh, founded Sikar, whose lineal descendant Devi Singh, adopted Lachhman Singh, the son of his near kinsman, the Thakur of Shahpura. When Lachhman Singh succeeded to his uncle, he demolished all the castles of his inferior feudatories, not even sparing that of Shahpura, Bilara, Bathoti and Kasli. His policies were so self-centered, that his own father preferred exile to living under a son¹.

The possessions of Lachhman Singh contained five hundred towns and villages and yielded a revenue of eight lakhs of rupees. He erected the castle of Lachhmangarh, in *Samvat* 1862 (1806 A. D.) and fortified many other strongholds. For the defence of his territory he maintained a large army consisting of matchlockmen and cavalry.

It will be in conformity with the account if a short introduction of the Ladkhanis is given here. Ladkhan, the son of Raesal had conquered his

1. Tod, *op. cit.*, p. 1422.

own appanage, Danta Ramgarh, then a dependency of Sambhar. His descendants subsequently secured the *Tappa* of Nosal; some territories of the rulers of Marwar and Bikaner as a price for their abstinence from plunder within their bounds; and thus held altogether about eighty villages. They gradually adopted plundering habits like the Pindaris and the Kazzaks and organised formidable raids. Their allegiance to their liege-lord was nominal and they hardly paid any tribute to him unless compelled to do so by a strong army.

MODERN PERIOD

The Jaipur State entered into a treaty¹ with the British government in 1818 A. D. which stipulated perpetual friendship and alliance, protection from foreign enemies and abstinence from internal interference on the part of the British government while the Jaipur State, on the other hand, agreed to acknowledge the supremacy of the British government and act in subordinate co-operation as well as to pay an annual tribute. A few months after the conclusion of the treaty, Jagat Singh, the ruler of Jaipur, died and Mohan Singh, supposedly an adopted son of the late ruler, was enthroned, under the name of Man Singh. However, a few months had hardly elapsed when Rani Bhatianiji, a queen of the late ruler, gave birth to a male child (1819) whose claim to gadi was recognised by the British government. Consequently Man Singh was dethroned and the Queen mother was made the Regent of a council during the minority of the ruler. But the court intrigues became rampant during this Regency. The Queen mother, supported by Jhoota Ram, the minister, controlled the entire administration and spurned the British interference. However, gradually the British Political Agents who were stationed at Jaipur to realize the tribute which had fallen in arrears and were therefore, vested with more powers than originally contemplated, started participating in the court intrigues and outmanoeuvred the Regent Rani and Jhoota Ram.

The most powerful Shaikhawati chiefs at this time were : Lachhman Singh the Rao Raja of Sikar, Abhai Singh and after his death Bakhtawar Singh the Raja of Khetri, and Sham Singh the Thakur of Bisau. The Rao Raja of Sikar and the Thakur of Bisau were actively associated with the court intrigues at Jaipur and were generally found on the side of the Queen mother. The Jaipur State had levied a *Chouth* (fourth part) from the Shaikhawati chieftains who perpetrated arbitrary exactions on traders passing through those regions. The disturbances created by these plunderers assumed such a large proportion that the

1. Aitchison, C.U.: *A Collection of Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, Vol. III (1932), pp. 68-69.

British government sent¹ Lt. Col. Lockett on a special mission to report on the affairs. Lockett toured the area in 1831-32 and submitted his report as a consequence of which a Brigade of British Troops from Nasirabad with artillery and cavalry was employed in Shaikhawati which dismantled several forts of the chiefs who harboured plunderers there. Furthermore, in order to provide employment to the Shaikhawati plunderers a corps of cavalry was raised the expenses of which were defrayed from a contribution termed as *Chouth* and levied from the chiefs of this area. The amount of *Chouth* was fixed at Rs. 73,500 a year of which Rs. 22,000 was paid by Bikaner State on account of two *Rissalas* of the Bidawat plunderers and Rs. 51,500 by the Shaikhawati chiefs. The corps was raised by Lt. Forster and in 1836-37 it was made over to the Jaipur government, the British troops having been withdrawn in 1835 A. D. Forster was put in the command of this Shaikhawati Brigade by the Jaipur government who suppressed the plunderers and highway robberies with the aid of this Brigade. In course of time the expenditure on this force amounted to three lakhs of rupees which was defrayed by the impoverished Jaipur government with the exception of the amount of *Chouth* recovered from the chiefs.

Major Forster was also invested with the general magisterial control over Shaikhawati in addition to his duties as commander of the Brigade. This became a cause of friction between him and the Regency (Jai Singh III having died in 1835 and his successor, Ram Singh being only 17 months old at the time of his father's death, a Regency council was set-up for administration) on the one hand and Shaikhawati chiefs on the other, who started resenting the payment of the *Foujkharch* or the *Chouth* for the maintenance of the Brigade. The dissatisfaction increased to such an extent that the Brigade was reduced in strength, its cost of maintenance was consequently transferred to the British government and the levy of *Foujkharch* was finally abandoned in 1843.

In 1846, an insurrection broke out² in Sikar principality. Rao Raja Lachhman Singh had granted, before his death, large estates amounting to Rs. 80,000/- a year to his three illegitimate children. Ram Pratab Singh the son and successor of Lachhman Singh, complained to Col. Sutherland, the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana, about the loss of such a large amount and begged for its restoration to him. The British government having concurred in his request, the Regency

1. *Selections from the Records of the Government of India*, Foreign Department, No. LXV, Calcutta (1868), p. 47.
2. *ibid.*

Council determined to dispossess the illegitimate brothers of their estates and sent a force, assisted by the British Political Agent, to the aid of the Sikar chief. The Sikar chief then marched against Patoda and Bahtot, the residence of Dungar Singh, Jawahar Singh and Bhopal Singh who, though, the relations of the chief of Sikar, had espoused the cause of the illegitimate brothers. Dungar Singh who had been a Risaldar in the Shaikhawati cavalry, was at the time undergoing imprisonment at Agra, previous to transportation to which he had been sentenced, for an attack on a banker's house at Mathura. Jawahar Singh, who with Bhopal Singh, had taken to outlawry by the destruction of Bahtot made a sudden and most daring attack on the Agra jail and succeeded in rescuing Dungar Singh. These desperados, then ravaged the territory, surprised the Pay Office at Nasirabad, cut down the guard and carried off about Rs. 52,000 which was meant for the payment to the troops. Dungar Singh was eventually captured and was made over to the ruler of Jodhpur in whose territories he was seized. Jawahar Singh was tried but in the absence of evidence, was released and took refuge in Bikaner, and with Bhopal Singh and the illegitimate brothers, was only re-settled in Sikar later on in 1855 A. D.

In 1850, Rao Raja Ram Partab Singh died childless and was succeeded by his brother Bhairu Singh, then about sixteen years of age. Although the late Rao Raja had not acknowledged during his life time Bhairu Singh as his brother perhaps for fear of sequestration of half of the Sikar principality to him in accordance with the law of the land but now he was acknowledged as the rightful successor by the Shaikhawati chiefs who had assembled at Sikar to decide the succession. It may be interesting to mention that in Shaikhawati the tenures of land had a peculiarity, that excepting two or three of the greater estates all holdings were regularly divided among all the sons on the death of the father¹. Thus as the offsprings multiplied generation after generation the size of the estates diminished but all of them would stand for a common cause whenever occasion demanded, being bound together by blood of common ancestry.

The administrative and political divisions of the region by the close of the last century and beginning of the present were as follows: out of the six tahsils of the present Sikar district, Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and Sikar formed a part of the Sikar chiefship², while Neem-ka-thana was the headquarters of the Torawati *Nizamat* as well as the headquarters of Sawai Ramgarh

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Rajputana*, Calcutta (1908), p. 254.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 268.

tahsil of Jaipur State¹. Likewise, Danta Ramgarh was a tahsil in Sambhar *Nizamat* of Jaipur State and Sri Madhopur² was one of its important towns. Khandela was the principal town of an estate of the same name which was held by two Rajas³ and paid tribute to the Jaipur State. Ramgarh was an important town in Shaikhawati and was included in the Sikar chiefship⁴.

Rao Raja Kalyan Singh succeeded to the chiefship of Sikar in 1922 after the death of Rao Raja Madho Singh. The Chief enjoyed limited jurisdiction both on the civil and criminal side. The Nazim of Shaikhawati, an official of the Jaipur State, who was the principal revenue officer, acted on the civil side as principal court of original jurisdiction and in criminal cases, exercised the same powers as a district magistrate in British India.

In 1926 on the occasion of the Muharram festival, communal harmony between the Hindus and the Muslims was disturbed at Fatehpur. The people of both the communities started pouring into Fatehpur from the neighbouring areas of Churu, Mandawa, Jhunjhunu and Sikar which gave rise to a serious outbreak. However, the Nazim of Shaikhawati was despatched to Fatehpur to take stock of the situation and Rao Raja of Sikar, who maintained his own police in the Thikana, was advised to take security measures. The ruler of Bikaner also took immediate steps to stop movement of his subjects into Fatehpur. Timely action, however, resulted in controlling the situation.

In 1932, Mr. C.U. Wills, a retired member of the Indian Civil Service was appointed⁵ as Officer on Special Duty to examine and report on the status of the *Thikanedars* of Panchpana Singhana (including Khetri), Sikar, Khandela, Udaipurwati, Patan and Uniara. The report was submitted in 1933 to the Jaipur ruler, who decided that no action should be taken with regard to the enquiry connected with Udaipurwati due to the different nature of tenure of that *Thikanedar* while for the remaining, a committee of Inquiry⁶ consisting of three members including Mr. Wills who acted as President of the committee was appointed to investigate and report (a) whether the revenue payments of these *Thikanas* were permanently fixed or liable to revision and if so, what should be the revision (b) whether the ruler of Jaipur should or should not assert his sovereign right

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Rajputana*, Calcutta (1908), p. 266.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 269.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 262.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 266.

5. *Report on the Administration of the Jaipur State for 1932-33* (1934), pp.10-11.

6. *Ibid.*, 1933-34 (1935), pp. 10-11.

to the minerals found within the limits of these *Thikanas* and (c) whether the existing custom cordon of Jaipur State should or should not be extended to territorial frontiers of the State. If it was to be extended what compensation, if any, should be paid

In 1938, a rebellion broke out in Sikar. The relations between the Jaipur State authorities and the Sikar *Thikana* became strained due to excessive interference by the former in the internal administration of the latter. The relations further worsened when the Jaipur State wanted to remove Kunwar Hardayal Singh, the only son and heir of Rao Raja Kalyan Singh of Sikar, from his father's custody and guardianship and proposed to send him to England to prosecute higher studies much against the wishes of his parents. This move of the State was opposed by the Rao Raja in view of his promise for matrimonial alliance of Hardayal Singh with the princess of the ruler of Dhranghadhar State before Hardayal Singh proceeds to England. His opposition was also due to the usual constraints on such foreign trips in those days, the fear of the Rao Rani that the prince would fall a prey to the bad influence in England. Moreover the excessive interference of Jaipur State authorities seemed to the Rao Raja a challenge to his authority. The Rao Raja was frequently summoned to Jaipur and humiliated. An unsuccessful attempt was made at Sikar to arrest him by force. The tension rose high and several thousand armed Rajputs, Qayamkhanis and others assembled in the fortress to oppose the forces sent by the State. The intervention by Seth Jamnalal Bajaj lessened the tension for a while but the things came to a pitch in July 1938 when the Jaipur police fired at a train killing a few Rajputs and injuring several, including children. The Rajputs and Jats were greatly agitated and bloodbath appeared to be imminent. The Rao Raja was declared to be a 'lunatic' and taken away to Ajmer. His estate was placed under the court of Wards. To cool down the atmosphere, the Jaipur government appointed an enquiry commission headed by Col. Gillan but the townsmen did not co-operate with it because they felt that such a commission should be appointed by the government of India and not by Jaipur authorities. A body known as Sikar Public Committee was formed to vindicate the stand of the people and their Rao Raja. It demanded responsible government under the aegis of the Rao Raja. The Jaipur authorities served a 48 hours' notice to the Sikar people to open the gates of the town else police force would be employed. The crisis was averted by the intervention of Seth Jamnalal Bajaj. To ease the tension, the Jaipur ruler also visited the town, which had the desired effect. The situation gradually improved and the State authorities conceded some of the points of the Sikar Public Committee.

Agrarian and Political Unrest

The area now included in the Sikar district witnessed frequent agrarian disturbances. In 1924, some new taxes were imposed on the cultivators of Sikar which caused¹ resentment. An agitation to withdraw the newly imposed taxes started. In 1925, a compromise was reached between the *Thikana* authorities and the cultivators according to which the Jat cultivators promised to pay *Jakat* (taxes) in proportion to the harvest. The compromise did not last long because the authorities enhanced the land revenue. Consequently in 1927 the cultivators determined not to pay the enhanced land revenue till their demands were conceded. The agitation continued in one form or the other. The agrarian unrest again flared up in 1935 in this area and assumed alarming proportions. A Jat Mahayagya was performed at Sikar in 1935 attended by thousands of cultivators for the success of Jat agitation. Later, hundreds of them were arrested and their leaders were externed from the State. Police opened fire on cultivators resulting in casualties. The name of Capt. Webb who was Senior Officer of Sikar *Thikana* became synonym of repression. The workers of the Prajamandal now espoused the cause of the peasantry.

Shaikhawati being the native place of many businessmen who had set up their business houses in big cities like Calcutta, Bombay etc., the political ideas with which these big places were saturated, found their way to Shaikhawati through these people. Whether it was the question of Swadeshi movement or that of non-co-operation, the activities in big cities had some sort of repercussions in these remote parts also. In 1928 Khadi Bhandar was started at Reengus where cultivators were taught how to grow, gin and spin cotton. In 1930 certain local people formed a youth league known as Yuvak Sangh at Ramgarh, who pressed the local cloth sellers not to sell foreign cloths and advocated to the people to follow the programme of the Indian National Congress. A few volunteers from Sikar also went to Ajmer to take part in the Civil Disobedience activities. The local administration of Sikar *Thikana* took a strong view and suppressed the Yuvak Sangh at Ramgarh as well as the Khadi Bhandar activities recently started at Ramgarh and Fatehpur.

Jaipur could not remain unaffected by the political wave that was sweeping the British administered areas. The Jaipur Rajya Prajamandal was set up in 1931. It was reorganised in November 1936 and started its regular work in February 1937. It aimed at obtaining responsible

1. Saxena, K. S. : *The Political Movements and Awakening in Rajasthan*, New Delhi (1971), pp. 192-93.

government in Jaipur State under the aegis (*Chhatrachhaya*) of the ruler and sought certain reforms in various fields. It had offices and well-organised committees in all the *Nizamats* of the State and the Sikar *Thikana*. The State authorities, however, issued an order in 1938 that no public organisation could be started in Jaipur State without the permission of the government. The Prajamandal, therefore, applied for its registration. In that year, the Prajamandal elected Seth Jamnalal Bajaj of Kashi-ka-bas in Sikar as its President for the annual session. Shri Bajaj was a well-known personality of the country who was closely associated with Mahatma Gandhi and the programmes of the Indian National Congress. The Jaipur State authorities apprehending intensification of the activities of the Prajamandal, adopted a policy of repression. In December 1938, the Executive Committee of the Prajamandal was to meet at Jaipur to take stock of the famine conditions in the State and organise relief. A sub-committee was also constituted by the Prajamandal for the famine-stricken public of Sikar. But the State authorities served on Shri Bajaj, who was coming from Wardha to Jaipur to attend this meeting, an order prohibiting his entry into the State on the ground that his presence and activities within the State were likely to lead to a breach of peace. All appeals to the authorities to lift the ban failed and even the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi and his appeal to the viceroy to look into the matter bore no fruits. The Prajamandal, therefore, decided in January 1939 on taking a recourse to *Satyagraha*. Soon after the Jaipur State authorities issued a Proclamation withdrawing the recognition given to the Prajamandal as a public institution. The Mandal's activities, therefore, became automatically illegal. Shri Bajaj requested the Jaipur State authorities to withdraw the ban on his entry and clarified that his first object was to afford relief to the famine stricken in Jaipur State through Prajamandal and his second concern was to try to secure the release of nine prisoners held during the recent crisis in Sikar. Having failed in persuading the Jaipur State authorities, he defied the orders and was arrested, taken outside the State and released. He again entered the State, was arrested and released outside the State. When he defied the orders again, he was arrested and detained at Moransagar.

Satyagraha was soon started in Jaipur State by people, to get the Prajamandal recognised by the State. The State had laid down a condition that Prajamandal's officials should not be members of any political organisation outside the State. This disqualified its very President Shri Bajaj who was a member of the Indian National Congress. Several hundred men and women courted arrest and were jailed. *Jatthas* or

batches of Prajamandal volunteers came to Jaipur from Sikar also. Arrests were made at Reengus and Sri Madhopur where Prajamandal workers took out processions. Looking to the futility of their action, the State authorities released the Prajamandal workers including Shri Bajaj. The State also agreed to recognise Prajamandal as a lawful association. The ban on public meetings and processions was also withdrawn and immediate administrative reforms were promised. The ruler also conceded many points of the Prajamandal but the relations between the State authorities and the Mandal remained strained. The Prajamandal workers toured the Sikar area extensively to exhort the peasants. So did the workers of another association, known as Shaikhawati Lok Parishad, which believed that Shaikhawati region differed from other parts of Jaipur State in social, cultural and economic aspects and should, therefore, exist as a separate entity. It advocated abolition of *Daroga* system (a form of slavery), fixation of a uniform rate of *Mohrana lag* throughout the State which was at present much higher in Shaikhawati when compared to other parts of Jaipur State, demanded preference to educated people of Shaikhawati in government jobs, sought reorganisation and unification of *Thikana* police in Shaikhawati, recommended government control over the distillation of liquor and insisted collection of land revenue through tahsils rather than contractors and abolition of *Begar* and vexatious taxes like *Beth*, *Lag bag* etc. The question of customs cordon which was extended to Shaikhawati, was also taken up.

In 1941, the Prime Minister of Jaipur State visited Sikar *Thikana* and the adjacent areas including principal towns of the present Sikar district in connection with war efforts, i.e. recruitment for the army and collection of war fund and held meetings at Sikar, Ramgarh, Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and at important villages. The Prajamandal workers questioned the justification of such war efforts and were arrested under Defence of India Rules. In May 1941, Prajamandal's working committee's meeting was held at Sikar in which the members voiced against the extension of customs cordon in Shaikhawati and also advised the people to press the demand for responsible government. In July, a meeting of the Jat Sabha was held in Sikar and the workers of the Prajamandal promised the Sabha all help in its agitation. In October, Prajamandal's tahsil conference was held at Danta Ramgarh. The Prajamandal also held in November a political conference at Sikar which was combined with a Khadi exhibition. The leaders in their speech on this occasion touched the topics of Sikar railway station firing, cabinet of Jaipur State, custom tariff and attitude of the Jaipur government towards Prajamandal.

The subject committee of the Prajamandal drafted seven Resolutions to be placed before the open session, of which important were (a) to urge upon the Jaipur government to take immediate steps to establish responsible government under the aegis of the ruler (b) better treatment be meted out to the workers of the Prajamandal in Shaikhawati (c) urged the removal of certain evil practices prevailing in the custom department (d) dissatisfaction was shown over the revenue settlement for not granting certain rights to the *Kisans*. It was also alluded that if responsible government was not possible under the aegis of the ruler, the Mandal may have to fight from outside the aegis of the ruler.

The rising prices of foodgrains (1942) caused anxiety and the Prajamandal took up the matter. The State authorities were however, alive to this issue and took necessary steps to put an embargo. The State authorities gradually conceded some of the points of Prajamandal. The ruler appointed a special committee to examine the whole question of constitutional reforms in Jaipur State. In 1944 the State announced by a gazette notification the formation of responsible government in the State and in the following year, a bicameral legislature was established which had a mixed representation of nominated and elected elements from various classes.

Meanwhile the political scene was fast changing in the country. The country achieved Independence in 1947 and efforts were made to unite the various States. In 1949, the ruler of Jaipur also decided to merge the State in the United State of Greater Rajasthan. Soon after, the State of Rajasthan came into existence and the present district of Sikar was created with a Collector at the head of the district administration.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

POPULATION

Total Population

According to the Census¹ of 1971, the district had a population of 10,42,648 (5,31,650 males and 5,10,998 females). The district ranked twelfth² in the State in respect of population and accounted for 4.05 per cent of the State's population during the 1971 enumeration. The tahsil-wise break-up of population is shown in the following table³ :

Tahsil	Total population			(Number)		
	Persons	Males	Females	Towns	Villages Inhabited	Un-inhabited
Danta Ramgarh	163,905	83,890	80,015	—	132	11
Fatehpur	124,892	62,497	62,395	2	114	—
Lachhmangarh	135,858	67,981	67,877	1	144	1
Neem-ka-Thana	158,891	82,794	76,097	1	117	5
Sikar	231,756	117,847	113,909	1	146	—
Sri Madhopur	227,346	116,641	110,705	2	157	12

It is evident from the above table that Sikar tahsil had the highest percentage of population (22.23 per cent) while Fatehpur tahsil had the lowest (11.98 per cent), when compared to the total population of the district.

Growth of Population

Although the rough estimates⁴ of the population of Jaipur State of which the present Sikar district formed a part, were made from time to time even much earlier⁵ than 1881 A. D. when the first census operations were conducted in Rajputana, the consolidated statistics of the population residing in the area now covered by the present Sikar district are, however,

1. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, published by the Directorate of Census Operations, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 18.
2. *ibid.*, p. (xxix).
3. *ibid.*, pp. 18-19.
4. Brooke, Col. J. C.: *Political History of the State of Jeypore*, Calcutta (1868), p. 8.
5. Brooke, Col. J.C., *op.cit.*, p. 8.

not available separately. The first regular census was conducted in 1881, followed by another in 1891 but it is only from the census of 1901 that the data for the district, as it exists today, are regularly available. Of course, the population statistics of some parts of this area are separately available¹ for the censuses of 1881 and 1891. The tahsil of Danta Ramgarh which then formed a part of Sambhar *Nizamat* of Jaipur State had a population of 74,822 in 1881 and 83,182 in 1891. Khandela was a tahsil and formed a part of Torawati *Nizamat*. It returned a population of 60,775 and 68,398 respectively during 1881 and 1891 censuses. The *Thikana* of Sikar had a total population of 1,49,709 in 1881 and 1,79,337 in 1891 and comprised four important towns of Jaipur State, namely Sikar, Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and Ramgarh. Other towns in this area were Khandela, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-thana. The population returned by those towns during 1881 and 1891 enumerations² is given below :

Town	1881	1891	Growth
Sikar	17,739	19,897	+ 2,158
Fatehpur	14,731	16,580	+ 1,849
Lachhmangarh	8,713	9,507	+ 794
Ramgarh	11,313	12,197	+ 884
Khandela	7,949	10,067	+ 2,118
Sri Madhopur	6,847	6,130	— 717
Neem-ka-Thana	2,711	5,733	+ 3,022

The table given below showing the decennial growth of population in the Sikar district during the present century, reveals³ that the growth has been rather unsteady.

Census year	Population			Percentage decade variation
	Persons	Males	Females	
1901	466,624	248,551	218,073	—
1911	469,440	247,203	222,237	+ 0.60
1921	462,595	245,285	217,310	— 1.46
1931	521,159	272,433	248,726	+ 12.66
1941	614,584	320,161	294,423	+ 17.93
1951	676,318	342,885	333,433	+ 10.04
1961	820,286	417,763	402,523	+ 21.29
1971	10,42,648	531,650	510,998	+ 27.11

1. Bannerman, Capt. A. D.; *Census of India 1901, Vol. XXV-B, Rajputana, Part III*, Lucknow (1902), p. 19.

2. Abbot, Col. H. B.; *Census of India 1891, Vol. XXVI, Rajputana, Pt. I*, Calcutta (1892), pp. XIV-XVI.

3. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. 79.

During the decade 1901-1911, the increase in population of the district had been low. Although no separate reasons can be assigned to this unusually low growth, the conditions had been rather unfavourable for Jaipur State as a whole, because of the three outbreaks of plague and one of cholera¹ although the State was free from famine. The next decade (1911-1921) actually witnessed a fall in the population, which could be ascribed to the prevalence of plague throughout the first half of the decade, which reappeared in 1917-18 accompanied with influenza of an acute type which caused heavy mortality. Factors such as unsatisfactory agricultural conditions, high prices due to the world war I and restrictions on trade also added to the poor health with the result that² the decade proved unfavourable to the growth of population.

The decadal increase during the period 1961-71 was of the order of 27.11 per cent which, though highest so far in the district, was slightly lower than the average increase for the whole of Rajasthan which was recorded as 27.83 per cent during this period.

The tahsilwise growth during the last decade (1961-71) is tabulated below :

Tahsil	Population		Percentage increase in decade
	1961 ³	1971 ⁴	
Fatehpur	99,112	124,892	+ 29.18
Lachhmangarh	109,169	135,858	+ 19.88
Sikar	175,529	231,756	+ 40.19
Neem-ka-Thana	126,064	158,891	+ 13.16
Sri Madhopur	181,594	227,346	— 10.91
Danta Ramgarh	128,818	163,905	+ 7.97

Density of Population

The density of population of the district was 90 persons per square kilometre in 1951; 105 in 1961 and 135 during the Census of 1971; these figures for the whole of Rajasthan were 47; 59 and 75 respectively for

1. Kealy, E.H.; *Census of India 1911, Vol. XXII, Rajputana and Ajmer-Merwara, Part I-Report*, Ajmer (1913), p. 55.
2. Sharma, Pt. Brij Jiwan Lal; *Census of India 1921, Vol. XXIV, Rajputana and Ajmer-Merwara, Part I, Report*, Calcutta (1923), p. 27.
3. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 26-27.
4. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 18-19.

these years¹. Speaking tahsilwise (1971 census), Sri Madhopur tahsil recorded the highest density (165) and Lachhmangarh the lowest (111), in the district².

According to the Census of 1971, the sex ratio (females per one thousand males) for the district was 961. It was higher in the urban area than its rural counterpart, being 966 and 960 respectively. It is significant that the sex ratio for the whole of Rajasthan was 911 (875 in urban and 919 in rural) during 1971 census, which was evidently very low when compared to the district average³. Comparing the sex-ratio in the district with the past years⁴, it is found that in 1941 it was 920; in 1951 the number increased to 972 but decreased to 964 in 1961.

Analysing the sex-ratio religion-wise⁵, it is interesting to note that in 1961, the Jains had the highest ratio, being 1179 females for every 1000 males, followed by the Muslims (1010) and the Hindus (959).

Age Group

According to the Census of 1961, the largest number of people (both males and females) were in the age group of 0-4 years forming 16.1 per cent of the total population of the district. In fact, those under fourteen years of age accounted for 43.27 per cent of the total population. The number of persons in the various age groups in the population of the district are shown below⁶ :

Age-group	Total Population		
	Persons	Males	Females
All ages	820,286	417,763	402,523
0-4	132,093	67,672	64,421
5-9	121,708	64,580	57,128
10-14	101,108	55,302	45,806
15-19	69,790	36,586	33,204
20-24	65,442	29,834	35,608
25-29	61,853	29,656	32,197

1. *Census of India 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics*, p. 21.
2. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Pt. X A & X B, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, Section II*, p. lii.
3. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. (iv).
4. *ibid.*
5. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 178. Ratio has been calculated on the basis of the figures given here.
6. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (i), Social and Cultural Tables*, p. 88.

1	2	3	4
30-34	54,007	25,900	28,107
35-44	83,419	41,356	42,063
45-59	79,450	41,520	37,930
60 +	50,885	25,080	25,805
Age not stated	531	277	254

It will be observed from this table that in the age group 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 45-49 years, males predominate females and in the age group 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-44 and 60 and above years, females predominate males¹. There were 73 centenarians (16 males and 57 females) in the district and 10 females were above the age of 100 years according² to 1961 census.

Age and Marital Status

According to the Census of 1961 there were 3,586 married males and 13,365 married females in the age group of 10 to 14 years. It shows that the child marriages, though on the wane, were still performed in the district. The largest number of widowed males (3,084) was in the age group of 70 and above and that of widowed females (8,531) in the age group of 60 to 64 years. The highest number of divorced or separated males (61) and females (169) was in the age group of 70 and above³.

Rural and Urban Population

According to the Census of 1971, 865,100 persons lived in the rural and 177,548 persons in the urban areas, or, an over-whelming majority of 82.97 per cent of the population of the district is rural and only 17.03 per cent urban⁴. In 1961, the rural population constituted 82.48 per cent of the total population while the urban areas accounted for the remaining 17.52 per cent⁵. The decadal comparison does not, however, indicate any significant migration from one region to the other. The distribution of the population in the rural areas according to the size of the villages, was as follows⁶:

1. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (i), Social and Cultural Tables*, p. 88.
2. *ibid.*, pp. 193-194.
3. *ibid.*, pp. 44-45.
4. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. 18 & (vi).
5. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. 15.
6. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 104-106.

Size of village	No. of villages	Population		Percentage to ¹ total population
		Males	Females	
With less than 200 persons	65	3,799	3,682	0.86
Between 200-499	186	33,897	32,695	7.70
„ 500-999	288	106,582	102,927	24.22
„ 1000-1999	176	120,102	116,951	27.40
„ 2000-4999	78	118,337	112,301	26.66
„ 5000-9999	16	52,926	49,772	11.87
„ 10000 and over	1	5,676	5,453	1.29

During 1961 Census, out of six tahsils, only one, namely, Danta Ramgarh was completely rural and had a population of 128,818. In 1971 Census too, this tahsil was again completely rural, having a population of 163,905. The rural and urban population figures of the remaining five tahsils during 1961² and 1971³ were as under:

(No.)

Tahsil	Population			
	1961		1971	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Fatehpur	58,117	40,995	74,895	49,997
Lachhmangarh	90,685	18,484	113,700	22,158
Sikar	124,893	50,636	160,769	70,987
Neem-ka-Thana	115,802	10,262	147,279	11,612
Sri Madhopur	158,274	23,320	204,552	22,794

The total rural and urban population during the 1961 and 1971 censuses for the district are given below⁴:

Year	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1961	345,759	330,830	72,004	71,693
1971	441,319	423,781	90,331	87,217

Towns

The census of 1961 as well as of 1971 classified seven places of the

1. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. (xix).
2. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 26-27.
3. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 18-19.
4. *ibid.*, p. (xi).

district as towns. These were: Fatehpur, Khandela, Lachhmangarh, Neem-ka-Thana, Ramgarh, Sikar and Sri Madhopur¹. The population of these towns since 1901 has been given below²:

Town	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971
Fatehpur	16,393	17,294	17,315	19,505	23,253	26,751	27,039	34,929
Khandela	9,156	8,206	6,990	9,101	9,484	7,791	11,765	12,500
Lachhmangarh	10,176	10,828	10,353	12,839	15,044	18,748	18,484	22,158
Neem-ka-Thana	6,741	5,946	5,547	6,150	6,967	6,244	10,262	11,612
Ramgarh	11,023	11,556	11,479	13,073	13,202	13,079	13,956	15,068
Sikar	21,523	22,317	21,080	26,297	32,334	44,140	50,636	70,987
Sri Madhopur	6,892	6,738	6,699	6,995	7,693	8,278	11,555	10,294

Their ranks in respect of population when compared to the population of the towns in Rajasthan in 1961 and 1971 are indicated below :

Town	Tahsil	Rank in population	
		1961 ³	1971 ⁴
Fatehpur	Fatehpur	20	22
Khandela	Sri Madhopur	72	86
Lachhmangarh	Lachhmangarh	35	41
Neem-ka-Thana	Neem-ka-Thana	84	94
Ramgarh	Fatehpur	53	72
Sikar	Sikar	10	10
Sri Madhopur	Sri Madhopur	75	110

The percentage growth of population of the towns of the district during 1961-71 had been as follows⁵: Sri Madhopur (- 10.91), Khandela (+6.25), Ramgarh (+7.97), Neem-ka-Thana (+13.16), Lachhmangarh (+19.88), Fatehpur (+29.18) and Sikar (+40.19).

Villages

In 1971 there were 810 inhabited and 29 uninhabited villages in

1. *Census of India, 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics*, p. 71.
2. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 136, 140, 145, 153, 156, 158 & 160.
3. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 130-132.
4. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. (xxi-xxiii).
5. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 136-160.

the district. The tahsil-wise distribution of these villages in 1961¹ and 1971² had been as follows:

Tahsil	No. of villages			
	1961		1971	
	Inhabited	Uninhabited	Inhabited	Uninhabited
Danta Ramgarh	130	13	132	11
Fatehpur	112	—	114	—
Lachhmangarh	143	1	144	1
Neem-ka-Thana	115	6	117	5
Sikar	146	—	146	—
Sri Madhopur	152	15	157	12
Total	798	35	810	29

There were eight villages³ in the district, namely, Guhala, Bhoodoli, Reengus, Jharli, Deorala, Losal, Ranoli and Danta, with a population of 5000 or more according to the Census of 1961, and which, on the basis of population, could qualify to be included in the list of towns but for their rural characteristics. The number of such villages increased to 17 during 1971 Census, their details are as under⁴:

Tahsil	Name of village	Population in 1971
Sikar	Piprali	5,344
Neem-ka-Thana	Guhala	8,544
	Bhoodoli	6,770
	Sirohi	5,336
	Mandoli	5,197
Sri Madhopur	Reengus	9,340
	Jharli	7,149
	Deorala	6,975
	Nathoosar	6,024
	Mundru	5,706
	Jaitusar	5,437
	Mahroli	5,120

1. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 26-27.

2. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 18-19.

3. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. 61.

4. *Census of India, 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 174-176.

PEOPLE

1	2	3
Danta Ramgarh	Danta	8,022
	Ranoli	7,033
	Losal	11,129
	Palsana	5,685
	Bay	5,016

Migration and Immigration

According to the Census of 1961, out of the total population of 820,286 of the district 72.29 per cent (592,999 persons) were born in place of enumeration, 18.00 per cent (147,649 persons) elsewhere in the district of enumeration, and 8.64 per cent (70,891 persons) in other districts of Rajasthan¹. Only 0.78 per cent (6,411 persons) were born in other states of India and the remaining 0.10 per cent (817 persons) outside India (of whom 755 were born in Pakistan, 20 each in Burma and Nepal, 13 in Ceylon, 4 elsewhere in Asia beyond India and 5 in U.S.A.). 1,519 persons (0.19 per cent) were unclassifiable.

The break-up of those born in the Indian States other than Rajasthan is given below²:

States	Persons	Males	Females
Punjab	3,855	861	2,994
Uttar Pradesh	804	413	391
West Bengal	421	202	219
Madhya Pradesh	319	104	215
Delhi	298	110	188
Bihar	205	87	118
Assam	180	85	95
Maharashtra	173	76	97
Gujarat	85	43	42
Andhra Pradesh	26	10	16
Orissa	13	4	9
Kerala	8	3	5
Madras	7	2	5
Mysore	6	1	5

1. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (II), Migration Tables*, pp. 32-33.

2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4
Himachal Pradesh	5	2	3
Jammu and Kashmir	2	1	1
Manipur	2	2	—
Goa, Daman and Diu	1	1	—
Sikkim	1	—	1

Displaced Persons

The number of displaced persons in the district, according to the Census of 1951 was 1,096, all of whom were immigrants¹ from West Pakistan between 1946 and 1950. The majority of them (74 per cent) were traders and only 13.8 per cent earned their livelihood by 'other services and miscellaneous sources'. Industrialists accounted for 10.2 per cent, transport for 1.3 per cent, non-cultivating owners of land 0.6 per cent and cultivators of owned land 0.3 per cent.

Non-Indian Nationals

In 1961, 9 non-Indian nationals (4 males and 5 females) were living in the district, of whom 6 were from Pakistan (4 males and 2 females) and 3 (all females) were from Ceylon².

Marital Status

According to the Census of 1961, the marital status of the people living in the district was as given below³:

Civil Status	Male	Female
Total	417,763	402,523
Never married	224,818	158,476
Married	178,155	204,140
Widowed	14,192	38,680
Divorced or Separated	312	753
Unspecified Status	286	474

LANGUAGE

Mother Tongue

Thirty-four speeches were returned as mother tongue spoken by

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, General Description and Census Tables*, p. 3.
2. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (ii), Migration Tables*, pp. 4-5.
3. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (i), Social and Cultural Tables*, pp. 44-45.

the people of the district, during the census¹ of 1961. Marwari was claimed by the largest number of people as their mother tongue (4,66,758) of whom 3,87,811 resided in the rural areas and the remaining in the urban areas. Analysing this data tahsilwise, it was found that Fatehpur tahsil had 88,508 speakers; Lachhmangarh tahsil 96,076; Sikar 156,350; Neem-ka-Thana 266; Sri Madhopur 11,053 and Ratnagarh 1,14,505. Such details for 1971 Census are not yet available but according to the Census of 1971 Hindi was the mother tongue of 541,227 persons² followed by Marwari (273,259 persons), Rajasthani (165,395 persons), Urdu (49,105 persons), Dhundhari (11,413 persons), Mewari (640 persons), Sindhi (634 persons) and Punjabi (433 persons).

Bilingualism

According to the Census of 1961, the total number of persons returned as speaking a language subsidiary to the mother-tongue was 7,564 (6,246 males and 1,318 females). Their classification was as follows³: English 2,999, Hindi 2,446, Urdu 890, Sanskrit 563, Arabic/Arbi 340, Bengali, 108, Punjabi 56, Assamese 56, Marathi 35, Gujarati 28, Persian 22, Sindhi 12, Nepali, 8 and Telugu 1.

RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL GROUPS

Religious groups

The principal religious groups found in the district according to 1961 census, were those of Hindus, Muslims and Jains which claimed a large majority. The numerical strength of the followers of the various groups was⁴: Hindus 7,49,086; Muslims 66,615; Jains 4,361; Sikhs 107; Christians 116 and Buddhist 1. During 1971 Census, the Hindus formed 90.10 per cent of the total population followed by Muslims (9.33 per cent) while the Jains, Christians etc. all combined formed only 0.57 per cent of the total population⁵.

Social Groups

The age-old social structure of the Hindu society based on *Varna-shram* is still visible in the district. As elsewhere, Hindu society is divided into numerous castes and sub-castes which renders it very difficult to give

1. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. 176-177.
2. *Census of India, 1971, Population Statistics*, pp. 28-29.
3. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (i), Social and Cultural Tables*, pp. 259-261.
4. *ibid.*, pp. 288-289.
5. *Census of India, 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics*, p. 25.

a clear picture of their customs and social obligations. However, a short account of the principal castes is given below:

BRAHMINS—In the Hindu social system, the Brahmins perform many religious rites and as such they are found more or less everywhere in the district. Traditionally, they have been priests in the temples of the Hindus and they still are. Those who have knowledge of religious scriptures and mythology, officiate at different religious ceremonies. Other resort to cultivation of land or are engaged in government service for their livelihood.

Brahmins are sub-divided¹ amongst themselves into several social classifications such as Gaur, Gujar Gaur Dadhicha, Khandelwal, Pareek, Dayama etc. Such classifications are based either on the *Gotras* or *Shasan*, the place of origin or place of migration of particular groups.

RAJPUTS—Traditionally they belong to the warrior class and in former times, were usually employed in the army. In the time of anarchy, they often took to plundering². They were also employed in the State services or in the service of the *Thikanas*. Those who held jagirs paid tribute to the liegeland. After the formation of Rajasthan and abolition of the jagirdari system, they started taking up jobs also in army and police. Some have taken to cultivation of lands also.

There are various septs³ among the Rajputs; those generally found in the district are Shaikhawat, Chauhan, Rathor, Bhati, Gaur, Tanwar etc. They have different patronymics depending on the names of their ancestors from whom they have branched off. Among the Shaikhawats there are Raesalots, Sadhanis, Ladkhanis etc. after the names of Raesal, Sadhu and Ladkhan.

MAHAJANS—The Mahajans of the district mostly consist of Agarwal, Maheshwari, Khandelwal and Jains. They are engaged in trade and commerce chiefly in the wholesale or retail trade in cloths, general merchandise, silver lace work etc. The Mahajans of Shaikhawati are well known throughout the country⁴ for their prosperity and trade in big cities of India like Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi, Madras, etc.

The Agarwals usually trace their origin⁵ from Raja Agarsen whose capital is said to be Agroha in the Punjab. They are divided into 17½

1. Source : Office of the Tahsildar of various tahsils of the district.

2. *Selection from the Records of the Government of India, Foreign Department*, No. L.XV, Calcutta (1868), pp. 9, 10, 31.

3. Source : Office of the Tahsildar of various tahsils of the district.

4. *The Jaipur Album* (1935), Chapter XIV, pp. 8-9.

5. Lohia, B. L.: *Rajasthan ki Jatiyan*, Calcutta (1954), pp. 156-157.

clans. A majority of the Oswals are Jains and they are said to have descended from a number of Rajput clans who had embraced Jainism in the remote past. It is said that they take their name from the town of Osi or Osian in the former Jodhpur State.

The Maheshwaris are Hindus. They trace their descent¹ from Rajputs, chiefly from Chauhan, Parihar and Solanki clans. The name of the community is said to have been derived from Mahadeo or Mahesh who is considered as an important deity of this class. They have 72 exogamous groups and abstain from the use of liquor and meat. Many of them do not even touch onion and garlic.

Of the two major divisions of the Jains, Swetambar and Digambar, the former are numerous in the district and are engaged in trade both local as well as outside the district.

MUSLIMS—There are several sects among the Muslims such as Kayamkhanis, Sayyads, Pathans, Shaikhs etc. A majority of the Muslims in the district are Sunnis.

OTHERS—Jats, Gujars, Ahirs and Minas are also found in the district and their number appears to be large. The Jats are excellent cultivators and are divided² into several septs like Puniya, Godara, Dhaka, Gorwal, Bijarania, Mathwal, Methiwal, Bhanur, Langoria, Sheshma, Shebda, Chandel, Ranwa, Theyori, Dhayal, Bagaria, Samota, Mahariya, Sunda, Burdak, Khinchad, Bhinchad, Rithawa, etc. A few of them have also taken to a career in the army. The Minas are also engaged in cultivation. Occupational castes consist of *Khatris* (carpenters), *Lohar* (black-smiths), *Sunar* (goldsmith), *Nat* (barber), *Dhobi* (washerman), *Darzi* (tailor), *Teli* (oilman), *Lakhera* (bangle maker), *Rangrez* (dyers), *Tamboli* (betel sellers) and *Thathera* (braziers). The *Rebaris* are either cultivators or keep a large flock of sheep or camels.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

The 1971 Census³ recorded the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in the district as 135,329 which formed 12.98 per cent of the population while the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes was 26,109 or 2.50 per cent of the total population of the district. In 1961, the population of Scheduled Castes in the district was 114,947 forming 14.01 per cent of the total population of the district while the population of Scheduled Tribes was 20,569 which formed 2.51 per cent of

1. Lohia, B. L.: *Rajasthan ki Jatiyan*, Calcutta (1954), p. 160.

2. Source : Office of the Tahsildar of various tahsils of the district.

3. *Census of India 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics*, pp. 30 & 33.

- the total population. Out of the total number of Scheduled Castes population in 1971, 116,785 were residing in rural areas and the remaining 18,544 in urban areas. Likewise, the rural and urban figures for Scheduled Tribes were 24,660 and 1,449 respectively. Their tahsil-wise distribution (1971) was as under¹.

Tahsil	Scheduled Caste	(No.) Scheduled Tribe
Danta Ramgarh	24,527	4,083
Fatehpur	18,033	461
Lachhmangarh	21,290	1,120
Neem-ka-Thana	17,994	8,995
Sikar	29,971	2,878
Sri Madhopur	23,514	8,572

An analysis of the figures of 1961 census shows that among the Scheduled Castes², Balais formed the largest group (50,274) while the group consisting of Chamar, Bhambi, Jatav, Jatia, Mochi, Raidas, Raigar or Ramdasia came next (32,253), followed by Thori or Nayak (6,984), Khatik (6,154), Bhangi (5,668), Megh or Meghwal (2,823), Bawaria (1,473), Dhankia (1,302), Sansi (849), Nut (484), Gavaria (450), Kamad or Kamadia (372), Garo, Garura or Gurda (214), Mehar (198), Bhand (194), Dheda (179), Dome (177), Kalbelia (171), Kooch Band (165), Kanjar (163) Madari or Bazigar (118), Godhi (100), Rawal (76), Koria (72), Bairwa or Berwa (31), and Koli or Kori (3) in order of their numerical strength. There were 4,000 unclassified persons. The largest number among the Scheduled Tribes was that of Mina³ (19,790) according to 1961 census. There were 779 unclassified persons.

RITUALS

Rituals among Hindus and Jains

Most of the rituals prevalent in other parts of Rajasthan among the Hindus and Jains are also observed by the members of these communities in the district. The various occasions and ceremonies on which these rituals are observed, are described below⁴:

BIRTH—During the eighth month of pregnancy *Athmasa* ceremony is observed⁴. The near relatives and other members of the caste are

1. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Pt. II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 62, 63, 68 & 69.
2. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Pt. V-A, Special Tables for Scheduled Castes and Tribes*, p. 194.
3. *ibid.*, p. 279.
4. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I*, Jodhpur (1956), p. iii.

invited and handsome clothes and ornaments are presented to the would-be mother by her relations. She is sent back from her in-law's house to her parents after the observance of this ceremony because the first delivery generally takes place under the parental care.

The delivery usually takes place at home. On the sixth day after the birth, *Chhatti* ceremony is observed. It is believed that Brahma or the Creator writes the destiny of the child on this day. Earlier in the day, the mother and the child are given a purificatory bath. The naming (*Namkaran*) ceremony is observed on the tenth or twelfth day after the birth which is an occasion for social celebrations. The family priest, after taking into account the time and place of birth, consults astrological books and gives the child a name. In some families, a ceremony known as *Suryapuja* is held on the tenth day when the sun and the tutelary deity of the family are worshipped.

Fifteen to twenty days after the birth, a ceremony, known as *Jalwa*, or *Dashothan*¹ is held when the mother takes her second bath after the delivery and is allowed to resume her domestic duties.

Two more ceremonies observed during the childhood are : *Karna-vedh* or piercing of the ear lobes by the goldsmith (the practice is now gradually disappearing in case of the male children), and *Jadula Utharna* or the first hair cut. The latter ceremony if not held in the first year is observed in the third or the fifth year.

UPANAYAN OR JANEU—The boys belonging to the Brahmin community and other twice born castes, Kshatriyas and Vaishyas, are given a sacred thread² to wear after due rituals suited to the occasion which are performed by a priest. Sometimes this ceremony is held just immediately before the betrothal or marriage.

MARRIAGE—The wedding provides a complex of rites which are quite varied and divergent among different castes and sub-castes. Generally, when the girl or the boy attains the marriageable age, the parents start searching for a suitable match. Usually the parents of the girl are more anxious in this regard than those of the boy. Before the details are finally fixed, horoscopes of the girl and the boy are compared by a priest to judge whether they would lead a long and happy life. When this is settled, a ceremony known as *Sagai* or betrothal is held on an auspicious

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I*, Jodhpur (1956), p. iii.
2. *ibid.*

day. The proposal of marriage is symbolised by a coconut and a rupee and other presents. This is followed, after some time, by a ceremony known as *Milni* when the parents of the girl offer presents and ornaments to the parents of the boy.

When the day and date of the marriage are fixed the following ceremonies are observed : (1) *Lagan* or a message from the girl's father conveying the date and day of the marriage, (2) *Kum kum patrika* or sending the invitation cards to the relatives and friends to attend the marriage, (3) *Vinayak* or worship of god Ganesh, (4) *Pithi* or massaging of the body of the girl and the boy with a mixture of gram flour, turmeric etc. mixed in oil, (5) *Ban Bharna* or presents to the would be-bride and bride-groom by their near relatives, (6) after the *Ban* ceremony, the well-to-do relatives throw feasts to the would be bride and bride-groom, the ceremony is known as *Banora*, (7) preparation and decoration of *Mandap* or the canopy at the girl's house under which the marriage ceremony is held, (8) the *Ratjaga* or vigil held in honour of and for the worship of the family deity, (9) the tying of *Kankan dora* (a thread containing certain articles like iron and lac rings etc.), (10) *Var nikasi* or the departure of the bride-groom along with his party to the bride's place, (11) *Toran*¹ or the touching (by a stick or a sword) of the ceremonial arch hung at the door of the bride's house when the bride-groom first visits that place with the marriage party, (12) *Sasu Artl* or the reception of the bride-groom by the would-be mother-in-law, (13) *Vivah hom* or the nuptial fire sacrifice, (14) *Kanya dan* or the ceremonial given away of the bride by her parents to the bride-groom, (15) *Pani-grahan* or holding of the bride's hand by the bride-groom, (16) *Phera* or circumambulation of the sacred nuptial fire, (17) *Sapt padi* or taking seven steps with the bride by the bride-groom, (18) *Kanwar Kalewa* or the break fast given to the bride-groom on the next morning after the marriage and lastly (19) *Vida* or the departing ceremony. The marriage party then returns with the bride and the bride-groom to the latter's house.

On the arrival of the marriage party to the bride-groom's house, the married couple are received ceremoniously. The mother of the bride-groom performs *Artl*. The *Mod* (a decoration attached to the headgear of the bride-groom) and the *Kankan dora* are now removed before the family deities. The bride stays at her in-law's house for some time and then returns to her paternal home.

MUKLAWA OR GONA—The bride if very young, lives with her parents till she attains puberty after which she is sent to her father-in-law's

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, Jodhpur (1956), p. iv.*

house for the second time after the marriage; the bridegroom, accompanied by his relatives, goes to the house of the bride's father and returns with the bride. This is called *Muklaw* or *Gona*.

DEATH—Among the Hindus and Jains the dead are cremated. However, the Hindus bury their children if they die very young, whereas the Jains cremate them as far as possible. A little before the last breath, a few drops of *Gangajal* (water of the Ganga) are put into the mouth of the dying person and alms are donated to the poor, needy and the Brahmins. Texts from the sacred books are also recited. After the death, the funeral rites are conducted by one of the sons or some other male relatives of the deceased and are similar to those observed elsewhere. On the third day after the death, the members of the community assemble at the house of the deceased. This ceremony is known as *Teeja*¹. The ashes and bones of the deceased are collected on this day and are immersed in a holy stream. The Jains visit a temple accompanied by the chief mourner on the third and thirteenth day after the death. On the thirteenth day, the Jains observe *Uthavana* ceremony. Among the Hindus, the obsequial oblations are offered on the eleventh day, the ceremony being known as *Ekadasha*². On the twelfth day *Dastoor*³ of *Pagri* is performed which symbolizes the recognition of the eldest in the line of succession.

A woman at the death of her husband removes all the manifestations of *Suhag*.

On the twelfth day or thereabout a *Mosar* or community dinner is held and certain other ceremonies connected with the occasions are also performed, to which Brahmins and relations are invited.

Rituals among Muslims

After the birth of a child among the Muslims, the parents or the *Qazi*, if available, utter the *Azan* in the ears of the child. On the sixth day after the birth, the mother and the child both are given a bath; this ceremony is known as *Chhati*. On this occasion the near relatives of the child also offer presents. The next bath is given on the 20th or the 40th day and the ceremony is called *Chilla*. Another ceremony known as *Akika* or *Hakika* is performed on the 7th day after the birth when a haircut is given to the child.

If the child is a boy, *Khatna* or circumcision is performed on any

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, Jodhpur (1956), p. iv.*

2. *ibid.*

3. *ibid.*

auspicious day between the age of two and nine years. The *Zurrah* or the barber cuts the skin for which he is given presents both in cash and kind, the extent of which depends upon the financial condition of the parents. When the wound is healed, a feast is arranged.

Among the Muslims the naming ceremony is performed by the *Qazi* within a year or two. Around the age of five, the education of the child begins with the *Bismillah* ceremony.

MARRIAGE—*Mangani* or betrothal is performed before the actual marriage is held. The bridegroom's father presents gifts for the bride. The bride's parents then visit the house of the bride-groom and offer presents. A *Safa* or turban is tied round the head of the bride-groom and sweets are distributed. After a few days the bride-groom's father sends some two to four *Seers* of *Gur* to the father of the bride who distributes it among the relatives. This ceremony, known as *Gantha*, announces the completion of the betrothal. Presents are also sent by the bride's father to the father of the bride-groom on this occasion.

On the actual day of the marriage, the bride-groom wears the apparel presented by the bride's father and, after wearing a *Sehra*, rides to the mosque in a procession. After offering of the *Namaz* or prayers at the mosque he rides to the bride's house where he sits in a *Majlis* and enjoys music. Verbal permission is then obtained from the father of the bride for the marriage and two persons, a *Vakil* and a witness, go to the bride for the ceremony of *Ijab* or offer and *Kabul* or acceptance. Through these two persons, the amount of *Mehar* is settled and communicated to the *Qazi* who asks the bride and the bridegroom to utter *Kalma* and accept the *Mehar*. The couple is given presents consisting of ornaments, utensils, clothes, bedding etc. by the parents of the bride and other near relatives and a sumptuous dinner is served. The marriage party then returns with the bride and the bride-groom to the latter's place.

DEATH—When a person is on the death bed, texts from the *Quran* are read by his relations. After the death, the dead body is anointed with scent and camphor and is placed in a coffin and taken to the burial ground where the *Qazi* reads prayers for the departed soul. The coffin is lowered into the grave when the recitation of prayers of *Namaz* is over. The grave is covered with earth and a sheet of cloth is spread over it. The *Fatiha* prayer is recited by those present after which they return home. A funeral feast is arranged by the chief mourner for the relatives and the fakirs, on the third, tenth, twentieth and fortieth days. On the third day, *Chana* (parched grams) are distributed among the children. During the *Moharram*, alms are also distributed in the name of the deceased.

A woman, after the death of her husband, observes mourning for four months and ten days and remains in seclusion during this period. After this period, if she wishes she can contract another marriage.

Beliefs

The people of this district, like the people elsewhere, adhere to certain religious, philosophical and superstitious beliefs. The Hindus hold their faith in the immortality and transmigration of the soul, its re-incarnation in various forms i.e. human or animal or in the vegetable kingdom according to the *Karma* or deeds of the past life. The Hindus also believe in *Moksha* or salvation, destiny and heaven and hell. It is believed that *Karma*, *Gyan* and *Bhakti marg* can each lead to the liberation of the soul from the worldly fetters. The followers of Sufism among the Muslims adhere to the *Bhakti marg* or the path of devotion for attaining unity with the almighty and have belief in the occurrence of miracles. The beliefs of the Jains are more or less akin to those of the Hindus but they follow the precepts of lord Mahavir Swami.

Among the superstitious beliefs, the most common are: good and bad omens, interpretation of the crossing of one's path¹ by an ass, a cat, a cow or a bird while one is leaving for an auspicious errand; meeting a lady carrying a pitcher empty or full of water; existence of good and evil spirits; interpretation of dreams, fall of a lizard, the act of sneeze; the existence of a mole; astrological forecasts, auspicious and inauspicious day for commencement of journeys, construction of houses etc., quivering of certain parts of the body etc. Even the names of certain men, animal or places are considered to be inauspicious and as such are not uttered. Some colours are regarded as auspicious while others are considered evil; jewels and precious stones are considered to have different effects; *Tantra* and charms are efficacious in warding off the evil spirits etc. The Muslims resort to *Tabeej* to protect themselves from the evils or evil effects and also visit the shrines.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

JOINT FAMILY—The social and economic forces have tended to disintegrate the joint family system. The symptoms of such disintegration are more apparent in the urban areas where the educated persons get separated earlier than their illiterate counterparts in the villages.

The joint family as a general rule, consists of parents, married

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, Jodhpur (1956), p. iv.*

and unmarried sons and unmarried daughters. It continues to be a joint family so long as members find it possible to live together in harmony. The income of all the earning members is pooled to run the family budget and the head of the family is empowered to have control over income and expenditure. With the growing tendency of dis-integration, the family remains a joint one only in the matters of worship and rituals and the grown up sons manage their income and expenditure independently. In fact, the joint family of the present day is more a matter of convenience than an inviolable sacred institution.

In the matter of property and inheritance, significant changes have been introduced after the Independence of the country. Formerly the jagirdars and *Muafidars* of this area were governed by the law, according to which all the sons got equal share in the patrimony after the death of the father but in practice, the elder son used to get the lion's share while the younger sons got only the subsistence allowance. Much however, depended on the strength of arms by which the brothers could support their claims. After the abolition of jagirs, this procedure of inheritance of property was abrogated and now all the sons get an equal share in the ancestral property.

Since the promulgation of the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, the daughters who were earlier not legal heirs of the property are now entitled for a share in the property of their father under the conditions defined in the Act. Similarly the widow was not allowed to inherit the property of her deceased husband; she was at the most entitled to maintenance. But now she is allowed to own property though she can not alienate it.

No case of transfer¹ of property by will has been registered in the Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge Sikar, between 1960 and 1973 which is a pointer to the fact that transfer of property through will is rarely resorted to.

Marriage and Morals

POLYGAMY—Polygamy has been prevalent among² the Rajputs, Musalmans and Jats. Ordinarily a second marriage is contracted only when the first wife is barren or too ill to attend to the domestic chores, or is immoral or when there are frequent quarrels between the couple. Bigamy is now prohibited by law.

Restrictions on marriage

Speaking generally, the marriage is contracted within the same

1. Source : Court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sikar.
2. Source : Office of the Tahsildar of various taballs of the district.

caste and while comparing the horoscopes of the bride and bride-groom among the Hindus care is taken that their *Gotra* and *Shasan* do not agree up to certain degrees in the families. Inter-caste marriage in the district rarely takes place. Between 1964-65 and 1971-72 there were only seven marriages registered under the Hindu Marriage Act and three under the Special Marriage Act¹, which indicate that the marriages are usually performed in the traditional way. People resort to civil marriages when inter-caste marriages are not readily acceptable to the parents of the bride and bride-groom.

No accurate figures are available about the child marriage prevalent in the district. The Census of 1961, however, mentioned that there were 16,951 persons between the age group of 10-14 years who were found married². Of these 3,586 were males (2,449 in rural areas and 1,137 in urban) and 13,365 (11,013 in rural areas and 2,352 in urban) were females.

Dowry

Dowry system is prevalent among all the communities in the district and the amount of dowry to be offered by the parents of the bride is determined largely by the financial position of the family of the bride and the bride-groom and their relative merits. Therefore, the amount of dowry varies from caste to caste and individual to individual and the exact limits of minimum and maximum amount can not be stated with any degree of accuracy. Since the dowry system is regarded as a social evil and is condemned publicly, the amount is settled between the concerned parties clandestinely. Among certain communities like Harijans and a few of the cultivating classes, dowry is offered by the parents of the bridegroom to the parents of the bride.

MARITAL AGE—Marriage generally takes place at an early age, particularly among certain communities such as Jats, Muslims and the Harijans. In other communities, a girl is normally married between 14 and 18 years of age and a boy between 18 and 25 years. Since the law prohibits child marriage, these are gradually becoming fewer.

WIDOW REMARRIAGE—The Census of 1961 recorded³ a total of 52,872 widowed persons of whom 14,192 were males and 38,680 females. Of these, a total of 78 were in the age group of 10 to 14 years and 202 between the ages of 15 and 19 years.

1. Source : Office of the District Marriage Officer, Sikar.
2. *Census of India, 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C(i), Social and Cultural Tables*, pp. 44-45.
3. *Ibid.*

Widow remarriage is common among all classes of people except the Brahmins, Mahajans and the Rajputs. It is more prominent among the Jats, Malis, Gujars, Ahirs, Minas, Khatis, Nais, Jogis, Gosains, Kumhars and Muslims. Many sections among the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities also allow widow marriage. It is rarely resorted to among other classes. By and large, a widow is expected to lead a life of austerity and does not occupy a position of respect in society.

DIVORCE—Hindu marriage is irrevocable but in certain sections of the community like Muslims and Jats divorce is traditionally permissible. However, the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955 permits divorce among all the classes under certain stipulated conditions. Between 1960 and 1973 no case¹ of divorce was registered in the Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge, Sikar.

The 1961 Census recorded that² there were 1,065 divorced or separated persons in the district of whom 31 belonged to the age group of 10–14 years and 23 to 15–19 group. The largest number, i.e. 230, belonged to the group beyond the age of 70 years.

Position of Women

ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE—The Census of 1951 enumerates³ that out of a total female population of 334,136 of the district 74,559 were self-supporting, 210,699 were non-earning dependents and 48,878 were earning dependents. Such figures are not available for the 1961 Census and economic dependency cannot be compared as such. However, it was found during the 1961 Census that out of 402,523 female population of the district, 154,453 were classified as workers and the rest i.e. 248,070 as non-workers.⁴ In 1971, out of a total female population of 510,998 of the district, there were 30,399 workers and 480,599 non-workers⁴.

PLACE OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY—Traditionally the lady of the house occupies a very high position in the family and society but many corrupt practices and taboos have retrograded her position over the years and exposed her to oppression and exploitation. Illiteracy among them has

1. Source : Court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sikar.

2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District (1966)*, p. 167.

3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, Jodhpur (1956)*, pp. 26–27. In 1971 Census Report, the figure of female population of the district for 1951 is shown differently.

4. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, pp. 186–188.

been contributing factor of their backwardness in many spheres. However, a large number of girls are now being educated in schools and colleges and equipped for a better life than their sisters lived two generations ago. The final decision about choosing their spouse, no doubt remains with the parents but the views of the girls are often ascertained.

The purdah system which was so common during the pre-Independence era is now falling in disuse. However, in some communities like the Rajputs and Muslims, a few families still observe the system while, as a mark of respect *Ghoonghat* (veil) is still practised in most families. Several legislative measures regarding marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption etc. have brought the status of women at par with that of the men, at least in the eyes of law and the effect is gradually visible. Seats in various political and social institutions and local self-bodies are reserved for them to give them encouragement to come forward.

PROSTITUTION—Prostitution and immoral traffic in women are penal offences. Between 1964–1972, two cases were registered by the police in the district¹ under Immoral Traffic in Women & Girls Act.

Drinking and Gambling

There is no restriction on the sale of liquor in any part of the district but licenses for sale are to be obtained from the Excise Department. Drinking in public place is prohibited. The addicts of wine, *Bhang*, opium and *Ganja* are found among various communities of the district.

Some people do indulge in gambling which is prohibited by law. During the period 1964 to 1972, a total of 108 cases of gambling were registered by the police in the district². It may not be out of place to mention that gambling has a traditional religious sanction among the Hindus at the time of Diwali festival.

Games and Amusements

The Census report of 1951 of the district mentions³, “Kabadi and Gulli Danda are played by youths. Before Holi they sing songs to the accompaniment of a chung and sometimes they play Ghumar (a folk dance in which the dancers play with sticks in hand and dance to the rhythm of a *Nakkara* (Drum). Ramlilas, Narsiji-ka-Mahera are very popular. Cards, Chauper and Chess are favourite indoor games. The common festivals of Teej, Gangore, Dusserah, Holi, Diwali, Janam Ashtami and Ram Navmi are observed. The Muslims observe the two Idds, Shab-i-barat and Moharram

1. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sikar.

2. *ibid.*

3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Jodhpur (1956)*, p. iv.

.... Folk-lore which are commonly approved and enjoyed by the villagers are Nihaldey, Pabuji-ki-Phar and Rukmini Mangal....."

Things have much changed since then in matters of games and recreation. Development in the educational facilities has enlarged the scope of extra-curricular activities for the youngsters in some institutions who now play games like volley-ball, football, carom, table tennis etc. Where these facilities are not available children play *Gulidanda*, *Mardari*, *Hurdari*, *Kabaddi*, *Chang*, *Satolia*, *Lukachhipi*, *Bunkyar*, *Chopar*, wrestling and other local games. In some towns, educated people have formed clubs.

Ramlila, *Tejaji-ka-Khel*, *Ger* (during Holi festival) etc. are however, still the traditional modes of recreation and amusements. Where there are cinema halls, people resort to these for entertainments. Occasional visits of circus companies, *Kathputliwala* and *Bajigar* also provide the people with entertainment.

On the occasion of marriage the ladies dance to the tune of drums. The month of *Phalgun* is special occasion of rejoicing for the cultivators as the spring crops are ripe and the exhilarating influence of the temperate climate during the transitional period between the severe cold left behind and the extreme heat to come, fills the youthful spirit with joy. Dancing during various seasons and occasions, is also a source of recreation to the people.

Different songs are sung on different occasions such as the *Jachhageet* at the birth of a child, *Banna* and *Banni* on the occasion of marriage etc. Various festivals and fairs e. g. *Teej*, *Gangor* etc. too provide the ladies a source of recreation and entertainment. Even petty occasions are sought for amusements e. g. when a man visits the house of his father-in-law, to fetch his wife, the ladies sing songs (*Banada*) abusing the parents of the groom sarcastically. Some of the popular songs sung on various occasions are : *Phag*, *Hindola*, *Laharia*, *Isar*, *Gangor*, *Kurja*, *Supna*, *Teja*, *Dhayal*, *Olyu*, *Momal*, *Ghunghati*, *Ghumar*, *Peepali*, *Panihari*, *Holar* etc.

In the villages, the panchayat samitis and the panchayat offices have emerged as important centres of recreation. Many villagers like to spend their leisure time in the panchayat premises smoking *Bidi*, *Chilam* or *Hukkah* and listening to the radio. Gossiping and story telling are popular pastimes of the villagers.

HOME LIFE

Dwellings

According to the 1971 Census there were 144,496 occupied

PEOPLE

residential houses in the district of which 119,188 were in the rural areas¹. The following table shows the different kinds of material used in the construction of residential houses in the district² :

	(Incidence per 1000)	
	1971	
	Rural	Urban
A. Predominant material in wall		
1. Grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo, mud, unburnt bricks and wood	379	112
2. Burnt bricks, G. I. sheets or other metal sheets, stone, cement	621	888
B. Predominant material of roof		
1. Grass, leaves, reeds, bamboo, thatch, mud, unburnt bricks or wood	467	110
2. Tiles, slate, shingle, corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets, asbestos, cement sheets, brick, lime, stone and R.B.C./R.C.C.	533	890
3. All other materials and materials not stated	N	N

The above table suggests that majority of the residential houses in the district have walls made of burnt bricks, G. I. sheets or other metal sheets, stones or cement and the roofs are made of stone, tiles, slate, shingle, corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets, asbestos, cement sheets, brick, lime, stone etc.

The houses of the big and well-to-do people, both in the urban and rural areas, are big and are known as *Haveli*. Those which are old fashioned, have more than one storey and have separate apartments for male and female members of the family. In these houses, usually latrines are rarely provided because people go about in the outskirts of the town or villages for natural call. However, in the recently constructed dwellings these amenities of W. C. and bath are provided for. Articles of ordinary furniture are also kept in the drawing rooms or verandahs.

Some of the old buildings are highly imposing particularly in the principal towns of Sikar, Lachhmangarh, Fatehpur and Ramgarh and possess grandeur of architectural skill and craftsmanship but by and large

1. Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables, p. 62.

2. Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan. Part IV (1972), pp. 44, 46, 61, 63 & 64.

N = Negligible.

the dwelling houses of the middle and lower middle classes are unattractive, devoid of ventilation and architectural beauty. Houses of the cultivators are simple in design and have cattle sheds attached to them.

Dress

The dress worn by people in the district is very simple. Coarse cloth woven locally and mill-made *Lattha*, *Reja* and *Reji* are in common use except in the urban areas where mill-made cloth is more common. In recent years, superior cloth like terelene and terene has also come in vogue among the rich and well-to-do people.

The men generally wear headgear known as *Rumal*, *Pagri* or *Safa*, the colour and nomenclature of which vary from community to community using them. Its texture also depends on the financial condition of the user. The style of tying the headgear also differs from region to region and community to community in the district. Sometimes printing is also done on the cloth used for headgear, the varieties are differently known as *Lehria*, *Anardana*, *Chundar* etc. However, the use of the headgear is gradually dwindling either because of its increasing price or because it is no longer fashionable. A few people among the Hindus and mostly among the Muslims also wear caps.

The usual dress of a male are : *Angerkhi*, *Kameej* (shirt) or *Kurta* on the upper part of the body and *Dhoti* on the lower part. In the urban areas and well-to-do families, bush shirts and full or half trousers of western style are also growing popular. *Band Kurta* and pyjamas are also worn by the people. During the winters, a coat is generally worn by all the men folk irrespective of caste prejudices.

The common dress of women are : *Aangi* or *Kanchli*, *Kurti*, *Odhna*, or *Lugari* and *Kabja* (blouse) on the upper part of the body and petticoat, *Lahanga*, *Ghaghra* and *Salwar* (in certain communities only) on the lower part. *Dhoti* and sari are worn on the lower and upper parts. Coloured garments are preferred by the women folk and more so on ceremonial occasions and during fairs and festivals.

Ornaments

Men seldom wear ornaments¹ except rings on the fingers. Some men also wear rings and nails on ears, variously known as *Long*, *Bali*, *Gurde*, *Murki* and *Gokharu*. The metal of which these ornaments are made, however, depends on the economic status of the persons wearing them. Men also wear a chain round the neck, known as *Janjir* and *Dora*. Some of the people also wear buttons made of silver and gold.

1. Information collected from Headmistresses of various schools of the district.

The women folk generally wear : *Bor* or *Borla* on the forehead, made of silver or gold and tucked or strewn in the hair; the chain is known as *Sankali*, sometimes instead of *Borla*, *Mang tika* is also worn on the forehead; *Nath*, *Long* or *Kanta* on the nose, *Bali*, *Tops*, *Long*, *Puji*, *Toti*, *Jhumka*, *Surliya*, *Bhuchariya*, *Patisulya* on the ears, *Hansali*, *Hamel*, *Kanthi*, *Kanthla*, *Galsari*, *Madha*, *Har*, *Tevta* round the neck, *Patla*, *Pahuchi*, *Kangan*, *Kunchhi*, *Churi*, *Kada* on the wrists, *Arat*, *Tadde*, *Anant* on the arms, *Chhap*, *Anguthi*, *Machhali*, *Chhalla* on the fingers, *Kada*, *Kadi*, *Penjani*, *Chhailkada*, *Pajeb*, *Anwata*, *Tanke*, *Nevari* on the ankles and *Tagri*, *Kandora*, *Sankli* on the waist. The variety and design of these ornaments depend on the choice of the users and of course economic status.

Food

The staple food of the people of the district is *Bajra*. There is no hard and fast rule as to which community is vegetarian and which is non-vegetarian because food habits are fast changing although the Brahmins and Mahajans traditionally form vegetarian section. Much, however, depends on the circumstances and personal habits of individuals.

The morning break-fast (*Kalewa*) of the majority consists of *Bajra* bread left over from the previous evening meals, curd, *Mattha*, *Rabri*, *Chhach* and onions. The lunch consists of bread made of gram, *Bajra* or barley flour, *Dalia*, *Rabri*, *Chhach*, vegetables, sauce of chillies and *Gur*. The dinner consists of bread, *Khichri*, vegetables, *Kadi*, milk, *Dal* and sauce. On the occasion of festivals and fairs, special diet is prepared, consisting of rice, *Lapsi*, *Gulgula*, *Malpua*, *Bade*, *Kheer*, *Puri*, *Choorma*, *Halwa*, *Mitha Bajra*, *Laddu*, *Nukti*, *Ghewar*, *Kachori*, *Dalbati* etc. The non-vegetarians like meat dishes and *Pulao*, a preparation of meat and rice. The town dwellers usually have *Korma kofta*, *Kabab*, *Shami*, *Murga-musallam* etc. in their diets.

There are no fixed dietary habits nor any fixed menu for the people. Much depends on the financial conditions, social status and type of occupation. People may have two or more meals during the day supplemented by a break-fast.

In community dinners like marriage, *Mosar* etc., invitees are seated in a line on a long strip of cloth. Food is served on leaf-plates and cups called *Pattals* and *Donas* respectively and drinking water in *Sikoras* (earthen cups). Service is done voluntarily by selected members of the community and specially the relatives of the host. All seated together, the eating commences simultaneously. Among most of the communities the

actual eating starts when the principal host or someone on his behalf, requests the guests to begin. Similarly everyone has to wait for others to finish, before getting up from his seat even if he has finished eating earlier. The western mode of sitting at dinner on chairs and tables and eating with knives and forks is not vogue except among a very few.

Music and Dance

The ordinary musical instruments used in music and dancing are : *Dhapli, Nagara, Majira, Dholak, harmonium, Chung, Bansuri, Tasha, Turai, Tandura, Dhap, Iktara, Chimata, Tabla* and *Algoja*. Music is arranged on the occasion of *Bhajan* and *Kirtan* assemblage or during fairs, festivals, marriages or other occasions of joy.

Dancing is very common during the month of *Phalgun* and *Shrawan*. *Ghumar, Gindar* and *Kachi-ghodi* are some of the popular forms¹ of dances enjoyed by the people of the district. The popular folklore are *Momal, Kurja, Kachhbia, Dungji-Jawarji, Pabuji, Dholamaru, Lur, Olundi, Surji, Suwata* and *Othira*.

In Sikar town there are quite a good number of Muslim families who have earned a great name in the field of traditional instrumental and vocal music.

Festivals

The following festivals which are quite varied and numerous are observed by the people of the district.

JANMASHTMI—This is a fast as well as a festival day and falls on the 8th day of the *Krishna paksha* of *Bhadon* month of *Vikrami* era. It is believed to be the day on which Lord Krishna, the divine incarnation was born thousands of years ago. The Hindu devotees observe fast and keep awake till the midnight hour.

MAKAR SAKRANTI—It is a holy day when the people take a dip in a sacred stream or tank in the district and distribute alms to the poor. It falls on the 14th day of January during *Posha/Magh* month of *Vikrami* era.

BASANT PANCHAMI—This inaugurates the spring season and generally marks the termination of the cold weather. It falls on the 5th day of the *Shukla paksha* of *Magha* month of *Vikrami* era. It is the beginning of the frolics and gusto accompanied by *Chung* which terminate after Holi.

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Public Relations Officer, Sikar and also Office of the Headmistresses of various schools of the district.

HOLI—It is the most colourful of all the festivals of the Hindus and is celebrated on a mass scale. It is held on the 14th *Shukla* of *Phalgun* month of *Vikrami* era to celebrate the death of Holika and saving of Prahlad from the fire (symbolising the victory of good over evil). Well nigh about a month before the arrival of Holi, people start rejoicing and singing songs in praise of Cupid. The bumpkins celebrate the festival by indulging in drinks, slinging mud, ashes and garbage, use abusive language and make demonstrations. During the regime of the princes, Holi Durbars were held and the festival was celebrated in a grand manner, and festivities were enjoyed.

DIWALI—It is a festival observed for obtaining the favour of Lakshmi; everybody cleans the house and sets the furniture in order to welcome the goddess of wealth. It falls on the *Amavasya* of *Kartik* month of *Vikrami* era. Sweets and special dishes are prepared and fire-works are let off by the children. The occasion is also used for meeting friends and relations.

RAKHI—*Rakhi* or *Raksha Bandhan* falls on *Purnima* of *Shrawan* month of *Vikrami* era and is observed by the sisters who tie a sacred thread round the wrists of their brothers to ward off the evil and the brothers promise them protection. The priestly class also observe this festival and visit the houses of their *Jajman* (patrons) and receive alms and donation. A special sweet dish, *Sewatn* is prepared in most of the kitchens on this festival.

SHEETLA ASHTAMI—Sheetla Ashtami locally known as *Basoda* is observed by the Hindus; the women folk specially are very rigid in its observance. It falls on the eighth day of *Chaitra* month of *Vikrami* era. Food for this day is prepared during the previous evening and neither the kitchen is run nor hot meals taken on this day.

GANGOR—Gangor is a festival of Hindu ladies only. It is observed for a fortnight ending on the third day of the bright fortnight of the month of *Chaitra* every year. All unmarried girls worship Gauri, the consort of Lord Shiva. Early in the morning girls dressed in fine and multi-coloured costumes go to a tank or well with *Kalasha* (metal pots) on their heads singing songs. On return they worship the idol of Gauri with the sacred water they bring. Maidens on the threshold of youth aspire for handsome, courageous and dauntless husbands and worship Gauri for obtaining this favour.

Idols of Ishar (Shiva) and Parvati (Gauri) are decorated and taken in a procession through the main markets and streets and large gatherings attend the function. Later, these are immersed in water.

DASHEHRA—It is observed on the 10th day of *Shukla Paksha* of the month of *Asoj* to commemorate the victory of Rama over Ravana as narrated in the epic. This is also considered to be symbolic victory of Good over Evil. An effigy of Ravana is prepared, the final act of the epic is enacted and the effigy is burnt. The festival is of special significance to the Rajputs.

Other festivals of some importance are: *Shivaratri*; *Annakoot*, *Navaratri*, *Ganesh Chouth*, *Ramnavami* and *Teej*.

Among Jains the principal festivals are: *Mahavira Jayanti*, *Paryushan* and *Samvatsari*.

Mahavira Jayanti marks the birthday of Lord Mahavir. The occasion is celebrated by the Jains by observing fast and taking in procession an idol or picture of lord Mahavir. The festival falls on the 13th day of bright half of *Chaitra*.

During *Paryushan*, the Jains observe fast for the purification of soul. It is observed during the month of *Bhadrapad*.

Samvatsari marks the successful termination and observation of *Paryushan Parva*. This is observed by begging pardon from every known individual for any wrong that might have been committed to them.

The Muslims observe *Moharram*, *Bara-wafat*, *Shab-e-barat*, *Ramzan*, *Id-ul-Fitr* and *Id-ul-Zuha*. *Moharram* is observed in the month of *Moharram* of the *Hijari* era, in the memory of the martyrdom of Hussain. The followers of the faith keep fast and a procession of *Tazias* is taken out and later buried. *Barawafat* is observed as solemn festival on the twelfth of *Rabi-ul-awal*. It was the day of death as well as the birth of the prophet Mohammad Saheb. *Shab-e-barat* is the night of the 14th of *Shaban* month and is an occasion when the Muslims offer oblations and distribute alms to the poor and needy. *Ramzan* is a holy month when fast is observed for a full month and prayers are offered. *Idul-Fitr* or the feast of terminating the fast marks the end of *Ramzan*. Mass prayers are offered in mosques and feasts are arranged. People visit the houses of their relatives and friends. On the occasion of *Id-ul-Zuha*, Muslims go for a *Haj*, offer mass prayers in the mosque and perform sacrifice of rams or goats.

Fairs

Some of the festivals like Dashehra, Gangor, Janmashtmi, Teej etc. are celebrated by holding fairs. Apart from these fairs, there are

numerous occasions when fairs are held¹; the principal religious fairs observed in the district are: Fatehpur tahsil—Shri Gusainji at Athwas during *Ashvin*, Shri Budgarji (Shivji) at Bir Fatehpur during *Phalgun*, Ramdeoiji at Bhakarwasi during *Bhadrapad*, Sati Dadi ka Mela at Dhadan during *Bhadrapad*; Lachhmangarh tahsil—Bogan Peer at Alakhpura Bogan during *Bhadrapad*; Sikar tahsil—Bhaironji at Harsh during *Bhadrapad*, Kadam at Kadman-ka-Bas during *Bhadrapad*, Jurharji at Mordoonga during *Agrahayana*, Deviji or Shakambhari at Sakray during *Chaitra* and *Ashvin*; Neem-ka-Thana tahsil—Hanumanji at Neem-ka-Thana during *Chaitra*, Jal Jhulni at Neem-ka-Thana during *Bhadrapad*, Shri Baleshwarji at Kharag Beejpur during *Phalgun*, Shri Dakiramji at Jeelo during *Magh*, Shri Hanumanji at Peethampuri during *Chaitra*, Shri Mitharamji at Dokan during *Shrawan*, Baran-ka-Mela at Bakshipura during *Magh*, Prithviraj at Sirohi during *Chaitra*; Sri Madhopur tahsil—Bhaironji at Reengus during *Bhadrapad*, Shri Jagdishji at Seepur during *Bhadrapad*, Shri Hanumanji at Kanwat during *Chaitra*, Sati Mata at Kacharda during *Chaitra*, Poladas at Hanspura during *Chaitra*, Kemla at Gurara during *Bhadrapad*, Satiji ka Mela at Kotri Luharuwas during *Bhadrapad*, Triveni near Ajeetgarh during *Chaitra*; Danta Ramgarh tahsil—Jeen Mata at Jeenwas during *Chaitra* and *Ashwin* and Shyamji at Khatoo during *Phalgun*.

Social Change

After the Independence of the country, social changes of far reaching effects have taken place in the State due to several legislative measures. These changes have affected all the strata of society from the commoner to the prince. The most radical socio-political change has been the disappearance of the princely order and consequent merger of the various principalities in a bigger unit, the Rajasthan State. The creation of the district itself is a result of this change.

The introduction of various land reforms and the subsequent abolition of *Jagirdari* system and promulgation of *Khatedari* rights etc. have brought a great relief to the tillers of the land.

Another revolutionary measure in social field has been the uplift of the backward classes and their classification into Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Efforts by way of financial help and through reservation of seats in the State services, in various institution and also in the political sphere and local self-bodies have been made to ameliorate their social and economic conditions.

1. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, pp. 252-254. Also Offices of the Tahsildars, Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Sikar and Vikas Adhikaris of Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur and Piprali Panchayat Samitis.

Local Self-Government institutions are playing a role of far reaching importance in the lives of the people. Many of the civil and criminal cases decided by the caste panchayats and judicial courts until recently, are now considered by the Nyaya Panchayats. Thus, to some degree, local self-government institutions have, in the changing scene, proved to be substitutes for the institutions of the caste panchayats.

Till now, marriage and kinship ties united the people of different villages in a particular area, at the inter-village level. But now the panchayat institutions have provided a new meeting ground for the people living in different villages. New relationships, without regard to caste or occupations, are emerging in the district.

The traditional leaders of the villages, namely, jagirdars and priests, have been replaced by a new type of political leaders. Besides, the members of the Legislative Assembly and members of Parliament, the influential leaders in the district include *Panchas* and *Sarpanchas*, members of Nyaya Panchayats, *Pradhans* and *Zila Pramukh*.

The caste system is also losing its rigidity. In the big dinners, persons belonging to different castes, can now be seen eating together, particularly in the towns. It is very rare that one is excommunicated on the charge of dining with the members of the caste inferior to one's own. However, the castes continue to be effective endogamous groups, inter-caste marriages have yet to become popular and acceptable. Regarding the joint family, it has been stated earlier that it is disintegrating. Very often divisions take place because of domestic squabbles. Though the division of property takes place, yet the members continue to be joint in matters of worship and rituals.

During the last two decades, considerable development work has been done in the district. The number of schools and scholars have considerably increased. The number of medical institutions is also fast increasing. As a result of the increased transport facilities, people have begun to travel more. More buses, trucks and cycles are plying on the roads as compared to the pre-Independence period. A number of new houses are being constructed and many of them are pukka. Radio sets, a luxury item even in the towns some twenty years ago, are now ubiquitous. There is a perceptible change from the traditional way of life to the modern style of living as may be seen in the use of nylon and terelene clothes, perfumed oil, snow and other cosmetics, which have found their way even to the villages. The community development programme has created among the people, an urge for better living.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

GENERAL AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

The district is what may be regarded as a border line case with regard to satisfactory agricultural conditions. In the absence of wide-spread irrigational facilities, the district's suitability with regard to normal agriculture has to be judged, in terms of the sufficiency or otherwise of rainfall. Areas getting an annual rainfall of less than 50 cms. are generally not regarded as suitable for normal agriculture¹ and Sikar district has an average rainfall of 460.9 mm.

The underground water level shows a large variation due to the varied configuration of the tract. The water level varies from 5 metres to 20 metres in eastern parts and 30 to 40 metres in the western parts². However, in the low flooded lands to the south of Sikar tahsil it is as near as 6.1 metres (20 feet) whereas in the southern parts of the same tahsil the level is as deep as 57.90 metres (180 feet). The average depth³ at which water is found is 36.6 metres (120 feet).

At the time of the 1971 Census, 66.29 per cent of all workers were cultivators and another 5.15 per cent worked as agricultural labourers. Thus 71.44 per cent of the entire working force was engaged in agriculture. The following table gives the break-up as between males and females :

	(Percentage to total workers)	
	Cultivators	Agricultural labourers
Persons (Total population)	66.29	5.15
Males	66.02	4.89
Females	74.09	9.03

Land Utilisation

A study of the land utilisation pattern of the district (1971-72 agricultural year) shows that the net cultivated area accounted for

1. *Techno-Economic Survey of Rajasthan*, National Council of Applied Economic Research, p. 18.
2. Source : Office of the Chief Engineer, Rajasthan Ground Water Department, Jodhpur.
3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, p.II.*

as much as 70.98 per cent of the total district area. Only 6.99 per cent of the cultivated area (equal to 4.99 per cent of total area) was cropped twice. The gross cultivated area thus accounted for 75.97 per cent of the total area of the district. A very small portion (1.46 per cent) was classified as forests. Land not available for cultivation consisting of land put to non-agricultural uses and barren and uncultivable land, accounted for 10.52 per cent of the total district area while 2.13 per cent was classified as cultivable waste. Fallow land (both current fallow and other fallow combined) was 8.58 per cent of the area of the district. Land classified as permanent pastures and other grazing land was 6.33 per cent of the total area of the district.

Forestry¹

As already stated, forests occupy 1.46 per cent of the total area of the district (1971-72). The forests are generally degraded and open. In the arid plains good fodder grasses are raised. The forest products are discussed below :

Small timber is provided by the forests and is used for making bullock carts, agricultural implements and *Rahats*. Firewood and charcoal is provided by collecting dry, dead and fallen wood in the forests. Extraction of fodder grass is allowed in headloads from areas reserved for this purpose. Animals are allowed to graze in all forest areas except in plantation and enclosures.

Fencing material is provided in the form of branches of certain types of trees and bushes. Bamboos are available in a very limited quantity, and are used principally for basket making. Flowers and bark of certain other trees are used for dyeing and tanning. Gums, resins and honey are also collected in small quantities. The following were quantities of forest produce in Sikar district during the year 1969-70² :

S. No.	Product	Unit	Quantity
1.	Timber	Quintals	81
2.	Firewood	"	2,957
3.	Bamboo	No.	50
4.	Grass	Quintals	1,420
5.	Gum/Honey	"	3
6.	Other (Grazing etc.)	"	1,506

1. Source : Office of the Range Forest Officer, Sikar.

2. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar*, 1971, p. 36.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation by sources

There are no perennial rivers in the district. However, there are some seasonal streams, notable being Kantli, Mendha, Dohan, Krishna-wati and Sabi. These are of no great use for irrigation purposes. As such there is not much irrigation by canals. Similarly, tank irrigation is not resorted to on any significant scale.

The only important source which remains to be utilised by the cultivators for purposes of irrigation is the well. The figures of area irrigated by different sources during the last five years ending 1971-72 are shown in the following table¹ :

Year	Canals	Tanks	Wells and Tube wells	Others	Total net irrigated area (Hectares)
1967-68*	—	—	34,538	26	34,564
1968-69	—	—	46,865	28	46,893
1969-70	—	—	42,801	28	42,829
1970-71	218	—	31,714	—	31,932
1971-72	751	—	32,687	—	33,438

Tube-wells contributed a small portion of the total irrigated area. The land irrigated by tube wells in 1969-70 was 1,249 hectares, in 1970-71 1,322 hectares and in 1971-72, 409 hectares².

The number of electrically operated wells in the district stood at 4,370 at the end of 1972-73. The year-wise position of the wells energised during the last four years ending 1972-73 is shown below³:

Year	Energised wells (Number)
1969-70	1,430
1970-71	1,933
1971-72	2,941
1972-73	4,370

Irrigation by Crops

In 1971-72, a total of 36 thousand hectares were under all irrigated

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

* Figures for the year represent gross irrigated area.

2. Source : Board of Revenue (Land Records), Rajasthan, Ajmer.

3. *Annual Power Statistics, 1972-73*, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Jaipur, p. 286.

crops. Food crops accounted for as much as 33 thousand hectares. The important irrigated food crops were wheat, barley, gram and pulses. The irrigated area under different crops during the last five years ending with 1971-72 is given below¹ :

Year	Food crops other than sugarcane	Sugar-cane	Cotton	Others	(Hectares)
					Total (gross) irrigated area
1967-68	28,421	2	2	6,139	34,564
1968-69	50,522	—	—	4,568	55,090
1969-70	43,438	—	1	5,076	48,515
1970-71	31,506	3	1	3,696	35,206
1971-72	32,997	—	3	3,091	36,091

Water Potential

The ground water, as mentioned earlier, shows large variation, both quantitatively and qualitatively. The water level varies from 5 metres to 60 metres in different parts of the district. A beginning in the direction of exploiting the ground water resources has already been made. More than 4,000 wells have been energised by 1972-73. The lead bank of the district had financed construction of 2,309 new wells all of which will be energised².

Progress of the development of minor irrigation sources during the last three years is shown below³:

Scheme	(Number)		
	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Construction of new wells	467	296	341
Repair of old wells	218	72	473
Installation of pumping sets	225	200	55
Installation of electric sets	221	219	785
Construction of pukka channels (metres)	25,812	2,843	23,280

AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

Soils

No systematic soil survey has so far been conducted for the district⁴. However, the soils of the district have been broadly classified

1. Source : *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.
2. Source : Office of the Regional Manager, Punjab National Bank, Jaipur.
3. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.
4. Source : Office of the Chief Soil Survey Officer, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

as desert soil and red desert soil, lethosols and regosols of the hills with sand dunes spread over in the southern part and old alluvium in the eastern part.

The red soil has a light texture with porous and friable structure. Soluble salts are present in small quantities and there is deficiency of nitrogen, humus, phosphoric acid and lime. There is a large difference in depth and fertility. The soil is suitable for a large variety of crops under rainfed or irrigated conditions.

The desert soils are saline or alkaline, and scarce in water. Phosphate content is comparable with some alluvial soils and nitrogen occurs in the form of nitrates which contribute to soil fertility. The desert soil is able to support finer crops if sufficient irrigation can be made available.

The soils of the district are generally deficient in nitrogen but phosphorous and potash are sufficient. The index of content as determined on the basis of 467 soil samples in the district was as follows¹:

Nutritional ingredient	Index of content ²
Nitrogen	1.309
Phosphorous	2.001
Potash	2.143

Soil Erosion

The two principal types of soil erosion in the district are by wind and rivers, and they cause about equal damage.

Upto 1971-72, no soil conservation activities were undertaken in the district under any regular programme of the department. In 1972-73 the type of activities undertaken were terracing, land levelling, construction of pukka irrigation channels and dry farming. The physical achievements during 1972-73 were as follows³:

Item of work	(Hectares)
	Total achievements
Terracing	8.5
Land levelling	719.0
Construction of pukka irrigation channels (metres)	8,715.0
Dry Farming	156.0

Soil conservation work under famine relief activities has not been

1. Source : Directorate of Agriculture, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. 1.0 to 1.67 = Deficient; 1.68 to 2.33 = Normal; 2.34 to 3.00 = Surplus.
3. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.

undertaken so far. However, under the Crash Scheme for Rural Employment, 16 works were undertaken during 1971-72 and 1972-73. The expenditure on these works came to Rs. 43,065 during 1971-72 and Rs. 2,55,088 during 1972-73. These works created employment for 11,532 man days during 1971-72 and 71,484 man days during 1972-73.

Crops

The two principal crop seasons are the *Kharif* and *Rabi*. The *Kharif* crops largely depend on monsoon for irrigation and constitute the greater portion of cultivated area in the district as shown in the following table :

Year	(Hectares)	
	<i>Kharif</i>	<i>Rabi</i>
1967-68	5,39,971	64,321
1968-69	5,12,000	41,755
1969-70	5,22,348	43,851
1970-71	5,31,889	62,756
1971-72	5,15,326	70,980

The distribution of the total cropped area as between these two seasons has been by and large the same through the last five years. In 1971-72, *Kharif* crops occupied 87.9 per cent and *Rabi* crops for 12.1 per cent of the total area under cultivation.

The principal foodgrain crop of the district is *Bajra*. *Kharif* pulses also occupy considerable area, but *Rabi* pulses are not grown extensively. Among commercial crops the important ones are rape and mustard and groundnut. The important crops are discussed individually in the following paragraphs.

BAJRA (*Pennisetum typhoides* L.)—The crop accounts for a bulk of the area under foodgrains. In 1971-72, 2,66,301 hectares were devoted to the cultivation of *Bajra* and the production was 76,695 tonnes. The average yield of the crop was 433 kg. per hectare¹ in 1969-70.

It is one of the most important millet crops and is put to multiple uses. The flour is used for *Chapati* and forms a major part of the daily food of the masses. It can also be taken fried. The stalks can be used for fodder or for thatching.

It is a crop of low rainfall areas and welcomes bright sunshine after light showers during the growth period. Heavy rain is disastrous.

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar, 1971, p. 25.*

Bajra is generally grown on the proper types of soils and can be sown either mixed or alone. The fields are prepared by repeated ploughings after the first fall of rains. Tillage and soil preparations are done from the end of March to the end of April and the sowing period are from late June to late July. The crop is not irrigated. Interculture is done from the third week of August to mid-September. The crop is harvested in September or October and thrashing is done after *Rabi* sowing.

The principal *Bajra* producing tahsil is Sikar followed by Lachhmangarh, Danta Ramgarh, Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana.

BARLEY (*Hordeum Vulgare* L.)—This crop is next in importance to *Bajra* among foodgrains with regard to area. An area of 16,180 hectares was devoted to barley cultivation out of the total of about 3 lakh hectares under all cereals and millets in 1971-72. The production was 25,953 tonnes. The average yield was put at 1,913 kg. per hectare¹ in 1969-70.

Barley exhibits a wide ecological adaptation. It is generally grown on light soils. It needs a more porous bed than wheat, but can tolerate alkalinity. Tillage and soil preparation is done twice, first from 20th April to 10th May and again from 10th September to 15th November. During the later operation the soil is prepared for sowing which is done from the fourth week of October to mid-December. The fields are generally watered four times, first at the time of sowing and then at the beginning of January, middle of February and the beginning of March. The period for inter-culture lasts for the whole of January. The harvesting is done between late March and mid-April.

Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh tahsils were insignificant for barley cultivation. The largest contribution came from Sri Madhopur followed by Danta Ramgarh and Neem-ka-Thana. The other tahsil viz. Sikar had small area under barley.

WHEAT (*Triticum sativum* L.)—Among cereals, the only other important crop is wheat, occupying 13,732 hectares, and having a production of 17,204 tonnes in 1971-72. The average out-turn² was 931 kg per hectare in 1969-70.

Wheat needs tillage and soil preparation like that for barley as described above. The periods for sowing and interculture are also the

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar, 1971, p. 25.*

2. *ibid.*

same; but irrigation is more frequent; upto seven waterings may be needed for areas served by wells. The crop is ready for harvest between 10th April and 15th May.

MOTH (*Phaseolus aconitifolius* Jacq.)—*Kharif* pulses occupy a much larger area than *Rabi* pulses. Among the *Kharif* pulses the most extensively grown is *Moth* or the kidney bean. It occupied 84,565 hectares out of 1,32,495 hectares for *Kharif* season pulses and 1,61,252 hectares for all pulses in 1971-72. Among tahsils, the most important from the point of view of area under *Moth* was Sikar, followed by Danta Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh, Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana in that order.

Tillage for *Moth* starts from the fourth week of April and the soil is prepared for sowing with the first fall of regular rains, at the end of June or the beginning of July. The sowing lasts from 10th July to 15th August. Irrigation is not required and weeding and hoeing are done once only between the end of September and middle of October. Harvesting is done in September-October.

MOONG (*Phaseolus aureus* Roxb.)—This pulse crop occupied 27,711 hectares in 1971-72 and ranked second in *Kharif* pulses with regard to area. The production was 4,966 tonnes. Tillage and soil preparation for *Moong* or the green gram is the same as for *Moth*. The sowing period is July-August and irrigation is not required, again as in *Moth*. The interculture is done between the end of September and the middle of October and the crop is harvested during October.

In plant habit, *Moong* is akin to *Moth*, though less drought resistant. It also has a restorative effect on the soil.

Unlike other pulses, it is easily digested. The green pods are used as vegetable, grains (whole or split) as pulse and straw and husk as fodder.

The crop was grown most extensively in Danta Ramgarh tahsil. Area-wise the other tahsils ranked as follows: Sri Madhopur, Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana, Lachhmangarh and Fatehpur.

GRAM (*Cicer arietinum* L.)—Gram was grown on 28,757 hectares in 1971-72 which gave an out-turn of 17,363 tonnes. The average yield¹ was 1,677 kg per hectare in 1969-70. This is the only *Rabi* pulse of the district. Summer ploughing for the crop is done between the fourth week of April to the second week of May. Preparation of soil for sowing is done between 25th September and 15th October. The actual sowing is

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar*, 1971, p. 25.

done between 1st and 20th October. The harvesting period lasts from 20th March to 2nd week of April. The crop is generally sown unirrigated with wheat or barley. The tahsils which grew gram (ranked area-wise) were Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Danta Ramgarh and Sikar.

RAPE AND MUSTARD—This class of oilseeds had the largest area among commercial crops, the figures being 8,493 hectares and production 679 tonnes in 1971-72. The average production¹ of the crop was 200 kg. per hectare in 1969-70. This is also a *Rabi* season crop and as such tillage and soil preparation are the same as for gram. The sowing is done between mid-October and mid-November. Cultivation is mostly combined with wheat or barley. Inter-culture is done between 15th December and 30th January. The harvesting of mustard is done from 15th March to 30th March and that of rape in February. The various tahsils having significant areas under the crop were Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur.

GROUNDNUT (*Arachis hypogaea* L.)—The only other important commercial crop of the district is groundnut sown on 3,974 hectares in 1971-72. The production of the crop was 2,662 tonnes. The tillage and soil preparation of groundnut are done during April. With the fall of regular monsoon, i.e. the end of June or the beginning of July, preparations are made for sowing, which is actually done between 10th July and 15th August. Irrigation is not required and inter-culture is done during October. By October end the crop is harvested. The average yield² of the crop in 1969-70 was 200 kg. per hectare.

OTHER CROPS—The other crops which were grown in the district on smaller scale include (area in hectares during 1971-72 within brackets) rice (29), *Jowar* (323), maize (231), sugarcane (54), chillies (478), castor seed (1), sesame (207), linseed (17), cotton (3) and sunnhemp (11).

There are no large fruit orchards but grapes, pomegranate, papaya, and mangoes are being cultivated on a small scale. The total area under fruit plants and vegetables in the district in 1972-73 was 828 hectares.

Crop-wise area and production of crops in the district since 1959-60 are given at Appendix I at the end of the chapter.

Changes in cropping pattern

Looking to figures of crop areas for the last 10 years, one finds, that there has not been any significant shift from one crop to another.

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar*, 1971, p. 25.

2. *Ibid.*

Also no new crops on any appreciable scale have been introduced. This may have been due to the fact that the district so far has had no assured means of irrigation. However, there has been a definite shift in preference for hybrid seeds from the conventional seeds, which is discussed in the next section.

Progress of Scientific Agriculture

One of the important functions of the Agriculture Department is to motivate the farmers for adoption of better farming techniques and to educate them in the use of scientific means of agriculture. There is a constant and extensive effort for introducing better implements, seeds, chemical fertilisers etc. which are described below:

IMPROVED IMPLEMENTS—The improved implements being distributed in the district are better ploughs, chaff cutters and seed drills. Their distribution figures since 1967-68 are as follows¹:

							(Number)
S. No.	Name of implements	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
1.	Improved ploughs	245	195	335	658	640	451
2.	Chaff cutters	465	52	73	143	324	229
3.	Seed drills	—	263	—	48	112	3
4.	Others	378	—	400	620	45	287

An indication of the progress of mechanisation of agriculture is provided by the increasing use of the tractor. At the time of 1961 Census of agricultural implements and machinery, there were only 24 tractors in the district. This number rose to 122 in 1966 and 451 in 1972. The number of agricultural implements at 1956, 1961 and 1966 censuses are given in Appendix II.

IMPROVED SEEDS—The cultivators are now realising the importance of the hybrid-seeds which have given considerable improvement in crop yields as compared to the old conventional varieties. Thus due to the adoption of hybrid *Bajra*, the yield had gone up by 40 to 50 per cent. In case of wheat also which is the major *Rabi* cereal, the adoption of the Mexican seed had given a similar increase in output. The varieties of *Bajra* are HB-I and HB-3, and those of wheat are Kalyan Sona, Sonalika, R-R-21, Lal Bahadur etc. The distribution of the improved seeds in

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.

quintals and the area under them in hectares are shown in the following table¹:

Type of seed	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
HYBRID Bajra					
Quintals	27.84	118.29	136.15	96	155
Hectares	1,194	3,258	5,813	4,832	6,192
MEXICAN WHEAT					
Quintals	692	3,359	3,474	6,000	8,103
Hectares	1,538	3,919	4,108	6,000	8,103

As a part of the popularisation drive for the high yielding variety, the cultivators are contacted personally and the benefits of the new strains are explained to them. There are some special development schemes also in force.

SEED MULTIPLICATION²—There is a departmental seed multiplication farm at Reengus in Sri Madhopur tahsil. The farm has an area of 135 acres, and the equipment includes a tractor, and an electric pumping set. Cultivation on the farm is done on scientific lines, and consequently chemical fertilisers are used. The consumption of such fertilisers at the farm has been as follows:

Year	Consumption (kg.)
1969-70	3,100
1970-71	150
1971-72	1,100
1972-73	1,700

The crops grown on the farm are hybrid *Bajra*, local *Bajra*, local *Guar*, *Til*, cowpea, *Moong* (RS-4), mustard (LR-18), *Taramira*, wheat (Kalyan sona), local gram and sunflower. The production is given in the following table:

Name of crop	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Hybrid <i>Bajra</i>	28	8.9	7.75
Local <i>Bajra</i>	22	2.00	—

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.
2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4
Local Guar	7.1	—	2.00
Til	0.91	—	—
Cowpea	2.00	2.71	0.88
Moong RS-4	13.75	2.40	—
Mustard LR-18	9.84	2.10	11.56
Tara-mira	5.44	1.00	6.05
Wheat-Kalyan sona	23.70	44.00	29.32
Gram-local	23.00	0.60	—
Sunflower	—	—	2.56

During 1972-73, the farm conducted a demonstration cultivation of sunflower on 7 acres and obtained a yield of 2.56 quintals.

FERTILISER SCHEME—Under this scheme, fertiliser distribution is done through the co-operative societies and private dealers. The figures of distribution of various types of fertilisers have been as follows¹:

(Tonnes)

Type of fertilisers	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Nitrogenous	428	379	564
Phosphatic	38	48	40
Potassic	2.5	15	11

FRUIT DEVELOPMENT SCHEME—The Panchayat Samitis are popularising fruit plantation in their respective areas and as such the district agriculture office collects their requirements and supplies the requisite number of plants. The cultivators are provided technical guidance on the development of orchards by the Agriculture Assistant (Horticulture). The progress of the scheme is shown in the following table:

Type of work	Unit	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Fruit plants distributed	No.	3,471	7,618	8,656
Plantation of new orchards	Hectares	0.5	2	3
Rejuvenation of old orchards	„	2	2.5	2
Grape cultivation	„	44	4	1.2

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.

OILSEED SCHEME—During 1972-73, 25 demonstrations were carried out in sunflower cultivation in the *Kharif* season, and a similar number of demonstrations in the *Rabi* season were conducted for mustard. A scheme for sunflower cultivation has been in force since 1971-72, and that for mustard was started in 1972-73. Each demonstration plot is of the size of one acre.

ROTATION OF CROPS—The district is largely a single crop area, but on lands which are irrigated by wells, the high yielding varieties are also used. In such cases, one year rotation is followed which is like this: hybrid *Bajra* plus *Moong*, *Moth* followed by wheat¹.

Co-operation in the field of agriculture

There is no collective farming society in the district. However, there is one joint farming society with a membership of 13. The paid-up capital of Rs. 11,085 consists of Rs. 1,400 as the government contribution and Rs. 9,685 as contribution of individuals. Some working figures of the society (as on 30.6.1972) are: Borrowings Rs. 5,213, working capital Rs. 23,920, fixed assests Rs. 8,000, total assests Rs. 23,920 and total liabilities Rs. 17,386².

State Assistance to Agriculture

The Agriculture Department, generally, strives to introduce scientific farming methods in the district through its extension organisation. Its qualified personnel provide a base for the extension work by going out to the villages and explaining to the cultivators the advantages of scientific cultivation. The activities in this regard have already been discussed on previous pages.

The government also advances loans for agricultural development through the community development net-work. The quantum of long-term and short-term loans during the last decade ending with 1971-72 has been as follows³:

('000 Rs.)		
Year	Long-term	Short-term
1962-63	301	80
1963-64	682	27

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.

2. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

3. Source : Office of Director, Community Development and Panchayats, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

1	2	3
1964-65	601	137
1965-66	597	90
1966-67	955	69
1967-68	187	466
1968-69	40	234
1969-70	—	506
1970-71	4	182
1971-72	—	134

Agricultural diseases and pests¹

The major pest of *Bajra* is the white grub which destroys the root of the plant due to which the plant dries up and ultimately dies off. The pest is being controlled by the use of Thimet insecticide. Another pest of *Bajra* is *Striga*. This is controlled by the application of sodium salt. A third pest is *Katra* for the control of which parathion is applied both as dust and as liquid.

The mexican wheat crop is attacked by white ants which attack the plant roots making it die ultimately. Before sowing, BHC is applied as a preventive. If however, the pest attacks the standing crop, Aldrin liquid is mixed with irrigation water.

The disease affecting the Mexican wheat is rust. This is checked by the application of zineb @ 1 kg. per acre.

In order to protect the crops from pests and diseases the Agriculture Department maintains a plant protection cell which works under the supervision of the District Agriculture Officer and is staffed by an Agriculture Assistant and a fieldman. The Agriculture Assistant provides technical guidance to the cultivators in their problems of plant protection and also supplies plant protection chemicals. The fieldman's duty is to teach them the use of the equipment and spray the fields.

The achievements of the department in this sphere since 1970-71 have been as follows² :

Type of activity	(Hectares)		
	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Rat control	7,423	27,853	13,267

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Sikar.

2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4
Weed Control	13	165	7
Seed Treatment	7,370	443	16,280
Control of pests and diseases of field crops	978	2,000	8,000
Control of pests and diseases of vegetable crops	926	799	358
Soil treatment	679	18,473	2,471

Locust Invasion¹

The locust invasion activities are largely handled by the Government of India. The highest authority for these activities in Rajasthan is the Deputy Locust Entomologist, stationed at Jodhpur. The Sikar district falls under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Locust Entomologist, Bikaner and is headed by a Locust Warning Officer. He is assisted by an Assistant Locust Warning Officer, a Junior Technical Assistant (Locust *Mukadam*) and a driver.

The last large scale invasion took place in 1960. Locusts were noticed at 208 places, the monthly figures were: April 1, June 48, July 48, September 110 and November 1. The tahsils affected were Sikar, Sri Madhopur, Danta Ramgarh, Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh.

The out-post-wise figures about intensity and combat measures were as follows :

S. No.	Particulars	Unit	Sikar	Sri Madhopur	Danta Ramgarh	Fatehpur	Lachhmangarh
1.	Villages affected	No.	24	7	9	101	90
2.	Area treated	Acres	1,560	331	955	10,849	11,590
3.	Area cleared by trenching	Acres	677	63	63	2,328	1,610
4.	Length of trenches	Yards	13,680	5,120	8,085	1,96,298	45,848

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

Animal husbandry is an important part of the district's economy. Sheep breeding, especially, provides employment to a large number of

1. Source : Office of the Locust Warning Officer, Sikar.

people. The district has 3.7 per cent of the total sheep population of the state (1966). Although the district is fifteenth with regard to sheep population, it ranks second with regard to concentration of sheep per square km., the number being 55¹.

Fodder

According to village records, an area of 49 thousand hectares in 1971-72 was classified as permanent pastures and other grazing land. The principal fodder crop is *Guar*. The area under fodder crops during the last five years was as follows :

Year	Area (Hectares)
1967-68	1,10,215
1968-69	1,02,741
1969-70	1,04,667
1970-71	1,32,581
1971-72	1,14,339

Besides fodder crops, the stalks of a number of other crops also serve the purpose.

Live stock²

CATTLE—The district has a total cattle population of 3.09 lakhs (1966). The principal breeds are Haryana and Nagauri.

The Haryana is among the best dual-purpose animal, i.e. good for both milk and draught. Consequently there is good demand throughout north India for the animals of this breed. The price ranges between Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 (1972-73). In Sikar district, the Haryana breed is found mostly in Lachhmangarh and Fatehpur tahsils. The bullocks are useful for heavy draught work like pulling heavy loads, drawing water out of deep wells and ploughing heavy, loamy or clayey soils. The average body is large, fatty and heavy; a fully grown animal weighs between 700 & 900 lbs. The prevailing colours are white, grey and silver grey. The cows give 8 to 10 kg. of milk per day. The Nagauri breed also, like Haryana, is of white, grey and silver grey shades, but it is a single purpose animal good only for draught. It is found mostly in Sikar and Danta Ramgarh tahsils of the district. The cows of this breed are valued as the mothers of sturdy bullocks and do not yield milk on any commercial

1. *Survey of Woollen Industry in Rajasthan*, Rajasthan State Industrial and Mineral Development Corporation, Jaipur, 1971, p. 4.
2. Source: Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu and Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

scale. The bullocks are regarded as the best in the whole of India for agricultural operations. They have great stamina and are sure-footed for work on medium heavy soils and pulling heavy weights. They are also fast trotters. The body weighs between 700 and 800 lbs.

Goshalas¹

There are 15 *Goshalas* in the district (1971-72). The following of these have been included in the Goshala Development Scheme of the government :

Name of the Goshala	Year in which taken up
1. Pinjrapol Goshala, Lachhmangarh	1957-58
2. Shri Krishna Goshala, Ramgarh	1964-65
3. Pinjrapole Goshala, Fatehpur	1960-61

Pinjrapol Goshala, Lachhmangarh, was established in 1905. The *Goshala* had 236 productive and 42 unproductive animals in 1971-72. The daily production of milk comes to nearly 160 litres. The average annual income and expenditures of the *Goshala* are Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 14,000 respectively.

The Shri Krishna Goshala at Ramgarh (Shekhawati) was opened in *Vikram Samvat* 1947 (1890 A. D.). There are 220 animals in the *Goshala* of whom 67 are of the Haryana breed and 153 of *Desi* breed (1971-72). The staff totals 28, consisting of one Manager, one accountant, five clerks and 21 other workers. The production of milk and the income and expenditure of the *Goshala* since 1968-69 are shown in the following table :

Year	Milk production (Litres)	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1968-69	17,987	1,02,081	80,281
1969-70	29,606	70,951	71,611
1970-71	29,616	85,389	79,053
1971-72	47,404	1,56,693	1,12,834
1972-73	57,557	1,46,201	1,38,171

The Pinjrapol Goshala at Fatehpur has been in existence since 1910. The livestock of the *Goshala* consists of 437 animals of whom 203 belong to the Haryana breed and the rest to mixed breed. The average milk production in the *Goshala* is 96 litres per day. The staff consists of

1. Source : Office of the Officer-in-charge Goshala Development Scheme, Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

one manager, two assistant managers, one clerk, three cowherds, one chaukidar and seven other workers. The income and expenditure for the last three years have been as follows :

(Rs.)		
Year	Income	Expenditure
1969-70	35,143	1,31,335
1970-71	36,525	94,700
1971-72	36,860	84,547

The *Goshalas* were given improvement grants for five years. The grants were broadly classified as recurring and non-recurring. The non-recurring grants, given during the first year were for the purchase of 10 cows and one bull and for the improvement/development of land and buildings. The recurring grants which were for five years were for maintenance of productive animals, rearing of calves and heifers and for keeping trained managers. The grants received by the *Goshalas* have been as follows¹ :

(Rupees)			
Grants	Lachhmangarh	Fatchpur	Ramgarh
Non-Recurring	8,600	10,300	11,000
Recurring :			
I Year	2,600	2,120	3,100
II Year	2,480	1,480	3,100
III Year	2,600	2,600	3,100
IV Year	2,480	2,600	3,058
V Year	2,600	—	2,600

Besides the above three, there is a big *Goshala* not covered under the scheme viz. the Gopinath *Goshala* at Sikar. It was established in *Vikram Samvat* 1960 (1903 A. D.) The *Goshala* has 361 animals of whom 54 are unproductive (1971-72). Of the total stock, the Haryana breed comprises 82 animals and the local breeds 279. The staff of 21 consists of a manager, an accountant, four clerks and 15 other workers. The milk production at the *Goshala* and its income and expenditure during the last five years have been as follows :

Year	Milk Production (Litres)	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1968-69	50,645	1,94,103	1,87,516
1969-70	44,949	2,16,394	1,97,236
1970-71	43,323	1,75,293	1,71,915
1971-72	64,116	2,06,716	1,99,579
1972-73	62,339	2,43,181	2,37,905

1. Chhabra, Basanti Lal: *Rajasthan Men Goshalaen*, Jaipur, 1970, Annexure 8.

BUFFALOES—There is no distinct breed of buffaloes in the district. However, the *Murrah* buffalo is available in large numbers. The *Murrah* is among the best buffaloes in the country with regard to milk yield (about 10 kg. per day) as well as fat percentage. It is a massive animal, is either black or grey and sells for Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 (1972-73). The average body weight is 1,000 lbs.

SHEEP—Sheep rearing is an important segment of the rural economy of the district. It has a large number of the Chokla breed which is famous throughout the country for producing superior carpet wool. Consequently, the Sikar district is a part of the best wool producing tract of Rajasthan.

The Chokla¹ sheep is light or medium built. Brown face is marked by dark brown or black patches which are considered as the distinctive breed characteristic. The tails and ears are of the medium length. The ewes weigh between 45 to 65 lbs. and the rams between 60 to 80 lbs. The wool clip comprising two clips a year varies from 3 to 4 lbs. per year per sheep.

The other important sheep of the district is Marwari. It is found in the areas bordering Nagaur district. It is a black faced stockily built animal with medium or short tail and ears. The breed is hardy, thrifty and disease resistant; the body weight of ewes and rams is the same as that of Chokla. The wool yield is 2 to 4 lbs. per animal per year and quality is coarse. Two clips are taken in a year.

Nali breed of sheep is also found in the parts of the district bordering Churu and Jhunjhunu districts. Nali sheep is a brown faced animal with medium to long leafy ears. It has a big sized body with good depth, short legs and yellow hooves. The tail is long, tapering to the point below the joint. The body weight varies from 60 to 70 lbs. in case of ewes and 65 to 80 lbs. in rams. The two wool clips yield 3 to 6 lbs. per sheep per year. The wool, is very greasy. Both clips (and specially the September clip) are stained yellow, the quality being medium and coarse.

The district has a sheep population of 3,23,743 (1966 Census). In view of the importance of sheep and wool to the rural economy of the district, a District Sheep and Wool Office was opened at Sikar on 1st February, 1964. The office looks after the sheep and wool development activities of Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts. There are extension centres

1. *Rajasthan Sheep Statistics and Sheep Breeds*, issued by office of Deputy Director, Sheep and Wool, Animal Husbandry Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

at Sikar, Fatehpur, Ajitgarh, Khandela, Dhod, Danta, Lachhmangarh and Neem-ka-Thana. An artificial insemination centre was opened at Sikar in August, 1972¹.

The sheep and wool extension centres collect wool twice a year, in March and September. The quantities of wool collected during the last five years are shown in the following table :

Centre/Clip	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973
(kg.)					
SIKAR					
March	1,452	1,003	3,962	99	6,461
September	184	2,588	1,793	1,544	14,910
FATEHPUR					
March	6,844	4,627	3,217	216	398
September	—	3,203	3,004	—	1,993
AJITGARH					
March	2,972	5,738	2,530	137	4,815
September	1,121	—	2,308	—	—
KHANDELA					
March	2,590	4,661	2,561	—	630
September	88	3,629	5,212	—	—
DHOD					
March	2,632	2,755	2,078	419	—
September	332	2,447	1,907	86	—
DANTA					
March	1,100	2,380	818	503	35
September	179	3,218	2,979	105	2,484
LACHHMANGARH					
March	3,331	3,521	2,231	11	597
September	130	500	2,108	—	7,263
NEEM-KA-THANA					
March	667	3,266	95	—	2,690
September	848	—	4,103	1,551	6,148

A large sheep breeding farm is being established in the district near Fatehpur on a forest land measuring 8,700 acres. Estimated to cost

1. Source : Office of the District Sheep and Wool Officer, Sikar.

Rs. 10 lakhs, the farm will have a stock of 7,000 sheep of which 4,000 will be exotic. Breeding rams will be both exotic and of cross-breed. This farm is expected to provide a model for the future sheep breeding farms of the State.

OTHER ANIMALS—There is no pure breed of goats in the area. The farmers rear goats for their domestic milk requirements but these are generally non-descript. The population of goats was 4,10,326 in 1966.

Camels numbering 35,701 (1966) were again non-descript. The animal is used for transport of men and material in the rural areas as well as for ploughing. In view of their utility, the camels are bred in large numbers and the activity is an important source of income to the farmers.

Livestock population at the time of the three quinquennial livestock censuses of 1956, 1961 and 1966 are given in Appendix III at the end of the chapter.

Stock Improvement¹

There is an artificial insemination centre at Sikar which also works as the district semen supply centre. The bull stock at the centre consists of exotic bull (Holstein cross) 1, Haryana bull 2, Murrah bull 2 and Jamnapari buck 1.

Semen is supplied three times a week to all the veterinary hospitals and key village centres of the district. Artificial insemination facilities are available at the two key village units at Khuri and Palsana and all the veterinary hospitals.

The centre generally undertakes artificial insemination work, but other activities are also performed. These are natural insemination, castration, sterility treatment, pregnancy diagnosis treatment, vaccination and follow up. Over the years, the cases of artificial insemination, which is the main function of the centre, has increased from 1,155 in 1965-66 to 2,400 in 1972-73. The yearly figures of various activities since 1965-66 are given in Appendix IV.

Animal Husbandry Facilities²

There are (1972-73) eleven veterinary hospitals in the district at the following places: Sikar, Fatehpur, Khandela, Sihot Bari, Lachhman-garh, Danta, Losal, Reengus, Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana and Pip-rali. A veterinary dispensary is located at Ramgarh and there is a mobile

1. Source : Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu.

2. *ibid.*

veterinary dispensary. These institutions look after the health of the livestock population and provided services like treatment, castration and vaccination. The institution-wise figures of work done are given in Appendix V at the end of the chapter.

The work of the veterinary institutions is generally divided between that done by the staff at the headquarters and that done on tour. The activities are by and large the same, whether at the headquarters or on tour, viz. treatment, castration, vaccination and supply of medicine. During 1972-73, the Sikar Veterinary Hospital attended to the largest number of all types of cases.

Animal Diseases¹

The important diseases attacking the animals of the district are haemorrhagic septicaemia, black quarter, anthrax, enterotoxaemia and the foot and mouth disease.

Haemorrhagic septicaemia is an acute disease of cattle and buffaloes with sudden onset and a rapid course. The infection is spread through mucous membrane of mouth and nose, ingestion of contaminated food and water, inhalation of infected discharges etc. The incubation period is from a few hours to two days. There is inflammatory swelling in the head and neck regions and occasionally on other parts. Swollen eyes, acute enteritis, bloody diarrhoea, and broncho-pneumonia are the other common symptoms. The disease has very high mortality, ranging from 70 to 100 per cent.

Black quarter is an infectious bacterial disease, characterised by fever, swelling and lameness. It is spread by ingestion of contaminated food and the incubation period varies from 2 to 5 days. There is high fever, and hot tense painful swelling usually in one of the quarters, more often in the hind quarters. Just before death, the swelling becomes cold and painless. The disease usually comes in acute form, leading to death in 48 hours after the onset of symptoms. Outbreaks generally occur with the commencement of the monsoon. Young animals which are healthy and between the ages of six months and 3 years are more prone to the disease.

Anthrax is a rapidly spreading contagious disease of blood, causing destruction of blood and its functions. Lesions are very characteristic in anthrax. There is high temperature, pulse is rapid and breathing becomes difficult. Blood discharge from nostrils and urine is also common. There

1. Source : Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu.

is sudden death with blood tinged foamy discharge from the mouth, nostrils and anus.

Enterotoxaemia is a disease of adult sheep; it runs an acute course and is highly fatal. Infection occurs in the animal which are very healthy; over-eating is considered a contributing factor.

The disease with the largest incidence is enterotoxaemia. During 1964-65, it attacked as many as 5,400 animals, but only 20 died. The other disease which is most prevalent is foot and mouth disease which attacked 470 animals in 1972-73. The highest incidence during the last 10 years was in 1968-69 when it attacked 1,210 animals of whom 6 died.

The figures of attacks and deaths by various diseases are given in the Appendix VI at the end of chapter.

FLOODS, FAMINES AND DROUGHTS

The district being sandy for most part and the crops depending on the vagaries of monsoon, the problem of floods is not so much as that of famine and drought.

Floods

In 1968, Sikar district experienced heavy rainfall in various parts. Villages numbering 364 were affected by floods and 20 persons died. The tahsil-wise losses were as follows¹:

S. Tahsil No.	Villages affected	Families affected	Houses affected	Houses collapsed	(Number)		
					Estimated loss to house property (Rs. in thousand)	Persons died	Cattle died
1. Danta Ramgarh	40	1,290	104	1,090	1667.0	1	2,000
2. Sikar	127	3,833	25	4,390	1314.3	17	47
3. Fatehpur	57	910	—	880	387.8	2	49
4. Lachhmangarh	136	1,463	15	1,430	1161.3	—	123
5. Neem-ka-Thana	2	59	—	105	76.8	—	—
6. Sri Madhopur	2	113	23	105	35.9	—	12

In 1971, the floods largely affected only Danta Ramgarh tahsil (34 villages), Neem-ka-Thana (1 village) and Sikar (2 villages). No loss of human life was reported but 21 cattle died. The number of affected families was 897. The number of houses collapsed was 625 and that of

1. *Floods in Rajasthan*, 1968, issued by Relief Department, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

partially damaged was 272. The loss to house property was estimated at Rs. 3.96 lakhs.

Famines and Droughts

The drought relief programme follows the state-wide pattern of relief works, gratuitous relief, distribution of medicines, milk and vitamins, suspension or revision of land revenue, arrangement of drinking water, opening of fair price shops etc. Voluntary organisations like the Red Cross Society also provide a helping hand by participating in relief arrangements. The relief activities are discussed in the following paragraphs :

During 1966-67, the Public Works Department undertook road works for the purpose of relief. The important components of relief expenditure were as follows :

Type of work	Expenditure (Rs.)
Water Supply (Revenue Department)	51,600
Water Supply (P.H.E. Department)	118,000
Cattle conservation and fodder arrangement	68,100
Transportation	10,000
Expenditure through Panchayat Samitis	1,50,000
<i>Taccavi</i> Advances	1,31,000

The number of workers on relief works was the highest in May, 1966 being 10,000 after which it came down gradually and fell to 1,200 in September.

The work-wise expenditure on relief works (roads) through the Public Works Department was as below :

Name of work	Expenditure
Fatehpur-Ramgarh	1,71,590
Lachhmangarh-Salasar	3,63,002
Fatehpur-Mukandgarh	1,54,098
Lachhmangarh-Mukandgarh	1,19,498
Kudan-Phagalwa	1,06,487
Desiga-Raghunathgarh	1,02,255
Goriyan-Piprali	57,138
Sikar-Didwana	1,138
Ramgarh-Mandawa	2,500
Lachhmangarh-canal approach road	37,441
National-Highway (Fatehpur)	25,025

1	2
Fatehpur-Mandawa	34,231
Dhandhan-Rolasavasara	40,170
Damiya-Khirod	34,445

The number of persons in receipt of gratuitous relief was 542. The expenditure on water-supply arrangements came to Rs. 20,180 and that on cattle conservation and fodder arrangement to Rs. 13,000. The total relief expenditure amounted to Rs. 13,77,332 besides a *Taccavi* for wells, seeds and fodder amounting to Rs. 1,20,000.

During 1968-69, the relief works executed through the Revenue Department consisted of work on eight tanks at a total cost of Rs. 28,995. Public Works Department works cost Rs. 14.78 lakhs. Gratuitous relief cost Rs. 0.06 lakh, water supply Rs. 0.08 lakh and cattle conservation and fodder arrangement Rs. 0.27 lakh. Loans (*Taccavi*) amounted to Rs. 10.43 lakhs. The total cost of relief of all types and expenses amounted to Rs. 15.39 lakhs. The number of workers on various relief works in December, 1968 was 4,751 which increased to 10,878 by March, 1969 and further to 47,500 by June 1969. Those in receipt of gratuitous relief numbered 351 from March to May 1969 and increased to 512 in June, 1969.

During the scarcity of 1969-70, expenditure of Rs. 1.03 lakhs was incurred on relief works through the Public Works Department. The Agriculture Department also undertook soil conservation work and the expenditure was Rs. 0.15 lakh. The expenditure on gratuitous relief was Rs. 0.56 lakh and that on cattle conservation Rs. 0.41 lakh. The number of workers on relief works of the Public Works Department during the months of May, June and July of 1970 were 250, 753 and 352 respectively.

APPENDIX I Area and Production of Crops in Sikar District

Year	Bajra		Jowar		Maize		Wheat		Barley		Rice		Small Millets	
	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P
1959-60	206734	44721	1085	313	1105	734	6948	6941	17047	27460	12	5	—	—
1960-61	256218	64613	1287	311	900	747	7114	7294	16807	22176	13	2	—	—
1961-62	241239	71380	2461	417	760	466	7180	7801	17848	30960	15	3	—	—
1962-63	239879	87109	1694	606	824	776	6455	6751	16400	26984	14	4	1	—
1963-64	269679	64381	673	238	340	167	6783	5547	15499	24573	12	3	—	—
1964-65	262273	69373	2203	653	556	376	8224	8768	17404	30686	13	3	13	9
1965-66	277503	83670	562	21	399	303	7835	7250	16977	35058	17	1	4	1
1966-67	277498	102712	597	178	405	282	7199	7660	17918	22523	22	6	1	—
1967-68	254063	149135	3323	761	732	674	9578	10664	27470	40656	29	5	7	Neg.
1968-69	258819	37788	429	31	451	230	10070	11564	20084	29122	2	Neg.	4	—
1969-70	266044	114399	1337	345	455	188	10278	11006	18951	36253	35	5	10	—
1970-71	265685	127529	393	175	360	325	10531	15160	17149	30251	38	31	22	4
1971-72	266301	76695	323	60	231	87	13732	17204	16180	25953	29	16	—	—

APPENDIX I (contd.) Area and Production of Crops in Sikar District

Year	Gram		Other Kharif Pulses		Tur		Other Rabi Pulses	
	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P
1959-60	27894	3846	183600	32926	6	1	—	—
1960-61	6466	1941	148363	13302	24	4	2	—
1961-62	16276	6564	1512207	24771	89	12	2	1
1962-63	11215	5189	139061	13704	39	6	12	6
1963-64	10423	4104	132899	11898	24	3	—	—
1964-65	11095	7685	138561	15317	13	25	—	—
1965-66	8760	4057	124981	8864	29	6	1	—
1966-67	5617	2211	131515	9327	11	2	—	—
1967-68	13347	12549	147264	22990	1	1	4	—
1968-69	6011	3684	148120	5164	6	Neg.	39	4
1969-70	7972	5365	149023	76316	165	13	—	—
1970-71	28511	25366	127270	30086	22	4	—	—
1971-72	28757	17363	132296	23624	199	64	—	—

APPENDIX I (concl.)
Area and Production of Crops in Sikar District

Year	Sesame		Rape and Mustard		Linseed		Groundnut		Castor seed		(Area in Hectares) (Production in tonnes)	
	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P	A	P
1959-60	245	28	3950	1067	1	—	856	480	—	—	52	1189
1960-61	163	10	3411	1278	6	2	1683	756	—	—	58	4522
1961-62	246	29	6295	1834	16	3	4097	1890	2	3	68	4272
1962-63	573	96	10470	4305	1	—	6194	2592	—	—	74	2034
1963-64	200	23	7103	1027	2	1	7288	3267	—	—	73	2032
1964-65	352	38	4231	888	1	—	7265	3612	—	—	71	1788
1965-66	381	31	4717	1717	—	—	5914	1758	—	—	77	1940
1966-67	370	37	3569	157	7	1	4484	907	—	—	94	935
1967-68	421	51	5392	1715	187	41	6421	2378	2	3	69	290
1968-69	387	23	1249	438	3	1	4259	511	2	—	49	770
1969-70	701	52	2327	486	2	1	2336	467	8	2	42	889
1970-71	387	23	4475	2238	37	14	2131	1422	5	2	66	2160
1971-72	207	27	8493	679	17	6	3974	2662	1	1	54	2357

Source : Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, volumes for various years.

A=Area, P=Production; Neg. = Negligible.

APPENDIX II
Agricultural Implements and Machinery in use in
Sikar district

S. No.	Implements	(Number)		
		1956 ¹	1961 ²	1966 ³
1.	Ploughs	59,292	68,437	68,833
2.	Carts	14,639	17,841	21,556
3.	Sugar-cane Crushers	1	2	4
4.	Tractors	15	24	122
5.	Oil Engines with pumps for irrigation purposes	30	55	124
6.	Electric Pumps for irrigation purposes	1	10	186
7.	Ghants	178	198	188
8.	Persian wheels or Rahats	N. R.	112	142
9.	Wheel walking tractors or power tillers	N. R.	N. R.	3
10.	Improved Implements:			
	Harrow and Cultivators	N. R.	N. R.	4
	Seed drills	N. R.	N. R.	5
	Threshers	N. R.	N. R.	1
	Rottery chaff cutters	N. R.	N. R.	1,816
	Sprayers and dusters	N. R.	N. R.	8

1. *The Rajasthan Quinquennial Livestock Census Report*, 1956, p. 13.

2. *Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan*, 1961, p. 33.

3. *ibid.*, 1966, pp. 92-93.

N. R. = Not Recorded

APPENDIX III
Livestock Population in Sikar District

	1956 ¹	1961 ²	1966 ³
CATTLE	3,02,973	3,19,386	3,08,608
Males over 3 years	71,585	74,986	66,000
Breeding	428	527	616
Working	70,481	74,081	65,065
Others	676	378	319
Females over 3 years	1,08,420	1,09,149	1,20,855
In Milk	62,980	48,580	63,846
Dry	35,592	47,002	49,638
Others	9,848	13,567	7,371
Young stock (3 years and under)	1,22,968	1,35,251	1,21,753
BUFFALOES	81,673	1,09,691	1,33,294
Males over 3 years	2,388	6,589	9,332
Breeding	105	52	96
Working	2,147	6,140	9,060
Others	136	397	176
Females over 3 years	38,176	49,021	57,885
In Milk	26,132	31,757	37,379
Dry	7,522	10,586	14,821
Others	4,522	6,678	5,685
Young Stock (3 years and under)	41,109	54,081	66,077
SHEEP	2,32,477	2,92,704	3,23,743
GOATS	3,48,062	3,35,233	4,10,326
HORSES AND PONIES	747	963	1,213
MULES	14	36	14
DONKEYS	7,010	7,042	6,121
CAMELS	23,605	32,806	35,701
PIGS	1,065	1,013	1,239
TOTAL LIVESTOCK	9,97,626	10,98,874	12,20,259
POULTRY	4,262	7,331	6,447
Fowls	3,986	7,188	6,387
Ducks	19	86	30
Others	257	57	30

1. *The Rajasthan Quinquennial Livestock Census Report, 1956*, pp. 6-12.

2. *Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan, 1961*, pp. 20-32.

3. *Ibid.*, 1966, pp. 50-92.

APPENDIX IV
Work done at the Artificial Insemination Centre, Sikar

Year	Artificial insemination	Natural service	Castrations	Sterility Treatment	Pregnancy Diagnosis	Treatment	Vaccinations	Follow up
1965-66	1,155	892	289	226	316	4,336	—	728
1966-67	1,254	967	255	180	355	2,420	—	480
1967-68	1,791	1,405	486	302	390	3,338	—	638
1968-69	1,942	1,553	500	441	602	5,173	—	709
1969-70	2,051	1,223	164	327	650	4,363	—	495
1970-71	2,050	1,232	135	445	1,023	2,311	1,774	607
1971-72	2,162	1,153	611	267	698	1,589	1,689	726
1972-73	2,400	667	1,287	842	650	525	2,660	667

Source : Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu.

APPENDIX V
Work done by Veterinary Insitutions in Sikar District (1972-73)

Name of the Institution	Work done at the headquarters			Work done on tour			(Number)
	Treatment	Castrations	Medicine supplied	Treatment	Castrations	Medicine supplied	
VETERINARY HOSPITALS							
Sikar	20,386	1,606	7,025	666	4	—	—
Fatehpur	10,503	615	352	156	111	304	500
Khandela	2,916	376	122	201	294	24	269
Sihot Bari	1,760	155	60	70	82	237	—
Lachhmangarh	14,537	317	3,453	530	48	200	1,187
Danta	4,965	290	15	634	103	560	554
Losal	3,923	253	1,186	212	85	235	1,182
Reengus	2,376	530	982	—	—	—	—
Sri Madhopur	3,828	368	881	147	—	73	—
Neem-ka-Thana	2,810	275	444	207	14	127	757
Piprali	2,929	194	239	—	—	—	—
VETERINARY DISPENSARY							
RAMGARH	375	120	—	—	—	—	—
MOBILE VETERINARY DISPENSARY SIKAR							
ALL PANCHAYAT SAMITIS	38,700	15,590	15,250	1,469	328	4,599	1,02,412
				5,160	—	—	—

Source : Office of District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu.

APPENDIX VI
Figures of Attacks and Deaths in livestock by Diseases in Sikar District

Year	Haemorrhagic Septicaemia		Black Quarter		Anthrax		Enterotoxaemia		Foot and Mouth disease	
	Attacks	Deaths	Attacks	Deaths	Attacks	Deaths	Attacks	Deaths	Attacks	Deaths
1963-64	250	40	145	25	—	—	900	60	800	5
1964-65	145	22	152	4	6	2	5,400	20	950	5
1965-66	137	20	175	8	—	—	1,050	75	1,100	4
1966-67	275	50	210	10	4	1	660	57	1,015	7
1967-68	180	28	55	5	—	—	857	54	955	4
1968-69	315	35	256	14	22	3	1,406	82	1,210	6
1969-70	225	20	158	10	12	4	850	63	905	—
1970-71	215	15	147	8	2	—	717	48	890	—
1971-72	170	40	98	3	—	—	656	28	665	3
1972-73	110	5	45	4	—	—	540	25	470	—

Source : Office of District Animal Husbandry Officer, Jhunjhunu.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

OLD TIME INDUSTRIES

The area comprised in the present Sikar district was not known for any important industry in former times. Khandela (a village in the district) has, however, been long famous for *Gota* manufacture on the cottage industry scale. Other cottage crafts which have been regarded as specialities of the area are wooden toys making and tie and dye printing. All these crafts still continue to be practised in the district and as such they are discussed in greater detail in a later section of this chapter.

Besides these specialities, the area had cottage industries which characterised its self-sufficient village economy as in other parts of the country. The blacksmiths, the potters, the carpenters and workers in leather formed important components of village economy and of workers engaged in non-agricultural occupations. Some other cottage industries of which a mention may be made were weaving, dyeing and, wool baling and cleaning. Information about the employment and investment in these industries is not available.

POWER

The power house at Sikar, established in 1936, was taken over by the Electrical and Mechanical Department in 1955. At the time of the formation of Rajasthan State Electricity Board, the power house had three generating sets with an installed capacity of 288 K.W. In 1960, the town was connected with the Bhakhra hydro-electric system, the old equipment being used as a stand-by for use in emergencies¹.

At the time of the formation of Rajasthan only one locality in the district was electrified. Progress of electrification was slow during the First and Second Five Year Plans and three more localities were electrified during this period. During the Third Plan, 39 localities were electrified and during 1966-69 another 46 localities got power supply². By the end of 1972-73 this number had gone up to 176. The yearly increase during the last five years has been as follows³:

1. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. vii.
2. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar*, 1971, p. 57.
3. Source : Office of the Director, Rural Electrification, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Jaipur.

(Number)	
Year	Electrified localities (Cumulative Total)
1968-69	89
1969-70	92
1970-71	101
1971-72	143
1972-73	176

A complete list of electrified localities is given at the end of the chapter, as Appendix I.

The consumption pattern³ of electricity shows a predominant use of power for agricultural purposes. The consumption of high voltage power is negligible, evidently because there are no large scale industries. In 1968-69, the domestic consumption of power in Sikar power division was 1.119 million Kwh. which rose to 1.568 million Kwh. in 1972-73. The domestic category consists of consumption for heat and power and light and fans. The consumption for heat and power in 1968-69 was 0.028 million Kwh. and that for light and fans 1.091 million Kwh. By 1972-73 these figures rose to 0.054 million Kwh. and 1.514 million Kwh. respectively.

The consumption of heat and power for commercial purposes which was 0.123 million Kwh. in 1968-69 registered a small rise and was 0.167 million Kwh. in 1972-73, but the commercial consumption for light and fans fell from the 1968-69 figures of 0.825 million Kwh. to 0.716 million Kwh. in 1972-73.

The total industrial consumption was 3.732 million Kwh. in 1968-69 and it also marginally fell to 3.418 million Kwh. in 1972-73. Within this category, medium voltage consumption accounted for the greater part, being 3.386 million Kwh. in 1968-69 and 2.822 million Kwh. in 1972-73. The high voltage consumption was 0.346 million Kwh. in 1968-69 and 0.596 million Kwh. in 1972-73.

Other categories of electric consumption are public lighting, public water works, irrigation and dewatering etc. Of these, the most significant rise has been in irrigation and dewatering, from 11.831 million Kwh in 1968-69 to 17.497 million Kwh. in 1972-73.

MINES AND MINERALS

The mineral wealth of the district consists of copper, iron ore,

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha, Sikar*, 1971, p. 58 and *Annual Power Statistics*, 1972, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Jaipur, p. 220.

apatite, fluorite, pyrite-pyrrhotite, mica, dolomite, calcite, limestone, quartz, talc, felspar, soap-stone, building stone etc.

A description of some of the important minerals is given in the following paragraphs¹ :

Metallic Minerals

COPPER—Substantial copper reserves have been established in the district by the Geological Survey of India. The mineralisation occurs at a number of places, notably Dareeba-Neem-ka-Thana, Mothooka, Bihar, Baleswar, Khorl and Salwari.

IRON—Deposits of iron-ore occur at Raipur, Bagoli-Sirohi and Pachlongi-Sirohi, extensive prospecting of which is in progress.

Non-metallic minerals

The district occupies an important place with regard to non-metallic minerals, the brief description of which is as follows :

Apatite occurs in close association with quartz veins north-west of Salwari. The veins are irregular and erratic in behaviour, being from a few cms. to 20 cms. in thickness. Fluorite occurs in the Salwari hills and south of Kotri.

About the most important non-metallic mineral is pyrite-pyrrhotite, the deposit being located about 1.5 km. north-west of Saledipura. The deposit occurs along shear zones in the rocks of Delhi system and extends over a distance of 7 km. in two zones. The average width of ore body is five metres and its depth persistence has been established down to 300 metres from the surface. Based on the results of the detailed drilling, the total reserves of the ores have been estimated at 111.62 million tonnes with an average 21.63 per cent sulphur. Preliminary metallurgical tests have shown that the ore is amenable to beneficiation so as to obtain the required concentrate of 35-40 per cent sulphur. The mineral is used in the manufacture of Sulphuric acid.

Mica is available at Kaiser, about 4 km. west of Patan. The mica here is full of flaws, mostly spotted, fractured and crenulated.

Two bands of dolomite, each of the thickness of 5 to 7 metres are exposed south-west of Mawanda-Tarla.

A few thin bands of talc, hardly extending for a few metres in length, have been located about 2 km. north-west of Heerawas.

1. Source : Office of Deputy Director General, Geological Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.

Building stone is available generally all over the district through shallow quarries. The important quarries are at Raghunathgarh, Khorl and Bhowa.

The production of minerals in the district during the years 1966 to 1970 is shown in the following table¹ :

S. No.	Mineral	(tonnes)				
		1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
1.	Limestone (Minor)	45,577	33,476	47,015	26,060	53,068
2.	Limestone (Major)	79,652	51,453	24,690	46,116	22,690
3.	Marble	—	85	3,482	3,449	2,449
4.	Bricks, Stone, Bajri etc.	122,687	91,182	94,714	122,966	78,036
5.	Calcite	3,700	3,763	4,110	4,041	2,078
6.	Quartz	4,017	3,103	3,925	2,216	1,048
7.	Dolomite	12,171	7,247	3,448	3,529	3,790
8.	Felspar	—	—	—	—	554

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

Large Scale Industries

There are no large-scale industries in the district.

Small Scale Industries

During 1972-73 thirty eight small-scale units were registered with the District Industries Officer. Their list and estimated employment in each is given in Appendix II at the end of the chapter. 13 units were registered as factories under the Indian Factories Act, 1948 till the end of 1973. A list of such units is given in Appendix III.

According to a survey conducted by the Small Industries Service Institute of the Government of India, the district had 83 small scale units engaged in various types of industries at the end of 1971-72. The figures of category-wise units, investment and value of production in these units are given in Appendix IV at the end of the chapter. Important categories of these are discussed in the following paragraphs² :

IRON AND STEEL FABRICATION—The units are spread over a wide area. The places where such units are situated are Sikar, Sri Madhopur, Danta Ramgarh and Lachhmangarh. The items of manufacture are trunks, buckets and other sheet metal products, agricultural implements,

1. Sankhikiya Rooprekha, Sikar, 1971, p. 53.

2. Source : Office of the Director, Small Industries Service Institute, Jaipur.

and household iron products. The market for the industry is within the district. The total investment was Rs. 2.34 lakhs, and the employment potential was limited to 39. The value of goods produced was Rs. 2.15 lakhs in 1971-72.

STEEL FURNITURE—Both the units in this industry are situated at Sikar town, because the demand for the products is largely urban. They manufacture steel almirahs, cash boxes, safes, trunks, agriculture implements etc. These units had a total investment of Rs. 81,000 in 1971-72. With an employment of 14 workers the production was of the order of Rs. 46.5 lakhs.

WASHING SOAP—Of the three washing soap units of the district, two are situated at Sikar and the third at Khandela. The washing soap manufactured by these units sells at Sikar, Jhunjhunu and Churu. With an investment of Rs. 1.96 lakhs and an employment potential of 15, these units turned out goods worth Rs. 3.45 lakhs in 1971-72.

AYURVEDIC MEDICINES—Fatehpur is a very well known centre of *Ayurvedic* medicines. The medicines manufactured here find ready acceptance not only in Rajasthan, but in far off places like Bengal, Bihar, Assam, etc. Of the six units in this line, three are situated at Fatehpur and the remaining three at Sikar. The units at Sikar sell their products within the State. The total investment in the industry was Rs. 2.73 lakhs and the employment potential is 24. The value of production in 1971-72 was Rs. 3.23 lakhs.

OIL AND DAL MILLS—There are four units in this line, two each situated at Sikar and Sri Madhopur. They make *Dal* from *Moong*, *Moth*, and gram and oil from sesame, mustard and groundnut. The industry had an investment of Rs. 13.13 lakhs and the value of production in 1971-72 was Rs. 5.46 lakhs, the employment being limited to 30 workers.

POLISHED COTTON YARN—Khandela and Lachhmangarh are the main centres of this industry and had one unit each. The polished cotton yarn produced by the industry is used by manufacturers of hosiery and *Gota*. The product, as such, goes to far-off places like Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Ludhiana, Amritsar etc. The value of goods produced in the industry was Rs. 4.04 lakhs in 1971-72. The total investment was Rs. 4.63 lakhs and 15 workers were employed.

TIE AND DYE—Although this is primarily a cottage industry, there were 6 registered small scale units (1971-72) also functioning in the field. The work in the units consists mainly of tie and dye printing on muslin cloth, the products being *Saree*, *Orhni*, *Peela*, *Pomcha*, etc. About

half the production is consumed within Rajasthan and the remaining is exported to States of Bengal, Bihar, Assam etc.

LIME AND LIME POWDER AND CHINA CLAY—Such units (9) are situated at Khokra, Neem-ka-Thana, Maonda, Sri Madhopur, Lachhmangarh, Kanwat and Reengus. The lime powder is sent to Mysore, Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The industry gave employment to 229 persons and had an investment of Rs. 14.34 lakhs. The production in 1971-72 was worth Rs. 24.90 lakhs. One of the units had a plant for washing and grinding of china clay also. Its product goes to Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat etc.

MINERAL GRINDING—Three units were registered as mineral grinding units. The minerals which they grind are fire clay, garnet, bentonite, steem coal, calcite, quartz and dolomite. Two of these units are situated at Neem-ka-Thana and the third at Maonda. The value of production in the industry was Rs. 14 lakhs in 1971-72. The industry provided employment to 74 persons and had an investment of Rs. 14.03 lakhs.

CEMENT PRODUCTS—Two units each at Sikar and Reengus manufacture cement products like flower pots, cement screens, water pots, structures etc. The market for these products is local. The industry produced goods worth Rs. 31,000 in 1971-72; its investment was Rs. 40 thousand and 14 persons were employed.

WOODEN FURNITURE—Six registered units were engaged in this line of activity in the district, the largest number (three) being at Danta Ramgarh, two at Sikar and one at Sri Madhopur. The products of these units are wooden cots, tables, chairs, doors, window frames etc. The market for these units is local. The total investment in the industry was Rs. 98 thousand. With an employment of 23, the value of production in 1971-72 was Rs. 57.2 thousand.

ROLLING MILL—A steel rolling mill was established at Sikar in 1968 with an investment of Rs. 14.99 lakhs. The production of this mill was valued at Rs. 18.9 lakhs in 1971-72, with an employment of 25. It manufactures iron rods, plates and angle iron. The production is sold within Rajasthan.

BEAM SCALES—A small-scale unit for the production of beam scales has been functioning at Sikar since 1963. With an investment of Rs. 58 thousand, it employed 8 workers. The value of production in 1971-72 was Rs. fifty three thousand. The unit uses zinc, copper and

tin as raw materials. A greater portion of the produce of the unit (above 75 per cent) is sold in Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and the rest in Rajasthan.

REFLEX VALVES—In this line also there was only one small scale unit in the district, established in 1964 at Sikar. The total investment of Rs. 33,000 provided employment to four workers to produce goods worth Rs. 45 thousand in 1971-72. The unit sells the product within Rajasthan. The raw materials used are cast iron and gun metal.

REPACKING OF CHEMICALS—There was only one such small-scale unit set up in 1972. The chemicals it repacks are glycerine, castor oil and soda bi-carb. The unit provided employment to two persons and had a total investment of Rs. 28,000. The repacked chemicals are mostly sold within the district.

WASHERS AND STRIPS—One unit in the district has been manufacturing washers and strips since 1970. It employed seven workers and had an investment of Rs. 25,000. All the production is sold to electric fan manufacturers outside the state. The principal raw materials used by the unit are fibre strips, wax and metal sheets.

WOOLLEN THREAD—A unit for the manufacture of woollen thread was established at Sikar in 1961. The total investment in the unit was Rs. 7,000 and it provided employment to four persons. The production is sold locally.

WOOLLEN CLOTH—In this field also there was only one registered small-scale unit. It produces rough woollen cloth. The total investment was Rs. 1,32,000 and employment was provided to three persons.

OTHERS—Some other small units were engaged in the production of such items as *Desi Jutis*, stone chips, sodium silicate, *Gota*, artificial teeth, lac bangles, ice, *Pan masala*, hair oil and candles. There is a unit doing general engineering and repair jobs and another doing tyre-retreading.

Although the manufacture of *Desi jutis* is essentially a cottage industry, one small scale unit is registered with the District Industries Officer. It had an investment of Rs. 9 thousand and employed seven persons. The value of the production in 1971-72 was Rs. 17.2 thousand.

Stone chips were produced by one unit at Sikar. The unit had an investment of Rs. 1.43 lakhs and employed 11 workers. The production in 1971-72 was valued at Rs. 1.98 lakhs.

Gota, like *Jutis*, is also a cottage industry, but there were 8 registered small-scale units, one at Lachhmangarh and seven at Sikar. The

investment in these units was of the order of Rs. 3.00 lakhs on plant and machinery.

One very small unit with an investment of Rs. 11 thousand and employing only two persons making artificial teeth is at Sikar. The production during 1971-72 was 700 teeth, worth Rs. 28 thousand.

Three small scale units at Danta Ramgarh make lac bangles. The total investment in the industry was of the order of 14.8 thousand and 10 persons were employed. The value of production in 1971-72 was Rs. 3 thousand.

Ice is produced by a small-scale unit each at Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana. The total investment in these units was Rs. 3.87 lakhs and production in 1971-72 was of the order of Rs. 32 thousand. The number of workers was 15.

Perfumery works like manufacture of *Pan masala*, hair oil and candles was carried on by one unit each at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. These units employed 18 persons and had a total investment of Rs. 1.08 lakh. The production in 1971-72 was of the order of Rs. 57 thousand.

A general engineering workshop is being run at Neem-ka-Thana, employing 3 persons and with an investment of Rs. 50 thousand. During 1971-72, the workshop turned out jobs worth Rs. 16 thousand.

Cottage Industries

The important crafts¹ of the area are *Gota*, tie and dye printing, *Desi jutis*, wool spinning, wooden toys etc. Their brief description is as follows :

GOTA—This industry is mainly concentrated at Khandela and can be easily regarded as the most important cottage industry of the district, there being 400 such units engaged in *Gota* production. The main items produced are *Gota*, *Kinari*, *Lampl*, *Phool*, *Bijia*, *Champa*, *Naksi*, *Thappa*, *Kor* etc. All these items go into the production of ladies garments.

The production is done on handlooms, which are of different types for different items. The items manufactured by the industry are distributed to women workers who work at home and make further decorative items out of these. The industry provides full-time employment to about 1,000 workers and part-time work to about 8,000 women in Khandela and the adjoining areas.

1. Source : Office of the District Industries Officer, Sikar and Director, Small Industries Service Institute, Jaipur.

It has been estimated that the total investment in all the units was about Rs. 98 lakhs and the value of total production about Rs. 95 lakhs. About half of the production is sold in Rajasthan and the rest in Haryana, Punjab and Delhi. The important raw materials are silver plated wire, nylon yarn and artificial silk yarn.

TIE AND DYE—This industry is located at Sikar and Fatehpur. Tie and Dye is a process of cloth printing and the garments on which such printing is done in the district are *Saree, Chunri, Peela, Poncha* and *Orhni*. The exact number of persons employed cannot be given in the absence of surveys, but the number is estimated to run into thousands. Both men and women work in the industry.

The annual production in the registered and unregistered units of the industry is estimated to be of the value of Rs. 50 lakhs. About 50 per cent of the production is sold within Rajasthan and the rest goes to places like Assam Bengal, Bihar etc. The principal raw material is the cloth on which printing is done (mostly muslin).

WOOL SPINNING—It is an important cottage craft of the area as the district occupies an important place in the wool production of the State. About 250 families are engaged in the work who obtain the raw wool, which is their principal raw material, from flock owners.

DESI JUTIS—About three hundred families, mostly from the Scheduled Castes, earn a livelihood through the manufacture of indigenous shoes. The leather required for the purpose is locally tanned and dyed.

WOODEN TOYS—A small number of persons at Khandela follow this profession.

OTHERS—The industries described above are the specialities of the area. There are, however, some cottage crafts which are common to all parts of the state. They were integral parts of the village economy of the olden days and have survived evidently because their utility still exists. Among these mention may be made of carpentry, blacksmithy, goldsmithy, tailoring, brick making and pottery.

Industrial Potential

As the district does not possess any large scale industry, there is not much scope for the development of ancillary industries. The Small Industries Service Institute of Government of India conducted a potential survey of the district in 1972 and identified a number of small scale industries which could be set up in the district on the basis of either resources or demand. Some of the industries that could be established in the district as indicated by the survey were:

Industry	Suggested location
RESOURCE BASED:	
1. Porcelain crockery	Neem-ka-Thana
2. Low Tension Porcelain	—do—
3. Woollen textiles	Sikar
4. <i>Kikar</i> and <i>Babul</i> bark disintegration	Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana
5. Rope and <i>Ban</i> making and Reed Furniture	Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana, Reengus, Sikar, Danta Ramgarh
6. Leather tanning	Padampura
DEMAND BASED :	
7. Cotton Hosiery	Sikar, Fatehpur
8. Paper bags	Sikar
9. Ready made garments	Sikar
10. Plastic toys and novelty goods	Sikar, Fatehpur, Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh, Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana

Besides, the following items of production were found to offer scope for expansion/diversification :

1. Iron and Steel Fabrication
2. Ice factory
3. Candles, Phenyl and Boot polish
4. *Saree* printing
5. Woollen cloth
6. Shoes

Industrial Co-operatives

At the end of the co-operative year¹ 1971-72 (ending June 30), there were 36 industrial co-operatives in the district (except weavers' co-operatives) with a total membership of 733. The gross share capital of those societies put together was Rs. 62,904 and the working capital Rs. 4.29 lakhs. Their borrowings aggregated to Rs. 2.36 lakhs of which Rs. 85 thousand were outstanding.

There were also nine weavers' societies, seven for handloom cotton and two for *Khadi* cotton. The membership of weavers' societies was 661. Their share capital was Rs. 14 thousand and working capital Rs. 1.55 lakh.

1. Source : Office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The borrowings of these societies were Rs. 85 thousand of which Rs. 26 thousand were outstanding.

More than 50 per cent (19) of the industrial societies were of leather workers whose membership was 465. The next numerically important group was *Tel Ghani* (oil expellers) where the membership was 83, the number of societies being four.

Category-wise details of the societies are given in appendix V at the end of the chapter.

Industrial Training

There is an Industrial Training Institute¹ in the district at Sikar which was established in 1965. The Institute trains people as welders, electricians, fitters, wiremen and turners. In 1972-73 the total capacity in all trades was 72 and the actual strength 59. The total strength of instructors was nine. The trade-wise intake capacity and actual strength in 1972-73 are shown in the following table :

Trade	(No.)	
	Intake capacity	Actual strength
Welder	12	16
Electrician	16	10
Fitter	16	5
Wireman	16	10
Turner	12	18
Total	72	59

State Aid to Industries

The various sources of industrial finance are banks, the Rajasthan Financial Corporation, the State Government and the Central financial agencies. Rajasthan Financial Corporation advances long-term loans under its own rules and till January 1972, also acted as agents to the State Government, providing loans under the State Aid to Industries (Loans) Rules, 1963. The first loan sanctioned by the Corporation in the district was in April, 1959. Upto 1972-73, loans totalling Rs. 3,60,000 were sanctioned to six units. The unit-wise amounts sanctioned and disbursed are given in Appendix VI at the end of the chapter.

The district is among the ones which have been officially declared as backward and are eligible for concessional finance from governmental financial institutions. The concessions take the form of reduced margin, lesser rate of interest, longer period of moratorium, longer repayment

1. Source : Office of the Director, Technical Education, Rajasthan, Jodhpur.

period etc¹. The national financial institutes charge interest at 2 per cent above the Bank rate. There is a 5-year moratorium on start of repayment and the actual repayment is spread over 15-20 years. The margin is reduced to 30-35 per cent. The institutes also participate in the share capital (both equity and preference) by underwriting. There is also a 50 per cent reduction in under writing commission, commitment charges, non-refundable examination fee etc.

The Rajasthan Financial Corporation charges interest at 6 per cent. The margin is reduced to 25 per cent and a debt-equity 1:2 is also considered.

EMPLOYERS' AND LABOURERS' ORGANISATIONS

There is one industrial association at Sikar viz. Sikar Zila Udyog Sangh, which was registered in 1958 and had 39 members. There is also an Iron and Steel Manufacturing Union at Sikar.

There are nine registered trade unions in the district, with a total membership of 1031. Some details about trade unions as at the end of 1972-73 are as follows² :

Name of the Trade Union	Year of Registration	Membership (No.)
1. Rashtriya Nal Karmachari Union, Sikar	1970	50
2. Khan Workers' Union, Saledipura	1970	500
3. Pyrite Employees' Union, Sikar	1971	76
4. Rashtriya Nagar Parishad Karmachari Sangh, Sikar	1971	118
5. Motor Mazdoor Sangh, Sikar	1972	50
6. Sikar Zila Tanga Chalak Sangh, Sikar	1972	50
7. Safai Mazdoor Congress, Neem-ka-Thana	1972	22
8. Sikar Zila Jaldaya Karmachari Sangh, Sikar	1972	15
9. Sikar Zila P.W.D. Employees Union, Sikar	1972	150

1. Source : Office of Rajasthan State Industrial and Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., Jaipur.
2. Source : Office of Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I

List of the electrified localities in district Sikar

S. No.	Name of the village/town	S. No.	Name of the village/town
TAHSIL FATEHPUR		TAHSIL SIKAR	
1.	Fatehpur	1.	Guda Bara
2.	Ramgarh	2.	Gokulpura
3.	Sahnusar	3.	Sikar
4.	Daulatabad	4.	Shyampura
5.	Beswa	5.	Beri
6.	Bhagasaran	6.	Doojod
7.	Rohal	7.	Sabalpura
8.	Sahabsar	8.	Nani
9.	Dhadhan	9.	Chelasi
10.	Jugalpura	10.	Raseedpura
TAHSIL LACHHMANGARH		11.	Koodan
1.	Balaran	12.	Palthana
2.	Ganeri	13.	Jerthi
3.	Lachhmangarh	14.	Akwa
4.	Madhopura	15.	Chandpura
5.	Nechhwa	16.	Gothra Bhookram
6.	Beedasar	17.	Tarpura
7.	Jhilmil	18.	Dadiya
8.	Singodara	19.	Dasa-ki-Dhani
9.	Singodari	20.	Debipura
10.	Juliyasar	21.	Jagmalpura
11.	Kuri Chhoti	22.	Dhani Salimsingh
12.	Birodi Bari	23.	Thorasi
13.	Rahnawa	24.	Rampura
14.	Narodara	25.	Mailasi
15.	Yalsar	26.	Badhadar
16.	Pratappura	27.	Piprali
17.	Jhadewa	28.	Hardayalpura
18.	Doodwa	29.	Palwas
19.	Mirjwas	30.	Sihot Chhoti
20.	Sankhoo	31.	Harsh
21.	Magloona	32.	Deogarh
22.	Kalwa	33.	Jheengar Chhoti
		34.	Kudli
		35.	Kirodli

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

S. No.	Name of the village/town	S. No.	Name of the village/town
36.	Bhairoopura (Singhrawat)	4.	Hanspur
37.	Kolira Radhakishanpura	5.	Jaitusar
38.	Purohiton-ki-Dhani	6.	Kanwat
39.	Shyosinghpura	7.	Kotri
40.	Samaratpura	8.	Jugalpura
41.	Ajeetpura	9.	Kotri
42.	Phagalwa	10.	Loharwara
43.	Sewa	11.	Lakhni
44.	Sanwaloda Ladkhani	12.	Lapwa
45.	Sanwaloda Purohitan	13.	Mau
46.	Sanwaloda Dhaylan	14.	Mahroli
47.	Rampura	15.	Nangal Bheem
48.	Shyampura	16.	Prathvipura
49.	Tajsar Khejdoliyan	17.	Reengus
50.	Singhasan	18.	Shri Madhopur
51.	Tajsa Krarnawatan	19.	Sargoth
52.	Kanwarapura	20.	Santoshpura
53.	Faqeerpura	21.	Ajeetgarh
54.	Kansli	22.	Nathoosar
55.	Nitarwas	23.	Divrala
56.	Bajor	24.	Khandela
TAHSIL NEEM-KA-THANA		25.	Abhawas
1.	Neem-ka-Thana	26.	Simarla
2.	Godas	27.	Dheerajpura
3.	Bhoodoli	28.	Bhawanipura
4.	Sirohi	29.	Baori
5.	Guhala	30.	Malikpur
6.	Gaonri	31.	Mangarh
7.	Neemod	32.	Bassi
8.	Peethampuri	33.	Balawata
9.	Mawanda Khurd	34.	Kalyanpura
10.	Bhagega	35.	Seehori
TAHSIL SRI MADHOPUR		36.	Bhojpura
1.	Arniya	37.	Hod
2.	Bagaryawas	38.	Seemarla
3.	Chomu	39.	Theekariya
		40.	Tapipalya
		41.	Gyanpura

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

S. No.	Name of the village/town	S. No.	Name of the village/town
42.	Jaswantpura	6.	Shishyoo
43.	Ladpur	7.	Kooli
44.	Mundru	8.	Surera
45.	Nimera	9.	Karad
46.	Jugrajpura	10.	Mandha
47.	Kacharda	11.	Umara
48.	Purohiton-ka-Bas	12.	Losal
49.	Vijaipura	13.	Dholasari
50.	Sonthaliya	14.	Chandeli-ka-Bas
51.	Devipura	15.	Shampura
52.	Goriyan	16.	Chainpura
53.	Bharni	17.	Pachar
54.	Jajod	18.	Bharija
TAHSIL DANTA RAMGARH		19.	Palsana
1.	Danta	20.	Rajpura
2.	Khachariyawas	21.	Sulyawas
3.	Khatoo	22.	Mudiyawas
4.	Ramgarh	23.	Bay
5.	Ranoli	24.	Roolana

Source : Office of the Director, Rural Electrification, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Sikar.

APPENDIX II

List of registered Small Scale Industries in Sikar District (1972-73)

S.No.	Name of Industrial Unit	Year of establishment	Number of workers	Produce
1.	Kumar Trading Co., Sikar	1972	8	Glycerine
2.	Devra Dyeing and Printing Works, Fatehpur	1972	3	Printed clothes
3.	Gaffarkhan, Khandela	1972	4	Gota
4.	Mahfoozkhan, Khandela	1972	4	Gota
5.	Shekhawati Krishi Yantra Utpadan Kendra, Sikar	1972	8	Tools (Trolleys)
6.	Ajanta Ispat Udyog, Sikar	1972	6	Steel Almirahs
7.	Khandela Candle Works, Khandela	1972	7	Candles
8.	Battery Service Station, Sikar	1972	3	Battery Service
9.	Hindustan Rolling Shutter, Sikar	1972	5	Rolling Shutters
10.	Arun Udyog, Sikar	1972	8	Grinding of spices
11.	Bajranglal Anil Kumar, Guhala	1972	3	Lime
12.	Saraswati Udyog Kendra, Sri Madhopur	1972	6	Oil and Ink
13.	Agarwal Laghu Udyog, Sikar	1972	2	Agricultural Implements and domestic articles
14.	Sarswarbabu Khatri, Sikar	1972	3	"
15.	Gokul Lime Industry, Reengus	1972	4	Lime
16.	Abdul Rahman, Sikar	1972	4	Gota
17.	Bajrang Bakery, Sikar	1972	4	Biscuits
18.	Mohan Chaki Flour Mills, Sikar	1972	3	Grinding of spices

1	2	3	4	5
19.	J. S. Soap Factory, Sikar	1972	4	Soap
20.	Gopal Soap Industry, Neem-ka-Thana	1972	1	Soap
21.	Gajanand Rajendra Prasad, Reengus	1972	7	Oil
22.	Panwar Engineering Works, Sikar	1972	4	Engineering workshop
23.	Anand Nagar Flour Mills, Sikar	1973	4	Grinding of flour
24.	M/s Amin Moberi, Sikar	1972	4	Weights & Measures
25.	M/s Sabudin Faruk Store Mechanical Works, Sikar	1951	3	Stoves & lamps
26.	Solanki Dying & Printing Works, Sikar	1970	8	Dyeing and Printing
27.	B. D. M. Agrawal & Company, Sikar	1970	5	Candles, Soap, Oils, Agarbati
28.	Amar Confectionery Works, Sikar	1972	4	Sweets <i>Mishri</i> , <i>Patasa</i> , etc.
29.	Sharma Chemical Industries, Sikar	1973	4	Varnish
30.	Santosh Saw Works, Danta	1961	4	Saw Mill, Wood
31.	Mughal Iron and Steel Works, Sikar	Traditional	6	Agricultural Implements
32.	Ram Kumar Gopi Ram General Udyog, Sikar	1950	3	Cement Works
33.	M. A. Engineering Works, Sikar	1972	4	<i>Jali</i> , steel tables, chairs
34.	M. I. Thread Co. Industries, Sikar	1971	3	Thread, Reels
35.	New Plastic Factory, Khandela	1972	5	F. V. C. Powder
36.	Sikar Shekhawati Udyog, Sikar	Traditional	4	<i>Tankis</i> , buckets etc.
37.	Sikar Rangai Chhapai Udyog, Sikar	..	8	Tie, dye
38.	Arun Industries, Sikar	1972	3	Ink, Pens etc.

Source : Office of the District Industries Officer, Sikar.

APPENDIX III
List of the Registered Factories under the Indian Factories
Act, 1948 as on 31-12-1973

Name of Unit	Estimated Employment
1. Sikar Zila Khadi Gramodyog Samiti, Reengus	1
2. Mahesh Ara Machine, Neem-ka-Thana	6
3. Rajendra Wood Works, Neem-ka-Thana	3
4. Shri Bajrang Flour Mills, Neem-ka-Thana	3
5. Ashok Wool Works, Neem-ka-Thana	4
6. Shri Laxmi Printing Press, Sikar	4
7. Shri Hindi Mudranalaya, Sikar	3
8. Ratan Printing Press, Neem-ka-Thana	3
9. Modi Minerals & Grinding Mills, Neem-ka-Thana	50
10. Sikar Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd., Sikar	18
11. Ramrichhpal Mohan Lal Sharma Ara Machine, Neem-ka-Thana	6
12. Shri Modi Lavigated Qwalin Pvt. Ltd., Neem-ka-Thana	55
13. Prakash Printing Press, Neem-ka-Thana	6
Total	162

APPENDIX IV
Classified list of Small Scale Industrial Units in Sikar District (1'71-72)

S.No.	Type of Industry	No. of Units	No. of Employees	Total Investment (Lakh Rs.)	Production value (Lakh Rs.)	Location
I. MECHANICAL						
1.	Iron and Steel Fabrication	9	39	2.34	2.15	Sikar, Sri Madhopur, Danta Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh
2.	Steel Furniture	2	14	0.81	46.5	Sikar
3.	Rolling Mill	1	25	14.99	18.9	Sikar
4.	Beam Scales	1	8	0.58	0.53	Sikar
5.	Reflex valves	1	4	0.33	0.45	Sikar
6.	General Engineering, Repair shop	1	3	0.50	0.16	Neem-ka-Thana
II. CHEMICAL						
7.	Washing Soap	3	15	1.96	3.45	Sikar, Khandela
8.	Avurvedic Medicines	6	24	2.73	3.23	Sikar, Fatehpur
9.	Repacking of chemicals	1	2	0.28	0.03	Sikar
10.	Lac Bangles	3	10	0.15	0.03	Danta Ramgarh
11.	Ice	2	15	3.87	0.32	Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana
12.	Pan Masala, Hair oil and Candles	3	18	1.08	0.57	Sikar, Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana
13.	Washers and Strips	1	7	0.25	9.29	Sikar
14.	Tyre Retreading	1	4	0.48	0.07	Sikar
15.	Oil and Dal Mills	4	30	13.13	5.46	Sikar, Sri Madhopur

INDUSTRIES**APPENDIX IV (Contd.)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
III. TEXTILES						
16.	Polished Cotton Yarn	2	15	4.63	4.04	Khandela and Lachhman-garh
17.	Woollen Thread	1	4	0.07	0.02	Sikar
18.	Woollen Cloth	1	3	1.32	0.30	Sikar
19.	Tie and Dye	6	38	2.31	2.26	Sikar, Fatehpur
20.	Gota (figures include unregistered units also)	8	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	Sikar, Lachhmangarh
IV. MINERAL BASED						
21.	Lime, Lime powder and China clay	9	229	14.34	24.90	Neem-ka-Thana, Maonda, Khokra, Reengus, Sri Madhopur, Lachhmangarh, Kanwat
22.	Mineral Grinding	3	74	14.03	14.00	Neem-ka-Thana, Maonda
23.	Cement products	4	14	0.40	0.31	Sikar, Reengus
24.	Stone chips	1	11	1.43	1.98	Sikar
25.	Artificial Teeth	1	2	0.11	0.28	Sikar
26.	Sodium Silicate	1	5	1.55	0.12	Sikar
V. OTHER INDUSTRIES						
27.	Desi jutis	1	7	0.09	0.17	Sikar
28.	Wooden Furniture	6	23	0.98	0.57	Sri Madhopur, Sikar, Danta Ramgarh

Source : Office of the Director, Small Industries Service Institute, Jaipur.

APPENDIX V
Industrial Cooperative Societies in Sikar District as on 30-6-1972

Type of Society	No. of societies	Membership (No.)	Share capital	Working capital	Loan out- standing	Borrowing
I OTHER THAN WEAVERS						
1. Carpentry	3	46	2,400	17,717	2,100	13,442
2. Blacksmith	1	13	3,100	13,711	—	2,778
3. <i>Bartan Utpadak</i>	1	16	1,980	16,581	—	7,700
4. Leather Workers	19	465	27,075	1,66,994	64,033	1,09,440
5. Bricks making	2	27	70	69	—	—
6. Calico printing	1	16	15,000	62,902	—	35,616
7. <i>Gota Utpadak</i>	1	12	1,440	7,376	1,325	5,680
8. <i>Tel Ghani</i>	4	83	9,055	1,33,541	14,612	57,623
9. <i>Khilona Utpadak</i>	2	31	1,684	8,625	2,919	4,015
10. <i>Kuteer Udyog</i>	1	11	1,100	984	—	—
11. <i>Mahila</i>	1	13	—	3	—	—
Total	36	733	62,904	4,28,503	84,989	2,36,294
II WEAVERS' SOCIETIES						
1. Handloom Cotton	7	161	4,518	48,267	25,812	39,377
2. <i>Khadi</i> Cotton	2	500	9,792	1,06,679	—	45,947
Total	9	661	14,310	1,54,946	25,812	85,324

Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Sikar.

APPENDIX VI
Financial Assistance by Rajasthan Financial Corporation to Industries in Sikar District

Year	Name of the party	Loans sanctioned	Loans disbursed
1964-65	Sikar Hotel, Sikar	1,23,000	74,600
1969-70	Ambica Silicate & Chemical Works, Sikar	32,000	32,000
1970-71	M/s Kamal Ice Factory, Sikar	1,22,000	1,00,200
	Ambica Silicate & Chemical Works, Sikar	18,000	18,000
	Sikar Tie & Dye Industries, Sikar	40,000	40,000
1971-72	Pratap Textiles Industries, Sikar	25,000	25,000

Source : Office of the Secretary, Rajasthan Financial Corporation, Jaipur.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of indigenous banking

The area now comprised in the district was formerly a part of the erstwhile Jaipur State. It is well known that the whole Shekhawati, which is the general nomenclature for the area, is the home of large business houses of the country. The gazetteer of 1908 has recorded that large banking and exchange business on large scale was carried on in the more important towns of Shekhawati¹.

The following extract amply testifies to the existence of prosperous trade and financial business in the tract: "On the black sandy tracts of the *Shekhawati* area one sees palatial residences of bankers in places like Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh and Fatehpur. These buildings are often more imposing than the beautiful edifices in Bombay and Calcutta²".

General Credit Facilities

INDEBTEDNESS—There are no survey reports available to show the extent of indebtedness, either in the rural areas or in urban areas of the district. The Census of 1951, however, recorded that there was no heavy indebtedness in the agricultural sector³.

ROLE OF NON-BANKING FINANCIERS—Upto early fifties, according to the observations available in the 1951 Census report of the district, agriculture was mainly financed by the cultivator himself or through loans from the landlord, or through the "more fortunate neighbour"⁴ and some kind of money-lending was in vogue. The absence of sufficient banking and co-operative institutions left wide field for the money-lender. Whatever assistance the cultivator got was from the State Revenue and Agriculture Departments in the form of seed distribution and *Taccavi* loans. Things have, of late, changed. The principal factor which has contributed to

the change in the situation, since the above observation was recorded, is the availability of co-operative finance.

The institution of money-lending also has been regularised now by the registration of money-lenders. The Rajasthan Money-lenders' Act, 1963 was enforced in 1965. Upto 1972 (June), a total of 1,167 applications had been received and 1,154 disposed of, the number of persons who had been granted licences being 475. The authorised rate of interest is 9 per cent on secured loans and 12 per cent on unsecured loans¹.

JOINT STOCK BANKS²—A beginning in the establishment of banking facilities in the district was made in March, 1944 with the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Jaipur Ltd. at Sikar. Soon afterwards (in April 1944), another branch was opened at Fatehpur. During the fifties, another branch was established at Neem-ka-Thana in 1958. In 1961, there were banking offices at Sikar, Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Danta Ramgarh, Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. At all these places, the branches were operated by State Bank of Jaipur (which was formed by the conversion of the Bank of Jaipur Ltd. into a subsidiary of State Bank of India). It has since merged with State Bank of Bikaner to form State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, a subsidiary of State Bank of India.

At the end of 1972-73, the district had 19 banking offices. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur had the largest number of branches (7) in the district. Besides the Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana, branches of the bank in the district were opened at Lachhmangarh and Danta Ramgarh in 1960, at Sri Madhopur in 1961 and at Khatu Shyamji ki in 1971.

The other bank operating an equal number of branches was Punjab National Bank. Two of its seven branches in the district were opened during 1968 at Sikar and Reengus. Another three branches were opened in 1971 at Kanwat, Ranoli and Losal. The remaining two branches, opened in 1972, were at Ajitgarh and Palsana.

Central Bank of India opened a branch at Ramgarh (Shekhawati) in 1969, in which year a branch of Dena Bank was started at the same place. The Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. operates a branch at Neem-ka-Thana since 1971.

United Commercial Bank has a branch at Sikar which started functioning in 1962, and Bank of Baroda has been operating in the district at Khandela since 1970.

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Rajputana*, Calcutta, 1908, p. 245. The principal towns of Shekhawati area in the district were Sikar, Fatehpur, Ramgarh and Lachhmangarh. (*Ibid.*, p. 253).
2. As quoted in *Jaipur Album*, Chapter XVIII, p. 2.
3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, Part I, Jodhpur, 1956, p. v.
4. *Ibid.*

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.
2. Source : Offices of individual banks.

A statement of deposits and advances of all the branches of banks taken together since 1970 is given in the following table¹ :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Deposits	Loans and Advances
1970*	128	80
1971*	195	78
1972**	240	153

Under the lead bank scheme introduced after the nationalisation of 14 banks, Punjab National Bank has been designated as the lead bank for the district². Upto 1972-73, the bank has made advances to the tune of Rs. 44 lakhs for construction of 2,309 wells in the district³.

Co-operative Movement

The co-operative movement in the district started in 1944 under the Jaipur State Co-operative Societies Act, 1943. At the time of the formation of Rajasthan in 1949, the district had 42 co-operative societies with a total membership of 5,550 and a working capital of Rs. 1,23,693.

FIRST FIVE YEAR PLAN—During the First Five Year Plan⁴, 29 more societies including a co-operative bank were established. The total membership of the societies established during this Plan was 2,636 with a share capital amounting to Rs. 54,002. Details of the societies established during the First Plan were as follows⁵ :

S. No.	Type of society	No.	Membership (No.)	Share capital (Rs.)
1.	Central Co-operative Bank	1	47	2,675
2.	Kray Vikray Sangh	1	24	3,000

1. Source : *Basic Statistics, Basic Statistical Returns*, volume I of December, 1972 and volume III of December, 1973 and *Statistical Tables relating to Banks in India*, volumes for 1970 and 1971, published by the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.

* as on 31st December.

** as on last Friday of the year.

2. After the nationalisation of 14 major scheduled banks in 1969, a Co-operation Committee was set up consisting of custodians of the nationalised banks. This committee formulated the lead bank scheme, under which a number of districts were allotted to each bank which was required to assess the credit requirements of the area and to take lead in measures aimed at fulfilling them.

3. Source : Office of the Regional Manager, Punjab National Bank, Jaipur.

4. *Co-operative Statistics, 10 years of progress*, Co-operative Department, Rajasthan, 1961, p. 4.

5. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gram Bank	1	95	1,165
4.	Sahkari Bhandar	3	1,803	24,730
5.	Multi-purpose	11	299	10,282
6.	Weavers'	7	264	1,245
7.	Leather products	3	63	1,610
8.	Tel Ghani	1	32	8,375
9.	Agricultural Co-operative	1	9	920
	Total	29	2,636	54,002

SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN—During the Second Five Year Plan, new societies were established, the largest number of these being that of agricultural credit societies. The cumulative position at the end of the Second Plan (1960-61) was as follows¹ :

S. No.	Type of society	No.	Membership (No.)	Share capital (Rs.)
1.	Central Co-operative Bank	1	874	4,43,600
2.	Agricultural Credit	313	20,931	4,61,779
3.	Non-Agricultural Credit	9	159	6,640
4.	Primary Land Mortgage Bank	1	76	3,800
5.	Kray Vikray	3	187	81,630
6.	Dugdh Utpadak	1	11	110
7.	Farming	8	111	16,734
8.	Agricultural non-credit	13	113	4,708
9.	Primary store	1	1,228	6,304
10.	Weavers'	35	891	16,879
11.	Other industrial	62	992	89,928
12.	Other non-agricultural non-credit	3	115	1,600
13.	Supervising Union	1	22	—
14.	Zila Sansthan	1	174	—
15.	Societies under liquidation	39	8,545	52,225
	Total	491	34,429	11,85,937

During the Second Plan period, the Central Co-operative Bank disbursed loans amounting to Rs. 93.75 lakhs and recovered Rs. 62.10 lakhs. At the end of the Plan, thus, the bank had Rs. 31.65 lakhs outstanding against the societies.

In order to make the societies viable, the State government contributed Rs. 1,00,000 to the capital of the Central Co-operative Bank and

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

Rs. 65,000 to the share capital of 3 *Kray Vikray Samitis*, which were organised one each at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. Each *Samiti* got a loan of Rs. 18,750 and a grant of Rs. 6,250 for the construction of godowns. In addition, the Neem-ka-Thana *Samiti* was given a loan of Rs. 4,500 and a grant of Rs. 1,500 for a rural godown.

A sum of Rs. 38,122.50 was also given as grant for various purposes to co-operative societies. The various purposes for which the grants were given and the number of societies receiving the grants are shown in the following table¹ :

S. No.	Purpose of Grant	No. of Recipient societies	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Managerial	15	13,622.50
2.	Furniture	4	1,000.00
3.	Prize Distribution	1	75.00
4.	Godown Construction	3	20,250.00
5.	Stipend	1	2,800.00
6.	Miscellaneous	1	375.00
Total		25	38,122.50

The Central Co-operative Bank opened a branch at Sri Madhopur during the Plan period (May, 1960).

THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN—The emphasis on agricultural credit societies during the Second Plan was continued during the Third Plan. In all, 148 additional societies having a membership of 20,036 and a total share capital Rs. 9.92 lakhs were established during the period of the Third Plan.

During this period, the Sikar Central Co-operative Bank disbursed Rs. 59.94 lakhs as loans. The recoveries amounted to Rs. 66.09 lakhs. The amount of Rs. 25.50 lakhs remained outstanding against the societies at the end of the Plan.

The Sikar Bhoomi Vikas Bank advanced medium-term loans amounting to Rs. 3,11,737, recoveries being of Rs. 1,45,131. The amount outstanding against members at the end of the Plan was Rs. 2,97,224.

The amount of Rs. 4,10,900 was contributed by the government to the share capital of 42 societies, the largest number being of *Gram Seva Samitis*. The largest amount, however, went to the Central Co-operative Bank. Branches of the bank were opened at Neem-ka-Thana and Ramgarh (Shekhawati). Thus at the end of the Plan, there were three branches of the bank operating in the district.

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

During this Plan, two village service (*Gram Seva*) societies were given Rs. 8,437 as loan and Rs. 5,625 as grant for construction of godowns. Besides, the Sikar Kray Vikray Sahkari Samiti was also given a loan of Rs. 7,500 and a grant of Rs. 2,500 for the same purpose. The amount of godown loans recovered during the period came to Rs. 10,600.

An amount of Rs. 1,06,802 was given as grants to 23 societies of which labour contract societies formed the largest group. The type-wise number of societies receiving grants and the amount each group received were as follows¹ :

S. No.	Type of societies	No.	Amount (Rs.)
1.	<i>Zila Sangh</i>	1	44,712
2.	Central Co-operative Bank	1	24,300
3.	Wholesale <i>Bhandar</i>	1	11,000
4.	Land Development Bank	1	2,500
5.	<i>Kray Vikray</i>	3	18,350
6.	Labour Contract	7	2,650
7.	Utensils manufacturing	1	400
8.	Village Service	1	300
9.	<i>Chundari Pila</i>	1	250
10.	Employees' societies	2	340
11.	<i>Ghani Oil</i>	1	250
12.	<i>Loha Utpadak</i>	1	500
13.	Weavers'	1	1,000
14.	Railway Labour	1	250
Total		23	1,06,802

At the end of the Plan period, the district had a total of 639 societies, with an aggregate share capital of Rs. 21,77,578. The membership of all the societies combined was 54,465.

The position of the movement at the end of the Plan (1965-66) was as follows² :

S. No.	Type of societies	No.	Membership (No.)	Share capital (Rs.)
1.	Central Co-operative Bank	1	488	8,33,700
2.	Agricultural Credit	409	32,239	7,67,312
3.	Non-Agricultural Credit	17	509	21,246
4.	Primary Land Mortgage (Development) Bank	1	402	25,901

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

2. *Ibid.*

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Kray Vikray	3	396	1,05,590
6.	Dugdh Utpadak	1	11	110
7.	Ghee Utpadak	1	35	460
8.	Bhed Palan	7	121	3,586
9.	Farming	9	112	28,419
10.	Wholesale Bhandar	1	6,210	1,67,575
11.	Prathmik Bhandar	3	314	5,771
12.	Charma Utpadak	25	1,101	20,172
13.	Other Industrial	71	1,318	95,293
14.	Other Non-Agricultural Non-Credit	21	310	37,060
15.	Supervising Union	1	—	—
16.	Zila Sansthan	1	303	—
17.	Under liquidation	67	10,596	65,383
	Total	639	54,465	21,77,578

The Rajasthan Money-lenders' Act, 1963, was enforced in 1965. During 1965-66, a total of 945 applications were received and an income of Rs. 14,205 accrued on account of application fees.

At present (the end of the co-operative year 1971-72 ending June), the district had 526 societies which had 71,277 members. The share capital of these societies was Rs. 35.05 lakhs and the working capital Rs. 206.29 lakhs. The type-wise number of societies and their membership are shown in the following table¹ :

S. No.	Type of societies	No.	Membership (No.)
1.	Central Co-operative Bank	1	358
2.	Primary Land Mortgage (Development) Bank	1	3,268
3.	Central non-credit	4	748
4.	Agricultural credit	296	40,484
5.	Agricultural non-credit	4	91
6.	Non-Agricultural credit	17	737
7.	Non-Agricultural non-credit	73	8,906
8.	Under liquidation	130	16,685
	Total	526	71,277

CO-OPERATIVE BANK—The Sikar Kendriya Sahkari Bank Ltd. (Central Co-operative Bank), was registered in 1951 (July 23), but as the

1. Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1972, pp. 98-99.

co-operative movement was yet to take its roots in the district, the bank was liquidated after some time of its establishment. When agricultural co-operatives began to be established in the district, a need was felt for a co-operative banking institution. The Rural Credit Survey Committee of the Reserve Bank of India also recommended that there should be a co-operative bank in each district. Consequently, the liquidation orders were withdrawn and the State Government contributed Rs. 1,00,000 towards the share capital of the bank to help it re-start. The bank started normal functions from March, 1958. Over the years the bank has made considerable progress as will be seen from the following table¹ :

(Rs. in lakhs)

	March, 1958	As in/on 30-6-72	30-6-73
Membership (No.)	29	358	361
Share capital	0.03	11.45	11.96
Reserves	—	0.71	0.71
Deposits	0.09	11.90	17.00
Borrowings	—	25.75	28.28
Loans and Advances outstanding	—	36.60	47.22
Working capital	0.12	52.63	64.34

The bank charges 7 per cent interest on medium and short term agricultural loans. Short-term loans are for agricultural purposes like the purchase of seed, fertilisers etc. and medium term loans for the construction of tube wells, installation of pumping sets, construction of irrigation channels, purchase of implements etc. The rate of interest for salaried persons' co-operative societies, marketing, industrial and weavers' societies, wholesale store and individuals is 9 per cent.

The branches of the bank (as on 30-6-1972) are at following places :

Place	Date of opening
Sri Madhopur	20th May, 1960
Neem-ka-Thana	14th November, 1962
Ramgarh (Shekhawati)	22nd February, 1964
Danta Ramgarh	8th January, 1971
Fatehpur	15th November, 1973

SIKAR CO-OPERATIVE LAND DEVELOPMENT BANK—This bank was registered in September, 1960. The bank was unable to advance any

1. Sources: Office of the Manager, Central Co-operative Bank, Sikar, Also, Sankhikiya Rooprekha, Sikar, volumes for 1973 and 1974.

loan till 1962 due to lack of sufficient extension work in the district. It advances long-term loans to agriculturists for tubewells, pumping sets and tractors. The period of the loan ranges from 7 to 10 years and the rate of interest is 9½ per cent. A branch was opened on 1st January, 1970 at Neem-ka-Thana, which was transferred to Sri Madhopur on 27th July, 1972. This is the only branch in the whole district. The working figures of the bank for 1962-63 and 1971-72 (co-operative years) are given in the following table¹ :

Particulars	('000 Rs.)	
	1962-63	1971-72
Membership (No.)	167	3,268
Share Capital	10	349
Working Capital	28	4,475
Loans Advanced	14	172
Loans Recovered	0.1	459

National Savings²

The district is controlled by the District Savings Officer, headquartered at Sikar. The district office was established in 1952. The gross collection of small savings in the district amounted to Rs. 40.05 lakhs in 1972-73 and the sales to Rs. 6.67 lakhs. The year-wise sales figures since 1963-64 have been as follows :

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Gross sales	Net sales
1963-64	13.20	6.01
1964-65	11.98	4.09
1965-66	12.81	2.45
1966-67	14.18	3.29
1967-68	25.01	10.12
1968-69	23.81	6.40
1969-70	21.19	1.24
1970-71	N. A.*	4.65
1971-72	33.78	6.55
1972-73	40.05	6.67

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

2. Office of the District Savings Officer, National Savings, Sikar.

*N. A. = Not available.

A new scheme known as Students' Savings Bank had been introduced in the following 7 schools, upto February, 1974 :

1. Seth G. R. Chamaria Secondary School, Fatehpur.
2. Government Girls' Secondary School, Sikar.
3. Shri Digamber Jain Higher Secondary School, Sikar.
4. Bagaria Bal Vidya Niketan, Lachhmangarh.
5. Shri Kalyan Higher Secondary School, Sikar.
6. Shri Panna Lal Chitlangia Government Higher Secondary School, Sikar.
7. Government Secondary School, Bai.

The scheme aims at inculcating the savings habit among students and also to impart training in keeping accounts. Sanchayika, as the scheme is called, is a savings bank of school children run by children under the supervision of teachers and the headmasters of the schools. The Bank Managers, the counter clerks and the accountants all are students. It teaches them the normal practice of banking and acquaints them with instruments of money (cheques etc.). It also helps them in acquiring qualities of leadership.

The Government Girls' Secondary School, Sikar and Shri Digamber Jain Secondary School, Sikar have covered 100 per cent of the students under the scheme, the collection as on March 31, 1974 being Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 6,500 respectively; they have been awarded prizes and appreciation letters by the State Government.

The progress of the scheme in all schools is shown in the following table¹ :

Name of School	Membership as on 1-2-1974	Year of Introduction
1. G. R. Chamaria Secondary School, Fatehpur	146	1971-72
2. Govt. Girls' Secondary School, Sikar	370	1971-72
3. Shri Digamber Jain Secondary School, Sikar	789	1972-73
4. Bagaria Bal Vidya Niketan, Lachhmangarh	70	1972-73
5. S. K. Higher Secondary School, Sikar	301	1972-73
6. Shri Panna Lal Chitlangia Secondary School, Sikar	73	1973-74
7. Government Secondary School, Bai	65	1973-74

1. Source : Office of the District Savings Officer, National Savings, Sikar.

Life Insurance

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA—There is a branch office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India at Sikar. The Corporation offers all types of insurance covers viz., endowment, whole life etc. The year-wise progress of business in the district is given in the following table¹ :

Year	No. of Policies	Sum Assured (Rs. in Lakhs)
1966-67	1,387	67.74
1967-68	1,338	62.22
1968-69	1,470	79.07
1969-70	1,200	67.11
1970-71	1,301	81.28
1971-72	1,905	108.25
1972-73	1,873	109.06

STATE INSURANCE—The employees of the state government have been compulsorily insured by the government since 1954 and a premium according to pre-determined slabs is deducted from their salaries at source. The present (since 1970) slabs are as follows² :

Salary Range	Amount of Premium (Rs.)
Upto 70	5
71-90	7
91-140	9
141-200	14
201-300	20
301-400	30
451-650	45
651-900	65
901-1250	90
1251-1600	115
1601-2000	145
2001 and above	175

The number of policies under the state insurance scheme which was 5,140 in 1964-65 had increased to 6,400 by 1971-72. Consequently, the sum recovered annually as premium also showed an increase from Rs. 2.95 lakhs to Rs. 7.90 lakhs over the same period. The progress of the state insurance scheme is shown in Appendix I at the end of the chapter.

1. Source : Office of the Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Ajmer.
2. Source : Office of the Director of Insurance, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Currency and Coinage

The most of the area of the district formed a part of the former Jaipur State. The treasure trove¹ found by the State Department of Archaeology and Museums at places peripheral to Sikar points to the prevalence of Punchmarked coins in the region. Such type of coins have also been reported in the collection of the former Rao Raja of Sikar. Coins of the Yaudheyas were probably prevalent in the area after the Mauryans, and till the advent of Guptas, as indicated by the excavations of an early-historic site at Sambhar (in Jaipur district) which yielded the coins of Yaudheyas, Kumar Gupta and Indo-Sassanian type. Adivaraha coins, issued by Pratihara King Bhojadeva of Kanauj in 9th century also seem to be in circulation in the area. The discovery² of a good number of Horseman-bull type of coins in a treasure trove found at Ladoosar in 1939-40 point to the fact of their prevalence in Sikar area also. They were of silver, copper and sometimes of alloy of both metals. After 1193 A. D. and till the times of Aurangzeb, there is no reason to believe that currencies other than those of Delhi Sultans and emperors were prevalent here. This is corroborated by the discovery of a treasure trove consisting of 14 copper coins of Alauddin Khilji from village Harsha in the district and another one consisting of 1,080 coins of Lodi Sultan discovered at Amarsar and some other places in its neighbourhood.

As the Mughal power declined, the Indian States gradually assumed the right of striking coins for themselves. But for economic, political and other reasons, they issued coins in the prevailing Imperial Mughal type retaining the emperor's name³. Jaipur was among the first Rajput States to be granted permission to set up an independent mint⁴. Sikar had, among some other places in the state, a mint; this was closed in the nineteenth century.

The detailed description of the currency of Jaipur State will be out of place here. However, its salient features are given here as they have relevance to Sikar. The Jaipur coinage was called *Jharshahi*, the mint mark being a *Jhar* of six branches. The gold coin was the *Muhar* and silver coins were the rupee, eight anna, four anna and two anna bits. The copper coin was the *paisa*. The gold, silver and copper coins bore the following legends inscribed in Persian⁵:

1. Source: Office of the Superintendent Art Survey, Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. Gupta, P. L. : *Coins*, 1969, p. 169.
4. Webb., W. W. : *The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana*, Westminster, 1893, p. 71, et. seq.
5. Source : Office of the Superintendent Art Survey, Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Obverse : "Sikka Mubarak Badshah Ghazi Ahmad Shah Bahadur"

Reverse : "Zarab Sawai Jaipur Sanah Jalus Mainnat Manus".

These coins continued upto 1818 A. D. when Jaipur ruler entered into a treaty with East India Company. But this treaty did not alter the minting rights of the State; the only change introduced was that the name of the Mughal emperor was substituted by the name of the British Crown, the language remaining Persian.

The Jaipur State currency in 1947-48 is described in the following extract¹ :

"The State has coinage of its own called *Jharshahi*, the coins struck being the gold *Muhar*, which contains about 10½ *Mashas* of pure gold and is sold at present for about Rs. 108/12/- (Indian coin) and though not a legal tender, circulates freely throughout Rajputana and to a limited extent in other parts of India; the *Jharshahi* rupee weighs about 174.73 grains, its present market value being slightly higher than that of the India rupee."

The British coinage which was current in Sikar along with all other parts of the country consisted of pie, paisa, half-anna, anna, four annas, eight annas and one rupee coins. In this coinage, twelve pies were equal to one anna and 16 annas made a rupee. The eight anna and the four anna pieces were naturally equal to half and quarter rupee respectively.

DECIMAL COINAGE—The decimal coinage was introduced² in the district along with the rest of the country in 1957. In the new system, the rupee was divided into 100 paise instead of 64 as in the old system. The old and new currencies were allowed to circulate side by side for some time, in order to allow the people to get used to the new system. The paise of the decimal system was called *Naya* (new) paise during the transitional period. The various coins of the new system at the end of 1972-73 were of these denominations : one paise, two paise, three paise, five paise, ten paise, twenty five paise, fifty paise and one rupee.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Exports and Imports

The position of trade of Shekhawati area at the beginning of the present century is described in the old gazetteer thus : ".....trade of

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jaipur State, for Samvat 2004* (September, 1947 to August, 1948).

2. Source: Office of Assistant Collector, Weights and Measures, Sikar.

Shekhawati travels principally either north-east to the great mart of Bhiwani in Hissar, or south-west to Ajmer. The principal export from Shekhawati is wool, and the imports are grain, sugar, piece-goods, spices, and tobacco; for the carriage of these, camels are used almost exclusively¹.

The district is an exporter² of industrial raw materials and some finished products. Agricultural produce like *Bajra*, *Moth*, *Moong*, *Guar* etc. are also exported. Animals and animal products also form important export items.

Among the principal imports are finer food-grains, sugar, construction material, industrial machinery, raw materials, chemicals, textiles, medicines, general merchandise etc.

The calcite powder goes to Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi, limestone to Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Agra, dolomite to Bombay and Delhi, quartz to Firozabad, Shikohabad, Khurja and Dholpur and China clay to Khurja and Delhi.

Goats are exported to Delhi and Jaipur. Goat and sheep skins are sent to Delhi, Madras etc. Bones of dead animals largely go to Jaipur. Wool is sent to the Bikaner *Mandi* from where it finds its way to various consuming centres.

Among industrial products, beam scale are sent to Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh etc., washing soap to Jhunjhunu and Churu, ayurvedic medicines to Bengal, Bihar and Assam, *Pan masala*, hair oil and candles to Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland, Assam and Bengal, washers and strips to Dalmianagar and polished cotton yarn to Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Ludhiana and Amritsar.

The tie and dye products find markets in Assam, Calcutta and Bihar and *Gota Kinari* products in Delhi, Haryana and Punjab.

As regards imports, there is hardly any bulk direct import from manufacturers. As such most imports come from nearby centres of wholesale, like Jaipur.

Trade Centres

REGULATED MARKETS—There are regulated markets for the disposal of agricultural produce at Sikar, Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana. Both wholesale and retail trade are carried on at these *Mandis*.

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Rajputana*, Calcutta, 1908, p. 245.

2. On the basis of information contained in Census Handbooks, and information supplied by various municipalities, Panchayat Samitis and Small Industries Service Institute Jaipur.

The *Mandi* at Sikar¹ started functioning with effect from October 7, 1968. The market committee is composed of 15 members, including a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman. The committee's 13 members represent various interests, viz., agriculturists, traders, municipal council and the government.

There were 279 functionaries at the end of 1972-73. These were composed of the following classes :

	(No.)
Traders	109
Brokers	58
Retailers	107
Kray Vikray Sahkari Samiti	1
<i>Paledars</i>	2
Weighman	1
State Warehousing Corporation	1
	279

The catchment area of the market is composed of the area of Panchayat Samitis Dhod, Piprali, 70 villages of Panchayat Samiti, Danta Ramgarh and 29 villages of Panchayat Samiti, Lachhmangarh.

The principal commodities attracted to the *Mandi* are *Moong*, *Bajra*, *Moth*, wheat, *Guar*, chillies, gram, barley, *Til*, *Methi*, *Jowar*, mustard etc. In 1972-73, the total quantity of all commodities which arrived in the *Mandi* was about 40 thousand quintals. Commodity-wise arrivals for five years and their value are given in appendix II at the end of the chapter.

The principal exports² from this *Mandi* are *Moong*, *Moth* and gram. These go to Delhi, Sujangarh, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Bombay, Gauhati, Ahmedabad, Madras, Jamnagar etc.

The staff of the *Mandi* consists of a Secretary, two lower division clerks, one auction clerk, one auctioneer, two class IV servants and four chowkidars.

The income and expenditure of the *Mandi* during the last five years ending 1972-73 were as follows:

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, Sikar.
2. *Ibid.*

	(Rs.)	
Year	Income	Expenditure
1968-69	22,748	14,641
1969-70	61,260	29,639
1970-71	59,926	29,615
1971-72	57,984	32,244
1972-73	1,04,559	41,324

The Fatehpur¹ market was regulated with effect from October 19, 1967. The *Mandi* committee consists of 15 members as follows :

Constituency	Representatives (No.)
Cultivators	7
Traders	2
Municipal Committee	2
Co-operative Bank	1
Co-operative Marketing Society	1
Local Body	1
Government	1

The hinterland of the market is the area of Panchayat Samiti, Fatehpur and the municipal boards of Fatehpur and Ramgarh. It also includes Lachhmangarh tahsil except 55 villages.

The market functionaries as at the end of 1972-73 were 10 commission agents, 22 traders, and 30 retailers.

The principal commodities in the market are wheat, gram, barley, rice, *Bajra*, *Moong*, *Moth*, cowpea, *Guar*, chillies, groundnut, *Til* etc. The exports are mostly to Jaipur, Delhi and Sikar. The arrivals of some of the commodities for the last few years are shown in appendix III at the end of the chapter. The income and expenditure from 1968-69 onwards have been as follows² :

	(Rs.)	
Year	Income	Expenditure
1968-69	12,531	11,768
1969-70	11,273	16,105
1970-71	12,628	13,585
1971-72	13,642	13,225
1972-73	15,931	14,743

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, Fatehpur.
2. *Ibid.*

The staff consists of a secretary, one lower division clerk and one peon.

The market at Sri Madhopur¹ has a catchment area which consists of the whole of the Panchayat Samitis of Khandela and Sri Madhopur.

This market was regulated on August, 15, 1967. The committee, consisting of representatives of various constituencies, is composed of the following :

Constituency	Representatives (No.)
Cultivators	7
Traders	2
Government	1
Local	2
Co-operatives (Bank and Societies)	2
Municipal Board	2

This market receives wheat, barley, gram, rape and mustard, cumin, *Methi*, *Dhanla*, *Bajra*, *Moong*, *Guar*, groundnut, chillies, maize, cowpea, *Moth*, *Til*, onion, garlic, tomatoes etc. The yearly arrivals since 1968-69 are given in appendix IV at the end of the chapter.

The functionaries number 335 as detailed below :

Commission Agents	78
Traders	108
Weighmen	35
Labourers	5
Co-operative Society	1
Small traders	104
Cartmen	4
	<u>335</u>

The important commodities exported from the *Mandi* are cowpea, *Moong*, *Moth* etc. These go to Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

The staff of the *Samiti* (as on 31-1-1973) was one secretary, four auction clerks, one lower division clerk, one class IV employee and two chowkidars.

The income and expenditure for the last four years were as follows :

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, Sri Madhopur.

Year	(Rupees)	
	Income	Expenditure
1969-70	31,315	28,296
1970-71	33,416	25,799
1971-72	32,142	25,448
1972-73	38,648	39,821

The Neem-ka-Thana Krishi Upaj Mandi¹ was started on May 21, 1967. The market committee, established on February 18, 1967 now consists of a total of 15 members representing the various interests as follows :

Constituency	Number of representatives
Government	2
Agriculturists	7
Traders	2
Local Authority	2
Co-operative sector	2

The catchment area of the market is spread over 27 villages of Panchayat Samiti, Udaipur Vatika, area of the Panchayat Samiti, Neem-ka-Thana and the municipal limits of Neem-ka-Thana. It receives wheat, barley, *Jowar*, *Bajra*, *Moong*, groundnut, *Til*, *Sarson*, *Taramira*, chillies, *Zeera*, *Methi*, *Moth*, *Guar*, *Rai*, potato, onion etc.

There were 316 market functionaries as on 31-3-1973. The details are given below :

	(No.)
Brokers	19
Traders	57
Retailers	69
Society	1
Weighmen	20
Hamals	150
Total	<u>316</u>

The important commodities going out from this market are groundnut, *Sarson*, gram, *Moong*, *Moth* and *Taramira*.

The staff of the *Samiti* consists of a secretary, one lower division clerk, one auction clerk, one auctioneer, one chowkidar and one class IV official.

1. Source: Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Neem-ka-Thana.

The income and expenditure for the last five years are shown in the following table:

(‘000 Rs.)		
Year	Income	Expenditure
1968-69	17	15
1969-70	28	19
1970-71	17	12
1971-72	24	15
1972-73	43	21

Year-wise figures of arrivals of various commodities are given in Appendix V at the end of the chapter.

Warehousing Facilities¹

The Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation operates warehouses at Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Sri Madhopur and Fatehpur (Shekhawati). All these warehouses are in hired premises. The goods are stored scientifically, and proper steps are taken for their preservation. The stocks are insured against damage by fire and loss through thefts. The depositors are allowed to obtain advances against the stocks from banks by producing the warehouse receipts.

The rates of storage charges as on April 1, 1973 were as follows:

Commodity	Quantity	Charges (in paise) per month per bag
1. All foodgrains & pulses	under 101 kg.	30
	above 101 kg. to under 111 kg.	34
2. Sugar	under 101 kg.	33
3. Cement	upto 51 kg.	12
4. All types of fertilisers	under 51 kg.	13
	above 51 kg.	26

Capacity-wise, the Sikar warehouse is the largest with storage facility for 1,493 tonnes of goods. This is also the oldest warehouse having been opened in November, 1969, followed by the Lachhmangarh warehouse opened in February 1970. The other two, at Sri Madhopur and Fatehpur (Shekhawati) were opened in October, 1972 and March, 1973 respectively. The capacity available and utilised at the Sikar and Lachhmangarh warehouses since 1970 is shown in the following table :

1. Source : Office of the Rajasthan Warehousing Corporation, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Year	Lachhmangarh		(tonnes)	
	Capacity	Occupancy	Capacity	Occupancy
1970	2,000	1,680	5,127	5,127
1971	3,777	3,434	8,130	8,130
1972	3,882	3,085	6,796	5,516
1973	1,188	112	1,493	1,103

At Sri Madhopur the capacity in 1973 was 405 tonnes and occupancy 79 tonnes. At Fatehpur (Shekhawati) the figures were 270 and 2 respectively.

The Lachhmangarh Warehouse is headed by a Manager, assisted by a Technical Assistant, two lower division clerks, two godown keepers and 2 class IV employees. The staff at Sikar consisted of one Manager, one Technical Assistant, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, two godown keepers and 3 class IV employees. The staff of Sri Madhopur and Fatehpur Warehouses consisted of only one Technical Assistant each (staff position given as at the end of 1972-73).

Important Retail Centres

There are retail markets at Sikar, Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh, Fatehpur, Khandela, Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. These markets generally speaking, supply the ordinary needs of the people for day to day necessities.

Some of the bigger villages have also local market, although not as elaborate as those in the towns. Such markets function in Beedasar, Magluna, Garoda, Dayal-ki-Nangal, Balloopura, Chhaja-ki-Nangal, Thoi, Lisariya, Losal, Palsana, Sundarpura, Dhani Chetandas, Barsinghpura, Ladhana, Raipura, Kailas, Mandha, Kankra, Dansroli and Karad.

Fairs

There are a number of fairs held in the district, but none of them is of state or national importance. These are all religious fairs¹. In all these fairs, only small transactions of goods take place.

Co-operation in Trade²

There is a wholesale co-operative store, the Sikar Wholesale Sahkari Upphokta Bhandar Ltd., Sikar, which was registered on 15th March,

1. Also see Chapter III.

2. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

1966. The store started business operations on 7th May, 1966. The area of operation of the store extends to all the municipal towns, viz., Sikar, Lachhmangarh, Fatehpur, Ramgarh, Khandela, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana.

The store is managed by a board consisting of 15 directors, of whom 12 are elected for a period of 2 years and 3 are nominated by the State Government. There are three committees, viz., Purchase Committee, Sales Promotion Committee and Executive Committee.

It runs 39 fair price and controlled cloth shops, in the various towns as shown below :

Town	(Number)	
	Fair price shops	Controlled cloth store
Sikar	18	—
Lachhmangarh	3	1
Fatehpur	3	1
Ramgarh	1 (combined with cloth store)	
Sri Madhopur	2	1
Khandela	3	1
Neem-ka-Thana	4	1

The organisation also operates two general stores in Sikar town. It has the sole distribution agency (for the district) for controlled cloth. Other controlled commodities, in which the store deals are sugar, wheat and vegetable oil. Among non-controlled commodities being handled by the store are soaps, toilet goods, tea, baby food, coffee, stationery, plastic goods, lanterns, electric goods, textiles, woollen hosiery, tyres, tubes, etc.

In 1965-66, the store had a membership of 6,210 which increased to 6,920 by 1972-73. The share capital also increased from Rs. 1.68 lakhs in 1965-66 to Rs. 2.54 lakhs in 1972-73. The year-wise figures of membership, share capital, purchases, sales and profit/loss are given in Appendix VI at the end of the chapter.

State Trading¹

FAIR PRICE SHOPS—The government supplies imported wheat, milo, *Jowar*, *Bajra*, maize, indigenous wheat and sugar through fair price-shops. The year-wise number of such shops in the district since 1964-65 was as follows :

1. Source : Office of the District Supply Officer, Sikar.

Year	No. of shops
1964-65	316
1965-66	324
1966-67	310
1967-68	310
1968-69	321
1969-70	335
1970-71	260
1971-72	273
1972-73	365

During 1972-73, the quantities distributed through the fair price shops were as follows : Milo 400 tonnes, *Jowar* 300 tonnes, *Bajra* 950 tonnes, maize 400 tonnes, indigenous wheat 8,360 tonnes and sugar 4,069 tonnes.

Merchants' and Consumers' Associations

There are commodity-wise associations as well as composite associations of traders at various places in the district as the following list indicates :

1. Sikar Vyapar Sangh, Sikar.
2. Sri Madhopur Vyapar Sangh, Sri Madhopur.
3. Neem-ka-Thana Vyapar Sangh, Neem-ka-Thana.
4. Fatehpur Vyapar Sangh, Fatehpur.
5. Lachhmangarh Vyapar Sangh, Lachhmangarh.
6. Halwai Sangh, Sikar.
7. Halwai Sangh, Lachhmangarh.
8. Halwai Sangh, Sri Madhopur.
9. Halwai Sangh, Neem-ka-Thana.
10. Truck and Bus Association, Sikar.
11. Coal Depot Sangh, Sikar.
12. Petrol Dealers Sangh, Sikar.
13. Kapra Vyapari Sangh, Sikar.
14. Central Store Aivum Manihari Vyapari Sangh, Sikar.
15. Timber Merchants Association, Sikar.
16. Kirana Merchants Sangh, Sikar.

Weights and Measures¹

OLD UNITS—During the princely regime, the units of weight in use were seers and maunds with their sub-divisions as in other parts of

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Controller of Weights and Measures, Sikar and Jhunjhunu, Sikar.

the state. A seer was made up of 80 tolas and a maund of 40 seers, i. e. 3,200 tolas. At some places the seer consisted of 100 tolas. There was no uniformity as such. Similar units were used for liquids and solids. For length, the measure was a yard consisting of 36 inches.

METRIC UNITS—The new units of weights and measures are based on decimal system, the sub-divisions being in multiples of ten. The yard has been replaced by the metre and the seer by kilogram. Liquid measure in the new system is litre.

The administrative set up in the district for the proper enforcement of new units of weights and measures consists of one Inspector of Weights and Measures at the district headquarters, assisted by an assistant inspector stationed at Fatehpur. The jurisdiction of the Inspector extends to tahsils Sikar, Danta Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana and that of the assistant inspector to tahsils Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and sub-tahsil Ramgarh.

The principal function of the Inspector is to enforce the use of the new units in trade and commerce. He is also to ensure that the weights and measures in use, conform to specifications so that the consumer gets full value for his money.

The Inspector keeps a complete account of the weights and measures being used by traders in his jurisdiction and inspects iron weights and measures and scales every two years and bullion weights every year. The Inspector also checks the weights and scales being used by Postal and Railway authorities. He has powers to challan the offenders.

The other staff consists of one manual assistant each for the Inspector and the assistant inspector, a lower division clerk and class IV employees at the headquarters. The achievements of the department in the field of verification and re-verification of new weights and measures, since 1968-69 are given in Appendix VII at the end of the chapter.

APPENDIX I

Progress of State Insurance

Items	Unit	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
1. Policies in force	No.	5,140	3,180	5,200	5,310	5,415	5,800	8,000	6,400
2. Premium recovered	Rs. in lakhs	2.95	5.31	3.98	4.55	5.65	6.12	7.46	7.90
3. Claims Paid	No.	15	20	10	15	11	18	10	10
(a) Death									
(b) Maturity		25	48	40	45	43	56	33	52
(c) Surrender		8	9	7	6	3	3	2	2
4. Claims paid	Rs. in lakhs								
(a) Death		0.17	0.25	0.14	0.21	0.19	0.37	0.24	0.21
(b) Maturity		0.10	0.27	0.24	0.31	0.41	0.59	0.55	0.46
(c) Surrender		0.006	0.01	0.01	0.009	0.03	0.005	0.004	Negligible
5. Loans									
(i) Persons	Cases	193	239	244	242	266	310	287	296
(ii) Amount given	Rs. in lakhs	0.57	0.70	0.85	0.88	0.95	1.25	1.43	1.70

Source : Office of Director, State Insurance Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX II

Arrivals in Krishi Upaj Mandi, Sikar

S.No.	Commodity	Quantities (in quintals)					Value (in Rs.)				
		1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
1.	Wheat	56	385	5,718	6,778	3,577	5,687	27,570	5,69,064	5,94,349	3,39,776
2.	Barley	9	159	3,075	3,107	705	378	6,825	2,12,642	1,61,099	59,112
3.	Bajra	134	9,180	9,536	8,423	10,280	2,886	6,36,256	8,64,969	5,00,425	9,36,122
4.	Jowar	—	18	—	48	—	—	2,014	—	3,311	—
5.	Gram	3	93	289	1,007	1,597	240	8,498	27,104	94,838	1,62,400
6.	Moong	16,468	42,230	5,08,885	50,495	10,729	17,65,515	31,71,492	57,08,257	68,44,959	23,03,729
7.	Moth	1,898	18,823	12,568	19,841	6,150	1,65,828	16,46,911	9,83,704	16,02,884	8,64,131
8.	Guar	2,373	12,383	22,442	15,538	4,880	2,23,435	9,54,878	14,18,315	7,52,181	2,94,978
9.	Sarson	29	11	5	10	17	3,625	1,366	550	1,360	2,218
10.	Til	—	9	—	62	55	—	1,746	—	14,217	15,109
11.	Chillies	172	956	2,746	113	2,598	16,172	85,146	3,32,839	11,235	2,04,181
12.	Methi	19	24	51	63	114	2,365	2,380	5,800	6,262	14,721

Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Sikar.

APPENDIX III

Arrivals in Krishi Upaj Mandi, Fatehpur

Name of the Commodity	Quantity (Quintals)					Value (in Rs.)				
	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Moth	1,811	550	5,770	9,212	965	1,20,594	49,618	4,14,392	6,48,937	1,16,393
Guar	1,383	421	7,090	8,414	593	1,00,661	37,275	4,80,315	4,28,782	46,734
Bajra	2,237	150	590	917	56	1,54,251	13,869	47,237	1,21,547	5,894
Moong	180	40	1,226	397	26	18,275	3,637	1,29,508	25,360	5,755

Source : Office of the Krishi Upaj Mandi, Fatehpur.

APPENDIX IV

Arrivals in Krishi Upaj Mandi, Sri Madhopur

Year	Arrivals (quintals)	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1969-70	47,242	42
1970-71	74,440	45
1971-72	59,242	43.5
1972-73	31,628	36

Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Sri Madhopur.

APPENDIX V

Arrivals in Krishi Upaj Mandi, Neem-ka-Thana

Commodity	(Quintals)				
	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Barley	1,499	5,086	510	761	1,502
Wheat	613	5,659	1,349	2,380	14,531
Bajra	2,376	3,388	3,382	1,300	5,745
Sarson	163	2,648	4,417	5,023	2,376
Gram	203	1,118	1,552	9,669	16,665
Jowar	4,824	3,893	—	—	871
Chillies	153	211	5	—	825
Rai	33	68	38	47	381
Groundnut	119	566	1,067	991	2,258
Guar	4,824	3,803	461	—	4,294
Potato	—	—	—	—	730
Til	474	380	7	8	152
Methi	78	411	183	—	170
Moong	227	955	903	1,172	1,375

Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Neem-ka-Thana.

APPENDIX VI

Sikar Wholesale Sahkari Upbhokta Bhandar Ltd., Sikar-Progress Report from 1965-66 to 1971-72

S.No.	Particulars	(Rupees in lakhs)					
		1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
1.	Membership (Number)	6,210	6,368	6,464	6,674	6,676	6,652
2.	Share capital	1.68	2.25	2.51	2.54	2.52	2.52
3.	Purchases:						
	Controlled commodities	13.44	71.26	33.16	14.94	23.94	38.98
	Non-controlled commodities	0.08	3.12	3.17	3.86	1.05	0.73
4.	Sales:						
	Controlled commodities	10.83	76.18	33.96	16.76	25.66	41.73
	Non-controlled commodities	0.10	2.64	2.42	4.17	2.36	1.60
5.	Profit	0.12	0.34	0.11	—	—	0.29
6.	Loss	—	—	—	0.41	0.04	—
							0.05

Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar.

APPENDIX VII
Original verification and Reverification of Weights and Measures

S.No.	Heads	Units	Years				
			1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
1.	(a) Cast iron weights	No.	6555	7956	9789	9817	16328
	(b) Bullion	"	854	352	1078	1105	6627
	(c) Weighing instruments	"	4282	3967	261	4425	9355
	(d) Meter (tape measures)	"	130	145	86	40	438
	(e) Capacity measures	"	449	672	438	271	782
	(f) Measuring instruments	"	14	13	14	17	28
2.	Income	Rs.	7973	9112	6667	12674	20090
3.	(a) Prosecution cases made	No.	5	1	1	1	10
	(b) Produced in the court	"	5	1	1	1	10
	(c) Cases decided	"	4	-	-	-	-
	(d) Acquitted	"	-	-	-	-	-
	(e) Fined	"	4	-	-	-	-
	(f) Revenue realised by fines	Rs.	900	-	-	-	3756
	(g) Old weights seized	No.	101	83	-	86	178

Source : Office of the Assistant Controller of Weights & Measures, Sikar.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

The major part of the Sikar district is an undulating sandy tract. The greater part of its area being sandy and devoid of motor-roads and modern transport facilities, the main means of transport have been camels and bullock-carts, which served not only this district but the entire State of Rajasthan for thousands of years. There were hardly any road in the sense in which we understand this term, "A road in Rajasthan was a strip of land rather than a improved surface"¹. "For handling consignments of produce and merchandise and facilitating travelling bullock-carts, as mentioned by the contemporary writers and depicted by artists, were commonly used in eastern parts of Rajasthan where ground was generally even and hard. For uneven tracts of hilly regions pack-horses and bullocks were used". "... In deserts, camel was the most convenient means of travelling and transport. Humayun had a large number of them when he crossed the desert of Rajasthan. Carts drawn by the camels were also used in the old State of Jaipur"². The roads, both in towns and districts were very sandy and were practicable for carriages which were drawn by bullocks and camels or by four horses. Horses were used by the *Jagirdars*, *Bhomias* and barbers. The *Kumhars* used donkeys as a means of transport³. These means of transport have now become obsolete

With the coming of the Turks and the Mughals, and with the industrial and agricultural developments, stimulus was given to Rajasthan traffic, specially in the northern empire and the provinces of Gujarat and Malwa. In order to join new marts or to find new roads for marching armies, several routes came into prominence⁴. As mentioned in *Akbarnama*, there was one route from Agra to Ahmedabad which passed through Fatehpur, Sanganer, Ajmer and Nagaur⁵. But enormous distances, severe climatic conditions and scarcity of stone in desert areas accounted for the fact that ballasted roads appeared in Rajasthan only shortly before the rail roads. "The gradual development of roads indicates that trade had

1. William Finch.: *Early Travels in India*, p. 170.
2. Sharma, G. N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 329.
3. Hendley, T. H.: *Topographical Account of Jeypore*, pp. 82-83.
4. Sharma, G. N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 322.
5. *Ibid.*, p. 323.

been a great incentive to road building and the demand for goods not supplied locally stimulated road construction¹.

For many years road system was grossly inadequate for the needs of the district as the roads were mere sandy tracts. The village paths were so narrow that even a jeep could not pass through them. Therefore, the motor transport could not develop much due to the shortage of motorable roads in the district.

Motorised transport came to this district as late as 1925. Before this there was only one, 11 km. long road which was constructed in 1899 by Maharaja Madho Singh for personal use only. The direct route from Jaipur to Sikar was over a sandy road (64 miles) via Chomu, Reengus and Ranoli².

Before Independence a very small area of this district was served by Railways. The nearest railway station to Sikar was Nawa, at about 44 miles through Danta Ramgarh. The district could be reached from Nawa on the line of rail by Kuchaman, Didwana and Nechhwa, the distance from Nawa by this route was 48 miles³.

Postal services in this district were also scanty but "by the 16th century State postal services for administrative and military purposes were becoming common"⁴.

ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

The development of roads appears to have been slow even during the 19th century. Till Independence, transport organisations were not given the attention they deserved for a developing state, with the result that many villages in this district were untouched by the progress made elsewhere.

After Independence when Rajasthan Panchayat Act, 1951 came into force, the village panchayats started broadening the existing paths and laying new tracks to connect the villages with each other. During monsoon some portions of these roads and village paths used to cover with water and resulted in breaking of the connections between the villages of the district. Hence the traffic continued to be carried by camels and bullock-carts in the interior regions of the district where there were no roads or rail connections⁵.

1. Sharma, G.N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 325.
2. *Sikar Vikas Rajat Jayanti Smarika*, 1972, Sikar Jila Parishad, p. 39.
3. Hendley, T. H.: *Topographical Account of Jeypore*, pp. 82-83.
4. Sharma, G.N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 331.
5. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, p. VI.

Prior to implementation of the First Five Year Plan, Rajasthan State was backward in roads and the sandy paths were fixed from one village to another. Accordingly, due attention was paid towards the development of existing roads and increasing the mileage. Roads in the Sikar district were mere tracks full of dust in the summer season, and of mud and water in the rainy season. There were no metalled roads in this district except the one from Sikar to Harsh hill, about seven miles to the south of Sikar. But this road was in a very bad condition and required repairs. In the town of Sikar there was a metalled road for horse driven tongas and in other towns where there were only sandy tracks, tongas were driven by camels. According to the Census of 1951 the following fair weather roads had been demarcated¹.

1. Sri Madhopur-Sikar-Salasar-100 miles
2. Chomu-Renwal-Rajgarh-Danta-Khoor-Losal-60 miles
3. Sikar-Fatehpur-34 miles
4. Ratangarh-Fatehpur-24 miles

During the Second Plan there was a programme to connect all the tahsil headquarters of this district with the district headquarters and to connect all the important towns with each other by constructing the following metalled roads²:

1. Reengus-Sikar Road (33 miles)-11 miles road from 23rd to 33rd miles, had been metalled.
2. Sikar-Nawalgarh Road (18 miles).
3. Sikar-Salasar Road (33 miles).
4. Sikar-Lachhmangarh-Fatehpur-Ratangarh Road (64 miles).
5. Sikar-Danta Ramgarh-Marot Road (58 miles).
6. Kanwat to Khandela Road (12 miles).

These roads were only fair weather roads and were metalled during the Second Plan period.

During the Second Five Year Plan 46.1 per cent of the roads were painted and metalled and rest 53.9 per cent were fair weather and dressed up tracks. Nine road works were completed and a sum of Rs. 54.78 lakhs was spent on road development works in the district during the Second Plan period³. The net result of this development is indicated by the fact

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, p. VI.
2. *Third Five Year Plan Progress Report 1961-66*, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur (V. Transport and Communications) p. 36.
3. *Census of India, 1961, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. viii.

that 60 miles of roads in 1950-51 increased to 432 miles by the end of March, 1961.

The Third Five Year Plan went further and aimed at completing all the incomplete road works in the district. By the end of 1966-67 all the important places of the district got connected with bus routes. In the interior of the district, where road and rail facilities were not available, camels, bullock-carts and horses still remained the chief means of transport.

There were 316¹ motor vehicles on road during the year 1950-51 which increased to 545 by the end of 1961² and 1290 by 1970³.

During the year 1971-72 there were 805 km. of roads in the district. Out of this road length, 203 km. were metalled, 197 km. were fair weather roads and 103 km. formed national highway⁴. During the Third Plan Rs. 1.06 crores have been spent on the construction and development of roads, which has helped greatly in the development of trade and transport in this district. The table below indicates the length of various types of roads from 1956-57 and onwards⁵.

(Kilometres)

Year	Type of Road					Total
	Painted	Metalled	Gravelled	Fair weather and dressed up tracks	National highway	
1956-57*	21	64	—	226	—	311
1957-58*	21	64	—	226	—	311
1958-59	116	146	—	293	—	555
1959-60	103	197	—	343	—	643
1960-61	111	209	—	375	—	695
1961-62	163	225	—	307	—	695
1962-63	208	264	40	212	—	724
1963-64	264	208	40	211	—	723
1964-65	290	234	—	205	—	729
1965-66	323	217	—	235	—	775
1966-67	220	217	—	235	103	775
1967-68	227	225	—	220	103	775
1968-69	238	222	10	195	103	777
1969-70	248	225	19	187	103	782
1970-71	278	225	19	157	103	782
1971-72	320	203	22	197	103	805

1. *Census of India 1961, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. viii.

2. *ibid.*

3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1970*, p. 144.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1972*, p. 145.

5. *ibid.*, 1958 onwards.

* Figures in miles.

In spite of road development works in the district, only a small number of villages in the district are served by *Pucca* roads and railway stations. A large number of villages are accessible by *Kutcha* roads only, while a good many of them are connected by no roads¹. Under famine and drought relief schemes 336 km. of *Kutcha* roads were constructed from time to time, on which a sum of Rs. 89.27 lakhs was spent during the Third Five Year Plan².

National Highway³

Only one National Highway passes through the district. The total length of this national highway in the district is 103 km. which is painted (B. T.).⁴

State Highway⁵

There are three roads which fall within the category of State Highways, their total length being 144.20 km. in 1970. All the three State Highways are painted and are motorable throughout the year.

Major District Roads

Major district roads are roughly of the same specification as State highways. These roads connect important marketing centres with each other and are constructed, maintained and financed by the Public Works Department. There is a net work of eleven major district roads running across Sikar. Their total length was 276.20 km. on 31.3.1973.

Other district roads, village roads and approaches to villages

Other district roads are also of the same type as Major District Roads except that they are subject to more frequent interruptions of traffic during the rains. They serve market places and are generally painted and have water-bound surface. The village roads and approaches to villages are mostly fair weather roads and are not motorable throughout

1. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District Section I*, p. xix.

2. *Sikar Vikas Smarika Rajat Jayanti 1972, Sikar Jila Parishad*, p. 39.

3. National Highway has been defined as main highways serving predominantly national, as distinct from State purposes running through the length and breadth of India, which together form a system connecting (by routes as direct as practicable) major ports, foreign highways, capitals of States including highways required for strategic movements for the defence of India. They are maintained by the State Public Works Department and funds are made available by the Central Government.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1972*, p. 145.

5. State Highways have been defined as all other main trunk or arterial roads of a state linking with National Highways or State Highways of adjacent States, district headquarters and important cities within the State and serving as main arteries of traffic to and from district roads.

the year. About 298.10 km. long net work of such roads is spread out in the length and breadth of the district.

More than 50 per cent of towns and villages of the district are now connected with the roads and bus routes, on which buses of private companies and of Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation are serving well. This Corporation operates only passenger transport services. Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation is serving the following routes in the district¹ :

Jaipur-Bikaner
Jaipur-Sardarshahar
Jaipur-Churu
Jodhpur-Nagaur-Sikar
Sikar-Delhi

Private buses are also plying on 41 regional, 28 inter-regional and one inter-state road routes² to which permits are given by the Regional Transport Office.

Vehicles and Conveyances

Apart from the use of camels as a popular mode of conveyance chariots drawn by a pair of bullocks or horses were common for dignitaries, rulers and army officers to travel³. Closed carriages drawn by a pair of bullocks, or horses referred in old records and painted in one of the Nagaur paintings, were used by ladies of rank⁴.

At present in the rural areas the principal means of transport are camels, bullock-carts, camel carts and *Tongas*, particularly for short distances. In the urban areas, buses and other faster means of transport are being increasingly used as a consequence of the development of roads. A table showing tahsil-wise number of beasts of burden and carts in the Sikar district is at Appendix I.

Motor Vehicles

The number of motor vehicles on the road from 1957 upto 1972 are shown in the following table, which indicates the progress of vehicles on road in the whole of the district⁵.

1. Source : Office of the Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation, Jaipur.
2. Source : Office of the Regional Transport Officer, Jaipur Region, Jaipur.
3. *Vastupata Tirth-Yatra*, V.S. 1825 (1768 A.D.), *Arja-Ramayana* (illustrated), ff 30, 31 etc. (SBLU) quoted by Sharma, G.N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan* 1968, p. 330.
4. Dastur Komwar, V. S. 1880 (1823 A. D.), quoted by Sharma, G.N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 330.
5. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes from 1958 onwards.

(Number)

Year	Private Cars & Jeeps	Private Buses	Motor Cycles and Tri-cycles	Contract and Taxi carriages	Stage carriages	Public carrier	Private carriages	Tractors	Others	Total
1957	152	28	3	4	129	56	37	7	5	421
1958	156	38	3	4	134	79	37	8	5	464
1959	156	38	3	4	134	79	37	8	5	464
1960	167	37	4	4	152	89	37	13	10	513
1961	148	37	7	4	157	99	37	15	41	545
1962	156	39	9	4	172	108	44	23	42	597
1963	168	42	13	4	187	117	45	26	44	646
1964	212	55	13	3	200	159	52	44	16	754
1965	231	55	16	4	208	193	57	64	18	846
1966	224	—	29	1	294	279	12	71	64	974
1967	240	—	32	1	302	290	12	80	68	1025
1968	256	2	47	15	324	341	13	107	73	1178
1969	276	2	65	2	325	350	13	121	73	1225
1970	297	—	67	1	333	357	15	147	73	1290
1971	417	—	97	—	421	404	—	218	—	1587
1972	494	—	156	—	473	446*	—	246	3	1818

As it is evident from the above table the number of vehicles increased from 421 in 1957 to 1290 in 1970 and to 1818 by the end of 1972⁵.

Bicycles are the common mode of conveyance both in towns and villages. In Sikar Municipal Council there were 711 (441 private and 270 on hire) cycles registered as on 5.3.1973 besides 100 *Tongas*, 229 hand driven *Thelas* and 81 bullock carts⁶.

Public Transport

No route of Sikar district has been nationalised by the Government so far.

Goods Traffic

There are eleven transport companies functioning in the district⁴.

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes from 1958 onwards.
2. Source : Office of the Commissioner, Municipal Council, Sikar.
3. Source : Office of the Regional Transport Officer, Jaipur Region, Jaipur.

* The figure shows the total of items in Cols. 3, 7 & 8.

Apart from motor transport, camels, horses and donkeys are still rendering a useful service for carrying the goods as well as for riding purposes.

Fares and Freights

The rates of stage carriers as prescribed on 8th June 1970 are given below. These are exclusive of passenger tax, leviable under Rajasthan Passengers and Goods Taxation Act 1959, for stage carriage plying on all classes of routes in Rajasthan¹.

'A' class routes

(a) Ordinary service

(i) First 250 km. 3.5 paise per km. per passenger

(ii) Beyond 250 km. 3 paise per km. per passenger

(b) Express/Mail

(i) First 250 km. 4 paise per km. per passenger

(ii) Beyond 250 km. 3 paise per km. per passenger

'B' class routes

4 paise per km. per passenger

'C' class routes

5 paise per km. per passenger

These are the maximum rates subject to the condition that the minimum fare charged would be 40 paise upto 10 km.

Public Carriers

Maximum freights to be charged carrying load per single trip were revised from 30.8.1966 are as follows² :

'A' class route 2.7 paise per quintal per km.

'B' class route 3.2 paise per quintal per km.

'C' class route 4.5 paise per quintal per km.

Road Accidents

The table below indicates the number of road accidents, persons injured, persons killed and the number of vehicles involved during the period 1957-1972³.

Year	No. of accidents	Persons killed	Persons injured	(Number)
				No of vehicles involved
1957	26	4	7	26
1958	15	8	23	16

1. Source : Office of the Regional Transport Officer, Jaipur Region, Jaipur.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.*

1	2	3	4	5
1959	12	7	18	12
1960	11	5	13	19
1961	21	9	63	23
1962	26	7	52	25
1963	22	4	32	20
1964	33	17	53	41
1965	37	15	91	37
1966	24	10	41	25
1967	28	19	26	28
1968	33	10	58	31
1969	29	10	47	28
1970	44	20	41	44
1971	46	11	29	46
1972	46	20	49	45
1973	56	19	85	57

It is observed that with the increase of vehicular traffic on the roads, the number of accidents has also increased in the district.

RAILWAYS

Before April 1, 1950, two systems of railways were functioning in this district. The Rewari-Phulera chord line of the B.B. & C. I. Railway served the Neem-ka Thana sub-division while the Jaipur State Railway served the remaining two sub-divisions of this district viz., Sikar and Fatehpur. The former was state owned and State managed while the later belonged to the princely State of Jaipur and was also managed by it. The Jaipur State Railway was also managed by B. B. & C. I. Railway authorities before 1936. On 1st April 1936 the charge of the Jaipur State Railway was taken over from the B. B. & C. I. authorities by the Jaipur State¹. From April 1st 1950, following the integration of the States into the Union, the railways belonging to the former princely states came under the ownership and control of the Government of India. As a result of this regrouping the district now falls into the western zone and, at present, is served by the metregauge of the Western Railway, which provides both passenger and goods train services.

The Rewari-Phulera chord line of the Western Railway constructed in the year 1899 passes through the Sikar district connecting Reengus with Dabla; and the stations of Sri Madhopur, Kacharpa, Kanwat,

1. *Jaipur Album or All About Jaipur*, The Rajasthan Directories Publishing House, Jaipur 1935, p. 49.

Bhagega, Neem-ka-Thana, Mawanda and Dabla fall on this line. This line connects two tahsil headquarters of Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana sub-divisions of the district while Sawai Madhopur-Loharu railway line passes through Sikar town. Another railway line from Sikar to Fatehpur has been extended up to Churu and passes through Ramgarh town of the district¹.

The various rail lines opened in the district are as follows². The Reengus-Palsana rail line of 23 km. was opened on 6.4.1918, Palsana to Sikar line of 27 km. was opened on 1.12.1922, while another line from Sikar to Jerthi-Dadia with a length of 14 km. was opened on 18.9.1923 and the Sikar-Fatehpur-Shekhawati line of 48 km. was opened on 6.4.1940. There are two junction stations which fall in this district i. e. Reengus and Sikar. At Reengus the former Rewari-Phulera chord line and Sawai Madhopur-Jaipur-Loharu line crosses each other. At Sikar Junction, situated on Jaipur-Loharu section another line takes off and connects Northern Railway at Churu. There is only one loco shed in the district which is situated at Sikar junction.

The average number of passengers originating from the district is approximately 36,01,980 persons and the extent of goods traffic originating is approximately 59,900 tonnes per year.

The number of goods and passenger trains running on these sections in both up and down directions is as under :

Section	No. of goods trains	No. of passenger trains
Reengus/Sikar	6	8
Sikar/Jerthi-Dadia	4	4
Sikar/Fatehpur Shekhawati	2	6

There are 22 railway stations in the district which are given in Appendix II.

Second class waiting halls have been provided at all the stations situated on this line. Drinking water facility is also available at all the stations. Apart from these, the following additional facilities are available on some of the railway stations of the district :

REENGUS JUNCTION—This is a 'B' class junction with a triangular turning. It has a refreshment and waiting room, food-stall and a goods shed. It is equipped with electricity.

1. *Census of 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. ix.
2. Source : Office of the Divisional Commercial Superintendent, Western Railway, Jaipur.

SRI MADHOPUR—This 'B' class station has electricity as well as a goods shed.

KANWAT—At this station also the facilities of a goods shed and electricity are available.

NEEM-KA-THANA—This station is electrified and has the facility of running room, a waiting room, a tea stall and a goods shed.

MAONDA—This station is also electrified.

SIKAR JUNCTION—This is a junction station with triangular turning. Apart from being electrified it has the facilities of running room, a waiting room, a refreshment room, a food stall and a goods shed. Food is served to passengers at the platform also.

LACHHMANGARH—This station has a goods shed and is electrified.

FATEHPUR SHEKHAWATI—This station is electrified and has got a waiting room and a goods shed.

The total railway route mileage in the district which was 69 km. in the year 1959 has increased to 253 km. in the year 1970¹. Reengus and Sikar are the two junction stations in the Sikar district. This net work of railway lines in the district now makes it possible for passengers to travel from Reengus to reach Delhi in 5 hours, to reach Jaipur in 1½ hours and to reach Ahmedabad in 17½ hours by a mail train².

The construction of the Railway lines has undoubtedly promoted trade and industry and increased the material prosperity of the people of this region. What Erskine wrote in Rajputana Gazetteer in 1908 about the influence of railways, still holds good. It is true, as he stated, that it is difficult to over estimate the benefits which the railway lines have conferred on the people, especially during the period of famine³.

A considerable amount of surplus *Moong*, mustard, sheep, goats, hides and wool are exported out of the district and other items, like sugar, jagree, wheat, gram, leather, metal, kerosene oil, petrol, edible oils, clothes and other general merchandise goods, are imported into the district⁴. All this is achieved by the railway goods traffic.

As for the influence which the railways have exercised on the habits of the people, it may be stated that they have helped to relax

1. *Sankhikya Rooprekha 1971, Sikar*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 64.
2. *Sikar Vikas Rajat Jayanti Smarika, 1972, Sikar Jila Parishad*, pp. 39-40.
3. Erskine, K. D.: *Rajputana Gazetteer, The Western Rajputana States Residency and Bikaner Agency*, Vol. 11-A, p. 121.
4. *Census of 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. vii.

the observance of caste restrictions. Besides, they have widened the scope for human intercourse, and made possible the bulk transport of goods. Such means of transport have helped in the economic and cultural unification of Rajasthan besides fulfilling the main purpose of mobility and commerce.

AIR SERVICE—There is no service to and from the district. Hence there is no aerodrome in the district.

TRAVEL FACILITIES

Dak Bungalows and Rest Houses

The State Public Works Department maintains three dak bungalows at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Reengus. The dak bungalow at Sikar has limited accommodation available at daily rent system. These dak-bungalows are primarily intended for the use of Government officers on duty but both government officers and private persons are entitled to stay in them on payment of the prescribed charges³.

Location	No. of rooms	Facilities	Charges
Sikar	6	Water, electricity and sanitary fittings	During summer-Government servants (on duty) Re. 1/- and private persons Rs. 5/- During winter-Government servants (on duty) Re. 0.50 and private persons Rs. 4.50 per day.
Reengus	2	Electricity and sanitary fittings	—do—
Neem-ka-Thana	2	—do—	—do—

Besides, there are two Railway rest houses located at Sikar and Reengus. Though primarily meant for Railway officers and other senior officials, they can also be used by gazetted officers of the State Government on payment of Rs. 4/- per day after obtaining permission from the western railway administration².

DHARAMSHALAS—The district is well served by *Dharamshalas* built by private individuals at various places and often in the remote interior of the district with invariably a drinking water well, attached to them. In villages

1. Source : Offices of the Assistant Engineer, P. W. D., National Highway sub-division 1, Sikar; Overseer, National Highway, P. W. D., Reengus.
2. Source : Office of the Assistant Engineer (1), Western Railway, Jaipur.

where *Dharamshalas* are not available, temples are used for lodging visitors. The following eight *Dharamshalas* are located in Sikar town¹:

1. Mishri Lal Somani *Dharamshala*, near Railway station, Sikar.
2. Sagar Mal Somani ki *Dharamshala*, near Railway station, Sikar.
3. Shri Hira Lal Bihani *Dharamshala*, near Chand Pole Gate, Sikar.
4. New Todion ki *Dharamshala*, near Natoriyon ki Chhatra, Sikar.
5. Old Todion ki *Dharamshala*, out side New Dujod Gate, Sikar.
6. Sodhanion ki *Dharamshala*, out side Fatehpur Gate, Sikar.
7. Maheshwari Bhawan, inside Fatehpuri Gate, Sikar.
8. Shri Tansukh Purohit ki *Dharamshala*, near Municipal Council, Sikar.

All these *Dharamshalas* are provided with water, electricity, flush latrines, bath rooms and bed facilities. Besides these there are 24 *Dharamshalas* in Fatehpur, three in Sri Madhopur, five in Neem-ka-Thana, four in Khandela, 10 in Lachhmangarh and three in Ramgarh Municipal Board area².

Some of these *Dharamshalas* provide free lodging and boarding facilities while others do so on payment. There are some hotels also in Sikar town which provide boarding and lodging on payment. Their details are given below³:

S. No.	Name of Hotel	Location	No. of rooms	No. of beds	Remarks
1.	Jogani Hotel	Near Railway station	5	10	Water, electricity and flush latrines provided in each hotel and they maintained their standard.
2.	Sikar Hotel	"	15	50	
3.	Raj Hotel	Mahatma Gandhi Road	4	8	
4.	Rajasthan Hotel	Jatia Bazar Sikar	8	20	

During 1973 their rates were : Rs. 2.00 to 3.00 for full diet, Re. 1.00 to Rs. 1.50 for half diet and Rs. 2.00 to 5.00 for lodging.

POST AND TELEGRAPH

Postal Services

In the olden days there was no postal service in the State. "In

1. Source : Office of the Commissioner, Municipal Council, Sikar.
2. Source : Offices of the Executive Officers, Municipalities of Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana, Khandela, Lachhmangarh and Ramgarh.
3. Source : Office of the Commissioner, Municipal Council, Sikar.

carrying business and maintaining social contacts postal services of an indigenous kind played an important part. The wayfarers going from one village to another or one town to another were usually entrusted with carrying of letters. This was an ordinary courtesy which a traveller was expected to show to the villagers and town dwellers, through whose villages and towns he passed¹.

By the end of the 16th century the State postal service for administrative and military purposes came into operation. From two *Hash-ul-Hukms* of the year 1711 A. D. it appears that the Maharaja of Jaipur was required to make arrangements within his territory and the territory of *Jagirdars* for stationing horse posts from Agra to Hyderabad and Malwa which started in Sher Shah's time in the form of imperial post. From some *Parwanahs* of the Maharaja of Jaipur, we learn that experienced and trusted servants were employed to carry sealed letters bearing confidential news, and they were rewarded handsomely after they had delivered them².

Still quicker communications were arranged with the help of camel posts³. But these arrangements were of no help for the general public. The postal service was first introduced in Sikar district much later when the first public post was established at Sikar. Later on a dual system came into being. The Imperial post controlled all routes in and out of the Jaipur State, of which Sikar district was a part. In addition to the Imperial post, the Jaipur State post was controlling the mails within the State only. During 1935 there were six Imperial post offices in Sikar, of which four were combined post and telegraph offices⁴.

In the month of September 1952, the Jaipur State postal system was abolished. Since then, only the Indian postal system has been serving the needs of the district. The Sikar district forms a part of the Rajasthan postal circle which is administered by the Post Master General, Posts and Telegraphs, Rajasthan Circle, Jaipur. According to the Census of 1951 there were 7 post and telegraph offices, 4 post offices and 21 branch post offices in the district. On December 1, 1955, there were 9 post offices and 69 branch offices in the district. The Sikar Head Post Office and the Sambhar Head Post office controlled all post offices and branch offices of the Sikar district. Lachhu angarh, Sikar, Fatehpur, Khandela, Losal and Ramgarh post offices and their branch offices were controlled by Sikar

1. Sharma, G. N.: *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, 1968, p. 330.

2. *Ibid*, pp. 330-331.

3. *Ibid*.

4. *The Jaipur Album or All About Jaipur*, The Rajasthan Directorates Publishing House, Jaipur, 1935, p. 49.

Head Post Office while the remaining post offices and branch offices were under the control of Sambhar Head Post Office¹.

The mails are carried by trains at places which are connected by Railway, by buses at places which are served by buses and at other places by village postmen. The mails are delivered at least once a week in every village in the district through a village postman, and once in three days at places served by delivery agents.

In April, 1895 steps were taken to connect Sikar with Churu by a telegraphic line through Fatehpur. It was opened in January 1896². The independent Sikar Division was created on 20.8.1966 to distribute the work load and since then it has been in operation³. This postal division is consisted of two districts viz. Sikar and Jhunjhun.

During the Five Year Plan period considerable development of postal facilities in rural areas has occurred. There were 180 branch post offices and 11 telegraph offices in the district during the year 1960-61⁴. The district had 382 post offices, 46 telegraph offices, 10 telephone exchanges and 19 public call offices during the year 1972-73⁵.

The number of post offices and telegraph offices is given in Appendix III from 1956-57 to 1969-70. During 1972-73 there were 336 extra departmental branch post offices, 54 sub-offices, one head office and 49 public call offices in the district. Out of these 49 public call offices 35 are in sub-offices and 14 in branch offices⁶. At present all the post and telegraph offices are under the supervision and control of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Sikar Division, Sikar.

The district had postal staff as given below on 31.12.1973⁷:

Functional staff	Number
Superintendent Post Offices	1
Clerks	144
Postmen	54
Class IV employees	43
Extra Departmental Delivery Agents	603

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. xiii.

2. Source : Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Telegraphs, Sub-Division, Sikar.

3. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Sikar Division, Sikar.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1974, p. 157.

5. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Sikar Division, Sikar.

6. *Ibid*.

7. *Ibid*.

Telephones

Before 1956 there was no telephone facility in the district. During 1970¹ there were 8 telephone centres with 1000 connections, 38 public call offices and 5 local public call offices, a list of which is given in the Appendix III. At present a new sub-division of telephones has been formed in the district which is working under the supervision and control of Sub-Divisional Officer, Telephones since September, 1970.

There are twelve telephone exchanges in Sikar Sub-Division working at Sikar, Losal, Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh, Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Reengus, Khatu, Khandela and Danta out of which seven are automatic and three are charged battery exchanges.

Wireless

To maintain peace, safety and security in the district, three B.H.F. transmetre sets at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Harsh respectively and one H. F. transmetre at Sikar are installed in the district².

Organisations of owners and employees in the field of transport and communications:

Information about recognised organisation working in the above fields is given below:

POST AND TELEGRAPH—The organisations of employees of post and telegraphs functions on an All India basis. All the employees in the district falling in a particular category are members of their respective unions. The object of these unions is to promote the welfare of the members of the union and to work for the removal of their genuine grievances. The names of the organisations are given below³.

1. All India Postal Employees Union Class III
2. All India Postal Employees Union Class IV
3. All India National Union Class III and IV

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL⁴—The council had two associations for the welfare of its employees during the year 1973:

1. Mehtar Mazdoor Sangh, Sikar
2. Rashtriya Nagar Parishad Karamchari Sangh, Sikar.

1. Source : Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Telephones, Sub-Division, Sikar.
 2. Source : Office of the District Superintendent of Police, Sikar.
 3. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Sikar Division, Sikar.
 4. Source : Office of the Commissioner, Municipal Council, Sikar.

APPENDIX I**Tahsilwise number of beasts of burden and carts in the Sikar District in 1966**

Tahsil	Horses & ponies	Mules	Donkeys	Camels	Carts
Sikar	199	—	509	7679	4928
Danta Ramgarh	134	3	1054	4295	5535
Neem-ka-Thana	97	11	1837	2720	1819
Sri Madhopur	609	—	1885	4128	5124
Lachhmangarh	74	—	359	8315	3134
Fatehpur	100	—	477	8564	996
Total	1213	14	6121	35701	21556

Source : Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan 1966, pp. 484-485.

APPENDIX II

Railway Stations in the Sikar district

Name of the Railway Station	Type of Station
1. Bhajangarh Beri	N.A.
2. Reengus Junction	B
3. Sri Madhopur	B
4. Kachrada	B
5. Kanwat	B
6. Bhagega	B
7. Neem ka Thana	B
8. Mawanda	B
9. Jhila or Jeelo	B
10. Dabla	B
11. Baori Thikriya	B
12. Palsana	B
13. Ranoli-Shishu	FLAG
14. Goriyan	B
15. Sikar Junction	B
16. Jerthi-Dadia	B
17. Rasheedpur-Khori	FLAG
18. Lachhmangarh	B
19. Harsawa	FLAG
20. Fatehpur-Shekhawati	B
21. Kayamsar	N.A.
22. Ramgarh-Sethonka	N.A.

Source : Office of the Divisional Commercial Superintendent, Western Railway, Jaipur.

N.A.—Not available.

APPENDIX III

Post, Telegraph and Telephone Offices in Sikar District

Year	Post Offices	Telegraph Offices	Telephone Exchange	(Number)
				Public Call Offices
1956-57	114	8	1	3
1957-58	128	9	1	4
1958-59	506*	80*	1	5
1959-60	145	15	1	6
1960-61	180	11	2	6
1961-62	252	13	2	4
1962-63	143	15	3	6
1963-64	143	14	5	7
1964-65	291	18	5	4
1965-66	291	14	6	10
1966-67	300	25	7	12
1967-68	282	25	7	12
1968-69	308	29	7	6
1969-70	323	40	8	14

Sources : Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.

* Figures included Jaipur, Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of Sikar district, though the changing pattern of the modern economy has started attracting persons from inside and outside the district to specialised fields like public administration, learned professions and the field of personal services, as a result of which the occupational pattern of the people of the district has been undergoing certain changes. According to the Census of 1971 the total population of Sikar district is 1,042,648 out of which 865,100 persons live in the rural areas of the district while 177,548 persons reside in the urban centres¹. The proportion of urban population to the population of the district is, thus 17.03 per cent. The total population of the district consists of 531,650 males and 510,998 females of which 441,319 males and 423,781 females live in the rural areas while 90,331 males and 87,217 females reside in the urban centres.

According to the Census of 1971, an overwhelming part of the population (73.07 per cent) did not work and only 26.93 per cent of all persons were workers. Among the males, workers formed 47.09 per cent of the total population and among females, only 5.95 per cent. In the rural areas 28.02 per cent of the persons were workers and 71.98 per cent non-workers. In case of rural females, the non-workers formed 93.27 per cent² of the rural population.

The urban population consisted of 21.60 per cent workers and 78.40 per cent non-workers. This proportion among urban male population is 40.38 per cent workers and 59.62 non-workers³. Among urban females, non-workers constituted 97.86 per cent. The figures of workers and non-workers are tabulated below⁴:

Item	Rural			Urban		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total population	441,319	423,781	865,100	90,331	87,217	177,548
Working population	213,886	28,529	242,415	36,475	1,870	38,375
Non-working population	227,433	395,252	622,685	53,856	85,347	139,203

1. *Census of India 1971, Series 18, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Parts X A & X B, Primary Census Abstract, p. (iii).*
2. *ibid.*, p. (vi).
3. *ibid.*, p. (vii).
4. *ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

Agriculture is the main industry of the district and 70.91 per cent of male working population and 83.12 per cent of female population is engaged in this work. Of the agricultural workers 66.02 per cent of the males and 74.09 per cent of females are engaged in cultivation while the rest 4.89 per cent of males and 9.03 per cent of females work as agricultural labourers¹. Still higher proportions are observed at the rural level. 80.47 per cent of males and 86.44 per cent of females among their respective working population are engaged in agricultural activities in the rural areas of the district. In case of urban areas of the district male participation in the agricultural activities is 14.86 per cent while female contribution to such activities is 32.41 per cent. The occupational pattern of non-cultivators is studied according to main occupational groups in view of 1961 Census in the subsequent description. According to the Census of 1971 other services accounted for 22.94 per cent of urban male workers and 34.38 per cent of urban female workers of the district. While 23.72 per cent of urban male workers were engaged in trade and commerce, construction and manufacturing, other than house-hold industry, accounted for 11.80 per cent and 11.63 per cent respectively. Among urban female workers 17.11 per cent belonged to those working in household industry and their other activities were rather small².

PUBLIC SERVICES

The Census of 1961 recorded separate figures only for Government servants falling in this category, because with the increasing tempo of development, the administrative and welfare activities of the government have increased manifold. This category covers administrative and executive officials at the central, state, local government, quasi government and village levels and excludes persons belonging to the learned professions. The aim of educated personnels is to secure a job in the central or state government's administrative set up, perhaps due to the security of employment and other amenities these provide. According to the Census of 1961 there were six categories of officials in the services of the Central, State and local bodies of the district which are as follows³:

1. *Census of India 1971, Rajasthan, Sikar District, Section II, District Census Handbook, Part-B, Primary Census Abstract, p. viii.*
2. *ibid.*, p. vii.
3. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, p. 106.*

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
1. Administrative and executive officials									
Central Government	14	14	—	11	11	—	3	3	—
2. Administrative and executive officials									
State Government	98	98	—	77	77	—	21	21	—
3. Administrative and executive officials									
Local Bodies	20	20	—	14	14	—	6	6	—
4. Administrative and executive officials									
Quasi Government	4	4	—	4	4	—	—	—	—
5. Village officials	214	186	28	76	72	4	138	114	24
6. Government officials not elsewhere classified	236	236	—	1	1	—	235	235	—
Total	586	558	28	183	179	4	403	379	24

Out of the total number of 586 persons employed in the executive and administrative services of Central, State and Local body only 183 persons were in urban areas and the remaining 403 were in rural areas. The total number of 28 female officials consisted of 4 female officials in urban areas and 24 female officials in rural areas. The number of public servants has been increasing considerably since 1951 due to the setting up of new offices and opening of new institutions in the district and in the State as a whole.

Employees of the Central and State Governments serving in the district enjoy certain facilities and privileges similar to those enjoyed by their counterparts in other districts of the State. In addition to their basic pay, all Government servants are paid a regular dearness allowance, and travelling allowance while on tour, at varying rates, depending on their pay scales. Festival advances and food grain advances are also granted to the employees occasionally up to a certain pay range. Loans are admissible to Government employees for the construction and repair of their houses and also for the purchase of conveyance. The quantum of these loans differs according to the pay and the status of the

Government servant. The loan given to any public servant for either construction or repair of a house, or purchase of a conveyance is recoverable by easy instalment and a nominal rate of interest is charged. Besides, Government servants can also avail of the facility of loan for construction of houses under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme and Middle Income Group Housing Scheme. The State Government has also constructed 52 quarters of different types which had been allotted to its employees in the district up to 1972-73¹. In addition, free medical aid is provided to Government servants. The expenditure incurred by the Government employees, on their own medical treatment and that of their families and dependent parents is reimbursable as per Government regulations. There is a provision of compulsory insurance or voluntary contribution to provident fund, for all Government employees whether permanent or temporary, after a service of one year, so that their dependents may be provided for in case of premature death. On superannuation, Government servants are also entitled to pension and the benefits of the gratuity scheme. Children of those employees who are not paying income tax are entitled to free education in Government institutions. The employees of the Central Government and Corporations have their own schemes of allowances, leave, medical relief, provident fund and gratuity on their superannuation.

Some categories of State Government employees have formed their organisations and associations to safeguard their professional interests. Most of these are working as district branches of the State level Associations². These are:

Associations	Date of formation	Membership 1972-73
(a) Rajasthan Rajya Karamchari Sangh	1966-67	328
(b) Rajasthan Sahayak Karamchari Sangh	1.12.1951	1000
(c) Rajasthan Lekha Lipik Sangh	1971-72	N.A.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

This group can broadly be classified into (a) teaching profession, (b) medical profession and (c) legal profession.

1. Source : Office of the Collector, Sikar.
2. (a) Source : Office of the District Branch, Rajasthan Rajya Karamchari Sangh, Sikar.
(b) Source: Office of the District Branch, Rajasthan Sahayak Karamchari Sangh, Sikar.

Teaching Profession

In any scheme of advancement, education of masses, general or technical, has a place of its own and therefore Governments, both at the Centre and State levels are addressing themselves to this task, as such profession of teaching is assuming importance gradually. The number of persons employed in teaching services, according to the Census of 1961, in Sikar district was 2,546 which is as follows¹:

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
University (College) teachers	82	81	1	82	81	1	-	-	-
Secondary school teachers	240	226	14	171	157	14	69	69	-
Middle and Primary school teachers	1649	1565	84	360	332	28	1289	1233	56
Nursing & Kindergarten school teachers	5	2	3	5	2	3	-	-	-
Teachers not elsewhere classified	570	543	27	340	314	26	230	229	1
Total	2546	2417	129	958	886	72	1588	1531	57

Out of 958 teachers serving in the urban area, 72 were females. As many as 1588 teachers were engaged in rural areas.

The bulk of teachers in the district was working in middle and primary schools. The number of teachers, both males and females, has increased substantially during the last decade (1961-71) due to the expansion of educational facilities with the implementation of different plans. Percentage of literacy in the district has increased from 15.71 per cent in 1961 to 19.61 per cent in the year 1971².

Medical Profession

With substantial increase in medical facilities in the district the number of persons engaged in the medical profession has also gone up. According to the Census of 1961 there were 461 persons in the medical profession as follows³:

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 104.
2. *Sankhyikya Rooprekha 1971, Sikar*, p. 78, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
3. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 103.

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
1. Physicians and Surgeons Allopathic	73	68	5	39	34	5	34	34	-
2. Physicians, Ayurvedic	358	355	3	137	135	2	221	220	1
3. Physicians, Homeopathic	26	25	1	1	1	-	25	24	1
4. Physicians, others	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
5. Physiologists	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Dentists	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
7. Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists not elsewhere classified	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total	461	452	9	181	174	7	280	278	2

Out of 452 male doctors, 174 were employed in urban areas and the remaining 278 in rural areas whereas out of 9 females 8 were in urban areas and only one was in rural area. This group of profession forms a minor percentage of the working population in the district. A branch of Indian Medical Association is working at the district headquarters. It is affiliated to the Rajasthan branch of the Association and has all qualified doctors both government and private, as its members. Its main function is also to look after and enhance the professional interests of its members. The medical profession has another group also which forms a part of this occupation. It covers the services of nurses, pharmacists and other medical and health technicians. According to the Census of 1961, 422 persons were reported to be engaged in this group whose list is given in Appendix I.

The medical staff working in the allopathic institutions in the district in 1969-70 was as follows¹:

1. Specialists	-
2. Civil Assistant Surgeons	10
3. Matrons	-
4. Midwives	92
5. Trained Dais	11
6. Health Inspectors	42

1. Source : Office of the District Medical & Health Officer, Sikar.

7. Compounders	156
8. Vaccinators	17
9. Nurses	3
10. Lady Health Visitors	17

Medical personnel posted as Civil Assistant Surgeons and holding charge of rural dispensaries and primary health centres are allowed Rural allowance upto Rs. 75/- per month.

Lawyers or Legal Profession

According to the Census of 1961, the number of legal practitioners and advisers in the district was 111, of whom two were women. Detailed analysis of the judicial structure is given below:

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
Judges and Magistrates	10	10	-	9	9	-	1	1	-
Legal Practitioners and Advisers	5	4	1	2	1	1	3	3	-
Law Assistants, Jurists and Legal Technicians	70	70	-	70	70	-	-	-	-
(including petition writers) not elsewhere classified	26	25	1	25	25	-	1	-	1
Total	111	109	2	106	105	1	5	4	1

Legal practitioners and advisers include advocates, jurists and legal technicians; and petition writers include income tax practitioners also.

There are three Bar Associations in the district located at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. The Bar Association at Sikar was established in the year 1946 with an initial membership of twenty persons which had increased to 39 members in the year 1973. Members of this Association follow the rules made by the Bar Council of Rajasthan. Any person who is a Law graduate and is a registered member of the Bar Council can be registered as member of the Association after paying Rs. 5/- as initial membership fee and a monthly subscription of Rs. 2/- thereafter¹. This Association is rendering legal assistance to the public at large, in various

1. Source : Office of the Bar Association, Sikar.

civil, criminal and revenue courts, having original as well as appellant and revisional jurisdiction throughout the district. The Association is maintaining a library at Sikar which has got books worth Rs. 5000/- consisting of text books, local Acts and law journals. The Bar Association of Sikar is also running a water hut.

The Bar Association Neem-ka-Thana, established in 1935, had an initial membership of 10 which increased to 22 in 1973. The membership fee of this Bar Association is Rs. 11/- per head¹. The Bar Association looks after the professional interests of its members and runs small library wherein important legal reference books are available.

Engineering

Since the district is industrially backward, the number of persons employed in this profession is quite insignificant as is evident from the following table² :

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
Architects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Civil Engineers (including Overseers)	16	16	-	12	12	-	4	4	-
Mechanical Engineers	4	4	-	3	3	-	1	1	-
Electrical Engineers	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Mining Engineers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surveyors	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Architects, Engineers, Surveyors not elsewhere classified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	23	23	-	18	18	-	5	5	-

Out of 23 persons employed in the engineering profession 18 were in urban areas and the remaining 5 in rural areas.

The departments of the State and Central Governments concerned with developmental activities such as P.W.D. (B&R), Irrigation, Water Works, Mining and other bodies like Rajasthan State Electricity Board

1. Source : Office of the Bar Association, Neem-ka-Thana.

2. Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, Vol. XIV, Part II-B (ii), General Economic Tables, p. 129.

employ these Engineers, Overseers and other technicians. There is no female working in this field in the district.

Arts and Letters

Persons falling in this group of occupation are artists, writers and related workers including authors, editors, journalists, painters, decorators and musicians etc. According to the Census of 1961 details of such workers are given in the following table¹:

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
Authors	14	14	—	11	11	—	3	3	—
Translators, Interpreters and language specialists	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Painters, Decorators and Commercial Artists	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Musicians and related workers	461	380	81	122	119	3	339	261	78
Dancers and related workers	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Artists, writers and related workers not elsewhere classified	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Total	480	399	81	137	134	3	343	265	78

It is evident from the above table that mostly males were engaged in this profession in the district, and only 137 persons (134 males and 3 females) are employed in urban areas and the rest 343 persons (265 males and 78 females) were in rural areas.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Domestic services

Generally, domestic servants are employed by the well-to-do families of big industrialists, government officials, rich land owners, businessmen and well-to-do families residing in urban areas. Middle class families generally do not employ whole time servants, they only prefer part-time servants as helpers to do all the odd domestic work like cleaning

1. Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District, p. 105.

of utensils, sweeping the house and washing of clothes. Female workers are generally preferred for these part-time jobs and male workers are employed as full time servants. The wages of domestic servants depend upon the nature of their duties. They are paid either in cash or in kind or partly in cash and partly in kind. A full time servant is paid more as compared to a part time servant. Full time servants are generally paid Rs. 100 or Rs. 50 with meals and part-time servants are paid Rs. 25/- to 30/- per month. Local persons in the district mainly from *Daroga* and *Nal* communities work as domestic servants. Others find cultivation more profitable. Some times local ladies of poor families do work as domestic servants. Their number according to the Census of 1961 in the district is given below¹:

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female	Per-sons	Male	Female
1. House-keepers Matrons, Stewards (domestic and institutional)	5	4	1	2	2	—	3	2	1
2. Cooks, cookbearers (domestic and institutional)	358	325	33	265	241	24	93	84	9
3. Butlers, bearers, waiters, maids and other servants (domestic)	433	281	152	340	196	144	93	85	8
4. Ayahs and Nurse- maids	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. House-keepers, cooks, maids and related workers (not elsewhere classified)	242	23	219	2	2	—	240	21	219
Total	1046	633	413	609	441	168	437	192	245

Out of this total of 1046 workers 609 (441 males and 168 females) were in urban areas. Only in the field of house-keepers, cooks, maids and related workers not elsewhere classified females outnumbered the male workers.

1. Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District, p. 121.

Barbers

Barbers occupied an important position in the social life of the district as elsewhere in the State. They still perform many traditional functions at the time of marriages, *Mundan*, and deaths etc. Besides their main work of hair cutting they act as go-between in marriage negotiations at least in the rural areas. There used to be family barbers, but their importance is diminishing gradually. In urban areas the barbers have started opening shops and modern type hair dressing saloons. At the time of 1961 Census, 1241 persons consisting of 1215 males and 26 females, were engaged in the profession as barbers, hair dressers, beauticians and related workers in this district. Out of these 419 (415 males and 4 females) worked in urban areas and 822 in rural areas¹. At Sikar the hair cutting charges at a saloon range from Re. 1.00 to Rs. 1.50 and shaving charges from Re. 0.50 to Re. 0.75. The road side barbers and small shops as also the roving barbers are cheaper by about 25 per cent.

Washermen

In villages most people wash their clothes themselves but in towns *Dhobis* and launderers do good business. According to the Census of 1961, 466 persons (281 males and 185 females) were working in the district as launderers, dry cleaners and pressers, and 432 persons (262 males and 170 females) were working as laundrymen, washermen and *Dhobis*². Out of 432 persons engaged in this occupation 204 persons (145 males and 59 females) were employed in urban areas and 228 persons (117 males and 111 females) in rural areas. According to a personal enquiry made in November 1973 the washing charges at Sikar for cotton clothes were found to range between 15 paise to 25 paise per piece and for wash and wear clothes from 25 paise to 50 paise per piece. The launderers charge between 50 paise to 75 paise for a cotton shirt, and Re. 1/- to Rs. 1.50 for terecotton or terylene shirt, while drycleaning charges for a woollen coat and a pair of trousers were Rs. 4/- to 5/- and Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 3/- for a cotton coat and a pair of trousers.

Tailors

Tailoring is done mostly by the *Darzi* community in the district. A few persons engaged in this profession have opened fashionable tailoring shops in urban areas. Tailoring charges vary considerably, depending on the style and reputation of the tailor and also the area of working. The usual charges at Sikar according to a personal enquiry (in

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-B (ii), General Economic Tables*, p. 140.

2. *Ibid.*

1973 November) were Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 and Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 respectively for a cotton and a terylene pair of trousers and Rs. 3 to 4.50 and Rs. 5 to 8 for a cotton and a terylene shirt respectively. The tailoring charges for a suit generally ranged between Rs. 80 to 90. In rural areas tailoring is limited to the shirts (*Kameez*) and pyjamas for which stitching rates range between Re. 1 to Rs. 3. There were 2483 persons (1759 males and 724 females) working as tailors, cutters, furriers and related workers in the district according to the 1961 Census. Out of these 1333 persons (977 males and 356 females) were in urban areas¹.

Shoe Makers

This work in the district is mostly done by members of *Chamar* or *Regar* community whose produce is sold locally. There were 5637 (3619 males and 2018 females) shoe makers and shoe repairers in the district in the year 1961. Out of these, 871 (605 males and 266 females) persons were working in urban areas².

Transport workers

Persons employed in road transport business at the time of 1961 Census are given in the table below³:

Category	Male	Female	Total
1. Motor vehicle & motor cycle drivers	487	—	487
2. Cycle rickshaw drivers and rickshaw pullers	8	—	8
3. Animal drawn vehicle drivers	588	1	589
4. Drivers road transport not elsewhere classified (including <i>Palki</i> and <i>Doli</i> bearers)	100	—	100
Total	1183	1	1184

Other occupations

Other non-farming occupations pursued in the district at the time of 1961 Census are tabulated in Appendix II.

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-B (ii), General Economic Tables*, p. 136.
2. *Ibid.*
3. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 113.

APPENDIX I

Number of Nurses, Midwives and other categories of medical staff during 1961 census¹

Category	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Per- sons	Male	Female	Per- sons	Male	Female	Per- sons	Male	Female
1. Nurses	77	3	74	41	3	38	36	—	36
2. Midwives and Health visitors	70	4	66	14	1	13	56	3	53
3. Nursing attendants and related workers	12	3	9	10	1	9	2	2	—
4. Pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians	186	182	4	144	142	2	42	40	2
5. Vaccinators	9	9	—	5	5	—	4	4	—
6. Physiotherapist, masseurs and related technicians	18	14	4	18	14	4	—	—	—
7. Sanitation technicians	23	23	—	3	3	—	20	20	—
8. Medical and Health Technicians not elsewhere classified (excluding laboratory assistants)	27	27	—	21	21	—	6	6	—
Total	422	265	157	256	190	66	166	75	91

Only in the field of nursing and midwifery females out-numbered the males.

1. Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, Vol. XIV, Part II-B (H), General Economic Tables, Table B-V, pp. 129 to 140.

APPENDIX II

Occupational classification by sex of persons at work other than cultivation in Sikar District¹

Work category	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
1. Chemists, Physicists, Geologists and other physical scientists	2	2	—	2	2	—
2. Biologists, Veterinarians, Agronomists and related scientists	27	27	—	2	2	—
3. Social scientists and related workers	46	40	6	11	10	1
4. Draughtsmen and Science and Engineering technicians n. e. c.	10	10	—	9	9	—
5. Other professional, technical and related workers	1137	1113	24	496	490	6
6. Directors, Managers wholesale and retail traders	167	167	—	11	11	—
7. Directors, Managers and working proprietors, Financial Institutions	2	2	—	2	2	—
8. Directors, Managers and working proprietors, others	376	375	1	342	341	1
9. Book-keepers and cashiers	698	698	—	533	533	—
10. Stenographers and typists	22	22	—	20	20	—
11. Office machine operators	2	2	—	2	2	—
12. Clerical workers miscellaneous	1032	1022	4	712	709	3
13. Unskilled office workers	777	745	32	523	513	10
14. Working proprietors, whole-sale and retail trade	9349	8914	435	5074	4784	290

1. Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, Vol. XIV, Part II-B (H), General Economic Tables, Table B-V, pp. 129 to 140.
n. e. c. : Not elsewhere classified.

APPENDIX II (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15. Insurance and real estate salesmen, salesmen of securities and services and auctioneers	46	46	-	41	41	-
16. Commercial travellers and manufacturers' agents	28	28	-	5	5	-
17. Salesmen, shop assistants and related workers	1590	1553	37	1405	1375	30
18. Money lenders and pawn brokers	67	64	3	20	20	-
19. Farmers and Farm Managers	35	26	9	16	15	1
20. Farm workers	12274	7286	4988	603	473	130
21. Hunters and related workers	5	5	-	-	-	-
22. Loggers and other forestry workers	107	65	42	73	45	28
23. Miners and quarrymen	728	701	27	14	14	-
24. Well drillers and related workers	9	9	-	1	1	-
25. Mineral treaters	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Miners, Quarrymen and related workers n. e. c.	87	83	4	1	1	-
27. Deck officers, Engineer Officers and pilots (ship)	9	9	-	4	4	-
28. Deck and Engine room ratings (ship) barge crews and boatmen	2	2	-	2	2	-
29. Conductors, guards brake's men (railway)	19	19	-	17	17	-
30. Firemen, railway engine	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Inspectors, supervisors, Traffic controllers and despatchers, transport	216	216	-	102	102	-
32. Telephone, telegraph and related tele-communication operators	11	11	-	8	8	-

APPENDIX II (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33. Postmen and Messengers	165	165	-	69	69	-
34. Workers in transport and communication occupations n. e. c.	366	365	1	82	82	-
35. Furnacemen, rollers, drawers, moulders and related metal making and treating workers	764	536	228	239	206	33
36. Precision instrument makers, watch makers, jewellers and related workers	1517	1418	99	731	727	4
37. Tool makers, machinists, plumbers, welders, platers and related workers	342	341	1	329	328	1
38. Electricians and related electrical and electronics workers	54	54	-	54	54	-
39. Carpenters, joiners, cabinet makers, coopers and related workers	2022	1903	119	599	549	50
40. Painters and paper hangers	27	26	1	27	26	1
41. Bricklayers, plasterers and construction workers n. e. c.	1593	1415	178	39	39	-
42. Compositors, printers, engravers, book-binders and related workers	23	21	2	21	19	2
43. Potters, kilnmen, glass and clay formers and related workers	2624	1480	1144	536	359	177
44. Millers, bakers, brewmasters and related food and beverage workers	1090	858	232	801	661	140
45. Chemical related process workers	9	9	-	9	9	-
46. Tobacco preparers and product makers	71	71	-	70	70	-

APPENDIX II (Concl.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
47. Craftsmen and production process workers n.e.c.	1273	379	894	858	185	673	
48. Testers, packers, sorters and related workers	2	2	—	1	1	—	
49. Stationery engine and excavating and lifting equipment operators and related workers	36	35	1	34	33	1	
50. Labourers n. e. c.	7961	6280	1681	2624	2302	322	
51. Fire fighters, policemen, guards and related workers	2345	2326	19	870	851	19	
52. Building care takers, cleaners and related workers	2515	1334	1181	1543	888	655	
53. Athletes, sportsmen and related workers	2	2	—	2	2	—	
54. Photographers and related camera operators	4	4	—	4	4	—	
55. Service, sport and recreation workers n. e. c.	52	47	5	23	18	5	
56. Workers reporting occupation un-identifiable or unclassifiable	299	249	50	180	174	6	
57. Workers not reporting occupation	37	36	1	—	—	—	

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

1961 Census

According to the 1961 Census, 46.66 per cent of the total population of the district consisted of workers, including family workers who are not in receipt of any income and/or who cannot earn enough for their maintenance. The economically inactive part of the population was thus 53.34 per cent of the total. In the rural areas, workers and non-workers were 50.12 per cent and 49.88 per cent and in the urban areas 30.39 per cent and 69.61 per cent respectively. The percentages of workers, for the district as a whole, among males and females were 59.65 and 40.35 respectively. The respective percentages in the rural areas were 58.12 and 41.88 and in the urban areas 71.52 and 28.48. The percentage figures of workers in different fields in the district as a whole were as follows.

An overwhelming part or 78.41 per cent of the working population of the district was engaged in agriculture, 76.71 per cent as cultivators and another 1.70 per cent as agricultural labourers. Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities engaged only 1.16 per cent of the workers. While 7.63 per cent of the working population was claimed by household industry, 1.80 per cent of them worked in the field of manufacturing other than household industry. Activities concerned with construction had 1.22 per cent of the workers, trade and commerce 2.99 per cent and transport, storage and communications another 0.73 per cent of them. Workers in other services were 6.06 per cent of the total working population. The sex-wise percentages of total, rural and urban working populations engaged in these fields are detailed in Appendix I at the end of the chapter.

1971 Census

The broad classification of workers and non-workers in the 1971 Census was different from the one adopted in 1961 Census, in that the workers in 1971 were classified on the basis of their main economic activity. The main activity was first ascertained according to whether a person spent his time basically as a worker, producing goods and services or as a non-worker in cases of housewives, students, pensioners etc. The non-workers were classified as such irrespective of the fact whether they performed an economic activity as subsidiary source of livelihood which is

not sufficient for their maintenance or without earning any income for their work. According to this concept, an overwhelming part of the population (73.07 per cent), in 1971 consisted of non-workers i.e. only 26.93 per cent of all persons were workers. Among the males, workers formed 47.09 per cent and among females 5.95 per cent only. In the rural areas, 28.02 per cent of the persons were workers and 71.98 non-workers. Among the rural males, 48.47 per cent were workers and 51.53 per cent non-workers. In the case of rural females, the non-workers formed 93.27 per cent of their total population, only 6.73 per cent being workers. The urban population consisted of 21.60 per cent workers and 78.40 per cent non-workers. This proportion among the urban male population was 40.38 per cent workers and 59.62 per cent non-workers. Among the urban females, workers constituted 2.14 per cent and non-workers 97.86 per cent.

The figures of workers and non-workers are given in the following table¹ :

	(Percentage to population)					
	Workers			Non-workers		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
District	26.93	47.09	5.95	73.07	52.91	94.05
Rural	28.02	48.47	6.73	71.98	51.53	93.27
Urban	21.60	40.38	2.14	78.40	59.62	97.86

¹Agriculture is the main industry and gave employment to 70.91 per cent of the male working population and 83.12 per cent of female working population. Of these engaged in agriculture, 66.02 per cent males and 74.09 per cent females were cultivators and 4.89 per cent males and 9.03 per cent females were agricultural labourers. In the rural areas, 80.47 per cent of the males and 86.44 per cent of the females among the respective working populations were engaged in agricultural activities. The participation of males in agricultural activities in urban areas was 14.86 per cent while that of females was 32.41 per cent. Other services accounted for 22.94 per cent of the urban male workers and 34.38 per cent of urban female workers of the district. While 23.72 per cent of urban male workers were engaged in trade and commerce; construction and manufacturing (other than household industry) accounted for 11.80 and 11.63 per cent respectively. Among the urban female workers, 17.11 per cent belonged to those working in household industry and their participation in other activities was rather small.

The percentage of workers in various livelihood categories,

1. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, Series 18, Parts X A & B, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, Section II, Part B, Primary Census Abstract, p. vii.*

according to the 1971 Census, along with break-up into sexes and urban and rural areas, is given in Appendix II at the end of the chapter.

Workers by age-groups¹

At the time of the 1961 Census, it was recorded that there were workers of both sexes below and upto the age of 14 in all work categories, except that there was no female worker of this age group in transport, storage and communications. Similar was the case with regard to workers above sixty. Both these instances point to the economic necessity for the population to work irrespective of age. This situation held good for the rural and urban areas separately also. The maximum number of workers (1,08,253 males and 78,324 females) were in the age-group 15-34, followed by the age-group 35-59 (80,133 males and 46,472 females). Information about workers classified by sex and age groups in various livelihood categories is shown in Appendix III at the end of the chapter.

Urban workers by educational level²

According to the 1961 Census, there were 43,679 workers in the urban areas. Of these 28,392 were illiterates and 12,950 just literates (without educational level). A total of 277 workers had education upto primary or junior basic level and another 1,372 upto matriculation level. 155 of the workers had non-technical diploma and 19 technical diploma not equal to degree and most of them were working in the field of 'other services', 201 of the 260 workers holding non-technical university degrees or post-graduate degrees and 248 out of 254 workers with technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree were engaged in the category 'other services'. The technical degree holders were in the fields of engineering (8), medicine (49), agriculture (1), veterinary and dairying (4), technology (9), teaching (141) and other fields (36). Besides, two engineering degree holders were working in the field of construction and one in manufacturing. Two persons with technical degrees in agriculture were working in mining, quarrying and allied activities and one with an unspecified degree in the field of agriculture.

Rural workers by educational level³

A bulk of 2,99,700 of the 3,39,103 rural workers, were illiterates. Next came those who were just literate (without any educational level), their number being 35,547. Out of the rest of the rural workers 1,466 had educational level of primary or junior basic and those with education of

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, pp. 82-83.*

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 86-87.

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 88-89.

matriculation and above were 2,390. These workers with an educational level of matriculation or above were found in all livelihood categories. Sex-wise, while there were male workers of this educational level in all categories, females of this educational level were not recorded in the fields of agricultural labour, mining, quarrying etc., household industry, construction, trade and commerce and transport, storage and communications.

PRICES

No systematic record of prices prevailing in the area during pre-Independence period is available.

At the time of the 1951 Census, the prices of various agricultural products per maund were as follows¹: *Bajra* Rs. 16 to Rs. 22, wheat Rs. 26 and *Jowar* Rs. 15 to Rs. 21.

From 1952 to 1955, the first four years of the First Five Year Plan, prices generally fell due to bumper harvests of almost all crops because of concerted developmental efforts under the Plan programmes and also due to generally favourable natural conditions for agriculture during the period. The following table shows the retail prices of the main foodgrain crops during the years 1952 to 1956, indicating a reversal of earlier trend during 1956²:

	(Rs. per maund)				
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Wheat	20.73	17.58	14.89	13.75	16.85
Barley	14.40	11.34	8.89	7.32	11.05
Gram	16.96	15.83	12.66	8.89	11.72
Jowar	16.76	9.94	7.20	6.44	11.44
Bajra	17.20	13.21	9.71	8.35	12.92
Maize	N. R.	11.00	7.25	8.00	N. R.

The rising trend in prices had been the ultimate effect of the pressures exerted by heavy developmental expenditure and deficit financing, helped by adverse natural conditions which deteriorated the situation on the food front consequent upon the failure of crops in large parts of the country during most period of the Second Plan. The following table, giving retail prices in the district, during 1957 to 1961, illustrates the point³:

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, Part I, p. v.*
2. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958, p. 89.*
3. *Ibid.*, 1962, p. 137.

	(Rupees per quintal)				
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Wheat	46.08	49.83	55.14	49.67	51.15
Barley	34.00	33.68	36.57	35.45	38.02
Gram	33.52	36.46	38.96	37.29	41.42
Jowar	—	35.79	37.16	34.37	34.83
Bajra	43.30	37.91	40.72	41.74	43.24
Maize	—	—	—	34.54	32.15

The collection of retail prices was later substituted by farm (harvest) prices. The farm (harvest) price is the average wholesale price at which the commodity is sold by the producer to the trader at the village site during the harvest period. Since 1962-63, the prices had started rising still further after a comparatively quiet year. The immediate reason was bad harvests due to failure of monsoons in three out of five years of the Third Plan. However, the situation took a turn for the worse with the abnormal conditions created by the emergency steps taken to meet the hostilities launched by China in 1962 and then by Pakistan in 1965. In fact, the inflationary tendencies generated in the economy of the country since then, helped by such forces in other parts of the world, have resulted in a generally upward trend in price levels which are, of course, temporarily affected also by a good or a bad harvest during a particular year. The following table records farm (harvest) prices in the district during recent years¹:

	(Rs. per quintal)					
Commodity	1965-66	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
Rice	155.00	175.00	210.00	150.00	150.00	250.00
Jowar	66.50	70.00	60.00	55.00	60.00	100.00
Bajra	67.10	72.00	70.00	65.00	60.00	98.00
Maize	57.00	57.73*	90.00	—	75.00	70.00
Wheat	100.10	93.17	100.00	92.00	88.00	120.00
Barley	61.00	71.67	75.00	50.00	65.00	100.00
Gram	60.16	93.75	100.00	82.00	100.00	120.00

Price Control Measures

To check abnormal rise in prices due to inflationary situation, efforts had been made to keep them at a reasonable level during the princely state times and more concerted after Independence. During the

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.
- * Estimated.

forties, on account of the Second World War, the former Jaipur State, of which the district was a part, also started feeling a shortage of essential commodities and took steps for price control and equitable distribution. The Supply Department was expanded in 1942-43 for effective anti-hoarding action and to make the unearthed commodities available to public at reasonable prices¹. The designation of the Price Controller was changed to Controller of Civil Supplies in view of the fact that the officer had to deal with not only price control but also unearthing the hoarded stocks of essential commodities, e. g. foodgrains, sugar, salt, charcoal, coal, matches, medicines etc. The officer was also made responsible for arranging supplies and organising distribution of these essential commodities².

The government issued a number of Control Orders, the important of which were³ :

1. Jaipur Kerosene and Diesel Oils Control Order, 1942.
2. Jaipur Essential Articles Control Order, 1942.
3. Order Regulating Movement of Foodgrains from one district to another, 1942.
4. Order fixing the Prices and Regulating the Supply of Paper, 1943.
5. Order fixing the Scale of Persons to be fed on various occasions, 1943.
6. Order fixing the Scale of Grain to be kept for each adult and child in a family both in the districts and Jaipur City, 1943.
7. Cotton Forward Contracts and Options Prohibition Order, 1943.
8. Oilseeds (Forward Contracts and Prohibition) Order, 1943.
9. Order opening various centres of salt in the districts and fixing selling rates of salt, 1943.
10. Gur Control Order, 1943.

In 1946-47, the government resorted to compulsory levy on the *Rabi* crop. The distribution of essential commodities was entrusted to district, tahsil and municipal level committees consisting of members of the legislature and other non-officials. However, in the case of municipal level committees, the work of distribution was arranged through the Municipal Boards. Deputy Commissioners, senior officers and tahsildars

1. *Jaipur Administration Report, 1942-43* (September 1942 to August 1943), p. 55.
2. *ibid.*, p. 54.
3. *ibid.*, p. 56.

as chairmen of these committees, were given sufficient powers under the various control orders¹.

Family ration cards were distributed and each tahsil was divided into convenient zones, and a distributing centre was fixed for each zone. One wholesaler was appointed for each tahsil and separate retailers for all zones for the distribution of various essential articles².

After Independence, the efforts to control the prices and to ensure equitable distribution of essential commodities have been a prime concern of both the Central and the State governments. In 1956, the government accepted, in principle, the concept of state trading and distribution of essential commodities through fair price shops. To remove regional imbalances in the availability of these commodities, restrictions were imposed on their movement. The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was passed by the Union Parliament; it was renewed in 1958. Action to check hoarding and prevent abnormal rise in prices was taken by the State government under the provisions of this Act.

The movement of essential and scarce commodities had continued to be regulated under various orders, issued to remove imbalances between demand and supply in different areas. Under Inter-Zone Wheat Movement Order, 1957, Rajasthan was later reconstituted into separate wheat zone. Again, Rajasthan Foodgrains (Restriction on Border Movement) Order, 1959, created no-movement belts of wheat and certain wheat products. State trading in foodgrains, resorted to since 1960-61 led to the ultimate take over of the wholesale trade in wheat in the *Rabi* season of 1973 on an experimental basis. A net work of fair price shops, which numbered 365 in 1972-73, has been playing an important part in the distribution of essential commodities among the district population. Other important measures taken to regulate prices have been the fixing of prices of foodgrains under Grain Procurement (Levy on Dealers) Orders and the promulgation of the Rajasthan Display of Prices of Essential Commodities Order, 1966.

WAGES

The 1951 Census report recorded that the wages³ for an adult male were Rs 1.25 per day, for an adult female Re 1.00 and for a boy Re. 0.75.

1. *Report on the Administration of Jaipur State for Samvat 2003* (September 1946 to August 1947), p. 218.
2. *ibid.*
3. *Census 1951, op. cit.*, p. v.

At present (1972-73), the adult male gets Rs. 4.00 daily as wage for various agricultural operations, while females and children get Rs. 3 and Rs. 2 respectively per day¹.

Minimum wages in certain scheduled employments are fixed by the Labour Department of the State Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. These are revised from time to time on the recommendations of a committee, specially constituted for the purpose. The present (1972-73) rates are given in Appendix IV.

STANDARD OF LIVING

No survey reports about standard of living in the district are available. The 1951 Census² recorded information about the food, dress and dwelling of the people of the district which provide indicators to their standard of living. It was observed that the staple food of the villagers was *Bajra* and *Moth*, which they grew in their fields, but the urban population consumed *Bajra* and wheat. On festivals and feasts, the village people also used wheat and *Gur*. Their other items of food consisted of *Chhachh* (butter milk) and *Rabri* (preparation of *Bajra* flour and *Chhachh*). The dress of the villagers was simple and coarse while the town dwellers used finer stuff and dressed themselves in a more fashionable way. The houses in the towns were mostly pukka though the poorer sections continued to live in mud houses, plastered with cow dung and clay with thatched roofs and fences or *Bar* (thorny shrubs). In villages, the majority of the houses were of this kind though a small percentage had built pukka houses consisting of one or two rooms according to their socio-economic position. Some of the principal towns of the district such as Sikar, Fatehpur, Ramgarh and Lachhmangarh presented a fine appearance due to the palatial houses of the wealthy bankers.

The developmental programmes under the Five Year Plans, have been going a long way in providing basic amenities of life and essential social services to the people of the district as elsewhere. The growing consciousness of the people about a higher standard of living and their wider contacts with the outside world consequent upon the development of the means of transport and communications have led to a definite improvement in their mode of living and outlook. The rural population has been benefited by the rising prices of agricultural products as well as by the development schemes for agriculture, including the price support provided by the government. This has resulted in increased output from the fields coupled with assured and better returns for it. The town dwellers

1. Source : Offices of various tahsildars in the district.

2. *Census 1951, op. cit.*, p. III.

have been having a better taste of the expanding social services and employment and other opportunities provided by the government. Things of common comfort like electrical appliances, transistors, food articles, new and fashionable items of dress like trousers and bush-shirts and furniture etc., are in use among the well-to-do residents of urban and even rural areas.

The 1971 Census has recorded some information which can be taken as an indicator of the standard of living of a class of people, though comparatively speaking, it points to the backwardness of the region as a whole. An overwhelming dependence upon agriculture as a means of livelihood, and agriculture being what it is, suggested that people are unable to afford a very high standard of living. The staple food in a majority of villages is *Bajra* which is a coarse grain. In the towns of the district, the per capita receipt from municipal taxes was low, ranging from Rs. 12.03 in Sri Madhopur to Rs. 1.74 in Ramgarh¹. The number of hospital beds per thousand population was only 3.99 at Sikar which was the highest for all towns of the district². Dispensaries and hospitals, at the best reckoning, were 1.52 and 0.58 per 100 square km. in Danta Ramgarh tahsil. Health centres, maternity and child welfare centres and family planning centres were all less than one per 100 square km³.

The incidence of primary schools was highest in Sri Madhopur tahsil (9.80 per 100 sq. km.) and that of middle schools in Neem-ka-Thana tahsil (1.36 per 100 sq. km.). There was not even one higher secondary school for 100 sq. km., the highest incidence being 0.83 in Sri Madhopur tahsil⁴. The percentage literacy for district in 1971 was 19.61⁵.

There were 4.45 post offices for every 100 sq. km. in Sri Madhopur tahsil which represented the best in the district in this regard. Combined post and telegraph offices and telephone centres were less than one for 100 sq. km⁶.

Only 14 villages had tap water, as against 797 which depended upon wells, 73 on tanks, 16 on rivers, 19 on tube wells and 20 on other sources⁷. There were only 3,050 domestic electric connections for the entire urban population in seven towns⁸, the largest number (1,810) being in Sikar town which had a population of 70,987.

Urban areas claimed 17.03 per cent of the population of the district. Among tahsils, the figure was highest for Sikar (39.98 per cent of

1. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District (Section I)*, p. xiv

2. *ibid.*, p. xv.

3. *ibid.*, p. xviii.

4. *ibid.*, p. xix.

5. *ibid.*, p. xvii.

6. *ibid.*, (Section I), p. xviii.

7. *ibid.*, (Town Directory), p. 4.

the total urban population) and there was no town in Danta Ramgarh tahsil.

According to a 20 per cent sample study at the time of 1961 Census, it was observed that a majority of the Census houses used as dwellings were owned by the households in occupation. Most houses had walls made of bricks (both burnt and unburnt) and stone. The other predominant wall material was mud and such houses were found mostly in the rural areas. Roofing material was grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood or bamboo for the largest number of houses (15,906), followed by concrete and stone (9,084), brick and lime (1,854), metal sheets (1,395), tiles (21), asbestos cement sheets (1), and other material (832). (Figures represent a total of 29,093 houses forming the 20 per cent sample). In the rural areas, the single largest category was that of mud houses built of materials like grass, leaves, thatch etc. while in the urban areas it was concrete and stone¹. Households with 2 rooms accommodation formed the single largest group for the district as a whole, as well as for rural and urban areas separately².

EMPLOYMENT

As observed earlier, a large majority of the working population of the district is engaged in agriculture. The following table gives the number of persons working in different fields at the time of 1971 Census³:

	(Number)		
	Males	Females	Total
1. Cultivators	165,298	22,523	187,821
2. Agricultural Labourers	12,236	2,745	14,981
3. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	5,113	2,178	7,291
4. Mining and Quarrying	725	25	750
5. Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs:			
(a) Household Industry	12,015	1,026	13,041
(b) Other than Household Industry	7,437	377	7,814
6. Construction	6,853	139	6,992

1. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. 186-87.

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 188-89.

3. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District (Section II)*, pp. 4-5.

	1	2	3	4
7. Trade and Commerce		13,407	142	13,549
8. Transport, Storage and Communications		4,020	18	4,038
9. Other Services		23,257	1,226	24,483

Employment Exchange¹

An employment exchange was established in the district in 1961. The main function of the exchange is to provide assistance to employment seekers on the one hand and to provide suitable persons to the employers on the other. Vocational guidance is also provided to the prospective job seekers. Employment market information is collected regularly and transmitted to the headquarters. The jurisdiction of the office is co-terminus with the limits of the district.

According to the figures compiled by the Employment Office, employment in the public sector which was 9,655 in March 1972 increased to 10,285 in March, 1973, resulting in an increase of 630. In the private sector, the figures of employment as on March 31, 1973 was 1,014 as compared to 944 on March 31, 1972. The sector/field-wise number of employees at the end of 1971-72 and 1972-73 is shown in the following table :

Sector/Field	(Number)	
	1971-72	1972-73
1. Central Government	247	281
2. State Government	6,118	6,552
3. Semi-Government Establishments	963	1,137
4. Local Bodies	2,327	2,315
5. Private Sector:		
(1) Animal Husbandry	60	106
(2) Mining	58	71
(3) Prospecting	79	98
(4) <i>Khadi</i>	72	41
(5) Mineral Grinding	9	-
(6) Steel casting	30	30
(7) Education	483	493
(8) Medical and Health Services	118	140
(9) Entertainment	35	35

1. Source : Office of the District Employment Officer, Sikar.

The following table records the figures of registration, placements, vacancies notified and applicants on the live register of the exchange during the years 1961 to 1972¹:

(Number)				
Year	Applicants registered during the year	Applicants placed during the year	Vacancies notified during the year	Applicants on the live register of the exchange at the end of the year
1961	3,582	282	609	2,321
1962	2,794	434	356	1,196
1963	3,110	411	401	1,502
1964	3,486	725	743	1,388
1965	3,452	418	585	1,242
1966	3,151	172	232	1,335
1967	3,702	362	422	1,664
1968	4,149	325	361	2,077
1969	4,287	265	341	2,053
1970	4,098	219	358	2,810
1971	4,761	249	399	3,591
1972	5,938	601	530	4,550

The above figures point to the fact of an increasing number of registrations by the job seekers over the years, which has been leading to an ever mounting backlog on the live register of the Employment Exchange after placements out of the notified vacancies which have also been increasing. Sector-wise notification and filling of vacancies during these years has been as follows²:

(Number)										
Year	Central Government		State Government		Quasi Government and Local Bodies		Private		Total	
	Notified	Filled	Notified	Filled	Notified	Filled	Notified	Filled	Notified	Filled
1961	7	2	489	245	105	20	8	-	609	267
1962	-	-	258	326	57	52	-	-	315	378
1963	11	12	358	363	30	31	2	2	401	408
1964	21	21	642	634	70	65	10	5	743	725
1965	5	14	395	330	88	56	27	2	515	402
1966	1	1	183	123	44	15	4	1	232	140
1967	6	4	382	332	16	9	18	2	422	347
1968	81	52	230	180	14	7	36	16	361	255

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

2. *Ibid.*

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1969	78	75	172	157	43	17	48	13	341	262	
1970	10	6	257	200	46	7	45	5	358	218	
1971	16	8	270	212	34	9	79	20	399	249	
1972	16	14	288	272	115	79	111	44	530	409	

A bulk of the vacancies notified and filled are in the state government establishments. Next comes the private sector, the notification of vacancies from which has been steadily increasing, as more and more of the private undertakings are covered by the provisions of the Compulsory Notification of Vacancies Act, 1959. The placings in this sector, however, remain low.

Occupational distribution of applicants on the live register of the Employment Exchange and seeking employment assistance is recorded in the following table¹:

		(Number)							
S.No.	Category	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969*	1970*	1971	1972*
1.	Professional, Technical and related workers	130	130	238	378	322	410	408	171
2.	Administrative, Executive and Managerial workers	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	1
3.	Clerical and related workers	6	14	2	13	10	9	8	18
4.	Sales workers	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Farmers, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and related workers	4	-	-	2	-	3	1	3
6.	Miners, Quarrymen and related workers	-	-	-	11	13	2	-	2
7.	Craftsmen, Production Process workers and labourers not elsewhere classified	4	14	21	31	19	23	43	100
8.	Workers in Transport and Communications	29	24	31	29	36	42	34	231

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

* Figures for these years relate to the last day of June of the respective year.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9. Service, Sports and Recreation workers		31	76	43	17	29	119	152	48
10. Workers not classified by occupation		1,037	1,077	1,328	1,596	1,749	2,200	2,943	3,976
Total		1,242	1,335	1,664	2,077	2,178	2,810	3,591	4,550

The above table reveals that the maximum number of the job seekers consisted of unskilled and inexperienced workmen who cannot be classified by their occupations. They included both illiterate as well as literate and educated workers. Among the other categories, the majority came from amongst professional, technical and related workers.

The employment market in the district had been experiencing the shortage of compounders, midwives and montessory trained teachers, while unskilled workers were found to be in excessive supply as compared to their demand.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning

The process of planning in the district was started along with the rest of the country in 1951. In the beginning, the plans were prepared at the State level and no district-wise allocations were made. Later in the Second Plan, an element of planning from below was inducted in the process. District plans were prepared for the first time in 1957-58 and since then the requirements of the districts are considered as an integral part of the process of plan formulation¹. District-wise information about the expenditure and physical achievements during the First Plan is not available. The total expenditure incurred on the district schemes in Sikar during the subsequent Plan periods is shown below²:

Period	(Rs. in lakhs) Expenditure
1956-61 (Second Plan)	192.35
1961-66 (Third Plan)	240.07
1966-69 (Yearly Plans)	295.81
1969-70	92.98
1970-71 ³	118.83

1. *Second Five Year Plan Progress Report, Rajasthan*, p. 45.

2. Compiled from various Plan progress reports.

3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1971, pp. 183-84.

The sector-wise expenditure in the various plans is given in Appendix V. The important physical achievements in the district, plan-wise, were as follows:

During the Second Plan¹, in the agriculture and community development sector, 30 thousand maunds of improved seeds, 0.14 thousand tons of fertilisers, 0.82 lakh tons of compost and manure, and 866 improved implements were distributed. For land improvement, 18.5 thousand compost pits were dug and 3.9 thousand acres of land was made cultivable. For improvement in irrigational facilities, 387 wells were constructed, 327 were deepened or repaired and 21 tanks deepened. One minor irrigation work was also completed. Co-operation from the public for developmental efforts aggregated Rs. 44.41 lakhs in value. By 1960-61², there were 491 co-operative societies in the district with a total membership of 34,429. There were 313 agricultural credit societies, their membership being 20,931.

By the same period, the district had one power house and two localities were electrified. A sum of Rs. 2.59 lakhs was advanced as loans to cottage and small scale industries. Roads constructed and repaired totalled 236 miles. Another 3 miles of village roads were constructed in the development blocks. Loan distribution to persons of low income group for house construction amounted to Rs. 3.09 lakhs.

By the end of the 1964-65, the co-operative movement³ covered 91 per cent of the villages and 22 per cent rural families. In 1965-66, the number of co-operative societies⁴ was 639 and their membership 54.47 thousand, with a working capital of Rs. 95.79 lakhs. The share capital of all the societies together was Rs. 21.78 lakhs. The number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries had increased to 13 and electrified localities to 41 by 1965-66, the last year of the Third Plan. There were 10 registered factories. Pukka roads measured 540 km. and rough surface roads 235 km.

In the field of education, literacy⁵ increased to 15.71 per cent by 1964-65. By 1965-66 the number of colleges⁶ rose to 11, that of high/higher secondary schools to 39, middle schools to 87 primary/junior basic schools to 690 and special schools to 110 by the last year of Third Plan

1. *Panchvarshiya Yojna Mein Pragati, Zila Sikar* (folder), Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1961, pp. 166 & 170.
3. *Pragati Ke 15 Varsh, Zila Sikar* (Folder). Directorate of Public Relations, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1967, p. 103.
5. *Pragati ke 15 Varsh*, op. cit.
6. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1967, p. 164.

(1965-66). The number of teachers of all categories was 3,275 and that of students 98,559. In 1966, there were 30 government allopathic medical institutions. Under the programmes for welfare of backward sections, 1,402 landless persons were allotted 9,397 acres of land free. Village pastures transferred to panchayats numbered 410. *Khatedari* rights were given to 1,37,089 cultivators, accounting for 1,588,039 acres of land.

At the end of the three yearly Plans (1966-69), the total road length in the district was 777 km. or 10 km. per 100 sq. km. of area and 0.95 km. per 1000 of population. Loans for construction of houses in the low income group and middle income group housing schemes amounted to Rs. 0.08 lakhs and Rs. 1.34 lakhs respectively.

By the end of the year 1969-70, the district had a total of 782 km. of roads, including 103 km. of national highway. The average¹ per 100 sq. km. of area worked out to 10 km. which was higher than the state average of 9. However, with regard to road length per thousand persons, the district had 0.95 km. which was less than the State average of 1.56.

Under housing schemes, Rs. 0.82 lakh were given as loans and seven houses were constructed by persons of low income group. For middle income group housing, the corresponding figures were Rs. 0.45 lakh and 5 houses.

Community Development

The Community Development Programme in the district was started with the opening of a block at Neem-ka-Thana in 1955-56. The second block at Lachhmangarh was opened in 1956-57, followed by Danta Ramgarh in 1957-58 and Sri Madhopur in 1958-59. Two more blocks one at Dhodh and the other at Piprali were started in 1960-61. With the starting of the Fatehpur and Khandela blocks in 1962-63, the whole district was covered under the programme. Some data about the blocks are tabulated below²:

Block	Year of opening	No. of villages covered
Danta Ramgarh	1957-58	115
Fatehpur	1962-63	135
Khandela	1962-63	118
Lachhmangarh	1956-57	121
Neem-ka-Thana	1955-56	121
Piprali	1960-61	73
Sri Madhopur	1958-59	49
Dhodh	1960-61	101

1. *Yojna Pragati Prativedan*, 1969-70, p. 160.
2. *Sankhikiya Rooprekha*, 1971, Sikar, p. 103.

APPENDIX I Working Population in various Livelihood Categories in Sikar District (1961 Census)

S.No.	Livelihood category	(Percentages to total workers)					
		District		Rural		Urban	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
I.	Cultivation	71.75	84.05	80.49	87.52	16.59	44.38
II.	Agricultural Labour	1.67	1.74	1.85	1.82	0.54	0.87
III.	Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	1.35	0.88	1.35	0.87	1.35	0.96
IV.	Household Industry	6.81	8.84	6.34	7.50	9.82	24.12
V.	Manufacturing other than Household Industry	2.06	1.42	0.75	0.22	10.29	15.07
VI.	Construction	1.89	0.22	0.76	0.14	9.08	1.16
VII.	Trade and Commerce	4.79	0.32	2.32	0.11	20.35	2.74
VIII.	Transport, Storage and Communications	1.22	—	0.59	—	5.20	0.04
IX.	Other Services	8.46	2.53	5.55	1.82	26.78	10.66

Source : *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. 10-11.

The percentages have been compiled from the figures given for different categories.

APPENDIX II Working Population in various Livelihood Categories in Sikar District (1971 Census)

Livelihood category	(Percentage to total workers)					
	District		Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
I. Cultivation	70.91	83.12	80.47	86.44	14.86	32.41
II. Agricultural Labour }						
III. Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards etc.	2.04	7.16	2.24	7.60	0.88	0.53
IV. Mining and Quarrying	0.29	0.08	0.30	0.08	0.21	0.16
V. (a) Household Industry	4.80	3.38	4.15	2.47	8.59	17.11
(b) Manufacturing other than Household Industry	2.97	1.24	1.50	0.73	11.63	9.04
VI. Construction	2.74	0.46	1.19	0.34	11.80	2.25
VII. Trade and Commerce	5.36	0.47	2.22	0.25	23.72	3.85
VIII. Transport, Storage & Communications	1.60	0.06	0.97	0.05	5.37	0.27
IX. Other services	9.29	4.03	6.96	2.04	22.94	34.38

Source : Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, pp. viii-ix.

APPENDIX III Workers by sex and broad age groups in Sikar District (1961 Census)

Age-group	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX
(Number)									
MALES									
Total	163,825	3,806	3,087	15,558	4,693	4,324	10,935	2,792	19,309
0-14	14,682	427	1,520	3,584	187	179	199	24	718
15-34	76,593	1,912	1,020	6,313	2,618	2,414	5,219	1,682	10,482
35-59	58,327	1,232	464	4,531	1,606	1,531	4,544	1,038	6,860
60 +	14,204	235	83	1,126	281	200	971	47	1,246
Age not stated	19	—	—	4	1	—	2	1	3
FEMALES									
Total	129,812	2,687	1,356	13,652	2,192	343	496	8	3,907
0-14	17,297	307	1,123	3,547	300	35	40	—	355
15-34	67,671	1,371	122	5,773	1,144	175	196	4	1,868
35-59	39,403	886	90	3,691	660	121	215	4	1,402
60 +	5,426	122	21	635	88	12	45	—	279
Age not stated	15	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	3

Source : Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, pp. 82-83.

I - As Cultivators	IV - At Household Industry	VII - In Trade and Commerce
II - As Agricultural Labourers	V - In Manufacturing other than household industry	VIII - In Transport, Storage and Communications
III - In Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and allied activities.	VI - In Construction	IX - In Other Services.

APPENDIX IV

Minimum Wages (1972-73) under Minimum Wages Act, 1948

Category of occupation/Scheduled Employment	Minimum Wages per adult workers
1. Salt Industry:	
(i) Manufacturing operations	Rs. 3.10 per day inclusive of weekly days of rest.
(ii) Extraction and storage	Rs. 1.50 per cft. or Rs. 3.50 per day including of weekly days of rest.
(iii) Despatch operations	
(a) Cutting and filling	Rs. 11 per 156 bags or 145 quintals or Rs. 3.50 per day inclusive of weekly days of rest.
(b) Weighing and loading	Rs. 21.50 per 156 bags or 145 quintals or Rs. 7 per day for combined operations or Rs. 3.50 per day inclusive of weekly days of rest for individual operation.
(c) Sewing	Rs. 3.10 per day inclusive of weekly days of rest.
(d) General	Rs. 2.62 to Rs. 4.25 per day, inclusive of weekly days of rest.
2. Woollen carpet making and shawl weaving :	
Time rate manual occupations	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
3. Rice, flour and Dal mills:	
(i) Skilled workers	Rs. 125 p. m.
(ii) Semi-skilled workers	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Unskilled workers	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
(iv) Clerical staff	Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 p. m.
4. Tobacco (including Bidi making) manufacturing :	
(i) Bidi Roller	Rs. 100 p. m.
(ii) Bidi sorter and checker (full time worker)	Rs. 125 p. m.
(iii) Bundle wrapper and packer	Rs. 100 p.m.
(iv) Snuff maker	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.

APPENDIX IV (Contd.)

1	2
5. Oil Mills :	
(i) Unskilled workman	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day
(ii) Semi-skilled workman	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Skilled workman	Rs. 125 p.m
6. Employment under local authority :	
(i) Unskilled worker	Rs. 80 to Rs. 90 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
(ii) Semi-skilled worker	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Skilled worker	Rs. 125 p. m.
(iv) Office staff	Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 p. m.
(v) Field staff	Rs. 125 to Rs. 200 p. m.
(vi) Traffic staff	Rs. 125 to Rs. 200 p. m.
7. Construction or maintenance of roads or building operation :	
(i) Unskilled worker	Rs. 80 to Rs. 90 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day
(ii) Semi-skilled worker	Rs. 100 to Rs. 125 p. m.
(iii) Skilled worker	Rs. 125 to Rs. 200 p. m.
8. Stone breaking and stone crushing :	
(i) Unskilled workman	Rs. 80 to Rs. 90 p. m.
(ii) Semi-skilled workman	Rs. 100 to Rs. 125 p. m.
(iii) Skilled workman	Rs. 125 to Rs. 150 p. m.
9. Mica works other than Mica Mines:	
(i) Unskilled worker	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
(ii) Dresser and sorter	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Clerk	Rs. 150 p. m.
(iv) Cutter	Rs. 156 per 10 kg. of mica cut but not less than Rs. 85 p. m.
10. Mica Mines:	
(i) Unskilled workman	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
(ii) Semi-skilled workman	Rs. 100 to Rs. 115 p. m.
(iii) Skilled staff	Rs. 125 to 135 p. m.
(iv) Traffic staff	Rs. 90 to Rs. 150 p. m.
(v) Clerical staff	Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 p. m.

APPENDIX IV (Concl'd.)

1	2
(vi) Piece rate workman	56 paise per kg. of Mica cut (inclusive of Sunday wages) but not less than Rs. 85 p. m.
11. Public Motor Transport :	
(i) Unskilled worker	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day.
(ii) Semi-skilled worker	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Skilled workers	Rs. 125 p. m.
(iv) Traffic staff	Rs. 90 to Rs. 125 p. m.
(v) Office staff	Rs. 150 p. m.
(vi) Inspecting staff	Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 p. m.
12. Wool cleaning and pressing factories, printing presses, and cotton ginning and pressing factories :	
(i) Unskilled workman	Rs. 85 p. m. or Rs. 3.25 per day
(ii) Semi-skilled workman	Rs. 100 p. m.
(iii) Skilled workman	Rs. 125 p. m.
13. Employment in Agriculture :	
(i) Adult Male	Rs. 60 per month.
(ii) Adult Female	Rs. 52.50 p. m
(iii) Child (Male or Female)	Rs. 1.13 per day.

Source : Office of the Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX V

Sector-wise Plan Expenditure in Sikar District

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sector/Head	Second Plan (1956-61)	Third Plan (1961-66)	Yearly Plans (1966-69)	1969-70	1970-71
AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMMES:					
Agricultural Production	15.09	3.20	4.09	—	—
Minor Irrigation	—	31.01	26.27	5.54	0.68
Soil conservation	*	1.11	1.07	—	—
Animal Husbandry	2.05	6.29	4.21	0.21	0.06
Forests	2.95	0.50	0.14	—	—
Warehousing, Marketing and Storage	—	—	0.07	—	—
CO-OPERATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:					
Co-operation	4.64	4.25	0.52	0.69	1.42
Community Development	35.61	46.30	12.99	2.02	1.29
Panchayats	—	8.36	0.15	—	—
IRRIGATION AND POWER:					
Irrigation	0.35	—	—	—	—
Flood Control	—	0.54	0.85	—	—
Power	18.68	—	147.17	61.07	71.20
INDUSTRIES AND MINING:					
Large and Medium Industries	} 5.15	—	—	—	—
Village and Small Industries		2.12	0.03	0.03	0.03
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:					
Roads	54.78	29.55	10.19	0.09	3.39
SOCIAL SERVICES:					
General education and Cultural Programme	} 29.89	44.92	32.53	2.30	7.38
Technical Education		—	—	—	—
Modern Medicine	5.80	28.80	14.37	0.02	3.64
Ayurved	0.52	1.53	2.37	0.11	0.04
Water Supply	10.48	24.82	34.63	17.03	21.55
Housing	3.09	1.45	0.08	1.27	3.18
Labour and Labour Welfare	—	0.23	0.09	—	—

* Included with expenditure on forests.

APPENDIX V (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Welfare of Backward classes					
Social Welfare	2.24	4.84	3.35	2.60	4.96
Public Co-operation	—	—	0.01	—	0.01
MISCELLANEOUS:					
Statistics	0.04	0.06	0.05	—	—
Information and Publicity	0.99	0.01	0.57	—	—
Total	192.35	240.07	295.81	92.98	118.83

Sources : 1. *Second Five Year Plan, Progress Report, Rajasthan*, pp. 1956-61, LXXXIII-LXXXV.

2. *Tritiya Panchavarshiya Yojna-Pragati Prativedan*, 1961-66, pp. 234-240.

3. *Yojna Pragati Prativedan*, 1966-69, pp. 172-175.

4. *Yojna Pragati Prativedan*, 1969-70, pp. 122-128.

5. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1971, pp. 183-84.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The present Sikar district was constituted in 1949 after the formation of Greater Rajasthan in which the erstwhile Jaipur State also merged. Prior to this, Sikar was a jurisdictional *Thikana* under the former Jaipur State. The administration of Sikar *Thikana* was carried out by an officer designated as Senior Officer appointed by the then Jaipur State Government. The *Thikana* paid a fixed tribute of Rs. 42,407 annually to the then Jaipur State. Headed by a Rao Raja, it was in all important matters subordinate to and under the general superintendence and control of the Jaipur State. However, it enjoyed some local freedom in running the administration. It had its own administrative departments headed by *Thikana* officers viz., Revenue, Judicial, Police, Public Works Department, Accounts, Medical, Education, Customs and Excise, Treasury, *Qilajat* and Court of Wards etc. The Senior officer or the chief executive of the *Thikana* was vested with extensive powers both, executive and judicial. He was responsible for his acts to the Prime Minister of the Jaipur State through the Revenue Minister of Jaipur¹. There were three more officers whose services were lent to the *Thikana*. These officers were the Assistant Senior Officer, Superintendent of Police and the Revenue Officer. These officers supervised functioning of their respective departments.

Such of the laws of the former Jaipur State expressly made applicable to the whole State, were followed in Sikar. In other respects, the principles underlying the Jaipur rules and regulations, and in their absence the laws, rules and regulations, obtaining in British India, were taken as guide².

In 1949, the district was formed comprising Neem-ka-Thana and Danta Ramgarh (excluding 48 villages) tahsils of the former Jaipur State and the area of the former Sikar *Thikana*, and 11 villages of the former Shyamgarh *Thikana*. When Sikar *Thikana* was resumed as Jagir in 1954, all the three tahsils of the former Sikar *Thikana* were also taken into *Khalsa* area but Lachhmangarh and Fatehpur were grouped together to form one tahsil named Fatehpur. However, a new tahsil was formed at Sri Madhopur in 1954. In 1955, Lachhmangarh was reconstituted into a tahsil

1. Source : The Office of the Collector, Sikar.

2. *Ibid.*

with headquarters at Lachhmangarh. Therefore, in 1955, the district comprised six tahsils and one sub-tahsil all grouped into three sub-divisions the details of which are as follows:

S.No.	Sub-Division	Tahsil/Sub-tahsil
1.	Sikar	1. Tahsil Sikar
		2. Tahsil Danta Ramgarh
2.	Fatehpur	1. Tahsil Lachhmangarh
		2. Tahsil Fatehpur
		3. Sub-tahsil Ramgarh
3.	Neem-ka-Thana	1. Tahsil Neem-ka-Thana
		2. Tahsil Sri Madhopur

PRESENT PATTERN

During the inter-censal period from 1961 to 1971, no major change took place in the administrative structure of the district. At present the district is composed of three sub-divisions viz., Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana and six tahsils viz., Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana, Sikar and Danta Ramgarh.

The district is under the administrative control of an officer designated as Collector while each of the Sub-divisions and tahsils are placed under the charge of a Sub-Divisional Officer and Tahsildar respectively.

Role of the Collector

The general administration of the district is entrusted to the Collector with headquarters at Sikar. He is the Chief Executive in the district round whom the whole district administration revolves. He is at the head of the revenue administration of the district, maintains law and order in the area, supervises and helps officers of other departments in proper execution of development programmes. His important functions in various capacities are described below:

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS—Being the Chief Executive of the district, the Collector has vast powers. Although all the government departments located in the district are placed under the immediate charge of their respective heads of departments, the Collector exercises general supervision in regard to the non-technical work of the district officials. He has the authority to call for assistance of any officer in the district. He has the power to inspect all offices in the district and all works undertaken in the area. He maintains co-ordination between various departments and exercises control over local self-governing bodies with powers to intervene if necessary. His executive functions include public relations, executions

of government policies, rationing and food control and relief measures in times of emergencies like floods, famines, epidemics etc. He also administers the Arms, Motor-Vehicles and Explosives Acts.

REVENUE FUNCTIONS—Collection of land revenue has been the most important responsibility of the District Collector since the creation of his office. As Collector of land revenue on behalf of the government, he is responsible for the collection of revenue and other dues relating to land revenue. He ensures that the revenue dues are recovered punctually without coercion and that the collected amount is properly credited and accounted. For this he devotes much of his time in supervising and controlling the land records and the staff engaged in revenue collection. He is empowered to appoint, promote, transfer, demote and accord punishment to subordinate officials according to the rules of the government. He submits periodical reports about the land revenue collection and dues to the Board of Revenue and the State Government. He works as the highest court of appeal in the district for revenue matters within the scope of the Rajasthan Land Records Act, 1952 and the Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955. He supervises the activities of all the revenue officers in the district and inspects their offices. For the administration of land revenue work, the Collector is assisted by three Sub-Divisional Officers and six Tahsildars.

Besides, the Collector is responsible for the collection of license fees and taxes under various other Acts in respect of irrigation, stamps, Indian Arms Act, Petroleum Act, Explosives Act, etc. He also acts as officer for Public Debt Recoveries.

MAGISTERIAL FUNCTIONS—As District Magistrate, the Collector is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. In performing this function he is assisted by the Superintendent of Police, according to the powers conferred on him under the Code of Criminal Procedure and other Acts. He exercises control over the magistrates posted within the district and acts as an appellate authority for the orders passed by subordinate magistrates under section 574 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Superintendent of Police as chief of the police organisation, works in close association with the Collector in order to maintain effective law and order situation. He, assisted by one Additional and one Deputy Superintendent of Police keeps the Collector posted with all available information about the law and order situation in the district. The Collector may convene meetings of magistrates and police officers in order to discuss the law and order situation in the area. His functions also include supervision of Police Stations within his jurisdiction and examination of

their records of crimes and disposal of cases. In his executive capacity, the Collector as a District Magistrate issues and renews licenses under Arms Act, Petroleum Act and Explosives Act etc.

FUNCTIONS RELATING TO PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT—The Collector is the ex-officio District Development Officer and as such he is made responsible for execution of Development plans within the district. As a matter of fact, under the five-year plans, planning and development activities have assumed great importance and the Collector plays a decisive role in their formulation and speedy implementation. He ensures co-ordination between the development departments functioning in the area. After introduction of the Panchayati Raj institutions in Rajasthan in 1959, the functions of the Collector have increased manifold. He controls, guides and supervises the working of all Panchayats and Panchayat Samitis in the district and sees that the Zila Parishad at the district headquarters is kept posted with all development activities. He extends all co-operation to these institutions in the effective implementation of Plans and schemes in the area. He ensures that adequate and timely technical assistance is made available to Panchayats and Panchayat Samitis. The Collector exercises functional control over the district officers of various development departments to ensure that the time fixed for implementation of various schemes is adhered to and targets are achieved. All welfare schemes are formulated and finalised in consultation with the District Development Officer.

The District Development Officer is required to attend meetings of Zila Parishad with a view to ensuring co-ordination between the local bodies. He attends the meetings but does not enjoy the right to vote. He is assisted in his developmental responsibilities by a Deputy District Development Officer who is also ex-officio Secretary of the Zila Parishad. The Collector serves as a link between the Zila Parishad and the State Government. He also ensures that the amount advanced to Panchayati Raj institutions is properly spent and accounted for.

ELECTION FUNCTIONS—The Collector has to attend to election arrangements for Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis and Municipalities in his capacity as the District Electoral Officer. He is responsible for preparation, revision and publication of the electoral rolls of the district. He also organises election machinery under the direction of the Election Commissioner at the time of elections to the Legislative Assembly and House of the People.

TREASURY AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS—The District Treasury at Sikar accounts for all financial transactions of the Government in the district. It is headed by a Treasury Officer who functions under the

Collector. The Treasury Officer holds charge of the day to day functioning of the Treasury, submits returns to the government and is the custodian of cash and property deposited with the Treasury but he does it under the administrative control of the Collector, who is responsible for the general administration of all fiscal matters related to the Treasury.

OTHER FUNCTIONS—The Collector has to attend to various miscellaneous jobs assigned to him by the State Government from time to time. He has to look after the work of supplies of essential commodities and rationed goods. In this work he is assisted by a District Supply Officer who functions under his administrative control. During floods and famine he organises relief measures according to the decisions of the government. He looks after rehabilitation of ex-soldiers, issue and renewal of licenses, registrations of documents, protocol work during visits of very important persons and civil defence work etc.

For administrative purposes the work of Collectorate is divided into following nine sections :

1. Establishment
2. Revenue
3. Land Records
4. Development
5. Judicial
6. Accounts
7. General
8. Records
9. Miscellaneous

The total strength of the office staff comprises one office superintendent, one stenographer, one district revenue accountant, two land revenue inspectors, ten upper division clerks, 20 lower division clerks and a few class IV employees.

To perform his responsibilities as Collector and District Magistrate, the Collector is assisted by one Additional District Magistrate headquartered at Sikar and three Sub-divisional Magistrates/Officers headquartered at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. These magistrates are vested with first class magisterial powers and functions within the purview of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In revenue matters, they have powers of an Assistant Collector and are obliged to discharge their duties as defined in the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1952 and the Rajasthan

Tenancy Act 1955. Each Sub-Divisional Officer performs revenue, magisterial and executive functions in his own jurisdiction. Within his jurisdiction, he holds the same type of functions and responsibilities as the Collector in the district. The Sub-Divisional Officers work under the Collector in close association to relieve him of his arduous burden of work.

A brief account of general administration of the three sub-divisions in the district is given below :

Sikar Sub-Division

Sikar sub-division was formed in 1949. It comprises the tahsil of Sikar and Danta Ramgarh. The sub-division is divided into six revenue circles and 58 *Patwar Halkas*, a list of which is given in the Chapter on Revenue Administration. There are 289 villages and a town in Sikar Sub-Division. Two Tahsildars, one located at Sikar and the other at Danta Ramgarh assist the Sub-divisional Officer. The Tahsildars function both as magistrate and revenue officer within the scope of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Rajasthan Land Revenue Act and Manual respectively. There are Naib-Tahsildars also to assist the Tahsildars in their day-to-day working. The office staff of the sub-divisional office Sikar includes one reader, one upper division clerk, three lower division clerks and three class IV employees.

The Tahsildar collects land revenue; recovers *Taccavi* and other government dues in his tahsil. He supervises the land records work in his tahsil and sees that the *Patwaris* and inspectors carry out their duties properly. He also functions as a Sub-Treasury Officer and is incharge of sub-treasury at tahsil headquarters. He is vested with second class magisterial powers. The Naib-Tahsildar assists him by supervising the work of office Kanungo, inspector and *Patwaris*. Naib-Tahsildars are vested with third class magisterial powers. However, the main task of Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars is to assist the Sub-Divisional Officer in revenue matters.

Fatehpur Sub-Division

This sub-division was formed in 1949. Fatehpur sub-division comprises two tahsils viz., Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh and one sub-tahsil of Ramgarh under tahsil Fatehpur. The tahsils are headed by Tahsildars and the sub-tahsils by a *Naib-tahsildar*. The sub-division is divided into four revenue circles and 43 *Patwar Halkas*, the names of which appear in the Chapter on Revenue Administration. The staff of the sub-divisional office include one reader, four lower division clerks and

two class IV employees. Besides, revenue inspectors and *Patwaris* work in the field. The sub-divisional officer, in discharge of his official responsibilities is assisted by two Tahsildars and two *Naib-Tahsildars*. The functions of the Sub-Divisional Officer and Tahsildar and *Naib-Tahsildar* have already been enumerated.

Neem-ka-Thana sub-division

This sub-division, formed in 1949, comprises two tahsils of Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur. The two tahsils are divided into six revenue circles and 73 *Patwar Halkas*. There are 291 villages and 3 towns under the jurisdiction of Neem-ka-Thana sub-division. The office staff of the sub-divisional office consists of one reader, four lower division clerks and two class IV employees. Besides, there are two upper division clerks, one lower division clerk and a class IV employee for election and supply work. The sub-division office is divided into four sections viz., Revenue, Judicial, Supplies and Election. The Sub-Divisional Officer in the discharge of his official responsibilities is assisted by two tahsildars and two *Naib-Tahsildars* whose functions have already been enumerated.

The police and judicial departments enjoy important positions in the horizontal line of administration. The Superintendent of Police, headquartered at Sikar is responsible for prevention of crime and maintenance of law and order in close association with the Collector. He is assisted by a Deputy Superintendent of Police, Inspectors and sub-inspectors etc. Detailed account of the working of the police department is given in the chapter on Law and Order and Justice. The Additional District and Sessions Judge is the highest judicial appellate authority at Sikar. Besides, there are courts of Munsif Magistrates at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana, and Fatehpur and the court of Civil Judge at Neem-ka-Thana. Appeals against decisions of all these courts are made to the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sikar. The Judicial set up of the district is given in detail in the chapter on Law and Order and Justice. Other officers in the horizontal line of administration include the district level officers of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, industries, forest, public works, education, social welfare and power departments etc. These departmental officers have also assumed greater importance in recent years on account of development projects being undertaken in their respective fields. A list of district level officers of the State Government headquartered in Sikar district is given below :

1. Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sikar
2. Additional District Magistrate, Sikar
3. Superintendent of Police, Sikar

4. Additional District Development Officer, Sikar and Jhunjhunu
5. District Agriculture Officer, Sikar
6. District Public Relations Officer, Sikar
7. Inspector of Schools (Boys), Sikar
8. District Industries Officer, Sikar
9. Commercial Taxes Officer, Sikar
10. Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies, Sikar
11. District Probation-Cum-Social Welfare Officer, Sikar
12. Deputy Inspectress of Girls Schools, Sikar
13. District Employment Officer, Sikar
14. Forest Range Officer, Sikar
15. Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Building and Roads, Sikar
16. Principal Medical and Health Officer, Sikar
17. Deputy Chief Medical and Health Officer (Health), Sikar
18. District Family Planning Officer, Sikar
19. Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Sikar
20. Executive Engineer, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Sikar
21. District Sheep and Wool Officer, Sikar
22. District Ayurved Officer, Sikar
23. Soil Conservation Officer, Sikar

The Central Government Offices at Sikar are given below:

1. Income Tax Office, Sikar
2. Office of the Superintendent, Post Offices, Sikar
3. Locust Warning Office, Sikar
4. Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer (Telephones), Sikar
5. Inspector, Central Excise, Sikar
6. Station Master, Western Railway, Sikar.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

History

The district of Sikar, before its formation in 1949, was a part of the Jaipur State and Sikar *Thikana* and therefore, the tenures and methods of assessment of land revenue in this area were the same as those prevalent in the State. The land was divided into (i) *Khalsa* or crown land (from which land revenue was realised directly by the officials of the State and deposited with the government treasury) and (ii) *Jagiri* (in which the revenue was realised by the Jagirdar and formed the part of his income). The Jagirs were of several categories varying according to their origin, the status accorded to the Jagirdar or the terms of their assignment by the ruler. Among the non-*khalsa* tenures were included *Muamla*, *Suba*, *Istimrar*, *Chakoti*, *Badh*, *Bhom*, *Inam*, *Tankha*, *Udak*, *Milk*, *Bhog*, *Aloofa* and *Khangli*¹. The *Khalsa* area of the Jaipur State was 31.3 per cent and the non-*khalsa* area 68.7 per cent of the total area of the State².

Jagirs were relics of the feudal system of the old Mughal Empire. The Jagirdars were originally required to render military service, with elephants, horses, palanquins or foot-men, in the deed of grant of each Jagir, the *Tan* or estimated annual revenue of the Jagir was entered as also the *Garar* i.e. the number of months during which the quota of *Sowars* and foot-men required from a particular Jagir was to be provided. For each five hundred rupees of the assumed income, the Jagirdar had to provide one *Sowar* and for each sum of Rs. 100 or fraction thereof over and above Rs. 500 or any multiple thereof, he had to provide one foot-man, five of the latter being usually regarded as equivalent to one *Sowar*. The obligation to provide horse-*Sowars*, foot-men etc. was commuted for cash in the year 1925. The highest class of Jagir was *Mansab*, the holders of which had to pay commutation dues in cash at the rate of Rs. 22.50 per horse per member. The Jagirdars also paid a stipulated amount of money to the State on succession to the Jagir. The Jagir was granted for life time only and, on the death of the holder it became *Khalsa* and

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jaipur State for September 1947 to August, 1948*, pp. 35-36.

2. *Ibid.*

remained so till the successor was recognised (the action being called *Matmi* by the ruler and a fresh *Patta* issued to him¹).

Details of other non-*Khalsa* tenures are as follows²:

MUAMLA—It was a grant of an interest in land for which a fixed amount was payable under settlement arrived at with the State.

SUBA—It was a tenure peculiar to District Sawai Madhopur of the former Jaipur State while analogous to the *Istimrar* tenure in other parts of the State. The holders of this tenure called *Subeguzars* paid a fixed annual amount for the grant held by them.

ISTIMRAR—It was a permanent lease of interest in land for which a fixed sum was payable each year.

CHAKOTI—It was the grant of an interest in land by a *Bhomia* of district Torawati (large areas of which have been included in the Sikar district) for which a quit-rent was payable.

BADH—These grants were originally made by the State for watch and ward duties.

BHOM—The word *Bhom* literally signified land but it was a tenure analogous to the *Muamla* or *Chakoti*.

INAM—It was a revenue free grant to a person in recognition of services.

TANKHA—It was a grant of an interest in land to a person for service due from him.

UDAK—It was a revenue free grant given in charity.

MILK—It was also a revenue-free grant given in charity to a Muslim.

BHOG—It was a revenue-free grant of an interest in land for the maintenance of a place of worship or a shrine.

ALOOF—This was a grant made to ladies of the rulers' household or to a dependent of the ruling family for maintenance.

KHANGI—It signified a grant of interest in land made to persons other than ladies of the royal household or dependents of the ruling family for maintenance. *Khangi* also included grants made for *Lawazma* (maintenance of paraphernalia and *Kotri-Kharch* (household expenses).

Succession to Jagir, *Muamla*, *Suba*, *Chakoti* and *Istimrar* grants was ordinarily governed by primogeniture except in the case of *Muamla*.

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jaipur State for September 1947 to August 1948*, pp. 35-36.

2. *ibid.*

grants in Shaikhawati (the area is now included in Sikar district) which were usually divisible among the sons and heirs of the deceased. In the non-*Khalsa* area, rent was paid to the State grantees holding land under the tenures discussed earlier. These state grantees paid revenue to the government unless the holding was revenue free¹.

The *Khalsa* lands were the crown lands and their management was the direct responsibility of the State².

Before the introduction of a regular settlement which was conducted during the closing years of the nineteenth century and termed as *Chakbandi* or the *Ryotwari* system, the land revenue was paid both in cash and kind. In the *Khalsa* areas, the government realised revenue directly from the tenants through the agency of the village headman called *Patel*, who, besides assisting the government in rent-collection and in general administration of the village, also represented the common interest of the inhabitants of the village and was remunerated for his services by a levy of five *Pies* per rupee of government rental demand recovered from the tenants³.

The ancient system of rental assessment was a division of the actual produce at every harvest between the State and the tenant, commonly known as *Latai*. The State share of produce varied from one-fourth to one-half. At the time of integration of the former Jaipur State into Rajasthan, it was two-fifths⁴. In addition to the share of produce, a charge for the cesses and expenses connected with the process of division was also levied. The *Latai* system had some incumbrances; it was later substituted by the *Ijara* system or farming. Under *Ijara* system land was taken on contract mostly by influential money-lenders who exacted money from the peasantry. But it too was not a happy substitution.

Ryotwari SETTLEMENT—For introducing a *Ryotwari* settlement, survey operations were started in 1924. It guaranteed both fixity of rent and of tenure to the tenant but it was based on the crude system of measurement followed in the past. Under the settlement, the system of maintenance of land records was introduced so as to secure at least four years statistics for farming (*Ryotwari*) assessment proposals. In the *Khalsa* areas, *Ryotwari* settlement was started in 1933 and the entire area was completed for this purpose upto 1942. Settlement was made for different tahsils for a period of ten or twenty years during which the rent fixed by the Settlement Officer remained unchanged unless the productive

1. *Administration Report*, op.cit.

2. *ibid.*

3. *ibid.*

4. *ibid.*

capacity of a holding was substantially altered by an improvement effected not at the expense of the tenant, or reduced by a cause beyond the control of the tenant, and the area of the holding increased or decreased¹.

The settlement was based on the principle that land should be assessed in accordance with its capabilities and the standard of assessment for the wet and dry areas was taken to be one-fourth and one-third share of produce respectively. Before the actual starting of settlement operations, survey maps and records of possession were prepared and an economic survey was also undertaken to assess the conditions of estate holders and the tenants. The area was divided into soil classes, the notable being *Chahi* (irrigated from a well), *Nahari* (having advantage of canal irrigation), *Talabi* (tank-bed cultivation), *Kharli* (river-bed cultivation), *Dehri* (flooded area) and *Barani* (dry area). Each soil class was further classified according to factors that affected the natural productivity of the area. The next step taken was to determine rent rates and the aggregate amount of assessment for an area and divide the aggregate amount of assessment into holding according to areas under various soil classes. The actual procedure of settlement operations was defined in the Jaipur State Grants Land Tenures Act, 1947.

OCCUPANCY RIGHTS—The commonly prevalent tenure in the Jaipur State was *Ryotwari* tenure under which the tenant dealt directly with the government or with the State grantee and was responsible for the payment of rent of his holding. However, occupancy rights were properly defined in the Jaipur State Tenancy Act of 1945 and the State-Grants Land Tenures Act of 1947. The total income of the former Jaipur State from land revenue amounted Rs. 82.10 lakhs in 1947-48². These two enactments defined the following occupancy rights³:

(i) **Pattedar TENANTS**—It was a new class of tenants created under the above Acts, on payment of premium at fixed rates, whose tenures were made heritable under their personal laws. These tenants enjoyed full rights of transfer of holding to an agriculturist and to a non-agriculturist with some limitations, and also enjoyed full rights over trees standing on their holdings.

(ii) **Khatedar TENANTS**—These tenants enjoyed restricted rights of inheritance, mortgage of land for ten years, sub-letting of land for five years and of cutting trees from their lands for their agricultural and private needs but not for sale.

1. *Administration Report, op.cit.*

2. *Administration Report, op. cit.*, p. 45.

3. *Ibid.*

(iii) **Ghair Khatedars**—These tenants enjoyed heritable interest in their holdings like a *Khatedar* but they could neither transfer their land nor cut out trees without permission of the government.

Regular Settlement

The district comprises areas of the former *Thikana* of Sikar, 11 villages of former *Thikana* of Shyamgarh and tahsils Danta Ramgarh and Neem-ka-Thana of erstwhile Jaipur State. Former Sikar *Thikana* was the largest Jagir of Jaipur State and extended over area now comprised in tahsils Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh and Sikar. Sikar *Thikana* had its own revenue administration and system of land records under the general superintendence and control of the Jaipur State administration. It may also be mentioned that the present tahsil of Sri Madhopur was carved out of tahsil Neem-ka-Thana during the year 1954 after the resumption of Jagir of Sikar *Thikana* in 1954 under the Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1952. After resumption of Sikar *Thikana* in 1954, its land records staff was integrated with that of the Rajasthan State.

Settlement of Khalsa area of Sikar Thikana

In Sikar *Thikana* the system of collection was *Kunt* or appraisal of the standing crops. Before 1924 groups of villages used to be given on *Ijara* (*Theka* or contract) to rich money-lenders which resulted into many abuses. In 1924, the *Thikana* administration attempted to deal with actual cultivators through *Lataras*. In 1926-29, a local survey was carried out and results embodied in a book called *Bahi*. Settlement operations were first started in the *Thikana* area during the year 1930 which lasted till 1935. The settlement work could not be completed by the *Thikana* and consequently the Settlement Department of the Jaipur State was entrusted with the work. It surveyed and assessed the *Thikana* in 1939-40. The chain used for measurement was the standard chain of 165 feet. The soil classification was done on the basis of the relative productivity of various kinds of soil. The broad classification comprised wet and dry soil. The dry soil covered 99 per cent of the occupied area and was divided into four grades. The wet soil covered a very small area but it too was divided into four classes. During attestation work the field book (*Khasra*), well statement, population and cattle statistics were also completed for all the villages. The next step was the formation of assessment circles and evolution of rent rates for different circles. While determining the rent rates consideration was paid to productivity of each kind of soil, the movements of prices, the pith of the previous demands, the scale of rent in neighbouring tracts and other relative economic factors. Due allowance was paid to the rent paying capacity of a

cultivator and fallow land in a holding. The rates sanctioned for various kinds of soil are given in Appendix I. After assessment tenants were given their *Purcha* of *Chakbandi*. This settlement was completed for 321 *Thikana* villages except for four villages in Reengus sub-tahsil and non-*Khalsa Thikana* villages which numbered 111. The settlement was introduced for a term of 10 years from 1941. Two kinds of occupancy rights of tenants *Khatedar* and *Gair-Khatedars* were recognised. The total land revenue demand proposed was Rs. 5,86,512.

Settlement of non-*Khalsa* villages of Sikar *Thikana*¹

Before the introduction of settlement in 111 villages under possession of the sub-grantees of Sikar *Thikana*, land revenue was collected by *Batai* system and in some villages partly by *Batai* and partly by *Bighori*. Generally one-third and one-half share of the produce was realised by the land holders from the tenants in the form of *Batai*. Under the *Bighori* system land revenue @ 50 paise to 75 paise per *Bigha kham* was realised. In respect of *Chahi* lands, *Ijara* in cash or in the form of grain was realised from each well as a unit. The area covered by 111 villages was traversed and surveyed from the year 1946 to 1949 under the supervision and control of the *Thikana* and from 1949 to 1952 by the Government of Rajasthan State. Attestation and soil classification were done in the year 1951-52. The total area dealt with was classified into *Chahi*, *Barani* and *Banjar* soils. Each of these soil classes were further sub-classified as *Chahi A*, *Chahi I*, *Chahi II*, *Chahi III*, *Barani A*, *Barani I*, *Barani II* and *Barani III*, *Banjar I* and *Banjar II*. The rent rates sanctioned for different classes of soil are given in the Appendix I. The term of settlement of these villages was fixed for 20 years from 1953 to 1973. The total demand proposed was Rs. 3,60,900.

Settlement of four villages of former Sub-tahsil Reengus²

Assessment of these individual holdings was first introduced during the year 1936-37 and its period was fixed for ten years from 1936 to 1945. After the expiry of this period, revision work was taken up. The revision settlement of four villages was completed in 1949. The revision settlement was introduced for a period of 18 years in Reengus, Kotri and Devipura from 1953 to 1971 and for 14 years in Simarla village from 1953 to 1966. The rates sanctioned for this area varied from five annas to rupees nine and anna one, for different type of soils. The total demand proposed was Rs. 31,689.

Settlement of former Jaipur State area³

TAHSIL NEEM-KA-THANA (TORAWATI)—The regular cadestral

1. Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.*

survey of the *Khalsa* and joint villages in tahsil Neem-ka-Thana was completed in the years 1930-33. Assessment of these individual holdings was first introduced in 1936 and the period of settlement was 10 years. On the expiry of this period the survey and verification of records was taken up in 1945 in 36 villages. The procedure of soil classification was similar to that followed in the other tahsils in the area. There were three main classes of soil which were further sub-classified into four categories. *Banjar* soil was sub-divided into two classes. The submerged areas in the beds of the tanks were classified as *Talabi I* and *Talabi II*. The lands irrigated by the flow of water from the tanks were put into three classes namely *Talabi I*, *Talabi II* and *Talabi III*. Lands situated on the bank of rivers, benefiting by the deposit of the alluvial soil, namely A, I, II, III based on situation and productivity of land, previous demand and scale of rent in the adjoining areas. The rates of rent were sanctioned by the Government for various classes of soil and the proposed land demand from this tract was Rs. 1,31,529. The term of settlement was 20 years commencing from 1948.

The settlement of non-*Khalsa* area of tahsil Neem-ka-Thana was done in different years in different tracts. The settlement operations of 46 villages of former Patan *Thikana* under Neem-ka-Thana tahsil were started in 1948 and completed in 1950. The classification of soil was similar to that of the neighbouring tracts. The land revenue rates sanctioned for various kinds of land of these villages and 6 transferred villages are given in Appendix I. The total land revenue demand was Rs. 97,908. The term of settlement was fixed for 20 years commencing from 1951. The survey of 37 villages held by *Bhomias* was done in parts. Four villages were surveyed in 1933, one in 1944 and one in 1945-46 and the remaining 31 in 1949-50. Attestation and soil classification was done for 15 villages in 1951-52 and in 22 villages in the year 1952-53. The soils of these villages were classified as *Chahi* (A, I, II, III), *Barani* (A, I, II, III), *Banjar* (I, II), *Dahari* (A, I, II, III), *Barani Jao* (A, I, II, III) and *Khatli*. The total proposed demand was Rs. 2,38,940. The term of settlement was fixed for 17 years commencing from 1954. The settlement operations in 64 villages of tahsil Neem-ka-Thana were carried over from 1952 to 1954. Attestation and soil classification work was completed by the end of 1954. The sanctioned rates by the government are given in Appendix I. The total land revenue demand was Rs. 3,17,309. The term of settlement was fixed for 16 years commencing from 1955.

1 Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jaipur.

In addition to the above, settlement operations of two villages Mothooka and Kanthli were conducted separately¹. The survey of these villages was carried out in 1935 and settlement done for 20 years. The rates sanctioned for these villages and soil classification done is given below²:

Name of the village	Total revenue demand (Rs.)	Rates as per soil classification			
		Chahi	Rosli I	Rosli II	Bhood
		Rs. Anna Pie	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Mothooka	3,127	2/11-	-/13/-	-/9/8	-/6/-
2. Kanthli	427	3/2-	1/1/-	-/14/-	-

TAHSIL DANTA RAMGARH—The original settlement of *Khalsa* villages in tahsil Danta Ramgarh was introduced in 1937. Before introduction of this settlement, *Ijara* system was prevalent. The revision of original settlement in Danta Ramgarh *Khalsa* villages was taken up in the year 1946. During this settlement operation, the soil classification was done on the basis of classification done in other tahsils of the area. However, there was some variation in classification of *Chahi* soil. The average irrigated area was assessed as *Chahi* and the average of the unirrigated areas under a well for the same period was put as *Barani Jao*. The lands were classified as *Chahi*, *Barani Jao*, *Barani* and *Banjar*. These soil classes were further sub-divided on the basis of comparative valuation of the fertility of the soil, irrigational facility and manuring etc. The rent rates were evolved on the basis of unit value method. The rates sanctioned for these *Khalsa* villages are given in Appendix I. The proposed land revenue demand from these villages amounted to Rs. 90,685. The term of settlement was 20 years commencing from 1951³.

Non-*Khalsa* villages of tahsil Danta Ramgarh were settled during the period 1949-50. The basis of attestation and soil classification was not different from that in the other tahsils of the area. The soil was classified into *Chahi*, *Barani*, *Dahari*, *Khatli* and *Banjar*. These classes were further sub-divided on the basis of comparative valuation of the fertility of soil and irrigational facility and manuring. The sub-classification was as follows⁴:

Chahi A, I, II, III and *Barani Jao* A, I, II, III
Barani A, I, II, III
Dahari I

1. These two villages of former PEPSU State were transferred to Sikar district in 1950 and placed under jurisdiction of Neem-ka-Thana tahsil.
2. Office of the Settlement Officer, Jaipur.
3. *ibid.*
4. *ibid.*

Khatli

Banjar I, II.

The rent rates were evolved on the basis of well known unit value method. The rent rates sanctioned for major classes of soil are given in Appendix I. The total land revenue demand was fixed at Rs. 4,83,312. The term of settlement was fixed for 17 years commencing from 1954¹.

The two big *Thikanas* known as Khandela Pana Kala and Khandela Pana Khurd comprised 142 villages. The settlement work of this area commenced during the years 1944-46 and attestation and soil classification were completed during the year 1947. Soils of the area were classified in the following main classes and sub-classes².

Chahi A, I, II, III

Kham Chahi A, I, II

Barani Jao A, I, II, III

Dahari I

Nahari I, II

Barani A, I, II, III

Talabi A, I, II

Banjar I, II

Bari I, II

The rent rates were evolved on the unit value method. The land revenue rates sanctioned for the area are given in Appendix I. The term of settlement was fixed for 20 years commencing from 1951³.

Present System

The present system of land settlement operations and collection of revenue is based on the provisions of the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956 (Act No. 15 of 1956) and the rules and regulations made thereunder. The Settlement Commissioner for Rajasthan is in charge of all matters relating to settlement, and all affairs relating to survey, preparation, revision and maintenance of land records is the responsibility of the Director of Land Records. The Collector is the Land Records Officer in the district.

When the survey of an area is to be conducted, it is notified in the official gazette by the Government. The old unit of measurement is retained based on chains measuring 132 ft. and 165 ft. alongwith new

1. Office of the Settlement Officer, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.*

units if the previous measurement was according to old units and if the Director of Land Records desires so. All map corrections are carried out on the last survey sheets. Records are prepared denoting: (a) all permanent routes and paths, (b) topographical features, (c) *Khasra* (field book), (d) estate-holders in the area specifying the nature and extent of the interest of each and his co-sharers, (e) persons cultivating or holding or occupying land in the area, specifying the nature and class of the tenure and other relevant particulars, (f) persons holding land free of rent or revenue, (g) boundaries, pillars, (h) rights in wells and tanks, (i) rights in irrigation, if any, from other sources, and (j) census of live stock and population. All these records can be seen by the interested party, free of cost, on application in writing.

The Settlement Officer, who conducts the operations, tours the area and prepares exhaustive notes of general, physical and economic character of the area of rainfall, changes in population, communications, agricultural labour and wages etc., changes in cultivating tenures, the movement of rents of various classes of tenants etc. He studies thoroughly the existing rent rates or assessment reports of the area. He then submits proposals to the Settlement Commissioner with regard to (a) changes of assessment circles, (b) changes in soil classification, (c) period of years which would form the basis of produce estimate, and (d) commutation prices.

The soil is classified as: irrigated (*Chahl*, *Nehri* or *Talabi* and *Talabi Peta*, *Kachhar* or *Khatli*, *Barani* or *Barsati* or *Mal*); dry cultivated (*Parat* or *Banjar*, *Blr*) and dry unculturable (*Ghahr-Mumkin*). Further sub-divisions of these soils may be done according to depth, consistency and productivity. However, the most common class of soil, as far as possible, is taken as Class I and other classes are defined in terms of this class.

The Settlement Officer then evolves suitable rent-rate for each class of soil in each assessment group or circle in which the area is divided. In arriving at fair and equitable rent-rates, the following points are kept in view: (a) collection from rents and cesses during the twenty years preceding the settlement excluding abnormal years, (b) the average of the prices of agricultural produce prevailing during the same period, (c) the nature of crops grown and average quality of produce, (d) the value of such produce at the average price referred to in (b) above, (e) the expenses of cultivator and the cost of the cultivator of maintaining himself and his family, (f) the area of land kept fallow each year out of each holding, rotation followed and the period of rest, (g) the

frequency of remission, suspensions and short collections, (h) the rent rates of the last settlement, if any, and the share of produce and commutation prices at which such rates were evolved, and (i) the rent-rates, if any, sanctioned for similar classes of soil in the adjoining areas.

Every settlement made under the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956, is for twenty years. The government, however, may in exceptional circumstances, increase or reduce the term.

LAND REFORMS

After the formation of Rajasthan, several laws were enacted to ameliorate the conditions of cultivators. Progressive measures were introduced in the form of ordinances as early as 1949, but were later repealed when the relevant acts were enacted by the State legislature. In order to protect tenants against arbitrary ejectment, the Rajasthan Protection of Tenants Ordinance was promulgated in June 1949. The Rajasthan Removal of Trees (Regulation) Ordinance, 1949 was also introduced during the same year. These ordinances were repealed by the Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955 which itself has had several amendments. The other important legislations were: The Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1952; Rajasthan Agricultural Land Utilisation Act, 1954; Rajasthan Agricultural Loan Act, 1956; Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956 and the Discontinuance of Cesses Act, 1959.

The Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1952 was a landmark in the process of Land Reforms in Rajasthan. The Act provided for resumption of Jagir lands, their assessment to land revenue, grant of *Khatadari* rights to tenants in Jagir land and payment of compensation for the resumed Jagir lands. The following statement indicates the details of compensation paid to Jagirdars during the period 1956-57 to 1962-63¹:

Year	No. of Jagirdars paid compensation	Amount paid (Rs. '000)
1956-57	N. A.*	1,798
1957-58	197	1,243
1958-59	429	402
1959-60	126	317
1960-61	2,500	910
1961-62	3,500	943
1962-63	4,000	592

The Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956 defines the powers and

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1958 onwards.
* N. A.—Not available.

duties of revenue courts and revenue officers. It lays down the procedure for survey, preparation and maintenance of land records for settlement of land and collection of land revenue. The Land Utilisation Act, 1954 which came into force in 1958 provides for the utilisation of uncultivated agriculture lands and for regulating the cultivation of specified crops. The Agricultural Loan Act, 1956 consolidates and amends laws relating to lending of money by the State Government for agricultural purposes and lists the various items for which loans may be granted and the terms and conditions thereof. With the passing of the Rajasthan Discontinuance of Cesses Act, 1959, various cesses which were being collected in addition to rents on agricultural holdings were discontinued, however, with certain exceptions.

Revenue Units

Like all other districts of Rajasthan Sikar is divided, for purposes of land revenue administration, into *Girdawar* (Inspector) circles and each *Girdawar* circle into *Patwar Halkas* (or the jurisdictional area of a *Patwari*). For these revenue units, annual registers named *Jama Bandi* are maintained and crop inspections are carried. At the district headquarters, there is a *Sadar Qanungo* or the Chief Land Records Inspector to supervise and inspect the work of the *Girdawars*, *Qanungos* or the Land Records Inspectors and the *Patwaris*. The *Sadar Qanungo*, assisted by one Assistant *Sadar Qanungo*, one clerk and four *Patwaris*, is incharge of the Land Records Section of the Collectorate. There are 16 *Girdawar* circles in the district, divided into 174 *Patwar Halkas*¹. Their tahsil-wise distribution is given below, and their names are given in Appendix II.

Tahsil	No. of <i>Girdawar</i> Circles	No. of <i>Patwar Halkas</i>
Sikar	3	28
Fatehpur	2	19
Lachhmangarh	2	24
Danta Ramgarh	3	30
Sri Madhopur	3	36
Neem-ka-Thana	3	37
Total	16	174

Each *Girdawar* circle is headed by one *Girdawar* and at each tahsil headquarters, there is one office *Qanungo*.

1. Source : The Collectorate, Sikar.

Revenue Collection

The figures of demand and collection of land revenue from the district, in recent years, are given in the following table¹:

(Rs. in lakhs)				
Year	Demand (Arrears and current)	Collection during the year	Remission/suspension during the year	Balance at the end of the year
1957-58	32.21	18.90	—	13.31
1958-59	46.01	27.12	—	18.89
1959-60	44.12	27.40	—	16.72
1960-61	48.17	36.21	—	11.96
1962-63*	40.32	32.16	—	8.16
1964-65	39.35	30.30	—	9.05
1965-66	39.77	32.46	0.74	6.57
1967-68	49.10	40.98	0.73	7.39
1968-69	41.32	12.41	23.50	5.41

Celling on Land Holdings

The Rajasthan Tenancy (Sixth Amendment) Bill, 1959 stipulates a maximum limit of 30 standard acres of land which a family of five persons can possess. According to the provisions of the Bill, surplus land with the family, if any, will have to be surrendered to the government.

Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1954

The Bhoodan movement was initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave to acquire land through voluntary gifts for distribution to landless persons. For this purpose the Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Board was created under the Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1954. The headquarters of the Board are at Jaipur. Voluntary gifts of land were made to this body. A statement about land donated and distributed in the district is given below²:

Year	Donors	Land donated	Land distributed in (hectares)	Families benefited (No.)
1956	4	655 acres	309 acres	71
1957	23	1463 acres	—	—
1958	9	175 acres	815 acres	113
1959	—	—	—	—
1960	—	405 hectares	—	—

1. Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.

2. *ibid.*

* Provisional.

By the end of January, 1966, the number of donors had increased to 54. The area of donated land received, distributed and number of families benefited was 2332 bighas, 1652 bighas and 186 respectively. Acharya Vinoba Bhave visited the Sikar district during the year 1959. 46 villages were donated under the Gram Dan movement and 46 Gram Sabhas were organised¹.

Revenue Cases

The revenue cases dealt within recent years by various revenue courts in the district are tabulated below². The powers and duties of revenue courts in the district and of revenue officers have been defined in the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956.

Year	Previous Balance	Instituted during the year	Total	Disposed of during the year	Balance
1961-62	2,229	11,434	13,663	10,392	3,271
1962-63	3,271	10,728	13,999	9,969	4,030
1963-64	4,030	13,372	17,402	9,590	7,812
1964-65	7,812	9,648	17,460	10,221	7,239
1965-66	7,239	8,867	16,106	9,444	6,662
1966-67	6,662	9,395	16,057	7,748	8,309
1967-68	8,309	10,356	18,665	9,917	8,748
1968-69	8,748	22,661	31,309	16,355	14,954
1969-70	14,954	13,655	28,609	17,343	11,266
1970-71	11,266	18,388	29,654	16,251	13,403
1971-72	13,403	20,416	23,819	14,126	9,693
1972-73	9,693	13,966	23,659	12,703	10,956

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

During the time of princely rule when this area formed a part of the Jaipur State, the main sources of State's revenue apart from the land revenue were customs, excise duty, receipt under the salt treaty, tribute from Jagirdars, income from railways, stamps and registration fee and electricity fee.

At present the sources of revenue, besides the land revenue in the district, are excise and taxation including sales tax, entertainment tax, registration fees and stamps and taxes on vehicles etc. The Central Government revenue sources include income tax, and tax on property,

1. Source : Office of the Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Board, Jaipur.

2. Source : The Collectorate, Sikar.

customs and union excise etc. Details of state revenue other than land revenue are given below:

State Taxes

Before 1964, the Excise and Taxation Department was responsible for the realisation of excise, entertainment tax, sales tax and passenger and goods tax etc. But in 1964, the State Excise and Taxation Department was bifurcated into two departments, namely the Excise Department and the Commercial Taxes Department. The Excise Department collects excise duty and the Commercial Taxes Department is responsible for assessment and collection of sales tax, passenger and goods tax, electricity duty and entertainment tax.

EXCISE – Excise duty is levied by the State Government under the Rajasthan Excise Act, 1950 on country spirit, Indian made spirit, imported spirit, wine, imported beer, Indian beer, opium, poppy heads and *Bhang*. The rates of excise duty are given in Appendix III. During the year 1966, the office of the Assistant Excise Officer was established at Sikar. Prior to it, the area was directly controlled by the District Excise Officer (Rural), Jaipur. The Assistant Excise Officer, Sikar functions under the administrative control of the District Excise Officer (Rural), Jaipur whose territorial jurisdiction extends over Sikar, Jaipur and Jhunjhun districts. For enforcement of Rajasthan Excise Act, 1950 in the district, the area is divided into three circles namely Sikar, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana. Each of the circles is placed under the charge of an excise inspector who is assisted by two clerks and five peons. The Assistant Excise Officer at the headquarters is assisted by two clerks and two class IV employees. Excise Inspectors function under the Assistant Excise Officer, Sikar. Excise depots in Sikar district function at Sikar, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana. A patrolling Officer, headquartered at Jaipur, assists the excise inspectors in excise raids. During the year 1972-73, 338 excise offences were registered by the Department. A statement about the income of the department from various excise duties during the period 1968-69 to 1972-73 (year-wise) is given below¹:

(Rs.)

Year	Income from Excise duties
1968-69	17,34,911
1969-70	12,77,579
1970-71	14,61,920
1971-72	16,63,078
1972-73	21,98,704

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Excise Officer, Sikar.

COMMERCIAL TAXES—The work of assessment and collection of commercial taxes in the district is looked after by the office of the Commercial Taxes Officer headquartered at Sikar. The territorial jurisdiction of this office extends over revenue districts of Sikar and Jhunjhunun. For administrative convenience the district is divided into three wards, and each ward is placed under an Assistant Commercial Taxes Officer. The ward A-I has jurisdiction over revenue district of Sikar excluding revenue sub-division of Fatehpur and some specified cases of revenue sub-division of Neem-ka-Thana. The ward A-II has jurisdiction over such cases. The territorial jurisdiction of ward B extends over sub-division of Fatehpur and it also deals with collection and assessment of Rajasthan Passenger and Goods Tax in the district. All the Assistant Commercial Taxes Officers are headquartered at Sikar and are assisted by inspectors and necessary complement of ministerial staff. Some details of Commercial Taxes imposed, assessed and collected are as follows:

Sales tax was introduced in the district in 1955. It is levied on certain specified articles at a rate fixed by the government from time to time. The articles specified in the list are of multitudinous variety from gold and silver bullion to cereals and pulses and the rates of tax on them also vary largely.

The Entertainment Tax was introduced in 1957. It is levied on all entertainments provided for the public unless they are exempted by the government under specified orders. It is levied on the value of the ticket for admission to the entertainment shows.

The Passenger and Goods Tax was introduced in the district in 1959. It is charged from the passengers travelling in the public transport vehicles and is also levied on the goods transported by public goods carriers. The rates of the tax which is charged on the value of the fare or freight, depend on the types of the roads on which the vehicles ply. For auto-vehicles and other three wheelers, this tax is charged in a lump sum. The public transport vehicles are taxed according to their loading capacity and the area of their operation.

The revenue collected by the Commercial Taxes Department during the last few years was as under¹:

(Rs. '000)			
Year	Sales Tax	Rajasthan Passenger and Goods Tax	Entertainment Tax
1963-64	1,835	252	73

1. The figures are taken from *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1965 and onwards.

1	2	3	4
1964-65	1,624	271	66
1965-66	1,981	289	77
1966-67	2,186	441	79
1967-68	2,839	548	114
1968-69	3,231	581	120
1969-70	3,759	629	135
1970-71	3,485	726	209
1971-72	3,565	764	270

REGISTRATION FEES—The work of registration of documents in the district is undertaken by the Collector as District Registrar. The powers of District Registrar have now been delegated to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Sikar posted at the district headquarters. The tahsildars function as Sub-Registrars whose work is inspected and controlled by the District Registrar. At the state level the Registration Department is controlled by a senior member of the Board of Revenue for Rajasthan who functions as Inspector General of Registration. He exercises general supervision over registration work of all the Registration Officers in the State. A statement showing number of documents registered and amount of fees realised in Sikar district from 1968 to 1973 is given below¹:

Year	No. of documents registered	Income from registration fee (Rs.)
1968	514	13,563
1969	113	3,425
1970	379	8,954
1971	319	9,373
1972	267	9,174
1973 (Nov. '73)	90	3,025

STAMPS FEES—Under the Rajasthan Stamps Act, 1952 the District Treasury Officer has been empowered to function as custodian of stamps. He is responsible for both storage as well as distribution and sale of stamps to the stamp vendors who work under him. The stamp vendors are appointed by the Collector for the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps at the district treasury as well as the sub-treasuries. The number of stamp vendors vary according to the requirements of the area. At present there are two stamp vendors at the district treasury Sikar and one each at the sub-treasuries at Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Danta Ramgarh,

1. Source : The office of the Collector, Sikar.

Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh. The stamp vendors are allowed commission on sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps at the rate of Rs. 1.55 and Rs. 3.10 per one hundred rupees respectively. Revenue from the sale of stamps during the period 1970-71 to 1972-73 in the district is given below¹ :

Year	Revenue from sale of non-judicial stamps	Revenue from sale of judicial stamps
1970-71	3,18,417	1,26,430
1971-72	3,42,484	1,38,386
1972-73	3,58,796	1,29,824

CENTRAL TAXES

UNION EXCISE DUTY—For union excise purposes, the Sikar district falls within the jurisdiction of the Assistant Collector, Central Excise and Customs Jaipur. For the Sikar district, two Excise Inspectors headquartered at Sikar and Sri Madhopur function under the administrative control of Jaipur office. The inspectors are assisted by one camel sowar and a class IV employee each. A statement showing the central revenue from excise during the period 1965-66 to 1972-73 is given below² :

(Rs.)

Year	Tobacco	Oilseeds	Copper & copper alloy	Khandsari sugar	Iron and steel products	Total
1965-66	2,19,580	547	1,445	1,200	8,672	2,31,444
1966-67	22,430	1,833	1,467	—	—	25,730
1967-68	70,828	3,892	69	—	—	82,789
1968-69	96,794	1,666	3,522	—	—	1,01,982
1969-70	1,97,182	1,865	421	—	—	1,99,468
1970-71	79,385	2,057	146	—	2,000	83,588
1971-72	56,696	3,176	—	—	52,904	1,12,776
1972-73	1,09,713	788	—	—	1,29,005	2,39,506

INCOME TAX—For assessment and collection of Income tax, wealth tax and gift tax etc., an Income Tax Officer has been headquartered at Sikar since 1965. He is assisted by one Income Tax Inspector, one head

1. Source : The Office of the District Treasury Officer, Sikar.

2. Source : The Office of the Assistant Collector, Central Excise Department, Jaipur.

clerk, three upper division clerks, two lower division clerks, one notice server, one stenographer and two class IV employees. The Income Tax Officer, Sikar functions under the administrative control of the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Bikaner Range, Bikaner. The amount of tax collection from Sikar district during the years 1970-71 to 1972-73 is given as under¹ :

(Rs. in thousands)

Year	Income Tax	Wealth Tax	Gift tax
1970-71	1,245	41	7
1971-72	1,163	51	6
1972-73	1,338	90	7

Other sources of Central revenue in the district are Railways, Telegraphs, Telephones, etc. but the income derived from these sources is not maintained district-wise.

1. Source : The Office of the Income Tax Officer, Sikar.

APPENDIX I
Sanctioned rent rates for various classes of Soil

Soil class	(Rs., anna and pie)									
	Danta Ramgarh Tahsil		Sikar Thikana		Neem-ka-Thana (Torawati)		Khandela (Khandelwari)		Thikana Patan	
	Khasa	Non-Khasa	C. I	C. II	Khasa	Non-Khasa	C. I	C. II	40 villa- ges	6 villa- ges
CHAH I	10-0-0	9-6-0	10-0-0	7-13-0	5-0-0	8-2-0	8-8-0	7-8-0	10-0-0	8-0-0
I	8-2-0	7-13-0	8-2-0	7-0-6	4-3-6	6-14-0	6-14-0	5-15-0	8-2-0	6-4-0
II	5-15-0	5-15-0	6-4-0	5-10-0	3-7-6	5-5-0	5-5-0	4-11-0	6-4-0	5-0-0
III	4-6-0	4-6-0	4-11-0	4-3-6	2-13-0	4-6-0	4-6-0	4-6-0	4-6-0	3-2-0
BARANI JAO A	4-11-0	5-0-0	5-0-0	—	—	—	4-4-0	1-14-0	5-0-0	4-0-0
I	4-1-0	3-14-6	4-1-0	—	—	—	3-7-0	1-14-0	4-1-0	3-2-0
II	2-15-6	2-15-6	3-2-0	—	—	—	2-10-6	1-14-0	3-2-0	2-8-0
III	2-3-0	2-3-0	2-5-6	—	—	—	2-3-0	1-14-0	2-0-6	1-9-0
BARANI A	1-1-6	1-2-9	0-15-0	2-8-0	—	1-14-0	1-14-0	1-14-0	1-14-0	1-6-6
I	0-12-6	0-15-0	0-12-6	1-11-6	1-1-6	1-9-0	1-9-0	1-9-0	1-10-3	1-4-0
II	0-8-9	0-11-3	0-9-6	1-6-6	0-12-6	0-15-0	0-15-0	0-15-0	1-4-0	0-15-0
III	0-5-0	0-7-9	0-6-3	1-1-6	0-8-9	0-7-6	0-7-6	0-7-6	0-12-6	0-10-0
BANJAR I	0-3-9	0-5-6	0-4-9	0-5-0	0-5-0	0-6-3	0-6-3	0-6-3	0-10-0	0-7-6
II	0-2-6	0-3-9	0-3-0	0-3-9	0-3-9	0-3-9	0-3-9	0-3-9	0-6-3	0-5-0

Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jaipur.
C = Circle

APPENDIX II**List of Girdawar Circles and Patwar Halkas in Sikar District**

S.No.	Name of Tahsil	Girdawar (Inspector) Circle	Patwar Circle
1.	Sikar	1. Dhodh	1. Shahpura 2. Gunatoo 3. Singrawat 4. Dhodh 5. Doogoli 6. Sihot Bari 7. Kansli 8. Nagwa 9. Mundwara
		2. Sikar	10. Sihot Chhoti 11. Sanwaloda Dhaylan 12. Raseedpura 13. Sabalpura 14. Sabalpura Sikar 15. Gokalpura 16. Palwas 17. Mandota 18. Doojod 19. Harsh
		3. Piprali	20. Piprali 21. Kudli 22. Katrathal 23. Koodan 24. Beri 25. Tarpura 26. Raghunathgarh 27. Sakrai (Shyamgarh) 28. Jurathra
2.	Danta Ramgarh	4. Danta Ramgarh	29. Losal 30. Bhooma 31. Sangalya 32. Khood 33. Roopgarh (with Tehat) 34. Nimera Jinmata 35. Ramgarh

APPENDIX II (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
			36. Danta
			37. Bharija
			38. Manda Surera
		5. Palsana	39. Kochhor
			40. Rewasa
			41. Ranoli
			42. Shishyoo
			43. Nangal
			44. Palsana (Lachhana)
			45. Gowati
			46. Manda (Hadri)
			47. Aloda
			48. Ladhana
		6. Bay	49. Khato
			50. Ganora
			51. Kailash
			52. Bay
			53. Bajyawas
			54. Dansoli
			55. Khachariyawas
			56. Pachar
			57. Karad
			58. Dheegpura
3. Fatehpur		7. Ramgarh Sethonka	59. Palas
			60. Ramgarh
			61. Takhalsar
			62. Khotiya
			63. Rasoolpur
			64. Tihawali
			65. Daulatabad
			66. Fadanpura
			67. Rohal (Sahabsar)
		8. Fatehpur	68. Balod Chhoti
			69. Biraniya
			70. Dantru
			71. Bibipur Chhoti
			72. Mandela Bara
			73. Mandala Fatehpur

APPENDIX II (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
			74. Garinda
			75. Udansar
			76. Bagdoda
			77. Beswa
4. Lachhmangarh		9. Nechhwa	78. Rajas
			79. Badusar
			80. Jajod
			81. Patoda
			82. Mirand
			83. Garoda
			84. Mangloona
			85. Ganeri
			86. Nechhwa
			87. Dhahar-ka-Bas
			88. Kachhwa
			89. Sutot
			90. Bathot
		10. Lachhmangarh	91. Bhojasar Bara
			92. Bhuma Bara
			93. Lachhmangarh
			94. Khuri Bari
			95. Narodara
			96. Doodwa
			97. Dishnau
			98. Balaran
			99. Rahnawa
			100. Beedsar
			101. Palri
5. Ném-ka-Thana		11. Neem-ka-Thana	102. Guhala
			103. Chala
			104. Govindpura
			105. Bhoodoli
			106. Barsinghwas
			107. Sirohi
			108. Neem-ka-Thana
			109. Mandoli
			110. Charanwas alias Puranawas

APPENDIX II (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
			111. Mawanda Khurd
			112. Mahawa
			113. Basri Khurd
			114. Peethampuri
	12. Patan		115. Mawanda Kalan
			116. Dayal-ki-Nangal
			117. Jeelo
			118. Dabla
			119. Sheemli
			120. Patan
			121. Balloopura
			122. Bhopatpura
			123. Chhaja-ki-Nangal
			124. Asampur
			125. Ghasipura
			126. Dhokan
	13. Toda		127. Raipur Patan
			128. Gaonri
			129. Dareeba
			130. Ladi-ka-Bas
			131. Toda
			132. Mokalwas
			133. Ganeswar
			134. Cheepata
			135. Deepas
			136. Sanwalpura
			137. Ajmeri
6. Sri Madhopur	14. Khandela		138. Raipura Jageer
			139. Gurara
			140. Kotri Lubarwas
			141. Chowkri
			142. Rampura
			143. Khandela
			144. Govindpura
			145. Jajod
			146. Khatundara
			147. Ralawata
			148. Hod

APPENDIX II (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4
			149. Basri
			150. Kanwat
	15. Sri Madhopur		151. Malikpur
			152. Baori
			153. Chomu
			154. Dadiya (Rampura)
			155. Kotri Dhaylan
			156. Reengus
			157. Sargoth
			158. Mau
			159. Mahroli
			160. Jaitusar
			161. Sri Madhopur
			162. Bassi
	16. Ajeetgarh		163. Mundru
			164. Divrala
			165. Nathoosar
			166. Bhadwari
			167. Jorawarsingh-ka-Dhani
			168. Kotri
			169. Garh Taknet
			170. Thoi
			171. Jharli
			172. Khiroti Marooppura
			173. Hathideh Hardas-ka-Bas
			174. Ajeetgarh

Source : Collectorate, Sikar.

APPENDIX III

Rates of Excise duty on various commodities during the year 1972-73¹

(Rs.)

Name of the Commodity	Rate
1. Indian made foreign liquor	18.50 per L. P. litre
2. Indian made foreign beer	0 80 " " "
3. Country Liquor	
(a) Plain (45 U.P.)	7.8 " " "
(b) Pine Apple (45 U.P.)	7.8 " " "
(c) Rose (35 U. P.)	10.52 " " "
(d) Orange (35 U.P.)	10.52 " " "
(e) Kesar Kasturi (5 U.P.)	23.28 " " "
4. Lanced Poppy heads	1.00 per kg.
5. Bhang	9.70 per kg.
6. Opium	754.00 per kg.

1. Source : The Office of the District Excise Officer, Jaipur.

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

INCIDENCE OF CRIME

The following table elucidates important crimes in the district during the period 1960 to 1973¹ :

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	Riot- ing	Burglary	Cattle theft	Other theft	Misc. IPC	Total
1960	1	13	7	42	170	89	111	226	659
1961	—	16	11	26	185	96	126	209	669
1962	1	15	9	35	230	96	132	261	779
1963	2	10	10	47	188	85	154	255	781
1964	1	14	15	52	246	83	143	273	827
1965	1	24	12	65	220	81	142	296	841
1966	1	8	12	91	219	75	128	321	855
1967	4	24	16	81	235	102	168	377	1,007
1968	1	35	29	95	278	84	160	320	1,002
1969	3	23	16	93	228	70	135	311	879
1970	6	31	17	112	289	61	177	352	1,045
1971*	3	36	21	143	244	66	161	391	1,065
1972	4	32	19	149	271	90	188	321	1,074
1973	6	41	21	203	279	91	248	516	1,405

The important crimes committed and reported in the district are cattle theft, burglary, other theft and those miscellaneous crimes covered by the IPC. The above table indicates that there has been a gradual increase in the number of all types of crimes during the period 1960 to 1973. The total number of crimes reported in 1960 was only 659 which became more than double during the year 1973. There has been a notable increase in the number of crimes arising from rioting and those connected with miscellaneous cases under the Indian Penal Code. The increase in the number of crimes such as murder, rioting and burglary can be attributed to severe famine conditions in the district during certain years. Another reason for increase in the number of rioting can be assigned to disputes over possession of cultivable fields. Burglary, the most

1. Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1961 onwards.

* Source : Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

common offence in the area can be attributed to widespread unemployment and nagging poverty in the countryside as well as in the urban areas.¹

The table below shows the details regarding the property stolen and recovered during the period 1960 to 1973².

Year	Property stolen	Property recovered	(Rs.)
			Percentage
1960	1,72,364	86,036	49.9
1961	2,78,341	1,55,024	55.7
1962	1,31,108	49,155	37.5
1963	1,86,600	91,510	49.0
1964	2,09,501	1,10,072	52.5
1965	3,00,690	1,89,815	63.1
1966	1,91,853	83,093	43.3
1967	4,12,501	1,89,772	46.0
1968	4,08,974	2,01,003	49.1
1969	3,12,991	2,08,839	66.7
1970	2,95,546	1,09,412	37.2
1971	2,07,186	1,11,544	66.7
1972	4,66,375	2,62,673	56.3
1973	3,60,318	1,51,400	40.1

From the above table it is evident that the amount of stolen property recovered has been fluctuating since 1960. It reached its peak in 1969 and 1971. The variation in quantum in between 1960 to 1966 had been as great as it was during the succeeding years between 1967 and 1973.

ORGANISATION OF POLICE FORCE

Historical background

The present district of Sikar was carved out of the former Jaipur State and *Thikana* Sikar. The former Sikar *Thikana* enjoyed jurisdictional powers and had a police force of its own which was headed by a Superintendent of Police. The Superintendent was generally borrowed from the then Jaipur State who acted under the control and supervision of the Inspector General of Police, Jaipur State but drew his salary from Sikar *Thikana* treasury. The Sikar *Thikana* was bound by extradition laws of Jaipur State in dealing with problems of inter-state criminals³.

1. Source : The Office of the Superintendent of Police, Sikar.
2. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1961 onwards.
3. Source : The office of the Superintendent of Police, Sikar.

In 1949, the Sikar *Thikana* police ceased to function as an independent entity and became a part of the Rajasthan Police. The police personnel were integrated with Rajasthan State Police Organisation. Police stations at Neem-ka-Thana, Patan, Sri Madhopur, Thoi, Khandela, Khato and Danta Ramgarh, which formed part of the Jaipur State police, were integrated into the newly created Sikar district. There were then eight police stations of the Sikar *Thikana* police. The newly created Sikar district thus had fifteen police stations which were distributed among three police circles at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Fatehpur. The list of police stations existing at that time is given below¹ :

Police Circle	Police Station	Police out-posts
1. Sikar	1. Kotwali, Sikar	1. Town out-post Kotwali
	2. Sadar, Sikar	1. Gorathra
	3. Khato	1. Goriyan
	4. Singrawat	1. Losal
	5. Raghunathgarh	
	6. Danta Ramgarh	
2. Neem-ka-Thana	1. Neem-ka-Thana	1. Dabla
		2. Nayabas
	2. Sri Madhopur	1. Reengus
	3. Thoi	1. Ajcetgarh
		2. Kishorpura
3. Fatehpur	4. Khandela	1. Toda
	5. Patan	
	1. Fatehpur	1. Town out-post-Fatehpur
	2. Lachhmangarh	1. Town out-post Lachhmangarh
		2. Balaran
	3. Ramgarh Sethan	1. Town out-post Ramgarh Sethan
	4. Necchwa	1. Patoda
Total	15	15

The set-up of the police stations and out-posts continued unchanged till 1956 when some changes were effected. The notable changes were : the police station at village Singrawat was shifted to village Losal, the out-post at Dabla under police station Neem-ka-Thana was transferred to police station Patan and the out-post Toda of police station Patan was

1. Source : The office of the Superintendent of Police, Sikar.

transferred to police station Neem-ka-Thana. A new out-post at Guhala under the Neem-ka-Thana police station was also created. The present set up of police circles, stations and out-posts is given below :

Police Circle	Police Station	Police out-post
1. Sikar	1. Kotwali (Sikar town)	1. Town out-post Kotwali
	2. Sadar (Sikar town)	2. Sikar
		3. Mundawara
	3. Khatoo	1. Goriyan
	4. Losal	1. Singrawat
	5. Raghunathgarh	
	6. Danta Ramgarh	
2. Neem-ka-Thana	1. Neem-ka-Thana	1. Nayabas
		2. Toda
		3. Guhala
	2. Sri Madhopur	1. Reengus
	3. Thoi	1. Ajeetgarh
		2. Kishorpura
	4. Khandela	
	5. Patan	1. Dabla
3. Fatehpur	1. Fatehpur	1. Town out-post Fatehpur
	2. Lachhmangarh	1. Town out-post Lachhmangarh
		2. Balaran
	3. Ramgarh Sethan	1. Town out-post Ramgarh Sethan
	4. Necchwa	1. Patoda
Total	15	17

After the formation of the Sikar district and merger of the *Thikana* police in the district, a Superintendent of Police, with headquarters at Sikar, was made overall responsible for district police administration, prevention and detection of crime in the entire district. He was assisted by two Deputy Superintendents of police stationed at Neem-ka-Thana and Sikar. For purposes of police administration the district was placed under the Jaipur Range headed by a Deputy Inspector General of Police. After the formation of Rajasthan and completion of integration process, a uniform system of service rules regarding recruitment, pay scales, discipline, training etc. was enforced throughout Rajasthan.

Existing set-up

The police set-up at the district level is headed by a Superintendent of Police who is usually from the Indian Police Service cadre. He directly functions under the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jaipur Range with headquarters at Jaipur. The Superintendent of Police is assisted by an Additional Superintendent of Police headquartered at Sikar and a Deputy Superintendent of Police headquartered at Neem-ka-Thana. At the district headquarters, a home inspector assists the Superintendent of Police in supervision of the Superintendent's office.

The police force in the district consists of two categories, armed and civil. The armed police comes into operation when dacoities and robberies are committed or there is a serious threat of breach of peace in the area. The services of the armed police are also utilised for *Challani* guard purposes, and guarding the treasury, courts in the district, residences of the Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate. A large portion of the armed police is usually detained at the district headquarters for emergency purposes but it can be deployed in the field when required for security reasons or for restoring order. The total strength of the armed police in Sikar district in 1972-73 includes one inspector, one sub-inspector, 29 head constables and 134 constables.

In addition to the Superintendent of Police and the Additional Superintendent of Police, the strength of the civil police in 1972-73 includes one Deputy Superintendent of Police, three inspectors of police, 29 sub-inspectors of police, six assistant sub-inspectors of police, 57 head constables and 430 constables.

A Reserve Police force which is located in the civil lines, is maintained at Sikar. The accommodation of the police lines building comprises an administrative block, the District Armouries Shop, the District Armoury, the Quarter-guard, the office building of the Home Guards, and one police barrack which houses the constabulary, living in the lines without their families. In addition to the living accommodation there is a badminton hall, a recreation room for the police personnel, a police lines canteen and three class-rooms for the police lines middle school and some motor garages. Some small rooms in the building are being used for storage of sports material, barber's shop, tailoring shop, washerman's shop, cobbler's shop and stores etc. Adjacent to the police lines, 162 family quarters have been constructed to house families of constabulary and officers of the Police Department. The police lines had its own independent water supply scheme, police personnel living in the barracks are supplied with water free of charge.

The police personnel are provided with a police dispensary, a middle school and a canteen. A part-time doctor visits the police lines for treatment of ailing personnel. The welfare fund for the police personnel in the district is constituted out of contributions from the sub-inspectors, head constables and constables and is being used to run a small tuck-shop and a flour-mill at present. Some loans are also advanced to police personnel for emergency purposes in case funds are available. A Welfare Committee, which is patronised by the Superintendent of Police, controls the welfare fund. Some inspectors, head constables and constables are included in the committee as its members.

In 1972-73 mess allowance to head constables and constables posted in the police lines was paid @ Rs.17.00 per man for having 40 diets per month and of Rs. 10.00 per month was admissible to constables and head constables posted in police stations in the district. Medical expenses incurred by the police personnel are re-imbursed as per rules of the State Government.

Functions and duties

The functions of the district police include among others the prevention and detections of crimes, maintenance of law and order, escorting and guarding prisoners and guarding treasuries. They have also to perform many other duties connected with the maintenance of law and order and service of summons, execution of warrants and the prosecution of criminals. The duties of police officers from the Superintendent of Police down to the police constables are defined in the Rajasthan Police Manual, 1948 (revised from time to time) which is in force in the district.

Auxiliary Organisations

TRAFFIC POLICE—There is no separate establishment of the traffic police in the district. However, a small contingent of one head constable and six constables has been assigned the duty of regulating vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the municipal towns of the district. They are also directed to attend and regulate traffic during fairs and festivals organised in the district. This contingent of traffic police forms part of the civil police sanctioned for the district. The contingent for traffic police functions under the control of the Superintendent of Police.

DISTRICT SPECIAL BRANCH—There is a separate branch of District Intelligence Service which functions in the name of District Special Branch. It is manned by one sub-inspector of police posted in the Superintendent's office and included in the sanctioned strength of the district civil police. The sub-inspector functions for intelligence service under the direct control of the Superintendent of Police.

CHALLANI GUARDS—Challani guards function at Neem-ka-Thana and Fatehpur. The strength of these guards consists of two head constables and 12 constables. Their duty is to escort prisoners to and from jails to Judicial Courts for evidence and conviction purposes. This contingent forms part of the district armed police.

PROSECUTION POLICE—A separate branch of police functions for prosecuting work in judicial courts located at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. In 1972-73, the strength of this branch consisted of one prosecution inspector, six prosecution sub-inspectors, eight head constables and four constables. The prosecution branch functions under the prosecution inspector headquartered at Sikar and forms part of the district civil police.

In addition to the above, the district reserve of civil and armed police is headquartered at Sikar. The reserve police is headed by a reserve inspector of police who functions under the Superintendent of Police. There is no mounted police in the district.

HOME GUARDS—Home Guards were raised in 1962. It was raised for internal security purposes during wars or national emergencies. It is a voluntary organisation which functions under the control of the Superintendent of Police who acts as Ex-officio Commandant of the District Home Guards. In 1972-73, the Commandant was assisted by an Assistant District Commandant, one platoon commandant, one head constable, one clerk and one orderly.

There is only one Company of Home Guards in the district in Sikar town. The Home Guards enlisted in the company are imparted training in rifle, guard duties, drills and civil defence affairs. The term of enlisted volunteers in Home Guards is five years after which they are discharged. However, membership may be renewed if desired. The contingent of Home Guards participates in public ceremonies, internal security schemes and serves on the occasion of famines, floods and other emergencies. During the course of training or refresher course, the Home Guards are paid rupee one per day per man. Whenever they are posted on duty, they receive Rs. three per day per man. They are paid Rs. four each when deputed to function out of the headquarters at a distance of more than 8 kilometres.

VILLAGE DEFENCE SOCIETIES—No organised village defence societies are functioning in the district. However, in some villages patrolling is done by the members of Village Defence Societies within the village for prevention of crimes such as burglary and cattle theft which are usually committed during the night. These patrolling squads are raised by the

village panchayats which are helped by the police organisation whenever their help is required.

Kendriya Anveshan Bureau (Central Bureau of Investigation)

This bureau, headquartered at Jaipur, is headed by a Superintendent of Police whose jurisdiction extends to the whole of Rajasthan. Hence, there is no separate staff sanctioned for Sikar district. This organisation mainly deals with the cases of corruption and bribery etc., brought against the employees of the Central Government. By the end of 1973, 16 cases from the district were investigated. As a result of these investigations, one employee was exonerated and the rest of the cases are under investigations.

RAILWAY POLICE

The railway police is responsible for the prevention and detection of crimes in the running trains and on the railway premises. A Superintendent of Police, headquartered at Ajmer, is incharge of Railway Police in whole of Rajasthan. The railway police establishment in Sikar district falls under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Railway Police, Ajmer. There are two Government Railway Police Stations at Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana and two government railway police out-posts at Reengus and Fatehpur. The strength of the Railway Police in the district and its distribution is as follows¹:

S. No.	Railway Police Station/ out-post	Sub-Ins- pectors (No.)	Head con- stables (No.)	Constables (No.)
1.	Police station, Neem-ka-Thana	1	2	16
2.	Out-post, Reengus	—	1	6
3.	Police station, Sikar	1	1	18
4.	Out-post, Fatehpur	—	1	3
Total		2	5	43

The following statement reveals the number of crimes committed on the railway within the district²:

Year	Theft in running trains	Theft at stations	Theft at goods yards	Miscellaneous crimes	No. of cases of ticketless travellers
1961	6	7	—	6	—
1962	12	3	2	3	—
1963	7	3	—	4	—
1964	18	7	1	4	—

1. Source : The Office of the Superintendent, Railway Police, Ajmer.

2. *Ibid.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
1965	16	3	2	6	—
1966	12	3	1	7	—
1967	12	5	3	7	—
1968	17	6	3	9	4
1969	15	2	1	7	14
1970	18	2	1	14	5
1971	18	3	3	12	23
1972	10	9	1	6	18

JAIL ADMINISTRATION

At the time of the formation of the Sikar district in 1949, there were sub-jails at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. In the Sikar *Thikana*, there was a Central Jail at Sikar. It was categorised as a sub-jail after the formation of the district¹. There are three sub-jails in the district. In these sub-jails convicts having upto one month's sentence, under-trials and civil prisoners are kept. Convicts having more than one month's sentence are sent to Central Jail, Jaipur. These sub-jails are controlled by the Sub-divisional magistrates of the respective sub-divisions who are incharge of these sub-jails in their ex-officio capacity². The Inspector General of Prisons, Rajasthan, headquartered at Jaipur, is the overall controlling and co-ordinating authority in respect of the above sub-jails.

The organisational set-up and functioning of sub-jails in the district is given below :

Sikar Sub-Jail

The Sikar sub-jail, located at the district headquarters is housed in a jail building built during the former *Thikana* administration. After formation of Rajasthan and creation of the Sikar district, it was categorised as a sub-jail first class. It can accommodate a maximum of one hundred prisoners. There is a separate barrack earmarked for female prisoners where a maximum of eight prisoners can be accommodated at a time. Convicts sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one month are kept here, while the under-trials remain inside the sub-jail till their cases are decided or released on bail. There is no separate arrangement for housing juvenile delinquents who after conviction are sent to Juvenile

1. Source : The office of the Assistant Jailor, Sub-Jail, Sikar.

2. Source : Office of the Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Reformatory, Udaipur. Similarly, there is no arrangement for the prisoners of political nature in terms of A or B class. In case, any political prisoner is admitted in the sub-jail, he is kept separately from other prisoners and the treatment in the jail depends on the classification awarded by the court.

In 1972-73, the sub-jail staff consisted of an Assistant Jailor, two head warders and eight warders. The immediate controlling authority of the sub-jail is the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Sikar. Among the inspecting officers of the sub-jail are included, the Inspector General Prisons, Deputy Inspector General Prisons and the District Magistrate. Among the non-official visitors is included the local member of the Legislative Assembly of Rajasthan. The last inspection of the sub-jail took place in 1972.

Medical aid to the prisoners is extended by a part-time doctor and a compounder. The doctor attends to the sick inmates twice in a week while the compounder visits them daily. Daily news by a radio-set is broadcast to the inmates of the jail. Since the stay of inmates is short, welfare facilities in the Sikar sub-jail are non-existent. Similarly, there is no arrangement for vocational training in different crafts to inmates. Food stuff to the prisoners is provided according to the scale prescribed by the State Government. Details of prescribed diet are given in Appendix I.

Prison discipline is maintained in accordance with the rules laid down in the Jail Manual of the State Government.

A year-wise statement of jail population and expenditure for the years 1968-69 to 1972-73 is given below¹ :

Year	Total No. of prisoners at the end of the year	Total No. of prisoners admitted during the year	Total No. of prisoners released during the year	Total No. of prisoners remained	Expenditure incurred during the year (Rs.)
1968-69	16	560	531	45	40,790
1969-70	45	866	826	85	64,522
1970-71	85	733	789	29	49,726
1971-72	29	578	558	49	56,994
1972-73	49	630	617	62	65,727

1. Source : Office of the Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Sub-Jail, Fatehpur

The sub-jail, Fatehpur was started during the Sikar *Thikana* administration. After integration of the former *Thikana* administration in Rajasthan in 1949, it was categorised as a C-class sub-jail¹. It is housed in an old building which is located in the centre of the town. Its maximum capacity to accommodate prisoners is limited to 30 prisoners at a time. There are only two barracks in the jail building. No separate arrangement for female prisoners is available. Whenever, a female prisoner is admitted, she is either sent to the Sikar sub-jail or to the Central Jail, Jaipur. Convicts sentenced up to imprisonment for one month are detained here. Those sentenced for a longer term are directed to the Central Jail, Jaipur. Under-trial and civil prisoners are kept here. Juvenile prisoners are sent to Udaipur reformatory.

The Assistant Jailor, designated as officer-in-charge, is head of the jail administration. He is assisted by one head warder and six warders. Two class IV employees function on part time basis. The Assistant Jailor functions under the control of the Circle Officer Jails, Jaipur, who in his turn functions under the Inspector General, Prisons, Rajasthan, Jaipur. Among the inspecting authority of this sub-jail are included the Inspector General Prisons, District Magistrate Sikar, Additional Collector Sikar, and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Fatehpur.

One part-time doctor and a compounder attend to the sick prisoners. The inmates are allowed to meet their relatives once a week on production of a written application to the jail authorities. Jail discipline is maintained according to the rules of the Jail Manual.

An annual statement of jail population and expenditure during the years 1968-69 to 1972-73 is given below²:

Year	Total No. of prisoners at the end of the year	No. of prisoners admitted during the year	No. of prisoners released during the year	No. of prisoners remained	Expenditure incurred during the year (Rs.)
1968-69	11	192	164	39	14,714
1969-70	39	76	109	6	20,503
1970-71	6	184	183	7	22,198
1971-72	7	127	125	9	20,931
1972-73	9	316	316	9	28,150

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Jailor, Sub-Jail, Fatehpur.

2. Source : Office of the Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Sub-Jail, Neem-ka-Thana

Sub-jail, Neem-ka-Thana was started during the administration of the former Jaipur State. After integration of the Jaipur State in Rajasthan in the year 1949, Neem-ka-Thana sub-jail was categorised as a 1st class sub-jail. Since then it has been functioning in the same capacity. The sub-jail is housed in an old building located in one corner of the town; it can accommodate about 50 prisoners at a time. Convicts for one month's imprisonment, undertrials and civil prisoners are kept here. Prisoners sentenced for more than one month are sent to the Central Jail, Jaipur. There is no separate arrangement for juveniles.

The sub-jail is headed by an Assistant Jailor who is designated as officer-in-charge. The Assistant Jailor is assisted by one head warder, six warders and two class IV employees. A part-time doctor and a compounder attend to the sick prisoners from time to time. The Assistant Jailor functions under the control of the Circle Officer Jails, Jaipur. He is ultimately controlled by the Inspector General Prisons, Rajasthan, Jaipur. The District Magistrate, Sikar, the Additional Collector Sikar and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Neem-ka-Thana, Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan and Deputy Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan are the inspecting authority of this sub-jail.

Since Neem-ka-Thana is only a sub-jail and the stay of prisoners is short, no adequate arrangements for the welfare of prisoners and their occupational training have been made. The inmates are medically treated and allowed to meet their relatives as per rules of the Jail Manual. Jail discipline is maintained in accordance with the rules prescribed in the Jail Manual of the State Government.

The annual statement of the jail population and expenditure during the years 1966-67 to 1971-72 is given below¹:

Year	Total No. of prisoners at the end of the year	Total No. of prisoners admitted during the year	Total No. of prisoners released during the year	No. of prisoners remained	Expenditure incurred during the year (Rs.)
1966-67	50	246	283	13	21,920
1967-68	13	327	318	22	30,994
1968-69	22	375	362	35	33,135
1969-70	35	370	390	15	29,729
1970-71	15	364	365	14	30,154
1971-72	14	426	430	10	31,052

1. Source : The office of the Inspector General (Prisons), Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Food stuff to the prisoners is provided according to the scale prescribed for diet which is given in the Appendix I.

JUDICIARY

After the formation of Rajasthan a separate court of the District Judge at Sikar was established in 1950. Its territorial jurisdiction extended over the Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. However, in 1953, the District Judge's Court was down-graded and in its place the Court of Civil and Additional Sessions Judge was created the jurisdiction of which extends over the Sikar district only. For the district Jhunjhunun, a separate court of the District and Sessions Judge was established.

The Court of the Civil and Additional Sessions Judge, Sikar was the principal court of original jurisdiction and also a Court of Appeal for all decrees and orders passed by the Munsif's Court, Sikar. It also heard miscellaneous applications such as those relating to succession certificates, insolvency petitions etc. The pecuniary jurisdiction of this court extended to Civil Suits (excepting those under Rs. 2,000 within the cognizance of the Munsif, Sikar) without restriction to their value.

Besides the court of Civil Judge, Sikar, there were courts of Munsif, Sikar and Civil Judge, Neem-ka-Thana with well-defined territorial jurisdiction. The pecuniary jurisdiction of Civil Judge's Court extends to civil suits up to the value of Rs. 10,000. The Judge presiding over this court was vested with the powers of a Judge of the Small Causes Court to try civil suits whose value did not exceed Rs. 250. However, appeals from the decrees and orders of the civil judge, Neem-ka-Thana lie to the District Judge, Jhunjhunun.

The Civil Judge, Sikar in his capacity as the Additional Sessions Judge for Sikar district can try criminal cases committed to his court by subordinate magistrates of the district and hear appeals and revisions against the decisions of the subordinate courts.

In Sikar district there were no judicial magistrates. Only the Executive Magistrates such as the District Magistrate, Sikar, the Sub-Divisional Magistrates of Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana function and exercise powers of the first class magistrate in criminal matters. The Tahsildars of Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Sri Madhopur enjoy 2nd class magisterial powers while the Tahsildars of Fatehpur, Danta Ramgarh and Lachhmangarh and the Naib-Tahsildars of Sri Madhopur tahsil were vested with 3rd class magisterial powers. Appeals against the decisions of the

magistrates vested with 2nd and 3rd class magisterial powers could be made to the District Magistrate (Collector) Sikar, while appeals and revisions against the decisions of the District Magistrate and 1st class Magistrates were made to the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge, Sikar.

Present Set-up

In 1968, the Court of the Civil and Additional Sessions Judge, Sikar, was replaced by the establishment of the Court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge, Sikar. The new court has territorial jurisdiction over the revenue district of Sikar. The pecuniary jurisdiction of this court extends to civil suits without restriction with regard to the value. However, the Munsif and Additional Munsifs of Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana are empowered to hear civil suits up to the value of Rs. 5,000 while the civil judge, Jhunjhunun Camp, Sikar can hear suits up to Rs. 10,000 in value. The Additional District Judge, Sikar, can also hear appeals arising out of the judgements and decrees of Munsifs, Additional Munsifs and Civil Judge, Jhunjhunun Camp (Sikar) working in the district. This court is also vested with the powers of Special Judge to try cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1952. It can also try applications in the following matters :

1. The Indian Succession Act, 1925
2. Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920
3. Guardians and Wards Act, 1890
4. Rajasthan Relief of Agricultural Indebtedness Act, 1957
5. Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
6. Land Acquisition Act, 1894
7. Election Petitions relating to Municipalities
8. Election petitions arising under the Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad (Election Petition) Rules, 1959
9. Revision applications against the Orders of Debt Relief Courts (Munsifs and Civil Judge).

The District Judge's Court acts as a tribunal for hearing cases relating to motor accident claims and is also empowered to try small cause suits up to the value of Rs. 250.

The office staff of the Additional District and Sessions Judge Court comprises one stenographer, one reader, six lower division clerks, seven process-servers, one record lifter, one chowkidar, two orderlies and two class IV employees.

The judicial courts in the Sikar district function under the overall

control of the District and Sessions Judge, Jhunjhunun. The set-up of the judicial courts in the district is summed below :

1. Additional District and Sessions Judge's Court, Sikar
2. Munsif Magistrates' Court, Sikar
3. Additional Munsif Magistrate, Sikar
4. Munsif Magistrate, Fatehpur
5. Munsif Magistrate, Neem-ka-Thana
6. Additional Munsif Magistrate, Neem-ka-Thana.

On the revenue and criminal side the present organisation of courts in Sikar district is as follows :

The court of Collector Sikar as District Magistrate is subordinate to the Additional Sessions Judge in criminal matters but is at the apex of the district revenue courts. Subordinate to the District Magistrate in exercise of both criminal and revenue jurisdiction, are the Sub-Divisional Magistrates at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. The Sub-Divisional Magistrates/Officers exercise powers of first class magistrates. Below the Sub-Divisional Magistrates/Officers in both criminal and revenue matters, are the courts of Tahsildars at Sikar, Fatehpur, Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur and Danta Ramgarh. The Tahsildars are vested with 2nd class magisterial powers and the Naib-Tahsildar Ramgarh with 3rd class magisterial powers. There are courts of Munsif Magistrates at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana and Fatehpur and Additional Munsif Magistrates at Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana who hear cases relating to civil and criminal side. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the Munsifs' courts extends to civil suits for the valuation up to Rs. 5,000. These courts can also try small cause suits up to the value of Rs. 100 in the capacity of judge, small cause court. Apart from the original cases of these courts, revisions under Rajasthan Gram Panchayat Act against the judgements and orders of the Nyaya Panchayats are also entertained by these courts. The Munsif Magistrates are also empowered to try applications under section VI of the Rajasthan Relief of Agriculture Indebtedness Act, 1957 upto the value of Rs. 5,000 as Judges of Debt Relief Courts. Each of the Munsif Court is staffed with one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks and a few class IV employees. Besides, there is an Additional District Magistrate at Sikar who also exercises powers of a first class magistrate and hears criminal cases.

The following table shows the number of criminal cases instituted and disposed of in the district during 1963-64 to 1970-71¹.

1, *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes, 1959 onwards.

(No.)					
Year	Previous balance	Instituted during the year	Total	Disposed of during the year	Balance
1963-64	1870	2660	4530	2546	1984
1964-65	1984	2580	4564	1910	2654
1965-66	2654	3264	5918	2695	3223
1966-67	3223	3170	6393	2803	3590
1967-68	3590	3631	7221	3759	3462
1968-69	3462	3441	6903	2983	3920
1969-70	3920	3592	7512	3552	3960
1970-71	3960	2399	6359	2652	3707

NYAYA PANCHAYATS

With the introduction of Democratic Decentralisation in Rajasthan in 1959, Nyaya Panchayats were established. These were vested with both civil and criminal powers and could try minor criminal offences and civil suits of minor magnitudes and impose fines not exceeding rupees fifty. In civil cases Nyaya Panchayats can take cognizance of suits of the value not exceeding Rs. 250. Application for revision of orders of the Nyaya Panchayats can be filed with the Munsif in civil suits and with magistrates vested with powers of the first class in criminal cases. In case of non-payment of fines, the matter is referred to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate who makes recovery as if it were a fine imposed by him. In civil matters in case a decree is passed and there is difficulty in executing the same, a report is sent to the Munsif or to the Civil Judge having jurisdiction. He executes them as if those were passed by his own court¹.

The Nyaya Panchayats are constituted for each group of five to seven village panchayats for disposal of petty rural suits. The Panchayat Samiti-wise number of Nyaya Panchayats, in the Sikar district is given below² :

S. No.	Name of Panchayat Samiti	No. of Nyaya Panchayats
1.	Fatehpur	7
2.	Lachhmangarh	7
3.	Piprali	5
4.	Dhod	7
5.	Danta Ramgarh	8

1. The Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad Act, 1959.
2. Source : The Office of the Zila Parishad, Sikar.

1	2	3
6.	Sri Madhopur	5
7.	Khandela	7
8.	Neem-ka-Thana	9
Total		55

Legal Profession

There are Bar Associations at Sikar, Fatehpur and Neem-ka-Thana. The activities of these Bar Associations are conducted through the elected executive body consisting of one President, one Vice-President, one Secretary, one Treasurer and a few members on the executive body. The membership of the Bar Association is confined to practising advocates of the area. These Bar Associations endeavour to promote goodwill and understanding between the bench and the Bar. They also look after the professional interests and welfare of their members. Bar Associations maintain reference libraries for the use of their members and subscribe to leading law journals and reports.

APPENDIX I

Scale of diet prescribed for the prisoners¹

1. LABOURING DIET		
1. Flour of wheat		583 gm.
2. <i>Dal</i>		87 gm.
3. Unground salt		17 gm.
4. Linseed oil		15 gm.
5. Unground condiments		7 gm.
6. Fire wood		700 gm.
7. Vegetables		233 gm.
8. Parched gram (given as break-fast)		58 gm.
9. <i>Gur</i> (twice a week)		29 gm.
2. NON-LABOURING DIET		
1. Flour of wheat		525 gm.
2. <i>Dal</i>		58 gm.
3. Unground salt		17 gm.
4. Linseed oil		15 gm.
5. Unground condiments		7 gm.
6. Vegetables		233 gm.
7. Fire-wood		700 gm.
8. Parched gram (given as break-fast)		58 gm.

Note : Additional sweet dish diet is provided on certain festivals.

1. Source : The office of the Inspector General of Prisons, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

After Independence and with the advent of planning a number of new departments have come up and the existing ones have expanded enormously to cope with the growing tempo of development work. An account of the departments which have not been discussed in other chapters is given here.

STATE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Agriculture Department

The District Agriculture Office which was established in 1952 at Sikar is headed by the District Agriculture Officer. The sub-offices of Agriculture Assistants were established at Sri Madhopur in 1965, at Neem-ka-Thana in 1967 and at Khetri during the year 1965. The Khetri sub-office was abolished in 1969 and the Neem-ka-Thana sub-office was shifted to Jhunjhun. The District Agriculture Officer, Sikar, concurrently looks after agriculture activities of Sikar and Jhunjhun districts. Administratively, the district office falls in the Ajmer division of the Agriculture Department headed by the Joint Director of Agriculture, headquartered at Jaipur, who functions under the control of the Director, Agriculture Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The District Agriculture Officer is assisted by five agriculture assistants, seven fieldmen, two upper division clerks, one accounts clerk, three lower division clerks, one driver and five class IV employees. The strength of sub-office at Sri Madhopur comprises one agriculture assistant and four fieldmen and its territorial jurisdiction extends over Panchayat Samitis viz., Sri Madhopur, Khandela, Neem-ka-Thana, Danta Ramgarh and Khetri (in Jhunjhun district).

The main functions of the District Agriculture Officer are to guide cultivators about latest agriculture researches for augmenting production, to keep field staff posted in various Panchayat Samiti areas and to inform about the latest technical know-how of agriculture so as to ensure its application. He is expected to know the problems of the agriculturists and pass on the same to research scientist for fruitful solutions. In fact he functions as a two-way channel in between cultivators and scientists. For this purpose he demonstrates new techniques to the cultivators. Besides, the new varieties evolved by the department from time to time are brought to the

notice of the farmers. He suggests doses of different fertilizers and chemicals and passes information about new techniques to be used in the new varieties. He guides the cultivators to take seed production programmes and adoption of new methods for plant protection measures. He is also responsible for the implementation of departmental development schemes such as digging of new wells, installation of pumping sets, distribution of chemical fertilizers, reclamation of waste land and horticulture development etc.

At present main schemes of the agriculture development undertaken in the district and controlled by the District Agriculture office are seed distribution, seed production, fruit plants distribution and implementation of plant preservation methods. Besides, some irrigation schemes such as construction of wells, repairs of existing wells, installation of pumping sets and construction of pucca channels are being implemented in the area with financial assistance made available by the nationalised banks. These banks advance loans for the construction of various irrigation devices. The Department brought into cultivation the hybrid *Bajra* in *Kharif* and the Mexican wheat in *Rabi* seasons.

Co-operative Department

The Assistant Registrar, headquartered at Sikar, is incharge of the office of the Co-operative Department in the district which was established in 1958. He functions under the administrative control of the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Ajmer. The Registrar, Co-operative Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur is the controlling officer at the State level. The staff of the district office consists of one technical assistant, one marketing inspector, one consumer inspector, one land valuation officer, two inspectors of industries, four executive inspectors, 18 assistant inspectors, four co-operative extension officers, one accounts clerk, six clerks and six class IV employees. The territorial jurisdiction of the office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Sikar extends over the whole district of Sikar.

The Assistant Registrar is responsible for the registration, organisation, cancellation, liquidation, inspection, answering of enquiries and re-organisation of the Co-operative Societies functioning in the district under the Rajasthan Co-operative Act, 1965. He also deals with the arbitration, supersession and imposition of surcharge over the co-operative institutions in the district. He recovers loans advanced to the co-operative societies. He exercises operational control over the credit facilities extended by the Co-operative Banks in the district. He promotes the idea of co-operation among the people of the area.

The co-operative movement in the district was initiated under the Jaipur Co-operative Societies Act, 1943. At the time of the formation of Rajasthan in 1949, there were 42 Co-operative Societies with 5,550 membership and share capital of Rs. 1,23,693. By the year 1972-73, the number of Co-operative Societies increased to 572 with membership of 43,869 persons and share capital¹ of Rs. 21,12,196. In 1972-73, there were 113 co-operative societies with 11,748 membership under liquidation. The total amount of Rs. 52,42,275 had been advanced to these co-operative societies by the banks. The district office has also arranged loans both on long term and short term basis amounting to Rs. 4,57,645 for the cultivators. The Department also gives grant-in-aid to co-operative societies for the construction of godowns for the benefit of cultivators. The Assistant Registrar issues licences to money-lenders for money-lending purposes. By the end of 1972-73, 1167 applications and Rs. 17,505 as license fees have been received by the Department. During the year 1972-73, 75 Co-operative Societies were reorganised and 87 Housing Co-operative Societies were newly constituted out of which ten Housing Co-operative Societies have been granted loan for housing purposes².

Evaluation Organisation

The Evaluation Organisation at the district level is represented by an Investigator, stationed at Sikar. He functions under the immediate control of the Junior Research Officer Jhunjhun³ who in his turn functions under the Director Evaluation Organisation, Rajasthan, Jaipur. This office was set up in the district in 1972. The Investigator collects data needed for preparing progress reports and evaluation of Employment Schemes and other development schemes under execution in the district and submits the same to the Junior Research Officer.

Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads)

The Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads) is represented in the district by an Executive Engineer headquartered at Sikar. This office was established in the district in 1971. There are four sub-divisions under the office of the Executive Engineer. Each sub-division is headed by one Assistant Engineer and some technical and clerical staff. The three sub-divisional offices are located at Sikar viz., No. 1 and No. 2 and the P.W.D. sub-division. The remaining one is headquartered at Neem-ka-Thana. The staff of the office of the Executive Engineer comprises one

1. Source : The Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rajasthan, Sikar.

2. *Ibid.*

3. Office of the Junior Research Officer, Jhunjhunun has been shifted to Sikar since 1. 11. 1975.

Executive Engineer, four Assistant Engineers, 16 Engineering Subordinates, one draftsman (senior), one draftsman (junior), one tracer, one ferrowman, one divisional accountant, one accounts clerk, one store-keeper, one assistant store-keeper, 20 clerks and 10 class IV employees. The territorial jurisdiction of the Executive Engineer extends over the entire Sikar district and he functions under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer (Buildings and Roads), Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The work of construction and maintenance of Government buildings, roads and bridges in the district is looked after by this office.

Industries Department

The district office of the Industries Department, located at Sikar, is headed by the District Industries Officer. It was established in 1971. The territorial jurisdiction of this office extends over Sikar and Jhunjhun districts. The sub-offices of the District Industries office are located at Fatehpur and Jhunjhun. At Fatehpur it is headed by the Assistant Inspector Weights and Measures and at Jhunjhun by an Inspector of Weights and Measures. In addition to the District Industries Officer, the staff of this office comprises one Inspector (Weights and Measures), one assistant inspector (Weights and Measures), one accounts clerk, two clerks and two class IV employees. The district office is administratively controlled by Director, Industries and Civil Supplies, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The District Officer looks after the registration of small scale industries, provides them assistance and arranges distribution of controlled raw material to them. For this purpose, he undertakes inspection of industrial units to verify the use of controlled raw material. He also helps in securing allotment of land for industrial sites. He collects lease rent and other charges from units in the industrial area. The District Industries Officer attends meetings of district level officers and Panchayat Samitis and tenders advice on matters pertaining to industrial activities. He also acts as Assistant Controller of Weights and Measures and enforces the Rajasthan Weights and Measures Act, 1958 in the district. He is also responsible for enforcing the Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishment Act 1964, in towns of the district.

Social Welfare Department

The Officer-in-charge of the Social Welfare Department at the district level, headquartered at Sikar, is the District Probation-cum-Social Welfare Officer who functions under the administrative control of the

Director, Social Welfare Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur. The district office was established in 1960. The staff of the district office of the Social Welfare Department comprises two hostel superintendents, one tailoring inspector, one tailoring teacher, five clerks and eight class IV employees.

The District Officer is responsible for implementation of various schemes designed to ameliorate the conditions of the backward classes in the district. The important activities in the district relate to the running of hostels for backward class students and a tailoring centre, grant of scholarships, rehabilitation of backward classes through grant of housing subsidy, employment assistance and sanction of grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations engaged in uplift of backward classes. The district officer provides legal aid to members of the Backward Classes as and when needed. He helps in securing old age pensions to disabled persons.

Medical and Health Department

The Medical and Health Department is represented at the district level by the Principal Medical and Health Officer headquartered at Sikar. His office was established at Sikar in 1972 as a result of up-grading of the office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Sikar. The up-gradation of the district office was necessitated on account of increase in bed strength of Shri Kalyan Hospital, Sikar from 98 to 150 beds. The staff of the office of the Principal Medical and Health Officer comprises one accountant, one office assistant, one accounts clerk, seven clerks and four class IV employees. The territorial jurisdiction of this office extends over Sikar and Jhunjhun districts. The Principal Medical and Health Officer functions under the administrative control of the Director of Medical and Health Services, Rajasthan, Jaipur. The Principal Medical and Health Officer exercises control over all the Medical and Health institutions functioning in the district.

DISTRICT FAMILY PLANNING BUREAU—This Bureau was established at Sikar in 1967. Under this Bureau, there are three Urban Family Planning Centres (two at Sikar and one at Fatehpur), eight Rural Family Planning Centres at Tejsar, Lachhmangarh, Palsana, Kudan, Khatoo Shyamji, Jajod, Mundru and Neem-ka-Thana and six Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Sikar, Neem-ka-Thana, Losal, Danta, Fatehpur and Ajitgarh. This office along with its sub-offices is controlled by the District Family Planning Officer who is assisted in his office work by one Administrative Officer, one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one Education and Publicity Officer, one Projectionist, one statistical assistant, two computers, one accounts clerk, three upper division clerks, one steno-typist, one lower

division clerk, one cycle *Sawar* two drivers, one night guard, one class IV employee and one cleaner.

A Mobile Sterilisation-cum Intra-uterine contraceptive device Unit is also functioning under the District Family Planning Officer, Sikar. The staff of this Mobile Unit consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one nurse, one compounder, one auxiliary nurse-cum-midwife, one driver, one cleaner and one class IV employee.

The main functions of the District Family Planning Officer are: popularisation of Family Planning measures, family planning services through sterilisation and loop insertion through the mobile unit by organising camps in both urban and rural areas, formulation of a district plan for family planning purposes and imparting training to family planning personnel. The statistical unit of the Family Planning Bureau evaluates the targets fixed for family planning purposes in order to adopt timely corrective measures. The Bureau also distributes medicines to patients who undergo family planning operation and grants money to operated patients. Maternity and Child Welfare Services are extended to the public through Maternity and Child Welfare Units in the area. In these units, pre-natal and post-natal medical facilities are provided.

During the year 1972-73, sterilisation operation of 1,857 persons and loop insertion to 453 women were performed by the District Bureau. During the year 1972-73, an amount of Rs. 8,24,405 was incurred against an allotment of Rs. 10,00,000.

Animal Husbandry Department

Till 1962 there used to be a separate district office of the Animal Husbandry Department for Sikar. In 1962, the district office was merged with Jhunjhunun office. At present, the District Animal Husbandry Officer, headquartered at Jhunjhunun, concurrently controls the Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. The sub-offices/units functioning in Sikar district are: Mobile Veterinary Unit Sikar, Veterinary Hospital Sikar, Key Village Scheme, Sikar and Veterinary Hospitals at Neem-ka-Thana, Lachhman-garh, Fatehpur, Danta, Reengus, Sri Madhopur, Piprali, Losal, Sihot Bari and Khandela. The District Animal Husbandry Office including its sub-offices/units is staffed with one District Animal Husbandry Officer, two Veterinary Assistant Surgeons (Senior scale), 12 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons (Junior scale), six veterinary assistants, five veterinary compounders, 21 veterinary stockmen, three dressers, usual office staff and 72 class IV employees. The regional controlling officer of the district office is the Deputy Director, Rinderpest Eradication Scheme, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

who functions under the control of the Director of Animal Husbandry Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The District Animal Husbandry Officer maintains control over and inspects the veterinary units in the district. He guides the inhabitants in the improvement of breed in livestock and helps in checking contagious diseases. He advises for advancing of loans for opening of cattle breeding farms, dairy farming and poultry farms etc. by the commercial Banks. He also provides technical assistance to the field staff of Panchayat Samitis in the district. The Veterinary Hospital arranges treatment and control of diseases, preventive vaccination, castration of scrub animals, improvement of breed and milk potential of livestock. These institutions supply stud bulls for breeding. The Department also attends to the development of pasture plots, introduces improved fodder seeds and undertakes other extension activities.

The number of animals medically treated, castrated and vaccinated during the year 1972-73 is given in chapter IV.

Irrigation Department

The office of the Assistant Engineer, Irrigation Sub-Division, Neem-ka-Thana is the only unit of the Irrigation Department functioning in the Sikar District. This office was established at Neem-ka-Thana during the year 1960. The Assistant Engineer, is assisted in his function by three overseers, one upper division clerk, one lower division clerk and one class IV employee. The territorial jurisdiction of this office extends over Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. The Assistant Engineer functions under the administrative control of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Jaipur.

The main functions of this office are the construction and maintenance of bunds and canals for irrigational purposes. Besides, the office undertakes repairs of old works, survey of proposed constructions and implementation of crash scheme and famine relief works. During the year 1972-73, there were 17 and 9 famine relief works in progress in the Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts respectively.

Economics and Statistics Department

This Department is represented in the district by a District Statistical Assistant. He is incharge of the Sikar District and functions under the District Statistical Officer, Jhunjhunun who in his turn is administratively controlled by the Director, Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan. The staff of the Sikar office comprises one District Statistical Assistant, one Statistical Assistant (T. R. S.), one District Statistical Inspector, one

field inspector, one computer and one peon. The office is entrusted with the task of collecting basic statistics regarding various activities and submitting the same through the District Statistician to the Director, Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Education Department

The Education Department in the district is represented by the Inspector of Schools, Sikar. His office in the district was established in 1950 and the district Jhunjhunun was also under control of this office upto 1955. He is assisted by three deputy inspectors, three sub-deputy inspectors, one office assistant, one accountant, one computer, one stenographer, four accounts clerks, two upper division clerks, 17 lower division clerks and 11 class IV employees. The territorial jurisdiction of the district education officer extends over the Sikar district. He functions under the administrative control of the Joint Director, Education (boys), Jaipur. The main function of the district education officer is to inspect educational institutions and control them. He is responsible for implementing education programmes in the district. He also distributes grant-in-aid given to the aided schools in the area.

Employment Department

The District Employment Office, Sikar was established in 1961 and is headed by the District Employment Officer with headquarters at Sikar. He is assisted by one Junior Employment Officer, one upper division clerk, three lower division clerks and two class IV employees. He functions under the administrative control of the Director of Employment, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The main function of the District Employment Officer is to provide employment assistance to job seekers and make suitable persons available to the employers. He imparts vocational guidance to the applicants in order to make them suitable for the required jobs. He collects and disseminates employment market information and publishes yearly and quarterly reports on the employment market. For the above purposes, he enforces Compulsory Notification of Vacancies Act, 1959 in the area under his jurisdiction.

Excise Department

The Assistant Excise Officer, headquartered at Sikar, heads the district organisation of the State Excise Department. His office was established at Sikar in the year 1966. He is assisted by three Circle Inspectors Excise (one each posted at Sikar, Sri Madhopur and Neem-ka-Thana), eight lower division clerks and 17 class IV employees. The

Assistant Excise Officer, Sikar is administratively controlled by the District Excise Officer (Rural), Jaipur. The territorial jurisdiction of the Assistant Excise Officer extends over entire Sikar District.

The main functions of the Assistant Excise Officer comprise realisation of excise duties, distribution of intoxicants and control over their sale. During the year 1972-73, an amount of Rs. 21,98,704 was realised as excise duty from the Sikar district. A total number of 338 excise cases were detected by the district executive staff.

Sheep and Wool Department

A district office of the Sheep and Wool Department was established at Sikar in 1964. The territorial jurisdiction of this office extends over Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. This office is headed by a District Sheep and Wool Officer who is assisted by one Assistant District Sheep and Wool Officer, 16 Sheep and Wool Extension Officers/Supervisors, 44 stock assistants, 32 shepherds, 17 accounts clerks, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, one wool shearing instructor, seven master shearers and two class IV employees. There are eight Sheep and Wool Extension Centres at Sikar, Fatehpur, Danta, Ajitgarh, Khandela, Neem-ka-Thana, Lachhmangarh and Dhod functioning in the Sikar district under the District Sheep and Wool Officer. In addition to these centres, there is an Artificial Insemination Centre functioning at the district headquarters. The staff of this centre consists of one Assistant Artificial Insemination Officer, one laboratory assistant, one stockman, one laboratory attendant, one shepherd, one clerk and one class IV employee.

The main function of the Department is to improve the breeding of sheep flocks. It undertakes regular research and training programmes. The District Officer has control over the working and budget of all the Extension Centres in the district. Extension centres undertake expansion work for development of sheep and wool, artificial insemination work and purchase of wool.

The District Sheep and Wool Officer Sikar functions under the control of the Director, Sheep and Wool Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Public Health Engineering Department

The office of the Assistant Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, City Division, Sikar was established during the year 1962 with headquarters at Sikar. It is headed by an Assistant Engineer who is assisted by four engineering subordinates, one foreman, five fitters, 18 pump drivers, two electricians, one lineman, one meter inspector, two meter readers, 13 helpers and one office guard. This office is mainly responsible for maintenance of water supply schemes both in urban and

rural areas. The Assistant Engineer functions under the control of the Superintending Engineer, District Division, Jaipur who in turn is controlled by the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Jaipur.

Another Office of the Assistant Engineer, Special Survey and Investigation Sub-Division, Public Health Engineering Department, Sikar was established in 1971. Its territorial jurisdiction extends over Sikar and Jhunjhununu districts. The Assistant Engineer functions under the Executive Engineer, Survey and Investigation Division, Public Health Engineering Department, Bikaner. The overall control over this office is exercised by the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur. The Assistant Engineer is assisted by eight Junior Engineers, one junior draftsman, one tracer, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, one driver and ten class IV employees.

The main function of this office is to conduct surveys and prepare water supply schemes for rural areas. It also investigates into the availability of quality and quantity of water in different areas. This subdivision has so far prepared about 60 rural water supply schemes.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Central Excise Department

The Central Excise Department at the district level is represented by two Inspectors of the Department headquartered at Sikar and Sri Madhopur. They function under the administrative control of the Assistant Collector, Central Excise and Customs, Jaipur. They are assisted by one camel *Sawar* and one class IV employee each. Their main function is to collect excise duty levied by the government. The amount of excise duty collected during the period 1965-66 to 1972-73 is given in the Chapter on Revenue Administration.

Income Tax Department

This department is represented in the Sikar district by an Income Tax Officer headquartered at Sikar. Income Tax Office was established in the district in 1965. The Income Tax Officer is assisted by one Income tax Inspector, one head clerk, three upper division clerks, two lower division clerks, one stenographer, one notice server and two class IV employees. The main function of the Income Tax Officer is to assess and collect income tax, wealth tax and gift tax levied by the government. He is controlled by the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Bikaner Range, Bikaner who functions administratively under the Commissioner of Income Tax, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The district of Sikar was carved out of the areas which formed part of the erstwhile Jaipur State and Sikar *Thikana*. Till 1944 there was no regular arrangement for conservancy and municipal administration. The municipal administration in Sikar dates back to the year 1944 when a Municipal Board was established at Sikar town as a result of administrative measures undertaken by the *Thikana* administration under the provisions of the Jaipur State Town Municipalities, Act 1943. Municipal Boards at Fatehpur, Sri Madhopur, Lachhmangarh, Ramgarh, Khandela, Neem-ka-Thana and Losal were also established. In the beginning, Municipal Boards consisted both of the elected and nominated members. These Municipal Boards looked after the work of sanitation and lighting and granting of permission for the construction of buildings in the town. For conservancy purposes, municipal boards raised funds from tax on goods received from outside in the town and grant-in-aid from the former Jaipur State¹.

Present Set-up

In 1951, the Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act was promulgated which defined the powers and functions of Municipal institutions in Rajasthan. In 1959, the Rajasthan Municipalities Act was passed with the object of bringing uniformity in Municipal administration. Under the Act of 1959, the term of members of the municipal boards is three years and there is provision in the Act by which the State Government can extend the tenure of a municipal board on grounds of emergency, administrative convenience or in some other serious situations. The State Government can supersede a Board if it is found that the Board can not function within the constitutional frame work of Act. Elections to the Municipal Boards are held on the basis of universal adult franchise exercised through secret ballot. Every board consists of such number of seats as may be fixed by the State Government from time to time on the basis of population. In doing so the government specifies the number of seats-general and reserved for members of Scheduled Castes or Tribes. All reserved seats declared as such have relation to population of the town. To every Board two female

1. Source : The office of the Municipal Council, Sikar.

members are co-opted if no such person has been returned to the Board by election. The town is divided into a number of wards which is equal to the number of seats allotted to the Municipal Board. For every Board there is a Chairman and a Vice-chairman. They are elected by the members of the Board from amongst themselves. The Chairman is paid with some allowance which differs from place to place. The Chairman is the Chief executive of the Board and all officials of the Board function under his supervision and control. He convenes and presides over the meetings of the Board and conducts the proceedings. He keeps a watch over the financial and executive administration of the Board. The duty of the Vice-chairman is to exercise such powers and perform such duties of the Chairman as delegated to him by the Chairman or the Board from time to time. Ordinarily one general meeting of the Board is convened every month for the disposal of general business. Special meetings may also be called upon special request of the members. All questions in the Municipal Board meetings are decided by majority.

For administrative convenience some committees are constituted to share the heavy burden of the Municipal Board. The notable committees constituted usually by a Board are: Finance, Buildings, Public Health, Conveyance, House Tax, Licence, Octroi, Rent, Water Supply, Sanitation and Construction Works. One Executive Officer is appointed by the State Government and made responsible for day to day administration of the Board. Under the Rajasthan Municipal Act, 1959, each Municipal Board has been authorised to levy several taxes. There are certain obligatory taxes as house tax, octroi on goods and animals and a tax on profession and vocations and, optional taxes namely tax on vehicles, dogs, animals, scavenging tax, lighting tax and water tax. It is necessary to levy obligatory taxes. Some other important sources of income are licence fees, revenue from enforcement of by-laws, rent on municipal land, shops, market and buildings. The State Government may advance loans and grant, subsidy in order to meet specific schemes and projects. The main items of expenditure of a municipal Board are general administration, public health and sanitation, public works and development schemes, education, water and electricity supply.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS*

There are six Municipal Boards in the district viz. Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Khandela, Lachhmangarh, Fatehpur and Ramgarh and a

* The data relating to establishment, staff, income and expenditure have been taken from *Nagar Palika Samank* while other information from the respective Municipal Boards.

Municipal Council at Sikar in the district¹. Their organisation and functioning in the district is individually detailed below²:

Municipal Board, Neem-ka-Thana

It was established in 1945 by the erstwhile Jaipur State Government. In the beginning, there were both elected and nominated members and the Chairman was also nominated by the government. In 1951, adult franchise was granted to the citizens of the town. At present there are 12 elected members. The town is divided into ten municipal wards of which two are double membered. Last elections to the Municipal Board were held during the year 1970. The limits of area of the Municipal Board are notified by the State Government. The population of Neem-ka-Thana town was 11,612 during the year 1971 and it occupied an area of 0.42 sq. km. The staff of the Board consisted of 42 persons on 31-3-1972, 27 of them were engaged in sanitation and 15 persons in other sections of the Board. The number of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was 27.

SANITATION—The sweepers, both males and females, have been employed to clean the streets of the town twice a day. The sullage is carted out of the town through one tractor, one tempo wheeler and a few wheel barrows owned by the Board. The collection of refuse is done at a place earmarked for this purpose out of the city.

In the town open surface drains on both sides of streets have been constructed. These drains are regularly cleaned. Phenyl and disinfectant powder are sprayed for public hygienic purposes.

STREET LIGHTING—The Municipal Board has provided electric lamps for lighting all important roads, localities and road crossings. The Board pays the monthly bill for electric charges received from the Rajasthan State Electricity Board.

WATER SUPPLY—The inhabitants receive water supply from water reservoir constructed in 1971 by the Public Health Engineering Department. Pipe line has been laid down in the town and private connections issued to consumers. Public hydrants at 15 places have also been installed for public use by the Municipal Board.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—Construction of Municipal roads and their maintenance is the responsibility of the Board. It has constructed roads, drains, bus stand, tonga stand, public latrines and urinals and

1. In the year 1974, the Municipal Boards were dissolved and since then administrators have been controlling their working.
2. *Nagar Palika Samank*, 1971-73, pp. 424 and 485.

buildings for primary schools. During 1972-73, the Municipal Board constructed three main thoroughfares of the town.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Board maintains a park called Nehru Park. It runs an *Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya* where medicines are supplied to the citizens free of charges. It is staffed with one *Valdya*. Municipal land has been allotted to Harijans on concessional rates and facility of electricity, water supply and public wells have also been extended in Harijan localities. Municipal Board is housed in its own buildings. The details of income and expenditure for the years 1966-67 to 1971-72 are given in Appendix I.

Municipal Board, Sri Madhopur

The Municipal Board at Sri Madhopur was established in 1944. In the beginning, it had both elected and nominated members. The chairman was also nominated. However, in 1951, adult franchise was introduced and all members were elected. At present there are 12 elected members in the Municipal Board. Two women members are co-opted by the elected members. The town is divided into ten municipal wards out of which two are double-membered. The last elections to the Municipal Board were held in 1970. The area of the Municipal Board was notified by the State government during the year 1958. The population of the town during the year 1971 was recorded as 10,294 and the area occupied by the town was 1.01 sq. km. The Municipal Board office is housed in its own building since 1958.

The work of the Municipal Board is carried on through three sections—general administration, taxation and public works, and public health. The total strength of the staff of the Municipal Board on 31-3-1972 was 52 out of which 2 were engaged in hydraulic activities, 32 in sanitation and 18 in other works. There were 36 employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SANITATION—A three-wheeler auto-van, three animal wheel barrows and 19 wheel barrows collect the rubbish and the night soil and transport it out of the town. Sweepers, jamadars and cart drivers have been employed by the Municipal Board for sanitation and conservancy purposes. Surface drains have been laid down in some parts of the town in the year 1973.

LIGHTING—The town is electrified. There are 225 electric points installed by the Municipal Board at all important public places. The Board pays charges for electricity to Rajasthan State Electricity Board.

WATER SUPPLY—The water works is maintained by the Public Health Engineering Department of the State Government. Piped water

supply in Sri Madhopur was started in 1970. There are 18 public hydrants installed at all important public places for the convenience of the public. Water charges are paid by the Municipal Board.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—Roads in the municipal area have been constructed by the Municipal Board, Sri Madhopur which is responsible for their maintenance also. The Municipal Board has constructed Khandela Market, Reengus Market, Surani Market, Sikar Market and the Khato Dam Market. Some of the municipal roads are cemented. The Board is housed in its own building constructed in 1953. There are four public latrines constructed by the Board in the Harijan colony.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Municipal Board maintains four small public parks. Financial position of the Board has been given in Appendix I.

The main source of income of the Municipal Board are taxes, enforcement of by-laws, rent from property, sale of municipal land and grant-in-aid received from the State Government.

Municipal Board, Khandela

The Municipal Board Khandela was established in the year 1946. The total number of members of the Municipal Board was eight, two of them being nominated. The present number of members is 14. The town is divided into 11 wards out of which one ward is double membered. The elected members co-opt two women members. The Chairman and the Vice-chairman are elected by the members themselves. The Municipal Board is housed in its own building constructed in 1962. The population of Khandela town in 1971 was 12,500 and it occupied an area of 1.52 sq. km. Last elections to the Municipal Board were held in 1970.

The Municipal Board employs 34 persons on its staff who function under the control of an Executive Officer appointed by the Government. The work of the Municipal Board is carried through six sections viz. General Administration, Taxation, Public Health, Lighting, Development and miscellaneous. Some of the activities of the Municipal Board are given below:

SANITATION—20 sweepers are employed by the Municipal Board. They clean the streets daily. Besides, two persons are engaged in light and water affairs while 12 are engaged in other works. There are sixteen employees in the Board who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. One three-wheeler removes refuse from the town. Sweepers have been provided with wheel barrows. Phenyl and disinfectants are used to disinfect the municipal drains.

LIGHTING—The Khandela town was electrified in 1965. At present the Municipal Board has arranged for 80 electric bulbs and 73 kerosene lights.

WATER SUPPLY—Water is obtained from the wells which are maintained and cleaned from time to time by the Municipal Board. However, the piped water supply scheme of Khandela town is in progress and it is presumed that the water works will be commissioned during the current financial year.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—Construction of roads in the town and their maintenance is under the control of the Municipal Board. Municipal roads in Khandela are cemented. A bridge has also been constructed. Open drains in the streets, three lavatories, a public park and a reading room are other construction works undertaken by the Municipal Board.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Board maintains a small public park called Nehru Balodyan. It is equipped with play grounds for children. Harijan colonies have been electrified by the Board with the assistance received from the Social Welfare Department. Financial position of the Board has been given in Appendix I.

SOURCES OF INCOME—The main sources of the income of the Board are octroi, income from property, proceeds from sale of land, grant-in-aid from the State Government and licence fee.

Municipal Board, Fatehpur

This Municipal Board was established in 1944. In the beginning the members of the Board and its Chairman were nominated members. After 1951, adult franchise was introduced and all elected members formed the Board. There are at present 20 elected members of the Board and two co-opted women members. The town is divided into 18 municipal wards out of which two wards are double-membered. The last elections to the Board were held during the year 1971. The municipal office is housed in a rented building. In 1968, the municipal boundary was notified by the State Government. The population of Fatehpur town in 1971 was 34,929 and it occupied an area of 27.16 sq. km.

The work of the Municipal Board is carried on through three sections—general administration, octroi and taxation, and sanitation. The staff of the Board as on 31.3.1972 consisted of 78 employees out of whom 62 were engaged in sanitation and 16 in other works. As many as 63 employees belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Some of the activities of the Municipal Board are given as follows:

SANITATION—The rubbish and the night soil of the town is collected with the help of wheel barrows at a place and then carted out of the town by five bullock carts. The town is devoid of surface drains and their construction is proposed in near future.

STREET LIGHTING—The Municipal Board has provided mercury lights in main markets, fluorescent tubes on main roads and electric bulbs for street lighting. The total number of light points is 925.

WATER SUPPLY—The inhabitants of the town receive piped water supply being maintained by the water works of the Public Health Engineering Department. Formerly, water was supplied by a private water works and wells which are still used for drinking water purposes. Public hydrants have yet not been installed.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—Roads and streets are constructed and maintained by the Municipal Board. Eight municipal roads have so far been constructed since the formation of the Board. In addition to these, two public urinals, ten public latrines and a public park have also been constructed by the Board. Separate provision for drainage has yet not been made.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Board maintains a public park called Prem Park, a water hut and a cattle pound. Financial position of the Board has been given in Appendix I.

SOURCE OF INCOME—The main sources of income of the Municipal Board are octroi, house tax, income from enforcement of by-laws, licence fee and grant-in-aid from the State Government.

Municipal Board, Ramgarh

The Municipal Board at Ramgarh was established in 1944. In the beginning there were nine elected and three nominated members. The Chairman of the Board was also nominated. Elections to the Municipal Board according to the Town Municipalities Act 1951 were held in 1954. Last elections were held in the year 1970. The town is divided in 11 wards out of which one ward is double-membered. Two women members are co-opted by the elected members. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman are also elected. The area of the town was notified by the while Jaipur State during the year 1944. The Municipal Board office is housed in a rented building. The population of the town during the year 1971 was 15,068 persons and it occupied an area of 5.08 sq. km.

The work of Municipal Board is conducted through four sections—general administration, taxation, sanitation and lighting. The total strength of the staff of the Board as on 31.3.1972 was 29 out of whom 17 were engaged in sanitation and 12 in other works. As many as 18

employees belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Some of the municipal board activities are given below :

SANITATION—There are three bullock carts to collect rubbish and transport it out of the town. Main streets of the town are cleaned once a day.

STREET LIGHTING—At present there are 160 street electric lamp posts. There was provision of 125 kerosene lanterns being lighted in those localities where electric points have yet not been installed.

WATER SUPPLY—Water is supplied to the inhabitants both by private and government agencies. In a number of localities piped water supply is maintained by private arrangements done either by some businessmen or by philanthropic trusts. A water reservoir constructed in 1972 out of the loan given by the Life Insurance Corporation of India to the Public Health Engineering Department has also been commissioned. 12 public hydrants have been installed by the water works for public purposes.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—Construction of roads and their maintenance is the responsibility of the Municipal Board. About 4 km. of roads have been constructed by the Board during the period 1965 to 1970. Out of the grant-in-aid received from the Social Welfare Department, public latrines numbering 33, three culverts on roads and for pumping out rain water a drain and a kuchcha tank have also been constructed.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Municipal Board maintains a cattle pound. It has arranged for subsidy from the Social Welfare Department to the Harijans for construction of houses. Financial position of the Board has been given in Appendix I.

SOURCE OF INCOME—The main sources of income of the Municipal Board are octroi, proceeds from sale of land, income from rent of municipal property and licence fee.

Municipal Council, Sikar

The Municipal Council, Sikar was established in 1944 under the provisions of the Jaipur State Town Municipalities Act, 1943. In the beginning there were 12 elected and four nominated members in the Municipality. In 1946, the President of the Municipality was also elected. After introduction of the Town Municipalities Act, 1959, adult franchise (unrestricted) was granted for purposes of election of the members of the Municipality. The last elections to the Municipal Council were held during the

year 1970. The town of Sikar is divided into 24 municipal wards out of which two are double membered. Thus there are at present 24 elected members and two co-opted women members. The President and the Vice-president have been elected by the members themselves. The Municipal Council office is housed in its own building which was donated by the former chief of Sikar *Thikana* for municipal office purposes. The Municipal limits were notified by the State Government during the year 1959. As reported by the Census of 1971, the town occupies an area of 24.71 sq.km. and inhabits a population of 70,987 persons, as against 50,636 persons in 1961. Like all other Municipal Boards in Sikar District, Sikar Municipal Council also functions under the general control of the Director, Local Bodies, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

There were 280 members of the staff in the Municipal Council out of whom 11 were engaged in lighting, 165 in sanitation and 104 in other occupations. As many as 150 persons on the staff belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SANITATION—The Municipal Council has two tractors along with trollies, 100 hand driven carts and a refuse trailer for collecting and removing the refuse and sillage of the town. Phenyl and powder disinfectants are used to disinfect the Municipal drains. All important municipal thoroughfares are cleaned once in a day.

WATER SUPPLY—Piped water supply scheme in Sikar City was started in 1959 by the Public Health Engineering Department. There are 60 public stand posts in the town maintained by the Municipal Council. The Council paid Rs. 100 for each water stand post to the water works as water charges till the financial year 1972-73.

STREET LIGHTING—The number of municipal lights in 1972-73, was 1,375 out of which 250 points were fitted with fluorescent tubes. The lighting work of municipal lamp posts is looked after by light inspector.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS—The construction of roads and streets in the municipal boundary and their maintenance is the responsibility of the Municipal Council. The Council constructed roads in the town during the period 1965-66 to 1972-73. Pucka drains on both sides of the municipal roads have also been constructed. Out of the grant-in-aid received from the Social Welfare Department, eight public latrines and six public urinals have been constructed and conversion of private and public dry latrines took place. A separate drainage scheme of the town is being executed by the Public Health Engineering Department. In addition to construction of roads, repairs of *Pucki* and *Kuchchi* streets and lanes are undertaken by the Council from time to time.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Municipal Council maintains a cattle pound, and four public parks viz., the Nehru Balodyan, Nehru Bal Vihar, Maru Park and the Tantia Tope Park. Financial position of the Council has been shown in Appendix I.

SOURCE OF INCOME—The main sources of income of the Municipal Council during the year 1972-73 were : house tax and octroi, income from licence and enforcement of by-laws, income from municipal buildings and rent from municipal lands. In addition, the other sources of income of the Municipal Council were : sale of compost, fines, proceeds from sale of municipal land and grant-in-aid from the State Government.

Municipal Board, Lachhmangarh

The Municipal Board, Lachhmangarh was established in 1944. In the beginning the Municipal Board consisted of nominated (all officials) members. After introduction of the Town Municipalities Act, 1951, adult franchise (un-restricted) was granted for purposes of election of the members of the Municipal Board. In 1956, the town was divided into four municipal wards. The number of municipal wards was later increased in 1964 by dividing the town into 13 municipal wards. At present (1972-73), the town is divided into 13 wards out of which two municipal wards are double-membered. 15 elected members co-opt two women members. The president and the vice-president are elected by the members themselves. The last elections to the Municipal Board were held during the year 1970. In 1973, the elected board of municipal Councillors was dissolved and an administrator was appointed by the State Government to look after the affairs of the Municipal Board.

The Municipal Board office is housed in a private rented building since 1954. The town occupies an area of 0.65 sq. km. and inhabits a population of 22,158 persons as against 18,484 persons in 1961. Like all other Municipal Boards in Rajasthan, Lachhmangarh Municipal Board also functions under the general control and superintendence of the Director, Local Bodies, Rajasthan, Jaipur. The total strength of the staff of the Board on 31.3.1972 was 60 of whom 1 person was engaged in lighting, 43 in sanitation and 25 in other sections. As many as 40 persons belonged to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Some details of the activities of the Municipal Board are given below :

SANITATION—The Municipal Board has one tractor with a trolley, two three-wheeler scooters and a few hand driven carts to carry refuse

and sullage out of the town. Municipal thoroughfares and streets are cleaned once in a day.

WATER SUPPLY—Piped water supply scheme in Lachhmangarh Municipal area was started during the years 1964-65. The water works is owned by the Public Health Engineering Department.

LIGHTING—The number of municipal lights in 1972-73 was 250. The lighting work of municipal lamp posts is looked after by a line man.

CONSTRUCTION WORK—The construction of roads and streets in the municipal area and their maintenance is the responsibility of the Municipal Board. The Municipal Board does not have pukka drains. Kuchcha drains are constructed at suitable places whenever needed. Repairs to streets and *Kuchhi* drain are undertaken from time to time. There are seven main roads owned and constructed by the Municipal Board.

MISCELLANEOUS—The Municipal Board got constructed houses for Harijans out of grant-in-aid received from the Social Welfare Department. Financial position of the Board has been given in Appendix I.

PANCHAYATS

Panchayats function as local bodies in the rural area. Till attainment of Independence, these units served the local community only by deciding petty civil and criminal cases according to the customary laws. But these panchayats were neither properly constituted nor vested with legal sanctity behind their decisions, which were, however, carried out because there was the strength of social sanctions behind them. These bodies were not concerned with performance of municipal function which have not been devolved upon them. In 1959, the judicial functions of the panchayats have been transferred to the Nyaya Panchayats which have also been discussed in the foregoing pages.

Before the formation of Rajasthan village panchayats were not constituted under any state enactment. After the formation of Rajasthan, village Panchayats in the area were constituted under the Rajasthan Village Panchayat Act, 1951. There were 22 Panchayats distributed in six tahsils of the district. In October, 1953, the Rajasthan Panchayats Act, came into force and under its provisions village and tahsil panchayats were established as follows¹ :

S. No.	Name of the Tahsil Panchayat	No. of village Panchayats
1.	Sikar	24

1. Source : The Collectorate, Sikar.

1	2	3
2.	Danta Ramgarh	24
3.	Fatehpur	16
4.	Lachhmangarh	18
5.	Neem-ka-Thana	28
6.	Sri Madhopur	28
Total		138

According to the provisions of the Rajasthan Panchayat Act, 1953, every village or a group of villages having a population between 4,000 and 8,000 formed a village panchayat. The area of a village panchayat was divided into wards and a Panch was elected from each ward. The system of adult franchise through a secret ballot was introduced in the village Panchayat elections. The village panchayats performed functions relating to conservancy, street lighting, registration of births and deaths, regulation of local fairs and arrangement of water supply. After the advent of the Community Development Programmes these panchayats were utilised as agencies for implementing development programmes at the village level.

These panchayats were also empowered with some judicial powers and could try petty civil cases and exercise third class Magisterial powers. They could also impose fines upto a maximum of Rs. 15 in administrative cases and up to Rs. 50 in judicial cases.

There also existed a District Board at Sikar. It consisted of 21 members out of which 18 were non-officials and three officials all being nominated by the State Government. The Board was constituted to look after the District Board's roads, *Aushdhalayas* and schools in the rural area. The finance of the District Board comprised cess at the rate of 6 paise per rupee from the tenants who paid land revenue. The government also paid subsidy equal to the amount of cess realised in the area. The District Board was dissolved consequent upon introduction of the Democratic Decentralisation scheme in Rajasthan in 1959.

With the coming into force of the Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad Act, 1959, which introduced the system of the Democratic Decentralisation in Rajasthan, the tahsil panchayats were, however, abolished and their place was taken by the Panchayat Samitis. The jurisdiction of these panchayat samitis coincided with the development blocks. At the district level, Zila Parishad was established which co-ordinated development activities for the whole district. Under the new Act of 1959, Panchayats were delimited and made co-terminus with the smallest

unit of revenue administration viz. *Patwar* Circles with a population between 1,500 and 2,000. Panchayats under the new scheme were divested of the judicial functions and some Nyaya Panchayats vested with judicial powers were constituted.

Elections under the new set-up were held in 1960 on the basis of universal adult suffrage through secret ballot. Appendix II in this chapter shows the names of Panchayat Samitis and number of panchayats in the district.

Organisation of Panchayats

Under the existing law the number of *Panchas* varies in panchayats from eight to fifteen according to population. The term of the Panchayat is three years which can be extended by the State Government. Elections are held on the basis of adult franchise by secret ballot. The area of the panchayat is divided into wards from which *Panchas* are elected. The number of *Panchas* is fixed by the Government. The last elections to panchayats under the 1959 Act were held during the year 1964.

Functions of Panchayats

The functions of the village panchayats are mainly developmental, municipal and administrative. At present the main emphasis is laid on agricultural development. However, village panchayats are expected to organise the village community for economic, social, cultural and educational betterment.

Functionaries of Panchayats

Among functionaries of the village Panchayats are included one Sarpanch, one Secretary (he functions for a group of 3 to 5 panchayats) and a Gram Sevak. The Sarpanch is an elected member and functions as Chairman of the panchayats. The Secretary appointed by the Panchayat and Development Department executes the orders passed by the Sarpanch. The Gram Sevak assists in developmental activities.

Financial Resources

Panchayats have been empowered to levy taxes on vehicles, buildings, commercial crops and to impose octroi duty on import of goods in the area. They get income from fees, fines, and grazing charges. Panchayats also receive grant-in-aid from the Government. The budget of a panchayat is approved by the concerned Panchayat Samiti. However, panchayats can plan to incur expenditure within their own resources.

PANCHAYAT SAMITIS

The Panchayat Samitis established in the area under the Rajasthan

Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad Act, 1959, are primary units for planning and local development at the block (development) level. There are eight Panchayat Samitis in the district namely Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Dhod (headquarters, Sikar), Piprali, Danta Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur, Khandela and Neem-ka-Thana.

Organisation

A Panchayat Samiti consists of ex-officio members (*Sarpanchas* M.L.As. and S.D.M. etc.), co-opted members (women members and persons belonging to backward classes) and associate members (Chairman of Service Co-operative Societies etc.). The term of office of the Panchayat Samiti is three years but it can be extended by the State Government. Some Standing Committees each consisting of seven members, such as finance, taxation, production, administration and education are constituted by election by each Panchayat Samiti. These committees help in formulation and implementation of development plans of the Panchayat Samitis. The last elections to the Panchayat Samitis were held during the year 1964.

Functions and functionaries

Panchayat Samitis are responsible for all development activities within their areas, the most important being the activities related to agriculture, animal husbandry, public health, medical relief, local amenities etc. Among the functionaries of a Panchayat Samiti are included one Pradhan, one Vikas Adhikari, some extension officers, one vaccinator, one overseer and necessary ministerial staff.

Financial resources

These consist of State grants, peoples' participation in the form of labour contributions, taxes on trades, fairs, professions, industries, entertainment cess, rent on agriculture land, cess on land revenue and primary education and loans advanced by the State Government. Each Panchayat Samiti frames its budget with the approval of the Zila Parishad of the area. Pertinent details about Panchayat Samitis such as number of Panchayats, number of Nyaya Panchayats, number of members and number of villages are given in Appendix II. Staff of the Panchayat Samitis is given in Appendix III. The data relating to the income and expenditure of Panchayat Samitis in the district during the years 1964-65 to 1972-73 are given in Appendix IV, while physical achievements have been given in Appendix V.

NYAYA PANCHAYATS

Before the introduction of the modern system of panchayats which

are entrusted with local affairs and community development work, panchayats were primarily constituted to settle petty civil and criminal cases of the inhabitants. Such cases when referred to these panchayats were heard in open. Both, the complainants and the defendants were summoned and the proceedings were conducted before the whole village folk. Evidences both oral and documentary were furnished. The *Panchas* who presided such deliberations heard the cases and decided them on grounds of merit. The decisions were binding on both the parties. However, this system lost its importance with the development of modern judicial system in British India. The Panchayats now called Nyaya Panchayats were constituted under the Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad Act, 1959 and were empowered to decide petty civil and criminal cases. The constitution, powers and working of Nyaya Panchayats have already been detailed in chapter on Law and Order and Justice in this volume.

ZILA PARISHAD

The Zila Parishad at Sikar was constituted in 1959 under the Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1959. It is headed by a Zila Pramukh. The members of the Zila Parishad are—three members of the Parliament, seven members of the Legislative Assembly, eight Pradhans of the Panchayat Samitis of the district, two co-opted members (women), Chairman of the Sikar Central Co-operative Bank, President of the District Co-operative Sangh and the Collector of the district. Executive functions of the Zila Parishad are carried on by the Secretary who is appointed by the State Government.

The main activity of the Zila Parishad is to keep co-ordination between Panchayat Samitis and the State Government. It supervises the work carried on by the various Panchayat Samitis in the area. Besides, budgets of the Panchayat Samitis are discussed in the Zila Parishad meetings and necessary advice is given. The Zila Parishad functions through four standing committees namely administration and finance, production, social services and education. During the year 1972-73, five meetings of the Zila Parishad were organised. The Zila Parishad does not have independent source of income. The expenditure of the Zila Parishad is incurred out of funds received from the State Government. The staff of the Zila Parishad consists of three clerks and two class IV employees. The sanctioned budget and expenditure of the Zila Parishad during the years 1965-66 to 1971-72 were as follows¹:

1. Source : Office of the Zila Parishad, Sikar.

(Rs.)		
Year	Sanctioned budget	Expenditure
1965-66	35,349	26,325
1966-67	40,744	33,800
1967-68	34,315	36,349
1968-69	27,177	37,867
1969-70	21,063	28,189
1970-71	44,340	28,654
1971-72	67,078	44,142

APPENDIX I

Details¹ of Income and Expenditure of Municipal Council/Boards
in Sikar district

(Rs. in '00)

S. No.	Head of Income	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Municipal Board, Neem-ka-Thana							
INCOME							
1. Octroi		476	481	57	501	544	—
2. Taxes on houses and land		—	94	—	—	12	—
3. Other rates and taxes		63	88	25	22	48	—
4. Realisations under special Acts		11	7	24	6	7	—
5. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house		70	—	160	104	1	—
6. Other fees and revenue		—	—	—	—	1	—
7. Grants received from the Government		5	—	—	51	—	—
8. Grants received other than the Government		1	—	—	—	—	—
9. Interest receipts		30	130	117	—	10	—
10. Miscellaneous		547	—	231	140	7	—
11. Sale of physical assets		3720	—	247	1106	197	—
12. Other receipts		20	418	—	252	122	—
Total		4943	1218	861	2182	949	—

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply	363	296	293	409	180	—
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation	—	290	347	525	348	—
3. Hospitals, dispensaries and vaccinations	200	25	18	14	62	—
4. Public institutions	35	—	37	223	12	—
5. Miscellaneous	214	56	236	285	234	—
6. Roads	14	98	824	295	9	—

1. *Nagarpalika Samank*, 1967-70 and for 1971-73.

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7. Others		266	274	59	—	102	—
8. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account		—	—	653	11	—	—
9. Other expenditure		1841	862	424	500	188	—
Total		2933	1901	2891	2262	1135	—

Municipal Board, Sri Madhopur

INCOME

1. Octroi		526	732	884	1085	1231	1412
2. Other rates and taxes		6	15	—	13	40	15
3. Realisations under special Acts		18	16	13	9	59	136
4. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house		21	17	16	40	24	228
5. Other fees and revenue		—	—	8	175	41	—
6. Grants received from the Government		—	—	—	58	58	58
7. Miscellaneous		101	—	69	6	122	231
8. Sale of physical assets		161	140	—	—	—	—
9. Other receipts		10	56	235	901	—	—
Total		843	976	1225	2287	1575	2080

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply		167	60	71	45	128	99
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation		269	300	358	4	461	586
3. Public institutions		—	—	—	—	52	—
4. Miscellaneous		411	—	8	37	665	—
5. Roads		—	—	79	3	189	281
6. Others		—	—	—	794	13	232
7. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account		10	—	—	—	38	—

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8. Other expenditure		—	611	702	1416	—	943
Total		857	971	1218	2299	1546	2141

Municipal Board, Khandela

INCOME

1. Octroi		249	270	312	264	368	508
2. Taxes on houses and land		—	—	—	1	20	—
3. Other rates and taxes		2	7	3	7	392	346
4. Realisations under special Acts		9	22	3	1	—	7
5. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house		11	11	10	15	10	6
6. Other fees and revenue		—	—	13	10	—	—
7. Grants received from the Government		62	—	—	118	309	75
8. Grants received other than the Government		1	3	1	9	10	25
9. Interest receipts		1	—	1	—	—	1
10. Miscellaneous		—	—	8	57	—	22
11. Sale of physical assets		214	110	52	36	51	188
12. Other receipts		176	89	481	188	290	5
Total		725	512	884	706	1450	1183

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply		73	49	49	44	19	46
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation		116	141	158	166	157	223
3. Miscellaneous		443	229	2	38	—	—
4. Roads		105	4	10	128	131	204
5. Others		—	26	247	—	489	657
6. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account		—	52	27	34	—	—

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7. Other expenditure		—	—	166	244	—	342
Total		737	501	659	654	796	1472

Municipal Board, Fatehpur

INCOME

1. Octroi	593	675	916	1001	1087	1367
2. Taxes on houses and land	31	31	71	70	—	1
3. Other rates and taxes	14	15	79	11	—	1368
4. Realisations under special Acts	—	—	5	13	30	21
5. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house	—	—	—	255	86	65
6. Other fees and revenue	—	—	—	30	40	71
7. Grants received from the Government	—	—	135	—	135	—
8. Grants received other than the Government	—	59	30	—	777	261
9. Interest receipts	—	5	3	8	—	—
10. Miscellaneous	1118	138	—	15	—	10
11. Sale of physical assets	11	144	309	—	23	—
12. Other receipts	—	—	134	1742	271	288
Total	1767	1067	1682	3145	2449	3452

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply	81	116	159	1138	262	311
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation	505	66	807	—	806	214
3. Hospitals, dispensaries and vaccinations	—	—	—	—	—	686
4. Public institutions	43	—	—	—	52	105
5. Miscellaneous	1157	1515	662	319	111	—
6. Roads	—	—	42	—	18	277

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7. Others		—	75	—	101	—	135
8. Other expenditure		—	—	—	1603	651	496
Total		1786	1772	1670	3171	1900	2224

Municipal Board, Ramgarh

INCOME

1. Octroi	241	205	248	226	249	409
2. Taxes on houses and land	9	14	13	24	7	7
3. Other rates and taxes	6	9	—	—	14	2
4. Realisations under special Acts	13	17	7	29	7	6
5. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house	6	5	17	106	29	31
6. Other fees and revenue	31	132	—	35	33	26
7. Grants received from the Government	35	70	70	70	294	250
8. Grants received other than the Government	—	—	—	230	1	6
9. Interest receipts	—	—	—	—	—	4
10. Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	9
11. Sale of physical assets	264	31	—	7	81	50
12. Other receipts	23	53	277	—	370	—
Total	628	536	632	727	1085	800

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply	109	30	22	21	5	26
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation	298	235	214	216	291	311
3. Miscellaneous	228	263	367	—	317	313
4. Roads	—	—	—	234	—	—
5. Others	—	—	—	241	—	—

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account	2	10	28	5	25	—	
7. Other expenditure	12	—	—	6	6	149	
Total	649	538	631	723	641	799	

Municipal Council, Sikar

INCOME

1. Octroi	3082	3616	4231	4782	5817	5817	
2. Lighting, water and conservancy rate	1	2	—	—	—	—	
3. Realisations under special Acts	106	367	326	150	194	194	
4. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house	215	14	152	—	173	173	
5. Other fees and revenue	—	—	—	225	—	—	
6. Grants received from the government	478	435	553	1013	645	645	
7. Grants received other than the government	17	24	79	79	—	—	
8. Miscellaneous	124	516	1326	650	833	833	
9. Sale of physical assets	333	174	—	—	—	—	
10. Other receipts	148	101	—	563	—	—	
Total	4504	5249	6667	7462	7662	7662	

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply	793	843	3625	4055	—	6290	
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation	1601	1943	—	—	1290	—	
3. Miscellaneous	1496	1811	2200	—	545	545	
4. Roads	384	275	163	408	243	243	

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5. Others	—	—	281	—	—	—	
6. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account	16	55	76	2745	—	—	
7. Other expenditure	438	189	245	—	—	—	
Total	4728	5116	6590	7208	2078	7080	

Municipal Board, Lachhmangarh

INCOME

1. Octroi	475	484	424	462	465	529	
2. Taxes on houses and taxes	6	14	24	13	3	10	
3. Other rates and taxes	15	19	145	23	42	77	
4. Realisations under special Acts	14	27	20	15	7	2	
5. Receipts from markets, slaughter houses and rent on house	18	22	13	18	28	24	
6. Other fees and revenue	58	116	46	32	21	43	
7. Grants received from the Government	172	250	264	166	250	112	
8. Grants received other than the Government	263	150	183	54	9	5	
9. Interest receipts	3	1	—	1	—	6	
10. Miscellaneous	198	196	2	108	40	39	
11. Sale of physical assets	—	34	80	—	73	33	
12. Other receipts	1739	—	23	266	769	21	
Total	2961	1313	1224	1158	1707	901	

EXPENDITURE

1. Public lighting and water supply	81	70	104	93	85	88	
2. Drainage, conservancy and sanitation	324	352	317	373	474	464	
3. Hospital dispensaries and vaccinations	—	—	—	1	—	—	

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4. Public institutions		127	146	177	226	196	139
5. Miscellaneous		268	360	319	453	400	384
6. Roads		80	288	274	3	—	—
7. Others		202	50	2	—	—	77
8. Payment of sinking fund and suspense account		—	—	—	36	76	20
9. Other expenditure		1949	39	—	—	—	43
Total		3031	1305	1193	1185	1231	1215

APPENDIX II

Details about Panchayat Samitis—District Sikar¹

S.No.	Name of Panchayat Samiti	No. of Panchayats	No. of Nyaya Panchayats	No. of members (Sarpanch, members, M.P. & M.L.A.)	No. of villages
1.	Fatehpur	35	7	42	135
2.	Lachhmangarh	37	7	46	121
3.	Dhod	37	7	46	101
4.	Piprali	29	8	40	73
5.	Danta Ramgarh	42	8	51	115
6.	Sri Madhopur	28	5	37	49
7.	Khandela	37	7	47	118
8.	Neem-ka-Thana	47	9	57	121

1. Source : Offices of the Panchayat Samitis, Sikar.

M. P. = Member of Parliament.

M.L.A. = Member of Legislative Assembly.

APPENDIX III Staff of Panchayat Samitis, District Sikar¹

Name of Panchayat Samiti	Vikas Adhi-kari	Agriculture Extension Officer	Education Extension Officer	Co-operative Extension Officer	Animal Husbandry Extension Officer	Gram Sewak	Vaccinator	UDC	LDC	Acco-unts clerk	Dri-Class stockmen ver IV
1. Fatehpur	1	1	2	-	-	10	1	1	4	1	4
2. Lachhmangarh	1	1	2	1	-	10	1	2	4	2	5
3. Dhod	1	1	2	1	-	10	1	2	4	2	4
4. Piprali	1	-	2	1	1	10	1	3	4	1	5
5. Danta Ramgarh	1	-	2	1	1	24	1	2	4	2	7
6. Sri Madhopur	1	-	2	-	1	10	1	1	3	2	7
7. Khandela	1	1	2	-	1	10	1	2	4	2	4
8. Neem-ka-Thana	1	-	2	1	1	10	1	3	4	1	11

1. Source: Offices of the Panchayat Samitis, Sikar.

UDC - Upper Division Clerk.

LDC - Lower Division Clerk.

APPENDIX IV

Income and expenditure of Panchayat Samitis of Sikar district during the year 1964-65 to 1972-73
(Rs.)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1. Fatehpur		
1964-65	4,01,242	3,60,321
1965-66	6,65,964	4,36,947
1966-67	4,61,525	4,61,525
1967-68	5,35,128	5,35,128
1968-69	8,71,639	3,00,000
1969-70	5,38,496	4,52,480
1970-71	8,05,531	6,09,214
1971-72	7,75,602	5,25,865
1972-73	6,73,616	6,73,616
2. Dhod		
1964-65	5,58,577	7,10,165
1965-66	6,61,642	6,24,681
1966-67	6,19,804	6,10,944
1967-68	7,20,375	6,67,565
1968-69	9,69,251	8,75,530
1969-70	8,68,684	10,96,491
1970-71	8,84,390	7,21,063
1971-72	9,16,076	8,87,722
1972-73	8,77,183	10,05,630
3. Piprali		
1964-65	4,63,532	6,22,779
1965-66	6,50,209	8,14,673
1966-67	6,67,970	7,76,245
1967-68	8,82,032	7,26,402
1968-69	7,37,306	8,31,059
1969-70	6,94,691	7,81,840
1970-71	7,47,940	6,63,027

APPENDIX IV (Contd.)

1	3	3
1971-72	7,29,010	7,15,270
1972-73	8,09,834	8,23,408
4. Danta Ramgarh		
1964-65	4,92,538	5,80,502
1965-66	7,47,547	6,57,826
1966-67	8,91,365	8,64,293
1967-68	7,61,460	11,14,215
1968-69	7,77,526	7,47,372
1969-70	8,80,501	8,53,392
1970-71	10,88,734	8,58,325
1971-72	10,63,729	1,50,050
1972-73	10,54,954	10,39,765
5. Sri Madhopar		
1964-65	10,49,835	7,38,018
1965-66	7,75,724	10,88,974
1966-67	7,69,390	9,19,319
1967-68	7,36,729	8,31,489
1968-69	9,40,184	12,77,969
1969-70	8,55,575	14,42,851
1970-71	8,55,522	8,25,737
1971-72	8,11,212	7,76,703
1972-73	8,82,841	9,73,956
6. Khandela		
1964-65	6,42,714	8,98,970
1965-66	8,52,212	8,62,865
1966-67	6,78,831	8,16,062
1967-68	8,29,182	8,37,701
1968-69	8,46,426	6,74,022
1969-70	7,85,013	10,73,831
1970-71	9,43,411	8,95,565
1971-72	10,69,211	11,06,452
1972-73	11,05,243	10,14,462

APPENDIX IV (Concl'd.)

1	2	3
7. Neem-ka-Thana		
1964-65	7,37,555	2,04,609
1965-66	9,25,075	9,15,221
1966-67	12,07,533	12,46,180
1967-68	10,52,450	10,97,298
1968-69	9,31,205	10,58,482
1969-70	14,90,324	10,87,667
1970-71	10,49,860	10,23,220
1971-72	10,97,646	11,44,078
1972-73	7,30,105	6,39,921
8. Lachhmangarh		
1964-65	4,86,116	1,96,872
1965-66	6,00,303	4,98,344
1966-67	6,00,415	5,78,583
1967-68	5,72,762	6,32,521
1968-69	6,34,929	6,84,462
1969-70	6,29,459	6,84,462
1970-71	7,28,906	6,99,579

Source : Offices of the Panchayat Samitis, district Sikar.

APPENDIX V

Physical achievements in the Panchayat Samitis in Sikar District for the year 1969-70

S.No.	Items	Unit	Total	Fatehpur	Lachhman-	Dhod	Piprali	Danta Ram-	Sri Madho-	Khandela	Neem-ka-
				garh	garh			garh	pur		Thana
1.	Peoples' Participation	'000 Rs.	82	—	—	82	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Improved seed distribution	Quintals	2196	—	102	149	190	725	374	514	142
3.	Fertilizers-distribution	Quintals	12201	—	434	523	222	1100	2850	3183	3889
4.	Agricultural implements distributed	Nos.	838	—	79	30	182	10	23	108	406
5.	Agricultural demonstrations held	Nos.	154	—	—	84	8	20	30	12	—
6.	Insecticide/Pesticide distributed	Kg.	18964	—	23	14	5313	11959	50	1605	—
7.	Construction of new compost pits	No.	3683	80	570	1616	179	885	141	113	99
8.	Fruit plants distributed	No.	5987	470	—	863	1361	610	1450	1183	50
9.	Improved breed distributed (animals)	No.	24	8	5	3	3	5	—	—	—
10.	Improved poultry distributed	No.	2351	—	248	90	—	2033	—	—	—

RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTEERS—SIKAR

APPENDIX I (Concl.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11. Wells constructed for irrigation			No.	709	—	120	192	160	56	57	84	40
12. Installation of Pumping sets												
(i) Electric			No.	288	—	18	44	34	45	86	52	9
(ii) Diesel			No.	107	—	—	19	3	35	11	—	39
13. Area brought under irrigation			Hectare	1502	—	—	391	150	265	N.A.	456	240

Source : *Sankitiya Rooprekha, 1971, Sikar*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, pp. 106 to 109.
 N.A. - Not available.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Historical background

There is no record to reveal existence of any large educational institutions before the introduction of the modern system of education in the Sikar district at the end of the nineteenth century. The temples, mosques and *Pathshalas* were the seats of learning. The *Pandits*, *Maulvis* and *Yatis* were the teachers. Some of them imparted instructions voluntarily while others charged remuneration both in cash and kind. Educational institutions benefited only the students of the upper classes such as the land-lords, the priestly class and the mercantile community. The sons of these classes were taught reading, writing and simple arithmetic at the preliminary stage. At the higher stage, students were taught Sanskrit, Persian, Grammar, Astronomy, History, Philosophy and *Ayurveda*. The study of the religious scriptures was compulsory. Most of the educational institutions were run by the charitable institutions and public donations. The entire teaching equipment of these primary institutions usually consisted of a wooden board, *Khadia* and hand written books. The course of education extended over three to four years¹.

The modern educational system was introduced in the area during the closing years of the nineteenth century. In the absence of proper statistical record it is difficult to ascertain the exact number of schools, year of their opening and development from time to time. However, at the time of formation of Rajasthan, 69 primary and 11 middle schools were run by the Jaipur State. Besides, 74 primary schools and 41 middle schools were run by Sikar *Thikana* and some private agencies. There were also a few Sanskrit *Pathshalas* and *Ayurvedic* institutions which were managed and run by the philanthropists of the area.²

After the formation of Rajasthan, educational facilities have greatly expanded. In 1951, there were 124 primary schools, 34 middle schools and six high schools in the Sikar district³. Since then there has been increase in the number of educational institutions, students and teachers which will be clear from the following table⁴.

1. Source : The Office of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.

2. *Report on the Administration of Jaipur State, 1947-48.*

3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, pp. xiv-xv.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.

Items	Primary/Junior Basic			Middle/Senior Basic			High/Higher Secondary		
	1956-57	1960-61	1965-66	1956-57	1960-61	1965-66	1956-57	1960-61	1965-66
Number of Institutions	367	605	690	59	67	87	9	21	39
Number of Teachers	589	1,130	1,658	494	598	849	167	374	574
Number of scholars	15,101	35,080	58,723	9,157	72,774	22,494	3,299	8,533	13,032

LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

Literacy

According to the Census of 1951, the percentage of literate persons in the district to the total population was 7.90, the percentage of literate male population being 13.56 and of literate female being 2.08¹. The percentage of literacy rose to 15.71 (male 26.30, female 4.72) in 1961, which was just above the State average of 15.21, but much below the all India average of 24.00. The literacy percentage again increased to 19.61 (male 32.50, female 6.57) in 1971, which was a little above the State average of 19.07, but much below the all India² average of 29.46.

The number of literate and educated persons according to the Census of India 1961 and 1971 is given below³.

Year	Rural (Literate and educated)			Urban (Literate and educated)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1961	71,911	9,188	81,099	25,822	9,144	34,966
1971	128,886	17,457	146,343	42,061	16,110	58,171

Educational Standards

The educational standards of the people of Sikar district in 1951 were as follows⁴:

Educational Standards	(Nos.)		
	Persons	Males	Females
Literate	48,693	41,947	6,746
Middle School	2,022	1,957	65
Matriculation or School learning certificate/or Higher Secondary	1,450	1,426	24

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. 170-172.

2. *Census of India, 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics*, pp. 22 and 59.

3. *ibid.*

4. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, pp. 74-75.

1	2	3	4
Intermediate in Arts or Science	125	113	12
Degree or Diploma	1,228	1,141	87
Graduate in Arts or Science	194	186	8
Post-graduate in Arts or Science	34	32	2

During the 1961 Census, information on above pattern was not collected. However, detailed information about urban areas of the district was collected, which is given in the statement below¹.

Educational Standards	(Nos.)	
	Males	Females
Literate (without educational level)	25,822	9,144
Primary or Junior basic	984	179
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	2,235	125
Technical Diploma not equal to degree	18	1
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	153	5
University degree or Post-graduate degree other than technical degree	287	15
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree	243	13

During 1961, 97,733 males and 18,332 females were reported as literate without educational level, 6,215 males and 472 females had educational level of primary or junior basic standard and 5,912 males and 192 females were reported as matriculate or above².

Education of Backward Classes

* After the formation of Rajasthan systematic attempt was made to provide education among backward classes. The State Government provided special concessions to the students of the backward classes for admission in educational institutions, in payment of fees and granted scholarships to students of Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The Social Welfare Department opened some hostels exclusively for backward classes students in the Sikar district. Some details of hostels for backward classes are given as follows³ :

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 171.
2. *Census of India, 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. 170. Figures of 1971 Census regarding Educational Standards have yet not been released.
3. Source : The office of the District Probation-cum-Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.

	Date of opening	Sanctioned strength of hostellers
A. Government Hostels		
1. Scheduled Tribes Hostel, Sikar	1956-57	35
2. Scheduled Tribes Hostel, Neem-ka-Thana	1961-62	30
B. Aided hostels		
1. Krishna Chhatrawas, Sikar	1955-56	50
2. Gandhi Chhatrawas, Fatehpur	1964-65	35
3. Shastri Chhatrawas, Lachhmangarh	1967-68	35
4. Nehru Chhatrawas, Reengus	1971-72	25
5. Rajasthan Vidya Mandir Chhatrawas, Neem-ka-Thana	1955-56	32

The Government hostels are being run by the Social Welfare Department to provide educational facility along with free lodging and boarding facility to the students of backward classes. The students residing in these hostels receive free lodging and boarding, books, stationery, medicines, clothes and other necessary articles. Backward classes students are given scholarships during Secondary and University education. The Central Government also provides scholarships to students pursuing post-matric studies. The rates of scholarship of various categories are given in chapter 'Other Social Services'.

In 1972-73, the Social Welfare Department spent an amount of Rs. 1,61,040 on the maintenance of these hostels. The aided hostels receive grant-in-aid from the State Government. In 1972-73, Rs. 95,200 as grant-in-aid were given to aided hostels.

GENERAL EDUCATION

The administrative set-up of the Education Department before merger of the former Jaipur State in Rajasthan consisted of a Director of Education assisted by an Assistant Director of Education, three Divisional Inspectors of Schools, one Inspectress of Schools and a few Deputy Inspectors of Schools. The area of the former Jaipur State which is now included in Sikar district was administratively looked after by the Inspector of Schools Neem-ka-Thana. The educational institutions located in the area of the former Sikar *Thikana* were controlled by an Education Officer at Sikar, the headquarters of the *Thikana* administration¹.

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jaipur State, 1947-48.*

In 1950, after the merger, the educational institutions of the district were put under the administrative control of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar who concurrently looked after Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. The district was divided into four circles viz., Sikar, Ajeetgarh, Danta Ramgarh and Neem-ka-Thana for educational purposes and each circle was put under the charge of a Deputy Inspector of Schools who controlled the work of all government, recognised and aided schools of the district of primary and middle standard. In 1955, a separate Inspectorate was established for Jhunjhunun district.

The present set-up of the Education Department of the district has an Inspector of Schools, headquartered at Sikar, who controls the boys' schools except the primary schools located in the rural areas which are at present controlled by Panchayat Samitis. The Inspector of Schools is assisted by three Deputy Inspectors of Schools, and three Sub-Deputy Inspectors of Schools. The office staff comprises one office assistant, one computer, one accountant, one stenographer, four accounts clerks, two upper division clerks, 17 lower division clerks and 11 class IV employees. The Inspector of Schools functions under the administrative control of the Joint-Director Education (Boys), Jaipur.

The female education in the district at present is controlled by the Deputy Inspectress of Girls Schools, headquartered at Sikar. This office was established at Sikar in 1972. Formerly, Sikar district was controlled by the Deputy Inspectress of Girls Schools, Jaipur. The Deputy Inspectress controls all primary (urban area), middle and secondary schools for girls in the area and functions under the control of the Joint-Director, Girls Education, Ajmer Range, Jaipur. The office staff comprises one Junior Accountant, one office assistant, seven lower division clerks, one computer and three class IV employees. The territorial jurisdiction of the Deputy Inspectress extends over Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts.

In 1959, Primary Schools located in rural areas were transferred to the Panchayat Samitis which were established as a result of introduction of the Panchayati Raj under the Democratic Decentralisation Scheme. These primary schools are supervised by the Education Extension Officers. The number of Education Extension Officers is two in each Panchayat Samiti.

College education is controlled by the Director of College Education, Rajasthan headquartered at Jaipur. Sanskrit institutions are controlled by the Director of Sanskrit Education, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

In 1970-71, the position of the educational institutions in the district was as given in statement below¹:

S.No.	Category of Institutions	No. of institutions
1.	Colleges of general education	5
2.	Colleges of professional education	1
3.	Colleges for special education	6
4.	Higher Secondary Schools	15 (all boys)
5.	Secondary Schools	43 (36 boys and 7 girls)
6.	Middle Schools	95 (89 boys and 6 girls)
7.	Primary Schools	689 (651 boys and 38 girls)
8.	Sanskrit Schools	7

Primary Schools

At the time of 1951 Census, there were 124 primary schools in Sikar district². In 1956-57, the number of Primary/Junior Basic schools increased to 367, in 1960-61 to 605 and in 1965-66³ to 690. According to the district authorities the number of primary schools increased to 720 during the year 1971-72⁴.

Before the introduction of the Democratic Decentralisation the primary schools in the rural areas were being controlled by the District Board at Sikar. In 1959, following the process of the Democratic Decentralisation, all such schools were transferred to Panchayat Samitis. These schools get a grant-in-aid on 100 per cent basis for the salaries and allowances of the teachers. In case of other items of expenditure the grant-in-aid is provided on 50 per cent matching basis. The distribution of the primary schools in each Panchayat Samiti during 1972-73 is as follows⁵:

S. No.	Panchayat Samiti	No. of schools	No. of students	No. of teachers
1.	Fatehpur	91	5,692	176
2.	Dhod (H.Q. Sikar)	76	5,641	192
3.	Danta Ramgarh	96	7,841	219
4.	Sri Madhopur	59	5,524	156

1. *Directory of Educational Institutions, Rajasthan, 1970-71*, pp. 4 to 196.
2. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar, 1956*, pp. XV and XVI.
3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan* for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.
4. Source : Office of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.
5. Source : Offices of the concerned Panchayat Samitis in Sikar district.

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Khandela	76	6,290	144
6.	Neem-ka-Thana	102	8,101	256
7.	Lachhmangarh	93	7,260	172
8.	Piprali	63	5,420	171

During the years 1956-57, 1960-61 and 1965-66, the total number of students receiving education in primary/Junior Basic schools was 15,101, 35,080 and 58,723 respectively. The number of teachers imparting education in Primary/Junior Basic schools during the years 1956-57, 1960-61 and 1965-66 was 589, 1,130 and 1,658 respectively¹. During the year 1971-72, the number of students in primary schools increased to 59,932 and teachers to 1,697².

The primary schools are either full-fledged basic schools or primary schools oriented to the basic pattern and an integrated curriculum is followed in all the schools. Primary schools in the urban areas are controlled by the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.

Middle Schools

In 1951, there were 34 middle schools in the Sikar district³. This number increased to 59 in 1956-57, 67 in 1960-61, and 87 in 1965-66.⁴ In 1970-71, there were 95 middle schools, out of which 89 were for boys and six for girls⁵. The names of places where middle schools were situated are given in Appendix I. The number of students receiving education in middle schools during the years 1956-57, 1960-61 and 1965-66 was 9,157; 72,774 and 22,494 respectively. During 1956-57, 1960-61 and 1965-66 the number of teachers was 494, 598 and 849 respectively⁶. During the year 1971-72, 24,479 students were receiving education and 979 teachers working in the middle schools of the district⁷.

Higher Secondary and Secondary Schools

In 1951, there were six high schools in the Sikar district located at Lachhmangarh, Ramgarh, Neem-ka-Thana, Sri Madhopur, Danta and Losal. Besides, the high school classes at Sikar and Fatehpur were held in

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan* for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.
2. Source : Office of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.
3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, p. XV.
4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan* for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.
5. *Educational Directory*, op. cit.
6. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan* for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.
7. Source : The office of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.

Sri Kalyan Inter College, Sikar and Chamria Inter College, Fatehpur¹. This number increased to 9 in 1956-57, 21 in 1960-61 and 39 in 1965-66². During the year 1970-71, the number of Higher Secondary and Secondary schools was 58 which included seven secondary schools for girls also³. The number of scholars and teachers in higher secondary and secondary schools during various years was as follows⁴:

Year	No. of scholars	No. of teachers
1956-57	3,299	167
1960-61	8,533	374
1965-66	13,032	574

In 1971-72, there were 58 Higher Secondary/Secondary schools, 21,834 scholars and 973 teachers⁵.

The names and some details about Secondary and Higher Secondary schools in the district are given in Appendix II and III. The Higher Secondary and Secondary schools provide teaching facilities in various subjects according to the approved syllabus. These institutions are affiliated to the Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Ajmer.

Colleges

SETH R.N. RUIA GOVERNMENT COLLEGE RAMGARH (SHEKHAWATI)—This college was established in 1955 as an Intermediate College by the local Ruia family. In 1960, it was upgraded to degree standard. In the beginning the college had teaching faculties of Arts and Commerce but in 1965 the Science faculty was also started. In 1968, the college was taken over by the State Government. Since then the college continues to function as a government institution where education upto degree standard is imparted.

The college is housed in its own building which has 25 rooms, science laboratories and play grounds. The college has its own hostel attached to the main college building. It has accommodation for 70 students and facility of electricity and piped water supply. During the session 1972-73, there were 30 students residing in the hostel. The hostel is managed by the college administration.

The college library is located in a big room of the college. During the session 1972-73, it contained 7,889 books and subscribed to 50 periodicals in Hindi and English.

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, p. XIV.
2. *Statistical Abstract*, for the years 1958, 1961 & 1967.
3. *Directory of Educational Institutions, Rajasthan*, 1970-71, p. 114.
4. *Statistical Abstract*, op. cit.
5. Source : Office of the Inspector of Schools, Sikar.

The college had 23 lecturers in various subjects (21 males and 2 females), one Physical Training Instructor and a trained librarian during the session 1972-73. There were 311 students (309 boys and 2 girls) during the session 1972-73.

There are a number of literary forums and associations to promote academic life in the college. The Hindi Sahitya Parishad organises each year an inter-college debate named Seth Madan Mohan Lohia Hindi debate competition. One-act plays are also organised from time to time. A college magazine named 'Rashmi' is published in each academic session. The college has a company of 130 cadets of the National Cadet Corps.

There were 10 students of Backward classes receiving education in the college during 1972-73. They received an amount of Rs. 6,032 as scholarship during the session.

The Seth R.N. Ruia College, Ramgarh is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur upto Degree standard. The subjects taught are: Political Science, Hindi, English, History, Economics, Commerce, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology and Mathematics. Mathematics is taught as an optional subject in Pre-University Science.

SETH GORAKH RAM CHAMRIA COLLEGE, FATEHPUR (SHEKHAWATI)—The institution was established in a Brahmacharya Ashram by late Shri Rampratap Chamria. In the beginning education in Sanskrit was imparted in this institution. In 1925, the institution was raised to middle school standard and up-graded to High School standard in 1941. It was raised to the status of an Intermediate College in 1947 and Degree College in 1960 in which capacity the institution continues to impart education. The original Brahmacharya Ashram has the following chain of educational institutions all located at Fatehpur:

1. Seth Gorakh Ram Chamria, Primary School
2. Seth Gorakh Ram Chamria, Secondary School
3. Seth Gorakh Ram Chamria, College
4. Seth Gorakh Ram Chamria, Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya.

The present college building has 10 rooms, four well equipped science laboratories, one dark room, one store room and eight play-grounds for out-door games, the play-grounds being attached to the main college building.

The college had 15 lecturers in various subjects (all males) and 232 students (230 boys and two girls) during the session 1972-73. The college library is located in the Gita hall of the college which is looked after by a

qualified librarian. It contains 10,000 books and subscribes to 39 periodicals and three newspapers. Open shelf system operates in the library.

The college has its own hostel which is named as Shrimati Anardevi Sethani Chhatrawas and has accommodation for 40 students and facility of electricity and piped water supply. It is managed by the College administration.

There are a number of literary forums and associations to promote academic life in the college. The Planning Forum organises essay competitions, tours, lectures and village surveys in order to promote interest of the students in the development activity of the country. Cultural activities, debates and symposia are organised by the students union each year. An All India Radha Krishan Debate is organised every year in which students from all over Rajasthan and neighbouring states participate. A college magazine is published in each academic session. The college has a company of 100 cadets of the National Cadet Corps.

The Seth Gorakh Ram Chamria College, Fatehpur is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur upto Degree standard. The subjects taught are: Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Commerce (costing and quantitative methods), Co-operation and Banking and Taxation.

During the session 1972-73, there were 5 Scheduled Castes students receiving education in the college. An amount of Rs. 2,376 was paid to them as scholarship during 1972-73.

BHAGWAN DAS TODI COLLEGE, LACHHMANGARH—It was established in 1965 as a Degree college. It is run by Bhagwan Das Todi Charitable Trust, Bombay. The college imparts education in Arts (subjects—Hindi, English, History, Political Science, Economics), Commerce (Accountancy, Statistics, Business Administration, Economics and Business Statistics) and Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Botany and Zoology) faculties upto degree standard. The Todi College is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan. The media of instructions are Hindi and English.

The total number of students in 1972-73, was 309 while the teachers was 21. Facility is provided to the students for games and sports. There are seven play-grounds attached to the college building. The college building consists of 16 rooms, four laboratories and a small museum room where science exhibits are displayed.

The College library contains 6,285 books on various subjects. There is a reading room in which 51 magazines and all important national and regional daily newspapers are subscribed.

There are two hostels of the College; one is attached to the College in which 55 students can be accommodated, the other is located in the city. Both are managed by the College staff.

The College publishes a yearly magazine named *Deepak* and organises a number of co-curricular activities such as Inter-College Debates, Cultural functions and academic associations. Students also have a College union. There were 12 Scheduled Castes students in the College during 1972-73 session and they received Rs. 13,573 as scholarship.

SRI KALYAN COLLEGE, SIKAR—This college was started as an Intermediate College during the year 1947 and up-graded to Degree standard in 1958 and post-graduate status in 1971. Being a post-graduate College it is the premier educational institution in the district. Till 1958, teaching was imparted only in Arts faculty. Teaching in Science and Commerce faculty was started during the years 1961 and 1963 respectively. The College was started by the former Sikar *Thikana* which controlled it till 1954 when on account of resumption of Jagirs, the College was handed over to the State Government.

The College is housed in a government building which contains 35 rooms including rooms for library, laboratories, teaching classes, office and stores etc. Eight rooms are being used for laboratory purposes of Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology subjects. There are five play-grounds of the College for out-door games. A College hostel building is also attached to the main building. It has 20 rooms and accommodation for 38 students.

The College had 40 members on the faculty which included four female lecturers in 1972-73. The number of students in 1972-73 was 995 (951 boys and 44 girls).

The College library contains 22,000 books on various subjects. There is also a reading room where 75 magazines and 10 daily newspapers are subscribed to. The library functions on the open shelf system.

Shri Kalyan College is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan for degree and post-graduate teaching. The College imparts education in Arts, Science and Commerce faculties. Post-graduate teaching is imparted only in Arts faculty (Hindi and Economics subjects).

There are several literary associations in the College including the students union. These associations are: the Hindi Sahitya Parishad, Science Association and the Planning Forum. The College arranges debates, essay competitions, *Kavi Sammelans* and educational tours in order to promote co-curricular interest of students in the College. The institution

being a post-graduate college, research facility is also extended to students. A College magazine called *Nai-Chetana* is published regularly in every session.

The College has a botanical garden, a science museum in Botany and Zoology departments. The strength on the National Cadet Corps Company of this College in 1972-73 was 116 cadets.

In 1972-73, the College had 105 students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes who received Rs. 50,586 as scholarship during the 1972-73 session.

SHRI NAND KISHORE PATWARI, GOVT. COLLEGE, NEEM-KA-THANA—This college was established during the year 1966 with Arts, Science and Commerce faculties up to degree standard.

The College is housed in a government building which has 16 rooms, four laboratory rooms and an office room. It also has three attached play grounds for out-door games.

The College library in 1972-73 had 10,868 books on various subjects. There is also facility for reading room where 51 magazines are subscribed to. The College is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan for degree teaching in Arts (Hindi, English literature, Sociology, Philosophy, Geography, Economics, Political Science and History), Commerce (Advance Banking and Advanced Statistics) and Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics) faculties.

The staff of the College comprises 40 lecturers, one Principal and a Vice-Principal. The number of students during the year 1972-73, was 1,198 boys and eight girls. This number included 188 students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, who were paid Rs. 93,230 as scholarship.

The College organises games, National Service Scheme and National Cadet Corps. The number of Cadets on the N.C.C. during 1972-73 was 300. The College publishes a yearly magazine named *Abhivryakti* since 1967.

Professional College

SHRI PARSHURAMPURIA RAJASTHAN AYURVEDIC COLLEGE, SIKAR—It was established in 1942 by *Ayurvedic* physicians in order to promote education of *Ayurved* system. It was controlled by the *Ayurved Society Trust*, Bombay which still continues to manage its affairs.

In the beginning, the College was housed in a rented building but

in 1963 it shifted in its own building which contains 26 rooms. However, the out-door patients' ward still functions in rented accommodation. The College has its own play grounds.

The College library has 1,759 books and subscribe to 13 magazines.

The College had 9 lecturers and 210 students during the 1972-73 session. It is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur for *Ayurveda-charya* and *Bhishgacharya* course and to *Ayurved* Departmental Examination, Ajmer for *Dhatr Kalpad* Course. The College admits a maximum number of 40 students in *Bhishgacharya* course.

The College publishes a yearly magazine named *Ayurveda Sutra* and organises debates, symposia and other cultural activities.

Technical Schools

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, SIKAR—The institution which was established in 1965 is housed in a rented building. Training is given for fitter, turner, wireman, electrician and welder. The intake capacity of the Industrial Training Institute for trainees during the year 1972-73 was 24. There were six instructors for training in the Institute. Arrangements for hostel has been made in a rented building which can accommodate 40 trainees at a time. However, during the year 1972-73, only 20 trainees took admission in the hostel which is controlled by the College staff. The institute subscribes to one daily newspaper and a weekly magazine. Trainees are paid with a stipend of Rs. 25 per month, per trainee to one-third of the total trainees admitted to the institute in a session.

Trainees are prepared for the All India National Council of Vocational Training Certificate awarded by the Director General, Labour and Employment (Training), New Delhi.

Commercial Schools

The district possesses several commercial institutes which are privately owned. They impart training in short hand, typing and sewing etc.

ORIENTAL INSTITUTIONS

There are eight Sanskrit schools run by the State Government at various places in the district where education to boys is imparted up to Praveshika standard¹. Some details of these schools are given below :

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, CHAK-GOPINATHPURA—It is a

1. Source : The Office of the Director of Sanskrit Education, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Government institution which was started in 1948. It is housed in a donated building. There were ten teachers and 72 students during the session 1972-73. Education upto Praveshika standard is imparted in this school.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, SRI MADHOPUR—It was established in 1928. The school is housed in a donated building. Education is imparted upto Praveshika standard. The number of teachers and students in the school during the session 1972-73 was 12 and 114 respectively. The school library contains 655 books. It has a reading room where daily newspapers and few magazines are subscribed to. There were six students belonging to the Scheduled Castes in 1972-73 in the institution. They received a total of Rs. 220 as scholarship during the 1972-73 session.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, NEEM-KA-THANA—It was established in 1948. The school is housed in a government building which has 11 rooms and an attached playground. There were 11 teachers and 157 students during the 1972-73 session, of which 55 students belonged to the Scheduled Castes/Tribes and received Rs. 600 as scholarship. Education upto Praveshika standard is imparted here. The school library contains 1,139 books; one newspaper and 7 magazines are subscribed to by the school in the reading room. Students are encouraged to participate in co-curricular activities such as Scouting, Bal Sabha, Students Parliament, excursions and cultural programmes.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, GANESHWAR—It was started during the year 1955. It imparts education upto Praveshika standard. The school building was donated by the public. It also has an attached play-ground. There were 132 students and 12 teachers in the school during the 1972-73 session. The number of Scheduled Castes/Tribes students was 40 and they received Rs. 1,280 as scholarship during 1972-73 session. The subjects taught in the school are : Sanskrit, English, Mathematics, Social Studies, General Science and Hindi. The school library contains 1,691 books and subscribes to 10 magazines. Students take keen interest in cultural programmes.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, MUNDRU—It was started as a Praveshika school during the year 1953. The school building owned by the Government contains 16 rooms. It also has a playground. The number of scholars and teachers during the session 1972-73 was 168 and 13 respectively. The school library has 903 books. There is also a reading room which subscribes to two daily newspapers and eight magazines. There were 38 students belonging to the backward classes during the 1972-73 session and they received Rs. 240 as scholarship.

GOVERNMENT SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, BANURA—It was established in 1960 as a Praveshika school. The school building now owned by the Government was donated by local inhabitants and contains seven rooms. There are two playgrounds of the school. There were 118 students and 10 teachers in the school during the session 1972-73. The school library contains 115 books. Two daily newspapers and four magazines are subscribed to in the school reading room. There were two students belonging to the Scheduled Castes. They received Rs. 250 as scholarship.

GYARSI DEVI CHOKHANI SANSKRIT PATHSHALA, REENGUS—It is an aided institution which was started in 1931 as a primary school. Since 1963 the institution imparts education upto Praveshika standard. The school building contains 15 rooms and one hall. There are two playgrounds of the school. There were 10 students and one teacher during the session 1972-73. The school building also has a hostel building which can accommodate 20 students at a time.

SHRI SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, NECHHWA—This school started as a primary institution in 1944. In 1949, the institution was upgraded to Purva-Praveshika standard. It is an aided school housed in its own building which has seven rooms and attached playground. The school has its own hostel building which accommodates 50 students. The hostel has facility of electricity and piped water supply.

There were 229 students and 12 teachers during the 1972-73 session. The school library contains 2,659 books.

Besides the above mentioned schools where education is imparted upto Praveshika standard, there is one Purva Praveshika school at Ajeetgarh. It is named as Shri Jankinath Sanskrit Vidyalaya. It is a private recognised school being aided by the Sanskrit Education Department.

Sanskrit Colleges

SHRI KALYAN SANSKRIT COLLEGE, SIKAR—It was established during the year 1943. It is housed in government building which was donated by the former ruler of Sikar *Thikana*. It contains 21 rooms and an attached hostel building. Ten students can be accommodated in the hostel which is controlled by the College authorities.

The institution imparts education upto Shastri examination in the Sanskrit faculty. The subjects taught in the institution are: Sahitya, Samanya Sanskrit, Hindi Sahitya, English Literature and Political Science. The college is affiliated to the Rajasthan University for three years degree course of Shastri examination.

There were 135 students and 16 members on the teaching staff

during the year 1972-73. The college library contains 2,400 books, 11 magazines are subscribed to by it. Students of this college participate in provincial tournaments organised by the Sanskrit Department.

SHRI RISHIKUL BRAHMACHARYA ASHRAM SANSKRIT COLLEGE, LACHHMANGARH—It was started as a Sanskrit primary school in 1917. It was raised to Vidya Peeth standard in 1923 and the college standard in 1930. The college has its own building which contains 25 rooms and four attached playgrounds. This college is controlled by a charitable Trust named Shri Rishikul Vidyapeeth Trust. Since 1957 the State Government also provides grant-in-aid to the College.

The College has 264 students and 13 teachers during 1972-73 session. The college library contains 15,110 books on various subjects. There is also provision of a reading room where three daily newspapers and 32 magazines are subscribed to. The college is affiliated to the Rajasthan University for three years course of Shastri Examination, Ajmer.

The college has its own hostel building which has five rooms where forty students can be accommodated. The hostel has facility of electricity and piped water supply.

Students of this college participate in debates, dramas, games, sports and cultural activities. A magazine called *Sur Bharti* is published by the college.

SHRI BALDEO DAS BAJORIA SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, FATEHPUR—This college was started during the year 1943. It is an aided college housed in its own building. There are eight rooms and a large hall in the college building. A small playground is attached to the college. The college is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan upto Shastri and Acharya standard and upto Upadhyaya standard to the Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer.

The college had 32 students and five members on the teaching staff during 1972-73 session. The college library had 1,375 books in 1972. Some magazines and daily newspapers are also subscribed to.

The college has its own hostel building with accommodation for 15 students at a time. It is managed by the college authorities.

National Cadet Corps

The 19th Rajasthan Battalion of the National Cadet Corps was started in the Sikar district in the year 1964. It was raised under N.C.C. Group Headquarters, Pilani. In the beginning it consisted of 10 N.C.C. officers and 1700 cadets in the senior division and 13 N.C.C. officers and 1300 cadets in the junior division located at different places in the district. Due to

reorganisation in 1968-69, the N.C.C. organisation of Sikar district was placed under the command and control of N.C.C. Group Headquarters, Jaipur. During 1971, the strength of N.C.C. Battalion was re-determined. The senior division comprised 8 N.C.C. officers and 1200 cadets and the junior division comprised 8 N.C.C. officers and 800 N.C.C. cadets. The strength of N.C.C. officers and cadets in Sikar from 1964-65 to 1972-73 was as under¹:

Year	Junior Division		Senior Division	
	Officers	Cadets	Officers	Cadets
1964-65	13	1,300	10	1,800
1965-66	13	1,300	10	1,800
1966-67	8	800	11	2,000
1967-68	7	700	11	2,000
1968-69	5	500	11	2,000
1969-70	5	500	6	1,000
1970-71	8	800	6	1,200
1971-72	8	800	6	1,200
1972-73	8	800	6	1,200

During national emergencies in 1965 and 1971, the N.C.C. Cadets performed security duties at vulnerable points and engaged themselves in civil defence programmes.

SOCIAL EDUCATION

Social education programme in Rajasthan was taken up during the First Five Year Plan period. A Chief Social Education Officer in Community Development project areas and Adult Education Extension Officers for promotion of literacy among adults were appointed in Rajasthan. The posts of Adult Education Extension Officers were abolished in the year 1961-62. At present the youth centres in the villages organise cultural activities. In 1972-73, there were 109 Youth Centres, 36 Mahila mandals, 28 *Gram Sathin* and 17 *Gram Kakis* in the district to implement adult education activities through the administrative machinery of Panchayat Samitis. The Panchayat Samiti Lachhmangarh has a film projector which is used for exhibiting films on educational and cultural topics. 153 libraries/reading rooms have been set-up in the rural areas which are used as medium of promoting interest in literacy among rural population. These libraries are managed by headmasters of primary schools.

Adult education centres are established to disseminate literacy

1. Source : Office of the Officer Commanding, 19th Rajasthan, N.C.C. Battalion, Sikar.

among the adults. The centres are located in the Panchayat Samiti-area. The number of adult education centres and adults educated during the year 1966-67 (Panchayat Samiti-wise) is given below¹:

S.No.	Name of the Panchayat Samiti	Adult Education Centres	Literates
1.	Danta Ramgarh	nil	Nil
2.	Dhod (H.Q. Sikar)	55	560
3.	Fatehpur	20	467
4.	Khandela	Nil	Nil
5.	Lachhmangarh	43	689
6.	Neem-ka-Thana	10	447
7.	Piprali	7	92
8.	Sri Madhopur	Nil	Nil

CULTURE

Literature

Although most of the area in the district is desert and uninviting, even then literary activities received impetus during mediaeval and modern times. The area produced a number of poets and authors of repute in Hindi and Sanskrit literature. Some details of literary personalities of the Sikar district are given below²:

SHRI AGRADAS (1570-1660 v.s.)—He was a resident of Rewasa village and belonged to Ramanand Sect. Some of his important works were : *Agrasagar*, *Ashtyam*, *Kundalia*, *Dhyan Manjari*, *Rahashyatraya* and *Shrutitu Padavali*.

SHRI DEVI DAS (1578-1664 v.s.)—He was a minister of Raesal Shekhawat of Khandela. His famous work was *Rajneeti Ra Kavitta*.

TAJ (IN BETWEEN v.s. 1600 TO 1700)—Taj was a famous poetess. She was the daughter of Nawab Fadan Khan of Fatehpur. Her famous work *Bibi Bandi ka Zhagda* has recently been published and edited by Shri Agar Chand Nahata of Rajasthan Sahitya Samiti, Bisau.

SHRI SUNDER DAS (1653 TO 1746 v.s.)—He belonged to Fatehpur. He is said to have written about 42 books. His famous works were: *Gyan Samudra*, *Laghu Granth Sangrha*, *Savaia* (Sunder Vilas), *Sakhi* and *Pad*.

SAHAJ KIRTI (1661-1697 v.s.)—He was a Jain saint and a poet. He composed at Fatehpur the famous work named *Sabda Sadhnika*.

NYAMAT KHAN 'JAN' (1671-1721 v.s.)—He was the son of Nawab

1. Source : Deputy Director, Social Education, Rajasthan, Bikaner.
2. Source : Office of the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur.

Alif Khan of Fatehpur. He was a Kayamkhani Muslim who composed works on History, Ayurveda, Astrology and romanticism. His important works were : *Ratnavali*, *Laila Majnu*, *Kankavati*, *Budhi Sagar*, *Kayam Khan Rasa* and *Vaidyak Chitnama*.

SHRI CHATUR DAS FATEHPURA (1683-1700 v.s.)—He was a Dadu Panthi saint poet. He stayed at Fatehpur and composed a book named *Alka Das Skand Bhasha*.

DIWAN DAULAT KHAN (1683-1710 v.s.)—He was the eldest son of Nawab Alif Khan of Fatehpur. He composed a medical book named *Daulati Vinod Sar Sangrah*. His younger brother was also a literary figure of his time. He was known as Nyamat Khan Jan.

KRAPA RAM 'RAJIA' (1800 TO 1890 v.s.)—He belonged to Sikar. He was the official poet during the time of Rao Raja Devi Singh and Lakshaman Singh of Sikar. His works were : *Sorathi*, *Kavitta Chaule Rai Ka*, *Shyat Ritu Varnan*, *Geet Kavitta*, *Alankar Granth Pingal Prabandh*. His poems are still recited by the people because of their composition being in the local dialect.

SHRI RAM PRATAP MISHRA—He belonged to Sikar and composed a book entitled '*Kalyan Shatak*.'

SHRI GOVERDHAN MISHRA—He also belonged to Sikar and composed a book named *Krishnashatak*.

Other notable authors of the area were : Shrisar, Shri Sant Das, Shri Bheekdan, Charan Das, Balak Ram, Daya Sar, Balkrishna Das, Daya Tilak, Hari Nam Upadhyaya, Jagram Khidia, Chimanji Charan Rao Raja Devi Singh, Kavindra, Bhudha Giri, Chatur Das and Raghav Rasjan¹.

Among the recent writers were included Shri Ram Dayal Nevatia, Shri Ali Ram Mishra, Shri Ram Pratap Birjuka, Shri Keshev Deo and Shri Daulat Ram Chhajed. Other notable writers of this area were : Shri Gopal Nevatia, Shri Gopal Dimani, Dr. Ram Jeevan Tripathi and Shri Shiv Bhagwan Khandel.

Among the modern poets and writers the following deserve special mention.²

SHRI MADAN SUDHAKAR—He is a noted litterateur of the area. He is a poet of Hindi. He has published a collection of poems named *Vaidarbhi*.

SHRI SUMER SINGH SHEKHAVAT—He is a noted poet and writer of

1. Source : Office of the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur.
2. *ibid*.

the area. He has composed a collection of poems in his book entitled '*Meghmal*.'

MANGILAL JALDHARI—He is also a prominent poet of this area.

Other noted litterateurs of the district are¹: Shri Ganga Prasad Shastri, Shri Nand Kumar Shastri and Shri Natvar Joshi.

Literary and Cultural Societies

SAHITYA PARISHAD, LACHHMANGARH—Among the literary societies of Sikar district, the Sahitya Parishad of Lachhmangarh has a prominent place. It was established in 1950 by some protagonists of Hindi in the district. It had 31 members in the beginning which increased to 51 in 1973. There is an executive committee consisting of a President, Secretary and Treasurer to control and guide its activities. This organisation is a busy forum for development of local literature, folk lore and academic life of the area. The society organises literary and cultural programmes under its auspices from time to time². It organised a *Kavi Sammelan* and seminars in 1973 and published research publications named "Bhava Bhavani, Lachhmangarh ka Yashasvi, Brahman Samaj."

SHRI KALYAN SANSKRITIC RANGMANCH, SIKAR—In cultural sphere it is a prominent organisation devoted to promotion of fine arts and cultural life of the area³. It was established in 1953. It organises social and national festivals like *Ramlila*, *Kavi Sammelans* and cultural programmes. It staged a Hindi play *Talwar ka Dhani* in 1972 which was widely liked by the inhabitants. The activities of this organisation are controlled and organised by an executive committee consisting of a President, Secretary and a Treasurer.

LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

Besides the libraries maintained by the colleges and schools, there are following other libraries in the district⁴.

GOVERNMENT DISTRICT LIBRARY, SIKAR—It was established in 1956 by the Government of Rajasthan. District libraries in all the districts of Rajasthan were established under the Social Education Scheme undertaken during the last lap of the First Five Year Plan. The District library is housed in a private rented building. An information centre is attached to the District library where publicity material received from the Government of India and the Government of Rajasthan is displayed. In addition

1. Source : Office of the Rajasthan Sahitya Academy, Udaipur.
2. Source : Secretary Sahitya Parishad, Lachhmangarh.
3. Source : Secretary Shri Kalyan Sanskritic Rangmanch, Sikar.
4. Source : Offices of the respective Libraries, District Sikar.

to the centre, the library building has separate reference room, women's room and children's room. The total number of library books on the 31st March, 1973 was 8,560. The library subscribes to 62 newspapers and magazines of different periodicity. The total number of visitors during the year 1972-73 was 62,930. The membership of the library is open to public and no fees is charged except a deposit of Rs. five as caution money. The books of the library are classified according to the decimal system. Majority of the books in the library are novels in Hindi, English and Urdu. The library is controlled by the Education Department, and the controlling officer is the Deputy Director, Social Education, Bikaner. It is staffed with one District librarian, one lower division clerk and a class IV employee. The District library organises National Library Week from 14th to 20th November each year during which exhibition of books, films shows, *Kavi sammelan* etc. are held. In order to co-ordinate activities of schools and public libraries in the district, meetings and seminars of librarians are organised by the District Library. Short term training camps are also organised.

SARASWATI PUSTAKALAYA, FATEHPUR—It was established in 1910. It is the oldest, most prominent and well equipped library of the district. It is housed in its own building constructed in 1935 for library purposes. It is quite a spacious building which too is being reported as being inadequate for housing a developing library. The library contains about 30 thousand books out of which 500 books are rare and useful for research work. A few books are written on palm leaves. The rare old books are related to history, astrology and spiritualism. The library has a big central hall in which a reading room is housed where newspapers and magazines totalling 115 are subscribed to. The notable feature of the library is that there has been regular collection of newspapers for the last 60 years with the assistance received from the Central Social Welfare Board. A children's library and a small garden are also being maintained in the library building. The library organised social, cultural and national festivals. There is an executive committee comprising a President, Secretary and Treasurer to control and supervise the maintenance of the library, which is staffed with a Librarian, a clerk and a book-lifter. The library receives grant-in-aid from the State Government.

AZAD BHAWAN LIBRARY, FATEHPUR—It was established on 9th August, 1942 by Shri Sohan Lal Dugad as a mark of memory of the Quit India Movement, 1942. It is housed in its own building constructed in 1956, which has six rooms. The membership of this library is open to public and no fee is charged. There were 24,881 books till 31st March,

1973. Besides, 37 newspapers and magazines are subscribed to, in the reading room of the library. During the year 1972-73, 9,754 books were issued from the library. The number of regular daily visitors is about 52. Books are properly classified according to their subjects. Among the visitors of this library are generally students and research scholars. The library is controlled and maintained by Shri Azad Bhawan Mahila Kanya Vidyalaya Fatehpur. The staff of the library comprises one librarian, one clerk and a book-lifter.

SHRI NAVJYOTI PUSTAKALAYA, RAMGARH—It was established in 1918 by some enthusiastic young citizens of Ramgarh. It is now housed in its own building constructed in 1940 out of funds raised for the purpose from the citizens of Ramgarh. The building contains 14 rooms. There are 10,400 books in the library and 57 newspapers and magazines are subscribed to for the reading room. During the year 1972-73, there were 357 members of the library, the membership of the library is open to public with a nominal fee from 15 paise to 40 paise. However, life membership to a person is accorded on payment of Rs. one hundred. During the current year as many as 8,100 books were issued from the library. The number of average daily visitors to the library is 80. Library books are classified according to the Colon system and card catalogues have been maintained. The library is controlled by an Executive committee which is elected by ordinary members of the library. The library organises cultural programmes and assembly of poets to generate academic life of the town.

SARVAJANIK VACHANALAYA, DANTA—It was started as a reading room during the year 1945 but subsequently a library was also added to it. It is housed in its own building which consists of two rooms and one verandah. The library contains 1608 books. About 28 newspapers and magazines are subscribed to in its reading room. The membership of the library is open to public. A fee of Rs. 3 for reading room and two for the library is charged annually from its members. During the year 1973 there were 51 members of this organisation. The affairs of this organisation are controlled by a committee elected by its members. The staff of the library consists of one Secretary, one Librarian and one assistant.

VIVEKANAND ADHYAYAN KENDRA, NEEM-KA-THANA—It was started during the year 1972 and at present it contains 520 books, 20 magazines are subscribed to, in this library. About 50 persons daily visit this library. It is housed in a private rent free building. No membership

fee is charged from its members. The staff of the library consists of a librarian and a class IV employee.

SHRI GANDHI SMRITI PUSTAKALAYA, LOSAL—It was started in 1947. It contains 4,000 books. The bounded books and magazines number 168. It subscribes to 32 magazines. During the year 1973 about 3,000 books were issued. Collection of Gandhian literature is speciality of this library. About 60 persons visit the library daily. Books are classified subject-wise. The library has its own building donated by late Smt. Gulab Devi Khetan, which is adequate and fine one. The staff of the library consists of a librarian and a class IV employee.

Museums

In Sikar district there is no museum of the State Government. However, there is a collection of archaeological finds of the area stored in a building of the erstwhile Sikar *Thikana*. It contains mainly specimens from mount Harsh. Some local arts and crafts are also displayed here. Although there is no entry fee but permission of the former Sikar *Thikana* authorities is necessary to visit this collection.

APPENDIX I

Names of places where middle schools were situated in Sikar district during the year 1970-71.

Boys' Schools

A—Urban areas

(Towns and cities)

1. Fatehpur	Government	1. Fatehpur
		2. Fatehpur Mohalla Khatiki.
2. Khandela	Aided	3. Azad Middle School
3. Lachhmangarh	Govt.	4. Lachhmangarh
4. Neem-ka-Thana	Govt.	5. Neem-ka-Thana
5. Ramgarh	Govt.	6. Govt. Middle School, Ramgarh.
6. Sikar	Govt.	7. Sikar
	Aided	8. S.C.B-Maru Middle School
	Unaided	9. Kalyan Mal „ „
	„	10. Ravindra Bal Niketan
7. Sri Madhopur	Govt.	11. Middle School, Sri Madhopur

B—Rural areas

(Panchayat Samitis)

1. Lachhmangarh	Govt.	12. Kastwali, 13. Jajad, 14. Mangloona, 15. Khirwa, 16. Patoda, 17. Karoda, 18. Middle School Disnaw, 19. Rulyani, 20. Ghana(P.S.)
2. Fatehpur	Govt.	21. Rasulpura, 22. Gidiya Bada, 23. Thimoli, 24. Bibi-Pura, 25. Roshanwa, 26. Garwda, 27. Dhadhau (P.S.)
3. Piprali	Govt.	28. Piprali, 29. Raghunathgarh, 30. Rewasa, 31. Har-dialpura, 32. Jerathi, 33. Sewghasan, 34. Kalida, 35. Katrathal, 36. Gungara (P.S.)
4. Danta Ramgarh	Govt.	37. Pachhar, 38. Khachariya-was, 39. Mandhasurera,

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

		40. Dingpur, 41. Govatee, 42. Roopgarh, 43. Manda Madri, 44. Sindhania Middle School, Jeenmata (Un-aided).
5. Dhod	Govt.	45. Dhod, 46. Dujod, 47. Siho- tchoti, 48. Bhairarpura, 49. Sihatbadi, 50. Khakholi, 51. Shahpura, 52. Manda- wara, 53. Mundwara, 54. Gothara Talelan (P.S.), 55. Agrawal Middle School. Sihatchoti (Un-aided), 56. J.L. Bajaj Middle School Sawali (Un-aided).
6. Sri Madhopur	Govt.	57. Manodi, 58. Mundnu, 59. Dhanij Jorawarsingh, 60. Ashpura, 61. Reengus, 62. Dadia (P.S.), 63. Rama- nand Middle School, Reen- gus.
7. Khandela	Govt.	64. Samrathpura, 65. Lor- wada, 66. Agloi, 67. Jajodsi, 68. Haridas-ka-Bagh, 69. Tuarli, 70. Middle School Koteri (P.S.)
8. Neem-ka-Thana	Govt.	71. Lakhani, 72. Bhudoli, 73. Chhala, 74. Ganwari, 75. Hasampur, 76. Manuda Khurd, 77. Raipur, 78. Rai- pura Jagir, 79. Sirohi, 80. Puranawas, 81. Choplata, 82. Naya Bas, 83. Bihar, 84. Munda Kalan, 85. Jeelo, 86. Tatera, 87. Pitampuri, 88. Narsinghpura, 89. Ganesh- war.

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

Girls' Schools

A—Urban Areas

1. Fatehpur	Aided	1. Kedia Balika Vidyalaya Fatehpur
2. Khandela	Govt.	2. Khandela
3. Lachhmangarh	Aided	3. Savitri Balika Vidyalaya
4. Ramgarh	Govt.	4. Sawai Ramgarh

B—Rural Areas (Panchayat Samitis)

1. Danta Ramgarh	Govt.	5. Losal
2. Sri Madhopur	Govt.	6. Reengus.

Source : *Directory of Educational Institutions, Rajasthan, 1970-71.*

APPENDIX II

List of Girls' Secondary School in Sikar District

S. No.	Name of the institution	Year of establishment	Raised to Middle/Secondary/Higher Secondary school (in the year)	Urban/Rural	Management	Boys/Girls	No. of student		No. of teachers	No. of books	Remarks, special feature
							Boys	Girls	M. F.	in the school library	
1.	Shri Ramrikhad Podar Balika Vidya Mandir Secondary School, Fatehpur Shekhawati	1967	Middle 1968 Secondary 1969	Urban	Aided	Girls	—	79	2	6	1320 Hostel (intake capacity-15)
2.	Azad Bhawan Mahila Balika Secondary School, Fatehpur	1947	Middle 1964 Secondary 1965	Urban	Un-aided	Girls	53	240	—	—	Building donated
3.	Shrimati Gulabidevi Bidawatiji-ka-Balika Secondary School, Sikar	1965	Secondary 1967	Urban	Aided	Girls	—	576	2	15	827
4.	Government Girls' Secondary School, Sikar	1942	Secondary 1958	Urban	Govt.	Girls	—	386	3	12	3314
5.	Government Girls' Secondary School, Sri Madhopur	1964	Secondary	Urban	Govt.	Girls	—	184	—	10	2830
6.	Seth R.N. Ruia Girls' Secondary School, Ramgarh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
7.	Raghunath Girls Secondary School, Lachhmangarh	1967	Middle 1967 Secondary 1969	Urban	Govt.	Girls	—	196	2	7	2655

1. Source : Offices of the Girls Secondary Schools, District Sikar.
N.A. = Not available

APPENDIX III

List of Boys' Secondary School in Sikar District

S. No.	Name of the Institution	Year of establishment	Raised to Middle/Secondary/Higher Secondary school (in the year)	Urban/Rural	Management	No. of Students	No. of Teachers		No. of books	Remarks Special Feature
							Boys	Girls	M. F.	
1.	Shri Gram Bharti Secondary School, Kothiyari, Via Necchwa.	1958	Secondary 1964	Rural	Aided	224	—	9	—	3,346 Hostel since 1958 (135 Boarders)
2.	Government Secondary School, Kochhor	1958	Middle 1961 Secondary 1966	Rural	Govt.	124	—	9	—	1,633 Building donated
3.	Shri Shyam Govt. Secondary School, Khatoo Shyamji.	1966	Secondary 1966	Rural	Govt.	207	7	12	—	3,258 Hostel (Intake capacity 18).
4.	Seth Shri Sukhlal Bharech Memorial Govt. Secondary School, Necchwa.	1958	Middle 1958 Secondary 1966	Rural	Govt.	205	2	13	—	260 Hostel is run privately
5.	Government Secondary School, Banura	1960	Secondary 1963	Rural	Govt.	225	—	10	—	3,291 Building donated
6.	Seth Harnand Rai Ruia Govt. Secondary School, Ramgarh Shekhawati.	1944		Urban	Govt.	198	—	15	—	5,068 Taken over by Govt. on 1st July, 1968
7.	Islamia Secondary School, Sikar	1926	Middle 1950 Secondary 1965	Urban	Aided	859	—	20	—	1,779 Donated building Hostel (50 Boarders)

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8.	Shri Rishikul Brahmacharya Ashram Secondary School, Lachhmangarh	1965	Secondary 1972	Urban Aided	64	—	7	—	8,222	—	—
9.	Govt. Secondary School, Chhaja Ka Nangal	1955	—	Rural Govt.	338	3	19	—	6,000	Building donated	—
10.	Govt. Secondary School, Kashi ka Bas	1931	Middle 1959 Secondary 1966	Rural Govt.	134	—	12	—	1,930	Hostel facility	—
11.	Govt. Secondary School, Abbawas	1949-50	Middle 1962 Secondary 1966	Rural Govt.	162	1	12	—	—	Building donated	—
12.	Govt. Secondary School, Bafranau	1932	Middle 1948 Secondary 1968	Rural Govt.	260	8	13	—	3,190	—	—
13.	Shri Ded Raj Khaitan Govt. Secondary School, Losal	1950	—	Rural Govt.	436	5	20	—	7,292	—	—
14.	Govt. Secondary School, Mau	1964	—	Rural Govt.	277	2	19	—	3,299	—	—
15.	Government Secondary School, Khandela	1920	Secondary 1964	Urban Govt.	444	4	19	—	4,131	Hostel (10 Boarders)	—
16.	Govt. Secondary School, Guhala	1928	Middle 1946-47 Secondary 1968-69	Rural Govt.	226	4	12	—	3,382	—	—
17.	Shri G.D. Ruia Secondary School, Ramgarh	1958	Secondary 1967	Urban Aided	375	57	16	—	3,091	Hostel (20 Boarders)	—

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
18.	Govt. Secondary School, Khod	1928	Middle 1951 Secondary 1963	Rural Govt.	315	5	13	—	3,885	—	—
19.	Govt. Secondary School, Thoi	1940	Middle 1944 Secondary 1961	Rural Govt.	311	3	13	—	5,331	Building donated	—
20.	Seth Rameshwar Lal Sahariya Govt. Secondary School, Garh Bhopji	1938	Middle 1956 Secondary 1960	Rural Govt.	211	2	11	—	4,539	Building donated Hostel	—
21.	Govt. Secondary School, Singrawat	1916	Middle 1946 Secondary 1961	Rural Govt.	214	3	9	—	5,000	Hostel(5 Boarders)	—
22.	Govt. Secondary School, Beswa	1938	Middle 1956-57 Secondary 1966-67	Rural Govt.	238	—	11	—	—	Building donated	—
23.	Govt. Secondary School, Patan	—	Middle 1956 Secondary 1968	Rural Govt.	369	16	12	—	3,200	Building donated	—
24.	Govt. Secondary School, Deorala	1961	—	Rural Govt.	249	10	13	—	5,081	—	—
25.	Govt. Secondary School, Kurad	1930	Middle 1961 Secondary 1966	Rural Govt.	101	4	10	—	2,058	Building donated Hostel (30 seats)	—
26.	Seth G.R. Chamria Secondary School, Fatehpur.	1926	High School 1942 Secondary 1960	Urban Aided	381	1	15	—	10,726	—	—

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
27.	Govt. Secondary School, Balaran	1951	Middle 1951 Secondary 1966	Rural	Govt.	253	6	11	—	3,549	—
28.	Govt. Secondary School, Neem-ka-Thana	1937	Middle 1947 Secondary 1964	Urban	Govt.	902	—	40	—	11,152	Hostel (20 seats)
29.	Govt. Secondary School, Kanwat	1925	Middle 1928 High School 1955	Rural	Govt.	456	15	20	—	—	Hostel (26 seats)
30.	Seth Ram Pratap Govt. Secondary School, Gurara	1929	Middle July 1950 Secondary 1966	Rural	Govt.	168	—	13	—	3,030	Building donated
31.	Shri Gandhi Kisan Secondary School, Jairampura	1940	Middle 1940 Secondary 1968	Rural	Aided	276	8	12	—	1,468	Hostel (40 seats)
32.	Govt. Secondary School, Palsana	1961	Secondary 1968	Rural	Govt.	238	5	12	—	3,467	Building donated
33.	Mahatma Govinddas Secondary School, Toda Dariba.	1942	Middle 1952 Secondary 1968	Rural	Govt.	138	5	11	—	3,086	—
34.	Shri Hindi Vidya Bhawan, Secondary School, Sikar.	1936	Middle Sept. 1945 Secondary July 1962	Urban	Aided	580	—	13	—	2,897	—
35.	Govt. Secondary School Bai	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS											
1.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Sri Madhopur	1891	Middle 1945 High School 1949 Higher Secondary 1970	Urban	Govt.	907	1	48	—	10,239	—

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Rashidpura, Khori.	1954-55	Higher Secondary 1959-60	Rural	Govt.	390	—	17	—	5,121	Building donated Hostel (16 Boarders)
3.	Shri Badri Das Bidawat Ji-Ka- Higher Secondary School, Sikar.	1929	Middle 1951 Higher Secondary 1960	Urban	Aided	569	—	14	—	3,500	—
4.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Ajitgarh	1872	Middle 1944 Higher Secondary 1956	Rural	Govt.	493	28	20	—	5,363	Building donated
5.	Shri Laxminath Vidyalaya Higher Secondary School, Fatehpur	1910	Higher Seco- dary (Commerce, Arts) 1958, & Science 1966	Urban	Aided	581	—	21	—	2,378	Two hostels
6.	Bagaria Bal Vidya Niketan Higher Secondary School, Lachhmangarh	1960	Middle 1.7.1961 Secondary 1964 Higher Secondary 1972	Urban	Aided	335	3	15	—	4,047	—
7.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Danta.	1970	—	Rural	Govt.	500	—	25	—	9,153	Hostel

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Danta Ramgarh.	1903	Middle 1952 Higher Secondary 1970	Rural	Govt.	352	15	19	—	5,371	Hostel (72 Boarders)
9.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Reengus	1955	—	Rural	Govt.	869	15	40	—	—	Hostel (33 seats)
10.	Shri Digamber Jain Higher Secondary School, Sikar.	1951	Middle 1954 Higher Secondary 1959	Urban	Aided	543	—	15	—	4,088	Building donated
11.	Shri Panna Lal Chitlangia Govt. Higher Secondary School, Sikar	1960	—	Urban	Govt.	324	41	19	—	2,295	—
12.	Shri Raghunath Higher Secondary School, Lachhmangarh	1915	Middle 1924 High School 1944 Higher Secondary 1958	Urban	Aided	867	—	27	—	—	Two hostels
13.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Kudon	—	Higher Secondary Rural 1959	Rural	Govt.	355	20	16	—	5,094	—
14.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Shahu Ramoli	1930	Middle 1950 Higher Secondary 1960	Rural	Govt.	432	10	21	—	2,371	—

RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTERS—SIKAR

APPENDIX III (Concl.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15.	Shri Kalyan Govt. Higher Secondary School, Sikar	—	Higher Secondary	Urban	Govt.	856	59	44	1	11,149	—
16.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Dabli	—	Higher Secondary 1960	Rural	Govt.	337	1	15	—	5,255	—

Sources : Offices of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools (Boys), District Sikar.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

EARLY HISTORY

Prior to the introduction of allopathic methods of treatment in the Sikar district, which was a *Thikana* of the former Jaipur State, medical treatment was mostly provided by four classes of physicians¹. Firstly, there were *Sadhs* or ascetics, who by virtue of their great piety and abstinence were believed to have obtained power over disease, as also over evil spirits, to which disease was often attributed in this part of the country. These *Sadhs* or ascetics used incantations, charms and symbols. They imposed restrictions on diet, as well as on pleasure and indulgences, and also many other rigid observances for the cure of disease. *Valdyas* or Hindu physicians were in the second category as common medical practitioners in this area. Their profession was generally hereditary, and ancient medical lore and books were often the legacy which were traditionally passed from generation to generation. They used to recite Sanskrit verses as guides to the selection of particular remedy, when they used to think that they were dealing with the disease to which these texts referred. Thirdly, there were the *Hakims* or Muslim physicians, mostly of the Unani school and in their case also, the profession generally passed down from generation to generation. Some of these *Hakims* travelled about towns and villages to obtain their livelihood. Next to this were *Pansaris* or *Attars* or druggists, at whose shops *Valdyas* were accustomed to sit and practise. They used to prescribe treatment along traditional lines. In addition to these physicians there were *Bairagis*, *Jatis* and *Sathyas* also, who used to do treatment in their own ways. *Bairagis* believed in driving out the disease by the aid of a *Jharu* (broom stick) and charms, *Jatis* depended chiefly upon the 'Amrit sagar'² and *Sathyas* practised reclamation of the crystalline lens in cases of cataract³.

Generally speaking, surgery was formerly practised by a very poor and ignorant set of men, known as *Jarrah*s or barber surgeons. Amputations were also performed by Rajput swordsmen, who could cut through a limb with one sweep. The stump of a limb so amputated was put into boiling oil to stop haemorrhage. The barbers in remote places

opened abscesses and set fractures in their own crude fashion. They exercised great influence over women¹.

Besides all these, the people resorted to temples, made pilgrimages and listened to any priest, who had a word to say on the subject of their disease, and adopted the advice of any plausible individual. All these practitioners still exist, but have less power and practice than they had in the past. Peasants still believe greatly in simple charms and opium. In simple cases of fever, diarrhoea and dysentery domestic remedies had no doubt been useful, but when the case was a serious one and the whole of the powerful artillery of *Valdyas* or *Hakims* was called into play, the danger began. The results of surgical malpractices were most apparent in such cases as badly united fractures, unset dislocations, mismanaged cases of eye diseases and cauterization of tumours. The mortality amongst infants was terrible and obstetrics were entirely in the hands of *Dais* or midwives of the lowest classes. The universal belief was that many diseases were due to evil done in the preceding birth, either by the sufferer or his/her parents, therefore the disease was beyond the relief of medicines.

The allopathic system of medicine was introduced in 1844 in the erstwhile Jaipur State with the opening of a dispensary at Jeypore (present Jaipur) by the council of Regency which managed the state affairs during the minority of the late Maharaja Sawai Ramsingh. Some wealthy nobles liberally opened dispensaries in their own estates. The Rao Raja Madho Singh Bahadur of Sikar opened a dispensary at Fatehpur and built a hospital at Sikar, namely Trevor Hospital which was opened in 1894² on a plan provided by Col. Jacob. There had been a good dispensary also functioning in the *Thikana* of Sikar since November 21st, 1875³. Out of the four hospitals in the *Thikana* of Sikar, one was financed by the *Thikana* at a cost of Rs. 19,751. The remaining three hospitals were private institutions financed by private individuals. By the year 1942-43 there were three hospitals and two dispensaries in the *Thikana* of Sikar and a new hospital was temporarily opened at Fatehpur⁴. This shows that the allopathic system of medicines hardly grew popular in the district.

Prior to the First Five Year Plan there were four allopathic hospitals with 30 beds in addition to three dispensaries, in the Sikar district⁵.

1. Hendley, T.H.: *General Medical History of Rajputana*, p. 11.

2. An abridgement of Susruta, Charak and other well known Sanskrit authors.

3. Hendley, T.H.: *General Medical History of Rajputana*, p. 11.

1. Hendley, T. H.: *General Medical History of Rajputana*, p. 11.

2. Hendley, T.H.: *Medico Topographical Account of Jaipur*, p. 11 and 82-83.

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 82-83.

4. *Report on the Administration of Jaipur State, 1942-43*, p. 164.

5. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, pp. vii-viii.

As great stress was laid on the provision of medical facilities under the plans, their number rose to seven allopathic hospitals, four dispensaries and three maternity and child welfare centres with a total bed strength of 87 during the year 1957¹. By the end of 1960² there were eight allopathic hospitals with 120 beds, seven dispensaries and three maternity and child welfare centres in the district. During the year 1959, a special maternity ward was started in S.K. Hospital, Sikar having four beds where pathological laboratory and X-ray facilities were also made available. Therefore, during 1960 the total number of beds rose to 124 in the Sikar district. Besides these, dental facilities were started in the district in 1959³. A separate ward for eye patients was run in S.K. Hospital, Sikar with 12 beds. A 20-bedded isolation ward for the treatment of advanced T.B. cases has also been functioning in the district since 1960. There were two anti-rabic centres and two Dais' Training Centres.

By the end of the Second Five Year Plan, during 1961, the district was provided with further medical facilities by increasing the number of medical institutions and their bed strength. Their details are given in Appendix I and II respectively. The number of patients treated there, in out-door and indoor has also been given in Appendix III.

During 1970 the number of these institutions increased and they included 20 hospitals, 3 dispensaries, 8 primary health centres and rural family planning centres, 5 maternity and child welfare centres, 1 urban family planning centre, 2 institutions attached to District Family Planning Office, Sikar and one public health laboratory at Sikar. Out of these hospitals and dispensaries, two hospitals and two dispensaries (including T.B. clinic, Sikar) were serving the urban areas and the rest were in the rural areas⁴. A list of these institutions along with the number of beds, patients treated and staff sanctioned is given in Appendix IV. Besides these medical institutions, there are six more medical institutions under the control of other departments and five under private management the list of which is enclosed in Appendix V.

Vaccination

No record of vaccination is available before 1860. Vaccination was

1. *Statistical Abstract Rajasthan, 1958.*
2. *ibid.*, 1961.
3. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. viii.
4. *Directory of Medical & Health Institutions, Rajasthan, 1971, Directorate of Medical & Health and Family Planning*, pp. 41-42.

introduced at the end of 1860¹ by Dr. Bur, who taught four men and employed them in the city of Jaipur. In 1861-62, three of these vaccinators worked in the State of Jaipur. The system of vaccination was believed to be discouraging in Rajputana. One female vaccinator was also employed from November, 1883 to April 1884². Before the merger, the vaccination system was very unsatisfactory.

With the advancement of medical institutions vaccination and re-vaccination were started in the district to combat smallpox and inoculation against cholera together with disinfections of all sources of water supply and destruction of over-ripe, under-ripe, rotten and decaying eatables. At the time of the Census of 1951, facilities of vaccination became available to the public throughout the district.

The number of cases of small pox which occurred in the districts of Sikar and Jhunjhunun during the year 1954-55 was 577, when the epidemic broke in both the districts. Out of these cases 192 died and 385 were cured. The total number of primary vaccinations performed during the year was 33,928 and revaccination was 9714, the total amounted to 43,642. During 1960-61 there were 12 small pox vaccination centres in the district, 4 of which were controlled by the Government and the rest 8 were under the control of the Panchayat Samitis.³

Longevity

According to the 1961 Census, infants aged upto 4 years formed 8.3 per cent (male) & 7.9 per cent (female); those aged between 5 and 14 years formed 14.6 per cent (male) & 12.6 per cent (female); and persons between 15 and 34 years formed 14.9 per cent (male) & 15.7 per cent (female) those aged 35 to 59 years were 10.1 per cent (male) & 9.7 per cent (female) and those aged 60 years or above formed 3.1 per cent (male) and 3.1 per cent (female) of the total population⁴. The figures for these various age groups are as follows⁵:

Age Groups	Persons	Male	Female
Total	820,286	417,763	402,523
0-14	354,909	187,554	167,355
15-34	251,092	121,976	129,116

1. "History of Vaccination in Jeypore", an extract from Annual Report of 1884 quoted by Hendley, T.H. in his *Medico Topographical Account of Jaipur*, p. 11.
2. *ibid.*
3. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. viii.
4. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part IX-B, Census Atlas*, p. 60.
5. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-B (i), General Economic Tables*, p. 12.

1	2	3	4
35-59	162,869	82,876	79,993
60+	50,885	25,080	25,805
Age not stated	531	277	254

The high proportion of children under 14 years of age, that is 27.16 per cent¹ of the population, is in the area where births outnumbered deaths and the population increased rapidly. While no conclusive estimate of longevity can be drawn, the sharp drop in the percentage of those above 35 years of age and the small percentage of those aged over 60 years indicate that expectations of life are rather low after the age of 35 years. This is because the people are generally undernourished. The vast majority being poor, cannot afford a balanced diet. Lack of literacy is also one of the factors leading to ignorance of disease and ill health.

Epidemics and Common Diseases

Small pox is the chief infectious disease that occurs in this district. Other epidemics and serious diseases like cholera and plague also occurred in Jaipur State. During the decade 1901-11, the Jaipur State suffered from three outbreaks of plague and one of cholera². The next decade (1911-21) witnessed the prevalence of plague throughout the first half of the decade. Plague reappeared in 1917-18 accompanied with influenza of an acute type which caused heavy mortality³. There have been only scattered cases of small pox in recent year. Respiratory diseases, malaria and dysentery and diarrhoea are the common and prevalent diseases in the district. Some idea of the diseases at present common in the district along with the causes of deaths can be formed from the following table⁴.

Year	Municipalities in the district	(Number)						
		Small pox	Fever (Malaria & others)	Dysentery and Diarrhoea	Respiratory diseases	Injuries & suicides	Other causes	Total registered deaths
1957	—	3	153	20	119	9	198	502
1958	—	31	70	12	69	6	67	255
1959	2	—	34	3	35	5	104	181

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part IX-B, Census Atlas*, p. 60.

2. Kealy, E H.: *Census of India 1911, Vol. XXII, Rajputana and Ajmer-Merwara, Part I-Report* (Ajmer 1913), p. 55.

3. Sharma, Pt. Brij Jiwan Lal: *Census of India 1921, Vol. XXIV, Rajputana and Ajmer-Merwara, Part I, Report*, Calcutta (1923), p. 27.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan 1958 onwards*.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1960	5	19	123	34	166	14	174	530
1961	4	30	121	28	136	9	232	556
1962	3	1	102	42	190	11	457	803
1963	5	12	141	22	89	6	305	875
1964	5	—	83	30	82	8	232	438
1965	5	8	98	43	87	5	231	472
1966	4	6	35	26	88	7	475	637
1967	7	16	173	27	125	28	303	672
1968	7	1	202	19	158	23	255	658
1969	7	25	117	32	110	24	221	529
1970	7	28	143	30	145	16	231	593

These figures show that the main causes of death are the small pox, respiratory diseases, fever (malaria and other), dysentery and diarrhoea, injuries and suicides. The following table shows the total rate of recorded births and deaths in the Sikar municipal town¹ of the Sikar district since 1954.

Year	(Number)		
	Registered birth and death rates—Sikar town		Death rate
	Mid year estimated population ('000 No.)	Birth rate	
1954	—	10.3	5.0
1955	—	4.3	2.1
1956	—	0.9	1.8
1957	—	5.6	5.0
1958	—	3.4	2.8
1959	—	6.2	2.3
1960	—	8.5	3.6
1961	—	15.6	6.5
1962	—	25.32	10.38
1963	—	8.91	7.25
1964	53	21.28	5.32
1965	53	11.3	4.1
1966	54	14.5	6.4
1967	55	18.7	6.1
1968	56	12.0	4.3
1969	57	12.8	5.2
1970	58	12.8	5.2

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan 1959 onwards*.

It transpires from the above figures that the death rate and the birth rate have been rather erratically fluctuating all these years. In terms of medical amenities, Sikar town is the one best served. It had in 1971, 2 hospitals, 3 dispensaries, one health centre, 1 maternity and child welfare centre 2 T. B. clinics and one family planning centre.¹ Sikar town provides for the highest number of beds per thousand population i.e. 3.99 (283) as is shown in the following table² :

Town	Total beds	(Number)
		No. of beds per 1000 population
Sikar	283	3.99
Ramgarh	22	1.46
Fatehpur	116	3.32
Lachhmangarh	30	1.35
Neem-ka-Thana	36	3.10
Khandela	20	1.60
Sri Madhopur	20	1.94

The incidence of dispensaries per 100 sq. km. is the highest³ in Danta Ramgarh tahsil i.e. 1.52. The treatment is free in all the government medical institutions. The total number of out-door and in-door patients treated in the institutions in the district for the five years ending in 1970 is given in the following table⁴.

Year	In-door patients	Out-door patients
1966	8413	511804
1967	8609	497737
1968	9955	514031
1969	4963	392489
1970	10217	527392

To bring uniformity in the administrative set up of the State of Rajasthan, Principal Medical and Health Officers were made heads of the Medical and Health Department at the district level. In the Sikar district, the administrative head of the Medical and Health Department has the rank of Deputy Chief Medical and Health Officer. A separate post of District

1. *Census of India 1971, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Sikar District, Appendix III-A, p. 4(a).*

2. *Ibid.*, p. (XV).

3. *Ibid.*, *Village Directory*, p. (xviii).

4. Source : Office of the District Medical & Health Officer, Sikar.

Health Officer has also been created under the Deputy Chief Medical and Health Officer, for rural areas.

A brief description of the Government medical institutions is given below :

Shri Kalyan Hospital, Sikar

S. K. Hospital, Sikar is categorised as a 'B' class hospital having 150 indoor beds. It is equipped with an X-ray and a pathological public laboratory. It has an eye ward and one maternity ward providing facilities for 25 beds and 16 b:ds respectively. A dental clinic and an anti-rabic centre are also attached to the hospital. The hospital also runs one family planning centre and also provides blood transfusion facilities.

City Dispensary, Sikar

Established in 1952 as a dispensary, it is one of the oldest medical institutions in the district. The staff of the dispensary consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurses Grade II, one auxiliary midwife besides two class IV employees. The dispensary is equipped with ordinary medical facilities. Neither it has an operation theatre nor X-ray facilities. The dispensary has one room for Medical Officer/Incharge, one store room, one dressing room, one dispensing room and one waiting hall for the patients. During the year 1972-73 the dispensary provided treatment to 32546 out door patients. In future the institution plans to have six beds and four wards for indoor patients.

Government Hospital, Ajitgarh

Government Hospital, Ajitgarh was opened in 1947. It is a six-bedded hospital with one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two grade II male nurses and one *Dai*. During 1972-73, 64 indoor patients and 14545 out-door patients were treated in this hospital.

Government Hospital, Kanwat

This hospital is known as Seth Makhan Lal Hari Narayan Rajkiya Chikitsalay Kanwat. It was opened on 14.9.1950 and since then no upgrading has been done. A 12-bedded ward was sanctioned to this hospital in the year 1954. There are six rooms with two store rooms and three residential quarters in the main building of the hospital. The hospital has 7 wards with 12 sanctioned beds. One of the six rooms in the main building is used as a small operation theatre. Its staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two II grade male nurses, one nurse *Dai* and three class IV servants. The number of patients treated as indoor and out-door patients was 554 and 18311 during 1972 and 662 and 20128 respectively during 1973.

Government Hospital, Sirohi

The hospital, established in 1958 is known as Rajkiya Chikitsalay, Sirohi. It was electrified in 1972. This hospital is situated on the main road and its main building has twelve rooms of varying sizes. It has attached bathrooms and latrines with a female ward. The hospital has quarters, one for medical officer/incharge, one for a male nurse, one for a *Dai* and three for class IV employees. It has been sanctioned 6 in-door beds during 1960. The hospital has one male ward, one female ward, one labour room-cum-operation theatre and nine other rooms. The sanctioned and working staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurse II grade, one nurse *Dai*, three class IV servants and one sweeper. During 1972-73 the number of in-door and out-door patients treated in the hospital was 1154 and 31424 respectively. Persons who gave money for the building of the hospital are ready to provide X-ray machine and equipment for laboratory if approached and a donation deed is signed.

Government Hospital, Khachariyawas

The hospital, known as Ganga Bux Government Hospital, was reopened on 3.3.1958 in a donated building as the former dispensary was closed with the merger of the *Thikana* of Sikar. The old building had only three rooms and an open space which was insufficient for the hospital. Therefore, after five years new rooms have been constructed out of the funds raised by the public. One of these rooms is used for out-door patients, one for dispensary, one as a dressing room, one as a store and two are used as wards. In the year 1970 again donations were collected by the public to construct a latrine, a bathroom and a kitchen. The present staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse II grade, one *Dai* and four class IV servants. The hospital is provided with 6 beds for emergency purposes. During 1972 and 1973, 14880 and 22071 out-door patients and four and one in-door patients were treated in the hospital respectively.

Government Hospital, Dabla

This hospital was opened on 21st July, 1960 in a donated building which has got two wards, seven rooms, one well, one water tank, two bath rooms and a kitchen. The staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurses II grade, one *Dai* and four class IV employees. Staff quarters were also provided in the building. The hospital has eight beds and laboratory facilities also. During 1972, 25 in-door and 13,839 out-door patients and during 1973, only 3838 out-door patients were treated in the hospital.

Government Hospital, Kochhor

Smt. Malkhu Devi Jain Government Hospital, Kochhor was opened on 26th March, 1962 in a building donated by an individual. The hospital building has one consulting room, one dressing room, one dispensing room, two wards—one for males and another for females, one examination room and four store rooms. There are three staff quarters attached to the hospital. Equipment for minor surgical works is available. The staff of the hospital consists of one doctor, two II grade male nurses, one auxiliary nurse midwife and four class IV servants. The number of beds during 1972-73 was six. During 1972-73 the number of in-door and outdoor patients treated was 21 and 5,596 respectively.

Government Hospital, Patan

Established on 24th August, 1961, the hospital is known as Shri Mool Chand Diwan Hospital. The hospital has been provided with 5 rooms for wards, five rooms for out-door patients, one room for store and three quarters for doctor, compounder and *Dai* respectively. There is a provision of six beds in the hospital. Its staff consists of one Medical Officer, one male nurse, one *Dai* and four class IV servants. The hospital has been provided with the in-door facilities for six beds. During the years 1972 and 1973 the number of in-door patients was 71 and 103 and that of out-door patients was 8,911 and 9,167 respectively. A primary health centre and a Rural Family Planning Centre are also attached to the hospital.

Government Dispensary, Phagalwa

Established on 27th November, 1971 in a donated building, it is fully equipped with medical facilities. The dispensary has been provided with two wards and six rooms having facility for four beds. Its staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse II grade, one auxiliary health worker against the post of male nurse II grade, one auxiliary nurse midwife, three class IV employees and one part-time sweeper. During the years 1972 and 1973 the attendance of in-door patients treated was 242 and 250 and that of out-door patients treated was 9,152 and 9,526 respectively.

Aid Post, Thoi

In 1947, it was opened as a travelling dispensary and later on in 1961, was converted into Aid Post. Its staff consists of one male nurse I grade, one class IV employee and one part-time sweeper. During 1972-73, the number of out-door patients treated was 19,214.

Aid Post, Bihar

Government Aid Post Bihar was established on 6th April 1959.

The staff consists of one male nurse II grade, one class IV employee and one part-time sweeper. During 1972-73, 9,793 out-door patients were treated.

Government Hospital, Sri Madhopur

It is an old hospital which has four wards with ten beds, one theatre for minor operations and a few residential quarters for its staff. Its staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurses grade II and one auxiliary nurse midwife. It is equipped with a refrigerator also. The total number of patients treated in out-door and in-door wards was 28,429 and 221 respectively during the year 1972-73. A primary health centre and a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre are attached to the hospital.

Government Hospital, Losal

The hospital at Losal was established on 3rd April, 1954. Subsequently it was electrified and developed further with the help of the public at large. The hospital has been provided with a donated building which has good accommodation. There are four residential quarters in the hospital premises for the staff. There are 2 big wards, each having 10 beds; and 12 rooms for different purposes. One labour room and one big maternity ward are also available in the hospital. The staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurses II grade, one *Dai* and three class IV employees. The number of beds during 1972-73 was twenty. During 1972-73 the number of out-door and in-door patients treated was 16,064 and 81 respectively. It has one primary health centre and one Maternity and Child Welfare Centre attached to it.

Government Hospital, Ramgarh

This hospital was opened on 18th August, 1959. It has three wards, six rooms and one operation theatre. The staff of the hospital includes two Civil Assistant Surgeons, three male nurses II grade, two male nurses III grade, one X-ray technician, six class IV employees, two auxiliary nurse midwives, one health inspector, two block health workers, and one vaccinator. The hospital was started with a bed strength of 12, thereafter 12 beds were donated by an individual as such the bed strength increased to twenty four. During 1972-73, 515 in-door patients and 16619 out-door patients have been treated in the hospital. The hospital has the facilities of X-ray and pathological laboratory.

Government Hospital, Khandela

The hospital was opened in June 1947 in an old building of a rest house donated by the ex-ruler. In the beginning the hospital had a few facilities only. Later on, the hospital was provided with one

general ward, two big rooms and one operation theatre. The staff includes one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse II grade, one *Dai*, one auxiliary nurse midwife (family planning), one vaccinator and three class IV employees. The hospital has accommodation for 6 beds. The number of patients during 1972-73 was 34,593 out-door and 158 in-door. The hospital has been provided with pathological laboratory facilities, a family planning centre is also attached to it. Anti-rabic centre has been functioning in the hospital since 30.3.1961.

Government Hospital, Reengus

In this hospital an anti-rabic centre has been functioning since 18.5.1964.

Government Hospital, Guhala

The hospital at Guhala was first opened on 17th March, 1956 as a dispensary. Later on, in April, 1959 it was raised to the level of a primary health centre and afterwards in April 1966 it became a hospital. The hospital building consists of six rooms for wards, four single rooms, two common rooms and one operation theatre. The staff includes one Civil Assistant Surgeon, three male nurses grade II, two auxiliary nurse midwives, one lower division clerk and five class IV employees. During 1971 and 1972 the number of out-door and in-door patients treated was 25,429, 22,540 and 363, 318 respectively.

Government Hospital Deorala

The hospital was opened on 19th March, 1962 in a donated building which had water and electric facilities. There are two wards, six rooms and one operation theatre in the hospital. The staff consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, two male nurses, one auxiliary nurse midwife and four class IV servants. The hospital has a capacity of six beds. During 1972-73, 108 in-door and 16,164 out-door patients were treated.

Kapil Deo Hospital, Neem-ka-Thana

Kapil Deo Memorial Hospital was opened on 28th June 1968 with a capacity of 25 beds. The hospital has two wards, nineteen rooms and one operation theatre. The staff consists of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, six male nurses II grade, two auxiliary nurse midwives and four class IV servants. The number of beds in the hospital was 25 during 1972-73. The number of patients treated was 586 in-door and 16,076 out-door during 1972 and, 180 in-door and 6,700 out-door during 1973. The hospital has been provided with an X-ray machine and pathological laboratory.

1. *Directory of Medical and Public Health Institutions, Rajasthan, 1971*, Directorate of Medical and Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 60.
2. *ibid.*

Krishnadevi Shankar Lal Dhanuka Hospital cum-M.C.W.C.,* Fatehpur

It was established as a dispensary on 13th October and on 22nd January 1972 a T.B. clinic and an urban family planning centre were added to it. The hospital has a well constructed and a well equipped building. It has two wards, eight rooms, one operation theatre and one labour room. The staff of the hospital consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse II grade, one lady health visitor, one auxiliary nurse midwife and three class IV employees, while the urban family planning centre has one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one Urban Extension Educator, one welfare worker, one auxiliary nurse midwife and one class IV employee. During 1972-73 the hospital provided facility for 10 in-door beds. The number of patients treated during 1972 and 1973 in out-door as well as in-door wards was 10,950; 209 and 8,318; 186 respectively.

Police Lines Dispensary, Sikar

The dispensary, established in 1948 is serving the district for the last twenty five years. Previously, the dispensary had one room only but at present it has four rooms and the facility of two emergency beds. Its staff consists of only one male nurse grade II. During the year 1972-73 the dispensary provided treatment to 4,203 out-door patients.

T.B. Clinic, Sikar

This clinic was opened in February, 1966 at Sikar. In the beginning X-ray facility was not available in the hospital and for the purpose of X-ray and screening, machines of S.K. Hospital Sikar, were used by the clinic. On 12th October, 1967 a miniature X-ray plant was provided to the clinic. At present a few rooms have been allotted to the clinic in a wing of S.K. Hospital building at Sikar, where the clinic is running with a staff of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, one male nurse grade II, three T. B. health visitors, six B. C. G. technicians, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, four class IV employees, one X-ray technician, two laboratory technicians and two drivers. The clinic has no in-door beds facility of its own. The clinic has been provided with all the necessary equipment, X-ray and laboratory facilities. During 1971 and 1972 the number of out-door patients treated was 850 and 838 respectively.

Government Dispensary, Hasampur

Government dispensary at Hasampur was started in a building constructed by donations given by the villagers. The dispensary has one ward and seven rooms. The staff of the dispensary consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse grade II, one *Dai* and two class IV

* Maternity and Child Welfare Centre

employees. The total number of in-door and out-door patients treated during the year 1973 was 100 and 7,025 respectively.

Primary Health Centres

There are 8 primary health centres¹ in the district for looking after curative as well as preventive public health measures in their respective areas. Their administrative control, however, rests with the District Medical and Health Officer, Sikar. Each primary health centre has attached rural family planning centre. Their list is given in Appendix VI. Details of the primary health centres are as follows :

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, LACHHMANGARH—Started on 17th October 1958, the centre received UNICEF facilities in the year 1960. This centre has got its own building alongwith the building for Rural Family Planning Centre to which two quarters for respective Medical Officers, four staff quarters for the staff of family planning centre, one quarter for the lady health visitor of primary health centre and two quarters for class IV employees are attached. The UNICEF has provided the centre with a refrigerator and a microscope. The centre has one room for out-door treatment, two wards, one operation theatre for minor surgeries, one dressing room and one dispensary room. It has a capacity to accommodate six in-door patients. Its staff consists of three Civil Assistant Surgeons, two male nurses II grade, one male nurse I grade, one sanitary inspector, three auxiliary nurse midwives alongwith one lady health visitor, four auxiliary nurse midwives and eight class IV employees. The total number of in-door and out-door patients treated during 1972-73 was 60 and 11,673 respectively.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, NEEM-KA-THANA—The centre was established on 26th July, 1957. One Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and one Rural Family Planning Centre are also attached to this primary health centre. This centre covers the entire rural area of the tahsil Neem-ka-Thana in respect of health, medical and family planning activities. The centre is well equipped with medical facilities and a building having one ward, four rooms and one operation theatre. Its staff consists of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, three male nurses grade II, four *Dais*, one auxiliary nurse midwife, one lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector besides one driver and seven class IV employees. It has provision for six in-door beds. During the year 1972-73 this primary health centre provided treatment to 109 in-door and 13,019 out-door patients.

1. *Directory of Medical and Health Institutions, Rajasthan, 1971*, Directorate of Medical and Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, pp. 41-42.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, SHYAM-JEE-KI-KHATOO—Established on 27th February, 1960 the centre shifted to its own building in the year 1963. The building is quite well equipped with two wards, four rooms and one operation theatre. The staff of the centre consists of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, two *Dais*, one lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector, one driver and seven class IV employees. The institution has a strength of 6 beds for in-door patients. During the year 1972-73 the total number of out-door and in-door patients treated at the centre was 9,524 and 86 respectively.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, MUNDRU—It was started as Primary Health Centre on 1st March, 1960 but later on in 1971 a Rural Family Planning Centre was also attached to it. The centre has two wards with three beds each, one small operation theatre for minor surgery is also provided therein. The building has staff quarters also. The staff consists of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, two male nurses II grade, five midwives, three *Dais*, one driver, seven class IV employees, two lady health visitors, one upper division clerk and one sanitary inspector. The primary health centre has a capacity of six beds and treated 79 in-door and 7,121 out-door patients during 1972-73.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, KUDAN—The centre was established on 5th January 1963 with two wards having capacity of three beds each. The staff of the centre consists of two Civil Assistant Surgeons, one male nurse grade II, three *Dais*, besides two lady health visitors, one sanitary inspector, one auxiliary nurse midwife, one lower division clerk, one driver and seven class IV employees. It has a provision of six beds for in-door treatment. During the year 1972-73 the total number of out-door and in-door patients treated at the centre was 16,695 and 235 respectively.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, PALSANA—Established on 18th May 1964, this centre was constructed out of the funds collected by the villagers. It has six rooms. The staff of the centre consists of two male Civil Assistant Surgeons, one female Surgeon in Family Planning, four II grade male nurses, one lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector, four auxiliary nurse midwives and seven class IV employees. This centre has been provided with six beds.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, JAJOD—The centre was opened on 21st November, 1964. Its building is still under construction. The staff of the centre consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one male nurse II grade, two auxiliary nurse midwives, two *Dais*, seven class IV employees, one

lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector and three auxiliary health workers. In 1972-73 the total number of out-door patients was 10,610.

PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRE, TAJSAR—Established on 31st March, 1966, the centre has a capacity of six in-door beds.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES—Child Welfare and Maternity work has been started in the district to provide better care and medical attention to mothers, expectant mothers and children upto a certain age. There are six such centres in the district located at Losal, Neem-ka-Thana, Sikar, Ajitgarh, Danta and Fatehpur with in-door bed facility. Their respective bed strength is 10, 6, 16, 6, 10 and 10.

However, in spite of the availability of maternity and child welfare services, indigenous *Dais* are still much in demand specially in the rural areas.

Family Planning Bureau, Sikar

The district family planning bureau was established in the year 1967 to encourage family planning which has been given an important place in the National Planning and is gradually taking roots in the district. The district has three urban family planning centres, two situated at Sikar and one at Fatehpur. The eight rural family planning centres are situated at Tajsar, Lachhmangarh, Palsana, Kudan, Khatooshyamji, Mundru, Jajod and Neem-ka-Thana.

The staff in these Rural Family Planning Centres consist of seven Civil Assistant Surgeons, seven block extension educators, seven upper division clerks, one lower division clerk, eight lady health visitors, eight computers, five drivers, twenty-seven family planning health assistants and forty auxiliary nurse midwives.

There is one mobile sterilisation-cum-Intra-uterine Contraceptive Device unit to make the family planning facilities available to those living away from the Family Planning Centres. The staff of this mobile unit consists of one Civil Assistant Surgeon, one sister, one compounder one auxiliary nurse-cum-midwife, one driver, one cleaner and one class IV employee.

In Urban Family Planning Centres, there are five Civil Assistant Surgeons (2 male, 3 female), three extension educators, two lady health visitors, three auxiliary nurse midwives, three family planning welfare workers, three class IV employees and two upper division clerks.

Achievements of the various family planning agencies in the district during the last one decade have been as follows¹.

Years	Sterilisation operations		*IUCD Insertions		Remarks
	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements	
1961	N.A.	305	IUCD insertion work not started till 1965-66 in the district		Upto July 1967 figures of Jhunjhunun district are included.
1962	"	644			
1963	"	1095			
1964	"	1090			
1965	"	775			
1966	"	226	N.A.	485	
1966-67	2484	566	"	117	
1967-68	4868	2035	11090	652	
1968-69	5095	1161	3057	402	
1969-70	3359	1353	1574	387	
1970-71	5071	1372	2266	339	
1971-72	3800	1472	1000	452	
1972-73	2800	1857	1930	453	

One public health laboratory also exists at Sikar.

Besides the State hospitals and dispensaries there are a few other hospitals and dispensaries as given in Appendix V. These are situated at Sikar, Reengus, Ramgarh, Neem-ka-Thana, Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh, the details of some of which are given below :

WESTERN RAILWAY DISPENSARY, SIKAR—Sikar Railway Health Unit (II grade) was established 50 years ago. It is working in a small building having four rooms, and one emergency ward with all medical equipments which are generally required for treatment. The staff consists of one Assistant Medical Officer, one pharmacist, one dresser, one nursing assistant and one peon.

WESTERN RAILWAY DISPENSARY, REENGUS—This Health Unit caters to the needs of railway employees and the members of their families residing at Reengus and other roadside stations. It provides out-door and

maternity facilities. The staff consists of one Assistant Medical Officer class II, one pharmacist, one midwife and six class IV employees. The hospital has been provided with one bed for emergency purpose and two beds for maternity cases. The number of out-door patients treated during 1972-73 was 21,771.

J.P. BHARTIYA HOSPITAL, FATEHPUR—This hospital was opened in 1928. It is a public charitable institution managed by a trust. The hospital has been provided with a beautiful building and staff quarters. It is equipped with an operation theatre, a clinical laboratory, X-ray and diathermy apparatus etc. The hospital has five wards, one out-door besides the kitchen and store. The staff of the hospital consists of one Chief Medical Officer, three Medical Officers, three clerks, seven compounders, two nurses/midwives, one engineer, two gardeners, two cooks, three peons, one *Dhobi*, 17 class IV employees and 12 sweepers. The original bed strength was eighty-six, but at present facility for 50 beds is available. The total number of patients treated during 1972-73 was 860 in-door and 27,200 out-door patients.

RAGHUNATH HOSPITAL, LACHHMANGARH—This institution was established by some local philanthropists on 17th October 1915 as an out-door dispensary providing free medical aid to the public.

This institution was shifted to its new building in the year 1945. Now it is a full-fledged hospital where out-door and in-door patients are treated. The old dispensary still continues its work in the heart of the town. The hospital has a well equipped X-ray unit, an operation theatre, a therapeutic laboratory and a sterilization room etc., which are sufficient for a 'B' class hospital. The hospital is situated in a two storied building having an open space for the extension of the main building and other related constructions. The hospital has three wards, one dispensary room, one dressing room, one operation theatre, one laboratory, one X-ray room, one store room, one office, one doctor's room and two other rooms for miscellaneous purposes. The hospital provides facility of 24 beds to in-door patients.

The staff consists of one doctor, two male nurses III grade, one dispenser, two dressers, two ward-boys, one lower division clerk and one sweeper. The total number of in-door and out-door patients treated during 1972-73 was 98 and 92,139 respectively. A maternity ward at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,67,000 is under construction.

Besides these, there are a few more hospitals in the district, namely; Government Hospital Danta Ramgarh, Kedia Hospital Fatehpur and H.P. Hospital Ramgarh.

1. Source : Office of the District Family Planning Officer, Sikar.

* I. U. C. D. — Intra Uterine Contraceptive Device

Shri Kalyan Arogya Sadan, Sikar (T.B. Sanatorium)

About four miles away from Sikar, this T.B. Sanatorium has been situated at Sanwali on Jodhpur-Sikar road. It was established on 4.12.1960 and inaugurated by late Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri on 15th November, 1964. The hospital building has different blocks, namely, Hospital block, Sat Sangh Mandir, Kitchen block, *Dharamshala* and *Harsh* Development scheme building. This hospital has got its own dairy farm, an agriculture farm, wells, gardens, orchards and a library. The sanatorium has fifteen wards, fifteen rooms and one operation theatre. It has 35 cottage wards also for which the rent is fixed at the rate of Rs. 3 per cottage per day. The staff of the sanatorium consists of three doctors, three staff nurses, ten assistant nurses, one dispenser, twelve ward boys, thirteen sweepers, three clerks, one storekeeper, two gardeners, mess incharge, farm incharge, and dairy incharge (one each), seven cooks, one driver and twenty two workers besides the other managerial staff. Though the sanatorium has accommodation for 200 beds for in-door patients but at present services for 150 beds only, including 20 government beds, are available. The sanatorium provides free medical aid alongwith milk and fruits etc. to 115 in-door patients. The expenditure for the sanatorium is borne out of the funds raised by Rajasthan Government, various trusts and companies. A pathological laboratory and X-ray facilities are also provided to the sanatorium. Since its establishment till 30.9.1973, the hospital has rendered its services to 1,445 fully cured and 296 much cured patients. At present there are 138 patients in the hospital. In future, the hospital authorities plan to increase the existing bed strength upto 600 beds to accommodate more patients.

Anti-Rabic Centre

There are eight anti-rabic centres in the district, one centre is attached to S.K. Hospital, Sikar which is working since State time. Two are attached to Primary Health Centres at Neem-ka-Thana and Guhala which were established on 9.9.1963 and five centres are attached to government hospitals at Khandela, Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur, Reengus and Kanwat¹, out of which two were established in 1961, three in 1964 and one in 1963. Only S.K. Hospital Sikar provides one bed facility for in-door treatment.

PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS

In addition to the government and departmental medical institutions there are medical practitioners also in the district treating patients either at their own residence or at their clinics.

1. *Directory of Medical and Health Institutions Rajasthan, 1972*, Directorate of Medical and Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 60.

CHEMISTS—There are 126 licensed chemists in the district.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

The *Ayurvedic* mode of treatment was prevalent in the past, and still continues to be very popular with the masses in the district. Even after the establishment of a large number of allopathic hospitals and dispensaries, it is still widely sought, particularly in the rural areas, where people believe that the indigenous system of medicine is better suited to their nature with the additional advantage that it is cheaper and the medicines are locally available. The Sikar district has always remained an important centre of *Ayurvedic* mode of treatment. Further impetus was given to the *Ayurvedic* system after the integration of the State. During the last five years one of the three *Ayurvedic* colleges in the State has been established here. Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial *Ayurvedic* Hospital has an accommodation for fifteen beds. The medicine for *Naharu* disease is also available in this district. The rich persons in the district have also helped in the development of *Ayurvedic Aushadhalayas*¹. A branch of *Ayurvedic* Department was set up at Sikar for looking after the *Ayurvedic* facilities in the districts of Sikar and Jhunjhunun. During 1960-61 there were 43 *Ayurvedic* dispensaries in the district. A sum of Rs. 5.80 lakhs and Rs. 0.52 lakhs was spent on Medical and Public Health and *Ayurvedic* facilities in the district respectively during the second plan period². In 1971 there were 71 *Ayurvedic Aushadhalayas* and their number rose to 80 in 1973³. These *Aushadhalayas* are under the administrative control of the District Ayurvedic Officer, Sikar. The staff of the District Ayurvedic office consists of one Ayurvedic Officer, three clerks and two class IV employees⁴. During 1972-73 these institutions provided treatment to 4,90,110 patients. The details of *Ayurvedic* and *Unani* institutions along with their bed strength in the district during the years 1956-57 to 1969-70 are given in Appendix VII.

SANITATION

The living conditions of the people throughout the district can by no means be called healthy. Lack of proper sanitation facilities and to some extent their ignorance are responsible for their unhygienic habits. Drains, latrines and urinals do not satisfy the need in the rural areas and

1. *Sikar Vikas Rajat Jayanti Smarika 1972*, Sikar Jila Parishad, p. 6.
2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar*, p. VIII.
3. Source : Office of the District Ayurvedic Officer, Sikar.
4. *ibid.*

people are not accustomed to use built-in latrines. The practice of using the fields surrounding villages instead of built-in latrines is in vogue.

In towns which are thickly populated, sanitary conditions are not good, but now the people have started realising the importance of sanitation for health, to some extent.

The public health and sanitation work in the district is supervised by the District Health Officer, Sikar. He is assisted by a staff of one chief sanitary inspector, one sanitary inspector, one lower division clerk, four drivers, seven jamadars and one hundred and fifty sweepers. Some of these are posted in local bodies such as municipalities and Panchayat Samitis. The Public Health Department of Rajasthan functions as an advisory body to these institutions as they are directly responsible for the sanitation work in their respective areas. There are six municipal boards and one municipal Council in the district located at Sri Madhopur, Neem-ka-Thana, Fatehpur, Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh and Khandela and Municipal Council at Sikar. Special staff is employed by these municipalities under the control and supervision of the sanitary inspector, to keep the municipal area free from disease and dirt. Village panchayats have been made responsible for water supply and sanitation in their respective areas. All the municipalities have tractors with trollies, *Thelas* (wheel barrows) and buffalo carts to remove refuse and night soil from the town. Public latrines and urinals have also been constructed by these municipalities. There are eight public latrines and six urinals in Sikar town which are cleaned by sweepers daily.

As in the case of municipalities in the urban areas, the village panchayats in the rural areas are responsible for sanitation work within their respective areas. In order to co-ordinate their work, a sanitary inspector is posted in every Panchayat Samiti.

As the district is thickly populated, there are slums also but no scheme for slum clearance has been taken up in the district so far because of financial shortage.

Drainage

Drainage system, particularly in the rural areas, is not satisfactory. However, in the dry areas water is absorbed without much difficulty. In the cities attempts have been made to improve both the closed and open drainage system. A scheme of underground drainage system has been launched in the district under the supervision and control of Medical and Public Health Department, Government of Rajasthan. The work under

this scheme, though started in the year 1971, is still incomplete. The area covered under this scheme is from Kalyani area-Bajaj road to Hardayal theatre¹ in the Sikar town.

Water supply

Very little was done towards the solution of drinking water supply problem for both rural and urban areas of the district in the past. Some arrangements were made by some philanthropists and institutions in some important towns by constructing one or more wells in their localities. During the First Five Year Plan, the water supply schemes for village Deorala of Sri Madhopur, Ganeri of Lachhmangarh and Mawanda-Khurd of Neem-ka-Thana tahsils were sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,02,000, Rs. 19,825 and Rs. 46,000 respectively but the actual sum incurred estimated to Rs. 5,992, Rs. 6,226 and Rs. 9,216 respectively². All these schemes were completed by 1971 except at Deorala where the reorganised scheme is still under construction³. Besides, a philanthropist completed a water supply scheme in village Losal of Danta Ramgarh tahsil with an estimated expenditure of Rs. one lakh. Various other schemes are under progress in rural areas under the village panchayats. Under urban water supply scheme, a sum of Rs. 19.09 lakhs for Sikar town, Rs. 9.84 lakhs for Lachhmangarh, Rs. 7.04 lakhs for Neem-ka-Thana, Rs. 11.68 lakhs for Fatehpur, Rs. 4.01 lakhs for Sri Madhopur, Rs. 1.74 lakhs for Khandela and Rs. 3.03 for Ramgarh were spent upto 1970 but the schemes at Fatehpur, Khandela and Ramgarh remained incomplete while the rest have been completed.

Anti-Malarial Measures

Anti-malarial measures on a war footing were initiated in the district in 1959, under the National Malaria Eradication Programme, which covered most of the area of the district by spraying D.D.T. The unit entered in the maintenance phase in the year 1967 and the malaria work was supervised by the Additional District Health Officer, Sikar. The staff of his office consists of three health supervisors, 41 health inspectors and 164 basic health workers. The health supervisor supervises the spray work in villages and inspects the work of health inspectors and primary health workers. The health inspector and the health worker are supposed to do 24 tours in a month as per their fixed tour programme.

1. Source : Office of the Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Council, Sikar.
2. *Census of India 1961, District Census Handbook, Sikar District*, p. VIII.
3. *Sankhikiya Rooprekha 1971, Sikar*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, pp. 128-129.
4. *ibid.*

A Mass Blood Survey was conducted at Khetri Copper Project and a camp was organised there. One malaria technician was appointed to examine the blood slides of Mass Blood Survey. Two rounds of focal spray were completed in the district and the third was to be done after August 1973.

The surveillance operation was started in the district during 1960. The details of the surveillance work are as follows¹ :

Year	(Number)								Total
	Blood slides collected				Positive				
	Active	Passive	Mass	Total	P.V.	P.F.	P.M.	Mixed	
1960	3111	-	-	3111	-	-	-	-	-
1961	32073	851	-	32924	142	88	-	4	234
1962	51519	4714	5938	62171	109	15	8	2	134
1963	71400	8411	7647	87488	10	-	-	-	10
1964	84362	8945	14024	97331	30	2	-	-	32
1965	95154	8447	2831	106432	11	-	-	-	11
1966	61999	5187	2365	69551	14	-	-	-	14
1967	36696	5615	5535	47846	51	1	-	1	53
1968	40602	3441	6330	50373	46	-	-	-	46
1969	79181	2409	5401	86991	45	2	-	-	47
1970	113482	7959	10958	132399	250	17	-	2	269
1971	90131	4270	9008	112409	748	5	-	2	755
1972	106347	6894	20884	134125	1495	92	-	26	1613
1973	108000	9136	25215	142351	2765	85	-	18	2868

B.C.G. CAMPAIGN

B.C.G. campaign was introduced in the district during 1965 and a team of two medical officers, one N.M.T.D., three T.B. health visitors, two laboratory technicians, one X-ray technician, six B.C.G. technicians, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, two drivers and four peons was detailed for this work. One T.B. clinic has been functioning at Sikar since 1966. One B.C.G. team is attached to T.B. clinic and works under the active guidance of Medical Incharge of the clinic. The number of T.B. patients registered during 1966 to 1972 is as follows²:

1. Source : Office of the Additional District Health Officer, Sikar.
2. Source : Office of the Director of Medical & Health Services, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Year	Number of patients
1966	539
1967	553
1968	1046
1969	933
1970	770
1971	850
1972	838
Total patients	5529

The number of B.C.G. vaccinations done in this period was: 185106 direct vaccinations and 1949 vaccinations after testing. Year-wise figures of direct vaccinations are given below¹:

Year	Direct vaccination
1965	3045
1966	6255
1967	27473
1968	26672
1969	45625
1970	23969
1971	20919
1972	31148
Total	185106

1. Source : Office of the Director of Medical & Health Services, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I
Government Medical Institutions District Sikar
(Modern Medicine)

Year	Under control of medical department				Under control of other departments		
	Dispensaries	Primary Health Centres	M.C.W. Centres	HOSPITALS T.B. Leprosy Mental Isolation	Hospital Dispen- saries	M.C.W. Total	Grand Total
1957	4	—	3	—	—	14	14
1958	6	—	3	—	—	15	15
1959	6	—	3	—	—	17	17
1960	7	—	3	—	—	18	18
1961	9	5	—	—	—	22	22
1962	10	5	—	—	—	24	24
1963	9	6	—	—	—	25	25
1964	3	7	—	—	—	27	27
1965	2	8	—	—	—	30	30
1966	2	8	—	—	—	30	30
1967	3	8	—	—	—	32	34
1968	3	8	5	—	—	36	42
1969	3	8	5	—	—	36	42

Source : *Statistical Abstract Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.*

M. C. W. — Maternity and Child Welfare

T. B. — Tuberculosis

APPENDIX II
In-patient Beds¹, district Sikar
(Modern Medicine)

Year	Hospitals Under control of Medical Department				Hospitals of Grand		
	T.B.	Leprosy	Mental	Isolation	Maternity E.N.T. Paediatric Eye Venereal P.H.Ca. Mobile General Total other depart-ments	Surgical Unit	Total
1957	—	—	—	—	—	87	87
1958	—	—	—	—	—	87	87
1959	—	—	—	4	—	96	100
1960	—	—	—	4	—	120	124
1961	20	—	—	22(18)	—	165	207
1962	20	—	—	22(18)	—	151	139
1963	20	—	—	22(18)	12	169	223
1964	28	—	—	32(28)	25	250	335
1965	170	—	—	32(28)	25	140	367
1966	170	—	—	32(28)	25	137	364
1967	20	—	—	32	20	312	384
1968	20	—	—	32	20	274	389
1969	20	—	—	32	20	246	361

Note : The figures in bracket in col. 6 show beds available in M.C.W. centres run by State Government.

1. Source : *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.*

E.N.T. — Ear, Nose and Throat

P.H.C. — Primary Health Centre

APPENDIX III
Patients Treated in Government Medical Institutions (Modern Medicine) under control of Medical Department
Sikar District

Year	In-door patients		Mode of discharge		Percentage of death to total patients	Out-door Patients treated
	Treated	Cured	Relieved	Died		
1957	2,386	1,611	493	207	2.2	2,16,903
1958	2,322	1,418	554	206	2.1	2,08,329
1959	3,044	2,172	464	293	2.6	2,79,640
1960	3,928	2,677	670	430	2.3	3,44,876
1961	4,709	2,965	935	544	1.8	3,80,323
1962	5,515	3,600	1,175	559	2.4	3,96,985
1963	6,301	7,288	1,173	434	3.4	4,50,406
1964	7,066	3,734	1,373	629	2.1	5,18,991
1965	8,061	3,288	1,130	478	1.6	4,80,273
1966	8,413	5,229	1,094	604	1.9	5,11,804
1967	8,609	5,805	960	576	1.25	4,97,737
1968	9,955	6,790	810	616	0.95	5,14,013
1969	4,963	4,131	321	565	1.77	3,92,489

Source : Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.

APPENDIX IV**Institutions Under Control of Medical Department¹, Sikar district (1970)**

Hospitals-Urban/Rural area	Beds	Population	Panchayat Samiti
1. Sri Kalyan Hospital, Sikar (L.X.)	98	50,636	Dhod
2. City Hospital, Sikar	2		
Hospitals-Rural Area			
1. Government Hospital Ajitgarh	6	4,181	Sri Madhopur
2. Government Hospital Kanwat	12	3,436	Khandela
3. Government Hospital Sirohi	8	4,223	Neem-ka-Thana
4. Government Hospital Khachriyawas	6	2,805	Danta Ramgarh
5. Government Hospital Dabla	6	2,171	Neem-ka-Thana
6. Government Hospital Kochhor	6	1,642	Danta Ramgarh
7. Government Hospital Patan	6	2,575	Neem-ka-Thana
8. Government Hospital Danta Ramgarh	6	3,353	Danta Ramgarh
9. Aid Post, Thoi	2	3,130	Sri Madhopur
10. Aid Post, Bihar	2	694	Neem-ka-Thana
11. Government Hospital Sri Madhopur	20	11,555	Sri Madhopur
12. Government Hospital Losal	20	9,019	Danta Ramgarh
13. Government Hospital Ramgarh Sethon-ka (X)	12	13,956	Fatehpur
14. Government Hospital Khandela	20	11,765	Khandela
15. Government Hospital Reengus (X)	20	7,286	Sri Madhopur
16. Government Hospital Guhala	20	6,820	Neem-ka-Thana
17. Government Hospital Deorala	6	5,808	Sri Madhopur
18. Kapil Deo Hospital, Neem-ka-Thana (X)	20	10,262	Neem-ka-Thana
Dispensaries-Urban Area			
1. Police Line Dispensary, Sikar	—	50,636	Dhod
2. T. B. Clinic, Sikar	—	—	—
Dispensaries-Rural Area			
1. Government Dispensary, Hasampur	—	1,896	Sri Madhopur
Primary Health Centres and Rural Family Planning Centres			
1. Lachhmangarh	6	18,484	Lachhmangarh

1. *Directory of Medical and Health Institutions, Rajasthan 1971*, Directorate of Medical & Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 41.

APPENDIX IV (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4
2. Neem-ka-Thana	14	10,262	Neem-ka-Thana
3. Shyam Jee-ki-Khatoo	6	3,680	Danta Ramgarh
4. Mundru	6	4,688	Sri Madhopur
5. Kudan	6	1,878	Dhod
6. Palsana	6	4,273	Piprali
7. Jajod	6	1,511	Khandela
8. Tajsar	6	1,038	Fatehpur
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres			
1. Losal	10	9,019	Danta Ramgarh
2. Neem-ka-Thana	2	10,262	Neem-ka-Thana
3. Sikar	16	50,636	Dhod
4. Ajitgarh	—	4,181	Sri Madhopur
5. Sri Madhopur	—	11,555	Sri Madhopur
Family Planning Centres—Urban Area			
1. S. K. Hospital, Sikar			
Attached to the D. F. P.O. Office, Sikar			
1. One Mobile Sterilization Unit			
2. One Mobile I. U. C. D. Unit			
Public Health Laboratory			
1. Sikar			

I. U. C. D. — Intra Uterine Contraceptive Device

APPENDIX V

Other Dispensaries and Hospitals in Sikar district¹

Dispensaries/Hospitals	Beds
1. Western Railway Dispensary, Sikar	2
2. Western Railway Dispensary, Reengus	3
3. District Jail Dispensary, Sikar	—
4. Sub-Jail Dispensary, Neem-ka-Thana	—
5. Sub-Jail Dispensary, Fatehpur	—
6. Municipal Board Dispensary, Neem-ka-Thana	—
PRIVATE	
1. J. P. Bhartiya Hospital, Fatehpur	86
2. Kedia Hospital, Fatehpur	30
3. H. P. Hospital, Ramgarh	10
4. Raghunath Hospital, Lachhmangarh	24
5. Shri Kalyan Arogya Sadan, Sikar	150
(20 Government Beds included)	

1. *Directory of Medical and Health Institutions, Rajasthan, 1971, Directorate of Medical & Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 42.*

APPENDIX VI

List of Primary Health Centres and Rural Family Planning Centres,
Sikar district

Block	Location of P.H.C.	Beds	Date of functioning	Name of Sub-centres Health Family Planning
Neem-ka-Thana	Neem-ka-Thana	14	26.7.1957	Ajmeri Guhala Maonda- Patan khurd Hasam- Ganesh- pura war Bhudoli Raipur Mawanda Toda Harijan- pura Kishore- pura Dabla
Lachhmangarh	Lachhmangarh/ Q/Veh.	6	17.10.1958	Palri Govti Necchwa Kochhar Bhoma- Bhoor wara Ramgarh
Danta Ramgarh	Khatoo-Shyamji Q	6	27.2.1960	Bai Danta- Ramgarh Pacher Bhima Khud Kankru Khood Govti Khatoo- Shaymji Foehor Losal
Sri Madhopur	Mundru	6	1.3.1960	Mahroli Kotri Nangal Ajitgarh Nangal Abhawas Sirgoth Mahroli Aspura

APPENDIX VI (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5
Dhod	Koodan	6 5.1.1963	Phaga Iwa Dhod Sewad Bari	Singrawat Sanwloda -Dhaylan Dhod Munda- wara Phagalwa
Piprali	Palsana	6 18.5.1964	Piprali Shishyoo Tarpura	Dadiya Raghuna- thpura Piprali Bajnor Harsh
Khandela	Jajod	6 21.11.1964	Kotri Khan- dela Garh Bhopji Gurara	Ralawata Jajod Malikpur Kanwat Jharli
Fatehpur	Tejsar	6 31.3.1966	Balaura Roru bari Rolsasar	

Q - Full qualified

V - Vehicle

1. *Directory of Medical & Health Institutions, Rajasthan, 1971*, Directorate of Medical & Health and Family Planning, Rajasthan, Jaipur, pp. 85-86.

APPENDIX VII

Government Ayurvedic & Unani Institutions and Beds in
Sikar District¹

Year	(Number)		Dispensaries
	Hospitals	Beds	
	Number		
1956-57	—	—	13
1957-58	—	—	13
1958-59	—	—	14
1959-60	—	—	39
1960-61	—	—	43
1961-62	—	—	47
1962-63	—	—	50
1963-64	—	—	51
1964-65	1	—	52
1965-66	1	—	53
1966-67	—	—	64
1967-68	1	—	67
1968-69	1	—	69
1969-70	1	15	70

1. *Statistical Abstract Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.*

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

There being no large scale industrial establishment in the district, the industrial labour working in smaller units is scanty in number. The labour welfare activities, therefore, so far initiated by the State Government have not been of much significance. Similarly, employers in these industries have also not taken any definite measures for the welfare of their employees.

Upto 1965¹, the Sikar district was under the control and supervision of Labour Inspector Ajmer, who looked after enforcement of labour legislations in the district. But a new office of the Labour Inspector and Conciliation Officer was opened with headquarters at Sikar on 17th August, 1965 for Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts. With the development of Khetri Copper Project this office was shifted to Khetri in 1969. Since then the Labour Inspector, Khetri has been looking after the Sikar district also. The staff of this office consists of one Labour Inspector, one lower division clerk and one class IV employee.

There is no welfare centre in the district. A list of important labour laws in force throughout the State is given in Appendix I. A brief account of some of the important labour legislations enforced in the district is given below :

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947—The Act provides for the settlement of labour disputes through conciliation, adjudication or arbitration. The Conciliation Officer tries to settle industrial disputes arising in his jurisdiction through conciliation only. The table below gives particulars of complaints received in the district from 1967 to 1972 :

Year	(Number)					Total
	Wages	Employment	Causes ¹ Working conditions	Personnel	Others	
1967	10	7	2	7	8	34
1968	12	10	1	6	9	38

Source: Office of the Labour Inspector, Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts, Khetri.

2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1969	15	9	3	11	4	42
1970	13	8	2	9	7	39
1971	18	10	2	6	9	45
1972	17	9	—	4	6	36
Total	85	53	10	43	43	234

It transpires from the foregoing table that most of the complaints lodged related to wages and employment. The disposal of complaints during the same period in the district was as under :

(No. of complaints¹)

Year	Balance of previous year	Complaints received	Disposals		Rejected	Others	Total disposals
			Favour	Against			
1967	11	35	13	9	10	9	41
1968	5	30	11	4	7	11	33
1969	2	40	8	12	8	12	40
1970	2	41	13	7	7	12	39
1971	4	45	10	10	9	13	42
1972	7	43	13	9	8	13	43

Only six strikes occurred in the district during 1967-1972 in three units viz. in Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Nagar Parishad Sikar and Khadi Gramodyog, Reengus. The total number of persons involved in these was 500 and the total mandays lost² amounted to 2579.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT, 1948—The Act has been in force in Rajasthan since 1959. It requires appropriate government, Central or State, as the case may be, to fix rates of wages payable to employees in scheduled employments. The minimum rates of wages in scheduled employments have been fixed and revised by the Government from time to time.

The minimum wage levels fixed or revised in the State under Minimum Wages Act 1948 have been given in Chapter IX of this volume.

1. Source: Office of the Labour Inspector, Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts, Khetri. Inspector Khetri, Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts, Khetri.
2. *ibid.*

The number of inspections and prosecutions under this Act in Sikar district is given below:

(Number)

Year	In respect of establishments ¹		No. of claims preferred
	No. of inspections	No. of prosecutions	
1967	104	2	6
1968	103	3	4
1969	134	3	5
1970	125	2	5
1971	113	3	6
1972	132	2	4
Total	711	15	30

The district had sixteen such industrial establishments with a total number of 7,500 labourers who were covered under the Minimum Wages Act 1948 in the year 1972.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1923—This Act was applied to Rajasthan in 1960³. It imposes an obligation on the employers to pay monetary compensation to disabled workers as well as to their dependents in the case of accidents arising in the course of employment and resulting in death or total or partial disablement. During the period 1968-1973⁴ only 14 cases were decided in the district under this Act. The details relating to cases received, cases disposed and compensation paid under the Act are given below⁴.

Year	Number of cases received during the year	Number of cases disposed	Amount distributed (Rs.)
1968	2	1	4,800
1969	6	1	—
1970	1	5	23,000
1971	2	2	14,000
1972	5	3	21,000
1973	2	2	12,000
Total	18	14	74,800

1. Source : Office of the Labour Inspector, Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts, Khetri.
2. Source : Office of the Regional Assistant Labour Commissioner, Ajmer.
3. Source : Office of the Labour Inspector, Sikar and Jhunjhunun districts, Khetri.
4. Source : Office of the Regional Assistant Labour Commissioner, Ajmer.

MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS ACT, 1961—The Act, which is in force in Rajasthan since 1962, covers motor establishments employing five or more workers. Upto the year 1972 there was no such establishment in the district with 5 or more than 5 workers, so the provisions of the Act were not enforced. This Act regulates the hours of work and leave etc. of the workers. The employment of children below the age of 15 years is prohibited.

INDIAN FACTORIES ACT, 1948—This Act is also applicable throughout the State and regulates working conditions in factories and establishments by laying down minimum standards of health, safety and general welfare of workers such as rest, shelters, canteens, first-aid appliances and washing facilities etc. A list of factories registered under this Act is given in chapter V along with necessary details.

PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT, 1936—This Act provides against irregularities in payment of wages to workmen by their employers. Some of the important safeguards it provides are against unauthorised deductions, except those specified in the Act and delay in payment of wages. The Labour Inspector for Sikar district has prosecuted twenty¹ such claims before the Regional Assistant Labour Commissioner Ajmer, who is the dealing authority for the Sikar district under this Act.

INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ACT, 1926—This Act provides for the registration of trade unions in the district, prescribes their rights and liabilities and gives them a legal status. These trade unions are the corporate bodies which safeguard the interests of their members and strive to promote cordial relations between the employer and the employees. There are 9 registered trade unions² in the district with a total membership of 1031.

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND ACT 1952—The Government has started the scheme of provident fund under this Act to ameliorate the material conditions of the workers. It is intended to encourage the habit of thrift and to provide to the employees benefits on their superannuation.

PROHIBITION

Except on drinking in public, there is no restriction on the consumption of liquor in the district. But a few days of national importance are observed as dry days in the district. In 1969-70 there was only one shop in the district dealing in foreign wines and spirits, as against 62 shops

1. Source: Office of the Labour Inspector for Sikar and Jhunjhun districts, Khetri.
2. Source: Office of Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

selling country liquor¹. There is no registered distillery for the manufacture of country liquor which is, therefore, imported from other parts of the State. There were thirty eight licenced shops for the sale of *Bhang* and lanced poppy heads, and six shops for the sale of opium. Only *Ganja* and *Charas* are prohibited in the district.

The following table shows the extent of the consumption of intoxicants in the district from 1960-61 to 1970-71²:

Year	Country liquor (L.P. litres)	Opium (kg.)	Lanced poppy heads (kg.)	<i>Bhang</i> (kg.)	Indian made spirit (litres)	Indian made beer (litres)
1960-61	60,525	8	—	1,660	—	—
1961-62	54,983	6	—	1,191	—	—
1962-63	98,658	5	—	1,416	—	—
1963-64	1,11,009	5	43,774	1,635	—	—
1964-65	1,29,974	4	N.A.	1,635	—	—
1965-66	1,77,012	2	25,917	1,413	1,008	1,881
1966-67	1,30,227	1	20,570	1,095	799	823
1967-68	85,468	2	15,115	800	1,132	925
1968-69	1,09,253	1,984	15,680	746	1,246	959
1969-70	94,305	2	11,600	519	755	656
1970-71	1,08,990	1,710	9,430	568	—	—

It transpires from the above figures that the consumption of country liquor is sufficiently high in the district as compared to other intoxicants. The consumption of *Bhang* has considerably declined while that of opium has dwindled because of strict restrictions on its sale. It is issued only to a limited number of addicts and that too on departmental ration cards. The use of *Ganja* and *Charas* has been prohibited. Because there is no free sale of liquor through the licenced shops, illicit distillation has become a rare phenomenon due to the stern measures taken by the excise authorities who are responsible for the detection of offences which are convicted by the courts and compounded by the department.

Under Rajasthan Excise Act, 1956 the following cases of excise offences have been registered in this district during 1966-67 to 1971-72³:

(Number)						
Year	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72
Offences	271	167	243	314	323	269

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1970.
2. *Ibid.*, 1960 onwards.
3. Source: Office of the District Excise Officer, Jaipur (Rural).
N.A. = Not available

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

During the pre-independence days the backward classes were denied equal opportunities with others. Efforts made by voluntary social bodies and the Government to amend the situation met with little success. With the dawn of Independence more concentrated and effective measures were taken for their betterment. Article 17 of the Constitution of India provides for the abolition of untouchability and forbids its practice in any form. Accordingly, the Rajasthan Government also brought into force Untouchability (Offences) Act in 1955 making the practice of untouchability a cognizable offence punishable with fine or sentence. Orders and instructions have been issued by the State Government to remove the limitations socially imposed on these classes. In the year 1969-70 a special programme, known as the *Bhangikashta-Mukti* was launched to eradicate the evil practice of carrying night soil as head loads and for improving the working conditions of *Mehtars* and those engaged in this occupation.

After the formation of Rajasthan, social welfare activities were entrusted to the Social Welfare Department of the Government of Rajasthan. An office of this department was first established in the Sikar district during the year 1960-61 and a Probation and Social Welfare Officer was posted there to supervise the welfare activities in the district. His staff consists of one accountant, two lower division clerks and two class IV employees¹. The 1971 Census recorded the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in the district as 135,329 or 12.98 per cent of the population while the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes was 26,109 or 2.50 per cent of the total population². The table in Appendix II gives the tahsilwise population of various Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes residing in the district.

An analysis of the figures of 1961 Census³ shows that among the Scheduled Castes, Balais formed the largest group (50,274) while the group consisting of Chamar, Bhambhi, Jatav, Jatia, Mochi, Raidas, Raigar or Ramdasia came next (32,253) followed by Thori or Nayak, Khatik, Bhangi, Meghwal or Megh, Bawaria, Dhankia, Sansi, Nut, Gavaria, Kamad or Kamadia, Garo or Garura or Gurda, Mehar, Bhand, Dheda, Dome, Kalbelia, Kooch Band, Kanjar, Madari or Bazigar, Godhi, Rawal, Koria, Bairwa or Berwa and Koli or Kori in order of their numerical strength. The largest tribe among the Scheduled Tribes was that of Mina.

1. Source : Office of the District Probation & Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.
2. *Population Statistics, Census of India 1971, Rajasthan*, pp. 30-33.
3. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Pt. V-A, Special Table for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes* p. 194.

Welfare Activities

For the social, educational and economic uplift of the backward classes the Social Welfare Department undertook the following activities:

EDUCATION—The low percentage of education among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, caused due to the old socio-economic structure of the country, called for special endeavour to promote education and literacy among these classes. To raise the standards of education among these classes certain facilities have been provided by the Social Welfare Department.

HOSTELS—Hostel is an institution which plays a vital role in the development of integrated personality creating initiative and leadership among the students. Since the general hostel facility is not provided by the Education Department upto Higher Secondary stage, it became almost necessary to open separate hostels for these students so that they can be encouraged and facilitated for getting education without social or economic hinderances. Thus maintenance of hostel for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes became one of the major activities of the Social Welfare Department¹. For students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes two hostels were opened in the Sikar district by the Social Welfare Department, one for the Scheduled Tribes at Sikar established in the year 1956-57 with accommodation for thirty-five students, and the other at Neem-ka-Thana in the year 1961-62 with accommodation for thirty students². These hostels are being run by the Social Welfare Department to provide educational facilities along with free lodging and boarding facilities to the students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The students receive books, stationery, medicines, cloths and various other necessities of life free of cost from the Social Welfare Department. Provision is also made for the library in addition to games and recreation for the hostellers.

The table below gives the figures of amount spent by the Social Welfare Department in various years on the maintenance of these hostels³.

Year	Amount spent on hostels (Rs.)	No of hostellers
1961-62	50,000	157
1962-63	42,560	132
1963-64	57,700	217

1. *Welfare of Backward Classes in Rajasthan*, Social Welfare Department, Government of Rajasthan, (Nov. 1970), p. 16.
2. Source : Office of the Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.
3. *Ibid.*

1	2	3
1964-65	69,000	217
1965-66	83,000	227
1966-67	88,800	227
1967-68	1,56,000	237
1968-69	1,45,000	247
1969-70	1,42,000	247
1970-71	1,24,600	322
1971-72	1,55,000	242
1972-73	1,61,040	247

Besides the Department also provides grant-in-aid to those voluntary social organisations/institutions which are running hostels in the Sikar district for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. There are five such aided hostels in the district whose details are as follows:

1. **SHRI KRISHNA CHHATRAWAS, SIKAR**—This hostel is an aided institution being run for the benefits of the students of Scheduled Castes. It was established in 1955-56, and provides accommodation to fifty students.

2. **GANDHI CHHATRAWAS, FATEHPUR**—Established in July, 1964 this hostel has an accommodation for thirty-five students of Scheduled Castes.

3. **SHASTRI CHHATRAWAS LACHHMANGARH**—This aided hostel was opened in July, 1967 with accommodation for thirty-five students of Scheduled Castes.

4. **NEHRU CHHATRAWAS REENGUS**—Established in 1962 with accommodation for twenty-five students, it is an aided hostel for Scheduled Castes.

5. **RAJASTHAN VIDYA MANDIR CHHATRAWAS, NEEM-KA-THANA**—This hostel was established in July 1955-56 with an accommodation for thirty-two students of Scheduled Tribes.

These aided hostels are provided with an aid of 90 per cent from the Social Welfare Department and the remaining expenditure is met out of the funds collected by donations. During 1971-72 and 1972-73 the Social Welfare Department gave an amount of Rs. 96,650 and Rs. 95,200 respectively as grant-in-aid for these hostels.¹

1. Source : Office of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.

The table below gives the details of the grant in-aid given to these five hostels individually during the last six years (1965-66 to 1970-71)¹.

Name of the Institution	Aid given in various years					
	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
Krishna, Chhatrawas Sikar	15,273	18,484	18,127	23,393	24,985	23,805
Nehru Chhatrawas Reengus	—	9,395	10,971	11,100	11,100	6,460
Gandhi Chhatrawas Fatehpur	8,543	11,428	14,279	14,596	12,904	14,964
Shastri Chhatrawas Lachhmangarh	—	—	1,568	13,707	14,850	14,432
Rajasthan Vidya Mandir Chhatrawas, Neem-ka-Thana	—	—	18,271	19,200	18,018	14,264

The students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are exempted² from the payment of tuition fees in the various educational institutions. They also receive scholarships for their secondary and university education. In the secondary schools these scholarships are awarded by the Education Department out of the funds received from the Social Welfare Department. Pre-matric scholarships are granted to students of sixth to eighth standard at the rate of Rs. 5 per month and to those of ninth and eleventh standards at the rate of Rs. 20 per month. In the Government colleges such students receive post-matric scholarships at the rate of Rs. 40 per month, while in the technical institutions each of them is entitled to merit-cum-need scholarships ranging between Rs. 30 and Rs. 50 along with the usual stipend. The Central Government also provides scholarships to students pursuing post-matric studies at a rate varying with the class in which the student is studying.

The department has started a training centre³ for tailoring at

1. Source : Office of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.
 2. *Welfare of Backward Classes in Rajasthan*, Social Welfare Department, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur, (Nov. 1970).
 3. Source : Office of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.

Sikar during 1960-61. The centre offers a two years' course in tailoring to fifteen students. The trainees receive a stipend of thirty-five rupees each per month from the State Government along with the free hostel facilities. After the completion of their training the trainees are provided an interest free loan of Rs. 1000 to purchase a sewing machine and a set of tailoring kit. The staff of the training centre consists of one tailoring instructor and one General Education teacher. Fifteen trainees were under training in 1972-73 and an amount of Rs. 13,900 was spent on their training.

The activities of the department are directed towards the social disabilities afflicting this section and helping their all round development. This is intended to be achieved by providing financial assistance to such members of these communities who are in need of help to rehabilitate themselves in various fields like agriculture, cottage and small scale industries etc. For this, the Panchayat Samitis and the municipalities of the district are given some funds every year by the Social Welfare Department to provide various facilities and subsidies to the backward classes for digging of wells, construction of housing colonies, establishment of cottage industries, purchase of agricultural implements, procurement of drinking water and electrification of colonies. Under the rehabilitation programme started in 1961-62 in the district, housing subsidy¹, has also been provided to the families of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the rate of Rs. 1,000 per family. This subsidy has been stopped now and the State Government has initiated a new loan-scheme in the district during 1972-73, under which a sum of Rs. 4,000 per family is given for the construction of houses through the Housing Co-operative Societies of the district. The loan is to be repaid by the debtor in instalments while the interest is borne by the Social Welfare Department. In 1972-73 a sum of Rs. 2,00,510 was granted as loans to 792 families of the backward classes².

Special efforts are also made by the State Government to give employment to the backward classes. The conditions of registration in Employment Exchange have been waived in their case and all Government Departments, autonomous bodies and public enterprises have been empowered to employ them directly on their application. The State Government has directed all the employment agencies to notify the posts as and when they fall vacant, to the Social Welfare Department. A register is also being maintained in the Department of Personnel to watch the progress achieved in the filling of vacancies. A special employment cell has been established

1. Source : Office of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.
2. *Ibid.*

from 1970-71 in the Social Welfare Department to facilitate the employment of backward classes and 28 per cent seats are reserved for these classes in all cadres of services, out of which 17 per cent are for Scheduled Castes and 11 per cent for Scheduled Tribes. The Department has given help to fifty persons of the district in getting employment during the last five years¹.

To meet the problem of educated unemployment of these classes, all the graduates and the post-graduates unable to secure employment are provided with a monthly stipend of Rs. 150 for graduates and Rs. 250 for post-graduates, till they get employment. In the year 1972-73 an amount of Rs. 23,600 has been given to the sixteen students of these classes in the district².

Besides these welfare schemes for the uplift of the down-trodden classes, the other needy sections of the society have also not been ignored. The State Government has introduced an old-age pension scheme and disability pension scheme to provide them financial assistance. The old age pension scheme is for people above the age of 55 years in the case of females and 58 years in the case of males. The scheme was launched in the district during 1965-66 and the Collector of the district is the disbursing authority for these pension. The rate of pension is Rs. 30 per month per pensioner and Rs. 40 per month for a family where there are more than one destitutes. The following table shows the number of pensioners and the yearly amount spent on them during 1965-66 to 1971-72 in Sikar district³.

Year	Old age pension		Disabled pension	
	Number	Amount (in Rs.)	Number	Amount (in Rs.)
1965-66	58	4,040	—	—
1966-67	99	33,570	—	—
1967-68	63	37,293	—	—
1968-69	87	55,899	4	380
1969-70	51	67,054	4	686
1970-71	39	1,05,714	6	2,160
1971-72	65	1,22,543	1	240
Total	462	4,26,113	15	3,466

Besides these pensions, 43 persons of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the district were also granted old-age pension amounting to Rs. 35,760 during the same period.

1. Source : Office of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Sikar.
2. Source : *ibid.*
3. Source : Office of the Collector, Sikar.

To look after the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families a District Board for Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen was first established in 1963¹ at Sikar. The Collector acts as the Chairman of the Board. Its staff consists of one Secretary, one senior clerk, two lower division clerks, and one class IV employee. The main functions of the Board are to help the ex-defence personnels and their families in early settlement of their disputes regarding pension and other accounts, providing financial assistance, employment, medical treatment, allotment of land and distribution of medals and stars received from the Record offices. The Board also assists them in getting educational, travelling and other concessions/facilities, provided by the State Government to the families of those soldiers who have been killed in action, war disabled persons and other ex-servicemen. The number of soldiers who were killed during the aggressions of 1962, 1965 and Indo-Pak War of 1971 was in the neighbourhood of one hundred. The Board has settled 211 cases of all kinds during 1963–1973².

An employment register is also maintained by the Board in which the names of all those ex-servicemen who want to seek employment, are registered and given priority in getting employment whenever a suitable post falls vacant. So far 296 names of such ex-servicemen have been registered by the Board³. The Collector of the district has allotted 100 plots of land to these personnels and their families. From the Amalgamated Fund a sum of Rs. 1,03,200 has been granted since 1970 as loans to 21 army personnels in the district⁴.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

In the erstwhile State of Jaipur of which Sikar was a former *Thikana*, the work of charitable endowments was looked after by the Dharampura Department of the State. After the formation of Rajasthan a post of Commissioner of Devasthan, with headquarters at Udaipur, was created and the work of charitable endowments was entrusted to him. Three divisions of Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur are being maintained under his control. The Sikar district comes under the Jaipur division and the Assistant Commissioner Devasthan Jaipur is responsible for the Sikar district. There is no separate office of Devasthan Department at Sikar.

The district has 83 temples aided by the Government. The annual aid per year to these temples is Rs. 2,000. Besides this,

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, District Soldiers, Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Sikar.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

Rs. 10,030 are also given annually to these temples in lieu of resumed jagirs. Under the Rajasthan Public Trust Act, 1959, 16 public trusts were registered in the district the list of which is given in Appendix III. Jeen Mata Ji ka Mandir, Shakambhari Mandir and Krishna Mandir at Shyam ji-ki-Khatoo are the famous temples of the district. A list of principal religious fairs held in Sikar district is given in Chapter III.

Muslim Wakfs

The Rajasthan Board of Muslim Wakfs, Jaipur formed under the Central Wakf Act, 1954, supervises the functions of the *Mutawallis* of *Awakfs* located in Rajasthan. The *Awakfs* are managed by the *Mutawallis*. They are almost hereditary and they can be changed if their work is not found satisfactory. There is no office of the Board at the district level. The district has 120 mosques, 26 *Dargahs*, 138 grave-yards, 17 *Madarsa* and *Maktabas* and 91 miscellaneous properties. All wakf property was valued at Rs. 36,26,939 during 1966 and the annual income from this, was Rs. 98549 during this year.

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Muslim Wakfs, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I

A list of Labour Laws in force in Sikar district

A. CENTRAL ACTS

1. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
2. Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926
3. Minimum Wages Act, 1948
4. Indian Factories Act, 1948
5. Indian Boilers Act, 1923
6. Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
7. Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
8. Payment of Wages Act, 1936
9. Working Journalists (Condition of Services and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955.
10. Employment of Children Act, 1938
11. Employees Provident Fund Act, 1952
12. Employers Liability Act, 1938
13. Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933
14. Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961
15. Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
16. Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
17. Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
18. Labour Contract (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

B. RAJASTHAN STATE ACTS

1. Industrial Disputes (Rajasthan Amendment) Act, 1958
2. Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958
3. Rajasthan Maternity Benefit Act, 1953

C. RAJASTHAN STATE RULES

1. Rajasthan Factories Rules, 1951
2. Rajasthan Workmen's Compensation (unclaimed Deposits) Rules, 1959
3. Rajasthan Minimum Wages Rules, 1959
4. Rajasthan Boilers Rules, 1954
5. Rajasthan Industrial Disputes Rules, 1958
6. Rajasthan Payment of Wages Rules, 1951

7. Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishment Rules, 1959
8. Rajasthan Trade Union Regulations, 1959
9. Rajasthan Employees' Insurance Court Rules, 1955
10. Rajasthan Maternity Benefit Rules, 1954
11. Rajasthan Economiser Rules, 1954
12. Rajasthan Motor Transport Workers Rules, 1961
13. Rajasthan Silicosis Rules, 1955
14. Rajasthan Boilers Attendance Rules, 1954
15. Rajasthan Workmen's Compensation (Cost and Fee) Rules, 1959
16. The Welfare Officers (Recruitment and Conditions of Services) Rules, 1962

APPENDIX II

Tahsilwise Population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
alongwith the total population in the Sikar district¹

Tahsils	Total population			Population	
	Persons	Male	Female	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1. Fatehpur	1,24,892	62,497	62,395	18,033	461
2. Lachhmangarh	1,35,858	67,981	67,877	21,290	1,120
3. Sikar	2,31,756	1,17,847	1,13,909	29,971	2,878
4. Neem-ka- Thana	1,58,891	82,794	76,097	17,994	8,995
5. Danta Ram- garh	1,63,905	83,890	80,015	24,527	4,083
6. Sri Madhopur	2,27,346	1,16,641	1,10,705	23,514	8,572

1. Census of India 1971, Rajasthan, Population Statistics, Directorate of Census Operations, Rajasthan, p. 71.

APPENDIX III

List of Registered Trusts in Sikar District

S.No.	Name of the Trust
1.	Shri Digambar Jain Education Trust, Sikar
2.	Shri Raghunath ji ka Kila, Fatehpur
3.	Shri Digambar Jain Mandir, Danta
4.	Shri Raghunath ji, Sikar
5.	Shri Digambar Jain Mandir, Kochhor
6.	Shri Digambar Jain Mandir, Bay
7.	Shri Digambar Jain Mandir, Doojod
8.	Shri Budhgiri-Ji-ki Madhi, Fatehpur
9.	Shri People's Welfare Trust, Sikar
10.	Shri Janaki Vallabh ji, Sikar
11.	Mandir Shri Narsingh ji, Neem-ka-Thana
12.	Mandir Shri Kalyanji, Sikar
13.	Shri Digambar Jain Terapanthi, Naya Mandir, Sikar
14.	Mandir Shri Lachhmangarhji, Sikar
15.	Shrimati Gyarasi Devi Chokhani Sanskrit Pathshala, Reengus
16.	Shri Jamnalal Kanhiram Bajaj Trust, Sikar

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE
ORGANISATIONS

The State Legislative Assembly Elections (Vidhan Sabha)

During the First General Elections of 1952 the Sikar district had six single-member assembly constituencies namely Sikar town, Sikar tahsil, Danta Ramgarh, Neem-ka-Thana A, Neem-ka-Thana B, Neem-ka-Thana C and one double-member constituency of Lachhmangarh. The area included in the seven assembly constituencies is detailed in Appendix I. From these seven constituencies 23 candidates contested the elections of whom eight belonged to the All India National Congress, eight to the Krishikar Lok Party, three to the Ram Rajya Parishad, two to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh and the remaining two were independent candidates. One seat of the Lachhmangarh constituency was reserved for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes. For eight assembly seats allotted to the district, four Congress candidates, two Krishikar Lok Party candidates, one Jan Sangh candidate and one Ram Rajya Parishad candidate were declared elected.

The total electorate in the district was 3,44,752 out of which 169,750 valid votes or 49.24 per cent were polled. The break-up of the total number of voters, valid votes polled and percentage of polling (constituency-wise) is given below¹:

Name of the Constituency	Electorate	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	No. of contesting candidates
1. Lachhmangarh*	89,318	62,940	35.23	5
2. Sikar Town	42,267	18,518	43.81	4
3. Sikar Tahsil	43,721	20,912	47.80	3
4. Danta Ramgarh	54,485	22,445	41.19	3
5. Neem-ka-Thana A	20,412	8,412	41.21	2
6. Neem-ka-Thana B	50,304	17,610	35.00	4
7. Neem-ka-Thana C	44,245	18,913	42.85	2
Total	3,44,752	1,69,750	49.24	23

1. The data are given from the *Report on the First General Elections in India*, Election Commission, India, Vol. II (Statistical), pp. 652-655.

* It was a double member constituency, hence the number of voters was double the number of electors.

In the Second Vidhan Sabha General Elections in 1957, the Sikar district was divided into seven constituencies out of which one constituency, namely Neem-ka-Thana was a double-member constituency with reservation of a seat for Scheduled Castes and the remaining constituencies were single-member and general. In 1957, although the Assembly Constituencies were territorially delimited and the nomenclature was changed, the number of seats remained the same i.e eight¹. In all 46 candidates contested the elections, eight from the Congress Party, six from the Communist Party of India, five from the Ram Rajya Parishad, two from the Bhartiya Jan Sangh and 25 Independents. Five seats went to the Congress, two to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh and one to the Ram Rajya Parishad. The total number of electorate was 4,92,371 and the valid votes polled numbered 228,324 or 46.4 per cent. Some details of voting pattern in all the Assembly constituencies are given below² :

S. No.	Name of the Constituency	No. of electors/ voters	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	No. of contesting candidates
1.	Fatehpur	52,950	22,267	42.1	11
2.	Lachhmangarh	53,669	27,310	50.9	7
3.	Sikar	48,062	25,336	52.7	5
4.	Singrawat	39,271	22,198	56.5	4
5.	Danta Ramgarh	61,300	36,293	59.2	5
6.	Sri Madhopur	57,735	23,740	41.1	7
7.	Neem-ka-Thana*	179,384	71,180	41.7	7
Total		492,371	2,28,324	46.4	46

During the Third General Elections held in 1962, the double-member constituency was abolished and the district was represented in the State Assembly through eight Assembly Constituencies namely Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Singrawat, Danta Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur, Thoi and Neem-ka-Thana³. Out of these the Thoi Constituency was a new addition and the Neem-ka-Thana Constituency reduced to a single-member constituency reserved for Scheduled Castes. There were 59 contesting candidates for all the eight constituencies out of which eight

1. Territorial extent and names of the Assembly Constituencies in 1957, are given in Appendix I.
2. *Report on the General Elections in India, 1957, Vol. II (Statistical)*, Election Commission of India, pp. 918 & 921.
- It was a double-member constituency. One seat was reserved for Scheduled Castes.
3. Limitation of the area of Constituencies is given in Appendix I.

belonged to the Indian National Congress, seven to the Swatantra party, seven to the Communist Party of India, six to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party, two to the Socialist party and the remaining 29 contested as Independents. The Congress party candidates were successful in winning seven seats while the remaining seat (Fatehpur Constituency) went to an Independent candidate. The total number of electors in all the eight constituencies came to 4,59,930 and the number of valid votes polled was 2,55,100 or 55.46 per cent. The following table gives the constituency-wise details of the voters, number of contesting candidates, number of valid votes polled and the percentage of valid votes polled to the total number of votes¹:

S. No.	Name of the Constituency	No. of electors	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting (valid votes)	No. of contesting candidates
1.	Fatehpur	54,734	32,456	59.29	8
2.	Lachhmangarh	61,074	35,064	57.36	9
3.	Sikar	56,288	31,803	56.50	9
4.	Singrawat	43,928	27,608	62.84	6
5.	Danta Ramgarh	72,090	43,288	60.04	5
6.	Sri Madhopur	66,827	33,927	50.76	7
7.	Thoi	48,579	25,702	52.90	11
8.	Neem-ka-Thana (S.C.)*	56,410	25,252	44.76	4
Total		4,59,930	2,55,100	55.46	59

In the 1967 General Elections, the Assembly constituencies were delimited on the basis of revenue units i.e. tahsils and revenue circles². The number of constituencies was reduced to seven from eight in the 1962 General Elections. During the process of delimitation the Singrawat Constituency was abolished and a new constituency of Khandela was created. All the constituencies were single-member and the Lachhmangarh constituency reserved for members of the Scheduled Castes. For these seven seats, 30 candidates were in the field of whom seven belonged to the Indian National Congress, four to Communist party (Marxist), three to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party, two to the Swatantra party, one to the Praja Socialist party and the remaining 13 contested as independents.

1. *Report on the Third General Elections in India, 1962, Vol. II (Statistical)*, Election Commission of India, pp. 349-350.
- S.C. - Scheduled Castes
2. The area comprised by the Assembly Constituencies of Sikar District for 1967 General Elections is given in Appendix I.

The total electorate was 5,41,834 out of which 3,23,370 valid votes or 59.68 per cent were polled. Out of the seven Assembly seats allocated to the district, two viz., Sikar and Neem-ka-Thana were captured by the Indian National Congress, two seats, viz., Fatehpur and Lachhmangarh were won by the Swatantra party. Out of the remaining seats, two viz., Danta Ramgarh and Sri Madhopur were captured by the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party and one, Khandela by an Independent. The constituency-wise details of the number of electors, number and percentage of valid votes polled and the number of contesting candidates are tabulated below¹:

Name of the Constituency	No. of Electors	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting (valid votes)	No. of contesting candidates
Fatehpur	76,981	46,349	60.20	8
Lachhmangarh (S.C.)*	73,305	41,165	56.15	5
Sikar	75,006	49,154	65.53	3
Danta Ramgarh	85,636	52,145	60.89	4
Khandela	72,631	43,564	59.97	5
Sri Madhopur	78,231	44,896	57.38	2
Neem-ka-Thana	80,044	46,097	57.58	3
Total	5,41,834	3,23,370	59.68	30

In 1972, General Elections to the Rajasthan *Vidhan Sabha* (Legislative Assembly) were held and seven assembly seats were again allotted to the Sikar district. There was no delimitation of the Assembly Constituencies during the period 1967 to 1972 hence the extent of constituencies was the same as in 1967. All the Assembly Constituencies were single-member and Lachhmangarh Constituency was reserved for Scheduled Castes. In all 25 candidates contested the elections, seven from the Congress party, two from the Congress party (Organisation), four from the Swatantra party, three from the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party, one from the Samyukta Socialist party, two from the Communist party of India (Marxist) and six were Independents. Two seats went to the Congress party, two to the Swatantra party, one to the Congress party (Organisation), one to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party and one to an

1. *Report on the Fourth General Elections in India, 1967*, Vol. II (Statistical), Elections Commission, India, pp. 452-453.

* S.C.—Scheduled Castes

Independent candidate. The total number of valid votes polled was 351,267 or 56.65 per cent. Some details of voting pattern are given below¹:

Name of the Constituency	No. of electors	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of valid votes polled	No. of contesting candidates
1. Fatehpur	87,346	51,502	58.96	4
2. Lachhmangarh (S.C.)*	84,618	38,261	45.21	3
3. Sikar	88,688	55,158	62.19	4
4. Danta Ramgarh	97,141	55,491	57.12	3
5. Khandela	81,680	47,285	57.89	3
6. Sri Madhopur	88,935	48,568	54.61	2
7. Neem-ka-Thara	91,597	55,002	60.04	6
Total	6,20,005	3,51,267	56.65	25

Representation in the House of the People (*Lok Sabha*)

During the first General Elections in 1952, the district Sikar was represented in the *Lok Sabha* through Sikar Parliamentary Constituency. Details of territorial extent of Sikar Parliamentary Constituency are given in Appendix II. It was a general and single-member constituency. In all eight candidates filed their nominations but only three candidate contested the elections, the rest having withdrawn their candidature. Out of the three contesting candidates, one belonged to the Congress party, one to the Ram Rajya Parishad party and one to the Krishikar Lok Party. The total number of voters in the constituency was 3,23,013 but the number of valid votes polled was 1,34,158 or 39.62 per cent of the total electorate. The seat was won by the Ram Rajya Parishad party candidate who secured 52,980 or 39.5 per cent of valid votes polled. The Congress party candidate polled 48,795 or 36.4 per cent of valid votes polled. The remaining candidate of the Krishikar Lok Party polled 32,283 or 24.1 per cent of valid votes².

The Second General Elections were held in 1957. The district was again represented in the *Lok Sabha* through the single-member general Parliamentary Constituency of Sikar. The territorial extent and changes which took place during the process of delimitation of the Constituency are detailed in the Appendix II. There were six candidates who

1. Figures are provisional based on data received from the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan.

* S.C.—Scheduled Castes

2. *Report on the First General Elections in India, 1951-52*, Vol. II (Statistical), Election Commission of India, pp. 112-113. Percentage has been corrected.

filed their nominations but the number of contesting candidates was only three, the rest having withdrawn their candidature. Among the three contesting candidates one belonged to the Congress party, one to the Communist party and one contested as an Independent. The total electorate numbered 4,01,674. The number of valid votes polled was 1,98,511 or 49.4 per cent of the total votes. The Congress party candidate won the election by polling 84,163 or 42.3 per cent valid votes. The Independent candidate polled 74,500 or 37.6 per cent valid votes while the Communist party candidate polled 39,848 or 20.1 per cent valid votes¹.

As in the Second General Elections, the district was again represented in the *Lok Sabha* during the Third General Elections (1962), through the parliamentary constituency of Sikar. The territorial extent and the changes are given in Appendix II. The Constituency had an electorate of 4,65,424 persons of whom 2,54,228 or 54.62 per cent valid votes were polled. There were seven candidates to contest the seat. The Congress party candidate, who polled 88,826 valid votes or 34.94 per cent, was declared elected. The remaining six candidates, one from the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party, one from the Communist party of India, one from the Ram Rajya Parishad party and three Independents polled 55,719 or 21.92 per cent, 53,123 or 20.90 per cent, 7,654 or 3.01 per cent and 48,906 or 19.23 per cent votes respectively.

During the Fourth General Elections held in the year 1967, the district was again represented in the *Lok Sabha* through a single-member general parliamentary constituency of Sikar with certain modifications in territorial extent, details of which are given in Appendix II. There were 6,07,264 electors in the Constituency. The total number of valid votes polled was 3,64,648 or 60.04 per cent. The seat was contested by nine candidates of whom one belonged to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party, one to the Indian National Congress party, one to the Communist party (Marxist) and the remaining six candidates were independents. The Bhartiya Jan Sangh party candidate who polled 1,30,945 or 35.91 per cent valid votes, was declared elected. The candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress party and the Communist party (Marxist) polled 110,837 or 30.40 per cent and 70,659 or 19.38 per cent valid votes respectively. The six independent contestants secured 52,207 or 14.31 per cent valid votes.

Mid-term elections to the *Lok Sabha* were held during the year 1971. There was no change in the extent of Sikar Parliamentary Constituency

1. *Report on the Second General Elections in India, 1957, Vol. II (Statistical)*, Election Commission of India, pp. 182-183.

between 1967 and 1971. During the 1971 elections, there were 6,62,740 electors in the constituency. The total number of valid votes polled was 3,80,160 or 57.36 per cent. The seat was contested by 14 candidates of whom one belonged to the Indian National Congress Party, one to the Bhartiya Jan Sangh Party, one to the Bhartiya Kranti Dal, one to the Communist party (Marxist) and 10 were Independents. The Congress party candidate polled 2,12,263 votes or 55.83 per cent and was declared elected. His nearest rival of the Bhartiya Jan Sangh party polled 78,354 votes or 20.62 per cent. The candidates belonging to the Bhartiya Kranti Dal and the Communist party (Marxist) polled 36,791 or 9.67 per cent and 24,101 or 6.35 per cent votes respectively. The remaining ten Independent candidates secured 28,651 votes or 7.53 per cent.

By-Elections (Legislative Assembly)

FIRST BY-ELECTION—A by-election, for the first time, was held in the district in Neem-ka-Thana Constituency 'A'. The by-election was necessitated due to declaration of election of the sitting member as void by the court of law. The total electorate during the by-election was 20,412 of which total number of valid votes polled was 9,214 or 45.1 per cent. The seat was contested by four candidates, one from the Congress party, one from the Ram Rajya Parishad party, one from the Communist party of India and one by an Independent who polled 4,115 or 44.7 per cent, 4,077 or 44.2 per cent, 613 or 6.7 per cent and 409 or 4.4 per cent valid votes respectively. The Congress party candidate was declared elected.

SECOND BY-ELECTION—After the First General Elections, another by-election in the Sikar district was held in 1956 in the Neem-ka-Thana 'C' Assembly Constituency. The by-election was necessitated due to the death of the sitting member of the Legislative Assembly. It was a single-member general constituency. The number of electors was 45,015. The total valid votes polled were 19,255 or 42.77 per cent. The seat was contested by three candidates, of whom one belonged to the Congress party and the remaining two contested as Independents. The Congress candidate polled 13,169 valid votes or 68.4 per cent and was declared successful. The two independent candidates polled 6,086 or 31.6 per cent valid votes.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANISATIONS

The Indian National Congress

Before the attainment of Independence in 1947, a political organisation named Praja Mandal was engaged in political activities in the district. In 1948, an All-India Session of the Indian National Congress was organised at Jaipur and therefore the Praja Mandal was merged into the Congress

party and a district unit at Sikar was established. The office of the Congress party is located at Bajaj Market since 1948. It is attended by a paid Secretary and a clerk. The party claimed to have 37,000 persons as primary members and 1500 active members in 1972-73. Party units in the district have been functioning at block, town and village panchayat levels. Each of the units comprised an Executive body consisting of a president, a secretary and a treasurer. These office bearers elect the District Congress Committee which also has a President, Secretary, Treasurer and a few members on the executive committee. The District Congress Committee, headquartered at Sikar, is the chief organ of the Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee (Jaipur). It is responsible for carrying out the party programmes with the assistance of its party units.

The Congress party contested all the general elections for *Vidhan Sabha* and *Lok Sabha* held so far in the district.

The Swatantra Party

This party was founded in India in 1962 and in the same year it also started functioning in the district. Its initial membership was 378 persons. During 1972-73, the party claimed 425 members in Sikar and Churu districts. The Swatantra party in the district has units of its own, functioning at all the tahsil headquarters. Each party unit functions under the supervision of a Convener. At the district level there is a district committee elected by the members of the local units. The District Committee consists of one President, one Vice President, one treasurer and five members, on the executive committee. The membership fee is Re. one per year. The party has contested Assembly and *Lok Sabha* elections since 1962.

The Bhartiya Jan Sangh Party

The Bhartiya Jan Sangh party was founded in the country in 1952 on the eve of First General Elections. A district branch of the party was established at Sikar also in 1952 with an initial membership of 125 persons. The membership of the party is 3,500. Organisationally, the lowest units, known as local samitis, are formed at the panchayat level and on the basis of these units, the Mandal centre is organised which usually covers a development block area. At present there are five local samitis and a Mandal centre. The office bearers of the local samitis elect members of executive body of Mandal centres. At the district level, a district samiti functions in order to co-ordinate activities of the party in the district. The party enrolls its members after realising a membership fee of fifty paise per year. The membership is renewed after every two years. The party has

its offices at each tahsil headquarters in the district. The party had contested all general elections to *Vidhan Sabha* and *Lok Sabha*.

Other political parties namely, the Socialist party, the Communist party of India, the Communist party (Marxist), the Congress party (Organisation), the Ram Rajya Parishad and the Bhartiya Kranti Dal also function in the district. Since these parties do not maintain regular offices in the district, it is not possible to give details of these organisations.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

District Newspapers

No daily newspaper is published in the Sikar district but a few weekly, fortnightly and monthly magazines are being published in Hindi. Some details about these magazines are given below¹:

MARUDHARA—It was first published in 1962 from Sikar, the editor being Shri Ghasi Ram Sharma. It is a weekly newspaper printed in Hindi in the Laxmi Printing Press, Sikar. The number of copies being printed is 1500 and the annual subscription rate per copy is Rs. 15. The newspaper contains local news about political, economic and civic affairs of the area and reviews current political development in the State and the country.

DHURI—The publication of this Hindi weekly news magazine began at Sikar in 1971. It is printed at Sikar Shekhawati Co-operative Press. The editor of this magazine is Shri Madan Lal Ajmera. The number of copies being printed is 1500. The annual subscription is Rs. 16/-. The news magazine contains news items, comments and literary topics.

SIKAR SANDESH—It was first brought out at Sikar in 1965. It was first published as a Hindi weekly. This weekly is printed at Saraswati Printing Press, Sikar, the editor being Shri Keshav Dev Sharma. The annual subscription of this weekly is Rs. 17/-. It contains news items and comments over current topics.

YOGIRAJ—It was first published from Sikar in 1971. Its editor is Dr. Ram Ballabh Taparia. It is printed at Sadhana Press Sikar. It is published in both Hindi and English languages. It contains news items and comments on current topics. Its annual subscription is Rs. 15/-.

KHOJ DOOT—First published from Sikar in 1971, it is printed in Hindi as a weekly news magazine from Sadhana Press, Sikar. Its editor is Shri Mata Deen Sharma. The annual subscription of the weekly is Rs. 15/-. It contains news, comments and literary articles.

1. Source : The Office of the Assistant Public Relations Officer, Sikar.

SURAT SHABDA YOGA—First published from Sikar, it is a weekly Hindi magazine. It contains mainly spiritual literature and information. Its editor is Shri Pyare Lal Mathur. It is printed at Sadhana Press, Sikar. The annual subscription is Rs. five only.

MARWARI LOK-HIT—It is published from Fatehpur town of the Sikar district and at present it is being printed at Alwar Press, Jaipur. Its editor is Shri Y. K. Jangid. It is a Hindi weekly news magazine which contains news items, and comments etc. The annual subscription of the magazine is Rs. 11.

SAMAJ DOOT—It is published from Ramgarh town of Sikar and printed from Ramgarh Shekhawati Press, Ramgarh. Its editor is Shri Ganga Prasad Shastri. It is a fortnightly news magazine published in Hindi. Its publication started in 1959. This news magazine mainly contains news items of local interest.

ANKMAN—It is published from Lachhmangarh town of the Sikar district since 1971. It is printed at Raj Press, Lachhmangarh. Its editor is Shri Ram Chandra Joshi and Mahavir Prasad Joshi. Its periodicity is fortnightly. It is published in Hindi and contains news and comments over current topics. The annual subscription is Rs. 6.

JEEWAN DHARA—Its publication started from Sikar in the year 1965. It is printed at Sadhana Press, Sikar. Its editor is Dr. Ram Vallabh Tappar. It is a monthly news magazine published in Hindi. The annual subscription of this magazine is Rs. five. This magazine contains news items and comments over current topics.

Daily newspapers of regional standing like *Rajasthan Patrika*, *Rashtra Doot*, *Nav Jyoti* and *Adhikar* are subscribed in the district. News papers of weekly and fortnightly periodicity are also subscribed in the district.

The major national dailies, subscribed to in the district are: *Hindustan* (daily-Hindi), *Nav Bharat Times* (daily-Hindi), *Veer Arjun* (daily Hindi), *Times of India* (daily-English), *Hindustan Times* (daily-English), *Indian Express* (daily-English), *Statesman* (daily-English), *Economic Times* (daily-English), *Nav Jyoti Herald* (daily-English), *Janyug* (daily-Hindi). Weekly newspapers both in Hindi and English which find circulation in the district particularly in the urban areas are as follows :

S.No.	Name	Place of publication	Price per issue (Rs.)	Language
1.	<i>Dharmayug</i>	Bombay	1.10	Hindi
2.	<i>Saptahik Hindustan</i>	Delhi	0.90	Hindi
3.	<i>Dinman</i>	Bombay	0.85	Hindi
4.	<i>Illustrated weekly</i>	Bombay	1.50	English
5.	<i>Screen</i>	Bombay	0.60	English
6.	<i>Blitz</i>	Bombay	0.50	English and Hindi
7.	<i>Shanker's weekly</i>	Delhi	0.90	English
8.	<i>Link</i>	Delhi	0.75	English
9.	<i>Panchajanya</i>	Delhi	0.35	Hindi
10.	<i>Organiser</i>	Delhi	0.50	English

The major fortnightly magazines subscribed to in the district are: *Mukta* (Delhi-Hindi), *Filmfare* (Bombay-English), *Femina* (Bombay-English), *Madhuri* (Bombay-English), *Sarita* (Delhi-Hindi) and *Caravan* (Delhi-English).

Mukta, *Navneet* (Hindi Digest), *Niharika*, *Kadambini*, *Bal Sakha*, *Chanda Mama*, *Janhvin*, *Bal Bharti*, *Kalyan*, *Parag*, *Nandan*, *Champak*, *Sarika*, *Shivira*, *Kurushetra* etc. are some of the Hindi monthly magazines which find a good number of readers in the district. Accurate circulation figures of the magazines of different periodicity can not be given because these come in the district from other sources also in addition to the source of publication or authorised agents in the area. However, it may be pointed out that most of the magazines are subscribed to by educational institutions, public libraries, reading rooms, public bodies and elite of the town.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Shri Gopinath Gaushala, Sikar

This organisation was established at Sikar in 1903. It was founded by some leading businessmen and public workers of Sikar city. A piece of land was donated by the then Rao Raja of Sikar for constructing a Gaushala. The main function of this organisation is to look after old and disabled cows, calves and bulls of the area and improvement in the breed of livestock. At present the Gaushala maintains a farm in which fodder and food-stuff for animals are cultivated. The Gaushala also supplies milk to the citizens on competitive rates. The affairs of this organisation are managed by an executive committee consisting of a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. The office staff comprises one manager, four clerks and 15 class IV employees.

Red Cross Society

The Red Cross Society established at Sikar in 1952 functions under the Chairmanship of the Collector. An honorary secretary looks after the executive of the Red Cross activities in the district. The district unit of the Red Cross Society distributes medicines, milk and nutritious food etc. to the needy persons in the area in general and famine affected people in particular.

Shri Fatehpur Pinjrapol Society, Fatehpur

This society was registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860 in the year 1958. It was established to look after cows and to promote cow breeding of good quality. The institution nurses disabled cows and keeps buffaloes for breeding and stock improvement purposes. The office bearers of this organisation include President, three Vice-Presidents, one Secretary, two joint Secretaries and a Treasurer and twenty members on the executive committee. The organisation maintains its local units at Ranchi and Bombay in order to collect donations for the Gaushala. Its annual income amounts to about Rs. 3,00,000 which mainly accrues from contributions received from businessmen.

Shri Sewa Samiti Navyuvak Mandal, Local

This organisation was established in 1935, with initial membership of 110 persons. It endeavours to bring social uplift through promotion of education and social service. The office bearers of this organisation include one President, one Secretary, one Treasurer and five members on the executive committee. The membership fee of the organisation is Rs. two per year. It is housed in its own building.

Miscellaneous Organisations

There are some other voluntary social service organisations working in the district. These organisations are neither properly constituted nor very active. Detailed information relating to their organisation, working and achievements are not available. However, they are noted below:

1. Agrawal Samaj, Sikar
2. Jain Navyuvak Sangathan, Sikar
3. Madhav Sewa Samiti, Sikar
4. Shri Sanskratic Mandal, Sikar
5. Shri Bal Sewa Sadan, Fatehpur
6. Shri Rishikul Brahmacharya Ashram, Lachhmangarh

APPENDIX I**Territorial extent of Assembly Constituencies of Sikar District**

S.No.	Name of Constituency	Extent of Constituency
General Elections, 1952¹		
1.	Lachhmangarh	The Lachhmangarh, Ramgarh and Fatehpur tahsils.
2.	Sikar town	Sikar town and some villages of the Sikar tahsil.
3.	Sikar Tahsil	The Sikar tahsil excluding such of the villages as were included in the Sikar town Constituency.
4.	Danta Ramgarh	The Danta Ramgarh tahsil.
5.	Neem-ka-Thana A	The Neem-ka-Thana tahsil (excluding some villages).
6.	Neem-ka-Thana B	Such of the villages of the Neem-ka-Thana tahsil which were excluded from the Neem-ka-Thana A Constituency.
7.	Neem-ka-Thana C	Such of the villages of the Neem-ka-Thana tahsil which were excluded from the Neem-ka-Thana A Constituency but not included in the Neem-ka-Thana B Constituency.
General Elections, 1957²		
1.	Fatehpur	Fatehpur tahsil (excluding Swaroopsar, Bhichri and Almas villages); and Shekhiwas villages in Lachhmangarh tahsil.
2.	Lachhmangarh	Lachhmangarh tahsil (excluding Shekhiwas, Bidoli Bari, Bidoli Chhoti, Jharewa, Jogionka-Bas and Mukandpura villages) and Swaroopsar, Bhichri and Almas villages in Fatehpur tahsil.
3.	Sikar	Sikar City Police Station and Jagmatpura and Samratpura villages in Sikar, Sadar

1. *Statement and maps showing district-wise delimitation of Constituencies for elections to the State Legislative Assembly, Rajasthan, Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan, Jaipur, 1951, p. 11.*
2. *Delimitation of Constituencies for General Elections, Election Department, Government of Rajasthan, 1957, p. 5.*

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3
		Police station in Sikar tahsil and Raghunathgarh police station in Sikar and Lachhmangarh tahsils.
4. Singrawat		Sikar tahsil (excluding Sikar city and Raghunathgarh police stations and Jagmalpura and Samratpura villages in Sikar police station).
5. Danta-Ramgarh		Danta-Ramgarh tahsil.
6. Sri Madhopur		Sri Madhopur police station and Khandela town and some of the villages in Khandela police station.
7. Neem-ka-Thana		Neem-ka-Thana tahsil and Sri Madhopur tahsil (excluding Sri Madhopur police station, Khandela town and some villages in Khandela police station).
General Elections, 1962¹		
1. Fatehpur		Fatehpur tahsil (excluding Swaroopsar, Bhichri and Almas villages); and Shekhiwas village in Lachhmangarh tahsil.
2. Lachhmangarh		Lachhmangarh tahsil (excluding Shekhiwas, Bidoli Bari, Bidoli Chhoti, Jharewa, Jogion-ka-Bas and Mukandpura villages) and Swaroopsar, Bhichri and Almas villages in Fatehpur tahsil.
3. Sikar		Sikar city police station and Jagmalpura and Samratpura villages in Sikar Sadar police station in Sikar tahsil; and Raghunathgarh police station in Sikar and Lachhmangarh tahsils.
4. Singrawat		Sikar tahsil (excluding Sikar city and Raghunathgarh police stations and Jagmalpura and Samratpura villages in Sikar Sadar Police station).

1. *Delimitation of Constituencies for General Elections*, Election Department, Government of Rajasthan, 1961, pp. 5-6.

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3
5. Danta-Ramgarh		Danta-Ramgarh tahsil.
6. Sri Madhopur		Sri Madhopur police station, Khandela town and some villages in Khandela police station.
7. Thoi		Part of Thoi police station in Neem-ka-Thana tahsil, and Sri Madhopur tahsil (excluding Sri Madhopur police station, Khandela town and some villages in Khandela police station and Kot village in Udaipur tahsil of Jhunjhunu district).
8. Neem-ka-Thana		Neem-ka-Thana tahsil (excluding part of Thoi police station).
General Elections, 1967¹		
1. Fatehpur		Fatehpur tahsil and <i>Patwar</i> circles 20 Disnau, 21 Balaran, 22 Rehnawa and 23 Beedasar in Lachhmangarh revenue circle in Lachhmangarh tahsil.
2. Lachhmangarh		Lachhmangarh tahsil (excluding <i>Patwar</i> circles, 20 Disnau, 21 Balaran, 22 Rehnawa and 23 Beedasar in Lachhmangarh revenue circle); and <i>Patwar</i> circles 1. Shahpura, 2. Gunathu. 3. Singrawat, 4. Dugoli and 5. Sihat Badi in Dhod revenue circle in Sikar tahsil.
3. Sikar		Sikar revenue circle and Dhod revenue circle excluding those <i>Patwar</i> circles of Sikar tahsil included in the Lachhmangarh Constituency.
4. Danta-Ramgarh		Danta-Ramgarh tahsil.
5. Khandela		Khandela revenue circle and <i>Patwar</i> circles 28, Bhadwari and 30 Khancharda (Jorawar Singh ki Dhani) in Ajeetgarh revenue circle

1. *Rajasthan Gazette, Extraordinary*, Election Department Notification, April 25th, 1966, p. 7.

APPENDIX I (Conold.)

1	2	3
		in Sri Madhopur tahsil and Piprali revenue circle in Sikar tahsil.
6. Sri Madhopur		Sri Madhopur revenue circle and Ajeetgarh revenue circle (excluding <i>Patwar</i> circles 28 Bhadwari and 30 Khancharda (Jorawar Singh ki Dhani in Sri Madhopur tahsil).
General Elections, 1972		
During the general elections (Rajasthan State Legislative Assembly) of 1972, territorial changes in the Assembly Constituencies in Sikar district did not take place.		

APPENDIX II

Territorial Extent of Parliamentary Constituency of Sikar district

Name of the Constituency	Extent of Constituency
General Elections, 1952¹	
Sikar	Assembly Constituencies of Lachhmangarh, Sikar town, Sikar tahsil, Danta Ramgarh, Neem-ka-Thana A and Neem-ka-Thana B in Sikar district and the Assembly Constituency of Bairath of Jaipur district.
General Elections, 1957²	
Sikar	Sikar District (excluding Fatehpur tahsil except Swaroopsar, Bhichri and Almas villages; and Shekhiwas village of Lachhmangarh tahsil) and Kotputli tahsil of Jaipur district.
General Elections, 1962³	
Sikar	Assembly Constituencies of Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Singrawat, Danta Ramgarh, Sri Madhopur, Thoi, Neem-ka-Thana and Kotputli.
General Elections, 1967⁴	
Sikar	Assembly Constituencies of Fatehpur, Lachhmangarh, Sikar, Danta Ramgarh, Khandela and Sri Madhopur (all in the Sikar district) and Sujangarh Constituency (Churu district) and Mandawa Constituency (Jhunjhunun district).
Mid-term Parliamentary Elections, 1971	
Sikar	During the mid-term Parliamentary elections of 1971 territorial changes in the Sikar Constituency did not take place.

1. *Statement and map showing delimitation of Constituencies for elections to the House of the People*, Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Rajasthan, Jaipur, 1951. p. 3.
2. *Delimitation of Constituencies for General Elections*, Election Department, Government of Rajasthan, 1957, p. 1.
3. *Ibid.*, 1961. p. 1.
4. *Rajasthan Gazette, Extraordinary*, Election Department Notification, April 25th, 1966, p. 3.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

A description of some of the important places of interest in the district is given below:

Danta Ramgarh

Danta Ramgarh is the headquarters of tahsil and panchayat samiti of the same name. It is situated in 27°16' north latitude and 75°11' east longitude. Virtually Danta and Ramgarh are two separate villages with a river flowing between them. Ramgarh village occupies an area of 5,548 acres and inhabits a population of 4,073 persons according to the census of 1971. It is 53 km. by a tarred road from Sikar. The village is electrified and piped water is obtainable. There are schools of primary and higher secondary standard. Danta village occupies an area of 5,847 acres and has a population of 8,022 persons according to the census of 1971. It is 52 km. away from Sikar and is approachable by a tarred road. The village is electrified and has facility of piped water and schools of primary and higher secondary standard. Both these villages by their proximity, can avail of facilities existing at either place, such as police station, dispensary, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, *Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya*, *Dhabas* and *Dharamshala*, maternity and child welfare centre, Sahkari Samiti, branch of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur and Sikar District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., post and telegraph, telephone office and public library. Among the government institutions may be mentioned the tahsil office and the Panchayat Samiti office, an office of the Inspector of the Public Works Department and a line man of the Rajasthan State Electricity Board. There are old forts both at Ramgarh and Danta. Forts in both the villages are in a ruined condition.

Fatehpur

It is the sub-divisional, tahsil and panchayat samiti headquarters of the same name. It is situated within 28°0' north latitude and 74°58' east longitude in the north of Sikar at a distance of 48 km. by a pucca road from the district headquarters. The road distance of Fatehpur from Jaipur is 155 km. By road it is also connected with Ramgarh, Ratangarh, Churu, Sardarshahar, Salasar, Nohar-Bhadra and Bikaner in the north and

north-west and Lachhmangarh in the south. Fatehpur is also a railway station on the Sikar-Churu metre gauge section of the Western Railway. Formerly, Fatehpur was a terminus station on Sikar-Fatehpur rail section. The railway station at Fatehpur possesses facilities of a waiting room, a small waiting hall, and a tea stall. Regular buses ply between Sikar-Fatehpur and Bikaner-Fatehpur. Tongas are available for local conveyance. According to the 1971 Census, the population of Fatehpur town was 34,929 persons as against 26,751 and 27,039 persons in 1951 and 1961 respectively. The town occupies an area of 27.16 sq. km. It is equipped with electricity, piped water supply, post office, a telephone exchange, a telegraph office, a cinema, a public park, a drama hall, public libraries, a degree college, a higher secondary school, three secondary schools (two for boys and one for girls), two middle schools for boys and a middle school for girls, primary schools, a Sanskrit college, an aided hostel for backward classes namely Gandhi Chhatrawas etc. There are several well maintained *Dharamshalas* in the town. The town has a police station, a police out post, a sub-jail, a branch of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, Sikar District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., two allopathic hospitals, one veterinary hospital, a *Gaushala*, two *Ayurvedic* dispensaries, an urban family planning centre and a maternity and child welfare centre. There is a Municipal Board to look after conservancy and local affairs. There are a few *Dhabas* and restaurants where people can eat.

Among the government offices situated at Fatehpur are the offices of the Sub-Divisional Officer/Magistrate, Tahsildar, Vikas Adhikari, Munsif Magistrate, Circle Officer Police, Municipal Board, a Sheep and Wool Extension Centre, Inspector of Weights & Measures, Assistant Jailor, Assistant Engineer Public Works Department (Famine), Post Master and Assistant Station Master (Western Railway). There is one orphanage known as Rajasthan Balseva Sadan, Fatehpur.

The fort in the city of Fatehpur is said to have been founded by a Nawab named Fateh Khan. The fort, now in ruins, contains several mosques and a *Nakkar Khana*. There is also an old mausoleum of Nawab Daulat Khan and a Baori (step-well). Quite near the old fort, there is an old temple of Shri Laxminathji and a Digambar Jain temple. In the town there is a *Durgah* of Pir Hazi Nizamuddin Chisti. It is a religious place where an annual Urs fair is held. Besides, the town contains several old and important temples, chief among them being the temples of Jagannathji, Satyanarainji and a Jain temple. Other notable places in the town are: the Ram Gopalji-ki-Chhatri (built of white marble,) Bhartia hospital building, Chamria college and garden, Saraswati Pustakalaya and Azad Bhawan

Library, Peenjrapol *Gaushala*, Imarti Nathji ka Ashram, Shilp Shala, Geeta Bhawan and Sarnath temple.

There are several big buildings in the town built by the rich Marwari business community. These buildings of a uniform design with a few exceptions, are massive in appearance covering a huge portion of the town. These have an imposing entrance opening in a street, a high arch, and double doors of carved wood ornamented with brass. The outside walls of these buildings contain colourful scenes, usually religious, in which domestic animals are prominently displayed. Their owners being businessmen, reside in far-off places of the country, and these massive and attractive buildings remain unoccupied during the major part of the year, inhabited only on the occasion of marriages and religious ceremonies.

The main industry of this place is tie and dye printing. The dyed cloths are exported from this place. The famous *Churan* and *Chatni*, *Ayurvedic* medicines, *Agarbatti*, *pan mashala* and candles are also exported from Fatehpur.

Harsh

It is a village in tahsil Sikar situated on the slope of the Harsh hill which is at an elevation of 3,000 ft. from sea level. It is situated between 27°31' north latitude and 75°11' east longitude. It is about 14 km. away from Sikar and approachable partly by tarred and partly by a metalled road. Regular buses ply between Sikar and Harsh. The village occupies an area of 4,769 acres and inhabits a population of 2,839 persons according to the census of 1971. The village has a primary school, a family planning centre, a dispensary and a post office. Water is available from wells. There is also a *Dharamshala*.

There is a temple of Lord Shiva called Harsh Nath on the hills, the motorable road to uphill covers a distance of about 10 km. The temple stands on a levelled piece of ground on the top of the hill. The buildings here are in ruins. The inscription in Pali character, now deposited in the Sikar Museum, shows that the construction work of temple commenced in the reign of the Chauhan King Sinharaja in *Samvat* 1018 and was completed by his successor Vighraharaja in *Samvat* 1030 and several villages were dedicated to it. The remnants of other temples and a *Baori* at the bottom of the hill show the magnitude of the temples as they then stood. The broken pieces of carved stones, deposited in the Sikar Museum and beautiful sculptured panels installed inside either in the walls and niches or in the roof present the visitors with a memorable sight. There are ruins of four temples or shrines. The main temple of Shiva contains the original base, original pillars, walls of old carved stone

slabs, the figure of Vishnu and the high spire overlooking the distant roads and paths. According to an inscription found in the remnants of Harsh Nath, there were 84 temples. These temples suffered considerably at the hands of some fanatic invaders¹.

The statues of Shiva temple are surprisingly beautiful. The image of god and demons demonstrate the workmanship of very high order because of their simplicity in approach, delicate and systematic carving, symmetry, proportionate features, grace and poise over the faces. The delicate stone carving of the place suggests that the artists must have been men capable of attaining form and spirit in their art.

The approach road to Harsh Nath was constructed by a local philanthropist. He also got constructed some houses on the top of the hill and equipped them with modern facilities. The Shiva temple has also been renovated. The temple is under the Archaeological Department for preservation.

Khandela

Khandela is the headquarter town of the Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It is situated between 27°36' north latitude and 75°30' east longitude. According to the census of 1971, the population of Khandela was 12,500 (6,236 males and 6,264 females) persons as against 11,765 persons in 1961. It is about 50 km. away by a tarred road from the district headquarters and 87 km from Jaipur. Neem-ka-Thana the sub-divisional headquarters and Sri Madhopur, the tahsil headquarters, are 40 and 20 km. away by road respectively from Khandela. Its nearest railway station is Kanwat which is 15 km. away from Khandela. Khandela is a municipal town and it occupies an area of 1.52 sq. km. The town has facility of electricity, piped water supply, a post office, a telegraph office, four *Dharamshalas*, a cinema, a library, a secondary school, a middle school for boys and a middle school for girls and primary schools, a branch of the Bank of Baroda, a public park, a *Gaushala* and a police station. The town has panchayat samiti office, a forest post, a sheep and wool extension centre, an allopathic hospital, an anti-rabic centre, a veterinary hospital, Rajasthan State Electricity Board's sub-station and water works. There are several small tanks and *Baories* in the town.

1. It is claimed that these temples were destroyed in 1679 A.D. by Khan Jahan Bahadur who acting under the orders of the Emperor Aurangzeb made a desperate raid for demolition of temples throughout the territory of former Jaipur and Jodhpur States. The hill is said to have derived its name Harsh Jaipur from a mythological incident. It was here that Shiva received the praises from the restored celestials after destroying the demons who had expelled Indra and other gods from heaven. The word praise also expresses joy hence the place denoted as Harsh.

The streams, and nullahs which run in the town take the shape of a river during the rainy season.

The town has a long history. There are several temples, notable among them being the Jain temple, Gopinath temple and the Khargeshwar temple. Khandela is regarded as the original place of Khandelwal Vaishyas and Brahmins. There is a mosque also. The town contains ruins of an old fort. Khandela is known for its papaya fruit and wooden toys. Small industry of *Gota* making is also carried on here.

Lachhmangarh

It is the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti headquarters of the same name. It is situated in the north of Sikar within 27°49' north latitude and 75°02' east longitude at a distance of 27 km. from Sikar and 25 km. away from Fatehpur, the sub-divisional headquarters. It occupies an area of 0.65 sq. km. It is connected with Sikar and Fatehpur with a tarred road on which regular buses ply. Lachhmangarh is also connected by road with Nawalgarh and Salasar. It is a railway station on Sikar-Churu section of the Western Railway. The Railway station has a small waiting hall, a waiting room and is lighted. The population of the town in 1971 was 22,158 (11,042 males and 11,116 females) as against 18,484 persons in 1961.

Lachhmangarh is served by a municipal board, a police station, a police out-post, a college (arts, science and commerce faculties), primary schools, a middle school for boys and a middle school for girls, a secondary school, two higher secondary schools, a Sanskrit college, a public library and reading rooms, one hospital, a primary health centre, a family planning centre, two *Ayurvedic* dispensaries, a veterinary hospital and a branch office of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur. The town is electrified and has its own protected water supply. The town has facilities of post office, telegraph office, a telephone exchange, a cinema, a public park and horse driven tongas as a means of local conveyance. There are several *Dharamshalas* for visitors to stay in. There are offices of the tahsil, sheep and wool extension centre, panchayat samiti, the Assistant Engineer, Rajasthan State Electricity Board and Water Works, and the Assistant Station Master.

Lachhmangarh is famous for its castle which crowns a huge out-crop of lofty rocks. The citadel looks quite imposing and splendid from below. The castle has a small residential accommodation and a water reservoir. Lachhmangarh town is well laid out and contains many fine private buildings. There is a clock tower in the centre of the town.

There are numerous Hindu temples, and Muslim mosques in the town. The Murli Manohar temple is more important among the temples. Among the notable manufactures of the town are included *Gota*, cement articles and leather shoes. Besides, wooden toys and printed cloth are exported out of Lachhmangarh. Lachhmangarh has good educational institutions like Bagaria Bal Vidya Niketan and a well maintained Higher Secondary School.

Neem-ka-Thana

*It is the headquarter of a Sub-Division, Tahsil and Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It is situated within 27°44' north latitude and 75°47' east longitude in the north-east of Sikar. Neem-ka-Thana is a municipal town and occupies an area of 0.42 sq. km. The town inhabits 11,612 (6,292 males and 5,320 females) persons according to census of 1971, as against a population of 10,262 persons in 1961 and 6,244 persons in 1951. By road it is about 120 km. away from Sikar via Reengus. It is also connected by a direct road via Shahpura with Jaipur which is 120 km. from Neem-ka-Thana. Regular buses ply between Neem-ka-Thana and Jaipur. By road it is also connected with Patan, Khetri and Reengus via Sri Madhopur. Neem-ka-Thana is a railway station on the Phulera-Rewari chord line of the Western Railway. The railway station which is lighted has a waiting room and a waiting hall. Motor taxi and tongas are available for conveyance purposes.

The town is electrified and has its own water works. Postal, telegraphic and telephonic facilities are available. The town has a government degree college and higher secondary, a secondary, a middle and primary schools, a public library, a Sanskrit *Vidyalaya* upto Praveshika standard, a Scheduled Tribes Hostel (run by Social Welfare Department) and an aided hostel for backward classes. Among the government offices located here may be mentioned the office of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Tahsildar, Vikas Adhikari, Municipal Board, Office of the Circle Officer Police, Forest Range Office, Sub-Jail, Excise Inspector, a sheep and wool extension centre, Assistant Engineer P.W.D., Munsif Magistrate, Water Works, Assistant Engineer Minor Irrigation Sub-Division and the Assistant Station Master, Western Railway. The town has a police station, a club, a hospital, a primary health centre, a family planning centre, a maternity and child welfare centre, two dispensaries, an anti-rabic centre (attached to Primary Health Centre), a cinema, *Dharamshala*, a public library and reading room, a veterinary hospital, and a public garden. Banking facilities have been extended by the branch offices of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, Sikar District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., and the Bank of

Rajasthan. The conservancy work is looked after by the Municipal Board. The Public Works Departments Dak Bungalow has three rooms and is equipped with electricity and water supply.

The town has a number of temples and a mosque. Shri Narsinghji temple is more frequented among the other temples. A cattle fair is held annually at Neem-ka-Thana where famous Haryana breed is sold and bought.

About 10 km. away by road from Neem-ka-Thana is a religious place called Ganeshwar* noted for its hot water spring. The hot water falls from a *Gaumukh* into a *Kund*. The hot water of the spring is considered as sacred. According to census of 1971, the village Ganeshwar (in tahsil Neem-ka-Thana) occupied an area of 12,739 acres and had a population of 4,076 persons. There is a Sanskrit *Vidyalya* upto Praveshika standard and a middle school. About 20 km. away from Neem-ka-Thana is Patan. It has a fort called Badalgarh. On the slope of the hill there is a tank called Manak Kund and a temple of Baleshwarji. Patan has an area of 4,709 acres and inhabits 3,091 persons. The place is served by schools of primary and secondary standard, a hospital, a police station and other public facilities.

Piprali

It is a village in tahsil Sikar and headquarters of the panchayat samiti of the same name. It is connected with the district headquarters by a tarred road and is about 10 km. from Sikar. Regular buses ply between Sikar and Piprali. Danta Ramgarh connected by road with Piprali is 24 km. away from this place. The population of Piprali village in 1971 was 5,344 (2,712 males and 2,632 females) persons and it occupied an area of 12,740 acres. It is situated between 27°39' north latitude and 75°15' east longitude and has a post and telegraph office, primary school, a middle school, a health centre, an allopathic dispensary, an *Ayurvedic* dispensary, a veterinary hospital and a public park. The village is electrified and water is obtained from wells through pumping sets. The office of the Panchayat Samiti, Piprali and a Sahakari Samiti are located in the village.

Raghunathgarh

It is a village in tahsil Sikar situated between 27°40' north latitude and 75°21' east longitude. It is connected with Sikar by road on which regular bus service is available. It is 24 km. away

* The discovery of flat copper axes, Harappan arrow-head and O. C. P. sherds by the State Department of Archaeology & Museums recently on a mound at Ganeshwar may prove a great landmark in the pre-historic archaeology of the country, vide R. C. Agarwal's article, Recent Finds at Ganeshwar, in the *Man & Environment* Vol. II Ahmedabad (1978).

from Sikar. Its nearest railway station is also Sikar. The village according to the census of 1971 occupies an area of 7,592 acres and inhabits a population of 3,341 (1,589 males and 1,752 females). It has a primary school, a middle school, a health centre, an allopathic dispensary, a family planning centre, a post office, a telephone exchange, a police station and a *Dharamshala* among its public facilities. There is a Sahkari Samiti. Water is obtained from wells. Raghunathgarh is famous for its old historical fort which is now in a ruined condition. This fort is situated on the famous Aravalli hills. It is claimed that this place was under the rule of Chandel Rajputs. There are two temples of Raghunathji, one on the fort and the other in the village. There is another old temple of Mahadeo which is said to have been built in the twelfth century. There is a marble image of Mahasasur Mardini, a Hindu goddess. There is another place called *Alkha-ji-ka-Kund*. On the other side of the Raghunathgarh hills is situated the Lohargal valley (in Jhunjhun district). Stones are quarried here for construction purposes and exported to nearby places. During the rainy season, the water of Raghunathgarh hill flows out of a rocky channel into the plains.

Ramgarh (Shekhawati)

Ramgarh is situated in the extreme north of the Sikar district and lies between 27°16' north latitude and 75°11' east longitude. It is the headquarters town of a sub-tahsil of the same under the Fatehpur tahsil of Sikar district. It is 72 km. away by a tarred road from the district headquarters. It is 22 km. away from Fatehpur, the Sub-Divisional and tahsil headquarters. By road, it is also connected with Bisau, Rookansar, Palas, Ratangarh and Meghsar. It is a railway station on Sikar-Churu metre gauge section of the Western Railway, which has the facility of a small waiting hall, water hut and benches on the platform. Ramgarh is a municipal town and occupies an area of 5.08 sq. km. It inhabits a population of 15,068 (7,386 males and 7,682 females) persons according to census of 1971, as against 13,956 persons in 1961 and 13,079 persons in 1951.

The town is served by two allopathic hospitals, an anti-rabic centre, two *Ayurvedic* dispensaries, one college, a public library, a secondary school for girls and two boys secondary schools, a middle school for boys and a middle school for girls, primary schools, a police station, a police out-post, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange, a veterinary hospital and a *Gaushala*. The town is electrified and has its own piped water supply system. Among the institutions located at Ramgarh may be mentioned the sub-tahsil office, Rajasthan State Electricity Board's sub-station, water works, Sikar District Central Co-operative

Bank Ltd., Central Bank of India, Dena Bank and the R.N. Ruia College. There are several *Dharamshalas* for visitors to stay in. The town has a number of temples and mosques. The more well known temples are those of Ganga Mai, Ram Deora, Rani Sati, Kalyanji, Mahadeo and Raghunath. There are ruins of a fort said to have been built in 1790 by Rao Raja Devi Singh of Sikar and Ram Gopal Poddar Cenotaph in the town.

Ramgarh is locally called as *Sethonka*¹, meaning belonging to rich merchants. The town was built during the reign of Rao Raja Devi Singh of Sikar. The town is famous for the extensive residences of rich merchants. These buildings usually remain vacant since the owners carry on their business at big trading centres of the country.

Reengus

It is a village in tahsil Sri Madhopur of Neem-ka-Thana sub-division. It is located between 27°22' north latitude and 75°34' east longitude. This place is connected both by rail and road with the district headquarters. Sikar is connected with Reengus by the National Highway No. 11 and is 59 km. away from it. Regular buses ply between Sikar-Reengus and Reengus Jaipur. By road Jaipur is about 61 km. and Sri Madhopur 11 km. from Reengus. Buses for many routes are available at Reengus. The important routes go towards Sri Madhopur, Sikar Jaipur, Danta Ramgarh, Khandela, Dorala, Baya, Ajeetgarh and Amarsar. There is a railway rest house and, a dak bungalow of the Public Works Department here. The dak bungalow has facility of electricity and water supply. The Railway Rest house having three rooms which is located near the railway station also has facility of electricity and piped water supply. Reengus is also a railway junction on the Western Railway on Jaipur-Sikar and Phulera-Rewari section of the metre gauge railway. The railway junction has facilities of waiting rooms, waiting hall, cloak room and tea stall etc. The population of the village in 1971 was 9,340 persons and it occupied an area of 7,402 acres.

1. A story runs about the foundation of this town. The Rani (wife) of Rao Raja Devi Singh once visited Churu where she was incidentally taunted by her sister-in-law about the non-existence of such a fine town in Sikar *Thikana* like that of Churu. She took this remark ill and decided not to take water or eat bread until a new town better than Churu or similar to that was built in Sikar. The Rao Raja promised to do his best to meet his wife's wishes, if she would take her food. It is said that he got hold of a Seth named Chatur Bhuj and compelled him to settle at the village Nasa. The Seth agreed and settled at Nasa and thus paved way for other big merchants to settle here. Thus the town was founded and since then locally called as *Sethonka*.

The village has facilities of water supply and electricity, a post office, a telegraph office, a telephone exchange, a hospital, an anti-rabic centre, an allopathic dispensary, a veterinary dispensary, a police out-post and a higher secondary school, two middle schools for boys and a middle school for girls, and primary schools. There is also a Sanskrit school, an aided hostel for backward classes namely Nehru Chhatrawas and a branch of the Punjab National Bank at Reengus. The village has *Dharamshalas* for visitors to stay in. The office of the Zila Khadi Gramodyog is headquartered at Reengus.

The village is famous for its two old temples namely 'Bhawaniji ka Mandir and Gopi Nathji ka Mandir. It is claimed that these temples are quite old. A fair is held at Reengus annually and is known as *Bhaironji ka Mela*. People from all over the district come to attend the fair.

Rewasa

It is a small but important village of tahsil Danta-Ramgarh situated between 27°32' north latitude and 75°13' east longitude. It occupies an area of 8,915 acres and inhabits a population of 2,349 (1,119 males and 1,230 females) persons according to the census of 1971. Approachable by road (partly *Kuchcha* and partly *Pucca*) it is about 18 km. from the district headquarters. Buses ply between Sikar and Rewasa. The nearest railway station Goran is about 5 km. from Rewasa. The village has a primary school, a middle school, and a post office. There is a *Dharamshala* for visitor to stay in. The village is famous for its old Jain temples. Among these, the Adinath Jain temple contains a number of pillars and an old inscription. The date on the inscription is *Margshirsa Shukla 5, Samvat 1661*. The stone work of this temple is a sight to visit and admire. There is another Jain temple named *Nashia* and a Vaishnava temple named Janki Nath. This temple contains old paintings on its ceilings and its construction plan is spacious and massive. The other Vaishnava temple is Shri Kalyanji's temple which has a few old pillars. Rewasa is considered to be an old village. Its ancient name is said to be Ratiwasa where Chandel Rajputs claim to have ruled. Recently a salt manufacturing project has been started at Rewasa.

Jeen Mata

There is a temple of Devi Jeen Mata situated about 12 km. from the Goran railway station. It is about 10 km. south side of Rewasa village and 29 km. from Sikar, the district headquarters. It is connected by a tarred (13 km.) and a metalled (16 km.) road. Regular

buses (twice a day) ply between Sikar and Jeen Mata. The nearest village to this temple is Kochhor at a distance of six km.

Jeen Mata is an ancient religious place of Hindus. The place is famous not only in the district but in the adjacent territories also. People from far and wide come here in couples to pay homage. *Mundan Sanskar* of male children of the followers of Jeen Mata is performed here. A custom of *Jata* (offering) is also prevalent in this area. Fairs are held here in the month of *Chaitra* and *Asoj*. There is a large number of *Dharamshalas* and *Tibaris* here for the pilgrims. During the fairs, cooked food is available from temporary shops installed here. Utensils and other necessities are provided by the temple management. There is a committee to arrange for the management of Jeen Mata's temple. However, offerings are taken by hereditary priests who reside here. During the fair this place is lighted by an electric generator and special buses ply between Sikar-Jeen Mata and Danta-Ramgarh-Jeen Mata. There is a *Patwar Khana*, middle and primary schools, a Sahkari Samiti and a post office. Water is obtained from wells and taps installed inside the temple.

This place is considered to be a seat of goddess Jeen Mata, also known as Jayanti Devi. On the basis of inscription found inside the temple, it is considered to be a monument of the 10th century¹.

Sakrai

It is a small village in tahsil Sikar and is 9 km. away from Udaipurwati of Jhunjhun district. From Sikar it is 51 km. away connected partly by kuchcha and partly by a tarred road. This village is also approachable from Lachhmangarh and Nawalgarh. Regular buses ply between Sakrai and Sikar via Udaipurwati. It is located between 47°38' north latitude and 75°24' east longitude. The area of the village is 2,507 acres and it is inhabited by 737 persons according to the census of 1971. The village has a primary school and a post office. Water is obtained from wells.

1. According to a local anecdote Jeen was a chaste village girl. Once her brother's wife scolded her for bad character. Jeen felt it seriously and as a consequence left her brother's abode for penance. Her brother named Harsh went to request her to come back to his place but in vain. Since Jeen did not yield to his request, he also took to spirituality and engaged himself in penance. Ultimately both received godhood. Jeen settled here and Harsh went on the hill known as Harshnath.

The village is famous for an old temple called Sakrai Mata. It is claimed that it was built in *Samvat* 749 in the reign of Durlabhraja by Shiv Hari's son and his nephew Sidhraj and was dedicated to goddess Sakradevi or Shakambhari. The deity Shakambhari saved people during a famine by making them live on fruits and vegetables. Lord Indra is said to have undergone penance at Sakrai Mata in order to regain his lost throne from the demons. The Sakrai Mata temple surrounded by mountains is located in a mango grove. There are seven *Kunds* (tanks) behind the main temple inter-connected with each other. During the rainy season the place attracts a large number of visitors who enjoy here the natural landscape. Fairs are held here twice a year on the occasion of *Navratri* in the months of *Chaitra* and *Asoj*. Inside the temple there are two statues. One of these belong to Shakambhari and the other to goddess Kali. Behind Shakambhari's temple, there are two more temples of Shiva and Madan-Mohan. The place is electrified with the help of a generator during fairs.

Sanwali

It is about 11 km. away from Sikar. It is connected with the district headquarters by a tarred road and regular buses ply between Sanwali and Sikar. The famous historical place called Harsh is about 5 km. away from Sanwali. Sanwali was the halting station of ex-rulers of Sikar *Thikana* while going to Harshnath. It is claimed that this place derived its name from a tank (*Bavadi*) which was called Savni. This place has gained much importance during recent years. Formerly, it was considered gainful to live here on account of its healthy climate. In 1960 a T. B. Sanatorium called Shri Kalyan Arogya Sadan was constructed here on a colossal scale. Patients from far and wide without any restriction of place, birth, caste, religion or standing get admitted here in order to be relieved of their disease. The Kalyan Arogya Sadan is managed by a philanthropic trust of businessmen and public spirited persons. The land and some buildings of the Sanatorium were donated by the ex-ruler of Sikar *Thikana*. The place has a *Dharamshala* and three rest houses (private) which are maintained by the Kalyan Arogya Sadan, Sikar. The facility of a post office and a bank is available at Sanwali. There is a *Gaushala*, an agriculture farm, a temple, a middle school (un-aided), a big garden and a library.

Shyamji Khatoo

Khatu village in tahsil Danta Ramgarh is located between 27°22' north latitude and 75°24' east longitude. It is famous for Shyamji's temple; hence its name Khatoo Shyamji. The village is 48 km. away by

road both kuchcha and pucca from the district headquarters, out of which 40 km. of road is tarred. It is about 16 km. away from Reengus, and 30 km. away from Danta Ramgarh (tahsil headquarters). The village occupies an area of 9,111 acres and has a population of 4,861 persons according to the census of 1971. The village is served by a secondary school and primary schools, a primary health centre and a rural family planning centre, a post office and a telegraph office, a telephone exchange, a branch of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur and an *Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya*. Khatoo village has electricity and piped water supply. Motor taxis are available for conveyance to far off places. There is a police station in the village.

This place is famous for a Krishna temple named *Shyamji's Mandir*. It is considered religious to visit Khatoo on account of a mythological tale attached to this place. During Mahabharat, it is said, Krishna had obtained the skull of Babru Vahan, son of Arjuna, by posing himself as a Brahmin beggar. He placed this skull on a high pedestal to observe the battle. Krishna was pleased to have received the skull so he blessed that in *Kaliyug* Babru Vahan will be worshipped in his name (Shyamji). Babru Vahan in the name of Shyamji is worshipped at Khatoo. The date and time of the original construction of this temple is not known. Khatoo Shyamji is considered as an historical and a religious place. A large number of Hindu devotees from various parts visit this place round the year. A largely attended fair is held in the months of *Phalgun* and *Kartik*. The temple built of white marble, must have cost a lot of money. There is a big water tank inside the enclosure of the temple. The enclosure also contains a spacious garden. There are several big *Dharamshalas* equipped with electricity, water supply and sanitary arrangements for visitors to stay in. Besides, there are temples of Baba Ganeshji and Raghunathji in the village.

Sikar

It is the headquarters of the district, sub-division and tahsil of the same name, and is situated in 27°37' north and 75°08' east in the north of Jaipur and south of Jhunjhunun. It is 108 km. away from Jaipur city by road. Sikar is surrounded by some of the important towns of the area viz., Fatehpur, Ramgarh, Lachhmangarh, Pilani, Chirawa, Nawalgarh, Jhunjhunun, Churu, Chomu, Sri Madhopur and Neemka-Thana.

It is a railway junction and is connected with Jaipur on the south, Loharu on the north-east and Fatehpur on the north-west by a metre gauge railway section of the Western Railway. By rail it is 112 km. from

Jaipur. The railway station has a waiting hall, retiring rooms, a cloak room, a refreshment room, a bookstall and tea stalls. Tongas are available as a means of local conveyance. In 1971 Sikar occupied an area of 24.71 sq. km. and inhabited 70,987 persons (36,912 males and 34,075 females) as against 50,636 persons in 1961.

There is a dak bungalow of the Public Works Department having five rooms and facility of water and electricity. In the town, there are several private hotels and lodges. Besides, there are six electricity fitted *Dharamshalas* for visitors to stay in. The town has two cinema houses and three drama halls for the recreation of the citizens. The town is electrified and has protected water supply. The town has a Municipal Council for conservancy and local affairs. The Municipal Council maintains a few public parks. There is a District Library and Mahavir *Pustakalya* and other three libraries/reading rooms which cater to the reading habits of the citizens. The town has a post-graduate college of the State Government (co-educational, Arts, Science and Commerce faculties). Ayurvedic College, Sanskrit College and four higher secondary schools, two boys' secondary schools and two girls' secondary schools, four middle schools and primary schools, a Scheduled Tribes Hostel (run by Social Welfare Department), and an aided hostel for backward classes namely Krishna Chhatrawas. There is an Industrial Training Institute. There are two allopathic hospitals, one *Ayurvedic* hospital, a T. B. Clinic, an anti-rabic centre, one veterinary hospital, a mobile veterinary unit, a key village scheme, two family planning centres, a mobile sterilisation-cum-Intra Uterine Contraceptive Device unit, a *Unani* dispensary, one maternity and child welfare centre, four allopathic dispensary, and one public health laboratory. The town is served by post-offices, telegraph offices, a telephone exchange, railway mail service, five banks (a branch of State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur, Punjab National Bank, United Commercial Bank, Sikar District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Sikar Zila Sahkari Bhoomi Vikas Bank Ltd.), two police stations, two police outposts, a sub-jail, non-agricultural credit societies, restaurants, indigenous *Dhabas* and lodges etc.

There are many temples in this town. The main temples are those of Gopi Nath ka Mandir, Raghunathji-ka-Mandir, Kalyan-ji-ka-Mandir, Janki Nathji-ka-Mandir, Bada-Jain-Mandir and a Jain Mandir called *Nasla*. There is a *Durgah* of Hazarat Shah Wali Mohammad Chisti where an annual *Urs* is held.

As a district, sub-divisional, tahsil and Zila Parishad headquarters, Sikar has several offices of both the State and the Central Government,

notable among them being those of the Collector, Superintendent of Police, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Principal Medical and Health Officer, District Family Planning Officer, District Agriculture Officer, District Industries Officer, District Employment Officer, Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B&R), Inspector of Schools, Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies, Investigator Evaluation Organisation, Assistant Engineer Special Survey and Investigation Sub-Division, Public Health Engineering Department, District Probation-cum-Social Welfare Officer, District Statistical Assistant, Assistant Excise Officer, District Sheep and Wool Officer, Sheep and Wool Extension Centre, Assistant Engineer Public Health Engineering Department City Division, Additional Health Officer, District Ayurvedic Officer, Vikas Adhikari Panchayat Samiti Dhod, Zila Parishad, District Supply Officer, Income Tax Officer, Superintendent Post Offices, Sub-Divisional Officer Telephones, Inspector Central Excise etc.

Sikar town is said to have been founded in 1687 A. D. The site on which the present town exists was known as Vir Bhan ka-Bas. Recorded evidence regarding the original of name of Sikar is however not available but it is claimed that Sikar is a colloquial corruption of the word *Shikhar*. Some people claim that the name Sikar is probably derived from the name of a Jat owner of the land on which the present Sikar town stands. Sikar is a remarkably well laid-out town like that of Jaipur city. Formerly, the town was enclosed in its massive four walls which contained seven gates. However, the present township like all other towns of Rajasthan has grown to considerable limits outside the walls on account of increase in population and urban activities.

There are several big buildings in the town. In the centre of the walled portion stands the *Garhi* or palace of the former Rao Raja. It contains several big rooms and halls. There is another building of the former *Thikana* called Madho Niwas Kothi, which has a Durbar hall. There is a Victoria Memorial Hall which was equipped till recently by Victorian style furnishings. The Sikar Museum which is under the custody of former Thakur of Sikar contains archaeological curios such as broken statues. The other public buildings of importance is Bajaj Memorial founded in the memory of the late Shri Jamna Lal Bajaj. This is a big building containing many rooms and a hall. This building is looked after by a trust and used for public purposes. The city contains a Sangit Vidyalaya and a Shilp Shala.

There are two big tanks in the town. One of these tanks is situated near Maru garden. Rain water accumulates in this tank and lasts round the year. People take bath here and a fair is organised in a nearby temple of Rani Sati. The other tank is situated near the Nebru garden.

Water is stored here with the help of a pumping set. A tower has been installed in the middle of the city.

Two other nearby places from Sikar town are Deogarh and Kadmon-ka-Bas. Deogarh is a small village in tahsil Sikar. It is located between 72°33' north latitude and 75°11' east longitude. It has an area of 3,105 acres and population of 1,036 persons according to the census of 1971. It is 13 km. by road from Sikar. The place is served by a primary school and water is obtained from wells. There is an old fort on the top of the hill and a few old temples. The fort is said to be two hundred years old but now it is in ruins. Kadmon-ka-Bas is also a village in tahsil Sikar, and it is located between 27°30' north latitude and 75°08' east longitude. In 1971, it occupied an area of 1,669 acres and inhabited a population of 565 persons. It is 14 km. away by road from the district headquarters. The place is served by a post office and primary school. Water is obtained from wells. This place is considered sacred on account of a tank and *Kadamb* trees. An annual fair is held here on each *Amavasya of Bhadrpada*. Deogarh and Kadmon-ka-Bas are connected with Sikar by a motorable road and regular buses ply between Sikar and these places.

Sri Madhopur

The headquarters of the Panchayat Samiti and tahsil of the same name, Sri Madhopur is situated in 27°28' north and 75°36' east in the south-west of Sikar. It is 65 km. away by a tarred road from the district headquarters¹. By road Sri Madhopur is 65 km. away from Jaipur and 60 km. away from Neem-ka-Thana. It is about 11 km. away by rail from Reengus. Regular buses ply between Sri Madhopur and, Sikar, Jaipur, Reengus and Neem-ka-Thana. Sri Madhopur is also a railway station on the Phulera-Rewari Chord line (a metre gauge section of the Western Railway) with facility of a rest house and a waiting hall. The population of the town according to the census of 1971 was 10,294 (5,294 males and 5,000 females) persons as against 11,555 in 1961 and 8,278 persons in 1951. The town occupies² an area of 1.01 sq.km.

The town is served by a municipal board, an allopathic hospital, a maternity and child welfare centre, an anti-rabic centre, one *Ayurvedic* dispensary, a veterinary hospital, a primary health centre, a post office, a telephone exchange, a telegraph office, a cinema hall, a library, *Dharam-shalas* and a police station. The town is electrified and has its own

1. Source : The Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD (B&R), Sikar.

2. *Census 1971, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Sikar District, Town and Village Directory and Primary Census Abstract*, pp. 2, 4 and 64.

protected water supply. The town has primary schools, a middle school, a secondary school and a higher secondary school. There is also one Sanskrit school (mixed) upto *Praveshika* standard. Banking facilities are offered in the town by the branch offices of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, the Sikar Zila Sahkari Bhoomi Vikas Bank Ltd. and Sikar District Central Co-operative Bank Ltd. There is one reading room in the town.

As a tahsil and panchayat samiti headquarters, Sri Madhopur has some government and semi-government offices, notable among them being those of the Tahsildar, Panchayat Samiti, Municipal Board, Inspector Excise, Minor Irrigation Engineer, Inspector State Warehouse, Sheep Rearing Centre, Project Officer Agriculture, Junior Engineer, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Plant Protection Office of the Agriculture Department, Junior Engineer Water Works and Inspector Central Excise. In addition to these government offices, there is an office of the Krishi Upaj Mandi Samiti, the Kraya Vikraya Sahkari Samiti, Saraswati Udyog Kendra and the Khadi Bhandar Sri Madhopur. The important cottage industries here are those of brass and nickle utensils, cement articles, cloth dyeing and *Agarbatti* etc. Notable exports from the town are of sesamum-oil, mustard oil and groundnuts. The town has a local market, a grain *Mandi* and oil mills.

The town has a large number of temples, notable among them being the Gangaji temple, the Shiva temple, the Jain temple, the Gopinath temple, the Govindji temple, the Raghunathji temple, the Sitaramji temple and the Madhoji-ka-temple. There is an old tank in the town called the *Bavadi*. A cattle fair at Sri Madhopur is organised each year by the Municipal Board in the month of June.

Triveni

It is a religious place situated about 38 km. away from Sri Madhopur town. It is approachable by a kuchcha road (Ajitgarh-Sri Madhopur) on which scheduled buses ply. The other bus route for this place is Jaipur-Ajitgarh via Shahpura. Triveni is about 9 km. away from Ajitgarh village. This place is called as Triveni because it is a tri-junction of three distinct but thin streams of water which come out of nearby hills and pass through the group of temples situated at Triveni. The notable temple here is of Ganga Mata. Each year on *Chaitra-Krishna 2*, a fair is held here in which people from far off places come to offer their prayers. It is claimed that whoever takes bath in Triveni, is cured of all skin and other diseases. There is a *Dharamshala* for visitors to stay in.

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GLOSSARY

<i>Agarbatti</i>	Incense-stick
<i>Amavasya</i>	The last day of the dark half of a month of Hindu calendar
<i>Arti</i>	Waving or moving of a lighted lamp to worship some one venerable
<i>Asoj</i>	The seventh month of a Hindu year
<i>Ayurvedic System</i>	The Indian system of medicine
<i>Bajigar</i>	A conjurer; a juggler
<i>Baori</i>	A step-well
<i>Begar</i>	Forced labour
<i>Bhadon/Bhadrpad</i>	The sixth month of the Hindu year
<i>Bhakti Marg</i>	Path of devotion
<i>Bidi</i>	Indian cigarette, tobacco rolled in leaves
<i>Chaitra</i>	The first month of the Hindu year
<i>Chapati</i>	A thin cake or bread
<i>Chilam</i>	An earthen cigar used mostly by the rural people
<i>Chung</i>	A small timbrel, a wooden circular frame with hide mounted on one side, used as a musical instrument to the accompaniment of which folk songs are sung
<i>Chhach</i>	Whey
<i>Dai</i>	A midwife
<i>Dal</i>	Pulse
<i>Dastoor</i>	Custom
<i>Dargarh/Durgah</i>	A holy place of Muslims
<i>Desi Juti</i>	Indigenous shoes
<i>Dhaba</i>	An indigenous hotel
<i>Dharamshala</i>	An inn; a charitable place for halting
<i>Dhania</i>	Coriander
<i>Gaumukh</i>	The mouth of cow
<i>Gaushala/Goshala</i>	Cow-house

<i>Ghani</i>	Indigenous oil mill usually worked by bullocks
<i>Girdawar</i>	A revenue inspector
<i>Gota/kinari</i>	Gold or silver thread braided strip or fringe
<i>Gotra</i>	Lineage; clan
<i>Gur</i>	Raw sugar, jaggery
<i>Gyan Marg</i>	Path of knowledge
<i>Haj</i>	Pilgrimage among Muslims
<i>Hamal</i>	Porterage
<i>Jati</i>	An ascetic among the Jains
<i>Kartik</i>	The eighth month of the Hindu year
<i>Kathputliwala</i>	One who holds the puppet show
<i>Kavi Sammelan</i>	An assemblage of poets
<i>Khadia</i>	Crayon
<i>Khalsa</i>	Crown land, land directly managed by the State
<i>Khandsari</i>	Unrefined sugar
<i>Khillat</i>	Robe of honour
<i>Kisan</i>	Farmer
<i>Krishna Paksha</i>	The dark half of the lunar month
<i>Kumhar</i>	Potter
<i>Kund</i>	Pond
<i>Magha</i>	The eleventh month of the Hindu year
<i>Maktab/Madarsa</i>	A Muslim School
<i>Mandi</i>	Market; also regulated market especially for agricultural produce
<i>Maulvi</i>	A learned Mohammedan especially in Arabic and Persian literature
<i>Mehtar</i>	Scavenger
<i>Methi</i>	A leafy vegetable
<i>Mutwallis</i>	Trustees
<i>Naka</i>	Check-post
<i>Nakkarkhana</i>	A place where a kettle drum is played
<i>Nazarana</i>	A present or gift

<i>Nizamat</i>	An administrative division of territory during princely regime
<i>Pagri</i>	A type of headgear; turban
<i>Pan Masala</i>	Spices used in the fold of the betel leaf
<i>Panch</i>	A member of village council
<i>Patel</i>	A village headman
<i>Patta</i>	A deed; title; grant
<i>Patwar Halka</i>	The jurisdiction of a <i>Patwari</i>
<i>Patwari</i>	A revenue official
<i>Phalgun</i>	The last month of the Hindu year
<i>Posha</i>	The tenth month of the Hindu year
<i>Purnima</i>	The day of full moon
<i>Rahat</i>	A contrivance for lifting water for irrigation
<i>Rai</i>	Indian mustard; an oil seed
<i>Ramlila</i>	A ballet on the life of Lord Rama
<i>Sadh</i>	An ascetic
<i>Satyagraha</i>	A creed of Gandhian philosophy
<i>Sawar</i>	A rider
<i>Sehra</i>	Headgear for the bridegroom
<i>Shrawan</i>	The fifth month of the Hindu year
<i>Shukla Paksha</i>	The bright half of a lunar month
<i>Suhag</i>	The happy state of wife when her husband is alive
<i>Tabeej</i>	A charm; amulet
<i>Tantra</i>	A religious treatise containing mystical formulae for the attainment of supernatural power
<i>Thela</i>	Push cart
<i>Thikana</i>	A chief-ship; an estate
<i>Thikanedar</i>	A holder of a <i>Thikana</i>
<i>Vaidya</i>	An Ayurvedic physician
<i>Vidyalaya</i>	School
<i>Zeera</i>	Cumin seed

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RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTE—SIKAR

ERRATA

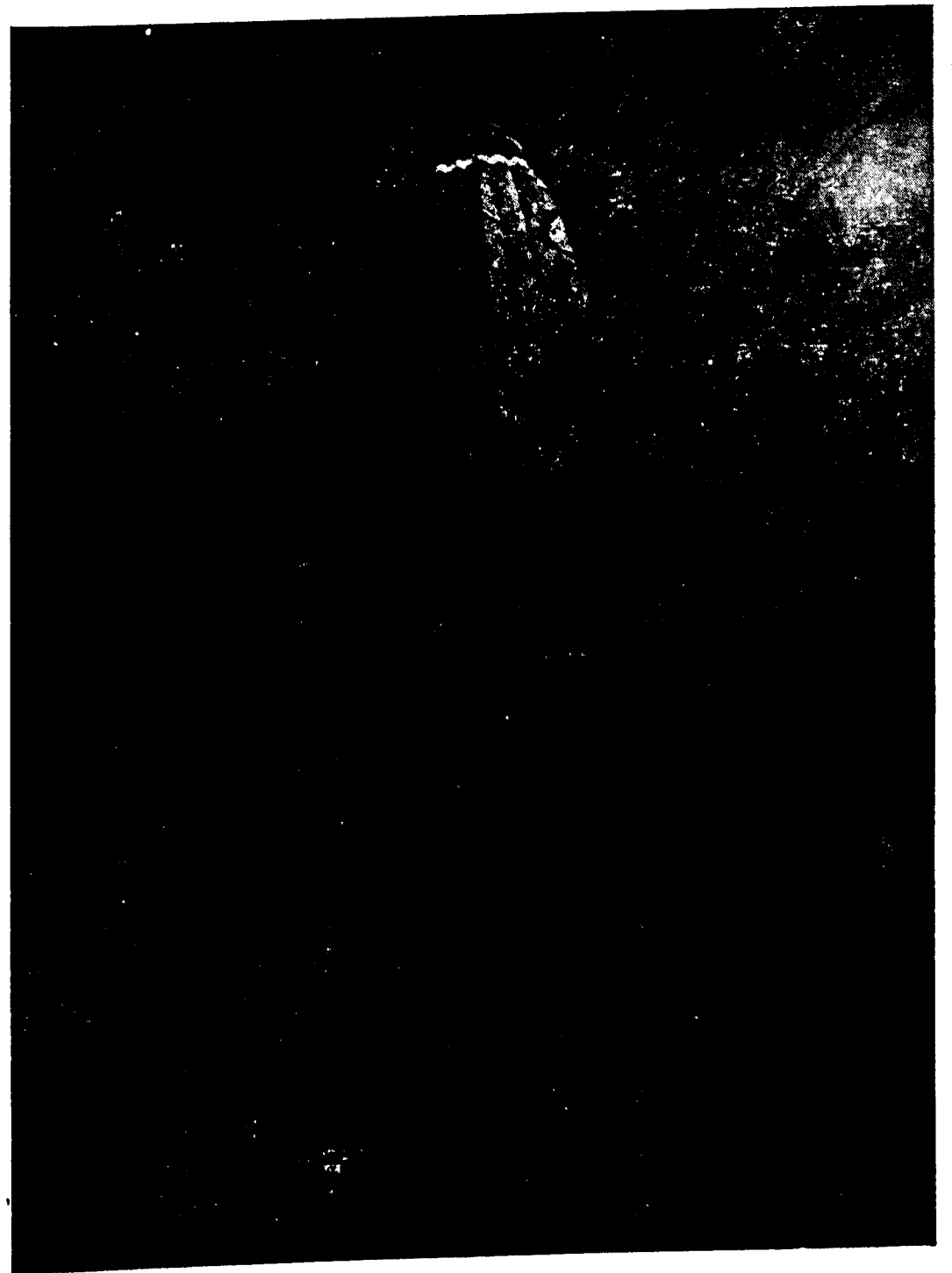
Page	Para	Line	For	By
2	—	20	tahsil	tahsils
18	3	6	tot he	to the
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132	Table Col. 4	—	Emyloyees	Employees
138	3	4	working	share
142	2	1	At present (the end....)	At the end of....
146	Table I Col. 3	3	79.07	79.07
153	2	2	Vatika	Wati
168	Table Col. 4	13	10	19
168	Table Col. 5	16	197	157
171	Table Col. 3	13	2	—
173	3	3	Kacharpa	Kacharda
181	Table Col. 6	5	3134	3154
184	Table Col. 7	2	38,375	38,345
193	Table Col. 8	4	—	8
193	Table Col. 10	4	—	8
197	Table Col. 3	12	1022	1028
224	Footnote 1	1	pp. 1956-61	1956-61, pp
250	Table 2 Col. 2	3	70,828	78,828
340	2	3	building	(now closed)
420	4	5 & 11	Sikar Museum	Sikar Museum (now closed)
424	4	1	tahsli	tahsil
428	3	1	9	15

PLATE I



Jatiya Bazar, Sikar—A Busy Shopping Centre

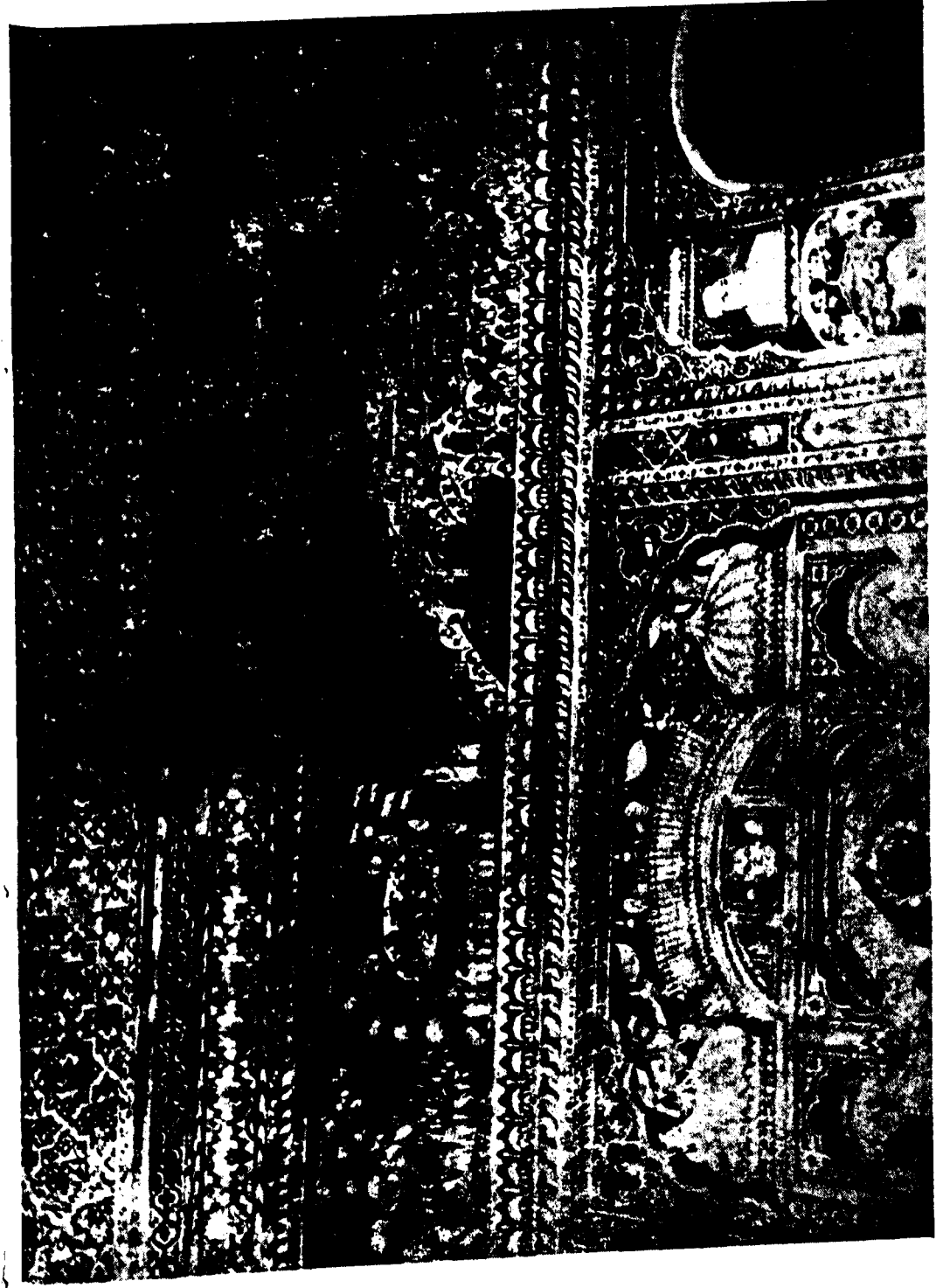
PLATE II



Delapidated Harshanatha Temple (structure on the left).
The Shiva temple on the right is a recent construction.

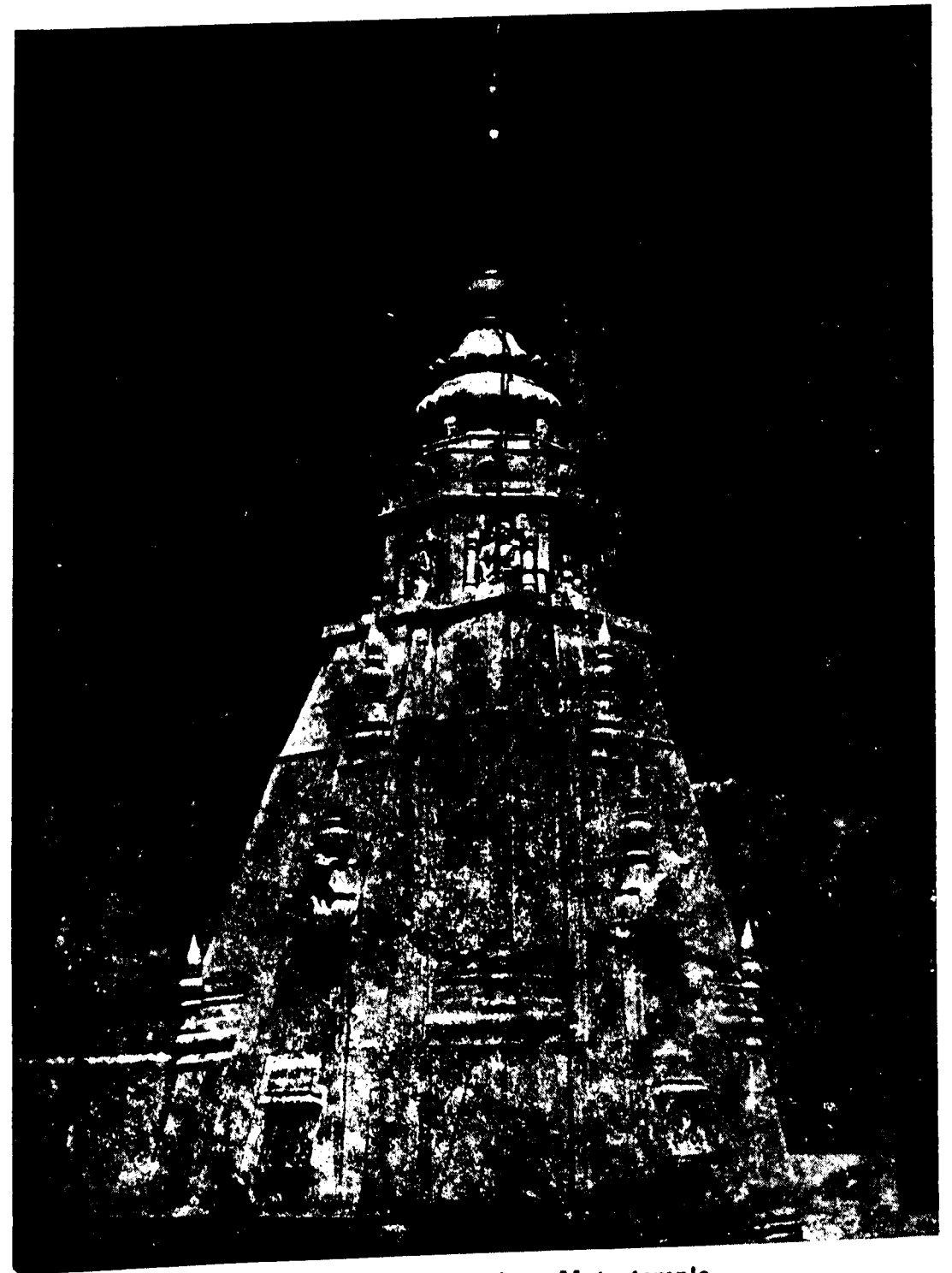


A panel of dancing troupe (c. 10th century A. D.) from Harshanatha temple
[By the courtesy of the Department of Archaeology & Museums Rajasthan, Jaipur]



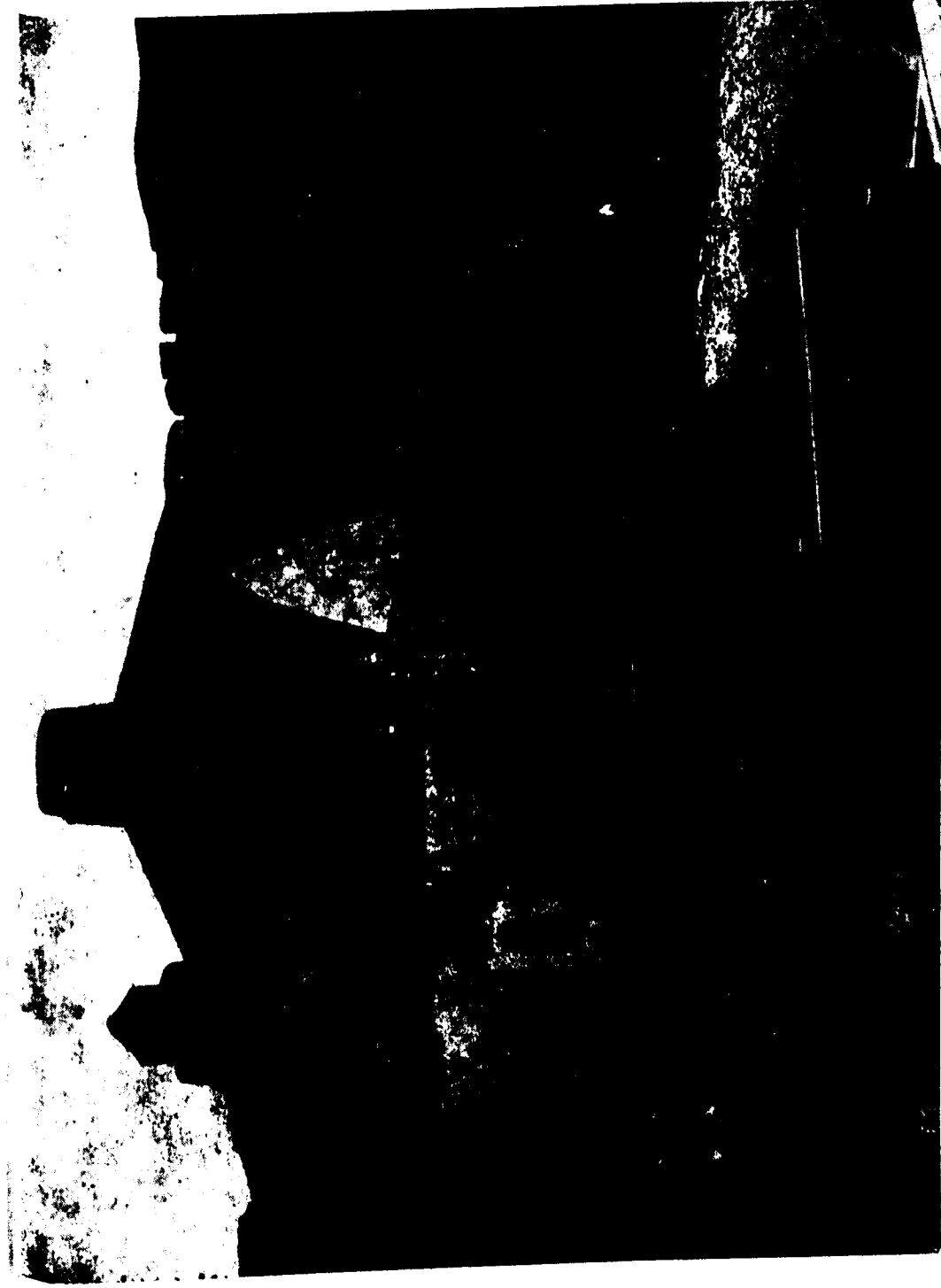
The district is rich in mural paintings known for excellent colour-scheme and nobleness of theme.
The picture shows decorations on the ceiling and walls of the Jankinath temple, Rewasa.

PLATE V



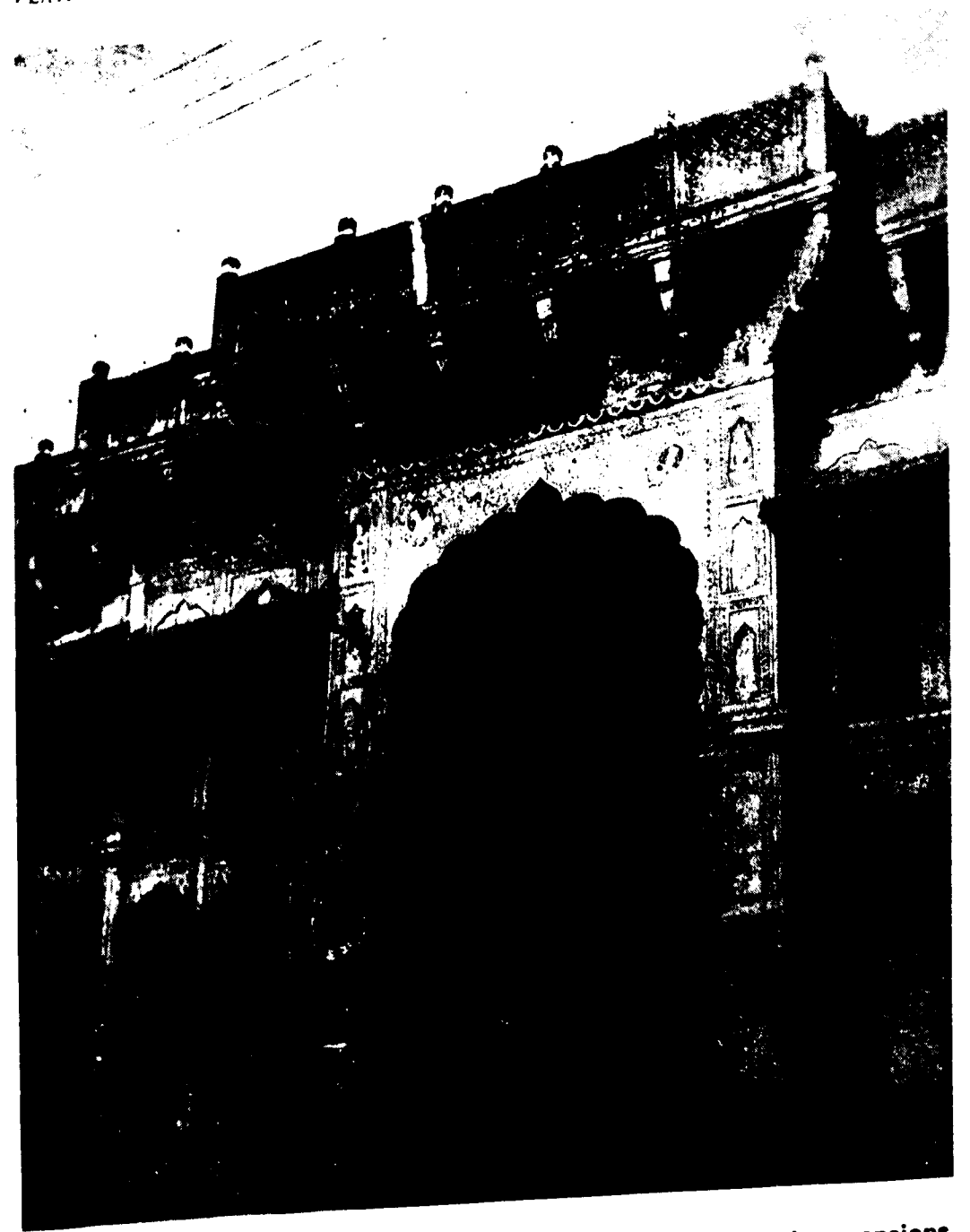
Exterior view of the Jeen Mata temple

LATE VI

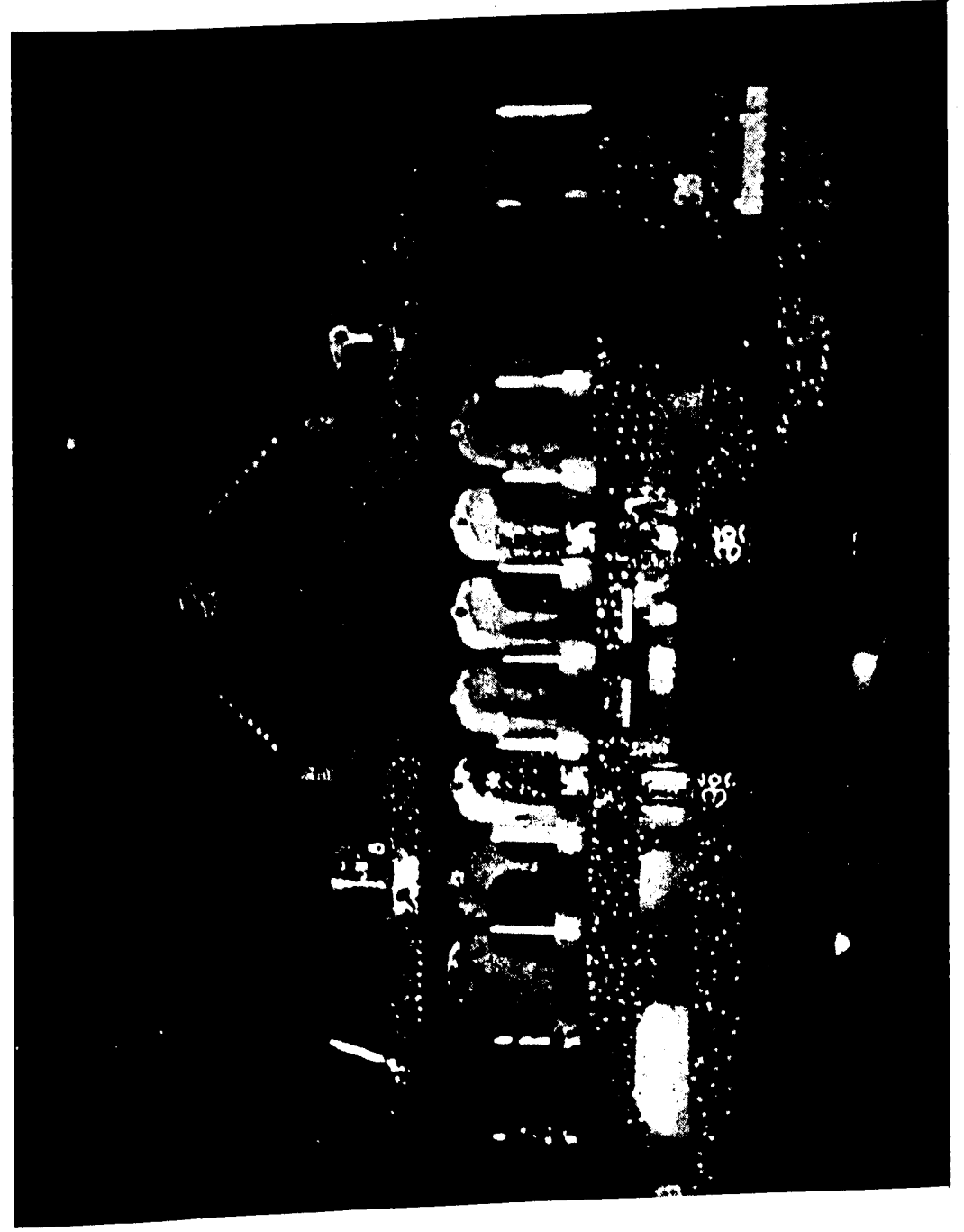


An integral part of the military system during mediaeval age, forts are now losing battle against time—Fort at Danta Ramgarh in a state of decay.

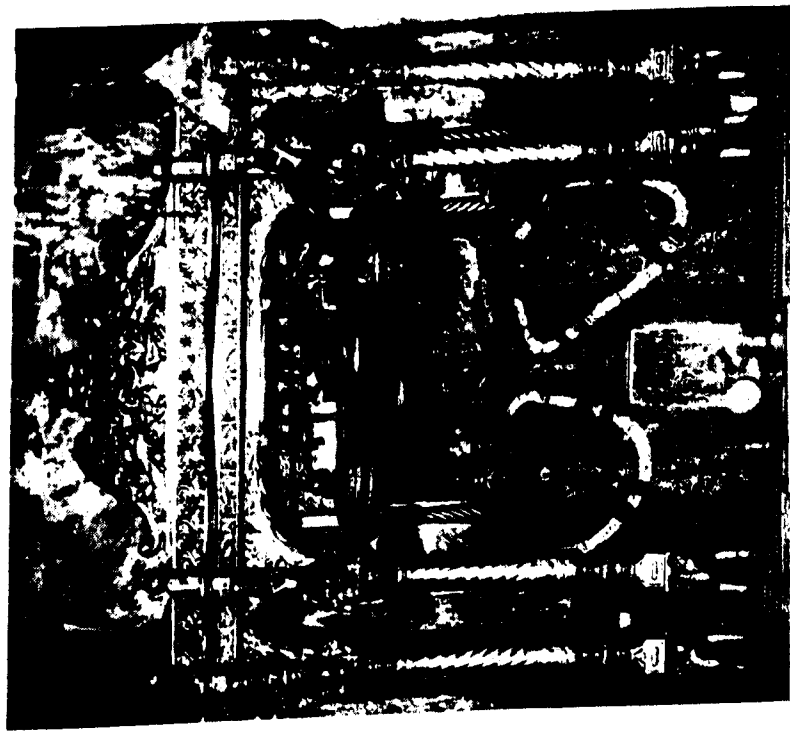
PLATE VII



Home-towns of wealthy bankers and industrialists have imposing mansions.

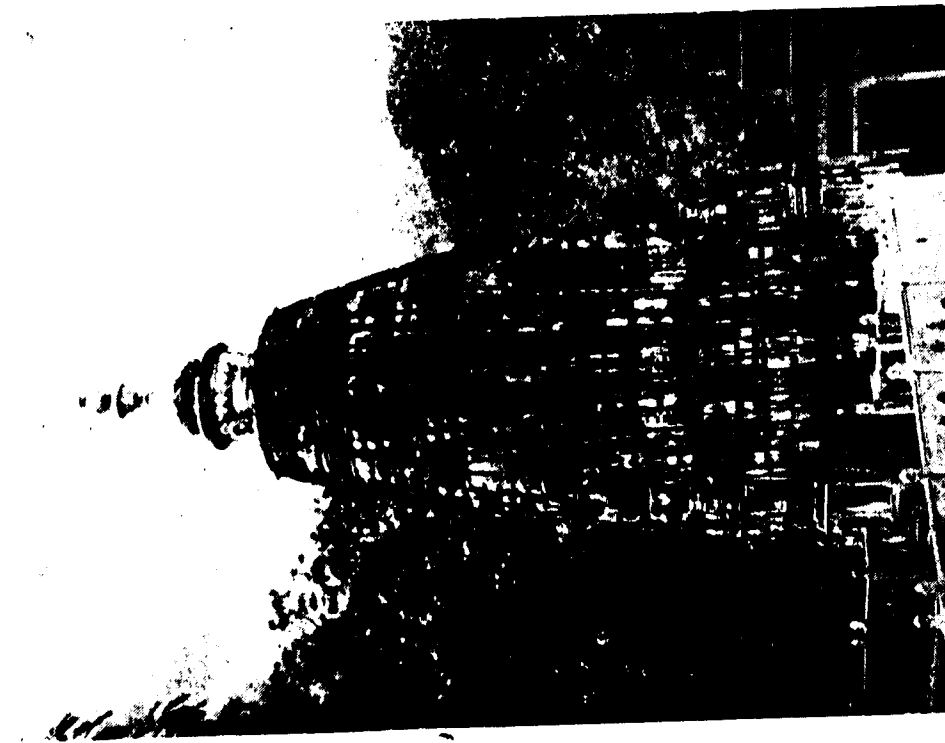


An outer view of the temple of Shyamji, illuminated during the fair—Shyamji Khatoo



A

Sakrai Mata temple, situated in natural surroundings, attracts a large number of devotees during fairs.



B

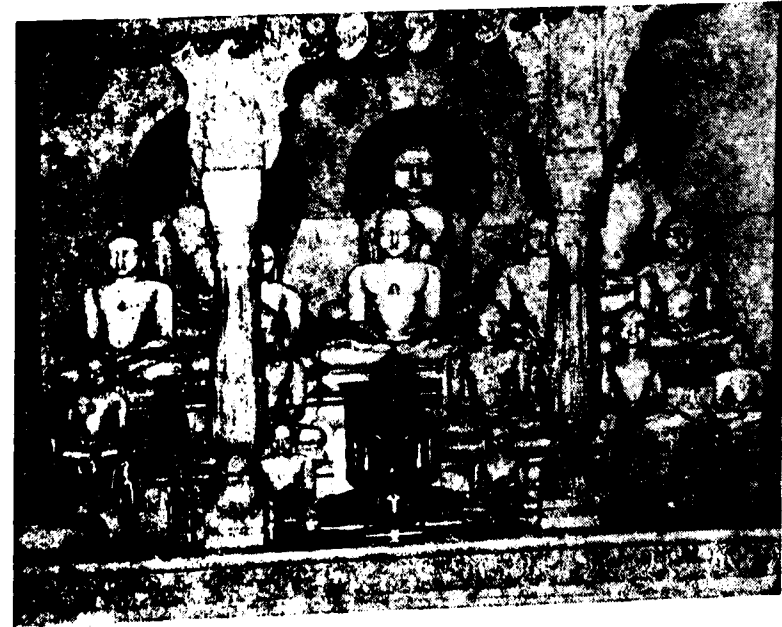
Exterior view of the Sakrai Mata Temple

PLATE X



The two castles (above and below) of the joint rajas of Khandela stand testimony to the rise and fall of that town.





Temple of Adinath, Rewasa

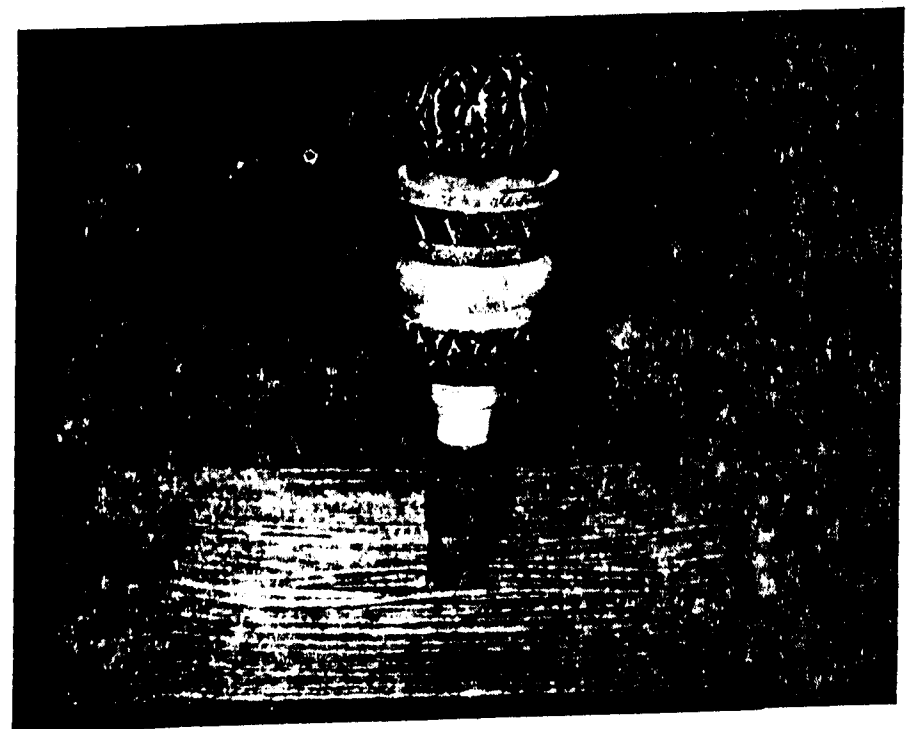


Beautiful carvings on the jamb of the main entrance
leading to the sanctum of the above temple



A

Sheep rearing is an important pursuit of the rural population.



B

Several families at Khandela are known for their excellent craftsmanship in wood-work. The picture shows a wooden toy receiving final colour pattern.

தவணைத்தாள்.

41. **ଶିକ୍ଷା :**

[illegible]

EDITOR-GAZETTEERS
14 மார்ச் 1983
EGMORE, MADRAS